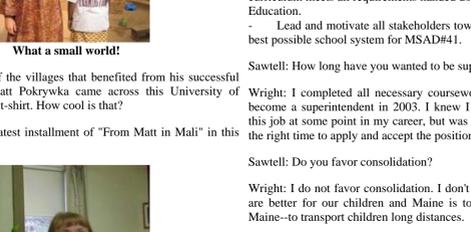
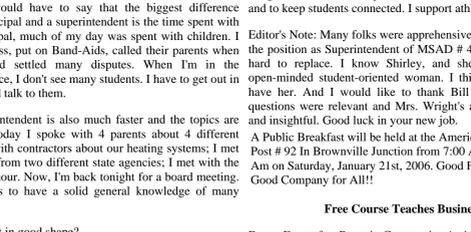


MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2006 VOLUME 5 NUMBER 10
 SPONSORED AND PUBLISHED BY THREE RIVERS KIWANIS & THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE



What a small world!
 While visiting one of the villages that benefited from his successful piogue program, Matt Pokrykwa came across this University of Maine at Farmington T-shirt. How cool is that?

Be sure to read the latest installment of "From Matt in Mali" in this issue.



An Interview With Shirley Wright
 (The new superintendent of MSAD #41)
 BY BILL SAWTELL

Bill Sawtell: What is the most significant difference between being a principal and being a superintendent?

Shirley Wright: I would have to say that the biggest difference between being a principal and a superintendent is the time spent with students. As a principal, much of my day was spent with children. I observed them in class, put on Band-Aids, called their parents when they were sick, and settled many disputes. When I'm in the Superintendent's Office, I don't see many students. I have to get out in the schools to see and talk to them.

The pace of a superintendent is also much faster and the topics are more diverse. Just today I spoke with 4 parents about 4 different issues, K-12. I met with contractors about our heating systems; I met with representatives from two different state agencies; I met with a bookkeeper over an hour. Now, I'm back tonight for a board meeting. A superintendent has to have a solid general knowledge of many things.

Sawtell: Is our budget in good shape?

Wright: Our budget is in very good shape. However, we need to pay very close attention to the new Essential Programs and Services (EPS) funding at the state level. This formula is based on numbers of children and our schools, overall, are smaller. Small schools still need to have adequate services.

Sawtell: What areas would you like to see strengthened?

Wright: I would like to see communication between schools, parents, the school board, the community, and other stakeholders.

Sawtell: What are some of your goals as superintendent?

Wright: My goals for year one are these:
 - Guide the school board in fiscal policy and budgetary development, interpretation, and implementation.
 - Increase communication to all stakeholders.
 - Provide positive leadership to make sure that MSAD#41's curriculum meets all requirements handed down by the Department of Education.
 - Lead and motivate all stakeholders toward the attainment of the best possible school system for MSAD#41.

Sawtell: How long have you wanted to be superintendent?

Wright: I completed all necessary coursework and an internship to become a superintendent in 2003. I knew I would be eventually do this job at some point in my career, but was not in a hurry. It seemed the right time to apply and accept the position now.

Sawtell: Do you favor consolidation?

Wright: I do not favor consolidation. I don't think that larger schools are better for our children and Maine is too large--especially rural Maine--to transport children long distances.

Sawtell: What changes, if any, do you plan on implementing or effecting?

Wright: I don't see the need to make any big changes. I do, however, want to improve communication at all levels. MSAD#41 is the best school system that I have ever worked in. I would like everyone to agree with me!

Sawtell: What about the role of athletics?

Wright: Athletics are important to teach students to play on a team and to keep students connected. I support athletics 110%!!

Editor's Note: Many folks were apprehensive when David Walker left the position as Superintendent of MSAD #41, knowing he would be hard to replace. I know Shirley, and she is a smart, generous, open-minded student-oriented woman. I think our area is lucky to have her. And I would like to thank Bill for this interview. The questions were relevant and Mrs. Wright's answers were interesting and insightful. Good luck in your new job.

A Public Breakfast will be held at the American Legion Post # 92 In Brownville Junction from 7:00 Am to 10:30 Am on Saturday, January 21st, 2006. Good Food and Good Company for All!!!

Free Course Teaches Business Basics

Dover-Foxcroft - Penquis Community Action Program is offering a free Incubator Without Walls small business course. Classes will be held from 6:00 - 9:00 pm in our Dover-Foxcroft Office, every other week for ten classes starting January 31, 2006.

The Incubator Without Walls Program helps individuals start and expand businesses with five or fewer employees. The course stresses good management, effective marketing and financial controls lead to increased profits, and that business planning leads to business growth, profits and personal satisfaction. Classes are frequently augmented with guest speakers from the local business community, allowing participants to network with local accountants, web designers, bankers, insurance agents and an array of other experts.

The course and the Business Training Manual are free and open to all interested. An application is required. Applications are available by contacting James Macomber at the Penquis CAP IWW Program at 564-7116. Applications must be returned to Penquis CAP in Dover-Foxcroft by Friday, January 13, 2006.

AREA SPORTS NEWS BY BILL SAWTELL

Penquis Boys Bomb FA

Dover Foxcroft, January 12--The Patriots rallied the Ponies to just nine points in the second half as they rolled to a 64-36 win here. The Ponies hit on five three pointers in the first half to remain within striking distance at that time. But it was all Patriots after that.

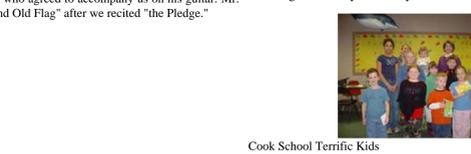
Kole Stevens scored 10 points, all 10 in the first half. And Nate Allen had 10.

Orry Berce and Shane Atkins had 11 for FA.

Quarter Scores:
 Penquis 21 41 56 64
 FA 11 27 30 36

Officials: Cornell and Davis

See here as Patriots Luke Landry, Nate Allen, Russ Berry, and Kole Stevens, who played well in the boys' win at FA on January 12.



See here is Patriot Alex Zwicker, who scored 18 points in the boys' loss to Schenck at home on January 7.

Railroaders Drop First

Milo, January 13 - The Railroaders lost their first game of the season here after a long layoff 40-28 at the hands of the SEDOMOCHA Eagles, who broke open a close game in the fourth period thanks to the rebounding of Ben Richardson, among other factors.

Jake Lyford paced the home team with eight points, and Jerell Anafley played a great all around game for Chris Cowing. Mitchell Fraley is still scoring for the veterans with 12.

SEDOMOCHA turned the ball over 35 times, Penquis 36.

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 SEDO 7 18 25 40
 PVMS 8 18 22 28

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