



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

LIVE SIMPLY-LOVE GENEROUSLY CARE DEEPLY-SPEAK KINDLY
Monday, July 16, 2007 Volume 6 Number 36

LAST CALL FOR SOCCER CAMP!

Presented by the

Brownville Recreation Department:

2007 Summer Soccer Camps

Youth Session 1: Grades 3-5

Youth Session 2: Grades 6-8

Youth Camps will run 2 weeks Tue.-Fri.

July 24-August 3 from 8:30-10:00 & 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Cost is \$35.00.

Pee Wee Session 3: Preschool

Pee Wee Session 4: Grades K-2

Pee Wee Camps will run for 1 week Tue.-Fri.

August 7-10 from 8:30-9:30 & 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Cost is \$18.00.



Open to boys and girls of all experience levels camps will focus on skills appropriate for each age group, team work, sportsmanship, and having fun. Registration fee includes a camp T-shirt, group photo, drinks, and prizes. Camp will be held at Penquis Valley Middle School Field in Milo.



For more information or to register please contact Camp Coordinator Penquis Valley Middle School Boy's Soccer Coach Chris Cowing at 943-5714 or Brownville Recreation Director Dean Bellatty at 965-2651.

The Lake View Plantation Office in Brownville will be closed Tuesday, July 24th and Wednesday, July 25th for vacation. See you July 31st.

COMPETE TO COMPLETE TRIATHLON '07 SWIM-BIKE-WALK/RUN

Saturday, September 22, 2007, @ 9:00 a.m.

SWIM: The first leg of the journey, swim four lengths (equals 100 yards) in the PRYMCA pool. There are no restrictions on type of strokes; but fins are not allowed.

BIKE: The second leg pedal 2.8 miles on a mapped route around the town of Dover-Foxcroft. Any bike can be entered; but helmets are required.

WALK/RUN: The final leg is a one mile walk/run ending at the PRYMCA.

PRIZES:

First Place - 6 month Adult Membership

Second Place - 3 Month Adult Membership

Third Place - 1 Month Adult Membership.

All participants will receive a Compete to Complete t-shirt.

Registration Fee: \$20.00 members; \$25.00 non-members.

Must be 16 and older to register.

Registration starts July 16th - August 30th.

All equipment supplied by the participant(s).

Triathlon teams are acceptable.

Triathlon training begins July 16, 2007.

Registered non-member participants pay \$5.00 daily fee for use of PRYMCA facility while training for event.

The Monday Morning Quilters of Brownville Junction Will hold their 9th Annual Quilt Show on

August 18th from 9am-2pm at the Brownville Jct.

United Methodist Church located on the corner of Railroad Avenue and Front Street.

A light lunch of assorted sandwiches, assorted desserts and drinks will be on sale in the church dining room. The quilters will also have quilted items for sale in the



downstairs. Donations at the door will be appreciated.

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@roadrunner.com 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
P.O. Box 81
Milo, Maine 04463

Nancy Grant
10 Belmont Street
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!

**Reunion - PVHS Class of 1982
P.V.H.S. Class of 1982 -25th Reunion!
To be held August 4, 2007 at "The
Junction" For more information call
Kathy Kelley White at 564-8429.**

**Hey PVHS Alumni!! Mark your
calendars and make plans to
attend our annual alumni
meeting.**

This year we will meet at the "Old CP Railroad Station" in Brownville Junction (currently used by the ATV Club) on August 18, 2007 at 1 p.m. Please come and help us keep this project on track.



WISHING YOU THE BEST

Jeremy R. Carey and Jill Marie Horne were married Saturday 07/07/07 in a lovely out door wedding at their residence on Turner Howe Road Milo. Aunt of the bride, Janet Horne Richards Notary Public performed the double ring ceremony.

Parents of the bride are Howard "Hap" Horne and Cheryl Horne of Milo. Parents of the groom are Richard Carey of Pittsfield and Candice of Kennebunk.

News From Georgia

By Valerie Robertson

Jonna and Danny Lee of Milo made a life-altering decision last winter and decided to embark on an adventure! They took the job of caretakers for a magnificent estate in Georgia, and this past week I received a great e-mail from them.

Not only do they get to live at the beautiful house, they became the care-givers for a group of critters and more. Here is Danny's e-mail.

