



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, December 11, 2006 Volume 6 Number 5

This Issue is in Loving Memory of Murrel Harris-Our Friend December 16, 1945-April 29, 2006

LIVE SIMPLY-LOVE GENEROUSLY-CARE DEEPLY-SPEAK KINDLY

Do you want to make a difference in the life of a child this Holiday Season?

The Three Rivers Kiwanis Club of Milo & Brownville will be serving as a clearinghouse for Santa's Helpers again this year. If any organizations or individuals wish to adopt children please contact Janet Richards at 943-2680. Anyone can 'Adopt a Child' and share the meaning and spirit of Christmas. Requests for Children only will come to us from the Milo & Brownville Town Offices, the Milo & Brownville Elementary Schools & Head Start.

Please remember that Christmas is a good time to get involved with caring for the needs of others, especially children.

Donations may be made at
Maine Savings Federal Credit Union, Park St., Milo ME 04463



This Christmas season,

don't forget the animals at PAWS!!

The Milo Farmer's Union on park Street graciously allows us to have a receptacle in their entry-way.

Needed items are listed there, and can be purchased there. Items we use are also available at Three Rivers Feed, such as bales of wood chips, and can be left on the porch of the shelter. And as always, your generous donations of money in the cans at the registers at the Milo Farmer's Union make PAWS possible!

We would like to send a special thanks to Lillian McClean for donating her poll earnings.

Editors Note: Shining Hearts 4-H is coming next Sunday with 20 bales of wood shavings, 7 bags of dog food, 9 of cat food plus some odds and ends. We are so excited to meet these wonderful kids!! The shelter animals are absolutely crazy with excitement! The real feeling of Christmas makes us all warm and "furry"!

INVITATION TO VOLUNTEERS

If you like children and would like to volunteer to help with our new after-school program for Grades 3 to 12, we invite you to call Mrs. Shirley Wright, Superintendent of Schools, to apply. The program is tentatively set to begin after the February vacation. This is a great opportunity to brighten the lives of children, broaden their knowledge, and give them something interesting to do after school.

If you have questions about what you would be doing as a volunteer, or want to find out more about the program, please call Ed Treworgy at 943-7748.

Limited Edition
Treasured Scenes®
Tree Ornament

The Milo Historical Society has a limited number of Treasured Scenes tree ornaments available. The ornaments feature the Milo High School Panthers and are individually boxed. They are priced at **\$7.00**. A brass display stand is available for **\$3.00**. They make an excellent gift any time of year.

To purchase your Limited Edition Ornament, contact one of these locations:

Milo Historical Society Museum,
High St.
Call 943-2268
Or
943-2369

Shown Actual Size

This project is being sponsored by:
Milo Historical Society

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STATEMENT OF POLICY

Three River News is published weekly by Three Rivers Kiwanis. It is available Mondays at the General Store and More, 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. Opinions are not necessarily those of the editors unless otherwise stated. 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

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!

News From Pine Tree Hospice CONTACT: Kay Johnson
207-749-3598 kyjohn@hughes.net

Dover-Foxcroft, Maine--Pine Tree Hospice (PTH) recently received a \$5000 grant from the Maine Charity Fund of the Maine Community Foundation (MCF) to support the first children's grief program within the communities served by PTH.

The ultimate goal of this new program is to promote positive communication between family members experiencing the loss of a loved one. Specially trained volunteers understand that children and youth grieve differently than adults and will assist children, youth (ages 3 to 18) and their families in developing healthy ways of grieving and communicating during the grieving process.

"We are excited about helping to provide this much needed service and working collaboratively with all members of our communities, the State of Maine Youth Suicide Prevention Project and Community Health and Counseling Services," said PTH Board President Dave Kelly.

The Maine Community Foundation is a statewide organization with offices in Ellsworth and Portland. The Foundation works in partnership with donors and community groups to strengthen Maine. For more information, visit the foundation's website at www.mainecef.org or call toll-free 1-877-700-6800. For more information about the Children's Bereavement Program at Pine Tree Hospice, please call 207-564-4346 or e-mail info@pinetreehospice.org with questions or to find out about volunteer opportunities with the Children's Grief Program.



