



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
Monday, Jan 7, 2008

CARE DEEPLY-SPEAK KINDLY
Volume 7 Number 9

The Few, The Proud!



CONGRATULATIONS!

Marine GySgt Ryan O'Connor received his promotion to Master Sergeant on January 1, 2008. The official ceremony was held at his office in Bangor on Wednesday evening, January 2. Air Force TSgt Ryan Crossman assisted Marine MGySgt Scott Johnston in pinning on O'Connor's new chevrons.

MSgt O'Connor, a 1991 graduate of Penquis Valley High School, joined the Marines on June 24, 1991.

One Lucky Dog!!



OK, two lucky dogs. Cecil Miller lost his beloved pet, and was lonely, but thanks to his grandson's friend, he now has Tucker and Tucker has him!! Tucker is 2 years old and has always lived outside in a kennel with the other dogs...he seemed to get used to being inside very quickly! He's learning about inside "manners" and is quite taken with the TV. (Big cats on Animal Planet are a bit scary, as was the wolf cry on an old Clint Eastwood movie).

Tucker was supposed to be a hunting dog, but would get bored chasing rabbits and wanted to be back leaning against the guys instead. Now he's leaning against anyone who comes in his dad's trailer!

A match made in heaven and a wonderful story!!
Thank You CeCe and David for sharing with us!!

FOSTER HOME DESPERATELY NEEDED !



My name is Clicky and I am a magnificent 7-year-old lady. I have been staying at PAWS in Milo, and it is a wonderful place, full of the nicest people and the sweetest kitties, but there is a problem!! I have had bladder stones before so I absolutely HAVE to eat only Science Diet CD food, or else I will block up and be sick. In order to be assured I only eat my own food (the food the other guys get looks so good!), I have to be kept by myself in my own room, and that makes me sad!!

I would love , love, love to go to an older lady or gentleman's apartment and stay until I find my forever home. The ladies at PAWS say I need a foster home or a forever home; I just know I want a person to love me and let me sit by them in their chair! There is no worry I will make a mess or rip anything as I have had my claws removed!! Of course that means I must never, ever be let outside, but it also means that when I do my sweet little knitting routine I won't snag you or your clothes!!

If you have a square foot or two of free space at your place, and no other pets, please give Mary Jean a call and offer to have me over for a while! Her phone number is 943-5116. The folks at PAWS will bring me and my special food, all you need to supply is love!!

Secret Santa Thank You!

Three Rivers Kiwanis of Milo/Brownville would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all that made this year's Secret Santa program a huge success. Because of everyone's efforts 130 children from 53 families had a brighter Christmas.

This project would not be a success without the help of many. Donations come in many different ways: individuals or organizations shop for a child; individuals or organizations make cash or toy donations at Maine Savings and Camden National; toys and coats come from the Salvation Army; area knitters contribute hats and mittens and individuals donate toys, books, and boots. Kiwanis does not make this happen all on its own, as you can see.

So thank you to each and everyone who donated so generously! Also there are several behind-the-scenes organizations that should be thanked: the Milo and Brownville Town Offices, the

Milo and Brownville Elementary Schools, the staff at Maine Savings and at Camden National for keeping track of all the donations, the Kiwanians, Key Club and Builders Club, who helped stuff bags, and last but not least, the shoppers: Karen Clark, Lois Trask and Val Robertson.

Again, Kiwanis would like to thank all who helped to make this a success!

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, Elaine's Café 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 Willinski, 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 Willinski 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 Willinski
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!

PUBLIC NOTICE - Camp Road Landing

To: Anyone having property on or at the "Camp Road Landing"
From: The Owners of the Camp Road Landing- Ebeemee Island Owners Association (EIOA) Re: PROPERTY AT THE CAMP ROAD LANDING

This is a public notice to inform any and all interested parties claiming any property on or at the Camp Road Landing.

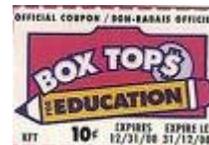
The camp road landing has been purchased and deeds have been distributed to 18 island lot owners only. We understand some members of the community have been using the landing for storage for years without a lease or deed. Should you have any claim to property on the land that is now owned by EIOA please remove your property at this time. In an effort to be good neighbors, the EIOA has allowed and will allow users additional time to remove their claimed property. We have posted notices of meetings to the users of the boathouses and open meetings have been held at the Milo Town Hall on 5/20/07, 7/21/07, 9/23/07

and 11/4/07. On 11/4/07 a majority vote was counted and the outcome was to demolish all boathouses on the property.