Dear Val, you asked "What's new?" Well "New" is life in Georgia. We are caretaking on an estate down here. The people we work for are great. I will attach a couple of pics. We have 4 dogs, 4 horses, 3 cats, 2 doves, 9 Gold fish in a pond that are here all the time plus the foster pups from time to time. We are now doing foster care for



humane society puppies. Take them in until adoption. It is fun but hard to let them leave.



Needless to say, I was thrilled with Danny and Jonna's new life and wanted to share some photos with readers.

Here is a view of the back of the house.

And the front yard.

This is the newest "Foster Pup", Toto.



Thanks for the update and the photos Danny and Jonna!! Keep us updated and thanks!

Hey PVHS Alumni!! Mark your calendars and make plans to attend our annual alumni meeting.

This year we will meet at the "Old CP Railroad Station" in Brownville Junction (currently used by the ATV Club) on August 18, 2007 at 1 p.m. Please come and help us keep this project on track.

TENNIS TOURNEY RESULTS

The first tennis tournament of the season took place on the 4th of July in Milo. The mixed doubles tournament was part of the successful Milo Days.

The weather was perfect for the 42 tennis matches. Seven teams played very competitive tennis from 9AM until 2PM. The players ranged from High

School and College Students - home for the summer - to Senior Citizens! 190 games were played under clear sunny skies. The results: 1, Lindsay Hamlin and Travis Ellis tied with Kate Hamlin and Ian Russell for First Place. They received medallions from the Milo Days Committee. 2, Robin Demers and Torrey Ellis were the Runners Up and also received medallions from the Milo Days Committee. 3, everyone had a great day.

Fun tennis continues every Tuesday evening (5PM to 7PM) and Sunday afternoon (2PM to 4PM). Open to all tennis players age 16 to?? Call Mary Lou at 965 9721 for more information.

Photo of teams



Front L to R Erika Lyford, Jessie Kahl, Lindsay Hamlin, Robin Demers, Kate Hamlin Mary Lou Lee, Chris Hamlin
Back L to R - Todd Lyford, Brian Zwicker, Travis Ellis, Torrey Ellis, Ian Carey, Bob Lee and Ben Kittredge.

Milo Free Public Library News

By Judith Macdougall

By the time you read this column the Get-A-Clue summer reading program will be half over. Those four weeks went by so fast! Our incentives have been very popular this summer. Last week we had fake moustaches as part of the children's detective gear. I can't begin to tell you how popular those furry little incentives were. We even had two teen age girls eye them for awhile, and then they asked outright if they each could have one. We said, "Sure". This past week our incentives were magnifying spy glasses. These program members are really beginning to look like detectives. We will have more spy gear to share with them in the coming weeks.

Our Story Time reader this week was Elementary School teacher, Melanie Hussey. She read to ten children and seven adults. Her listeners heard One Monkey Too Many by Jackie French Koller. One monkey too many makes for a lot of mischief. Among the other books Melanie read, Tops and Bottoms by Janet Stephens proved very popular. In it Bear is tricked by Rabbit when he requests the Tops of the garden produce, and carrots and potatoes are planted. When Bear finally catches on and requests Bottoms, they plant broccoli and beans. Poor Bear! He can never win. We are very lucky to have various community members read at Story Time as it points out to the children that reading is important, and that busy people are willing to take time to show them what fun reading can be.

Evelyn Comeau came in the other day with an armload of craft books to donate to the library. I was amazed to see that most of them were wonderful quilt books with copyright dates as recent as 2006. Evelyn did not linger so we did not find out why

she was donating these nearly new craft books, but her gift is our gain. Here are the titles. Thank you, Evelyn.

AMAZINGLY SIMPLE STAR QUILTS
THIMBLEBERRIES BIG BOOK OF QUILT BLOCKS
LEARN TO MACHINE QUILT
QUICK & EASY HOME SEWING PROJECTS
365 FOUNDATION QUILT BLOCKS
and DONNA DEWBERRY'S ONE STROKE PAINTING COURSE

As you remember, we also got a box of new titles from Baker & Taylor last week. Here is the list.

