



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, May 8, 2006 Volume 5 Number 35

The Park Street United Methodist Church will be holding a Tag Sale on Saturday, May 20, 2006 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. There will also be a table of baked goods. Come and see what treasures you can find.

May 20, 2006

Yard and food sale !!! Rain or Shine !

Get some goodies and get your summer bargain hunting off to a good start too.

LaGrange Fire Station, Bennoch Road, LaGrange

Sale to benefit: the Firemen's Fund and the future Veterans Monument.

For more information call : 207.943.2064,

MAINE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Erik Morrill, son of David and Gina Caivano of Milo, and a sophomore at Penquis Valley High School has been chosen to attend the Maine Youth Leadership seminar at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham from May 18-21. This program was formerly the Hugh O'Brien Leadership seminar.

A sophomore from each high school in Maine will attend the seminar and stay in the college dormitory. All meals will be provided. The students will hear from

leaders in the fields of business, education, government and the professions. The students will learn practical skills of planning, decision making, facilitating and reasoning. Maine Youth Leadership is 100 percent volunteer effort with no paid staff and is supported by statewide organizations, business and individuals as well as clubs, especially General Federation Women's Clubs.

Along with listening to motivational speakers, the students will have planned activities that include a talent show, a dance and team building exercises. Morrill is involved in track and band at Penquis Valley.

The Three Rivers Kiwanis Club of Milo/Brownville will be sponsoring a Bike Rodeo on May 13th from 9:00 am - 11:00 am at the Milo Elementary School. The event will be held rain or shine and is for Milo, Brownville and LaGrange children grades K - 6.



Children's bikes will be checked for safety, bike helmets will be available, and a certificate of participating will be presented.

RIVER CLEAN-UP PLANNED

Saturday, May 13 has been set to help with trail maintenance on the River Walk along the Pleasant River between Brownville and Brownville Junction. Workers are to meet at 9:00AM at the Brownville Playground near the southern end of the walk. Materials



have been assembled to replace a bridge. Clearing of brush etc. will also be done. Inquiries regarding equipment or supplies that would be helpful should be made to Terry Knowles or Bob Hamlin.

*Valerie Jean's American Bistro Main Street, Milo
will be featuring a*

Mother's Day meal, by reservation only.

Appetizers: Crab and Red Pepper Bisque

Artichoke Bruchetta

Grilled Shrimp Cocktail

*Baby Spinach Salad (tossed with pistachios, dried
cranberries and Maple Vinaigrette)*

Entrees: Roasted Spring Lamb

(served with a minted peppercorn sauce)

"Shrimpie" Haddock Fresh fillet topped with a mixture

Maine shrimp, parmesan Cheese, herbs and spices

Roasted Pork Tenderloin

Finished with our own BBQ Sauce

Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo over homemade pasta

Desserts: Flourless Chocolate Torte

Served in a pool of raspberry Sauce

Carrot Cake with cream cheese Frosting

Lemon Cheesecake

Ice cream puff with hot fudge

\$17.95/ person (does not include tax or gratuity)

CALL 943-7479

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.



LOBSTER AND STEAK RAFFLE

To benefit Student Ambassador
Dylan Flagg
4 Lobster and 2 Porterhouse Steaks



Choice of 2 Homemade Salads
(Coleslaw, Potato, Macaroni)

Drawing will be held on May 24,
2006

Price for tickets is .50 each or 3 for
\$1.00

For tickets contact: Suzy Ricker @ 943 - 2692
Debbie Flagg @ 943 - 8821 Terri Noke @ 965 - 7821
Staci Beaulieu @ 943 - 2889



1st Annual Meeting of the Penquis Valley High School Alumni

July 22, 2006 from 2 - 4 p.m.

At Ed Winger Auditorium, Milo, Maine

To all PVHS Alumni,

Penquis Valley High School graduated its first class in 1969 - 37 years ago. Since that time, there have been many class reunions as former classmates reunited and talked about their high school years and what they have done since. What has been missing? To this day, Penquis does not have an Alumni Association. If you went to Brownville or Milo High School, you have active Alumni Associations that meet each year and provide scholarships to graduating seniors. I was only able to attend one of our class reunions. It was really great to see many of my classmates from the Class of '73. But the one thing that was missing was seeing friends from the other 6 classes that attended during my 4 years at PVHS. Milo and Brownville Alumni have fairly active groups, but their population gets smaller each year. PVHS Alumni, on the other hand, grows with each graduating class. I envision this group to not only be the social event of the year, but also to provide help for graduating students in the form of scholarships.

This summer we will hold our first meeting (reunion) for everyone that has ever attended PVHS this July 22nd from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Once we get organized I believe this could be one of the area's premiere events. Just think, not only your classmates, but the upper classmates and those that followed after you, all getting together each year. While I know there are a lot of people that will not be able to make the event, I also believe there are many that have been looking for just this opportunity. Who is eligible for membership? Anyone who ever attended, taught, or worked at PVHS. Notice that I did not say graduated. If you were a teacher, bus driver, cafeteria worker, or did not finish school.....you were there and a part of PVHS.

If you noticed the time scheduled for our reunion, you may think that is too short of a time. But, there are many other things going on in the area that same weekend. I believe the Class of '76 is having their 30th reunion that same day, as well as the 100th Anniversary of the Milo Fire Department (which includes a street dance that night). Other classes might want to take the opportunity for individual events following our annual meeting. The possibilities are unlimited.

I'm asking for your help to make this event a success. If you have contact with any of your former classmates, pass this information along to them. If you have any ideas on how to make this event and this organization a success, please pass them on to me, or better yet, be there on the 22nd of July and participate.

Thanks so much; and I look forward to seeing you this summer,
Gerry Demers
PVHS Alumni, Class of '73
demersg@vtrocket.com

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. 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 or call 943-2324.