Therefore, any items at the landing, including trailers, canoes/boats, boathouses and any contents within the boathouses must be removed from the property no later than January 31, 2008. Please be advised, should any items or boathouses remain on the property at the Camp Road Landing it will be discarded by the owners after January 31, 2008. Please make arrangements to remove your property as soon as possible, thank you. Should you have any questions, call 207-965-8747.

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!!



Milo Elementary School staff want to thank parents and other community members who save General Mills box tops for Education for our school. Recently the box tops were redeemed and the school gained \$148.00 to support supplies for the school or individual students. We encourage community members to send or bring General Mills Box Tops that they find on grocery products they purchase to Milo Elementary School to help support our students in a variety of ways. It is important to cut the coupon outside the lines in order for the school to receive the \$.10 value from each box top. A figure of a box top that is cut correctly is included to demonstrate. Thanks for supporting your school and our students.



There is a box to drop the tops into at The Milo Farmer's Union, or you can drop them in any *Three Rivers News* coin box and we will make sure they make it to the schools!!



It appears that this family of deer in Brownville know that hunting season is over. With all the new snow they seem to be waiting for someone to feed them.

IN MEMORY OF PERL MORRISON

Editors Note: *I found these letters in my spam folder... Sometimes computers don't know as much as they think they do. My apologies to Grady and Liam, but I'm sure Bampa is thrilled to see them now!!*

Merry Christmas Old Bampa!!!

I really wish you could come to my house for Christmas but Mommy said you have to stay in Heaven. I miss you very much. We go to your stone a lot and put a wreath on it for you for Christmas. I am getting really big and have a brand new brother now. His name is Liam Perl and you would really like to pinch his cheeks. I go down and take care of Mimi so that she doesn't get too lonely. Sometimes I get sad because you can't talk to me anymore but Mommy says that you are happy in Heaven. I still wear my shirts like yours and I like to shovel like you did. Now I have to take care of Debba's feet but she doesn't let me use the sharp one like you did. I will always remember all our fun times and I will make pictures for you for Christmas and send them to you in a balloon.

XOXOXO

Grady

Merry Christmas Bampa!!

I miss you very much and will always remember all our trips to the dump. It doesn't feel like Christmas without you. Last year was really hard and I'm very sorry that I wasn't there, I should have been. I thought this year would be easier, then I had my second son and you weren't there. Though I know you are looking down on us, it is not the same. We named him for you so we can tell him about you and hopefully he will have some of the memories that I carry in my heart. Grady never stops talking about you, he really has a lot of good memories. I am thankful for that because there have been a lot of hard questions to answer. I hope you have a Merry Christmas and I love and miss you very much!!!

XOXOXO

Jessica

Italy Part 6 By Virgil Valente

Tues. Nov. 6

At 6:45 PM I went to the lobby of the hotel for our welcome drink. We had our choice of juice, soda or Spumante. We then gathered for our night out at the Palazzo Borghese.

While we were traveling on the bus from Rome to Florence, Fernanda mentioned that we had some free time in Florence including evenings where we were dining on our own. She suggested that we might like to eat at a Palace. I think most of us said yes. She said she would make the reservations for us.

The actual palace was built in the second half of the 15th century and was owned by the Salviati family. Anna Maria Salviati married Roman Prince Marcantonio IV Borghese hence the name. Their son Camillo Borghese married Paolina Bonaparte, the sister to Napoleon, in 1803 and the couple lived there for a short time. The marriage did not last and the palace was not used. When the French Empire failed, Prince Borghese returned to Florence and in 1821 restored the palace. The prince died childless and the building passed to his younger brother. By 1843 the whole first floor was turned into a private club. Today the local Rotary Club owns around 20 rooms and they are the ones who open it to the public.

It was a small logistical problem for Fernanda because we rode by public bus and had to make a transfer on our way to the palace.

We were met at the door by a young man in a suit of armor who directed us to the stairs to get to the apartment rooms

of Paolina. At the top of the stairs we were received by a trio in costume playing medieval music. There were a lute, harp and tambourine. We were ushered through Paolina's bedroom and a number of sitting rooms where we were given an aperitif. We then arrived at our final destination of the ballroom with its high frescoed ceilings, gold leaf and mirrored walls. We were the first ones there so I was able to get some good pictures of the room. I am sharing some of them with you in this article.