Rebekah Demers recently graduated from Basic Military Training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. She now goes on to 13 weeks of advanced technical training at Shepard Air Force Base, Texas where she will be trained as an Aerospace Medical Technician, followed by 7 weeks of internship at a military hospital.

Rebekah is the daughter of Gerry and Paula Demers, who now reside in Crestview, Florida. Gerry grew up in Milo and is a 1973 graduate of Penquis Valley High School

Editor's Note: Many of you will recognize Gerry as the founder and President of the newly formed Penquis Alumni Association. We are very proud of his "little girl"!!

Penquis Alumni Basketball Game

Penquis basketball will hold an alumni game on December 23 at the Penquis gym .

There will be two games, a girls' game starting at 5:00 followed by a boys' game at 6:30.

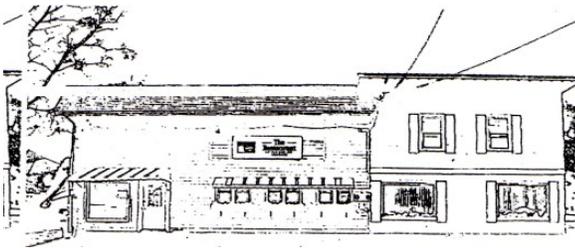
Each event will feature graduates from 1996 to 2006. Girls graduating in the even years will compete against the odd year graduates. Boys graduating in the even years will also compete against the odd year players.

Female players wishing to play are asked to contact Wally Russell at 965-8853 and boys wanting to play are asked to contact Tony Hamlin at 943-2979.

Odd years players should wear a light colored T-shirt to the game with even year players wearing dark.

Admission will be \$ 3.00 for adults and \$ 1.00 for students.





THE RESTAURANT NEWS

- ✓ **Monday 11th - Shrimp and French fries**
- ✓ **Tuesday 12th Cheese quesadilla and soup**
(Our back dining room will be closed from 11am-1pm for a Private Party)
- ✓ **Wednesday 13th-Broccoli and rice wrap with Fries**
- ✓ **Thursday 14th- Corn chowder and ham salad sandwich**
- ✓ **Friday 15th - Lobster in butter mmmmm good!**
- ✓ **Saturday 16th - Try our steak omelet**
(our back dining room will be closed at 5pm for a private party - we still have plenty of room for you in the front dining room!)
- ✓ **Sunday 17th - Try our new Teriyaki rice bowl today. We will be closing at 2PM today for a Private Party!**

CURIOSITY NOTES

Friday's snowfall reminded us of our winter policy for opening - which we discussed this past summer. We want everyone to be safe and if you are in doubt about our hours please call us at 943-3041 or 943-2400. Please don't drive anywhere if the conditions are hazardous.

As for the remainder of December, our hours are as follows:

Week of December 12th Tuesday-Thursday 10-3.
Friday 10-5
Saturday 10-3

Week of December 19th Tuesday-Thursday 10-3
Friday 10-5 or later
Saturday 10-3

Christmas week we will be open Wed.-Sat. 10-3
Wow, that's only how many weeks away?

Come in last minute to shop with us, especially Friday afternoons. We will have treats for our customers. See you soon!

FROM GRAMMIE McCLEARY'S WEATHER DIARY

DECEMBER 1992

- 11-Cloudy a little fine snow.
- 12-Cloudy windy cold.
- 13-Cloudy a while then sunny cold windy.
- 14-Sunny L. wind.
- 15-Sunny-12° in the am.
- 16-Foggy all day rain later pm.
- 17-Cloudy icy rain.

In Loving Memory of Murrel L. Harris

December 16, 1945-April 29, 2006



Words can not express how much you are loved and missed. You touched so many lives with your unconditional love and compassion.

The world was a better place because you were in it. You are so loved and missed by all of us.

Happy Birthday and Merry Christmas with all our love.

Your family

In Loving memory of my husband, Murrel L. Harris

December 16, 1945-April 29, 2006

*With the breaking of dawn, I remember,
With the soft summer rain, I feel,
With the silence of night, I search the sky,
A kaleidoscope of memories,
I remember, always.*

Happy "61st Birthday and Merry Christmas.
I miss you so very much. With my love always,
Your Buttercup

AREA SCHOOL NEWS Remember to clip the "Box Tops for Education" coupons and drop them off at your favorite school...each one is worth 10-cents!!

