

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

General University of Maine Publications

University of Maine Publications

2010

2010, UMaine News Press Releases

Division of Marketing and Communication

Joe Carr

University of Maine

George Manlove

University of Maine

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [History Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Division of Marketing and Communication; Carr, Joe; and Manlove, George, "2010, UMaine News Press Releases" (2010). *General University of Maine Publications*. 1090.

https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications/1090

This Monograph is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in General University of Maine Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

UMaine News Press Releases from Word Press XML export 2010

Maine Artist Redfield Installing Work at Hutchinson Center Tuesday

04 Jan 2010

Jan. 4, 2010 Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 BELFAST -- Lincolnville based artisan Janet Redfield (<http://janetredfield.com/>) will be at the University of Maine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast Tuesday Jan. 5, installing stained glass art works in the building's atrium. Redfield has created the large-scale pieces as part of Maine's Percent for Art program. That program sets aside one percent of construction costs in public buildings for works of art. Her commissioned work is on display in numerous Maine schools and public buildings, including Greeley Middle School, Bowdoin Central School, Camden Hills High School and the Rockland Ferry Terminal. Redfield will be available for interviews beginning mid-morning Tuesday. She expects to complete the installation project in one day.

School of Economics Taking Household Finance to the Schools

05 Jan 2010

Contacts: Sarah Morehead, 978-210-1944; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO – UMaine's School of Economics has revised its Financial Literacy outreach program, and is now taking it into Maine's middle and high schools to reach younger audiences. Graduate student Sarah Morehead, a research assistant in the School of Economics, spent the past semester teaching and counseling as many as 200 UMaine undergraduates about the psychology of economics and basic budgeting. The revised program is called Household Financial Education and is designed for students from middle school to college. "I've spent this semester planning and perfecting the workshops," Morehead says. "What I'd really like to do is open it up to any high school and do a weeklong event. High schools and middle schools are really our targets." Morehead's approach is more fundamental than the previous community-based program, which presented financial workshops to audiences with a working knowledge of finance. She says people who are uneasy about financial management need a more elementary introduction, starting with preconceived notions. Many people either love or hate money, depending on whether they successfully manage it or whether it manages them, says Morehead. "We watch out parents fight over it. We watch people lose sleep over it. We see people with more get treated differently," she says. "We're constantly reading these messages from other people who tell us who we are because of money." Morehead explores what she calls the "psychology of money" and the "emotional hang-ups and personal values -- the barriers people don't often address." Helping students understand their "financial personality" leads to a more successful structure for managing household finances. School of Economics Director George Criner says traditional community finance classes tend to be too complex for many people. Helping people understand how they are affected by money helps them better understand finances, he says. "I think what we want to do is to help break down the psychological barriers," Criner adds. "You can use money wisely and it can be your friend. It doesn't have to be a source of agony and stress." Second-year student Darryl Ann Girardin, who attended one of Morehead's workshops, likes Morehead's style. "I loved your presentation," Girardin told Morehead after a workshop in the fall. "I have a love-hate relationship with money, and I love to spend it and I have no budget. I'd love to get my money situation under control and hear more about your views on money," Morehead can be reached at (978) 210-1944 for additional details about scheduling a workshop.

UMaine Receives \$12.4 Million for Deepwater Offshore Wind Research Facility

08 Jan 2010

Contact: Professor Habib Dagher, (207) 581-2138; Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571 ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine has received a \$12.4 million grant from the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology for construction of its new deepwater offshore wind energy research and testing facility. The 30,000 square foot addition to UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center will be the only facility of its kind in the United States to include complete development capabilities for designing, prototyping and testing large structural hybrid

composite and nanocomposite components for the deep water offshore wind energy industry. "This was a formidable competition across all fields of science and engineering that was set up last summer for all universities and non-profits in the United States," says Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center. "The goal was to identify research projects that would have a significant impact on the science and engineering competitiveness of the United States. We're pleased that the University of Maine was among one of the 11 universities selected by a science peer review committee." The new Advanced Nanocomposites in Renewable Energy Laboratory (ANREL) will support a materials and engineering research program designed to capitalize on two of the state's key resources, wind energy and wood. Wood is a potential renewable feedstock for new lignocellulose-based nanocomposites. This still-experimental materials technology uses nanoscale, cellulose-based fibers naturally produced in forest products to add stiffness and strength to polymer composites. "I am delighted to have helped successfully secure funding for this important project," says U.S. Sen. Susan Collins. "I am a strong supporter of UMaine's Composites Center because of its excellence in research and development, and because of the project's vital role in securing our renewable energy needs. This new facility will be one of the nation's leading laboratories for the development of advanced composites for offshore wind energy research." "In a time of economic distress, it is vital for Congress to focus on both short-term relief, as well as on a long-term comprehensive energy strategy that reduces America's dependence on foreign oil, creates jobs, embraces renewable and alternative sources of energy, and, most importantly, makes energy prices affordable for consumers," stated U.S. Sen. Olympia Snowe on Friday. "With its Advanced Nanocomposites in Renewable Energy Laboratory (ANREL) already spearheading efforts to solve the current challenges being driven by the energy crisis, the University of Maine is in a unique position with the research and technology capabilities already in place, to ensure that offshore wind development become a success along the East Coast. Maine has an estimated 149 gigawatts of offshore wind energy within 50 nautical miles of its shoreline, according to figures from UMaine. Experts estimate that developing 5 gigawatts of offshore wind in Maine would create 15,000 jobs and bring \$20 billion to the state. "The University of Maine Advanced Structures and Composites Center has been central to our vision of increasing manufacturing and technology jobs here in Maine, promoting renewable energy production, and growing the economy and jobs in the State," stated Gov. John Baldacci on Friday. "I am pleased that the Federal government has again recognized the work of Dr. Habib Dagher and his team. The Center plays a vital role in realizing Maine's potential for deep water offshore wind generation and Maine's ability to become more energy independent." The ANREL addition is designed to develop durable advanced composites materials suitable for the harsh offshore environment, which must withstand both high wind stresses and a corrosive environment. It will include a nanocomposites laboratory, prototyping space for large composite structures, a large structural testing laboratory with a test stand capable of supporting prototype 70-meter wind blades, and mechanical and environmental testing labs. "This is another important step forward for clean energy development and job creation in Maine," U.S. Rep. Michael Michaud stated Friday. "The research conducted at the new lab will complement the cutting edge advancements being made at the University of Maine and position our homegrown clean energy industry for future growth. This project represents a win for the local economy with the construction jobs that will be created." Funding for UMaine's new facility is being distributed to Maine through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), which Collins helped author. In addition to UMaine, NIST grant awards totaling \$123 million were announced Friday to support the construction of new scientific research facilities at 10 other universities nationwide and will launch more than \$250 million in new laboratory construction projects beginning early next year. "These awards will create jobs by helping to fund twelve major, shovel-ready construction projects," stated U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke in a news release Friday. "These new, state-of-the-art facilities will help keep the United States at the forefront of scientific and technological innovation, and will support economic growth." More information is available at www.nist.gov/recovery.

'e-Learning' Survey to Improve Workplace Training Efficiency

14 Jan 2010

Contacts: Matt Graham, 207-333-7139; Nory Jones, 581-1971 ORONO -- Faculty from the University of Maine's Maine Business School have launched an online survey of Maine businesses to assess the role of "e-learning" as an employee-training tool in the workplace, along with current trends, emerging technologies and the value they provide to organizations. In a fiercely competitive world with new technologies now a big part of everyday life, the results of the study should provide Maine businesses with a clearer understanding of what e-learning products are available, which are free, and how businesses can efficiently find the best platforms for their specific needs, says Christian "Matt" Graham, a lecturer in information systems management with Nory Jones, an associate professor in the field. "We see this as a

contribution to Maine businesses in that we can share our results to make Maine businesses more competitive as learning organizations," Jones says. Business owners, managers and human resource managers are invited to complete an eight-question survey, which can be found on the Maine Department of Labor's Career Center website at <http://www.mainecareercenter.com/>. Jones and Graham will look at e-learning in the workplace specifically from a Maine perspective, exploring different technologies that support e-learning and make recommendations on their applications for the workplace. The recommendations are expected to improve employee-training efficiency and help employers better understand what businesses in Maine need today to take full advantage of the benefits of e-learning technologies for workplace training. *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu>*

Sabattus Youngster Receives 4-H Award

19 Jan 2010

Contact: Kristy Ouellette at (207) 353-5555 LISBON FALLS, Me.-- Jordan Davis of Sabattus was presented the Exceptional Accomplishment Through 4-H Award on Friday Nov. 20, 2009. More than 60 youngsters and family members participated in the November award ceremony. The award presented to Davis is the highest honor awarded to an Androscoggin-Sagadahoc County 4-H member. Members selected for nomination must be at least 14 years old and have at least three years of active 4-H membership. Additionally, they must have excelled in 4-H by helping others, completing project records, and maintaining the 4-H spirit. Nominees must also be well-rounded, exemplified by serving in their community, school or other extra-curricular activities. 4-H is the youth development program of University of Maine Cooperative Extension. For more information about 4-H opportunities in Androscoggin or Sagadahoc Counties please contact UMaine Extension Educator, Kristy L. Ouellette, at 353-5550. Or visit [here](#).

UMaine Emergency Communications System Annual Test Friday, Jan. 29

21 Jan 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 AUDIBLE SIRENS TO SOUND FOR SEVERAL MINUTES SHORTLY AFTER NOON ORONO -- The University of Maine will conduct its annual emergency communications system test on Friday Jan. 29 beginning at 12 noon. Two outdoor sirens, which represent an integral part of the system, will sound for several minutes shortly after noon. Those sirens are audible throughout the UMaine campus and, under certain conditions, in parts of the surrounding communities. UMaine created a multifaceted emergency communications system in 2007. It allows UMaine safety and communications professionals to quickly notify the community during emergency situations by using several different mechanisms to communicate vital information. When the system is activated, several notifications occur in quick order: - a posting on the university's primary Web page (<http://www.umaine.edu>) and several other UMaine pages - a telephone recording at 581-INFO - a posting on First Class, the university's email and online conferencing system - a text message sent to those who have subscribed to UMaine's umaine.txt system After those messages are created and delivered, police personnel will sound the sirens. In the UMaine system, the siren is a signal that people on campus should seek information through the Web, telephone, text message or First Class. Members of the UMaine community who have not yet subscribed to the umaine.txt text messaging system are encouraged to do so before Friday Jan. 29. *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering*

to LEED standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine go to <http://www.umaine.edu>

Friday 2010 Maine Stem Summit: Educating and Building the Community

27 Jan 2010

Contacts: Jan Mokros, Maine Mathematics & Science Alliance, 287-6491 Vicki Nemeth, Maine EPSCoR at the University of Maine, 581-3399 Anita Bernhardt, Maine Dept. of Education, 624-6835 AUGUSTA -- More than 325 participants from all across Maine will take part in the Maine STEM Collaborative's 2010 Summit on Friday January 29 at the Augusta Civic Center. This event will bring together educators, policymakers, business people and workforce experts, working to raise awareness of statewide efforts to improve STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education for all Maine residents to foster an innovative and competitive workforce. The Maine STEM Collaborative, begun in 2007, is a statewide partnership of education, research, business, government and non-profit sectors working together to foster improved STEM education in the state. The collaborative's vision is to increase Maine's P-20 student STEM participation by ten percent by 2014 through a strong, coherent, consistent and integrated education system. Gov. John Baldacci will kick off the summit by speaking at 9:30 a.m. on the importance of STEM education for Maine's future. Morning sessions will showcase emerging innovation technologies that are important for Maine, with a particular focus on technologies for sustainability such as green/clean tech and renewable energy. Some of the most rapidly growing sectors of Maine's innovation economy involve STEM careers, but in order to attract students into these areas, educators at all levels must understand the changing requirements, pathways and rewards of these careers. Afternoon sessions will explore emerging STEM occupations in Maine's economy, the need for workers who have skills that cross disciplinary boundaries and innovations developed by Maine's K-20 educators to engage students in these disciplines and keep them in the "pipeline." A "Speed Networking" session on STEM career pathways will also connect educators with industry and government representatives so that each can learn firsthand about the other's challenges, opportunities, and success stories.

Friday: Ocean Renewable Power to Unveil First All-Composite Hydrokinetic Turbines Built in the U.S.; Turbines Bound for Project Site in Eastport

27 Jan 2010

Contact: Susy Kist, Ocean Renewable Power Company (207) 772-7707 (office) (207) 272-8615 skist@oceanrenewablepower.com BATH, Me. -- Ocean Renewable Power Company CEO Christopher Sauer will unveil the tidal energy company's proprietary, commercial-scale, hydrokinetic turbines in Bath on Friday. Sauer will present and describe the turbines at the U.S. Windblade facilities at 11 a.m. Representatives of business partners, R&D collaborators and local government will join him for the event. Those collaborators include the Alliance for Responsible Application of Hydrokinetic Energy Development (ARAHED). Based at the University of Maine, ARAHED works with companies around Maine and the Northeast to develop hydrokinetic energy. UMaine Prof. Michael (Mick) Peterson will speak at Friday's event. These turbines are the first all-composite hydrokinetic turbines built in the U.S. They will be shipped from Bath to Eastport on Friday, for incorporation into ORPC's turbine generator unit (TGU). The company will commence its tidal energy project in Eastport next month. WHAT: Ocean Renewable Power Company will unveil the first-ever 100% composite, hydrokinetic turbines built in the U.S. ††WHEN: Friday, January 29, 2010 2:00 PM EDT WHERE: US Windblade 2 Town Landing Road Bath, ME 04530-2875 Directions are online at <http://j.mp/9OHWHo>.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Receives Funding for Beach Monitoring Project

01 Feb 2010

Contact: Keri Lindberg, (207) 832-0343 The University of Maine Cooperative Extension has received funding from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection through funds distributed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to continue the Maine Healthy Beaches Program, an effort to monitor water quality and protect public health on Maine's coastal beaches. Maine is granted \$256,000 annually. The Maine DEP manages the program, and UMaine's

Cooperative Extension is granted \$188,912 to coordinate the program. The unique partnership involves municipalities, state parks, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension/Sea Grant, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, state and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and citizen volunteers. Beaches are monitored using quality assured methods and the monitoring effort established through this program helps ensure Maine's coastal beaches are safe and healthy places to recreate. "This program is very important and protects public health and water resources," says Keri Lindberg, statewide coordinator. "Healthy Beaches is committed to building local level capacity to find and fix pollution sources. Harmful bacteria impacts beaches and shellfish growing areas, both of which are integral components of the Maine economy and way of life." In 2009, 26 municipalities and state parks participated in the MHB program by routinely monitoring 60 beach management areas from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The MHB Program has developed field, database and laboratory protocols to ensure the quality of the data collected. Routine monitoring data is used to notify the public of water quality conditions and to identify potential pollution problems. Sanitary surveys and special studies are implemented in coastal watersheds for beaches with chronic bacteria issues.

Researchers Working to Develop Lobster Probiotic

02 Feb 2010

Contact: Deborah Bouchard, (207) 581-2767 Improving the food quality and safety of lobsters while being stored in the pound is one of the goals of a project spearheaded by Deborah Bouchard of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Bouchard, working with David Basti and Anne Lichtenwalner also of UMaine's Cooperative Extension, recently was awarded a \$247,547 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration that will fund two years of research. Lobsters are subject to a variety of potential stressors from the time that they are harvested until they reach the consumer. The project's ultimate goal is to develop a probiotic nutritional supplement for lobsters being held in tidal lobster pounds or stored in land-based holding tank facilities that will reduce the need for antibiotics and decrease the stress caused by a potential feeding frenzy. A previous study showed that lobsters detained for long distance transport or temporary storage in pounds undergo physiological disturbance (stress) when they are captured. The level of stress depends on the depth of the capture, hauling rate and storage methodology, which researchers tested during their trials. In conclusion, Bouchard, Basti, and UMaine marine science Professor Ian Bricknell found during this previous study that, although a reduction in fishing depth and hauling rate is not economically feasible, other handling practices and strategies are possible. They recommend that after lobsters are caught, they be given a rest period in recirculating ambient temperature seawater below deck to allow for partial recovery from the effects of being rapped and hauled in. By taking precautions when packing lobsters in totes for transport, including tucking lobsters' tails underneath them to protect from abdominal injury and ensuring that all the lobsters face the same way in the totes, injury and overexertion can be minimized. Bouchard, Basti and Lichtenwalner also are proposing an integrated approach to ensuring lobster health by addressing the physiological stress of the lobster, as well as the environmental and nutritional components of lobster impounding by offering a holistic alternative to traditional antibiotic feed supplements. Instead of feeding lobsters that are destined for a pound large amounts of fish byproducts from random locations within the pound causing a feeding frenzy, the researchers are developing a probiotic, nutrient dense feed supplement that could be broadcast fed to satiety at more frequent intervals, thus reducing lobster aggregation and possibly aggression. The probiotic feed supplement potentially could provide a source of nutrition to aid in feed conversion, nutrient assimilation and exoskeletal calcification, and may increase the survivability of lobsters during cold weather impoundment and long distance transport. In addition, the feed supplement is expected to improve food quality and safety by reducing the industry's dependence on antibiotics. The research team also intends to educate producers regarding best management practices for handling and storage of live lobsters. *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu>*

Northern Forest Research Pre-Proposals Due Feb. 26

04 Feb 2010

Contact: Summer Allen at (207) 581-3794 or summer.allen@maine.edu ORONO -- Northern Forest stakeholders are eligible to apply for research funding under a program that encourages collaborative study of forestry issues in northern New England and New York. The University of Maine's Center for Research on Sustainable Forests is a member of the Northeastern States Research Cooperative (NSRC), which administers the \$2.1 million grant program. The UMaine Center and other NSRC members support research that will quantify, improve and sustain productivity in the 26 million acre Northern Forest. That landscape stretches from eastern Maine into northern New York. The NSRC is primarily interested in projects that study underlying biological processes, management practices and prediction methods that will influence future wood supplies and forest conditions. A Request for Proposals (RFP), which outlines expectations in greater detail, is online at <http://www.nsrcforest.org>. The NSRC also includes the University of Vermont's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, the University of New Hampshire Dept. of Natural Resources and the Environment and the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

600 Expected for UMaine Accepted Student Day Monday, Feb. 8

05 Feb 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 or joecarr@maine.edu ORONO -- Six hundred University of Maine visitors will have an opportunity on Monday Feb. 8 to learn more about UMaine quality and value during an Accepted Student Day. UMaine regularly conducts programs of this nature for accepted students who have yet to make their final college choice but this is the first one it's ever held specifically for those who qualify for merit scholarships or have been offered admission to UMaine's prestigious Honors College. UMaine will hold a similar event for all accepted students during public school vacation, as part of its Monday Feb. 15 open house. The students invited for Feb. 8 have been accepted for Fall 2010 enrollment. Most applied through UMaine's early action process, which has a Dec. 15 application deadline and an admission decision promise by the end of January. UMaine applications are currently running 12 percent ahead of last year at this time, and 36 percent more have already confirmed their plans to enroll in the fall. While it is still very early in the admissions cycle, UMaine admissions officials say they regard these trends as a positive sign, indicating continued interest in UMaine among top students from around the state and beyond. Monday's program runs from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Students will have opportunities to visit classes and attend presentations on programs. Examples include: • Engineering program presentations in Jenness, Boardman, Bennett and Barrows Halls, 10-10:50 a.m. • A Physiology of Exercise presentation in 125 Lengyel Gym from 10-10:50 a.m. • An Honors College student panel in the McIntyre Room, Buchanan Alumni House, from 10-10:50 a.m. (repeated 12:10-1 p.m. and 1:10-2 p.m.) • A tour of Earth Sciences and climate science labs in Bryand Global Science Center from 10:-10:50 a.m. • A tour of food science and human nutrition labs and facilities in Hitchner Hall from 10-10:50 a.m. • A presentation with Prof. Bob Strong on the UMaine Student Portfolio Investment Fund 12:10-1 p.m., 207 Corbett Business Building • A presentation with Prof. Dan Sandweiss on his work exploring ancient pyramids in Peru 12:10-1 p.m. 107 Corbett Business Building • A tour of the Aquaculture Research Center, 12:10-1 p.m. Beginning at 1:10 p.m. wildlife ecology professor Lindsay Seward will take a group outside to explore a snowshoe hare habitat. This program may run longer than one hour, and it will take place completely outdoors. The departure point is 218 Nutting Hall.

Sea Grant Research Awards Announced

05 Feb 2010

Contact: Catherine Schmitt at (207) 581-1434 catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Maine Sea Grant has identified recipients of 2010-2012 research funding awards from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Sea Grant Office. Over \$500,000 will support five research projects in the natural and social sciences. Maine Sea Grant is a state-federal partnership based at the University of Maine, sponsored by NOAA and the State of Maine. It is part of a national network supporting marine and coastal research and education. The five programs funded by NOAA will foster knowledge of issues critical to Maine's natural environment. University of Maine researchers, from its Dept. of Earth Sciences and from its School of Marine Sciences, are involved in four of the five funded initiatives. • Daniel Belknap and Joseph Kelley of the University of Maine and Cindy Loftin of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit received \$156,945 for a project titled "The

critical leading edge of Gulf of Maine salt marshes." Establishing the nature and rates of change in salt marshes through this work, especially where they overlap with upland environments, will help coastal managers and land owners evaluate risks of sea-level rise to property and infrastructure, and also inform planning and land conservation efforts. • Yong Chen of the University of Maine and Carl Wilson of the Maine Department of Marine Resources received \$127,890 to work on "A comparative study of monitoring programs for coherence in quantifying the dynamics of American lobster fisheries in Maine." Chen and Wilson will compare and evaluate the nine different lobster assessment methods currently in place, with a goal of improving monitoring program design for greater efficiency and reduced costs. • Stephen Coghlan of the University of Maine and Joe Zydlewski of the USGS Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit were awarded \$105,224 for their study, "Restoration of anadromous fishes: the effects of dam removal and habitat conditioning in spawning streams." This project will provide much-needed empirical data about how systems respond to dam removal at the species, community, and ecosystem levels. Coghlan and Zydlewski are focusing on sea lamprey and habitat in Sedgeunkedunk Stream, a tributary of the Penobscot River. • Teresa Johnson of the University of Maine received \$129,336 to assess vulnerability and resilience in Maine fishing communities. This project will develop a participatory, place-based approach for documenting threats to fishing communities and resources available to respond to those threats. • Robert Snyder of the Island Institute was awarded \$37,000 to study "Participatory mapping for marine resource management and community development." Using Penobscot Bay as a case study, Snyder will engage communities to reconcile biophysical data and locations of human activities to inform marine spatial planning initiatives, such as developing marine reserves and siting wind power facilities. For more information about these projects and other research funded by Maine Sea Grant, and to learn about funding opportunities, please visit <http://www.seagrant.umaine.edu/research> *The Maine Sea Grant College Program was founded at the University of Maine in 1980.*

Western Civilization and American Liberty Program Lectures Set

08 Feb 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571, joecarr@maine.edu ORONO --- The University of Maine will host three February lectures, presented by its Program in Western Civilization and American Liberty Program. Ray Raymond, a U.S. Military Academy lecturer who's also a Fellow of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York City and a Fellow of the Royal Society of arts in London, will make two Friday, Feb. 12 presentations. Raymond is also a 20-year veteran of the the UK diplomatic corps, a former senior adviser to Prime Minister Tony Blair and a Member of the Order of the British Empire. From 11-11:50 am. in 110 Little Hall, he will present a preview of the upcoming Public Broadcasting documentary, "Benedict Arnold: Hero, Victim or Traitor?" Raymond is that program's co-producer and co-writer. Later on Friday, from 3:10-4:30 p.m., Raymond will give a talk, "The War in Afghanistan: Just, Necessary and Winnable." That presentation is scheduled for 140 Bennett Hall. Khalil Habib, a professor at Salve Regina University in Rhode Island, will visit UMaine for a Friday Feb. 19 lecture, also presented by the Program in Western Civilization and American Liberty. That talk, scheduled for 3:10-4:30 p.m. in 140 Bennett Hall, will be on the subject "Can Islam Co-exist with Western Civilization?" UMaine political science professor Michael Palmer is director of the Program in Western Civilization and American Liberty. These presentations are all free and open to the public. For more information, call 581-1879. *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu>*

UMaine Introducing Minor in Robotics Engineering

09 Feb 2010

Contact: Dana Humphrey, 581-2216, Mohsen Shahinpoor, 581-2243, ORONO -- The University of Maine's College of Engineering has increased its number of courses in robotics engineering to more than a dozen and has created a minor in

the field, which will be available to students in the fall of 2010. The expanded program is a response to the rapidly growing robotics industry, according to Chet Rock, associate dean of the College of Engineering. "Mechanical and electrical engineering has offered a robotics class and students who took it wanted more, and we see robots becoming more prevalent every day," Rock says. College Dean Dana Humphrey says the future will increasingly rely on robotics in industries such as manufacturing, healthcare and medicine, aeronautics, and for working in hazardous environments. The minor is designed to provide a fundamental understanding of robotic operation and preliminary training in design and use of robots, according to Mohsen Shahinpoor, chair of the Mechanical Engineering Department, and Mohamad Musavi, chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. Students will have access to classes in mobile walking robots, robotic vision, robotic surgery, surgical micro-robotics and robot statics, kinematics, dynamics and control. Mechanical engineering major Justin Whitney calls the new minor an "exciting" blend of engineering specialization that will offer new opportunities and applications. The robotics minor involves mechanical, electrical and computer engineering fields. "From my previous internship experience, projects seldom require the knowledge of a single engineering discipline, Whitney says. "The robotics minor covers several fields and will allow me to become a better-educated and more attractive candidate for future employment." *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu>*

UMaine's Composites Center Receives Creative Excellence Award

12 Feb 2010

Contact: Habib Dagher, (207) 581-2138; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine — For the third year in a row, the University of Maine's AEW Advanced Structures & Composites Center has been recognized as an industry leader by the American Composites Manufacturers Association (ACMA). The center on Wednesday received the ACMA's Most Creative Application Award for Composites Excellence (ACE) for its uniquely innovative "Bridge-in-a-Backpack." The Bridge-in-a-Backpack is a lightweight, corrosion-resistant system for short to medium span bridge construction using inflatable carbon-fiber tubes that act as reinforcement and formwork arches for cast-in-place concrete. The easily transportable arches can be deployed rapidly and don't require the heavy equipment or large crews needed to handle the weight of traditional construction materials. When deflated, the tubes fit into a sack not much bigger than a large athletics bag. Two Maine bridges have been rebuilt using the Bridge-in-a-Backpack technology: the Neal Bridge in Pittsfield and the McGee Bridge in North Anson. Six more of these arch bridges will be constructed in Maine over the next year. The ACMA annual conference and trade show, held this week in Las Vegas, is the top composites conference in North America, and usually about 3,000 industry representatives attend. Only five ACE awards are presented each year for the most creative applications of composite materials. The advanced Structures and Composites Center received two ACMA awards in 2008 for its blast-resistant composite tent panels, and in 2009 brought home the ACE award for Most Creative Application for the blast-resistant building construction material. "The ACE Awards are the highest composite industry awards in North America and we are humbled to receive it again this year," says Habib Dagher, director of the AEW Advanced Structures & Composites Center. "The award goes to the faculty, staff and students who worked on this project including Larry Parent (senior R&D program manager), Edwin Nagy (research engineer), Bill Davids and Roberto Lopez-Anido (professors of Civil and Environmental Engineering), Bob O'Neil (scientific technician), Richard Nye (composites process engineer) and graduate students Harold Walton, MacKenzie Demkowicz and Dan Bannon." In addition, one of the center's spin-off companies, Harbor Technologies of Brunswick, received the ACMA's Infinite Possibilities Award for Composites Excellence for its development of composite beam technology. That award is presented for an entry that demonstrates the most creative application of composites materials that is imaginative and innovative.

College Students from Japan to Study U.S. Language and Culture at UMaine

15 Feb 2010

Contact: Erin-Kate Sousa at (207) 581-3842 erin-kate.sousa@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- For the tenth consecutive year, a contingent from Japan's Hirosaki University will visit the University of Maine for an intensive three-week course on English language and U.S. culture. The 12 students begin the course on Monday Feb. 22. It continues through Friday March 12. UMaine's Intensive English Institute will host the students and conduct the programming. The schedule includes a tour of UMaine's newly transformed Hudson Museum, to view the Maine Indian Gallery, on Friday Feb 26. On Thursday March 4, they will participate in a scavenger hunt curriculum tour at UMaine's Page Farm and Home Museum, which highlights life in rural Maine from 1865 to 1940. Side trips into the greater community to provide further opportunities to sample aspects of life in America. Linkages between UMaine and Hirosaki University are strong. After participating in this program in past years, several of the Japanese students have returned to UMaine to enroll in classes. UMaine students have also attended Hirosaki University. The visiting students live with host families during their three weeks in Maine. *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu>*

University of Maine Cooperative Extension Launches "Think Globally, Eat Locally" Initiative

18 Feb 2010

Contact: John Jemison, 581-3241. Food has shaped much of human culture and history, and the role of food in society is changing. A new University of Maine Cooperative Extension outreach program will help you shape the future by gaining a better understanding where your food comes from; how it is grown; and the nutritional, societal and environmental issues surrounding the nation's food supply. Starting March 1, John Jemison and Kate Yerxa, both educators with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, will lead "Think Globally, Eat Locally," a Food System Extension outreach program that covers the history and role of food in our lives today. Through presentations, video, hands-on training, and discussion, Jemison and Yerxa will cover the challenges with today's food system and discuss ways we can work together today to improve it. Topics include: threats to the system: climate change, energy and water; relics of the green revolution; genetic engineering/genetically modified foods; how food influences health and well-being; new food movements such as Slow Food, farm-to-school and school gardens; and how to grow good, clean and just food for yourself and your community. "The best-case scenario, after this program, is that people would be spending more of their food dollars on locally grown food, supporting local farmers and creating the need for more farmers," Jemison says. "People would eat better, feel better and be actively involved in their community in food-related issues." Jemison and Yerxa will ask participants to give 25 hours of service in a meaningful project related in some way to food systems. Examples might include volunteering in a food pantry, starting a church or school garden, or developing a farmers market. There is a \$25 registration fee for this 25-hour, four-week program. Scholarships are available. The workshop will take place on Monday nights in the Coe Room of the University of Maine Memorial Union. The first two sessions will begin at 5:30 p.m. due to spring break building hours. The remaining sessions will start at 6:30 p.m. and end at 9:00. To register, please contact John Jemison at 581-3241 or jemison@maine.edu.

UMaine Honor Societies Seek Nominees

18 Feb 2010

Contact Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Two prestigious University of Maine honor societies are accepting nominations for new student members. The Senior Skull Society and All Maine Women are open to UMaine juniors. The Senior Skull Society is made up of students who have shown leadership, academic achievement, community service, responsibility, character and integrity. Similarly, members of All Maine Women pledge to "uphold the ideals, standards and traditions" of the University of Maine. The nomination deadline is Friday March 5 at 5 p.m. and the form

is online here. The organizations prefer nominations in electronic formats. Please email completed packets on First Class to any of the following contacts: Bob Potts (Senior Skulls), Douglas Mathews (Senior Skulls), Emily Cain (All Maine Women), Samantha Lott (All Maine Women).

Winter Road Clearing Costs in Maine Total \$98 Million Annually; UMaine Report Summarizes Findings and Recommends Goals

19 Feb 2010

Contact: Jonathan Rubin at (207) 581-1528 Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- An exhaustive year-long study of economic, safety and environmental issues related to clearing Maine's roads has yielded a report from the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. The report, developed in cooperation with the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT), involved university experts in economics, engineering, public administration and environmental sciences. It shows improvements in managing winter storm transportation issues over the past decade and recommends a series of steps aimed at reducing costs, limiting the negative environmental impact of chloride-based chemicals and improving public safety. Prof. Jonathan Rubin of the UMaine School of Economics and Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center is the report's lead author. He says that the implications for long-term state and municipal planning are significant. "Because of its rural nature and vast territory, Maine must address some particularly difficult issues when dealing with transportation during the winter months," Rubin says. "By bringing together stakeholder groups and carefully examining available data, we've determined that our state and municipalities do an excellent job managing these issues and we've developed a road map for even more effective processes and procedures in the future." Some of the report's key findings: • In the aggregate, Maine spends an estimated \$98 million annually on winter road snow and ice control (\$76 per resident); this includes some sidewalks and school parking lots and funding sources include the state, municipalities and the Maine Turnpike Authority • The estimated 490,000 pounds of rock salt purchased in Maine during 2008-2009 represent 750 pounds per resident or 21 tons per road mile • Maine has 23,450 miles of public road, the most in New England; MaineDOT maintains 18 percent of that total • All chloride salts contribute to vehicle and infrastructure corrosion; none is shown to cause more corrosion than another • Between 1989 and 2008, there has been a significant reduction on the number of fatalities on state highways; at the same time, the number of vehicle miles traveled in Maine has been increasing (except during the past two years) • Drivers ages 16 and 17 are involved in nine percent more winter-condition crashes than their share of crashes under other road conditions; drivers ages 18-34 are also involved in more winter crashes, but not to the degree of 16- and 17-year-olds • Long-term environmental effects of road chemicals are apparent along Maine roadways; new policies are needed to encourage the use of chemicals and technologies with less environmental impact The report notes that chloride salts are currently the best and most affordable tool Maine has to use for winter road maintenance but that they take a toll on the environment, infrastructure and vehicles. While the variability of conditions around Maine makes it impossible to apply one solution in all instances, the report says that there are "advances in technology and practice which can lead to reduced costs and reduced salt use." One recommended focus area relates to a move from deicing to anti-icing. The former involves spreading sand and salt after snow has accumulated, the latter is a preventative process currently used effectively by MaineDOT, the Maine Turnpike Authority and some Maine municipalities. "Anti-icing and pre-wetting policies," the report says, "have been shown to result in reduced plowing time, a reduction in abrasives us, a decrease in total chemical use, and decreased maintenance costs." Those processes can help the state address cost issues, corrosion and environmental impact. In addition to its key findings, the report contains a series of goals that the state and municipalities should address: • Maintain safety while reducing salt and sand use • Identify efficiencies to maximize the budgetary impact of improvements • Reduce salt use • Increase public awareness of preventative measures • Increase driver safety education • Increase public awareness of winter practices, costs and environmental impact Rubin also notes that the study involved an extensive review of current practices in other northern states and in Canadian provinces. The report is online [here](#), with an executive summary [here](#). *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine*

visit <http://www.umaine.edu>

Edna St. Vincent Millay Prize to Recognize Achievement in Poetry at the University of Maine

22 Feb 2010

Contact: Prof. Steve Evans, (207) 581-3818 steven.evans@maine.edu ORONO -- A new University of Maine endowment fund will support graduate student achievement in poetry. The Frank and Helene Crohn Edna St. Vincent Millay Prize was established by the Crohns, of Rhinebeck, N.Y., through a \$300,000 gift held at the University of Maine Foundation. Building on the University of Maine National Poetry Foundation's reputation as an international center for the study and creation of poetry in the Modernist tradition, the Frank and Helene Crohn Edna St. Vincent Millay Prize will reward achievement in poetry at a crucial stage in a writer's development while commemorating the legacy of one of Maine's best known and beloved poets. Edna St. Vincent Millay, who was born 118 years ago today, herself received the gift of an education at Vassar College in part through the generosity of benefactor Caroline B. Dow. Frank Crohn became interested in Millay at an early age because of his mother's love of Millay's poetry. In later years, Crohn became an avid collector of the works of 19th and 20th century novelists and poets. It was at a 1980 book dealers' event at Steepletop, Millay's beloved home in the Berkshires, that Crohn became interested in the Millay Society. He has been a member of the society for several years and has been an active member of the board of trustees for the past ten years. The Crohns have connections to Maine through a restaurant they co-owned in Downeast Maine and to the University of Maine through their support of the university's Lobster Institute. Steve Evans, a UMaine English professor who co-directs the National Poetry Foundation (NPF), says the establishment of the Millay Prize represents a major new initiative on the part of the NPF, which was founded at UMaine in 1971. "This gift will permit the NPF to recognize and reward the accomplishments of the talented poets who attend our master's program in English," says Evans. "Just as Millay's own education was furthered by the financial patronage of Caroline B. Dow and others, so our graduate students, those currently enrolled, and those whom we hope to recruit, will benefit from the generous support that Frank and Helene Crohn have made available through their visionary act of generosity." "The National Poetry Foundation established its reputation by focusing scholarly attention on the work of poets like William Carlos Williams and Ezra Pound," Evans adds. "It is a real pleasure to welcome Millay, a Maine native, into that company and to honor her legacy by supporting aspiring poets at a formative stage in their vocation." The Crohns intend that the recipient of the Millay Prize always be a University of Maine graduate student. "Edna St. Vincent Millay died in 1950, but her work is still alive today," says Frank Crohn. "As a young woman, Millay was part of a group of poets who were leaders in the literary movement of the time. It is our wish to have the next generation know Millay and the importance of her work, which is still very relevant today. Millay's much quoted verse, 'My candle burns at both ends. It will not last the night; But, ah, my foes, and oh, my friends It gives a lovely light,' speaks to every generation." The winner of the annual Millay Prize will receive \$1,500 and be invited to read from their winning manuscript at a special event, the first of which is planned for the fall of 2010. As earnings from endowment investments continue to grow, the prize is expected to reach upwards of \$15,000 annually. *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine* visit <http://www.umaine.edu>

UMaine Offering Class in Renewable Energy, Electricity Production

24 Feb 2010

Contact: David Dvorak, 581-2338; Paul Villeneuve, 581-2271; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO – Students at the University of Maine will have a chance to participate in a new course in the Fall of 2010 that's all about renewable energy. Renewable Energy and Electricity Production will introduce the different types of renewable energy technologies and geographical considerations when evaluating renewable energy resources. This unique approach

allows students to understand the technologies while assessing the viability of a particular site. Beyond the renewable energy and resource presentation, the course will cover power plant economics and fuel concerns, comparing costs between renewable energy technologies and conventional fossil fuel plants. The course also will look at the scale and location of electric power producing plants. Students will learn from licensed professional engineers who have worked in renewable energy fields. Dr. David Dvorak, UMaine mechanical engineering technology professor, is an expert on fuel cell systems and has been developing a graduate program in renewable energy in Iceland. Paul Villeneuve, UMaine Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering Technology, has worked extensively in the power generation, supply, and delivery arena and was heavily involved with the first commercial scale wind farm in Maine. The course will cover more than just the science of renewable energy technologies, also making it appealing to those who are interested in the policy aspects and economic evaluations of renewable energy. The course is a three-credit offering, but also can be taken as 45 professional development hours or continuing education units.

2010 Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecturer Announced

25 Feb 2010

Contact: Judy Round, round@maine.edu or (207) 581-5104 Note: a photo of Michelle Murphy is available upon request
ORONO -- The University of Maine Geddes W. Simpson Lecture Committee has selected Michelle Murphy, associate professor of history and the Institute of Women Studies and Gender Studies at the University of Toronto, to present that annual lecture. The title of Murphy's lecture is "Avertable Life, Investable Futures: A Cold War Story of Sex and Economy." It is scheduled for Maine Day, Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 3 p.m. in Buchanan Alumni House's McIntire Room. The public is welcome. The series was established in 2001 by the family of Geddes Wilson Simpson, a well-respected faculty member who began his career at UMaine in 1931, to bring to UMaine speakers of prominence who have significant insight into the area where science and history intersect. Murphy's work examines the history of technoscience, sex, gender, race, environmental politics and capitalism in the United States. Her book "Sick Building Syndrome and the Politics of Uncertainty: Environmental Politics, Technoscience and Women Workers" (Duke University Press, 2006) won the 2008 Ludwik Fleck Prize from the Society for Social Studies of Science. She is also the author of "Seizing the Means of Reproduction: Feminism, Technoscience, and the Biopolitics of Cold War America" (Duke University Press, forthcoming) and co-editor of "Landscapes of Exposure: Knowledge and Illness in Modern Environments" (Osiris, 2004). Her current research project, "The Economization of Life," explores the interlinked histories of efforts to govern and alter national economies and human biological futures. She is also a 2009-2010 Jackman Humanities Institute Research Fellow.

UMaine Sets Tobacco-Free Campus Date at Jan. 1, 2011

25 Feb 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571
ORONO -- The University of Maine will join the growing list of U.S. colleges and universities to adopt a tobacco-free campus policy, effective Jan. 1, 2011. Over the next ten months, UMaine will implement an information campaign and begin working with students and employees who wish to break their addiction to tobacco products. During 2011, voluntary compliance will be expected with enforcement to begin on Jan. 1, 2012. University officials will continue to examine policies at other higher education institutions and develop its own enforcement plan over the next year or more. UMaine announced its plans to move toward this outcome in July 2007, when President Robert Kennedy appointed a committee to determine the university's readiness to adopt a tobacco-free policy and to examine "best practices" for implementation. Smoking has long been prohibited in UMaine's buildings, and the new policy will extend that ban to the campus grounds and university property in other parts of Maine, while also encompassing other tobacco and smoking products. Committee members met with more than 500 people to discuss UMaine tobacco policies and potential changes during this planning and assessment period. Earlier this month, two open community meetings brought further input. According to the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation (ANRF), there are smoke-free colleges and universities in virtually every state. Arkansas and Iowa have instituted statewide bans at all their public colleges and universities. Other examples include the University of Michigan, the University of Florida, Oklahoma State University, Purdue University and the University of North Dakota. Maine's only smoke-free institution, according to ANRF, is Kennebec Valley Community College. At least 365 colleges and universities have tobacco-free policies. Additionally, the American College Health Association (ACHA) issued a September 2009 "no

tobacco policy” position statement encouraging colleges and universities nationwide “to be diligent in their efforts to achieve a 100% indoor and outdoor campus-wide tobacco-free environment.” “A tobacco free environment is a healthier environment,” Kennedy says. “This move will have a positive impact in many ways, including enhanced community life, improved productivity through better health and potential decreases in health care costs. At UMaine, we value our environment and we care about each other. A tobacco-free campus will make the University of Maine a more health place to learn, work and live.” Kennedy also pointed out that UMaine students and employees have approached him directly, advocating for a tobacco-free policy. Several of the comments he received related to a desire to see less campus litter related to tobacco products. “We feel that it's important to show leadership in this area, and to promote a healthy environment that will foster teaching, learning, research and the other elements of the university's mission,” Kennedy says. The university has established a series of programs to assist those who wish to break tobacco addictions between now and the implementation date. “Data tell us that virtually every person addicted to tobacco products really wants to quit,” says UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana. “We will work diligently with our students and employees to provide all possible assistance as we move through the next ten months. We are supportive of every member of our community -- including those who use tobacco products -- and we will work together to achieve a good outcome for everybody. The development of effective support networks is critical to making this plan work to its greatest potential.” Dana says that UMaine will expect compliance with the new policies and will work with repeat violators to achieve behavior modification. Members of the community who use tobacco products are encouraged to begin taking steps to break those addictions so that they will be able to comfortably comply with the policy when it goes into effect. “Those who find compliance to be difficult should ask for help -- either through the HealthyU employee wellness program or the Division of Student Affairs,” Dana says. “Our goal is not to create an adversarial situation for anyone, but rather to provide the resources necessary to help bring everybody in our community to the point where this is no longer an issue.”

Computer Hackers Don't Stand a Chance Against UMaine's Cyber Team

05 Mar 2010

Contacts: George Markowsky, (207) 581-3940 or Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 **Computer Hackers Don't Stand a Chance Against UMaine's Cyber Team** ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine Cybersecurity Team proved that computer hackers don't stand a chance against them at the 2010 Northeast Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition. The team came in second place in a field of nine teams during the competition, which was hosted by UMaine March 5-7. Northeastern University was declared the winner and Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) came in third. This is only the second year UMaine has competed and after coming in fifth last year, George Markowsky, chair of UMaine's Computer Science Department, says there's a lot to be proud of. “Because we were hosting the competition we were not able to devote much effort to coaching the team,” he says. “The team primarily organized itself and held its own practices. UMaine's team included Joseph Fasulo, junior, Portland; Chris Battista, senior, Hampden, Conn.; Lucas Wood, sophomore, Vassalboro; Sean Edwards, freshman, Gorham; Ed Ropple, senior, Casco; Avner Maiberg, junior, Sedgwick; Emma Strubell, sophomore, Portland; Brian Jackson, freshman, Waterboro; and Travis Christianson, senior, Exeter, N.H. Three teams of volunteers have been organized to help carry out the competition. The Red Team consists of individuals highly skilled in cyber attack. Their task it to create as much havoc as possible for the competitors (referred to as the Blue Team). The White Team includes volunteers with a strong background in information technology. Each Blue Team is assigned two members of the White Team who monitor their activity and ensure the rules are being followed. The third group is the Black Team whose members are highly skilled networking and infrastructure. They build and monitor the competition network. “Cyber security is becoming an ever more important part of our national security efforts and this competition is one of most important events in training future generations,” says Markowsky. Throughout the three-day event, participants had the chance to listen to several industry professionals talk about the industry, and were assured that there are currently 60,000 to 100,000 positions in cybersecurity that currently are vacant. “The U.S. Government is coming out with major initiatives in this area and there will be lots of jobs and opportunities in this area in the foreseeable future,” says Markowsky. During the first two days of the competition, the head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Research & Development Division was on hand. His department provided substantial financial support. There also was a large contingent from Boeing – about a dozen people – and the company made a substantial financial contribution and pledged support for future competitions. The event also included a presentation by keynote speaker Nicholas J.Percoco, Senior Vice President of SpiderLabs Trustwave. Percoco has 14 years of information security experience and in his current position has performed more than

500 computer incident response and forensic investigations globally, as well as thousands of penetration and application security tests for clients. His presentation prior to Sunday's award ceremony was titled "Analysis of Cybersecurity Incidents in 2009." The field of nine teams participating in the event (in alphabetical order) was: Alfred State University Champlain College Harvard Northeastern University Polytechnic Institute of NYU Rochester Institute of Technology Stevens Institute of Technology SUNY Oswego University of Maine UMaine now will begin preparing to host the high school cybersecurity competition, which will be held on campus Saturday, March 20, 2010. *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu>*

Maine College Students to Shadow Women Political Leaders in Augusta March 11

05 Mar 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Six women who attend Maine colleges, all graduates of the 2009 Maine NEW Leadership program, will spend Thursday March 11 in Augusta shadowing women who hold key state government leadership positions. Maine NEW Leadership, a program for college women offered by the University of Maine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center and University of Maine Cooperative Extension, is based on a national curriculum developed at Rutgers University. It offers participants opportunities to develop leadership skills while exploring opportunities to become engaged in public life. The six 2009 alumni who will spend Thursday in Augusta are students at the University of Maine, the University of Southern Maine, The University of Maine at Farmington and St. Joseph's College. Among the women they will spend time with are Senate President Elizabeth Mitchell, Speaker of the House Hannah Pingree and Rep. Emily Cain. Maine NEW Leadership is a week-long program. The 2010 session is scheduled for June 3-8 at UMaine in Orono. This year's application deadline is March 19. Those who are interested should visit the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center website at <http://mcspolicycenter.umaine.edu/> or call (207) 581-1646. *The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu/>*

Rubin to Participate in Congressional Energy Policy Briefing Thursday

08 Mar 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Prof. Jonathan Rubin from the University of Maine School of Economics and Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center will make a Thursday March 11 presentation Washington, D.C. Rubin is one of five presenters scheduled for a panel on the subject "From the Little Guy to the Big Picture, the Untold Story of Climate Action: Local Business Owners, Economists and Climate Scientists on Job Creation, Innovation and Minimizing the Costs of Global Warming." The Union of Concerned Scientists is organizing the session. Senate staffers will attend the briefing and Rubin is told that some senators may be in attendance, as well. Rubin will provide perspectives on the ten-state Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which includes Maine. He will also discuss global greenhouse gas mitigation, his thoughts on the need for comprehensive national energy legislation and clean energy alternatives.

Western Civilization and American Liberty Lectures Continue in March; UMaine Grad Returning for

Presentation on Tocqueville

08 Mar 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO --- The University of Maine will host two March lectures, presented by its Program in Western Civilization and American Liberty. L. Joseph Hebert, St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, will give a talk, "Getting Rights Wrong: Tocqueville's Perspective on Individual Rights and the U.S. Supreme Court," on Friday, March 19 from 3:10-4:40 p.m. in 140 Bennett Hall. Hebert is a 1997 UMaine graduate who grew up in Bangor and graduated from John Bapst High School. His three siblings -- a veterinarian, a teacher and an engineer -- are also UMaine grads, as is his mother. Charles T. Rubin from Duquesne University, will talk on "Technologically Enhanced Humanity: Is the End Liberty, or is it the End of Liberty?" on Friday, March 26. That presentation will also be from 3:10-4:30 p.m. in 140 Bennett Hall. Prof. Michael Palmer of the UMaine Department of Political Science is the Program in Western Civilization and American Liberty director. Each presentation will be followed by a Q&A session, and they are free and open to the public. For more information call 581-1879.

Maine Graduates to Explores Marine Policy in Washington, DC

11 Mar 2010

Contact: Catherine Schmitt, 207-581-1434 Orono, ME—Maine Sea Grant has announced that the National Sea Grant College Program has awarded prestigious Dean John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowships to two people with graduate degrees from Maine colleges. Jocelyn Brown-Saracino and Danielle Brzezinski join 46 fellow graduates from around the country who will be working on marine policy in Washington, D.C. The fellowships provide an opportunity for recent graduates to apply their scientific background to marine and coastal policy-making at the national level. Brown-Saracino, a graduate of Smith College, earned a master's degree in marine science from the University of New England in 2009. She spent much of her summer vacations on remote Muskeget Island in Nantucket Sound, where she observed the behavior of gray seals. She has experience studying and teaching coral reef ecology to students in Belize. "Conducting this research made me aware of the importance of well-designed marine policy that takes into account the complexity of ecosystems, and also the needs of communities," said Brown-Saracino, who will spend the next year in the Department of Energy Office of Wind and Hydropower Technologies. Danielle Brzezinski, who received master's degrees in marine biology and marine policy from the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences in 2009, has worked at the intersection of marine science, policy, and resource use for several years, most recently with managers and fishermen on the Maine Scallop Advisory Committee. "My dual training in science and policy puts me in a good position to communicate among different parties involved in management, and I hope to continue working in this liaison role in the future," she said. A native of Saginaw, Michigan, Brzezinski is a graduate of Denison University in Granville, Ohio. "Danielle is one of the most intelligent, motivated, and hard-working graduate students that I have ever known," said her advisor, Yong Chen, "She is a thinker, full of scientific curiosity." Brzezinski has been assigned to work on Capitol Hill in the Office of Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA). The Knauss fellowship was established in 1979 for students who are interested in ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources and the national policy decisions that affect those resources. Qualified graduate students spend a year with "hosts" in the legislative and executive branch of government in Washington, DC. The program is named in honor of one of the founders of the National Sea Grant College Program, former NOAA Administrator John A. Knauss. <http://www.seagrant.noaa.gov/knauss/>

UMaine Women's History Celebration Begins Next Week; Keynote Thursday, March 18

12 Mar 2010

Contact Ann Schonberger (ann.schonberger@umit.maine.edu) ORONO -- Eleven events over the course of 16 days will make up the University of Maine's Women's History Celebration 2010. Sponsored by UMaine's Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program, the annual event features UMaine faculty members and students, community representatives and outside experts sharing in a variety of discussions and other programs, including a readers' theater and multimedia presentations. This year's theme is "Reproductive Justice: The Struggle Isn't Over." Loretta Ross, national coordinator of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Health Collective, will give the keynote address on Thursday March 18 at 3:30 p.m. in Memorial Union's Bangor Room. Ross is a well-known author,

lecturer, political commentator and organizational leader. Her March 18 talk is titled "Black Women and Reproductive Justice." A readers' theater composed of 37 different anonymous stories about women's reproductive rights, including stories of women from Maine, will be performed on Wednesday March 24 at 3:30 p.m. in 117 Donald P. Corbett Business Building. Members of the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center created the piece and will perform as the readers of this collection. "This theater piece emphasizes the importance of sharing women's stories to support individuals as well as the ongoing struggle for choice," says Ann Schonberger, director of the UMaine Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program. A Saturday March 20 silent auction and dessert buffet will benefit Spruce Run, the Bangor agency that provides support and information to those affected by abuse and domestic violence. That event is scheduled for 7-9 p.m. at UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House. Those interested in tickets should call Spruce Run at 945-5102. The on-campus lectures and presentations, including a Wednesday March 24 women's health fair, are free and open to the public. A schedule of events is online at <http://www.umaine.edu/wic>.

Promotion and/or Tenure for 21 UMaine Professors

16 Mar 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- At its Bangor meeting today, the University of Maine System Board of Trustees approved promotion and/or tenure for 21 University of Maine faculty members. The professors, who represent the broad spectrum of UMaine academic programs, were nominated by UMaine President Robert Kennedy after an extensive process reviewing their work in teaching, research and community service. "This group exemplifies the scholarly excellence of the University of Maine faculty," Kennedy says. "Each of these professors has a significant record of outstanding work benefiting our students and our state." Those nominations approved today: PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR

- Richard H. Borgman, Finance
- Gloria L. Vollmers, Accounting
- Craig A. Mason, Education and Applied Quantitative Methods
- Stephen M. Miller, History
- Touradj Solouki, Chemistry
- Beth Wiemann, Music
- Emmanuel S. Boss, Oceanography
- Todd M. Gabe, Resource Economics and Policy
- Carol H. Kim, Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Molecular Biology

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE RESEARCH PROFESSOR

- Lee Karp-Boss, Marine Sciences
- Andrew J. Pershing, Marine Sciences

PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR WITH TENURE

- Susan K. Gardner Cosgrove, Higher Education Leadership
- Yifeng Zhu, Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Phillip M. Dickens, Computer Science
- Kimberly A. Huisman, Sociology
- Andrew H. Knightly, Mathematics
- Laura A. Lindenfeld, Mass Communications/Media Studies and Public Policy
- Brian S. Robinson, Anthropology and Climate Change Institute
- Michael J. Socolow, Communication and Journalism
- Clarissa A. Henry, Biological Sciences
- Sara M. Lindsay, Marine Science

Kennedy to Step Down as UMaine President, Transition to System Appointment

17 Mar 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy announced today he will begin a 14-month process during which he will transition from his current role as president of the state's land grant/sea grant university to a four year appointment where he will work on projects related to statewide economic development and educational opportunity. Kennedy became UMaine's 18th president on April 15, 2005 after eight months as interim president. His total tenure of nearly seven years will be the second longest UMaine presidency in nearly 50 years. "I am focused on the next 14 months and am working hard to continue our efforts to refine our operations in ways that will allow UMaine to optimally serve our students and the state well into the future," Kennedy says. "We can all be proud of what has been accomplished in recent years, especially under difficult budget circumstances, but this is not a time for reflections on the past. UMaine is an outstanding university and I look forward to working hard over the coming months to help make it even better." After leaving the presidency, Kennedy will work on special projects for the University of Maine System for four years, concentrating on areas related to sustainability, alternative energy and federal initiatives. Initially, that work will focus on developing academic programming, along with research and outreach to create career and business opportunities in emerging fields related to energy. Kennedy first came to UMaine in 2000, serving as executive vice president and provost. The Minnesota native has served in faculty and administrative roles at some of the nation's leading public universities including the University of Iowa, Washington State University, The Ohio State University, the University of Maryland and Texas A & M, where he served as vice president for research and associate provost for graduate studies immediately before moving to Maine. "Serving as UMaine's president continues to be an honor and a privilege," Kennedy says. "It is a singular institution with a great faculty, terrific students, a dedicated staff and legions of loyal supporters around Maine and beyond. I remain grateful for this opportunity, which has been the highlight of my career. The next academic year will be my seventh in this role and I am committed to finishing the work I started, hopefully having left the university a better place." Kennedy's UMaine tenure has been marked by notable achievements in several areas, including a sharp increase in private fundraising, growth in the size and scope of the UMaine research enterprise with current investments in excess of \$100 million dollars and the creation of innovative academic programming in areas like biomedical science, innovation engineering and international policy. Kennedy has also spearheaded the development of collaborative educational, research and business initiatives allowing UMaine to partner with Maine institutions and businesses to share resources and maximize their impact on students and the state. Of note are specific advances in composites technology pioneered in UMaine's labs that include the "Bridge in a Backpack" program, and other composite applications that have led to significant recent public and private investment in Maine's offshore wind power generation potential. "Bob is an effective leader who has greatly strengthened the University of Maine during his service as provost and president," stated Lyndel J. Wishcamper, chair of the UMS Board of Trustees. "On behalf of the trustees, I'd like to note that we are pleased he will continue to serve a leadership role in helping the system advance programs in sustainable energy research and education." Kennedy, who will turn 63 in September, says he approached University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenau in late 2009 to discuss the possibility of transitioning from the presidency next year. Kennedy and Pattenau finalized the details late last week and the chancellor informed the University of Maine System Board of Trustees at the board's Monday meeting. "President Kennedy has had a very positive impact on the University of Maine - leading it to significant growth and improvement and he will be missed. I am pleased that we have another year to make full use of his considerable talents," Chancellor Richard L. Pattenau noted. "In September, we will organize a nationwide search so we may name a new leader before he completes his presidency in June 2011. After that, I look forward to working with President Kennedy in expanding our system-wide sustainability and alternative energy initiatives."

Interim Report Addresses UMaine Academic Reorganization; Next Stage in the Process Involves Community and Public Feedback

24 Mar 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- An interim report from the University of Maine's Academic Program Prioritization Working Group (APPWG) lists a series of potential changes that would reduce UMaine's academic program budget by \$12,255,000 over three years beginning in July 2011. This is the primary component of an overall university budget reduction process that will total \$25 million, as presently forecast. The changes are intended to align

efforts with new budget realities. Certain savings will be used for reinvestment in priority areas. Planning has focused on maintaining quality, meeting student commitments and maintaining affordability. Currently enrolled students will be provided with the opportunity to complete their degree programs. Several steps remain before final decisions, on changes to be phased in between July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2014, are formalized. This interim report makes public the adjustments APPWG is recommending following seven months of intensive research and work. The next step in the process involves the collection and assessment of public and community feedback on the initial recommendations. The report is available online. An associated Web page includes email links for providing feedback. APPWG is a group of UMaine faculty members and administrators. Led by Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Susan Hunter, APPWG began meeting late last summer to recommend academic changes to address budget challenges while responding as effectively as possible to student interests and state needs. The current version of the report was developed based on a thorough program review, including the input of the UMaine's five college deans, to thoughtfully analyze and address a reduction of this magnitude. "This is a serious, deliberate process which has involved hundreds of hours of effort and a thorough review of quantitative data and qualitative information," Hunter says. "UMaine is in the same situation as every other public college in the U.S. and we are exhausting every possibility as we work toward a new paradigm that matches available resources with our critical mission. I am immensely grateful to our faculty for the leadership role that group is playing in helping address these challenges." President Robert Kennedy says he retains some hope that the cuts may be mitigated by revenue enhancement through increased enrollment and other means. "We can not count on new revenues," Kennedy says, "so we must continue aggressively planning for program reductions and other efficiencies. At the same time, there is an opportunity for all of us to take steps to help with enrollment, student retention, private fundraising and other initiatives that can help reduce the impact of the challenges that face us." By April 8, the group will make a final report to Hunter, who will craft recommendations to Kennedy. He will make final decisions on the changes to be implemented. Kennedy and Hunter will use the final APPWG report to inform their planning, but the group's recommendations are not binding. A public informational forum is scheduled for 1-4 p.m. on Monday March 29 at Wells Conference Center. Kennedy, Hunter, UMaine's deans and others will be at that forum to discuss APPWG's interim recommendations with those in attendance and to gather feedback that will be used to create the final APPWG report. Other UMaine units -- those outside the academic realm including central administrative units -- are undertaking similar budget reduction planning, on the same scale as academic units, for the three-year time period beginning in the summer of 2011. These review processes are components of a broad-based effort aimed at achieving all possible efficiencies including the creation of an infrastructure that enables the university to optimally teach, innovate and serve the state. To provide a sense of scale, Hunter notes that the total planned reductions amount to 15.4 percent of the current year's total budgets for colleges that will be affected by the changes. "Reductions of this magnitude will fundamentally change the university" Kennedy says. " While this is painful and difficult, it is the hand we are dealt. All we can do is maintain our focus on our core responsibilities as Maine's flagship university and find ways to continue providing the top-quality, liberal arts-based education that Maine people and others have depended upon for generations, while also working through R&D and outreach efforts to help define Maine's economic future and serve citizens statewide. "No matter what route we end up taking," Kennedy continued, "UMaine will emerge a more nimble and responsive institution, well-equipped to meet Maine's needs well into the future." This package of proposed changes would result in 80 fewer faculty positions by 2014. It also calls for a reduction in undergraduate majors from 86 to 70, with the university retaining undergraduate minors and the capacity for instruction in most of those academic areas. The number of master's degrees would decrease from 64 to 58. Seven units would be merged into three and one department would be eliminated. Transformative actions under consideration include the following:

- elimination of the Dept. of Public Administration and its undergraduate and graduate degree programs
- downsizing the Master of Arts in Teaching program
- elimination of the Master's in Instructional Technology program
- elimination of three undergraduate and three graduate degrees in engineering by restructuring the Chemical and Biological Engineering Department, the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, the School of Engineering Technology, and the Spatial Information Science and Engineering Department
- elimination of the Women's Studies major and graduate concentration, while maintaining courses and the minor
- elimination of foreign language majors (French, Spanish, German and Latin), while maintaining capacity for foreign language instruction
- elimination of the theatre major, while maintaining theatre instruction and the minor
- elimination of the music and music performance majors and the music master's program, while maintaining music instruction and the music education major

- elimination of distinct bachelor's degrees in aquaculture, wood science, forest operations and forest ecosystems science/conservation, while combining those programs with other degree options to create efficiencies
- merger of three departments into an integrated School of Food and Agriculture
- merger of anthropology and sociology
- merger of physics and astronomy with chemistry to form a School of Physical Sciences

The college deans and provost's executive staff are working to develop other models that will further streamline curricula, reduce course offerings and eliminate low enrollment minors.

UMaine Sets Monday Forum for Academic Program Reorganization Plan Discussion

25 Mar 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571 UMaine will host a Monday, March 29 public forum for discussion related to this week's Academic Program Prioritization Working Group (APPWG) interim report. That report, which outlines a series of recommended academic program modifications, is online here. The forum is scheduled for 1-4 p.m. It will not include a formal presentation. Rather, it is designed so that people may stop in at their convenience and engage informally in discussions with APPWG members, UMaine President Robert Kennedy, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Susan Hunter, UMaine's deans and others involved in the process. Comment cards will also be available for those who prefer to submit written feedback. In addition, an online feedback mechanism is currently available here.

UMaine to Host Middle, High School Robotics Competition

25 Mar 2010

Contact: Ryan Foley, ryan.t.foley@umit.maine.edu; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine Black Bear Robotics Club will host VEX, a robotics competition for middle and high school students, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 27. Opening ceremonies will begin at 9:30 a.m. at UMaine's Donald P. Corbett Building in room 100 where Gov. John Baldacci and UMaine President Robert Kennedy will address students. The goal of the event is to have some friendly competition between students from around the state and New England while getting a chance to experience real world engineering and applying the math and science skills they learn in school. The VEX Robotics Competition was piloted two years ago when only one official event was held. There now are more than 2,000 teams from 20 countries competing in more than 150 tournaments worldwide. The UMaine event is being hosted by the robotics club and its founder, mechanical engineering student Ryan Foley. Foley started the university's robotics club in 2006. Among other projects and activities, the group has created a remote-controlled T-shirt launching robot that can hold eight shirts at once and fire them in succession. "We are hoping to use it at UMaine athletic events next fall," says Foley. "Our first live event with the launcher was a 60-team Lego league robotics competition held last December at the Augusta Civic Center. We managed to fire the shirts from center court up into the back rows of the main hall." They're now working to upgrade the machine so it can handle the abuse of driving around outside on bumpy and uneven ground so it also could be used for outdoor events. Those participating in Saturday's event, some with multiple teams, will include: Crowther Homeschool, Oakham, Massachusetts Cape Elizabeth Middle School, Cape Elizabeth, Maine (3 teams) Greely High School, Cumberland, Maine (2 teams) Portland Arts and Technology High School, Portland, Maine (3 teams) Sanford Regional Vocational Center, Sanford, Maine Maine School of Science and Mathematics, Limestone, Maine (2 teams) Yarmouth High School, Yarmouth, Maine Jesse Remington High School, Candia, New Hampshire United Technologies Center, Bangor, Maine John Bapst Memorial High School, Bangor, Maine Jay High School, Jay, Maine (4 teams) Catherine McAuley High School, Portland, Maine

UMaine to Host Regional Chemical Engineering Conference, Competition

25 Mar 2010

Contact: Hemant Pendse, (207) 949-1007; Thomas Schwartz (student), (978) 944-0568; Aimee Dolloff, (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine is set to host the Regional Student Conference of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) March 26-27. Part of the conference will be the annual Chem-E Car competition, at which

UMaine has performed well in previous years. The Chem-E-Car event will be held from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at UMaine's Lengyel Gym. Preparation will take place from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. and would be a good time for media to view the cars and conduct interviews with students. In addition to UMaine, teams from The University of Massachusetts Amherst, Northeastern University, The University of Rhode Island, Clarkson University, and University of New Haven are scheduled to compete. AIChE's regional student conferences offer students the opportunity to network with professionals from industry and academia, explore potential career paths, and expand their knowledge of the chemical engineering field. Attendees meet other students from their region to share experiences and exchange ideas on how to run successful AIChE student chapters. Each year nine regional conferences take place during the spring. The idea behind AIChE's Chem-E Car competition is to inspire student teams to apply their knowledge of chemical engineering to create an alternative fuel vehicle capable of transporting a payload a specific distance. The design, construction and testing of the UMaine's cars has required hundreds of hours of work by the student team members, who collaborated under the guidance of chemical and biological engineering professor John Hwalek.

UMaine to Honor Penobscot County Conservation Association for 50 Years of Scholarship Support

29 Mar 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- An extensive Penobscot County Conservation Association (PCCA) scholarship program that began with a \$150 donation in 1960 continues to pay dividends for University of Maine wildlife ecology students. In recognition of the 50th anniversary of that first scholarship, UMaine wildlife ecology faculty chair James Gilbert and several current and former scholarship recipients will visit the PCCA on Thursday April 1 to personally extend their thanks. That meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. at the club headquarters on North Main St. in Brewer. "This support has been instrumental in helping generations of outstanding UMaine students earn their degrees and become prepared for careers in fields where they work to help conserve our natural resources," Gilbert says "These students' goals have been shaped by the PCCA's support, and this enduring relationship has made an enormous, positive difference in the lives of many." Since 1960, PCCA total scholarship support exceeds \$900,000. The organization currently provides 22 scholarships, each of which is named for one of the club's members in recognition of good work within the organization. Former UMaine student and Maryland native Holly Robertson, in a letter to PCAA members, noted that the scholarship support has been instrumental in helping achieve her goals. "In order for me to pursue the field of wildlife ecology in a more 'wilderness' setting, I had to go to school out of state," she wrote. "The scholarships that I received every year greatly helped offset my cost of school and that support never went unappreciated." Robertson, who graduated in 2003, is now working for both the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Rainforest Biodiversity Working Group and is considering going back to graduate school.

White Ribbon Campaign to Raise Awareness of Violence Against Women; UMaine Events Scheduled April 5-9

01 Apr 2010

Contact: Brendan Carr at (207) 581-1508 brendan.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- The University of Maine will work to raise awareness related to violence against women during its White Ribbon Campaign, Monday April 5-Friday April 9. Members of the UMaine community, especially men, are encouraged to wear white ribbons as symbols of their opposition to violence against women. The White Ribbon Campaign was started in 1991 by men who decided they had a responsibility to urge men to speak out about violence against women. The white ribbon is a symbol of men's opposition to violence against women. Representatives of UMaine's Safe Campus Project, which is organizing this activity, will deliver ribbons to some student organizations and interested faculty members. Those without ribbons can pick them up between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Memorial Union April 5-9. Tables will be set up inside and outside of the building to distribute ribbons and informational cards. All are encouraged to visit.

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist Bettina Boxall to Visit UMaine

01 Apr 2010

Contact: Stephani Nola, 581-3285 ORONO -- Pulitzer Prize-winning Los Angeles Times reporter and University of Maine alumnae Bettina Boxall will be on campus April 12-18 to visit with students and present this year's

Distinguished Honors Graduate Lecture Wednesday, April 14. Boxall, a 1974 UMaine graduate, shared the 2009 Pulitzer Prize in Explanatory Reporting with Los Angeles Times colleague Julie Cart, with whom she wrote an award-winning series on wildfires in the western United States. Boxall will meet with students from forestry, journalism and the Honors College during her weeklong visit. Her talk, "Please don't tweet me: journalism today," is at 4 p.m. in the McIntire Room of the Buchanan Alumni House, following a 3:30 p.m. reception in the Andrews Leadership Hall. The Distinguished Honors Graduate Lecture, coordinated by the Honors College at the University of Maine, is open to the public. The annual event was established in 2002 to highlight the accomplishments of UMaine Honors graduates. The lectures serve as an opportunity for the university community to recognize an individual's accomplishments, vision and connection with the university. The series is supported in part by a grant from the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series.

UMaine School of Economics to Bring Money Management Seminars to Local Schools

01 Apr 2010

Contact: Sarah Morehead at sarah.morehead@maine.edu ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Economics' Household Financial Education Program (HFEP) is preparing to take its money management workshop to local schools, beginning later this spring. The school started HFEP in 2008 as a way to extend economics expertise to those managing household budgets during difficult financial times. The school program, which can be customized to meet educational needs, is a logical extension according to program director Sarah Morehead. "We hope to help Maine's K-12 students feel more comfortable with issues related to money management," says Morehead, a UMaine economics graduate student. The program focuses on two major areas of financial management: 1) "The Emotions of Money," how cultural and emotional meanings of money affect our money management decisions, and 2) "The Mechanics of Money," covering budgeting, credit, investment and how to navigate the financial marketplace. "Money management is about more than numbers. It's about how we manage our lives, our gifts and our needs," Morehead says. "We want to help kids connect their non-material dreams to the financial reality that will make them happen." She is currently putting the seminar material into book format for high school and college students. The book, "I Hate Money!" is in the editing stages, and will likely be available in the fall. The program will be offered at Orono High School on April 30, with sessions scheduled for Winslow and Old Town in the fall. Another version of the program -- for interested members of the public -- will be scheduled for the UMaine campus sometime in late spring.

DEP Commissioner Littell at UMaine Monday

04 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection commissioner David Littell will visit the University of Maine on Monday, April 5 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program. Littell has been commissioner since January 2006. He oversees an extensive state agency with more than 400 employees, including scientists, geologists, engineers and environmental specialists. The department has four offices around Maine. A former practicing attorney, Littell graduated from Princeton College and Harvard Law School. He also served as a lieutenant commander in the United States Naval Reserve. At UMaine on Monday, Littell will spend time visiting with UMaine students, faculty members and staff members to learn more about the university's teaching and research activities related to our environment. News coverage possibilities include tours of the AEWCC: Advanced Structures and Composites Center with Prof. Habib Dagher from 9:45-11 a.m. and of the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute with Prof. Hemant Pendse from 11-11:40 a.m. Between 3 and 3:50 p.m., he will meet with scientists involved in UMaine's Sustainability Solutions Initiative. A full schedule is available upon request. The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows Program, which began in the spring of 2006, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy.

Ocean Energy Institute Founder to Present at UMaine

05 Apr 2010

Contact: Roberta Laverty, (207) 581-2121; Aimee Dolloff (207) 581-3777 ORONO, Maine – Matthew Simmons, founder of The Ocean Energy Institute in Rockland, Maine, will present “The Dawning of Ocean Energy: Our Last Frontier” at 1 p.m. Friday, April 9, at Wells Conference Center at the University of Maine. Simmons, chair emeritus of the energy investment banking firm Simmons & Company International, founded The Ocean Energy Institute in 2007. A think-tank and venture capital fund addressing the challenges of U.S. offshore renewable energy, The Institute’s main focus is to research and develop renewable energy sources from all aspects of our oceans. Not only are the world’s high quality crude oil declining, water scarcity also is beginning to create widespread alarm. Simmons notes a correlation between water and gasoline and electricity production, and thinks offshore wind may be the answer. The Institute is working closely with UMaine’s AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center, aiming to prove that offshore wind can be economically transformed into electricity that can either be sent back to the grid or turned into desalinated sea water and liquid ammonia which could replace petroleum used in transportation. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Western Civilization and American Liberty Lecture Series Concludes in April

05 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 The University of Maine will host two April lectures, presented by its Program in Western Civilization and American Liberty. Prof. Michael Palmer, director of the UMaine program, calls the subjects of the presentations “probably two of the most important and influential conservative political theorists of the twentieth century.” Paul Franco, professor of government, Bowdoin College, will give a talk, “Skeptical Conservatism: The Political Philosophy of Michael Oakeshott,” on Friday, April 9 from 3:10-4:40 p.m. in 140 Bennett Hall. Arthur M. Melzer, professor of political science, Michigan State University, will address the topic, “Defending Reason: Esotericism and the Political Philosophy of Leo Strauss,” on Friday, April 16. That presentation will also be from 3:10-4:30 p.m. in 140 Bennett Hall. Each presentation will be followed by a Q&A session, and they are free and open to the public. For more information call 581-1879.

Pulitzer Video Finalist Relying on UMaine Community in National Competition

05 Apr 2010

Contact: Samantha Danis, 286-6013, or George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- A class assignment has propelled a UMaine broadcast journalism major into the semifinals of a national video-reporting competition, which includes a \$10,000 international reporting grant as part of the top prize. Judges for round one of the national YouTube and Pulitzer Center "Project: Report" 2010 contest named UMaine senior Samantha Danis of Biddeford as one of 10 semi-finalists out of 148 competition entries in early March. Her entry, a feature about someone who makes a difference, was a 2-minute, 36-second video, "A Day in the Life of Alice Fogg." Fogg is an 82-year-old Naples, Maine woman who, on hearing of a shortage of pillows in Iraqi hospitals, has sewn, stuffed and sent more than 1,000 pillows to injured American soldiers. "When I saw her video, I knew she had a pretty good shot at it. It was sort of stunning," says Communication and Journalism faculty member Sunny Hughes, who encouraged Danis and other students in her broadcast journalism class to enter the competition as an assignment. "I think it's a remarkable achievement." As a semi-finalist, Danis won a new computer and a high-definition camera. Round two will determine five finalists, to be selected by public balloting on the YouTube competition website. Winners will be announced April 20, after the voting. The round two assignment was to create a second video, 5 minutes or less, telling a compelling local story with global impact that is under-reported or misrepresented by the national media. Danis' new video is scheduled to be accessible at <http://www.youtube.com/projectreport> today. The site currently has all 10 semi-finalists' first-round videos available for viewing. From April 5-18, new videos will be available, along with a balloting function. Videos of five of the 10 semi-finalists will be selected for the grand prize, an expense-paid visit to Washington, D.C. for a reception and public screening of their videos, a series of workshops and talks, and then overseas reporting assignment, funded by the \$10,000 grants. "An amazing opportunity is on the line, so it's important for people to vote," Danis says. Danis' semi-final entry features a Hampden Academy student, his family and Carrie Pierce, a part-time faculty member in the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning, for a video on the plight of the deaf. She says she was both moved and troubled

by the stories she heard from Pierce, who is Deaf, and the Hampden teen, who Danis says is hard of hearing. "I think people who can hear take a lot for granted, and it's something I never see on the news," says Danis, who has been taking a sign language class with Pierce. Danis says people who do not hear are treated differently, even shunned. "I interviewed a 19-year-old high school boy and he talked about how he just doesn't understand why most people don't want to be friends with him," Danis says. "He wonders if it's because they think he won't hear them and it would make having a friendship with him difficult. It's a whole set of issues that most people who hear don't even think about. I want to bring some light to that. "I think I will have accomplished something huge if the next time someone stumbles upon someone who is deaf, that person will make an effort to say hello instead of turning away," she says. Hughes says CMJ 451 is the most advanced video production class the department offers and students have a different challenge each week. "These students need to know how to become backpack journalists and need to know how to keep their eye on the ball," Hughes says.

UMaine President Emeritus Hutchinson Dies at 79

07 Apr 2010



Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Frederick E. Hutchinson, a native of the rural Maine town of Atkinson who graduated from the University of Maine in 1953 and later became his alma mater's president, died today in Bangor at the age of 79. The first member of his family to attend college, Hutchinson earned an agronomy degree from UMaine, followed by a doctorate at Pennsylvania State University. He served UMaine as a professor, dean and vice president before leaving to work for the U.S. Agency for International Development. Hutchinson returned to academic work at The Ohio State University where he served as provost. He became UMaine's 16th president on April 1, 1992, serving in that role until his 1997 retirement. "Fred Hutchinson was a friend and mentor who exemplified the University of Maine experience," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "He often spoke of the great opportunities that came his way only because he was able to earn a UMaine degree, and he was deeply honored to serve as the university's president. Fred Hutchinson was a distinguished leader whose example will continue to inspire UMaine students and others for many years to come." UMaine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast is named in Hutchinson's honor. The center, which opened in 2000, brings UMaine classes and outreach programming to midcoast Maine. "The Hutchinson Center is truly a fitting legacy to Fred Hutchinson," Kennedy says. "It exists to create opportunities for those who can benefit from access to UMaine, just as Fred did during his remarkable life." Hutchinson is survived by his wife Dionne and two daughters. Funeral arrangements are currently incomplete. A photo of Frederick Hutchinson is available upon request.

Ives to be Posthumous Recipient of 2010 Hartgen Award April 16

08 Apr 2010

Contact: Daniel Williams, 581-5100 ORONO -- The University of Maine Patrons of the Arts will present this year's Vincent A. Hartgen Award posthumously to Edward "Sandy" Ives, a UMaine English and anthropology professor from 1955-1999 and founder of the Maine Folklife Center. The ceremony will be Friday, April 16 at 6 p.m. at Wells Conference Center. Keynote speaker for the event will be Tulane University Folklore professor Nick Spitzer, who

produces and hosts "American Routes" on National Public Radio. Spitzer is serving as honorary chair for fundraising in support of the Maine Folklife Center. He was a colleague of Ives and once hosted Ives for several days on a folklore tour of Louisiana, which Ives enjoyed very much, according to Spitzer. Ives and Spitzer agreed on the "mysterious magical aspects of the encounter in conversation with people who are highly orally literate," Spitzer says. Performers at the awards ceremony will include professional storyteller Joan Radner, emeritus professor of folklore from American University and former president of the American Folklore Society, Old Grey Goose, a Maine group that often features songs Ives collected in Maine and the Maritimes, and Jeff "Smokey" McKeen, a former student of Ives and a member of Old Grey Goose. "It is fitting that the Hartgen Award go to a man who spent his whole life teaching students the value of collecting the songs and stories of the people of Maine and the Maritimes," says Pauleena MacDougall, Maine Folklife Center director. "Sandy's legacy resides in the hearts of his students and the people in the communities whose artistic talents he appreciated as well as in the archival collection he left for future researchers." Ives died last year at age 83. His wife Bobby will accept the award. The Hartgen award is given in recognition of outstanding contributions to the advancement of the arts at the university. Contact Danny Williams at 581-5100 for information.

208th University of Maine Commencement Set for May 8; Baldacci to Deliver Commencement Address

13 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine will award degrees to its Class of 2010 at the university's 208th commencement ceremonies, scheduled for Saturday, May 8 at Harold Alfond Arena in Orono. A 10 a.m. ceremony is for graduates in the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Division of Lifelong Learning. Graduates in the College of Education and Human Development; the College of Engineering; and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture will receive their degrees at a 2:30 p.m. ceremony. UMaine's commencement is the state's largest graduation. With an expected total of more than 12,000 people in attendance, it is also one of the state's largest annual single-day events. Gov. John Baldacci, a 1986 UMaine graduate who is in the final year of his second four-year term as governor, will deliver the commencement address at both ceremonies. "We are pleased that Gov. Baldacci has accepted our invitation to address the Class of 2010," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "He exemplifies the legendary Maine work ethic, dedication to service and commitment to ideals and I am certain he will bring an inspiring message to our graduating students." MBNA founder Charles Cawley will receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree during the morning ceremony. Cawley, who spent a good deal of time in mid-coast Maine as a child, brought MBNA operations to Maine in 1993. He has also been a generous UMaine benefactor whose vision and generosity led to the establishment of UMaine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast. Ashok Jhunjhunwala, an electrical engineering professor at the Indian Institute of Technology and a pioneer in the study of computer networks and fiber optics, will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the afternoon ceremony. Jhunjhunwala, who earned a master's degree from UMaine in 1977 and a doctorate in 1979, has dedicated himself to helping less fortunate people in India in meaningful ways, including expanding the use of science and technology in that country. Amy Marie Smith, a history major from Lincolnville, is the Class of 2010 valedictorian. She is a Camden Hills Regional High School graduate. Matthew Bouchard of Waterville, a Lewiston High School graduate who will earn a business degree with a double major in accounting and finance, is the class salutatorian

UMaine Academic Prioritization Working Group Issues Final Report; Recommends Revenue Enhancement and Program Modification to Close Budget Gap

14 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Academic Program Prioritization Working Group (APPWG) has issued its final report to the university's provost and president. The report, available online at <http://www.umaine.edu/achievementsustainability>, lists a series of revenue enhancements and program modifications the university could employ between now and mid-2014 to help close a looming structural budget gap. According to current projections, that gap will be \$25 million at the end of Fiscal Year 2014. Late last summer, UMaine President Robert Kennedy established APPWG, a group of senior faculty members and administrators, including the college deans, to recommend ways to reduce academic programming costs by \$12,255,000, with the remaining cost reductions to come from other university operations. Kennedy and Provost Susan Hunter will use this report, which is not binding, as they

work toward a set of changes to recommend for implementation. Kennedy has said that he plans to make those recommendations before the end of the spring semester. An implementation process, which would include Faculty Senate review of proposed changes, would follow those recommendations. The APPWG membership established an extensive set of quantitative criteria and also applied qualitative measurements to developing an interim report, issued on March 24. Through a March 29 public forum, written and verbal input and online feedback, hundreds of people have provided commentary on that interim report, all of which was considered in developing the final report issued today. Major changes include the addition of detailed recommendations for reducing the magnitude of budget cuts by increasing revenues through various means, including increased enrollment. It also includes cost-saving recommendations including consolidations and restructuring of the university's general education requirements for students in all majors. The group's final report varies from its interim report with regard to a number of specific academic programs. Unlike the March 24 report, it does not recommend eliminating the French major, the Spanish major, the music major, the music performance major or the music master's degree program. It does recommend downsizing the music graduate program and suspending majors in German and Latin, while "exploring models for focused study in those areas." The final report includes the recommendation to eliminate the Dept. of Public Administration. While emphasizing the critical "importance of maintaining a strong undergraduate liberal arts core," the APPWG report acknowledges the depth and seriousness of the financial situation and encourages the full exploration of ways to bring in more money to mitigate budget reductions that would otherwise amount to up to 20 percent of college budgets by 2014. The report also recommends phasing in reductions through a deliberate process. "We ask that, in consultation with stakeholders, the senior administration prioritize the actions, indicating which ones might be considered for immediate implementation for the 2012 budget," the report says. "Cuts prioritized for 2013 and beyond should be reviewed annually in light of the evolving budget situation, including the success of revenue enhancements and changes in budgets from the State and System. This will also allow departments and programs to design and implement ways to improve efficiency and increase revenue." Based on that potential 20 percent target, the report lists the cuts that would be necessary in each college to achieve a budget goal of that magnitude. In addition to continued efforts in each college to streamline curricula, reduce course offerings and eliminate low enrollment majors, the proposed modifications are: College of Business, Public Policy and Health • Eliminate Dept. of Public Administration and its undergraduate and graduate degree programs • Eliminate a faculty line following Maine Business School retirement • Eliminate a vacant Administrative Assistant position • Consider elimination of college's section of the School of Economics College of Education and Human Development • Eliminate Clinical Educational Program Specialist position • Eliminate one additional Faculty position • Reevaluate Master's in Instructional Technology • Downsize Center for Research and Evaluation • Downsize Master of Arts in Teaching College of Engineering • Eliminate three undergraduate and 3 master's degrees by restructuring: - Chemical & Biological Engineering - Electrical & Computing Engineering -School of Engineering Technology -Spatial Information Science & Engineering College of Liberal Arts and Sciences • Suspend Women's Studies major and graduate concentration and explore alternative models of offering degree, concentrations, minor or other forms of focused study • Suspend Latin and German majors and explore alternative models for focused study in these areas • Suspend Theatre major and explore alternative models for focused study in this area • Music: Reduce the number of ensembles currently offered and reduce the number of graduate degree concentrations from three to two • Reorganize college departments and programs so that organizational structure reflects smaller sizes of units, promotes interdisciplinary collaboration, and facilitates curricular innovation College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture • Eliminate financial support of analytical and diagnostic laboratories that serve campus and external clients • Eliminate distinct B.S. degrees in Aquaculture, Wood Science, Forest Operations, and Forest Ecosystems Science & Conservation. Programs will be combined into other degree options or changed to concentrations • Merge three departments into an integrated School of Food and Agriculture • Greater proportion of MAFES-funded technical staff, research facility staff and operating expenses funded by external grants

UMaine Extension Creates Grow Maine Grow to Help First-Time Gardeners

15 Apr 2010

Contact: Barbara Murphy, extension educator, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, 207-743-6329 or 1-800-287-1482 (in Maine), bmurphy@umext.maine.edu ORONO, ME — University of Maine Cooperative Extension has launched Grow Maine Grow, a website for first-time vegetable gardeners looking for easy-to-find local Maine resources and answers to gardening questions. Gardens can provide food, add beauty to the landscape, provide exercise, save us

money and allow us to connect with family, friends and community. However, vegetable gardening in Maine, especially for the beginner, can be quite challenging. Grow Maine Grow was created for people who would like to plant a vegetable garden, but have no idea where to begin. First-time gardeners have a million questions: Is my soil any good? How do I fertilize, and which one should I use? What should I grow? What bug is this? University of Maine Cooperative Extension can answer these questions and more with Grow Maine Grow.

