



# Three Rivers News



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SPONSORED AND PUBLISHED BY THREE RIVERS KIWANIS CLUB AND THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY ALLIANCE  
TO PROMOTE AND SERVE THE TOWNS OF BROWNVILLE, MILO, LAGRANGE, MEDFORD, AND ORNEVILLE

Monday, April 3, 2006 Volume 5 Number 21



THE MILO HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER WILL BE GOING OUT TO MEMBERS IN 2 WEEKS. IF YOUR CLASS HAS ANY NEWS ITEMS TO GO IN IT, CONTACT NANCY GRANT AT 943-5809 OR E-MAIL HER AT [Nancy2310@adelphia.net](mailto:Nancy2310@adelphia.net)



## FEATURED BUSINESS OF THE WEEK HAIR DEZIGNZ



**Patty trimming up Charlie Herbest.**

Patty Estes grew up in Derby and operated her salon, Hair Dezignz, at 5 Railroad Street in Derby for 19 years. She recently relocated her shop in Milo at Studio 6, 6 Garden Way (Milo parking lot), owned by Christine Bolstredge.

She continues to offer the best in hair care from cuts to perms and hair color. For those wishing to get a head start on their summer tans; the downstairs houses a tanning bed. Patty's present hours of business are Tuesday and Wednesday from 3 to 8 p.m. and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The telephone number has remained the same; 943-5164,

Patty's expertise is enhanced by her sunny personality and down home sense of humor. She and her husband Al live in Milo and have a daughter Samantha.

**THE MILO ELEMENTARY PTO will hold a Meeting on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm. Come and share your ideas for this year and next.**



The Milo Garden Club will hold its next meeting on April 11 at the Milo Town Hall at 1 p.m. The speaker will be Kenneth Liberty from Bangor on "Raising Peonies". Guests are welcome. Call 943-2486

## Linus Quilt Day

Join us for a day of Linus quilting at the Milo Town Hall dining room Tues., April 4. at 9:00 AM. We will be making quilts to send to the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute in Boston. We will have some material and batting available if needed. Coffee and dessert will be provided for you. For more information call Dottie Brown at 943-5653 or Ethelyn Treworgy at 943-7748. Hope to see you there! Give us a call if you plan to attend. A second day of quilting will be on April 4.

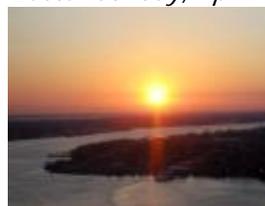


## PIE SALE

Park Street UMC is having a pie sale on Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 12 noon. There will be at least 15 different kinds of homemade pies along with homemade yeast bread and rolls and fruitcake available. Stop by and take home a homemade pie for Easter Dinner.



*There will be an Ecumenical Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2006 at the Milo Elementary School parking lot at 6:00 AM. In the event of rain the service will be held at the Park Street UMC. There will be an Easter breakfast served at Park Street UMC at 7:00 AM following the*



*Sunrise Service. Come and welcome the Risen Lord with us*

**STATEMENT OF POLICY**

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

All items for the paper are sent to us; we are not reporters, and we rely on the public for our articles.

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 [Nancy2310@adelphia.net](mailto:Nancy2310@adelphia.net) or call 943-5809.

Please drop suggestions and comments into a donation box or contact one of us. We welcome your ideas. All opinions are those of the editors unless otherwise stated. We will not publish 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 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	Nancy Grant
P.O. Box 81	10 Belmont Street
Milo, Maine 04463	Milo, Maine 04463

**WANTED:**

**Reporter for Three Rivers News**

We would like to add more local news to the newspaper. We are looking for a volunteer reporter to cover meetings, community activities, etc. News items would need to be e-mailed to Val Robertson or Nancy Grant, our editors. Please contact Val, Nancy or Chris Beres if you would be interested in doing this. REMINDER:

It is only a few months until the Kiwanis Auction. If you have items that you wish to give to the auction, you can arrange to have them picked up now. You can call Murrel Harris at 943-7326 or Joe Zamboni at 943-2271.

All auction proceeds go to serve the children and families in our community.

**BINGO...BINGO...BINGO!!!**

THE MILO AMERICAN LEGION POST 41 HAS BINGO 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 Piscataquis County Republican Committee will meet on Friday, April 7 at 7:00 PM in Dover-Foxcroft at the County Court House's Probate Room. This is a change from the second Friday to the first Friday of the month, for this month only. At the meeting we will discuss the upcoming debate on April 28, 2006. All registered Republicans are urged to attend this meeting. Call Miriam McArthur, 564-0856 if you need additional information.