Bachman, Richard	BLAZE (Stephen King)
Brashares, Ann	THE LAST SUMMER OF YOU & ME
Carter, Stephen	NEW ENGLAND WHITE
Dailey, Janet	SOMETHING MORE
Delinsky, Barbara	FACETS
Goudge, Eileen	WOMAN IN RED
Hildebrand	BAREFOOT
Hart, Carolyn	SET SAIL FOR MURDER
Higgs, Liz Curtis	MY HEARTS IN THE LOWLANDS
Howard, Linda	UP CLOSE & DANGEROUS
Kadare, Ismail	CHRONICLE IN STONE
Kingsbury, Karen	WAITING FOR MORNING
Maupin, Armistead	MICHAEL TOLLIVER LIVES
Miller, Linda Lael	A WANTED MAN
Maupin, Armistead	MICHAEL TOLLIVER LIVES
Muller, Marcia	EVER-RUNNING MAN
Patterson, James	THE QUICKIE
Saul, John	THE DEVIL'S LABYRINTH
See, Lisa	PEONY IN LOVE
Wiseman, Nancy	COULD IT BE AUTISM?

Two juvenile books came in this box too. I ordered them because they had received the Chickadee Award.

Dodson, Emma	BADLY DRAWN DOG
Stevens, Janet	THE GREAT FUZZ FRENZY

Both these children's books are quite different from the usual juvenile fare. Pam and I enjoyed their uniqueness. As I said too in the last column, this batch of books came very quickly. However, there was a downside to the order. We got all the titles we had ordered, but also received 6 books we did not want. They will have to be shipped back. Always some excitement in the library!

Library Summer Hours
Mon.-Weds.-Fri.---2:00-8:00
Telephone 943-2612

MAINE PREP
Maine Prep to offer SAT Prep Classes
In Bangor starting August 5.

Maine Prep, Maine's largest business devoted solely to standardized test preparation, is offering SAT prep classes for high school students in the greater Bangor area. Frank Hubbard, Ph.D., a Bangor-based college professor and experienced SAT prep teacher, has been hired by Maine Prep to teach the classes. The Maine Prep course in Bangor is designed to teach students strategies to use in the math, writing and reading sections of the SAT.

The Bangor SAT prep classes will take place in the Libra Room, O'Donnell Commons, on the Husson College campus, 1 College Circle, Bangor, Maine. The eight-week course begins Sunday, August 5, 7:00 p.m., and will meet every Sunday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. until September 30th. The course will prepare students for the October 6 SAT and the October 17 PSAT tests.

SAT classes on the campus have been made possible by Husson College president, Dr. Bill Beardsley, who says, "Husson is hosting the Maine Prep SAT class as a community service, part of

our outreach to the school community, including public, private, religious-based, and home-schooled students."

The course teacher, Dr. Frank Hubbard, is a graduate of Amherst College and the University of California at Berkeley. He has had a Fulbright in Finland and a short teaching stint in Gaza City. Dr. Hubbard, currently the Dean of the School of Science and Humanities at Husson College in Bangor, has been instructing in collegiate settings for more than 30 years. He is also an experienced test preparation teacher, having taught SAT, ACT, GRE, and GMAT for Stanley H. Kaplan Educational, the world's most successful test preparation company.

Maine Prep was founded by Jack Mahoney in 2002 to help Maine students raise standardized test scores and be more competitive when applying for college admission and financial aid. The company employs seven teachers and during the last 12 months has com. worked with over 300 students in courses and course-length private tutoring.

In addition to the Bangor area, Maine Prep teaches SAT prep classes in Brunswick, Lewiston/Auburn, Cape Elizabeth, Kents Hill, and Portland. The Maine Prep curriculum, TEN FOR TEN, is taught at South Portland High School, Skowhegan Area High School, Messalonskee High School, and Bridgton Academy. Maine Prep also teaches LSAT prep at Bowdoin College.

For further information, course description, and registration materials, call Maine Prep at 207-798-5690 or email at info@maineprep.

FROM GRAMMIE McCLEARY'S WEATHER DIARY July 1967

16-Foggy rain all day-64° at 7 am.
17&18-L fog Sunny pm-70° at 8 pm.
19-Foggy Sunny pm-90° at 3:30 pm.
20-Foggy fair-68° at 7:30 am.
21-L fog Sunny pm-74° at 8 pm.
22-Fog then fair-68° at 7 am.