Dagher to Present Offshore Wind Vision to MSSM High School Students

15 Apr 2010

Contact: Roberta Laverty, (207) 581-2121 or Sharon Daigle-Gerrish, gerrishs@mssm.org or (207) 325-3322 ext 1005 ORONO – Students from The Maine School of Science and Mathematics in Limestone will visit the University of Maine's AEWCA Advanced Structures & Composites Center and other research facilities on campus on Friday, April 16. University of Maine Professor Habib Dagher, the founding Director of UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures & Composites Center, will cap off the day spent with students with a presentation about deepwater offshore wind technology. Dagher's presentation, "Transforming Maine's Economy: Floating Offshore Wind," also is open to interested members of the public and will be held from 2-3:15 p.m. Friday, April 16, in room 101 of UMaine's Neville Hall. After hearing Dagher speak at both the Power Up Maine Conference and the 2010 STEM Summit, Luke Shorty, MSSM mathematics instructor, was inspired to collaborate with the UMaine Composites Center and bring the school's 128 students to visit the campus. "This field trip to Orono continues our long-term relationship with the College of Engineering at UMaine and the University of Maine System, and enriches the education and lives of our students. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) initiatives are happening throughout our state and it is important that MSSM students get to experience them firsthand," says Shorty. "Professor Dagher's presentation is a follow-up to our recently held themed weekend where students designed and engineered floating wind turbines that they tested in our indoor swimming pool." With more than \$30 million in competitive funding received over the past year, AEWCA is expanding its facilities and personnel to set the course for energy independence for Maine through deepwater offshore wind power generation. In this talk, Dagher will present his vision for positioning Maine as a key player in the green energy revolution by building the research capacity, the expertise and the political will to support the construction of floating wind farms 20-50 miles off the state's coast. In the afternoon, students also will be attending a presentation on Climate Change and visiting other labs within the College of Engineering.

Puckerbrush Review Receives Second Grant from Maine Community Foundation

19 Apr 2010

Contact: Sanford Phippen, (207) 581-3832 ORONO -- The English Department at the University of Maine has received a \$5,000 Expansion Arts Grant from the Maine Community Foundation to support the continued publication of the Puckerbrush Review. The Puckerbrush Review is a literary magazine founded in 1978 by the late Constance Hunting who taught creative writing at the university for many years. From 1978 to school year 2006-07, the magazine was published twice a year, and now comes out as a double issue in the spring. Anyone can submit manuscripts, and they come from all around the world, according to Sanford Phippen, a writer and English teacher at UMaine who has been editor since Hunting's death in 2006. Hunting named her magazine "puckerbrush," because it means new growth after trees have been harvested. She was interested in launching new writers, and the Review has maintained that mission, along with providing a Maine-oriented literary journal, says Phippen, who worked closely with Hunting on the publication since its inception. Eleven English Department faculty members serve as an advisory board for the publication. The recent \$5,000 grant is the second Expansion Arts grant. The Review received a \$5,500 grant in 2007. The Maine Expansion Arts Fund is the result of a collaborative effort of the National Endowment for the Arts, Lillian M. Berliawsky Charitable Trust, Maine Community Foundation and Maine Arts Commission, which is dedicated to strengthening and ensuring the future of Maine's artistic traditions.

Former Bucknell and University of Rochester President Set for UMaine Phi Beta Kappa Lecture Friday

20 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr, (207) 581-3571 ORONO — George Dennis O'Brien, the former president of Bucknell University and the University of Rochester will be the guest speaker at the 2010 University of Maine Phi Beta Kappa annual initiation. The event is scheduled for Friday April 23 at 3 p.m. in Buchanan Alumni House. His topic is "As Maine Goes..." A noted philosopher, O'Brien served as Bucknell's president from 1976-1984 before moving to the University of Rochester, where he was president for ten years. His scholarly work includes two books: "Hegel on Reason in History: A Contemporary Interpretation" (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1975; paperback edition, 1976) and "God and the New Haven Railway—and Why Neither One is Doing Very Well," (Beacon, Fall 1986). A former Phi Beta Kappa National Visiting Scholar, O'Brien has received honorary degrees from five prestigious colleges. Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and best known scholastic honor society in the United States, having been founded in 1776. It recognizes academic excellence in the arts and sciences, broadly defined. UMaine has one of only four chapters in Maine (the others at Bates, Bowdoin and Colby).

UMaine's 2010 Geddes Simpson Lecture April 28

20 Apr 2010

Judy Round, 581-5104 round@maine.edu Photo available upon request ORONO - The Geddes W. Simpson Lecture Committee has selected Michelle Murphy, associate professor of history and the Institute of Women Studies and Gender Studies at the University of Toronto, to give the 2010 Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture. The lecture is scheduled for Maine Day, Wednesday, April 28, at 3 p.m. in the McIntire Room of the Buchanan Alumni House. The public is welcome. The title of Murphy's lecture is "Avertable Life, Investable Futures: A Cold War Story of Sex and Economy." The annual lecture was established in 2001 by the family of Geddes Wilson Simpson, a well-respected faculty member who began his career at UMaine in 1931, to support a lecture series through which speakers of prominence that have provided significant insight into the area where science and history intersect to speak on campus. The 2010 lecture will be the ninth in the series. Michelle Murphy's work considers the entangled histories of technoscience, environment, and bodies in the recent past. Her book *Sick Building Syndrome and the Politics of Uncertainty: Environmental Politics, Technoscience and Women Workers* won the 2008 Ludwik Fleck Prize from the Society for Social Studies of Science. She is also the author of *Seizing the Means of Reproduction: Feminism, Technoscience, and the Biopolitics of Cold War America* (Duke UP, forthcoming) and co-editor of *Landscapes of Exposure: Knowledge and Illness in Modern Environments*. Her current research project, *The Economization of Life*, explores the interlinked histories of efforts to govern and alter national economies and human biological futures. Murphy is a 2009-2010 Jackman Humanities Institute Research Fellow.

University of Maine Featured in the Princeton Review and U.S. Green Building Council in Just-Published "Guide to 286 Green Colleges"

21 Apr 2010

Joe Carr, University of Maine (207) 581-3571, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu Leah Pennino, The Princeton Review (508) 663-5133, lpennino@review.com *Free Guidebook Profiles the Nation's Most Environmentally Responsible Colleges and Universities* ORONO -- The University of Maine is one of the country's most environmentally responsible colleges according to The Princeton Review (www.PrincetonReview.com). The nationally known education services company selected UMaine for inclusion in a unique resource it has created for college applicants, "The Princeton Review's Guide to 286 Green Colleges." Developed by The Princeton Review in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC, www.usgbc.org), the "Guide to 286 Green Colleges" is the first, free comprehensive guidebook focused solely on institutions of higher education who have demonstrated an above average commitment to sustainability in terms of campus infrastructure, activities and initiatives. "This is notable recognition, and we are most pleased to receive it," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "The list of UMaine initiatives that have led to this recognition is long and impressive, appropriately showing the environmental leadership one would expect from a land-grant university." Kennedy pointed to the student-led Green Campus Initiative, the university's unique and award-winning master plan, early adoption of the President's Climate Commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, model approaches to energy procurement, environmentally friendly practices in housing and dining, and success in meeting the Governor's Carbon Challenge as examples. "UMaine's strong environmental academic programs and relevant research in areas like climate change and deep offshore wind power are also critical to our commitment to environmental education and stewardship,"

Kennedy says. Just in time for the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day (April 22nd), the guide, which is based on a survey of hundreds of colleges nationwide, profiles the nation's most environmentally responsible campuses. From solar panel study rooms to the percentage of budget spent on local/organic food, guide looks at an institution's commitment to building certification using USGBC's LEED green building certification program; environmental literacy programs; formal sustainability committees; use of renewable energy resources; recycling and conservation programs, and more. "Students and their parents are becoming more and more interested in learning about and attending colleges and universities that practice, teach and support environmental responsibility," says Robert Franek, senior vice president and publisher, The Princeton Review. "According to our recent College Hope & Worries Survey, 64 percent of college applicants and their parents said having information about a school's commitment to the environment would impact their decision to apply to or attend it. We created this guide to help them evaluate how institutions like UMaine focus on environmental responsibility so that they can make informed decisions as they move through the college assessment and application process." UMaine is the only Maine public university listed in the year's guide. "Beyond the cost savings to an institution, even the simplest aspects of a green campus, such as increased use of natural light, have been found to improve student learning and quality of life," says Rick Fedrizzi, president, CEO and founding chair, USGBC. "Green facilities make colleges more attractive to students and can dramatically reduce energy costs. Higher education is a top priority market segment for USGBC because graduates of green colleges become incredible drivers of change when they call for similar surroundings in their jobs and communities." The Princeton Review noted that another unique aspect of the guide is that it provides important information on schools that have dedicated environmental studies curriculums. "By many accounts, there are going to be a lot of job opportunities related to the environment and sustainability," says Franek. "For those who are interested in working in this growing sector, the guide highlights the schools that are doing an especially good job in preparing and placing the next generation of green professionals.:

How the Schools Were Chosen The Princeton Review chose the 286 schools included in the Guide based on the "Green Rating" scores the schools received in summer 2009 when The Princeton Review published Green Rating scores for 697 schools in its online college profiles and/or annual college guidebooks. The Princeton Review's "Green Rating" is a numerical score from 60 - 99 that is based on several data points. In 2008, The Princeton Review began collaborating with USGBC to help make the Green Rating survey questions as comprehensive and inclusive as possible. Of 697 schools that The Princeton Review gave "Green Ratings" to in 2009, the 286 schools in the guide received scores in the 80th or higher percentile. The Princeton Review does not rank the schools in this book hierarchically or in any of its books based on their "Green Rating" scores.

About the University of Maine The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu>

About The Princeton Review The Princeton Review (Nasdaq: REVU) has been a pioneer and leader in helping students achieve their higher education goals for more than 28 years through college and graduate school test preparation and private tutoring. With more than 165 print and digital publications and a free website, www.PrincetonReview.com, the company provides students and their parents with the resources to research, apply to, prepare for, and learn how to pay for higher education. The Princeton Review partners with schools and guidance counselors throughout the U.S. to assist in college readiness, test preparation and career planning services, helping more students pursue postsecondary education. The company also owns and operates Penn Foster Education Group, a global leader in online education. Penn Foster provides career-focused degree and vocational programs in the fields of allied health, business, technology, education, and select trades through the Penn Foster High School and Penn Foster Career School (www.pennfoster.edu), which are headquartered in Scranton, PA.

About the U.S. Green Building Council The Washington, D.C.-based U.S. Green Building Council is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. With a community comprising 80 local affiliates, more than 18,500 member companies and organizations, and more than 155,000 LEED Professional Credential holders, USGBC is the driving force of an industry that is projected to contribute \$554 billion in U.S. gross domestic product from 2009-2013. USGBC leads a diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials and concerned citizens, teachers and students. Building in the United States are responsible for 39 percent of CO2 emissions, 40 percent of energy consumption, 13 percent of water consumption and 15 percent of GDP per year, making green building a source of significant economic and

environmental opportunity. Greater building efficiency can meet 85 percent of future U.S. demand for energy, and a national commitment to green buildings has the potential to generate 2.5 million jobs in America.

Student Wins Video Competition, \$10,000 International Reporting Opportunity

23 Apr 2010

Contact: Samantha Danis, 286-6013, or George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO — Fourth-year UMaine broadcast journalism major Samantha Danis of Biddeford has been voted as one of five first-place prize winners in the national YouTube and Pulitzer Center "Project: Report" video competition. She has won a \$10,000 grant for an international reporting assignment for the Pulitzer Center on anything she chooses, anywhere in the world. Competition organizers announced the winners this week. Danis' winning video is accessible at <http://www.youtube.com/projectreport>, and was selected on the basis of online voting. "I was completely in shock," Danis says of her reaction upon being told she was a winner. "I knew there was a 50-50 chance that I would be one of the five winners, but the other journalists were so talented that I didn't know if things would end in my favor. I couldn't be happier." Danis says her Project: Report video went from having 6,000 views one day to more than 120,000 the next, once winners were announced this week. "I thought something was wrong with the website when I saw that," she says, "I just can't believe everything that has happened to me, and it's not even over yet." Danis says she isn't sure what to choose for an international reporting assignment. "I have absolutely no idea where to go and what to cover," she says. "I have been posting things on Facebook asking people for their input, so that has been very helpful." Danis and several classmates entered the contest as an assignment in Sunny Hughes' broadcast journalism class. She was one of 10 semifinalists in a first round of judging 148 entries. She won a new computer and a high-definition camera. Round 2 narrowed the 10 semifinalists to five winners who now travel to Washington, D.C. May 9 for three days of workshops, a reception and viewing of the winning videos and discussions about international reporting options. Her semifinal video entry was a short feature about someone who makes a difference -- 82-year-old Alice Fogg of Naples, Maine who has sewn, stuffed and sent more than 1,000 pillows to injured American soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq. Danis' final entry featured a Hampden Academy student who is hard of hearing, his family and a part-time faculty member in the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning who is Deaf, for a video on the plight of the deaf. Danis has been told she is the first woman to win a top prize in the competition that began in 2008.

UMaine Fraternity Found Responsible for Hazing in April 17 Initiation Activity

23 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Following a week-long review, the University of Maine's Division of Student Affairs has found the university's Sigma Chi fraternity chapter to be in violation of UMaine's hazing policies. These findings relate to a Saturday April 17 incident during which a UMaine student participating in a fraternity initiation ritual became lost near the Stillwater River, which runs adjacent to the university's western border. A search involving 11 public safety agencies and dozens of volunteers ended after eight hours when the student was found walking back toward the campus. Several of the fraternity's activities have been found to be in violation of stophazing.org's definition of hazing, which UMaine has adopted: "(Hazing) refers to any activity expected for someone joining a group (or to maintain full status in a group) that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate." While no individual students will be punished, a series of sanctions against the fraternity will take effect immediately: - The fraternity chapter will be on disciplinary probation through May 31, 2011. Further misconduct during this time period would likely result in more serious disciplinary action. - The chapter will be required to conduct a full review of its Pledge Education Program in consultation with university administrators and experts in hazing and associated issues. The chapter will present its plan to the university for review and approval. - The chapter will be required to develop a "New Member Education Road Show" to be used as a model for the entire UMaine Greek community. - The chapter, which does not currently have a house, will be denied access to UMaine's Sigma Chi Heritage House at least until Sept. 15, 2010 and perhaps longer, pending a more thorough review of this sanction. That building, which houses the University of Maine Office of Development, is occasionally used by the fraternity for chapter events. The review determined that fraternity initiation procedures violate the hazing policy in several ways. Notably, the student who became lost on April 17 was told to search for a white cross, which did not actually exist. Member candidates were also required to perform household chores, to dress differently from fraternity

members and to be isolated from social contact during a week-long process known as "Introspection Week." "Hazing is a serious matter, which can often have unintended and dramatic consequences," says Robert Dana, UMaine's vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "While we are fortunate that this incident did not end in tragedy, it brings to light the dangers that accompany membership requirements and procedures that can lead to humiliation or even serious harm. Hopefully, Sigma Chi fraternity members will learn from this and take advantage of the opportunity to become a model student organization that can help lead positive change throughout the UMaine community."

Ballistic Tent Panel Technology Patented, Commercialization Partner Licensed

29 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Innovative and newly-patented University of Maine composites materials technology is now under commercial development through a licensing agreement with a southern Maine manufacturing company. Modular Ballistic Protection System (MBPS) technology, which was conceptualized, fabricated and tested at UMaine's AEW: Advanced Structures and Composites Center, provide protection for military personnel in combat situations. A series of 4-by-8-foot composite panels, the systems are designed for quick and simple assembly inside tents. Once in place, they provide blast protection for those inside the tents. Tex Tech Industries, with facilities in Portland, Winthrop and North Monmouth, will produce the technology for the U.S. Army. Tex Tech and Army officials are in discussions about timing, quantity and other details related to commercializing the technology. "With the patent and a commercialization partner in place, this technology is creating Maine jobs that will protect soldiers overseas," says Prof. Habib Dagher, AEW director. "The army has expressed significant interest in using MBPS panels on a broad scale, creating potential for economic benefit here in Maine and increased safety for those serving our country in dangerous environments." Tex Tech, which was founded in Maine more than a century ago, develops and produces high-performance textiles for aerospace, ballistic protection, fire blocking and other applications.

UMaine President Kennedy to Address Academic Reorganization Tuesday May 4

29 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy has scheduled a Tuesday May 4 presentation to announce his decisions relative to academic program reorganization. His talk is scheduled for 10 a.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. It will also be streamed online at <http://www.umaine.edu>. Kennedy created an Academic Program Prioritization Working Group (APPWG) late last summer to recommend academic program priorities and to develop suggestions for savings of \$12.2 million over the three-year period beginning July 1, 2011. That group, made up of senior faculty members and administrators, provided its final report to Kennedy on April 14. At Tuesday's presentation, Kennedy will outline his plans for program adjustments and implementation.

UMaine Senior National Continuing Education Student of the Year

30 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- University of Maine senior Lauren Sterling of Waterville, Maine, has been named the 2010 National Continuing Education Student of the Year by the University Continuing Education Association. Last fall, she was selected as the Outstanding Continuing Education Student from New England. Sterling, who majored in university studies focusing on nonprofit administration, also is the Outstanding Graduating Student in the UMaine Division of Lifelong Learning. She will receive her degree May 8. "Lauren personifies the quintessential continuing education student," says Robert White, associate provost and dean of the Division of Lifelong Learning. "She is an inspiration to all students. Her UMaine and public service legacy will continue to impact Maine and the nation through her extraordinary work on behalf of children." Sterling has pursued her UMaine education part-time since 1981 while working full time and being actively involved in public service. Since 2001, she has staffed the Governor's Children's Cabinet and overseen the 21st Century Community Learning Centers federal grant supporting after-school programming and learning opportunities for children in need statewide. Sterling has been the volunteer coordinator of the Greater Waterville Area Communities for Children & Youth since its

inception in 1996. In 2007, she established the Alliance on Early Care and Learning in Waterville, now supported by the United Way of Mid-Maine and which is the advisory body for the first Educare Center in Maine and New England. "The projects Lauren undertook in Waterville and her work on the Governor's Children's Cabinet are truly exemplary and demonstrate how the life experiences of nontraditional students can influence their academic pursuits and state policy," says University of Maine President Robert Kennedy. "Her national and regional awards recognize her extraordinary achievements and also bring honor to the University of Maine." Sterling also studied at the Pacific Conservatory of Performing Arts and New York University's Actor's Studio: Circle in the Square Theater Program. For 12 years, she was a singer and actor in New York and Los Angeles. In 1993, she moved back to Maine and enrolled at UMaine to resume her education.

Patten Native Outstanding Graduate in UMaine College

30 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Owen McCarthy of Patten, Maine, was named the Outstanding Graduating Student in the University of Maine College of Engineering. He will graduate May 8 with a bachelor's degree in biological engineering. McCarthy, the 2006 valedictorian of Katahdin High School, came to UMaine as a Top Scholar. "UMaine's great engineering program was a big draw," he says. "I knew about UMaine through my grandfather (Gordon Kulberg, a UMaine emeritus dean and professor) and by coming to sports camps through the years. I didn't even apply anywhere else. (At UMaine) there's no better return on investment." McCarthy was a founding member and class agent of the Class of 2010 Council. He received a Sigma Phi Epsilon Balanced Man Scholarship, a Durst Scholarship and a Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholarship. McCarthy also received the Sigma Phi Epsilon Northeastern Outstanding Senior Award. This past academic year, McCarthy was president of University of Maine Student Government. His other leadership roles included president of both the UMaine chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon and Sophomore Owls. McCarthy also was a member of Order of Omega, Tau Beta Pi and Senior Skulls. In 2008, he was elected UMaine's Homecoming King. "I really enjoyed the leadership opportunities and extracurriculars," McCarthy says. "I like positively affecting people." "At the University of Maine, there are so many opportunities to get involved. It's a tight-knit community. Faculty and administrators listen and care about students, and want to help as much as possible." McCarthy is now co-authoring a book with James Morin on how to utilize networks, habits and knowledge to get the most out of college beyond the classroom. For the past two summers, he was a technical sales intern with the global specialty chemical companies Hercules Inc., Dayton, Ohio, and Ashland Inc., Worcester, Mass. McCarthy has accepted a job with Ashland. McCarthy is the son of Martin and Rachel McCarthy.

Skowhegan Native Outstanding Grad in UMaine College

30 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Emily Yearwood of Skowhegan, Maine, has been named the Outstanding Graduating Student in the University of Maine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She will graduate May 8 with a bachelor's degree in sociology. Yearwood majored in sociology with a minor in psychology. She transferred to UMaine as a sophomore who was undecided about her major until she started taking sociology courses. "I like the idea of looking at group dynamics in a social context," says Yearwood. "What drew me to sociology was the opportunity to look at your place in the world. With sociology, I'm constantly able to apply what I learn to my own life and the world around me." In her junior year, Yearwood was a teaching assistant and a research assistant to sociology professor Kim Huisman, and in her senior year, to sociology professor Amy Blackstone. Her research in collaboration with faculty included work on sexual harassment and the Somali Narrative Project. "Research opened my eyes and made me want to apply to grad school," Yearwood says. Last year, a paper she wrote reflecting on her field research for a methods class was published in the scholarly journal "Contexts." Yearwood received the 2010 Marcia Smargon Kornetsky Sociology Prize and a Sociology Department Service Award. She was a member of the Sociology Club that led a book drive for the global literacy group Better World Books. After graduation, she plans to take time off and eventually pursue graduate school. Yearwood is the daughter of Susan Bruce and Jim Yearwood.

Fryeburg Native Named Outstanding Graduate in UMaine College

30 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Kathryn "Katie" Blynn of Fryeburg, Maine, has been named the Outstanding Graduating Student in the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development. Blynn majored in elementary education with a concentration in English. She transferred to UMaine as a sophomore and changed her major from broadcast journalism to education. "My mother is a teacher and, initially, I wanted to try something outside of that box," says Blynn. "But when I worked in an AmeriCorps program called Jumpstart, teaching 4-year-old Spanish students, I found I couldn't stop teaching, no matter what I was doing." A Dean's List student throughout her UMaine career, Blynn twice received the Frank W.P. Bailey Merit Scholarship and the Galen Cole Land Transportation Museum Scholarship. She served as historian for All Maine Women honor society and the UMaine chapter of Golden Key International Honor Society. She also served as the secretary of the UMaine chapter of the Student Education Association of Maine, was a member of Kappa Delta Pi, and was a resident assistant on campus for three semesters. This year, Blynn did her student teaching in a kindergarten class and a third grade class at Old Town Elementary School. "I like teaching students how they're part of their community," she says. "When they come to school, we can give them the tools to do what they want to do with their lives. My dream job is teaching in any of the elementary grade level classes in a town where the school is the heart of the community. "From my mother I learned that it's not just important, but fun to learn and know things, and I hope to pass that on to my students." After graduation, Blynn plans to work as an elementary school teacher in Maine. Blynn is the daughter of Melanie and Allen Blynn of Fryeburg.

Scarborough Student Named Top Graduate in UMaine College

30 Apr 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Laura Wood of Scarborough, Maine, has been named the Outstanding Graduating Student in the University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. She will graduate May 8 with honors and a bachelor's degree in ecology and environmental sciences. She concentrated in natural resource management and minored in anthropology. "It's been the best experience," says Wood, talking about her academic career at UMaine. "I'm exactly where I want to be because of all the connections I made here." She came to UMaine as a Mitchell Scholar and a UMaine Top Scholar. Her numerous scholarships included the James E. Totman Fund Scholarship and the Maine Difference Scholarship. Last year, she was named a Udall Scholar and, in 2008, a NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Fellow. As a Hollings Fellow, she assisted in research related to salt marsh restoration monitoring, bird surveys and snail microhabitat movements at the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve in Wells, Maine. Her honors thesis also focused on salt marshes: "Returning the tide to Gulf of Maine salt marshes: evaluating plant, soil and hydrologic response to restoration." In spring 2009, Wood studied tropical rain forest management at the School for Field Studies in Queensland, Australia. In summer 2008, she was an environmental intern with New England Organics, Portland, Maine, and in summer 2007, a resource management assistant with the Student Conservation Association at Wind Cave National Park in Hot Springs, S.D. "Summer internships are the most important thing," Woods says. "They gave me opportunities to experience natural resource management from the species level to the human waste and large ecosystem levels." On campus, Wood has been actively involved in numerous volunteer efforts, including two years with Alternative Spring Break. She was a member of the Green Campus Initiative and Alpha Zeta. After graduation, she will move to Minnesota, where she hopes to be involved in watershed management research, then pursue graduate school to study environmental management. "I want to gain more experience in research and then go into the classroom to share it," says Wood. Wood is the daughter of Gregory and Donna Wood.

Kennedy Announces UMaine Academic Reorganization; Eight-Point Plan for Budget Sustainability Includes Establishment of Division of Health and Biomedical Sciences

04 May 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy unveiled "UMaine 150," an eight-point plan that he says "will both improve UMaine and make it more financially sustainable." Kennedy made the announcement during a Tuesday morning presentation at UMaine's Collins Center for the Arts. Some 250 members of the UMaine community attended the presentation, at which Kennedy also

announced his recommendations for modifying UMaine's academic program to adjust to new budget realities. He accepted most of the recommendations advanced by UMaine's Academic Program Prioritization Working Group (APPWG), a faculty and administration committee that started working late last summer to recommend ways to reduce UMaine's academic budget by \$12.2 million over a three-year period beginning July 1, 2011. The university's overall budget reduction goal for that time period is projected at \$25 million, with the remaining adjustments to come from non-academic budgets. Kennedy has adopted the following APPWG recommendations:

- Elimination of the Dept. of Public Administration
- Suspension of the German and Latin language majors
- Suspension of the theatre major
- Suspension of the women's studies major and graduate concentration in that discipline
- Reduction of music master's degree concentrations from five to two, retaining music education and music performance while eliminating instrumental conducting, choral conducting and collaborative piano
- Downsizing of the Master of Arts in Teaching program
- Downsizing of the Center for Research and Evaluation in the College of Education and Human Development
- Consolidations in the College of Engineering, including the assignment of certain Dept. of Mechanical Engineering teaching responsibilities to faculty members in the School of Engineering Technology
- Elimination of bachelor's degrees in aquaculture, wood science, forest operations and forest ecosystem science, folding those fields of study into other majors in more cost-effective ways

During his presentation, Kennedy said that UMaine will continue to provide instruction and opportunity in certain areas where majors will be discontinued, including theatre, women's studies, German and Latin. At the same time, he said, "We must rededicate ourselves to our core principles and timely priorities." Kennedy also announced several changes related to UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health, currently comprised of the Dept. of Public Administration, part of the School of Economics, the School of Social Work and the Maine Business School. In addition to discontinuing the Dept. of Public Administration, Kennedy has reassigned this college's economists to a unified School of Economics in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture. He has also moved the School of Social Work to a new unit that will become a cornerstone of UMaine 150, leaving the Maine Business School as a stand-alone unit administrated by a dean who will report to the UMaine provost, just as college deans do. This will reduce the number of UMaine colleges from five to four, in addition to its Honors College. "I believe this structure, which is common at many universities similar to UMaine, will allow for an appropriate focus on business teaching, research and outreach, and will create excellent opportunities for good students for years to come," he said. The School of Social Work is slated to become part of a new interdisciplinary Division of Health and Biomedical Sciences, the largest and most ambitious element of UMaine 150. "(This division) will make an enormous difference for UMaine, capitalizing on core strengths, providing opportunity in areas where there's job growth and student interest, and creating new research collaborations in important fields, all while using existing resources," he said. In addition to the School of Social Work, Kennedy says the division will include the School of Nursing, the Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition, the Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders, and the Dept. of Molecular and Biomedical Science. It will be highlighted by connections to faculty and students in areas like biology, chemistry, biological engineering and other units. He compared it in structure and potential to UMaine's acclaimed School of Marine Sciences. Kennedy has assigned Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Susan Hunter and College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture Dean Edward Ashworth to fully develop a plan for this division, with their report due by the end of the calendar year. In addition to creating the Division of Health and Biomedical Sciences, the eight-point UMaine 150 initiative includes a series of moves that Kennedy says will help UMaine save resources and/or increase revenue:

- Development over the next eight months of a structure and implementation plan to create a unified, interdisciplinary program from elements of the Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, the Dept. of Spatial Information Science and Engineering and the Dept. of Computer Science to lead teaching, research and outreach in emerging computer-related fields
- More formal integration of the university's unique Innovation Engineering curriculum into the broader academic program through a new management structure that involves the deans of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering and the Maine Business School
- Modification of UMaine's General Education curriculum, the array of core courses required for students in any major; Kennedy encouraged the UMaine faculty to accelerate efforts to "develop a model program that will also

save money and simplify the path to a degree for our students" while providing the comprehensive, liberal arts-based education that he called "the hallmark of a university education"

- Formal review, by Vice President for Administration and Finance Janet Waldron, of a series of revenue-enhancement recommendations forwarded by APPWG, with the understanding that those with promise for bringing in more funds will be adopted; initiatives in this category include those related to enrollment, pricing and public-private partnerships

Kennedy also announced plans for "strategic, targeted investments" in three areas that he called a "down payment on UMaine's future:"

- Hiring lecturers in liberal arts disciplines of high student interest, with the understanding that those professors will be exemplary educators free from research expectations who will also teach in the Honors College, which he called "one of (UMaine's) greatest success stories of the past decade"
- Scholarship support earmarked for students enrolling in Division of Health and Biomedical Sciences degree programs
- Funding to "accelerate" the development of more online education programming so that UMaine can better respond to emerging student needs for convenient, accessible programs

Kennedy says he plans to fund these investments from some of the state money returned to the university budget by the governor and state legislature for the fiscal year beginning July 1. Those funds, approximately \$3 million, were deappropriated during the current fiscal year. Further details, including the text of Kennedy's Tuesday address, are available online.

Maine Natives Named UMaine Class of 2010 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

06 May 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Amy Smith of Lincolnville, Maine, is the valedictorian of the Class of 2010 at the University of Maine. She will graduate May 8 with a bachelor's degree in history. Matthew Bouchard of Lewiston, Maine, is the class salutatorian. Smith is a 1988 Camden-Rockport High School graduate who grew up in Lincolnville and enrolled at the University of Maine as a secondary education major. She took her first two years of University of Maine classes at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast, Maine, and, as a junior, changed her major to history. She also has a concentration in peace and conflict studies. "I opted for history because I've always been interested in it and it offered a good opportunity to go to grad school," says Smith, who is a member of Phi Beta Kappa honor society. "I love getting that broad perspective on the world." After being out of school for 18 years, the small, "low-key" classes at the Hutchinson Center provided a comfortable introduction to higher education for the first-generation college student. In her junior year, she started making the 120-mile round-trip commute from her home to Orono at least twice a week to attend classes. "Initially I worried that I would feel out of place being in classes with students much younger, most of them the same age as my kids, but I really enjoyed the classroom experience, hearing so many thoughts and ideas. And everyone was very accepting," Smith says. Among Smith's favorite classes were two annual Camden Conference courses, and those in history taught by professor Ngo Vinh Long on Japan and Vietnam. "I loved his teaching style," Smith says. "He's open in sharing his knowledge and experiences, and he gave us the freedom to explore the material and think for ourselves." Smith, a certified nursing assistant, worked in a long-term residential community center for five years and held other part-time jobs while raising three children -- Brittany, Andrew and Christopher. Her oldest child will graduate from Clark University in Worcester, Mass. later this month. In addition to being class salutatorian, Bouchard was named the Outstanding Graduating Student in UMaine's College of Business, Public Policy and Health. He will graduate with a bachelor's degree in business administration in finance, with an additional major in accounting. This summer, he is headed to New York City, where he will be an analyst with Nomura Securities International. The Lewiston High School graduate came to UMaine to pursue a degree in business administration like his father and two older brothers. "I grew into the role," Bouchard says. Learning to make money grow really interests me. That's why I knew finance was the road I wanted to go down and accounting would give me an edge." "I knew UMaine had a good program," he says. "The main things that drew me here were a good education at a good cost." Bouchard has been a Dean's List student throughout his years at UMaine. He received a Beta Gamma Sigma Scholarship in 2008 and a University of Maine Finance Award in 2009 for highest GPA. For three years, Bouchard has

been involved in SPIFFY, the University of Maine Foundation's Student Portfolio Investment Fund, serving as a sector head and as vice president. Among the highlights of his academic experience, Bouchard went to Russia as part of a travel-study course. He was active in intramural sports, including football, soccer and floor hockey. Bouchard attributes his academic success to the support of his family and the mentoring of his UMaine professors. He also took the advice of his brothers, David and Brian, who graduated from UMaine in 2003 and 1998, respectively. David is a research analyst with the hedge fund Axiom International Investors in Greenwich, Conn., and Brian is a partner at a consulting firm called Red Pine Advisors, New York City. "I was not a shining star in high school, but when I got to UMaine, I knew I had to make things happen to get a top job," says Bouchard. "My brothers' advice was to always look long term and know that the knowledge you get will propel you forward." Bouchard is the son of John and Marilyn Bouchard of Spring Hill, Fla.

UMaine Announces Top Annual Faculty Awards

07 May 2010

ORONO — Four highly accomplished University of Maine professors, each with long and distinguished records of service to the university and its students, were announced this afternoon as the winners of UMaine's annual top faculty awards. The awards are part of the annual Academic Honors Convocation, traditionally held the day before commencement. Today's event was at the Collins Center for the Arts. Paul Mayewski, director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, is the 2010 University of Maine Alumni Association Distinguished Maine Professor. A UMaine faculty member since 2000, Mayewski is recognized as one of the foremost experts in his field. He regularly provides commentary on climate change in the scientific and popular media, including two appearances on the CBS News program "60 Minutes." A true explorer, Mayewski is believed to have traversed more of Antarctica than any other person and he is the only person to have led two over-snow expeditions to the South Pole. Since 1968, he has led more than 45 scientific expeditions to some of the world's most remote regions, for the purpose of observing climate change in the natural environment. Mayewski has taken more than 300 students, including undergraduates, on these expeditions, providing them with invaluable educational and life experiences. He is a prolific scholar, having written more than 300 peer-reviewed publications and the acclaimed book, "The Ice Chronicles: The Quest to Understand Global Climate Change." He received the first Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research from the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research, he is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and of the American Geophysical Union, and he received the Lowell Thomas Medal from the Explorers' Club, among numerous honors and distinctions. Judith Pearse, a professor in the School of Engineering Technology, is the winner of the 2010 Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award. Pearse, who consistently receives high marks from student evaluations is also recognized by students as a helpful and trusted adviser. Since 2003, she has served as academic adviser for the school's Engineering Entrepreneurial Minor, helping students develop their interests in starting businesses or becoming involved in startup enterprises. Pearse is active in efforts, both at UMaine and on a larger scale, to encourage the study of engineering among women and members of minority populations. A UMaine graduate and licensed professional engineer, Pearse has been on the UMaine faculty since 2001. Paul "Jim" Roscoe, a professor of anthropology and cooperating professor in the Climate Change Institute, is the recipient of the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award. A 25-year UMaine professor, Roscoe's scholarship focuses on warfare, climate change, environmental policy, the evolution of states, incest taboos and gender roles. His 37 peer-reviewed journal articles include several in the four publications considered to be the leading international cultural anthropology journals, creating a publication record that rivals the top anthropologists in the field. He is also the author of 35 book chapters, and two edited volumes, and he is working on a new book on "The Origins of Warfare." Thomas Christensen of the UMaine School of Engineering Technology is winner of the Presidential Public Service Achievement Award. Christensen was cited for his extensive public service record that involves lending his technical expertise to community service activities, including the construction of a 300-foot wood bridge at a Winthrop church camp to help make that facility accessible to people with disabilities. But the primary activity cited in the nomination was Christensen's extraordinary efforts over many years to build and provide handmade toys to children at Maine hospitals and shelters. Christensen annually makes and donates more than 7,500 such toys, using excess wood from area manufacturing companies. He is a UMaine graduate and professional engineer who joined the UMaine faculty in 1976. These professors will all be recognized at UMaine's Saturday commencement.

University of Maine Graduates 1,700 in Class of 2010

09 May 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Maine governor John Baldacci challenged University of Maine graduates to "stand up for what is right" during his commencement address at Alford Arena today. Recalling the "turmoil" of the 1960s and the progress society has made since then, Baldacci pointed out that injustice remains and he urged the graduates to practice social consciousness. "There is still discrimination and hate -- intolerance for the things that make us different," he said. "And the struggle for equal rights and justice -- for gay rights, for immigrants or people of different faiths -- continues. These battles are sometimes fought in crowds and through protest, but they are won with one person at a time and one changed mind at a time. With every conversation and action, you can influence your family your friends and your community. Through small, individual acts of kindness, strength and moral courage, the world can be changed." Baldacci spoke at each of UMaine's two ceremonies. Graduates from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; the College of Business, Public Policy and Health; and the Division of Lifelong Learning participated in a ceremony that began at 10 a.m. Those earning degrees from the College of Engineering; the College of Education and Human Development; and the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture participated in a 2:30 p.m. commencement exercise. An estimated total of 14,000 people attended the ceremonies. A 1986 UMaine graduate, Baldacci recalled his "non-traditional" path to a college degree and told the audience that his college experience changed his life. "It was the University of Maine that opened my mind to a wider world, where I learned history and a broader point of view," he said. UMaine President Robert Kennedy presided over the ceremonies. Among the graduates were 49 people receiving doctoral degrees, 19 who earned certificates of advanced study and 452 receiving master's degrees. Prof. Paul Myewski, the director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, also addressed the graduates. Winner of the 2010 Distinguished Maine Professor Award for outstanding achievement by a UMaine faculty member, Myewski is an acclaimed climate scientist who has led more than 50 expeditions to some of the world's most remote locations. He drew on those experiences to craft a message about the "immense opportunities to be on the leading edge of change" that lie in front of the new graduates. "Wherever, whenever and however you can, consider how your actions will produce change," he said. "You have the opportunity to produce a world in which humans and the ecosystem will be healthier, in which the economy will be more stable and vibrant. A world based on the improved quality of life is in your hands." Prof. Judith Pearce from the UMaine School of Engineering Technology was recognized as winner of the 2010 Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award. Anthropology professor Paul "Jim" Roscoe was similarly recognized as the recipient of the 2010 Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award, and Prof. Thomas Christensen from the School of Engineering Technology was honored as the Presidential Public Service Achievement Award winner. The Class of 2010 valedictorian is Amy Marie Smith of Lincolnville, who earned a degree in history. Salutatorian Matthew Bouchard of Lewiston graduated with a business degree, majoring in both finance and accounting. Two distinguished and accomplished people with Maine ties were awarded honorary doctorates. Charles Cawley, the MBNA co-founder and generous benefactor who has supported numerous Maine causes, received a Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the morning ceremony. Cawley is also credited with driving significant Maine economic development by bringing MBNA operations to Maine in the 1990s. Ashok Jhunjhunwala, an electrical engineering pioneer and one of India's leading humanitarians, received a Doctor of Science degree in the afternoon. Jhunjhunwala was the first person to receive a UMaine electrical engineering Ph.D., in 1979. He is a professor at the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras, India. William Johnson of Saco, a 1956 UMaine graduate, brought greetings from the University of Maine Board of Trustees at both ceremonies. University of Maine Alumni Association Board of Directors chair Suzanne Hart, a member of the UMaine Class of 1968, welcomed the new graduates to the ranks of some 97,000 UMaine alumni.

UMaine to Host May 14 High School Wind Blade Challenge

10 May 2010

Contact: Roberta Laverty, (207) 581-2110 or Paul Williamson, Maine Composites Alliance, (207) 242-3521 ORONO -- High schools and vocational centers across Maine are set to participate on May 14 in the second Maine Wind Blade Challenge hosted by the University of Maine AEWCA Advanced Structures & Composites Center in partnership with the Maine Composites Alliance and the Maine Wind Industry Initiative. The statewide high school competition, first held last year, encourages students and teachers to explore the use and application of composite materials in expanding alternative energy industries. The May 14 event, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the UMaine Field House, is free and open to

the public. In addition to the competition, there will be interactive displays, exhibits by Maine composites companies, and talks by former Gov. Angus King and AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Director Habib Dagher. Some 225 high school students from throughout Maine have created 45 teams to design and test wind blades for efficiency. Each team is working with a kit of composite resources provided by the leading composite companies in the state. Students have had nine weeks to research wind blade design and performance. With help from Maine composite businesses, teams have produced their own wind blades to be tested at the Maine Wind Blade Challenge. Each team received a kit of composite materials from Harbor Technologies, Inc. and OCV Technical Fabrics, both of Brunswick, and Vectorply with help from Momentum Composites. The kits contain: three 18x3x6-inch [Polyisocyanurate](#) foam blocks, glass cloth and polyester resin. After the teams researched and completed individual blade designs, students under the direction of the composite manufacturers produced the blades. Maximum blade length cannot exceed 18 inches, and final blade turbine assembly cannot exceed 42 inches in diameter. Teams also must design a central hub to mount the individual blades to, and must prepare a presentation of their research and design process. Eighteen composite manufacturers and regional educational institutions with advanced composite manufacturing labs instructed the teams in proper closed vacuum resin infusion process. They included: The Landing School, Arundel; Foster Technology Center, Farmington; Maine Advanced Technology Center, Brunswick; Husson Boat School, Eastport; The AEWCA, Orono, Custom Composite Technologies, Bath; and Kenway Corporation, Augusta; Momentum Composites, Brunswick; Harbor Technologies, Brunswick; Peppin Associates, Greenville; Morris Yachts, Trenton; Journeys End Marina; Rockland, Union River Boat Co., Bucksport; John Williams Boat Co., MDI; West Bay Boats, Sullivan; and Saber Yachts, Casco. UMaine's AEWCA will measure the power output of each blade turbine design at a set wind speed. Teams also will be judged on their research and development approach. Awards will go to the top teams with highest combined power and process scores. The following schools are scheduled to participate: Brunswick High School, Bucksport High School, Deer Isle Stonington School, Ellsworth High School, Falmouth High School, Forest Hills School, Foster Technology Center, Greeley High School, Jay High School, Lewiston Regional Tech Center, Machias Memorial High School, Maine School of Science and Mathematics, Mattanawcook Academy, Mount Ararat High School, Old Town High School, Sumner Memorial High School, Valley Bingham High, Vinal Haven High School, Voc Tech Region 10.

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture Announces Excellence Awards

13 May 2010

Contact: Barbara Harrity, 581- 3211 ORONO - The University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture has made the following 2010 excellence awards to undergraduate, graduate and faculty members. Anjelica Hodgson, a scholar-athlete from Ontario, Canada, graduated with a degree in biochemistry, was named the Outstanding International Student. Robin Arnold of Orono, a nontraditional student in the Department of Earth Sciences who works full time as an administrative assistant at UMaine, received this year's Wallace C. and Janet S. Dunham Prize. Laura Wood, a graduating senior from Scarborough, Maine, an ecology and environmental sciences major and member of the Honors College, is this year's winner of the Frank B. and Charles S. Bickford Prize. Lauren Kolb, a Ph.D. student in ecology and environmental science, is the Norris Charles Clements Graduate Student Award winner. Viorel Popescu, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Wildlife Ecology, is the 2010 recipient of the George F. Dow Graduate Scholarship Fund award. Farrah Fatemi, a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental science, is the Fred Griffie Memorial Award recipient. Serena Gross, a master's student in ecology and environmental science, received the Outstanding Master's Degree Student Award. Kristin Wilson, a Ph.D. candidate in ecology and environmental science, is the Outstanding Ph.D. Student Award recipient. Jason Bolton, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition, has received the Outstanding Service Award. Nicolas Blouin, a Ph.D. candidate in marine biology, has received the Graduate Research Excellence Award. Frank Drummond, professor of insect ecology and insect pest management in the School of Biology & Ecology, has received the Outstanding Research Award. Sara Lindsay, a professor, School of Marine Sciences, received the Outstanding Teaching Award. Mary Susan Erich, professor in the Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences, has received the Agriculture Award. Jessica Leahy, professor of human dimensions and natural resources, School of Forest Resources, has received the G. Peirce and Florence Pitts-Webber Award for Outstanding Research in Forest Resources. Robert Lillieholm, E.L. professor of forest policy, School of Forest Resources, has received the G. Peirce and Florence Pitts-Webber Award for Outstanding Forestry Teaching.

Math Department Announces Scholarship, Award Winners

18 May 2010

Contact: George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The University of Maine Department of Mathematics and Statistics recently inducted new members into the mathematical honor society Pi Mu Epsilon, and recognized outstanding mathematics graduate students and undergraduate research assistants during its annual Mathematics Award and Recognition ceremony. The department also awarded more than \$17,000 in scholarships to math majors. Receiving scholarships were: Adam Duncan of Topsham and Joshua Scripture of Bangor, Prof. Warren S. Lucas Fund scholarships (top Putnam exam performance award); Ian Biggers of Naples, Maine, the John and Beverly Toole Award (president of Pi Mu Epsilon); Kendra Mooers of Bangor and Rachel Rier of Machias, Matthew and Ramona Highlands Mathematics Scholarships; and Ellen Moriarty of North Berwick, Mahadi Osman of Lewiston and Jeff Merckens of Palermo, George and Helen Weston Scholarships. The following graduating seniors received department book awards: Spencer Theriault, Tim Baker, William Babbitt, James Morse, Dan Farrar, Sangam Lama, Stacey Kendall, Nic Millett, Matt O'Connell, Robert Millios, Meg Nunnally, Ty Rigazio, Jon Janelle, Aaron Tanenbaum, Kathleen Lyons and Megan Long.

College of Education, Human Development Announces Outstanding Student, Faculty Awards

20 May 2010

Contact: Theresa McMannus, 581-2441 ORONO – The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development has recognized the work of the following students and faculty members with 2010 excellence awards.

- Jenna Ouellette, a scholar-athlete from Winnipeg, Manitoba, graduated with a degree in kinesiology and physical education, was named Outstanding International Student.
- Kathryn Blynn, a graduating senior from Stow, Maine, and an elementary education major, was named Outstanding Undergraduate Student.
- Mary Mahoney O'Neil, an Ed.D. graduate student in education, was the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.
- Ted Coladarci, professor of educational psychology and director of Institutional Studies, has received the Graduate Mentor Award.
- Gary Schilmoeller, associate professor, child development and family relations, was awarded the 2010 Outstanding Teaching Award.

Drug Mailback Diverts Ton of Unneeded Medications for Safe Disposal

24 May 2010

Contacts: Len Kaye, (207) 262-7922; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine – The first-in-the-nation pharmaceuticals mailback program launched in 2007 by the University of Maine's Center on Aging with federal funding and partnering agencies has officially ended as a pilot and continues for another two years as a program of the state. The program has prevented more than a ton of unused, unneeded or expired medications from entering water supplies and landfills, or falling into children's or criminals' hands. A final project report from the Center on Aging and the collaborating Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group (MBSG) was accepted May 18 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which provided \$150,000 to get the program started. The report summarizes the results of the Safe Medicine Disposal for ME pilot program. The mailback program has disposed of more than 2,300 pounds of drugs, representing 3,926 returned envelopes, according to the report. In addition, more than 380,000 pills were cataloged via the drug inventory process, 2,777 telephone calls were answered via the program helpline, 250 pounds of controlled drugs have been destroyed and the estimated value of the medicines collected was \$572,772. Often the medicine was expired or outdated and no longer useful. Nearly half (46 percent) of those surveyed reported that, in the absence of a take back program, they would have flushed drugs down the toilet. Another one third (37 percent) would have dumped left over prescriptions into their trash. Overwhelmingly, 77 percent of program survey respondents cited participation because, "it's best for the environment," the final report says. Flushing unwanted drugs down toilets mainlines them into the environment, according to Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging, and members of the MBSG. Medications do

not break down naturally and contaminate streams and water supplies, even after going through wastewater treatment. "The Maine Center on Aging's pilot demonstration project was a complete success," says Kathy Sykes, senior advisor to EPA's Aging Initiative. "For the first time, we have data on the types of medications that were returned, survey results on why medications were accumulated in households and what the fate of the unused medications would likely have been without this model program." Kaye says the program has been a service to both Maine's aging populations, who are often prescribed multiple medications for multiple irregularities, the environment and wildlife, which studies have shown can develop genetic defects because of pharmaceuticals getting into water bodies. "Safe Medicine Disposal for ME has succeeded as well as it has in large part because it was quickly endorsed by an exceedingly diverse group of stakeholders across the state - environmentalists, pharmacists, law and drug enforcement officials, health care professionals and Maine citizens," Kaye says. After the EPA startup funds were exhausted, the state took over funding in 2009 with a two-year commitment, through 2011, from the Maine Department of Public Safety and the Drug Enforcement Agency, using \$150,000 from the Fund for Healthy Maine. Kaye says efforts are being explored to find continued state funding resources after 2011. The final report was drafted by Kaye, Jennifer Crittenden, Center on Aging research associate and mailback program manager, and Dr. Steve Gressitt, medical director of the Maine Office of Adult Mental Health Services in the Department of Health and Human Services. Information about the program and collaborating partners is available by calling 1-866-637-9743, or click the link to Safe Medicine Disposal for ME Program under "[UMCoA News](#)" on the [Center on Aging website](#).

UMaine Sponsors Trip to Bangor City Forest and Orono Bog Boardwalk

27 May 2010

Contact: Amy Witt, 207-780-4205, amy.witt@maine.edu BANGOR, Me.—University of Maine Cooperative Extension will offer a tour of the Bangor City Forest and Orono Bog Boardwalk on Friday, June 11 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan Santerre of the Maine Forest Service, Bangor City Forester Brian Dugas and guides from the Orono Bog Boardwalk will lead the tours. The Bangor City Forest encompasses more than 680 acres of wildlife habitat and working forest. The bog itself encompasses 616 acres on the Bangor and Orono town lines and is home to hundreds of species of hardy yet fragile plants and some of Maine's rarest bird species. This event is free and open to the public, but pre-registration is requested. Those interested in registering should call the UMaine Extension office in Cumberland County at 800-287-1471 (in Maine) or 207-780-4205 before Monday, June 7. Participants are asked to bring their lunch to enjoy on site. This tour is an organized outing of the Maine Tree Club, an educational outreach program established by UMaine Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree State Arboretum. The club is designed to teach people, young and old, how to identify 50 Maine tree species over a two-year period; to teach participants how to best care for trees on their property and in their community; and to help people to better understand the importance of trees to Maine, their ecosystems and their economy.

August Program for High School Students Interested in Marine Sciences

27 May 2010

Contact: [Linda Healy](#) (207) 563-3146, ext. 200 WALPOLE -- A three-day August program at the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center (DMC), will give high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to learn about marine science academic and career options. Dive In! is a new overnight program at DMC, a UMaine marine science laboratory and outreach center that serves as research home base for scientists from around the world who depend on access to the Gulf of Maine for their scientific inquiry. Students in the Dive In! program will explore the marine environment on foot, by kayak and aboard the R/V Ira C., the DMC research vessel. Subject areas will include marine biology, oceanography, scientific diving, remote ocean sensing and aquaculture. Parents will be invited to an Aug. 11 afternoon seminar about UMaine's School of Marine Science and career options in related fields. Dive In! is free to accepted students, but transportation to the Walpole facility is not included. The program is open to students who will be high school juniors and seniors this fall, with preference given to those who will be seniors. The application deadline is June 30.

UMaine Professor Mayewski to Receive Prestigious Seligman Crystal

28 May 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Prof. Paul Mayewski, director of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, will travel to Norway this weekend to join an exclusive fraternity of esteemed climate scientists to receive the International Glaciological Society's (IGS) Seligman Crystal. Since the award was first presented in 1963 -- to its namesake, the late British glaciologist Gerald Seligman -- only 30 Seligman Crystals have been awarded, including just five in this century. The crystal, according to the IGS Web site, "shall be awarded from time to time to one who has made an outstanding scientific contribution to glaciology so that the subject is now enriched." A UMaine faculty member since 2000, Mayewski is UMaine's 2010 Distinguished Maine Professor, an annual honor accorded to a faculty member who has demonstrated excellence in all elements of the university's teaching, research and public service mission. Widely recognized as one of the world's foremost authorities in his field, Mayewski has earned numerous accolades during his distinguished career. A fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science, Mayewski was the first person to receive the Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research's Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research. He also received the Lowell Thomas Medal and a citation of merit from the Explorers Club. He is regularly asked to provide authoritative commentary on climate issues by local, national and international news organizations. He has been featured in numerous publications and broadcast reports, including two segments on the CBS news program "60 Minutes." Mayewski, who has led nearly 50 scientific expeditions to some of the world's most remote locations, is believed to have traversed more of Antarctica than any other explorer in history. He is a prolific scholar and a pioneer in the use of ice cores to study climate change through the recovery, analysis and interpretation of ice cores recovered from locations in Antarctica, Asia and the Arctic. "Paul's extraordinary achievements bring honor and distinction to the University of Maine," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This award further solidifies his stature as an affirmed leader in this critical field of study. Paul's students, his colleagues and our entire academic community all benefit from his exceptional contributions and share a sense of pride in this, his newest accomplishment."

Anthropologists Look to Early Evidence of Salmon for Global Warming Insight

01 Jun 2010

Contact: Brian Robinson, (207) 581-2174 ORONO - University of UMaine anthropologist Brian Robinson and colleagues are looking at archaeological evidence of Atlantic salmon to better understand the effects of global warming. The researchers found traces of Atlantic salmon from 400, 3,000 and 6,000 years ago, with the earliest periods being warmer than present and relatively wet. New England climate predictions are for increased year-round temperatures, greater late-summer evaporation and increased precipitation in the spring, winter and fall. The good news is that salmon did occur in Maine when the climate was warmer, but that also was a time when Maine rivers were free of dams and fish could go farther upstream to spawn in cooler waters. If climate projections are correct, the ability of the Atlantic salmon to survive and reproduce may depend on timing of migrations and availability of upstream locales with sufficient flow and low enough temperatures to allow reproduction and feeding, according to Robinson. The researchers' findings were published in the Journal of Archaeological Science.

2009 Folk Festival Brought \$8.7 Million to Greater Bangor

01 Jun 2010

Contact: Harold Daniel, 581- 1933; Heather McCarthy, (207) 992-2630 ORONO -- The three-day American Folk Festival last year contributed \$8.7 million to the Greater Bangor economy, in spite of heavy rain keeping crowds away on one of the days, according to an analysis by the University of Maine-based Center for Tourism Research and Outreach. A report co-authored by CenTRO director Harold Daniel of the Maine Business School, graduate assistant Bernardita Silva and research associate Marilynne Mann compiled results from nearly 1,700 12-page surveys of festival goers during the three-day music and cultural event, held annually on the Bangor waterfront. The analysis says almost 58,000 people made a total of 110,000 visits to last year's festival. Festival organizers estimated 168,000 attended the 2008 folk festival, generating an additional \$9.8 million for the Bangor area, according to a CenTRO study of the 2008 festival. The festival supported 101 jobs last year, compared with 121 jobs the previous year, according to the report by the authors and UMaine economist Todd Gabe, who assisted with the analysis. Other information from the surveys indicated that people who had attended previous folk festivals were older than first-time visitors, that 95 percent of the visitors said the festival met, exceeded or greatly exceeded their expectations, and that more than half of the people had

viewed the American Folk Festival website prior to attending. The surveys also showed the most popular types of music included Irish, Acadian, bluegrass, acoustic blues, New Orleans jazz and Cajun. The report also recommends several strategies for using the festival as a method of making visitors aware of other activities and attractions in the area. Festival Director Heather McCarthy says CenTRO's evaluation provided additional insight to the many aspects of the festival. "It's very helpful to have CenTRO's research behind our public information about the impact of the festival," she says. "CenTRO was able to quantify that impact much better than we had been able to do on our own." Daniel says the surveys show just how much the festival benefits the Bangor area and the region in multiple ways. "It does support jobs and it does support employment," he says. "You bring \$8.7 million into the area and that's a pretty significant shot in the arm." CenTRO did the survey as a non-commissioned service to festival organizers, according to Daniel.

Susan Bennett-Armistead Named Correll Professor in Early Literacy

02 Jun 2010

Contact: Susan Bennett-Armistead, 581-2418 ORONO -- The University of Maine College of Education and Human Development has awarded Susan Bennett-Armistead the Correll Professorship in Early Literacy. Bennett-Armistead is an assistant professor of literacy area programs and an authority on early literacy and young children's language and literacy acquisition. Her appointment was made possible the generosity of Alston D. "Pete" Correll and Ada Lee Correll of Atlanta, Georgia, who last fall provided a \$2 million gift to the University of Maine, where Pete Correll received two master's degrees in engineering, in 1966 and in 1967. "Thanks to the incredible generosity of Pete and Ada Lee Correll, we are making an important investment in a critical academic area," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "These funds will support Prof. Bennett-Armistead as she leads scholarly initiatives that will have a long-term, positive impact on UMaine and on our state." The Correll gift will also support other key UMaine areas. A search is underway for a Correll Presidential Chair in Energy, a leading national expert on wind and tidal energy development to join the UMaine engineering faculty. UMaine will also use funds to provide graduate fellowships in the Dept. of Ecology and Environmental Sciences and other academic areas, while also creating an unrestricted "excellence fund" to use in addressing immediate priorities. Bennett-Armistead plans to use the funds allocated with her appointment to further early literacy research at UMaine through student stipends and the creation of a new early literacy informational website, a statewide initiative to connect and inform early literacy professionals, parents and others about services, programs and opportunities in the field. Currently in development, the site should go live this month. "My intent is that the website will serve as sort of a touchstone for early literacy in the state," Bennett-Armistead says. "There are a number of stellar projects going on throughout the state but we're all sort of in silos and don't always know what others are doing. This generates possibilities for interaction." Bennett-Armistead wants to educate more parents and others about supporting the important cognitive development period of children between birth and age 5, and more specifically, birth to age 3, the most productive time for language development. The website will be one of several outreach efforts she is planning. Other initiatives will follow. "This very generously did not attach directives for how it could be used for advancing early literacy in Maine," says Bennett-Armistead, who has been on the UMaine faculty for four years. "We can use it for conferences, as seed money for research projects, and a small stipend for the person who maintains the website." Children who have the advantage of early exposure to language, including being read to, talked with and played with, have better language skills, says Bennett-Armistead. "That translates into more knowledge of the world, better comprehension of text and more knowledge of how language and text works," an advantage that matters both in the early years and throughout life, she says. During the Corrells' time in Maine, Ada Lee Correll taught elementary school in Old Town.

Study Examines Competing Interests in Maine Forests' Future

03 Jun 2010

Contact: Stephanie Welcomer, 581-1931 ORONO -- In more than a decade of public debate about the future of Maine's forestlands, sustainability has been a linchpin, with stakeholders arguing that it be either reinvented or restored, depending on their view of human-nature relationships. In a new study aimed at better understanding the environmental issues at stake, Stephanie Welcomer of the Maine Business School studied competing sustainability narratives published during an 11-year period (1994–2005) in support and opposition to proposed development of 3.2 million acres for a Maine Woods National Park and Preserve. The study highlights the centrality of sustainability for community

stakeholders debating their response to environmental challenges, says Welcomer, whose findings were recently published in the journal *Organization & Environment*. It is a portrait of sustainability “as it is lived and contested” in Maine, she says. “While providing different perspectives through their plots and actors, both narratives argue for an existing or desired recovered sustainable ecology, economy and society,” writes Welcomer, an associate professor of management at the University of Maine. With the 1994 proposal to establish a Maine Woods National Park and Preserve, two narratives were in play, both in pursuit of the North Woods version of the Garden of Eden. The park narrative focused on the recovery of pristine forest that has been harmed by industry and technology, while the working forest narrative centered on a “civilized,” managed resource, with technology and ownership structures providing jobs, recreation and healthy woodlands. “Narratives have great power to help people understand their world and guide their actions,” says Welcomer. “Examining and perhaps changing long-held dominant narratives is a key issue for communities and regions, as these narratives reflect understandings of environments, traditions, and practices that may no longer exist. “To be sustainable in a rapidly-changing world that has serious economic, social and environmental problems, reflecting on existing narratives and revising them are crucial processes for communities and regions to address the changes and issues they face,” she says.

UMaine Weed Researchers Dig for Ways to Help Small-Scale Farmers

04 Jun 2010

Contact: Eric Gallandt, 581-2933 ORONO -- For home gardeners, weeds are a nuisance, but for small-scale growers, they can threaten crops and profitability by sucking up time, labor and money. Though the number of such farmers has grown nationwide, weed-management technology hasn't kept up. UMaine associate professor of weed ecology and management Eric Gallandt and a team of university researchers have made it their mission to help small growers who plant diversified crops in Maine. They take a systemic approach to weed management by focusing on the ways in which growers address the seed bank--the seeds at the soil surface and the seeds incorporated in the soil. In the past, Gallandt has researched microbial decay of seeds in the soil, looking for conditions that may accelerate seed loss, but without much success. He's currently working with small farmers to find ways to manipulate the environment so that there are fewer weed seeds in the soil to begin with. Gallandt and his team also spent last summer researching the effectiveness of the Weed Master, an innovative Finnish machine that's best described as a small, human-powered tractor. The device combines the best aspects of hand tools--lightweight, small, portable--with the versatility and add-ons of a tractor. Gallandt wanted to know if a machine like this would benefit Maine farmers, and he received a grant from the Maine Agriculture Center to import and test a Weed Master and tools such as a flame weeder. A Summer 2010 UMaine Today magazine article has full details on the research and results. For those without access to such modern and expensive equipment, however, Gallandt says innovation is as important as ever. He says he and his research team will continue to work with farmers to find affordable, effective options--including modern interpretations of classic hand tools. Gallandt can be reached at (207) 581-2933.

ATV Club Study May Help Understand Merit of Voluntary Recreational Groups

08 Jun 2010

Contacts: Jessica Leahy, 581-2834; Marilynne Mann, 581-3110 ORONO -- The formation all-terrain vehicle (ATV) rider clubs throughout Maine has garnered social capital returns, including improved image and relations with private landowners, according to a recent study by two University of Maine researchers who focus on human-environment interactions. The study explored the purpose of such clubs, and the salient elements of their goals and activities that produce social value. The researchers applied a social-economic model of social capital to three ATV clubs in Maine to better understand the reasons for membership, details of club membership and goals, inter- and intra-club dynamics, community interactions and overall effectiveness of clubs. A 2003 ATV Task Force Report to Gov. John Baldacci cited a 136 percent increase in registered ATVs and a 574 percent increase in sales in the state from 1992-2002. According to the Maine Department of Conservation, ATV riding contributed \$230 million of direct and indirect economic activity in 2007. However, ATV use in Maine has been mired in conflicts between riders, landowners, other recreationists, communities and tourism development leaders. With 94 percent of Maine's land base in private ownership, trails are often located on private forestland. The study demonstrated that social capital is a useful tool in understanding the value of ATV clubs, and may be useful as a tool in realizing the merit of other recreation-based voluntary groups. It also

showed that ATV clubs have definable social value, including shared norms and ideology, and partnerships within communities. Such demonstrated return on investment is important for clubs that want to market themselves, improve their reputations and enhance their volunteer association, as well as provide documentation when seeking funding for allocations such as trail grants. The researchers — Marilynne Mann, a research associate in the Center for Tourism Research and Outreach (CenTRO) at U Maine, and Jessica Leahy, assistant professor of human dimensions of natural resources in the School of Forest Resources who is affiliated with the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests — published their findings in the journal *Environmental Management*.

UMaine Presidential Search Team Selected

08 Jun 2010

Contact: Tracy Bigney 973-3234; Peggy Markson 973-3245 BANGOR—The University of Maine System announced today the members of a search committee tasked with making recommendations for the next leader for the System’s land grant and sea grant institution located in Orono. Earlier this year, UMaine President Robert Kennedy announced his intention to step down from the position in June of 2011. “The search committee has a great responsibility. It is vital that there be a national search to identify and appoint a person with the vision and skills needed to lead UMaine at this crucial and challenging time,” stated Lyndel J. Wishcamper, chair of the UMS Board of Trustees. The search committee will be chaired by Eleanor “Ellie” Baker of Cape Elizabeth, who also serves on the UMS Board of Trustees and is a graduate of both the University of Maine and the University of Maine School of Law. The committee will provide recommendations to UMS Chancellor Richard L. Pattenau. “I’m delighted that Trustee Baker has agreed to chair the search, as an alumna and participant on advisory boards, she has an excellent sense of the university,” Pattenau said. “The University of Maine is at a critical juncture so we must be sure that we select an individual who understands the university and its importance to the state.” Baker noted, “UMaine is the System’s flagship university—and serves a statewide mission, so the president of this university plays an important role in Maine. Our search committee represents a broad cross-section of the UMaine community which is key to helping us make the best possible recommendations.” Baker added that, in addition to students, faculty, staff, and trustees, the committee also includes alums, a community member, and a member of UMaine’s board of visitors. Other search committee members are UMS trustees Charles O’ Leary of Orono and Michelle Hood of Bar Harbor; UMaine faculty members Harlan Onsrud, Robert Rice, and Stephanie Welcomer; UMaine staff Joseph Szelesta, Ranee Dow, and Jeffrey Hecker; UMaine students James Beaupre, Nathaniel Wildes, and Katie Foster (alternate); James Goff of the UMaine board of visitors; and John Rohman, community member. The search committee will commence its work at the end of the summer. A new leader is expected to be named before Kennedy leaves the position next year. About the University of Maine The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state’s largest public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor’s degree programs, 64 master’s degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit [here](#). About the University of Maine System Established in 1968, the University of Maine System is the state’s largest educational enterprise. It has an annual enrollment of more than 42,000 students and serves over 500,000 individuals annually through educational and cultural offerings. The University of Maine System features seven universities – some with multiple campuses – located across the state, as well as nine University College outreach centers, a law school, and an additional 75 interactive distance learning sites. For more information, visit [here](#).

Maine NEW Leadership Program Ends with Participant Graduation Today

08 Jun 2010

Contacts: Hon. Mary Cathcart, 944-1411 ORONO -- Two dozen college women participating in this year's Maine NEW Leadership Program June 3-8 will receive graduation certificates today following the day's final panel discussions at the University of Maine. The young women, from colleges and institutions throughout Maine, will be available to discuss their experiences and share personal stories. Afternoon panel Session 1, "Getting involved in your community," includes

the following speakers and panelists: moderator Sharon Barker, director, Women's Resource Center, UMaine; Tanya Pereira, economic development specialist, City of Brewer; Brenda Commander, chief, Maliseet Tribe; and Mary Dolan, The Jackson Laboratory. Session II, "Organizing a Campaign and Fundraising," includes moderator Amy Fried, Assoc. dean for research, College of Arts & Sciences, UMaine; Joanne D'Arcangelo, president, JDA Consulting; Julie O'Brien, former legislator and executive director, Maine Republican Party; Corey Hascall, executive director, A Rising Tide; and Nichi Farnham, Bangor City Councilor. For specific information about the curriculum and schedule of events, visit the website <http://mcspolicycenter.umaine.edu/?q=NEWleadership>.

Maine Compost School Offering Workshop for Schools, Public Institutions

08 Jun 2010

Contact: Mark Hutchinson, Cooperative Extension educator, (207) 832-0343 MONMOUTH -- The faculty of the award-winning Maine Compost School will present a two-day compost workshop for schools and public institutions August 17-18 at Highmoor Farm, a University of Maine Agricultural and Forestry Experimental Station in Monmouth, Maine. The workshop will focus on developing compost/recycling programs in public settings. Participants will learn through hands-on activities, group interaction, demonstrations and lectures. By the end of the workshop, participants will have experienced the science and art of composting, developed skills to initiate a school composting program, used and learned appropriate classroom activities for students, developed a network of school compost colleagues, and had an experience of a lifetime. Individuals who may find the workshops of particular interest include teachers and instructional staff, food service providers, custodial staff, administrators and school volunteers, according to the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Contact Mark Hutchinson, Cooperative Extension educator, at (207) 832-0343 or e-mail mhutch@maine.edu for additional information. Contact Jeanne Pipicello, 1-800-244-2104 or email (Jeanne.Pipicello@maine.edu) for registration details and directions.

Maine Grass Farmers Network to Host Thorndike Pasture Walk June 10

08 Jun 2010

Contact: UMaine Cooperative Extension, 1-800-287-1426 THORNDIKE -- The Maine Grass Farmers Network is hosting a series of pasture walks during the summer and fall of 2010, the first of which is set for Thursday, June 10 at the farm of Simon Stoll on the Palmer Road in Thorndike. The pasture walk will begin at 5 p.m. The farm is located near the intersections of Ward Hill, Reynolds and the Palmer roads. The Stolls purchased the dairy farm in 2008 and converted the farm to a pasture-based dairy. New seedings, lanes and fencing have made the farm a model for pasture-based dairy systems. The Stolls also have converted their barn to a composted bedded pack. Contact the University of Maine Cooperative Extension at 1-800-287-1426 for additional information or to sign up. Future pasture walks include the Martin Kilby Farm in Benedicta July 17, the Harris Farm in Dayton July 18 and the Sinisi Farm in Durham August 15. The Maine Grass Farmers Network is co-sponsoring these pasture walks with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Peanut-Allergy Research Suggests Schools Need Reasonable Policies

09 Jun 2010

Contact: Sid Mitchell, (207) 581-3435 ORONO -- To better protect students with potentially life-threatening peanut allergies, schools should implement comprehensive food allergy action plans that include age-appropriate accommodations, personnel training and communication with parents, according to two education researchers. Dianne Hoff at the University of West Georgia, who conducts research on the social/political context of schooling, and Sid Mitchell at the University of Maine, who specializes in educational psychology, studied the practical, legal and psychological issues related to the peanut allergy controversy. Many schools are being pressured to become peanut-free zones — a strategy medical and legal experts say is not a good idea. The researchers conducted literature and law reviews, and interviewed doctors, school superintendents and parents of children with and without peanut allergies. They concluded that food allergy action plans are legally defensible, realistic approaches for schools that support students with allergies in ways that protect them from harm and promote their independence. Hoff and Mitchell say that

creating peanut-free schools would be impractical if not nearly impossible. Instead, for children in grades K–3 who may not be able to analyze what is in the food they eat or are exposed to, the researchers suggest schools consider peanut-free classrooms and peanut-free sections of cafeterias or snack areas. Teachers, parents and administrators should empower students with allergies to take a central role in planning classroom accommodations, which also will help educate others to become more accepting and supportive of other students' needs. Just as students with medical conditions like diabetes are taught to self-sufficiently manage their conditions, so too should students with food allergies, Hoff and Mitchell suggest. "By the upper grades (9-12), students are really in training for postsecondary experiences and for life," according to the researchers, whose findings were published in the April issue of Phi Delta Kappan. "Keeping these students in peanut-free bubble is a disservice to them because it wouldn't mirror the world they're preparing to face."

Energy Secretary Steven Chu to Visit UMaine Deepwater Offshore Wind R&D Facility Monday

10 Jun 2010

Contact: [Joe Carr](#) at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu will tour the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center on Monday June 14. During his visit, Chu will learn more about UMaine's innovative research and development activity related to deepwater offshore wind power. Maine voters signaled their support of that technology development work on Tuesday when they approved a bond providing \$11 million to help a UMaine-led consortium develop a testing site off Monhegan Island. "I believe that deepwater, offshore wind has enormous potential to help us meet our nation's electricity needs and to reduce our dependence on foreign oil. But, it also presents an exciting opportunity for the State of Maine to create thousands of much-needed, good-paying 'green jobs,'" says Sen. Susan Collins, who will also participate in Monday's event. "The University of Maine is truly leading the way, and I am delighted that Secretary Chu has accepted my invitation to visit and learn more about the 10-year plan that it and the State of Maine have developed for the design, testing, and deployment of floating deepwater wind turbine platforms." Gov. John Baldacci, U.S. Rep. Michael Michaud and U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree are also expected to attend on Monday. Prof. Habib Dagher, the center's director, will lead a laboratory tour beginning at 11:15 a.m. Over the course of 45 minutes, Dagher and his colleagues will provide detailed information about all the project elements, including those related to fabrication, design, environmental considerations and regulatory issues. News photographers will have the opportunity to shoot photos and video during that tour. There will be a brief media availability immediately following the tour of the lab. Chu, who became Secretary of Energy at the beginning of the Obama administration, earned the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2007. At the time of his appointment, Chu was a University of California Berkeley professor in physics and molecular biology, also serving as director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. He becomes the fifth member of the president's cabinet to visit UMaine in the past year, following Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, Attorney General Eric Holder and Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke.

NASA Grant Enabling Research on Inflatable Structures

10 Jun 2010

Contact: Ali Abedi, 581-2231 ORONO -- The University of Maine has received a two-year NASA grant to create an interdisciplinary research and education program focused on a wireless system to detect leaks in inflatable structures, such as lunar habitats, and domes and bridges used in defense and civilian situations. UMaine Professor Ali Abedi has received more than \$252,000, including matching funds from the Maine Economic Improvement Fund, for the project that started in May and is expected to employ one doctoral candidate and 10 undergraduates. Various science and engineering fields are part of the project, including wireless communications theory, electronic chip design and microelectromechanical systems (MEMS). MEMS accelerometers will detect impacts on the inflatable structure and assist an intelligent chip in detecting leaks. Three investigators from Maine institutions — UMaine, University of Southern Maine and Jackson Laboratory — will work with NASA's Langley Research Center in Virginia to create the research and education program.

Extension Sewing Program Maintains Cultural Thread for East African Children

11 Jun 2010

Contact: Kristy Ouellette, 353-5550 LEWISTON -- Twelve-year-old Naima Arte is making a traditional East African black dress and Naima Odowa, 14, has cut and sewn a black and white scarf with embroidered red hearts. Making clothes with traditional colors “is who we are,” says Odowa, who immigrated to the United States from Kenya with her family when she was 2. “My mom and dad like it. They want me to make more stuff. In some ways, it makes me feel closer to my culture.” That emphasis on handmade clothing and household furnishings in East African and Somali cultures was the impetus for Sew Fabulous, an after-school 4-H club offered in Lewiston, Maine, by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. In its first year, more than 20 girls are participating. Sew Fabulous teaches more than just sewing and knitting, says program creator Kristy Ouellette, an Extension educator in 4-H youth and family development in the Androscoggin-Sagadahoc counties. It also engenders mentoring, camaraderie and self-expression. The program started in March 2009 with donated bolts of cloth, and \$1,000 from the Wal-Mart Distribution Center Community Fund and \$650 from the Auburn-Lewiston Rotary Breakfast Club to buy sewing machines. It is led by up to five community volunteers with sewing and knitting skills. Ouellette and AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer Cassie Defillipo, who works with youth and adults at the Lewiston Housing Authority development, oversee the program. They also meet regularly with the girls to talk about life skills, aspirations and a future that includes college, according to Ouellette.

DeepCwind Consortium Launches New Informational Website

11 Jun 2010

Contact: Elizabeth Viselli, Associate Program Manager, (207) 581-2831 ORONO, Maine--The University of Maine AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center has designed and launched a new website to provide current information regarding the DeepCwind Consortium. It can be viewed at <http://www.deepcwind.org>. Website visitors can browse information about all aspects of the consortium--research initiative, view available opportunities for students and read about current events in the state--deepwater offshore wind energy development. Website guests can also navigate to the DeepCwind Consortium [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages as well as subscribe to email updates or [donate in support of research at AEWCA](#). The Department of Energy awarded the University of Maine \$7.1 million dollars to fund the DeepCwind Consortium National Research Program. The University of Maine-led DeepCwind Consortium consists of over 30 members including academic institutions, industry leaders, utility companies and non-profit organizations. AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites is an award-winning research facility at the University of Maine. In the past year it has been awarded nearly \$40 million in funding to pursue research in deepwater offshore wind energy technology. AEWCA Director Dr. Habib Dagher is the Principal Investigator of the DeepCwind Consortium.

Extension Sewing Program Maintains Cultural Thread for East African Children

14 Jun 2010

Contact: Kristy Ouellette, 353-5550 LEWISTON -- Twelve-year-old Naima Arte is making a traditional East African black dress and Naima Odowa, 14, has cut and sewn a black and white scarf with embroidered red hearts. Making clothes with traditional colors “is who we are,” says Odowa, who immigrated to the United States from Kenya with her family when she was 2. “My mom and dad like it. They want me to make more stuff. In some ways, it makes me feel closer to my culture.” That emphasis on handmade clothing and household furnishings in East African and Somali cultures was the impetus for Sew Fabulous, an after-school 4-H club offered in Lewiston, Maine, by University of Maine Cooperative Extension. In its first year, more than 20 girls are participating. Sew Fabulous teaches more than just sewing and knitting, says program creator Kristy Ouellette, an Extension educator in 4-H youth and family development in the Androscoggin-Sagadahoc counties. It also engenders mentoring, camaraderie and self-expression. The program started in March 2009 with donated bolts of cloth, and \$1,000 from the Wal-Mart Distribution Center Community Fund and \$650 from the Auburn-Lewiston Rotary Breakfast Club to buy sewing machines. It is led by up to five community volunteers with sewing and knitting skills. Ouellette and AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer Cassie Defillipo, who works with youth and adults at the Lewiston Housing Authority development, oversee the program. They also meet regularly with the girls to talk about life skills, aspirations and a future that includes college, according to Ouellette.

Researchers Making "Bottom Up" Assessment of Ocean Fisheries

14 Jun 2010

Contact: James Wilson, 581-4368 ORONO -- A team of University of Maine researchers led by marine scientist James Wilson is studying the relationship among competition, regulation and conservation in the fishing industry. The research is integrating cutting-edge computer modeling, and fishermen's and scientists' knowledge of three very different fisheries — lobster, sea urchins and groundfish. The purpose is to develop a rigorous bottom-up, rather than the usual top-down, understanding of the conservation problem. The project is funded by an approximately \$1 million grant from the National Science Foundation. Researchers are looking at the way competition and cooperation among fishermen lead to private incentives and informal social arrangements that are — or aren't — consistent with conservation of the resource. These informal arrangements and incentives are important because they help explain how private interests reinforce or impair ongoing resource management and, consequently, the sustainability of coupled human and natural systems. The broad hypothesis behind the research is that fishermen's incentives, and the informal social structure that emerges from competitive and cooperative interactions, reflect the biological and physical circumstances of the species being fished. Other members of the research team include Jim Acheson, Yong Chen, Teresa Johnson, Robert Steneck and Liying Yan, all of the UMaine School of Marine Sciences.

Researcher Examines Metropolitan Co-Existence between Humans, Wildlife

16 Jun 2010

Contact: Catherine Burns, 581-2895 ORONO -- With urbanization increasing worldwide, how do we better plan development to ensure that both humans and animals coexist in the best way possible? University of Maine Research Assistant Professor Catherine Burns is exploring the question in and around New York City, which is home to more than 250 bird species, raccoons, rabbits, deer, bats, foxes, mice, frogs, turtles and many other species, including 8.2 million humans. In collaboration with colleagues at the City University of New York, WildMetro (where Burns is a research affiliate) and Yale University, Burns is leading Earthwatch-funded expeditions of citizen scientists, student interns and project staff to survey mammals, birds, amphibians and plants in the metropolitan area. The goal is to identify factors that influence the distribution and abundance of animals and plants along an urbanization gradient ranging from protected areas in downtown Manhattan to those up to 100 miles away in pristine northeastern hardwood forests. The study also will assess threshold levels of urbanization beyond which particular species cannot persist, and identify common rules that govern patterns of biodiversity across taxonomic groups living in urban regions. Now in its third and final season, the project is expected to conclude in the fall. The findings could inform regional strategies for promoting biodiversity, not only in New York, but also in other urban areas.

UMaine Researcher Working to Improve Early Cancer Detection

16 Jun 2010

Contact: Michael Mason, 581-2344 ORONO -- A recent discovery by a University of Maine engineering professor and his collaborators is expected to make it easier for doctors to find cancerous tumors and start treatment in the early stages of the disease when it can be most effective. Working with a \$78,000 grant from the Maine Cancer Foundation, Associate Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering Michael Mason and his collaborator, Dr. Peter Allen at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York, are working to improve cancer detection using engineered bioconjugates. The researchers are developing a new class of cancer-identifying agents to detect cancerous tumors in the pancreas and liver. The agents are based on chemically modified noble metal nanoparticles labeled with bioactive molecules. Bioactive molecules are antibodies against cancer markers found on the surface of cancer cells. These nontoxic particles can seek out and attach to cancer cells that are difficult to distinguish from healthy tissue by imaging studies, such as MRI or CT scans. Though only a few billionths of a meter across, they generate very strong X-ray contrast, effectively making the cancer cells visible to doctors. The project has the potential to vastly improve early detection of many types of cancer. In addition to improved images, these particles could replace current iodine-based contrasting agents to which many patients respond negatively, says Mason. Although the technology is still a few years away from being used by medical professionals, researchers have successfully tested the detection process in mice.

UMaine Senior Learns about Microfinance, Rural Poor in Bangladesh

17 Jun 2010

Contact: 207-659-1880 or rachathaway@hotmail.com ORONO -- Last summer, in a country where nearly half the population of 135 million lives in poverty, Rachel Hathaway solidified her commitment to a career devoted to human rights advocacy. She plans to do it using microfinance. "When the five senses are engaged and you see children forced to beg in the streets, when you see women who are desperate to work but are told by their husbands and society they aren't capable, when these women watch their children starve, you realize the injustice," says Hathaway, a University of Maine senior who spent 10 weeks in Bangladesh last summer as an intern with Grameen Bank. "The challenges of this country can't be understood from a big business perspective or textbooks. That's why I wish more people could go to these countries to see what's happening." Hathaway went to Grameen Bank to learn from the experts in microfinance, a strategy designed to help the poor out of poverty, typically by providing microcredit or small loans to the rural poor in developing countries. She came away from the experience inspired by people's stories of the difference such a financial strategy can make and determined to help replicate the model elsewhere in the Third World. "In times of financial crisis and bad banks, it's heartening to hear of bankers to the poor, the idea of a social agenda for people to work toward, that it's not about greed but how to improve the lives we're touching," says Hathaway, a financial economics and business administration major who grew up in Millinocket, Maine. "I believe we all have this obligation to be community members locally and globally. I hope to turn it into my life's work in human rights advocacy." Hathaway was one of 107 students who came from around the world to learn from the pioneers in microfinance last summer. Her internship with Grameen Trust, which has more than 8 million borrowers and more than 2,500 branches, involved field visits, assignments, and a week with a newly established branch in Netrokona. She also consulted for four weeks on two projects in India. As part of her internship, Hathaway traveled with a branch manager in an effort to better understand the challenging external environment — from political corruption and lack of modern conveniences like running water and electricity to extreme weather such as monsoon season that required visits by boat to borrowers in the villages. A UMaine Today magazine article has additional information and details about Hathaway's experiences.

State Funding Supports Development of Environmentally Friendly Insulation

21 Jun 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- A June 14 Maine Technology Institute (MTI) awarded of \$99,780 will help provide momentum for efforts by a South Bristol company to develop a new building insulation fiber from recycled paper and paperboard. The University of Maine's Process Development Center (PDC) received the MTI grant for this project, a collaborative effort involving Green Comfort Safe Inc. in South Bristol along with Zeomatrix, an Orono-based product development company that engineers environmentally friendly products. Richard Munson of South Bristol is Green Comfort Safe's board chair. He says the MTI grant is another important step toward commercialization of Celluborate, the patent pending cellulose insulation that his company is developing as part of this partnership. Specifically, the MTI grant will fund initial product certification testing at the UMaine PDC, which has a 25-year history of working with private and public technology developers, mostly in the forest products industry. "The Process Development Center allows businesses to leverage their resources in ways that can help them get to market effectively and quickly," says Michael Bilodeau, the center's director. "With state support and our business partners, we are anxious to continue the development Celluborate technology, which has significant potential as a safe and efficient insulation product." More information is at the [Green Comfort Safe website](#).

Pro Sports Applying New Strategies to Enhance Image

21 Jun 2010

Contact: John Mahon, (207) 581-1968 ORONO -- Professional sports franchises and teams are increasingly taking a page from the business community's playbook and winning in the image game, according to two business management researchers at Boston College and the University of Maine. In the last decade, corporations worldwide have used Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activity as a business strategy, shifting from a shareholder to stakeholder mindset, embracing social responsibility and volunteerism, and establishing codes of ethics and "do-good" norms. So too have professional sports franchises, all in an effort to improve their image in light of public relations issues — from steroid use to player misconduct off the field and court. However, the position of athletics in today's culture provides

sports organizations with unique features — from youth appeal and mass media attention to positive health benefits — that enable them to employ CSR more effectively than traditional corporations, according to Richard McGowan of Boston College's Carroll School of Management and John Mahon of the Maine Business School. "Fans often view professional athletes and owners as being extremely wealthy and are disconnected from them on many levels. Using CSR can help bridge the widening gap between players and fans," according to McGowan and Mahon in a research paper cited last fall for outstanding achievement by the Academy of Business Disciplines. The researchers studied 92 teams in the National Basketball Association, National Football League and Major League Baseball from 2005-07 to identify the primary factors that influence a sports franchise's CSR involvement. Their analysis looked at individual teams' charitable foundations, as well as league-wide initiatives, to quantitatively measure revenues, grants distributed and net assets. "The better the NBA can influence the way fans view their players, the more successful the league will be," according to McGowan and Mahon. Additional details from the research are included in a Spring 2010 UMaine Today magazine article.