**My Daddy's a Hero!!!**

Here are some pictures that Stacey Martin took when Jeremy Webb arrived at Camp Lejeune last Friday. Jeremy was greeted by Stacey and D.J. Martin, as well as Jeremy's wife Alex and his new son Jeremy Thomas Webb, Jr. (a.k.a. Baby Bud). Jeremy, Alex and the baby are settling in, as they have only had

about 2 or 3 weeks together since they were married almost a year ago! They will be home in Milo in a few weeks to visit.

### Milo Historical Society Program

The Milo Historical Society will present a public program entitled, "The Piscataquis Archaeological Project in Milo: 1984 to 1989". The program, presented by Milo native, Michael Brigham, will be on Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the society museum on High Street (next to Bailey Lumber Co.). The program will feature examples of Native American artifacts for show and tell and will provide a fascinating look into our region's early history.



### FROM MILO

Milo Elementary staff and students have been celebrating reading through the month of March. On March 3, students and staff in grades 4-6 came to our assembly dressed as their favorite storybook characters. Students have also received a new book through our RIF program. On Friday, March 31, students and staff in grades K-3 dressed as their favorite story book characters for the assembly. We have certainly enjoyed our visits from such characters as Harry Potter, Cinderella, Clifford the Big Red Dog, Miss Bindergarten and many others. If you had attended our assemblies, you would see that our staff will do almost anything to encourage students to read.



### AREA SCHOOL NEWS

#### FROM BROWNVILLE

These Brownville 6th graders have been studying Ancient



Greece. Here they are in costume performing a short skit.



In anticipation of April Fool's Day Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Weston entered school to find some pranksters had visited their classrooms. Cautions signs, animal tails, enter at your own risk signs, and even a MOTORCYCLE in the rooms greeted these teachers. So Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Weston decided to make dunce hats for the ring leaders Alex Zelkan and Ryan Heath. Since these two are just about the quietest boys in 6th grade the teachers were really caught off guard!



Pictures on previous page: 1. Amelia Bedilia and The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe... (Actually, I think Melanie lives on Park Street!) 2. Cinderella



Abraham Lincoln and John Wilkes Booth,



A Hobbit and Raggedy Ann.

The Fifth Grade is working hard to earn money for their trip to Boston. The trip will serve as a wonderful addition to the American history lessons they have learned. They will visit the Children's Science Museum, the Omni Theater and the Freedom Trail. Staff, students and parents have worked hard to raise the funds for this trip. They have had bottle drives, socials, food sales and the like.

March 31, 2006 is the date of the Drama Club's production of "The Emperor's New Clothes." Students in grades 4-6, under the direction of Mrs. Stephanie Gillis, have worked hard after school rehearsing for this production. Three Rivers Kiwanis sponsored the Drama Club and Mrs. Gillis volunteers her time. Students pay a small fee to participate. One of the fifth grade fundraisers was to raffle off "The Best Seat in the House." Mary Hunter was the winner of this raffle. She will have the seat of honor at the play. Fifth grade parents will also be conducting a food sale at the performance.

The Fifth Grade has also had the privilege of raffling off a handmade canoe. Mr. Peter Wallace, parent of a fifth grader, has generously donated his time to make a 15-foot cedar and canvas canoe to raise funds for the Boston Trip. There will be a limited number of tickets sold. The winner will have a canoe that is valued at \$3100 and the class will have roughly \$2000 profit from the raffle. We certainly appreciate the donation from Mr. Wallace and Northwoods Canoe Company of Atkinson.

At the March 23 and 24 in-service day, teachers were trained in the use of a continuum that will be used to score student writing across the district. This document will allow teachers to determine next steps for instruction for their students. It is also calibrated to indicate where students score in relation to the standards of our curriculum. Further training in writing instruction is planned for this summer.

The Third Grade has been working on their Milo History projects. They will present their projects and the slide shows on Thursday, April 6 at 6:30 pm. Board members are invited to attend and see their hard work. Each year the class has support from the Milo Historical Society. Mrs. Katherine Witham offers them a tour of the Historical Society Museum annually.

