



# Three Rivers News



<http://news.trcmaine.org/>

MONDAY, OCT. 18, 2004 VOLUME 3 NUMBER 49

SPONSORED AND PUBLISHED BY THREE RIVERS KIWANIS CLUB AND THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE



## THREE RIVERS KIWANIS ASSISTS ANOTHER AREA PROJECT

BY MURREL HARRIS

The list of projects supported in whole or in part by the Three Rivers Kiwanis has increased. On Friday, October 15, Jeff Gahagan, Treasurer, presented Valerie Robertson, co-founder of P.A.W.S. with a check for \$1000.00. This is one of the many projects new President Murrel Harris plans to help during his year in office.

Three Rivers Kiwanis is one of the most active clubs of its type in our area and the support given to various groups makes many projects possible. Besides the local support, Kiwanis is constantly growing and expanding its service and financial support for the benefit of young children throughout the world.

Some of the local programs made possible by or assisted by the Three Rivers Kiwanis club include: Senior Citizens Barbecues, Kiwanis Kids Korner, Coffee House, Terrific Kids, Veteran's Day Dinner, Reading Is Fundamental, T-Ball, Farm League, Secret Santa, Woman Care, Heart Wise, *The Three Rivers News*, Penquis Valley High Key Club, The Gazebo Project, and the annual Variety Show, to name a few.

The main focus of every Kiwanis club is children. The donation to P.A.W.S. was in part a gesture to thank Valerie Robertson for all she does for area children. She conceived the idea for the Kiwanis Kid's Korner, and with the help of the gals at the Milo Free Public Library and fellow Kiwanians has made it a very successful and popular program. Valerie also is one of the co-creators of the Three Rivers News, which has become our area's foremost outlet to applaud and celebrate our area youth and their accomplishments. She has served as one of its editors since its beginning. Valerie has also visited area schools and entertained the students with her "pets" while imparting the importance of treating animals with love and respect. She has striven to involve as many children as possible in establishing our local animal shelter and showing them that they can make a difference in our community.

The Three Rivers Kiwanis Club is a group of energetic folks who love our communities and the people in them. We want to sing the praises of all of our citizens and make our towns even more wonderful. If you are interested in being a part of our group, you can check us out on Wednesday mornings at The Restaurant, on Park Street in Milo. We welcome any guest and our breakfast meetings are always fun and lively. You might even learn a thing or two from the speaker of the day. Call Murrel at 943-7326 to find out more!!

## Yard Sale

Oct. 23 from 9-1 at Brownville Elementary  
To benefit the 5th Grade trip to Boston in May  
We'd appreciate your support!!

## COFFEE HOUSE FEATURING EVERGREEN

EVERGREEN will be playing at a Coffee House at the Milo Town Hall Arts Center on Saturday, October 23 at 7:00 PM. The event is being sponsored by the Three Rivers Kiwanis to help finance the programs they provide for children and adults in the area.

Evergreen is a four member band that plays bluegrass, folk, blues, old-time, country, swing, jazz, and about anything else you might want to hear. This very talented group is made up of Joe Kennedy playing the harmonica and bass; Nellie Kennedy playing bass, guitar, mandolin, and autoharp; Chris Prickett playing guitar, accordion, and fiddle; and Steve Chaisson playing bass. They all participate in the vocals with voices that blend together in harmony that is delightful to the ear.

The Coffee House is at the Milo Town Hall Arts Center at 7:00 PM on Saturday, October 23. Admission is \$8.00 at the door. Desserts and drinks will be on sale and there will be door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. See you there?



**John B. Curtis, MD** died October 6, 2004 in Greensboro, NC at the age of 95 where he was residing at Well Spring Retirement Community with his surviving sister, Grace R. Curtis & brother-in-law James Buckner.

Dr. Curtis is also survived by his 3 children, Robert T. Curtis, Alton L. Curtis & daughter-in-law Kay & Mary & son-in-law Larry Kennedy and his grandchildren, John, Bob & Donald Curtis, Jennifer Curtis Kulpa, Eric & Hilary Curtis, Stefanie & Chris

Kennedy and step grandchildren Kim & Jenny Cobb, 11 great grandchildren and several nieces & nephews and their families. Dr. Curtis was predeceased by his wives Elizabeth H. (Tompkins) Curtis & Margaret H. (Holland) Curtis and his 2 sisters Muriel Curtis & Ruth (Curtis) Buckner.

Dr. Curtis was born in Danforth, ME November 11, 1909 the son of Dr. Alton K. & Margaret Curtis. Dr. Curtis was a graduate of Colby College & Tufts University School of Medicine. He took his internship in RI and then began his medical career that covered a 40-year span that began in Thomaston, ME. He soon moved his practice to Brownville Jct., ME and then Milo. For a brief period he left Milo to serve as an Army physician in Maryland and Texas during WWII. After the war he resettled with his family and practice in Milo, ME where he was also the physician for the Piscataquis County Schools and the Canadian & Pacific Railroad. He belonged to the Lions Club and the Masonic Lodge in Milo. In his semi retirement, he was a civilian doctor at a military clinic at McDill AFB in Tampa, FL. and then he went on to do induction physicals for the Army in Clearwater, FL for several years.

A service will be held at the cemetery in Damariscotta, ME on October 23, 2004 at 2:00 PM.