COOK SCHOOL NEWS



Harli Moors, Lindsay Turner and Justin Baker were honored as Terrific Kids at our December 8 assembly. Mrs. Carter said that Harli's smile brightens her day. Harli has been pushing herself to get all of her work finished. She has done a super job learning her lines for the upcoming play. Harli is a very kind friend. Miss K. said that Lindsay is dedicated to her own education. Lindsay does her best work every day. She strives to improve in all academic areas. Lindsay studies hard at school and at home. She did an excellent job presenting her biome project. Lindsay is a friend to all. Miss Brown said that Justin has had a great week. He is using his reading strategies very well. Justin is a focused student-when he has a job, he does it. Justin is a kind friend.

Bus Kids: Kelina, Bridgette, Josh L.

Awesome Adult Award: Mrs. Grant.

Mrs. Worcester honored Mrs. Grant for her outstanding work at our school bookfair.

Caught Being Good Bags: Ethan, Haley M., Michael D., Justin B and Cassidy

Thank you to our guitar man, Mr. Ronn Parker and Mrs. Worcester for accompanying us during our assemblies.

Congratulations to all our Terrific Kids and adults.



BROWNVILLE ELEMENTARY

The Brownville Elementary School held their Terrific Kid Assembly on December 7, 2006 with many parents, relatives and friends in attendance. Those honored were: Ashton Babin in Kindergarten, Dustin Baker in First Grade, Cyle Durant in Second Grade, Dustin Chadbourne in Third Grade, Ryanne Young in Fourth Grade, Caitlyn Jalette in Fifth Grade and Coltin Durant in Sixth Grade. The students came to the assembly dressed in storybook character. This was a celebration in coordination with a RIF distribution that took place this week at the school. The Brownville staff and students would like to take this opportunity to thank the Three River's Kiwanis for all they do to help with the RIF Reading program.

They also would like to thank Mrs. Debbie Page who is the RIF coordinator at the Brownville Elementary School. Mrs. Page works very hard to get free reading materials into the hands of all Brownville students. Not only does she serve as coordinator for RIF, but Mrs. Page also coordinates the Summer Reading program at Brownville Elementary School which involves each and every student taking home 7 - 10 books to read over the summer. The books are the children's to

keep. This awesome program keeps our students' reading skills level during the summer when they aren't in school.

Milo Free Public Library News

By Judith Macdougall

We have so many wonderful patrons who give gifts to the library when they see a need. Several months ago, Vaughn Clapp, the son of L. Grace Clapp, who was the third library director, came into the library to donate some hunting and outdoor magazines. I asked him if he could bring in a picture of his mother as we already had pictures of the first two librarians and were waiting to complete our collection with pictures of Grace and Catherine Ellison. Soon Vaughn was back with several pictures of his mother for me to see, and I chose the one I thought would be best, a picture of Grace as I remembered her. I confessed to Vaughn that I had not been able to get any more of the oval cut-out frames that were holding the pictures of Florence Cotter and Katharine Thompson. Vaughn said he'd look into it.

When he couldn't find the frames, he took his problem to the Green Door Gallery in Dover-Foxcroft. The framer there took care of the problem by cutting an oval in a mat inside a square frame. Grace's picture looked perfect in that setting. To help us complete our set of pictures, Vaughn had the Green Door Gallery make up the same type of frame for Catherine. These frames and oval mats go very well with the other two frames. We really appreciated the fact that Vaughn went to all the trouble of finding the Green Door Gallery, getting the pictures framed there and completing the whole job. He also paid for the pictures that were made up at Rite Aid, the frames and the Green Door Gallery framing. Thank you very much, Vaughn, for tackling the job and seeing it through to the end.

Last summer another patron, who prefers to be anonymous, wanted a service done in the library which would have been done more easily on a scanner. Unfortunately we did not have one. I was away, but Pam, the assistant librarian, solved the problem and was able to complete the job to the customer's satisfaction. The patron stated she would like to buy a scanner for the library. At the time there really was no room in the library, but we felt there would be in time. The time has now come as the two oldest computers were removed and replaced with only one new computer. These will not be our final computer arrangements, but, at the moment, it left us with space. Pam went into the Staples web site and did research on scanners, eventually finding the one she thought would be best for our library use. Tuesday I was in Bangor and purchased the scanner that Pam had chosen. The scanner is now hooked up and running-ready to make electronic copies of pictures and text for patrons. I would like to thank our generous patron by mentioning her name, but I'll just have to thank her anonymously. She would be very pleased to have our patrons use her library gift.

