



# Three Rivers News



<http://news.trcmaine.org/>

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  
Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2008 Volume 8 Number 9

## NEW YEAR'S PARTY/DANCE

### Spend Less-Party Local!!

Milo Town Hall Auditorium

9 pm to 1 am with FREE party favors, FREE finger foods,  
50/50 raffle.

Music by Neptune Entertainment. Great light and effects show. Tickets available NOW at Just Teasin' hair salon — 13 Prospect St., Milo — or at the door!! \$15 per person, BYOB. All people attending this event must be 21 or older. This event is sponsored by Neptune Entertainment.



A grateful community would like to thank Terri and David Knowles and Nancy and Walter Cook for making Christmas dinner a joyous time filled with love and fellowship. Also a big "Thanks" to Ronnie Knowles and his talented gang for the entertainment, as well as to Joey Villani for the piano music.

Thanks to everyone who participated and especially to those who came to share their day with us! The true spirit of small town love will carry on to the New Year!



## 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](http://WWW.NEWS.TRCMAINE.ORG). Donations can be mailed to Valerie Robertson, PO Box 81, Milo, Maine 04463.

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

Letters to the editor, social news, school news, items of interest, or coming social events may be submitted NO LATER THAN FRIDAY NOON to the following addresses:

Valerie Robertson, PO Box 81, Milo, Maine 04463 or e-mailed to, [val04463@verizon.net](mailto:val04463@verizon.net) or call 943-2324.

Nancy Willinski, 10 Belmont St. Milo, Maine 04463, e-mailed to [nancy2310@roadrunner.com](mailto: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.

## 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!

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM  
THE STAFF OF DOVER-FOXCROFT  
CHIROPRACTIC CENTER!  
Dr K, Pam and Joi wish you the best  
in 2009!

What a crowd came to Brownville on the 19th to see Rick Charette! Right before the holiday break the PTOs sponsored a Rick Charette concert for the elementary schools. It was so much fun as the kids all joined in on favorites like, "Mud" and "Alligator in the Elevator".

All the staff and students appreciate the PTO support for this fun concert.

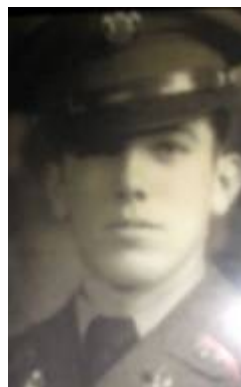


## A BIT OF VETERAN'S HISTORY

By Richard L Graves Sr.

**Hanford "Sonny" Burton** Milo, Maine

A member of Joseph P. Chaisson American Legion Post 41 for 34 years shares his memory of the "Forgotten War, Conflict and Police action known as the Korean War. Besides his vivid memory of being surrounded by an army of Chinese in the vicinity of the Changjin (Chosin) Reservoir, his hands and feet are reminders as he still suffers from frost bite. Sonny Burton joined the U.S. Army January 10th, 1949 at age 18, attending basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey. After a short leave he traveled to the west coast by train and traveled by troop ship to Japan where



he was assigned to the 17th Infantry Regiment, part of the 7th Infantry Division at Sendai, Japan, receiving advanced infantry training while also training a South Korean soldier under a special program. Each American soldier was assigned a Korean soldier as a "Buddy" or "running mate".

The 17th Infantry Regiment took part in the advance to the Yalu River along with the 1st Marine Division. On November 27th the Chinese Communist

Forces created multiple attacks on the greatly outnumbered and surrounded UN Forces. The 1st Marine Division made an attack back towards the Port Of Hungnam breaking through the Chinese lines. Sonny Burton and portions of his Regiment had not moved through the Chinese with the advance. Surrounded and feeling abandoned, his unit traveled the ridges, hunkering down during daylight hours. The ground too hard to dig fox holes, they made position of rocks. At night they continued to travel towards the coast, sometimes at a belly crawl to avoid being picked off by the Chinese occupying the same ridges. Without food for three days they came across an abandoned Marine truck convoy, searched the trucks and found a frozen can of chicken and fruit cocktail. On December 22nd reaching the UN Forces at Hungnam Harbor, he loaded onto a troop ship traveling south, eventually receiving his orders in August, 1951 to return back to the United States. He finished his time in service at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, and West Point, New York. He was discharged in June, 1952 and returned to Milo, Maine.