In recognition of National Breast Cancer Month, contributions may be made in his memory to: National Breast Cancer Foundation, One Hanover Park, 16633 N. Dallas Pkwy. Suite 600, Addison, TX 75001 or on line at nationalbreastcancer.org

<http://www.trcmaine.org/webcam/>



Webcam is located at Trask Insurance, 3 Main Street, Milo

**STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Three River News is published weekly by Three Rivers Kiwanis. It is available Tuesdays at the Milo Farmer's Union, BJ's Market, Graves' Service Station, Robinson's Fuel Mart, Reuben's Farmer's Market, The Restaurant, Milo Exxon, Rite Aid, and Milo True Value. The paper can also be viewed online at [news.trcmaine.org](http://news.trcmaine.org). Donations can be mailed to Valerie Robertson, PO Box 81, Milo, Maine 04463.

Letters to the editor, social news, school news, items of interest, or coming social events may be submitted NO LATER THAN FRIDAY NOON to the following addresses:

Valerie Robertson, PO Box 81, Milo, Maine 04463 or e-mailed to, [val04463@verizon.net](mailto:val04463@verizon.net) or call 943-2324.

Nancy Grant, 10 Belmont St. Milo, Maine 04463, e-mailed to [nlq1@verizon.net](mailto:nlq1@verizon.net) or call 943-5809.

Please drop suggestions and comments into the donation box or contact one of us. We welcome your ideas. All opinions are those of the editors unless otherwise stated. We will publish no negative or controversial comments. The paper is written, printed, and distributed by unpaid volunteers. Donations are used to cover the expense of printing, paper and materials.

Valerie Robertson Nancy Grant Virgil Valente Seth Barden Kirby Robertson

**HOW TO RECEIVE THE THREE RIVERS NEWS BY MAIL**

We have received many inquiries from readers as to how they can get the Three Rivers News delivered to their mailbox each week. The news is available by subscription in 30-week increments. For each 30-week subscription we ask for a donation of \$25.00 to cover the cost of printing and mailing. If you would like to sign up to get the news delivered, send your name, address and a check for \$25.00 to:

Valerie Robertson  
P.O. Box 81  
Milo, Maine 04463

Nancy Grant  
10 Belmont Street  
Milo, Maine 04463

**MEALS FOR ME. MENU**

TUES., OCT. 19	GRAPE JUICE, OMELET, W/CHEESE SAUCE, HASH BROWNS, COFFEE CAKE, FRESH FRUIT
WED., OCT. 20	CHICKEN LOAF W/ COUNTRY GRAVY, MASHED POTATO, SCALLOPED TOMATOES, VANILLA PUDDING
THUR., OCT. 21	BEEF POT PIE, CARN, FRESH BAKED ROLL, SLICED PEARS
FRI., OCT. 22	BAKED BEANS, HOT DOGS, COLE SLAW, BISCUIT, FROSTED CAKE
MON. OCT. 18	BAKED HAM W/PINEAPPLE SAUCE, STUFFING, RED POTATOES, FRESH BROCCOLI, PUMPKIN PIE

ANYONE 60 OR OVER IS INVITED TO ATTEND OUR MEALS. WE MEET AT THE MILO TOWN HALL DINING ROOM ON MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS AT 11:45 AM AND AT THE QUARRY PINES COMMUNITY ROOM ON FRIDAYS AT 11:45 AM.

**PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!  
FOR RESERVATIONS CALL 943-2488.**

BI NGO...BI NGO...BI NGO !!  
THE MILO AMERICAN LEGION POST 41 HAS BI NGO

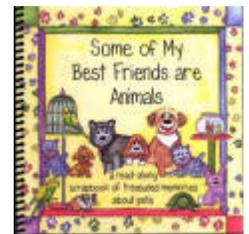
EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT  
A MEAL IS SERVED FROM 5:00PM UNTIL 6:15 PM  
BINGO STARTS AT 6:15 AND ENDS AT 9:30  
SEE YOU THERE!

The Three Rivers Senior Citizens meet at the Milo Town Hall for a potluck dinner the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month at 12:00 noon. Everyone is welcome. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays they play cards. Please call the President, Natalie Harris for further information at 943-2520.

St. John's Episcopal Church will hold a Public Baked Bean and Ham Supper on Saturday, November 6, from 5-6:30pm. The menu will include baked beans, ham, assorted casseroles, cole slaw, pickles, rolls, and assorted desserts. Tickets will be \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. Proceeds will benefit church projects.

**SCRAPBOOKING CLASS!!**

Starting in October the scrapbook club will be starting classes on two Saturday afternoons each month from 1:00 – 4:00 PM at the Milo Town Hall. Each class will feature a "Make and Take Project. There will be a small fee charged to cover the cost of the material for this project. Scrapbooks will bring their supplies and have a chance to share and swap materials. We will have large paper cutters, a Sixxiz die-cut machine and assorted punches available for use. Instructors are Lynn Gerrish and Tina Johnston.



**37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HUNTERS' BREAKFAST**  
**Penquis Valley High School Milo, Maine**  
**Breakfast buffet of Ham & Eggs, Baked Beans, Biscuits, Pancakes, Juice & Coffee October 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**Time: 4:30 to 8:30 a.m. \$3.50 in advance or \$4.00 at the door Sponsored by the Sophomore Class**

Upcoming MSAD #41 Adult Education Classes  
**HOLIDAY CANDY MAKING** - This is a four week class that starts Thursday, Nov. 4th and runs from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. The class will include making fudge, rock candy, chocolates and other types of holiday candy. Please call Louisa Finnemore at 965-7571 for a supply list. The fee for this class is \$25.00.