Nancy Grant, 10 Belmont St. Milo, Maine 04463, e-mailed to 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 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 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

(850) 585-4345

Valerie Jean's-An American Bistro Welcomes you for your Prom dinner **Prom Special: Dinner for Two**

Appetizer- Cheese Quesadilla

Entrees-

- ❖ Teriyaki beef tips over rice
- ❖ Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad
- ❖ Fettucine Alfredo

Dessert- Ice cream puff with hot fudge

\$30/ couple (includes beverage, tax and tip)

Reserve early, seating is limited943-7470



PENQUIS VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL HAS SPRING FLING

Students in the 7th and 8th grade at Penquis Valley in Milo recently held a fun afternoon of games at the school. The middle school student council organized the event and students signed up to compete. Games included an orange race, pass the donut by straw, toughest Railroader, egg carry race, cupcake eating contest, whipped cream pile up and tug of war. The 8th graders won most of the events.

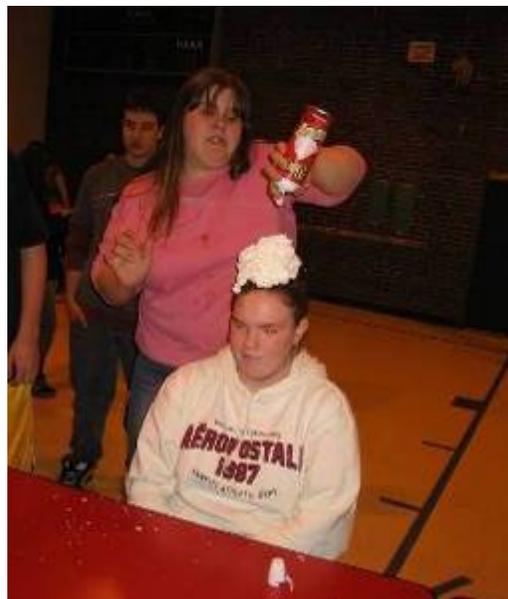


Sara Lemik and Richie Russell attempt to pass the donut via straw without using their hands at the Spring Fling at Penquis Valley

Justin Ottmann gets whipped cream piled on top of his head



by Lenora Gardner. The highest pile of cream won the contest during the Spring Fling at Penquis Valley
Ashley Renner piles the whipped cream on top of Tiffany



Tuscano's head during the Spring Fling at Penquis Valley.

STUDENT LEADERS AT PENQUIS VALLEY

Pictured are student leaders Joe Leland, Nycole Carey, Shelby



Fowles, Ben Ogden, Brittney Newbert, Sara Lemik and James Gledhill. Not pictured are Robbie Pelletier, Miranda McSwine, and Adam Stanley

Ten students from Penquis Valley School have been chosen as leaders. In October they attended a leadership training program at the University of Maine in Orono. This program was run by the National Center for Student Aspirations and the Peace Studies Institute. Students were challenged to show leadership skills and to see what they could do to make a difference in their school. When they returned to the school they met frequently as a team with Phil Brown, guidance counselor. They looked at how the school could be a better place for students. The things they would like to change included having students show greater respect, dealing with conflicts in better ways and taking their education more seriously.

Members of the Leadership Team are juniors Ben Ogden and Miranda McSwine; sophomores Adam Stanley and Nycole Carey; freshmen Brittney Newbert and Joe Leland; and 8th graders Robbie Pelletier, James Gledhill, Shelby Fowles and Sara Lemik.

Principal Scott Gordon and Assistant Principal Clay Savage were interested in the group's goals and attended their meetings to listen to the concerns and ideas and to offer their support.

One project was to invite Ed Gerety to speak at school at an assembly about taking responsibility in leadership. Mr. Gerety spoke at two separate assemblies and delivered many messages to the students.

Mr. Gordon and Mr. Savage appreciated the group's work and see this as a beginning. They are planning ways to encourage more students to take leadership and responsibility for making Penquis Valley a great place to get an education.



Brownville held its Terrific Kid assembly on Thursday May 4th with Mrs. Witham serving as our Kiwanian Friend. Honored were Jessica Clement and Krishanna Cook (our District 5 songbirds) for Grade 5; Anthony Murano, Grade 6; ShaeLynn Drew in Grade 2, Ryan Robinson in Grade 3, Gage McLaughlin in Grade 4, Dillon Watters in Grade 1 and Alexandria Kearns in Kindergarten. Congratulations to all of Brownville Elementary Totally Terrific Kids!!



The Students and staff at the Marion C. Cook School took part in ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) on Wednesday, May 3. Project ACES takes place on the first Wednesday in May as part of National Physical Fitness and Sports Month along with National Physical Education Week. It has been labeled as "the world's largest exercise class" by the media. Since 1989, millions of children from all over the world exercise together to promote proper health and fitness habits. With the obesity epidemic facing the youth of the world, children's fitness plays a major role in fighting heart disease. Each school organizes its own participation for the 15-45

minutes the program runs. There is no specific routine to follow, just have the children do some form of exercise. The goal is to have everyone in the school have some fun by moving and exercising together. At the Cook School, all the students gathered in the gym for an invigorating version of the "Hokey Pokey" before heading outside for a healthy 30 minute walk.

Open at 73 Elm Street, Milo, Maine Serendipity



(A most unusual RESALE SHOP) Serendipity is defined as "luck in finding something NOT SOUGHT. Hours of operation MON-THURS-FRI and Saturday 9 AM TO 4 P M or by chance. Entrance at the back door.

**For BJHS ALUMNI BUILDING RENTALS:
Please contact Joan Owens at 965-2921.**

4-H Springs Into Easter



Kerri Ellen Whitten from Brownville Junction. She is the youngest 4-H member in the Milo Musketeers 4-H Club.

4-H youth and adult volunteers from the Milo Musketeers, Shining Hearts, Piscataquis Family 4-H and Wild Mustangs 4-H Clubs & Independent members delivered a lot of spring & sunshine to 200 residents from Brownville, Dover, Dexter & Milo.