**M.S.A.D. 41 SCHOOL LUNCH MENU**

5-Chicken burger on a homemade roll, potato wedges with fruit and milk every day.
6-Breadsticks, sauce/cheese and mixed vegs.
7-Soft tacos and green beans.
8-Baked chicken, mashed potato, peas and dinner roll.
9-Hamburg pizza and carrot sticks.
12-Chicken nuggets, potato log and dinner roll.
13-Ravioli, green beans and dinner roll.
14- <b>Early Release</b> -Ham & cheese sand. pretzels and icy juicy.
15-Shepherd's pie, broccoli and dinner roll.
16-Hot meatball sub. w/cheese and garden salad.
19- <b>Martin Luther King Day.</b>
20-Cheeseburger and French fries.
21-Chicken fajita wrap w/cheese and rice pilaf.
22-BLT sandwich, oven fries and cheese stick.
23-Pepperoni pizza and carrot sticks.
26-Fish sticks, potato smiles and dinner roll.
27-Hot dog in a roll, baked beans and French fries.
28-Pancakes, sausage and hash brown.
29-Bologna sandwich, chicken noodle soup and crackers.
30-Chop suey, cuke slices and dinner roll.

**GRAMMIE McCLEARY'S WEATHER 1986/1987**

30-Dusting of snow cloudy-20° at 5:15 am. 31-Sunny L. wind-2° at 9 pm. 1-Sunny-20° at 12. 2-Cloudy snow started 3 pm windy. 3-Snow & blowing 12 in. 12° at 5:20 am. 4 & 5-Sunny L. wind 8° at 9 pm.

**Senior Network to Start Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup>!**

Winter has settled in throughout Piscataquis County! Despite the white snow and cold air, there is an inviting and warm place for our area Senior Citizens every Monday and Thursday at the Piscataquis Regional YMCA at 48 Park Street in Dover-Foxcroft! The Senior Network is offered to area Seniors at no cost, from January through April, to help beat those winter doldrums and the isolation that often comes during the cold weather. Senior Network will operate every Monday and Thursday, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and offers the opportunity for visiting with your neighbors, board games and crafts, senior exercise and educational programs together with a healthy luncheon.

Senior Network is the result of months of planning between the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Mayo Regional Hospital, Community First, the PRYMCA and Penquis with financial support from the United Way of Eastern Maine. "Over the next four months, we are looking to offer fun, social and informative sessions" said Erika Weidner, new Executive Director at the YMCA. Senior Network will start January 8<sup>th</sup> Thursdays and Mondays from 11:00- 2:00 at the YMCA. The YMCA staff, community volunteers and community organizations all know about the importance of health, nutrition, wellness and friendships over the cold winter months for our local seniors.

Senior Network provides the opportunity for you to get out of your home for a while during the day, turn the heat down and be catered to! Depending upon the interest and participation, it may be possible to "grow" this program to include additional hours or days. Please come dressed comfortably and prepared to have some fun and meet some new neighbors!

At 11:00 a.m. at the PRYMCA, community volunteers will welcome *Senior Network* participants with hot coffee, tea or cocoa. Mondays are also Door Prize day! On Mondays there will be a nutritious luncheon at 11:30 a.m. plus informal conversation, knitting and games as well as opportunities for participation in the arthritic pool exercise program. "Sit and Get Fit," a specially designed, no-impact, senior exercise and strength-building program, will be offered twice a month. Additional programs may include videos of trips taken by local residents, hobby presentations and the like.

On Thursdays, the Senior Network is an expansion of the successful monthly potluck meal offered at the PRYMCA. In addition to the potluck luncheon, there will be a speaker addressing topics of interest for those who participate. A recent "interest inventory" indicated high interest in having speakers talk about preparing meals for one person, aging gracefully, healthy practices, money management and legal issues.