**WREATH MAKING** - This is a four-week class that starts Tuesday, Nov. 2nd and runs from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. The class will include making evergreen wreaths, swags, garland, stick wreaths and bows. The fee for this class is \$25.00.

**HUNTERS' SAFETY** - The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is sponsoring a four-evening certification course in hunters' safety. Participants must attend all four evenings (October 18 - 21) from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. There is no fee for this class. Please call 943-7317 to register for these courses.

All activities offered by MSAD #41 Adult Education are held in accessible locations. Accommodations for individuals with a disability are available upon request. Please call 943-7317.

The family of James E. Sickler would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Mayo Regional Hospital and everyone for their prayers, cards, and gifts.

**HOME WANTED!!!**

This is Cuddles. He is an adult neutered male who looks very much like a Siamese. He is very affectionate with people but does not like other cats. He is silver/gray and very handsome,

He is living at P.A.W.S. in Milo and is waiting for a lifetime home. Call Julie at 943-5083 for more information.



**Penquis CAP to Offer "Business Ownership 101"**  
DOVER-FOXCROFT--Penquis Community Action Program is offering "Business Ownership 101" on Wednesday, October 27, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Penquis CAP, 50 North Street, Dover-Foxcroft. This class will provide an overview of the pros and cons of operating a micro-enterprise, what a business plan is and why it is needed and resources for business development assistance. Registration is required.

This class is funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested at least two weeks in advance. For more information or to register, call James Macomber at 564-7116 or write to Penquis CAP, 50 North Street, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426.

#### **MARY DEER FOX & MAINE'S ATTORNEY GENERAL TO SPEAK IN MILO**

Mary Deer Fox, candidate for State House District 27 will be at the Pleasant Park Community Building on Sat. Oct. 23. Guest speaker will be Attorney General Steve Rowe. Attorney General Rowe will be speaking on the subject of Consumer Fraud Prevention. Mary will be speaking on this subject and others of concern to local citizens as well. Refreshments will be served and there will be a question and answer period. If you have questions for either Attorney General Rowe or Mary Deer Fox please come and join us on Oct 23rd at 10:00 a.m. at the Pleasant Park Community Building. Consumer Fraud is a very important concern to all people and learning how to protect ourselves would be very useful knowledge.

This event is sponsored by the Milo Democratic Committee.

## **HALLOWEEN NIGHT**

**4:30 - 7:30 pm**

**All Trick or Treaters and Parents**

**Take a Break from the Cold**

**HOT COCOA AND TREATS FOR THE LITTLE ONES!!!**

**HOT COFFEE OR TEA FOR THE PARENTS  
AMERICAN LEGION HALL IN BROWNVILLE  
JCT. Sponsored by the Brownville Rec. Dept  
and the American Legion Auxiliary**

#### **To The Editor:**

I agree with you completely on the bear thing. What is wrong with tracking and hunting them as our ancestors did without snares, baiting with human food etc. Perhaps they wouldn't be such a nuisance if they weren't being baited with human food that has the human scent on it. We are told not to feed the bears in National Parks so

that they don't become used to human scent and thus become a dangerous nuisance.

All the bears that eat the bait do not get shot. And in my opinion they become used to the human scent and aren't afraid to go around people's homes. This creates a dangerous situation. As I understand the law being considered, the ban on these things could be suspended for a period of time in areas where a bear has become a dangerous pest. I think that if people read the whole thing through they might change their mind about question 2. If anyone wants to read the whole referendum question they should go to the Maine State page and do a search for Question 2 2004 and it will come up.

Go to; <http://www.state.me.us/>

Priscilla Bass

## **Over The River and Thru the Woods**



The weather forecast for Sunday, October 10th, had been predicted to be a little bleak but that wasn't going to stop the Penquis Cruizers from taking their annual Fall Cruise and doing a little leaf peeping. At 10:30 that morning a bunch of the Cruizers were waiting at the JSI parking lot to head over the river and thru the woods to somewhere - they had no idea where they were going. The weather was not what had been forecasted and instead was sunny and bright.



Every year the Penquis Cruizers take an annual ride and have no idea where they might be heading as someone has mapped out a route and will lead them on the cruise. About the only thing the members do know is it will be an enjoyable day and wherever they end up there will be a good place to eat.

A stop in Dover at the Chamber of Commerce building to pick up more members and the club was on its

way. This year the Cruizers logged about 130 miles! Their first stop was in Abbot at the bakery for coffee and snacks and then on to the Maine House for a little shopping before heading down route 16. The next stop was at the landing at Mayfield Lake for a break and some picture taking. After that the club crisscrossed thru the woods to Athens, Harmony, Cambridge, Ripley and ended up at the lake in Dexter to



regroup before heading back up the road to Giovanni's Restaurant.

The Central Maine Street Rod Club was on a similar cruise and ended up at the restaurant, too! So the parking lot at Giovanni's was shining brightly with all the old iron sitting there while the owners and guests enjoyed a great meal and great company.

The foliage that day was just beautiful and all the members had a great ride. This year the club had members from Milo, Brownville, Millinocket, Frankfort, Corinth and even a guest from Sarasota, Florida, on the cruise.