Three Rivers Kiwanis, Milo - Brownville

July 11, 2007 Meeting Highlights

Fourteen members of Three Rivers Kiwanis gathered at The Restaurant last Wed. morning for the weekly meeting. President, Ethelyn Treworgy, welcomed everyone and guests included Crystal Macomber, daughter of member Jim Macomber, and an interclub from Dover-Foxcroft Kiwanis that included President Hoyt Fairbrother, Lt. Governor Brenda Kelley, Past Lt. Governor "Doc" Sherman, Brian Woodworth and Andy Hinckley.

Eben DeWitt led the Pledge of Allegiance and Ed Treworgy offered the Morning Prayer.

Communications included the proposed by-law changes from the New England District of Kiwanis Clubs to be voted on at the August conference in Warwick, RI.

Happy dollars were given for the great response to the swim lessons, for landscaping a yard, getting a new kayak; American League winning the All-Star game; Red Sox ten games ahead; son & family moving into new home; Yankees only 10 games out of first place so won't have the major comeback they did last year. A sad dollar was given for missing the All-Star game.

Birthdays so far this month include Emily Dana Trask who turned two on July 5th (granddaughter of Lois) and Rob & Amber Ellison celebrated their anniversary on July 9th.

Membership chairman, Eben DeWitt, inducted Ben Kittredge as a new member. Welcome to our club, Ben.

The Canoe Race on the Sebec River is set for July 21 at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed for registration, timing, race start up and finish line. Please contact Joe Zamboni if you can help. All hands are needed.

We are still in need of a Vice-President and Pres. Elect for next year. Please let Jim Macomber know if you are willing to take an office.

There was a discussion about the progress of the sign for the Veteran's Park. More options need to be explored before a decision can be made. It is hoped that the sign will be placed soon.

In lieu of a speaker, a discussion was held regarding changes and improvements, which might be made to the auction next year. We are in need of a space to store auction items and more members need to be involved to make things run smoother.

Upcoming speakers include Thomas Kittredge, PCEDC Director on July 18 and Mike Henderson, Piscataquis County Manager on July 25.

Lois Trask, Sec.

IN MEMORIAM

JUDE ANDREW 'ANDY' HYDE

LAKEVIEW PLANTATION Jude "Andy" Hyde, 73, passed away July 8, 2007, at his home on Schoodic Lake after a four month illness. He was born April 13, 1934, in Topsham, the son of Jude A. and Lucretia (Watson) Hyde. He was a resident of Topsham until nine years ago, when he and his wife moved to Schoodic Lake, spending their winters in Brooksville, Fla. Andy retired from operating Sand Bed Smelt Fishing Camps on the Androscoggin River after many years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and bird hunting with his dog, Scooter. He is survived by his wife, Lois (Gott) Hyde of Schoodic Lake; two sons, Jeffrey of Auburn and Kevin and his special friend, Annjannett, of Epping, N.H.; four granddaughters, Jessika and Kaitlyn of Brunswick and Cassidy and Delaney of Kensington, N.H.; a grandson, Joshua of Lisbon. He is also survived by a half-brother, Elmer Bergquist of Topsham; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a sister, Harriet Blackie. A celebration of his life will be held later in the summer. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to Community Health and Counseling Services, 14 Summer St., Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. Arrangements are in the care of Lary Funeral Home, Milo. Messages of condolence and memories may be left at www.laryfuneralhome.com

MARIE JOAN (THIBEALT) HATCH

MEDFORD - Marie Joan Hatch went home to be with the Lord July 8, 2007, surrounded by her loved ones at her home. She was born May 13, 1938, the daughter of John Baptiste and Catherine Deschaine Thibeault and sister to 13 siblings. She was predeceased by her husband, Robert Hatch Sr., whom she missed dearly and longed to be with again. She is survived by her four children, John W. Hatch and wife, Janice, of Alton, Laurie and husband, Alan Hutchinson, of Stonington, Steven R. Hatch and wife, Jeannie, of Medford and Robert W. Hatch Jr. and wife, Dawn, of Medford. She had nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She attended the LaGrange Full Gospel Assembly Church. Residents of Medford looked forward to chatting with her as she passed by on her daily walks. She loved reading and swapping books with family and friends. She could often be spotted at local yard sales. Everyone looked forward to her homemade goodies, like mincemeat, applesauce and raisin pies. Her love and devotion for family was unwavering. She always felt blessed to have her big brother, Pete, next door. She was a kind, tender, giving, loving person, who will be deeply missed, but treasured always by family and friends. Many thanks to Dr. Noah Nesin, Kevin Olsen P.A., and their staff, the staff of Hospice of St. Joseph's, especially Beatrice and Marilyn and her church family.