UMaine Joins International Toxic Algal Detection Initiative

23 Jun 2010

Contact: Laurie Connell, (207) 581- 2470; Rosemary Smith, (207) 581-3361 ORONO -- The University of Maine recently became one of the first to receive an international research partnership award, designed to link U.S. scientists and engineers with counterparts in Ireland to study environmental and seafood contaminants. The BEACONS (biosafety for environmental contaminants using novel sensors) project aims to develop strategies for isolating and detecting algal toxins of significant concern as environmental and food contaminants. The project has received more than \$1 million in joint funding from the Science Foundation Ireland, Invest Northern Ireland Department for Employment and Learning, and the National Science Foundation. UMaine is receiving about a third of the funding for its portion of the project. Research partners in the project include UMaine marine researcher Laurie Connell and electrical engineer Rosemary Smith, along with scientists from Dublin City and Queens universities, and NOAA.

Construction Scheduled for Sebago Road

23 Jun 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Work on UMaine's Sebago Road will begin on Thursday, June 24. The road will be closed to traffic until 3 p.m. each day through July 15. Sebago is the road that cuts between Hitchner Hall and the back of Memorial Union/Fogler Library. Grove Street Extension will be accessible via Portage Road. A UMaine map is online at <http://www.umaine.edu/locator/>. The construction project is necessary to create compliance with state regulations that prohibit head-in parking spaces on roadways. The current parking spots on the south (Merrill Hall) side of Sebago Road will be replaced with a sidewalk continuing to Hitchner Hall. Three handicap parking spaces, parallel to the road, will be created on the north (Cyrus Pavilion Theatre) side.

Examining Sexual Harassment, Younger Workers

23 Jun 2010

Contact: Amy Blackstone, 581-2392 ORONO -- Workplace experiences of adolescents and those in their early 20s differ sharply from those of older workers, and the same can be said about generational perceptions of sexual harassment, according to research by a University of Maine sociologist. Since 2000, UMaine sociologist Amy Blackstone and University of Minnesota sociologist Christopher Uggen have studied how age affects workers' perceptions of sexual harassment. They are among the first researchers to consider the experience of young workers in this way. "These workers are vulnerable to sexual harassment, but most prior research excludes them. The dearth of research on adolescents and those in their early 20s might lead people to assume that sexual harassment isn't a problem for young people but that would be the wrong conclusion to draw," says Blackstone, an associate professor of sociology whose research interests include gender, social movements, work and families. Historically, most sexual harassment research has centered on mid-career workers, mainly women. That continues to be the case, but Blackstone says such a narrow focus only tells part of the story. Through their research, based on survey and interview data from Minnesota's

annual Youth Development Study and the national General Social Survey, Blackstone, Uggen and their team give a broader view of sexual harassment across all ages and both genders. It is her hope that this entire body of research will provide greater understanding about the underlying cultural and legal issues surrounding sexual harassment and lead to better training and prevention efforts in the future. A recent article in UMaine Today magazine has more information on Blackstone's research findings.

Researcher Confirms Blueberries Can Improve Cardiovascular Health

24 Jun 2010

Contact: Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, (207) 581-3124; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine -- Nutritionists have long known that one of Maine's most prized and prolific natural resources, the wild blueberry, provides health benefits that we're still just learning about. The Wild Blueberry Association of North America calls the Maine blueberry "nature's antioxidant superfruit," and cites its ability to reduce the risks for some of the nation's leading killers and cripples — heart disease, hypertension, stroke and Alzheimer's disease. Ongoing research by University of Maine professor of clinical nutrition Dorothy Klimis-Zacas and colleagues focuses on the potential of blueberries to protect our blood vessels from degenerative conditions. A leading authority on the health benefits of wild blueberries, Klimis-Zacas has broken new ground in documenting that a wild blueberry-enriched diet can protect the integrity of a thin but vital layer of cells lining the interior of blood vessels that controls constriction or dilation of arteries in the circulatory system. The endothelium must remain flexible to properly accommodate the body's need for increased blood flow and oxygen, or the need to restrict blood flow at times. Damage by free radicals or disease can cause the endothelium to malfunction and constrict too often or too much, increasing blood pressure and pulse, which can be precursors for cardiovascular disease. In other recent studies with the University of Patras in Greece, Klimis-Zacas found that a blueberry-enriched diet also improves cognitive performance in mice. Mice fed blueberries prior to testing fared better in learning skills and memory than mice fed a control, they reported in an article in the Journal of Behavioural Brain Research last year. Klimis-Zacas and collaborators at the University of Milan in Italy also are exploring connections between wild blueberries and more than a dozen markers of potential health threats. They have found that the high levels of antioxidants such as anthocyanins, the blue pigment coloring blueberries, introduced through regular consumption of wild blueberries or blueberry extracts, can protect DNA molecules and reduce both environmental and endogenous damage by approximately 30 percent. Additional details about Klimis-Zacas and her research is available in a recent UMaine Today magazine article.

Popular Course Explores the Fundamentals of Forensics

25 Jun 2010

Contact: Irv Kornfield, 581-2548 ORONO -- Decomposing carcasses. Sexual assault. Intoxication. The story lines sound like they're straight out of a prime-time television crime drama, but for students in UMaine professor Irv Kornfield's Introduction to Forensics course, they are the basis for scientific inquiry. Since its inception in fall 2003, Kornfield's course has opened students' eyes to the world of forensics and, ultimately, made them better-informed citizens. "I want them to have a robust understanding of the legal system, of where laws come from, how they're enforced and what the penalties are," says Kornfield, who is joined in the class by guest lecturers talking about topics related to criminal investigations. "I also want them to appreciate the nature of science and the way scientists pose and answer questions. This applies to forensics as much as other [scientific] disciplines." With the fall course continuously at full enrollment of 180 students, Kornfield decided to take the class online in order to offer it to those who are interested in the topic, but unable to enroll during the regularly scheduled time. Thirty-seven students are taking the web-based course this summer. Instead of mock crime-scenes with fake blood, the web-based course uses virtual crime scenes, presenting students with a novel approach to applying their knowledge. Understanding the important, complex role of DNA is a crux of the course. Kornfield shows students the cells in human blood — often his own — from which forensic scientists extract the genetic material. He also uses an animal carcass to teach about succession — the orderly appearance of certain species. The introductory forensics class is based on ongoing forensic work in UMaine's Molecular Forensics Laboratory. Started by Kornfield in 1997, the lab not only provides hands-on experience for students, but also processes about 20 cases annually for the Maine Warden Service. As a result of conducting such casework, Kornfield and undergraduate and graduate students in his lab have served as expert witnesses in court. An

article in *UMaine Today* magazine includes more information about Kornfield's class.

At Sen. Collins' Urging, Administration Commits \$20 Million for Deepwater Offshore Wind

25 Jun 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- The U.S. Department of Energy has announced that it will invest an additional \$20 million to develop and test deepwater offshore wind technologies. University of Maine Prof. Habib Dagher credits Sen. Susan Collins' efforts promote the University of Maine's pioneering work in this technology development, including her work to arrange a June 14 visit to UMaine by Energy Secretary Chu. The Department of Energy letter to Sen. Collins announcing the \$20 million commitment calls Chu's visit "informative and inspiring." Collins has said she will work through the Congressional appropriations process to "ensure that the lion's share of these funds go to UMaine." She is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. "We are most pleased by this announcement and we are grateful for the support of both Secretary Chu and Sen. Collins," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Momentum for deepwater offshore wind energy R&D continues to grow, with UMaine at the forefront of this important work. We are excited about the incredible potential associated with harnessing this resource to create clean energy and clean jobs for Maine while also fostering opportunities for UMaine students both now and in the years to come." "This commitment is critical to the success of what is perhaps our state's most exciting and promising opportunity to lower energy costs and create thousands of good jobs – and we owe this opportunity to Sen. Collins, whose tenacity knows no bounds," says Dagher, who also serves as principal investigator of DeepCwind Consortium, a broad-based collaborative involving academic institutions, industry leaders, utility companies and non-profit organizations. "This unprecedented level of federal support for a Maine economic development project also demonstrates the importance of deepwater wind to satisfying our nation's energy demands in the future." Collins and the university have previously secured some \$25 million in federal funding to support deepwater offshore wind initiatives, in addition to an \$11 million bond approved by Maine voters earlier this month and \$5 million from the Maine Technology Asset Fund in 2009. The program aims to develop floating deepwater offshore wind turbines using both the UMaine Deepwater Offshore Wind Test Site off Monhegan Island and the Offshore Wind Laboratory, an expansion to UMaine's AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center. That facility is due for completion in the spring of next year. Maine plans to construct a five gigawatt, \$20 billion network of floating offshore wind farms to contribute to the northeast U.S. renewable energy needs. Maine has deep waters near its shores and 89 percent of Maine's 149 gigawatt offshore wind research is located there. The state also offers extensive maritime industry infrastructure and proximity to one of the largest energy markets in the country. "With the university, Maine's business community, the state and the federal government all committed to making Maine the nation's deepwater wind prototype, we will succeed," Collins says. "And that success will bring jobs to Maine and clean, renewable power to our homes – and homes throughout New England."

Food Science Professor Defends the Healthy Potato

28 Jun 2010

Contact: Mary Ellen Camire, (207) 581-1627; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- As Maine's congressional delegation and the Maine Potato Board lobby the USDA to rescind its recent decision to exclude the potato from eligible fruits and vegetables available to WIC program participants, a UMaine food science and human nutrition professor is offering science-based evidence in support of potatoes as an inexpensive, healthy food choice. Potato researcher and professor Mary Ellen Camire suspects those who think the potato unhealthy may be focusing on the oil-fried French fries and potato chips rather than boiled, baked or microwaved potato as a dietary staple. "I think that many people consider potatoes to be fattening, but there are so many healthful ways to prepare them, not just fried," she says. Potatoes are particularly high in vitamin C and are a good source of several B vitamins and potassium, she says. The skins provide substantial dietary fiber and many compounds in potatoes, particularly pigmented colored potatoes, contribute to antioxidant activity. Potatoes, she argued in a recent paper on the health benefits of the maligned tuber for journal *Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition*, are a carbohydrate-rich, energy-providing food with little fat. Potato protein content is fairly low but has an excellent biological value of 90-100. The justification for banning potatoes from the Women, Children and Infants program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, "just isn't there," says Camire, who extensively researches potatoes and continues nutritional evaluation of potato varieties with UMaine

Cooperative Extension specialists. "I understand why people got confused and excluded potatoes, but it's not founded in scientific evidence." Potatoes are grown around the world and are a viable, nutritional and inexpensive food, particularly for underprivileged people, she says. "There aren't many people who don't like potatoes," she says. "Buying fresh potatoes at farmers markets is a great way to feed a family cheaply while supporting local farmers."

Cut the Cost of Baby Food by Making It at Home

28 Jun 2010

Contact: Kate Yerxa, (207) 581-3109 ORONO -- Think of green baby food, and pureed peas or string beans come to mind. But when Kate Yerxa was asked how people could save money by making their own baby food, the green she saw was dollars. Yerxa, the statewide educator for nutrition and physical activity at University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and her colleagues found significant savings when they computed unit prices per pound for pre-made food and compared them with the cost of fresh organic or canned ingredients for homemade baby food. For example, parents who prepare their own green beans for baby food rather than buy the jarred variety save an average of \$60 in six months. Those who make meat-based baby food save even more. A [fact sheet](#) on the subject is one of UMaine Extension's most popular publications. Price isn't the only reason why people want to make their own baby food, Yerxa says. It also can be healthier. "Because you're making your own baby food, you'll know exactly what's going into it," she says. "Some commercially prepared baby foods have a lot of fillers." UMaine Extension's recipes call for healthy thickeners and thinners, including breast milk, formula and water. Pureeing can be done with a blender, fork, strainer or food mill or grinder. Though new parents may feel overwhelmed by the idea of adding yet another task to their already busy schedules, an hour is all it takes to make enough food to last a month, if frozen.

4-H Art Program Brings Cheer to the Ill

29 Jun 2010

Contact: Jon Prichard, (207) 324-2814; Laura Jaquays, (207) 251-4058 SPRINGVALE, Maine -- A small but powerful 4-H art program coordinated by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's York County office in Springvale is bringing messages of cheer to patients at York Hospital Oncology Care and the Hospice of York. Jon Prichard, an associate Extension professor, and Laura Jaquays, a community artist and educator from Ogunquit, lead "Happy Art." Since 2005, they have worked with hundreds of Berwick Academy and area youth from first grade through high school to create thousands of art cards for seriously ill patients. The program is a part of Art HOPE (Healing Opportunities for People Everyday), a grassroots community initiative that brings the arts into healthcare, established by Jaquays at York Hospital Oncology Care, where she is the artist in residence. "It's been a wonderful thing," says Jaquays, "how this small gesture of a small 5x7 card with a happy or a positive theme really helps people understand that the community really does care about them." Local youth in 4-H participate in after school programs and community venues to create Happy Art. Prichard and Jaquays also have used the 4-H booth at the York County Fair in Acton to reach prospective~young artists. They invite passing children to randomly stop and paint the cheery cards. "We usually end up with baskets of hundreds of these cards," he says. "When I was at Berwick Academy last, these young second- and third-graders were so enthusiastic and excited. As much as they enjoyed creating the art, they were even more excited to know that they were helping people with illnesses." Jaquays says the program is a good experience for kids who learn that creating art can help others in a way that enhances well being. It also accomplishes some of the goals of 4-H, she says. "It's thinking about how we can get kids to be aware of supporting people in those situations, and a lot of kids have had those situations in their own families," she says. "This is a good way to reach people they wouldn't ordinarily reach."

UMaine Police Leading Investigation Into Computer Security Breach

29 Jun 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO — The University of Maine police department is leading the investigation into the breach of two UMaine computer servers this spring. Sensitive data related to approximately 4,585 students were exposed as a result of these hacker attacks. Compromised files date as far back as 2002. "This is an

insidious affront to the rightful privacy expectations of our students,” UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana said at a news conference this afternoon. “The criminals who make it their business to exploit our society’s need and ability to store information are beneath contempt and we are engaging all possible resources to find the source of these attacks.” The UMaine police department is consulting with the U.S. Attorney’s office and computer crimes experts from the U.S. Secret Service. The servers held information from UMaine’s counseling center, which provides support and mental health services to the university’s student population. The compromised database includes names, social security numbers and clinical information relative to every student who engaged counseling center services between Aug. 8, 2002 and June 21 of this year. “The high-level safeguards we have in place routinely thwart these attempts, but they were not adequate in this case,” Dana said. “This is a serious breach, and we are profoundly sorry that this has happened.” UMaine’s investigation began on June 16, when counseling center staff members reported difficulty in accessing server files. That investigation has revealed that a server, containing information archived from 2002-2005, was compromised as early as March 4. Once the hacker had gained access to that machine, he or she infiltrated a second server, which carries the active version of the 2002-2010 counseling center database. To preserve the integrity of the investigation, police will not disclose the specific techniques the hackers used to access the servers. “There is no indication that data were viewed, compromised or downloaded from either of these servers, but we are operating according to a worst-case scenario,” Dana said. “In any case like this, identity theft must be a top concern and consequently we are taking strong measures to assist those whose information may have been exposed and to prevent further security intrusions.” UMaine has engaged Debix, a company that works with organizations that are victimized by attacks of this nature. For at least 12 months, Debix will monitor affected individuals who wish to access their services to watch for indications of identity theft and any fraudulent activity related to their credit. The company will also provide immediate alerts to individuals if there is suspicious activity related to their credit, along with identity theft insurance. Today’s announcement is a first step toward informing the students and former students in the affected database of the breach. UMaine is also sending a customized letter to each person in the database. Those letters, which will be mailed in early July, will include details about how to access Debix’ services, which will be provided at no cost to those affected. Any student or former student who visited the counseling center as a UMaine student since Aug. 8, 2002 should assume that he or she is in the affected database. “The prevalence of attacks of this nature has resulted in the growth of firms such as Debix that specialize in working in these areas to assist institutions and individuals,” says UMaine Vice President for Administration and Finance Janet Waldron. “The company comes to us with strong references and extensive expertise. We believe this strengthens our response to protecting individuals should there be any intent to misuse the information that may have been obtained.” In addition to retaining the services of Debix, UMaine and the University of Maine System are taking further measures to address this situation and to work toward preventing future security breaches. The university will engage Protiviti, a global consulting company that will provide forensic information technology investigation expertise. The university will also conduct an internal review to determine whether policies and procedures were followed properly while also looking for ways to improve current practices.

UMaine Students, Researchers Tackle Tough Questions in Biomedical Research

30 Jun 2010

Contact: Carol Kim, (207) 581-2803 ORONO -- Understanding how cancerous tumors grow. Learning why some people feel pain more acutely than others. Searching for ways to cure vascular diseases. In biomedicine, the focus is on the basic underlying processes — how our bodies work. Greater understanding of disease through biomedical sciences research holds the promise of better treatment tools and improved approaches to prevention, as well as the potential for the ultimate outcome: a cure. That biological approach to tackling some of today’s toughest medical questions is occurring at seven of Maine’s leading research institutions. That’s also where the state is training its next generation of biomedical scientists. The University of Maine’s Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) grew out of a commitment to improve the state’s public health, and create research and development capacity for Maine. It currently has five tracks — molecular and cellular biology, neuroscience, biomedical engineering, toxicology and functional genomics — with others in development. Students collaborate with world-class researchers from UMaine and six partners — The Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor; Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Salisbury Cove; Maine Medical Center Research Institute, Scarborough; University of New England, Biddeford and Portland; Maine Institute of Human Genetics & Health, Brewer and Bangor; and University of Southern Maine, Portland. “What we’re hoping is that this pool of Ph.D. scientists can stay in the state, have jobs in the state, and develop new companies, contributing to

the economy in Maine,” says GSBS Director Carol Kim, a microbiologist whose research focuses on molecular virology and host response to infectious disease. “We want to increase the visibility of biomedical research throughout the state.” With GSBS in place, students are conduits for researchers to work together, start new projects and generate new ideas, according to Kim. “As a scientist, I’m excited about the new opportunities for collaboration that this graduate program is creating,” says Kim. A *UMaine Today* magazine article has additional information about the GSBS and its research.

UMaine Grad Student Wins Prestigious Research Award

30 Jun 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- University of Maine doctoral student Juan Luis Garcia has earned the Geological Society of America's prestigious J. Hoover Mackin Student Research Award. That society's Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division provides the annual award. Garcia is a native of Chile studying in UMaine's Dept. of Earth Sciences. He originally came to UMaine as part of the U.S. State Department's Fulbright educational exchange program. Garcia also won a fellowship from the Organization of American States. The new award will support Garcia's research on the glacial and climate history of the Torres del Paine region in southern Chile. His research will provide estimates of paleoclimate variability and the environmental conditions for early human development in Southern South America, in addition to the past climate context prior to 20th century and 21st century glacier changes.

2010 'Plant-a-Row' Gardening Goal for Charity Set at 125,000 Pounds

01 Jul 2010

Contact: Barbara Murphy, 1-800-287-1482 (in Maine) or (207) 743-6329 SOUTH PARIS -- The University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Plant-A-Row for the Hungry Program has set a goal of collecting 125,000 pounds of fresh produce from volunteer gardeners across the state, a significant increase from the 87,319 pounds donated last year to food pantries, shelters and charitable organizations. "With donations of high quality fresh produce, we can get there," says Barbara Murphy, Extension Educator in the Oxford County office who coordinates the program. The Plant-A-Row program engages nearly 200 highly committed Master Gardener volunteers across the state in growing, gleaning and distributing food for Maine residents who are hungry. Since 2000, volunteers have raised, gathered and donated more than 350 tons or 703,609 pounds of fresh produce. “During Maine’s growing and harvest season, Extension volunteers with the support of Extension employees produce and gather fresh fruit and vegetables for distribution to 45 Maine food pantries and soup kitchens,” Murphy says. Although difficult to estimate how many individuals are served by the program since food is donated to pantries that serve other organizations as well as individuals, thousands of Maine residents benefit from fresh produce introduced in the mix of donated foods across the state. Murphy says the program is growing, but needs to grow more. She is working to raise awareness of the opportunity for backyard gardeners and others to "plant an extra row" to donate to one of many drop-off locations in Maine. Donated fruits and vegetables increase in volume each year, as does the number of gardeners participating in the program, but so, too, does the need. In spite of the generosity of Maine gardeners, the need is never met. "With as much as we do each year, it's not even close to meeting the need," she says. Murphy can be reached by email at barbara.murphy@maine.edu or by telephone at 1-800-287-1482 in Maine for information and details on participation. The Plant-a-Row program is UMaine's 2010 winner of the Steven Gould Award for Service to the University.

Three UMaine Students Named Killam Fellowship Exchange Scholars

01 Jul 2010

Contact: Betsy Arntzen, (207) 581-4225 ORONO -- For the first time in recent Killam Fellowship history, the University of Maine is the only North American university to have three qualified undergraduate students accepted as 2010 Killam fellows, a Canadian-United States exchange program that awards \$10,000 scholarships to study at a Canadian university. The students are Kristen Brown of Bangor, a sophomore majoring in elementary education, who will attend University of Prince Edward Island this fall; Mallory Lavoie of Madawaska, a sophomore majoring in journalism and French, who will attend the University Laval in the winter-spring term; and Kristin Kirouac of Augusta,

a sophomore majoring in political science and French. She will attend University Laval this fall. They are among 30 undergraduates in North America and only 15 in the United States to receive the prestigious award, according to Betsy Arntzen, outreach coordinator for the Office of Canadian Studies Outreach at the UMaine Canadian-American Center. The Canadian-American Center and Office of International Programs coordinate UMaine's participation in the program. In addition to scholarships of \$5,000 for each of one or two semesters in Canada, the Killam Fellowship Program provides students up to \$800 in mobility awards, to help students undertake an educational field trip to enhance understanding of their host country. The program is administered by the Foundation for Educational Exchange between Canada and the United States, and supported by the American Killam Trusts, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the International Trade Canada, and the Foundation. It is part of the Foundation's multidimensional strategy to foster mutual understanding between Canada and the United States. Additional supporters include a consortium of Canadian and American government and trade entities, in addition to corporate sponsors, charitable trusts and university partners.

UMaine and Waterville Company Gain Patent Approval for Sustainable Food Packaging Material

01 Jul 2010

Contact: Joe Carr, UMaine, at (207) 581-3571 Tom Moore, Cerealus President (207) 504-0374 or tmooore@cerealus.com ORONO -- The University of Maine and Cerealus Holdings, LLC, a Waterville-based product development and technology commercialization company, have received a patent for an innovation that can provide a sustainable alternative to traditional food packaging materials. Known as Holdout (TM), the product is made from natural materials. Designed to serve as an alternative to fluorocarbon compounds that are commonly used to package foods, it provides the oil and grease resistance required in that industry. A Cerealus news release is online at <http://www.prweb.com/releases/cerealus/holdout/prweb4159524.htm>. "Paper companies, packaging converters and food companies have been looking for alternatives to fluorocarbon and synthetic compounds for some time now, and with the patent approval, they now have access to renewable, non-toxic barrier coating that can be used in a wide array of applications," Michael Bilodeau, director of UMaine's Process Development Center, said in that news release. "The Holdout (TM) coating has been successfully applied using standard commercial coating equipment."

UMaine Researchers Study Blood Pressure, Physical Ability, Cognition Correlations

02 Jul 2010

Contact: Pete Elias, (207) 581-2097; George Manlove (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine -- According to a new study led by University of Maine psychologists and epidemiologists, high blood pressure is indirectly related to lowered physical ability by way of lowered cognition. Professor Pete Elias (Merrill F. Elias) and colleagues have established the relationships using a comprehensive battery of cognitive and physical tests in conjunction with blood pressure monitoring on study participants who are part of a larger and ongoing Maine-Syracuse Longitudinal Study. The study involved the use of path analysis, a statistical procedure for evaluating plausibility of a set of hypothesized relations among variables without assuming causality, according to Elias, professor of psychology and cooperating professor in the UMaine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and a leading researcher in cardiovascular risk factors and cognitive function. "We found that blood pressure-related deficits in cognitive functioning result in deficits in simple physical abilities, such as standing, walking and turning, which means cognition mediates between blood pressure and physical ability," Elias says. "However, blood pressure also relates directly to physical ability." Elias says two possible explanations come from previous findings by others. People with a higher level of mental ability tend to be healthier and engage in physical activity, and that areas of the brain that control cognition also control physical activity. "If you are having problems with cognition, you have a higher likelihood of having problems with simple physical abilities," he says. Other researchers involved with the study include UMaine graduate student Gregory Dore and faculty researchers Michael Robbins and Penelope Elias; and Adam Davey of the Department of Public Health at Temple University. The research was funded in part by a grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, but the conclusions reached are those of the authors. The research is published in the June 2010 issue of Hypertension, a journal of the American Heart Association.

Extension Volunteer Program Helps Older Adults Ease Falling Fears

06 Jul 2010

Contact: Deb Eckart, (207) 255-3345 MACHIAS, Maine -- For many older adults, a fear of falling can steadily decrease their physical activity, well-being and independence. At a minimum, their quality of life is jeopardized. "Falling is a fact of life. As we age, it's just what happens to us," says Deb Eckart, a University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator in Washington County. Eckart is the administrator for the Senior Companion Program, a statewide initiative of Cooperative Extension that enlists older adults as volunteers to provide in-home visits and assistance to homebound elders. Through a program called "A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns about Falls," adults age 60 and older are taught how to make changes in their environments to reduce risk, exercise to increase strength and balance, and set goals for increasing activity. Participants learn how to survey their living accommodations, looking for ways to improve safety and reduce falling fears by installing handrails, nightlights, supports in the shower and tub, and a phone by the bed. "We don't have the balance we did when we were younger, yet we can do something about it," says Eckart. "That's why we're teaching practical strategies to prevent falling and reduce the concern." Nationwide, more than a third of all adults 65 and older fall each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths, and the most common cause of nonfatal injuries and hospital admissions for trauma. In the past decade, the rates of fall-related deaths among older adults rose significantly. "We know older adults experience the fear of falling and, as a result, many curtail their activities," Eckart says. "Many who fall end up in long-term care facilities and never get home again. The goal is to make them feel more secure and comfortable being independent. It's really phenomenal the impact the program can have. I've been pleasantly surprised at how much it helps people." Boston University and the New England Research Institutes, with funding from the National Institute on Aging, developed "A Matter of Balance." Translation of the program using a lay-leader model was led by MaineHealth's Partnership for Healthy Aging.

UMaine Food Scientist Offers Summertime Fresh Food, Safe Handling Tips

07 Jul 2010

Contact: Beth Calder, (207) 581-2791 ORONO -- The season is here for consumers to take their pick from the bounty of fresh, locally grown produce at farmers markets. To help ensure proper food handling practices by farmers and vendors, University of Maine Cooperative Extension Food Science Specialist Beth Calder has compiled a fact sheet. A number of the tips also are important for consumers, whether purchasing fresh produce at markets or at stores, she says. Beware of the temperature danger zone. Bacteria can grow rapidly between 40–140 degrees F — the typical temperature range at the height of farmers market season. Perishable items left in the temperature danger zone for more than two hours are not safe to eat. That includes perishable purchases left in consumers' vehicles, she says. When buying perishables, come armed with a cooler containing icepacks or ice. Perishables that need to be kept refrigerated include meat and meat products, milk and dairy products, eggs, baked goods with dairy-based frostings and/or fillings, berry fruits, and fruits and vegetables that are cut, sliced or processed. Refrigerate or freeze fresh produce as soon as possible. That includes refrigerating eggs. When sampling foods at the farmers markets, be mindful of hand sanitation. Take advantage of the hand sanitizer provided by vendors or bring your own. And avoid touching food samples that other people will be consuming. Look for quality products packaged and displayed in a sanitary manner. That means food samples should be individually wrapped or placed under a dome to protect them from pests or animals. Perishable items should be kept in coolers on ice or icepacks, out of the hot sun. The [Cooperative Extension website](#) has additional information.

Researchers Assessing Water Policy Effectiveness, Climate Change

08 Jul 2010

Contact: Shaleen Jain, (207) 581-2420 ORONO -- Water, sometimes plentiful, other times scarce, is a vital resource to humans and the environment, but finding a balance that keeps the needs of both fulfilled is complicated, especially when combined with climate change concerns. A University of Maine research team studying how shifting climate conditions are affecting water supplies in Maine also is looking at corresponding water allocation policies. Improper water allocation policies can result not only in an inability to supply water reliably, but also can have an adverse impact on the ecosystem and the economy of an area. University of Maine Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering Shaleen Jain has looked at the New England region watershed to understand its hydrology and stream flow

during the past half century. With the help of graduate students, he's analyzed stream flow changes across the state from the St. John River Basin to smaller watersheds in southern Maine, and is using the information to see how the state's sustainable water allocation policy stacks up. His research is funded by a \$28,106 grant from the U.S. Geological Survey, with matching support totaling \$44,458 from the Maine Economic Improvement Fund and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. "The policy, which seeks to preserve the ecosystem services and water quality, is forward-looking and is very explicit in balancing the human and ecosystems both as users of water," says Jain. "Our principal focus was to think about the adaptation considerations for water utilities, the ecosystem's objectives, and effective implementation of this water allocation policy." Statewide, he has initiated work with about 40 water utility managers to obtain their views and information regarding the needs of their communities when it comes to the state's changing hydrology. A UMaine Today magazine article has additional information about Jain's research.

English Teacher Finds Digital Age Engages Student Interest, Literacy

12 Jul 2010

Contact: Dave Boardman, (207) 649-9863; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 OAKLAND, Maine -- When two students with disabilities at Messalonskee High School in Oakland, Maine, wanted to raise awareness about the lack of accessibility in their school, they made a video. Within 24 hours, hundreds of students, teachers and even the school board had seen it. "It made 300 students instantly aware of something about which they didn't have a clue," says Dave Boardman, an English teacher at Messalonskee who is pursuing a Ph.D. in education literacy at the University of Maine. "They convinced 12 adults that there had been a major oversight. The school board made a decision and a guarantee to fund automatic door openers last year. They couldn't have done that with an essay." Boardman, a former newspaper reporter, is a big proponent of digital age writing and communication. He recently was named one of 12 curators for the National Writing Project's new "Digital Is" website, a collection of resources, questions, answers, latest thinking about writing, pedagogy and what it means to write digitally in today's world. Federally funded and supported by foundations, corporations, universities and K-12 schools, the National Writing Project is a network of more than 200 institutions dedicated to improving the teaching of writing nationally. The Maine Writing Project, based at UMaine, is an affiliated site with more than 300 teachers, professors and others working statewide to improve the learning and writing lives of Maine students and teachers. "Technology is not only influencing the teaching of writing, but the writing itself," says Boardman, who has worked with the Maine Writing Project for seven years. "Digital writing is writing what could be totally different genres than the traditional word-based essay. It can be writing without words, with images, with music. I think there are so many possibilities." That broad spectrum gives a voice to all students, including those who resist traditional forms of writing, he says. Students tell Boardman that the Internet enables exciting new avenues of self-expression — in their own words. Boardman, who received a 2006 Instructional Technology Educator of the Year award from the Association of Computer Technology Educators of Maine, says the technological creativity available to students today is a personal palette for storytelling. "Nearly anything that people do is a story of some type, whether writing about something that has occurred or will occur," he explains. "I try to teach students that life is a series of stories. Kids can do incredible things today with cell phone cameras and images, whether they create them themselves or find them on the Internet. With YouTube, we're seeing peoples' stories in different ways." A UMaine Today magazine article has additional details about Boardman's work.

Pest-Management Specialist Available to Discuss Japanese Beetle Control

13 Jul 2010

Contact: Professor Jm Dill at (207) 581-3879; George Manlove at (207) 581-3756. ORONO -- UMaine Cooperative Extension educator and pest management specialist Jim Dill is available to discuss effective ways to deal with garden insects such as Japanese beetles and other insects that chew away at gardens. Dill says this year appears likely to be a typical year for beetle proliferation, but any number of crop-eating beetles is too many for most people. Japanese beetles populate differently in different areas, he adds, so while gardeners in one community may find an abundance of the pests, gardeners in another areas may find fewer.

New Research Model Improves Lobster Population Forecasting

13 Jul 2010

Contact: Andy Thomas, (207) 581-4335; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine -- Managing the Gulf of Maine's \$300 million lobster industry has been a practice mostly reliant upon the physical size of adult stocks, a system called stock assessment and one that's made policymaking largely reactive with little environmental input. Now, a research team from the University of Maine School of Marine Sciences is developing a more science-based stock assessment model that can ingest information on lucrative lobster settlement areas and years, based on current patterns and density of drifting lobster larvae. The oceanographers have added real-time sea surface temperatures, detected by satellites, to the settlement assessment process. The data is important to better calculate "recruitment" populations of adult lobsters big enough to catch, keep and sell. Working with a two-year, \$430,000 grant from NASA, a team led by researcher Andrew Thomas, the associate director in the School of Marine Sciences, says the new lobster stock assessment model will allow fisheries managers to include varying ocean environmental information in their forecasting. The result is much greater accuracy in determining which years and locations will likely be good or bad for lobstering. Satellite surface temperatures not only help drive the circulation model, but water temperatures affect larval growth rate, which influences where they settle, Thomas says. Knowing the annual density of larval drift, currents, winds and water temperature enables researchers to create a model on which to base, for the first time, maps showing predictable lobster settlement locations. "Every year the little guys settle out of the plankton down to the bottom. If we get a handle on how many of them are settling, and where, that's vital information we can put into our recruitment model," he says. "This part of their life cycle depends on the oceanography. So different aspects of wind patterns, circulation patterns and temperature are going to affect where these guys end up and which parts of the coast are going to have good settlement years or not good settlement years." Stock assessment in the past has been based solely on a population model reflected by surveys of adults and the size of the catch from year to year. "It was pretty much one number going in for large chunks of the Maine coast. Just a single number," Thomas says. Expanding the environmental factors in the forecasting model also allows scientists to include climate change variations in lobster settlement predictions, which helps the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) set management policies based on expectations that are more realistic. Other researchers on the team are School of Marine Science professors Yong Chen, Huijie Xue, Rick Wahle and Andrew Pershing and graduate students Jui-Han Chang and Mahima Jaini. Also involved are the NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center, the ASMFC and Maine Department of Marine Resources.

UMaine Researchers Look for Answers to Growing Fire Ant Populations

15 Jul 2010

Editors' note: fire ant infestations are being studied in Massachusetts, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and on Mount Desert Island and Orono and Wayne in Maine Contacts: Ellie Groden, (207) 581-2984; Tamara Levitsky, (207) 581-2679 ORONO, Maine -- Researchers from the University of Maine are working on solutions to the rapid population growth of invasive stinging fire ants, now showing up in alarming numbers from Massachusetts to Nova Scotia, and beyond -- taking much of the fun out of backyard barbecues, nature walks and other outdoor activities. The aggressive little ants have been in Maine for more than half a century, says entomologist Eleanor Groden, professor in the UMaine School of Biology & Ecology, but "over the last few years, a lot of people who never noticed the ants before are saying that fire ants have taken over their yards. " Difficult to manage with traditional methods of control, the fire ant has reached a kind of renaissance in Maine in recent years, rapidly expanding its range and increasing the size of its populations. Fire ants are slowly stinging their way up the food chain, and their success has citizens and scientists alike scrambling for answers. "These ants are a different species from the fire ants that are causing problems in the southern part of the United States," says Groden. "These originate from somewhere in northern Europe, whereas the southern fire ants originate from South America. The natural distribution of the European fire ants extends up into the Arctic Circle in northern Europe, so unlike the southern species, we know that these ants are well adapted to our cold climate." She suspects the ants' success in recent years is probably due to a combination of environmental factors and genotype. Groden thinks the species has slowly adapted to its new home, remaining relatively inconspicuous as it tweaked its behaviors and biology to meet the challenges of its new environment. It may have recently reached a threshold for success that is allowing it to rapidly expand its population. Groden, a recognized expert with nearly a decade of fire ant research experience, has been consulted about new nests spotted in Massachusetts and in Nova Scotia and Ontario, Canada, in addition to Maine. With funding from the Maine Agricultural and Forest Research Station and the USDA APHIS PPQ, Groden and biology and ecology research assistants Jen Lund and Tamara Levitsky, and graduate student

Kerry Bernard, have been studying fire ant behavior in the laboratory at the University of Maine. They also are working at infested sites on Mount Desert Island, in Wayne and Orono. They have been tracking the extent of the infestation, its environmental impact, and trying to develop potential methods for control. They are now evaluating a method that involves infecting the ants with a common, naturally occurring fungal pathogen that causes a fatal disease in fire ants. "The strategy is to work with their own diseases and try to increase the likelihood of them becoming infected," Groden says. "We've learned a lot about this ant to date, more so than we knew five years ago." Since learning about the ants' movement patterns and ecology, and what foods they forage on and take it back to their nests to share, Groden and her research team are utilizing these behaviors to expose them to disease-causing spores. "We draw them to a food bait and in the process, draw them over a minefield of pathogen spores," she says. "They seem very willing to do this, and hopefully will carry the spores back to the colony and infect others." They now are infusing nesting areas with the pathogen and watching to see if fire ant populations diminish, as appears to happen in a laboratory setting. "What works in the lab doesn't always work in the field, though," Groden says, but they will continue to work on a solution to the invasive pests. A UMaine Today magazine article has complete details on the history of fire ants in Maine and early research that Groden is continuing today with potentially promising results.

Schools See Suspensions Decline with 'Restorative Discipline'

19 Jul 2010

Contacts: Barb Blazej, (207) 581-2625; Jon Moody, (207) 465-2167; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- After implementing a new philosophical approach to discipline about 3 years ago, teachers and administrators at Messalonskee Middle School in Oakland watched disciplinary problems decline and student morale rise. The new approach called restorative discipline encourages students who misbehave to take responsibility for it and learn how their misdeeds may have affected others. Better understanding of bad behavior, and the underlying reasons for it, helps students practice better self-control and learn accountability, whereas traditional punishment-based discipline does little to influence better behavior, says assistant principal Jon Moody. Principles of restorative discipline include communication, relationship-building, accountability and reconciliation, explains Barb Blazej of the University of Maine Peace and Reconciliation Studies Program and a coordinator of the Restorative School Practices Collaborative of Maine. Within a year of implementing the restorative discipline model, the 600-student Messalonskee school saw a 32 percent drop in detentions, a 73 percent drop in suspensions and a 34 percent drop in serious offenses. "Our success was not simply limited to the reduction we saw in discipline infractions," Moody says, "but also in the increased discussions that occurred through the restorative process. I think the students like it because they have a voice, and I think the teachers like it because it has increased accountability." The restorative approach encourages students to account for their actions and find ways to make things right with those they have harmed, Blazej says. Other schools have taken notice. "I've been contacted by a lot of people," Moody says. "I think a lot of schools are in a position of trying to find more genuine ways to reach students. This is a nice movement back toward the whole child. I think the most positive result is we're having an awful lot more conversations with kids about everything." Three other neighboring junior high schools have since approached Moody to learn more about it. The Restorative School Practices Collaborative of Maine has now trained hundreds of schoolteachers, administrators and guidance counselors in the restorative approach at workshops and institutes around the state, according to Blazej, who organizes and leads many of those efforts. Blazej says the next staff-training workshops are scheduled Oct. 23 at UMaine and Nov. 5 in Lewiston. The restorative discipline process also raises social and academic expectations, she says. "There's a growing body of scientific brain research that shows that if students experience stress and incivility, they're not going to learn well," she says. A UMaine Today magazine article has additional information about Messalonskee's experience with restorative discipline.

Gulf Oil Spill Could Affect Maine Bird Populations

20 Jul 2010

Contact: Rebecca Holberton, (207) 581-2526 ORONO, Maine -- Even though the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico isn't likely to directly affect Maine coastal habitats and wildlife, it likely will affect some of the birds that are iconic in Maine, including the common loon, many of the state's shore birds and some of its tern species. It will be some time before we can really measure the effects as we try to track numbers of birds passing through or coming back to breed, but it will have long-term effects to many of the Maine birds that winter in or pass through the Gulf of Mexico, says

Rebecca Holberton, associate professor of biology. "The immediate impacts, of course, are what you see," she says. "The oiled birds, the loss of immediate habitat for nesting and resting... It also burns the skin, it's toxic, it's ingested. Birds immediately start to preen and try to remove that oil to regain their buoyancy." Though birds can be brought in and washed to get the oil off them, have their stomachs flushed, and fed Pepto Bismol or something similar to help coat the stomach and neutralize the toxins, it's a matter of waiting, she says. "You try to give them safe haven, a safe place to keep warm and to feed them, but many times their organs shut down; it's too late," she says. "If you could clean everything up and get the Gulf coastline looking back to snuff this fall, it would be a blip, because the effects on the food base for many species will be long-term. Many of the species affected are long-lived and it's part of their natural history to produce over a longer period of time," Holberton says. "So, even after the coastlines are cleared of oil, 'our' birds may not find enough food to enable them to survive the winter or to make it to their wintering destinations in order to return back here to breed." Because the oil contamination will have long-term effects, Holberton is concerned about what might happen to populations that cannot withstand more than a year or two without some reproduction. If the situation threatens the survival of the adults, it likely will threaten future generations of offspring. "These birds, as a normal part of their life history, span the globe," Holberton says. "In terms of the Gulf of Mexico, it will really hit at the heart of the critical period of life history for many of the species that either come and breed here or pass through the region."

Late Blight: Grower and Farm Stand Alert

20 Jul 2010

Contact: Jim Dill, (207) 949-2155 Potato late blight, the disease that caused the significant crop losses for tomatoes and potatoes in Maine last year has just been confirmed at a sight in Waldoboro, and several other suspected sites are now being investigated. Typical symptoms will be a water-soaked grease spot on foliage with a fine white mycelium on the underside of the leaflet. A stalk infection will usually look dark brown, almost black. The spores released by infected plants have the ability to travel 40 plus miles under the right conditions and infect potato and tomato plants. We are encouraging all commercial growers and home gardeners to be carefully inspecting their plants for disease. The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Pest Management Office in Orono will look at any samples that you may suspect have been infected and has copies of a home gardener alert, a late blight ID sheet for roadside stand producers and a poster for late blight identification that you can use to make your help and your customers more aware of this potentially devastating disease. <http://extension.umaine.edu/publications/2427e/> Please feel free to contact The University of Maine Cooperative Extension Pest Management Office with any questions. Late Blight Hotline: For the most recent information, call the IPM Hotline at 207-760-9IPM (207-760-9476). Pest Management Office 491 College Avenue Orono, ME 04473 1-800-287-0279

Collins Center for the Arts Announces 2010-2011 Season

21 Jul 2010

Contact: Adele Adkins (adele.adkins@umit.maine.edu) Joe Carr (joe.carr@umit.maine.edu or 581-3571) ORONO -- A gala celebration highlighting great musicals from the 20th century will kick off the 2010-2011 Collins Center for the Arts (CCA) performance season at the University of Maine. "The Songs of Broadway," scheduled for Saturday Sept. 11 at 8 p.m. will feature current Broadway stars Christina Saffran Ashford and Norman Large from hit musicals including Phantom of the Opera, My Fair Lady, Guys and Dolls, Les Miserables, Chicago, The Sound of Music and others. The Bangor Symphony Orchestra, a mainstay of every CCA performance season, will join Ashford and Large for the performance. The season, which runs through May 14, 2011, includes an eclectic blend of performers certain to entertain all tastes, in addition to a full season of high-definition live broadcasts of Metropolitan Opera performances. "There is a wider audience out there and the CCA is making a concerted effort to branch out and diversify its programming," says John Patches, the center's director. "The newly renovated CCA has made it possible to present film and The Metropolitan Opera's Live in HD season. In addition to on-screen offerings the 2010-2011 season features outstanding Broadway titles, folk music, extreme athletic and cutting edge movement/dance and the best in chamber music. "The CCA, the home of the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, will experience a full season of symphonic repertoire," Patches continues. "Also, look for speakers and local music talent - all this for a new audience of students, concert goers, patrons and friends." Patches also points out that the renovations have made it possible to add food service

through Miller's Cafe, which offers gourmet coffee, bagels and other baked goods. Schedule information is online at www.collinscenterforthearts.com. Tickets are available for purchase online or by telephone at 1-800-622-TIXX.

Senate Subcommittee Approves \$10M in Funding for UMaine Offshore Wind Energy Work

21 Jul 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- U.S. Sen. Susan Collins announced late Tuesday a Senate Appropriations Committee subcommittee's initial approval of a \$10 million appropriation to support University of Maine deepwater offshore wind energy research and development. Collins, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, requested the funding. It was approved by the Subcommittee on Energy and Water. "This is a critical step, and it is the result of Sen. Collins' determination and her commitment to Maine," says Prof. Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center and the lead researcher on this project." Collins has supported this work since the beginning, already having helped secure \$25 million in federal funding as UMaine works toward developing and testing this technology. Plans call for the first 1/3 scale floating wind turbine to be deployed off Maine for testing in 2012. The additional funding will be used to build, deploy and test a full-scale prototype of a 5 megawatt floating wind turbine, using Maine companies and Maine labor. "As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Sen. Collins has tremendous influence in the funding process and we all appreciate her tireless advocacy on behalf of this initiative," Dagher adds. Collins arranged for U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu to visit UMaine in June, to learn first-hand about the pioneering efforts of Dagher and his colleagues. Shortly after his return to Washington, Chu announced plans to dedicate \$20 million for deepwater offshore wind technology development. Collins has pledged to work toward assuring that "the lion's share" of those funds are appropriated to UMaine. A Tuesday news release from Collins' office called this subcommittee's action "the first step toward securing the full \$20 million investment." No funds for this project have been included thus far in House counterpart legislation. *The State of Maine Ocean Energy Task Force has set a goal of developing 5,000 megawatts of deepwater offshore wind farms by 2030, equivalent to the energy production of three nuclear power plants. This development represents less than 3 percent of the 150,000 megawatts of offshore wind capacity that exists within 50 nautical miles of Maine's coast. These farms would be placed approximately 20 miles - 50 miles offshore where they would not be visible from land, and where Maine has some of the best and most consistent winds in the country. Such an effort could attract as much as \$20 billion of private capital to Maine. The offshore wind industry builds on Maine's maritime tradition, and could create thousands of jobs across the manufacturing, engineering, permitting, environmental, boatbuilding, construction, maintenance and composite materials sectors.*

Food Preservation Educator Offers Tips on Freezing Green Beans

21 Jul 2010

Contact: Kathy Savoie, (207) 780-4205 PORTLAND -- After last year's sad gardening season, who could blame backyard gardeners for planting a few extra rows of vegetables this year? So, what to do with the rich abundance of produce now taking shape in an ideal gardening season may be the next question for many people. Kathy Savoie, University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator, suggests freezing it. Savoie, who is available in the Extension Cumberland County office in Portland to discuss preservation of a number of fruits and vegetables throughout the year, has some simple instructions for freezing fresh green beans. It is a fast and inexpensive method of food preservation. Equipment for freezing vegetables includes a clean work surface and knives, clean pot with lid for blanching, mesh basket or blanching basket, cookie sheet, clean towels or salad spinner, digital timer and an ice bath. "Step one: Wash. Rinse and snap tops of beans. You can either leave them whole or freeze in two-inch pieces," Savoie says. "Step two: Blanch. Lower vegetables into vigorously boiling water. Green beans require three minutes of water blanching. Once the water returns to a boil, start counting the blanching time. Blanching stops enzyme action, delivers optimum color and texture, and kills surface microbes." Step three: As soon as blanching is complete, quickly cool green beans to stop the cooking process. "Plunge them into an ice bath for the same amount of time they were blanched," she says. "To improve the quality of your frozen product, remove water by spinning in a salad spinner, or placing on clean kitchen towels or paper towels. Excess water creates clumped beans that are hard to break up and use, and can cause a loss of quality." Step four: Dry, pack and freeze in freezer-grade materials, removing as much air as possible, but leaving space for expansion that occurs during freezing. Label, date and freeze at zero degrees, she says. Green beans and other frozen

vegetables should be used within eight to 12 months. "Materials recommended for freezing foods: heavyweight plastic freezer-grade bags, rigid freezer containers, freezer jars, heavy duty freezer foil, freezer paper, plastic freezer wrap or vacuum-seal pouches," Savoie says. "Materials not recommended for freezing foods include plastic bread wrappers, recycled cottage cheese or yogurt containers, or regular weight foil, plastic wrap or plastic bags." The [Cooperative Extension website](#) has additional information on food preservation, educational fact sheets, videos and workshop schedules on this and other topics.

Researcher Detects Differences in Early Language of Children with Reading Disability

22 Jul 2010

Contact: Susan Lambrecht Smith, (207) 581- 2017 ORONO -- Research by University of Maine Assistant Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders Susan Lambrecht Smith is helping to refine speech and language skills of preschoolers as predictors of reading disability. A longitudinal study by Smith and three colleagues — Kathleen Scott and Jenny Roberts of Hofstra University, and John Locke of City University of New York — found that some components of phonological awareness appear to remain strong predictors of reading disability in at-risk youngsters over the course of preschool and kindergarten. Phonological awareness is defined as the conscious sensitivity to the sound structure of language. Performance on tasks such as phoneme deletion (e.g. pronouncing the word “cat” with and without the first letter) and rhyme production were highly predictive of later reading status. The importance of this finding was that the researchers found distinct differences in other skills such as alphabet knowledge and rapid naming that were evident in pre-K youngsters with learning disabilities when compared to their peers were diminished by the time the children entered the first grade. The findings, first published in the journal Learning Disabilities Research & Practice, have been cited on more than a dozen websites, including ScienceDaily, Medical News Today and FirstScience News. A summer 2010 UMaine Today magazine article has details about Smith's work and early detection of reading disabilities.

Habitat Mooring System Deployment and News Conference Wednesday July 28, 10:30 a.m.

22 Jul 2010

Contact: Cathy Billings, University of Maine Lobster Institute (207) 581-2751 or (207) 949-2028 (cell) Please note: photos are available upon request SEAL HARBOR -- The town of Mt. Desert will be the first to use a unique mooring system that creates a habitat for lobsters and other marine life. The harbormaster, Shawn Murphy, will accept donation of the Habitat Mooring System (HMS 4000) on Wednesday July 28, 10:30 a.m., at the Seal Harbor town wharf. Stewart Hardison of The Wind Reef Group, LLC will present HMS 4000 to the town. Murphy, Hardison and others will deploy it in the harbor and answer questions about the habitat and its potential impact at a news conference, also scheduled for the town wharf. Hardison's company, based in Orono, designed the system with assistance from University of Maine engineers and marine scientists. The mooring was manufactured at American Concrete in Veazie. A portion of the proceeds from all sales of the Habitat Mooring System will be donated to the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine, to support research and outreach work related to the lobster industry. Several people involved in this project are available for interviews in advance of Wednesday's event; they will also be present on Wednesday:

- Stewart Hardison – Founder, Wind Reef Group & inventor of Habitat Mooring System (607) 967-2751
- Prof. Ian Bricknell – Chief Scientist, Wind Reef Group & Professor of Aquaculture Biology at the University of Maine (207) 581-4315/4430
- Prof. Robert Bayer – Executive Director, Lobster Institute – University of Maine (207) 581-2785
- Sean MacDonald – Vice President, American Concrete Industries, (207) 947-8334
- Shawn Murphy, Mount Desert Harbormaster, (207) 276-5737

One-Lane Traffic on Stillwater Bridge Beginning Wednesday Morning

23 Jul 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The Maine Dept. of Transportation has indicated plans to begin Stillwater Bridge repairs on Wednesday, July 28. Flaggers will move traffic through that section of Stillwater Avenue through one passable lane from 4 a.m.-3:30 p.m. each day. State transportation officials expect this work to continue until late August. They have asked that commuters to UMaine consider alternate routes during this time frame. *Note: this notice is updated to reflect a two-day postponement in the start of this project.*

Youth Development Institute Underway at UMaine; Experts Discussing Dropout Prevention

26 Jul 2010

Contact: Lauren Sterling, Governor's Children's Cabinet and Department of Education (207) 465-5228 ORONO – More than 250 educators, school administrators, afterschool staff and young people are at the University of Maine for the three-day 2010 Youth Development Institute, which runs through Wednesday. Formerly known as the Dropout Prevention Summit, the institute features a series of afternoon workshops at Wells Conference Center. This year's institute, "Relationships, Relationships, Relationship (R3): The Key to Success in Schools and Communities," developed from 2009 Dropout Prevention Summit recommendations. It intends to enable adults who work with youth to gain better understanding of the methods, theory and research that support effective student engagement and overall youth development to effectively reduce dropout rates. More than 30 workshops will describe exemplary practices and strategies in engaging and educating Maine students, especially those with various challenges and barriers to school success. The Youth Development Institute comes at the same time that the Maine Department of Education is completing its state application for over \$5 million dollars to partner with Maine schools to increase graduation rates. The institute is co-sponsored by the Maine Governor's Children's Cabinet. The Maine Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Maine Afterschool Network, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and the University of Maine College of Education and Human Development.

Penobscot Birchbark Artist to Build Wigwam at the Hudson Museum

28 Jul 2010

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1901; Barry Dana, 643-2595 ORONO -- An authentic birchbark wigwam soon will be part of the University of Maine's Hudson Museum Maine Indian Gallery in the Collins Center for the Arts. Former Penobscot Nation Chief and master birchbark artist Barry Dana is coordinating the building of a birchbark wigwam with children from the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club. Most of the work on the wigwam will be between Monday, Aug. 2 and Wednesday, August 4 at the museum. It will become the centerpiece of the museum's Maine Indian Gallery. In a culturally traditional fashion, Dana will pass on to the children this ancient art form. During construction, children from the Penobscot Nation Boys and Girls Club will learn about how the materials -- birchbark, spruce root and pitch -- are gathered and used. Visitors are welcome to stop by to watch the construction and learn about the tradition. The birchbark wigwam was central to Maine Indian life, providing shelter and structure. Bark from the paper birch tree was the fabric of life in the region, offering materials to make everything from containers, to rain gear, to canoes. Maine Wabanaki material culture traditions have been passed down from generation to generation through hands-on learning and working with others, perfecting each step in the process until they can complete each one successfully. Dana, a former Penobscot chief, is pleased the museum will add the wigwam to its collection, and says it will strengthen the relationships among those living in the Penobscot homeland today. "To me, the wigwam is a teaching tool from my ancestors," he adds. Building a wigwam reinforces his own connections to the past, Dana says. "It gives me a chance to talk with other people who value it. We've always said these things are important and we should continue them." The museum, with assistance from the UMaine new media program, will film and document steps in the wigwam construction process, perhaps the first time the entire wigwam construction process has ever been documented. The museum will add the video to an existing multimedia kiosk in the Maine Indian Gallery and to the museum website, according to director Gretchen Faulkner. The wigwam will be nearly full size, at about 8.5 feet in diameter and 7 feet high. Its design will draw on research on historic structures and archaeological evidence. Dana says wigwams can be different sizes, as small as a camping tent or as large as a gymnasium, depending upon their purpose. Children and adults will be able to enter the structure and move around in it. Objects that would be associated with the wigwam -- snowshoes, birchbark containers and baskets, for instance -- also will be available for visitors to explore. The structure will be the only indoor wigwam in the state, according to Faulkner. The project is funded by grants from the Maine Arts

Commission, the Maine Humanities Council and the Renee Minsky Fund. The Hudson Museum is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturdays from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. It is closed Sundays and holidays. More information is available on the museum website, or by calling the museum at (207) 581-1901.

Maine Coastal Access Online Toolkit Adapted as a National Model

28 Jul 2010

Contact Kristen Grant, 207-646-1555 x115, kngrant@maine.edu ORONO -- The National Sea Grant Law center is providing funding to help five other states adapt a Maine-developed informational Web site related to waterfront access issues. Maine Sea Grant, based at the University of Maine, developed the [site](#) in response to the demonstrated need for information about legal mechanisms for addressing waterfront access issues. The site features tools for waterfront users, landowners, and government and public trust entities to use in assessing issues related to access and usage. Across the nation, conflicts among diverse waterfront users present economic and environmental challenges to coastal communities. In Maine, where only 20 miles of the 5,300-mile coastline support water-dependent industries, the majority of commercial access points are privately owned and vulnerable to conversion. At the same time, kayakers find their access to launch sites restricted, and coastal property owners experience a lack of privacy and understanding from people using their property. Waterfront landowners, land trusts, regional planners, municipal officials, and many other stakeholders have praised the site and shared it with neighbors and colleagues. "One of the Law Center's core missions is to increase the capacity of the individual Sea Grant programs to address legal issues. State-specific legal research was required to adapt the Maine website for use in the individual states, which required the Sea Grant programs to develop new partnerships with law schools. I believe these relationships will improve the services those Sea Grant programs provide to their constituents in the future," says Stephanie Showalter Otts, director of the National Sea Grant Law Center. "It's been wonderful to watch the Maine model spread throughout the country," said Showalter Otts, noting that waterfront access information is now available online for New Jersey, Virginia, Mississippi, Alabama, and Hawaii. Other project partners are Maine Working Waterfront Coalition, Coastal Enterprises, Inc., Maine Coastal Program, Island Institute, University of Maine Law School's Center for Law and Innovation, and Maine Department of Revenue Services. Representatives from these states will meet in Portland in September, when Maine hosts the Working Waterfronts and Waterways National Symposium on Water Access.

Research Shows Children's Aerobic Performance Improves During School Year

28 Jul 2010

Contact: Steve Butterfield, 581-2469; George Manlove (207) 581-3756 **July 28 Workshop to Help Teachers Learn to Administer Fitness Tests** ORONO -- Summer is traditionally considered the time when children are most physically active, but a recent study by University of Maine physical education researchers and collaborating public school physical education teachers found that fitness may decrease when youngsters are not in school. Stephen Butterfield and Robert Lehnhard of UMaine's College of Education and Human Development and Craig Mason, UMaine associate professor of education, tested the aerobic performance of 826 students in grades 4-8 on the PACER (Progressive Aerobic Cardiovascular Endurance Run) fitness measurement program, in which students run laps at increasing levels of intensity. "We initially anticipated better performance in the summer because of greater physical activity levels," says Butterfield. "But in our literature review, we found a study done in Greece that found better aerobic performance during the school year than in the summer when kids are supposed to be more active." Indeed, in the Maine testing, he says, "kids got better. They improved their aerobic performance throughout the school year. Their aerobic performance, which is important for cardiovascular health, improved throughout the school year when they were allegedly least active." A related study also found that students with asthma improved their fitness faster than their non-asthmatic peers. "They were behind aerobically because maybe they never pushed themselves aerobically or may have not been encouraged," Butterfield says. "The basic conclusion is maybe we underestimated these kids." The research, one of the few longitudinal studies of fitness assessment, adds to the evidence that asthmatic students who are able to manage their condition benefit from vigorous exertion, even children with the type of asthma brought on by exercise, which constitutes 60-90 percent of kids with asthma, Butterfield says. The positive findings were a springboard for a Maine Youth Fitness Project July 28 at UMaine. Physical education teachers from 15-20 Maine schools were scheduled to learn how to use fitness evaluation software and other tools for administering PACER in their programs this fall.

Butterfield can be reached at (207) 581-2469 for additional information.

"Hello Dolly!," Agatha Christie Mark Debut of UMaine Summer Theater Festival

29 Jul 2010

Contact: Tom Mikotowicz (tom.mikotowicz@umit.maine.edu) ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Performing Arts presents one of the most beloved theater musicals of all time, followed by an Agatha Christie murder mystery, when the first UMaine SPA Summer Music Theater Festival opens Friday, July 30. A group made up primarily of community members will perform "Hello Dolly!" the next two weekends, and "The Mousetrap" will be held the following two weekends. All performances will be held in Hauck Auditorium. The Tony Award-winning "Hello Dolly!" will run July 30-31 and Aug. 6-7 with 7:30 p.m. showtimes all four days. There will be 2 p.m. showings Aug. 1 and Aug. 8. "The Mousetrap" will open with 7:30 p.m. showings Aug. 13-14 and Aug. 20-21. The showtimes for Aug. 15 and Aug. 22 are 2 p.m. Based on Thornton Wilder's play "The Matchmaker," composer Jerry Herman's "Hello Dolly!" tells the story of matchmaker Dolly Levi, who decides to win over wealthy client Horace Vandergelder for herself. "Hello Dolly!" was made in 1969 into an Academy Award-winning movie starring Barbra Streisand and Walter Matthau. Christie's renowned mystery "The Mousetrap" is about Mollie and Gilles Ralston, who recently opened a new hotel but soon find themselves snowed in with their guests and a murderer. Tickets are \$14 for "Hello Dolly!" and \$10 for "The Mousetrap," with a special price of \$20 for those who buy tickets for both shows at the same time. Tickets can be purchased through the box office at the Collins Center for the Arts. To buy tickets call 581-1755 or visit the box office in the lobby of the Collins Center. The box office is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. The UMaine SPA Summer Music Theater Festival is supported in part by a grant from the Class of 1934 Fund.

Researchers Hope to Stop Emerald Ash Borer before It Reaches Maine

30 Jul 2010

Contact: Darren Ranco, (207) 581-1801, William Livingston, (207) 581-2990; Robert Lilieholm, (207) 581-2896 ORONO. Maine -- The emerald ash borer, which already has devastated ash tree populations in states like Michigan and Ohio, and is now found in New York and the province of Quebec, is threatening Maine's ash and thousands of forest-related jobs, including Native American basketmaking. In an effort to research this potentially devastating new invasive species and minimize its impact, basketmakers, tribal members, state and federal agencies, and University of Maine researchers have joined forces. "If this resource goes away, it's devastating on a couple of levels," says Darren Ranco, associate professor of anthropology and coordinator of Native American research at UMaine. Basketmaking is a substantial part of tribal culture and is important economically to the weavers. Made from native brown ash trees, Maine Indian baskets are functional art forms that have been passed down through generations of the state's Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes. The Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance serves as one of the principal investigators on the ongoing project, along with Ranco, forest policy professor Rob Lilieholm and associate professor of forest recreation management John Daigle. Since 2009, the researchers have received \$173,000 in grants from Maine's Sustainability Solutions Initiative and the National Science Foundation's EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) Program to bring together interested parties and start examining what has happened in other areas. The grant funding continues the work through June 2011. The research team has been consulting with tribal representatives and using state-of-the-art computer software modeling to better identify locations of brown ash stands and implementing outreach activities to educate the public about the problem. They also are working with the tribes and Native American youth to collect ash seeds as a resource for future generations in the event the emerald ash borer does devastate Maine's ash resources. The emerald ash borer is an exotic green beetle discovered in southeastern Michigan in 2002. While the adult beetles eat ash foliage and cause little damage, the larvae feed on the inner bark of ash trees, disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients. Maine is ahead of other states in trying to prevent and manage the invasion before it occurs, but its eventual presence in the state is likely inevitable, explains UMaine associate professor of forest resources William Livingston. The most important of those management practices is preventing people from transporting wood into the state from other areas, says Livingston, who, with colleagues, successfully urged the passage in January of LD 1607, An Act to Regulate the Transportation of Firewood, signed by Gov. Baldacci into law April 1. "The longer it takes to get here, the better chance of natural predators or parasites — either native or introduced — to reduce the population," Livingston says. Ash is a common landscaping tree in Maine,

and according to Livingston, "almost all of the planted ash trees in urban areas are likely to be killed by the borer after it gets here. This is what happened in the Detroit area." While ash represents only a small percentage of forest trees in Maine, at 427 million trees, it is still a significant resource. "The relative impact on Maine forests will be small commercially as far as wood volume, but where ash does have value, that means it's really threatened," Livingston says. A UMaine Today magazine article has additional details.

UMaine Listed in Princeton Review's "Best Colleges" for Seventh Consecutive Year; University Also Listed as Regional Choice and One of Just 18 "Green Honor Roll" Institutions

03 Aug 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 Leah Pennino (LPennino@Review.com) or (508)663-5133 ORONO -- The Princeton Review (<http://www.princetonreview.com>) has listed the University of Maine among "The Best 373 Colleges" in its annual directory of the country's best institutions for undergraduate education. The Princeton's Reviews 2011 edition of its annual guide hits newsstands today. This marks seven consecutive years for UMaine on The Princeton Review "Best Colleges" list. Only about 15 percent of America's 2,500 four-year colleges and two Canadian colleges are profiled in the book, which is The Princeton Review's flagship college guide. It includes detailed profiles of the colleges with rating scores for all schools in eight categories, plus ranking lists of top 20 schools in 62 categories based on The Princeton Review's surveys of students attending the colleges. "We continue to be grateful for this important recognition from The Princeton Review," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This listing means a great deal to us, because it is based -- to a significant degree -- on feedback and commentary from our students. The UMaine student experience features high-quality academics, vibrant campus life and access to all the wonderful things Maine has to offer. Our students are telling The Princeton Review, year after year, that UMaine represents quality and value, and we appreciate this form of affirmation." UMaine is also one of just 18 colleges and universities listed in The Princeton Review's "Green Honor Roll." Maine is well-represented on the honor roll, with College of the Atlantic and Unity College joining UMaine. Several of the nation's leading research universities, including Arizona State, Georgia Tech and the University of California-Berkeley are also on that prestigious list, along with Harvard and Yale. Recognizing schools for their commitment to sustainability, the Green Honor Roll lists those institutions that received the highest possible score on The Princeton Review green rating. The guide lauds UMaine for its recycling programs, green-certified buildings and free shuttle bus service. It also notes the fact that UMaine has a sustainability coordinator, a sustainability council and "Eco Reps" in its residence halls. Additionally, UMaine is one of 218 colleges and universities listed in The Princeton Review's "The Best Northeastern Colleges: 2011 Edition." That publication goes on sale Tuesday Aug. 10. "We commend the University of Maine for its outstanding academics, which is the primary criteria for our selection of schools for the book," says Robert Franek, Princeton Review's senior vice president/publishing and author of the guide. "Our choices are based on institutional data we collect about schools, our visits to schools over the years, feedback we gather from students attending the schools, and the opinions of our staff and our 28-member National College Counselor Advisory Board. We also work to keep a wide representation of colleges in the book by region, size, selectivity and character." The Princeton Review does not rank the colleges in the book academically or from 1 to 373 in any category. Instead it reports in the book 62 ranking lists of "top 20" colleges in various categories. The lists are entirely based on The Princeton Review's survey of 122,000 students (about 325 per campus on average) attending the colleges in the book and not on The Princeton Review's opinion of the schools. The 80-question survey asks students to rate their own schools on several topics and report on their campus experiences at them. Topics range from assessments of their professors as teachers to opinions about their financial aid and campus food. Other ranking lists are based on student reports about their student body's political leanings, race/class relations, and LGBT community acceptance. The Princeton Review explains the basis for each ranking list in the book and at www.princetonreview.com/college/college-rankings.aspx. About the University of Maine: the University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu> About The Princeton Review: The Princeton Review (Nasdaq: REVU) has been a

pioneer and leader in helping students achieve their higher education goals for more than 28 years through college and graduate school test preparation and tutoring. With more than 165 print and digital publications and a free website, (www.PrincetonReview.com), the Company provides students and their parents with the resources to research, apply to, prepare for, and learn how to pay for higher education. The Princeton Review also partners with schools and guidance counselors throughout the U.S. to assist in college readiness, test preparation and career planning services, helping more students pursue postsecondary education. The Company also owns and operates Penn Foster Education Group, a global leader in online education. Penn Foster provides career-focused degree and vocational programs in the fields of allied health, business, technology, education, and select trades through the Penn Foster High School and Penn Foster Career School (www.pennfoster.edu), which are headquartered in Scranton, PA.

UMaine Facilities Management to Start Work on Stormwater Pond

04 Aug 2010

Contact: Scott Wilkerson, (207) 581-3049 or scott.wilkerson@umit.maine.edu ORONO – The University of Maine Office of Facilities Management will begin early next week a multi-part project to improve stormwater management on campus and keep in compliance with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. Starting around Aug. 9, the Belgrade Spur Detention Pond will be dredged and other areas near the site, which is off Belgrade Road, will be corrected and enhanced. The project is expected to be done by Aug. 25. No traffic interruptions are expected. Part of the lower section of the Belgrade parking lot near the pond will be closed to all but construction traffic. Dredging of the pond, which collects stormwater runoff, is necessary because testing done last year for the first time revealed the pond was 19 percent over its original loss capacity. Maine DEP requires abatement if a detention pond is 15 or more over its capacity. Around 500 cubic yards of sediment will be collected during the dredging process. The sediment, which was found during testing to not have high levels of hazardous materials, will be piled on the embankment of the pond, where it will dry for several days before it is trucked to a disposal site. The pond, which spills into a stream, is a human-made structure that was built about 10 years ago. It is not considered a wetland environment. In addition to the dredging, the stones from a nearby spreader, which cools and slows stormwater as it enters the pond, will be removed temporarily. The base of the spreader will be cleared of weeds and other overgrowth, and then the stones will be replaced. A silt fence and swale, or low area of land, will also be built in order to keep stormwater flowing into the pond and away from nearby wetlands. The university holds a MS4 (Municipal Storm Sewer Separation System) permit from the DEP. The permit requires its holder to maintain structures that reduce or eliminate pollutants going into a nearby water source. Facilities management opted to carry out the work in August because water levels are at their annual lows from July 15 to Oct. 15. The final cost of the project is expected to be around \$40,000. A similar detention pond near Nutting Hall was also surveyed last year and found to have had little to no increase in capacity.

Mechanical Engineering Researchers, Students Look to Perfect Robotic Surgery Technology

10 Aug 2010

Contact: Mohsen Shahinpoor, (207) 581-2143; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- University of Maine mechanical engineers and their students are taking robotics to a whole new level with several new and ongoing research projects, including robotic surgery. By designing, configuring and testing smart computerized machinery composed of cables, circuits, electronic motors and servos, they hope to revolutionize some surgical procedures, including ways for doctors to operate on patients thousands of miles away. "The question that we wanted to answer is (how) to allow a surgeon to perform robotic surgery on a patient away from the patient," says Mohsen Shahinpoor, chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering. "Second, we want to make any robotic tool or end-effector such as forceps that is inserted through incision inside the body of the patient to perform robotic surgery to be disposable after surgery." And third, Shahinpoor adds, it is important to equip any robotic tool or end-effector that is inserted in a patient with a "feel sensor" to enable surgeons performing long-distance robotic surgery to receive force in addition to visual feedback. "For example, suppose we had a battlefield, and a soldier gets injured. The soldier needs immediate surgery," Shahinpoor says. "The way we are now moving, we haven't achieved it yet, but it may be possible in the very near future that a surgeon here in the U.S. operates on a soldier in Kabul, Afghanistan. "Perfect surgery completes everything," he says. "That's another vision. Just imagine the implications of that for remote areas in a state like Maine." Students at both graduate and undergraduate levels are getting hands-on experience in the field of robotics, and Shahinpoor frequently

introduces Maine schoolchildren to robotics during visits to his Biomedical Engineering and Robotic Surgery laboratories.

UMaine AD James Leaving for Miami Post

10 Aug 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 Andrew Mahoney at (207) 581-4158 ORONO -- University of Maine athletic director Blake James has accepted an offer to return to the University of Miami, where he worked in athletic administration from 1998-2001. UMaine's AD since July 2005, James will leave in early September. "Blake has done an outstanding job managing the UMaine athletic department, and we will miss him," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "He has responded to significant challenges by making tough decisions and maintaining focus on the appropriate priorities, especially the academic success of our student-athletes, which has been exceptional during his tenure. While overseeing a competitive Division I program, Blake has built a strong foundation for future Black Bear athletic success. UMaine will benefit from his positive impact on the university and the department for years to come." At Miami, James will serve as senior associate athletic director for external affairs. He will be responsible for several aspects of that Atlantic Coast Conference institution's athletics operations, including marketing, development, ticket sales and ticket operations. He will be a member of the Hurricanes' senior administrative staff, reporting to AD Kirby Hocutt. James arrived at UMaine in 2003, first serving as senior associate athletic director. He was named interim AD in July 2005 and was chosen for the AD job following a national search in May 2006. In addition to Miami, James has also worked at the University of Nebraska and Providence College. "I truly appreciate the opportunity I have been given here at UMaine. My family and I have enjoyed our time here immensely and we will always treasure our experiences as part of the UMaine community," James says. "At the same time, a return to Miami in this role represents a personal and professional opportunity that it too good to pass up." Black Bear teams have qualified for NCAA tournament play in football, men's hockey and baseball during James' UMaine tenure. Teams in several other sports have had significant successes competing at the conference level, while a number of individuals in sports like cross-country, track and field and swimming have excelled against regional and even national competitors. "Nobody competes harder than Black Bear coaches and student-athletes," James says. "UMaine teams are known for perseverance, hard work and the ability to overcome adversity, and that is a credit to everybody who wears the Black Bear uniform. I will always be proud to be a UMaine fan." Black Bear student-athletes have excelled in the classroom during James' tenure, achieving an overall grade point average above 3.0 and with record numbers of Black Bears receiving university academic recognition in 2010. UMaine student-athletes have earned conference student-athlete of the year honors six times during James' time as AD. In 2007, UMaine won the America East Academic Cup Award, given to the conference member institution with the highest overall grade point average among students participating in conference sports. The UMaine athletic department has also grown in significant ways during James' tenure. He has overseen the development of a statewide television and radio network, a department-wide equipment arrangement with Adidas and several facility enhancements, including the Mahaney Dome, the Alford Arena video scoreboard, a new field hockey complex and new surfaces on Morse Field and Mahaney Diamond. To arrange interviews with Blake James, contact Andrew Mahoney at (207) 581-4158.

UMaine, UVM Partner for Unique Online Weight Management Course

11 Aug 2010

Contacts: Robert White, (207) 581-3113; Rod Bushway, (207) 581- 1626; Susan Sullivan, (207) 581-3130 ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine and the University of Vermont are joining forces this fall to offer a research-based online weight management course that helps college students develop healthy eating and exercise habits. "Vtrim Online" is a one-credit, semester-long course based on clinical research by Jean Harvey-Berino, Ph.D, R.D., a nationally recognized obesity researcher at the University of Vermont. Her concept is based on behavior changes: a systematic shaping of daily habits to help people move more and eat less. "There is a groundswell nationwide for universities to provide preventative health programming to students," says Harvey-Berino. "It's an ideal time in their lives to learn healthy eating behaviors for long-term health and earn college credit, too." Vtrim arms students with the tactics and knowledge to sustainably combat weight gain through behavior modification – altering reactions to emotional and environmental stimuli through reinforcement of a new behavior, or a reduction in unhealthy behavior. The University of

Vermont has offered Vtrim since 2009. The entire program takes place online. Students are guided by a trained instructor, with whom they meet online weekly for a class in which lessons are discussed in a structured text-based chat room. Individual progress is tracked with online tools, including a food journal and exercise tracker. Students receive expert feedback on their progress. At UMaine, Rod Bushway and Susan Sullivan of the Food Science and Human Nutrition faculty and Ph.D. student Doug Mathews have worked to make the class available to students at UMaine. "We expect a great deal of student interest in the course," Sullivan says. "Vtrim provides a good opportunity for UMaine students to learn about behavior modification techniques while benefiting their own health." Though some students sign up to lose weight, most enroll to learn healthy behaviors. Students work with instructors to set realistic goals and establish healthy lifestyle perspectives. Typical weight loss has been 1-2 pounds per week for students in previous classes and 83 percent of people completing Vtrim achieve a clinically meaningful weight loss of 5-10 percent. Obesity continues to grow as a public health problem. Obesity prevalence is 19.1 percent for men and women aged 18-29 years, according to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, and obesity rates increased in 28 states in 2009, according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. ~ "The University of Maine is proud to be part of a solution to the escalating trend of obesity and unhealthy eating and exercise habits," says Robert C. White, associate provost and dean of the University of Maine's Division of Lifelong Learning. Vtrim is being offered through the division's continuing and distance education program. The UMaine Vtrim Online course is a 12-week Wednesday class from 7-8 p.m., scheduled Sept. 7-Dec. 03. The course is open to all degree and non-degree students. For more information or to register, visit dll.umaine.edu/cd/ or call (207) 581-3143.

Planned New Media Center to Align State with Burgeoning Digital Industries

12 Aug 2010

Contact: Velma Figgins (207) 581-4358 ORONO -- The New Media Innovation, Research and Development Center scheduled to open at UMaine in 2012 is being designed to help the state tap the multi-billion-dollar digital film, gaming and animation fields, which will lead to growth opportunities for the state's new media companies and the university. "That this will be a state-of-the-art technology center connected to new media and new media's connections to multiple other disciplines will really allow us to ramp up our ability to delve into new media research in physical computing and media production, and a whole range of opportunities," says Owen Smith, director of UMaine's Intermedia Master of Fine Arts program. Smith is overseeing much of the center's planning and design. New media is a growing field in a variety of areas, including 3-D modeling and all of the imaging and visualization connections to architecture, science and related fields. "We already know about the importance of the film industry and the tens of billions of dollars associated with it," says Smith, who will resume his position as director of the Department of New Media when he returns this fall from sabbatical. "This is a huge area for the state of Maine that can really leverage this investment and create some unique opportunities for our students, and for really pushing and helping the economy in the state of Maine." The center's purpose is to develop a new culture of innovation and creativity for Maine by establishing needed technical facilities for continued and new training, research, development and commercialization. The new center also will house state-of-art rapid prototyping facilities to support business start-ups. It will significantly enhance the state's ability to pursue collaborative research and development initiatives with potential for beneficial economic and social impact, according to Smith. He is working with UMaine's ASAP Media Services, the Foster Center for Student Innovation and at least eight independent Maine-based new media companies to accomplish this. The center is made possible largely through a \$3.69 million 2009 award from the Maine Technology Institute to enable the University of Maine Innovative Industries Initiative and the New Media Innovation, Research and Development Center. The center is planned in the former Stewart Commons building. Design of the facilities is currently underway with construction scheduled to begin in March and the building to open the summer of 2012.

UMaine Gearing Up for New-Look Admissions Open House

12 Aug 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- As the University of Maine prepares to welcome its new first-year students later this month, an informative, exciting, lively Monday Aug. 23 open house will signal the start of the 2010-2011 student recruitment and admissions cycle. Labeled "Summer Tour 2010," the event represents a new approach to the traditional open house. Prospective students and their families will have ample opportunity to learn about UMaine

academic programs and other elements of the UMaine student experience, but their experience will be enhanced by a lunchtime cookout and a performance by Atlantic Clarion, the popular steel drum band from Brooksville. They will also be part of the largest open house group -- by far -- that UMaine has hosted. The event is scheduled for the UMaine Mall from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., with the Student Recreation and Fitness Center set as a rainy-weather alternative location. Early registrations indicate strong interest among students from Maine and other states who will be high school juniors and seniors this fall. While a total of 535 people attended last year's August open house, 915 are registered for Summer Tour 2010. Registration is no longer open for this event. "We are both gratified and excited by the tremendous interest in this event," says Susan Hunter, UMaine's senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "This response indicates broad appreciation for UMaine's quality and value, and we look forward to presenting an informative, enjoyable program for our guests." In addition to the barbecue and live music, students and their families will have opportunities to learn more about admissions and financial aid, to take campus tours, to explore academic programs, to speak with current UMaine students and to meet their potential future UMaine classmates. Those who enroll in the fall of 2011 will be members of the Class of 2015, UMaine's sesquicentennial class.

Bangor Daily News reports on archaeological discovery off the Maine coast

13 Aug 2010

BASS HARBOR, Maine — An ancient freshwater lake, now submerged under salt water off the coast of Mount Desert Island, offers insights into how Maine's coastline was formed and how those areas that are now under water became habitable for the state's earliest settlers.

UMaine police encourage key registration program

13 Aug 2010

UMaine police encourage key registration program - [Click here for more information or to register your keytag.](#)

Race track expert Peterson in ESPN story on new California surface

13 Aug 2010

Racing surface expert Mick Peterson began a study on the safety of Santa Anita's Pro-Ride synthetic surface on Tuesday, and said Wednesday that he will present a preliminary report on his findings at the California Horse Racing Board's monthly meeting in Del Mar on Aug. 19. [Click here for the full story.](#)

UMaine's plans for new media center outlined in Mainebiz

13 Aug 2010

The University of Maine is launching a new media center that school officials say will help create jobs and strengthen the state's economy.

Economic, Business Development Specialists Available to Entrepreneurs

13 Aug 2010

Contact: Renee Kelly, 581-1401, Deb Neuman, 866-6500 ORONO -- The director of the University of Maine's Economic Development Initiatives is reminding entrepreneurs and inventors throughout the state that many university resources are available to offer new business development advice and information at no cost. "Businesses that would like to work with the university can access a whole bunch of resources that are available here," says Director Renee Kelly. "We can help them develop their business plan and find the resources that they need to make their business successful." The university also has research resources available to assist businesses with product development, she says. "They can come in with an idea and there are centers here on campus that can take that idea and make it into a prototype, and then help them develop it into a real product," Kelly says. One of the best ways to receive assistance

from the university is to contact the Target Technology Incubator at (207) 866-6500. The center works with tech-based companies and investors in need of assistance to take their ideas to market. New business owners can find out about resources available to help with business planning and structure, and also new product development and commercialization. "It's a great, great, great place and again a great resource, and we work with companies on many different levels," say incubator Director Deb Neuman. "We will assess where someone is in their business development and guide them towards the resources best suited to their needs. Some just come in and they sit down with us and we brainstorm and we coach and we asses where they are, where they are trying to go and offer encouragement and insight and connection to resources to help them move their company or their idea to the next phase. We also have companies that actually have space there." While most advice and information is free, some costs may be passed along for use of prototyping resources. They also can contact the UMaine Department of Industrial Cooperation at (207) 581-2201, which helps businesses access resources at the university, or the University of Maine Cooperative Extension at 581-2811 for general business questions.

UMaine Marine Sciences Professor on Why Ocean Acidification Puts Maine's Fishing Industry at Risk

13 Aug 2010

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bu3bwlKxide>

Forestry Pest Experts Offer Precautions against Invasive Beetles

13 Aug 2010

Contact: William Livingston, 581-2990; Dave Struble, 287-4981 ORONO -- In support of Gov. John Baldacci's recent proclamation of August as Asian Longhorn Beetle Awareness Month, University of Maine forest resources professor William Livingston and Maine State Entomologist Dave Struble are reminding Maine outdoors enthusiasts about the danger of bringing firewood into the state. "Maine's forests have suffered from the introduction of pests resulting in Dutch elm disease, white pine blister rust, beech bark disease, and chestnut blight," says Livingston, who teaches and conducts research on tree pests and disease. "Therefore, it's important for all of us to help the Maine Forest Service in its efforts to keep new invasive pests out of the state." Foresters are concerned about the potential forest destruction caused by the Asian longhorn beetle, the woolly adelgid and the emerald ash borer, which have invaded forests in the Northeast and threaten Maine's 17 million acres of woodland and the thousands of jobs dependent upon the forest industry. Though summer is winding down, the threat of these invasive species remains high, Livingston and Struble say. The Asian longhorn beetle, for instance, begins showing up in late summer. Fall outdoor activities, including hunting, draw visitors from infested states. Fall hunters and campers could unknowingly bring firewood harboring the destructive beetles with them, says Livingston. In March, the Maine legislature adopted LD 1607, An Act to Regulate the Transportation of Firewood, which was signed into law by Gov. Baldacci April 1. The bill targets potentially infested out-of-state firewood. "We are trying to make visitors aware that it is not only unwise, but now also illegal, to bring firewood from home when you come to Maine," says Struble. He says it is also important for the public to help researchers and foresters monitor insect-related damage to trees by reporting evidence of the pests. "First, we do not want people to bring firewood, but we also want people to look out for signs of damage," Struble says. Early detection is a prominent strategy for vigilance against the pests, and it is usually members of the public who report initial infestations, Struble and Livingston say. Information on how to recognize potential invasive pests can be found at the [Maine Forest Service website](#). Livingston is available at (207) 581-2990 and Struble is available at (207) 287-4981 to answer questions about how Maine residents and visitors can help protect the state from invasive species.

UMaine alum wins episode of Food Network's "Chopped"

13 Aug 2010

Boston-based chef Rebecca Newell, a 1999 UMaine graduate, beat four other women for a \$10,000 prize on the Aug. 10 episode of Food Network show.

Extension Apple Specialist Sees Light But Early Harvest

13 Aug 2010

Contact: Renae Moran, (207) 933-2100, Ext. 105 MONMOUTH - University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator and fruit tree specialist Renae Moran says many Maine apple orchards are seeing light but early harvests this year. "I'm starting to see it with the early varieties and I think it's going to happen with Macintosh," says Moran, a plant soil, pomology and environmental sciences specialist. "Spring was three weeks early and a lot of orchards have a light crop because of the freeze" in late spring. Some apple harvesting already is underway, a week or more early. Moran is available at (207) 933-2100, extension 105, to discuss reasons and further details about the 2010 apple crop.