Community First is working closely with Penquis to arrange for LYNX transportation for those who need a ride to the PRYMCA. While we can't guarantee transportation, we are working hard to make arrangements to ensure that everyone who is interested can attend this program.

We need 3-4 volunteers for each session. Volunteers are needed to help in meal preparation on Mondays, to welcome participants, help in activities and in setting up and clean-up. "The gift of time is invaluable! Once a week, once a month -- a few hours here, there - makes for tremendous opportunities everywhere!" said Sue Mackey Andrews, who is helping to coordinate volunteers for *Senior Network*. If you have any time to share with others during these winter months, please call Sue at 564-8245 or e-mail her at [sdmandrews@aol.com](mailto:sdmandrews@aol.com)

This program is available free to all area Seniors. If you have any questions or need transportation, please call Sue Mackey Andrews at 564-8245 or the PRYMCA at 564-7111. This program starts on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. While pre-registration isn't required, your call to the PRYMCA to let us know when you plan to attend will help to ensure that we have enough chairs and food for everyone! See you there!

**Susan D. Mackey Andrews**  
**Solutions Consulting Group, LLC**  
**3 Shore Road North**  
**P.O. Box 218**  
**Dover-Foxcroft, Maine 04426**

**TRC Community Calendar**

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

**Tuesday, December 30**

- 9:00a Womancare Outreach
- 6:30p Post #92 Bingo
- 6:30p Milo Selectmen's Meeting
- 7:00p Sebec Planning Board
- 7:00p Sebec Village Associates

**Wednesday, December 31**

- 6:30a Three Rivers Kiwanis
- 9:00a Milo : Career Center
- 10:00a Church Thrift Shop
- 6:00p Wednesday Night Quilters
- 6:30p Boy Scout Troop #115
- 7:00p Overeaters Anonymous

**Friday, January 2**

- 9:00a Milo : Career Center
- 11:45a Meals for ME
- 12:00p Three Rivers Senior Citizens
- 6:15p Post #41 Bingo

**Sunday, January 4**

- 2:30p Tiny Tigers Tae Kwon Do
- 2:30p Post #92 Auxiliary
- 3:30p Square Dancing
- 3:30p Sebec Freedom Riders Snowmobile Club Meeting
- 6:00p Alcoholics Anonymous
- 6:00p Scrapbooking
- 7:30p Alcoholics Anonymous

**Milo Business Association News**

Jerry Brown, civic leader and Milo selectman, was chosen as the new president of the Milo Business Association on December 15, 2008 at a dinner meeting held at Sandee's Restaurant in Milo.

The Milo Business Association has been formed to provide a forum for the business owners and managers in Milo to improve business opportunities, provide mentoring and mutual assistance, promote a favorable business climate,

sponsor special events and promotional activities, and to offer a business-to-business directory.

The next meeting of the Milo Business Association is scheduled for January 12, 2009, at 5:30 pm in the dining room of the Milo Town Hall. For additional information contact Jerry Brown at the Town Hall or call Ken Woodbury at the Piscataquis County Economic Development Council at 564-3638.

## FORMER MILO MAN CRUSHED BY NEOPHYTE CRIBBAGE PRODIGY

By Kirby Robertson



Thomaston resident Kevin Robertson was "shocked and awed" after his humiliating cribbage defeat at the hands of 12 year old Tyler Greer of College Station, Texas. What made Robertson's collapse even more unbearable was the fact that the young, game Texan had never heard of or played cribbage.

Tyler is vacationing in Milo with his parents Jason and Rachel Robertson. Jason is a former Milo resident and is the grandson of Denice Robertson and John and Eileen Willinski. He is also the son of Patricia Lord of Dover-Foxcroft and Joel Robertson of The Woodlands, Texas.

After a belt-loosening shrimp and lobster feed at the Robertson house on Crescent Street it was time to drag out the old cribbage board. Tyler's curiosity was piqued as he watched Kevin and his younger (20 minutes) brother Kirby battle their way around the board. The lanky lad from Texas was a quick study as he watched the younger Robertson have his way with his older and less able brother.