MARTHA (STUBBS) SABANS

MIL0 - Martha Sabans died June 16, 2007, at Orono Commons after a short illness. She was born April 25, 1928, in Brownville, the daughter of Roland H. and Flora (Ladd) Stubbs Sr. She graduated from Greenville High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society. After working in banking in both Florida and Massachusetts; she worked as a comptroller for Allyn and Bacon Publishing, Co., Boston. Martha also ran a successful gourmet food shop, The Yankee Drummer, from her home in East Hamsted, N.H. In 1985 she returned to Maine, where she resided at Pleasant Park until her death. She is survived by her son, Ormand Atwood (Woody) Sabans Jr. of Winsted, Conn., and his daughter, Tabitha Mochelle of Belmont, N.C.; a brother, Roland Stubbs of Brownville Junction; three sisters, Lettie Gibb of Winsted, Conn., Violet Artus of Atkinson, N.H., and Bonnie Butterfield of Brownville; plus many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her mother, father, husband, Ormand Sabans Sr.; and a sister, Juanita Platner. A celebration of life in honor of Martha will be held 1-3 p.m. Sunday, July 22, at the Butterfield and Woodard cottages at Schoodic Lake, Brownville. All are welcome.

RONALD LEON SPEED

DOVER-FOXCROFT - Ronald Leon Speed, 67, husband of Janet (Chesley) Speed, passed away unexpectedly, July 9, 2007, at his home. He was born May 1, 1940, in Milo, the son of Leon H. and Jeannette (Richards) Speed. He graduated from Foxcroft Academy, Class of 1958. Ronald served his country with the U.S. Army Reserves Post, Dexter, for six years. He drove for Harris Bakery and Bachman Foods, and later was employed at Guilford of Maine, retiring in 2002. After his retirement, he completely enjoyed his part-time job at Graves Supermarket, Dover-Foxcroft, where he had a chance to visit with all the customers. He enjoyed many family activities, traveling and especially camping with family and friends. He loved following all the grandchildren's sporting events and different activities throughout the years. He valued the time he spent with the Dover-Foxcroft Jaycees and as a volunteer with the Dover-Foxcroft Fire Department. Ronnie is survived by the love of his life, his wife of 45 years, Janet of Dover-Foxcroft; a son, Kevin and his wife, Pam, of Guilford; three daughters, Kim Surette and her husband, John, of Carmel, Kristen Forrest and her husband, Paul, of Dover-Foxcroft, and Kerri Pulkkinen and her husband, Travis, of Dover-Foxcroft; a sister, Patricia Smith and her husband, Roger, of Corinth; a sister-in-law, Carol McLaughlin and her friend, Larry Doyle, of Corinth; his mother-in-law, Fern Page of Corinth; seven grandchildren, Lance and Logan Forrest, Kayla and Kelsie Anderson, Alex and Erin Speed, and Aliza Pulkkinen; two step grandchildren, Mara Surette and Alana-Marie Pulkkinen; several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and many very special friends. He was predeceased by a brother, Dana. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Dover-Foxcroft Fire Department, 105B East Main St., Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. Messages of condolence and memories may be left at www.laryfuneralhome.com

UP ON THE FARM

BY VALERIE ROBERTSON

Let me start by thanking you all for your well-wishes and questions in regard to Kierra. She is doing magnificently and is her old self! She is doing so well that I now have to monitor her eating as she is gaining too much weight. At her appointment last Wednesday she weighed 89 pounds and the vet. would like to have her at 80. Coincidentally, Peggi Dean sent me this recipe for some healthy dog snacks, so I made a couple batches of the cookies and keep them in the freezer. On these warm summer days I pull three out and let Kierra, Rudy and Bandit chew away- They really like them and I thank Peggi for the recipe.