### "Election Rally" To be Held in Brownville

The staff and students at Brownville Elementary invite all parents and friends to attend their "Election Rally" on Thursday, Oct. 28 at 1:00.

Students K-5, will divide into Democrats and Republicans (and possibly other groups), and march with their signs and banners cheering in support of their candidates. Then the students will sing patriotic songs, and listen to student speeches. Special guests, candidates Paul Davis, Sharon Libby Jones, and Stephen Stanley will speak briefly about the importance of voting and good citizenship. At the end of the assembly the 6th grade band will play the Star Spangled Banner. The next day the whole school will be involved in a mock election under the leadership of the 6th grade. Everyone is welcome to attend.



### Super Brownville Trivia

Win a \$10 Gift Certificate at the Junction General. Send your answers to Bill Sawtell, POB 272, Brownville, ME 04414, or email them to [tell@kynd.net](mailto:tell@kynd.net) on or before Friday, October 22.

1. (a) BHS (b) BJHS (c) The Lewis Mill (d) The block burned in 1922.
2. (a) Wayne Kirby (b) Jack Brown (c) Dennis Larson (d) Dennis Harshaw scored the most points in one game.
3. (a) Park Holland (b) Moses Brown (c) Francis Brown (d) Hezekiah May built the dam.
4. Brownville's population is nearest (a) 900 (b) 1100 (c) 1300 (d) 1500.
5. Axel Carlson fell (a) 25 (b) 55 (c) 77 (d) 145- feet off the Onawa Trestle in 1912.

6. The YMCA stood for (a) 26 years (b) 38 Years (c) 48 Years (d) 75 Years.
  7. The Slate House is near the (a) Highland Quarry (b) Merrill Quarry (c) Abee Quarry (d) Crocker Quarry.
  8. The Stickney family is known for its (a) height (b) athleticism (c) wealth (d) music
  9. "Taffy" was a (n) (a) Englishman (b) Swede (c) Frenchman (d) Welshman.
  10. The last team to defeat the Railroaders was (a) Milo (b) Greenville (c) Searsport (d) Sumner.
- Answers and winner to be announced next week.

### Memories of a Brownville Junction Railroader

BY BILL SAWTELL

#### Baseball 1958-

Players

Jim Owens-Offensively Jim was one of the very best to come out of our town. He could hit to all fields, drag bunt extremely well, and run the bases with the best of them. His glove wasn't the best, but more than adequate. He possessed a strong and accurate arm from the outfield or shortstop. One of Jim's strengths lay in his leadership ability.

Jim played with the B and A Rovers and starred at Ricker College. He still coaches in Bangor and has led a group of Bangor youngsters to Japan in recent years.

Tom Lockhart-Tom was the only player in the Conley years to start in both major sports (basketball and baseball) for all four years-a truly great athlete and pitcher. A big boy, Tom had a blazing fastball, which he kept under control. For this reason I always liked to take batting practice against him. He rarely hit a batter. (I only remember one-Maurice Atwater of Guilford in junior high school).

When batters connected-and I can count them on two fingers- (Dexter Junior High School's Tommy Davis and Higgins's Dave Parks) the ball usually left the yard.

Tom was a great line drive power hitter who could take any pitcher deep and fielded his position well.

Gary Larson-Gary was a great all-around athlete, who started at second his first year and at short his last three. A fine fielder, with a rifle arm, Larson had quick wrists and could hit the long ball out of any park.

Very fast afoot, he worked hard at his game outside the practice and playing field, going on to play for the Rovers and at Aroostook State (now UMPI).

Cary Butterfield-This late great catcher was a tremendous leader for Carroll Conley on the field. He knew the game well. Cary was a line drive power hitter, who could go deep and was a valuable cleanup hitter following the likes of a Wayne Kirby in the potent Railroader batting order of those days.

Bill Vale-Bill was a fine hitting first baseman, a line drive hitter, who could hit the long ball, a guy that loved the game. Defensively solid, he made our infielders look good by handling our bad throws and making outs of them.

Art Stanhope-Art was a big boy, and took a tremendous cut at the ball, sometimes resulting in long home runs. He was never cheated at the plate!

When he could get to the ball, he had a good glove and saved yours truly from a throwing error or two by coming up with some wild throws at his first base position. Art was a terror on the base paths, but we won't go into that.

#### IN MEMORIAM

##### SHIRLEY (HALL) MELIA

MONSON - Shirley (Hall) Melia, 72, passed away Oct. 14, 2004, at her home in Monson. She was born Jan. 1, 1932, in Milo, the daughter of Forest and Bernice (Tupper) Hall. She retired after working 33 years at Hardwood Products in Guilford. She enjoyed their camp on Davis Pond, fishing, canoeing, and snowmobiling. She knitted socks and mittens for her family and friends. She liked traveling, and the occasional trip to Foxwoods and Las Vegas. She will be missed by her cats, Guy and Baby.

Surviving is her husband, Malcolm Melia of Monson; father-in-law, George Melia at Dexter Health Care; brother-in-law, Gerald Melia of Guilford; sister-in-law Dottie Maheux of Westbrook; brother-in-law, Alan Melia of Caribou, six stepdaughters, Darlene Rockwell of Guilford, Susan Whitcomb of Bowdoin, Karen Gray of Guilford, Stacey Cook of Skowhegan, Betty Jean Bennett of Guilford, Renee Hasting of Dover-

Foxcroft; one son, Glen Bragg and his wife, Judith, of Norton, Mass.; three granddaughters, Adrienne Bragg of Norton, Mass., Lyndy Bragg of South China, Dayna Bragg of Harpswell; many loving step grandchildren, great-step grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by one child, Terry Bragg on June 30, 2004; a brother, Stan Hall in 1999; a sister, Ada McKee in 2002; and a brother-in-law, Roger Melia in 2001.