Our first course was a salad of prosciutto, chopped arugula, basil, mozzarella balls, tomatoes and olive oil. Next we had ravioli in a red sauce. Our main course was a choice of either swordfish or roast beef. We had our choice of red or white wine and water. Our dessert was tiramisu and panna cotta with berry sauce.

During the meal we were entertained by the musical trio and three couples all dressed in costume of the 1400s. They



performed different dances and games. The games required participation of members of the audience. Five of our group took part.



The evening was topped off with coffee and some chocolate shells filled with a crème liqueur. This was definitely the most elegant meal I have ever eaten.



At 10PM it was time to return to the hotel. Since the buses were not running, those who wished went by taxi while the rest of us decided to walk. It turned out we were only a few blocks from the main square.

After trying to be prim and proper in the Palace some of the group let loose on the way back to the hotel. I must admit we were a little loud until we reached the main square where there was a police car patrolling. They stopped and carrying their semiautomatic rifles shouted silenzio. We quieted down for a while until we reached a small park where there was a giant merry-go-round still running. Quite a few of the group decided they wanted a ride. I think the guy running it was happy as he didn't have too many customers that time of night. I took my leave along with a number of the other older folks and finished the walk back to the hotel.

GRAMMIE'S WEATHER JANUARY 1966

7-Cloudy.

8-Snow 6 in.

9-Cold & windy - (-5°) at 9 pm.

10-Cloudy-0° in the am.

11-Snow-20° in the am.

12-Clear cold & windy - (-6°) in the am.

13-Clear & cold-20° at 7:30 am.

A Winter Wonderland

Students in grades K-5 at the Cook School (and some of the staff) have enjoyed snow shoeing with Mrs. Russell during P.E. Class. Thank you Mrs. Russell for bringing lifetime activities to our school.



Milo Free Public Library News

Judith D. Macdougall

Good gracious! We are really having an old-fashioned winter. I never expected the 15" or so on New Year's Day even though it was prophesied by the weatherman. In previous years we would be promised snow, but it would pass us by. In fact, a January thaw became a thing of the past. The last few winters we never knew we were having a thaw as the winters were so mild. I am writing this, as usual, on Thursday, and the temperature in our area was -5 degrees at 7:00 a.m. The forecast is for 42 degrees in a few days, and by the time you read this paper, we may be in the middle of surprisingly warm weather. How nice!

It's that time of year again-INCOME TAX TIME. We have been receiving forms regularly from the Internal Revenue office and have set them out on convenient shelves just inside the library door. We do not have all the forms we will be getting, as they dribble in through January and February but we do have quite a few already. Although I am a procrastinator and do not do much about income tax until March, many people are early birds and will be in to pick up forms as soon as possible. We are very glad to have these forms available at the library. We should eventually have books of printable



forms for the more obscure subjects, and we can also obtain forms on the internet for you. Come in and let us help you find the forms you need.

Here is a list of the forms we already have received, but more will be coming regularly.

- Form 1040 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return
- Form 1040 A
- Form 1040 EZ
- Form 1040 X (Amended US Income Tax Return)
- Schedule A Itemized Deductions
- Schedule B Interest and Ordinary Dividends
- Schedule EIC Earned Income Credit
- Schedule C Profit or Loss from Business
- Schedule C-EZ Net Profit from Business
- Schedule D Capital Gains & Losses
- Schedule E Supplemental Income & Loss
- Schedule SE Self Employment Tax
- Schedule 3 Credit for the Elderly & the Disabled
- Form 3903 Moving Expenses

Here is a hodge podge of Maine tax forms that we have received, but we will be getting more of the common ones soon.

- Long Form 1040 ME Maine FastFile Nonresident or Part Year Long Form
- 1040ES ME Estimated Tax for Individuals
- 1040 X Maine Amended Individual Income Tax Return

I called in an order to Baker & Taylor this week so we should have new adult books by the time you read this column. We will have the newest novel by Sue Miller, THE SENATOR'S WIFE, the Sarah Paretsky novel, BLEEDING KANSAS and a new non-fiction by Sylvia Browne-SECRET SOCIETIES among others.