DOGGIE OATMEAL COOKIES

1 cup Quaker oats (Regular oats work better than instant)

1 cup unsweetened applesauce

1 cup shredded carrots or shredded coconut

Mix all ingredients together, form into small balls and place on ungreased cookie sheet. Give each cookie ball a *light* pat to flatten a bit. Bake at 350 degrees for 18 - 20 minutes

(I baked them about 25 minutes and would bake longer or hotter next time.)

To make crispy cookies, turn over and bake an additional 3 - 5 minutes.

I haven't made any of this ice cream yet, but it looks like something I might like, as well as the dogs!

DOGGIE ICE CREAM

32 oz. plain yogurt 2 Tbs. peanut butter 1 mashed banana 2 Tbs. honey

Mix all ingredients in blender: spoon into ice cube trays, paper cups or a "Kong" toy to freeze before serving.

(Note: Although most dairy products aren't good for dogs, yogurt contains much less lactase than regular milk and has live cultures that are great for your dog's digestive system. This dog ice cream recipe is delicious and good for your pet.)

The Guinea keets are doing very nice as well. The consensus of the count from last weeks picture was 37 and 5 more hatched, so I ended up with 42. I have since given away 16 of them, so I am down to 26. There are a couple more interested parties, so I plan on having 8 or 10 to keep here at the farm. Added to the 10 we already have we will have a nice flock of the noisy birds.

Besides being noisy, the guineas are wanderers. I have seen my crew on Paul and Gwen's lawn, the Mumfords' and as far away as the old Trask house. I am confident the neighbors don't mind their visits, as I know the Guineas are munching happily away on ticks, ants and other insects. I do try to keep the vocal vagabonds locked in the coop until 9am or so as I know that when they arrive at someone's yard they like to announce their appearance with their loud squawks. I wonder if any of my neighbors who choose to sleep-in have noticed an increase in dreams that have jungle or Africa themes? No thanks necessary!

Now that I've discussed the birds, I am naturally inclined to next talk about the bees; specifically, my bees. As you may recall, I got a hive earlier this year and have been dabbling in beekeeping. I am working under the direction of my Bee-mentor, Gary Robinson, who is on the board of the State of Maine Beekeepers Association. Thanks to his guidance and my research, my hive is thriving.

There has been a lot in the news lately about the diminishing bee population and that affect on crops and other plants. No one knows for sure why so many hives have died off, but it is a country-wide phenomenon. One of the theories is that a certain mite, that infests bee colonies and subsequently kills the bees, is to blame. There are other theories pertaining to acid rain, climate changes and mold infestations. Whatever the reason, I figured better safe than sorry, so last week I decided to do the first of two mite treatments. The treatment involved opening the hive and placing a tin of mite killer on the tops of the frames that the bees build their comb on. Sounds simple...well, simple maybe, but I have to admit I was a bit hesitant to "attack" this project alone, so I scheduled it on a day Jeremiah was going to be at the house doing some yard work.

On Tuesday, I suited up, got my supplies, armed Jeremiah with my digital camera, took a deep breath and headed to the hive. He had filled my smoker with hay and had a good smudge smoldering. The plan was to make the bees fly into the hive to escape the smoke, which, as you know is how all professional beekeepers subdue their bees. As I was approaching the hive I thought to myself that if I were a bee, it would really make me mad to see a giant fat woman in a bazaar outfit coming at me with a teapot spouting smoke....but I'm no bee, so I pushed that thought away. (Sort of).

It was a warm, sunny, windless day-perfect for bee-checking. As I neared the hive, I could hear a loud buzz and at first thought the bees were swarming towards me. On further inspection, and listening, I determined the buzz was coming from IN the hive!

"Wow-that sounds like a lot of bees." Jeremiah remarked from his spot 20 feet away.

"You ought to hear it from here" I answered from my position 3 feet from the hive.

I warned him to keep a sharp ear and eye out for the bees deciding to attack, and he assured me he would as he snapped a picture.

I don't know what was scarier, my seeing the hive with bees buzzing all around it, or Jeremiah, seeing me in my costume.



The smoke seemed to be working, the majority of the bees headed back in the hive, so I continued. By the time I was beside the hive, there were only a few bees flying around the hive, but the buzz was much louder.