All the residents at Quarry Pines in Brownville, Pleasant Park & the Garden Apartments in Milo received 12 handmade spring and Easter cards and a hand painted glass basket filled with candies from the Milo Musketeers 4-H Club. Youth involved were Danielle & Joey Whitten; Dana Sherwood; Rachel & Karri Whitten; Mercedes Purdue; Rebekah & Isaac Amos & Nathan Champagne. Adults included Linda Champagne and Linda Whitten, (Leader) & Willis Whitten.

The Shining Hearts 4-H Club made homemade spring & Easter cards for 60 residents at Dexter Health Care. Youth involved were Courtney Taylor; Tristan & Danica French; Jazzmine & Morgan Gray; Tessa DUBY; Miriah & Jenna Chapman; Sam Qualey; Ally Cooper; Amaya & Jasmine White. Adults included Paula Taylor, (Leader); Rose Santos; Deb Chapman; Vicki French & Anne Cooper. Members of the Shining Hearts 4-H Club will be having a tea party for all the residents on April 18th at Dexter Health Care.

Members of the Piscataquis Family 4-H Club made cards for the residents at Hilltop Manor. Youth who lovingly made cards include Amber, Seth & Chelsie Oldfield; Vanessa Baird & Cassie Curtis. A special thank you to Brenda Oldfield, club Leader. Members of the Piscataquis Family 4-H Club included the local Girls Scouts in their card making activities. Thank you Girl Scouts!

The Wild Mustangs 4-H Club made cards for the residents at Pleasant Meadow Estates. Youth who made cards are Isaac & Rebekah Amos; Nathan Champagne; Josiah & Katrina Corbin; Brie Limoges & Elias Twitchell. Adults included Marie Stupakewicz, (Leader); Linda Champagne; Rita Corbin & David Twitchell.

A very special thank you goes to two Independent 4-H members Danielle & Megan Soden for making Easter & spring cards for the residents at Pleasant Meadow Estates in Dover.

A special thank you goes to the 4-H'ers who delivered the spring & Easter cards to Pleasant Meadow Estates & Hilltop Manor. They are Karri, Linda & Willis Whitten; Dana Sherwood; Rebekah & Isaac Amos and Nathan & Linda Champagne.

How amazing our 4-H youth are today! They lovingly made 2400 Easter cards and brought a lot of sunshine to everyone.

STUDENTS WIN IN HEALTH OCCUPATIONS COMPETITION

Kayla Bailey, a senior at Penquis Valley High School, and a student at in the Health Occupations program at Tri County Technical Center in Dexter, recently competed in the HOSA (Health Occupations Students of America) at the state competition held at the Samoset in Rockland. Kayla and Katie McKusick, a senior at Piscataquis Community High School in Guilford, competed in "Outstanding HOSA Chapter" where they had to make a scrapbook of everything they have done in the program this year. They won a gold medal and a trip to Anaheim, CA where they will compete at the national level. They will be spending a week in California in June. All expenses will be paid. Kayla also competed in the National Recognition Program.

The HOSA spring conference was dedicated to their Health Occupations instructor Beth Weatherbee. Weatherbee was also named HOSA advisor of the year and she will be recognized at the national level.

Kayla is the daughter of Bonnie Herbest and Eric Bailey of Milo. She plans to continue her nursing career at Central Maine Community College.

Kelsey Ottmann had an RBI fly ball to center field to extend the Lady Pat's lead 6-0 in the 5th inning vs. Searsport. Kelsey

also stole home on a passed ball by the catcher. The Penquis girls are now 4-2 with 4 games to play this week.



Britnee Genthner had a bunt single and another single off a fly ball to center field in the game against Searsport on Friday.

Traditions of a Milo-ite

by Kathryn Witham

I could barely believe my ears when my daughter called to tell us that Murrel Harris had passed away...quite peacefully it would appear...last Saturday morning. The wind came completely out of our sails. It was like a bad dream that we hoped to wake from. The day progressed and the bad day persevered. I kept going over the impact of Murrel's passing...over and over and over again. I read this week's paper and thought about all that he meant to everyone in town, and I thought....and so much more.

I'd known Murrel all of my life, but our real friendship started in the fall of 1969. Those were the pre-Laurel days....and the pre-Carroll days. Murrel and I shared a large circle of friends who partied hard, and bar hopped, and danced at the Lantern's Four to Creedance Clearwater Revival songs. We listened to music and went to movies and laughed and talked endlessly about whatever. We were all such good friends. Just before Christmas that year, Murrel's friend Carroll Witham started hanging around with all of us....and the rest is history. He introduced me to the love of my life and I never will forget him (and some jokingly would say, forgive him) for that fateful introduction. If not for Murrel, there would be no Kathy and Carroll.

No one was happier for Murrel than Carroll and I when he met and married Laurel. God meant for Murrel and Laurel to get together and raise their big family of children. Oh my, how he loved his children. I never sat in that office chair, the one reserved for guests, that we didn't talk about our longtime friendship...and then catch up on our children. As big a bragger as I am, I was hard pressed to top him in the bragging department.

Murrel and I could talk for hours about politics....globally, nationally, State of Maine, and local. For the most part we agreed on everything...but sometimes not. It was always fun to talk with someone who felt as strongly about this community as I did...even if we sometimes disagreed on what would be good for the town. His down-to-earth ideas usually worked better than my grandiose plans. He had a way of weeding out what wouldn't realistically

work. I soon learned that if Murrel was behind it...it probably would be a "go". If he wasn't involved, there was a pretty good reason.

Val touched on Murrel's sense of humor when she wrote about him in last week's paper. When I sit and ponder this man that so many of us loved and counted on, I hear his voice and I especially hear his laugh. I can hear Carroll and Murrel joking...laughing at old memories and sparring back and forth with shared stories like a comedic tag team. I couldn't imagine anyone who was ever in their presence going away from the encounter in anything but stitches. I always thought that it would be great fun to set the two of them up on the stage...and just toss out names...or places...or situations...and listen to their schtick. They fed off of each other, like a couple of nit picking baboons. They had years of shared experiences and their minds were in perfect sync. If you threw Mike and Mark Mulherin, Tony and Peter Hamlin, and David (Sid) Cook into the mix, what a gig that would be.