UMaine Hosting Workshop on Wireless Wechnology for Aerospace Industry

13 Aug 2010

Contact: Ali Abedi, 581-2231 orabedi@ieee.org ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine will host this month representatives from the government, academic community and aerospace industry companies to discuss future uses of wireless technology in the aerospace industry, and how the technology can be applied to commercial aviation, during the CANEUS Fly-By-Wireless Workshop. The conference will be held Aug. 24-27 in Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall. Dr. Ali Abedi, a UMaine assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering and director of the Wireless Sensor Networks (WiSe-Net) Laboratory, will serve as the conference chairman. George Studor of the structural engineering division at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, will deliver a keynote address at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 24, about the vision, opportunities and challenges for wireless technology in the aerospace industry. Abedi said NASA is exploring the uses of wireless technology because of the weight of wires and related equipment needed to run systems onboard space exploration vehicles. The heavier the equipment, the more energy and therefore more fuel is needed for travel. The Federal Aviation Administration is also considering the same problems. Successful deployment of wireless devices in the future could help airlines keep down fuel costs that are passed on to consumers. CANEUS is a nonprofit organization made up of members of the aeronautics, defense and space communities in Canada, Europe, the U.S., and another areas of the world. For more information, go to www.caneus.org/fbw10. Abedi will also serve as chairman of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) Northeast Industry Day, which is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 24, in Portsmouth, N.H. The event will bring together around 100 professionals from Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts with the goal of strengthening regional and industrial relationships. The conference will focus on key technologies in the areas of broadband communications, energy, human-computer interfaces and systems. For more information on IEEE Northeast Industry Day, go to <http://ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/irc/>

UMaine to Launch New, Admissions-Focused Home Page on Tuesday

16 Aug 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine will debut a new-look primary Web page on Tuesday, Aug. 17. A simplified version of the current page at <http://www.umaine.edu>, it will feature links that direct visitors to the most relevant and timely information sources on the university's extensive Web site. Based on contemporary design standards and a thorough examination of current best practices, the new home page is particularly focused on helping students and prospective students quickly find the information they need. The new site takes into account the suggestions of Noel-Levitz, a national consulting firm that sent representatives to UMaine in early 2010 to make recommendations relative to recruiting, financial aid and marketing. UMaine President Robert Kennedy referenced those recommendations and outlined their importance in May when he outlined "UMaine 150," a series of initiatives he proposed to help assure an economically sustainable future for UMaine. UMaine launched a complete Web site redesign one year ago, using a WordPress-based content management system. Hundreds of UMaine units, including all of the university's colleges, have converted to that new format. Those Web sites remain unaffected by tomorrow's change, which only modifies [umaine.edu](http://www.umaine.edu) and certain sites maintained by the Dept. of University Relations, including a new, blog-based news site at <http://www.umaine.edu/news>. The Dept. of University Relations provides free conversions to the updated format for any UMaine unit. Those interested in changing from older HTML-based sites to the current template can choose from a number of options, all of which provide advanced functionality, compliance with standards related to users with disabilities and the simplified updating options associated with the WordPress content management system. Contact Chris Smith (chris.smith@umit.maine.edu) for more information.

Financial Aid Director Peggy Crawford in Bangor Daily News Editorial

16 Aug 2010

Peggy Crawford, UMaine's director of financial aid, provided perspectives for a Bangor Daily News editorial examining issues related to student debt. She points out that student advisers work to try and help students find ways to minimize the debt they incur, but that students "typically" graduate with more than \$20,000 in loan debt. There is more in a story [here](#).

Coladarci/Kornfield study referenced by USA Today

16 Aug 2010

A USA Today story about RateMyProfessors.Com, a Web site that allows users to post commentary about college professors, includes references to a study by UMaine professors Ted Coladarci and Irv Kornfield published in the journal Practical Assessment, Evaluation and Research. They looked at correlations between the Web site's ratings and assessments that students provide when they finish courses. Coladarci, who is UMaine's director of institutional research, is quoted in the story.

UMaine Hosts Mitchell Scholars

16 Aug 2010

Former Maine Senator George Mitchell hosted some 50 recent Maine high school graduates at a Sunday UMaine reception for Maine's newest group of Mitchell Scholars. The scholarships, awarded by the George J. Mitchell Scholarship Institute, provide financial support for one graduate of every Maine high school each year. Mitchell, a Waterville native who represented Maine in the U.S. Senate for eight years, now serves as President Obama's special envoy to the Middle East. A Bangor Daily News story has more information.

Sociologist Blackstone Discusses Older Worker Harassment

16 Aug 2010

In an interview with the Capitol News Service for a Bangor Daily News article, UMaine sociologist Amy Blackstone discussed her ongoing research on older worker harassment, saying older people experience a different type of on-the-job harassment, that of isolation, being demeaned or feeling left out.

Collins Center for the Arts Announces 2010-2011 schedule

16 Aug 2010

[Collins Center for the Arts announces 2010-2011 schedule](#)

UMaine to Host Wireless Technology Conference

16 Aug 2010

[UMaine to host wireless technology conference.](#)

Prof. Peterson to Study Safety of California's Santa Anita Racetrack

17 Aug 2010

Daily Racing Form [reports](#) that California's Santa Anita racetrack has hired UMaine Prof. Mick Peterson to study that facility's synthetic track surface from a safety perspective. Peterson, a mechanical engineer, is the leading expert in the

impact of racetrack surfaces on horse safety. UMaine Today magazine reported on his work in a 2007 cover story.

Portland Press Herald Updates UMaine's Athletics Director Search

17 Aug 2010

[Tuesday's Portland Press Herald includes a report](#) updating UMaine's progress toward replacing athletic director Blake James, who accepted an athletics administration position at the University of Miami last week. The story notes that President Kennedy plans to name an interim AD before James Sept. 7 departure.

Prof. Brewer Comments in Press Herald on Maine's Gubernatorial Poll Report

17 Aug 2010

UMaine political science professor Mark Brewer provided comment for a [Portland Press Herald story](#) on the latest poll measuring public support for Maine's gubernatorial candidates.

Prof. Ann Sossong Quoted in Press Herald about Nursing Profession in Maine

17 Aug 2010

Ann Sossong of the UMaine nursing faculty is quoted in a [Portland Press Herald report](#) about a new Dept. of Labor report on the nursing profession in Maine. The report notes that the profession has been growing "slowly" in Maine since 2004, and that some 3,000 more will be needed by 2016. Sossong points out that the nursing community and nursing education professionals are working to predict more specifically what will be required of nurses in Maine several years from now.

Bountiful Harvest Expected for Maine Farmers and Gardeners

17 Aug 2010

Tori Jackson of UMaine Cooperative Extension's Androscoggin/Sagadahoc County office is quoted in a [Lewiston Sun Journal report](#) on the Maine agricultural harvest. Jackson points out that the the early spring allowed farmers and gardeners to plant early and that favorable weather since has benefited several crops. Barbara Murphy of Extension's Oxford County office says that "all crops" are doing well and that Extension offices can help growers find a good use for excess yield from their gardens.

Ippolito's Lego Blog Featured in Wired Magazine's Geekdad Blog

17 Aug 2010

[Wired Magazine's Geekdad blog highlights](#) UMaine New Media Professor Jon Ippolito, whose [blog](#) Legohacker celebrates what he calls "creative misuse" -- in this case, showcasing his son's use of Star WarsLego sets to create smaller but accurate [Star Trek sets](#).

Scientist, Filmmaker, Author Randy Olson to Visit UMaine Sept. 21-23

17 Aug 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 *Series of events to include retrospective on memorable Maine-based film.* ORONO -- What would make a couple of notoriously reclusive brothers from a Maine lobstering family sit down in front of a camera and open themselves up for a night of storytelling? Scientist-turned-filmmaker Randy Olson still ponders that question, nearly twenty years after Maine Public Broadcasting aired his intimate portrait of Stonington's Brian and Stevie Robbins. "It's still my favorite of all my films," Olson says about the hour long film which will be the centerpiece for his Tuesday Sept. 21-Thursday Sept. 23 visit to the University of Maine. In fact, he feels so passionate

about the film he's arranged for the two brothers and a whole crowd of their friends and family to attend the Wednesday, Sept. 22 showing which will be followed by a discussion between Olson and the Robbins brothers. At the time of the film's production Olson was still a professor of marine biology at the University of New Hampshire. That was before he moved to Hollywood, attended the University of Southern California Cinema School, made a series of award winning films that have premiered at film festivals from Tribeca to Telluride, then encapsulated the entire experience last year in his book, "Don't Be Such a Scientist: Talking Substance in an Age of Style," published by Island Press. In the four years since his feature documentary, "Flock of Dodos: The Evolution-Intelligent Design Circus," aired on Showtime he's conducted over 100 university and museum visits to screen that and his other feature, "Sizzle: A Global Warming Comedy." But this is the first time he's organized a major screening of the film featuring the Robbins brothers and their late father. "And that's why I'm so excited about this visit," Olson says. UMaine's Collins Center for the Arts will host several of Olson's presentations during his visit, including a Tuesday, Sept. 21 screening of "Flock of Dodos," scheduled for 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and followed by a question-and-answer session. Later that day, from 4-5 p.m. at the same location, he will give a talk based on "Don't Be Such a Scientist." A question-and-answer session and a book signing will follow. Wednesday's highlight, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Collins Center, will be a 20th anniversary screening of "Salt of the Earth," with Olson and the Robbins brothers scheduled to engage in a post-film discussion about the film and the lobstering industry. This is the only event on Olson's itinerary that requires a ticket purchase. Olson's visit will conclude on Thursday Sept. 23 with the Maine premiere screening of "Sizzle: A Global Warming Comedy" at 4 p.m. in the Collins Center. UMaine professors George Jacobson, Dan Sandweiss and Laura Lindenfeld will join Olson for a panel discussion following the film, to share their perspectives on the issues addressed in the film and on communicating about science. A reception will follow. For ticket information for the Wednesday evening showing of "Salt of the Earth," visit www.collinscenterforthearts.com or call (207) 581-1755 or 800-MCA-TIXX. More information about Olson's work is online at <http://www.randyolsonproductions.com>.

UMaine Receives National Design Award from the American Institute of Architects Committee on Architecture for Education

17 Aug 2010

Contact: Jesse Moriarity, 581-1427 ORONO - The University of Maine's Bion and Dorain Foster Center for Student Innovation has received a national design award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Committee on Architecture for Education (CAE). The center, designed by Oak Point Associates of Biddeford, Maine was one of nine educational and cultural facilities selected recently for this year's CAE Educational Facility Design Awards. The center received a citation award. In announcing the awards on its website, the AIA explains "the mission for the LEED Silver Foster Center for Student Innovation is to cultivate innovation and entrepreneurship. "As the site for the University's Innovation Engineering program, the center creates the bridge for the "Create, Communicate, Commercialize" program strategy," the association continues. "The building balances minimalism and comfort, public and private space, as well as areas for creative work and formal business interactions, enabling entrepreneurs to span the gap between a good idea and a commercialized product. The center's defining area is the Aha! Space, a place to enjoy floor-to-ceiling views of the surrounding natural environment and contemplate a world of potential." AIA Maine awarded Oak Point Architects a merit award in June for excellence in design.

UMaine Researchers Probe Arsenic Effects on Cells, Immune System

17 Aug 2010

Contact: Julie Gosse, (207) 581-4833 ORONO -- In continuing research on the effects of arsenic on mast cells, which help regulate the body's immune system and organ function, University of Maine biochemist Julie Gosse and a team of student researchers have found a new correlation. Using biochemical, molecular and cellular techniques, Gosse and her students from the Department of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences have been studying whether arsenic affects how mast cells function. "We found interesting data, but it was opposite of what we expected," Gosse says. "What we found was that the mast cell function was actually inhibited." With funding from the PhRMA Foundation and the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station, the researchers sought to determine if there is a link between arsenic in drinking water and asthma. They found no evidence of that, but Gosse says their data clearly support the conclusion that mast cell function can be disrupted by environmentally relevant levels of arsenic exposure. Mast cells are key players in

allergy, asthma and cancer and are important immune defense cells in the body, charged with fighting parasitic infections. They contain and release histamine and many other inflammatory mediators, which are needed for fighting parasites. The Gosse lab data suggest that arsenic may inhibit the ability of humans to fight off parasitic disease. Millions of people worldwide are exposed to both arsenic and parasites. The team used mammalian mast cells commonly used to model human mast cell function. Results of the research are being published in article in a forthcoming issue of the Journal of Applied Toxicology. Co-authors of the article, "Inorganic Arsenite Inhibits IgE Receptor-Mediated Degranulation of Mast Cells," include graduate student Lee Hutchinson; undergraduate Benett Trinh; graduate students Rachel Palmer and Christopher Preziosi; undergraduate Jonathan Pelletier; 2009 graduate Hannah Nelson; and Gosse. The next phase of the research will look at the molecular mechanism underlying arsenic's effects on mast cells.

UMaine Professor Working To Keep Textbook Costs Low

17 Aug 2010

Steven Barkan, a UMaine sociology professor, discusses with the Bangor Daily News his work with an open-source publisher to keep down the costs of his next textbook. Textbook costs have gone up faster than inflation, he says in the article. Richard Young, manager of the [UMaine Bookstore](#), comments in the story on textbook rental programs.

AEWC's Bridge In A Backpack To Be Used In Belfast, Maine

17 Aug 2010

The Republican Journal reports the Bridge in a Backpack [technology](#) developed by UMaine's [AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center](#) will be deployed at a bridge site near the intersection of Herrick Road and Perkins Road in Belfast, Maine. The bridge will be the third in Maine built using the technology.

UMaine Art professor Headed to China for Photo Documentary on Chinese Folk Art

17 Aug 2010

University of Maine Professor Laurie Hicks leaves Aug. 27 on a two-week research trip to China to document the folk art of the country as part of an educational effort to make the traditional artforms accessible to the Western world. Hicks will be one of seven researchers working as part of ChinaVine, a partnership between two universities in the United States — the University of Central Florida and the University of Oregon— and two in China — Shandong University of Art and Design and Beijing Normal University. Since 2007 on its interactive web site, ChinaVine has provided text, photographs and video of the material and intangible culture of China in its mission to educate the English-speaking world. Hicks is a photographer and art educator whose research focuses on issues of place and memory, and the sociocultural context of art. For more than 20 years, she has collaborated with the two artists who founded ChinaVine in 2006 — Kristin Congdon, a professor of film and philosophy at the University of Central Florida, and Doug Blandy, professor and director of the Center for Community Arts and Cultural Policy at the University of Oregon. Hicks and the other members of the research team will interview, photograph and videotape folk artists near Shanghai and Beijing, focusing on the traditional artistic expression that is rooted in community-based practices and often passed from one generation to another.

Sun Journal Previews Food Preservation Workshop

18 Aug 2010

UMaine Cooperative Extension's Kate McCarthy will present a Preserving the Harvest workshop on Aug. 25 in Farmington. Wednesday's Lewiston Sun Journal includes a [brief preview story](#) with registration information.

UMaine Athletics Department Leadership Update

18 Aug 2010

Wednesday's Bangor Daily News reports on the upcoming leadership transition in UMaine's athletics department. Athletic Director Blake James will leave on Sept. 7, having accepted a senior associate athletic director's job at the University of Miami. President Kennedy is working toward appointing an interim AD, and a national search for James' replacement will get underway during the fall semester.

Science Website Reports on Arsenic/Immune System Research

18 Aug 2010

A report on research led by UMaine biochemist Julie Gosse appears on the [Physorg.com science news website](http://www.physorg.com). This project involves examining the impact of arsenic on mast cells, which help regulate the human immune system.

UMaine Class of 2014 to Participate in New 'Day of Service'

18 Aug 2010

Contact: Lisa Morin, (207) 581-4194 ORONO -- The University of Maine Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism and First and Second Year Programs are sponsoring the first-ever UMaine Welcome Weekend Day of Service on the afternoon of Aug. 28. Occurring on the first week that students arrive at UMaine -- Aug. 27-Sept. 3 -- the Welcome Weekend Day of Service is an opportunity for more than 1,500 first-year UMaine students to participate in volunteer activities at community organizations in the greater Old Town, Orono and Bangor areas. Led by student leaders, faculty and staff, first-year students are volunteering at community organizations while at the same time gaining a better understanding of the organizations and their missions. Volunteer activities include painting, light cleaning, trail maintenance and gardening, in addition to tasks specific to participating non-profit organizations. Lisa Morin of the Bodwell Center can be reached for additional information at (207) 581-4194, or by email at lisa.morin@umit.maine.edu. An orientation meeting for student leaders, faculty and staff who are leading projects is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 26 from 12:30-2 p.m. in Room 101, Neville Hall.

Doubling Conservation Efforts in the Next 50 Years Could Ensure New England Remains at Least 70 Percent Forested

18 Aug 2010

Contact: Margaret Nagle at (207) 581-3745 The six-state New England region has more than 33 million acres of forestland — a greater wooded cover than has existed in the region in almost two centuries. But recent years have witnessed a reversal of this trend in all the states with a new wave of “hard deforestation” — the conversion of forests to development and other uses. In a new report, researchers from Harvard University, the University of Maine and 10 other institutions call for a long-term effort to ensure that New England remains at least 70 percent forested (30 million acres). The goal is to safeguard the natural resources and "basic green infrastructure" that are key to sustaining New England's landscape and its distinctive way of life. The report, *Wildlands and Woodlands: A Vision for the New England Landscape* (wildlandsandwoodlands.org), calls for 90 percent of protected forest (27 million acres or 63 percent of New England) to be development-free, but continue being managed as “working forestlands” that provide forest products, recreational opportunities, and a host of important natural functions, such as flood control, species habitat and carbon sequestration. The remaining 10 percent of protected forests would be reserved as “wildlands” (3 million acres or 7 percent of New England), where natural processes prevail. Achieving the vision would require a doubling of conservation effort in the next 50 years, but still leave room for a doubling of the region's developed area, according to the report, co-authored by 20 scientists specializing in forestry, ecology and environmental studies. The report's lead author is David Foster, director of Harvard Forest at Harvard University. Other co-authors include UMaine professors Robert Lilieholm of the School of Forest Resources and Malcolm Hunter of the Department of Wildlife Ecology. "In an era of uncertainty, when changes in the environment, economy and energy pose great threats to society and nature, the six New England states — Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine — should take a bold, yet prudent and economically conservative step to protect their woodlands, farmlands, waters, coastlines and wetlands," according to the report.

UMaine's For-Credit Course, Weight Management 101, Subject of MPBN Report

18 Aug 2010

Maine Public Radio broadcast a Tuesday news story about Weight Management 101, a for-credit UMaine course that starts this fall. The UMaine course is based on a University of Vermont program called VTrim. The story includes comments from Doug Matthews, the UMaine Ph.D. student who will teach the course.

Study Shows that Women's Compassion for Others Benefits the Self

18 Aug 2010

Contact: Margaret Nagle at (207) 581-3745 The Dalai Lama holds that compassion — concern for the well-being of others — leads to happiness. Now a new study has found that compassion may also have health benefits in the form of stress reduction for women. The study involving 59 women found that those who demonstrated high levels of compassion for others were more receptive to social support, enabling them to better handle acute psychological stress and maintain overall well-being, according to psychologists at the University of Maine, University of California – Berkeley and University of California – San Francisco. The higher the women's compassion, the lower their blood pressure and cortisol levels, and the higher their beneficial heart rate variability when an emotionally stressful task was buffered by social support — smiling, nodding and encouraging words — offered by another person. When the same stressor was not buffered by social support, women experienced significant increases in blood pressure and cortisol, regardless of their individual levels of compassion. The research demonstrates that concern for the well-being of others does, indeed, benefit the self. By increasing the effectiveness of social support, compassion served a stress reduction function for women in the study. The research findings by graduate student Brandon Cosley and psychologist Shannon McCoy at UMaine; Laura Saslow at UC–Berkeley; and Elissa Epel at UC–San Francisco were published in the Journal of Experimental Social Psychology.

Nation's Largest Ocean Energy Device Produces Power in Maine Waters

18 Aug 2010

The website www.renewableenergyworld.com [reports](#) on the successes of a UMaine project in Cobscook Bay near Eastport, Maine. Ocean Renewable Power Company, which has partnered with UMaine on the project, announced Aug. 18 that its Beta Power System, the largest ocean energy "power plant" ever installed in U.S. waters, has successfully generated grid-compatible power from tidal currents at the Eastport site. UMaine researchers, led by Gayle Zydlewski, Ph.D., are supervising the program, which incorporates state-of-the-art visual and acoustic monitoring technology.

Extension's Jemison Receives University of Maine System Trustee Professorship

18 Aug 2010

Contact: John Rebar, 581-2811; John Jemison, 581-3241 ORONO -- UMaine Cooperative Extension professor and water quality and soil specialist John Jemison has been awarded a yearlong University of Maine System (UMS) Trustee Professorship. Qualification criteria for a UMS Trustee Professorship includes the approval of a research proposal that will have significant impact, contribute to an academic field and contribute to the public service mission of the university. The proposal also must enhance an individual's ability as a faculty member, according to Extension Executive Director John Rebar, who nominated Jemison for the award. Jemison's proposal is to study and report on the needs of Maine farmers, opportunities, challenges as they face climate change, rising energy costs, and ways to revitalize the agricultural economy and capitalize on evolving new ways to communicate with the agricultural community. He'll work to develop a new course in the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, a seminar on the subject for faculty and students in the college and new material for an expanded online Extension food system program, in addition to several scholarly articles. "I was proud and honored to nominate John for the UMS Trustee Professorship," Rebar says. "His project will focus on determining what it will take to foster and grow agriculture in Maine for future generations. John is the only the second UMaine Extension faculty member to earn this distinction.

Many will remember that Rick Kersbergen was also awarded a UMS Trustee Professorship in the past." A Trustee Professorship is designed to honor and support outstanding University of Maine System faculty making noteworthy contributions to academic excellence on their campuses and within the system. Candidate recommendations are decided by the chancellor. The professorship includes a \$12,500 award to fund the research project.

Annual Suicide/Depression Awareness Walk Sunday, Sept. 26

18 Aug 2010

Contact: Kylie Cole (kylie.cole@umit.maine.edu) ORONO -- The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's research initiatives will benefit from a University of Maine fundraising event scheduled for Sunday Sept. 26. The annual Out of the Darkness Community Walk is set to begin at 2 p.m., with registration starting at 1 p.m. Staff from the UMaine Counseling Center are organizing the event, intended to raise money for research while also increasing awareness of issues related to suicide and depression. The walk, which is open to members of the public, will include an opening ceremony and a non-competitive 5K walk through the UMaine campus and surrounding areas. To register to walk or donate visit: <http://afsp.donordrive.com>

Zydlewski Comments on Environmental Impact of Ocean Power

19 Aug 2010

Comments from Prof. Gayle Zydlewski of the UMaine School of Marine Science are included in a Wednesday Maine Public Radio story reporting on advances in technology developed by Manie-based Ocean Renewable Power Company (ORPC). Zydlewski is part of the team working with ORPC to assess the impact of the company's underwater power turbine on the marine environment. [Dozens of news stories report](#) on ORPC's Wednesday announcement that the company's technology has successfully generated power in tests off the Maine coast.

University of Maine Sports Hall of Fame to Induct Five on Sept. 24

19 Aug 2010

University of Maine Sports Hall of Fame to induct five on Sept. 24.

Maine Hay Crop Needs Rain, Kersbergen Says

19 Aug 2010

Rick Kersbergen of the UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty is the lead source for a Bangor Daily News story looking at the impact of the summer's dry weather on Maine's August hay crop. Kersbergen, who estimates that 30 to 40 percent of Maine is experiencing drought, notes that corn and other "shallow-rooted" crops are also feeling the impact of dry conditions.

UMaine's Bob Bayer and Cathy Billings Talk the State of the Maine Lobster Industry on Radio Program

19 Aug 2010

Bob Bayer and Cathy Billings from the UMaine Lobster Institute will appear on the Sunday Aug. 22 edition of "[Back to Business](#)," hosted by Deb Neumann. During the program, which airs from 2-3 p.m. on 103.9 FM (Bangor), 101.3 FM (Augusta) and 96.7 FM (Portsmouth), Bayer, Billings and other guests will talk about the state of the Maine lobster industry, the business aspects of a lobstering operation, creative ways to prepare and serve lobster and more.

Kennedy to Introduce UMaine Interim Athletic Director Today at 2

20 Aug 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- UMaine President Robert Kennedy has selected an interim athletic director to succeed Blake James, who is leaving UMaine for a senior athletics administration position at the University of Miami. Kennedy will announce his choice at a 2 p.m. Friday Aug. 20 news conference scheduled for the Alford Family Lounge at Alford Arena. The incoming interim AD will be present at this afternoon's news conference.

Ippollito in online story about son's Legohacker blog

20 Aug 2010

Prof. Jon Ippollito of the UMaine New Media faculty is quoted in a technology report on [an Australian news Web site](#) about his 12-year-old son's [Legohacker blog](#). The blog details the young man's work with LEGO kits, building original creations from parts shipped in a kit for making a specific object. His latest efforts involve making Star Trek ships from Star Wars kits.

Peterson in reports on Santa Anita track surface

20 Aug 2010

UMaine mechanical engineering professor Mick Peterson is quoted in [a Los Angeles Times report](#) and several other stories about a Thursday California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) ruling. The group decided against the Oak Tree Racing Association's proposal to use the Santa Anita race track in Arcadia, Cal. for fall facing. CHRB engaged Peterson to assess the Santa Anita synthetic track and he reported, as described by the LA Times, "significant concerns about rocks and with inconsistency in the foundation of the Arcadia track."

Channel 5 features student's Wabanaki Interpretive Trail

20 Aug 2010

A Thursday WABI television report described the work of UMaine senior Molly Lizotte, who has developed the Wabanaki Interpretive Trail at Hirundo Wildlife Refuge in Alton as a senior capstone project. The self-guided nature trail, seven-tenths of a mile long, features information about the history of Pushaw Stream fish and Native American fishing.

Camire in television news report on diet supplements

20 Aug 2010

Mary Ellen Camire of the UMaine food science and human nutrition faculty was the lead resource for a Thursday WLBZ television story about government oversight of the dietary supplement industry. The story was based on a Consumer Reports investigation of that subject.

UMaine Arsenic Research Cited in U.S. News and World Report

20 Aug 2010

Research into the effects of arsenic on mast cells, which help regulate the body's immune system, being done by UMaine biochemist Julie Gosse and a team of student researchers, was the subject of [a U.S. News and World Report story](#).

Lewiston Schoolteachers To Get Instruction from UMaine

20 Aug 2010

MPBN reports the Lewiston School Department will use part of its \$2 million share of federal funding for professional development through the University of Maine.

Steve Abbott named UMaine interim AD

20 Aug 2010

Steve Abbott, an Orono native who served 12 years as Sen. Susan Collins' chief of staff, has been named University of Maine interim athletic director. An attorney and former Harvard football captain, Abbott will take over for Blake James, who is leaving UMaine on Sept. 7 to become senior associate athletic director for external relations at the University of Miami. [A news release is here.](#)

Steve Abbott Named Interim UMaine Athletic Director

20 Aug 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 or joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- University of Maine President Robert Kennedy has selected Steve Abbott to serve as interim athletic director beginning Monday, Sept. 6. An attorney who served as Sen. Susan Collins' chief of staff for 12 years, Abbott grew up on and around the UMaine campus where his father, Walt Abbott, was a professor, head football coach and athletic administrator during a UMaine career that spanned more than 50 years. Steve Abbott was raised in Orono, graduating from Orono High School in 1981. "Steve exemplifies the characteristics I was looking for in an interim athletic director," Kennedy says. "He understands the nature of the University of Maine and its athletics department, having been so close to both for much of his life. He also brings integrity, intelligence and a real appreciation for the important role of an athletics operation within an academic community. I expect the university and Black Bear sports to benefit significantly from his leadership." Abbott was a legendary Orono High School athlete, starring on football teams that never lost a game during his four-year career. After graduating from high school, he enrolled at Harvard where he earned a history degree and served as the football team's 111th captain. A 1991 University of Maine Law School graduate, he practiced law at Pierce Atwood in Portland and studied sports management in the University of Massachusetts graduate program before becoming Collins' chief of staff in 1997. "I am delighted that President Kennedy has given me the opportunity to serve this institution -- a place that has meant so much to me personally and that means so much to the entire state," Abbott says. "Under his direction I intend to run an athletics program that will continue to reflect the values of the university, provide coaches with the support they need to win, and provide our students with an exceptional educational experience through sports." Blake James, UMaine's current athletic director, will leave on Tuesday Sept. 7 to become senior associate athletic director for external relations at the University of Miami. Kennedy says he will appoint a committee to conduct a national search for James' ongoing successor, beginning during the fall semester. Kennedy, who will step down as UMaine's president on June 1, 2011, plans to leave the final decision on the outcome of that search to the person who succeeds him as president. A presidential search gets underway in September. Abbott's appointment is subject to formal approval by University of Maine System Chancellor Richard Pattenaude and the Board of Trustees.

AP Story Previews Olson Presentations

23 Aug 2010

An Associated Press story on the WGME television website previews the Sept. 21-23 series of UMaine presentations by scientist and filmmaker Randy Olson. One highlight will be a screening of the 1991 film "Salt of the Earth," which features Stonington brothers Stevie and Brian Robbins. The Robbins brothers will participate in that event, scheduled for the Collins Center for the Arts. A news release with details about Olson's three-day visit is [here](#).

News Coverage of Steve Abbott's Appointment to UMaine Athletic Interim Director

23 Aug 2010

President Kennedy's Friday announcement that he's appointed Steve Abbott interim director received widespread news coverage, including [Saturday Portland Press Herald](#) and Bangor Daily News reports. Maine Sunday Telegram sports columnist Steve Sollloway analyzed the appointment [in his Sunday column](#). Abbott is an Orono native and former Harvard football player who served as Sen. Susan Collins' chief of staff for 12 years. More details are in a [UMaine](#)

[news release](#). NBC News correspondent Chuck Todd tweeted the UMaine news release to his 56,000 Twitter followers on Friday afternoon.

Brewer Comments in York Weekly Report on Eliot Cutler

23 Aug 2010

Comments from Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty were included in a [York Weekly report](#) on the independent gubernatorial candidacy of Eliot Cutler. Brewer says it's significant that Maine has previously elected independent governors in James Longley and Angus King.

UMaine's Cooperative Extension Cited In Report on Dry Weather

23 Aug 2010

WLBZ 2 mentioned UMaine's Cooperative Extension in a report about Maine's dry weather this summer.

Brewer Interviewed in Article About Maine Independent Candidate Kevin Scott

23 Aug 2010

In a story about Maine independent gubernatorial candidate Kevin Scott, UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer tells the [Lewiston Sun Journal](#) candidates who lack strong campaign funding and don't have sufficient name recognition will face hurdles in the November election.

Maine Hello Parking and Traffic Alert

24 Aug 2010

The following information from the Division of Student Affairs relates to Friday Aug. 27 parking and traffic. As the University of Maine prepares for the arrival of the class of 2014 on Friday August 27, 2010 it is important to be aware of parking lot closures necessary to accommodate a large volume of first-year students arriving on campus. We encourage all faculty, staff, and students to avoid traveling in or near the Hill Top and Stuart Quad areas of campus on Friday August 27, 2010. Non essential traffic will be rerouted around these areas. The following is a list of parking lots that will be closed for the Maine Hello. Blue/Black Lots closed starting at 6 p.m. Thursday August 26, 2010 Somerset Lot Jenness Parking Lot (North and South) Gannett /Cutler Lot Androscoggin Lot CCA Lot Belgrade Lot Red Lots were closed beginning at 6 a.m. on Friday August 20, 2010 Hilltop parking Lot Knox Lot Cumberland Lot (Stuart Quad) Gannett Lot (Stuart Quad) All parking lots will be open to all normal parking beginning at 5 p.m. on Friday August 27, 2010 Staff who normally park in the Somerset Lot may park in the Rec Center Lot for the day. All others should use the Gym Lot, Alford Lot, Corbett Lot, Dunn Lot, Beta Lot, Bennett Lot or the Satellite Lot. We appreciate your cooperation as we make the move-in process as smooth as we can for our new students and their families.

Mann Comments in American Folk Festival Story

24 Aug 2010

Comments from Marilynne Mann, interim director of UMaine's Center for Tourism Research and Outreach (CenTRO) are included in a [Tuesday Bangor Daily News report](#) about economic factors associated with the American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront. Mann says that CenTRO research indicates a \$10 million regional economic impact associated with the 2008 event and an \$8.7 million impact last year. This year's festival is scheduled to begin on Friday.

UMaine's Summer Tour 2010 Open House News Coverage

24 Aug 2010

UMaine's Summer Tour 2010, UMaine's largest-ever student recruitment open house, drew an estimated 1,600 people to campus on Monday. VP for Student Affairs Robert Dana was interviewed for stories on three television stations, including WLBZ, WABI and WVII.

UMaine Economist Helps to Explain Bangor Housing Market

24 Aug 2010

In a [USA Today story](#) about Bangor's fairly stable housing market, UMaine's James McConnon discusses the city's lower unemployment rate compared to the rest of the state.

Camire featured in MSNBC vitamin/supplement story

25 Aug 2010

Mary Ellen Camire of the UMaine food science and human nutrition faculty is the lead resource in [an MSNBC online story](#) about the value of certain dietary supplements, including vitamins A,B,C and D.

UMaine Researchers Study Steep Decline in Down East Maine's Soft-shell Clam Harvest

25 Aug 2010

In eastern Maine, landings of soft-shell clams have been in steady decline for nearly three decades. Despite the \$12.25 million clam harvest in Maine in 2007, the fishery is but a shadow of its former self when compared to highs in the past century. Particularly hard-hit is Washington County, once the state's largest source of clams. In contrast, landings have been relatively constant in southern Maine during the same period. Restoration efforts hinge on just where the problem lies — in *Mya arenaria*'s larval stage in the water or in the juvenile stage on the mudflats. To begin to answer the question, University of Maine researchers have attempted to fathom Maine's regional differences in clam landings. Their most recent findings, published in the *Journal of Shellfish Research*, point primarily to reduced densities of larvae in near-shore waters in eastern Maine. Small clam populations in eastern Maine appear to be unable to sufficiently repopulate local clam flats, the researchers write. Reestablishing a robust clam fishery and enhancing local breeding stocks will require intensive seeding of the flats with hatchery-raised juvenile clams, according to Tracy Vassiliev and Stephen Fegley, who conducted their research at UMaine and Maine Maritime Academy, respectively, and William Congleton, UMaine associate professor of animal and veterinary sciences. The researchers say seeded flats should be managed to limit predation by invasive species such as green crabs and moon snails, and closed until clams are market size.

UMaine Wind Testing Moving Forward on Peaks Island

25 Aug 2010

The 100-foot meteorological tower that UMaine leased to a Portland-area environmental group in order to gather data about wind resources on Peaks Island, was erected Aug. 24, [the Island Institute reports](#). UMaine researchers will analyze the data logged at the site.

UMaine Grain Program Mentioned in New York Times

25 Aug 2010

In [an article about a bread conference in Skowhegan](#), the New York Times mentioned a UMaine-University of Vermont partner program that finds the best grain in New England.

'Without Borders VII' Exhibit Features 'Between' Media

25 Aug 2010

Contact: Owen Smith, (207) 581-4389 ORONO -- The 2010 exhibition "Without Borders VII: Intermedia" is now open and continues through Sept. 24 at the University of Maine's Lord Hall galleries. The festival and exhibit presents a variety of art that exists "between" traditional art forms, and includes such new media as computer-based generative art, documentation as personal expression, and new alternatives for film, video and performance. The festival exhibits the work of more than two dozen artists, both contemporary and historic, according to Owen Smith, director of UMaine's Intermedia Master of Fine Arts program, including the work of the first two graduates of the new Intermedia MFA program, Abigail Stiers and Alex Gross. The term intermedia is the theme of this year's festival and is intended to reflect the programmatic aim and intent of the University of Maine MFA in Intermedia, especially, Smith says, "to work with and study creative processes and to develop works which falls conceptually, as well as physically, between media." The exhibit is free and open to the public weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. An exhibition reception and video festival screening is scheduled Sept. 16 from 5-7:30 p.m.

UMaine to Welcome Class of 2014 Friday

25 Aug 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- More than 1,800 new first year students will join the University of Maine community on Friday Aug. 27 during the traditional Maine Hello move-in event. Part of Fall Welcome Weekend, the award-winning Maine Hello features more than 800 volunteers -- faculty and staff members, students and alumni -- who greet the new students and their families, providing a friendly welcome and a helping hand as they move into residence halls. The first-year students, members of the Class of 2014, will spend the weekend involved in a series of activities intended to help them acclimate to university life and prepare to begin classes on Monday, Aug. 30. Friday's activities will be centered around the residence halls that constitute the home base for UMaine's First Year Residence Experience (FYRE) programming, a year-long series of residence hall-based initiatives intended to help students achieve academically while successfully becoming part of the overall UMaine community. Those residence halls are Oxford, Somerset, Knox, Androscoggin, Gannett and Cumberland. The best times for news coverage tend to be in the 9 a.m.-1 p.m. time frame. Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana will be available to offer his perspectives on Friday. To determine his location and arrange interviews, reporters should call Ron Lisnet at 949-4222. A new feature has been added to Fall Welcome Weekend this year. The new first-year students will participate in [a Saturday Aug. 28 day of service](#), providing community service at dozens of community organizations and agencies in the Bangor-Orono area. For example, groups will leave UMaine on Saturday at 12 noon for three-hour projects at these locations:

- Spruce Run
- Manna Ministries
- Hands of Hope Store
- Orono Bog Boardwalk
- Good Samaritan Agency
- Penobscot Job Corps

Others will leave at 12:30 p.m. to provide service at these locations:

- Bangor Humane Society
- Ronald McDonald House
- Challenger Learning Center
- Parkside Learning Center

Reporters interested in covering service activities at any of these Saturday locations are asked to contact the host agency in advance to gain coverage permission.

Evidence of Ancient Ocean Upwelling During El Niño Off Peru's Coast Provides Climate Change Clues

25 Aug 2010

Contact: Margaret Nagle (207) 581-3745 When the oceanic phenomenon El Niño strikes every four to seven years, it wreaks havoc on the world's weather patterns, fishing and agriculture. University of Maine anthropologist Dan Sandweiss wants to know how ancient civilizations coped with these blows to their way of life. For the past five years, Sandweiss has been collaborating with researchers at the universities of Alabama and Arizona to study 10,000 years of climate change using seashells from Peruvian archaeological sites. Their work is funded by a \$600,000 grant from the National Science Foundation. The principal investigator on the project is University of Alabama geologist Fred Andrus. Approximately \$182,000 of the grant funds the fieldwork led by Sandweiss, a UMaine professor of anthropology and Quaternary and climate studies. "I'm particularly interested in past climate along the coast of Peru, in the ancient cultures that developed and the resources they used," says Sandweiss, who also is dean and associate provost for UMaine graduate studies. To learn about ancient climate, Sandweiss and his colleagues are studying terrestrial and marine samples from past and recent excavations. Those samples include remains of seashells, ancient fruits and plants, some of which came from tombs. Scientists speculate that the fruits and plants were left as food to use in the afterlife; shells were offerings. Comparing the radiocarbon dates from the plant material and shells helps the researchers determine what was going on in the ocean in relation to climate change. In particular, they are focusing on upwelling, which typically occurs on western coasts when the ocean churns, bringing cold water to the surface that has long circulated near the ocean floor. With the upwelling comes nutrients that feed plankton, which feed fish. However, upwelling during an El Niño event churns up warmer, less nutrient-rich water. For the most part, shells work just like other organisms. While the creatures that live in them grow, the shells grow as well, taking in carbon from the water and the air. However, when water has circulated at the bottom of the ocean long enough, it becomes like a dead animal, Sandweiss said. It loses its carbon-14 with none to replace it, until upwelling occurs and brings it back to the surface. Mollusks that live in this "old" water yield radiocarbon dates that are older than the shell's real age. The more deep, nutrient-rich, old water is upwelled, the older the shells will appear to be. By comparing the shell's apparent age from carbon dating with that of the fruits and plants gathered from the same levels in the archaeological sites, the scientists can determine what kind of water was upwelling, which in turn reflects important climate parameters. The project focuses on the Middle Holocene Epoch about 4,000-8,000 years ago, when much of the world was warmer than today. "If we can understand past climate better, we get some clues from what happened the last time the world was warmer and perhaps what will happen with global warming," Sandweiss says.

A Growing Forest Biomass Market Calls for Guidelines to Minimize Environmental Impact

25 Aug 2010

Contact: Margaret Nagle (207) 581-3745 Contrary to popular perception, forest biomass is not waste. In today's growing bioenergy industry, forest biomass is better described as "energy wood." Usually energy wood includes the tops, limbs and stems of poor form or size removed during harvest. But if market conditions are right, a growing energy wood market could result in increased processing of standing dead trees or "snags," small-diameter stems and short-rotation stands, both natural and plantation — forest growth that provides food and shelter for wildlife, and helps reduce soil compaction and erosion. With the increased demand on Northeastern forests to meet bioenergy needs, researchers in the University of Maine School of Forest Resources recommend the development of guidelines to minimize environmental impact on soil productivity, water quality and forest biodiversity. Best management practices should focus on post-harvest conditions to mitigate environmental concerns at both the landscape and site levels, according to faculty researchers Jeffrey Benjamin and Robert Lilieholm, and graduate student Charles Coup, writing in the *Northern Journal of Applied Forestry*.

Nutrient Shift Occurring in the Gulf of Maine Could Affect Planktonic Ecosystem

25 Aug 2010

Contact: Margaret Nagle (207) 581-3744 The Gulf of Maine waters are cooler, fresher and lower in nitrate than they were 30 years ago, causing a nutrient shift that has potential implications for the structure of the planktonic ecosystem, according to oceanographers at the University of Maine. Based on recent oceanographic observations, coupled with a 50-year analysis of nutrients and hydrography, the UMaine research team hypothesizes that accelerated melting in the Arctic and freshening of the Labrador Sea have likely caused the Labrador Current to bring colder, fresher deep shelf waters into the gulf. Until now, it was generally thought that the gulf's high biological productivity was fed by an influx

of nutrient-rich deep slope water through the Northeast Channel between Georges Bank and Nova Scotia. The warm offshore slope water is higher in nitrate than silicate, helping determine the species composition of phytoplankton. The UMaine data analysis, lead by oceanographer David Townsend, showed that from the 1960s to the 1970s, the deep waters of the eastern Gulf of Maine were saltier and warmer as a result of the slope water. But since the 1970s, the gulf's deep waters have become significantly fresher and cooler, and had lower nitrate and higher silicate concentrations. The resulting altered nutrient regime may change the abundance of diatoms and dinoflagellates in the gulf, including the red tide dinoflagellate *Alexandrium fundyense* that grows best in high nitrate conditions, according to the researchers, writing in the journal *Continental Shelf Research*.

Fried Comments on Mitchell's Absence From Maine Gubernatorial Debate

26 Aug 2010

UMaine Political Scientist Amy Fried tells the Bangor Daily News it isn't easy to read the meaning behind Democratic gubernatorial candidate Libby Mitchell's decision to pull out of Thursday morning's candidates debate in Bangor. Mitchell said earlier this week she would not participate in the debate because not all of the independent candidates had been invited.

Extension Specialist Says Pumpkin Crop Coming In Early

26 Aug 2010

An early spring and a dry, hot summer has led to an early appearance of crops such as pumpkins, UMaine Cooperative Extension Vegetable Specialist Mark Hutton says.

Bangor Daily News advances UMaine Gardening Forum

26 Aug 2010

The Bangor Daily News reports on presentation by UMaine Cooperative Extension Researcher Dave Handley and members of the Extension's Master Gardeners Program. The presentation, which includes information about maintaining healthy crops, is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 31 at the [Rogers Farm in Stillwater](#).

UMaine Cooperative Extension Program Feeds Hungry

27 Aug 2010

The [Lewiston Sun Journal](#) highlights a statewide program through which the UMaine Cooperative extension distributes vegetables to food pantries, senior lunches, and outside some Cooperative Extension offices. Barbara Murphy, an Extension educator, says about one in five Maine families aren't sure where their next meal is going to come from.

Engineering Student Discusses Importance of Farming

27 Aug 2010

University of Maine engineering student Ashley Bailey is interviewed about Maine's farming tradition in a story about the Union Fair.

UMaine Class of 2014 Moves In

27 Aug 2010

Media outlets covered Friday's move-in day as first-year students filled up the residence halls in advance of the first day of classes, which is Monday, Aug. 30. WABI interviewed Vice President for Student Affairs Robert Dana and reported on the move-in process. The Bangor Daily News noted a 2 percent increase in this year's first-year class size over 2009.

Maine Hello News Coverage

30 Aug 2010

The Bangor Daily News, WLBZ and WABI covered Friday's Maine Hello activities, during which some 800 students, faculty members, staff members and alumni helped UMaine's new first-year students move into residence halls. The highlight of Fall Welcome Weekend, Maine Hello starts a series of weekend activities aimed at helping the new students get acclimated to campus life and prepared to begin classes on Monday.

Marching Band Helps Kick Off Folk Festival

30 Aug 2010

The Pride of Maine Black Bear Marching Band helped kick off the American Folk Festival on the Bangor Waterfront Friday night. A photo was featured on the front page of Saturday's paper and several more are part of an [online slide show](#) on the newspaper's Web site.

Channel 5 Reports on Community Service Activity

30 Aug 2010

WABI broadcast a Saturday report about UMaine's first-ever day of service for new first-year students. The members of the Class of 2014 spent several hours on Saturday providing [service](#) at the sites of community organizations in the Bangor-Orono-Old Town area.

Sun Journal Previews Extension Tour Bus Marketing Program

30 Aug 2010

Monday's Lewiston Sun Journal includes a [preview](#) of a Sept. 13 UMaine Cooperative Extension program for western Maine business operators. Headed up by Extension's Marc Edwards, the program will provide information and advice about marketing businesses to the tour bus industry that visits that part of the state during the fall foliage season.

BDN Reports on First-Year Student Service Projects

30 Aug 2010

A Monday Bangor Daily News story details some of the community service projects carried out by UMaine first-year students on Saturday. Some 1,200 students volunteered at dozens of area organizations and agencies Saturday afternoon. The story includes comments from Lisa Morin, UMaine's Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism coordinator.

Logue Comments in MSNBC Website Story on Aggressive Play

30 Aug 2010

Comments from Mary Ellin Logue of the UMaine education faculty are included in a [story posted on the MSNBC Web site](#), looking at issues related to aggressive play among boys and the ways in which teachers respond to it.

UMaine Expert Says Egg Producers Can Reduce Disease Risks

30 Aug 2010

Contact: Anne Lichtenwalner, 581-2789 ORONO - Consumers can do their part in protecting themselves from potentially contaminated poultry products, including eggs, by using common sense and sanitary food preparation

practices. There also is a lot that can be done by Maine's thousands of chicken owners. Large commercial henhouses, family farms or even small backyard chicken coops may be host to one of many different strains of the salmonella bacteria. In eggs, it's salmonella enteritis (SE), however, that is the most toxic to humans, and the reason behind the recent recall of millions of fresh chicken eggs nationwide. Anne Lichtenwalner, director of University of Maine's Animal Health Lab, a diagnostic lab on the Orono campus assisting livestock and poultry farmers, is available to discuss precautions that consumers and egg producers can take to reduce risks. She also is UMaine's Extension veterinarian and a member of the animal and veterinary sciences faculty. "We would like to get the message out to all egg producers that we can do environmental and egg testing, not only for salmonella, but also for toxins in eggs like heavy metals," Lichtenwalner says. A simple "drag swab" sample can be collected in a henhouse, barnyard or backyard coop and sent in a sterile, sealed plastic bag to the university animal health lab for testing. For small farms, Extension can advise about further testing, and clearing up any problems. When large egg producers are involved, the FDA now requires that if SE is detected, an egg test would follow to see if the bacteria is in the eggs. "We routinely test environmental samples for large poultry producers, and we can test eggs in our lab," she says. "The nice thing is that, here in Maine, we have not had to test eggs under the current FDA rules." Bacterial or other contamination of eggs "is an emerging issue in food and it always will be," she says, particularly in light of the popularity of raising chickens in backyard, residential settings. In the kitchen, Lichtenwalner says, consumers should wash eggs, cook them thoroughly to kill possible pathogens, buy eggs that are as fresh as possible, and note expiration dates or publicized recall notices. "Good basic common-sense food handling techniques can kill salmonella," she says. Use soap to wash hands, utensils, counters and cutting boards, she advises. Lichtenwalner can be reached at (207) 581-2789.

UMaine Study Finds Evergreen Trees A Source of Flu Drug

30 Aug 2010

[ScienceNews reports](#) on a study by UMaine's Nilmini Gedivinne, who found that some of the leaves of some evergreen trees have a starter material for the anti-flu drug Tamiflu. The finding was reported Aug. 26 at the American Chemical Society's fall meeting.

Collins Center for the Arts 2010-2011 Season Begins Sept. 11

30 Aug 2010

[Collins Center for the Arts 2010-2011 season begins Sept. 11.](#)

Dorothy Klimis-Zacas Chairs Professional Session at the 240th American Chemical Society Meeting

30 Aug 2010

Dorothy Klimis-Zacas of the UMaine Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition faculty chaired a session, "Agricultural and Food Derived Natural Products for Preventing and Combating Disease" at the 240th American Chemical Society meeting in Boston last week. She gave a presentation at the same conference, "Wild Blueberries: Modulators of Arterial Function and Metabolism."

UMaine's Cooperative Extension Awarded \$1,900 for 4-H Program

30 Aug 2010

The UMaine Cooperative Extension in Lisbon Falls was awarded \$1,900 from the Lisbon Community Federal Credit Union, according to the [Lewiston Sun Journal](#). The contribution will be used to help fund the Extension's 4-H Program.

Livingston Comments in Tree Health Story

31 Aug 2010

Bill Livingston of the UMaine School of Forest Resources faculty was quoted extensively in a Tuesday Bangor Daily

News story about the health of Maine trees considering the summer's dry, warm weather. Livingston points out that warmer winters also threaten trees, because those conditions are easier on insect populations.

Dill Featured in BDN Insect Report

31 Aug 2010

Comments from Jim Dill of the UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty are included in a Tuesday Bangor Daily News report on the impact of this summer's weather on Maine's insect populations. Dill says that the number of pests -- especially mosquitoes -- has been reduced this summer because of the dry and warm weather conditions

Grad Student to Lead MDI Historical Society

31 Aug 2010

Tim Garrity, a UMaine graduate student studying Maine history, has been named executive director of the [Mount Desert Island Historical Society](#). Garrity, who lives in Somesville, served as president and CEO of Blue Hill Memorial Hospital from 2002-2008.

Town working on traffic light

31 Aug 2010

Town of Orono officials report that they are working to resolve an issue with the traffic light at Park Street and College Avenue. Due to an equipment failure, the light is operating through a temporary system, leading to some traffic delays. They expect the light to be functioning properly by Thursday.

UMaine arts Web site

31 Aug 2010

For more information about the arts at UMaine, [visit the website that provides arts feature stories](#) along with links to pages for arts facilities, relevant events and information about academic programs in the arts.

Football season opens Thursday

31 Aug 2010

The Black Bear football season kicks off on Thursday Sept. 2 with a 7 p.m. Alford Stadium game against Albany. Ticket information is online at the UMaine athletics website.

Black Bear Child Mentoring Program Recruiting Student Volunteers

31 Aug 2010

ORONO -- The UMaine Black Bear Mentoring Program is recruiting volunteer college mentors to assist area children this academic year. The Black Bear Mentoring program enriches the lives of area children from disadvantaged households whose circumstances may harm their self-images and lead to lower aspirations and reduced opportunities. The program is part of the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism and is in its seventh year. In the U.S., 17.6 million children between the ages of 8 and 10 are at risk of not reaching their full potential because of various social issues, including poverty, according to MENTOR/National Mentoring Partnership. In Maine, the number of children living in poor households has increased since 2000, and had reached 16 percent in 2008, according to the Annie E. Casey Foundation. These conditions put the potential of Maine's youth at risk. Black Bear Mentor volunteers meet with children one-on-one for two hours one afternoon a week and engage in numerous activities from homework to cooking. The relationship provides area youth with a dedicated adult for activities, and someone to talk with about their struggles

and successes. "I love watching the mentors as they start to realize how much it means to their mentee to meet with them even two hours a week," says Bodwell Center Director Lisa Morin. "They both get so much out this program, and their smiling faces warm my heart." Research groups, like Child Trends, find that children with mentors have higher educational aspirations, better attendance, better communication with parents, and more positive social attitudes than kids without mentors. One mentor remarked that the most satisfying part of mentoring was "seeing my mentee becoming ambitious and self-assertive (and) to go further in education." This year, the Black Bear Mentoring Program also will take part in public service activities, including writing letters to soldiers and preparing sandwiches for local food pantries. For more information about the Black Bear Mentoring Program, or to schedule an interview, contact Erin Lennon at 207.581.1786 or email: erin.lennon@umit.maine.edu.

Local Alumni Chapter to Hike for Hearing

31 Aug 2010

Contact Stephanie Palmer (stephanie.palmer@umit.maine.edu) ORONO -- The University of Maine's Delta Zeta sorority Dirigo Alumni Chapter will hold its second annual Hike For Hearing on Saturday, Sept. 11 at 11 a.m. The purpose of this hike is to raise money and awareness for speech and hearing related illnesses. All proceeds from the hike will go to benefit the Warren Center, a Bangor speech and audiology facility. A similar event in 2009 raised more than \$400 for the Warren Center. "We want to make the event bigger this year," says Stephanie Palmer, alumni chapter member, "We're hoping to get more involvement from the community." The hike will be held at two locations. The first location is at Bradbury Mountain State Park in Pownal and the second location is at the Bangor City Forests on Stillwater Avenue in Bangor. All hikers are asked to arrive at 10:45 a.m. to register. A minimum donation of \$10 is required to participate in the hike. For more information regarding the Hike For Hearing or to help sponsor the hike, please email hikeforhearing@gmail.com. The Dirigo Alumni Chapter was founded in 2007 as an alumni chapter of the Delta Zeta Sorority. The Delta Zeta Sorority was founded at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in 1902. Today, the sorority enriches the lives of over 200,000 alumni and collegiate members across the U.S and Canada.

Dagher Offshore Wind Power Presentation Report

01 Sep 2010

An extensive online report in the Chautauquan Daily, the official newspaper of the [Chautauqua Institution](#), describes a Tuesday presentation by Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEW Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Dagher, speaking as part of the institution's "Powering the Future" lecture series, described the potential for deep offshore wind power and talked about the technology that is under development through a public-private partnership headed up by UMaine.

Extension Egg/Salmonella Testing in WLBZ Report

01 Sep 2010

WLBZ broadcast a Tuesday report about egg testing procedures conducted at UMaine Cooperative Extension's Animal Health Lab, under the direction of veterinarian Anne Lichtenwalner. The lab features capabilities to conduct several levels of testing as mandated by state and federal regulations.

Stevens in Manufacturing Economic Development Story

01 Sep 2010

Comments from Hugh Stevens of the UMaine School of Economics' Knowledge Transfer Alliance are included in a Wednesday Bangor Daily News story about the purchase of Monson-based Moosehead Manufacturing Company by a Portland woman. Louise Jonaitis purchased the property at an auction and says she plans to start manufacturing furniture again within a few months. The Knowledge Transfer Alliance is working with her to develop a business plan for the Monson mill and two other associated properties Jonaitis has recently bought.

Madden Comments in Florida Hazing Report

01 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine hazing researcher Mary Madden are included in a St. Petersburg Times story about the investigation into an alleged hazing incident involving the University of South Florida's Omega Psi Phi fraternity chapter. Madden and her College of Education and Human Development colleague Elizabeth Allan are leading experts in issues related to hazing activities and students.

Fraternity Campout Fundraising for International AIDS Prevention

01 Sep 2010

ORONO - Between 5 and 15 members of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at the University of Maine are camping out this week in tents on the UMaine Mall as a fundraising project to benefit the Youth AIDS Foundation. "We got here Monday and we'll be here until Friday," says the fraternity's vice president of finance Travis Blackmer, a third-year economics major from Dedham. "It's kind of a good way to start the semester. An annual September event for about a decade, the project raises \$1,000 or more to assist the Youth AIDS Foundation combat HIV/AIDS through education and outreach in 60 counties around the world. This year's goal is \$1,200-\$1,500, Blackmer says. Although as many as 15 fraternity members are sleeping out this week, Blackmer says all 50 members of the club are helping with the effort, including staffing a table on the Mall with educational information about AIDS. If every student donates a dollar, Blackmer says the fraternity will reach its goal.

Socialist-Marxist Lecture Series Announced

02 Sep 2010

Socialist-Marxist lecture series announced.

UMaine Partnering With Public Schools On \$12.3 Million Grant To Redesign Science Curriculum

02 Sep 2010

Contacts: Susan McKay (207) 581-1019 or susan.mckay@umit.maine.edu Owen Maurais, executive director, Penobscot River Educational Partnership, (207)581-3651 or owen.maurais@umit.maine.edu ORONO— Almost 50 Maine middle and high schools will have a chance to redesign their physical science curricula thanks to a \$12.3 million grant awarded to the University of Maine. The National Science Foundation grant, which is the largest ever received by the UMaine-based Maine Center for Research in STEM Education (RiSE), will be used to form the Maine Physical Sciences Partnership and create 12 jobs, in addition to generating the curricula that will eventually be used in 12 high schools and 36 middle schools. Faculty in the areas of science, technology, engineering mathematics (STEM) and education are all involved in UMaine's RiSE Center. RiSE Director Susan McKay, a professor of physics, will oversee the new partnership. The grant will also be used to fund professional development programs for schoolteachers and UMaine faculty and students, as well as the purchase supplies for local schools. Teachers will meet starting this fall with UMaine faculty to select the curriculum and adapt it for implementation. There are several criteria for curricula selection, including alignment with Maine State Learning Standards and proven effectiveness in enhancing student learning. Through the Maine Physical Sciences Partnership, schoolteachers will be offered stipends to attend week-long summer academies focused on implementing the curriculum for the start of the 2011-2012 school year. The curriculum will be tailored for students in grades 6-9, which are crucial years for students. The course of study would be organized so that students who reach ninth grade have a common background, which McKay hopes can be achieved through the sequencing of the curriculum's main ideas. "A lot of students close the door on science and math in grades 6-9," she says. "I think we can really set up students for success if we can take some of the research about how to sequence ideas and implement a curriculum using that research, so the seventh-grade teacher knows what the students have done in sixth grade." The time is right for the partnership, according to McKay, because many schools in Maine are reevaluating their curricula following the recent wave of school consolidations. The middle and high schools involved in the

partnership each fall into one of three geographic regions: Penobscot River, which includes 21 schools in a swath from Hampden to Lincoln; Downeast, which is made up of 23 schools in an area that includes Ellsworth and Mount Desert Island; and Mid-Coast, which includes four schools in Searsport and Belfast. Other organizations partnering with UMaine are Acadia Partners for Science and Learning, Institute for Broadening Participation, Maine Department of Education, and Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance. The Maine RiSE Center seeks to reevaluate and reform introductory level science and mathematics courses, establish research-guided practices for K-12 science teacher preparation, and build infrastructure for ongoing educational improvement with teachers, schools and administrators throughout the state.

Experts Comment in Hurricane Earl Story

02 Sep 2010

John Peckenham from UMaine's Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research and Joe Kelley from the Dept. of Earth Sciences provided comment for a Wednesday WABI story previewing the potential impact of Hurricane Earl on Maine's coast and inland waterways.

UMaine-Albany Football Game Previews

02 Sep 2010

Thursday's [Portland Press Herald](#) and Bangor Daily News provide previews of Thursday night's season-opening UMaine football game. The Black Bears will host Albany at 7 p.m. at Morse Field.

Faces of Literacy Exhibit Set for Belfast

02 Sep 2010

The Village Soup Web site features a preview of "Faces of Literacy: Voices of Courage," a photo exhibit scheduled for UMaine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast Sept. 8 - Dec. 17. The photographs, to be displayed in the H. Allen and Sally Fernald Art Gallery, depict individuals who have "achieved literacy skills and met personal goals" working with Literacy Volunteers organizations. September is National Literacy Month and the Literacy Volunteers of Waldo County organization is co-hosting the exhibit with the Hutchinson Center. Center director Sue McCullough is quoted in the Village Soup story.

UMaine Economist Estimates Economic Impact of Proposed Oxford Resort Casino

02 Sep 2010

Contact: Todd Gabe, 581-3307 ORONO -- A resort-style casino such as the one proposed in Oxford with slot machines and table games could annually bring in \$127 million in gaming revenue, according to research by University of Maine economist Todd Gabe. Gabe, a veteran at conducting economic analysis of large-scale proposed developments and tax initiatives in Maine, recently calculated that the estimated spending by resort casino visitors could have a statewide economic contribution, including multiplier effects, of \$283 million in annual sales revenue, support 2,784 full- and part-time jobs, and provide \$80.7 million in wages, salaries and benefits. In addition, the state would receive at least \$60.9 million in tax and other government revenue from the economic activity associated with such a facility, Gabe reports in a study released today. Study results are based on restaurant and lodging taxable sales figures from Maine Revenue Services, hospitality employment data from the U.S. Census Bureau, industry statistics from the American Gaming Association, and hard figures on actual gaming revenues from Hollywood Slots in Bangor. "The idea of the study was to estimate the potential for slot machines in Oxford compared to the Bangor area, and then apply this ratio to actual slot machine revenues from Hollywood Slots," says Gabe, a professor of economics. "While this approach should be fairly accurate, it does not tell us the exact source of gaming and other revenues." Gabe's estimates of the gaming activity at the proposed Oxford resort casino, combined with actual figures from Hollywood Slots, would place Maine below -- even on a per capita basis -- most other states with casinos. Maine voters will decide in a November referendum whether to allow plans to move forward with a casino proposal. The study was commissioned by Maine

Taxpayers Taking Charge, which supports a resort casino in Oxford. Gabe's study does not take a position on whether gaming is positive or negative for the state or region. "I enjoy working with data on topics of interest to Maine residents, but I leave it up to others to debate the issues," Gabe says. "I encourage people to check out the report and learn more about how I came up with the numbers and how to interpret them." The peer-reviewed report is available at the [School of Economics website](#).

Sun-Journal Reports on UMaine Study of Proposed Casino's Economic Impact

02 Sep 2010

A [Lewiston Sun-Journal story](#) details a report by UMaine economist Todd Gabe, who estimated a proposed resort casino in Oxford County could generate \$127 million in revenue and visitors would spend an additional \$51 million for food and services in the area. The casino issue goes before Maine voters in November.

Belfast Bridge-In-A-Backpack Project Highlighted in Construction Magazine

02 Sep 2010

A bridge being constructed in Belfast, Maine, using the UMaine AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composite Center's [bridge-in-a-backpack technology](#), was the focus of a [story](#) in International Construction magazine.

UMaine Composites, Tidal-Power Initiatives Included in Atlantica Event

03 Sep 2010

Several UMaine initiatives, such as research into tidal power and the use of composites in bridge-building, were on display last week for attendees of the two-day Atlantica conference held in the Bangor area, according to a MaineBiz story. The conference, which drew more than 100 people from the U.S. and Canada, aims to promote increased ties with Atlantic Canada. An energy-themed tour also stopped at Old Town Fuel & Fiber, where UMaine is involved in research into pulp byproducts as biofuels.

Evans to Lead Hitchcock Discussion

03 Sep 2010

Jeff Evans of the UMaine English faculty will lead a discussion about Alfred Hitchcock's films on Saturday Sept. 18 in Bangor. As reported in the Bangor Daily News, the discussion will follow a 2 p.m. [Penobscot Theatre](#) screening of Hitchcock's 1939 film, "The 39 Steps." It is part of Penobscot Theatre's programming related to its stage production of "The 39 Steps," with performances scheduled for Sept. 10-Sept. 26.

Gabe in MPBN Oxford Casino Story

03 Sep 2010

UMaine economist Todd Gabe was interviewed for a [Thursday Maine Public Radio story](#) based on his [study](#) of the potential economic impact of a proposed Oxford County casino.

Field Hockey Team Tops Michigan, 2-1

03 Sep 2010

The Portland Press Herald includes a [report](#) on Thursday's 2-1 Black Bear field hockey win over Michigan in a game played at UMaine. Kallie Aldus scored the game-winning goal with just 12 seconds left in the second half.

Leadership changes in UMaine Auxiliary Services

03 Sep 2010

A message from UMaine Vice President for Administration and Finance Janet Waldron to the UMaine community: "I am pleased to announce that Daniel Sturup has been appointed as interim director of Auxiliary Services. Dan has been an integral member of the campus community for over two decades, most recently serving Auxiliary Services as its director of finance. We appreciate his willingness to step in to lead Auxiliary Services as Robin Toderian, former assistant vice president, accepts another position on campus. I know you will find Dan knowledgeable, enthusiastic and responsive. "I know you all join me in thanking Robin for all her work over the past years in guiding the auxiliary operations through many strategic and positive changes which have resulted in better customer service, increased efficiencies, expanded food selections, modernized dining facilities, improved and safer housing facilities, and an overall increased focus on improving student and campus community experience. Our many, many, thanks to Robin for all she has done in this position."

Nature Magazine Highlights Pershing's Call for Whale Conservation

03 Sep 2010

UMaine biological oceanographer Andrew Pershing presented earlier this year his concept of carbon credits for whale conservation, according to [Nature Magazine](#). Pershing says whales are like trees because they store a lot of carbon. Just as planting trees removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, allowing whale population to rebound following the era of factory whaling would also keep carbon out of the atmosphere.

UMaine E. Coli Research Mentioned in Huffington Post

03 Sep 2010

Former Bangor High School student Rebecca Ye [blogged](#) about her work with UMaine food scientist Vivian Wu on a rapid method to detect E. coli O157:H7 in water, enabling quick corrective action to be taken in hours as opposed to days.

Bangor Daily News Reports on \$12.3 Million STEM Research Grant

03 Sep 2010

The Bangor Daily News wrote about a \$12.3 million grant awarded to the UMaine-based Maine Center for Research in STEM Education, or RiSE, to redesign the physical science curriculum at 48 schools in Maine. The grant will be used to form the Maine Physical Sciences Partnership, which will create 12 jobs and generate curricula for 12 high schools and 36 middle schools.

UMaine Hazing Study Cited in Report Following University of South Florida Incident

03 Sep 2010

A hazing study conducted by UMaine professors Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden was mentioned in a blog posting about a rally in response to a fraternity hazing incident at the University of South Florida. The study found that more than half (55 percent) of students report they experienced a specific behavior that was defined as hazing.

Dagher, UMaine Recognized for Offshore Wind Technology Work

03 Sep 2010

Offshore Wind Wire, which tracks stories about wind energy, [named](#) University of Maine, including the AEWC Advanced Structures and Composite Center director Habib Dagher, a world leader in deepwater floating turbine technology. The Maine Public Utilities Commission released Wednesday a request for proposals for the state's

deepwater offshore wind pilot project.

2010 Charles V. Stanhope '71 Study Abroad Fellowships Awarded

03 Sep 2010

Contact: Charlie Slavin, Dean of the Honors College, (207) 581-3262 slavin@honors.umaine.edu Emily Cain, Coordinator of Advancement, Honors College, (207) 58103308 emily.cain@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Two University of Maine Honors College students have been selected to each receive a \$1,000 Charles V. Stanhope '71 Study Abroad Fellowship to support them as they study abroad this academic year. Amy Marie Michaud, a third-year biology major from Presque Isle, is studying abroad in England at the University of East Anglia. She is spending the entire year in England, taking courses in genetics, plant biology, field ecology, biology, and language and gender. Amy plans to pursue a career in biological research, which is an international field, and this study abroad experience will enable her to not only advance in her field, but also to expand her cultural horizons. Jackson Witherill, a third-year international affairs and political science major from Readfield, is spending his study abroad experience in Belgium, focusing his course work on advanced French, the European Union, and understanding contemporary conflict. Jackson's ultimate goal is to become a Foreign Service Officer for the State Department, and he plans to take advantage of the opportunity to intern with an organization located in Brussels, such as NATO, the UN, or an international law firm. The Charles V. Stanhope '71 Study Abroad Fellowship is intended to encourage students to study abroad as a means to expand their horizons through the exposure to and understanding of different cultures. Charles Stanhope is a graduate of UMaine and the Honors College who recently retired to Maine after a long and distinguished career at the United States Library of Congress in Washington, DC. Charles remains active with the Honors College and established this endowed fellowship in 2007 to acknowledge both his connection to the Honors College and to the impact that international experiences played in his education and career.

Whaling and Fishing for the Largest Species has Altered Carbon Sequestering in Oceans

03 Sep 2010

Contact: Andrew Pershing, Research Scientist, 207-228-1656; Ron Lisnet, 207-581-3779 Decades of whaling and fishing for the largest species have altered the ability of oceans to store and sequester carbon, according to a team of marine researchers from the University of Maine, the University of British Columbia and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI). An individual whale contains a huge amount of carbon, an amount only exceeded by the largest trees, says Andrew Pershing, a research scientist with a joint appointment at UMaine and GMRI who led the team. A century of whaling equates to burning more than 70 million acres of temperate forest or 28,000 SUVs driving for 100 years, he says. "We tend to think of carbon storage in peat bogs, trees and grasslands, not in animals," Pershing says. "By removing whales, sharks and large fish, we've reduced the amount of carbon stored in these populations." Conserving larger marine vertebrate species and the largest individuals in the species should be a top conservation priority, according to the researchers, whose findings on the impact of whaling on the ocean carbon cycle were published last week (week of Aug. 30) by the international Public Library of Science (PLoS). Carbon credits could provide additional incentive to rebuild fish and whale populations, Pershing says. Ocean iron fertilization is the most widely discussed idea for sequestering carbon in the ocean. But calculations by Pershing and the other researchers — Line Christensen at the University of British Columbia; Nicholas Record and Peter Stetson from UMaine and GMRI; and Graham Sherwood from GMRI — suggest that rebuilding whale and large fish populations would be even more efficient means of storing carbon. "The big surprise was in our calculations comparing carbon exported by sinking whale carcasses to the carbon exported by iron fertilization," says Pershing, whose research was supported by NASA and the National Science Foundation. "If we had all the whales we used to have, they would remove the same amount of carbon in a year as 200 of the most efficient iron fertilization events. What that tells me is that we can get significant carbon savings by conserving resources in the ocean, protecting whales, larger fish and sharks." Dead, sinking phytoplankton cells are the primary means of removing carbon from the ocean's euphotic zone near the surface. Marine vertebrates play a much smaller role in the movement and storage of inorganic and organic carbon in the ocean ecosystem. However, their contributions cannot be underestimated, considering the inherent metabolic efficiency of the large animals. A blue whale has a biomass of 90 tons, with 9 tons of carbon stored in its tissues. Only a large tree has more carbon, Pershing says. Compared to phytoplankton that have life spans measured in days, whales and large fish live for decades. Carbon

accumulated in their bodies is sequestered — out of the atmosphere — for the life of the animal. Because of their potential to store carbon for years, marine vertebrates such as whales are comparable to trees. And because of their size and few predators, whales and other big marine vertebrates can efficiently export carbon from the surface waters to the deep sea. Those that die natural deaths transport their carbon to the ocean depths, away from the atmosphere. To study the consequences of removing these large animals on the ocean's ability to store carbon, the researchers looked at populations of whale species, reconstructing their pre-whaling and modern abundances. Those species include blue whales in the Southern Ocean, whose numbers have been reduced by more than 99 percent. The researchers estimate that 100 years of whaling removed 23 million tons of carbon from marine ecosystems. Populations of large baleen whales now store only 15 percent of the carbon they had before whaling. In those ecosystems heavily impacted by whaling, the populations of smaller species increased. But such a shift toward smaller animals could decrease the total community biomass by 30 percent or more, according to the researchers. The larger animals require less food per unit mass, more efficiently storing carbon than smaller animals. Compared to smaller animals, bigger species require less food (carbon) per day to support each gram of tissue. The same amount of food can support a greater tonnage of whales than penguins, Pershing says. "In many ways bigger is better," Pershing says. "Larger organisms are more efficient, requiring less food per unit in their bodies."

Annual Grad School Picnic September 15

03 Sep 2010

All UMaine graduate faculty members, graduate students with their families and support staff members are invited to the annual Graduate School picnic, Wednesday Sept. 14 from 4-6 p.m. This event is scheduled for the Stodder Hall patio, located on the building's east side. The rain date is Thursday Sept. 16.

Collins Center for the Arts BDN preview

07 Sep 2010

Tuesday's Bangor Daily News includes an extensive preview of the 2010-2011 season at [UMaine's Collins Center for the Arts](#). The annual gala is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 11, when the Broadway vocalists Christina Saffran Ashford and Norman Large will perform with the Bangor Symphony Orchestra in an 8 p.m. concert.

Story reports blight-resistant Extension research

07 Sep 2010

Tuesday's Lewiston Sun Journal includes [a story featuring comments from Cooperative Extension's David Fuller](#), talking about late blight and its impact on Maine potatoes and tomatoes. Fuller described Extension research into developing blight-resistant varieties of those crops

Brzowski in Pumpkin Crop Story

07 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine Cooperative Extension's Dick Brzowski are featured in a Kennebec Journal story about 2010's "perfect summer for pumpkins." Brzowski says that vine crops thrive in hot, dry conditions, as long as they get plenty of water.

Dagher Comments in Ocean Energy/Simmons Report

07 Sep 2010

Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center, was quoted in a [Maine Sunday Telegram story](#) about the future of the Ocean Energy Institute following the Aug. 8 death of its founder, Matthew Simmons. Under Simmons' leadership, the institute has worked to promote and develop ocean-related energy

initiatives in Maine, including the development of deepwater offshore wind technology, headed up by Dagher, his UMaine colleagues, and a number of collaborators.

Noblet, Teisl in Auto Fuel Efficiency Labeling Story

07 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine economists Caroline Noblet and Mario Teisl are included in a Miller-McCune Magazine story about the recent announcement that the federal government plans to modify the fuel efficiency labeling on vehicles in sales lots. The relevant government agencies are asking for public input on the proposal to post more information about vehicles and their fuel use.

Scontras Column in Portland Press Herald

07 Sep 2010

Monday's Portland Press Herald included a Labor Day op-ed column by labor historian and UMaine Bureau of Labor Education research associate Charles Scontras. In the column, Scontras offers perspectives on the Employee Free Choice Act, currently under Congressional consideration.

Dill in Public Radio Bedbugs Report

07 Sep 2010

UMaine Cooperative Extension entomologist Jim Dill is the lead resource in a Maine Public Radio story about bedbugs, which are being reported around the U.S. at levels not seen for 50 years. Dill notes that the insects have been confirmed in Maine, including Bangor and Orono. The story includes information about avoiding infestation and dealing with the bugs if they become an issue in one's home.

Pre-season Poll Ranks Black Bear Hockey #7

07 Sep 2010

The College Hockey News preseason [top 10 poll](#) ranks the UMaine Black Bears at #7 in the country. "That's right: they're back, rebuilt, and poised for big things in Orono," the Web site says. Hockey East rivals Boston College (#1) and UNH (#10) are also ranked in the top 10. Coach Tim Whitehead's [team](#) opens its season with a Sunday, Oct. 3 exhibition game against Acadia University.

UMaine Women's Soccer in Thriller Win Over Sacred Heart

07 Sep 2010

UMaine women's soccer opened its home season Sept. 5 with a 3-2 overtime win against Sacred Heart, with Maddie Hill, Kelsey Wilson and Courtney Harnais scoring, with assists from Carlyne Nellis. A UMaine news release has additional detail.

Auditions Scheduled for SPA Theater Production

07 Sep 2010

The School of Performing Arts is holding auditions today, Sept. 7, and Wednesday, Sept. 8, at 6-9 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium for its next production, "The Boys Next Door," directed by Sandra Hardy of the theater faculty. Callbacks are scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 9. Interested actors should bring a prepared comic monologue. Audition materials also are available on the second floor of the Class of 1944 Hall, beside the elevators, and Professor Hardy can be contacted on FirstClass for additional information. Performances are Oct. 29-31 and Nov. 4-7.

Diamond Named to Arkansas post

07 Sep 2010

John Diamond, executive director of external affairs, has been named associate vice chancellor for university relations at the [University of Arkansas](#). Diamond is a Bangor native and UMaine graduate who previously served as UMaine's director of public affairs. He is also a former UMaine faculty member, currently completing a UMaine Ph.D. in communication and public administration.

UMaine and Bangor Gas Collaborate on Expanded Use of Natural Gas to Heat Campus Buildings

07 Sep 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine and Bangor Gas Company have a new agreement that will expand the use of natural gas to heat more campus buildings. The agreement involves transferring ownership of UMaine-owned natural gas piping facilities to Bangor Gas. In conjunction with that transfer, natural gas service will be provided to four campus buildings this year: the Service Building, Keyo Building, Mahaney Dome and Libby Hall. A dozen other campus buildings already use natural gas energy and UMaine is working with Bangor Gas to identify other facilities that may be candidates for future conversion. "We appreciate this partnership with Bangor Gas, which will allow us to avoid emissions associated with the 100,000 gallons of propane and fuel oil that these buildings currently consume each year," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's vice president for administration and finance. "That will reduce the cumulative carbon footprint of the buildings by more than 25 percent, and further expansion of natural gas presents exciting opportunities for decreasing the university's impact on our environment." Waldron points out that UMaine is an acknowledged national leader in energy and environmental sustainability among colleges and universities. It is one of just 18 institutions on the Princeton Review's "Green Honor Roll," and it is an original signatory to the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment. UMaine is also an active participant in the state's Governor's Carbon Challenge. As part of the work associated with the agreement, Bangor Gas will install 1-2 miles of additional gas pipelines on the UMaine campus, with construction expected to begin this fall. About Bangor Gas Company: Bangor Gas Company was formed in August 1997 and is a subsidiary of Energy West Inc.(EGAS Common Stock). As a regulated utility, Bangor gas is dedicated to providing safe, reliable natural gas service to residential, commercial and municipal customers in the greater Bangor area. (www.bangorgas.com)

New Mineral Named for Late Professor Charles Guidotti

07 Sep 2010

Contact: Ed Grew, (207) 581-2169 ORONO -- Charles V. Guidotti, professor in the UMaine Department of Earth Sciences from 1981 to his death in 2005, has been honored by having a new mineral, guidottiite, named after him. The name was approved by the Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names of the International Mineralogical Association, which has officially recognized the discovery of the new mineral. The naming of new minerals follows a complex protocol and careful scientific review by the commission, which consists of 38 officers and members from 34 countries. It is a professional honor to have a mineral named for an individual. Guidottiite is a new manganese mineral in the serpentine group discovered in the Kalahari manganese deposit in South Africa. Its grains are no larger than an eighth of an inch across, black with a glassy luster. It splits easily into the thin sheets. So far the mineral is only known to come from the one locality in South Africa, but now that it has been reported and characterized in the scientific literature, it is possible mineralogists will be able to find it in other locations in the world. Serpentine-group minerals include micas, chlorites and clays, and were a special focus of Prof. Guidotti's mineralogical career. Stephen Guggenheim, a professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago who did a Ph.D. thesis under Guidotti when he was a professor at the University of Wisconsin before coming to UMaine, suggested the new mineral be named after Guidotti, according to Ed Grew, research professor of geological sciences at UMaine.

2010 INBRE Fellowships Awarded & Applications Still Being Reviewed

07 Sep 2010

Contact: Charlie Slavin, Dean of the Honors College, 207.581.3262, slavin@honors.umaine.edu Keith Hutchison, Professor of Biochemistry/Molecular Biology, 207.581.2827, keithh@maine.edu ORONO -- The University of Maine Honors College and the Maine IDEa Network for Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) have announced five recipients of Honors Thesis Fellowships of \$2,575, and one Junior Year Research Award of \$1,030. The Honors Thesis Fellowships are awarded as a stipend to Honors College students in their senior year whose thesis topic relates to biomedical research in comparative functional genomics. These students will also work with an INBRE research scientist at UMaine or at any of its partner institutions. Fellowships are awarded competitively, and a small award is also provided to the thesis advisors that support the student research thesis. The five Thesis Fellowships have been awarded to: · Ryan Dawes, a Biological Engineering major from Belgrade, Maine. His advisors are Sharon Ashworth, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, and David Neivandt, Associate Professor and Director of Product Development, Pulp and Paper Process Development Center. · Sam Entwisle, a Chemistry major from Sedgwick, Maine. His adviser is Dorothy Croall, Professor of Biochemistry. · Erin Keim, a Biology major from Veazie, Maine. Her adviser is Keith Hutchison, Professor of Biochemistry/Molecular Biology. · Aaron Perreault, a Biology major from Northfield, New Hampshire. His mentor is Carol Kim, Associate Professor of Biochemistry. · Kara Sarver, a Biochemistry major from Gorham, Maine. Her mentor is Mary Rumpho, Professor of Biochemistry. The Junior Year Research Award is a stipend available to third-year Honors College students who will work with biomedical research scientists on research projects in comparative functional genomics. This year, one award has been given to Breana Bennett, a Biochemistry major from Freedom, Maine. Her mentor is Sharon Ashworth, Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences. One additional Honors Thesis Fellowship is available, and five additional Junior Research Awards are available. Students in the Honors College can apply by contacting Charlie Slavin, Dean of the Honors College at 207.581.3262 or slavin@honors.maine.edu, or Keith Hutchison, Professor of Biochemistry/Molecular Biology at 207.581.2827 or keithh@maine.edu. INBRE is an NCR/NIH supported network of thirteen Maine institutions including Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, the University of Maine, and the Honors College at the University of Maine. The overall goal of the Maine INBRE is to strengthen Maine's capacity to conduct NIH-competitive biomedical research. Maine's INBRE provides research support and core facilities to junior faculty, creates research and training opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students, and serves as a pipeline for students to pursue health research careers and enhance the scientific and technological knowledge of Maine's workforce.

Website Notes Pershing Research Into Impact of Whaling on Oceans

07 Sep 2010

UMaine research scientist Andrew Pershing's research on carbon sequestering in whales was posted on the science website Physorg.com. Pershing says whaling and fishing has altered the ability of oceans to store and sequester carbon.

Newsday Interviews UMaine's Riess About World Trade Center Ship

07 Sep 2010

[Newsday talks](#) to UMaine marine archaeologist Warren Riess about some of the items found in an old ship he excavated earlier this summer from the World Trade Center site in New York City.

Bayer Comments on Rare Blue Lobster

07 Sep 2010

UMaine's Lobster Institute Executive Director Robert Bayer tells WABI the blue lobster recently hauled in by a Belfast lobsterman could be one in up to five million.

Climate Change Institute Scientists Help Discover Nanodiamonds in Greenland Ice

08 Sep 2010

Contact: Paul Mayewski, (207) 581-3019 or paul.mayewski@maine.edu University of Maine volcanologist Andrei

Kurbatov and glaciologist Paul Mayewski, along with 21 other scientists, coauthored a scientific paper released late last month that details the discovery of a layer of nanodiamonds in the Greenland ice sheet, which has added to a controversy in the scientific community about a possible extraterrestrial impact event that could shed light on why some types of large mammals disappeared around 12,900 years ago. The paper, which was published in the International Glaciological Society's Journal of Glaciology, Glaciological Society, includes the findings of UMaine scientists Kurbatov and Mayewski, who traveled several times to Greenland more than two years ago to test for the presence of nanodiamonds in the ice sheet from the Younger Dryas (YD) time period. During the YD era, the climate returned to near-glacial conditions of earlier ice ages. This time period corresponds with the disappearance of animals such as mammoths and saber-toothed tigers. Although the Greenland paper was only recently published, the nanodiamond discovery was the subject of a February 2009 episode of the PBS television show NOVA. The episode featured Mayewski, the director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, and Kurbatov, a CCI faculty member who was the lead author on the paper. The UMaine scientists and a Danish colleague, Jorgen P. Steffensen, provided expertise related to the flow dynamics along the edge of the Greenland ice sheet, and the chemical analyses required to understand the climatic significance of a section of ice recovered by the team. A team of co-authors at the University of California, Santa Barbara, University of Oregon and Northern Arizona University tested for and determined the presence of the nanodiamonds, which are smaller than a virus and therefore cannot be seen by the naked eye. Mayewski says this is the first discovery of a heavy concentration of a discreet layer of extraterrestrial matter in the Greenland ice sheet. The amount of nanodiamonds found in the layer is up to 5 million times more concentrated than anything else around it. Although the paper states the nanodiamonds are present, Mayewski says the timing of deposition to the ice sheet of the microscopic substance is somewhat unclear. "The layer could be relatively close to the timing of the Younger Dryas event, but we don't know exactly when," Mayewski says. "It could have come before. It could have come at the onset [of the YD]. It could have come a little bit after. We cannot determine the timing definitively." One form of nanodiamond found in the sample was lonsdaleite, which is only known to form during high-temperature, high-pressure cosmic events. The prevailing theories for the disappearance of the animals include climate change and over-hunting by the people of the Clovis culture, who were the first well-documented prehistorical hunters. However, the presence of lonsdaleite and other nanodiamonds in a layer of ice that could have existed in the Younger Dryas provides fuel for a theory, held by some scientists, that an extraterrestrial impact event, such as a meteorite impact and/or an airburst, led to conditions that altered the earth's climate and sparked the Younger Dryas. Other scientists and researchers who have examined the Younger Dryas age records in sediments recovered on land, however, recently published a paper that claimed the particles identified as lonsdaleite in the layer were actually a material similar to graphite, called graphene, which would disprove the theory of an extraterrestrial impact. However, the evidence presented in the Greenland paper contradicts that contention as multiple types of analyses all confirm the nanoparticles recovered from the Greenland ice include lonsdaleite and other nanodiamonds, rather than graphene or other minerals. Some scientists have speculated that the melting of a glacial lake, which would have released fresh water into the North Atlantic and upset the ocean's circulation, drove down temperatures and sparked the Younger Dryas. "If the extraterrestrial event did occur at the onset of the YD it could have contributed to this event by providing the smoking gun, so to speak, for the massive freshwater outbursts through destruction of portions of the ice sheet and enhanced melting," Mayewski said. "Based on our earlier research the YD event is one of a series of abrupt climate change events. The YD would likely have occurred with or without the existence of the proposed extraterrestrial event, but the latter would likely have enhanced the magnitude of the YD."