Andrea Mills, one of our Third Grade teachers, members of the district Wellness Team and representatives of all three elementary schools have put in several hours planning the Health Fair that will take place on April 12th and 13th. Students will have the opportunity to learn about nutrition, exercise and safety during the two days. There are some 18 presenters from around the state who will be at Milo Elementary on those two days. The Crash Test simulator will be there, with Vince and Larry, on Wednesday. A smoke house from the Penobscot County Sheriff's Association will be there both days, thanks to support from the LaGrange Fire Department. Board members are invited to drop in during the two days to see any of the presentations.

On April 28th, thirteen students from the elementary schools will participate in the District V Elementary Honors Vocal Music Festival. They will spend the day in Guilford practicing for the evening performance. The concert will be at 7:00. This is a first for our elementary schools. We are proud of our young musicians. The annual Spring Concert will be on April 27 at the high school. This will be a chance for

our elementary band to perform for a large audience. The band performs each Friday at the assembly. They entertain folks as they wait for the assembly to begin, play the school song and often entertain with numbers throughout the program.

Fourth Graders are learning the recorder. Small groups of them also perform at our weekly assemblies. We have some great future band students. What a joy it has been to hear music in the school. Mr. Eastman does a fine job with the students.

## COOK SCHOOL NEWS

Our assembly began with the fourth and fifth graders singing "You Gotta Have Heart", as we all look forward to the beginning of another baseball season. Many students and staff also wore their favorite baseball shirts to mark the occasion!

Our Terrific Kids this week are Michelle Baker, Michael Doucette, and Bridgette Spinney. Miss K. tells us that Michelle is terrific every week. She has been very enthusiastic about the class commercial they have been working on. She has come ready every day for her role and inspires everyone else. She continues to be a role model for our school. Mrs. Carter is so happy to have Michael back in our school, and he is equally happy to be back. He has adjusted very well to the classroom routines and rules, and is making lots of friends. He has worked especially this week on his planet report and willingly adds more to it when asked. Miss Brown tells us that Bridgette is always terrific. She works hard and always follows directions. She is a great reader and her class loves to listen to her read. We are proud of our terrific kids!

Bus students this week are Hannah, Michael, and Taylor. We love to see students being safe on the bus! We sang happy birthday wishes to Lilly, who turned 9 on March 29.

Move and Improve winners for the past 2 weeks are: Rachael, Cassidy, Billy, Andrew, Sha-Lynn, Laura, Tyler and Haley M. Cassidy and Andrew won for both weeks! Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Johnston won the staff drawings. Caught being good bags were awarded to Ethan, Harmony, Rachael, Andrew, and Billy.

A reminder that the second and third graders will have their solar system projects, posters, and reports on display next Friday, April 7 at 10:15. They will also perform a solar system play at 10:30, and our assembly will follow at the regular time of 10:50.



At the end of the assembly, Mrs. Wright offered a challenge to Miss K. If the Red Sox finish ahead of the Yankees in the regular season, Miss K. has to wear a Red Sox hat for a week on her daily walk. Miss K. and the other NY fans



in LaGrange will be deciding what Mrs. Wright will have to do WHEN the Yankees win.

## Milo Free Public Library News

By Judith Macdougall

What a lovely day this has been (Thursday): temperatures of 57 degrees, sun and the feel of spring everywhere.

This has been a busy week at the library with two children's programs. On Monday, March 27, Melissa Hill presented her Preschool Story Hour. There were four children present and three adults besides Melissa herself. Among the stories she read, she felt the children liked Dawdle Duckling the best. This book was written by Toni Buzzeo, a Portland librarian who has done several popular juvenile books. Dawdle Duckling dawdles and dreams and does not try to catch up to Mama Duckling until danger is near. He then hurries to obey and rushes to safety realizing Mama knows best.

The craft at this session was painting. Melissa had 8 tubes of washable paint which she poured onto paper plates for each child. The paints were so bright that all I could compare them to was shiny wet nail polish. With the 8 paints, the children had a wonderful palette of red, yellow, brown, black, blue, purple, pink and green to work with. They had a splendid time creating works of art to take home. The next Preschool Story Hour will be on Monday, April 24. Melissa would enjoy having more children attend. She always comes prepared to entertain a large group. All preschoolers are welcome to our PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR from 3:30-4:30 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. Caregivers are expected to stay.