Wanting a piece of the action the young gun challenged the grizzled veteran to a game. Smelling an easy win, he accepted. So confident was Robertson of victory he upped the ante by declaring that the loser would be required to remove their shoes and socks, roll up their pant legs and step outside for a barefoot stroll through the snow. The boy agreed.

Now Kevin has always been one to try and "psych" out his opponents with taunts and trash talk. It doesn't matter if he's playing basketball, table tennis, or croquet. Sometimes it even works. Tyler's cool retort to all this was a simple, "bring it on."

After some last minute coaching from Kevin's little (birth order only) brother the match was on. How anyone can learn the game of cribbage in 30 minutes is beyond me. With some hesitant card playing and slow counting Tyler was off to an early lead. This continued until they rounded the corner for home. Kevin eked out a small lead that sent him into gloat-

mode. The good natured taunting was ratcheted up a few notches.

"Tyler, did you feel that breeze when I blew by you?"

"Tyler, you know I've been staying behind on purpose."

"Tyler, you know that snow is going to be some cold on those little Texas chicken legs."

." Did you say your name was Tyler or Loser?"

Well, Kevin kept his lead as they made their way down Fourth Street. It looked bleak for the boy. Kevin had first count and was feeling pretty cocky. He needed seven holes to go out. His hand could only produce five. "No problem," he said. "I can easily peg two holes." Tyler needed fourteen. I helped him count his hand.

"Yikes!" A measly two holes wasn't much help. Kevin was pounding the table and laughing like a demented hyena.

"Don't forget your crib," I said. Being new to the game, Tyler understandably had trouble counting his hands. He counted his crib of Q-Q-J-J-10 as four holes. It wasn't nearly enough.

I said "Let's count that again."

His double-double run of sixteen blew him past Kevin to declare victory in his first ever game of cribbage.

After a few minutes of near pandemonium a proud yet respectful young man had just one comment for Mr. Robertson. "Off with the shoes and socks fat boy, it's snow time!"

**Dylan at the Cook School is taking a turn on Mrs. Russell's ropes adventure in PE class. After vacation they'll begin the winter unit with snowshoeing and cross country skiing. All children should come prepared for PE outside.**



### IN MEMORIAM

**ELEANOR PARKMAN HEATH MILO** - Eleanor Parkman Heath, 96, wife of the late Chester E. Heath, died Dec. 26, 2008, at a Dover-Foxcroft hospital. I was born in Palmyra, Dec. 3, 1912, the first child of C. Earl Parkman and Elizabeth (Thompson) Parkman. I attended Marsh Grammar School, Palmyra and graduated from Higgins Classical Institute, Charleston. I went to Gorham State Teachers School, Farmington and took courses from the University of Maine, trying to earn my degree. I taught school for 30 years, beginning in a one-room school at Boyd Lake. I belonged to Aldworth Chapter No. 39 Order of the Eastern Star, past matron to Frances Dighton William Daughters of the American Revolution and the Maine Mayflower Society. I was proud of the volunteer work I

have done through the years. I have made nearly 200 quilts for the Linus Chapter. I made things for the Maine Veterans' Home, Bangor. I had knitted hats for cancer patients and for preemie babies. I made hats and mittens for the Kiwanis Christmas boxes. My first husband was R. Elmo Henderson. Two years after he was killed in a plane crash I married Chester E. Heath. I was predeceased by three siblings, E. Keith Parkman, Erla F. Miller and Polly P. Merrill. I am survived by a brother, Wesley E. Parkman and his wife, Shirley, of Dover-Foxcroft; two sisters, Blanche Degerstrom of Houston and Regina Ernest of Greenbank, Wash. I am survived by two sons, Ralph E. Henderson of Orneville and Charles Henderson and his wife, Joan, of Strong; four daughters, Elizabeth Martin and her husband, Roy, of Glenburn, Lorraine Henderson of Kenduskeag, Sylvia Webb and her husband, Raymond, of King George, Va., and Sheryl Drinkwater and her husband, John, of Orneville; two stepdaughters, Betty Clement of Bangor and Mary Halpin and her husband, George, of Keene, N.H.; 26 grandchildren and step grandchildren; and too many great-grandchildren to count, plus several great-great-grandchildren. There will be no services at this time. Spring burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery with her parents and brother, Keith. Messages of condolence and memories may be expressed at [www.laryfuneralhome.com](http://www.laryfuneralhome.com).