Working Waterfront Story on Fish Tracking Technology

08 Sep 2010

Working Waterfront features a [story](#) about tracking methods employed by scientists use to track the migration of sea-run fish species. The story is based, in part, on research by UMaine professors Michael Kinnison and Gayle Zydlewski, and it includes comments from Zydlewski. Catherine Schmitt of the Maine Sea Grant program at UMaine co-authored the story.

UMaine Swimmer Brian Landry on Discovery's 'Surviving the Cut' Tonight

08 Sep 2010

Brian Landry, a junior on the UMaine swim team, will appear tonight at 10 p.m. on the Discovery Channel's "Surviving the Cut." Landry took part in the elite Special Forces Underwater Combat Divers Course over the summer after being chosen as one of 24 to try out to become one of the best divers on the planet. A news release has more.

The Nation's Working Waterfronts Subject of Portland Symposium

08 Sep 2010

Contact: Catherine Schmitt, Maine Sea Grant, 581-1434, catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu PORTLAND, ME – Active waterfronts fuel coastal economies from Maine to Alaska, but demographic and financial changes threaten to transform America's working shorelines. On Thursday, September 30, US Representative Chellie Pingree will charge working waterfront advocates with creating a national strategy for protecting and enhancing access for fishing, boating and marine industries as part of the Working Waterways and Waterfronts National Symposium on Water Access, September 27-30. Building on the inaugural symposium in Norfolk, Virginia, in 2007, participants at the Maine conference will learn about the economic, social, cultural and environmental values of waterfronts, and the important role of water-dependent uses in sustaining coastal communities. Representatives from 21 states will present local and regional solutions for addressing water access challenges. The tone for the conference—and charge for those attending to identify a national strategy for working waterways and waterfronts—will be set by Dr. Larry Robinson, deputy administrator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and by US Senator Susan Collins. Robinson, who is familiar with working waterfronts throughout the southeastern US, helps guide policy and program direction for NOAA's conservation, protection and resource management priorities. "Dr. Robinson will get the conference off to an exciting start," said conference chair and lead organizer Natalie Springuel of Maine Sea Grant, noting that Maine was selected to host the second symposium because of the state's leadership on working waterfront issues. That leadership will be evident during a walking tour of the Portland waterfront on Tuesday, September 28. As [reported by The New York Times](#), debate over what types of businesses belong on the Portland waterfront has heated up in recent months, a conflict that is familiar to coastal communities throughout the United States. "The City of Portland is the ideal backdrop for designing a strategy to protect working waterfronts at the national level," said Rep. Pingree. Both Pingree and Collins have sponsored bills that would create a federal funding mechanism for economically valuable waterfronts. Other topics to be discussed during the three-day symposium include the effects of natural and human-made disasters on commercial fishing access along the Gulf Coast, integrating smart growth elements into waterfront planning, and waterfront diversification.

UMaine Researchers in Ice Age Report

08 Sep 2010

New research, reported on the [National Science Foundation Web site](#) investigates a phenomenon that saw Europe experience a period of unusually cold weather at the end of the last Ice Age, at the same time the Southern Hemisphere was experiencing warming. The new study, published in Nature and including UMaine Climate Change Institute scientists George Denton and Aaron Putnam, brings to light new evidence that New Zealand was warming during that period of approximately 1,000 years, approximately 13,000 years ago.

Website Has Report On UMaine Scientists' Research Into Greenland Ice Diamonds

09 Sep 2010

Science website Physorg.com [posted a report](#) about the work Climate Change Institute scientists Paul Mayewski and Andrei Kurbatov did in researching the presence of nanodiamonds in the Greenland ice sheet. The discovery of the nanodiamonds has added to a controversy in the scientific community about a possible extraterrestrial impact event that could shed light on why some large mammals disappeared around 12,900 years ago.

Allan, Madden in Florida Hazing Report

09 Sep 2010

UMaine hazing experts Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden were interviewed for a Tuesday WUSF radio segment based on the Florida investigation into alleged hazing involving a University of South Florida fraternity. Allan and Madden shared perspectives from their research, which includes the most extensive survey of college hazing behaviors that has ever been conducted.

Gabe Interviewed on Oxford County Casino

09 Sep 2010

Todd Gabe of the UMaine School of Economics faculty spoke on Wednesday morning with WVOM radio's Ric Tyler and George Hale, discussing his [research paper](#) about the potential economic impact of a casino in Maine's Oxford County. Maine's electorate will vote on a proposal on that issue in November.

Brewer in Michaud-Levesque Story

09 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer were featured in a Wednesday Maine Public Radio story about the race for Maine's 2nd Congressional District seat. Incumbent U.S. Rep. Michael Michaud faces a challenge from Republican challenger Jason Levesque.

Fall New Writing Series Speakers Announced

09 Sep 2010

The UMaine English Department and National Poetry Foundation have announced the speaker schedule for the fall New Writing Series. Seven speakers are scheduled between Sept. 23 and Nov. 4. Series lectures and literary discussions are at 4:30 p.m. in the Soderberg Center Auditorium in Jenness Hall. The schedule is online at <http://nwsnews.wordpress.com/>.

Arline Thomson, 1912-2010

09 Sep 2010

Artist and book designer Arline Thomson, who worked in UMaine's Department of Public Affairs and Central Services and in the University of Maine Press for more than 20 years up until her 1985 retirement, has died at the age of 97. Among the many forms of recognition accorded her, Thomson received the UMaine Patrons of the Arts' Vincent Hartgen Award in 2007. Her late husband, Robert B. (Bob) Thomson, was a UMaine professor for whom the UMaine Honors Center is named. As reported in a Thursday [Bangor Daily News obituary](#), a funeral service is scheduled for Monday Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. at St. James Episcopal Church in Old Town. Friends and relatives are invited to visit on Sunday Sept. 12 from 2-4 p.m. at Brookings-Smith's LaBeau Chapel on Main St. in Orono. Those who wish to remember Arline and Robert Thomson may make gifts to "The Robert B. Thomson Honors Center Fund" at the University of Maine Foundation, Two Alumni Place, Orono, ME 04469-5792. "I hope we will all continue to honor Arline and Bob's memory and follow their example of individuals who were committed to giving back to their communities," says Charlie Slavin, dean of UMaine's Honors College who called Arline Thomson a "dear friend."

Holman to Address Camden Conference

09 Sep 2010

A Village Soup story notes that Paul Holman of the UMaine political science faculty will give the fall and winter season opening talk for the 2011 Camden Conference. Holman's presentation, "The Kremlin in Asia," is scheduled for Tuesday Sept. 14, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Belfast Free Library. The conference theme for 2011 is "The Challenges of Asia." A [similar story appears](#) in the Free Press newspaper.

Swimmer Landry on "Surviving the Cut"

09 Sep 2010

Brian Landry, a junior on the UMaine swim team, appeared Wednesday night on the Discovery Channel's "Surviving the Cut." Landry took part in the elite Special Forces Underwater Combat Divers Course over the summer after being chosen as one of 24 to try out to become one of the best divers on the planet. A brief Bangor Daily News report notes that the program will air again Monday at 10 p.m. and Tuesday at 1 a.m.

Popular Science Story On Connection Between Nanodiamonds and Mammal Extinctions

10 Sep 2010

UMaine research into the connection between nanodiamonds found in Greenland ice and a climatic event 12,900 years ago that occurred around the same time as the disappearance of animals such as mammoths and saber-toothed tigers was [cited in PopSci.com](#), the online version of Popular Science magazine. Scientists from UMaine's Climate Change Institute took samples from the Greenland ice sheet and helped approximate the age of the samples.

Food Sciences Planning Richard Cook Retirement Reception

10 Sep 2010

The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition is planning a retirement celebration from 3:30-5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30 at the Buchanan Alumni House for Richard Cook, a member of the food science and human nutrition faculty and part of the UMaine community for 45 years. Judy Polyot in Hitchner Hall is accessible by telephone at (207) 581-1621, or on FirstClass, for details and information.

Fall Soils Testing Helps Prepare Gardens for New Season

10 Sep 2010

Test your garden's soil in the fall to prepare for spring planting, UMaine Cooperative Extension gardening expert Barbara Murphy advises in a how-to video available on the Extension website.

Poverty in Maine Report

10 Sep 2010

The annual study of issues related to poverty in Maine was released on Thursday in Bangor. The report, authored by Ann Acheson of UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, indicates that poverty is particularly acute in Maine's rural counties. Acheson was interviewed for stories reported by the Bangor Daily News, WVOM radio, WABI television, WLBZ television, WVII television and Maine Public Radio.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Offering Program to Assist Farmers and Farm Workers with Chronic Health Conditions or Disabilities

10 Sep 2010

Contact: Corie Washow, (207) 353-5550 or 1-800-287-1458, or corie.washow@maine.edu A national program aimed at helping farmers, farm workers and farm family members with chronic health conditions or disabilities continue to farm successfully and live independently is now available in Maine through the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Maine AgrAbility, a collaboration between UMaine, Goodwill Industries of Northern New England, and Alpha One, provides technical assistance and consultation services such as suggestions for modifying or adapting agricultural operations, buildings, equipment or tools. The program is made possible through a 4-year, \$668,282 grant from the US Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). AgrAbility programs currently run in

25 states nationwide, and are coordinated by the National AgrAbility Project. Maine AgrAbility services are available at no charge. There are an estimated 5,700 farmers and farm workers in Maine with a chronic health condition or disability. The program addresses a variety of disabling conditions, such as arthritis, spinal cord injuries and paralysis, back impairments, amputations, brain injury, visual and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy and respiratory ailments. The program also works with rural agriculture, rehabilitation and health care professionals to support Maine farmers with disabilities and their families. Maine AgrAbility also seeks to share information and resources across the state through networking activities. For more information visit the Maine AgrAbility website, www.extension.umaine.edu/agrability. Details about the National AgrAbility Project are available at www.agrability.org

Poll Numbers Not Good For Independent Cutler, UMaine Political Scientist Tells Newspaper

10 Sep 2010

Maine Independent gubernatorial candidate Eliot Cutler could be in trouble as the campaign heats up, UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer told the Lewiston Sun Journal [in a story](#) Friday about Cutler's lagging poll numbers in the Maine governor's race. Brewer also said Cutler's struggles could mean positive strides for Democratic candidate Libby Mitchell, who was 14 points behind Republican Paul LePage in polling data.

UMaine Football Player Returns Following NCAA Waiver

10 Sep 2010

UMaine football player Steven Barker, who is back on the field after receiving a medical hardship waiver from the NCAA for a sixth season of athletic eligibility, is profiled as the Black Bears enter Saturday's 1 p.m. game against Monmouth in West Long Branch, N.J.

UMaine Soil Science Researcher Earns Fellowship

10 Sep 2010

Ivan J. Fernandez, a UMaine professor of soil science and cooperating professor of forest resources, has been named a 2010 Soil Science Society of America Fellow. He will be recognized at an awards ceremony during SSSA's annual meeting Oct. 31-Nov. 3 in Long Beach, Calif. Fellows are selected based on professional achievement and meritorious service. Fernandez, who received an M.S. and Ph.D. from UMaine, focuses on his research on the biogeochemistry of forested ecosystems, emphasizing long-term responses to forest management, air pollution and climate change.

Sporting News Names Black Bear Men's Basketball Preseason Favorite

10 Sep 2010

The Sporting News' college basketball preseason edition has picked the UMaine men's basketball team to finish first in the America East conference, while Athlon Sports Basketball Preview magazine picked the Black Bears to finish fourth. UMaine returns 11 players, including four starters from last season's team that placed third in America East and tied for third-most wins in program history with a record of 19-11. Click [here](#) for more information on the upcoming America East men's college basketball season.

UMaine Tidal Power Research Part Of \$10 Million Grant

10 Sep 2010

Gov. John Baldacci announced the Department of Energy has awarded Ocean Renewable Power Co. a \$10 million grant to fund a commercial-scale tidal energy development project in Cobscook Bay near Eastport, according to Smart Energy News. As a partner in the project, UMaine researchers are supervising the program, which incorporates state-of-the-art visual and acoustic monitoring technology. Portland-based OPRC announced August 18 that its Beta Power System, the largest ocean energy "power plant" ever installed in U.S. waters, had successfully generated grid-compatible power

from tidal currents at the Eastport site.

Oakland Teacher Named 2011 Maine Teacher of the Year

13 Sep 2010

Shelly Moody, who earned a master's degree at UMaine, has been named the 2011 Maine Teacher of the Year, MPBN reports. A teacher at Williams Elementary School in Oakland, Moody has a master's in literacy. She will compete for 2011 National Teacher of the Year, with the winner to be announced next April at the White House.

MPBN LePage Tax Story Includes Fried

13 Sep 2010

UMaine political science professor Amy Fried commented in a Friday Maine Public Radio report about issues involving Maine gubernatorial candidate Paul LePage. As first reported by the MaineToday Media group, there are questions about LePage's wife's residency in Maine and Florida, and associated property tax issues. Fried says the story "could have an impact" on the campaign.

Alum White Gambia Ambassador Nominee

13 Sep 2010

President Obama has [announced](#) his intention to nominate UMaine graduate Pamela Ann White Ambassador to the republic of The Gambia. White, a Senior Foreign Service officer with the rank of Career Minister, has served since 2008 as USAID Mission Director in Liberia. She earned a journalism degree from UMaine.

Alum Moody Teacher of the Year

13 Sep 2010

Oakland Elementary School teacher Shelley Moody has been named Maine's 2011 Teacher of the Year. State Education Commissioner Angela Faherty [presented the award](#) Friday at Williams Elementary School, where Moody teaches third and fourth grade. She earned a master's degree in literacy from UMaine.

Football Club Sets Sept. 18 Events

13 Sep 2010

Contact Eric Whitman (eric.whitman@umit.maine.edu) ORONO -- The UMaine Tackle Football Club will host an NFL Punt, Pass and Kick competition on Saturday, Sept. 18, 11 a.m. at Morse Field. The competition is free of charge, open to youngster ages 6-15. Interested parents can get information and register their children for the competition by visiting the football club website. The competition is part of the club's youth day program, which also includes the team's season-opening Yankee Collegiate Football Conference game against Clarkson. The game begins at 5 p.m., and Punt, Pass and Kick winners will be recognized at halftime.

Stream Restoration Celebration Sept. 17-18

13 Sep 2010

Contact Catherine Schmitt (207) 581-1434, catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu HOLDEN – The restoration of Sedgeunkedunk Stream will be discussed and celebrated on Friday, Sept. 17, at Fields Pond Audubon Center. The collaborative, community-based project, including removal of two dams and construction of a natural rock-ramp fishway, is serving as a model for other small-scale stream restoration efforts throughout Maine. The public is invited to the two-day event, which includes an afternoon symposium on Friday, Sept. 17, from 1-5 p.m., featuring a project

description and presentations by scientists who are evaluating the success of restoring watershed connections and improving habitat. After a project overview and presentations on stream ecology, alewives, sea lamprey, and bird communities, participants will gather at the Sedgeunkedunk fishway and public boat landing in Orrington on Brewer Lake Road to celebrate with refreshments and live music. On Saturday morning, Sept. 18, 9 a.m.-12 noon, events will include an open house at Fields Pond, a canoe and kayak paddle from Fields Pond to the fishway site, and a hike along the shoreline from the Audubon Center to Brewer Lake. The Sedgeunkedunk Stream Symposium and Celebration is sponsored by the Lower Penobscot Watershed Coalition, Fields Pond Audubon Center, and the Maine Sea Grant College Program at the University of Maine. There is no charge for the event. For more information, visit, or contact Hannah Webber at (207) 989-2591 or hwebber@maineaudubon.org to register.

Canadian-American Center Grant to Support Outreach, Other Programming

13 Sep 2010

ORONO -- The U.S. Department of Education has awarded a four-year grant of \$1,678,000 to the University of Maine's Canadian-American Center. The grant will support a National Resource Center (NRC) on Canada and provide Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships for graduate students studying Canada. The Canadian-American Center will use these funds to further the study of Canada and Canada-U.S. relations by supporting outreach to K-12 teachers and American faculty, faculty teaching and research, expansion of library holdings, public lectures and academic programming, and administration of the center. The graduate fellowships are supporting six master's and doctoral students in the current academic year. The NRC and FLAS programs are the U.S. government's principal means of supporting international education. The Canadian-American Center has been a federally-designated National Resource Center on Canada since 1979, and is the lead partner in a consortium with the Center for the Study of Canada, SUNY Plattsburgh. The University of Maine is the only public institution in New England to have a National Resource Center; the other NRCs in the region are at Harvard, Yale, and Boston University.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Offering Program to Assist Farmers and Farm Workers with Chronic Health Conditions or Disabilities

13 Sep 2010

Contact: Corie Washow, (207) 353-5550 or 1-800-287-1458, or corie.washow@umaine.edu ORONO -- A national program aimed at helping farmers, farm workers and farm family members with chronic health conditions or disabilities continue to farm successfully and live independently is now available in Maine through the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Maine AgrAbility, a collaboration between UMaine, Goodwill Industries of Northern New England, and Alpha One, provides technical assistance and consultation services such as suggestions for modifying or adapting agricultural operations, buildings, equipment or tools. The program is made possible through a 4-year, \$668,282 grant from the US Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). AgrAbility programs currently run in 25 states nationwide, and are coordinated by the National AgrAbility Project. Maine AgrAbility services are available at no charge. There are an estimated 5,700 farmers and farm workers in Maine with a chronic health condition or disability. The program addresses a variety of disabling conditions, such as arthritis, spinal cord injuries and paralysis, back impairments, amputations, brain injury, visual and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy and respiratory ailments. The program also works with rural agriculture, rehabilitation and health care professionals to support Maine farmers with disabilities and their families. Maine AgrAbility also seeks to share information and resources across the state through networking activities. For more information visit the Maine AgrAbility [website](#). Details about the National AgrAbility Project are available at www.agrability.org

World Trade Center Ship Discovery in NY Times blog

13 Sep 2010

The New York Times Sunday Sept. 12 "City Room" [blog](#) detailed this summer's analysis of the remains of an 18th century ship, discovered in a New York City landfill near the World Trade Center site. UMaine marine archaeologist Warren Riess has been one of the lead researchers working to determine the origin of that wreckage, based on a 32-foot

section that was recently unearthed. The blog entry, written by David Duncan, features several comments from Riess.

Life at UMaine in the 1950s Detailed

13 Sep 2010

Geral Coulombe's "Maine Observer" [column](#) in the Sept. 12 Maine Sunday Telegram described life as a newly-married student and Korean War veteran at UMaine in the 1950s. Coulombe, a retired school administrator who lives in Connecticut, wrote about the "South Apartments," mostly occupied by married students but also by some faculty members. Those professors included his neighbor, the late UMaine anthropology and English professor Sandy Ives.

Arsenic/Asthma Study Reported

13 Sep 2010

A Maine Sunday Telegram [report](#) on issues related to arsenic and groundwater in Maine notes that UMaine biochemist Julie Gosse is leading a study investigating the potential link between well water arsenic and asthma. More information is in an April [UMaine news release](#) announcing a grant to support that study.

Annual Employee Breakfast, Sandwich Break This Week

13 Sep 2010

President Kennedy is inviting members of the UMaine community to the Annual Employee Breakfast Wednesday, Sept. 15 from 7-9 a.m. at Wells Conference Center and the annual Employee Sandwich Break Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 9:30 p.m. at Wells. President Kennedy will offer brief remarks on Wednesday morning and Vice President Janet Waldron and Executive Director Elaine Clark will host the Tuesday evening sandwich break.

Fogler Library Announces New Research Consultation Service

13 Sep 2010

Fogler Library has opened a new Research Consultation Area. Located on the first floor in the Information Commons, the area will be used by Fogler librarians, the Writing Center, and the Tutor Program for individual or small group assistance, generally on a by-appointment basis. Fogler librarians will use the facility during the day, and can be contacted at 581-1673 or through the Ask-a-Librarian website to set up an appointment with a subject librarian. Sessions with academic tutors can be scheduled Sunday through Thursday evenings from 7:30-9 p.m. [Contact the Tutor Program](#) at 581-2351 for an appointment. The [Writing Center](#) will staff the Research Consultation Area Sunday through Thursday evenings from 6-7:30 p.m.; appointments may be arranged by calling 581-3828, or by visiting the consultation area.

UMaine Pulp and Paper Establishes Genco Award for Industry Support

13 Sep 2010

Contact: Joe Carr, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- A new University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation award will annually recognize a UMaine employee who supports that industry through research, innovative student recruitment or teaching that inspires current engineering students. That name will bear the name of its first recipient: long-time UMaine chemical engineering professor Joseph Genco, an exemplary scholar who personifies all three of those award criteria. In announcing the award and presenting it to Genco at April's foundation meeting, foundation president Barbara Hamilton noted Genco's impact on the industry and those who work in it. Some 130 industry representatives, students and former students responded affirmatively to Hamilton's request that those influenced by Genco join him at the podium to share in the award, to be called the Joseph M. Genco Award. Genco thanked the group, the university and the foundation, noting that he has enjoyed his time working with the industry and that he has benefited from that association. The award comes with a \$1,000 stipend and \$2,500 for the recipient to use for research, related travel or

graduate student support. Genco immediately returned the stipend to the foundation to be used for its Helen Horner Genco Scholarship.

Private Funding Workshop Sept. 21

13 Sep 2010

Maine EPSCoR and UMaine's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will host "Getting to Yes: Creating Successful Relationships with Foundations and Developing Winning Proposals," a free workshop scheduled for 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday Sept. 21 at Wells Conference Center. The workshop is intended for researchers, students, grant writers and others seeking guidance on how to obtain support from foundations and other private funders. Online registration is available [here](#).

UMaine Alumnae Nominated for Republic of Gambia Ambassadorship

13 Sep 2010

President Barack Obama has nominated University of Maine alumnae Pamela Ann White, a Career Minister with the Senior Foreign Service, to be the State Department's U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of The Gambia. White, who received a B.A. in Journalism at UMaine in 1971, has served since 2008 as the USAID Mission Director in Liberia. She also served as mission director in Mali and Tanzania. White has served in a variety of overseas posts as the executive officer, including Senegal, Haiti, Egypt and South Africa.~ Before becoming an executive officer, she was the community liaison officer in Burkina Faso. In Washington, she was named USAID Chief of Recruitment and Personnel Planning. She also served in the Bureaus of Global Affairs and Africa. White started her foreign service career as a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon in 1971. She also received an M.A. from the School for International Training and an M.S. from the Industrial College of Armed Forces. The University of Maine Alumni Association honored White with its Humanitarian Award in 2007.

UMaine Support Program for Disadvantaged Students Funded

13 Sep 2010

Contact: Alan Parks, 581-2320 ORONO -- The University of Maine's [TRIO-Student Support Services program](#), helping Maine's first-generation, low-income and students with disabilities achieve bachelor's degrees, has received renewed funding -- almost \$3 million from the U.S. Department of Education. Program Director Alan Parks estimates the five-year grant will assist 400 students in each of the five years. The Education Department's Office of Postsecondary Programs is providing \$579,180 each year to the TRIO-SSS program at UMaine, enabling an array of services that increase retention and graduation rates for socio-economically disadvantaged students. In addition to the federal funding, the program also receives about \$25,000 annually from university resources. Since 1970, more than 10,000 UMaine students have received academic skills-building services, financial aid counseling and financial literacy workshops, financial aid grants, individualized academic and career planning and peer mentoring services designed to help assure success at the University of Maine. Student populations served by the program are characteristically at the highest risk for not completing a bachelor's degree. Only 27 percent of Maine adults have a bachelor's degree, according to Parks. A recent state report on jobs and educational qualifications in Maine's current workforce indicated that Maine residents need to be better educated to qualify for many available jobs. "We're helping to address the needs of the state of Maine with college educations for more at-risk students," Parks says. "The Department of Education de-funded 120 current programs nationally, so it was pretty exciting that we got it. The competition was fierce."

UMaine To Host Conference On Washington County Broadband

13 Sep 2010

UMaine will host at 2 p.m. Thursday a conference about a \$1.4 million U.S. Department of Commerce grant which will improve broadband access in Washington County. The Bangor Daily News reported Monday on the grant to Machias-based Axiom Technologies.

Board Approves UMaine Landfill Gas Negotiations

13 Sep 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine System Board of Trustees today authorized the University of Maine to conclude negotiations on a 20-year energy agreement that could potentially save the university \$13 million- \$17 million while reducing the university's carbon footprint by more than 40 percent. UMaine has been negotiating with Casella Waste Systems, Inc. (CWS) to develop an agreement supplying landfill gas to fuel the university's central steam plant. Generated at the Juniper Ridge landfill in Old Town, the gas would travel to UMaine through an approximately seven-mile pipeline. If negotiations result in a formal agreement, CWS would construct and install the pipeline after securing regulatory approval for the project. "The board's ratification represents an important step as we continue to explore this energy source as a long-term option," says Janet Waldron, UMaine's vice president for administration and finance. "As a public university, we are always looking for ways to reduce fixed costs. This abundant supply of a renewable energy option so close to our campus represents a real opportunity to create a predictable, relatively inexpensive means to power our steam plant for many years to come." Waldron points out that discussions, which have also included City of Old Town officials, have been ongoing for several months. Today's board approval authorizes the university to conclude those negotiations and enter into a contract, pending review by the system's vice chancellor for finance and administration/treasurer and the university counsel. Implementation would be subject to final approval by Chancellor Richard Pattenau. In addition to providing a substantial and stable energy supply at a discount rate, an agreement would result in a 30,000 ton annual decrease in UMaine's carbon footprint. That reduction amounts to the same impact as taking 5,700 motor vehicles off the road. The gas necessary to fulfill a potential agreement would be generated from waste that is already in place at Juniper Ridge. Waldron says it is possible that UMaine could be using landfill gas to provide fuel for the steam plant in the 2011-2012 academic year.

Preserving The Harvest Workshop Set In Farmington

14 Sep 2010

The Morning Sentinel notes Kate McCarthy of UMaine's Cooperative Extension will speak Tuesday about how to safely preserve food.

Program To Help Maine Farmers With Disabilities, Health Conditions

14 Sep 2010

A national program to help farmers, farmworkers and farm family members with chronic health conditions or disabilities is now up and running in Maine, the Bangor Daily News notes.

Bangor Daily News Reports on Approval of Landfill Gas Line, Funding for New Media Building

14 Sep 2010

The Bangor Daily News reports that the UMaine System Board of Trustees approved Monday funding for a plan that would use gas from an Old Town landfill to power UMaine's steam plant, potentially saving up to \$17 million. The board also gave approval for \$3.7 million in additional funds for the renovation of Stewart Commons for studio art programs and a New Media complex. Last year the board authorized nearly \$5.6 million for the project.

Canadian-American Center Receives Grant

14 Sep 2010

The University of Maine Canadian-American Center has received a four-year grant for \$1,678,000 to support a National Resource Center on Canada and provide foreign language and area studies fellowships for graduate students studying in Canada.

School Gardens Blooming

14 Sep 2010

Comments from Ellen Libby of UMaine Cooperative Extension are included in a [Tuesday Lewiston Sun Journal story](#) about the increasing number of school gardens around Maine. Libby says the trend falls into line with national initiatives related to healthy living and dealing with childhood obesity issues.

NOAA Grant Funds New Socioeconomic Study of Downeast Fishing Communities

14 Sep 2010

Contact: Teresa Johnson, (207) 581-4362 ORONO -- A University of Maine School of Marine Sciences researcher has received a \$178,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for a two-year study on how new fishing regulations in New England affect fishing communities socioeconomically. The research will inform how future fishing policies in New England can be designed to protect those communities. NOAA included \$18.6 million in its 2010 fiscal year budget proposal, in addition to \$16 million provided in 2009, to help New England's groundfish industry implement a "catch share" program to reallocate fishing catch limits and try to reverse an 80-percent decline in fish stocks over the last 15 years. Primary among concerns is gathering input from those who make their living on the sea or in the industry, according to Teresa Johnson, the project's principal investigator and member of the marine sciences faculty. The study, which begins in October, is being undertaken with colleagues at the University of Maine at Machias, the College of the Atlantic, and the Penobscot East Resource Center, in addition to UMaine graduate and undergraduate students. It involves surveys, recorded oral history interviews, focus groups and an assessment of economic and socioeconomic data to define the needs, requirements and capacity of Eastern Maine fishing communities to survive as federal fisheries managers design various catch share policies. Such policies are certain to affect fisheries and fishing families. The project addresses the shift towards catch shares in New England and asks "how they might aid in not only rebuilding traditional groundfish stocks, but also in the preservation of small-scale, fishery-dependent communities," Johnson says in a project description. "Although there is scientific evidence in support of catch shares, questions remain about how to effectively design such programs." Local fishermen and other community members will serve as researchers and aid in distributing the results of the project to members of these fishing communities, says Johnson, whose research focuses on the human dimensions of marine fisheries, particularly the science and management processes in the Northeast. Many stakeholders are concerned that further regulation or the allocation of fishing sectors to specific groups of individuals could result in consolidation of fishing rights by a few, often corporate, fishing entities, Johnson says. "...We feel it is critical to assess the degree to which small-scale, fishery-dependent communities can participate successfully in a catch share program, and what conditions and resources are needed to facilitate success," she says. "We will produce currently unavailable data on the communities in this region." The data will be summarized into community profiles, according to Johnson. An estimated 30 oral histories produced as part of the research will be made available to the public through NOAA's Voices of the Fisheries Project and the University of Maine's Maine Folklore Center. Project findings also will provide insight into broader design questions likely to arise as other fishery-dependent communities shift toward catch shares, Johnson says. The project will include collaboration with Maine Sea Grant, the Cobscook Bay Resource Center and other interested public and private organizations. "These data will be critical for assessing the social and economic impacts of future fishery regulations and management plans on the fishing communities in Eastern Maine," Johnson says.

'Without Borders VII' Reception Thursday Featuring Bells Performance

14 Sep 2010

A performance by experimental music percussionist and UMaine alum Paul Bosse, who studied music and art, will follow the Without Borders VII: Intermedia exhibit reception Thursday, Sept. 16 from 5-7:30 at the Lord Hall Galleries. Bosse is scheduled to perform at 8 p.m. on the fire extinguisher bells exhibit between the Sculpture Building and Murray Hall behind the Collins Center for the Arts. Without Borders VII, an annual intermedia art show organized by Owen Smith, director of UMaine's Intermedia MFA program, will be up through Sept. 24. The public is invited.

Ending the Oceans' "Tragedy of the Commons"; UMaine Professor Co-Authors Study Based on Chilean Experiment

14 Sep 2010

Contacts: Prof. Robert Steneck, University of Maine, (207) 549 3062, steneck@maine.edu Prof. Terry Hughes, Centre of Excellence in Coral Reef Studies and James Cook University, +61 400 720 164, terry.hughes@jcu.edu.au Dr. Per Olsson, SRC, Stockholm University, +46 737 078 797, per.olsson@stockholmresilience.su.se Prof. Carl Folke, SRC, Stockholm University, +46 708 450102, carl.folke@beijer.kva.se Leading international marine scientists are proposing radical changes in the governance of the world's oceans to rescue them from overfishing, pollution and other human impacts. Based on a successful nation-wide experiment in Chile, the researchers say a new approach to marine tenure could help to reverse the maritime "tragedy of the commons" which has led to the depletion of fish stocks worldwide. This research is published in the latest issue of the Proceedings of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. Prof. Robert Steneck from the University of Maine School of Marine Resources is one of the lead authors. "Marine ecosystems are in decline around the world. New transformational changes in governance are urgently required to cope with overfishing, pollution, global changes, and other drivers of degradation," says Prof. Terry Hughes of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies and James Cook University, one of the authors of a new scientific paper advocating sweeping reform of ocean governance. "In recent years there has been a growing appreciation that the health of ecosystems like the oceans and human well-being are closely linked," says co-author Dr. Per Olsson of the Stockholm Resilience Centre. "Unfortunately, typical governance arrangements don't effectively link these two essential elements, when trying to manage fishing pressure for example. They are often too rigid and don't cope well with surprises or changed conditions." A combination of fisheries collapses and the move to democracy in Chile, quite by chance, provided the opportunity to try out some new arrangements for looking after fisheries, involving a partnership of fishers, scientists and managers. "There was a general recognition that Chile's fish stocks were in trouble," says Prof. Carl Folke, also from the Stockholm Resilience Centre and the Beijer Institute. "Things were turbulent and people were looking for answers and that made them open to new approaches. There was also good scientific understanding of the coastal ecosystems of the region on which to base a new management plan." Fishers and scientists had been working together on the problem for some years, sharing knowledge and building trust. This led to trials of new co-operative models for fishery management, based on the latest that science can reveal about the state of the fish stock and the surrounding marine ecosystem. The result is a revolutionary national system of marine tenure that allocates user rights and responsibilities to collectives of fishers. "Although fine tuning is always needed to continue to build resilience of this new regime, this transformation has improved the sustainability of the interconnected social-ecological system," Folke adds. A vital ingredient in the change was the move by Chile to democracy after a 17-year dictatorship. This opened the way for reform of the laws governing fishing rights. The new laws gave exclusive ocean territories to local "artisanal" fishers, and excluded the big industrial fishing fleets, which had their own exclusive fishing zone. Scientists and small fishers then worked together to understand and rebuild the shattered fish stocks in their zone, leading to a shared vision and voluntary agreements on how to manage them. Fishing pressure was reduced in the industrial fishing zone by cutting the number of big vessels. Prof. Robert Steneck of the University of Maine's School of Marine Sciences says the Chilean experience contains lessons which can potentially apply anywhere in the world where a fishery is in trouble and there is good scientific data on the marine environment. "Maine already has a tradition of fishing territories evolving into a strong conservation ethic in its lobster fisheries," Steneck says. "The same can and should happen with its groundfish. Local fishermen have good new ideas on how to fish sustainably but they must also be able to profit from their local conservation actions. "With the Chilean example, we learned that you need a shared recognition that something has to be done, you need a good understanding of the marine ecosystem and how to regenerate it, you need good communication among scientists, managers and local fishing communities but you also need a political opportunity so sweeping changes can be established" Steneck says. "If you have all those things, there is a good chance you can avoid the marine 'tragedy of the commons' which has been a feature of fisheries around the world in the past half century." The research indicates the key to managing fisheries may depend on creating agreements that are both voluntary and flexible enough to cope with changes in the ocean environment, leading to fisheries that are both ecologically and socially sustainable. "Navigating transformations in governance of Chilean marine coastal resources" by Stefan Gelcich, Terry P. Hughes, Per Olsson, Carl Folke, Omar Defeo, Miriam Fernández, Simon Foale, Lance H. Gunderson, Carlos Rodríguez-Sickert, Marten Scheffer, Robert S. Steneck and Juan C. Castilla appears in the latest issue of the Proceedings of the US National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).

Civic Passage Recruiting Volunteers for Community Projects

14 Sep 2010

Contact: Lauren Wagner, 581-1796 The UMaine Bodwell Center for Services and Volunteerism's Civic Passage program is recruiting students and university employees with a little free time and a desire to help others. Current volunteer project sites include the Maine Mental Health Association in Bangor, which needs some painting done in the afternoon on Sept. 15, and the Maine Audubon Society at Fields Pond in Holden, where they'll help celebrate the return of the Sedgeunkedunk Stream to a more natural state, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 18. The [Bodwell Center posts volunteer opportunities](#) on a weekly basis and continues recruitment efforts on campus. The program is designed to strengthen community mindedness and foster development in students participating in direct service opportunities. Research has shown that participation in community service activities while attending college has been linked to increases in students' civic responsibility, academic performance and development of life skills, including critical thinking, interpersonal skills and leadership development. Last year, 440 students contributed almost 1,300 hours helping more than two dozen organizations with civic or charitable missions ranging from food pantries to conservation activities. Lauren Wagner of the Bodwell Center is available at 581-1796 and can provide additional information.

UMaine Football Club Opener Saturday Versus Clarkson

14 Sep 2010

The UMaine Tackle Football Club home opener is Saturday, Sept. 18 at 5 p.m. at Morse Field against Clarkson University's Holden Knights. Gates open at 4 p.m. This inaugural Yankee Collegiate Football Conference game will be preceded by pre-game Youth Day activities for young fans and the NFL pass, punt and kick competition at 11 a.m. UMaine students are admitted free with a MaineCard. Adult tickets are \$6, \$3 for children 6-12 years and free for PPK competitors.

President Kennedy Wins Wilma Award

14 Sep 2010

UMaine President Robert Kennedy was named Saturday night the winner of the 10th Wilma Award, which is given by UMaine's Collins Center for the Arts to a member of the community or a business who has made substantial contributions to the center and to the promotion and enhancement of cultural activities in Maine. The award is named for its first winner, Wilma Bradford. Previous winners include John Patches, the Collins Center's executive director.

Calico-Colored Lobster Found in Midcoast

14 Sep 2010

Dr. Robert Bayer of the University of Maine's Lobster Institute comments in a [Working Waterfront story](#) about a calico-colored lobster found in the waters of Georgetown's Harmon Harbor. Bayer said report of sightings of such lobsters are rare, but do occur each year.

UMaine Extension Specialist To Discuss Well Water Testing

14 Sep 2010

Contact: For information about well water safety, call Laura Wilson, (207) 581-2971 or email laura.wilson@maine.edu; for information about or two register for well water testing workshops, contact the local adult education office. ORONO – As more studies are attempting to link the presence of toxic germs and chemicals in well water to illnesses such as asthma and the development of cognitive abilities in children, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension is attempting the educate well water users about the importance of regular testing and maintenance of private water systems. Cooperative Extension Water Quality Scientist Laura Wilson will begin this week conducting workshops designed to educate and raise awareness of the importance of testing privately owned well water. The hour-long

workshops are being held through adult education programs in Ellsworth, Bucksport, Hampden, Orono, Steuben, Searsport, and Sullivan. Members of the public who are interested in attending a session are encouraged to contact the local adult education office. Some of the workshops are free, while others cost up to \$6 to attend. The cost varies by adult education program. Wilson will cover topics such as taking care of a well, how to get well water tested, and common well contaminants. Knowledge gained from this session will include why well water may not be safe and how to ensure that it is. It is estimated about half of Maine residents are drinking well water. "We're trying to get the word out that the water you're drinking may not be safe," Wilson said. "There's bacteria that can make you sick, but there's also naturally occurring arsenic and radon that can be a long-term chronic health issue." The Maine Center for Disease Control recommends wells are tested every year for bacteria, nitrates and nitrites, and every three years for chemicals such as arsenic, radon, lead, flouride and uranium. Wilson's workshops begin at 6 p.m. Wednesday, September 15 at Ellsworth High School. She will be at Bucksport High School at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 6. The rest of the schedule is as follows: Monday, Oct. 18 at Reeds Brook Middle School in Hampden at 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, October 20 in Orono (location to be determined) at 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, October 28 in Steuben (location to be determined) at 6 p.m.; Thursday, November 11 at Searsport Middle School at 6 p.m.; Wednesday, November 17 in Sullivan (location to be determined) at 6 p.m. The workshops are especially timely as Maine, which has high levels of arsenic that naturally occur in bedrock, has been involved in studies of the connection between arsenic and health. UMaine biochemist Julie Gosse and student researchers have been looking into the link between arsenic in drinking water and asthma and immune defense cell function.

Brewer Comments in LePage Analysis

15 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer are included in an [Associated Press story](#) about the implications of Maine GOP gubernatorial candidate Paul LePage's angry outburst at a Monday news conference. Brewer says that the incident will play well with certain constituencies.

Medicine Disposal Program News Coverage

15 Sep 2010

Jennifer Crittenden from UMaine's Center on Aging is quoted in a Wednesday [Bangor Daily News story](#) updating the state's Maine Safe Medicine Disposal for ME program. Crittenden was involved in a Tuesday session at Husson University where participants cataloged discarded medications that have been mailed to the Maine Drug Enforcement agency for safe disposal.

Schools Employing Restorative Justice Principles

15 Sep 2010

Wednesday's Central Maine Morning Sentinel includes a report about an SAD 13 (Bingham area) initiative aimed at handling conflict and discipline issues using restorative justice techniques. The story includes comments from Barbara Blazej of UMaine's Peace Studies Program, who says more Maine schools are showing interest in this approach.

Reports Say President Clinton Will Visit Maine

15 Sep 2010

The [Portland Press Herald reports](#) that former President Bill Clinton will visit South Portland on Sept. 26 to rally support for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Libby Mitchell. The story includes comments from UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer, who tells the Press Herald that Clinton is "warmly viewed as (an) elder statesman" by Democratic loyalists.

Fried, Bolton on Morning Radio

15 Sep 2010

UMaine political scientist Amy Fried and Cooperative Extension food safety expert Jason Bolton were Wednesday morning live interview guests on WZON-FM (103.1). Fried talked about current Maine political issues, including the race for governor. Bolton provided information useful to those who are preserving fruits and vegetables they grew during the summer months.

Foster Innovation Center Holding Small Business Development Discussions

15 Sep 2010

Contact: Jesse Moriarity, 581-1454 The UMaine Foster Center for Student Innovation is holding two discussion sessions, today from 6-7:30 p.m., and Sept. 22, from 4-5:30 p.m., to discuss and advise prospective entrepreneurs on small business creation. Today, Martha Broderick, a practicing attorney and professor of business law in the Maine Business School, will discuss the several forms of business models for both for profit and not for profit organizations and why they are important. On Wednesday, Sept. 22, a panel of experts, including successful crafters and craft show organizers will discuss turning a hobby into a business. The public is invited to these free events at the Center. Light refreshments will be available. For information or to RSVP, [email](#) or call (207) 581-1454.

Apple Harvest Down Due to Frost

16 Sep 2010

UMaine Cooperative Extension fruit specialist Renae Moran told MPBN the apple harvest is down this fall as much as 50 percent due to frost, but an abundance of warm, sunny weather earlier this summer has produced unusually tasty apples.

UMaine-Syracuse Football Game

16 Sep 2010

The UMaine football team's matchup this Saturday night against Syracuse helps give [Black Bear student-athletes](#) exposure and has become a critical piece of program funding, UMaine interim athletic director Steve Abbott told the [Portland Press Herald](#). The Black Bears will face the Orange at 7:15 p.m. in the Carrier Dome in Syracuse, N.Y.

Welfare A Hot Issue In Maine Governor's Race

16 Sep 2010

Sandy Butler, a UMaine social work professor, is quoted in a Bangor Daily News story about the Maine gubernatorial candidates' focus on the issue of welfare. Butler says a report, which claims Maine is the most welfare-dependent state in the nation, did not distinguish between federal aid and state aid.

Extension Funded for Continued Potato Blight, Pest Prevention Research

16 Sep 2010

Contact: Jim Dill, (207) 581-3879; James Dwyer, (207) 764-3361 ORONO -- University of Maine Cooperative Extension researchers have received renewed U.S. Department of Agriculture Funding of \$432,000 for potato late blight and pest management research and education for 2010. The program is overseen by co-principal investigators Jim Dill, an Extension pest management specialist in Orono, and James Dwyer, a crops specialist in the Aroostook County Office. Funding for the program has been ongoing since 1994, except for 2007, when the funding was discontinued but brought back at the request of potato farmers with whom Dill and Dwyer worked. Support for funding has come from the Maine Congressional Delegation, with Senator Susan Collins leading the efforts. As many as 30 undergraduate students have worked in the program monitoring fields from Palmyra to Fort Kent for signs of late blight fungus or pest

infestations. "In 2009, we saved the industry \$26 million through reduced pesticide applications, better timing of applications, by reducing pests or avoiding pests," Dill says. One properly timed crop application can save hundreds of thousands of dollars, "and that more than pays for the grant itself," he says. The program also works with farmers to protect potato fields from late blight disease throughout the state.

ORSP Workshop to Explain Grant Application, Funding Process

16 Sep 2010

Contact: Amanda Ashe, 581-1480 UMaine's Office of Research & Sponsored Programs will hold an informational workshop, "ORSP102: The Pre-Award Process," Wednesday, Oct. 13 from 9-10:30 a.m. in Soderberg Lecture Hall, Jenness Hall. ORSP holds a series of workshops throughout the year for faculty and researchers about the process of securing and managing extramural funding and the services provided by the office. Those who have not attended previous ORSP workshops are asked to access the office's eLearning course, "ORSP 101: The Grant Life Cycle," prior to attending ORSP 102; it serves as a syllabus for the series, says Amanda Ashe, ORSP staff associate. ORSP says it does not anticipate substantial changes in content from previous sessions. The presentation will be available on-line after the workshop. Please RSVP: amanda.ashe@umit.maine.edu on or before Oct. 6.

Bookstore Says Read a 'Banned' Book

16 Sep 2010

Contact: Diane Genthner, 581-1744 ORONO -- The University Bookstore at the University of Maine is joining with the American Library Association in its observance of "Banned Books Week" Sept. 25-Oct. 2 and encouraging public participation by reading a controversial book. Thousands of libraries and bookstores across the country plan to celebrate the freedom to read by participating in special events, exhibits and read-outs that showcase books that have been banned or threatened. According to Diane Genthner, tradebook manager at the UMaine Bookstore, the store will host the following activities: displays of banned or challenged books; a top-ten list of stupid reasons to ban a book; and information on the history of Banned Books Week. Since its inception in 1982, Banned Books Week has reminded the public that while not every book is intended for every reader, each reader has the right to decide what to read, listen to or view. This year's observance commemorates the most basic freedom in a democratic society -- the freedom to read freely and not take that freedom for granted, the ALA says in a statement. Classics like "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," "The Catcher in the Rye" and even the Harry Potter series, have been challenged by parents or school administrators who believe such books should be banned from school libraries. "...Challenges are not simply an expression of a point of view; on the contrary, they are an attempt to remove materials from public use, thereby restricting the access of others," the ALA says. "Even if the motivation to ban or challenge a book is well intentioned, the outcome is detrimental. Censorship denies our freedom as individuals to choose and think for ourselves." Genthner says her support for Banned Books Week observances stem from a love of books, "and by extension, freedom of thought and intellectual freedom." Decisions about what to read or not read should be personal ones, she says, not sweeping community-wide policies.

UMaine Bookstore Observing 'Banned Books Week'

16 Sep 2010

The University Bookstore at the UMaine is joining with the American Library Association in its observance of "Banned Books Week" Sept. 25-Oct. 2 and encouraging public participation by reading a book under attack by would-be censors. A [news release](#) has additional information.

UMaine Fitness, Nutrition Experts Available to Discuss National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month

16 Sep 2010

Contacts listed in text ORONO - September is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month, and as the school lunch and other child nutrition programs are set to expire Sept. 30, nutrition and fitness advocates are encouraging Congress to

act swiftly to pass child nutrition bill for the President to sign. University of Maine exercise physiologists and nutritionists are available to discuss simple steps children, parents and school administrations can take to improve physical education and exercise activities for youth, and advice on healthy, nutritional school lunches and snacks. Childhood obesity has increased more than fourfold among those ages 6 to 11, according to the [National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month website](#). More than 23 million children and teenagers in the United States ages 2 to 19 are obese or overweight, a statistic that health and medical experts consider an epidemic. This puts nearly a third of America's children at early risk for Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and stroke – conditions previously associated with adulthood, the website warns. Of all of New England, Maine has the highest obesity rate. Kinesiologist and physical education researcher Nellie Cyr of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development faculty, is available at (207) 581-2461 to discuss fitness activities, strategies and school-based intervention programs to reduce obesity in children. Cyr's research has delved into ways to engage parents and communities, in addition to teachers, in promoting healthier nutrition for children. Nutritionist Mary Ellen Camire of the university's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition is available as of Monday, Sept. 20 to discuss easily implemented nutrition and dietary measures to reduce unhealthy eating habits. She can be reached at (207) 581-1636. Kinesiologist and physical education researcher and faculty member Stephen Butterfield can be reached at (207) 581-2469 to discuss new student fitness testing methods that have inspired children to become more active as a way to improve fitness test performance.

Fogler Staff Reminds Faculty of Dedicated Website

17 Sep 2010

The staff at Fogler Library is reminding faculty members that it maintains a webpage expressly for them, with links to useful internal and external services and information. News items about the status of any library project requiring faculty input, new books on order and announcements of new databases on trial can be found there. There also are interactive library forms for campus delivery of journal articles and books, in addition to ways to place both hard-copy and electronic format materials on reserve for courses. Other helpful information includes faculty liaison librarians for each department and how to schedule bibliographic instruction sessions for classes.

New Online Weight Management Program Mentioned

17 Sep 2010

An online weight management program recently started at UMaine was mentioned in a newspaper story. Faculty in the food science and human nutrition department began offering the program for the first time this fall

Huffington Post Highlights Connection Between Whales And Carbon Sequestering

17 Sep 2010

The Huffington Post has a [blog entry](#) about research done by UMaine's Andrew Pershing into the idea that whales can effectively sequester carbon, therefore removing it from the atmosphere. Pershing estimates that restoring whale populations could remove up to 160,000 tons of carbon annually.

Researcher Says Fishermen Lack Safety Training

17 Sep 2010

Research being done by Mary Davis, and adjunct faculty member in UMaine's School of Economics, was cited in a Portland Press Herald story about the safety risks of fishing. Davis has found that about 40 percent of the boats in Maine's inshore fishing fleet are out of compliance with safety regulations, and 16 percent of fishermen she interviewed told her they don't know how to swim.

Nanodiamond Find In Greenland Ice

17 Sep 2010

UMaine research into the presence of nanodiamonds in Greenland was mentioned in a [story](#) in The Daily Nexus of the University of California, Santa Barbara. UMaine scientists Paul Mayewski and Andrei Kurbatov of the Climate Change Institute helped provide expertise related to the flow dynamics along the edge of the Greenland ice sheet and the chemical analysis required to understand the climatic significance of a section of ice recovered by the team.

Syracuse Football Team Not Overlooking Black Bears

17 Sep 2010

Syracuse football coach Doug Marrone told the [Watertown Daily Times](#) the Orange aren't taking UMaine lightly as the teams head into their Saturday night game, which kicks off at 7:15 p.m.

Bridge in a Backpack Installed

17 Sep 2010

Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center, commented in a Thursday WABI television story about the installation of a new bridge in Hermon. The structure uses "bridge in a backpack" technology developed under Dagher's direction at the UMaine center. UMaine spinoff company Advanced Infrastructure Technologies is working with a local construction company to install the bridge.

Apple Harvest Down Due To Frost

17 Sep 2010

The website FreshPlaza.com has a report quoting UMaine Cooperative Extension Fruit Specialist Renae Moran about the apple harvest in Maine. Moran said the harvest is down because of an early spring frost.

Maine Sardine Industry Conference At Penobscot Marine Museum

17 Sep 2010

Several UMaine researchers will take part in a conference about the rise and fall of Maine's sardine industry, according to Village Soup. Pauleena MacDougall of the UMaine-based Maine Folklife Center, and Bill Kuykendall of UMaine's New Media Center will participate in the Oct. 22-23 conference.

Ellis, Ogle poet/composer presentation Tuesday

20 Sep 2010

Kathleen Ellis of the UMaine English and Honors College faculty and Nancy Ogle of the UMaine music faculty will discuss "Ripple Effect: The Influence of Women Poets on 20th Century Composers" on Tuesday Sept. 21, 12:15 p.m. in Memorial Union's Bangor Room. The talk is part of the UMaine Women's Studies and Women in the Curriculum Program fall lunch series.

Blood drive Tuesday and Wednesday

20 Sep 2010

UMaine's Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism will host a blood drive Tuesday Sept. 21 and Wednesday Sept. 22 at the Student Rec Center. The blood drive is scheduled for 11 a.m.-5 p.m. each day.

Randy Olson presentations begin Tuesday

20 Sep 2010

[A three-day series of presentations by scientist and filmmaker Randy Olson begin on Tuesday Sept. 21.](#) One highlight will be a 7 p.m. Wednesday Collins Center for the Arts screening of Olson's film "Salt of the Earth." That film, which premiered 20 years ago, features Stonington brothers Brian and Stevie Robbins describing life working in the lobstering industry. The Robbins brothers will be present Wednesday to engage with Olson in a post-film discussion. This is the only event on Olson's itinerary that requires [a ticket purchase](#).

UMaine among 18 on Princeton Review's 'Green Honor Roll'

20 Sep 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine recently was named one of just 18 colleges and universities listed in [The Princeton Review's "Green Honor Roll."](#) Recognizing schools for their commitment to sustainability, the Green Honor Roll lists those institutions that received the highest possible score on The Princeton Review green rating. The guide lauds UMaine for its recycling programs, green-certified buildings and free shuttle bus service. It also notes the fact that UMaine has a sustainability coordinator, a sustainability council and "Eco Reps" in its residence halls. The state of Maine is well represented on the honor roll, with College of the Atlantic and Unity College joining UMaine. Several of the nation's leading research universities, including Arizona State, Georgia Tech and the University of California-Berkeley are also on that prestigious list, along with Harvard and Yale. Additionally, UMaine is one of 218 colleges and universities listed in The Princeton Review's "The Best Northeastern Colleges: 2011 Edition." And the Review listed the University of Maine among "The Best 373 Colleges" in its annual directory of the country's best institutions for undergraduate education. This marks seven consecutive years for UMaine on The Princeton Review "Best Colleges" list. [A news release has additional details about the Princeton Review selection criteria and process.](#)

Maine Ahead Profiles Dagher

20 Sep 2010

Maine Ahead magazine features an extensive profile of Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center. The story focuses primarily on offshore wind technology initiatives at the center, but also features background on Dagher himself and a sidebar about bridge-in-a-backpack technology developed there.

Suicide Prevention Walk Highlighted

20 Sep 2010

Channel 2 broadcast a story previewing the Sunday Sept. 26 "Out of the Darkness" suicide prevention and awareness walk scheduled for UMaine. The story includes an interview with Wanda Cunningham and Bethany Walsh from the UMaine Counseling Center, which is organizing the activity. The walk starts at 1 p.m. and online registration is available.

Blodgett Subject of Newspaper Column

20 Sep 2010

Steve Solloway's [Maine Sunday Telegram column](#) provided perspectives on UMaine women's basketball coach Cindy Blodgett, who's about to begin her fourth season in that role. Solloway and Blodgett discussed the program's state and its future when she was in Portland Friday to address that city's Rotary Club.

Brewer in Gubernatorial Poll Story

20 Sep 2010

Comments from Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty are included in a [Maine Sunday Telegram story](#) new polling in the Maine gubernatorial race. The newest poll, surveying 603 Maine voters, shows Republican Paul LePage at 38 percent, Democrat Libby Mitchell at 25 percent, independent Eliot Cutler at 11 percent and independents Shawn Moody and Kevin Scott polling in single digits.

Good Season for Plant-a-Row-for-the-Hungry

20 Sep 2010

Barbara Murphy from UMaine Cooperative Extension was quoted in a [Maine Sunday Telegram story](#) reporting that the 2010 growing season has been a good one for the Plant-a-Row-for-the-Hungry program in Maine. Murphy credits the favorable growing season and generous nature of Maine's gardeners.

TRIO Program Receives Funding

20 Sep 2010

Alan Parks, director of UMaine's College Success Programs, is featured in a Bangor Daily News story based on the news that UMaine's TRIO Student Support Services programs have received five more years of federal funding. The story also highlights the story of UMaine student Luellen Suchan, who credits her success to the availability of TRIO programs, which support first-generation and low-income students, and students with disabilities.

Gabe in Hollywood Slots/Oxford Casino Story

20 Sep 2010

UMaine School of Economics professor Todd Gabe was quoted in a Bangor Daily News story looking at the potential impact of an Oxford County casino on the Hollywood Slots facility in Bangor. The Maine electorate will vote in November on whether to approve a casino in that western Maine county.

Brewer Comments on Gubernatorial Race Advertising

20 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer are featured in a Maine Public Radio report on the first "negative" advertising of the current Maine gubernatorial race. Two new ads, one placed by the Libby Mitchell campaign and one by the Democratic Governors Association, target GOP candidate and campaign front-runner Paul LePage.

Brewer Comments in Eliot Cutler Profile

20 Sep 2010

Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty was quoted in a Monday front-page Bangor Daily News profile of Maine independent gubernatorial candidate Eliot Cutler.

Researchers Begin Logging Survey to Understand, Strengthen Forest Industry

20 Sep 2010

Contact: Jeff Benjamin, 581-2727; Jessica Leahy, (207) 581-2834 ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Forest Resources has received a U.S. Department of Agriculture research grant to take a close look at the northeast region's logging industry and examine its infrastructure, capacity, workforce and issues that affect its economic health and future. The research will result in a better understanding of how various sectors of the logging industry respond to the significant challenges facing them, both now and in the future, according to Jeffrey Benjamin, assistant professor of

forest operations in the School of Forest Resources and principal investigator for the \$25,000 grant-funded project. Jessica Leahy, assistant professor of human dimensions of natural resources in the forestry school and program leader in the Center on Sustainable Forests, is co-principal investigator for the project, "A Long-Term Monitoring Program to Assess the Northern Forest's Logging Industry." Using a variety of survey techniques, such as mail-out surveys and face-to-face interviews, the researchers will identify and assess key industry metrics that can be tracked over the long-term to identify future opportunities and challenges facing the logging industry across the entire northern forest region. Loggers and logging business owners will receive surveys this fall. The forest products supply chain of the northern forest involves many independent contractors who provide a service to a diverse group of landowners and supply raw material to multiple wood-using facilities. The entire supply chain is only as strong as the weakest link, and the logging community in the northern forest region is particularly vulnerable as there is no organization solely focused on the logging sector of the industry, Benjamin says in the project summary. The research will make an objective and detailed examination of the logging industry in this region. A project report will be submitted to the USDA and project participants. Results also will be included in one or two peer-reviewed journal articles, according to Benjamin. Two undergraduate students will assist in processing results.

Travel Grants to Help Fund Student Field Trips to Hudson Museum, CCA Events

20 Sep 2010

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, (207) 581-1904 ORONO -- Northern and Eastern Maine schools will find it easier from a cost perspective to send students on field trips to the University of Maine's Hudson Museum and Collins Center for the Arts as a result of a Quimby Family Foundation grant. According to Museum Director Gretchen Faulkner, the foundation recently made \$15,000 in grant funds available to support field trips taken during the 2011-2012 school year for schools in Penobscot, Piscataquis, Washington, Waldo, Hancock and Aroostook counties. The Hudson Museum offers guided tours and gallery programs for elementary and secondary school groups, in addition to programs for university students and the public. The museum also offers programs that support state-mandated educational initiatives, including LD291, an act to increase Wabanaki and Native American culture awareness in Maine school curricula. One local curriculum developer, Judy Pusey of RSU34 (Old Town, Alton and Bradley) says museum visits are instrumental to expose students to lasting historical and anthropological impressions, and the travel grants come at a good time for Maine schools. "I think it's wonderful because the Hudson Museum is such a wonderful resource and budgets are so tight that field trip budgets have been cut back," Pusey says. Field trips to museums, particularly those with Native American exhibits, are "a critical resource" for students because they can't get the same kind of understanding without seeing and experiencing the exhibits. "It's a deeper learning experience," she adds. To apply for 1:1 matching travel grants of up to \$500 per school, teachers must complete a one-page application addressing the goals of their trip, how it meets state-mandated education initiatives, and how the opportunity will enhance classroom learning. For additional information the Hudson Museum, the Collins Center for the Arts or about applying for a travel grant, visit the museum website or call Faulkner at (207) 581-1904.

UMaine Extends Blodgett Contract Through 2012-2013 Season

20 Sep 2010

Note: Cindy Blodgett and Steve Abbott are both at Penobscot Valley Country Club in Orono this afternoon, participating in the annual women's basketball fundraiser golf tournament. They will be available for interviews at PVCC. Contact: Joe Carr (207) 581-3571 Laura Reed (207) 581-3646 ORONO -- University of Maine women's basketball coach Cindy Blodgett has agreed to a two-year contract extension. Appended to the four-year contract she signed when taking over the Black Bear program in 2007, the new deal extends through the end of the 2012-2013 season. "The women's basketball program is making steady progress under Coach Blodgett's leadership," says UMaine Athletic Director Steve Abbott. "I sense a lot of excitement about the future of Black Bear women's basketball and I look forward to working with Cindy to help get the program back to the top of the America East Conference." Blodgett is a 1998 UMaine graduate and Black Bear legend who enjoyed a professional career in the WNBA and Europe. She returned to UMaine three years ago following a successful stint as a Brown University assistant coach. "I'm grateful for the support from President Kennedy, Director of Athletics Steve Abbott and the fans of our program," Blodgett says. "Our team has worked hard in the off-season and we're all excited about the upcoming year." Following the example

Blodgett set when she was a UMaine student-athlete, her teams have excelled in the classroom. Led by America East All-Academic Team member Kristin Baker, the 2009-2010 team achieved an overall grade point average of 3.09. Blodgett's teams are also active in community service, participating in events such as the Komen Race for the Cure, Run for Hope and similar activities that support worthwhile causes. With just one senior on the roster, the Black Bears will open their season on Saturday Nov. 13 with a home game against Harvard.

2010 Carolyn E. Reed Pre-Medical Honors Thesis Fellowship Awarded

20 Sep 2010

Contact: Charlie Slavin, Dean of the Honors College, 207.581.3262 Emily Cain, Coordinator of Advancement, Honors College, 207.581.3308 ORONO -- University of Maine Honors College student, Zachery Garcia, a member of the Class of 2011, has been selected to receive the 2010 Carolyn E. Reed Pre-Medical Honors Thesis Fellowship. This Fellowship will provide Garcia with \$2,500 to support him while working on this Honors thesis in biology this academic year. Zachery Garcia is a biology major with minors in neuroscience, chemistry, and psychology. He is from Brunswick, Maine and attended high school at North Yarmouth Academy. Garcia's Honors thesis focuses on the endocrine disrupting chemical Bisphenol A (BPA) and its impact on development of the cardiac system and aspects of the reproductive system in *Drosophila melanogaster*, commonly known as fruit flies. BPA is used widely in plastic products like water bottles and canned foods and drinks because it is extremely durable, able to withstand high heat, and has low electrical conductivity. This makes exposure to BPA very common, and research like Garcia's will help to build understanding of the impact of this exposure on animals. UMaine Professor of Zoology, Harold "Dusty" Dowse is Garcia's adviser. "With the hopes of becoming a cardiothoracic surgeon, I think it is important to understanding how the heart works and how its development can be affected by a plethora of chemicals that can have long lasting and devastating effects on the fitness of the animal and its offspring," Garcia says in explaining why he chose this topic. "By better understanding how it is affected in this model organism, I hope to better understand overall function of the heart, its development, and pathologies that arise in development." Garcia plans to begin attending medical school in Fall, 2011. He believes that hands-on medicine is best practiced when connected with research, and is doing his Honors thesis to get started down that path. *The Carolyn E. Reed Pre-Medical Thesis Fellowship is intended to encourage students to investigate and understand the rigorous academic path to a career in medicine, and is awarded annually to a student in the Honors College at the University of Maine whose undergraduate thesis research resembles the passion for and dedication to medicine evident in the work and career of Dr. Carolyn E. Reed. Fellows are devoted to improving the world through active research and establishing an academic background that will enable them to become world-class physicians. Their research is intended to make a positive difference in the lives of others both through their discoveries and as a stepping stone to their future careers. Carolyn E. Reed, M.D. '72 graduated from the University of Maine with a degree in Chemistry and from the Honors Program. She received her Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine in 1977. Dr. Reed has been at the Medical University of South Carolina since 1985, and currently is Professor of Surgery; Chief, Section of General Thoracic Surgery; Deputy Director of Clinical Affairs, Hollings Cancer Center; and holds the Alice Ruth Reeves Folk Endowed Chair of Clinical Oncology.*

New Writing Series First Lecture Sept. 23

20 Sep 2010

The [New Writing Series](#) begins its fall 2010 poetry readings and discussions Thursday, Sept. 23 at 4:30 p.m. at Soderberg Auditorium in Jenness Hall with poets Joanna Fuhrman and Rick Snyder. The lectures are free and open to the public.

Study Abroad Fair Sept. 23 Explores Travel-Study Options

20 Sep 2010

The Office of International Programs has scheduled a Study Abroad Fair Thursday, Sept. 23, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Memorial Union to discuss the many options students have for studying abroad, or teaching or interning outside the United States. A companion symposium being held concurrently by the Honors College will feature students who have

studied in France, Spain, Austria and on a research vessel for a "Semester at Sea Voyage." In addition, the U.S. Postal Service is planning a "Passport Day" down the hall in the FFA Room at the same time. Students with an original birth certificate and an ID can apply for a new or renewed passport. Fees and costs total \$150.

Grant Allows Acadia Research Website To Receive Upgrades

21 Sep 2010

ORONO – University of Maine researcher Sarah J. Nelson has been awarded a \$4,700 grant from the National Park Service to continue work on a project designed to provide information about research projects and data available for Acadia National Park. Nelson, an assistant research professor affiliated with the Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research, is working on a website, www.acadiascience.org. The site is up and running and will be enhanced with Interactive Mapping tools, which allow users to see which studies have mapped sites and view those sites in their geographic context. The project is part of a series of websites known as KnowledgeBase developed to help serve data and information about the Gulf of Maine and its watershed to resource managers, scientists and the public.

Christensen Efforts for Children Highlighted

21 Sep 2010

The Bangor Daily News features a story about UMaine School of Engineering Technology Prof. Tom Christensen, who's turned a woodworking hobby into a massive effort aimed at bringing smiles to the faces of children in difficult situations. Christensen makes thousands of wooden toy cars each year for donation to children in hospitals, homeless shelters and other tough circumstances. UMaine student Kati MacFarline wrote the story.

Business School at Komen Race for Cure

21 Sep 2010

The Maine Business School's MBS Corps was represented by a group of 13 walkers and runners at Sunday's Susan Komen Race for the Cure breast cancer fundraiser in Bangor. MBA student Amy Sundberg organized the effort and MBA student Cassie Vaillancourt raised the most money. Altogether, the MBS Corps raised \$2,200. [Photos of the group at Sunday's event are online.](#)

Gabe Paper Noted in The Economist

21 Sep 2010

"Knowledge in Cities," a scholarly paper by UMaine economist Todd Gabe and three collaborators is listed as one of the week's "interesting (examples of) economics research" in the Sept. 8 issue of The Economist.

Michaud/Levesque Poll Story Includes Brewer Comments

21 Sep 2010

UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer is the lead resource in a Tuesday [Lewiston Sun Journal story](#) about a new poll that shows Maine 2nd District incumbent Michael Michaud with a 20-point lead over GOP challenger Jason Levesque.

BDN Previews Olson Presentations

21 Sep 2010

Tuesday's Bangor Daily News previews three days of UMaine presentations by author, filmmaker and science communicator Randy Olson. A faculty member at the University of Southern California, Olson will make a series of

[public presentations](#) while also interacting with UMaine students and faculty members in various settings. A highlight will be Wednesday evening's 7 p.m. 20th anniversary screening of his film "Salt of the Earth: A journey to the heart of Maine lobster fishermen." That film provided a first-person account of life in the lobstering industry through the stories of Brian and Stevie Robbins of Stonington. They will participate in a post-film discussion on Wednesday evening, to be followed by a performance by Maine bluegrass group Blue Northern. Tickets to Wednesday's event cost \$10. They are available at the Collins Center for the Arts (www.collinscenterforthearts.com or 581-1755).

President's Blog Updated

21 Sep 2010

President Kennedy has posted a new blog entry, previewing this week's [UMaine presentations](#) by filmmaker, author and science communicator Randy Olson. You can follow President Kennedy's blog updates on [Twitter](#).

Study to Explore the Big Roles of Herring and Other Small Fish in the Sea

21 Sep 2010

Contact: Andrew Pershing, UMaine and GMRI Research Scientist, 207-228-1656; Blaine Grimes, GMRI, 207-228-1655; Ron Lisnet, UMaine, 207-581-3779 The role played by herring and other small pelagic fish in the Gulf of Maine, including the nutrients they supply to larger animals like tuna and whales and their effect on zooplankton, is the focus of a more than \$346,000 research project led by oceanographer Andrew Pershing of the University of Maine (UMaine) and Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI). The project was one of eight funded this year by the Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization (CAMEO), a program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Science Foundation. In addition to Pershing, the research team includes two scientists from UMaine, two from GMRI, three from NOAA, the one each from the University of Massachusetts and Ohio State University. The scientists will compare the physical changes in the Gulf of Maine over three decades, beginning in the 1980s when herring stocks were low. The goal is to evaluate the role of bottom-up changes in physical conditions, such as temperature, and productivity in relation to top-down forces such as fishing in shaping large-scale ecosystem changes. According to Pershing, previous studies detailed a series of changes in the Gulf that occurred in the 1990s. They included a dramatic increase in herring and a decrease in their primary prey — large zooplankton. The decline in large zooplankton, especially the copepod *Calanus finmarchicus* led to leaner herring and the births of fewer right whale calves. The leaner herring then led to bluefin tuna of lesser value. The researchers hope to better understand how these trade-offs between fish abundance and fish weight are linked in fishery ecosystems. "We'll be using a variety of data sources as well as building models to try to understand these changes," Pershing says. "In addition to helping uncover the mechanisms driving big changes in systems like the Gulf of Maine, our work will help improve forecasts of fisheries in the Gulf."

School Field Trips Grant for Hudson Museum, CCA Visits Reported

21 Sep 2010

The Bangor Daily News on Sept. 21 carried an article based on a UMaine news release about a \$15,000 field trip travel grant received by the Hudson Museum from the Quimby Family Foundation to help area schools defray travel expenses for student field trips to the Hudson Museum and the Collins Center for the Arts.

BDN Reports on Logging Industry Health, Challenges Study

21 Sep 2010

The Bangor Daily News on Sept. 21 carried an article based on a UMaine news release about a \$25,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture grant to university School of Forest Resources researchers studying and documenting strengths, weaknesses and challenges facing the Maine logging industry.

Events Listed for Family and Friends Weekend

21 Sep 2010

The Division of Student Affairs has posted on its webpage a list of dozens of events, activities and special UMaine features in celebration of Family and Friends Weekend, Friday through Sunday, Sept. 24-26. The weekend will be filled with great entertainment, student performances, athletic events, a craft fair and more on campus and off. A few of Saturday's events include the Harambe Jazz Festival from 12-2 p.m. on the Mall, UMaine's Standardbred Drill Team performance and barbecue from 3-5 p.m. at the J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center farm off College Avenue, and UMaine football's home game versus William & Mary at 6 p.m. [A complete listing is online.](#) .

Gabe Report Calls Philadelphia a “Thinking City”

22 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine economist Todd Gabe are included in a [Philadelphia Inquirer story](#) based on "Knowledge in Cities," a report he wrote in collaboration with three other economists. The report lists Philadelphia as a "thinking city." The study places regions in one of 11 clusters based on the kind of knowledge that drives their workforce.

Tamiflu Ingredient in Pine Needles, UMaine Researchers Find

22 Sep 2010

Wednesday's Portland Press Herald includes a [story](#) about research by UMaine chemistry professors Barbara Cole and Ray Fort, along with graduate student Gedivinne Nelmini and other collaborators. They have found ways to extract shikimic acid from pine needles. That acid is a primary ingredient in the flu medicine Tamiflu. It's rare and most of the commercially available shikimic acid comes from a tree that grows in remote northwest China.

Perkins Bridge in Belfast Goes High Tech

22 Sep 2010

Please Contact: Roberta Laverty, AEWC, (207) 581-2110 Mylan Bannon, AIT, (207) 735-7399 BELFAST – The Perkins Bridge in Belfast is going high tech. The 28’ bridge has been carrying motorists across the Little River since 1921. But, wear and tear on the deteriorating bridge has forced the state to consider a more durable option to carry motorists through the next century. “The Perkins Bridge will be the largest we’ve constructed in Maine using composite technology developed by researchers at the University of Maine,” says Brit Svoboda, CEO of Advanced Infrastructure Technologies (AIT), the company responsible for replacing the bridge. “The new 48’ bridge will be constructed with concrete-filled, carbon fiber tubes - a high tech alternative to traditional steel or concrete arches.” The carbon fiber tubes will be delivered to the site beginning Wednesday morning, with installation expected to continue through Thursday. The replacement bridge will make crossing the Little River on Herrick Road, that much more enjoyable for years in the future. According to engineers with AIT, the replacement bridge arches are steel free and are expected to last beyond 100 years, which is significantly longer than the life expectancy of the typical steel or concrete bridge. “Thanks to modern technology which prevents rusting, spalling and cracking, we believe the new bridge will save tax payer monies by virtually eliminating the need for bridge maintenance,” adds Svoboda, who lives near the bridge in the town of Belfast, Maine. This new composite technology, licensed by Advanced Infrastructure Technologies, was already used to construct the Neal Bridge in Pittsfield and the McGee Bridge in Anson. Construction is underway this year on three others. “We are pleased that University research and development continues to create jobs in Maine. AIT is a privately funded firm that is commercializing a University of Maine invention. The benefits to Maine are private sector jobs, and the construction of bridges that are faster to build and last longer,” says Advanced Structures and Composites Center Director Habib Dagher. To learn more about this technology, please visit [AITbridges.com](#) or contact the University of Maine AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center where the technology was developed (www.aewc.umaine.edu) . #### High resolution images available. To arrange an interview with Brit Svoboda or an engineer, please contact Mylan Bannon at 207-735-7399 or by email at meb@aitbridges.com.

Website Notes Research On Roles Of Herring, Small Fish

22 Sep 2010

[The website Physorg.com notes research](#) being done by UMaine oceanographer Andrew Pershing into the role played by herring and other small pelagic fish in the Gulf of Maine, including the nutrients they supply to larger animals like tuna and whales and their effect on zooplankton. Pershing and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute are running the more than \$346,000 research project.

"Bloom" at UMaine Museum of Art Saturday

22 Sep 2010

The UMaine Museum of Art will host "Bloom," an artful celebration to benefit the museum's exhibition and education programs, on Saturday Sept. 25 from 5:30-10 p.m. The event, scheduled for the museum galleries at 40 Harlow St. in Bangor, will feature a complimentary wine bar, hors d'oeuvres by Montes, live entertainment, music by the A Train, dancing, hand-painted silk fabric installation by Michael Shyka, community art mural, silent auction of children's paintings, and more. Tickets are available for purchase at the museum or by calling 561-3350 and will also be available at the door. They cost \$45 for an individual (\$25 is a tax deductible donation) or \$80 for a couple (\$50 is a tax deductible donation). Tickets also will be available at the door.

Political Film Series: 'The Candidate' Thursday

22 Sep 2010

Political science professor Richard Powell will lead a screening and discussion of Robert Redford's film "The Candidate," a satirical look at electioneering in the U.S., on Thursday, Sept. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Schoenberger Lounge in North Stevens Hall. A discussion will follow. The event, part of the Political Film Series sponsored by the Department of Political Science, is free and open to the public.

Suicide Prevention Walk Highlighted In Column

22 Sep 2010

Bangor Daily News columnist Joni Averill writes about Sunday's UMaine Counseling Center-sponsored Out of the Darkness Community Walk, an annual suicide and depression awareness walk which benefits the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The event begins with registration at 1 p.m. followed by the 5K walk at 2 p.m. starting on the mall in front of UMaine's Fogler Library.

Social Work Faculty Member Urges Funding For Alzheimer, Dementia Support Programs

22 Sep 2010

Sandra Butler, a UMaine professor of social work, was one of four Mainers invited by the national Eldercare Workforce Alliance to meet earlier this week with the state's congressional delegation in Washington, D.C., to urge funding for programs that support Americans with dementia and their caregivers, according to a Bangor Daily News story.

Opitz in Egg/Salmonella Report

22 Sep 2010

A comment from retired UMaine Cooperative Extension veterinarian Michael Opitz is included in a [Blue Ridge Now news Web site story](#) looking at issues related to salmonella at egg production facilities owned by Austin "Jack" DeCoster. Blue Ridge Now covers western North Carolina.

Students Levasseur, Landry Featured in ROTC Profile

22 Sep 2010

The Bangor Daily News "College Fair Preview" insert features a profile of UMaine senior nursing student Casey Levasseur and senior finance major Brian Landry (page 6). The supplement, part of Wednesday's newspaper, provides a number of articles related to colleges and universities around Maine. Levasseur, of Millinocket and Landry, of Yorktown, Va., are part of a feature story about UMaine's Army ROTC program. The story also includes comments from Lt. Col. Steve Szweg, UMaine military science professor and ROTC commander.

Cyr Offers Dietary, Lifestyle Advice for Overweight Children

23 Sep 2010

In an interview with [Channel 7 \(WVII\)](#) on Sept. 22, kinesiologist and physical education researcher Nellie Cyr of the UMaine College of Education and Human Development discussed healthy dietary and lifestyle measures parents and schools can encourage for children as the nation wrestles with an increase in childhood obesity.

Suicide Prevention Walk Nearing Fundraising Goal

23 Sep 2010

More than 200 participants have registered for Sunday's UMaine Counseling Center-sponsored [Out of the Darkness Community Walk](#), an annual suicide and depression awareness walk to benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The event begins with registration at 1 p.m. followed by the 5K walk at 2 p.m. starting on the mall in front of UMaine's Fogler Library. Sponsors have committed nearly \$9,000 toward the fundraising goal of \$10,000. Online registration ends at 11:45 p.m. Saturday, but walkers may still register the day of the event. Donations are being accepted until Dec. 31.

Hamilton Featured in Rolling Stone Glacier Story

23 Sep 2010

UMaine Climate Change Institute glaciologist Gordon Hamilton is featured in a [Rolling Stone Magazine story](#) about the accelerated melting of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets. Writer Ben Wallace-Wells spent time with Hamilton and his colleagues during an expedition to Greenland. The story also makes reference to the work of Hamilton's UMaine graduate student Leigh Stearns, and to 1981 discoveries by UMaine Prof. Terry Hughes.

Spring Frost Hurting Apple Crop

23 Sep 2010

UMaine Cooperative Extension tree fruit specialist Renae Moran is the lead resource in a [York Weekly story](#) about Maine's 2010 apple crop. She says that yield appears to be down, attributable to a May 11 frost that saw temperatures dip into the low 20s. Southern Maine orchards were hit harder than those in northern Maine.

UMaine Center in Drug Disposal Story

23 Sep 2010

A Thursday Bangor Daily News story describes Saturday's national drug disposal effort. More than 100 drop-off sites will be established around Maine for people to turn in unwanted drugs for safe disposal. The story notes successful efforts by UMaine's Center on Aging to establish similar programs, including one that has allowed people to return unwanted medicines by mail. Information about participating Maine locations is [available online](#).

Burnett Discusses Senior Corps Week on Portland Television

23 Sep 2010

Paula Burnett, the RSVP program director in UMaine's Center on Aging, appeared Wednesday Morning on Portland's WCSH television to discuss National Senior Corps Week, which is celebrating the accomplishments of volunteers age 55 and over through the Foster Grandparent Program, Senior Companion Program, and RSVP.

Radio Stations Plan Saturday Hockey Preview

23 Sep 2010

Fox Sports Maine 97.1, the flagship station for the Black Bear Sports Network, will broadcast a Maine hockey pre-season special Saturday night Sept. 25 from 5-5:30 p.m. Fox Sports Maine's Jon Shields will host the program, a commercial-free conversation with Black Bear head coach Tim Whitehead. They will talk about the upcoming season, the Maine roster, Hockey East, and more about this year's Black Bear hockey team. The Maine hockey pre-season special will lead into the Black Bear Sports Network's coverage of Maine football vs. William & Mary with Rich Kimball, Bob Lucy, and Jim Churchill. The hockey program will air on WAEI-FM 97.1 (Bangor), WAEI-AM 910 (Bangor), and WFAU-AM 1280 (Augusta) with the Maine football pre-game show beginning at 5:30 p.m. The Maine hockey program will air again on Sunday Sept. 26 from 6:30-7 a.m. on those same stations, plus WRKD-AM 1450 (Rockland), and WIGY-FM 97.5 (Madison).

Down East Columnist Writes About Research Into Connection Between Tamiflu And Pine Needles

24 Sep 2010

Down East Magazine's Al Diamon focuses his column "Maine Humor" on the discovery made by UMaine researchers that the needles of some conifer trees contain high levels of an acid that is a key ingredient of anti-flu drugs.

Belfast Bridge-In-A-Backpack Construction Noted

24 Sep 2010

The ongoing Belfast bridge project using technology developed by UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center is highlighted in a Bangor Daily News story. The bridge-in-a-backpack technology has also been used in Pittsfield, Anson and Hermon.

Feature Story About UMaine's Blacksmith Workshop

24 Sep 2010

The [Bangor Daily News features](#) a UMaine blacksmith workshop, taught by guest artisan Robert Adams and under the leadership of UMaine associate adjunct professor of sculpture Greg Ondo. Students are working this year on a new \$740 forge purchased with stimulus money allotted to the sculpture department. Student Garrett White told the BDN the presence of a forge on campus was one of the reasons he decided to attend UMaine.

All Five Maine Gubernatorial Candidates to Visit UMaine Oct. 5

24 Sep 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine will host a series of public forums featuring Maine's five gubernatorial candidates on Tuesday Oct. 5. Each candidate will appear individually in Wells Conference Center for a 45-minute session during which they will answer a series of questions posed by moderator John Rebar, executive director of UMaine Cooperative Extension. They will also have the opportunity to share remarks with those in attendance and, if time allows, to answer questions. The candidates will appear at these forums according to this

schedule: 9 a.m. Paul LePage 10 a.m. Kevin Scott 11 a.m. Eliot Cutler noon Elizabeth Mitchell 1 p.m. Shawn Moody The forums will be broadcast using the University of Maine System's PolyCom video conferencing system. Those broadcasts will be available at UMaine Cooperative Extension offices in Presque Isle and Lisbon Falls. The candidates' schedules vary, but most will spend several hours at UMaine, visiting academic programs and research centers. Stops on those tours will include the Food Analytical Laboratory/Food Pilot Plant, the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute, the Animal Health Laboratory, the AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center, the School of Nursing Simulation Laboratory, the Katherine Miles Durst Child Development Learning Center, Maine RiSE (Research in STEM Education) and the Advanced Manufacturing Center, where they will also learn about the School of Economics' Knowledge Transfer Alliance. "We are pleased that all five candidates have been able to schedule time to meet with members of our community and learn more about UMaine's impact on our state's economy and culture," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "These forums will also provide a sterling opportunity for our students to interact with the candidates and to fully participate in the process of choosing Maine's next governor." Those planning to attend any of these sessions should bear in mind that UMaine safety policies prohibit hand-held signs at public events of this nature. Each candidate will be allotted space in the atrium adjacent to the forum location to distribute campaign materials.

Television stations Report on Bridge Construction

24 Sep 2010

Television stations WABI and WLBZ/WCSH broadcast Thursday reports about a bridge construction project in Belfast. The Perkins Bridge is being replaced using bridge-in-a-backpack technology developed at UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center.

Fried Featured in Absentee Voting Story

24 Sep 2010

Comments from Amy Fried of the UMaine political science faculty are included in a Friday Bangor Daily News story about the growing popularity of absentee voting among the Maine electorate. Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap estimates that Maine absentee voting could reach 30 percent for the November election.

Faculty Recital Sunday at Minsky Recital Hall

24 Sep 2010

Contact: Collins Center for the Arts Box Office, 581-1755 Eight of UMaine's School of Performing Arts music faculty or adjunct faculty members will perform a Cadenzato faculty recital Sunday, Sept. 26 at 2 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. Musicians include Karen Pendleton, Phillip Silver, Beth Wiemann, Noreen Silver, Anatole Wieck, Marcia Gronewold Sly, Elizabeth Downing and Laura Artesani from UMaine, and special guest David Shemer, harpsichordist, founder and musical director of the Jerusalem Baroque Orchestra. They'll present music from Golijov, J.S. Bach, Claude Debussy, Mikhail Glinka and a piece, "Winter Weather Advisory," composed by Beth Wiemann. Tickets \$7, students with ID free.

Markowsky Awarded Honorary Doctorate from Ukrainian University

24 Sep 2010

Contact: George Markowsky, 581-3940 ORONO -- George Markowsky, professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science, recently was awarded an honorary doctoral degree from The Research Council of Ternopil National Economic University in the Ukraine for his work during a recent sabbatical there. He helped the university win a NATO grant enabling the installation of a municipal fiber optic network in the city of Ternopil that connects all the area institutions of higher learning. In addition, Markowsky helped the university set up the American Ukrainian Faculty and served as its first dean, consulting on a wide variety of projects for colleagues there, and helped the university win several other grants. In July, Markowsky received the Outstanding Achievement Award in Cybersecurity at the 2010

World Congress in Computer Science, Computer Engineering and Applied Computing in Las Vegas, where he organized a session on Cybersecurity Education.