On Wednesday we had the Kiwanis Kids Korner with 27 children present. Adults Val Robertson and Frank Cochrane walked down from school, while Key Club members Josh Clement, Katie Patten, Kristen Robinson and Cheryl Roensing were setting out refreshments. Other helpers present were Kambrea Atkinson and Theresa Karpowicz. While drinking juice boxes and eating a variety of wholesome cookies and crackers, the "Kids" enjoyed Val's reading Amelia Bedelia, Bookworm by Herman Parrish. The hilarious series was originally written by Peggy Parrish, but when she was no longer able to write, her nephew Herman began to write new Amelia Bedelia stories in the same vein as his aunt. Amelia Bedelia reacts to situations very literally which makes her books so funny to the lower

elementary crowd. The craft for this group was a bookmark which they decorated with stickers. The bookmark reads "This bookmark is a gift to (name of recipient) from (child's name)". In the lower half it reads, "Reading to me is my gift from you!!" A cute message by which to thank the reader. Again this week the Key Club members and other helpers were so capable. Some helped by keeping order while others were giving guidance on choosing books. They are especially helpful in guiding youngsters who do not have their library cards signed yet to find paperback books. Pam and I only have to deal with answering questions and signing out books. The "Kids" have fun sharing books with friends, trying to choose a book to borrow and, in general, having a good time.

Remember time is getting short and April 18<sup>th</sup> will be here before you know it. INCOME TAX deadline!! The library has many income tax forms, and we can also reproduce the less used forms.

On a lighter note we have had some new titles donated to us. Today Bessie Blodgett brought in several new suspense books and a biography.

Burke, Jan	NINE
Erickson, Carolly	LILIBET (Queen Elizabeth II)
Rose, Karen	DON'T TELL
Rose, Karen	HAVE YOU SEEN HER?
Rose, Karen	I'M WATCHING YOU

Betty Pierce has donated two non-fiction books.

Kornheiser, Tony	I'M BACK FOR MORE CASH (Humorous essays)
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Bourke, Angela	MAEVE BRENNAN (Biography)
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We are certainly pleased with these donations to our collection and know our patrons will be too. Thank you to Bessie Blodgett and Betty Pierce.

Please note:-The library will be closed on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

In Observance of Patriot's Day  
**Library Winter Hours**  
**Mon.-Weds.-Fri. ---2:00-8:00**  
**Saturday 2:00-4:00**  
**Telephone 943-2612**

## Traditions of a Milo-ite

By Kathryn Witham

***One day someone's mother died,  
 And on that clear, cold morning,  
 in the warmth of her bedroom,  
 the daughter was struck with  
 the pain of learning that sometimes  
 there isn't any more.***

***No more hugs,  
 no more lucky moments to celebrate together,  
 no more phone calls just to chat,  
 no more "just one minute."***

***Sometimes, what we care about the most goes away. .  
 never to return before we can say good-bye,  
 say "I Love You."***

***So while we have it. . it's best we love it . . .  
 and care for it and fix it when it's broken. .  
 and take good care of it when it's sick.***

***This is true for partners.... and friendships ...***

***And children with bad report cards;  
 And dogs with bad hips;  
 And aging parents and grandparents.***

***We keep them because they are worth it,  
 because we cherish them.***

***Some things we keep --  
 like a best friend who moved away  
 or a classmate we grew up with.  
 There are just some things that  
 make us happy, no matter what.***

***Life is important,  
 and so are the people we know. . and love  
 and so, we keep them close! Or should!***

I received this recently from a good friend...one I've known all of my life. I was a classmate he grew up with. I didn't copy the instructions, but they said to pass the poem on to "Keepers" in your life...of which I am one in his. I was thrilled to receive it, and happy to pass it on to all of you who have touched my life in some way and made a difference. Of the people who will read this poem, those of you who have made a difference in my life...you know who you are. Please know that I know who you are, too. It didn't go unnoticed and it meant a lot to me. I wish that I had time to be a better friend. I'll try harder in the future.

As Easter approaches here's a recipe for one of those layered salads that are so good. You really need a big clear bowl to put this in. One with a pedestal makes an attractive presentation. I bought one recently for my Angie at the Christmas Tree Shoppe.