"Wow!" Jeremiah said, "They are really loud now".

"That's because I'm closer!" I answered in one of those mean loud-whispers that aren't any quieter than normal talking.

"Well I'm not" he replied.

Oh yeah.

"OK...I'm gonna lift off the top and see what's going on in there, you stay back and take pictures, so if I die you have something for the newspaper." I am always thinking of my readers.

I put my hive tool (yes, we professional beekeepers have a hive tool- it looks like a tiny flat crowbar), under the lid and heaved...nothing. The bees had wax-sealed the cover on.

Now every time I laid the tool on the board I had to move away a dozen or so bees and to do this I used my bee brush, another important tool to us bee keepers. The bees didn't seem to realize I was trying to move them in order keep them from being smushed. As a matter of fact, they seemed

down-right angry. I'm telling you, bees aren't the most appreciative bugs in the world!

I finally jimmed the tool into a spot that allowed me some leverage and heaved with all my might until the top came up. I lifted it about 7 inches, peeked in and promptly dropped it back down with a slam. The following picture shows what I saw.

"What's wrong?" Jeremiah whispered apprehensively.

"There's a lot of bees in there." I said in horror.

"Isn't there supposed to be?" he replied.

"I mean a gajillion, maybe a million gajillion", I said, forgetting I was a professional beekeeper.

"I'm gonna look" he said, "Lift the top back up."



for eggs, larvae, pupa and such, so feeling brave; I used my hive tool to pry up one of the ten frames that hang in each hive body. It was also completely covered with bees, weighed about 10 lbs and was dripping honey!!

I replaced the frame and set the mite killer on the top of the frames, brushed the bees from the cover and replaced it.

I tossed the hive tool to Jeremiah. He snapped a picture and caught the tool in one fluid motion. Our first bee handling experience went off without a hitch, of which I am eternally grateful. Would you want the last picture ever taken of you to look like this?



I did and he said "I'm going to go put a jacket on!"

He handed me the camera so I could snap a few pictures, as we both noticed the bees had absolutely no interest in stinging either of us. They landed on us, and then casually took off and headed for a flower or back to the hive. The bees were actually friendly. I giggled to myself as I pictured Jeremiah and me side-by-side each sporting a Bee Beard like that guy who's always on Ripley's Believe It Or Not. Add a pitchfork and wouldn't we make a cute rendition of American Gothic?!

He decided he was safe to stay and I handed him the camera. After he shook off 9 or 10 bees he resumed his picture taking and I turned to the task at hand. I had to make a spot for the 6-inch round tin that held the mite repellent. I used the brush to sweep the bees away from the center of the frames and sure enough, I had a bare spot. One of the normal parts of beekeeping is to periodically pull up a frame and check





Kierra is on the proceeding page, and here she and bandit wait patiently to go for a ride.

The babies.

The Streets of Milo –A Word Search

CLINTON STREET	BIRCH STREET	CEMETERY ROAD	B STREET
ABBEY LANE	BIRCH POINT LANE	BILLINGTON ROAD	A STREET
ME-16	CHURCH STREET	ALTON STREET	ME-6
BROWNS LANE	ME-11	ASH STREET	CEDAR LANE
CENTER STREET	BA AVENUE	CARVER ROAD	

I N A S T R E E T M R T R A E T E M A R N R
 T T M A C T C 6 B E T E E N Y M S E R A R C L
 E E E S D T T - E E N C E D A R L A N E E
 E E - B N A W I E R A E A H W O T 6 1 - E M E
 R R 6 T M I R T L A O E R S L I N T A A S
 T T 1 N N E T S C U S O U N M B E R C E T
 S S E D R S Y C L I N T O N S T R E E T W
 I H E T E E R T S R E T N E C A A B
 H H B C B E E R U O E E W N V I E E T C E
 C S C R B C A R V E R R O A D N A T S R S N
 R A I A N T R B R O W N S L A N E R S T M
 U B I L L I N G T O N R O A D L S E A T S T
 H R T B I R C H P O I N T L A N E N B A L
 C S R R W C T E E R T S N O T L A W S T L R
 S S L C E M E T E R Y R O A D O B T L E S
 E A I B O R C W T V 6 O R L D E E L N E A