Sandy Ives Memorial Lectures Announced

24 Sep 2010

Contact: Pauleena MacDougall, 581-1848 ORONO -- The first of three lectures in the Edward D. "Sandy" Ives Memorial Lecture Series: On Humanities and Place is scheduled Monday, Oct. 4 in the Memorial Union with speaker Donna Cassidy, writer and professor of American and New England studies and art history at the University of Southern Maine. The title of Cassidy's talk, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Bangor Lounge, is "Re-mapping Region and Nation: U.S. Artists in Quebec and Atlantic Canada 1890-1940." The second lecture, "Going Back to the Land in Northern New England the 1930s," by Dona Brown, associate history professor at the University of Vermont, is Monday, Oct. 18 from 12-1:30 p.m. in 137 Bennett Hall. The third lecture, Monday, Nov. 1 features folklorist Gerald Pocius, university research professor at Memorial University of Newfoundland, speaking on "How Are Places Imagined?: The Case of the Newfoundland Outport, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Bangor Sandy Ives was a popular UMaine English and anthropology professor from 1955-1999, an international known folklorist and founder of the Maine Folklife Center. The series is sponsored by Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, departments of Anthropology, History and Art, and Women in the Curriculum, Canadian American Center and the Maine Folklife Center. Biographical details about the speakers are included on the UMaine online calendar of events at <http://www.calendar.umaine.edu/>.

Family & Friends Weekend Offers Music, Magic and Sports

24 Sep 2010

Family and Friends Weekend at UMaine offers musical recitals, an illusionist and several Black Bear sports teams taking the fields, and more as students, families and friends gather for a weekend of events, activities and exhibits. See a complete schedule at the [UMaine Division of Student Affairs website](#).

Brewer in Story on LePage Polling Lead

27 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer are included in a [seacoastonline.com report](#) analyzing the lead that GOP gubernatorial candidate Paul LePage has established in pre-election polls.

Bridge-in-a-Backpack Technology in Use

27 Sep 2010

The midcoast newspaper Village Soup has a story about the installation of a new bridge in Belfast. The new bridge employs bridge-in-a-backpack technology developed at UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center.

Brewer in Report on Franco Vote

27 Sep 2010

Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty was quoted in a Portland Press Herald story looking at the history and impact of voting by Mainers who identify themselves as having Franco heritage.

Lichtenwalner Comments on Egg Safety

27 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine Cooperative Extension veterinarian Ann Lichtenwalner were included in a Saturday Bangor Daily News report about the ways in which Maine officials work to ensure the safety of eggs produced in the state. Lichtenwalner oversees efforts at UMaine's Animal Health Laboratory, which is also featured in photos accompanying the story.

Fried in Pingree/Sussman Story

27 Sep 2010

Comments from UMaine political scientist Amy Fried are included in a Monday Kennebec Journal story looking at the potential political impact of issues related to U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree, who represents Maine's 1st District. Recent news stories have reported questions about the propriety of Pingree flying on a private jet owned by her fiancée, Donald Sussman.

Suicide Awareness Walk Reported

27 Sep 2010

Monday's Bangor Daily News includes a story about Sunday's Out of the Darkness suicide awareness walk, organized by the UMaine Counseling Center. The walk, which also serves as a fundraiser to support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, had more than 160 registered participants. The story included comments from Bethany Asquith, coordinator of the Counseling Center's Touch Stone suicide prevention program.

Jones in Broadband Access Radio Story

27 Sep 2010

Comments from Nory Jones of the UMaine Business School faculty are included in a Monday Maine Public Radio report about broadband Internet access and its importance for Maine economic development.

International Symposium on Safe Medicine Oct. 10-12

27 Sep 2010

Contact: Len Kaye, (207) 262-7922; Kelly Alden, (207) 602-2137 ORONO -- The annual International Symposium of Safe Medicine, cosponsored by the University of Maine Center on Aging, will bring together more than a hundred experts from around the nation and foreign countries involved with prescribing, administering and overseeing the use and abuse of prescription drugs. The conference, at the Holiday Inn by the Bay and Convention Center in Portland, is part of a continuing effort to better and more wisely regulate the amount of drugs prescribed and reduce the volume of pharmaceuticals that fall into the wrong hands or pollute the environment through improper disposal. Those efforts are paying off, according to Len Kaye, director of the Center on Aging, which co-hosts the Symposium each year and administers the statewide Safe Medicine Disposal for ME program. He says the volume of unused, unneeded or expired drugs being collected through the Center's first-in-the-nation drug mail-back program has been increasing significantly since introduced four years ago with grant funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The program is now funded into 2011 through the Department of Public Safety and the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency. Since 2007, the program has collected well over a ton of unneeded medicines through the use of postage paid, mail-back envelopes available at some 150 participating pharmacies and community programs through the state. The annual conference Oct. 10-12, which follows on the heels of the first national unwanted prescription drug take back event held on Saturday, Sept. 25, gathers medical, health, pharmaceutical and human service practitioners, educators, policymakers, law enforcement personnel, environmentalists, substance abuse professionals and others concerned with the human and environmental effects of prescription drugs. Three days of discussions, workshops and networking will introduce participants to the latest information and trends regarding prescription drug use, abuse and disposal, in addition to updates on how other states and policymakers are moving forward with the initiative. In addition to the UMaine Center on Aging, the symposium is co-sponsored by the University of New England College of Pharmacy and the Husson University School of Pharmacy. The US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA) is

supporting this year's symposium. Complete information, including a list and schedule of speakers, workshops and related conference events is available on the Maine Benzodiazepine Study Group website at <http://benzos.une.edu/2010conference.htm>.

Lobster Academy News Report

27 Sep 2010

A story in Seafood Source provides details on last week's Lobster Academy, held in two New Brunswick locations. Bob Bayer and Cathy Billings from UMaine's Lobster Institute both spoke at the event, attended by more than 30 people from eight countries. It is intended to raise awareness about the lobster among leaders in the seafood industry.

UMaine Safety Alert

27 Sep 2010

University of Maine Police have received several reports of suspicious activity during the late evening hours near the center of campus. These reports indicate that a person riding or walking a bicycle has been following pedestrians. The person is described as a middle-aged man wearing a dark colored sweatshirt. Police are investigating these reports and ask that anyone who has information contact them at 581-4040 or [click here](#). Officers remind members of the UMaine community to take precautions when walking at night. They advise always walking with a companion (call 581-WALK to make arrangements for a walking escort, if necessary). You should always let someone know your destination, planned route of travel and how long your walk should take. Check in with that person when you reach your destination.

Soil Scientist Named Fellow in National Society

27 Sep 2010

Contact: Ivan Fernandez, 581-2932 ORONO -- Ivan J. Fernandez, professor of soil science and cooperating professor of forest resources at UMaine is being honored with a lifetime appointment as a fellow in the Soil Science Society of America, an honor bestowed on only .3 percent of its more than 6,000 members. He'll receive his award at the society's annual meeting and award ceremony next month in Long Beach, Calif. Fernandez, who also is appointed in the UMaine Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences, the Climate Change Institute and the Center for Research on Sustainable Forests, was nominated in recognition of his service and professional achievement in teaching, extension, research and service to soil science and administration. He received a B.A. from Hartwick College, and M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Maine. His program focuses on the biogeochemistry of forested ecosystems emphasizing long-term responses to forest management, air pollution and climate change. Fernandez was one of only 13 new Class of 2010 fellows announced recently by the Wisconsin-based soil science society.

2010 Fall for Walking Registration Extended

27 Sep 2010

The registration deadline for the 2010 Fall for Walking Program coordinated by the HealthyU Employee Wellness Program at UMaine has been extended to Oct. 1. The 12-week program is designed to help members of the UMaine community become more active or remain active by logging daily exercise through Dec. 19. Program administrator Taylor Bloedon recommends a daily goal of 10,000 steps or the equivalent in an alternative activity. A limited number of pedometers will be handed as supplies last and participants will have the option of purchasing an Omron pocket pedometer for \$10, a third the retail cost. Registration information is available by calling Bloedon at 581-4058 or emailing through FirstClass.

Highmoor Farm Fall Harvest Sale Oct. 8

27 Sep 2010

Staff members from UMaine's Highmoor Farm will be on campus on Friday Oct. 8 for the farm's annual fall harvest sale. Varieties for sale will include McIntosh, Cortland, Macoun, Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Gala and Honey Crisp apples, along with several varieties of pumpkins and squash. The sale will run from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. near Cyrus Pavilion Theatre. The rain date is Friday Oct. 15. For more information, contact [Greg Koller](#), Highmoor Farm's superintendent. His phone number is 933-2100.

Three Women's Hockey Players Honored

27 Sep 2010

Three University of Maine women's ice hockey players - sophomore forward Brittany Dougherty, first-year forward Jenny Kistner and sophomore goaltender Brittany Ott - have been honored with Women's Hockey East weekly awards. Dougherty was named the Pure Hockey Player of the Week, Kistner is the Pro Ambitions Rookie of the Week while sophomore goaltender Brittany Ott has been named the Women's Hockey East Association Defensive Player of the Week, as announced by the WHEA on Monday. A news release has more.

UMaine Ph.D. Candidate's Paper Answers Questions About New Zealand Ice Age

28 Sep 2010

Contact: Aaron Putnam (207) 581-2166 An international science journal this week published a paper, authored by a UMaine Ph.D. candidate, which claims to resolve a long-standing debate about the end of the last ice age in New Zealand. Aaron Putnam, a glacial geologist in UMaine's Department of Earth Sciences and Climate Change Institute, was the primary author of the paper that appeared in "Nature Geoscience." The paper cited improved methods for dating mounds of dirt and rocks left behind by glaciers in order to confirm the New Zealand glaciers responded to climatic events in Antarctica, rather than events that originated at the Arctic. "Applying a precise and accurate dating method to glacier landforms has confirmed that the effects of Antarctic Cold Reversal extended to New Zealand," Putnam said in a press release issued by the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences, which is based in New Zealand. "It brings us closer to understanding the intricacies of the global climate system." Putnam is a Chapman native who has a master's degree from UMaine. George Denton, a glacial geologist and Climate Change Institute faculty member, was also an author on the paper. The study involved a total of 10 scientists. According to the paper, scientists have debated whether conditions at the Antarctic or Arctic had more important influence worldwide. Previous studies of core samples from Arctic and Antarctica ice sheets revealed warming in the north matched cooling in the south, and vice versa, at the end of the last ice age. In unison with a cold snap across Antarctica, known as the Antarctic Cold Reversal, large glaciers in the Southern Alps area of New Zealand grew and pushed down-valley, before suddenly pulling back about 13,000 years ago. The Southern Alps glacier movements matched Antarctic temperature patterns. This shows that Antarctica and New Zealand began warming up 13,000 years ago at the same time as Europe sank back into a 1,300-year-long ice-age. The cold snap in Europe is known as the Younger Dryas. The scientists involved in the study looked at glacier moraines, which are mounds and ridges of rocks and dirt left behind at the downhill end of a flowing glacier after its retreat. When the glacier retreats, cosmic rays bombard the moraines, producing concentrations of distinctive isotopes in the glacial rocks. By measuring the amount of one specific isotope, beryllium-10, found in the moraine, researchers worked out when a glacier retreated. That technique enabled the scientists to measure when the Southern Alps glacier advance came to an end, which marked the final event of the last ice age in New Zealand. Studies of the moraines showed that a large glacier in the Tasman River Valley in the Southern Alps began shrinking about 13,000 ago, and within a few centuries the ice level had dropped by at least 150 meters, signifying a major retreat of the glacier. This is the first time anyone has determined the age of the moraines, according to the paper. The scientists suggest that variations in the positions of the global wind belts and oceanic water masses provide an explanation for the climate changes that were happening at the time. A sustained northward migration of the roaring forties westerly wind belt may have bathed the Southern Alps in cooler air from the Southern Ocean, causing glacier advance. A southward migration of the westerlies about 13,000 years ago could have led to the ice recession. To view the paper go to <http://www.nature.com/ngeo/journal/v3/n10/full/ngeo962.html>

Working Waterfront Advocates to Convene in Portland This Week

28 Sep 2010

Contact Catherine Schmitt, 207-944-1587 PORTLAND, Me – As waterfront advocates from around the United States convene here this week at a national symposium on working waterways and waterfronts, the City Council is considering whether or not to change Portland's waterfront zoning, and Maine citizens are six weeks away from voting on a new \$9.75 million bond that will provide \$1.75 million for working waterfront preservation. "The working waterfront part of the bond amount is fairly small, but essential to continuing the state's efforts to secure commercial fishing access along the coast," said Jim Connors of the Maine Coastal Program, which is a sponsor of the Working Waterways and Waterfronts National Symposium on Water Access. "We need this bond referendum to continue the Working Waterfront Access Pilot Program," said Connors. The state program is serving as a model for national legislation proposed by Senator Susan Collins (who will share a message to the symposium via video on Tuesday morning) and Representative Chellie Pingree, who will speak to conference attendees about Maine's leadership on working waterfront issues and her work at the national level on Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. Larry Robinson, Deputy Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), will provide the keynote address, also on Tuesday morning. From Maine to Florida to Louisiana, Washington and California to the Great Lakes, communities are finding ways to reinvent and reinvigorate commercial and industrial shorelines, while investing in programs to ensure that those who depend on the water continue to have ready and direct access to America's rivers, harbors, and ports. The Working Waterways and Waterfronts Symposium provides a forum for discussing the economic and cultural importance of these landscapes, and for designing a cohesive national strategy for preserving and enhancing working waterfronts. The symposium is sponsored by Sea Grant, NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the Maine Coastal Program, National Fisherman, the National Marine Manufacturers Association and many other organizations.

Down Syndrome Network Honors Cobo-Lewis

28 Sep 2010

UMaine Prof. Alan Cobo-Lewis has received the "Buddy Award" from the Maine Down Syndrome Network for contributions to the quality of life, awareness and acceptance of people with Down Syndrome. The organization presented the award to Cobo-Lewis on Sunday at its buddy walk in Capitol Park in Augusta. More information is online [here](#).

Jones, Daniel Comments in BDN Broadband Article

28 Sep 2010

Nory Jones and Harold Daniel of the University of Maine's Maine Business School offered comments for a Sept. 26 Bangor Daily News article about the importance of high-speed broadband access to business and tourists in Maine.

UMaine to Award First Annual Millay Poetry Prize

28 Sep 2010

Contact: Steve Evans, (207) 581-3818 ORONO -- Poet and former UMaine graduate student Rachel Perry will receive the University of Maine-based National Poetry Foundation's first annual Millay Prize for Poetry at a ceremony and reading Thursday, Sept. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Soderberg Auditorium in Jenness Hall. Internationally acclaimed poet and essayist Ann Lauterbach, who served as a judge for in the selection of the first Millay Prize winner, will join Perry for a poetry reading in a special event of the university's New Writing Series. The prize is made possible through the generosity of Frank T. and Helen Crohn, who will attend Thursday's ceremony and readings. The public is invited to the free event. Perry, who received a master's degree with a concentration in creative writing from UMaine in May 2010, will read excerpts from her winning manuscript "After Centralia." Lauterbach, currently the Ruth and David E. Schwab Professor of Languages and Literature at Bard College, co-chair of writing in the Milton Avery School of the Arts and a visiting core critic at the Yale Graduate School of the Arts, will read from her own work. The evening's program will be hosted by Steve Evans, coordinator of the New Writing Series and representative of the National Poetry Foundation, and

will include several poems by Edna St. Vincent Millay, in whose honor the prize was established by the Crohns Frank and Helen Crohn of Rhinebeck, N.Y. established the contest and a \$300,000 endowment to support graduate student achievement in poetry. It provides a \$1,500 award for the winner of the Millay Prize, which is expected to grow each year. Frank Crohn became interested in Millay at an early age because of his mother's love of Millay's poetry. In later years, Crohn became an avid collector of the works of 19th and 20th century novelists and poets. It was at a 1980 book dealers' event at Steepletop, Millay's home in the Berkshires, that Crohn became interested in the Millay Society. He has been a member of the society for several years and has been an active member of the board of trustees for the past decade. The Crohns have connections to Maine through a restaurant they co-owned in Downeast Maine and to the University of Maine through their support of the university's Lobster Institute. Evans, a UMaine English professor who co-directs the National Poetry Foundation (NPF), says the establishment of the Millay Prize represents a major new initiative on the part of the NPF, which was founded at UMaine in 1971. Originally from Pittsgrove, N.J., Perry moved to Maine from Philadelphia in 2008. At UMaine, she studied under poet and English Department faculty member Jennifer Moxley, taught first-year college composition and was poetry editor for *The Stolen Island Review*, a literary magazine produced by English graduate students at UMaine. Edna St. Vincent Millay, who died in 1950, was one of Maine's most celebrated poets.

Yerxa Discusses Healthy Eating on a Budget

28 Sep 2010

UMaine Cooperative Extension nutrition and physical activity expert Kate Yerxa was interviewed Tuesday morning on WZON-FM (103.1), discussing strategies for healthy eating under constrained finances.

Steneck in Story About Managing Ocean Resources Through Collectives

28 Sep 2010

Maine Public Radio broadcast a Monday story featuring Prof. Robert Steneck of the UMaine School of Marine Sciences discussing his new research, published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Working with a series of international collaborators, Steneck is calling for dramatic changes, based on a Chilean model, in the ways in which ocean fisheries are managed.

UMaine Nursing Alumna At White House To Discuss Affordable Care Act

28 Sep 2010

Margaret "Miki" Macdonald, a 1998 graduate of the UMaine School of Nursing's master's degree program, will be at the White House Tuesday, September 28, to meet with First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Mary Wakefield, the administrator of the Health Resources Service Administration, to talk about the Affordable Care Act. Macdonald, who is the Maine representative to the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, will participate in a 2 p.m. conference call with other nurse practitioners to discuss how nurses can help educate their patients about the new protections and benefits under ACA. Macdonald was just one of two nurse practitioners from across the country invited to the White House. The past president of the Maine Nurse Practitioners Association, Macdonald is a family nurse practitioner at St. Joseph Internal Medicine in Bangor.

UMaine Research Cited in Article About Hazing Prevention At Purdue University

28 Sep 2010

An article about Purdue University's Hazing Prevention Week in the online version of the *Journal and Courier* of Lafayette, Indiana, cites the research of UMaine professors Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden in the *National Study on Student Hazing*. Allan and Madden found 55 percent of college students involved in clubs, teams, and organizations experience hazing and 25 percent of coaches or organization advisors were aware of the group's hazing behaviors.

National Endowment for the Arts Workshops Begin Thursday at UMaine Museum

29 Sep 2010

A news release from Congressman Michaud's office, announcing an event at the UMaine Museum of Art Contact: Ed Gilman, 202-225-6306 WASHINGTON, DC – At the invitation of Congressman Mike Michaud, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) will be conducting free grant workshops in Maine later this month in an effort to raise awareness of federal funding that is available to arts and cultural institutions here in Maine. Two workshops have been scheduled, the first will be at the University of Maine Museum of Art in downtown Bangor on September 30, and the other will be at the Franco-American Heritage Center in Lewiston on October 1. “The arts play such an important role in education, culture and our creative economy,” said Michaud. “I have worked with the Maine Arts Commission for years and am pleased to partner with them to bring this arts workshop to Maine. I encourage all Mainers who are interested in seeking federal funding opportunities for the arts to attend these valuable workshops.” Experienced workshop presenter Mike Griffin from the National Endowment for the Arts will be on hand to deliver workshops that are packed full of specific information regarding NEA funding opportunities for arts organizations and other nonprofits. The event will highlight the NEA’s processes for grant applications and their subsequent review. Ample time will be devoted to addressing questions from attendees during the workshop. “Gratitude goes to Congressman Mike Michaud for inviting Mike Griffin of the National Endowment for the Arts, the federal partner of the Maine Arts Commission, to give grant workshops in Bangor and Lewiston,” said Maine Arts Commission director Donna McNeil. “Cultural organizations across Maine need to hone their grant writing knowledge and skills to be competitive in a tight economic situation. Far too few Mainers tackle what is perceived to be an arduous federal granting process. I urge everyone to demystify the process by attending one of these workshops. It could mean a significant boost in support and should create a level of comfort with the process that is applicable to any foundation.” The workshops are free and open to the public to attend. Registration information can be found on the pages of MaineArts.com or by calling Darrell Bulmer at the Maine Arts Commission 207/287-6746. University of Maine Museum of Art 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, ME 04401
www.umma.umaine.edu

UMaine Museum of Art Announces Fall Exhibitions

29 Sep 2010

Contact: Kathryn Jovanelli (207) 561-3350 *High resolution digital images available upon request* BANGOR -- Three new exhibitions will open at the University of Maine Museum of Art in downtown Bangor on Friday Oct. 8. Pablo Picasso: The Passionate Print, Selections from the Museum Collection October 8 - December 30, 2010 Picasso’s virtuosity as a printmaker is reflected in this exhibition of works from UMMA’s permanent collection. Picasso, known to be one of the greatest artistic masters of the twentieth century, produced over 2,000 original prints throughout his prolific career. For many artists printmaking may be a secondary interest, but Picasso’s involvement in the graphic arts spanned his entire career. His remarkable ability to move seamlessly from one printmaking technique to another is reflected in the etchings, aquatints, linocuts and lithographs included in the exhibition. In the important work "Faun Unveiling a Woman," 1936, part of a series produced for the famous art dealer and critic Ambroise Vollard, Picasso demonstrates an early fascination with and mastery of etching and aquatint. "Jacqueline in a Straw Hat," 1962, a colorful abstract portrait of the artist’s second wife Jacqueline Roque, attests to the artist’s ability to utilize the linoleum-cut technique to express his bold artistic vision. Six works of art on display recently received conservation treatment at the Williamstown Art Conservation Center, underscoring the Museum’s commitment to preserving significant works from the collection. String Too Short to Use: Recent Works by Todd Watts October 8 - December 30, 2010 Todd Watts’ new series of large-scale color photographs was created especially for this UMMA exhibition. The artist’s creative process combines traditional photography with the dynamic act of drawing. Utilizing an array of photographs taken with an 8 x 10 camera, Watts painstakingly constructs new compositions using digital software and other means. The artist layers, stretches, inverts and manipulates the images. By merging the familiar with the ambiguous, he creates environments that challenge the viewer’s visual perception. Additionally, Watts’ skill as a colorist is reflected in a vibrant palette that also extends onto his custom-painted and constructed frames. A number of these new works convey the artist’s awareness of environmental issues and the alteration of our natural resources. Watts was born in New York City and graduated from the School of Visual Arts, NYC. He moved to Maine in 1999. His works are included in many prestigious museum collections including: Albertina in Vienna, The Art Institute of Chicago, Brooklyn Museum, The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Yale University Art Gallery. A Pointed View: Photographs by Ilya Askinazi October

8 - December 30, 2010 Russian-born photographer Ilya Askinazi and his mother emigrated from Moscow, Russia in 1980 for the possibility of a new life in New York City. Askinazi's passion for photography was ingrained in him at an early age through his studies with Russian photographer Israel Goldberg. In 1984 he moved to Maine, where he continues to find inspiration for his photography. The selection of works in A Pointed View represents a small portion of the thousands of images he has created in recent years. These black and white photographs were taken using a Deardorff 8 x 10 view camera and are contact prints from the large negatives. The exhibition features images from the artist's recent trip to Israel as well as New York City and locations throughout Maine. Subjects include the figure, landscapes and the urban environment. Askinazi possesses an innate ability to hone in on the most unique aspects of his chosen subjects — seeing beautiful abstract moments in nature and depicting the seductive qualities of light. Images of interior spaces are imbued with a psychological intensity; street scenes and store fronts convey a range of shifting moods, and landscapes reflect the ever-changing atmospheric conditions of the natural world. The media sponsor for all three exhibitions is the Bangor Daily News Admission to the Museum is FREE in 2010 thanks to Machias Savings Bank in honor of Ted Leonard. University of Maine Museum of Art 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, ME 04401

www.umma.umaine.edu

St. John Valley Creative Economy Report

29 Sep 2010

The Portland Press Herald features a story about "St. John Valley Creative Economy Project - Strengthening Our Communities and Economy Through Culture and Place," a new report from UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center. St. John Valley-based cultural development specialist Sheila Jans wrote the report. She is quoted extensively in the Press Herald report.

New Zealand Ice Age Story Reported

29 Sep 2010

The NZ Resources Web site in New Zealand carries a [story](#) about new research led by Aaron Putnam of the UMaine Climate Change Institute. The research, reported in the journal "Nature Geoscience," resolves long-standing questions about conditions that affected New Zealand glaciers at the end of the last Ice Age. UMaine Prof. George Denton is also an author of the study, described in more detail in a UMaine news release.

UMaine Part of \$45.6 Million National Youth Literacy Project

29 Sep 2010

Contact: Mary Rosser, 581-2445; Anne Pooler, 581-2441 ORONO -- The University of Maine Reading Recovery initiative is part of a national network of 16 colleges and universities receiving \$45.6 million to help improve literacy skills for an estimated 500,000 first-graders struggling with reading and writing. UMaine's College of Education and Human Development is receiving \$2.9 million in federal funds to substantially expand its statewide Reading Recovery initiative, a scientifically based short-term early literacy intervention model that already has helped thousands of Maine first-graders improve literacy skills. The five-year grant will enable the Reading Recovery teacher training network to add 50 new specially trained Reading Recovery teachers per year, increasing their ranks exponentially to more than 250 throughout the state by the end of the five-year period, according to Mary Rosser, the University of Maine's coordinator of literacy professional development programs and director for Reading Recovery. The expanding training program "will make a huge difference for education communities in Maine," says Rosser, the principal investigator for the grant and an internationally recognized researcher in early literacy education. Anne Pooler, dean of the College of Education and Human Development, says the grant project will have a noticeable statewide impact on children performing in the lowest quarter of their class and having the greatest difficulty learning to read and write. "Literacy is a key to education and a lifetime gift," Pooler says. "This grant will benefit Maine school systems, families, and youngsters directly and could conceivably reach 1000 students. The impact will be statewide." Pooler adds that the College of Education and Human development is pleased to partner with Ohio State University and 14 other national institutions in this major research project. The funding, available as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, was obtained by

Ohio State, which brought the Reading Recovery concept to the United States in 1984. Ohio State is leading the national initiative to significantly broaden the network of trained Reading Recovery teacher leaders and teachers in schools nationwide. Children in poor or rural areas are particularly vulnerable to literacy challenges statistically. Nine Reading Recovery teacher leaders are currently working in regional training sites in Enfield, Dexter, Old Town, Benton, Auburn, Lewiston, Oxford Hills/Western Maine and Westbrook, according to Rosser. Two teacher leaders are working in Lewiston, working with many newly arrived children from Africa and attending the Gov. James B. Longley and Montello schools in Lewiston, showing positive results. The new national Reading Recovery expansion initiative, the Investing in Innovation (i3) Fund, is administered by the U.S. Department of Education and is part of a \$10 billion investment in school reform made possible through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In Maine, the grant also will allow the UMaine-based Reading Recovery network to train one extra Reading Recovery teacher leader and establish another Reading Recovery regional training site.

UMaine Economist Finds Portland a ‘Thinking Region’

29 Sep 2010

Contact: Todd Gabe, (207) 581-3307; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine -- A new report on the knowledge economies of 287 cities in the United States and Canada shows that Portland, Maine, is a “Thinking Region,” according to Todd Gabe, professor of economics at the University of Maine and one of the study’s co-authors. The paper, titled “Knowledge in Cities,” identifies groups of U.S. and Canadian metropolitan areas with similar knowledge profiles. “Our analysis came up with clusters such as Enterprising Regions – places like Chicago and Toronto with high knowledge about commerce and information technology – and Engineering Regions, which include San Jose and Calgary,” Gabe says. “All told, we identified eleven of these knowledge-based clusters.” The group of Thinking Regions, which includes Portland, Maine, is noted for high knowledge about arts, humanities, information technology and commerce. Some of the other Thinking Regions in the study are New York; Philadelphia; Charleston, South Carolina; and Knoxville, Tennessee, according to Gabe. Gabe, who has completed several studies on the knowledge economy, argues that information contained in the report can help explain differences in productivity and earnings across regions. “The types of knowledge used in the workforce are important predictors of economic development, especially in cases where levels of college attainment are similar,” he says. Although not part of the current study, Gabe notes that the knowledge economies of Portland and Bangor are quite different. “The jobs available in Portland require much higher knowledge about computers, technology and business services, while Bangor is characterized by knowledge about health and social services,” he says. “This information clearly demonstrates the two Maines that people talk about.” In addition to Gabe at the University of Maine, other researchers involved in the study include Jaison Abel of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Adrienne Ross of the Institute for Competitiveness and Prosperity, and Kevin Stolarick of the Martin Prosperity Institute at the University of Toronto. The study is available at the websites of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Toronto-based think tank, Martin Prosperity Institute. The Martin Prosperity Institute, headed by noted author Richard Florida, will release the key findings of the study in its Insight publication on September 30, 2010. Gabe will discuss results from his research on the Maine knowledge economy during a presentation at the Accelerate Maine conference in Bangor on Oct. 1.

Maine Deepwater Offshore Wind Conference Set For Oct. 19

29 Sep 2010

The University of Maine's AEW Advanced Structures and Composites Center, along with the DeepCwind Consortium, will host the First Annual Maine Deepwater Offshore Wind Conference on Tuesday, Oct. 19, at the Point Lookout Resort and Conference Center in Northport. The event will be open to the public. The list of invitees is expected to include local fishermen; community leaders; municipal, state and federal officials; environmental groups; non-governmental organizations; and industry leaders from different fields. The session topics include deepwater offshore wind and economic development; responsible siting of offshore wind turbines; environmental and ecological monitoring activities at UMaine; and deepwater floating turbine technology. A networking session will follow the afternoon talks. DeepCwind was established a year ago through a Department of Energy competitive grant program to advance renewable energy goals. The consortium consists of industry experts and leaders who are developing deepwater offshore wind technology. Registration for this conference will open at 12 noon Friday Oct. 1. For more information and

to register for the conference, go to www.DeepCwind.org/conferences.

Hockey East Coaches Rank Black Bears #2

29 Sep 2010

The annual [Hockey East coaches' poll](#) was released Wednesday at the league's media day in Boston. The Maine Black Bears, who lost last year's league championship game in overtime, are ranked second behind Boston College. Coach Tim Whitehead's Black Bears, led by 2010 Hobey Baker Award finalist Gustav Nyquist, open their season with a Sunday Oct. 3 exhibition game against Acadia. News reports appear in the [Bangor Daily News](#) and [Portland Press Herald](#).

America East Recognizes UMaine Cross Country Standouts

29 Sep 2010

University of Maine cross-country runners David Currier of Sidney, Maine and Corey Conner of Townsend, Mass. have been named the America East Cross Country Performers of the Week. Currier won the dual meet against New Hampshire in a time of 25:25 for the 8K men's race while Conner took top honors in the 5K women's race with a time of 17:31. The women's team is now ranked 11th in the Northeast Region while the men are 14th. The teams return to action on Saturday when they host Holy Cross at 10 a.m.

Speech-Language-Hearing Association at UMaine Oct. 7-9

29 Sep 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The Maine Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHLA) will bring its 2010 fall conference to the University of Maine Thursday Oct. 7-Saturday Oct. 9. The conference is scheduled for UMaine's Wells Conference Center. UMaine's Dept. of Communication Sciences and Disorders will host the sessions, in conjunction with MSLHA. MSLHA works to establish exemplary practice standards and provide professional training for practitioners in speech-language pathology and audiology professions.

Competitive Food Drive to Precede Football Game Oct. 2

29 Sep 2010

Contact: Lisa Morin, 581-4194, Nory Jones, 581-1971 ORONO -- Saturday's football game against UNH won't be the only competition on campus at UMaine. A competitive food drive is set for Saturday, Oct. 2. The Maine Business School Corps, the Alumni Association, the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism, the Athletics Department, Greek Life, Residence Life, and Campus Activities and Student Engagement are collaborating to sponsor a food-collection challenge among UMaine schools and departments to see which campus entities can donate the most food items to the Black Bear Exchange food pantry. The winner, to be determined by a points system, gets a pizza party from Acme Pizza, according to Lisa Morin, coordinator for the Bodwell Center, and Nory Jones, director of graduate business programs in the Maine Business School. Tallying food donations and points for the healthiest categories of donated foods takes place from 2-5 p.m. on the Mall, or in the Field House in case of rain. A live band and DJ will provide musical entertainment during the event, which precedes the annual UMaine-UNH "Battle for the Musket" rivalry game at 6 p.m. Points for donations categories are as follows: 6 Points Peanut butter, pasta sauce, brown rice and rice mixes, whole-wheat pasta, hot and cold cereal, canned tuna and fish, canned or dried beans, baking mixes, personal care items and pet food 3 Points Non-condensed soup, macaroni and cheese, granola bars, white rice, white pasta, jelly and canned vegetables 1 Point Ramen soups, condensed soup, chips, Pop-Tarts, other snack food The Black Bear Food Pantry, created last year to benefit university students, families of students, faculty, staff, and members of surrounding communities, is located in the back of Estabrooke Hall. In the first year of operation, the pantry served 160 clients with an average of 20-25 people coming each week. Lisa Morin can be reached at 581-4194 for additional information.

News story highlights Knowledge Transfer Alliance

30 Sep 2010

A WLBZ news report highlights the work of the UMaine School of Economics Knowledge Transfer Alliance. That initiative brings UMaine resources to businesses working to get established or to expand. The news story describes the efforts of UMaine graduate student Bernardita Silva, working with a Passadumkeag business that involves the manufacture of landing nets made from maple, ash, cherry and other wood.

Fogler Library's Map Collection Exceeds 85,000

30 Sep 2010

Greg Curtis, head of Fogler Library's Government Publications, Maps, GIS & Microforms, is reminding the UMaine community and researchers of the availability of 85,000 sheet and folded maps, 3,000 atlases of various kinds and an estimated 200,000 maps enclosed within publications at the library. Locations include the Map Area on the first floor, and the closed stack areas of both the Special Collections and the Government Publications, Maps, GIS & Microforms Departments. Additional information about the collections can be found on the Fogler Library web page about maps. Also, thousands of maps not on the premises are accessible online via links in URSUS and web search engines.

Researcher Discusses Antarctic Minerals Vulnerability at Australian Conference

30 Sep 2010

Contact: Ed Grew, 581-2169 Edward Grew, UMaine research professor of geological sciences, presented a talk, "Rare minerals in the Australian Antarctic Territory" at the Antarctic Science Planning Workshop in Hobart, Australia Sept. 21. The workshop was one of several organized by the Australian Antarctic Division to design implementation plans for the newly developed Australian Science Strategic Plan 2011/12-2020/12, and concerned "Vulnerability and spatial protection" under the theme "Terrestrial and near-shore ecosystems: environmental change and conservation." The workshop mainly emphasized vulnerability and conservation of Antarctic biological systems. Grew, who has discovered five new minerals in the Antarctic, was one of four geoscientists invited to discuss geological perspectives. He discussed the need for conservation of bedrock exposures containing rare minerals within the Australian Antarctic Territory.

Engineers Without Borders To Help Design Trail Bridge

30 Sep 2010

A group of UMaine engineering students known as Engineers Without Borders is working with the town of Farmington to design a new recreational bridge across the Sandy River, according to a [story](#) in the Lewiston Sun Journal. Engineers Without Borders was contacted by Farmington Town Manager Richard Davis as the town was seeking to reduce the costs for the bridge build. The project had been set aside several years ago after a Maine Department of Transportation report came back with a design costing about \$2 million.

National Security Expert, UMaine Alum to Discuss U.S. Foreign Policy

30 Sep 2010

Contact: Peter Fandel, 581-1835 ORONO -- F. William Smullen, III, a 1962 UMaine graduate and director of National Security Studies at Syracuse University, will address the Bangor Foreign Policy Forum, Wednesday, Oct. 6 at 7:30 a.m. at the Bangor Public Library. The title of Smullen's talk is "A Decade of Crisis and Correction." According to Smullen, many of the events of the past decade had national security implications that can serve as a map of what happened and also as a compass to help anticipate what lies ahead for this country and its place in the world. Prior to Smullen's appointment at Syracuse University, he was the Chief of Staff to Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and of the U.S. Department of State beginning in January 2001. As principal advisor to the Secretary, he was responsible for monitoring and evaluating the formulation and implementation of departmental policies. He was also involved in the planning and development of concept strategy associated with foreign policy matters. He earned a bachelor of arts degree in business

and economics from the University of Maine in 1962 and a master of arts degree in public relations from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University in 1974. Among his career accomplishments, he has been elected to Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications Hall of Fame, the University of Maine ROTC Hall of Fame, and he was the recipient of the University of Maine 2007 Alumni Career Award, the highest honor presented by the UMaine Alumni Association. Smullen also will provide the presentation for the School of Policy and International Affairs at UMaine at 4 p.m. in D.P. Corbett Business Building, Room 115. Those interested in attending either presentation are asked to RSVP via email to Peter Fandel at admin@bangorforeignpolicyforum.org or call (207) 581-1835.

Three UMaine Students Gain Early Admission to Tufts Medical School

01 Oct 2010

Contact Kristen Andresen at (207) 581-3742. ORONO -- University of Maine Animal and Veterinary Sciences major Warren Varney of Turner, Maine; Biochemistry major Bradie Manion of Old Town, Maine; and Biological Engineering major Daniel Gerges of Yarmouth, Maine, recently learned that they had received early acceptance to Tufts University School of Medicine through the Maine Track Early Assurance program. Born of a partnership between Tufts and Maine Medical Center, this program reserves a limited number of seats per year for sophomores from University of Maine System institutions, Bowdoin, Bates and Colby. That three of this year's slots went to UMaine students (two went to UMaine students Jonathan Pelletier and Aaron Perreault last year) underscores the quality of UMaine's pre-med offerings. "The success of UMaine students in this competitive program is a credit to our faculty and others who encourage high aspirations and work to help students meet their goals," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "The exceptional record of success by UMaine students over the past two years is most gratifying, because it demonstrates UMaine's quality and one element of its responsiveness to Maine's long-term health care access needs" Kennedy also mentioned his hope that UMaine's success in the Maine Track Early Assurance program will continue to grow as the university works to establish a new Division of Health and Biomedical Sciences. He announced plans to create that organization earlier this year as part of a series of "UMaine 150" initiatives intended to position UMaine for new growth and impact when it reaches its sesquicentennial in 2015. The Maine Track students are members of UMaine's Health Professions Club and have worked closely with advisers in the Health Professions Office on campus. Though they will still need to complete their course requirements, these students can skip the MCATs and the rigorous application process. At UMaine, Manion researches toll-like receptor signal pathways in zebrafish, which are part of innate immunity, in Professor Carol Kim's lab. She is also a student in UMaine's Honors College, which has informed her approach to medicine. "It has helped me develop interpersonal skills and I have learned how to see things from another person's perspective," Manion says. During his time at UMaine, Gerges has had several high-profile internships, including one with IDEXX Laboratories in Westbrook, Maine, and one at Maine Medical Center Research Institute in Scarborough, Maine. Since he won't have to study for the MCATs or apply to various medical schools, Gerges plans to use his extra time to run for president of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. "It's rewarding," Gerges says. "I've put in a lot of work to get to this point, and it's a huge weight off my shoulders knowing I've been accepted to medical school." About Tufts Maine Track: Tufts Maine Track is a partnership between Maine Medical Center and Tufts University School of Medicine that offers clinical training experiences in Maine and exposes medical students to aspects of rural practice and training in a major tertiary medical center. More information about the Tufts Maine Track program is available [here](#).

Butler in New York Times Blog on Issues Facing Older Gay Couples

01 Oct 2010

Comments from Sandra Butler of the UMaine social work faculty are included in a [New York Times "The New Old Age" blog post](#) about concerns faced by older gay men and women in long-term relationships. Examples include issues related to inheritance and tax laws, along with access, as a couple, to long-term health care benefits and senior housing communities.

Holberton, Morse Look at Warm Weather Impact on Birds and Fish

01 Oct 2010

A [Working Waterfront story](#) provides analysis of the impact of warmer-than-usual temperatures in the first eight months of 2010 on seabirds and certain marine species. Rebecca Holberton, UMaine avian biologist and Dana Morse, a marine extension associate in UMaine Cooperative Extension and Maine Sea Grant, are both quoted in the story. Holberton notes that seabird breeding success was the worst it's been in 20 years of record-keeping at one site. Morse noted that the weather conditions were a factor in a successful season for Maine oyster growers. Catherine Schmitt of Maine Sea Grant co-authored the story.

UMaine Community Service, Honor Society Chapter Honored

01 Oct 2010

Contact: Brittany Myles (Brittany.Myles@umit.maine.edu) ORONO – The University of Maine chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) has been awarded Bronze Star status for its members' community service work on campus and in communities surrounding the university. The Washington, D.C.-based NSCS is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies and is the nation's only interdisciplinary honors organization to invite first- and second-year college students. There are more than 270 student-run chapters, with more than 750,000 members in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Membership is by invitation, based on grade point average and class standing. NSCS chapters can attain one of four star award levels: bronze, silver, gold and platinum. Levels are determined by the quantity and quality of events a chapter holds annually. The UMaine chapter has as many as 240 members, according to chapter president Brittany Myles, a sophomore nursing student. Members promote and implement NSCS programs, including PACE (Planning to Achieve Collegiate Excellence) mentoring program for middle and high school students, and an integrity week initiative. "We do a lot of 'anything drives,' where we collect things for Manna Ministries," Myles says. "We put jars at local businesses to collect for a good cause -- for example, Haiti Relief. We participate in UMaine Cares and Maine Day doing service projects around campus and the community. We also have a career day where we go to the local elementary school and talk about our majors and get kids excited about school and how there is so much out there to offer. We also do fundraising and promote Spruce Run..." In the coming year, Myles says she plans to recruit more members for service projects and shoot for Silver Star recognition.

Brewer in Newsweek Report on Maine Senate Races

01 Oct 2010

Comments from Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty are included in a [Newsweek report](#) about Maine's moderate Republican U.S. Senators and challenges they might face from a conservative GOP electorate.

Gabe in CNNMoney Report on Educational Attainment and U.S. Cities

01 Oct 2010

Todd Gabe of the UMaine School of Economics faculty is quoted in a [CNNMoney story](#) about U.S. cities with the highest percentages of residents with a college degree. Gabe provided comments about the link between educational attainment and earning potential.

U.S., Canadian Grad Students Merging for Annual Weekend Conference

01 Oct 2010

Contact: Rob Gee, 603-370-0982, Robert.gee@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- The 12th annual UM/UNB Conference being held this year at the University of Maine will assemble history graduate students from United States and Canada for three days of discussions about teaching, the academic job market, pedagogy and scholarly presentations. The annual event, hosted in alternate years by graduate students in the history departments at UMaine and the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, has grown each year in size and scope. Once a very small gathering of graduate students from the two departments, it has mushroomed to where scholars from universities across Canada and the United States

present their work, hone their craft, and develop valuable contacts in their field, according to Rob Gee, a UMaine graduate student in history. Representatives from Harvard, Columbia, Brandeis, UCLA and Dalhousie are among the registrants. The conference will include several panels relating to women and gender studies, in addition to the environment, economic development and a range of social and cultural themes. "This conference has become an important component of graduate study in history both at UMaine and at the University of New Brunswick," Gee says. "Numerous scholars made their first ever presentations in the friendly and informal atmosphere that we try to maintain, and many important works of scholarship, now books and articles, were first aired right here as nuggets of good ideas in various stages of confusion and disarray. Historians tend to do their work in relative solitude, so these opportunities to come together, collaborate, and share ideas and questions is really of tremendous value." The conference begins Friday evening, Oct. 1 in Buchanan Alumni House and runs all day Saturday and Sunday in Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall and Soderberg Center in Jenness Hall.

LaCroix Named UMaine Police Chief

01 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's new police chief is a law enforcement veteran who worked in Florida for more than 30 years before relocating to Maine in 2008. Roland LaCroix of Bangor moved to Maine to take a captain's job in the UMaine police department. He became interim chief in April when Noel March was named U.S. Marshal for Maine. UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana says he appointed LaCroix to the chief's job because of his leadership skills and appreciation for the law enforcement needs of a university community. "Chief LaCroix brings a wealth of experience, the result of 33 years in law enforcement," Dana says. "He also possesses the perspective and temperament that will allow him to continue to be an effective leader in our community, advancing the community policing principles that are essential to promoting a safe, healthy and productive campus environment." LaCroix served in Florida's Orange County Sheriff's office for 26 years, rising to the rank of commander, before taking the UMaine position. He started his law enforcement career with a five-year stint as a Florida state trooper. He is a U.S. Army military police veteran who also graduated from the University of Louisville Southern Police Institute Administrative Officer Course in 1998. He was born in Wisconsin but moved to Florida at the age of 3. Lacroix graduated from Florida's Rollins College in 1980, earning a business administration degree. LaCroix and his wife have two grown children, a son and a daughter. This story was published in Saturday's Bangor Daily News. Editor's notes: Chief LaCroix pronounces his name la-CROY. Photos of him are available upon request.

Faculty Member, Student in Camden Film Festival New Media Event

01 Oct 2010

Contact: Owen Smith, 581-4389 ORONO -- Intermedia MFA Director Owen Smith and third-year MFA intermedia graduate student Bethany Engstrom are participating in the exhibition and gallery talk PANOPTIC, being held in conjunction with the Camden International Film Festival this weekend. The Camden International Film Festival, in partnership with Asymmetrick Arts, Binaural Nodar and the Maine Arts Commission, is presenting its second annual exhibition of new media installation and experimental documentary shorts at the Asymmetrick Arts Gallery in Rockland. Included in the exhibition is the work of Engstrom. The public is invited to attend a gallery talk and panel discussion Saturday, Oct. 2 at 4 p.m. at Asymmetrick arts at 405 Main St. with Kirsten Gilg of the Maine Arts Commission, Owen Smith and artists Maile Colbert and Jonathan Laurence. The panel will discuss emerging media and experimental documentary in Maine and beyond. For more information on PANOPTIC visit: <http://camdenfilmfest.org/blog/post/665>. For information on the film festival see: <http://camdenfilmfest.org/>.

New Art Faculty Exhibit Opening Oct. 8 at Lord Hall Galleries

01 Oct 2010

Contact: Laurie Hicks, 581-3247 ORONO -- A new exhibit by selected members of the University of Maine's Art Department faculty opens Oct. 8 at the Lord Hall Galleries, with an opening reception planned Friday, Oct. 15 from

5:30-7 p.m. Titled "FACULTY / SELECTED / 2010," the exhibit features new work by Constant Albertson, Susan Camp, Michael Grillo, MaJo Keleshian, Sheridan Kelley, Michael Lewis, James Linehan, Greg Ondo, Margaret Skalski and Matt Smolinsky. Art will include ceramics, digital videos, drawings, installations, mixed media, paintings, photographs, digital prints and sculptures. The exhibition presents an overview of the creative accomplishments of studio, art education, and art history faculty. The campus community and public are invited to visit the galleries weekdays between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., and meet the artists on Oct. 15 from 5:30-7 p.m. All events are free. The show closes on Nov. 19.

Center on Aging Receives Program Grants

01 Oct 2010

Contact: Paula Burnett, (207) 262-7926 ORONO -- The University of Maine Center on Aging recently received two grants from the United Way of Eastern Maine to continue two popular programs, the Center's RSVP organization of community volunteers over the age of 55, and the RSVP Bone Builders exercise education program. The Center on Aging RSVP is a part of the national Senior Corps, an organization of volunteers age 55 and older who respond to community needs by serving non-profit organizations, schools, and government agencies. It has 450 active members, whose average age is 75, working with more than 90 partnering agencies in Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Washington counties. RSVP provides elders with opportunities for physical, mental and social stimulation, which enhances their quality of life and independent living. It is sponsored with support from the Corporation for National and Community Service, Maine's Office of Elder Services, and the United Way of Eastern Maine, which recently allocated \$14,516 to help continue RSVP programs. Bone Builders is an exercise and educational program, whose volunteers have been trained to lead exercise classes to strengthen bone density in hopes of preventing or lessening the effects of osteoporosis. The United Way's allocation of \$6,214 for fiscal 2011 will make it possible for RSVP staff to expand Bone Builder classes in the four county service area, and purchase weights, pay a fitness consultant to train lay leaders, and support operating and program promotional costs. Last year, 115 seniors participated in Bone Builder programs. Two other RSVP volunteer programs include "Born to Read," through which RSVP volunteers read aloud to community day care centers and Headstart classes, and "Community Educator," in which volunteers provide public presentations on topics related to elders' health and safety. The programs are free to participants. RSVP Director Paula Burnett can be reached at 262-7926 for additional information.

Bangor Metro Details Offshore Wind Power Initiative

04 Oct 2010

The October issue of Bangor Metro magazine includes an [extensive feature story](#) about Maine-based efforts to develop deepwater offshore wind technology. The story features several comments from Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center, the driving force behind those efforts.

Students Helping Farmington Build a Bridge

04 Oct 2010

A Central Maine Morning Sentinel story details an effort by UMaine engineering students that will help the town of Farmington build a new recreational bridge across the Sandy River. The students, members of the Engineers Without Borders group, will perform an engineering design study aimed at helping figure out affordable ways to build the 330-foot bridge.

Socolow in Story on MaineWatchdog Reporting

04 Oct 2010

Comments from Michael Socolow of the UMaine journalism faculty are included in a Maine Today Media story (Portland Press Herald, Kennebec Journal, Central Maine Morning Sentinel) about the online reporting of organizations like MaineWatchdog.org, which first reported recent news about issues related to U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree's travel on

private jets. The site is part of a network operated by the Franklin Center for Government and Public Integrity, a non-profit organization based in North Dakota.

Polling Analysis Story Includes Brewer Comments

04 Oct 2010

Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty was featured in a [Maine Public Radio analysis](#) of methodologies used by pollsters assessing the Maine gubernatorial race.

Moxley Poem Featured on National Poetry Website

04 Oct 2010

[Poetry Daily](#), an online anthology of poetry published by The Daily Poet Association, published a poem, "Lullaby," by Jennifer Moxley, a member of the UMaine English Department faculty, who was the daily featured poet Thursday, Sept. 30. Moxley also was the guest judge for a \$10,000 poetry prize awarded by Lake Forest College in September. Comments from Moxley are included in a [news release](#) about the award.

'Spamalot' Tuesday at Collins Center for the Arts

04 Oct 2010

The Collins Center for the Arts is bringing the National Broadway Company to campus Tuesday, Oct. 5, from 7-9 p.m. for a rollicking production of "Spamalot," winner of the 2005 Tony Award for Best Musical, based on the hilarious Monty Python classic. Call the CCA box office at 581-1755 for ticket availability or visit the [CCA website](#).

Faculty Technology Fair Tuesday, Oct. 5

05 Oct 2010

Find out who's doing what with innovative technology in the classroom at the 2010 Faculty Technology Fair from 2-4:30 p.m. at the Wells Conference Center. Each year the Faculty Development Center awards 12-15 stipends of \$1,250 to faculty members who propose to integrate new or existing technology into their classrooms. On Tuesday, the 12 faculty members winning stipends will explain or demonstrate their projects or proposals. A schedule and list of speakers is on the Faculty Development Center website.

You-Are-Loved Event Report

05 Oct 2010

Channel 5 News reported a Monday evening preview of the You-Are-Loved Chalk Message Project, part of a nationwide suicide prevention initiative. A similar story appears in Tuesday's Bangor Daily News and it was mentioned in a USA Today report. The UMaine event, held Monday night, was organized by the Touchstone Project in the UMaine Counseling Center, with support from other UMaine organizations. The event also included expressions of support for UMaine's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered (GLBT) community.

Organ Tour

05 Oct 2010

Kevin Birch, a faculty member in UMaine's School of Performing Arts, is quoted extensively in a Bangor Daily News story about a benefit event for the 1860 E.E. & G. Hook organ located in St. John's Catholic Church in Bangor.

Museum Photography Exhibitions Noted

05 Oct 2010

A [Portland Press Herald story](#) notes the UMaine Museum of Art as one of several art museums in Maine focusing recently on photography. UMMA has an photography exhibit opening Friday in its downtown Bangor location.

Story Cites Research Into Washington County Economy

05 Oct 2010

A story in MaineBiz about a learning center in Washington County that has collaborated with a local fishery cites a study by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center at UMaine. The study found Washington County had the highest proportion of families seeking assistance for home heating oil, free or reduced lunch, and food stamp benefits.

UMaine Receives Grant to Explore Shared Management of Print Collections

05 Oct 2010

UMaine has received a \$821,065 National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, according to [LibraryJournal.com](#). UMaine and other partners will use the grant for a statewide Maine Shared Collections Strategy project to define a strategy for shared management of legacy print collections and to explore new ways of delivering content to library users.

Maine Archaeology Month Lecture to Focus on Fake Artifacts

05 Oct 2010

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, (207) 581-1904 ORONO -- The Hudson Museum will host a free, public lecture by Karen Olsen Bruhns, one of the leading authorities on Pre-Columbian fake artifacts from Mesoamerica and the South American Andes, Thursday, Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. Bruhns is director of the Cihuatlan/Las Marias Archaeological Project for the Fundacion Nacional de Arqueologia in El Salvador. Her talk, "Faking Ancient Mesoamerican Art," being held in the Bodwell Area of the Collins Center for the Arts. The lecture is part of UMaine's observation of Maine Archaeology Month, a month established in 2000 to present archaeological research to the public through scholarly lectures, exhibits and tours of archaeological sites. The presentation will draw on Bruhns' expertise on fakes, forgeries and forgers from the ancient Americas. Bruhns argues that this tradition originated with the Conquest as Spanish missionaries demanded pagan artifacts to burn. In response, indigenous populations created a growth industry in churning out reproductions. Many of these pieces, however, have ended up in museum collections and are exhibited today with little acknowledgment of how they were acquired or whether they are authentic. The Pre-Columbian antiquities trade was formally banned in 1970, but objects continue to circulate on the art market and emerge in museum collections. According to Bruhns, no one wants to know the dirty secret of looted art, that it's mostly fake. She will take the audience on an illustrated journey of Pre-Columbian art from renowned collections and institutions, which are not as old as they are labeled. Rather than calling them Pre-Columbian works, Bruhns suggests they be identified as Post-Columbian art. Bruhns, professor emerita of anthropology at San Francisco State University, received her Ph. D. in archaeology of Central and South America from the University of California at Berkeley. She has directed archaeological projects in Colombia, Ecuador, Nicaragua and El Salvador, and has participated in projects in Belize and Mexico. Bruhns has recently co-authored with Nancy L. Kelker, *Faking the Ancient Andes* (2010) and *Faking Ancient Mesoamerica* (2010). For more information, please call the Hudson Museum at (207) 581-1901.

Writing Series' Evans Poetry Review in The Nation

05 Oct 2010

A review by English Department faculty member Steve Evans, coordinator of the New Writing Series at UMaine, of three works of contemporary poetry appears in the Oct. 18 online edition of [The Nation](#). The piece is part of the publication's "Shelf Life" series, a monthly column by various writers that discuss three books on a common theme.

Evans reviews the work of Alice Notley, Andrew Joron and Aaron Kunin, all poets who have participated in the New Writing Series over the years.

UMaine Researchers Receive \$1 Million Grant To Continue Tidal Power Studies

05 Oct 2010

Contact: Mick Peterson (207) 581-2129 or michael.peterson@maine.edu ORONO – A group of University of Maine researchers, headed up by UMaine Libra Foundation Professor of Engineering Michael “Mick” Peterson, has received a \$1 million grant from the Department of Energy to continue developing environmental impact protocols at the site of a tidal-power turbine near Eastport and two other sites in Maine. The Maine Tidal Power Initiative, which is in its second year and has now been awarded a total of \$4 million in government and non-government funds, includes research in the Western Passage of the Cobscook Bay, where Portland-based Ocean Renewable Power Company has a working test turbine. The Department of Energy grant also continues the educational component for undergraduate and graduate students, who have been involved since ORPC first began funding the initiative more than two years ago. The research will use baseline resource and environmental data for the Western Passage site for evaluating and monitoring the development of tidal energy in those areas. Among the information researchers are seeking is how much energy can be removed from tidal circulation in sites such as Cobscook Bay and the environmental impacts of the turbines on fish and other sea life. Peterson says some of the most recent research data on fish in the area near the Cobscook Bay dates back as far as 1972. “The ecosystem has changed dramatically when you start talking about how fisheries have changed,” he says. The grant also provides funds for work on the modeling and testing of the open-source Maine Tidal Turbine in both the laboratory and the field, and the evaluation of the small-scale tidal energy site in the Bagaduce River, along with initial assessment of a site in the Sheepscot estuary near Wiscasset. The new \$1 million grant also provides funds to begin work-force development for upcoming renewable energy industries. The funds will allow students to continue developing skills in ocean engineering, mechanical engineering, or experiment design and hypothesis testing. Other UMaine faculty who are leading tasks in the tidal power initiative include oceanography professor Huijie Xue, fish biologist Gayle Zydlewski of the School of Marine Sciences, and Teresa Johnston, assistant professor of marine policy in the School of Marine Sciences. Maine Maritime Academy engineering professor Rich Kimball is the task leader for the engineering portion of the initiative.

Ice Age Expert to Open Climate Change Workshop Series Oct. 6

05 Oct 2010

Contact: [Aaron Putnam](mailto:Aaron.Putnam@maine.edu); Peter Koons, 581-2158, peter.koons@maine.edu The first installment of the 2010 Climate Change Institute INT500 workshop series Wednesday, Oct. 6, at 4-5:30 p.m. at UMaine is a workshop and keynote lecture by Columbia University Professor of Earth and environmental sciences James D. Hays, an internationally recognized expert on the role of polar oceans in the timing of global ice ages. The lecture, to be held in Room 57 of Stodder Hall, is free and open to the public. His talk will be followed by dinner and informal lectures on related topics by George Denton, Fei Chai, Dan Dixon, Bess Koffman, Charlie Porter and Aaron Putnam of the University of Maine. Posters will be presented by faculty and students associated with the CCI. The workshop will conclude at 9 p.m., or when discussion is over. Hays is known for making one of the most important discoveries in climate sciences, the fact that Earth's ice ages followed changes in Earth's orbit. His finding was published in one of the most famous papers of Earth Sciences in Science Magazine in 1976. Since then, Hays has been working to discover how the polar oceans control cycles in atmospheric carbon dioxide, which might be the fundamental underlying driver of Earth's ice ages. This is important for understanding how climate responds to changes in CO₂. Hays' talk is titled "Biological consequences of a cold, stratified, high-latitude, glacial ocean."

UMaine Researcher Advances Understanding of Structural Change in Cancer Cells

05 Oct 2010

Contact: Andre Khalil, (207) 581-3911; George Manlove (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine -- A method developed by a University of Maine mathematician to get a much more detailed look at cellular morphology has the potential to aid in

early cancer detection. Andre Khalil, a UMaine assistant professor of mathematics and cooperating assistant professor of physics, has developed a computational algorithmic method for characterizing three-dimensional images of cellular nuclei. Using new analysis and measurement algorithms, the procedure can quantify for the first time in unprecedented detail the size, shape, position and proximity of chromosomes in cell nuclei, a breakthrough in creating an extensive new baseline database of cellular structure. Khalil, who works in collaboration with cancer researcher Kevin Mills of The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, Maine, and colleagues in Europe, is creating one of the world's largest collection of chromosomal images, called chromosome territories, that will feed a database for comparing normal and abnormal cells. The comparisons can reveal a chromosome's changing shape and architecture, which could indicate the onset of one of the five stages of tumor development. Currently, the database contains up to 700 cellular images from The Jackson Laboratory and more than 20,000 are being donated by cooperating researchers in England, France, Germany, Canada and the United States. Learning how and when chromosome and nuclear structure in cells begin to change with the onset of cancer could help scientists determine which biophysical and genomic mechanisms cause the changes. The question is whether these mechanisms can be targeted, controlled, treated or dampened, Khalil says. "Not only do we want to quantify changes between normal and cancerous cells, but how early in the stage can we quantify it," says Khalil, whose research support includes nearly \$80,000 from the Maine Cancer Foundation for 2010-2011. "The structural changes we are looking to rigorously quantify are the hallmark of many types of cancer." Khalil, a collaborator with the Chromatin and Genome Research Group at the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon in France, also conducts research that compares breast lesions and tumors in an effort to detect cancerous cells. His cellular and chromosomal analysis involves lymphoid cancer cells. The cell nucleus image database now under development for early detection in blood cancers such as lymphoma can also be applied to detect other types of cancer. In his image analysis and computational modeling lab at UMaine, Khalil has pioneered several novel applications of the WTMM (Wavelet Transform Modulus Maxima) method, an image and signal processing technology — a mathematical microscope, if you will — in astrophysics and biomedicine. Some of those applications include analysis of soft-tissue growth and artificial bone implants, breast cancer tumor analysis, and algorithmically refining signals from sleeping infants to detect interrupted sleep. A previous discovery Khalil made with fluorescent microscopy — which creates two-dimensional or three-dimensional images of a cell nucleus — established for the first time that, contrary to common thinking, chromosomes are not spherical, but elongated and surfboard-shaped. The work is particularly relevant for Maine, where the cancer rate has been the highest in the nation at 510 cases per 100,000 residents in 2005, according to the U.S. Cancer Statistics Report. The national rate was 460 cases per 100,000 people, the Report says. The development of Khalil's computational tools, Khalil adds, could be used for cytological analysis for colorectal, esophageal, bladder, and lung cancer, of which Maine has an unusually high incidence, he says.

Coverage of Gubernatorial Forum at UMaine

05 Oct 2010

The Morning Sentinel has posted a story about the five Maine gubernatorial candidates' visits Tuesday to the UMaine campus. Republican candidate Paul LePage was the first to meet with the UMaine community.

"The Real 2012 Disaster," a Discussion Oct. 7

06 Oct 2010

Contact: George Markowsky, 581-3940 In spite of a spate of nonsensical movies and articles about how the world is going to end in 2012, George Markowsky, professor and chair, Department of Computer Science, Homeland Security Lab at UMaine, will discuss a potentially unpleasant event on the horizon for 2012. He'll discuss it Thursday, Oct. 7 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at 100 Neville Hall in a free public talk.

Tidal Power Grant News Story

06 Oct 2010

Wednesday's Bangor Daily News reports that a \$1 million federal grant will support UMaine research related to the development of tidal energy off the Maine coast. UMaine engineering Prof. Michael "Mick" Peterson is quoted in the

report, which details the study as it relates to potential environmental impact.

Archaeology Lecture Previewed

06 Oct 2010

Wednesday's Bangor Daily News includes a brief preview of a Thursday Oct. 14 UMaine lecture, "Faking Ancient Mesoamerican Art," by Karen Olsen Brhuns, director of the Cihuatan-Las Marias Archaeological Project for the Fundacion Nacional de Arqueologia in El Salvador. The talk, part of UMaine's observance of Maine Archaeology Month, is scheduled for the Bodwell Area of the Collins Center for the Arts. For more information, call (207) 581-1901

Rake Leaves or Leave Them Be?

06 Oct 2010

Barbara Murphy of UMaine Cooperative Extension was featured in a Tuesday WLBZ/WCSH television report about whether it's advisable or necessary to rake the leaves that fall on lawns during the fall. She says it's a matter of personal preference, but that there does not seem to be any real advantage gained from nutrients that might be added to a lawn by letting the leaves decompose.

Brewer Comments in Candidate Profiles

06 Oct 2010

Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty was quoted in a Maine Public Radio report looking at the independent gubernatorial candidacy of Kevin Scott, a business owner who lives in the Oxford County town of Andover. Brewer also commented in the MPBN profile of Republican nominee Paul LePage, who currently serves as Waterville's mayor.

Gubernatorial Forum News Coverage

06 Oct 2010

Several news organizations covered Tuesday's UMaine gubernatorial forum, at which all five candidates for governor discussed higher education and other issues of statewide importance. Stories appear on the Web sites of the [Portland Press Herald](#), WLBZ/WCSH and Bangor Daily News.

October: Dark Nights, Strange Lights & a Comet

06 Oct 2010

Contact: Alan Davenport, 581-1341 The sun sets early and scenery turns sinister and dangerous, plummeting into the deep ocean to investigate the "Origins of Life" as Jordan Planetarium visitors will discover the first two Fridays this month. The deepest recesses of the universe are dark, too, but ways to view it are explored in "Touching the Edge of the Universe" Oct. 15 and 22. The schedule and show descriptions can be seen at <http://www.GalaxyMaine.com>. All presentations include a tour of the nighttime sky and constellations and an added feature for October -- a comet visible this month.

Upcoming Art Museum Exhibitions Reviewed

07 Oct 2010

The Bangor Daily News provided a review of the three exhibitions that will open at the University of Maine Museum of Art in downtown Bangor on Oct. 8. The story includes comments from George Kinghorn, the museum's director. A Sept. 29 UMaine [news release](#) provides more information about the artists and the exhibitions.

Mainebiz Reports on Gabe's "Knowledge in Cities" Study

07 Oct 2010

Mainebiz published a report based on "Knowledge in Cities," a report co-authored by Todd Gabe of the UMaine School of Economics faculty. The report looks at the workforce in nearly 300 U.S. and Canadian studies and categorizes them according to 11 groups devised by the study's authors. The study puts Portland in the "Thinking Region" category, along with major cities including New York and Philadelphia.

Same-Sex Marriage and Legislative Races

07 Oct 2010

Comments from UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer were included in a [Maine Public Radio story](#) reporting that same-sex marriage is an issue in some Maine legislative races. Organizations opposed to such marriages are targeting certain incumbent legislators who voted for a Maine initiative that was ultimately defeated by the electorate last November.

Fried Set for Maine Watch Appearance on MPBN

07 Oct 2010

Amy Fried of the UMaine political science faculty will be a guest on the next edition of Maine Public Broadcasting's "Maine Watch" television program. The subject will be the Maine gubernatorial race, with a focus on polling information and television commercials. The program airs Thursday Oct. 7 at 8 p.m., Friday Oct. 8 at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday Oct. 10 at 5 p.m.

Smullen Talk News Coverage

07 Oct 2010

Thursday's Bangor Daily News includes a story about Wednesday's Bangor Foreign Policy Forum talk by 1962 UMaine graduate F. William Smullen, director of national security studies at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. Smullen served in the U.S. Army for 30 years, including a stint as chief of staff to former Secretary of State Colin Powell. UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs organized Bangor Foreign Policy Forum presentations.

Sea Grant Announces Scholarship Program

07 Oct 2010

Contact Beth Bisson (beth.bisson@maine.edu) ORONO -- Maine Sea Grant College Program at the University of Maine has created a new Maine Sea Grant Undergraduate Scholarship in Marine Sciences Beginning in the spring semester of the 2010-2011 academic year, Maine Sea Grant will award one scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to one third-year undergraduate student in good academic standing within the UMaine School of Marine Sciences. This scholarship opportunity will be announced annually during the fall semester and a new, one-year award will be made at the start of each spring semester. The application deadline for the Spring 2011 semester is November 1. The Maine Sea Grant College Program, hosted by the University of Maine, is part of a national network of 32 Sea Grant programs located in coastal and Great Lakes states. Maine Sea Grant's mission is to play a leadership role in ocean and coastal research and education, and to promote sustainable development, ecosystem-based management, and stewardship of ocean and coastal resources. The program is supported through a state-federal partnership between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the University of Maine. Maine Sea Grant is committed to supporting the academic development and professional opportunities of tomorrow's marine scientists, coastal resource managers, policy practitioners, educators, and industry professionals. The annual Sea Grant Undergraduate Scholarship in Marine

Sciences is one aspect of our workforce development efforts. Please visit [here](#) to find out about the undergraduate scholarship and other graduate student opportunities. Completed application materials (available online at <http://www.seagrant.umaine.edu/funding>) can be submitted via email to [mailto:beth.bisson@maine.edu]beth.bisson@maine.edu. Alternatively, applicants may mail applications to: Beth Bisson, Assistant Director for Outreach and Education Maine Sea Grant College Program 5784 York Complex, Building 6 University of Maine Orono, ME 04469 An interdepartmental committee will review the applications and announce a decision by Dec. 1, 2010.

Billitteri To Speak At Olson Symposium In Buffalo

07 Oct 2010

UMaine critical theorist Carla Billitteri will be a featured speaker at an October 14-16 University of Buffalo symposium honoring poet Charles Olson. Billitteri is a member of the editorial collective which directs the UMaine-based National Poetry Foundation and is the author of "Language and the Renewal of Society in Walt Whitman, Laura (Riding) Jackson, and Charles Olson: The American Cratylus."

Offshore Wind Expert Dagher to Speak Friday Morning In Lewiston

07 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Prof. Habib Dagher, director of the University of Maine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center, will provide the Friday morning keynote address at the Maine Career and Technical Education Conference. Dagher's talk is scheduled for 8:15 a.m. at the Lewiston Regional Technical Center on East Avenue. Dagher, who has been a UMaine professor since 1985, has achieved international acclaim for his innovative teaching and research in fields related to composite materials and advanced structures. Much of his current work is focused on the development of technologies that will allow Maine to capitalize on clean energy opportunities in the deepwater offshore wind realm. He plans to discuss the connection between education, including technical education, and future career opportunities in Maine. After the keynote, Dagher will continue that discussion as part of a 9:30-10:20 a.m. breakout session.

EAP Lunch & Learn Presenting 'Emotional Spending' Talk

07 Oct 2010

Contact: Rosie Seaber, 581-4014 UMaine's Employee Assistance program is sponsoring a presentation Thursday, Oct. 14, from 12-1 p.m. at 122 Libby Hall on "Retail Therapy: Uncovering Emotional Spending," with UMaine graduate student Sarah Morehead, master personal financial planner. She'll discuss discovering the roots of "emotional spending," acquiring tools for gaining control of spending habits and recognizing some of the marketing tricks that prey on emotional spenders. Click "Adobe connect links" to access the talk. On Oct. 18, a recording of the session will be available on the EAP website. Additional information is available by calling the Employee Assistance Program at 581-4014.

Eureka! Ranch Internship An Innovation Revelation For UMaine Students

08 Oct 2010

Contact: Renee Kelly, (207) 581-1401 or rwkelly@maine.edu Last May, four UMaine students arrived at the Eureka! Ranch in Cincinnati with high expectations of their impending summer internships at the invention and research think tank founded by UMaine alumnus Doug Hall. The experience turned out to be much more for students Dan Lafayette, Nate Wildes, Brian Sandefur and Sushil Khadka. The interns either worked directly for or had contact with hundreds of businesses – from Fortune 500 companies to small local firms – as they sought to innovate concepts and ideas for the Ranch's clients. No matter the business, the goal was the same: impart the wisdom and theories of Hall, a best-selling author, internationally known business consultant, and proponent of the new field of innovation engineering. Hall is teaching classes this fall at UMaine's Foster Center for Student Innovation, to which in 2009 he made a 10-year

commitment. In addition to teaching and working with faculty to lead the creation of this groundbreaking program, providing summer internships to UMaine students was part of Hall's commitment. Khadka and Sandefur have both graduated, but Lafayette, a business management major, will graduate next spring, and Wildes is a third-year political science major and innovation engineering minor. Lafayette and Wildes reflected on their internship of a lifetime. **We know about fields such as chemical or electrical engineering, but can you explain innovation engineering?** Wildes: It's about giving students the tools and the confidence to create, communicate and commercialize meaningfully unique ideas. By meaningfully unique, we mean ideas that add new value to someone's life. It's all about a systematic approach to commercializing, creating and communicating. Just as you assume every civil engineer graduates with a systematic approach to civil engineering, it's the same idea with innovation engineering, everyone who graduates has a base knowledge and a great approach to creating, communicating and commercializing ideas. **What is the benefit of interning at Eureka! Ranch as opposed to finding an internship with one company?** Lafayette: All summer long we did working with clients doing projects that actually changed the way they were running the company. We weren't filing paperwork or doing small projects. We were working on some of the most important things they're doing. And we were working on dozens of different projects. We covered everything, every part of the business from learning about cold call sales, to creating new ideas and working on their databases. **What's a typical day like at the Ranch? What is the work environment like?** Wildes: At 9 a.m. there's a focus meeting with the entire Ranch staff to talk about what you've learned the previous day and briefly about what you're going to do that day. The Ranch is all about what you're learning. Then you work through the morning until the whole company breaks around noon for lunch, which the Ranch provides. It's a very social, very fun, family atmosphere. There may be a client there, so there's great food. Then you work through the afternoon. You do not leave at 5 p.m. You leave when you're done working. We were there until 11:30 p.m. one night. Other days we were done at 4. There's no typical day aside from being at the Ranch at 9 a.m. Lafayette: It's a really open place. If you ever have a question you just yell it across the room or IM each other. There were no cubicles. They trusted you to do your work. **How did your clients react to working with students?** Lafayette: Every once in a while people would comment on how young we are. We just told them, look, we've studied this program in school and this is what we do. If we didn't know a lot about their business we pointed out how that helps us, because we'll ask questions that maybe they never thought about, and it could spark a new idea. The vast majority of the time people were open to listening to the idea and going with it. **So you don't have to know a lot about a specific business or industry?** Wildes: As long as you're learning, you're a successful employee at the Ranch. They don't expect you to know every intricate detail of a business. They wanted interns who were open to learning, open to trying new things, and not afraid to push the colors outside the lines. **What were some of the learning experiences you had?** Wildes: We had a project that was due 10 days out, so we expected to have nine days to build our process for doing it and show it on the 10th day. But on Day 2, it was, so what do you have? Day 3, what do you have? Clearly, the expectation and the business model at the Ranch was, you have 10 days to do a project? You do it in one day, do it again for the next and again for the next. You fail fast and fail cheap, every single day. It was a difficult process but the end product was clearly more superior than if we had spent nine days thinking about a process and the 10th trying to get it done. **You've been back at UMaine for almost two months. Looking back, what kind of impact did the summer have on you?** Wildes: It was a huge toolkit of approaches and systems. We learned how to work with people, how to work with companies, how to work with nonprofits, just a general approach to things that there's no way I would have gotten that anywhere else. I've already seen and a felt a very distinct, noticeable difference in my classes. Everything is impacted in a positive way because of what I experienced. Lafayette: It's one of those things where the range of what we learned is so broad that you can pretty much step into any job and have a head start on anyone else. Wildes: I think pretty much everybody got a few job offers, just casual comments like, when you graduate just give me a call. For the people we were working with, a seemingly casual verbal offer was usually serious. **Cincinnati is awfully far from Maine. What was it like to be away for the first time from home or the UMaine campus?** Wildes: I had never really lived away from home or worked by myself before that summer. So I showed up in Cincinnati and suddenly I had my first apartment, I had to feed myself for the first time off campus, I had a job to get to in the morning, and I had real-world responsibilities. That in itself was a huge learning experience and definitely one of the biggest areas of growth for me. I had to live and operate in the real world but I had such a fantastic, flexible job to do it in. **What advice would you offer for a UMaine student headed next summer for a Eureka! Ranch internship?** Lafayette: Rest up. Sleep in. Get ready. And don't party too hard before you go out there.

UMaine Honors Generous Benefactors at Annual Stillwater Society Event

08 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine recognized four people who have had a tremendous impact on the university and its students during the annual Stillwater Society Dinner on Friday Oct. 1. Sen. Susan Collins, who was herself honored by UMaine's prestigious Stillwater Society in 2009, presented 2010 honoree Prof. Habib Dagher of Veazie at the event, held in the Collins Center for the Arts before an audience of about 250 UMaine supporters. Dagher received a 2010 Stillwater Presidential Award for exceptional contributions, as did illustrious UMaine alums Russell and Barbara Bodwell of Orono, and Jon Sorenson of Boxford, Mass. UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana presented the Bodwells, while Vice President for Administration and Finance Janet Waldron introduced Sorenson. The Stillwater Society honors those who have "made a significant contribution to the betterment of the university and the people of Maine and beyond," through "demonstrated leadership, loyalty and dedicated service on the university's behalf." The Stillwater Presidential Award is the highest distinction UMaine can bestow on individuals who have brought great honor and prestige to the university. Russell Bodwell (Class of 1944) and Barbara Higgins Bodwell (Class of 1945) have a long and extraordinary record of generous support of their alma mater. Russell Bodwell is a Springvale native whose UMaine studies were interrupted by World War II service, during which he executed a daring escape from enemy forces after being shot down over Europe. He returned to UMaine and earned a civil engineering degree, while Barbara Bodwell graduated with a degree in home economics education. He enjoyed a remarkable engineering career, supported by Mrs. Bodwell, whose generous spirit led UMaine to name its student volunteer center in her name. The Bodwells raised three children, all of whom graduated from UMaine. Habib Dagher is a civil engineering professor who joined the UMaine faculty in 1985, shortly after earning a doctorate from the University of Wisconsin. An inspiration to his students, who feed off his creativity, energy and intellect, Dagher is the director of UMaine's acclaimed AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center. Under the direction of Dagher -- who has received a number of faculty awards for teaching, research and service, including the 1995 Distinguished Maine Professor Award -- the center has developed several groundbreaking technologies that are leading to meaningful economic development through technology transfer and commercialization. His current efforts, focusing on the development of deepwater offshore wind power technology, are leading Maine toward a clean energy industry that could create thousands of jobs and sharply reduce the need for fossil fuels. Jon Sorenson is a Camden native who earned an economics degree from UMaine in 1986. His leadership accomplishments as a student were legendary, including service as class president, leadership roles in Greek organizations, and membership in the prestigious Senior Skull Society. Sorenson works tirelessly to promote and serve his alma mater, including membership on the Maine Business School board of advisors, the College of Engineering board of advisors and the UMaine Alumni Association board. Sorenson's alumni service also includes the enthusiastic promotion of two vital Bay State alumni groups, the Black Bears of Boston and the Boston Executive Club. He also lends his professional consulting expertise, gained through vast experience in the company in which he is a partner -- Competitive Energy Services -- to save UMaine millions of dollars in energy costs. The father of four children, Sorenson is an avid volunteer working in community organizations in his Massachusetts hometown. "These honorees exemplify the impact of dedicated support on the University of Maine," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "Their incredible contributions -- in all forms -- make a real difference in the day-to-day life of the university. Moreover, they are vivid, tangible examples that our students and others can work to emulate in support of UMaine's unique and vital mission of service to our state." The Stillwater Society also inducted fifty new members to its ranks, this year, honoring individuals whose lifetime contributions exceed \$25,000 in support of university priorities.

Report on \$1 Million Grant for Tidal Research

08 Oct 2010

Mainebiz notes a \$1 million grant to support the Maine Tidal Power Initiative, which includes UMaine tidal power research in places such as the Cobscook Bay, Bagaduce River, and the Sheepscot estuary. The Maine Tidal Power Initiative is in its fourth year and has been awarded a total of \$4 million in government and nongovernment funds.

Radio Stations Report on Khalil Research

08 Oct 2010

The Cumulus radio station group, including WQCB-FM, broadcast a news report featuring UMaine math professor Andre Khalil's work in developing new methods for analyzing structural changes in cancer cells. This work, described in a UMaine [news release](#), could lead to methods for earlier detection of cancer.

UMaine Student in Gubernatorial Race Story

08 Oct 2010

UMaine junior Ben Goodman is featured in stories in the [Portland Press Herald](#) and several other news outlets, in his role as president of the Maine College Democrats organization. That group is challenging GOP gubernatorial candidate Paul LePage with regard to his stance on college students and voting rights.

Black Bear Hockey Opener Previews

08 Oct 2010

Friday's [Portland Press Herald](#) and [Bangor Daily News](#) feature stories previewing the UMaine Black Bear hockey team's season-opening weekend. Ranked #7 in the nation and #2 in Hockey East in pre-season polls, the Black Bears will host UMass-Lowell on Friday night and UConn on Saturday night.

Presidential Search Web Site Available

08 Oct 2010

A new informational Web site related to the search for the University of Maine's next president was launched today. The site includes information about the process, along with the position posting itself and candidate criteria.

Wagner's 'Das Rheingold' Broadcast at CCA Oct. 9

08 Oct 2010

The UMaine Collins Center for the Arts presents Das Rheingold, the first of four of Richard Wagner's epic Ring of the Nibelung operas, in a live Metropolitan Opera broadcast Saturday, Oct. 9, from 1-3 p.m. Two unparalleled artists join forces to create a groundbreaking new Ring for the Met: Maestro James Levine and director Robert Lepage. The box office at 581-1755 has ticket information.

U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud Tours Businesses Working With Knowledge Transfer Alliance

08 Oct 2010

The Bangor Daily News followed U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud on Thursday as he visited two Hancock County businesses working with UMaine's Knowledge Transfer Alliance and Hugh Stevens of the UMaine School of Economics. Stevens is quoted in the story.

Nanodiamond Discovery In Greenland

08 Oct 2010

[Nanotechwire.com reports](#) on the discovery made by a group of scientists, including Andrei Kurbatov and Paul Mayewski of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, of a layer of nanodiamonds in Greenland ice that may provide a link to the extension of certain mammals nearly 13,000 years ago. Kurbatov and Mayewski helped provide expertise related to the flow dynamics along the edge of the Greenland ice sheet and the chemical analysis required to understand the climatic significance of a section of ice recovered by the team.

Mayewski Ice Core Interview Featured by 'Edible Geography'

08 Oct 2010

An in-depth interview with Paul Mayewski, director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, and international expert on glaciology and climate change, was posted Oct. 8 on the [Edible Geography website](#), a Los Angeles-based news-blog website. Mayewski discussed his ice core research in Greenland, the Himalayas and Tibetan plateau, Iceland, New Zealand and Antarctica, explaining the process of collecting and analyzing 2,000-year-old ice samples from as deep as 10,000 feet--and the significance of that analysis in understanding climate change.

Advance Grant Establishes UMaine Center to Support Female Faculty

12 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- A five-year, \$3.3 million National Science Foundation ADVANCE grant will fund a new University of Maine initiative to affect institutional change by improving the status of female faculty in the sciences, technology, engineering, mathematics and the social-behavioral sciences. The grant will establish the Rising Tide Center, which will support the initiative at UMaine and in the University of Maine System. The goal of the center is to increase the number of female faculty members in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) and social-behavioral sciences, defining the practices that attract and support the retention of female faculty, facilitate promotion through the academic ranks and to administrative positions, and provide professional satisfaction. UMaine has a combined 114 female faculty members teaching in STEM and social-behavioral fields, compared to 284 male faculty members in those fields. Nationally, UMaine is below the national average in a number of STEM and social-behavioral fields. "This grant will help us build on our commitment to providing greater opportunity for women scholars in these critical disciplines," says Susan Hunter, UMaine's senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. She is also a biology professor who will serve as the principal investigator on the project. "From Edith Patch to Doris Twitchell Allen to the women who help lead our faculty today, UMaine has a proud history upon which we can build to become a model institution for supporting female faculty members across the institution. This initiative will promote opportunity, enhance diversity and provide more of the role models who will help show our female students the pathways to success in STEM and social-behavioral science fields." Four other faculty members co-authored the ADVANCE grant: Karen Horton, associate professor of mechanical engineering technology; Amy Fried, associate professor of political science; Jody Jellison, professor of molecular plant pathology and director of the School of Biology and Ecology; and Susan Gardner, associate professor of higher education. The goal of the NSF's ADVANCE program is encourage the presentation and advancement of women in academic science and engineering careers, thereby contributing to the development of a more diverse and sustainable U.S. science and engineering workforce. Since 2001, NSF has invested more than \$130 million to support ADVANCE projects at more than 100 institutions of higher learning and STEM-related nonprofit organizations across the country. At UMaine, Rising Tide's other key goals include decreasing isolation felt by female STEM faculty members and pursuing diversity by creating a positive work environment through training, mentoring, improving evaluation mechanisms, better coordinating conflict resolution procedures, enhancing family-work policies, creating an internal grant competition to support research by and about women in STEM-and social-behavioral sciences fields, assisting with partner relocation, and engaging the other institutions of the University of Maine System and the faculty union. The project's coordinators say that they believe most of these initiatives will benefit all faculty at UMaine. The Rising Tide Center will have a director and staff, and will spearhead professional development and training initiatives. "Gardner will direct a social science team that will take on research-based studies of the ADVANCE efforts to determine the best practices of these initiatives. This effort will be guided by Elizabeth Allan, associate professor of higher education; Mary Madden, associate research professor in education; and Shannon McCoy, assistant professor of psychology. In addition, Sharon Barker, director of UMaine's Women's Resource Center, will take on additional responsibilities to research and develop methods to assist in providing partner and spousal career opportunities for newly hired faculty members. There are a number of factors that make UMaine an ideal institution for assessing projects of institutional change in the STEM and SBS areas, including the fact that the representation of women faculty in every STEM or SBS field at UMaine is below the national average. UMaine is also the only research-intensive institution in a rural EPSCOR state where, as surveys show, isolation undermines recruitment and retention of women faculty. Rising Tide is the latest in a series of UMaine initiatives since 1992 to attempt to establish efforts to increase the percentage of women faculty members, decrease discrepancies in salary between male and female faculty and support the advancement of women through the academic pipeline.

However, most of the efforts were ad-hoc and difficult to sustain and implement. In 2009, Hunter created the Advancement Initiative Council (AIC) in order to better align such efforts. AIC sponsored a faculty climate survey and collected data that included information about salaries, leadership training, mentoring, and exit interviews. In order to prepare for the Rising Tide initiative, several campus meetings, including two full-day retreats, were held in 2009 with the goal of sharing data and scholarly knowledge about promoting gender equity. UMaine has been investigating ADVANCE since 2004, when the university's Task Force on the Retention of Women Faculty reviewed similar programs at the University of Rhode Island, New Mexico State University and Utah State University. The task force also conducted two surveys and recommended mechanisms for advancing women, including chair training and mentoring program for new faculty. Those programs are ongoing and will be developed further by the Rising Tide Center in partnership with UMaine's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Assessment. UMaine does have a President's Council on Women, which serves in an advisory role to the president. In addition, the Maine Center for Research in STEM Education (The Maine RiSE Center), led by UMaine physics professor Susan McKay, recently received a \$12.3 million grant to help improve and strengthen STEM teaching in grades 6-9 in Maine. "We have several effective pieces in place, and we have an academic community that sees significant value in taking a proactive approach to enhancing opportunities for female faculty members," Hunter says. "This grant will allow us to create an institutional structure that will support all those related efforts and help us work effectively toward our goals."