### Layered Spinach and Ham Salad

16 cups torn fresh spinach  
 1 tsp. sugar  
 1 tsp. pepper  
 1/4 tsp. salt  
 5 or 6 hard boiled eggs, chopped or sliced  
 1- 1/2 cups cubed up ham (be sure it's fully cooked)  
 1 red onion, sliced in rings  
 1 envelope of ranch salad dressing mix  
 1-1/2 cups mayonnaise  
 1 cup sour cream  
 2 cups shredded Swiss cheese (8 oz. if you buy it in a bag all shredded)  
 1/2 pound bacon, cooked and crumbled

Place 2/3 of the spinach in a 4 quart salad bowl. Sprinkle with half of the sugar, pepper and salt. Top with eggs, ham and remaining 1/3 of the spinach and then the rest of the sugar, pepper and salt. Don't toss this. Arrange the onion slices on top.

In a bowl combine the dressing mix, mayonnaise and sour cream. Spread over the onions. Sprinkle with cheese and bacon. Refrigerate until serving....even overnight if you like. This will serve 8 or 10 people.

### GRAMMIE'S WEATHER APRIL 1982

3-M. sunny am cloudy pm snow-covered ground-then rain-42° at noon. 4-Cloudy am snow flurries windy.

5-Sunny windy-22° at 9:10 pm 6-Sunny snow started in early evening. 7-Snow windy blustery 12 inches-16° at 6:30 am. 8-Cloudy windy am snow flurries pm.

9-Sunny windy-38° at noon.

### "DAD'S FLY ROD"

By Carl Hamlin  
 I had just been to Bangor and was almost up to Dad's house. I hadn't seen him for a day or so, so decided to drop in. I walked in as the door wasn't locked. I went into the living room. Dad was sitting in his recliner with his fly rod across his knees. He was sound asleep. The



ice wouldn't be out of the ponds for another week or so. I just sat down and let him sleep. Looking at the fly rod, I thought of all the memories it held for him and some for me.

I can see him now sitting in the bow of the 10 foot canoe. A big one jumped for his fly and he missed hooking him. The second cast hooked him and we played him for fifteen minutes before I could get the net under him. It was a beauty, about a foot long. Dad admired it for a bit then let him slip back into the water. Dad said, "Another time." With a splash the trout vanished.

Dad loved to fish. Some of the "old timers" can remember seeing him by the bridge in Milo, hoping to catch a salmon or trout coming down from the 'Rips'. The fly rod looked a little bit worse for wear but was still able to 'do the job'.

Dad has taken the long trail now but the memories of the fish taken with the old rod lives on. He didn't fish to catch a lot of fish' but just enjoyed seeing them jump for his fly. If there is a place called "Sportsmen's Heaven", Dad will be there.

The old fly rod is hanging on the wall now and just to look at it brings back lots of wonderful memories!

## THREE RIVERS KIWANIS NEWS



### CHILDREN: PRIORITY ONE

The Three Rivers Kiwanis Club meets at The Restaurant each Wednesday morning at 6:30 to eat breakfast, enjoy fellowship, hear speakers on various interesting topics, and to share ideas. All are welcome to visit with us. If you would like to join our organization, please contact Dorothy Brown or any other Kiwanian for an application. We are involved in many worthwhile local projects and would be very pleased to have you participate in them.

#### MARCH 29, 2006 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

President Chris Beres greeted twenty members and thirteen guests this evening for a social gathering at Pat's Pizza of Milo.

A regular business meeting was dispensed with in lieu of an evening of food, games and conversation. Members report that the pizza was certainly outstanding. Members and some spouses and an interclub of seven from Dover enjoyed an enjoyable gathering with food, fun and games organized by Ethelyn on this the fifth Wednesday of the month. In the past meetings that fall on the fifth Wednesday of the month are sometimes held in the evening hours so that members who are unable to attend the breakfast gatherings each Wednesday morning may have a chance to attend an evening meeting.

The three Rivers Kiwanis would like to thank Pat of Pat's Pizza of Milo for hosting our social gathering this week.

Respectfully submitted by Dottie Brown, secretary.

## UP ON THE FARM

By Valerie Robertson

This picture gives you a hint at what we've dealt with this week at the Robertson house. I would have used pictures of the victims, but frankly, all of us just want to erase the image from our minds...especially Kiera and Bandit.



Here's the whole story. On Wednesday morning I went through my usual routine, feeding and then putting dogs and cats outside to do their business. I let Bandit, Radar, Heikki and Ziggy run loose, as they stay close to home and

come inside after a short while. Kiera is another story. She and Bandit will run like the wind and stay away for hours at a time. If I hook Kiera, she and Bandit play and frolic, and are forced to stay in the yard. On Wednesday, somehow, Kierra was unhooked and she and Bandit were gone before I realized she was free.