Yes, we're all going to miss Murrel Harris. His childhood friends from Willow Street, his high school classmates, his pre-marriage and pre-responsibilities friends, his mother and wife and children, all of the young athletes whose lives he has touched, the Three Rivers Kiwanis, The Town of Milo, especially the fire department, and the list goes on....as will his legacy.

So....if you see a Bad Moon Rising....or hear CCR on an oldies station...think of Murrel...I know I will. I love ya Murrel, Kath

CELEBRATING MURREL

BY VALERIE ROBERTSON

For all of you who don't know me, I want to start this article out by explaining I am not an old woman. I point that out because I am about to do something I used to think was only done by old women, actually the words "old hens" come to mind. I am going to describe Murrel's memorial services, and thanks to Karen Clark (also not an old hen), I have pictures!

And also, before I go any further I want to tell all of you who only knew Murrel casually, that I will be using humor as one of the vehicles to go about this account. As somber and horrible as this past week has been for our town, it has also been a week of many smiles and laughs, because that's what Murrel did for us and will continue to do for us. He made our world a fun, happy place, and telling stories of Murrel, and even his remembrance ceremonies and gatherings were punctuated with spurts of laughter and bursts of smiles.

I will preface this also with a warning: This is my way of helping myself miss my friend , honor him , and try to move into the next phase of life without him. An emotional rollercoaster is a much-used phrase that somewhat describes that process. I can only imagine the hundreds of others who are going through the same.

Murrel's family has been one of the greatest tributes to a man that anyone could ask for. No one of them reacted any way other than what their personalities and raw, unfettered emotions would warrant. You could feel and almost grasp the love and sorrow and loss where ever they were. And you could bet that Murrel was hovering close-by noticing, as did we all, what a good-looking bunch they were. Murrel was a handsome man (I know he was because he told me at least twice a day), and he would be proud of the way his family stood tall, proud and handsome.

Murrel's visiting hours on Wednesday set all records for the town of Milo's recent viewings. Over 700 people from every corner of the State of Maine came to pay their respect to Murrel. I stood in line for the evening tribute with a man from Orrington who coached the Center Drive School baseball team and he held a baseball that his players had signed. The line to enter the funeral home stretched back to Spring Street for the entire duration of the visiting hours. Young folks,

older folks and all ages in between waited patiently to have the opportunity to try and say what they could to family members. Each one had a reason Murrel was important to them, and every word was a chance to remember and honor him.

Also in the line were members of Murrel's Fantasy Baseball or Football leagues. One of the guys, Mike Fagan, our league's most ardent Red Sox fan and some one who spoke to Murrel 4 or 5 times a day...about baseball, came dressed in his authentic Red Sox uniform that he acquired when he attended Red Sox Fantasy camp 2 summers ago. We all watched expectantly to see if a person could actually spin in a coffin. but Murrel stayed put. Laurel understood the tribute Mike was showing and there is a picture of Mike giving Laurel a kiss..and still Murrel lies flat. I guess there is no turning over-must be and old wife's tale.

Earlier in the day Murrel's baseball team had played a home game, and the field had become a remembrance field. As many stories flew through the air as baseballs did. What a brave and dedicated bunch of fellows Murrel coached. He taught them as much about life and how to view it as he did about baseball. Every single time any game of any kind is played on Harris field, Murrel will be with the players. We now have our own Angel in the Outfield. Ok...maybe it's a Yankee in the Outfield, but you know what I mean!

Thursday was a beautiful spring day in Milo. The kind of day that Murrel would don his shorts and sandals and head to the field to "mow". I guess he actually did sometimes climb on the riding mower and do some mowing, but most of the time when I went to what was Elm Street Field and is now Harris Field, I would find him with his elbows on the fence admiring the grass and watching someone else do the mowing. I'll bet Murrel could have even tricked Tom Sawyer into painting his own fence.

Thursday was also the day of Murrel's funeral. For a man who loved Milo and loved the sun, it was a perfect day for being alive. Certainly not for what was this day was to be. As early as 2 PM, people began arriving for the 4 o'clock service. I think most of them needed, as I did, to have this happen and hopefully help us once again feel and experience that sense of community and belonging that Murrel did so well. He was pulling us together to heal and to feel.. and those feelings may not always be good ones, but they would be real and they would be shared.

Murrel's body was taken from the funeral home to his field, where his friends and fellow firefighters loaded his



casket onto a fire truck, driven by his son Mike. The procession drove to the PVHS front door, where the fire truck was backed-up and Murrel was carried into the gym by his dear friends and family...most of them were both...and placed in the

front of auditorium by the stage. The casket was opened, his mementos were placed in it, and an American flag was draped over the top of it. The whole surreal scene was dramatic and tasteful. Well, I actually don't know much about tasteful, but it looked perfect to me. Murrel would have loved it. He often joked that his funeral would be the biggest and most talked about event to ever hit the Town of Milo, and by golly, he was right.



The service began with Stephanie Gillis's group singing, and although I didn't recognize the first song, it was a sweet tribute to Murrel's good heart and kindness to kids. I think it was "Angels Among Us" and words can't describe the sweetness of those children's voices and the heart-breaking image of sweet little Brooke Morrill trying to be brave and to sing her heart out like Stephanie asked them to do, while sobbing uncontrollably at the loss of her coach and her friend. The crying moved from child to child as their song moved every single person in the gym.