**DORIS MAE JENKINS BROWNVILLE and BANGOR** Doris Mae Jenkins, 93, died Dec. 22, 2008, at a Bangor nursing home. She was born Sept. 4, 1915, in Danforth, the daughter of James Blaine and Minnie (DeWitt) Jenkins. She is survived by a son, Richard Jenkins and his wife, Donna, of Orneville; a brother, Donald Jenkins of Brownville; four grandchildren, Nicholas Jenkins, Lindsay Small, Taylor Small, all of Milo, and Kathryn Jenkins and her companion, Josh, of Brownville Junction; one great-granddaughter, Alexis Damon of Brownville Junction; several nieces and nephews, including a special nephew, Skip Jenkins and his family of Colorado. She was predeceased by a brother, James; and two sisters, Geraldine Monahan and Ethel Lee. Graveside funeral services in the spring at the family lot at Evergreen Cemetery will be announced by Lary Funeral

Home, Milo. Messages of condolence and memories may be expressed at [www.laryfuneralhome.com](http://www.laryfuneralhome.com).

**NORMA GREENE HORNE MILO** - Norma Greene Horne, wife of the late Allan Ederly Horne, went home to e with her Lord and Savior, unexpectedly, on December 23. She was born, October 27, 1916, in Sangerville, the daughter of Howard E. and Magie (Herring) Greene. She graduated from Sangerville High School in 1934 and took several courses at the University of Maine. She worked at the Sangerville Post Office before moving to Milo. She was a long time member of the United Baptist Church of Milo, where she served as deaconess, chairperson of missions, leader of a teenage missionary group of girls, "The Sally Peck Guild", past president of the Dorcus Guild, Sunday School teacher and a member of the Triple M Group. She was a member of the Aldworth Chapter NO. 30 OES, where she served as chaplain, and a charter member and past president of the Ayuda Club. She was a member of the Piscataquis Extension Group in the county and past president in Milo, and also served as a leader of Teenage All American Girls, where she taught sewing and cooking. She loved and excelled in many of the arts and crafts taught by the Extension Service and made many clothes for her daughters and knit hats, sweaters and mittens for her children and grand children and missions. She and her husband loved to travel throughout the United States and spent winters in Zephyrhills, FL. She married Allan Ederly Horne of Milo in 1935 and she is survived by 2 sons, Norman "Tom" C. Horne and his wife Carol of Boyd Lake, Howard "Hap" A. Horne of Milo; three daughters, Linda H. Keef and her husband Larry of Gorham, Karen H. Clark and her husband Michael of Milo, Janet H. Richards and her husband Donald of Milo; a brother Merle H. Greene of Dexter; 15 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband and by a son, Richard "Ricky" A. Horne, also two sisters Marion MaHoney and Ruth Kimball along with a brother Dwight Greene Burial will be in the family lot in the Evergreen Cemetery in Milo in the spring. In lieu of flowers donations in her memory may be sent the United Methodist Church Ecumenical Food Cupboard, c/o Lewis Dyer, 14 Park St., Milo ME 04463. Messages of condolence and memories maybe expressed at [www.laryfuneralhome.com](http://www.laryfuneralhome.com).

**The following is information concerning school reconsolidation submitted by Susan D. Mackey Andrews**

**Finances: Budget**

The start-up budget for the Central Administrative Office is \$682,410. These costs are shared across the participating units based upon computations developed using three (3) years of administrative costs. Costs beyond the historical base plus COLA (\$1,017,448) would be assigned based upon student enrollment. This formula may be changed in future years by the AOS Board with a 2/3rds vote.