#### GLENN E. PHILBROOK

SEBEC - Glenn E. Philbrook, 81, husband of the late Mary (Strout) Philbrook, died Oct. 12, 2004, at the Maine Veterans Home in Bangor. He was born Oct. 31, 1922, at Hardy Pond, the son of Irving and Bessie (Tash) Philbrook. Glenn served with the U.S. Army during World War II. Uncle "Nick" will be remembered by us all. He is survived by a son, Alan Philbrook and his wife, Patricia of Pittston; a daughter, Donna McGee and her husband, John of Christianburg, Va.; a brother, Merle Philbrook of Milo; two sisters, Betty Pooler and Arlene Hughes, both of Milo; four grandchildren, Ben, Amy, Jesse and Emily; six great-grandchildren. He will be remembered by a special friend, Helga Nason, and her family. Friends are invited to call from 11 a.m. until time of service at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, 2004, at the Lary Funeral Home, Milo, with Michelle St. Cyr officiating. Burial will be in family lot in Evergreen Cemetery.

#### LENORA (DEAN) 'LONIE' STURGEON SPENCER

LINCOLN - Lenora Dean "Lonie" Sturgeon Spencer, 93, died Oct. 11, 2004, at her home. She was born April 27, 1911, in Barnard, the daughter of Charles A. and Madeline (Damerill) Dean. Lonie had been a member of the Chit Chat Club, The Pilgrim Daughters, the Junior Extension, and the First Congregational Church of Lincoln. She was a life member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She was married first to Lawrence R. "Buster" Sturgeon, and later to Clarence Spencer, and was predeceased by both of them. She is survived by two sons, Lawrence D. "Bing" Sturgeon and his wife, Joan and Barry Sturgeon, all of Lincoln; a sister, Mary Jackson of Portsmouth, N.H.; two grandchildren, Linda and her husband, John Lombard, of Veazie; and Russell Sturgeon and his wife, Linda, of Colorado Springs, Colo.; four great-grandchildren, Russell and Grant Lombard of Veazie, and Joseph and Paige Sturgeon of Colorado Springs; 16 nephews and three nieces; two stepdaughters, Madeline Spencer, and Janet and her husband, David Mullen; three step grandchildren, Kenneth and Penny Spencer and Michael Mullen. Lonie was predeceased by three brothers, Arnold, Donald and Frank Dean; and six sisters, Helen Chadbourne, Madeline Johnson, Ruth Copeland, Veltina Spencer, Edna Carroll, and Shirley Dean.

## MILO FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

By Judith Macdougall

Another beautiful week of lovely weather. Haven't we been lucky! The library was closed on Monday due to the Columbus Day observance. On Wednesday our computers were so busy. We have a 30-minute time limit if someone is waiting, and we had to ask several patrons to give up their computer work to let another patron have time on the machine. We gave them time to close out, of course, so their work is not ruined, but I dislike having to ask anyone to move. However, patrons are very understanding and get up quite quickly. Pam and I will be so glad when we can get our third computer working and, perhaps, have more machines in the library too.

We have had many books donated this week. In fact, we had four boxes of donated books brought in just today. Patrons bring books in knowing we cannot keep them all, but this way we have first pick and often find treasures. The rest of the books we cannot use go out into our "for sale" shelves. There are lots of books out there now. Why not come in and check out our sale books. One of the treasures we got in today was Eragon by Christopher Paulino. I bought this book for my grandsons who both liked it very much. I intended to get it for the library but hadn't bought it yet. I was very pleased to receive it in a box of books from Leanne Gerrish. Thank you, Leanne. The book was written by Christopher when he was 15 years old and had just graduated from high school. It is a fantasy, and a good one as my grandsons are eagerly awaiting the next volume in the series. Neil Hamlin came in with some new non-fiction that he had enjoyed but for which he now has no storage space, so he is generously

sharing them with us. He brought us An Album of Memories: Personal Histories from the Greatest Generation by Tom Brokaw. This is the third volume in the Greatest Generation books and is as enjoyable as the others. Big Russ and Me by Tim Russert, an American TV journalist, tells of his Buffalo Irish boyhood and of his hard working father. Another donation by Neil is Bing Crosby-A Pocketful of Miracles-the early years 1903-1940 by Gary Giddins. A fourth book from Neil is Faith of Our Sons-a father's wartime diary. To me this is a timely book and tells of how war affects one family in detail. And last of all, we have a new back ordered book that will be popular. We just received Stuart Woods latest, The Prince of Beverly Hills.

We have been enjoying this lovely weather but we all know we won't have it clear through to April. Unfortunately somewhere along the way we will be getting SNOW. If the weather is really bad, Jane Jones, the town manager, may suggest that we close the library at 5:00 or even not open the library at all that day. When the weather is stormy or icy please call ahead to make sure we are open. That would be so much easier than making a wasted trip. Our telephone is 943-2612.