The second song was a rousing rendition of "Take Me Out To the Ballgame", with a personalized twist added for Murrel. The kids each had on a tribute baseball cap made specially to honor Murrel, in black for Milo High with red stitching to signify the Fire Department. The hats are going to be made available from Berg Enterprises if people want to purchase one and details will be in next week's Three Rivers News. In one of those "roller coaster" moves, we were all smiling. And singing. Stephanie took the microphone after the singing, tearfully said a few words, and to show Murrel's impact on sports in Milo, had all of the people who had at one time or another been in one of Murrel's Recreation programs stand, starting with the '70's and continuing by decades to present day. ..Every one who stood signified a life made better by Murrel. What a great idea from a woman who touches so many young lives.

Each person who spoke and eulogized Murrel added to the story of the life man we loved. Peter and Tony Hamlin each added anecdotes from Murrel's younger days, and told of how Murrel developed the Recreation program into what it is. As Peter was speaking, I recalled a Town meeting 20 or more years ago, back during the time when Murrel and his position always needed to be defended. Peter stood at that meeting and said, "If it wasn't for Murrel and his programs, us old guys would have no where to go to play ball and we'd all just sit home and keel over dead from a heart-attack!". Murrel got and kept his position.

No person in Milo is a better speaker or story-teller than Tony Hamlin. He gave his best yet as he humored us with anecdotes about Murrel and The Willow Street Gang. His vision of Murrel in Baseball Heaven was weaved with wonderful imagery and with people who loved and were loved by Murrel and have since passed on. Tony did more to help us than he will ever know. He too, is a town treasure who loves and mentors our children.

Edwin Treworgy is another of our town treasures and to hear him speak with such love and respect for Murrel is another incredible tribute and honor. His wonderful baritone speaking voice could make a reading of the phonebook sound artistic, and it soothed and warmed all who were there.

After the orations the flag was folded and presented to Laurel as "Taps" played. What a patriotic ceremony that was. Murrel loved his country as much as a person could and would be moved by the gesture.

After the funeral, we were treated to a chance to congregate in the PVHS Cafeteria. Gini Morrill, with the help of dozens of folks, gave everyone a chance to talk and eat, two of the things we in Milo do best. The stories flowed and the tears flowed, laughter broke through and we healed a little. None of our lives will ever be the same. We will miss Murrel in a way that will always be unique and deep. Many times we will reach for the phone or head for the Town Hall to shoot the bull with our friend. His name will be spoken over and over and in time we will not feel as sorry for ourselves for losing him as we will feel for those who never knew him. Good-Bye dear friend. Do what needs to be done where ever you are...or at least find someone you can sweet-talk into getting it done.

We miss you.



Day Is Done

Val,

What a great edition of the Three Rivers News. Your stories about Murrel made me laugh out loud. (Just like you said, we all have our stories.) It was some relief for so many of us who heard the news this weekend and couldn't believe our ears. I, like many parents, was thinking "How am I gonna tell my kids?" especially my son, Peter, who was selected WAY too many times as Murrel's Farm League Player of the Day last year. I expected the time my emotions would really come to the surface was later this week when the entire town will attend his service at the high school. However, when I scrolled down and saw the team photo with *his boys*, the high school baseball team, my eyes welled up with tears.

How many of us have nearly the same photos on our walls or in our albums with Coach Murrel and his boys (and girls!), ages anywhere from 3 to 18? Murrel said to me at a practice last summer as I scurried around to keep up with my very active toddler, "Ethan better be you last one you have 'cause I can't do this forever you know!" Well, Ethan's going to miss out on a very special person who helped shape the lives of so many young people in our community. Murrel is someone we'll never forget. Sincerely, Shannon Greaney

FROM MATT IN MALI

Dear everyone,

All is going very well in Mali and I hope the same for you. The temperature is almost unbearable, but there are only about 4 weeks left of ridiculous heat - then the rain cometh. For those of you at home in your "50° F" or your "air-conditioning" that would like to get an idea of what it's like in Mali right now, go put on a sweat suit and sit next to a blazing fire for about 45m without moving. For additional "wind-like" effects, take your mom's/wife's/girlfriend's/sister's blow dryer, turn it up to "hot as hell" and "ludicrous speed" and hold it next to your head for another 15m. Now, wasn't that lovely? I would have to say that Mali is not a hot vacation spot from February - June (pun intended).

During the past weekend, we had the official inauguration of the basketball court in my village. There were several speeches given (myself included), dribbling/passing demonstrations put on by the kids, and a short game, which I refereed. That night, we had a dance and I was the guest of honor. I had a really great time and was moved by many of the comments made by the teachers, my mayor, and other various community members. The President of the Kayes Basketball League was also in attendance. He is very excited about the new court and intends on having my village play the teams from Kayes competitively, as well as train players, referees, and coaches. That has me very pleased because I know that the interest level won't taper off once I leave. I can already see a great amount of improvement since we started playing in January.

I recently had a visit from my supervisor and the Peace Corps intends on replacing me with a new volunteer from the group that is arriving at the end of June. Thus, if all goes as planned, I will be leaving at the end of the September to return to the U.S. - about two months earlier than I had expected. So suddenly, I have about 21 weeks left before I leave, which kind of scares me. My time here has gone by so quickly. It saddens me to think about leaving some of these people, although I will definitely visit again in the future. A thought that I've had is that once I get married, I would like to come back to my village and have a Malian wedding. I mean, come on, a Malian honeymoon? What girl wouldn't want that? We could feed each other couscous instead of wedding cake! (not a Malian tradition by the way)

I have a new interesting story to tell. I am now the proud owner of a 10-foot long python skin. My friend Hawa's husband shot it last week about 4km outside of my village (comforting thought). I didn't hear about it until the next morning and unfortunately wasn't able to sample any of the breakfast python meat. But I immediately told Juru that I would buy the skin. It should be ready when I get back to village.

In July, I'm going to travel through most of western Mali with my friends Brett, Melissa, and Melissa's relatives that are coming to visit. We'll be going to Timbuktu, which should be an interesting experience, although it's usually overrun with tourists, which means plenty of harassment by people either wanting to sell you crap or be your tour guide. But I'm sure that we're going to have a great time. I'll be sure to take lots of pictures so that you can see other parts of Mali.