I spent the day walking and riding yelling their names from one end of Sargent Hill to the other. I searched the Dover Road, the Hugh's Road and d'Este Road. I tramped through mud and snow to no avail. I hoped that they would get hungry and wander home on their own, but I was also concerned they had gotten on the trail of a deer or other critter and had gotten themselves lost somewhere between here and Sebec, an area of isolation and thick forest.

So I hollered and screeched and cried and hoped they would hear me and fight their natural instincts to run wild and come home where they belong.

At 4pm, Kirby and I discussed our wayward pets and both agreed their luck may run out one of these excursions. I believe this is the fifth time since we have had the two of them that they have stayed away for a significant length of time. Kiera is a full-blooded Pit Bull, Bandit is a Pit-Bull mix. We are fully aware of the reputation and stigma attached to their breed, and we have also seen them frolic with and chase after any thing that will play along. We know that a pet owner could misinterpret this playing with aggression. I know I would go to any lengths to protect my animals and I'm sure there are other owners who would shoot a mean-looking dog to protect their pets or children. We also realize that a busy road-way is never more than one-half a mile away and that our very-doted upon dogs have no fear of anything.

As darkness started to approach, at about 6pm, I made one more trip up the drive-way in my van and drove around the Sargent Hill-d'Este loop. I stopped every so often and yelled, then headed home to see if the dogs were there. As I started down the driveway, I noticed a brown blob heading down the field across from the CD Center, heading towards my house. Upon further and closer inspection I realized the creeping creature was my precious Bandit...very muddy and with a face and body full of quills. His face was completely full of what looked like a "Beard from Hell", and his mouth was held open with what looked like thousands of quills. He had them up his nose, in his top and bottom eye lids, his ears, his front legs and paws and even on his back. Drool and blood ran from his mouth and what I could see of his eyes was begging me to help. I yelled to him between my sobs to come and go for a ride...any dog loves to go for a ride...and he picked his way towards me with his head hanging and his tail between his legs. I wanted to hug him, and hold his head in my hands and tell him I would make him all better, but each movement I made had him whining or crying with pain. I have never felt so helpless or scared. I was thinking, "How could an animal survive such an ordeal?"

Seeing the shape Bandit was in made me dread what condition I would find Kiera in. She is a wonderful, loving sweet, sweet dog, but when they were handing out doggie brains she asked for an extra helping of stomach and forgot the intellect. Most of her waking hours are spent searching for a tid-bit or two. I have seen her eating chicken feed when there was nothing more palatable to fill her round form. I had a vision of her having even more quills than Bandit, and that she easily could have been blinded before she realized she was

being injured. I looked up the hill once more time, but no Kierra.

I drove to the foot of my driveway and ran screeching in the house, spilling the story out in fragments to Kirby...when Kiera appeared at the front yard. To my relief, she seemed in better shape than Bandit and I muttered thanks to who-ever watches out for stupid fat girls, for both Kiera and myself. I had been saved from spending the night combing the woods for a blinded wounded dog, and Kiera was headed for help.

I immediately dialed the number to Foxcroft Vets, a number I know by heart, but took me three attempts to get right. I got the receptionist Mashya on the phone and she said Ron, the vet on call for emergencies, was out on another emergency and wouldn't be back for hours. I sobbed something and she said "Wait, I'll see if I can catch Tina."

After a few moments she came back on the line and said Tina would turn around and come back to help. Tina, is one of the new vets at the office and she is a sweetheart. She said she would meet me at the clinic and I prepared to go.

I was in no state to be driving, but I got a hold of myself and loaded Kiera in the van. Bandit had already gotten in and was cowered against the way-back door rubbing his face and drooling on the carpet. I drove slowly and carefully, knowing a ticket or accident would only slow things down. After a few minutes the dogs were still, I suppose in shock, and the trip was uneventful. I knew Katie was on her way back from Augusta, so I called her on her cell phone and she said she would meet me at the vet's office to help out. I think she knew she would be helping me more than the dogs. How did I get so lucky and have such a wonderful daughter? The mere thought of having her there calmed and comforted me.