**Library Winter Hours**  
**Mon.-Weds. -Fri.---2:00-8:00**  
**Saturday 2:00---4:00**  
**Telephone 943-2612**

## Traditions of a Milo-ite

By Kathy Witham

My apologies for not writing a column last week. I started one, but then my dad's condition worsened and I had to high myself off to Bangor where I stayed until Dad passed away early Friday morning. It's been an emotional roller coaster for the past two weeks....one that I always knew would come, but didn't know when and how it would all play out.

Charlie and I walked the halls of the Maine Veteran's Home last Friday morning bemoaning the fact that we were....once and for all....orphans. By definition an orphan is a child who has lost both parents through death...that's what had happened to us that morning. Both of our parents were dead, leaving us orphaned. I had dreaded the moment. But, for all of my fears...when the time actually came...it wasn't nearly as bad as I thought it would be. After all, we had each other. Not only did Charlie and I have each other...we have Carroll and the kids and the grandkids. We've got nine aunts and uncles and twenty-eight first cousins (all who love us dearly.) We are so blessed.

Not only do I have a multitude of relatives to love me, I have a circle of friends with whom I could not do without. The loving attention that we experienced this week by this community was totally overwhelming. I have literally not had to make a meal since sometime last week. The food just kept coming and coming. The beautiful floral bouquets were exquisite, and the cards were sentimental and warmed my heart.

My Aunt came to Dad's service with the news that her little bitty brand new great-granddaughter died Monday of complications of a heart condition that she was born with. And two of my other cousins were flying out to California this weekend for the funeral of their brother, my beloved cousin Alex Tara, who died last week. So, it's been bad news all around for this family. We've had more than our share of sadness.

My children and grandchildren somehow managed to look at every photo album and stray picture in this house over the weekend. They gathered Dad's life-in-pictures into a great pile and we managed to make a huge collage and filled two photo albums. My grandmother took lots of photos of her children. She also saved all the negatives....I come from a long, long line of pack rats. I, in turn, took the negatives to Bangor Photo years ago and had pictures made of them. I have wonderful pictures of those sweet little boys and their parents. Dad had written on the backs of the pictures a few years ago...describing where they were taken and

who was in each. Dad had wonderful recall of his past, and there were only a couple of pictures that had "don't know" written on the back.

I found little items of Dad's life that meant a lot to him. In his jewelry box was his jack knife, the tiny Bible that he'd gotten in Sunday School when he was a child, his compass, his dog tags, his Shrine jewels, his Masonic ring, his clippers, a spare pair of shoe laces and (I couldn't believe this!) a card indicating he was a member of "The Biggest Bucks in Maine Club" in 1957. And...believe it or not...I had a picture of that big buck. Actually, I had two pictures of it. One of me with the buck and one with Charlie and the buck. Charlie had his Daisy Air Rifle in his hands....like he'd shot the deer. The only thing missing was his Davy Crockett raccoon cap!

You're probably all familiar with the old adage...things have a way of working themselves out. I have a story that proves that to be true. The Friday night before Dad died, Carroll and I ordered pizza at House of Pizza in Milo for our supper. When I went downtown to get the pizza, Deanna Sherburne was standing in line ahead of me talking to a man I'd never seen before. While the three of us stood there waiting for our turn at the counter, I joined their conversation. He was a pleasant, personable man who instantly made an impression on me. I gathered up the pizza and headed home...thinking about the stranger all the time. I told Carroll all about the man and our conversation...which wasn't even of much consequence....about the weather and the quick chill that had come to the air when the sun went down. I was so curious about him that I called Deanna at home and asked her who he was and all about him. She told me that his name was David Mumford and he was going to be working for Lary Funeral Home doing the kinds of jobs that her father, John Sherburne, had been doing for some years now. John and Lyn are going to Florida for the winter and David will soon be taking over those duties.

Well, lo and behold, on Wednesday morning when Lary Funeral Home arrived to accompany Dad's body back to Milo, it was Dad's old buddy John, and David Mumford who came. What a comfort it was to me that morning....Dad's old friend and my new friend.

When Charlie and I went to the funeral home that afternoon to make arrangements for Dad's service we were stymied as to what to do about a minister. Dad had believed for years that David McLeish would be saying the final words over him. It was all arranged!!! Well, that wasn't to be, of course. Mark Robinson said, "What about David Mumford?" "What about him," I said. "Well, he's a minister." Those were wonderful words.

David came to visit us Saturday afternoon....and now he knows all of us Van Loons..and hopefully he loves us as much as we love him. If you haven't met him, you have a treat in store for you. If you have met him, you already know what I'm talking about.

I know my Dad was a character and was well liked by many. I didn't realize there were so many things about him that I loved until he was gone. Thank you all for helping me remember all the wonderful things about my Dad that made him so special. For all of you who have called with your regards; and those of you who brought food, and sent flowers, and wrote cards.....thank you from the bottom of my heart. It's hard to be sad in the face of such loving, friendly gestures. For all of you who were far away, but called and talked on the phone and held me in your arms through your prayers, I can't thank you enough and I love you, too.

Next week I'm going to have recipes in this column that will totally knock your socks off. My wonderful cousins brought some unbelievable food with them when they came here the other day. They've promised to share the recipes with all of you. So, now you've got that to look forward to, too.

## **The Milo District Schools**

By Lloyd J. Treworgy Continued Part XXX

### **TEACHERS**

Beginning with 1885 the list of teacher names appears in the record-scores of names. Milo had nine district schools-eleven rooms, counting the three rooms in the primary school. The

school year had three terms and changes in teachers were frequent. Only the strongest and most dedicated could survive the daily challenge. The life was rigorous; discipline a "must"; pay was very low; and working conditions anything but modern. Changes, therefore, were not only frequent but inevitable.