I suppose that's all for now. I hope that this letter finds you all happy and healthy. Take care and stay in touch

Peace and Love,

Matt

And he added:

Val, I sent out my email before I had a chance to read the Three Rivers News. I am deeply saddened by the passing of Murrel. I wish that I could be there for the funeral to grieve with the Harris family and the Penquis community. I don't know what else to say at the moment...I am a bit lost for words. Please give Laurel, Mike, and Lance hugs for me if you see them.

Love, Matt

A Note From Val: Murrel loved what Matt was doing and looked forward to reading updates on his Mali adventures. I remember mentioning to Murrel that I would like to have Kiwanis vote to send money to Matt for his various projects for the children of his village, and that they were far away and the club liked to help kids closer to home. Murrel without hesitation said "Kids are kids and if they need something it doesn't matter where they live." Amen

From Tom Howard:

I want to send this to you, Val. WMME (92 Moose) has a tribute to Murrel on the station's website. Here's a link:

<http://www.92moose.fm/mms.htm>

Tom Howard

Murrel did a movie review on a weekly basis for the station and the DJ's were devastated when they learned of Murrel's death.

Milo Free Public Library News

By Judith Macdougall

Our town lost a much loved citizen this past week-Murrel Harris. Although I did not know him as well as town athletes did, he was always cheerful and friendly when I was in the town hall and was always a big help when we were setting up the summer reading program party. I knew he was involved in several town activities such as the Secret Santa and the Kiwanis, but I had no idea how much he was a part of so many town events until I read his obituary in the paper. The articles by Bill Sawtell and Val Robertson also presented many different sides of Murrel. This man will really be missed. His leaving will affect us all.

The library has seen much activity this week and not during library hours as is the usual time. During the past winter the ceiling in the office has cracked badly, and I actually saw little flakes of plaster at times on my dark red jacket where it hung under the badly broken corner. Suddenly the ceiling became a priority. On Tuesday Ed Roberts and a helper put up a new dropped ceiling. The tiles look neat and clean and safe. The new ceiling should make the office easier to heat too as our 12 feet high ceiling is now 10 feet 4 inches. The new tiles are very attractive, and Pam and I are pleased to have this new addition.

We have received new books this week from Baker and Taylor. They are processed and ready to circulate.

Baigent, Michael	NF	THE JESUS PAPERS
Berensen, Alex		THE FAITHFUL SPY
Bilston, Sarah		BED REST
Coben, Harlan		PROMISE ME
Crusie, Jennifer		DON'T LOOK DOWN
Davidson, Diane Mott		DARK TORTE
Goudge, Eileen		IMMEDIATE FAMILY
Kingsbury, Karen		DIVINE
Lewis, Beverly		THE ENGLISHER
		(Book 2-Annie's People)
Macomber, Debbie		SUSANNAH'S GARDEN
Michaels, Fern		SEA GYPSY

Mitchard, Jacquelyn	CAGE OF STARS
Nance, John J.	ORBIT
Tyler, Anne	DIGGING TO AMERICA
Unger, Lisa	BEAUTIFUL LIES
White, Stephen	KILL ME

We have also received 3 new juvenile books by noted authors.

Henkes, Kevin	LILLY'S BIG DAY (Lilly is one of my favorite juvenile characters)
Wells, Rosemary	THE MIRACULOUS TALE OF THE TWO MARIES
Miller, Debbie S.	NF BIG ALASKA (An eagle flies across the state introducing the reader to special sights. Fabulous illustrations)

Please note that the library will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of Memorial Day. The library will be closed on Saturday, May 27 and all Saturdays until September 9 after Labor Day.
Library Winter Hours
Mon.-Wed.-Fri.---2:00-8:00
Saturday 2:00-4:00
Telephone 943-2612

CURIOSITY SHOPS OPENING IN MILO

Two new businesses are coming to Milo; Rose Consignments and Second Thoughts, located at 5 Elm Street beside the Head Shop. They will offer customers an opportunity to shop locally for gifts, crafts, collectibles, and books.

Owner of Rose Consignments, Monica Demers and Second thoughts owner, Victoria Eastman, are anticipating their opening day on May 22nd. At present they are busy painting, making shelves and readying this former office space for a fun, interesting, and whimsical place for customers to explore.

Rose Consignments offers a special "Gallery" where arts and crafts will be displayed and for sale. In another room called "the Treasure Trove" shoppers will discover a unique selection of quality used items in excellent condition. Monica Demers meticulously chooses items for resale in the shop and



beyond its walls. For example, all ready for sale are a rare Harley Davidson motorcycle and a Ford Mustang convertible!

Thirty years of inventory, as well as generous donations by book lovers, have provided a golden opportunity for Victoria Eastman to see her lifelong dream become a reality in the opening of Second Thoughts. The shop will focus on providing quality used books for all ages and interests. Adding to the personality of the shop, figurines, knickknacks, and inexpensive collectibles offer yet another source for shoppers to indulge themselves for their friends.

"Sharing this space has made it possible for two dreams to come true," Victoria smiles, "at long last."

Under the heading of The Curiosity Shops special events are schedules for the public to enjoy. In June, a Pampered Chef Party is scheduled and orders for these exceptional products may be placed at The Curiosity Shop throughout that month.

Graduating seniors may stop in for a congratulatory gift.

In July, Curiosity Shops will join in the Milo Fire Department's 100th Anniversary Celebration.

In the meantime, join Monica and Victoria as they open Rose Consignments and Second Thoughts at 5 Elm Street in Milo on May 22nd. On Memorial Day please stop in for a token of their appreciation for those who serve and welcome visitors to their Curiosity Shops.

For more information please call:

Rose Consignments – 943-3041 Second Thoughts – 943-2400

A Note of Thanks

The Brownville Jct. Service Club, after many years in existence, is closing up shop. We would like to thank everyone who has donated to us and ordered quilts from us. We would like to say " Special Thanks" to the Legion men for all their help.