The Library Will Be Closed MONDAY, JANUARY 21ST
In Observance Of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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

TRC Community Calendar

Visit <http://calendar.trcmaine.org/> for a full listing.

Monday, January 7

- 9:00a Monday Morning Quilters
- 11:45a Meals for ME
- 2:15p Girl Scout Troop #299
- 6:00p Volley Ball
- 6:30p Medford Selectmen
- 7:00p Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00p Sebec Selectmen
- Tuesday, January 8
- 1:00p Milo Garden Club
- 3:00p Girl Scout Troop #594
- 3:00p MSAD #41 Technology Committee
- 5:00p Milo Water District
- 5:30p Line Dancing
- 6:00p Milo Area Writers Group
- 6:30p Post #92 Bingo
- 7:00p Sebec Historical Society Meeting
- 7:00p Sebec Village Associates

Wednesday, January 9

- 6:30a Three Rivers Kiwanis
- 8:00a Lake View Assessors
- 9:00a Milo - VA Advocate
- 10:00a Church Thrift Shop
- 2:15p Girl Scout Troop #806
- 6:00p K.I. Riders
- 6:00p Wednesday Night Quilters
- 6:30p LaGrange Selectmen
- 6:30p Order of the Rainbow
- 6:30p Boy Scout Troop #115
- 6:30p Brownville Selectmen
- 7:00p Overeaters Anonymous
- 7:00p Bowerbank Selectmen
- Thursday, January 10
- 11:45a Meals for ME
- 4:30p Tae Kwon Do Class
- 6:00p Boy Scout Troop #112
- 6:00p Milo Selectmen
- 6:30p Line Dancing
- 6:30p BJHS Card Party
- 7:00p Brownville Days Committee Meeting
- 7:30p Composite Lodge #168

Friday, January 11

- 11:45a Meals for ME
- 6:15p Post #41 Bingo
- 7:30p Piscataquis Lodge #44

Saturday, January 12

Sunday, January 13

- 12:00p Karate Class
- 2:30p Tiny Tigers Tae Kwon Do
- 6:00p Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:30p Alcoholics Anonymous

BRAND NEW AT MAYO

Josie Lynn Bishop, daughter of Shannon and Peter Bishop Sr. of Milo, was born on December 26, 2007. She weighed 7 pounds 15 ounces.

MSAD 41 JANUARY LUNCH MENU

7-Cheeseburger, French fries, winter blend veggie with fruit and milk every day.
8-Hoagie wrap (ham, cheese, lettuce, tomato, bacon and pickles in a wrap), potato wedges and whole kernel corn.
9-Cheeseburger/macaroni, yellow & green beans and dinner roll.
10-French toast, ham slice and hash brown.
11-Pepperoni pizza, pretzels and garden salad.
14-Popcorn chicken, potato log and green beans.
15-Fish sticks, scallop potato and peas.
16-Shepherd's pie, mixed veggie and dinner roll.
17-Corn chowder, ham & cheese sandwich and crackers.
18-Pigs in a blanket, baked beans and cole slaw.
21-MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY.
22-Chicken burger, crosstrax fries and peas/carrots.
23-Spaghetti w/meat sauce, green beans, garlic roll and apple crisp.
24-Italian sandwich, cheesy broccoli and pickle spear.
25-Hawaiian pizza, rice pilaf, celery/carrot sticks and ranch dressing.
28-Chicken nuggets, whipped potato and green beans.
29-Ravioli, corn and dinner roll.
30-Spicy chicken strips, potato smiles and peas.
31-Hamburg soup, bologna & cheese sand. and crackers.
Feb. 1-Hot turkey sandwich, buttered carrots and cranberry sauce.

In Loving Memory

JUSTIN E. GERRISH

In Loving Memory of Dec. 31, 1977 - June 10, 1992 Children are a gift of God; they are His reward. Psalm 127:3 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift. 2 Corinthians 9:15 What a gift you were to us, Justin. Happy Birthday! Love, Kappy

In Loving Memory Of JUSTIN ELI GERRISH Dec. 31, 1977 - June 10, 1992. Forever in our hearts. We love and miss you. Nana and Grampie Zwicker and family

In Loving Memory Of JUSTIN ELI GERRISH Dec. 31, 1977 - June 10, 1992. Although the calendar says you turned 30 years old today, in our hearts and minds you still will be that handsome 14-year-old until we all celebrate again together. Happy Birthday, Hot Dog! Forever in our hearts, all our love, Dad, Mum and Dan

COTTRELL, ELBA E.