We have also received new juvenile books from the Junior Library Guild and from my trip to Borders (also on Tuesday).

Park, Barbara JUNIE B., FIRST GRADER- ALOHA-HA-HA
(Junie B. in Hawaii)

Park, Barbara JUNIE B., FIRST GRADE-JINGLE BELLS,
BATMAN SMELLS

Hartnett, Sonya THE SILVER DONKEY (Hist. Fiction-WW I)

Pfeffer, Susan Beth LIFE AS WE KNEW IT (a meteor hits the moon and changes the earth's climate)

Shecter, Vicky Alvear NF ALEXANDER THE GREAT ROCKS THE WORLD (Informative and humorous history)

Remember, Melissa Hill will be presenting her Preschool Story Hour on December 18. It promises to be a lot of fun, so mark the day on your calendar to bring your little ones to the library for stories, a craft and lots of fun. Remember the date. MONDAY, DECEMBER 18 at 3:30-4:30 for the PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR.

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

December 8, 2006

Dear Editor:

For me, recent events in our town call for much thought and reflection as we enter the holiday season. Today, as I awoke to a blanket of freshly fallen snow, I've decided to sit at my computer to write an open letter to the citizens of Milo.

To some, this will make little sense, to others, it hopefully will ring with the simple truth.

In the Christmas classic "It's a Wonderful Life", Jimmy Stewart is given the gift of seeing what his town would have been like had he never been born. The angel Clarence gives him a tour of his beloved village and he sees, among other things, a cemetery in place of affordable housing his bank had made possible, old friends fighting alcohol and each other, his family angry and estranged from one another, all because he had never been part of their lives. The basic premise of Frank Capra's movie is that we all make a difference in the lives of those we touch. We have the power to change things for the better. We are all interconnected. We all leave a legacy.

As I struggle with the events of the past few months, I often give pause to think of how things would be if my dear friend Murrel Harris were still alive. For, like George Bailey, his influence went well beyond his official duties as Milo's Rec. Director. In the reflected image of Capra's story, we can see just what life is like without Murrel, and, in my opinion, how different things would be if he were still among us.

Murrel was at his best as a facilitator. He knew human behavior; he could see things coming before they happened. He facilitated relationships between the town government and its citizens, between citizens and the police department, between those asking questions and those trying to give answers, and between those who felt they had no voice and those with perceived power. Most importantly, Murrel was a confidante to the town manager. He gave her, and those of us who were close to him, a "heads up" on issues of public concern. He was able to defuse issues before they became public and vulgar. He acted as an ambassador for every department in town government. He represented Milo to visitors and strangers, and he always kept his hand closely on the pulse of our community.

I miss him every day. In recent months, I've had many "conversations" with my old friend. I've asked him for advice; I've tried to explain situations to him and I've tried to think of what he'd say. Selfishly, I've asked him why he isn't here to make things okay. But, in the end, life is not a movie and we are left to discern for ourselves what's right and how to proceed. It is not easy.

Of this, I am sure: Murrel is sadly missed by

those who were closest to him and who turned to him for counsel. He was the glue that held the town together; he is the missing element in the recent issues that threaten to harm Milo. They would not have happened had he been here. He was our George Bailey.

In the course of our actions over recent months, I'm sure people closely involved with our decisions have been hurt. It was not our intention to do so. I know, personally, that they have cost me friendships; friendships that meant a great deal to me have dissolved over the selection of Murrel's replacement and official actions we were forced to make as stewards of the town he loved so much. For any personal pain we caused, I apologize. However, as a Board, we've always tried to act in the best interests of our town. Often it comes at our personal expense. It is not an easy place to be.

At the end of the movie, George gets his life back and recognizes that he is indeed "the richest man in town." Clarence gains his wings and we are left to think about the wonderful message of renewal and redemption.

I'm convinced Murrel, like Clarence, now has his wings and he is very much aware of us. Although he is no longer here to help us, we should be grateful for all he was and commit ourselves to following his example. His message to me was to respect others, not to intentionally hurt anyone, to value family and friendship above all else, take responsibility for our actions, and always try do what was in the best interests of our town.