We hope we have helped the Service Men and Women we sent cards and money to over the years.

Thursday, May 11, 2006 WIDOWED PERSONS will meet for lunch at 11:30 am at The Covered Bridge Restaurant in Guilford. More info call Helga at 564-7586 or Ila at 965-9511.

RECRUITMENT FOR HEAD START

Penquis Child Development: Milo Head Start is accepting applications for the 2006-2007 program year. Milo Head Start serves income eligible children ages 3-5 and their families, in its preschool program.

Call 943-2111 or 973-3537 for an application.

IN MEMORIAM

LAGRANGE - Joseph Thurston, 40, died April 28, 2006, unexpectedly to be with the Lord and his beloved mother. He was born June 29, 1965, the son of Benjamin House and Dorothy Dever. Joe was born in Portland, but followed his sister to the Bangor area. He had many friends due to his loving and caring personality, but he loved his family first and foremost along with an exceptional love for all animals. It wouldn't be uncommon to see a pet eating a steak and Joe eating a bowl of cereal. Joe was an avid painter and carpenter who enjoyed working with his hands and creating, in his eyes, works of art. Joe loved music and playing the drums, which he had done since childhood. Joe lived every minute of every day to the fullest. He believed in the human spirit and never judged a book by its cover. A forgiver of faults, Joe always brought out the best in people he met. Joe never left with good-byes only take it easy and I love ya. Joseph "Guido" Thurston, father, brother, friend and to all others, Uncle Joe, "You are a true inspiration," we will miss you greatly. He is survived by one sister, Karen Rowe; one brother, Toby Thurston; nieces, Marcia, Shauna, and Crissy; two sons, Joseph Jr. and Nicholas; two daughters, Brielle and baby, Oceana; girlfriend, Jennifer Preston. He was predeceased by his father, his mother, one brother and one sister. A celebration of Joe's life will be held 3 p.m. Saturday, May 6, officiated by Pastor Jerry Mick at Bangor Baptist Church, Broadway. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Bangor Humane Society.

REGINA E. BOWLEY ORONO - Regina E. Bowley, 86, died April 29, 2006. She was born Oct. 28, 1919, the daughter of Lester and Sarah (O'Donell) Archer. She is survived by one sister, Pauline Ellis and husband, Gerald; one daughter; Vivian McCormick and her friend, Tony Cyr, of Alton; two sons, Carlton Bowley and his wife, Nancy, of Milo, and David Bowley and his wife, Ann, of Husdon; a very, very close friend, Rena Hile of Orono; eight grandchildren, Ronald, Ricky, Liani, Lisa, Lorri, Leah, Karen and Gail, 10 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren and many good friends. She was predeceased by her husband, Milo Bowley; five brothers and four sisters. A graveside service will be held at a later date.

Obituary of JOSEF TODD CARVER

Josef Todd Carver passed away of natural causes at his home in Reno, Nevada on April 25, 2006. He was 75 years old. Born on August 17, 1930 in Milo, Maine, he was the youngest of seven boys and one girl born to Eleazer and Helen Sanborn Carver.

Josef is survived by his brother Albion Carver of Milo, Maine; his five sons: Todd, and his wife Sheri, of Reno, Nevada; Franz, and his wife Terri, of Sparks, Nevada; Dane of Hillsboro, Oregon; Brett, and his wife Rosa, of Petaluma, California; and Ladd, and his wife Maria, of San Lorenzo, California.

Josef also leaves behind ten grandchildren: Christian, Kelly, Josef, Benjamin, Joshua, Anne-Marie, Erik, Emilio, Edward, and Alexandra; and three great-granddaughters: Kaela, Sahara, and Hope.

Josef graduated from Milo High School in 1948. His yearbook states that he lettered in basketball; in his Junior year, 1947, he was chosen one of six "Class Athletes" and "Class Women Hater"; and his 1948 Senior Statistics lists his "Highest Ambition: To be a Marine; Favorite Haunt: Mayo's barn playing basketball games and dances; Favorite Expression: Thunderation!; and Self-Estimation: Pretty good guy."

Josef proudly served in the United States Air Force from 1950 to 1971. During his 21 years of service to our country, he attained the rank of Technical Sergeant and was assigned to bases in Texas, Maine, Alaska, Indiana, and California; as well as overseas assignments to Japan, France, England, and Germany.



YEARBOOK PHOTO-1948

After retiring from the Air Force, Josef took various jobs in Massachusetts, Maine, California, and Nevada. Ultimately he worked for nearly 20 years and retired for the second time from Harrahs Casino in South Lake Tahoe, Nevada.

Josef cherished his birthplace of Milo, Maine and continued to visit there nearly every year for the past 20 years. But, he also always considered home where ever he hung his hat. He chose to live in the West to be nearer to his sons. Josef hung his hat in Gardnerville, Nevada for a dozen years and then in April 2005 moved to Sparks, Nevada to be closer to his oldest two sons and their families. In November 2005, with his health beginning to decline, Josef moved into The Fountains Senior Care apartments in Reno, Nevada. His family says that for his last six months he continued to survive, but now he is living again and they believe that Josef will now eternally enjoy his new life.

In the near future, Josef will be interred with full military honors at the Veterans Cemetery in Fernley, Nevada. In his memory, Josef would request any desired donations be made to the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Robert W. Chase



Prunedale CA –ROBERT W. CHASE, "Mickey" 72, with his wife by his side, died at home on July 2, 2005. Born Robert Wiley McGuire, May 1, 1933 in Bangor Maine, Mickey was survived by his loving wife Clara, his children Mitchell A. Chase, Capitola, CA, Sheree Chase, Kealakekua, HI & Mark W. Chase Prunedale, CA, grandchildren Maria L. Zimmerman Honolulu HI and Nicholas B. Chase Prunedale, CA, great grandchildren Lily & Asher Zimmerman, brother Merle Chase of Jacksonville, Texas, sisters Linda Chase (Mike Swalling) Anchorage, AK and Jane (John) Doble, Baltimore, MD, and numerous nieces and nephews, including his favorite nephew Joel Vail of Milo, ME.