Erika Jolie 1991-2010

12 Oct 2010

UMaine first-year student Erika Jolie has died of injuries suffered in an automobile accident. She was an 18-year-old New Media major from York, Maine. "Erika had a positive impact on the UMaine community in a short time, and her death is a horrible tragedy," says UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana. "We all extend our sincerest sympathies to her family and friends during this difficult time." Members of the UMaine community who wish to avail themselves of support services should call the UMaine Counseling Center (for students) at 581-1392 or Employee Assistance Program (for faculty and staff members) at 581-4014. Calling hours are scheduled for Friday, Oct. 15 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. at Lucas and Eaton Funeral Home, 91 Long Sands Road in York. Funeral services are private, but a memorial celebration of Erika Jolie's life will be held Saturday Oct. 16 from 12 noon-3 p.m. at American Legion Post 26, 9 Hannaford Drive in York. Donations in lieu of flowers may be send to ADA Camp Carefree, PO Box 342, New Market, NY 03857

Liliehholm in Boston Globe Magazine Forest Story

12 Oct 2010

Comments from Rob Liliehholm of the UMaine School of Forest Resources faculty are included in an extensive [Boston Globe Magazine story](#) about the history and future of New England's forests. The story is based on "Wildcards and Woodlands: A Vision for the New England Landscape," a 36-page report Liliehholm and a group of other scientists issued earlier this year. The report calls for a substantial increase in the amount of "permanently protected" forest land in the region over the next 50 years.

Moran Comments on Interest in Tree Fruit Gardening

12 Oct 2010

Renae Moran of the UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty was quoted in a Kennebec Journal report based on a new RSU 11 (Gardiner area) adult education course featuring content for people interested in fruit tree agriculture. Moran, who helps teach the course, is based at UMaine's Highmoor Farm in Monmouth.

Brewer in Story on New Poll

12 Oct 2010

An Oct. 10 Kennebec Journal story on a new statewide election poll included comments from Mark Brewer of the

UMaine political science faculty. The poll was commissioned by Pine Tree Politics, a Maine political news website.

Book Review Notes Hunter Contribution

12 Oct 2010

Thomas Urquhart's [Maine Sunday Telegram review](#) of "Natural Landscapes of Maine: A Guide to Natural Communities and Ecosystems," included quotes from UMaine Prof. Malcolm Hunter's foreword. Urquhart, a former Maine Audubon director, gave the book a favorable review. It was written by Andrew Cutko and Susan Gawler.

2nd District Congressional Race Analysis

12 Oct 2010

Comments from UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer are featured in an Associated Press story about the race for Maine's 2nd Congressional District seat. Republican Jason Levesque is challenging incumbent Democrat Michael Michaud for that seat. Brewer also commented in a Saturday [Portland Press Herald story](#) based on Levesque's criticism of Michaud following Friday's release of national unemployment data.

Noel Laureate Ostrom at UMaine for Oct. 21 Mitchell Lecture

12 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 *Note: This event is free and open to the public, but tickets are required. Please call (207) 581-3244 to reserve tickets.* ORONO -- Acclaimed scholar Elinor Ostrom will visit the University of Maine on Thursday Oct. 21 to present the university's annual Sen. George J. Mitchell Lecture on Sustainability. Ostrom, co-recipient of the 2009 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, will discuss "Unconventional Wisdom: Sustaining our Natural Resources in a Rapidly Changing World." Her talk, hosted by UMaine's Sen. George J. Mitchell Center, is scheduled for 1 p.m. in UMaine's Wells Conference Center. Sen. Mitchell will attend the lecture and offer remarks, if his schedule permits. Ostrom, a member of the National Academy of Sciences since 2001, is an expert on "common pool" or shared resources, which include resources such as fisheries, forests and grazing lands. She has studied interactions between humans and these natural resources, with an emphasis on strategies that promote long-term, sustainable yields. Her work includes the development of "design principles" that underlie effective management of local, shared resources. "The extraordinary work of Prof. Ostrom and her colleagues provides one of the best road maps we have for promoting economic and community development while protecting our natural resources," says David Hart, director of UMaine's Mitchell Center and leader of Maine's Sustainability Solutions Initiative. "We are actively working to build upon her visionary work as we seek to create a brighter economic, social and environmental future for the people of Maine." Ostrom is a member of the faculty at both Indiana University and Arizona State University.

It's Not a Trick: Halloween Treats Can be Healthy

12 Oct 2010

Contact: Kate Yerxa, (207) 581-3109 or kate.yerxa@maine.edu ORONO -- For many adults and children, the idea of Halloween without candy is a frightening one. But Kate Yerxa of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension says there are several ways to both limit the amount of post-Halloween candy sitting around the house and also cut down on consumption while still celebrating the tradition of holiday treats. "Halloween only comes once a year," says Yerxa, Extension's statewide educator for nutrition and physical activity. "Keep practicing your family's healthy habits, like eating well and good oral hygiene, and a few days with a moderate amount of added candy will not derail your path to living healthy." There are a number of tactics parents can take in order to keep kids from eating a lot of candy Halloween night. Yerxa recommends feeding children a healthy pre-trick or treat snack such as whole wheat crackers with either nut butter or sliced cheese, along with a fruit or vegetable. If kids are not hungry when they return home with their loot, Yerxa says, they are less likely to overeat. For the days following Halloween, Yerxa says parents can also make a plan with children about how much of their candy they are allowed to eat each day. Then, parents can divide the

candy into individual serving sizes and put it away in a cabinet. Yerxa recommends checking with local dentists or health-care providers to find out if they offer an exchange day where kids can exchange their Halloween candy for a non-food gift. Families can also plan their own exchanges. She also reminds parents to inspect candy for safety before a child eats it. Yerxa advises those who are giving out candy not to pre-purchase a huge amount of sweets that will be tempting in the days following the holiday. Healthy edible Halloween treats include small bags of pretzels, dried fruit such as raisins or dried cranberries, seeds such as sunflower or pumpkin, and sugarless gum. Other ideas for Halloween treats include small canisters of Play-Dough or bubbles, pencils, stickers, party favors, and temporary tattoos.

New Coalition to Focus on Nation's Working Waterways and Waterfronts

12 Oct 2010

Contact Natalie Springuel, (207) 288.2944 x5834, nspringuel@coa.edu PORTLAND, Me. - At the conclusion of a national symposium here last week, representatives from federal, state and local governments and organizations announced the formation of a National Working Waterways & Waterfronts Coalition. Sea Grant programs from around the country, including Maine Sea Grant and Virginia Sea Grant, who were lead hosts of the symposium, and Florida Sea Grant, will partner with the Rockland-based Island Institute, Coastal Enterprises, Inc., and the Urban Harbors Institute at the University of Massachusetts Boston to form an initial steering committee that will explore funding mechanisms and organizational structure. Rob Snyder of the Island Institute said that his organization identified working waterfronts in Maine and around the country as a priority area in their three-year strategic plan. "It's a key component to ensuring access to diverse, sustainable fisheries that are at the heart of traditional, marine resource-based communities," said Snyder. The primary focus of the coalition is education and awareness of the value of working waterways and waterfronts to local economies. The term "working waterfront" means different things in different parts of the U.S., but everyone attending the symposium last week agreed that water-dependent commercial uses are at the heart of working harbors, ports, villages, and riverfronts. A national hub will identify data, research and information needed to enhance and preserve the nation's working waterfronts. "We need to highlight successful models from around the country," said Tom Murray of Virginia Sea Grant, "and we can already identify some 'best practices' for working waterways and waterfronts planning and protection." A second objective of the coalition will be to serve as a resource to policymakers at the national level. For example, symposium keynote speaker and NOAA Deputy Administrator Dr. Larry Robinson highlighted opportunities for the 220 people gathered at the symposium to engage in the new National Ocean Policy. The upcoming reauthorization of the Coastal Zone Management Act also was identified as an ideal opportunity to secure support for water-dependent economies. Coalition members hope that an organized presence will leverage support for several bills under consideration in both the House and Senate that would provide funding to keep working waterfronts and waterways intact. "Some of the key principles we've identified are vision, transparency, and partnerships," said Natalie Springuel of Maine Sea Grant. "We intend to reach out to those organizations and initiatives who have similar goals and interests in preserving what makes unique and thriving working landscapes."

Melting Glaciers a Leading Cause of High Nitrate Concentrations in High-Elevation Lakes in the U.S. Rockies

12 Oct 2010

Contact: Jasmine Saros at (207) 581-2112 Melting glaciers in the American West are releasing chemicals that cause ecosystem changes in alpine lakes, including large quantities of nitrogen that reduces biodiversity, according to an international research team led by University of Maine paleoecologist Jasmine Saros. The study, funded by a \$509,000 grant from the National Science Foundation, determined that glaciers in alpine watersheds are the largest geomorphic and biogeographic influences of nitrate concentrations in high-elevation lake ecosystems. Nitrogen is a key limiting nutrient in alpine lake ecosystems that can dramatically affect ecosystem productivity and species diversity. The researchers from UMaine, Miami University, the U.S. Geological Survey, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Alberta studied the ecosystems of 26 high-elevation lakes in the northern and central U.S. Rocky Mountains where atmospheric nitrogen deposition is low and where alpine glaciers have receded substantially during the 20th century. Twelve of the lakes were fed by melt from glaciers and snow, the rest by snowpack melt water alone. Those lakes fed by melting glaciers and snow had up to 100 times higher nitrate concentrations and lower algal biomass than those fed solely by snowpack. In those lakes affected by glacial melt, sediment diatom assemblages had less taxonomic richness compared to the diversity present throughout the past century. However, the water columns in the

glacier and snowpack-fed lakes were more transparent, altering the depths reached by ultraviolet and photosynthetically active radiation, which also has the potential to change diatom communities. Given predictions that alpine glaciers will disappear from the U.S. Rockies by 2030, these observations raise serious questions concerning the future biogeochemical and ecological trajectories of hundreds of lake ecosystems within this vast region, according to the researchers, writing in the journal *Environmental Science & Technology*.

Fried in 1st District Race Update

12 Oct 2010

Comments from Amy Fried of the UMaine political science faculty were included in a Monday Bangor Daily News story about polling related to the Maine 1st District Congressional race between incumbent Chellie Pingree and GOP challenger Dean Scontras.

Mayewski Talks Siting, Drilling, Drinking Of Ice Cores

12 Oct 2010

The blog [EdibleGeography.com interviewed](#) Paul Mayewski, the director of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, about ice cores. Mayewski was questioned about a variety of issues, including the search process for sites at which to drill for ice cores, the logistics of getting the cores back to the lab, and even whether or not scientists drink the meltwater from the ice cores. The [website i09.com](#) posted a link to Mayewski's interview.

Peterson To Test Santa Anita Track Surface

12 Oct 2010

UMaine engineer Mick Peterson was mentioned in an [article](#) on the website Bloodhorse about the replacement of the surface of the thoroughbred horse racing track at Santa Anita Park in California. Peterson, the executive director of the Racing Surfaces Laboratory, will test the track's new surface.

UMaine Museum Of Art Involved In Creative Economy Research

12 Oct 2010

The [University of Maine Museum of Art](#) was one of 14 Maine museums that participated in a survey about the connection between the state's economy and its museums, according to a [Portland Press Herald story](#). The survey, which was commissioned by the Maine Arts Commission, found 442,000 people visited the 14 museums in 2009 and created a sales impact of nearly \$148 million, generating more than \$7.5 million in tax revenue for state and local governments.

Pershing Quoted in NPR Story About The Role Of Whales In The Oceans

12 Oct 2010

UMaine oceanographer Andrew Pershing is quoted in a [National Public Radio story](#) about the benefits of whales in the oceans. Pershing says research into whales' role in moving nutrients from one part of the ocean to another is still unknown, but recent research into how whale excrement affects fish populations could get scientists to think more about large marine mammals in ocean ecosystems.

Logue Interviews on Boys' Play Carried Nationally

12 Oct 2010

Mary Ellin Logue, a faculty member and researcher in the College of Education and Human Development, provided perspectives on questions about the significance of rough play by boys for a recent [MSNBC article](#) on the topic. Logue

also was featured in an extensive Radio Health Journal program interview on the same subject. The program was broadcast on some 430 stations nationwide.

Cutler Health Offering Flu Shots

12 Oct 2010

Cutler Health Center is now accepting appointments for employee flu shots from Oct. 15-20. The clinic is open to all UMaine employees, retirees and their spouses covered under the group health plan sponsored by the University of Maine System. Participants should bring their Anthem insurance card and check in at the Cutler Health Center front desk. Employees will need their employee ID numbers to complete the sign-up process.

Highmoor Farm Fall Harvest Sale Thursday

12 Oct 2010

Staff members from UMaine's Highmoor Farm will be on campus on Thursday Oct. 14 for to sell items from the farm's fall harvest. Varieties for sale will include McIntosh, Cortland, Macoun, Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Gala and Honey Crisp apples, along with several varieties of pumpkins and squash. The sale will run from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. near Cyrus Pavilion Theatre. For more information, contact Greg Koller (gkoller@maine.edu), Highmoor Farm's superintendent. His phone number is 933-2100.

University of Maine Foundation Elects Officers

12 Oct 2010

Contact: Amos Orcutt, (207) 581-5100 ORONO -- At its 2010 annual meeting, the University of Maine Foundation Board of Directors elected Ellen Stinson chair of the board for 2010-2011. A Standish resident, Stinson is a 1968 graduate of the University of Maine and is senior associate in charge of finance and administration at Sebago Technics, a consulting engineering firm founded by her husband, Walter Stinson, in 1981. "I am honored to be elected as chair of the foundation and look forward to serving the donors and friends who so generously support the University of Maine," Stinson said following her election. The following officers also were elected by the directors: Gregg M. Piasio of Falmouth, vice chair; John I. Simpson of Bangor, treasurer; Amos E. Orcutt of Bangor, assistant treasurer/president; Patricia M. Dunn of Scarborough, secretary; and Brent Slater of Bangor, clerk. More than 240 people attended the annual meeting, held Wednesday, Oct. 6 at Wells Conference Center on the University of Maine campus in Orono. Mary Rumpho Kennedy, professor of biochemistry in the Department of Molecular and Biological Sciences, was the keynote speaker. She discussed her research and the many benefits of undergraduate research to students, faculty members, the university and the state. She introduced two students, Geoffry Davis, sophomore biochemistry major from Las Vegas, Nev. and Bradie Manion, junior biochemistry major from Old Town, Maine. Both students shared what it meant to them to be able to conduct research so early in their academic careers. The University of Maine Foundation is an independent, non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization. Established in 1934, the foundation exists to encourage gifts and bequests that nurture academic achievement, foster research and elevate intellectual pursuit at the University of Maine.

Franco-American Centre Presenting 'Unnatural Deaths' Reading

12 Oct 2010

Contact: Susan Pinette, 581-3791 or 768-9452 ORONO -- The University of Maine Franco American Centre has scheduled a reading Oct. 28 by author and attorney Robert G. Fuller, Jr., whose novel "Unnatural Deaths" takes place in a fictional Franco-American town in Maine with several Franco-American characters. The reading at 2 p.m. at the Centre in Crossland Hall is free and public. Fuller, a resident of Winthrop, will be introduced by Augusta attorney Severin Beliveau, a Distinguished Professor of Franco American Studies at the University of Maine and Honorary Consul for France. One of Fuller's main characters in his novel, Larry Pelletier, is based on Beliveau, who is a native of Rumford, Maine. Unnatural Deaths is about a tenacious police detective who finds, during the investigation of a murder of a local businessman at a hunting camp deep in the Maine woods, that the killing may be related to two others on the

East Coast. The investigation leads to a complex international business plot the detective must figure out with help from a well-connected lawyer and brother of the murdered businessman. Fuller practiced law in Maine for about 35 years and served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the United States Navy as a reserve officer. During his career, he developed extensive contacts among Maine trial lawyers and judges, law enforcement personnel, prosecutors and forensic analysts, which have contributed to the authentic flavor of this novel. Additional information about Fuller and *Unnatural Deaths* is available on the website for the book at www.unnaturaldeaths.com/.

UMaine Response to Environmental Protection Agency Findings

13 Oct 2010

The Environmental Protection Agency has ordered issued a news release relative to wetlands issues on the University of Maine campus. UMaine has provided the following response to that news release: Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 University of Maine officials expressed appreciation today for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's approach to helping the university manage issues related to wetlands on the university's Orono campus. "The EPA announcement today reflects a constructive and effective approach to mitigating these issues and to developing a model long-term plan for wetlands management on our campus," says Elaine Clark, UMaine's assistant vice president for facilities, real estate and planning. "We have been working collaboratively with the EPA for months to create solutions that will address environmental concerns and create opportunities for our students to participate in helping manage these issues in way that will enhance their classroom experiences." Clark noted that UMaine has been proactive in disclosing issues to the EPA, and that the university has taken measures to create safeguards to ensure that these mistakes are not repeated in the future. She also praised the EPA for its willingness to engage in a collaborative process and its decision to forgo financial penalties, allowing the university to apply its financial resources to environmental improvements. *News stories about this issue have been reported by the Bangor Daily News.*

Top Engineering Firms to Converge for UMaine Engineering Job Fair

13 Oct 2010

Contact: Patty Counihan, 581-1359 Recruiters and representatives from nearly 60 companies with jobs for engineering students, interns and recent graduates will converge at the Student Fitness and Recreation Center Oct. 20 for UMaine's 2010 Engineering Job Fair. The annual event is an opportunity for UMaine engineering students to meet prospective employers and learn about large and small engineering companies from throughout the state, New England and beyond. Employers have a chance to casually meet prospective employees at the fair. Typically, hundreds of students attend the fair, bringing with them resumes, a practiced 30-second personal sales pitch and questions for participating companies. Many land co-ops, internships, summer work of future jobs as a result of the fair. The fair, co-sponsored by the UMaine College of Engineering and the UMaine Career Center, is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Complete details, including a list of participating companies, is available on the [Career Center website](#). Information also is available by calling the Center at 581-1359.

Ford's Stories To Be Read At Aarhus Gallery

13 Oct 2010

The midcoast newspaper Village Soup has an article about a lecture series a Aarhus Gallery in Belfast that will include a reading of the works of UMaine professor emerita Elaine Ford. A creative writing and literature professor, Ford is the author of five novels and a collection of short stories, "The American Wife," for which she won the Michigan Literary Fiction Award.

ADVANCE Grant Funding, Rising Tide Center Highlighted In Article

13 Oct 2010

The Bangor Daily News reported on a five year, \$3.3 million grant awarded to UMaine in order to increase the number

of female faculty in the STEM and social-behavioral science fields. The grant will create the Rising Tide Center, which will seek to define the practices that attract and support the retention of female faculty, facilitate promotion through the academic ranks to administrative positions, and provide professional satisfaction.

Campaign Could be Most Expensive, Brewer says

13 Oct 2010

UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer tells Maine Today Media (Portland Press Herald, Kennebec Journal, Central Maine Morning Sentinel) that the 2010 Maine gubernatorial campaign may be shaping up to be the most expensive in Maine history.

Jemison in Column on Genetically Altered Salmon

13 Oct 2010

Comments from John Jemison of the UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty are included in a [Portland Press Herald story](#) about a biotech company's efforts to gain approval for genetically altered salmon. Jemison, a water quality specialist who has extensively studied issues related to genetically engineered crops, provided some big-picture perspectives on these issues from his perspective as an agriculture expert.

Water Festival Coverage

13 Oct 2010

WABI had a story about the Children's Water Festival, a daylong event hosted by UMaine's Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research which seeks to introduce water issues to schoolchildren. More than 700 students in grades 4-6 had a chance to touch ocean critters, participate in a trivia game about water, and try on puffin costumes. A news report also appears in Wednesday's Bangor Daily News.

Kaye In MPBN Report About Seniors And Drug Abuse

13 Oct 2010

Len Kaye of UMaine's Center on Aging was featured in an MPBN story about high rates of drug abuse among Maine senior citizens. Kaye said an upward trend of abuse is apparent in Maine, and that a class of anti-anxiety medications called benzodiazepines are a major culprit.

Dagher Interested In Google Wind Power Project

13 Oct 2010

Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center, told the Bangor Daily News a proposed \$5 billion undersea power line proposal aimed at spurring development of a coastal wind farm in the Mid-Atlantic states is a great sign that private investors are interested in offshore wind efforts. Google, along with a group of other investors, has stated its interest in developing the line. Dagher and UMaine scientists plan to have the nation's first floating test turbine site by 2012 several miles off Monhegan Island.

Women's Studies Lecture Series Schedule Online

13 Oct 2010

The Fall 2010 Women in the Curriculum and Women's Studies Program lunchtime lecture series schedule is [available online in a PDF](#). The series continues Wednesday, Oct. 20, from 12:15-1:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room of the Memorial Union with a talk, "Emily Dickenson and the Civil War," by Ben Friedlander, associate professor of English. The

lectures are free and open to the public.

Maine Showcasing Composite Bridge Technologies

13 Oct 2010

Contact: Roberta Laverty, 207-581-2110, roberta.laverty@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- Maine's innovative composites bridge technologies are being highlighted during a two-day event Wednesday Oct 13 and Thursday Oct. 14. The 2010 Maine Composites Showcase, hosted by MaineDOT and its Maine composites partners, is introducing top bridge engineers from New England and the northeast region to the innovative composites bridge applications being developed and implemented in Maine. A series of demonstrations and tours is scheduled for Thursday at the University of Maine. MaineDOT, in partnership with the UMaine Advanced Structures & Composites Center (AEWC) and the Maine Composites Alliance has developed, tested and implemented a variety of innovative composite solutions for transportation. These composite technologies and applications have a significant benefit in transportation applications across the nation and the world since composites will not corrode, serve as a stay-in-place form in certain applications, are more durable, lighter and are easier to install than traditional materials. Composites Showcase participants will have an opportunity to meet with Maine manufacturers, state transportation officials, and research engineers, to learn about Maine's cutting-edge composite bridge materials and technologies. They will learn about the Bridge-in-a-Backpack™, a concrete filled composite arch bridge system. This bridge technology, developed at UMaine's AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center and currently being commercialized by Advanced Infrastructure Technologies, LLC in Orono, has been used in the construction of bridges in Pittsfield, North Anson, Bradley and Belfast. Another technology that Showcase participants will learn about is the hybrid composite beam (HC Beam) which is currently being manufactured by Harbor Technologies in Brunswick. This beam has been demonstrated in projects in New Jersey and Illinois and is currently being used for the construction of the new Knickerbocker Bridge in Boothbay. A third technology, a composite culvert-lining system, provides an alternative to conventional reinforced concrete liners for culvert rehabilitation. These liners have been developed by MaineDOT and UMaine's AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center and are being manufactured by Kenway Corporation in Augusta. Showcase participants are taking advantage of an opportunity to visit Maine composites manufacturing facilities and composites demonstration bridges on Wednesday, Oct 13. On Thursday, Oct 14, they will spend the day at the University of Maine where they will learn about the state's emerging composites bridge technologies from MaineDOT officials, AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center engineers, and Maine composites manufacturers. In addition to MaineDOT and UMaine's AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center, sponsors of the two day event include: the Maine Composites Alliance, Kenway Corporation, Harbor Technologies, HC Bridge LLC, and Advanced Infrastructure Technologies. A schedule for Thursday's activities: AEWC – Presentations and facility tour – University of Maine in Orono 8:00 – 8:30 AEWC & AIT – Bridge in a Backpack technology 8:30 – 9:00 Harbor Technologies, LLC & John Hillman of HC Bridge Company, LLC – HC Beam technology 9:00 – 9:30 Kenway Corp – Bridge drains, culvert invert liners 9:30 – 10:00 Networking 10:00 – 10:30 MaineDOT Experiences – Nate Benoit, Robin Lanpher 10:30 – 11:30 Other New England DOT experiences/needs/interests 11:30 – 12:30 Lunch 12:30 – 2:00 Tour of AEWC 2:00 – 4:00 [Optional Site Visit to Neal Bridge in Pittsfield]

ESTIA International EcoPeace Community Conference Oct. 22

13 Oct 2010

Contact: Ellen Woodhead, (207) 581-2609 BELFAST -- The 7th Annual ESTIA International EcoPeace Community Conference Oct. 22 at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center in Belfast will present speakers and panel discussions on the environment, education and sustainable community development. From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., speakers and breakout groups will discuss philosophical and practical issues surrounding ecovillages, permaculture and sustainability. This year's conference title is "Ecovillages Redefined: Actualizing Integrity, Stability & Beauty." Keynote speakers include Roger Kelly, who served as director of the Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales and is now director of Energy Solutions in London; Philip Snyder, who has served as the executive director of several non-profit organizations, including the Center for Religion, Ethics and Social Policy at Cornell university and the Global Ecovillage Network in Denmark; Daniel Greenberg, founder and director of Living Routes, a non-profit that partners with the University of Massachusetts to offer study abroad programs based in "ecovillages" around the world; and Zoe Weil, author, co-

founder and president of the Institute for Humane Education. Facilitated group discussions will be led by gkisedtanamoogk (Native American Spirituality); Mark Fulford (From Soil to Table: The living pathways of nutritional agriculture); Jesse Watson and Jeffrey Maybee (Urban Permaculture/Community Gardens); Phyllis Brazee (What is the Role of Forgiveness?); Mike Gold and Stacy Gambrel (Maine Farmland Trust); Joline Blais (Belfast Ecovillage) and Alastair Lough (Transition Towns: Waltzing with Bears). The ESTIA Epicenter for EcoPeace and Sustainability was made possible last year through a donation of land and a cabin on Williams Pond Road in Bucksport, by Sheila Holtz, which allowed ESTIA to expand its educational and outreach opportunities. Complete information about the conference, including fees, schedule and speaker biographies, are available on the ESTIA website at www.estiamaine.org/ or by calling 207-581-2609 or 207-581-2636. The conference is co-sponsored by the UMaine Peace and Reconciliation Studies Program and the Hutchinson Center.

BDN features Black Bear runner Conner

14 Oct 2010

Thursday's Bangor Daily News includes [a story highlighting the achievements of UMaine cross-country star Corey Conner](#). The junior from North Townsend, Mass. won her second consecutive New England championship during a Boston race last weekend. She was the only runner to break the 17-minute mark in the 5-kilometer race.

Maine cranberry yield predicted

14 Oct 2010

Charlie Armstrong of the UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty tells WLBZ/WCSH television that the Maine fall cranberry harvest is predicted at 20,000 barrells, or 2 million pounds. That's about the same as last year's yield.

Maine's Blueberry Crop Expected To Be Down, But Prices Should Rise

14 Oct 2010

UMaine Cooperative Extension blueberry specialist David Yarborough told [the Ellsworth American](#) the blueberry crop is expected to be down this year, but the reduction in supply will likely drive up prices. Yarborough also said Maine's wild blueberry crop is expected to be one of the smallest since 2005. The Maine crop was affected by an early spring bloom, followed by frost, and then arid conditions in August. Mainebiz and MPBN also reported on Yarborough's predictions.

Peterson's Role in Santa Anita Track Surface Testing

14 Oct 2010

The Daily Racing Form ran [a story about the removal of the thoroughbred horse racing track surface](#) at Santa Anita Park in California. UMaine Libra Foundation Professor of Engineering Michael "Mick" Peterson, a race track expert, will test the new surface expected to be installed this fall. [ESPN also ran the story.](#)

UMMA Exhibits Feature Photographs, Digital and Traditional Art

14 Oct 2010

New exhibits on display through December 30 at the University of Maine Museum of Art in Bangor include "A Pointed View," photographs by Ilya Askinazi, "String Too Short to Use," featuring recent digital art works by Todd Watts, and Pablo Picasso's "The Passionate Print." Galleries at 40 Harlow St. are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

Guest Artist Recital to Feature Beethoven Sonatas

14 Oct 2010

Acclaimed pianist Paul Orgel will present an evening of Beethoven sonatas Saturday, Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. An international performer and classical recording artist on the music faculty at the University of Vermont, Orgel will conduct a master class for music students during the day. Tickets for the evening performance are \$7; students with a MaineCard are admitted free.

WOW Obesity Program Impresses Baldacci

14 Oct 2010

Maine Gov. John Baldacci got an up-close look at UMaine's Way to Optimal Weight (WOW) program when he visited the Orono campus' Cutler Health Center Wednesday, according to the Bangor Daily News. About 60 children ages four to 19 are involved in the WOW program, which is administered by Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor. Participants have access to UMaine's Student Recreation and Fitness Center.

UMaine to Announce Major Donation Friday

14 Oct 2010

The University of Maine will announce a seven-figure donation at 10:30 a.m. Friday Oct. 15 in the Memorial Gymnasium lobby. UMaine President Robert Kennedy and Athletic Director Steve Abbott will announce the gift, which UMaine will use to enhance athletics facilities. Several UMaine coaches and other members of the university community will also participate in the announcement. The gift is one of the largest in UMaine's history.

Global Environmental Security Is Focus of SPIA Roundtable

14 Oct 2010

Contact: Peter Fandel, (207) 581-1835 ORONO -- Climate and environmental change, often blamed for rising sea levels, unprecedented droughts, floods, fires, deforestation and other phenomena that affect sustainability and natural resources, also threatens to intensify political and social conflict and lessen global security. To address that, the University of Maine School of Policy and International Affairs is hosting a presentation and roundtable discussion on Oct. 25-26. Roundtable panelists will discuss ways social and natural scientific knowledge can be used to better inform global environmental and social policies aimed at reducing the incidence and severity of environmentally related conflicts. Panelists' diverse backgrounds will allow them to discuss critical issues from different strategic viewpoints, including use of development aid, diplomacy and military approaches to consider research and policy needs of the future. The event begins Monday, Oct. 25 at 5 p.m. in the McIntire Room of the Buchanan Alumni House with a keynote by U.S. Navy Rear Admiral David W. Titley, oceanographer and navigator of the Navy, titled "National Security Implications of Climate Change: U.S. Navy's Response." The U.S. Navy and the U.S. Department of Defense are concerned about how profound environmental changes may affect future military operations and conditions on land and sea. According to SPIA, one of the most immediate concerns for the Navy has been increasing international access to previously frozen regions in the Arctic due to rapid sea ice decline. How will that affect military policy and preparation for installations and future missions? Actions taken and planned in new Navy "roadmaps" will be discussed by Titley and others in the context of common U.S. inter-agency and international cooperation. The concept of "environmental security" has emerged in recent years as a powerful way to think about the human dimensions of environmental degradation and climate change, according to Jim Settele, SPIA's assistant director. On Tuesday, Oct. 26, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. in Wells Conference Center, Geoffrey Dabelko, director of the Environmental Change and Security Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, will lead a panel of experts that includes Paul Mayewski, director and professor of the University of Maine Climate Change Institute and a world leader in glaciological research. The discussion is titled "Global Environmental Policy and the Science of Climate Change Interface." In spite of a significant amount of research in both the natural and social sciences, and the activism of a broad range of actors on the global environmental stage, policymakers have been slow in redefining and implementing policies that effectively address new environmental security issues. While many conflicts are nature-based, some, such as the politics of availability and control of water and other natural resources, are inflamed by human intervention. In addition to Mayewski, roundtable discussions Oct. 26 will include Jay Gulledge, senior scientist and director, Science

and Impacts Program, Pew Center on Global Climate Change, and Cynthia Brady, senior conflict advisor, USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance in the Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation. The University of Maine's SPIA is presenting the roundtable in collaboration with the UMaine Climate Change Institute and the Environmental Change and Security Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Additional information about the program and SPIA can be found on the SPIA website (<http://www.spia.umaine.edu/>).

Volunteer Fair to Showcase Opportunities

14 Oct 2010

More than 15 community service organizations will be available at the 8th Annual Volunteer Fair, Friday, Oct. 15, on the second floor of the Memorial Union, to detail volunteer service opportunities and internships available to UMaine students and others. Sponsored by the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the annual event also is an opportunity for students to learn about volunteer experiences in their academic areas of study.

UMaine Among Leaders of Groundbreaking Research Into Bird Migration in Gulf of Maine

15 Oct 2010

Contact: Rebecca Holberton, (207) 581-2526 or rebecca.holberton@maine.edu The Gulf of Maine is a major migration route for many species of birds heading south for the winter and north for the summer. The newly established Northeast Regional Migration Monitoring Network, a group of researchers that includes UMaine biologist Rebecca Holberton and other UMaine scientists, has spent the last two years trying to determine where and when migrating species fly over the Gulf's complex network of islands and coastal areas. The Network, which also includes biologists from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge, the National Park Service, and Acadia University in Nova Scotia, has taken a groundbreaking comprehensive approach to studying the region's migrating birds, many of whom face threats from climate change and habitat loss. "The scale at which Network members are combining their expertise to document where and when birds move through the area is unprecedented," said Holberton of the Laboratory of Avian Biology at UMaine's School of Biology and Ecology. "There has never been such a combination of techniques and technology applied to bird migration in this region before, and we are beginning to make some exciting discoveries." According to a recent U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service press release, a banding program, headed up by UMaine doctoral student Adrienne Leppold along with USFWS biologists and the National Audubon Society, revealed last fall that as many as a half million or more songbirds fly over Maine's island and coastal areas just in the mid-coast region alone. Leppold's spring migration studies at Metinic Island this year showed that migrating songbirds also use these same areas as they return north. The majority of terrestrial bird species moving through the Gulf of Maine region breed in the boreal forest, taiga, and tundra – regions that have been and will continue to be impacted by climate change and habitat destruction. In order for Network researchers to gain an accurate picture of migration patterns and the birds' relationships with the region's habitats, research integrates the broad landscape scale with the individual level. Observing migrating birds during daytime can be done through systematic visual surveys. Most migrants, however, make their way under the relative safety of the night when the winds tend to be calmer and the risk of predation is low. This makes it challenging for researchers to document the kinds and numbers of birds on the move, and when and where they pass through the region. One of the methods being used by the Network is passive acoustic surveys, in which sensitive microphones pick up species-specific calls that, when recorded at different locations, provide information about the timing and flight paths of these birds. Passive acoustic surveys complement information from marine surveillance radar, which documents the density, flight altitude and direction of birds migrating overhead. Holberton has established the UMaine Avian Acoustic Analysis Lab in which graduate and undergraduate students are learning how to analyze the acoustic data and identify the sounds of thousands of bird flight calls being recorded during the migration season. At least five teams operated banding stations this fall. Capturing birds at banding sites can reveal not only which species migrate through the area, but provide an opportunity to assess the energetic condition and overall health of the birds. This fall, banders encountered several unexpected birds in the region, including two MacGillivray's Warblers, a western species that has been documented only twice before in Maine. Stable isotope markers incorporated in small feather samples taken from the birds in autumn are being analyzed by collaborators with the Canadian Wildlife Service-Environment Canada to determine where individuals have bred or where they were born. Samples taken in the spring can provide information about where birds spent the winter. This method does not require that a bird has been

previously captured and banded with an individually numbered leg band. Further, it provides important information about how connected the Gulf of Maine region is to the birds' breeding grounds to the north and wintering areas far to the south. Migratory decisions at the scale of the individual bird – a challenge because the songbirds' small size makes them difficult to track through more traditional satellite telemetry methods used with larger species – are also being closely examined. Acadia University's Phil Taylor and his graduate student, Brad Woodworth, are deploying tiny transmitters developed by the Canadian company Lotek Wireless on small songbirds in southwestern Nova Scotia. Birds carrying these transmitters can be detected by an array of receivers set up along the coast of Nova Scotia and Maine telling the researchers the flight path an individual bird has taken as it moves through the region. This is the first time that the flight and stopover movements and rate of migration of free-flying individual songbirds have been documented in the Gulf of Maine. "The Migration Monitoring Network is revealing exciting information about the movement of birds in our region," Holberton said. "Many of these populations are declining at an alarming rate. Clearly, the Gulf of Maine encompasses critical flyways that provide important resources for millions of birds. Given the growing pressure for development of coastal areas for near-shore and terrestrial-based wind development and other activities in the region, we need to have a better understanding of bird migration here in order to direct efforts into responsible resource management on a large regional scale."

Maine Gubernatorial Candidate Lauds UMaine Composites Center

15 Oct 2010

Libby Mitchell, the Democratic gubernatorial candidate, mentioned UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center in a q-and-a interview on freepressonline.com. Mitchell said the center is contributing to job growth in the transportation sector.

Gabe Op-Ed About Oxford County Casino Study

15 Oct 2010

UMaine economist [Todd Gabe has an op-ed](#) in Friday's Portland Press Herald about his recent study in which he detailed the potential economic impact of the proposed Oxford County resort casino. Gabe addresses the issue of whether or not the casino would bring in new revenues to Maine.

Teacher, Writer Phippen to Deliver Maine Heritage Lecture

15 Oct 2010

Contact: Kristin Sobolik, 581-3583; Jane Dare, 581-1954 ORONO -- The Third Annual Maine Heritage Lecture on Oct. 25 will feature noted Maine writer, editor and English teacher Sanford "Sandy" Phippen presenting "Stories of Laughter and Tears." Phippen, former host of the MPBN program "A Good Read" and a member of the Fogler Library Friends Advisory Board, is a native of Hancock County known for his books *The Police Know Everything* and *Kitchen Boy*, among other works. The Maine Heritage Lecture, sponsored by the UMaine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, begins at 7 p.m. at the Wells Conference Center on the Orono campus. It is free and open to the public. A reception with hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and displays highlighting Maine heritage scholarship, research and community engagement by UMaine faculty, staff and students follows the lecture. Phippen taught writing and English for 47 years at the high school and college level and is currently a University of Maine adjunct faculty member. He also is the author of *People Trying to be Good*, *Cheap Gossip* and *The Messiah in the Memorial Gym*, two histories of Hancock and a book of plays, *Standing, Just Outside the Door* and *Two Other Plays*. *Kitchen Boy* was chosen by the Baxter Bibliophile Society as one of "The 100 Distinguished Maine Books that Reveal the Life of Maine People." Phippen edited *The Best Maine Stories* and *High Clouds Soaring, Storms Driving Low: The Letters of Ruth Moore*. His works have appeared in many anthologies and publications including, *The New York Times*, *Down East* and *Maine Times*. Active with the University of Maine English Department's literary magazine *Puckerbrush Review* for many years with founder Constance Hunting, Phippen has been editor of the publication since Hunting's death in 2006. He has received writing awards from the Portland Public Library and Maine Press Association, and was nominated for an Emmy award for his 1997-1998 TV series "RFD Maine." He is a recipient of the Orono High School Teacher of the Year award and a Bowdoin College

Distinguished Teacher award. A former member of the Maine Humanities Council and Maine Arts Commission, Phippen also received a University of Maine Stillwater Society Award in 2002 and was named citizen of the year by the town of Hancock in 2001. He holds a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Maine and a master's in English education from Syracuse University. The Maine Heritage Lecture was established as part of a broad initiative to highlight the importance of Maine heritage programming, research and community engagement by faculty, staff and students at UMaine. While the lecture focuses on one aspect of scholarship, the reception held afterwards highlights other research and outreach through displays and discussion.

Harold Alfond Foundation to Provide \$5.5 Million for Alfond Area, Memorial Gym Projects

15 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr (207) 581-3751 ORONO -- The Harold Alfond Foundation will provide \$5.5 million to support University of Maine efforts to renovate its two indoor sports competition facilities, Memorial Gymnasium and Harold Alfond Sports Arena. "For decades, the Alfond name has been synonymous with generous support for the University of Maine," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "This new gift builds on that legacy in ways that will have a meaningful impact on this university, its students and Black Bear sports fans for years to come. We are grateful to the Foundation for its generosity and long-standing commitment to supporting UMaine." "Our Foundation believes it is critical that the University's facilities, which benefit so many students, be of the highest quality, and we are pleased that the University is taking the necessary steps to enhance both the Alfond Arena and the Memorial Gym and Field House with our help and the generous support of other donors," says Greg Powell, Chairman of the Foundation's Board of Trustees. "Our commitment to these projects is driven by our excitement for UMaine athletics and our understanding that it is essential for the University and for our state to have a strong UMaine athletics program." The new gift includes a \$2 million challenge grant to help UMaine finish fundraising for a \$14 million renovation of its historic Memorial Gymnasium and Field House. The Foundation will provide \$1 for every \$2 raised from other sources in support of this project. When the challenge is met, fundraising for the project will be complete. Plans include a renovated facility to serve as home to the men's and women's basketball teams, replacement of the indoor track, renovated athletics department office space, and other modifications. The balance of the grant announced today, \$3.5 million, will go toward a \$4,850,000 renovation of Harold Alfond Sports Arena, home to UMaine's men's and women's ice hockey teams. The basketball teams also will continue to play in Alfond Arena until Memorial Gym renovations are complete. UMaine has \$300,000 in hand for this project, leaving a balance of \$1,050,000 to raise to complete the renovation. Upgrades will include a dehumidification system and a new ice making/chilling system that will help improve ice conditions, new seating in certain sections of the arena, an improved sound system, upgrades to the hockey dasher boards and glass, and other improvements. "These facilities are vital to the future of Maine's Division I sports program, and we are most thankful to the Harold Alfond Foundation for this generous gift and vote of confidence," says Steve Abbott, UMaine's interim athletic director. "Much of our program's historical success is directly attributable to Harold Alfond, and we can all look forward to a bright future for Black Bear sports, thanks largely to the continued support of this iconic Maine family." Renovation work will begin at Alfond Arena later this fall, with projected completion next summer. The projected time frame for the Memorial Gym renovations is dependent upon additional fundraising, but an engineering design effort is expected to be completed by the end of 2011. Both grants count as part of Campaign Maine, a comprehensive fundraising campaign designed to address student, faculty, programmatic and renovation priorities. With today's grants, Campaign Maine, scheduled to finish in December 2011, has raised in excess of \$140 million toward its \$150 million goal.

Alfond Gift Donation News Coverage

15 Oct 2010

UMaine President Robert Kennedy and Athletic Director Steve Abbott [announced a \\$5.5 million gift from the Harold Alfond Foundation](#) at a Friday morning UMaine news conference. The university will use that money to support renovation projects at Memorial Gymnasium and Harold Alfond Arena. A story appears online at Maine Today Media (the Portland Press Herald, Kennebec Journal and Central Maine Morning Sentinel). The news conference was also covered by WLBZ television, WABI television, WVII television, the [Bangor Daily News](#), WZON radio, WVOM radio and the Maine Campus.

Forum Offered on Coffee Shop, Restaurant Ownership

15 Oct 2010

UMaine's Foster Center for Student Innovation is inviting anyone who's ever thought about opening a restaurant or coffee shop to attend an informal discussion with three business owners who have done just that. On Wednesday, Oct. 20, from 4-5:30 p.m., Laura Albis from The Fiddlehead Restaurant in Bangor, Brett Settle from Giacomos in Bangor and Leslie Harlow of The Maine Grind in Ellsworth will participate in a panel discussion at the Center to discuss challenges, rewards and process. RSVP via email at student_innovation_center@umit.maine.edu or calling (207) 581-1454. The event is free.

Gas Pipeline Construction Set to Begin

15 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Sometime within the next two weeks, construction crews will begin a project that involves installing approximately 1.5 miles of underground gas piping on the UMaine campus. The local natural gas utility company and its contractors will perform this work, which will extend UMaine's use of natural gas for heating to four more campus buildings. This work will have a temporary and limited effect on pedestrian and vehicular traffic, along with some parking. There will also be some noise associated with the work. While the entire project will take about two months, no single area should be affected for more than approximately two weeks. Ongoing notifications, including postings like this one and signs at affected parking lots, will be provided to the UMaine community on a regular basis.

Mahon, Canabal Comment in BDN Investment Story

18 Oct 2010

UMaine business professors John Mahon and Anne Canabal were quoted in a Friday Bangor Daily News story about the impact of foreign investment on Maine's economy. The story is based on the news that at Hong Kong-based investment group is buying the pulp mill in Baileyville.

Sun Journal Bedbug Report Notes Extension Video

18 Oct 2010

A Saturday [Lewiston Sun Journal story](#) reported on issues related to bed bugs at a Lewiston-area hospital. The story provides a link to a UMaine [Cooperative Extension video](#) with Extension pest management specialist Jim Dill providing advice about avoiding infestation.

Channel 5 Homecoming Stories

18 Oct 2010

WABI broadcast Saturday evening news stories from UMaine's Homecoming Weekend. One report featured the traditional craft fair held in the UMaine Field House. The other one featured the "fill the bus" campaign intended to stock the shelves at the Black Bear Exchange food pantry.

Brewer Comments in Gubernatorial Race Update

18 Oct 2010

Mark Brewer from the UMaine political science faculty provided insights for a [seacoastonline.com \(York County\) story](#) looking at trends in the Maine gubernatorial race.

Saucier, Dana in Alumni Feature story

18 Oct 2010

Comments from UMaine Alumni Association President Todd Saucier and UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs Robert Dana were included in a Bangor Daily News story about UMaine's efforts to engage current students in alumni-related activities and initiatives. The BDN also published a Monday story about UMaine's homecoming weekend and the traditional craft fair.

Brewer Featured in LePage Report

18 Oct 2010

A Monday [seacoastonline.com story](#) about the gubernatorial candidacy of Republican Paul LePage includes comments from UMaine political science professor Mark Brewer.

'UMaine Cares' Plans Make a Difference Day Service Events

18 Oct 2010

Contact: Lauren Wagner, (207) 581-1796 ORONO -- The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism is inviting members of the UMaine student body and campus community to participate in the sixth annual "UMaine Cares" volunteer service event in observation of National Make a Difference Day, Oct. 23. UMaine Cares began in 2005 as an effort to raise funds for people affected by Hurricane Katrina. Student groups and individuals volunteered their time to clean up areas of campus. For each volunteer participant, one dollar was donated to the relief fund. The program has shifted its focus to serving the needs of surrounding communities for a two-day service event. Last year, 240 students and staff volunteers participated in 16 different projects, and organizers hope to have even more this year. "UMaine Cares is a great way for large groups of students to become connected with the community," says Lauren Wagner of the Bodwell Center. "It also provides an opportunity for students to become aware of community needs and hopefully encourage them to continue being involved in service." Many organizations in the community have already signed on to host UMaine students on Friday, Oct. 22 or Saturday, Oct. 23. The Challenger Learning Center is inviting students to assist in its Halloween Science Night and Friends of Fort Knows is looking for volunteers to guide visitors through its Fright at the Fort Course Friday and Saturday evenings. Other participating organizations include Food and Medicine, Parkside Children's Learning Center, Bangor Homeless Shelter, Sea Coast Mission, Orono/Old Town YMCA, Brewer and Orono Parks and Recreation departments, Ronald McDonald House and Leonard's Mills Historic Settlement, Boys & Girls Club of the Penobscot Nation and Family and Children Together. For more information on the event or to volunteer, contact Wagner at 581-1796 or email Lauren.wagner@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Awarded Prestigious Grant from Institute of Museum and Library Services

18 Oct 2010

Contact: Deborah Rollins, (207) 581-1668; Mamie Bittner, (202) 653-4630 ORONO -- Thanks to a \$821,065 matching grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the University of Maine, in collaboration with eight partner institutions, will develop a strategy for a statewide, multi-type library program for managing, storing and preserving print collections, while expanding access to existing digital book collections through print-on-demand (POD) and other services. The "Maine Shared Collections Strategy" also will develop policies essential for the management of shared print and digital collections. Grant partners are Colby College, Bates College, Bowdoin College, Bangor Public Library, Portland Public Library, Maine State Library, the University of Southern Maine, and Maine InfoNet. "The IMLS funding will enable the partner libraries to work on a project that will create a model of collection management and new ways of delivering resources to our users," said Joyce Rumery, Dean of Libraries at the University of Maine. "We are very pleased with this opportunity." "National Leadership grantees help us better understand and advance best practice in museums, libraries, and archives," said IMLS Acting Director Marsha L. Semmel. "We look forward to much exciting work, including projects that will study the effects of climate change on plants; bring new health

information to visitors through partnerships with the local research community; and develop new models for serving the baby boom generation.” The largest museum and library joint grant program administered by IMLS, National Leadership Grants support projects that will advance the ability of museums and libraries to preserve culture, heritage, and knowledge while enhancing learning. This year’s National Leadership Grant recipients will generate new tools, research, models, services, practices, and alliances that will positively impact both the awarded institution and the nation. The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute’s mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.ims.gov.

Reader's Theater Presenting Plato's 'Symposium'

18 Oct 2010

Contact: Adam Kuykendall, 581- 4721 The UMaine Classics' Club, in conjunction with the School of Performing Arts Theatre division, is presenting a free Reader's Theater production of Plato's "The Symposium," featuring students and faculty members, on Wednesday, Oct. 20 at 7:30 p.m. The cast includes philosophy Prof. Michael Howard as Socrates, political science Prof. Michael Palmer as Alcibiades and theatre Chair Tom Mikotowicz as Aristophanes. Symposium brings together the great philosophical minds of Plato's time for a discussion of the creation of love. Philosophers like Socrates, Aristophanes and Alcibiades present speeches on the topic delving into the heart of the matter. Nancy Ogle will direct a script adaptation by classics Prof. Tina Passman.

Missouri Newspaper Cites Archaeologist's Research Into Early Crop Cultivation

19 Oct 2010

A column in the Columbia Daily Tribune in Missouri mentioned UMaine research that found the bottle gourd may be the oldest domesticated crop in the New World. UMaine archaeologist Dan Sandweiss worked several years ago with colleagues from the Smithsonian, Harvard University and New Zealand's Massey University, to find the first groups of humans to make their way from Asia to North America may have carried seeds of the bottle gourd. The researchers found three pieces of bottle gourd in a 9,000-year-old fishing site in southern Peru.

Cooperative Extension's Master Gardener Programs Noted

19 Oct 2010

A column in the Morning Sentinel highlighted UMaine Cooperative Extension's master gardening courses. The classes help gardeners get the most from their gardens.

Nobel Laureate Set For Mitchell Lecture Thursday

19 Oct 2010

WBZ advanced the annual Sen. George J. Mitchell Lecture on Sustainability, being given this year by Elinor Ostrom, co-recipient of the 2009 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences. Ostrom will discuss "Unconventional Wisdom: Sustaining our Natural Resources in a Rapidly Changing World." The lecture will take place at 1 p.m. Thursday in UMaine's Wells Conference Center.

Tidal Energy Projects Highlighted

19 Oct 2010

The Bangor Daily News on Monday featured a story about the tidal energy testing site at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine, where UMaine scientists are conducting environmental studies as part of an assessment of tidal energy

locations in Maine.

Report Notes Maine Campus Moody Endorsement

19 Oct 2010

A WABI television story reports that the Maine Campus, UMaine's student newspaper, has endorsed independent Shawn Moody's gubernatorial candidacy.

Extension Food Business Workshop Preview

19 Oct 2010

UMaine Cooperative Extension is set to begin a four-session workshop "From Recipe to Market: Cashing in on Value-Added Opportunities," on Thursday in Farmington. [A Lewiston Sun Journal story](#) previews the sessions and includes comments from Extension faculty member Beth Calder. Her Extension colleagues Jim McConnon and Marc Edwards will also teach parts of the workshop.

UMaine Receives \$3.5 Million in R&D Awards

19 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr (207) 581-3571 or joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO, Maine – The Maine Technology Institute (MTI) has selected five University of Maine projects to receive a total of \$3.5 million from the Maine Technology Asset Fund. Gov. John Baldacci announced last week a total of \$7.25 million in awards to 10 applicants across Maine. The Maine Technology Asset Fund, administered by MTI, was established in 2007 when the Maine Legislature and voters approved a \$50 million research and development bond. Research institutions are required to use the money for capital and related expenditures supporting research, development and commercialization projects that will lead to significant economic benefits for Maine. In the first two rounds of awards, MTI gave out \$45.6 million of MTAF funding to 25 projects currently under way. Of those, 16 projects were UMaine-based, which is the largest number of projects to receive funding of any Maine research institution. The UMaine proposals were chosen from a pool of applicants from throughout the state. Funding is awarded in seven areas: Advanced Technologies for Forestry and Agriculture, Biotechnology, Composite Materials Technology, Environmental Technology, Information Technology, and Precision Manufacturing Technology. The full listing of awards is online at <http://www.mainetechnology.org/>. The new UMaine proposals receiving awards are: Biomass Engineered Fuel, \$1.65 million Michael Bilodeau The University of Maine Cooperative Extension and the Process Development Center will use MTAF funds to construct a grass pellet demonstration facility in Fort Fairfield that will convert bioenergy crops grown on fallow farmland into novel solid biomass fuel products for commercial and residential heating applications. The award will also enable the acquisition and installation of research equipment to support energy crop development and selection, pellet quality testing and boiler efficiency testing. This project has the potential to demonstrate a high value product for the nearly 400,000 acres of underutilized farmland across the state, catalyze related economic activity and displace a significant fraction of home heating oil consumption in the state of Maine. FISHLab: Fisheries Innovation, Sustainability & Health Lab, \$600,000 Ian Bricknell The funding will be used for the FISHLab: Fisheries Innovation, Sustainability & Health Lab construction, with a wet lab with two distinct units containing isolation aquaria. The proposed module will be Maine's first aquatic Bio-Safety Level (BSL) II facility, with BSL III containment capabilities for the study of fish health pathogens, and will be used by both University and industry partners. This project will advance research, development and commercialization related to the aquaculture as well as the commercial and recreational fishery industries in Maine, the U.S., and internationally. Advanced Biomechanics Laboratory for Injury Reduction and Rehabilitation, \$533,300 Vincent Caccese MTAF funds will be used to establish a laboratory for the development of high-tech products that result in the reduction of injury due to head impact, injury stabilization, vibration mitigation during emergency evacuation, novel assistive fitness and rehabilitation equipment for persons suffering from injury-related disabilities. The proposed laboratory plan is a result of University of Maine's cooperative efforts with Alba-Technic of Arundel, Rynel of Wiscasset, Astos Innovations of Newburgh, and LifeFlight of Maine. The laboratory will enable the development of unique and original products by linking advanced research and testing facilities to Maine businesses to

accelerate prototype development, testing, and commercialization. Commercialization of New Technologies for Animal Disease Surveillance, \$497,392 Robert Causey The funds will enable Maine's biotechnological companies to use the University of Maine's Witter Center as a field-testing site for development of diagnostic kits for the global market, and will equip Maine veterinarians with the necessary technology to track animal diseases of economic importance. CIDER: Cyberinfrastructure Investment for Development, Economic Growth and Research, \$250,000 Bruce Segee MTAF funds will be used for the CIDER (Cyberinfrastructure Investment for Development, Economic Growth, and Research) project, which will create a high performance computing resource for economic development, research, and education for the state of Maine. This supercomputer will be housed at and operated by the University of Maine for use by Maine businesses and research institutions. Rather than buying separate computer resources, businesses and research units will add new computational nodes to help expand and refresh the shared resource. The result is a large, high-performance computing system that benefits Maine businesses, trains the future generation of information technology professionals, provides more computing power at a lower cost than otherwise would be attainable, and provides a competitive advantage for Maine businesses.

'Thwarted Voices' Holocaust Era Composers Concert Oct. 23

19 Oct 2010

Join Phillip Silver of the UMaine Music Department faculty for his annual Thwarted Voices concert, a performance of music by Holocaust-era composers silenced by Nazis, on Saturday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at Minsky Recital Hall. Students free, others \$7. The Collins Center for the Arts box office (581-1755) has additional information.

'Invention to Venture' Conference to Host U.S. Patent Director

19 Oct 2010

Contact: Deb Neuman, (207) 866-6535; Renee Kelly, (207) 581-1401 ORONO -- A University of Maine conference scheduled Nov. 10 for business people and prospective entrepreneurs to learn more about innovating and capitalizing on great new ideas will include a keynote address by David Kappos, director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. The conference, "Invention to Venture: Maine 2010," from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Black Bear Inn Conference Center in Orono is sponsored by the Target Technology Incubator and the UMaine Foster Center for Student Innovation in partnership with the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance. The conference will focus on encouraging students, individuals, businesses and the university community to invent, innovate and commercialize new ideas and technologies. Featuring both basic and advanced workshops focused on technology entrepreneurship, invention and innovation, the conference will provide a rare opportunity to bring together experts in innovation and invention with individuals and businesses that can benefit from their expertise. Highlights of the daylong event include: Presentations about venture capital, marketing, manufacturing, intellectual property, business plans, and related topics; Luncheon panel of inventors sharing their real life experiences and invention journey; Opportunities to meet with representatives from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the Maine Patent Program to learn about the patent process; Pitch competition featuring an expert panel of judges with a \$2,500 cash prize for the best pitch and a special-Fusion Bangor award for one student or student team of \$500; And a resource area featuring exhibits and information from organizations that provide support services for inventors and innovators. Conference fees are \$10 for students, \$25 for faculty members and staff and \$50 for members of the business community and all others. Participants can register online here, where more information, including a schedule of events, speaker biographies and conference sponsors and supporters, is available.

Canadian-American Center Announces Canada Weeks Speakers

19 Oct 2010

Contact: Craig Harris, (207) 581-4220 ORONO -- The University of Maine Canadian-American Center is bringing three speakers to Orono for Canada Weeks 2010 in November. All events are free and open to the public. Monday, Nov. 1, from 3:30-5 p.m. in the Bangor Lounge in the Memorial Union, award-winning scholar, folklore professor and author Gerald Pocius will present, as part of the Maine Folklife Center's Edward "Sandy" Ives Memorial Lecture series,

"Contesting the Commemoration of Place: Restoration and Replication in a Newfoundland Townscape." Pocius has extensively researched the everyday world of common and uncommon cultural objects and practices, and will discuss the intangible culture of Newfoundland townscapes. On Tuesday, Nov. 2, from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Room 3, Wells Conference Center, Kevin Christiano, Canadianist, author and sociology professor at the University of Notre Dame will discuss "Religious Identity and Political Intensity: Federal Campaigns in the United States and Canada." Christiano, whose research ranges from the sociology of religion to the biographies of former Prime Ministers Trudeau and Chrétien, will explore the role of religion and politics in the U.S. and Canada. Advance reservations for a buffet lunch are requested and may be made by calling 581-4220. The third lecture takes place Monday, Nov. 15, 3-6 p.m. in the McIntire Room of Buchanan Alumni House with University of Vermont professor of U.S. and Canadian history David Massell, whose talk is titled "A Question of Power: A Brief History of Hydroelectricity in Quebec." Massell periodically teaches the course "Discovering Canada by Canoe," and will discuss his extensive research on hydroelectricity in Quebec, which is largely driven by the escalating U.S. demand for energy. A reception will follow his talk.

Brewer Quoted in Story About Political Mudslinging

19 Oct 2010

The Associated Press quoted UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer about the exposure of imperfections of the candidates for high political positions, and the potential impact on voters. Brewer said close elections will generate more opposition research.

Newspaper Profiles Student with UMaine Background

20 Oct 2010

The St. Louis Beacon is [reporting](#) on a Washington University first-year student who's already achieved notable success in science research. Rebecca Ye of Bangor represented the U.S. in the Stockholm International Water Institute's Junior Water Prize Competition, presenting her work on a project developed in collaboration with UMaine Prof. Vivian Wu. Wu invited Ye to work in her lab thanks to connections made by Bangor High School science teacher Cary James.

Offshore Wind Energy Conference News Coverage

20 Oct 2010

Several news organizations covered Tuesday's deepwater offshore wind energy conference in Northport. UMaine's AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center organized the conference as part of the DeepCWind Consortium. UMaine Prof. Habib Dagher, the UMaine center's director and the driving force behind offshore wind technology development, was interviewed in the news stories developed by WLBZ/WCSH, WABI, and the Bangor Daily News.

New Online Employee Benefits Center Available

20 Oct 2010

The University of Maine System office this week launched a new online Employee Benefits Center on its website, offering a PowerPoint tutorial concisely explaining what benefits employees are entitled to, along with explanations, definitions, answers to frequently asked questions, and a telephone number to call during business hours with questions about benefits enrollment. Open enrollment is a once-a-year period, Nov. 5-31, in which employees are permitted to make changes in their benefits decisions.

Neuman Radio Appearance Previews Conference

20 Oct 2010

Deb Neuman, director of UMaine's Target Technology Incubator, appeared Wednesday morning on WKSQ radio to

discuss the Nov. 10 conference, ["Invention to Venture: Maine 2010."](#) UMaine's Foster Center for Student Innovation and the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance will sponsor the event, along with the Target Technology Incubator.

Annual Mitchell Lecture on Sustainability Thursday

20 Oct 2010

Elinor Ostrom, co-recipient of the 2009 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, will give the keynote address, "Unconventional Wisdom: Sustaining Our Natural Resources in a Rapidly Changing World," at the 2010 Sen. George J. Mitchell Lecture on Sustainability Thursday, Oct. 21 from 1-2:30 p.m. at Wells Conference Center. Sen. Mitchell will offer remarks. A reception will follow the lecture. Free tickets for the event can be reserved by calling 581-3244 or may be available at the door.

Maine Technology Asset Fund Awards \$1.65 million to UMaine to Develop Grass Pellet Technology

21 Oct 2010

Contact: Michael Bilodeau, 949-4177; Andrew Plant, 764-3361 A \$1.65 million award from the Maine Technology Asset Fund will enable the University of Maine Biomass Engineered Fuel Project to prototype the Northeast's first grass pellet production facility in Aroostook County. "The grant will allow the University of Maine to better support the emerging solid biofuels industry in Maine and to demonstrate how agricultural energy crops can become an important part of the renewable energy mix in the state," according to Michael Bilodeau, director of UMaine's Process Development Center who co-directs the Biomass Engineered Fuel Project with UMaine Cooperative Extension Agriculture Educator Andrew Plant, who is based in Houlton. "This research, development and commercialization collaboration between the University and the private sector has the potential to generate significant rural economic development activity." The Biomass Engineered Fuel Project links UMaine research and development with Maine farmers, energy consumers, companies and entrepreneurs to commercialize biomass fuel. In the next four years, the project will focus on the manufacturing efficiencies of converting energy crops from field to solid biofuel production, and the testing of that biofuel for performance, combustion efficiency and ultimate commercial potential. The goal is to prototype a commercial-scale demonstration facility in Easton, Maine, backed by \$7.7 million pledged in private investment to cover operating expenses. The grass pellets produced will be beta tested by several large commercial biomass boiler operations in the state, as well as the University of Maine at Presque Isle and the University of Maine at Fort Kent. Several Maine companies have expressed interest in operating biofuel production facilities and licensing the technology. Technical support for biomass appliance development, such as pellet burner replacements for oil-fired boilers and new biomass combustion units will be lead by UMaine's Advanced Manufacturing Center, directed by John Belding. Ultimately, the pellet and boiler technology will be refined to find what works best in homes. With a mill in Maine for commercial demonstration, a grass pellet product for household sales could be possible in the next five years, according to the researchers. The annual economic impact of a single commercial pellet mill in northern Maine is expected to be within \$17 million and \$23 million, according to Bilodeau and Plant. With potential for 25 pellet mills statewide, the overall economic impact is projected to be more than \$500 million annually, with the potential to replace more than 100 million gallons of home heating oil each year. Funding from the Maine Technology Asset Fund will stimulate greater private research and development of grass biofuels in the state, Plant says. "By initially relaxing the burden of risk for a company to explore the creation of this fuel, it will hopefully be the beginnings for other companies to explore how best to utilize it — new boiler development, new process development for an existing wood pellet industry, new market for farmers and potentially cheap heat for Mainers," he says. Maine has upward of 200,000 acres in which to produce perennial energy crops without displacing current food production, Plant says. If crop waste, such as straw from grain rotations, is included, the number of acres for energy crops can double. As part of the Biomass Engineered Fuel Project, Aroostook County farmers are signing on to be "biomass growers," planting energy crops as part of their rotations or on fallow ground they have around the farm. For the past two years, Plant has been researching the use of perennial grasses or straw left from small grain rotations as solid fuel crops. The development and commercialization of such sustainable energy crops could give farmers another source of income and lower-cost energy. To determine what perennial grasses will grow best in Maine, Plant started looking at species studied by the U.S. Department of Energy and Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the 1980s-1990s. Those grasses include the superstar of

bioenergy crops — switchgrass — that produces dense pellets shown to have a 14:1 energy balance. In other words, for every unit of energy it takes to produce the pellets, 14 units of energy are gained, through burning. By comparison, a 2006 University of Minnesota study found that corn ethanol has a 1.25:1 energy balance. There's also reed canarygrass, a native Maine species known for its ability to grow high yields in cool seasons. Studies in the north central United States and Europe have shown that reed canarygrass can yield 4 tons to 8 tons per acre, depending on fertilization regimes. If replicated in Maine, Plant says, commercial production cost estimates are \$115 to \$130 per ton of pellets — \$5.50 to \$6.25 per million BTU. Wood pellets average \$9.50 per million BTU. When home heating oil is \$2.70 a gallon, Mainers pay \$19.50 per million BTU. Compared with other biofuel crops, perennial grasses conserve soil resources, sequester carbon and nitrogen in their root systems, and can serve as valuable wildlife habitat. The perennial grasses have moderate to high productivity, stand longevity, low nitrogen requirements, and resistance to pests and diseases. They also are well adapted to marginal farmland and can be successfully established in northern climes. And unlike forage crops harvested a couple times a year, energy grasses are cut annually at the peak of maturity. Baled perennial grass has a moisture content of up to 15 percent, compared to upward of 50 percent moisture content of wood, which mandates extensive drying before pelletizing. A large round bale of grass can produce up to 1,400 pounds of pellets, says Plant. It would take an average of 2 to 3 acres of grass to annually heat a typical northern home. The grasses, like wood, contain natural lignins that act as gluing agents. For the additional binding needed to improve the energy density of grass pellets, UMaine researchers are exploring the use of patented technology that incorporates recycled, nonchlorinated plastics. Some of these plastics are even found on farms, including greenhouse film and hay bale wire. The recovered plastics such as polyethylene and polypropylene certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to be used as fuel are highly refined hydrocarbons with low levels of inorganics and high BTU values. Recent work has shown that bioplastics, such as poly lactic acid or PLA, which are difficult to process in conventional recycling operations, can also be used in pellets. Grass pellets may burn a bit faster than wood, Plant says, but with the plastics as binder are more energy-dense. However, when burned, grass pellets tend to be higher in ash content than wood — up to 5 percent versus 1 percent. Grass also has a higher natural chlorine content, making the pellets more corrosive than those made of wood. In Europe and elsewhere, research is focusing on new technology for ash management in boilers and stoves, as well as higher-grade metals that better resist corrosion. "This is not just about (alternative) pellets, but agriculture as a whole," Plant says. "It's about finding an alternative crop to improve the economic climate for farmers while developing a resource that can be used by the general population — economic development and an environmentally friendly, renewable resource."

Study Shows Legal Needs of Elderly to Outpace Resources

21 Oct 2010

Contact: Len Kaye, (207) 262-7920; Jaye Martin, Legal Services for the Elderly, (207) 621-0087 ORONO -- A recent study of legal needs of aging Mainers by the University of Maine Center on Aging has confirmed that the number of older people needing legal services will outweigh available resources in the future. Up to half of all older adults in the state will need legal assistance in the next 5-10 years, the Center study found. Among low-income elderly, the percentage is higher, with 45-86 percent of residents in their 60s needing legal intervention to help solve problems, the study's report says. The primary agency that provides free legal services for older Mainers, the non-profit Legal Services for the Elderly (LSE), and the Maine Office of Elder Services, commissioned the Center on Aging to conduct a needs assessment study, "Legal Needs Assessment of Older Adults in Maine" to help plan for the future. The study was supported by grant funding from the U.S. Administration on Aging. "It is our hope this study will help to guide us in directing our limited resources to those most in need and identify areas of unmet or growing need," says Jaye Martin, executive director of Legal Services for the Elderly. Primary authors of the report, Lenard Kaye, director of the Center on Aging, and Center staff members Melissa Adle and Jennifer Crittenden listed categories of legal needs most in demand by older Maine residents. They compared legal needs previously and currently provided by LSE with legal services provided in other states. Help with health insurance, including Medicaid Part D, was the number one category nationally and in Maine, and constituted 25 percent of the services provided by LSE. Other categories, in order of highest demand, included financial, including bankruptcy; estate planning, specifically writing or changing wills; and housing, including foreclosures. Also of significance was the observation that in Maine and nationally, elders are not seeking help with issues of abuse or exploitation. That means that while only 2.5 percent of the LSE cases currently involve abuse or exploitation, more than five times that number of elders likely need help in that area. The authors also note that Maine is the oldest state in the nation, with a median age of 41.2 years, and adults over age 65 comprise 15

percent of the population, compared with the national average of 12.8 percent. In addition, Maine's baby boomer population represents 32 percent of the population, four points more than the national average. Compounding the potentially looming crisis is that Maine is one of the most rural states in the country and people living in rural areas are three times as likely to live in poverty as those in urban areas, the report says. Maine's medium income is below the national average and many living rural areas have incomes significantly less than the state average. "The importance of this study is that it serves to confirm the increase in a wide variety of legal needs surfacing among older Mainers concurrent with their dramatically increasing numbers and their having to deal with an extended period of economic distress," Kaye says. The full report is posted on the Center on Aging website at www.umaine.edu/mainecenteronaging. People in need of help from Legal Services for the Elderly are asked to call the statewide help line at 1-800-750-5353.

UMaine, Orono High School Agree to Collaborative Programming for International Students

21 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 Jim Chasse at (207) 866-4916 ORONO -- The Orono School Committee Wednesday night approved an initial agreement that will set aside University of Maine housing space and create other university-based opportunities for international students attending Orono High School. Under the agreement, which takes the form of a memorandum of understanding, UMaine will reserve up to 56 residence hall living spaces to accommodate these students. The program will begin in the fall of 2011. Orono High School currently has 12 international students with verbal commitments for 50 students next school year. Those commitments derive from Orono's relationships with a placement agency and the high school's "sister school" in Changsha, China. The students will all live in close proximity in a designated part of Gannett Hall, with a live-in residential life professional staff member assigned specifically to their supervision. The Orono School Department will employ that staff person, who will be fully integrated into the university's residence life operation. In addition to housing, these students will have access to UMaine's dining facilities, recreation and social life programs and all the services available to any resident student. They will travel by bus to Orono High School for classes and activities associated with their roles in that community. As the program grows, it is likely that more staff members will be hired. "Access to UMaine facilities and programs will enhance the opportunities for these international students in significant ways while enriching the experiences of UMaine students," says Robert Dana, UMaine's vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "At the same time, we look forward to welcoming them to the university community, where we prize diversity and international perspectives. I expect this group of students to integrate seamlessly and to be broadly involved, both at Orono High School and as contributing members of the University of Maine community. This sort of partnering strengthens our academic and social program and we are thrilled to be moving in this direction." UMaine currently has nearly 400 international students among its total student population of 11,501. It has residence hall space for 3,800, currently operating at 94 percent capacity. Orono High School principal Jim Chasse is currently leading an aggressive international student recruitment effort. He traveled to China last spring to foster connections with schools in that country, and he is planning to visit Sweden later this year. "The high school has always benefited from our successful AFS student exchange program. This additional initiative is a natural fit for a community like Orono. Our model program will capitalize on the best elements of being part of a university town, and we will see the impact in our classrooms and our community," Chasse says. He describes a threefold purpose behind the initiative:

1. a better local yet global education for Orono High School students
2. a U.S. educational experience for qualified international students and
3. maintaining a 380-400 student enrollment level at the school

"We refer to this as 'the best of both worlds,' providing opportunities that derive from access to a successful high school and major university," Chasse says. "It will be nice to see students from across the world experience the benefits that Orono students have had for a long time." UMaine and Orono officials expect this arrangement to be long-term. It will be evaluated in December 2011, June 2012 and annually thereafter, to be sure that it is meeting the needs of the students, the Orono community and the university.

Basketball Season Previews

21 Oct 2010

[The Bangor Daily News](#), [Portland Press Herald](#) and [Lewiston Sun Journal](#) have all published reports previewing the 2010-2011 UMaine Black Bear basketball seasons. The teams held their annual media days on Wednesday.

Engineering Career Fair News Report

21 Oct 2010

WABI television broadcast a Wednesday news story about Wednesday's engineering career fair, organized by the UMaine Career Center. The story includes an interview with Career Center director Patty Counihan.

Being Raised in Maine Is Diversity Dialogue Subject

21 Oct 2010

The next Peace & Reconciliation Studies Program Diversity Dialogue speaker is Sharon Barker, director of the UMaine Women's Resource Center, who will share reflections of her life on Monday, Oct. 25, 12:15-1:15 p.m. in the Totman Lounge of the Memorial Union. Barker, who was born in Canada, raised in Aroostook County and came of age in the 1960s, will explore "Reflections of Time and Place" and how life in Maine helped shape her sense of identity and philosophy.

Family Fun Fall Farm Day Oct. 30 at J.F. Witter Farm

21 Oct 2010

Area families are invited to a free Fun Fall Farm Day Saturday, Oct. 30, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the university's J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center off College Avenue. Planned activities at the 300-acre farm include farm tours, face painting, a costume contest, a raffle with Halloween and fall items, an auction, bobbing for apples, sack races, horse demonstrations, and dog treats and catnip sales. Bring the children and visit the animals. Jonathan Myers can be contacted for additional information at jonathan.myers@umit.maine.edu.

CCA Welcomes Parker String Quartet Sunday

21 Oct 2010

Hailed by the New York Times as "something extraordinary" and by the Boston Globe for their "fiercely committed performances," the Parker String Quartet will return to UMaine's Collins Center for the Arts Sunday, Oct. 24 at 3 p.m. for the second time after a popular performance last season. Ticket information is available at the CCA box office at 581-1755.

UMaine's MTI Award Winners Noted

21 Oct 2010

The website masshightech.com had a story about R&D programs that recently received funding from the Maine Technology Institute's Maine Technology Asset Fund, including five UMaine projects that were allotted a combined \$3.5 million in awards.

Center On Aging Study Shows Legal Needs Of Elderly Growing

21 Oct 2010

The Village Soup website cited a study done by UMaine's Center on Aging that shows the legal needs of the elderly are on pace to outweigh available resources in the next few years. Lenard Kaye, the director of the Center on Aging, was one of the primary authors of the report.

Mahon Quoted In Story On State's Ranking In Forbes Business List

21 Oct 2010

John Mahon of the UMaine Business School faculty was interviewed for a Bangor Daily News story about Maine's ranking at the bottom of a recent Forbes magazine survey of business-friendly states. Mahon said he thought the ranking reflected the lack of a plan for sustainable economic development and a lack of effort in attracting business to Maine.

Press Herald Column on Gabe Casino Survey

22 Oct 2010

Bill Nemitz' Friday [Portland Press Herald Column](#) examines issues related to a study by UMaine economist Todd Gabe, who looked at the potential economic impact of an Oxford County casino.

UMaine Equine Program in Online Story

22 Oct 2010

The U.S. Trotting website features [a story previewing the upcoming annual "Trick or Trot" event](#) scheduled for UMaine's Witter Farm. UMaine Equine Management Cooperative students will participate in the event, which features fun activities for children along with an opportunity to see the university's retired Standardbred racehorses.

State Innovation Director to Visit UMaine Oct. 28

22 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — Maine Office of Innovation director Catherine Renault will visit the University of Maine on Thursday Oct. 28 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program. Renault will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members. The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows Program, which began in the spring of 2006, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy. The Office of Innovation is part of the Maine Dept. of Economic and Community Development. Renault, who has 16 years of experience in economic development, joined the Maine office in January 2007. Her prior background includes work in North Carolina's famed Research Triangle Park, and at the University of North Carolina, where she was senior research associate in the office of economic development. She earned a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. News coverage possibilities exist during the 9:30-10:55 a.m. time frame, when Renault will tour the Advanced Manufacturing Center and the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology. She will visit an economics class in 201 Winslow Hall between 11 a.m. and 12 noon, followed in the afternoon by a tour of UMaine Cooperative Extension's pest management facility at 491 College Avenue. The latter tour is scheduled for 2-2:40 p.m.

Alumni Spotlight – Lacey Stone

22 Oct 2010

What is your occupation? I am a fitness professional and founder of Lacey Stone Fitness LLC, which combines personal training, nutrition coaching, cardio coaching, and life coaching. I am also a personal trainer and fitness class instructor at Equinox fitness clubs in the New York City area. Earlier this month I had my debut as a featured trainer on MADE, the MTV reality show in which adult experts help teens and young adult transform themselves and their lives as they chase their dreams. I just filmed two more episodes, which will air in a couple of months. In addition, I do motivational speaking engagements for Nike, Google and Dove, and I'm working on a book about fitness. **Where did you grow up?** Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin **Where do you live now?** New York City **Years were you at UMaine?** 1998-

2002 **In what area was your degree from UMaine?** I graduated summa cum laude with a major in psychology and a minor in political science. **Why UMaine?** Coach Joanne Palombo-McCallie. It was the year after Cindy Blodgett graduated and the UMaine's women's basketball team was the talk of the town. Basketball was my heart and Coach Palombo-McCallie was a fantastic coach. I came to Maine on a recruiting visit for basketball and I loved the family feel of the campus. I felt like I would really enjoy the campus experience and excel academically. Everything for the most part was within walking distance, and there was a great psychology program. **Did you do any other major extracurricular activities besides basketball?** Ha ha! Have you played Division 1 college basketball? I mainly focused on basketball, schoolwork, and having some sort of a social life. Those didn't leave much room for anything else. I studied abroad my senior year in London. There's a wonderful study abroad program at UMaine. The director was amazing. The program helped me understand that life didn't have to be all about basketball. **Did you have any favorite professors or classes?** I loved Professor Linda Yelland the most, hands down. With basketball I had to travel a lot for road trips. She would tape her classes on VHS and leave them in the library so I wouldn't have to miss a class. She has no idea how much that helped me. I honestly watched every class I missed. She was a wonderful professor and very entertaining. She has a great heart and I could feel it. **What was your most memorable moment at UMaine?** Defeating Stanford in the NCAA Tournament my freshman year. Amazing. **Favorite places on campus, outside of the gym?** I loved the library. There were huge windows overlooking the beautiful snowy nights. I spent many nights sitting on the top floor studying into the wee hours of the night. Also, Governor's Restaurant for breakfast after practice. **How did your studies at UMaine prepare you for your career now?** Psychology is a great major for your future. I work with people everyday and I have to understand how they think and why they do the things they do. I got a lot of that from my major at UMaine. It was huge. Being motivated to work out is all about a mindset, and psychology is all about the mind. It couldn't have been more perfect. Obviously the years of basketball experience and hours in the gym helped with the physical side of my fitness profession. **What was your career path like after graduation?** In the summer of 2002 I looked for a job in Milwaukee, but I knew immediately high heels and suits were not for me. MTV came to Milwaukee to do a show for the baseball All-Star game, and I got a job working as a production assistant locally. I did such a good job they told me to come to New York City, so I did. For two years I worked as a production assistant for MTV and CBS Sports, and on the side, to pay for my gym membership, I trained clients at Equinox in Greenwich Village. While working at Equinox I fell in love with the fitness industry and realized that there was real potential to make it into a high-earning career. I knew that working behind the scenes in TV was not for me, so I left MTV and CBS in 2003 to pursue a career in fitness. I feel blessed that I was able to find a career that I am so passionate about at such a young age. **Have you worked with any celebrities or personalities?** I've worked with Nicole Kidman, Jodie Foster, Brooke Shields, America Ferrera, Amanda Peet, Piper Perabo, Natalie Morales and Jenna Wolfe of the Today show, and John Roberts, who is the CNN American Morning co-anchor. **Do you enjoy doing public appearances, both live and on TV, and speaking to groups?** My main career goal is to make a positive impact on the world through fitness. I love doing TV because you can touch millions of people and teach them that working out isn't something to be afraid of; rather, it's something to incorporate as a ritual in their everyday life. **You designed a fitness program called TheBigGAME!, an exercise program which replicates the intensity of athletic drills and the game experience. Is it similar to the game situations you were in while playing basketball for UMaine?** TheBigGAME! is absolutely modeled after my sports experience at UMaine. There is no negativity. Everything is about positive reinforcement. The class is an athletic-inspired full-body conditioning class to get your rear in gear. TBG! is just like a game. It's divided into quarters, with the finals in the fourth quarter – a celebration of spirit with all the moves learned throughout the course of the hour class. It's meant to feel like a real game. The underlying message of the class is to teach each and every participant what it takes to be a champion, to never give up, to bring it 110 percent, and always do your best. There is a lot of camaraderie, clapping, and high fives. When I'm teaching at Equinox you can hear it throughout the entire gym. **UMaine recently opened a new campus fitness and recreation center. How important is it for college students to be active, and how can busy students integrate exercise and activity into their lives?** College can be a very confusing time when you're just coming into your own. Feeling good about yourself and your body is crucial. If you don't feel good in your own skin it affects everything. It affects confidence, self-esteem, the whole shebang. Fitness is crucial with all of this. Keeping that body ready and raring to go is key to confidence when entering adulthood and scoring that first job out of college. As a women's basketball player I used to have to wake up at 5 a.m. and run before the sun came up. Do it before class, in between classes, after class, but do it regularly to see optimal results. And let's be real, it's so cold outside during the winter, nobody really cares what you look like in class. My advice is, make a plan where working out is like a class on your schedule you have to attend, otherwise you aren't going to pass. **Do you still keep an eye on UMaine basketball?** I keep an eye on Duke, where Coach Palombo-McCallie is now coaching. However, I do hope the Black Bears are still rocking Alford Arena!

25th Annual Maryann Hartman Awards Ceremony Oct. 27

22 Oct 2010

The 25th Annual Maryann Hartman Awards to Maine women of achievement will be presented from 5-7 p.m., Oct. 27 at the Buchanan Alumni House. This year's winners are Candace Austin, Shenna Bellows and Francine Stark. Young Women's Social Justice Award Winners are Daniella Runyambo and Heather Sawyer. The event, sponsored by UMaine's Women's Studies Program, is free and open to the public. Call 581-1228 for additional information.

Schools, Counties Embracing We Can Youth Obesity Program

22 Oct 2010

Contact: Alan Majka, (207) 622-7546 WATERVILLE -- At Waterville Junior High School, health teacher Jane Dean is teaching sixth-graders how to see through deceptive junk food marketing, improve activity levels and make healthier snack choices. At the Mitchell Elementary School in Waterville, Wendy Lagasse of MaineGeneral Health System's Prevention Center is presenting a program to third-graders in an effort to get the children to break from a national statistic -- that children average six hours a day watching TV or playing video games. Numerous studies show a direct correlation between time spent in front of a screen and elevated risks for weight gain and related health problems, says Alan Majka, University of Maine Cooperative Extension Educator in the Kennebec County Office in Augusta. Majka is overseeing the introduction to Maine of an effective national program developed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), "We Can!" (Ways to Enhance Children's Activity and Nutrition), of which Dean and Lagasse are a part. Majka is implementing a We Can! curriculum called CATCH Kids Club in several after-school programs in Waterville. "Children in CATCH Kids Club have fun getting more moderate to vigorous physical activity and learning to eat more healthful snacks," he says. Since Majka led a two-day training session last April for more than 100 participants from throughout the state, more and more schools, counties and communities are joining the effort. It reaches from classrooms and playgrounds for children and youth to the workplace for parents, teachers and others influential in children's lives. In addition to the Waterville schools and community centers, Majka says We Can! principles are being implemented "at warp speed" at dozens of institutions and organizations in Maine, with more coming on board with impressive regularity, he says. "We are thrilled with the response we're seeing to the program and the related school and community entities signing on," Majka says. "It's been an impressive sign that people are beginning to take the epidemic of obesity seriously and do something about it." Approximately 60 percent of adults in Maine have weights that are high enough to increase their risk for diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and some forms of cancer. That's the highest rate in New England, according to Majka. More than a fourth of Maine middle and high school students report weights above the healthy range, he says. According to a study sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maine, medical costs, worker's compensation and lost productivity due to poor nutrition and inactivity cost \$2.56 billion per year in Maine alone. Since April, We Can! partners in Maine have introduced activities like child and parent educational sessions connecting families with facilities and environments where they can be physically active together. County employees and their families are encouraged to eat healthier and increase physical activity. Teachers like Jane Dean and health professionals like Wendy Lagasse are providing nutrition and other resources to families. On Oct. 20, Somerset County commissioners joined Washington and Kennebec county commissioners in signing proclamations and letters of commitment to NIH. More are expected to follow suit. Nationally, there are more than 1,400 registered We Can! sites, but only 30 have achieved the distinction of becoming official We Can! cities or counties. Majka notes that Extension and We Can! partners will continue recruiting new participants in the groundswell initiative. Groups and individuals interested in learning more about the program are invited to call Majka at (207) 622-7546. In addition, more information is available on the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute at <http://tinyurl.com/27fqan6>. # We Can! is a collaboration among four NIH institutes: the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and the National Cancer Institute.

EAP Talk Oct. 28 Takes Up Difficult,irate Customers

22 Oct 2010

Fran Sulinski, assistant director of UMaine's Cooperative Extension, will discuss "Handling Difficult and Irate Customers" on Thursday, Oct. 28 from 12-1 p.m. in Room 122 in Libby Hall, a free talk presented as part of the UMaine Employee Assistance Program's Lunch and Learn Series. Seating is limited to 10 people, but others can watch the recorded presentation three days afterward online on the EAP website.