On those occasions when he and I talk, that's what my friend says to me.

Thank you and happy holidays.

Tony Hamlin

Editors Note: It is my wish and hope that we who are Murrel's friends will strive to make our area the best place to live and raise children. Thank you Tony, for reminding us of Murrel and the spirit with which he lived. Let's all do one thing every single day to make the difference in the life of a child and the health of our town. How I miss him. Valerie

There are places I remember
All my life, though some have changed
Some forever not for better
Some have gone and some remain
All these places had their moments
With lovers and friends
I still can recall
Some are dead and some are living
In my life I've loved them all

But of all these friends and lovers
there is no one compares with you
And these memories lose their meaning
When I think of love as something new
Though I know I'll never lose affection
For people and things that went before
I know I'll often stop and think about them
In my life I love you more

Though I know I'll never lose affection
For people and things that went before
I know I'll often stop and think about them
In my life I love you more
In my life I love you more

Lyrics are from The Beatles "*In My Life*"



A CHAINED DOG...

**Tw'as the night before Christmas, when all through
the house**

**Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there; The
children were nestled all snug in their beds,
With no thought of the dog filling their head.**

**And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Knew he was cold, but didn't care about that.
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Figuring the dog was free and into the trash.**

**The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
Gave the luster of midday to objects below,
When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But Santa Claus - his eyes full of tears.
He unchained the dog, once so lively and quick,
Last years Christmas present, now thin and sick.
More rapid than eagles he called the dog's name.
And the dog ran to him, despite all his pain;**

**"Now, DASHER! Now, DANCER! Now, PRANCER and
VIXEN!**

**On, COMET! On CUPID! On, DONNER and BLITZEN!
To the top of the porch! To the top of the wall!
Let's find this dog a home where he'll be loved by
all"**

**I knew in an instant there would be no gifts this
year,
For Santa Claus had made one thing quite clear,
The gift of a dog is not just for the season,
We had gotten the pup for all the wrong reasons.
In our haste to think of giving the kids a gift
There was one important thing that we missed.**

**A dog should be family, and cared for the same
You don't give a gift, then put it on a chain.
And I heard him exclaim as he rode out of sight,
"You weren't given a gift!
You were given a life!"**

A note from Julie and Valerie at PAWS:

Many people fool themselves into believing their dogs are perfectly happy outdoors in the winter. Aside from dog breeders who work at keeping their dogs in well maintained and

humane conditions outdoors, the average person is not able to determine that a dog is tough enough to be comfortable outdoors during a Maine winter. Keeping a dog tethered its whole life is abuse, and we hate to see it happen to any dog. Doing it during the winter is not acceptable.

Julie and I are here to help if you know of such conditions. We can work with dog owners to educate them and hopefully convince them to make more humane decisions concerning their dog. But we have no more power than the average citizen. You can do the things we do; we have no exclusive rights or legal obligations. If you know of a situation, take some of the steps we do. Buy the person a bale of hay; Mike Comeau has it available year-round by the bale. If a dog has to spend a horribly cold night outside, at least make sure there is a good clean bed of hay for it to try to keep its body temperature up.

Take a bag of good quality dry dog food and leave it on the person's door-step. Even if you don't like the person or what they stand for or how they spend their money, it is not the dog's fault. Lay down your pride for the sake of the animals and do the right thing.

During this Christmas season and the dawning of a new year, let us all work at doing things that make a positive difference in this area. Helping others care for their pets is such a small step, but the over-all picture makes a huge impact. If you want more information on how you can make the difference in the life of an animal, call Julie at 943-5083. If you want to donate food you can leave it on the porch of the shelter at 39 Clinton Street. If we all work together, it will be a better life for our area animals.

A special thanks to Wendell and Carol Small for submitting the preceding poem. Occasionally we all need to be reminded of the things we can do to help our furry and feathered friends!!

HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DANCE

The Milo Recreation Department would like to welcome all PVHS students to a Holiday Dance at the Milo Town Hall on Friday, December 15 from 7-10p for grades 9-12. Admission is \$3 per student and concessions will be available. There will be door prizes for contest and dance winners.