LAGRANGE - Elba E. Cottrell, 78, wife of the late Adelbert L. Cottrell Sr., died Jan. 2, 2008, surrounded by her family and friends, at Mount St. Joseph, Waterville. She was born Jan. 28, 1929, in Orneville, the daughter of Frank and Ruth (Herbest) Lyford. She was a charter member of LaGrange Full Gospel Church, and had been instrumental in the fundraising and building of the church. Elba taught Sunday school and Children's Church; she belonged to the Women's Ministries and was very involved with the church's prayer groups. She was a loving and devoted mother to her family, as she especially enjoyed her children and their friends. She always had a place for one more child and never turned anyone away. She is survived by her children, Vera Thompson and her husband, Gary, of Medway, Laura Pelkey of Bangor, Larry Cottrell and his wife, Shirley, of Augusta, Jenette Cooley and her husband, Charles, of Dixmont, Lee Gustin and his wife, Jeni, of Dexter and Arthur Cottrell and his wife, Eileen, of Garland; her brothers, Frank Lyford Jr. of LaGrange, Robert Lyford Sr. of Hudson and Newell Lyford of Brewer; her sisters, Gertude Hunt of Milo, Linda Thompson and her husband, Durwood, of Charleston and Brenda Bowden and her husband, Edward, of Bangor; an uncle, Kenneth Lyford Sr. of Orono; an aunt, Elnora Lyford of LaGrange; 11 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, her husband; and two children, Ronald and Amy.

.From PAWS

We would like to send out a huge thank you to Marty for all the wonderful work he does mowing and snow blowing for us. He's the best!

It was mentioned that there wasn't a list at the Milo Farmer's Union telling the items we need at the shelter. We need paper towels, bleach, 30-gal. trash bags, (IGA brand is perfect), Also we could use Purina cat chow in the blue bag, and Purina kitten chow.

We are in the planning stages of having an open house once a month, so watch for the dates. In the meantime, if you would like to tour the shelter, give me a call at 943-2324 and we will set a time. We are so proud of what we do that we want the whole community to see.

The little guy in the following photo is Joey. He is about 5 months old and is as sweet and active as a kitten can be. His brother and sister are also at the shelter. We are having such a great time watching them frolic, as are the other cats at the shelter. Joey's siblings, Angelina and Brad, have had eye problems which required surgery so the 3 were kept isolated until healed. Once we let the three out the whole demeanor of the other cats changed! Everyone is running and tumbling and playing like kittens, even though some are 2 or 3 years old!! What a difference a kitten makes.



Thankfully, we had vets in Orrington and Lucerne willing to do surgeries on these two for no cost. One of the vets is the wonderful lady who treated Kierra. We would never be able to pay for such high medical costs so their help was a blessing. Both kittens have funny looking eyes, but they are otherwise perfect. If you are looking for a kitten or two, these three are available.



Up On The Farm (and Out On The Town)

By Valerie Robertson

Nope, we don't have a new vehicle here at the Robertson house, but couldn't I fit a lot of critters in that beast!! Actually that is a photo of the amazing Limo that Melissa, the owner of Valerie Jean's Bistro, chartered for our "Employees Appreciation Day" excursion. If it looks great on the outside, you wait! The interior was elegant to the point of being sinful. I had never been in a limo before, so I was like a kid with a new toy. Let me see if I can recreate the day.

We started out by meeting downtown at 10AM on Sunday, December 23rd. I had just been through the sadness of putting my sweet Kierra to sleep, so a day with no responsibilities (except making choices about what delicious food to eat) was something I really needed. As we drove up to Water Street Katie and I saw the limo and all anxiety about what was in store for us disappeared. How could a day not be perfect that started in a limo? Let me back track a bit.