**Local Cost Share Assignments**

Locality	Historical Expend.	Cost Share/ Student Enrollment
MSAD #68	30.5%	49.0%
MSAD #41	22.9%	32.9%
Greenville	23.7%	9.1%
Beaver Cove	3.1%	.4%
Shirley	2.1%	.8%
MSAD #12	17.2%	7.7%
Bowerbank	.5%	.2%

**Cost Savings**

Cost savings totaling \$15,000 for Year 1, \$16,000 for Year 2, and \$17,000 for Year 3 have been identified. Additional savings are possible as the AOS is implemented, in addition to voiding the penalties assessed if localities do not participate.

**Cost Avoidance/Penalties**

Locality	Penalty
Bowerbank	\$ 486
Greenville	\$ 105,758
Shirley	\$ 8,546
Beaver Cove	\$ 11,782
MSAD 12	\$ 31,492
MSAD 41	\$ 107,814
MSAD 68	\$ 178,466
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 444,344</b>

To view/download the plan in its entirety:

- <http://www.sad68.org/RSU18Vision.htm>
- <http://www.ohslakers.org/>
- <http://www.msa41.us/>

or, check with your Superintendent for a copy.

**PUBLIC HEARING LOCATIONS AND TIMES**

**Beaver Cove**  
 Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
 Beaver Cove Town Office

**Bowerbank**  
 Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
 Bowerbank Town Hall

**Greenville**  
 Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
 Oakes Auditorium

**Shirley**  
 Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
 Shirley Town Office

**MSAD #12**  
 Jackman, Moose River  
 Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.  
 Forest Hills Consolidated School

**MSAD #41**  
 Milo, Brownville/Brownville Junction, Atkinson, LaGrange  
 Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
 Milo Elementary School

**MSAD # 68**  
 Dover-Foxcroft, Sebec, Charleston  
 Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
 SeDoMoCha School Complex

**MSAD #69 – Monson**  
 Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.  
 Monson Elementary School

Snow dates will be the following week, same time and location.

**Maine Highlands Regional Education Consortium (MHREC)**

**Municipal Units:**

**Towns of:**  
 Beaver Cove,  
 Bowerbank,  
 Greenville,  
 Shirley

**MSAD #12**  
 Jackman, Moose River

**MSAD #41**  
 Milo, Brownville/Brownville Junction, Atkinson, LaGrange

**MSAD #68**  
 Dover-Foxcroft, Sebec,  
 Monson, Charleston

Public Hearings will be held through-out the region prior to the Public Referendum which will be held on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. 5 Absentee ballots will be available through your local Town Hall.

### Vision Statement

Our vision is to provide a community-based education system with a broad base to meet the diverse needs of all students. We wish to create more educational opportunities for students. In creating this consortium, we will not sacrifice instructional quality and availability in order to achieve cost savings.

### Educational Enhancements

The AOS Leadership, in partnership with local Boards, acknowledges our region's diverse and changing needs and challenges as administrative reorganization plans move forward. Our efforts to identify educational enhancements range from the potential for community partnerships for preschool programs and services, a special services "Hub," to promote the expansion of vocational education and other options for secondary students, combined teacher workshops, etc. Combined purchasing and transportation services will also be examined for cost savings.

The RPC recommended that the AOS Board establish a study group entitled the "Maine Highlands Education Promises For the Future Committee." This Committee will conduct a comprehensive feasibility study around the topics of Regional Educational Programming and school choice in three phases: 1) Assessment of all Existing Conditions, 2) Explore Possibilities for Regional Programming and 3) to make Recommendations to the AOS Board. They will explore possible ways to enhance educational programs to serve all region students by providing a diversity of secondary programs including increased vocational, business, Information Technology, Forestry, Recreation, Hospitality, college prep and the arts/drama/music and foreign language programs.

The AOS and its partners will continuously seek greater partnerships with community resources and creative ways to enhance educational opportunities for all children in this rural area.

### Demographics Student Enrollment

The overall student population in the partner communities has declined by 20% in the last 10 years. Student eligibility for free/reduced lunch averages 56.8%. Piscataquis county has the lowest high school completion rate in the state (76.8%) and the highest unemployment rate in the state (>10%).