**FOUND ON CLINTON STREET...A
YOUNG, LONG-HAIRED, VERY
FRIENDLY, BLACK CAT. HE
REALLY WOULD LIKE TO BE AT HIS
HOUSE!!!**

**CALL JULIE AT 943-5083 TO CLAIM HIM
OR IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN
ADOPTING HIM!**

THREE RIVERS KIWANIS, MILO - BROWNVILLE



**Chartered Nov. 1991 - Celebrating 15 Years of
Community Service**

**Meetings Wed. at 6:30 a.m. at The Restaurant - Park
St. - Milo**

New Members Welcomed -- Want To Join???

Talk to any Kiwanian

Minutes of Meeting Nov. 29

President Ethelyn Treworgy greeted 15 members today along with 5 Penquis Key Club members and an interclub from Dover Foxcroft Kiwanis.

Eben DeWitt led the Pledge of Allegiance and Herb Dunham offered the prayer. Ed Treworgy read an inspirational story.

Birthdays for the week included Michael Grindle (Paul's youngest son) on Dec. 2nd and Ed and Ethelyn celebrate their anniversary on Nov 29th.

Happy and Sad dollars were given for being away for two months; Bush's approval rating; wife is a keeper; kids are home and wife is happy she has someone to do laundry for; and a little known fact that women talk three times more than men.

Ethelyn reported on the Division Council meeting that she and Sec. Lois Trask attended in Dover on Nov. 27th. Lt. Gov. Brenda Kelly called the meeting for all division clubs. Also present were officers from Dover and Orono-Old Town Kiwanis clubs. Brenda brought us up to date about projects throughout the district, problems with the online district bulletin, the Yankiwanian, online monthly report issues, and problems with requirements for achieving the Distinguished Club award. Next meeting will be in January.

Joe Zamboni announced that the holiday tree would be put up in the Gazebo on Sat. Dec. 2nd with the help of volunteers and Penquis Key Club members.

Secret Santa Chairperson, Janet Richards, reported on how the Secret Santa project was run this year. A form was made available at the Milo and Brownville Town Offices for people needing assistance for their children. This form enabled the committee to have ages, sex, sizes, and wants or needs for the children. Information was also made available about this through posters and the newspaper. The project has had wooden toys donated as well as knitted hats, coats, and other toys. Members of the community are urged to contact her at 943-2680 if they would like to provide for a child or a family of children on the list. Monetary donations would still be appreciated if you can't do the shopping yourself. Janet has spent a tremendous amount of time organizing this project and compiling the children's' information. Anyone willing to help her is encouraged to give her a call. All help will be appreciated. Distribution is planned for Dec. 15th.

Many thanks to Janet for her diligence in making this project a success.

Minutes for Dec. 6th

Sixteen members of the club met for breakfast at the Restaurant. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the morning prayer, President Ethelyn Treworgy welcomed the members and an interclub from Dover Foxcroft Kiwanis and two members of the Penquis Key Club.

Birthdays being celebrated this week included Lorraine Schinck - Dec. 5th; Michael O'Connor (Nancy Grant's son) - Dec. 7th; Matthew Grindle (Paul's son) - Dec. 7th; Neil Hamlin - Dec. 10th; Heidi Finson - Dec. 11th; and Ben Robertson (Val's son) on Dec. 12th.

Communications were received from Kiwanis International and Lt. Gov. Brenda Kelley.

Many Happy Dollars were given today to congratulate member Ed Treworgy on receiving the Pete Myrick Award, which was awarded to him by the Piscataquis County Economic Development Council. Ed's sense of volunteerism goes way beyond the call of duty and he certainly deserved this award. Congratulations, Ed. Other happy dollars were given for son Michael's and mother Eileen Willinski's birthdays and for the Harrigans arriving safely in Florida.

Chris Almy enlisted some members to travel to Orono-Old Town Kiwanis on Dec. 12th for an interclub.

Secret Santa Chairperson, Janet Richards, reported that things are going well with the project. Toys and books have been donated and along with winter jackets have been sorted. She needs shoppers to help finish the shopping and bags will be filled with items on Dec. 11th at 7p.m. Kiwanians are urged to be there to help finish this project and to enjoy some refreshments.