I arrived at the vets, roused Bandit and led him in to the office. The Technician and Dr. Tina helped me lift him on to the table and as they administered an intravenous anesthetic, Katie arrived. I asked her to go get Kiera and she brought her in, and then we all conferred on the best plan of action. Knowing that Katie had worked at a veterinarians office, and that I never say no to anything, Tina decided we would lay out both drugged dogs on the same table and start pulling quills. Mashya and Katie started in on Bandit, and Tina grabbed a syringe full of anesthesia and I held Kiera as she filled a vein in the dog's leg with the drug. Kierra dropped and it was at that point we realized we should have gotten the rotund girl closer to the table. Tina is a small lady, but it turns out she is rugged, as she and I lifted the now snoring dog and stumbled our way to the stainless steel table. What a sight! Kiera's voluminous butt had to be placed on top of Bandit's, with their heads in opposite directions. They looked like a "Push-Me-Pull-You" from "Hellraiser" instead of "Dr. Dolittle"!

Well, an hour and 1000 quills later, we were finished. During the extraction of the quills, Bandit had to have his mouth propped open with some sort of stainless steel device, as his tongue and cheeks were full. We removed about 400 from Kierra and 600 from Bandit, and I figured there were about 20 left in each that they had broken off with their pawing of them. Indeed, over the course of the next few days we removed a few dozen more from each of them. The deeper quills work their way to the surface and because of the antibiotics the dogs are taking, are harmlessly removed.

I will be forever grateful to Tina and Mashya for making my babies well again. After the ordeal the two women told me that office protocol dictates that under such

circumstances I was supposed to be directed to the Brewer Emergency Clinic, but when Masyha told Tina "Val Robertson's crying", Tina immediately turned around to come to our aid. That is the kind of heartfelt, loving treatment that makes me so glad we live in the area serviced by Foxcroft Veterinary Service. Thank you to Tina and Masyha. From Bandit, Kiera and most of all from me!

## TUKEY AMONG GREAT AMERICAN GARDENERS

Mr. Paul J. Tukey Receives the Horticultural Communication Award **Alexandria, VA (March 2006)** — A lifelong Maine journalist who spent his childhood summers helping to grow vegetables on a dairy farm is now considered among the best of his profession.

Paul J. Tukey, 45, of New Gloucester, Maine, will be presented with the highest honor in gardening journalism and broadcasting when the American Horticultural Society names him the 2006 winner of the Horticultural Communication Award.

"The American Horticultural Society recognizes American horticultural heroes in a wide variety of professions through the annual Great American Gardeners Awards," says AHS President Katy Moss Warner. "These awards celebrate the best and brightest in our nation, from scientists who develop tough plants for our gardens...to public garden professionals who promote earth friendly gardening practices ...to journalists who popularize gardening throughout America. This year, Paul Tukey is receiving the AHS Horticultural Communication award in recognition of the extraordinary work he has done to encourage gardening through his dynamic talks, his presence on HGTV, and his People, Places & Plants magazine."

Tukey, who hosts a popular gardening program based on his magazine on HGTV at 7 a.m. each Sunday, is one of 12 outstanding members of the horticultural community who will be honored by the American Horticultural Society during its Great American Gardeners Awards Ceremony and Banquet on June 2, 2006. He is just the third Maine recipient of a lifetime achievement award since AHS began the awards in 1953. Horticulturist Lewis Lipp (1972) and iris hybridizer Currier McEwen (1995) were the others.

"To be included among the past recipients of AHS awards is the highest honor of my career, and nothing I could even have dreamed of," said Tukey. "It is something I share with an incredibly dedicated staff at People, Places & Plants and my friends and family who have supported me through all the trials and tribulations of an running an independently owned publishing company in this day and age."

After an award-winning, nine-year career as a sportswriter and newspaper editor, Mr. Tukey followed his love of the outdoors into landscaping and founded his own company, Home 'n Land, in the late 1980s. People, Places & Plants magazine, which he founded in 1995, combined both of his passions of writing and gardening. A television show, co-hosted by Tukey and another AHS award winner, Roger Swain, followed in 2002. Tukey and his company have repeatedly demonstrated their commitment to supporting the independent garden center as well as promoting environmentally friendly gardening — including a book on organic lawn care that is due out from Storey Publishing in early 2007.

"Now more than ever I think it's important to retain an independent voice and be an advocate for the environment and family business," said Tukey. "This award, in great measure, is a validation of the efforts we've made. We really try to make a difference in people's lives."

**VALERIE JEANS BISTRO WILL BE OPEN FOR BRUNCH ON EASTER SUNDAY. THE MENU AND DETAILS WILL BE IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER.**