### Enrollment Projections

	1997	2002	2007	+/-
SAD #4	950	850	750	-21.79%
SAD #41	909	791	707	-22.22%
SAD #46	1159	1063	987	-14.84%
SAD #68	1299	1097	1047	-19.40%
Greenville Beaver Cove	290	269	211	-29.43%
Shirley	8	6	11	37.50%
Kingsbury	25	18	16	-36.00%
	4658	4094	3729	-19.94%

### AOS Board Configuration

Town	Population	Number Members	Weighted Vote
Dover-Foxcroft	4269	6	52.201
Charleston	1374	2	50.4035
Monson	633	1	46.4417
Sebec	587	1	43.0668
MSAD 68	6863	10	192.113
Milo	2354	4	43.1768
Brownville	292	2	10.7117
Lagrange	721	2	26.449
Atkinson	314	1	23.0374
MSAD 41	3681	9	103.375
Jackman	712	2	26.1189
Moose River	217	1	15.9208
MSAD 12	929	3	42.0396
Greenville	1718	3	42.0152
Shirley	201	1	14.7469
Beaver Cove	88	1	6.45635
Bowerbank	150	1	11.0051
TOTAL	13630	28	

### Timeline of Implementation

Board members will be seated from the members of local school committees by a method determined by each committee. Local School Committees will appoint members to the AOS Board. Appointments will be for 3 year terms which will be staggered (9 terms to terminate at the end of years 1 and 2; 10 terms to terminate at the end of year 3). This Board will convene on July 1, 2009. In the interim, the initial AOS Board shall be appointed from the existing Boards by March 1, 2009 and shall have the transitional powers and duties provided by law; this initial AOS Board will serve as the transition committee for the AOS central administrative office..

### Use of Schools

All current school facilities will be used; no schools are closed as a result of the AOS partnership. All facilities are owned and remain under the local control as currently exists.

### Central Office Administration

The exact configuration and location of the AOS Administrative Office will be determined by the newly appointed AOS Board and will go into place on July 1, 2009.

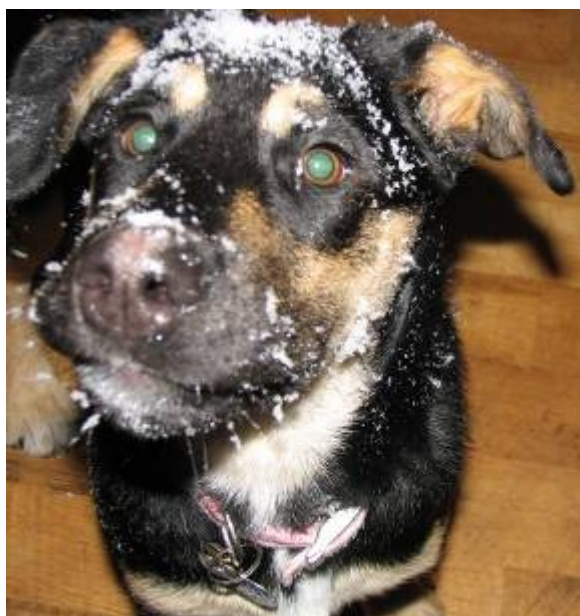
The make-up of the positions in the Central Administrative Office will be determined by the Superintendent and the AOS Board based upon the functions needed and the availability of funds.

### School Choice

School choice remains as currently constructed.

School Reorganization legislation is intended to reduce the costs of school administrative services through the creation of partnerships in either a Regional School Unit (RSU) or Alternative Organizational Structure (AOS). There is no intention that schools will consolidate, that children will spend more time on school buses, or that our small rural schools will close. The RPC envisions that the administrative structures of a school unit will be performed by one central administrative office for multiple localities. This reorganization is intended to save money in administration. Programs, services and supports for students K-12 should not be negatively affected by reorganization.

Mamie says Thanks!!



***A Thank you from PAWS...  
We can not begin to express our gratitude to ALL of you who have shown such amazing generosity this year, and particularly these last few weeks. We scrimp and save every way we can, but the bottom line is it is expensive to care for and spay or neuter the more than 175 animals we have cared for this year. Every day we are provided for in one way or another and we wish we could pat every single one of you and give you a scratch behind your ears!! We wish you the same joy in the coming year that you have given us and the animals.***