Heidi Finson, RIF's chairperson, reported that Debbie Page and Julie Royal have been most helpful in writing the proposal for our books, making the list of books, and the distribution of them. Their service to our club is much appreciated. Since LaGrange did not do a proposal this year, the club will try to do a joint effort with them also.

Eben DeWitt introduced the speaker for the day, Ralph Gabarro. Mr. Gabarro came to discuss the possibility of Milo joining HAD 4, which was established in 1978 by an act of legislature. HAD 4 is a quasi-governmental entity and one of only two remaining hospital districts in Maine.

HAD 4 was approached by the Milo Selectmen to see what it entailed to join the district. This was followed with a meeting with the Milo community where questions were asked and answered. He explained to us that there are 12 communities in the district at this time with 17 trustees who govern the functions of the hospital, including the hospital based ambulance service. Milo would be able to add two members to the board if they decide to join. One Milo person asked if the ambulance service would be taken over by HAD 4 if Milo joined the district and was assured that was not the intent. Thirty-three Milo people work at the Dover Hospital and 11% of hospital activity comes from the Milo area. By joining the district, Milo would have a voice in the decisions of the hospital district on policy, budget development, and future plans for the Milo-Brownville area and the overall direction of the hospital.

Mr. Gabarro was questioned about the potential risks and hazards of Milo joining the district. He explained that the risk that has been there from the beginning is the ability of the hospital to levy a tax on the member communities to meet financial requirements if the district is unable to meet its debt obligation. This has not happened yet and has not been a consideration since the district's creation. But there is no guarantee this will not happen. The hospital district has a healthy balance sheet and is profitable, he assured us. Based on the total valuation of all communities who are part of HAD 4 and the valuation of the Town of Milo (which is 4th highest in the district), Milo's overall obligation would be about 7.5%.

HAD 4 is already committed to Milo, Mr. Gabarro explained, as evidenced by the new primary care office which became the first resident of the new Business Park. He feels it is time to strengthen the relationship and hopes Milo will become part of the district. A special town meeting in Milo is planned for mid-January on the issue of joining HAD 4 where voters will have the opportunity to decide whether Milo joins the district or not.

Mr. Gabarro has been involved in healthcare since 1974, having served as CEO of Mayo Regional Hospital in Dover for the past ten years. Ralph, a Dover Foxcroft Kiwanian, is an active member of his community. He has served on the Hospital Assoc. Board of Directors and as Chairman. He is also a Foxcroft Academy Trustee, on the TD Banknorth Board, a Dir. of the Pisc. Chamber of Commerce and Reg. Economic Dev. Council. In 2002, he was named Business Leader of the Year by Biz.

Many thanks to Ralph Gabarro for all the information he provided regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted, Lois Trask, Secretary

Remember when?

Ok, most of us don't remember that car, but many of us went to school at that building. Remember the glass pint bottles of milk with the colored cellophane paper on the top? Remember when going to the "basement" was actually in the basement?

And here was where many of us learned, however untrue it was, that ducking under a desk with an eraser between your teeth would save you from a nuclear bomb. The Derby Grammar School was located on the Derby side of Derby Hill on the right, and many of us walked up and then down that hill to get to school. It is the hill most of us speak of when we for the 1000th time, remind our kids and grandkids that we walked to school uphill in 5 feet of snow. And we did it in the morning and again at dinner. (lunch). Thanks to Karen Clark for the picture! **Valerie**



Note to Kiwanians:

Monday night, Dec. 11, is the night we are all getting together to help Janet pack the gifts for the Secret Santa bags for the families that applied for help. We are meeting upstairs in the Town Hall at 7:00 to work, have cookies and punch, and a lot of fun while doing Santa's work. If you have shopped, be sure to bring what you bought and if you didn't shop and would like to contribute something on Mon. night, a toy, game, puzzle, mittens, hats, doll, etc. for any age would be great. Rolls of wrapping paper are also needed. As the saying goes, "many hands make easy work", so just bring yourself and join us.

Janet has worked hard getting everything ready and has spent many hours doing her share and Murrel's at the same time. We really need to show her our support by showing up to help finish this project. The last count was over 110 children which has probably been added to since I heard last Sun. night. There are always some last minute add-ons that Janet has to take care of.

So, with all this said, come join us and get the great feeling that comes with being a working Kiwanian.