The first week of November, Melissa had asked her three employees if they could commit to an entire day if she scheduled an excursion. We all said yes and she planned the 16th of December as our day. We wondered and pondered what might be in store for us. Now you might wonder why I mentioned we had some anxiety about the trip; well, that was thanks to Clayton, Melissa's husband. He had walked into the Bistro a few weeks before and said to Melissa "I got the girls snowsuits for the trip"

Melissa told him "Shhhh...", and I was sure that I had overheard part of the secret Melissa had planned. I acted as if I hadn't heard anything, but I shared what I had overheard with Katie and we were baffled, and nervous. As I have mentioned before, I love Maine, and I love winter, but I'm not fond of anything that you do outside in the cold! I told my friends at the Post Office that I had reservations about how the trip would go; I further explained that I couldn't think of anything I would want to do that began with the phrase "Put on your snowsuit, we're going to.....". "Nope", I went on to say, Even if the phrase began "Put on your snowsuit, Tom Brady and you are going to..." I couldn't think of an ending that would be something I wanted to do. That was why Katie and I were a bit nervous about what the day would entail. As it turned out, Clayton had baited me and I had fallen for his trap. He is a great actor!

So the 16th arrived and alas, we had a huge snowstorm and the trip was cancelled, but rescheduled for the 23rd. That Sunday was warm and rainy and as I said, sight of the Limo was just what I needed to tell me that this was going to be a great day!

Our driver, Lea, was a sweet blonde girl who was as professional as she was cute!! She welcomed us, opened the door and we stepped into paradise. Now paradise is a personal thing and each person's idea of it is different, but let me show you and tell you mine.



As you can see, the interior was huge and opulent! Not only was there a huge 10 foot long plush seat, there was a bar, elegant snacks, champagne, and a 3-pound bag of holiday M & M's, but there were two televisions!! I had jokingly told Katie earlier that I would love it if our trip was a walk into a luxury inn and I could just lie around, eat and watch TV all day. Seems my wish was granted.

After we loaded into the limo, Melissa showed us the snacks, gave us drinks and told us the first stage of our trip. We had reservations at Azures, a great Italian restaurant in Freeport and after we ate we were going to do some last minute shopping. She then handed each of us a \$100 gift certificate to L.L.Bean's! We put in a DVD and watched a movie. The real fun started when we had to take a bathroom break.. You can imagine the fun we had pulling into the Irving in Newport. As we stepped out of the limo (after the door was opened by Lea), all eyes were on us and we could hear people wondering who and WHAT we were! After we loaded back in

the limo, Lea told us that someone had approached her and asked who we were and her reply was:

"I'm sorry Sir, but I have to ask you to back away from the vehicle". Gotta love Lea!

All too soon we were in Freeport, and again all eyes were on us as we made our exit from the limo. I swear we were treated differently because we were "someone", although I don't think anyone could come up with exactly what.

The meal at Azures was fabulous, and as Melissa paid our check she called Lea who appeared in front of the restaurant as if by magic. How she maneuvered the 20+ foot long car so easily was amazing. She told us she drove a school bus as her regular job. I guess someone who does that can handle anything.

We drove a short distance and were at L.L. Bean. What fun we had there! When we checked out we were told that we got a \$10 gift card for spending \$50, so we ended up with \$110 to spend...WOW!

It was 4PM when we left the store, and Melissa said we had to be at our next destination by 5:30. We were headed to Portland and we all wondered what was next! As we pulled up in front of Merrill Auditorium we realized we were in for a treat. It was the last performance of the Portland Symphony Orchestra's annual Magic of Christmas shows, What a memorable and amazing extravaganza it was! If you have never made the trip you must be sure to include it in next year's holiday celebration. I was thrilled with each song and dance and so thankful I got to see it.

After the show we went to dinner at a Mexican Restaurant and ate another great meal. By this time we were done it was after 9PM, but even this old gal was wide awake



and looking forward to the ride home. We had another movie to watch, more drinks to drink and pounds of M & M's to snack on. Heaven, pure heaven!