Most of the teachers on the lists would be just names to a newer generation. A good many came from out of town, taught briefly and then moved on. The list that follows will contain only names of teachers from within Milo or those who had connections that can be traced locally.

Earlier in this story I mentioned our five living district schoolteachers now residing in Milo. Several others, still living, are out of town. Lydia Rhoda, who taught at Sargent Hill when her brother Fred operated the dairy farm at the corner of Billington and River Roads, is now in a nursing home. (Remember this was written in 1978). Hazel Black, who taught at Stanchfield Ridge, lives in Bangor. And Jessie Sturtevant Stinneford, sister of Roy Sturtevant and Mrs. Etta Cookson lives in Connecticut.

Mrs. Stinneford, by the way, taught at the Goodrich school to earn money to attend the University of Maine. Such a purpose, kept constant on such a low wage, demanded the utmost in dedication!

Mrs. Cora Mayo Gaudette, daughter of I.G. Mayo and mother of Mrs. Mahlon Salley, taught at the Tollbridge School. And Eva Clark, daughter of Ben Clark taught at the Drake School. Ben Clark, by the way, lived where Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Bragg live today; corner of Elm and Belmont Streets. Mr. Clark owned a large share of the old White Elephant Mill near the river, a little above Prospect Street.

Belle Levensalor, whose husband was a cousin of Mrs. Nora Hamlin and Mrs. Mary Tyler, taught at Sargent Hill.

I have already mentioned Jane Jones, rated as one of Milo's finest teachers. Her sister, Martha Jones, later Mrs. Martha Prescott, mother of Rachel and Jane Prescott, taught for a time. So did Mrs. Flora Wingler and her sister, Mrs. Alice Brown.

The list included Elizabeth Rowe Humphreys, sister of George Rowe; Abbie Darrah, sister of Mrs. Fred DeWitt; Mrs. Flossie Taylor, mother of Mrs. Helen Livermore; Mrs. Jennie Ladd, who lived next door to the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hatch, and who moved later, with her daughter Ruth, to Wiscasset.

My wife's mother, Carrie Livermore, who was later the wife of E.M. Hamlin, taught at the Holbrook School. Her sister, Nellie Livermore, later Mrs. Chester Hamlin, mother of Mrs. Nellie McLaughlin and grandmother of Mrs. Gayle Shirley, who teaches today at Penquis Valley High School, taught at the Drake School.

Mrs. Delia Carver, who lived with her husband on a no longer used road that ran north from the D'Este Road (then called the Carver Road), taught at Sargent Hill.

Other teachers on the list were June Gray, daughter of H.O. Gray, who lived in the first house on the right on Albert St.; Clint Kittredge, brother of Mel Kittredge, who himself taught manual training years afterward at Milo High School; Clara Carlburg of Monson, cousin of Lewis Mountain and so related to his daughter, Mrs. Pat Ricker; Rose Doble, aunt of Postmaster Richard Doble, who later moved to Virginia; and Carrie Snow, aunt of Mrs. Catherine Worster.

I have already mentioned Mrs. Linnie Dick, whose article "The Haunted House", was quoted above. Linnie lived, in those days, on the back road to Brownville and later across from the town hall. She was rated as one of the strong disciplinarians and an excellent teacher.

Those who knew Hiram Gerrish, the lawyer, whose office was in the Oddfellows Hall, Corner of Main and Elm Streets, scarcely remember his early days when he taught at Stanchfield Ridge. Hiram, nicknamed "Judson" in those days, was the grandfather of Judson, Jr., who teaches today at Penquis Valley High School.

Lucy Bishop, whose brother Will broke out many a winter road on the east side of Pleasant River, was a teacher. So was Susie McLeod, later Susie Bumps, already mentioned as the third and last woman Superintendent of Schools in Milo.

I'll end this list with Abbie S. Owen, later wife of Abner Ramsdell and their daughter Lillian Ramsdell, both of whom taught in the district schools.

This is but a sampling. The list could go on and on but it must be held to its proportionate share of the total story.

## FROM THE TOWN CRIER

**March 5, 1964**

(Courtesy of Gertrude McKusick)

**“Fire at A.A. McKusick’s on Monday.**



An explosion inside the building of the A.A. McKusick Oil Company in Derby at approximately 12:45 P.M. Monday caused a loss estimated at \$50,000. The blast, believed to have been caused by leaking cooking gas in the basement which was ignited by an automatic furnace, blew out two large windows including the frames in the front of the building. Miss Gertrude McKusick credits the fact that the blast upset a large desk over her, with saving her from immediate burns from the flames which filled the office directly after the explosion. Miss McKusick and Paul McKusick both escaped from the building amidst billowing oil and gas flames, but cannot remember the means of their exit. Miss McKusick was burned about the face. Paul McKusick managed to remove 2 trucks and an automobile from the yard and an attached garage that was later destroyed by the blaze.

A gasoline storage tank beneath gas pumps and only a few feet from the front of the building was full but miraculously escaped igniting. A dog, two cats and a pet fox died in the flames. All of Miss McKusick's photographic supplies and equipment were lost. Five utility poles near the building and two housed across the street caught fire but were quickly saved by the Milo Fire Department. Derby grammar school, only a few hundred feet from the burning building escaped danger because of the wind direction.