He was preceded in death by his birth parents James E. & Edna V. (Clark) McGuire, adoptive parents Abel and Laura J. (Clark) Chase, an infant daughter and brothers Andrew Chase and Abel Lockwood Chase.

Mickey was raised in the Maine woods in and around Caribou, Millinocket and Howland until the family settled in Milo in 1945. His family owned and operated the Chase Saw Mill in Brownville Junction until 1956 when the mill burned to the ground.

Mickey graduated from Milo High School in 1952 where he played center for the Maine State Class M Champion Milo Panthers varsity basketball team 1949-1952. Folks in Milo will remember Mickey Chase's gregarious personality and his love for the game of basketball.

After graduation Mickey married his high school sweetheart Clara Stanchfield and in 1952, shortly after the birth of his son Mitchell, he joined the Merchant Marine and spent the next year traveling between New England, Cuba and various ports in the Caribbean. After returning home in 1953 Mickey enlisted in the US Army and served stateside between 1953 and 1955. Mickey and Clara's daughter, Sheree, was born in the spring of 1955 while they were stationed at Norfolk Virginia and after his honorable discharge a few months later the family moved back to Milo.

In March 1956 Mickey and Clara left Milo for Riverside California in search of opportunity for themselves and their children. They were joined six months later by Mickey's mother, Laura, sister Linda, and brothers Lockwood (Elizabeth) and Merle (Betty Jo Stanchfield) Chase and nieces Pam, Peggy, Patti, and Penny Chase .

In 1958, armed with his G.I. Bill, Mickey started college and attended Riverside City College and California State University at Fullerton, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and teaching credential in 1962. In 1963 Mickey and Clara's second son, Mark, was born and in 1975 Mickey returned to college and earned his Master of Arts in Education from Pepperdine University. Mickey spent thirty-seven years in education. He started as an elementary school teacher and taught at every school level, elementary through high school, throughout his long career, including adult night school, and special education where he served as Special Education Department Chair. He spent the last sixteen years of his career as a high school Grade Level Coordinator (counselor) and retired in 1998 from Diamond Bar High School, Diamond Bar, California.

Mickey returned to Milo many times over the years. He loved to show his children around town, introducing them to old friends and mentors and to regale them with tall tales of life in the Maine woods and his years growing up in Milo. He valued the lessons that these experiences taught him and he remembered and respected those individuals who helped him along the way and who encouraged him to make something of his life. He never forgot them or the place that helped to shape the person he became.

Mickey Chase never lost that gregarious personality, he made friends where ever he went! He will be remembered for his unpretentious generosity, his love and fierce loyalty to family and friends and his lifelong commitment to making a difference in the lives of his students. A private gathering to celebrate his life will be held this summer in Southern California.

Clara A. Chase



Prunedale CA – CLARA A. CHASE, 72, with her children by her side, died peacefully at home on March 24, 2006. Born Clara Adele Stanchfield on October 28, 1933 in Milo Maine she was the daughter of the late Lawrence D. "Hi" and Doris Elizabeth "Betty" Stanchfield of Milo Maine and was married to Robert W. Chase for 53 years. She is survived by her children Mitchell A. Chase, Capitola CA, Sheree Chase, Kealakekua HI, Mark W. Chase, Prunedale CA, grandchildren Maria L. Zimmerman, Honolulu HI and Nicholas B. Chase Prunedale CA, great grandchildren Lily and Asher Zimmerman, brother Lawrence D. (Kay) Stanchfield Jr.,

Harmon ME, sister Betty Jo Hall, Hardinsburg IN and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by an infant daughter, her loving husband, her parents and her sister Virginia "Ginger" (Charles) Stevens of Milo, Maine.

Born and raised in Milo Maine, Clara was part of a large family that have lived in and around Milo for generations. Her aunts Minnie & Clara Mitchell and grandmother Mary Mitchell were members of the first graduating class of Milo High School ca. 1898. The Mitchell's were prosperous farmers and Clara's grandfather, Clarence Stanchfield, ran a grist mill in Milo at the turn of the 20th century and later worked for American Thread Co. as did his wife Mary Mitchell Stanchfield until their deaths in 1925 and 1940. In 1912 Clarence Stanchfield built the house at 61 West Main St. where Hi Stanchfield was raised and where he later raised his family, including Clara. Clara's family has served the town of Milo as teachers, volunteer firemen and fire chiefs, Selectmen, Masons and Eastern Star members. They have worked for American Thread, B&A Railroad, in the lumber industry, sport camps, as carpenters, farmers, and business people. Clara started her working life as a baby sitter, dishwasher at the Town Hall and at Daggett's Drug Store on Main Street in the late 1940s and early 1950s.



Clara attended Derby and Milo Grammar Schools and graduated with honors from Milo High School in 1951 where she lettered in basketball, and was a cheerleader. Classmates will remember that she and her best friend Janice Houston were inseparable and were known for the matching outfits that they made themselves! In 1952 she married her high school sweetheart and Milo High School basketball champ, Mickey Chase, they had a long and happy marriage.

In 1956 she and Mickey packed the family up and moved to California where they settled and raised their three children Mitchell, Sheree & Mark. Clara was always a working mom and after helping to put Mickey through college she attended San Bernardino Valley College where she earned a Vocational Certificate and an Associate of Arts degree. She started her professional life as part of the secretarial pool for Rohr Aircraft and later moved to the Aerospace Corporation where she worked as an Executive Secretary for many years. The last sixteen years of her career were spent with the Ontario Montclair School District as a Credentials Specialist. She retired in 1998.

Clara was first, last and always a family person. She will be remembered for her beauty, inside and out, her vivacious personality, infectious laugh and her ability to always see the good in people. A private gathering to celebrate her life will be held this summer in Southern California.