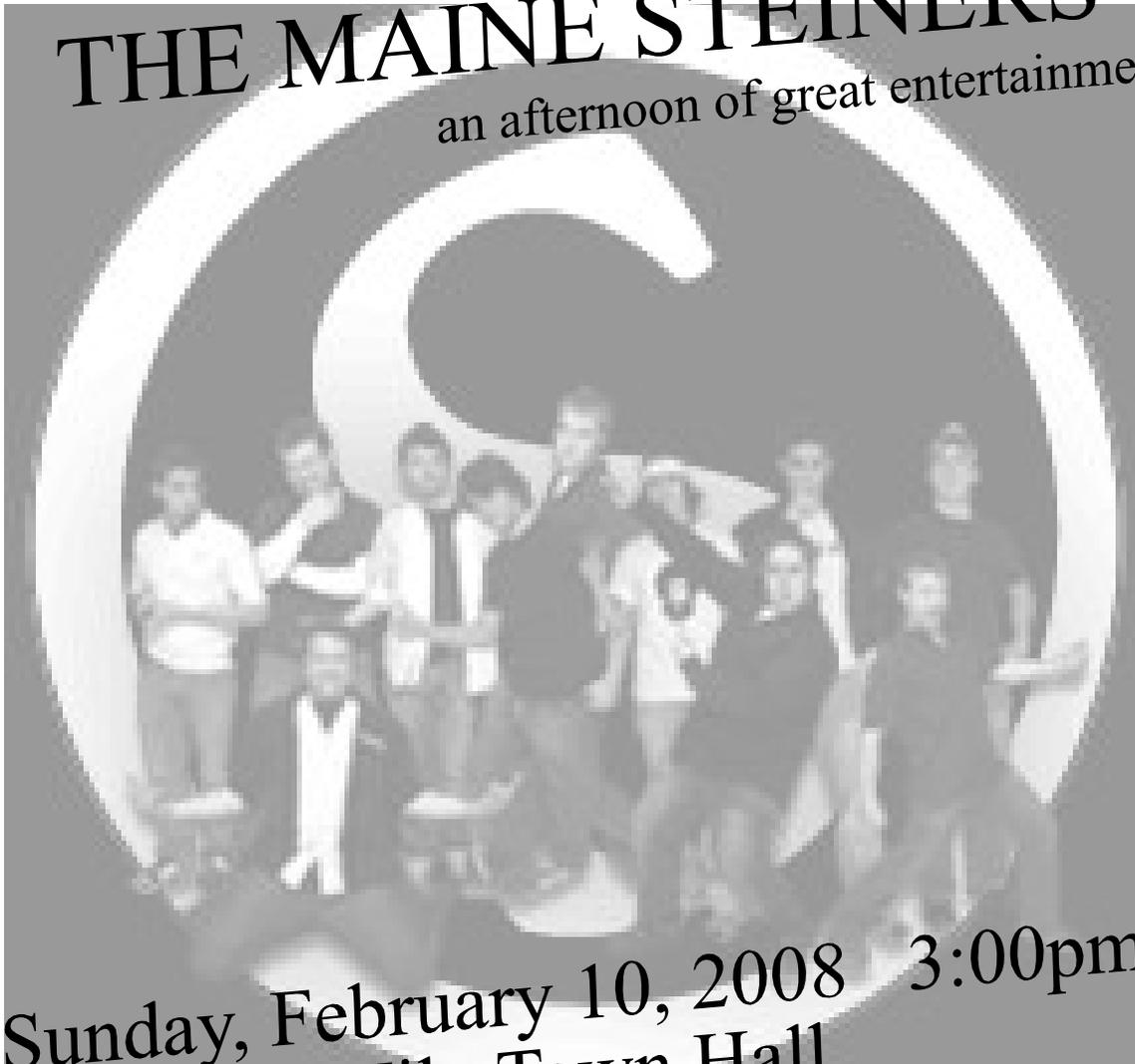
So as you might imagine, I am so thankful to Melissa for providing me with a day that helped so much in coping with the loss of my Kierra. Being in the company of Katie and good friends did wonders for my state of mind. Seeing the talented orchestra and young people during the show restored my love of people and their talents. These pleasures, as well as dining on great food sated my belly as well as my heart and soul. Thank you to Melissa, Uyi, Jane, and Katie for being such great company. And thank you, Melissa, for helping to heal my broken heart! Friends and family are indeed life's greatest gift!



The Milo Elementary PTO presents

THE MAINE STEINERS

an afternoon of great entertainment



Sunday, February 10, 2008 3:00pm
Milo Town Hall

snow date: February 24

The Maine Steiners are the University of Maine's first a cappella group . . . With their tight harmonies, diverse repertoire of original arrangements and energetic stage presence they have thrilled audiences world wide performing around 100 shows and 3 week long tours per year.

\$12.50 per person table seating

\$6.00 balcony & 65 yr or older

Children 12 & under free with paid adult

Desserts & Beverages available for sale

Table seating includes dessert & beverage