The building was built by Mr. Arthur McKusick in 1905 and has been a Derby landmark. Miss McKusick announced that a new building will be constructed as soon as possible.”

**TOWN OF MILO  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING  
MILO TOWN OFFICE Thursday, October 28, 2004  
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
AGENDA: (Section Time Allotted)  
1. History 20 min. 2. Population 20 min. 3. Housing 20 min.**

### BRAND NEW AT MAYO REGIONAL HOSPITAL

A daughter, Cyan Skye Prado, to Holynda and Richard Prado of Brownville on October 09, 2004. Wt. 8 pounds 2 ounces.

## GRAMMIE’S WEATHER DIARY

OCTOBER – 1968

18-Sunny very warm

19-Fair AM Cloudy & rain PM

20&21-Rain

22-Clear cool & windy

23-Rain clearing PM 24-Sunny



## TIGER CUBS VISIT LEONARD’S MILLS

*On October 3, 2004 Pack #111 leader Jen Chapman took the Tiger Cubs to Leonard's Mills. The boys had a chance to paddle a canoe, ride in a horse drawn wagon, and lend a hand in cider making.*

(Photos courtesy of Kay Webb)



Left to right: Ben Tarnoczy, Dustin Jones, Zachary Lane, Zackary Lewis, Connor Webb (behind Zackary), Jarod Webb, Travis Lane, and Hunter Lewis.

## From the Three Rivers News Staff

The Three Rivers News is an outreach of Three Rivers Kiwanis. It has never been the intention of Kiwanis to have the paper be a money making project. Donations from readers cover the cost of ink, paper, staples and stamps and envelopes to mail papers to subscribers. There is also a cost to have the paper put on the Internet for those folks from the area that have moved away. During the past year the paper has received 62,489 visits online with 84,457 pages viewed!

All time and expenses of the newspaper staff are donated. Donations left in the boxes usually exceed expenses by a

few dollars each week. This allows for a reserve account. This year the reserve was used to purchase a new printer for \$1795 in August after the old one died. The new printer cut the printing time to one-quarter of the time formerly required. The pictures are now of a much better viewing quality. The paper ended the fiscal year on Sept. 30, 2004 with an account balance of \$259.93.

**37<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HUNTERS' BREAKFAST  
Penquis Valley High School**

Breakfast buffet of ham & eggs, baked beans, biscuits, pancakes, juice & coffee  
October 30 from 4:30 to 8:30 a.m.  
\$3.50 in advance or \$4.00 at the door.  
Sponsored by the Sophomore Class!

*There will be a Comprehensive Plan Public Participation Meeting. The idea is to have people comment on the plan so far. Copies are being made by the Milo Town Office and can be picked up there.*

**TOWN OF MILO**

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING**

**MILO TOWN OFFICE  
Thursday, October 28, 2004  
7:00pm- 8:00 p.m.**

**EVERGREEN WILL BE PERFORMING AT THE MILO**

Town Hall Art Center this Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 7 pm.



**Tired Of Waiting**

To the Editor,

In the last five years, the Town of Brownville has been in the uncomfortable position of having to tell several companies interested in bringing jobs to our community that we didn't have any pre-built or pre-permitted space that met their needs. We've tried waiting for companies to move to Piscataquis County prepared to permit land, build buildings, establish necessary infrastructure, and create jobs for our residents – it hasn't worked.

We've seen once thriving businesses close up, taking jobs with them, and leaving people behind having to travel far and wide to find work. As we watch the out migration of our residents, it is clear that we can't continue with the status quo. The research is clear that companies looking to locate in our region are looking for infrastructure - whether it is buildings, water and sewer, or pre-permitted land on which to build.

Unfortunately, the small rural communities of Piscataquis County are unable to make the investments in infrastructure on our own that are needed to encourage businesses to locate in our area. The Piscataquis County Economic Development Bond Package that will be put before vote on November 2nd is a crucial element needed to address both the limit financial capacity of individual communities and lack of infrastructure necessary for commercial and/or industrial growth throughout the County. The projects listed in the \$952,000 bond package are aimed directly at addressing identified stumbling blocks to business growth and development throughout Piscataquis County. These funds will be used to leverage an additional \$3,464,200 in state, federal, and private funding for these projects. Without the passage of the bond, these crucial infrastructure development projects will be stalled and, in the end, jobs that will benefit residents throughout the County may be lost.

Sincerely,

The Brownville Board of Selectmen: Dennis Green (Chairman), Gary Cook, Stephen Dean, Walter D. Durant, and Ronald Mihalik

**A PAIR OF MEN'S PRESCRIPTION SUNGLASSES WAS FOUND IN LAKE VIEW A FEW WEEKS AGO. IF THEY ARE YOURS, YOU MAY PICK THEM UP AT THE MILO FARMER'S UNION COURTESY BOOTH.**

The October meeting of the Milo Historical Society will feature a program we are calling,

***"If Walls Could Talk".***

The public is invited to come and tell stories, or share photos and artifacts about their own older home or other homes and buildings in Milo that have interesting stories connected to them. Since we are in the Halloween season, it would be fun to hear any haunted house stories you might dare to share!

The public is invited and encouraged to attend this fun and informative program on

**Thursday, Oct. 21, at 7:00 PM  
at the Historical Society Museum on High Street,  
next to Bailey Lumber Co.**