UMaine Nursing School Programs Reaccredited

22 Oct 2010

Contact: Nancy Fishwick, (207) 581-2607 ORONO -- The University of Maine School of Nursing programs have been reaccredited for another 10 years by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), officially recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accreditation agency. The school, which is part of the College of Natural Sciences, Forestry and Agriculture, was evaluated this past spring by a team of CCNE evaluators. "The evaluation team was very impressed with the positive feedback from our students, our alumni and leaders from clinical agencies -- the people who hire our graduates," says Nancy Fishwick, director and associate professor in the school. The UMaine nursing school, in Dunn Hall, typically graduates about 75 baccalaureate and 10 master's degree students per year. Currently the school has 410 undergraduate and 24 graduate students. Fishwick says UMaine nursing graduates are known for being exceptionally well prepared for their work as registered nurses, as family nurse practitioners and as nurse educators and leaders. A 10-year accreditation period is the longest accreditation period CCNE endorses. For more information about the UMaine School of Nursing educational programs, visit the website:

www.umaine.edu/nursing.

UMaine Basketball Documentary Previewed

22 Oct 2010

The Kennebec Journal wrote a preview of the documentary film "Her Game," about the 1997-98 UMaine women's basketball team which featured current UMaine head coach Cindy Blodgett. The documentary will have two showings Saturday, the first at 10 a.m. at the Penobscot Theater in Bangor and the second at 3:30 p.m. at Railroad Square Cinema in Waterville.

Mitchell Sustainability Lecture Coverage

22 Oct 2010

The annual Sen. George J. Mitchell Lecture on Sustainability given Thursday by Nobel laureate Elinor Ostrom was covered by several media outlets, including WABI and WLBZ. Ostrom spoke about sustaining natural resources in a rapidly changing world.

UMaine Club Football Team In New York Times Story

22 Oct 2010

The rise of university club football teams in the Northeast was highlighted in [a New York Times story](#). UMaine's club football team was mentioned in the story as being in a league with teams from Boston University, Vermont and Clarkson. The story also includes an anecdote about the Clarkson team's trip to Orono for a game against UMaine.

Political Scientist Comments on Absentee Balloting in Governor's Race

22 Oct 2010

UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer is quoted in an Associated Press story about absentee balloting in the Maine governor's race. Brewer told the AP based on the numbers of returned absentee ballots so far, Republicans are holding their own against Democrats.

Story On Election Poll Numbers Includes Comments From Professor Emeritus

22 Oct 2010

[The Portland Press Herald story about poll numbers in Maine's gubernatorial race](#) included comments from Kenneth Palmer, UMaine political science professor emeritus. Palmer said with Republican candidate Paul LePage's numbers steady, election watchers are waiting to see if either Democrat Libby Mitchell or Independent Eliot Cutler will make a move in the polls.

Equestrian Team Competes in New Hampshire

25 Oct 2010

The UMaine equestrian team recently traveled to New Hampshire for two horse shows. Seven riders competed at Dartmouth College's IHSA horse show on Saturday Oct. 16. The next day, five members of the team competed at Colby-Sawyer's point rider show, where Kaitlynn Pouliot qualified for the "ride-off challenge" for the title of reserve high point rider of the day.

Acclaimed Novelist Madden to Visit UMaine Nov. 1

25 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Prolific and acclaimed writer David Madden will spend the day at the University of Maine on Monday, Nov. 1. Louisiana State University's Robert Penn Warren Professor of Creative Writing, emeritus, Madden will visit with UMaine English students and faculty members to share his insights and expertise on writing. At 4 p.m., the University of Maine bookstore will host him for a reading and book signing. Madden's new novel, "Abducted by Circumstance," is his tenth. He was a Pulitzer Prize nominee for his 1978 novel, "The Suicide's Wife," a story that also became a television movie. Arguably one of the most prolific writers in contemporary literature, Madden has produced numerous short stories, poems, essays, textbooks and scholarly works -- in addition to his novels -- in a career that has spanned more than 50 years. The Monday Nov. 1 reading is free and open to the public. For more information about Madden and his work, visit <http://www.davidmadden.net>.

UMaine Pulp and Paper Foundation Announces Scholarship Winners

25 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 *Note: a photo of the scholarship recipients is available upon request* ORONO -- The University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation recently distributed more than \$262,000 in scholarship funds to engineering and forestry students interested in pulp and paper industry-related careers. The fall 2010 semester scholarship recipients were announced at a Sept. 16 banquet attended by more than 80 students and 15 people who employ UMaine students through co-op programs or internships. "The Pulp and Paper Foundation is a key resource for the future engineers of our industry," noted Dale Wibberly, Sappi Fine Paper North America's human resource manager at the event. "We are very excited about the quality of engineering students who have obtained their education from UMaine." "Our scholarship budget in 2010 is more than \$750,000, allowing us to support 90 students with full tuition scholarships - most of our scholarships are for engineering students, but several are targeted for forestry majors," added Jack Healy, the foundation's executive director. "The job market for engineers in the paper industry looks very strong over the next 10-15 years, primarily due to current engineers in our industry reaching retirement age." The Pulp and Paper Foundation was founded in 1950, and has supported more than 3,000 students. For more information about the Pulp and Paper Foundation Scholarship program visit www.maineulpandpaper.org.

UMaine Equestrian Program Highlighted

25 Oct 2010

U.S. Trotting Association news director Ellen Harvey [blogged on Friday](#) about UMaine's Equinet Management

Cooperative, which plans its annual "Trick or Trot" Halloween activity for children, Saturday Oct. 30 from 5-7 p.m. at Witter Farm. The blog also describes the university's UMares program that features ten Standardbred mares, housed at the UMaine farm.

Brewer Comments in Maine Politics Stories

25 Oct 2010

Mark Brewer from the UMaine political science faculty provided analysis for three weekend stories about Maine political issues. An Associated Press report looked at information about early voting among Maine Democrats and Maine Republicans. He was also quoted in a Bangor Daily News report about the races for seats in the Maine Senate, and in a similar [Portland Press Herald story](#), which also looks closely at Maine's House of Representatives.

Rebar Remarks in Sun Journal Story

25 Oct 2010

A [Lewiston Sun Journal story](#) describes Saturday's Farmington meeting of the Extension Maine Homemakers, a UMaine Cooperative Extension program of 100 members that celebrated the organization's 60th anniversary at its annual convention. Cooperative Extension executive director John Rebar addressed the group on Saturday, and his remarks about Extension and the homemakers group are featured in the newspaper account.

Rice Comments in Jonaitis Profile

25 Oct 2010

Comments from Bob Rice of the UMaine School of Forest Resources faculty are included in an Associated Press story about Louise Jonaitis, a Portland investor who is working to revitalize four forest-products manufacturing businesses around Maine. The story appears in several newspaper, including the Detroit Free Press. It was on the front page of Saturday's Bangor Daily News.

2010 Bookstore Ornament Unveiling Wednesday, Oct. 27

25 Oct 2010

Contact: Diane Genthner, 581-1744 The University Bookstore is honoring Habitat UMaine as the recipient of all proceeds from sales of the 2010 Bookstore Ornament. An unveiling of this year's ornament is scheduled Wednesday, Oct. 27 at 2 p.m. at the Bookstore. Light refreshments will be provided and the event is open to everyone. The Habitat UMaine group represents students from across the campus who have created a consortium to help local people with decent, affordable housing. They completed a "Snow Place Like Home" sleep-out, which raised money with students sleeping outside on the UMaine Mall for three nights last February to raise awareness of sub-standard housing in the Greater Bangor Area. The group works closely with the Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Bangor Area in fundraising for future homes and volunteering at the ReStore in Holden. Habitat UMaine also is affiliated with the MBS Corps, the Maine Business School's community outreach organization. This year's ornament is the eighth in the series. Previous ornaments are available at the Bookstore.

Culturefest 2010 a Showcase for International Students' Homeland Traditions

25 Oct 2010

Contact: Sarah Joughin, (207) 581-3423 ORONO – The University of Maine will hold its 23rd annual Culturefest Saturday, Nov. 6, a festival of cultural exhibits, traditional singing, dancing, clothing and cuisine from around the world. Held annually in the UMaine Field House from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Culturefest attracts more than 1,000 visitors from campus and from communities across Maine. It is sponsored by the UMaine Office of International Programs and provides UMaine's international students a showcase for their talents and traditions from as many as 70 countries and

cultures. Culturefest is free and open to the public. Members of the UMaine International Student Association will serve traditional homeland cuisine in the food court area from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. for a small donation. Students also will perform a talent show, a fashion show, and have information tables with maps, flags and cultural items. The event also offers activities for children. The festival is a unique opportunity to meet with hundreds of international students eager to discuss cultures and customs from their home communities in Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. It is the largest event of its kind in the state. More information about Culturefest and the Office of International Programs is available by calling (207) 581-2905 or visiting the Culturefest web page at www.umaine.edu/international/community-outreach/culturefest/#about. Supporters of the event include the Office of International Programs, International Students Association, Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, Student Government, Division of Student Affairs and Residents on Campus.

Market Study to Boost Orono Visibility

25 Oct 2010

Contacts: Paul Myer, 581-1992; Kathy Welch, 866-7227; Michele Goldman, 866-3423 ORONO -- A Maine Business School faculty member and a UMaine graduate assistant are partnering with the Orono Village Association to conduct a marketing analysis and create a new growth plan for the downtown. Paul Myer, executive in residence lecturer in the business school, and recently hired graduate assistant Kathy Welch, both residents of Orono, have begun information-gathering with town officials and merchants. Myer and Welch, and possibly undergraduate business students through class projects, will assess the village business district, what it has to offer and what merchants say they need to boost business and increase visits by the thousands of people who pass through the town daily on the way to the university. "The ultimate objective here is how do we create a greater synergy between the downtown area and the greater university," Myer says. "That's number one in the process of understanding how to get that and also reach out to other market areas, including Bangor." The first step is to get the merchants together and see what they want to do, Myer says. "We'll meet both individually and collectively with the merchants and interested people. This is, after all, the home of the university and how do you make it feel more like that? One way is to have Orono feel like a more integral part of the university." Welch says raising the profile of downtown Orono might make it a primary destination for visitors as opposed to a secondary one when people visit the university. "We want to see if maybe merchants can expand the visibility of downtown Orono so it will be more on people's radar as a destination," she says. Michele Goldman, president of the Orono Village Association, says merchants also want more people to enjoy lifestyle characteristics of the downtown community. "It's good for Orono's residents and the university community to have a vibrant downtown," she says. "A more diverse business community will help the university attract students and retain staff, but also serve the needs of our local folks. This study will help us understand what people feel is missing." The yearlong project is being funded jointly by the village association, the town and the University of Maine for a total of \$30,000. The last market study for Orono village was done about 15 years ago.

Cooperative Extension Specialist Suggests Tricks For Healthy Halloween

25 Oct 2010

Kate Yerxa of UMaine's Cooperative Extension gave some tricks and hints for cutting down on sugar while enjoying Halloween in a Bangor Daily News story. Yerxa's suggestions included keeping candy out of sight in the days after the holiday, trading toys for treats, and reminding children to stop eating candy before they feel full or sick.

Daniel Comments On Rural Broadband Access

25 Oct 2010

Comments from UMaine business professor Harold Daniel were included in MPBN and Bangor Daily News stories about broadband access in rural areas of Maine. Daniel said broadband access is crucial for the economic health of rural areas.

UMaine Receives Labor Department Award

25 Oct 2010

UMaine recently was recognized by the Maine Department of Labor, which presented to President Robert A. Kennedy its Silver Collar Award for 2009 on Friday, Oct. 22. The award is conferred upon employers that, in the judgment of the Labor Department, follow human resources policies that are friendly to mature workers. "It is important for UMaine to be known as an employee friendly workplace, and that goes for all segments of the workforce, seniors included," Kennedy says. "I am proud of the sensitivity we display to our workers because, after all, they are our most critical resource in fulfilling UMaine's mission." Other employer organizations receiving the Silver Collar Award in 2009 along with UMaine include L.L. Bean and Cianbro.

Computer Science Team Advances to Northeast Regional Competition Finals

25 Oct 2010

Contact: George Markowsky, 581-3940 On Saturday, Oct. 23, the UMaine Computer Science Department sent two teams to a preliminary competition at Western New England College in Springfield, Mass. The first team, with members Sean Edwards, Avner Maiberg and Emma Strubell, finished second in the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Programming Competition and qualified to compete in the Northeast Finals in Rochester, N.Y. on Nov. 6. The second team, with members Mike Chasson and Joshua Komusin, hampered by having only two members because of a very last-minute scratch, nevertheless solved several of the problems at the competition. This is the first time in many years that UMaine has fielded a team for the International ACM Programming Competition, according to George Markowsky, department chair.

Newspaper Covers Climate Change/National Security Talk

26 Oct 2010

Tuesday's Bangor Daily News includes a report about Monday's UMaine presentation by U.S. Navy Capt. Tim Gallaudet. Deputy director of the Navy's Task Force Climate Change, Gallaudet gave a presentation on the national security implications of climate change. His presentation was part of a two-day UMaine School of Policy and International Affairs program on global environmental security.

Canada Presentations Previewed

26 Oct 2010

Tuesday's Bangor Daily News includes a preview of a series of UMaine presentations on issues related to Canada, including religion, politics and alternative energy. The talks, which begin Nov. 1, are sponsored by UMaine's Canadian-American Center.

Brewer Interviewed for Story on Cutler Comments

26 Oct 2010

UMaine political scientist Mark Brewer commented in a Maine Public Radio news report about independent gubernatorial candidate Eliot Cutler's assertions that his major party opponents are distorting his record through negative campaign tactics.

News Report on UMaine/Orono Collaboration

26 Oct 2010

A WLBZ/WCSH news report described UMaine's planned collaboration with Orono High School to provide housing and early college experiences for international students. Starting next fall, UMaine will set aside a certain number of residence hall rooms for those students enrolled at the high school. The television report included an interview with

UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana. A UMaine [news release](#) has more details about the arrangement.

Brewer Post on Congress Blog

27 Oct 2010

A post by UMaine political science professor Mark Brewer appears on [thehill.com's Congress blog](#). In the post, Brewer comments on the "entertainment factor" associated with this year's elections. He also predicts that Republicans will gain majority control of the U.S. House of Representatives but will come up short of taking the U.S. Senate.

Hartman Award Winners To Be Honored

27 Oct 2010

Five Maine women who have been named recipients of the Maryann Hartman Award, including UMaine first-year student Danielle Runyambo, will be honored Wednesday night in an awards ceremony at the Buchanan Alumni House, according to the Bangor Daily News. The awards are named for the late Maryann Hartman, who was a teacher and scholar in speech communication at the University of Maine, and recognize distinguished Maine women and their accomplishments in the arts, politics, business, education and community service. The awards are sponsored by UMaine's Women in the Curriculum and women's studies programs.

Economist's Research On Welfare Mentioned

27 Oct 2010

A [Portland Press Herald opinion piece](#) about the cost of welfare in Maine, written by Envision Maine President Alan Caron, cites research by UMaine economist Philip Trostel. Caron, who argues welfare spending is higher than stated in previous stories published in the Press Herald, included statistics that came from a report by Trostel.

Vigil To Focus On Victims Of Bullying

27 Oct 2010

The Bangor Daily News advanced Thursday's candlelight vigil at UMaine, which will focus on victims of bullying, including those who have committed suicide because of bullying. The rally starts at 6 p.m. on the university mall in front of Fogler Library. Rebecca Hickman, a UMaine graduate student who is studying mental health with a concentration in substance abuse counseling, is organizing the vigil.

State Innovation Director to Visit UMaine Oct. 28

27 Oct 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — Maine Office of Innovation director Catherine Renault will visit the University of Maine on Thursday Oct. 28 as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program. Renault will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members. The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows Program, which began in the spring of 2006, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy. The Office of Innovation is part of the Maine Dept. of Economic and Community Development. Renault, who has 16 years of experience in economic development, joined the Maine office in January 2007. Her prior background includes work in North Carolina's famed Research Triangle Park, and at the University of North Carolina, where she was senior research associate in the office of economic development. She earned a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. News coverage

possibilities exist during the 9:30-10:55 a.m. time frame, when Renault will tour the Advanced Manufacturing Center and the Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology. She will visit an economics class in 201 Winslow Hall between 11 a.m. and 12 noon, followed in the afternoon by a tour of UMaine Cooperative Extension's pest management facility at 491 College Avenue. The latter tour is scheduled for 2-2:40 p.m.

EAP Webinar on Difficult Customers Thursday

27 Oct 2010

Members of the UMaine community are invited to attend a webinar Thursday, Oct. 28 with Fran Sulinski, assistant director of UMaine Cooperative Extension. Sulinski will speak from 12-1 p.m. from Room 122 in Libby Hall on "Handling Difficult and Irate Customers." Participation in the webinar is possible by logging on here. Part of the EAP Lunch and Learn Series, a video of the discussion also will be available about Nov. 1 here.

William Cohen Papers Forum Theme is Transparency, 2010

28 Oct 2010

Contact: Desiree Butterfield-Nagy, 581-2665 ORONO -- The fourth William S. Cohen Papers Forum will take place Friday, Nov. 12 at the University of Maine's Wells Conference Center with opening remarks at 9 a.m. Cary Coglianese, deputy dean and professor of political science at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, will give the keynote address. Coglianese served as the chair of a nonpartisan Task Force on Transparency and Public Participation for OMB Watch, a Washington, D.C., advocacy organization. This year's daylong event will focus on the theme of transparency and will include panel discussions with journalists, academics and government representatives following the keynote. Participants include several media representatives, including former Bangor Daily News editor-in-chief Mark Woodward, MPBN reporter Irwin Gratz, and Jim Campbell, producer and host of "Notes from the Electronic Cottage" for WERU-FM Community Radio. The forum, one of Raymond H. Fogler Library's outreach efforts, was designed to allow for contemporary discussions based on topics found in the archive of former U.S. Representative, U.S. Senator and Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen. "We had been looking for the perfect topic to serve as a focus for the upcoming forum," says Fogler archivist Desiree Butterfield-Nagy. "Transparency is a word that is still being defined through its use, and one surrounded by debate. It became obvious that there was a strong connection between this topic and the archival collection, so it seemed like a natural choice." Audience members also will hear from Amanda Wood, the director of governmental affairs in the Washington office of U.S. Sen. Susan Collins; Kelly Hokkanen, general manager of InforME, a partner of Maine.gov; and Tarren R. Bragdon, CEO of The Maine Heritage Policy Center. Several members of the University of Maine community will participate, including assistant professor Sunny Hughes and associate professors Carolyn Ball, Jon Ippolito, Joline Blais and Amy Fried. The director, producer and individuals featured in "The Way We Get By" documentary about several volunteers who greet troops at the Bangor International Airport also will participate in a session examining connections between transparency and documentary filmmaking. Camden International Film Festival founder Ben Fowlie will moderate the session. The free event is open to anyone who would like to register. Support for the day has been provided by the Bangor Daily News, Max Kagan Family Foundation, the Maine Humanities Council, the UMaine College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, and the William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce. Additional details, including registration information, are available online at <http://www.library.umaine.edu/cohen>.

News Report on Coming Out Week

28 Oct 2010

WABI broadcast a Wednesday story about Coming Out Week activities underway at UMaine. Those activities include a Thursday 6 p.m. candlelight vigil on the Mall, in remembrance of those who have taken their own lives because of issues related to bullying.

UMaine Highlighted for Environmental Practices

28 Oct 2010

Comments from Elaine Clark, UMaine's executive director of facilities, real estate and planning, are included in a Thursday Bangor Daily News story about the 2011 College Sustainability Report Card, released by a Massachusetts organization. UMaine's grade has risen from C to B in one year, a development that Clark attributes, in part, to a series of initiatives that reflect UMaine's commitment to sustainability. The Princeton Review also named UMaine to its Green Honor Roll earlier this year, identifying it as one of just 19 institutions from all around the U.S. to receive that publication's top score for environmental stewardship.

UMaine Partnering in Grant to Engineer Navigation Application for Blind and Visually Impaired

28 Oct 2010

Contact: Kate Beard, (207) 581-2147 or beard@spatial.maine.edu Researchers in the UMaine department of spatial information science and engineering have received a four-year, \$700,937 grant from the National Science Foundation to participate in an international project they hope will eventually result in a device that could help blind and visually impaired people lead more independent lives. Kate Beard, the director of the National Center for Geographic Information at UMaine, and faculty members Nick Giudice and Reinhard Moratz will work with researchers in Philadelphia and Germany to develop computational methods for object detection, spatial scene reconstruction, and natural language spatial descriptions to describe prototypical indoor spaces such as rooms and offices. Development of those computational methods could lead to an application that could provide a blind or visually impaired person with enough information to navigate a space with which he or she is unfamiliar. An example scenario would be a blind or visually impaired person who enters a doctor's office, which the person has not previously visited. The person would enter the space and use the device to take a series of pictures. The pictures would be processed and then translated verbally to the user, who would be able to query the program for locations of, for example, the registration desk, the closest empty chair in the waiting room, or the restroom. Another application could be to find misplaced objects in a room – say, for example, a person puts down a coffee cup but is unable to find it again. If a representation of the room exists from processing many previous pictures, the device could search for the object based in part by determining what in a room was different than it was before. Beard said the ultimate goal of the project would be an application on a device such as a cell phone. "I don't know if in the course of the grant we would have a fully working application on a phone as the footprint, but hopefully we would have prototype pieces of it working," Beard said. "There are some phone applications now that do fast-image processing on a phone, but this application would require another level to locate objects in space and convey the objects and aspects of that space verbally to the user." UMaine's NSF grant is part of \$1.2 million in funding attached to the project. The other institutions involved are Temple University and University of Pennsylvania, which are both in Philadelphia, and the University of Bremen in Germany. Beard, Giudice and Moratz are specifically researching ways in which spaces can be efficiently represented for users to query and receive verbal responses. The UMaine researchers will also do human subject experiments to determine both the standard and different linguistic phrases people use in order to describe spaces. "There will be a sequence of these experiments to help us first build up the features we should be looking for, the key things that we need to extract from the images, and then also what makes sense in terms of vocabulary and phrasing," Beard said. Giudice, assistant professor in the department of spatial information science and engineering and the director of UMaine's Virtual Environments and Multimodal Interaction (VEMI) Lab, will be a key to the project, Beard said. Giudice is himself visually impaired, and will be able to provide real-life assistance with verbalizing navigation. "Nick thinks this application would be really helpful," Beard said. "The first time you go to a new place, there's always that uncertainty. If there was a quick way of getting some orientation in that space, he feels it would give blind or visually impaired people a greater sense of independence, because they would feel more comfortable going into an unfamiliar space." The other key piece of the UMaine research will be building up representations of spaces. Beard and her team are planning to use ontologies, a scientific term for a framework of concepts and relationships among them, to support the image processing, reasoning about a space, and generating natural, language-like expressions. "You could think of a room ontology as a computational model of a room," Beard said. "The basic representation includes a floor, ceiling, certain number of walls. Then as the images are processed this basic room representation becomes more specific, such as a specific wall has certain number of windows or a door. So it goes from a generic box to a box that has been reconfigured based on the information from the images." The researchers would also have to determine the best way to convey distances, directions and positions. Researchers at the University of Bremen have been working on spatial linguistics models using ontologies. Those researchers will

collaborate with UMaine on extending the ontologies and spatial expressions that may be most useful to blind users. At Temple and Penn, researchers are working on image sequencing, registration and feature detection. Among the challenges they face are determining how many pictures the user's device would need in order to produce an accurate spatial reconstruction, and how to translate three-dimensional objects that may be overlapped with other objects – for example, a chair that is behind a desk. The three projects together would begin to create a framework for an application in the future. “What we envision is the experiments at the different locations will be linked together in building this model,” Beard said. “Our piece is doing the experiments and building these computational representations.”

Stanley Sue Lecture Nov. 5 on African-American Mothers, Depression, Children

28 Oct 2010

Contact: Craig Lodis, (207) 907-989 ORONO -- The third annual Stanley Sue Lecture Series presented by the UMaine Clinical Psychology Diversity Committee is presenting Rhonda Boyd, assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, who will discuss "Preventative Interventions: The impact of depression in African-American mothers on their children." The event, from 2-3:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 5 in Room 211 of Little Hall, is free and open to the public. Boyd is a researcher, professor and clinician whose clinical expertise is in providing cognitive-behavioral therapy for children with internalizing disorders. Her research focuses on ethnic minority mothers with depression and their children. Boyd examines risk factors, in addition to protective and contextual factors that influence the transmission of depression from the mother to child. Stanley Sue is a distinguished professor at the University of California, Davis, and a renowned pioneer in diversity work and examination of mental health stigma and treatment among ethnic minorities. He has received numerous awards, including the most recent, the 2009 Distinguished Service to the Profession of Psychology Award from the Los Angeles County Psychological Association. The Stanley Sue Lecture series is designed to promote acceptance and understanding of various cultures -- with a focus on attitudes related to mental health diagnosis and treatment -- in an effort to foster discussion and better inform clinicians and the community. Last year's lecturer was Abe Hideko of the Colby College faculty, speaking on language, gender and sexuality in Japan, and in 2008, Stephen Gilson of UMaine, speaking about disability, diversity and health policy through the lens of legitimacy theory.

Benefit Pumpkin Sale Today, Friday

28 Oct 2010

Members of the UMaine Horticulture Club are selling pumpkins today, Oct. 28 until 2 p.m., and Friday, Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Memorial Union to raise funds for club activities. The club is affiliated with the Environmental Horticulture Program.

Comins Presentation Previewed

28 Oct 2010

An Express News online story previews a Nov. 19 University of Alberta program featuring Prof. Neil Comins from the UMaine Dept. of Physics and Astronomy. Fr. José Funes, director of the Vatican Observatory, will join Comins for a panel discussion, “Astrobiology: Are We Alone in the Universe?” The session is part of that university's Festival of Ideas 2010.

Law, Politics of Global Economy Is Forum Topic

28 Oct 2010

Contact: Jim Settele, (207) 581-1835 BANGOR -- The Bangor Foreign Policy Forum will host Ambassador John K. Veroneau, former Deputy United States Trade Representative, Nov. 15 at the Bangor Public Library for a discussion on the law and politics of a global economy. The talk is free and open to the public. It begins at 7:30 a.m. in the second-floor library lecture hall. An RSVP is requested in advance by emailing admin@bangorforeignpolicyforum.org or calling (207) 581-1835. Ambassador Veroneau will present his talk again later in the day, at 4 p.m. in the D.P. Corbett

Business Building at UMaine, an appearance sponsored by UMaine's School of Policy and International Affairs. [Veroneau](#), a 1983 graduate of the University of Maine, currently is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Covington & Burling LLP. As vice-chair of the International Practice Group, he provides legal and strategic advice to clients with global interests. Veroneau recently served as deputy United States Trade Representative (USTR) where he had broad supervisory responsibilities over U.S. trade policy and previously served as USTR's general counsel, responsible for U.S. trade law and litigation activities. Ambassador Veroneau had been confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as an Assistant Secretary of Defense in President Clinton's administration. He has extensive legislative branch experience, having served as legislative director to Senator Bill Cohen and then Majority Leader Bill Frist, and chief of staff to Senator Susan Collins. He earned his law degree at the University of Maine School of Law.

Camden Conference Course Explores Asia's Economic Challenges, U.S. Foreign Policy

28 Oct 2010

Contact: Marlene Charron, (207) 581-4096 ORONO -- "The Challenges of Asia," a unique University of Maine course designed around the 2011 Camden Conference on the same theme, will examine the impact of current trends in the international political economy of several countries in Asia. Class participants will explore regional dynamics, the influence and perspective of China, Japan and India, and the assumptions and understandings of U.S. foreign policymakers about American interests in the region. The course, offered by the UMaine Continuing and Distance Education Division, will give students an appreciation of the dynamics of the global system in the contemporary period and an understanding of the constraints and opportunities facing U.S. foreign policymakers. The Camden Conference serves as the centerpiece for the three credit-hour University of Maine course. Class sessions will occur within a compressed timeframe on three Saturdays -- Jan. 29, March 19 and April 9 -- from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Hill Auditorium of Barrows Hall on the UMaine campus. The class includes attendance at the Camden Conference Feb. 18-20 in Camden or at three satellite broadcast locations. Faculty members co-teaching the UMaine course are Timothy Cole, chair and associate professor, Political Science Department; G. Paul Holman, visiting associate professor of international affairs and political science; Ngo Vinh Long, professor of Chinese, Japanese, Indian and Southeast Asian history; Jim Settele, assistant director, School of Policy and International Affairs; and Richard Powell, associate professor of political science. Information on course fees, registration, academic course designations and other details are available in an online PDF flyer.

Onward Program Receives Student Scholarship Funding

28 Oct 2010

Contact: Alan Parks, 581-2320 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Onward Program to help at-risk, first-generation and non-traditional college students get extra support as they begin their post-secondary academic careers, has received funding to create two new student scholarships. Maine Community Foundation (MCF), through the Thomas W. Musgrave and Beulah Long Musgrave Scholarship Fund, has created a \$10,000 per year student scholarship for three years. Combined with a second MCF "Earn It" scholarship of \$10,000 for three years, MCF support will provide a total of \$60,000 for eligible students who have just begun college and those who have completed the Onward Program and are in their major program of study. Getting started in college is a challenge for most students, but if it has been years since an individual has been in a classroom and are just starting college, the experience can be overwhelming, says Alan Parks, Onward director. Adding the pressures of having a family, a home to take care of, leaving a job and paying for college can be both intimidating and discouraging. These are challenges that Onward Program students face every day of their college careers. The scholarships are an incentive to help Onward students take the risk, start college, and deal with the challenges, according to Parks. They are awarded to successful students at the start of their second semester to help with the increasing loan debt that Onward students incur as they advance through the university. The scholarships are intended to help Maine adult learners who demonstrate financial need, good character and a seriousness of purpose with respect to their education. "MCF's past support has assisted many Onward students to succeed and graduate," Parks says. "With the help of the Musgrave Fund, many more students will meet their challenges and find success."

Monhegan Wind Power Project Featured In Article

29 Oct 2010

Several UMaine faculty and researchers were highlighted in a Bangor Daily News story about an offshore wind power test site at Monhegan island. Peter Jumars, the director of UMaine's School of Marine Scientists, was interviewed about environmental testing being performed at the site, and Bob Lindyberg of the AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center discussed turbine size and design testing.

Oct. 30 Concert Features Strauss, Beethoven, Schubert, Mussorgsky Classics

29 Oct 2010

A School of Performing Arts concert Saturday, Oct. 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, by more than 50 University of Maine Orchestra students will feature the great classics "Die Fledermaus Overture" by Johann Strauss, Beethoven's "Leonore Overture No. 2," Schubert's (unfinished) "Symphonie in H" and Mussorgsky's "A Night on Bald Mountain." Tickets are \$7 and free for UMaine students with an ID. An exciting lineup of SPA fall semester performances is listed on the SPA website.

UMaine Fraternity Assisting UCP Effort

29 Oct 2010

The UMaine chapter of Phi Kappa Alpha fraternity is working to help the local United Cerebral Palsy organization on a "Pumpkins in the Park" fundraiser during Halloween weekend. Fraternity member Tyler Fadrigon was a live guest on WABI television's Friday morning news, discussing the project with reporter Joy Hollowell.

Brewer in Story on Sussman Contributions

29 Oct 2010

Comments from Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty were included in [a Friday story Associated Press story about issues surrounding political contributions to Maine Democrats](#) by financier Donald Sussman.

Students in Haunted Fraternity House Story

29 Oct 2010

UMaine students Jeff Sanford, Michael Pepin, Pete Christopher and Joel Martin, members of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, are included in a WABI news report about legends of ghosts in that fraternity's house.

Non-Traditional Student Week Events Planned Nov. 1-5

29 Oct 2010

Contact: Barbara Smith, 581-1734 UMaine's Commuter and Non-Traditional Student Programs (CNTSP), which last week received the Program of the Year Award from the Maine Association of Student Affairs Professionals (MASAP), has planned a week of activities Nov. 1-5 to recognize the university's non-traditional students. The week will include Live 'n Learn lunchtime discussions on topics including time management, credit management, relationship safety and stress management -- all issues that can complicate a non-traditional student's pursuit of higher education. Non-traditional students are undergraduate students who may be married, may have dependent children or may be veterans, who are 24 or older, or who may fall individually into any one of those categories. They comprise nearly 20 percent of UMaine undergraduates. In addition, part of this year's annual Non-Traditional Student Week observance will be the creation of a storybank of the life stories of non-traditional students, a collaborative project with an advanced new media class. NSA members and new media students will videotape non-traditional student stories from noon to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov 3 in the Spirit Room of the Memorial Union. Non-traditional students interested in sharing their personal stories are invited to contact Barbara Smith on FirstClass or call 581-1734 to arrange a 15-20 minute interview.

The CNTSP, which is a unit within the Division of Student Affairs, plans to post the videos on the web as a tool to promote and advocate for non-traditional students. The new media class may also use this project as part of a documentary project. Additional information, including a schedule of other events during the week, is posted on [the CNTSP website](#).

Sea Grant's Schmitt Launches Blog

01 Nov 2010

Maine Sea Grant Communications Coordinator Catherine Schmitt has created a new blog, called Salarius. Focusing on seafood issues, the blog includes initial posts from her recent trip to the Gulf Coast.

Local Voting Options

01 Nov 2010

Those who wish to vote on Tuesday should bring a photo ID, and proof of residency (not a P.O. Box), such as mail with an address, if not already registered. **Orono Voting** Ward 2 & Ward 1, Precinct 3 (All on-campus residents vote on campus) Multi-Purpose Room, Memorial Union 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Ward 1, Precinct 2 Orono Municipal Building, Upstairs in the Council Chamber 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Ward 1, Precinct 1 Birch St School 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. **Old Town Voting** Knights of Columbus Hall 5 Gilman Falls Avenue (Near Indian Island) 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. For more info: <http://www.maine.gov/local/>

Brewer in Gubernatorial Poll Story

01 Nov 2010

Comments from Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty were included in [a Saturday Maine Today Media \(Portland Press Herald, Kennebec Journal, Central Maine Morning Sentinel\) story](#) about new polls assessing the Maine gubernatorial race.

Rural Dealer Magazine Interviews Extension's Johnson about Tractor Safety

01 Nov 2010

University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator and crops specialist Steven Johnson was interviewed for an article in the fall issue of Wisconsin-based Rural Lifestyle Dealer magazine about the importance of tractor loader dealers properly informing customers of safety precautions and proper maintenance for equipment they are buying. The magazine is both online and mailed to retailers to the rural lifestyle, hobby farm and large-property owner market throughout the United States and Canada.

UMaine Public Safety Notice

01 Nov 2010

University of Maine police are investigating an incendiary device, apparently contained within a bottle, discovered early this afternoon outside the university's Sawyer Environmental Research Center. A person passing by the south side of that building noticed charred bricks on the building's exterior and contacted the UMaine police. Officers investigated and found evidence suggesting a small explosion sometime in recent days. There have been no suspicious reports in that area and police do not know when the incident may have occurred. Police ask that anyone with information about this situation contact them at 581-4040 or report their suspicions anonymously [online here](#). Police are particularly interested in information about any suspicious activity that may have been observed in that area during the past few days.

Boston Globe Highlights Clown Fish Breeding Company

01 Nov 2010

UMaine PhD student Soren Hansen was featured in a [Boston Globe story](#) about his business Sea & Reef, one of only a few companies whose tropical saltwater fish are grown from eggs produced in captivity. Earlier this year, Hansen received a \$200,000 grant from the Maine Technology Institute to build a new facility at UMaine's Center for Cooperative Aquaculture Research in Franklin.

UMaine, Pennsylvania College Announce Global Policy Partnership

01 Nov 2010

Contact: Jim Settele, 581-1835 ORONO - The presidents of the University of Maine and Dickinson College, a top liberal arts college in Pennsylvania, have signed an articulation agreement to formalize academic collaboration in areas of mutual strength and interest. The new arrangement will facilitate priority admission of Dickinson students into the UMaine Master of Arts in Global Policy program in the School of Policy and International Affairs (SPIA). Beginning in the fall of 2011, eligible Dickinson graduates can begin academically preparing for a fifth-year Master's of Global Policy degree at UMaine, which they could earn in 15 months of graduate study, according to Jim Settele, assistant director of SPIA. Dickinson students who are conditionally accepted into the program would take courses during their senior year that would be applied toward the master's degree upon matriculation at UMaine. Similarly, UMaine students interested in pursuing a master's in global policy through SPIA also could begin preparing as undergraduates for the "four-plus-one" program. The affiliation is expected to expand to include possible faculty exchanges between the two institutions, teaching or research collaboration and joint seminars, conferences, classes and cultural programs involving both faculty and students at Dickinson in Carlisle, Pa. and UMaine. Some of the activities could involve distance-learning technologies, according to the agreement signed by UMaine President Robert Kennedy and Dickinson President William Durden. "Our expanded and formalized collaboration with Dickinson College will provide significant opportunity for students who aspire to graduate degrees in this vital field of study," Kennedy says. "The institutions will further benefit by combining our scholarly efforts and fostering greater understanding of international policy and the attendant issues." Settele says the affiliation is a "great opportunity" for the two institutions to capitalize on developing synergies. The arrangement includes creation of two graduate assistantships for Dickinson students at UMaine, according to Settele. Dickinson College is described by U.S. News & World Report's college ranking guide as a highly selective, private liberal-arts college known for its innovative curriculum. The 180-acre college has nearly 2,400 students and offers 41 majors with an emphasis on international studies. It has more than 40 study-abroad programs in 24 countries on six continents and offers 13 modern languages. Its curricular strengths include global education and environmental sustainability, says U.S. News & World Reports, which ranks the school 47th out of 266 liberal arts colleges nationwide.

Lecture Tuesday on Maine's Home Health Care Aide Shortage

01 Nov 2010

Sandy Butler, professor of social work, and graduate assistant Alison Ashley will present information from their research on Tuesday, Nov. 2 into the worsening shortage of home health care aides at a time when needs are growing. They have interviewed women who work in these challenging, low-paying jobs to see why they stay and why they leave. The free discussion, from 12:10-1 p.m. in the Memorial Union Bangor Room, is presented by the Women's Studies Program.

UMaine to Establish Cold-Water, High-Level Containment Aquatic Laboratory

02 Nov 2010

Contacts: Ian Bricknell (207) 581-4380 or ian.bricknell@umit.maine.edu; Debbie Bouchard (207) 581-2767 or dbouchard@umext.maine.edu The University of Maine is establishing a high-level containment facility for cold-water aquaculture research, which will be the only laboratory of its kind in the U.S. and one of few worldwide. FISHLab, which will be built to Bio-Safety Level-III specifications, will be open to university researchers and private industry, and will more than double the amount of high-level containment space UMaine has for conducting experiments on pathogens of aquatic animals. The higher the BSL rating, the more able a facility is to handle and contain biological

agents in a closed laboratory. Eventually, the new facility could lead to more U.S.-approved vaccines to treat diseases in fish, frogs, lobsters, sea urchins, and dozens of other species. “This gives us an edge to do research here and to attract research to come in our direction,” said Debbie Bouchard, manager of the Maine Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory at UMaine. “Currently we do have one small isolation unit, and that’s booked for the next two years. This gives us an opportunity for three times the space and twice the high-containment space.” The new UMaine lab should be able to handle most of the projects and research on the waiting list. The new facility will have three distinct uses. First, UMaine’s own scientists will be able to perform their own research there. Second, private companies can pay UMaine for support services in the lab while they conduct their own research. Third, private companies can contract with the university to do an entire project. Bouchard and Ian Bricknell, the Libra Professor of Aquaculture Biology and Director of UMaine’s Aquaculture Research Institute, recently received a \$600,000 grant from the Maine Technology Asset Fund Maine Technology Institute to fund construction of the facility, which is planned for a spot adjacent to the Aquaculture Research Center. Construction is expected to start next spring and last about one year. Recommendation letters from international pharmaceutical giant Novartis and Richmond, Maine-based Micro Technologies bolstered UMaine’s grant application. Both companies are currently doing or have done lab work at UMaine. The new BSL-III rated facility will include features designed to keep pathogens from escaping the lab and getting into the environment. The facility will have anterooms connected to the labs so researchers can change out of street clothes and into work clothes, and vice versa. There will be washing machines in the anterooms so used lab coats and other items can be washed immediately after use. The changing areas will also have a separate airflow from the laboratory spaces. An ultraviolet light will be used at night to disinfect the facility. “Because it’s such a high level of containment, it means we’ll be able to work with pathogens that are not only exotic to Maine but exotic to the U.S. as well, with no risk of them escaping into the wild,” Bricknell said. “We’ll be able to work with diseases that are an up-and-coming risk to aquaculture and fisheries in Maine, with minimal risk.” The high-level containment facility would allow researchers to study, for example, the pathogen that causes viral hemorrhagic septicemia, a highly contagious fish disease present in the Mississippi basin in which the animals’ blood vessels become leaky, leading to mass mortalities. “We’d be very keen to keep this disease out of Maine, and if we ever had an outbreak we’d like to be able to work with that disease here rather than relying other research,” Bricknell said. The lobster industry could also use the lab to do research on alternative baits brought in from other geographic areas. There is at least one BSL-III facility in the U.S. for warm-water research and there are cold-water BSL-III facilities in places such as Scotland, England, Australia, Denmark and Norway. In those countries, dozens of fish vaccines are licensed for veterinary use – for example in Norway, Bricknell said, there are 30-40 approved treatment, while in the U.S., which hasn’t had this type of facility, there are just nine. “Veterinarians will have a much better scope of animal treatment and welfare,” Bricknell said. “This is a huge step toward making us competitive.”

'Next Major War' Topic of Thursday Lecture

02 Nov 2010

Contact: Doug Allen, 581-3860 Political science professor James Warhola, an expert on religion and politics in Russia and Eurasia, will deliver a talk, "The Next Major War? Peace and War in the Caucasus Mountain Region," Thursday, Nov. 4, from 12:30-1:45 p.m. in the Bangor Lounge in the Memorial Union. The public is invited to the free event, which is co-sponsored by the UMaine Marxist-Socialist Studies Interdisciplinary Minor, Maine Peace Action Committee, Campus Activities and Student Engagement, and supported by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

McConnon Comments on Recession, Entrepreneurship Growth

02 Nov 2010

Comments from UMaine small business expert Jim McConnon, a Cooperative Extension specialist and professor of economics, were included in a Bangor Daily News article Oct. 29 about the rise in entrepreneurial business ventures in recessionary times. Often, he says, individuals start their own businesses out of necessity. Micro-businesses and sole proprietorships are the backbone of Maine's economy.

Girl Scouts to Visit UMaine World of Engineering Nov. 6

02 Nov 2010

Contact: Sheila Pendse, 581-2225 ORONO -- More than 90 girl scouts and 38 adult troop leaders will visit the University of Maine Saturday, Nov. 6, for a day of learning about engineering careers through activities, discussions and experimentation with UMaine students, faculty and staff. Activities planned for "Transforming Leadership: Engineering Their Future" include exploring hands-on exercises in engineering labs to introduce the grade 6-12 students to the world of engineering, from creating slime to learning about nano gold particles, wireless sensors and LED kits. Parents, troop leaders and adult volunteers will participate in a physics workshop and learn about and take home materials for projects they can duplicate later. This engineering awareness day is designed to educate young women about career possibilities on the field of engineering and increase the number of girls entering the field. Maine lags behind the national average in enrolling girls in engineering programs and the initiative created and organized by the UMaine College of Engineering is intended to help close the gap. The day begins at 10:30 a.m. in the D.P. Corbett Business Building, with an introduction by Dean Dana Humphrey. The students will be divided into four groups to visit civil, chemical and biological, electrical and mechanical engineering labs throughout the day, which ends at 4:05 p.m. Students and adult participants also will tour the AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center and the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute.

2010 Christmas Ornament Honors Habitat UMaine

02 Nov 2010

The Bangor Daily News reported on the unveiling of the 2010 UMaine bookstore Christmas ornament, which is dedicated this year to the student organization Habitat UMaine. All proceeds from ornament sales will go to Habitat UMaine, which is committed to helping those who live in substandard housing in the Bangor area. The University Bookstore Commemorative Ornament program was started in 2003 to celebrate UMaine student groups that best live up to the spirit of the holiday season.

Day Of The Dead Celebrated

02 Nov 2010

Monday's Day of the Dead celebration at UMaine was mentioned in a Bangor Daily News story. About 150 schoolchildren participated in a program at the Hudson Museum inside the Collins Center for the Art

Dana Set for Radio Interview

02 Nov 2010

UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana is scheduled for a Wednesday morning (7:40 a.m) interview on WVOM radio's Dan and Renee Show. Listeners can tune in on AM 620 or 103.1 FM. An expert in substance abuse issues, Dana will discuss a new report about the relative dangers of alcohol abuse.

Art@Noon Event Wednesday

03 Nov 2010

The UMaine Museum of Art will host an Art@Noon free gallery talk on Wednesday Nov. 3 at 12 noon. Museum director George Kinghorn will give a talk highlighting the current exhibitions *Pablo Picasso: The Passionate Print*, *Selections from the Museum Collection* and *String Too Short to Use: Recent Works by Todd Watts*. The museum is located on Harlow St. in downtown Bangor

Bricknell Scheduled for Research Cafe Talk

03 Nov 2010

Ian Bricknell, director of UMaine's Aquaculture Research Center, will speak at UMaine's next Research Cafe

presentation, Thursday Nov. 18 at 4 p.m. in Fogler Library's University Club. Bricknell will discuss "Where do sea lice on salmon farms come from and can we control them?"

News Report on Jacobson Presentation

03 Nov 2010

The Free Press Online site features a [story](#) about an Oct. 30 Camden presentation by Prof. George Jacobson of UMaine's Climate Change Institute, who also serves as the state climatologist. He provided data about Maine's changing climate, along with perspectives about what Maine communities can be considering as they plan for a future with a different climate.

Nutrition Program Highlighted

03 Nov 2010

UMaine Cooperative Extension nutrition specialist Brenda Bracy are included in a [Portland Press Herald story](#) about Cooking Matters for Maine. That initiative provides low-income families with access to expertise about how to prepare healthy, affordable and tasty meals.

Palmer in Press Herald Election Report

03 Nov 2010

Comments from Kenneth Palmer, UMaine professor emeritus of political science, were included in an early [Portland Press Herald story](#) following the Maine gubernatorial election on Tuesday night.

Extension Specialists' Denmark Farms Visit Reported

03 Nov 2010

A recent visit to several organic farms and grain mills in Denmark by three University of Maine Cooperative Extension agricultural specialists to learn about that country's crop rotation strategies and grain production was reported in a blog on the website of Wholesome Wave, a nonprofit organization in Connecticut, whose mission is to make healthy, affordable and locally grown foods available to more communities. Specialists included Rick Kersbergen, Tom Molloy and Ellen Mallory, who were accompanied by Amber Lambke of Skowhegan, who is assembling the necessary equipment to process locally grown grains.

Maine Sea Grant Director Wins National Sea Grant Association Award

03 Nov 2010

Contact: Catherine Schmitt, (207) 581-1434 or catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu Paul Anderson, the director of the University of Maine-based Maine Sea Grant College Program, has been named a recipient of the national Sea Grant Association President's Award. Anderson served as president of the Sea Grant Association from 2007 to 2008, during which time he worked with the National Sea Grant office, SGA committees, the National Sea Grant review panel, members of Congress and others towards the successful 2008 reauthorization of the National Sea Grant College Program. He is currently completing a term as past president. In 2004, Anderson oversaw UMaine's official designation as an independent Sea Grant College Program. The Sea Grant Association President's Award is given by the president of the Sea Grant Association to individuals or groups who provide special service to the SGA and Sea Grant network. Before joining Sea Grant in 1999, Anderson spent 10 years at Maine's Department of Marine Resources (DMR) as chief microbiologist and director of the Public Health Division. Anderson was chosen in 1999 to represent the U.S. and Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference at the Harmful Algal Management and Mitigation conference in the Philippines. In 2000 Anderson was awarded the prestigious U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Commissioner's Special Citation for strengthening the state's shellfish programs and increasing shellfish safety in the

Northeast. Sea Grant is a national network of 30 programs that receive funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Maine Sea Grant College Program is based at the University of Maine and has a mission of supporting marine science education, research, and outreach. For more information, go to <http://www.seagrant.umaine.edu/>.

Safe Campus Project Celebrating 10th Anniversary

03 Nov 2010

Contact: Carey Nason, 581-2515 The University of Maine Safe Campus Project will celebrate its 10th anniversary Tuesday, Nov. 16 from 2-3:30 p.m. at the Wells Conference Center, with hors d'oeuvres, entertainment and informal remarks. Safe Campus Project promotes education, intervention and abuse prevention to help reduce sexual assault, relationship abuse and stalking. It also provides members of the UMaine community affected by assault or abuse advocacy, support and educational resources. Carey Nason, advocate and coordinator of Safe Campus Project, works with student organizations on campus, and community groups and agencies off-campus, reminding audiences that ending sexual abuse and domestic violence is everyone's responsibility. Personal attitudes, beliefs and value systems are at the root of domestic violence and sexual or other forms of abuse, she says. Nason estimates the Safe Campus Project and its community allies get their message to several thousand people a year through traditional and Web-based social media and other activities. Part of the ceremony on Nov. 16 will include a dance performance by UMaine student Molly Schenck and an a capella performance by the student ensemble Mixed Nuts. Members of the public and campus community are invited to the ceremony, and are asked to R.S.V.P. by Friday, Nov. 5 by calling 581-2515 or emailing safecampus@umit.maine.edu.

UMaine Emergency Communications System Test Wednesday Nov. 10; Audible Sirens to Sound for Several Minutes Shortly After 11 a.m.

03 Nov 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — The University of Maine will conduct a full-scale emergency communications system test on Wednesday, Nov. 10. Two outdoor sirens, which represent an integral part of the system, will sound for several minutes shortly after 11 a.m.. Those sirens are audible throughout the UMaine campus and, under certain conditions, in parts of the surrounding communities. UMaine created a multifaceted emergency communications system in 2007. It allows UMaine safety and communications professionals to quickly notify the community during emergency situations by using several different mechanisms to communicate vital information. When the system is activated, several notifications occur in quick order:

- a posting on the university's primary Web page (<http://www.umaine.edu>) and several other UMaine pages
- a telephone recording at 581-INFO
- a posting on First Class, the university's email and online conferencing system
- a text message sent to those who have subscribed to UMaine's umaine.txt system

After those messages are created and delivered, police personnel will sound the sirens. In the UMaine system, the siren is a signal that people on campus should seek information through the Web, telephone, text message or First Class. Members of the UMaine community who have not yet subscribed to the umaine.txt text messaging system are encouraged to do so before Wednesday, Nov. 10.

Mahon Provides Election Analysis

03 Nov 2010

John Mahon of the UMaine business faculty provided live election analysis, looking at results from a business perspective, on Portland ABC affiliate WMTW Wednesday morning.

Newton Gets Field Hockey Honor

04 Nov 2010

UMaine junior Kelly Newton, who comes from Vancouver, British Columbia, has been named America East Field Hockey Player of the Year. Five of her teammates also earned league honors, as reported in today's [Bangor Daily News](#). Coach Josette Babineau's Black Bears will take on UNH in the league semifinal on Friday.

Palmer Comments in Maine Today Media Report

04 Nov 2010

Kenneth Palmer, UMaine professor emeritus of political science, is quoted in a Maine Today Media story analyzing Tuesday's Maine gubernatorial election. That report is published in the Portland Press Herald, Kennebec Journal and Central Maine Morning Sentinel.

Post-election Analysis by Brewer

04 Nov 2010

UMaine political science professor Mark Brewer provided commentary for post election reports including a Capitol News Service report published in the [Bangor Daily News](#) and Maine Today Media story about the gubernatorial election. Brewer also spoke with another Maine Today Media reporter and journalists from the Portsmouth Herald and CBC Radio in New Brunswick.

Boat Technology Mentioned In Washington Post Blog

04 Nov 2010

In a question-and-answer session about leadership on the Washington Post blog On Leadership, Small Business Administration head Karen Mills [mentioned](#) UMaine's work with the boat-building industry to create new technologies. Mills is a Maine native.

University Singers, Renaissance, Steiners Concert Saturday, Sunday

04 Nov 2010

The UMaine School of Performing Arts will present the University Singers, conducted by music professor Dennis Cox, and campus choral ensembles Renaissance and the Maine Steiners in concert Saturday, Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 7 from 2-4 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. The program offers a variety of musical literature, from classical to contemporary. Admission is \$7; students with a UMaine ID are admitted free.

UMaine Graduate Killed in Afghanistan

05 Nov 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- U.S. Marine 1st Lt. James Zimmerman, a 2008 UMaine graduate, was killed Tuesday while serving in Afghanistan. Twenty-five years old, he was commissioned as an officer in the Marine Corps after completing UMaine's Navy ROTC program. "Lt. Zimmerman was a valued member of the UMaine community, held in particularly high regard by those associated with our Navy ROTC program," says UMaine President Robert Kennedy. "We are forever grateful for his service to our country, and I offer my personal condolences to his family and the great many friends he leaves behind." Zimmerman earned a UMaine degree in kinesiology and physical education. A story about his death appeared on the front page of Thursday's Bangor Daily News.

Maine Edge Previews Innovation Symposium

05 Nov 2010

Deb Neuman, director of UMaine's Target Technology Incubator, is the lead resource in a Maine Edge story previewing the Nov. 10 Invention to Venture symposium, scheduled for the Black Bear Inn in Orono. The [symposium](#) will feature an address by David Kappos, director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, DC.

Fried Comments in Early Voting Story

05 Nov 2010

UMaine political scientist Amy Fried is quoted in a [Friday Bangor Daily News report](#) about the impact of early voting on this week's Maine gubernatorial election. She also commented in a [Maine Public Radio story](#) about the impact of polls on that same election.

Peterson Churchill Downs Work Referenced

05 Nov 2010

A [Bloodhorse.com story](#) describes concerns about drought-included conditions at the Churchill Downs race track in Kentucky, site of this weekend's Breeders' Cup. The story notes that UMaine engineering professor Mick Peterson, an expert on race track surfaces, has been consulting with track officials as they work to prepare the surface and that he will be on site this weekend.

Hunter Gives Washington D.C. Talk

05 Nov 2010

UMaine's Malcolm Hunter, professor of wildlife resources and Libra Professor of Conservation Biology, traveled to Washington D.C. to give a Wednesday Nov. 3 talk at the National Conservation Leadership Forum. That is a group tasked by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with developing a "National Fish and Wildlife Climate Adaptation Strategy."

UMaine "Flash Mob" Delights Lunchtime Patrons

05 Nov 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at 581-3571 *Note: a photo is available upon request.* ORONO -- A group of 56 UMaine students, joined by Bananas the Bear, UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana and Senior Associate Dean of Students Kenda Scheele, brightened an otherwise-dreary afternoon by staging a Friday "flash mob" in Memorial Union's Maine Marketplace dining facility. At 12 noon, music erupted from the building's sound system and groups of students began choreographed dance routines in various locations on both levels of the Union. Hundreds of onlookers, most of whom were enjoying lunch, reacted with surprise and delight as the dancers performed all around them. Dana and Scheele descended the open stairway, dancing to the strains of the Isley Brothers' "Shout!," leading to a finale featuring all the dancers in the atrium outside the UMaine Bookstore. "This was a lot of fun, and a great representation of UMaine spirit," Dana says. Lauri Sidelko from the UMaine Division of Student Affairs, assisted by Tutor Program assistant coordinator Jessica Bishop and graduate student Molly Schenck, organized the dancers, who practiced for the past several nights after the Union had closed for the evening. A video depicting part of the event is on the Mobile Maine News Web site at <http://mobilemainenews.com/?p=7441>. Editing is underway on a more elaborate video presentation, featuring five camera angles. When completed, that video will be posted on UMaine's YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/theuniversityofmaine>.

UMaine Research Project to Advance Equine Disease Detection

05 Nov 2010

Contact: Robert Causey, (207) 581-2782 ORONO -- University of Maine animal and veterinary science researchers are

receiving nearly \$500,000 to establish a unique research, testing and education center that promises to substantially advance the diagnosis, treatment and understanding of particularly problematic animal diseases. The project, funded by a \$497,392 Maine Technology Asset Fund grant, will enable field-testing to establish credibility for Maine biomedical companies to commercialize newly developed, inexpensive diagnostic kits. The first diagnostic kit to be field tested is one that detects the bacteria *Streptococcus equi*, the cause of equine "strangles," within hours as opposed to days for conventional strangles culture. Development of the new field test kits represents a revolutionary advancement in combating the highly contagious and sometimes fatal disease, according to principal investigator Robert Causey, a veterinarian and associate professor in the UMaine Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. Once researchers collect enough data in pilot testing to establish reliability and effectiveness of the field test kits, the kits can be manufactured for sale and distribution throughout Maine, the nation and the world, Causey says. "There is no doubt that the market for this is potentially global," he says. "Wherever there are horses, there is this disease. No one has ever tried to do this before. This puts Maine right in the front of strangles research." Kits being developed for market by Maine Biotechnology Services (MBS) in Portland have an antibody on a membrane that changes color when exposed to a strangles protein. They have proven successful in preliminary trials, Causey says. The grant will enable a large-scale expansion of the test kit trials. "The purpose of the funding is to strengthen the infrastructure in Maine with the purpose of boosting the economy and bring new jobs to Maine," Causey says. "The way we're approaching this is two-fold. One is to strengthen Maine's biotechnology sector, especially small, highly innovative companies, and the other is to strengthen the agricultural economy through lessening the impact of disease." The project entails, in the next year, renovations at the UMaine J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center to create an animal handling area for disease diagnosis, an equine isolation area, and a technology transfer center classroom with video-endoscopy equipment. The facility will be used for testing and training faculty, Maine veterinarians and students from both UMaine and from the Tufts University veterinary medicine school. The grant also will provide approximately seven field endoscopes for use by Maine veterinarians at farms and stables around the state. The endoscopes will be used to examine and take cultures from the guttural pouches, small sacs in the equine Eustachian tube where the disease settles, and to administer topical treatments in guttural pouches of infected horses. The project also will establish a statewide strangles surveillance program to increase protection of Maine's 35,000 horses. Maine's equine industry is estimated to have an economic impact of about \$364 million, according to the Maine Farm Bureau. "If we are able to detect one hundred carriers, this represents a potential benefit to the Maine equine industry of between \$100,000 and \$400,000," Causey says. "Such savings translate into farm jobs, and entire farms, saved." Nationally, quicker diagnosis and timely animal isolation could save the equine industry millions of dollars if the new diagnostic protocols are effective in preventing strangles in even 1 percent of the nation's estimated 10 million horses, he says. The sales potential could be worth \$3.5 million, according to Causey, if only 1 percent of the nation's horses are tested each year. Strangles in horses, which is similar to strep throat in people, is a debilitating, discomfiting disease that results in serious complications in 20 percent of cases and is fatal in 8 percent. Carriers often do not show symptoms, which leads to undetected infection through water troughs, fences, tack, feeding buckets, farm tools and direct horse-to-horse contact. "In uncomplicated cases, the disease quickly infects most susceptible animals in a facility, leading to cessation of riding or training activities for a month or longer," Causey says in his successful grant application. "The economic impact of an outbreak can be devastating to a commercial equine facility." Causey's research team includes veterinarian Anne Lichtenwalner, director of UMaine's Animal Health Laboratory, James Weber, associate professor in animal sciences, and colleagues at Tufts University veterinary school and the Gluck Equine Research Center at the University of Kentucky. With additional new antibodies developed by MBS, the test kits could be used to more quickly detect and diagnose other equine diseases, according to Causey. It is important to Causey that students will be involved in the project at all levels, from caring for horses to working in labs and with endoscopy. "From animal agriculture to biochemistry and the biomedical sciences, I think it's all there," he says. "The students here get exposure with large animals, and that is becoming less and less common at universities around the country. The Witter Center is helping to produce large animal veterinarians, many of whom will return to the state and that's good for Maine agriculture, especially with a shortage of large animal veterinarians.

UMaine Biomechanical Research Helps Develop Injury-Reduction Products

05 Nov 2010

Contact: Vincent Caccese, (207) 581-2131 ORONO -- Engineering researchers at the University of Maine are receiving more than \$533,000 in grant funding to create a new biomechanical laboratory to help test and evaluate injury-reduction, repair and rehabilitation equipment under development by several small Maine companies. The lab will

employ a family of state-of-the-art crash test dummies on which to perform impact and vibration tests to determine, for example, which new protective materials work best in reducing head trauma -- from simple falls to sophisticated composites to protect soldiers from head wound complications due to helicopter vibration during air evacuation. The design, development and commercialization of an assistive robotic exoskeletal rowing machine for people with disabilities or in rehabilitation is another objective planned as part of multiple product-development partnerships between the university and private sector companies. With grant funding from the Maine Technology Asset Fund through the Maine Technology Institute, UMaine will create a Biomechanics Laboratory for Injury Reduction and Rehabilitation within the College of Engineering's Mechanical Engineering Department in the next year. The AMC Building on campus will undergo minor renovations to accommodate the new lab. The collaborative research is a part of the university's commitment to help small companies with good ideas but limited access to testing facilities develop products and verify that they are ready for commercialization, says principal investigator Vincent Caccese, a professor of mechanical engineering and expert in structural mechanics. The new biomechanics lab will expand the university's capacity to conduct such testing into the future. New testing equipment will include the acquisition of crash test dummies to be used for impact-testing of neuro-protective head gear that looks like a fashionable cap or headband, but actually serves as a lightweight helmet that people will, in fact, be willing to wear. In addition, a state-of-the-art robotic manipulator will be purchased that allows fast development of robotic-based exercise equipment. In vibration-mitigation research, researchers also will be using the dummies on the university's vibrating "shaking table" to test composite padding and stabilization materials designed to protect people with head wounds -- caused on the battlefield, on highways or elsewhere -- from further injury during evacuation. Another area of interest is in vibration reduction for infants during med-vac transport, a project idea that originated in discussions with LifeFlight of Maine. Much of the biomechanical research planned at UMaine has not been done before, says Caccese. University of Maine co-researchers also working under the MTAF grant include Ashish Deshpande and Mohsen Shahinpoor of the mechanical engineering faculty; Elizabeth Depoy and Stephen Gilson of the Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies; and Richard Eason of the electrical and computer engineering faculty. Private partners include Alba-Technic, LLC of Arundel, a company that has developed fashionable lightweight protective head gear; Wiscasset-based Rynel Inc., a manufacturer of specialty hydrophilic polyurethane foams; LifeFlight of Maine, a Bangor-based medical helicopter service; and Astos Innovations, a Newberg nonprofit that works to improve accessibility resources. The collaboration with Alba-Technic involves support from the Department of Veterans' Affairs research center in Florida and the Division of Geriatric Medicine at UCLA. Assisting Alba-Technic with the head gear testing is "going to help people by developing products to prevent or lessen injuries, which is also good for our economy and will help create jobs in the meantime where we can make these products in Maine and sell them elsewhere," Caccese says. A market study has estimated the sales potential of the neuro-protective head gear at more than \$10 million with a mature market in five years. "We're trying to create a laboratory where we can transfer technology in both directions," says Caccese. "The Alba-Technic project is one really good example where a small business in Maine had a great idea on how to help improve injury prevention using some advanced materials." That's one instance of UMaine helping private partners. "An example of it going in another direction is we have product ideas here and we have advanced technology here that we would like to transfer outward, as well," Caccese says. He cites an unmet need in the fitness industry to make exercise equipment accessible to people with disabilities, limited movement or those recovering from injury. Robotics expert Deshpande and Eason, an expert in motors and controls, in conjunction with Gilson and Depoy, have designed an assistive robotic rowing machine that can be adjusted to enable people with physical limitations to reduce, adjust or modify resistance. "Our hope is to have laboratory where we can get ideas out into commercialization, or when someone has ideas they can come to us for some testing," he says. "It's a chance to use some of the knowledge and some of the concepts that we teach to develop products that are going to help people. That's the most exciting part. If we help save one person from a severe injury then it's worth it."

Fernandez Delivers Prestigious Soil Sciences Lecture

08 Nov 2010

UMaine professor of soil science Ivan J. Fernandez, who recently received a distinguished lifetime appointment as a Class of 2010 fellow in the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA), presented the Sergei A. Wilde Distinguished Lectureship in Forest Soils at the International Annual Meetings of the SSSA Nov. 3 in Long Beach, Ca. This is the highest recognition in forest soils within the society. Fernandez, also a cooperating professor of forest resources, spoke about the role of forest soils in ecosystem responses to a changing climate, and a vision for the future of the discipline.

AP notes UMaine chemistry/Tamiflu research

08 Nov 2010

Sunday's Boston Globe included [an Associated Press story](#) featuring comments from UMaine chemistry professor Ray Fort. The story described research by Fort and his colleagues, who are testing a new process for extracting shikimic acid, an important ingredient in Tamiflu, from pine needles. At 6 p.m. Sunday, it was the most emailed story on the Globe's website.

Brewer in Political Reports

08 Nov 2010

Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty was quoted in an Associated Press story published in Sunday's Laconia Citizen the York Weekly and other papers. The story looked at the impact of early voting on the Maine governor's race. He also commented in [a Maine Today Media report](#) on Maine polling in the days and weeks leading up to last week's election.

Channel 5 Reports on Weekend Events

08 Nov 2010

WABI television broadcast Saturday reports about weekend UMaine events. One story described Culturefest, UMaine's annual celebration of diversity in its community. The other story reported on Girl Scouts from around Maine visiting UMaine to learn about engineering programs and opportunities.

Verso Working With UMaine Researchers

08 Nov 2010

A Bangor Daily News story about a planned \$40 million boiler-turbine project at the Verso Paper Co. mill in Bucksport included comments about the company's work with UMaine researchers to develop new projects in order to remain profitable in the paper market. Verso spokesman Bill Cohen said UMaine is doing research in Orono and tests the research in Bucksport. Due to a nondisclosure agreement, Cohen declined to elaborate on what kind of products are being developed.

Fogler Library Program Highlighted

08 Nov 2010

The Town Report Digitization Project was the subject of a Bangor Daily News story. UMaine's Fogler Library is one of the partners on the project. Friends of Fogler Library is sponsoring a presentation about the project at 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 15., in the Special Collections Reading Room on the third floor of the library.

Expert Offers Food Safety Tips During Power Outages

08 Nov 2010

Contact: Beth Calder, 207-581-2791; George Manlove, 581-3756 With more than 62,000 people waking up in Maine this morning without electricity due to rain, sleet, snow and high winds overnight, University of Maine Cooperative Extension food science specialist Beth Calder offers advice on how to know if refrigerated or frozen foods are safe to eat after warming or thawing. Calder is featured in one of a large series of short Cooperative Extension consumer-oriented [videos on YouTube discussing food safety and power outages here](#). In addition, [the Cooperative Extension website carries a list of publications and pamphlets](#) about this and other related topics, which are available on the Web

free. Calder can be reached in her Orono office at (207) 581-2791 for additional information. Other questions about food safety, food preparation, nutrition or emergency preparedness can be directed to Cooperative Extension at (207) 581-3188 or toll-free 1-800-287-0274 in Maine.

UMaine's Explorations Program Receives National Award

08 Nov 2010

Contact: Ethel Hill, 581-1834 The University of Maine's Explorations Program for first-year students who are undecided about a major has received one of only three certificates of merit in the Academic Affairs category from the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA). The association has more than 10,000 members in all 50 states, plus Puerto Rico and Canada, according to Ethel Hill, program director. Students in the program take a seminar taught by one of four advisers to explore academic degree programs, campus resources and career options. The experience affords students an opportunity to assess their abilities, interests and goals while methodically investigating the variety of academic programs offered at UMaine. At the end of the first year, students are more confident not only in identifying major or minor options, but also in their abilities to succeed in higher education. Hill says UMaine's Explorations Program may have been selected over others because of the lasting relationships advisers and students develop through counseling and the seminar. Program advisers are Emily Jirsa, Dominick Varney, Julie Loppacher, Barbara Ouellette and Hill. Hill and Varney each have been recognized by the NACADA's Northeast Region 1 for academic advising excellence in Maine, in 2007 and 2009, respectively. About a quarter of each first-year class comprises students who are undeclared, Hill says.

Charity Golf Tournament Donation Benefits Extension Youth Learning Centers

08 Nov 2010

The Midcoast Village Soup newspapers reported in the Herald Gazette recently that the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's 4-H Camp and Learning Centers at Tanglewood and Blueberry Cove have received a \$20,000 donation from the Oct. 29 Wentworth Charities Golf Classic Tournament at the Samoset Resort in Rockport. The donation will support a variety of activities, including school programs, traditional summer camps, discovery trips and leadership development programs and environmental education and nature-based experiences. Scholarships are awarded to those who are unable to afford tuition.

UMaine Gaining State-of-the-Art Magnetometer

08 Nov 2010

Contact: Robert Meulenberg, (207) 581-2245 or Robert.meulenberg@umit.maine.edu The University of Maine will by next summer have in place a state-of-the-art magnetometer with which it will be possible for faculty members in several science disciplines to perform high-resolution magnetic and electrical experiments. The superconducting quantum interference device magnetometer, known as a SQUID magnetometer, will reach temperatures of 4 to 800 Kelvin (-450 to 980 degrees Fahrenheit) and magnetic field ranges of 0-7 Tesla (more than 200,000 times the magnetic field strength of the earth). UMaine's instrument will be the only one of its kind in the state and one of few in New England. The magnetometer will allow for sensitive experiments and analysis of materials such as nanoparticles, thin films, powders, wafers and single crystals, and will, for example, allow scientists to measure magnetic moments from samples that are one million times weaker than the magnetic signal from a piece of iron. Purchase of the instrument is being made possible by a \$391,000 grant from the National Science Foundation along with other funds from the office of UMaine's vice president for research. The magnetometer will be housed at UMaine's Laboratory for Surface Science and Technology (LASST), an interdisciplinary center that brings together faculty and student researchers from the departments of physics, chemistry, electrical and computer engineering, and chemical and biological engineering. Although UMaine Assistant Professor of Physics Robert Meulenberg was the principal investigator on the grant, he envisions the instrument being used by UMaine students, researchers and faculty from a wide variety of sciences. For at least the first year of its use, the magnetometer, which uses liquid helium as a cooling agent, will be open to and free for use by any UMaine-affiliated researcher. Meulenberg is encouraging faculty or student researchers to contact him if

they're interested in using the magnetometer. "If you have samples you think are magnetic, we'll run them free of charge," he said. "We're hoping new science can be generated from these initial uses and then future grants can be written with money incorporated to help cover future operational costs." In addition to physics and engineering, Meulenberg said the instrument has applications in the areas of chemistry, geology, earth sciences, biology and other areas. Meulenberg said UMaine would welcome high school groups to see the new instrument starting next fall. "We'd like to expose students of a younger age to interesting physics," he said.

Artist Safavi to Speak Tuesday at 7 p.m.

08 Nov 2010

Artist Reza Safavi (<http://www.hi-reza.com/>) will give a talk on Tuesday Nov. 9 at 7 p.m., in Room 100 Lord Hall. He will talk about his current interactive art projects and collaborations. Using a variety of media to create interactive displays, Safavi explores the ways in which technology influences human perceptions, social behavior and other aspects of daily life.

Fogler Library Sponsoring Town Reports Event

08 Nov 2010

Contact: Gretchen Gfeller, 581-1667 ORONO, Maine -- Is your family name in the town report? Did it appear there in 1898? What did this mean? Do you still think of the annual reports prepared by towns in Maine as dull bureaucratic documents detailing arcane activities of municipal governments, of little interest to anyone except local residents? This view will be challenged in a program sponsored by the Friends of Fogler Library entitled "Town Reports: Rich Texts, Vital Resources," being held in the Special Collections Reading Room of Fogler Library on Monday, Nov. 15, at 3 p.m. Librarians Mel Johnson and Richard Hollinger will demonstrate that town reports are unique and valuable resources for local history and genealogy, and are essential sources for research on regional and state history as well, containing information about social history often available nowhere else. The program will also feature "Maine Town Reports Online," where digitized historical reports from a number of Maine towns can be viewed. This site is a collaborative project between Fogler Library, the Maine State Library and several municipalities and historical societies. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information contact Gretchen Gfeller at gretchen.gfeller@umit.maine.edu or call 581-1696. Individuals, towns and organizations that would like to add their town's report to this site should contact Sharon Quinn Fitzgerald at Fogler Library (voice: 581-1667, email: sharonquinn.fitzgerald@umit.maine.edu).

News Report on Pine Needle/Tamiflu Project

09 Nov 2010

WABI television broadcast a Monday report about a UMaine chemistry research effort. A team led by professors Ray Fort and Barbara Cole, both of whom were interviewed in the story, are developing better ways to extract a specific acid from pine needles. That acid is a primary ingredient in Tamiflu, a medicine commonly used to treat influenza.

News Reports on Fish Lab Project

09 Nov 2010

A MaineBiz story and a longer Bangor Daily News report describe UMaine plans to build a state-of-the-art aquaculture research laboratory on the university's Orono campus. The Bangor Daily News story includes comments from Prof. Ian Bricknell, Libra Professor of Aquaculture Biology and director of UMaine's Aquaculture Research Institute and Debbie Bouchard, manager of the Maine Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory.

Veterans Day Motorcade, Funeral Planned for Zimmerman

09 Nov 2010

Tuesday's Bangor Daily News reports on plans for a Thursday Aroostook County motorcade and funeral, honoring and remembering Marine Lt. James Zimmerman, who was killed last week while serving in Afghanistan. Zimmerman was a 2008 UMaine graduate, commissioned as a Marine officer upon completion of UMaine's Navy ROTC program. The motorcade will begin in Smyrna, traveling to Houlton where an 11 a.m. funeral will be held at the high school.

UMaine Volunteers Collecting Holiday Gifts for Crossroads

09 Nov 2010

Contact: Lauren Wagner, 581-1796 ORONO -- The UMaine Bodwell Center for Service & Volunteerism, Phi Gamma Delta and Crossroads Ministries have joined together again to collect holiday gifts for families in the greater Old Town-Orono-area facing hard times as the holidays approach. The Holiday Sharing Program and "A FIJI Christmas" effort is unique, confidential and operates on the premise that parents know the needs of a child the best. Area families will choose gifts for their children in a confidential setting. The shopping experience will take place by appointment at Crossroads Ministries. Last year, more than 340 children benefited from the generosity of the community and the university. Phi Gamma Delta hosted A FIJI Christmas, a gift-collection competition among UMaine fraternities and sororities, which collected more than 300 gifts for Crossroads. Other UMaine student organizations, in addition to community organizations, contributed to the success. Kiwanis, Orono Health Association, Red Shield, Old Town Methodist Church and the Governor's Restaurant also helped out. This year, Kiwanis already has made a \$1,000 donation. Members of the community in need of support for the holiday season can visit Crossroads Ministries at 2 Wood St. in Old Town, or call 827-1298 for more information. Those wishing to donate are asked to please bring gifts valued at no more than \$25 to the Bodwell Center in Hannibal Hamlin Hall at UMaine or to Crossroads Ministries by Dec. 10. Those who would like to support the Holiday Sharing Program through cash donations are invited to contact Lauren Wagner at the Bodwell Center for Service & Volunteerism at 581-1796 or email: lauren.wagner@umit.maine.edu.

Engineering Lab Dedication Today at Boardman Hall

09 Nov 2010

Contact: Vicky Blanchette 581-2204 or 944-2695 The College of Engineering at the University of Maine is holding an event today at 3 p.m. to dedicate the Alton '38 and Adelaide Hamm Student Design Project Laboratory. The dedication will be held in Room 1 of Boardman Hall. The donor, Alton Hamm, will arrive about 2:30 p.m. to meet with close to 20 students who are recipients of the Hamm scholarship. The dedication ceremony will include remarks from Dana Humphrey, dean of the College of Engineering, Sue Hunter, Vice President and Provost, and Alton Hamm, Class of 1938.

Website Mentions New Magnetometer

10 Nov 2010

The science, physics and technology website Physorg.com has [a story about a new piece of equipment](#) that will be up and running at UMaine next fall. UMaine is gaining a superconducting quantum interference device magnetometer, known as a SQUID magnetometer, which will make it possible for faculty members in several science disciplines to perform high-resolution magnetic and electrical experiments.

Sea Grant Involved In Meetings About Marine Resources

10 Nov 2010

UMaine's Sea Grant Program is teaming up with the Department of Marine Resources and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute on a series of meetings around the state to focus and encourage research in areas of importance to the sustainability of Maine's marine resources, according to [a story](#) on the website fenceviewer.com. The first meeting, the topic of which will be sea scallop issues, will be held Nov. 18 at the Lee Pellon Center in Machias.

Hermansen Weighs in On Land Dispute

10 Nov 2010

Knud Hermansen of the UMaine engineering faculty provided expertise that helped the town of [Minot settle](#) a dispute over a building permit. The town's board of appeals voted on Tuesday night to reverse a previous decision and grant a land developer permission to build on a lot located beyond the end of York Road.

Law, Politics of Global Economy Is Forum Topic

10 Nov 2010

Contact: Jim Settele, (207) 581-1835 The UMaine School of Policy and International Affairs will host Ambassador John K. Veroneau, former Deputy United States Trade Representative and a University of Maine alumnus, Nov. 15 at 4 p.m. in the D.P. Corbett Business Building for a discussion on the law and politics of a global economy. He is scheduled to deliver the talk earlier in the day, at a Bangor Foreign Policy Forum lecture at 7:30 a.m. in the Bangor Public Library. The events are free and open to the public.

UMaine Art Museum Call for Entries

11 Nov 2010

The University of Maine Museum of Art has created the Photo National 2011 exhibition to run June 23 - September 17, 2011. This highly competitive exhibition will feature a survey of contemporary photography from throughout the United States. The exhibition will be juried by George Kinghorn, director and curator of the University of Maine Museum of Art and Brian Paul Clamp, director of CLAMPART Gallery, NYC. For more information, contact Stephen Ringle (art@maine.edu), museum registrar.

2010 William S. Cohen Papers Forum Friday at UMaine

11 Nov 2010

Contact: Jim Settele, 581-1835 "The Promise & Problems of Transparency" is the title of the William S. Cohen Papers Forum 2010 on Friday, Nov. 12, featuring a panel of journalists, government representatives and academics discussing an issue of importance to Maine's former U.S. Representative, Senator and Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen, a Bangor native. The forum, which is free and open to the public, will be a daylong series of panel discussions from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the UMaine Wells Conference Center. Cary Coglianesse, deputy dean and professor of political science at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, who served as the chair of a nonpartisan Task Force on Transparency and Public Participation for OMB Watch, a Washington, D.C., advocacy organization, will give the keynote address after opening remarks at 9 a.m. More information, including registration information and details about the program, are available at the Fogler Library website http://www.library.umaine.edu/cohen/transparency/event_info.htm.

Kornfield in News Report on Illegal Hunting

11 Nov 2010

UMaine Prof. Irv Kornfield is featured in a WABI television story about his work helping the Maine Warden Service investigate illegal hunting cases. Working in UMaine's Wildlife Forensic DNA lab, Kornfield assesses evidence and matches animal DNA in ways that help law enforcement officials investigate and prosecute these crimes.

Neuman Comments in Innovation Story

11 Nov 2010

Comments from Deb Neuman, director of UMaine's Target Technology Incubator, are included in a front-page Thursday Bangor Daily News story about Wednesday's Invention to Venture conference. The UMaine technology incubator organized the conference, held in Orono. Under Secretary of Commerce David Kappos spoke at the conference, lauding Maine and its people for the "can-do attitude" that's an element of successful business innovation.

Army, Navy ROTC Veteran's Day Vigil Today

11 Nov 2010

Contact: UMaine Army ROTC, (207) 581-1125 Cadets from the Army and Navy ROTC at UMaine will participate in the annual Veteran's Day Vigil today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the steps of Fogler Library. A joint color guard will stand at attention in dress uniforms in honor of veterans of the nation's wars and military services. Congress voted Veteran's Day into law on May 24, 1954. Previously, Nov. 11 was celebrated as Armistice Day, the day in 1918 when the Germans signed the armistice to cease all hostilities and end the First World War.

Lecture Topic Is Hydro-Quebec, US Energy Demands

11 Nov 2010

Contact: Craig Harris, 581-4220 The 2010 Canada Week Distinguished Lecture on Monday, November 15 will be presented by David Massell, professor of Canadian history at the University of Vermont. Massell has done extensive research on the politics and policy of hydroelectricity in Quebec, which is largely driven by escalating US demand for energy. The title of his talk and discussion, from 3-6 p.m. at the Buchanan Alumni House, is "A Question of Power: A Brief History of Hydroelectricity in Quebec." The event, sponsored by the UMaine Canadian-American Center, is free and open to the public. A reception follows the lecture.

Economist Available to Discuss Significance of Black Friday Shopping

11 Nov 2010

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- As the holiday shopping season jump-starts in the early morning hours of Friday, Nov. 26 with bargain-hungry consumers expected to jam the aisles possibly in record numbers, UMaine Cooperative Extension specialist and professor of economics Jim McConnon is available to discuss trends, traditions and the economic importance of "Black Friday." Black Friday, so called because it is a chance for many merchants to get their budgets in the black, traditionally is one of the biggest shopping days of the year. Many retailers also roll out what could also be the best bargains of the year. For some retailers and small businesses in Maine, seasonal sales account for 25-40 percent of their annual sales. The National Retail Federation projects a 2.3-percent rise in retail spending this holiday season, an improvement from last year's 0.4-percent increase and the dismal 3.9 percent holiday sales decline in 2008. The 2010 forecast is still below the 10-year average of 2.5 percent. According to McConnon, Maine retailers are likely to see a slightly better year than last year. Year-to-date (January 2010-August 2010) retail sales were up about 3 percent from last year, personal income in Maine was up 2.6 percent in the first two quarters of 2010 compared to the same period in 2009, and wage and salary income was up 1.7 percent in first two quarters of 2010 compared to 2009. However, Maine unemployment is still high at 7.7 percent in September, compared to 8.1 percent during the last quarter of 2009. U.S. consumer confidence fell 6 percent from February 2010-August 2010. Shoppers this holiday season are expected to continue to focus on price and value. As a result, retailers will offer promotions throughout the shopping season. Apparel, sporting goods, books, music and personal care (low-ticket items) are expected to do better than high-ticket items like housing-related categories, large appliances, etc., McConnon's research indicates. Jewelry is expected to be very popular this year as are mobile devices like iPhones and androids as consumers start to loosen their purse strings. A bright spot this year is that online sales are expected to increase again this year. Offers of free shipping, discounts and growing trend of social networking continue to spur online sales. Although online sales represent only 3.4 percent of all retail sales, they have grown in importance over the past decade. Some tips for holiday shoppers this year include: develop a budget to guide purchasing choices; make a list and stick to it; shop early, as retailers burned by oversupplying two years ago, are keeping inventories down; look for discount coupons and check out online coupon sites; avoid crowds by shopping early and late in day; and keep receipts. Tips for retailers this holiday

season include: provide exceptional customer service; keep a sharp eye on pricing; price for target markets; manage inventory carefully; and don't cut back on advertising.

UMaine Professor Comments on Senate Race

11 Nov 2010

Jonathan Farley of the UMaine computer science faculty co-authored an opinion column published by The State, a South Carolina newspaper. In that column and [a similar essay that The Guardian newspaper in Great Britain](#) asked him to write, Farley criticizes the Democratic party establishment for its failure to support the South Carolina Senate candidacy of Alvin Greene. Farley is a principal in the Warren Group, a political consulting agency that worked on the Greene campaign.

UMaine Cooperative Extension Counsels Caution With Specialty Oils

12 Nov 2010

Contact: Jason Bolton, (207) 942-7396 or Jason.Bolton@maine.edu A bottle of flavored or infused oil can be a special homemade holiday gift, and use of such oils in cooking can lend a gourmet touch to a holiday meal. As Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah and other holidays draw near, Jason Bolton of University of Maine Cooperative Extension is reminding the public about the proper techniques and potential dangers in making, storing and consuming flavored or infused oils. Bolton, an Extension food safety specialist based in Bangor, said the primary concern for flavored or infused oils is the extremely dangerous microorganism *Clostridium botulinum* (C. bot), which causes botulism poisoning. Flavored or infused oils contain vegetables, fruits or herbs that can be contaminated with C. bot spores. Oil provides a perfect oxygen-free environment for growth of the microbe. Among Bolton's recommendations are to clean, sanitize and thoroughly dry the container and lid that will be used for oil storage, use a good quality oil such as olive or vegetable oil, use dried herbs or garlic, and to be aware of proper heating temperatures for oil or vinegar in the case of flavored or infused acidified oil. Those making acidified oil should be aware of proper pH levels in order to prevent C. bot spore proliferation. Contact Bolton for more information about sanitation, storage, and preparations of flavored or infused oils from dried ingredients or acidified oil.

Honors College Staffer Emily Cain Among Honored Alumni

12 Nov 2010

Contact: Joe Carr, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu ORONO -- University of Maine Honors College advancement coordinator Emily Cain was among several alums recognized with annual awards during an Oct. 16 Homecoming event at Buchanan Alumni House. University of Maine Alumni Association President Todd Saucer '93, '97G presented the awards, with assistance from board chair Kurt Marston '74, '79G. Cain, a 2002 graduate who is currently working on a UMaine Ph.D. in public policy, received the Spirit of Maine Achievement Award, given to an alum who graduated within the past 15 years. Winners' accomplishments, commitment and initiative reflect the high standards and vitality of the University of Maine. Cain, was elected on Nov. 2 to her fourth term in the Maine House of Representatives representing District 19. She served as House Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in the 124th Maine Legislature. A music education major as an undergraduate, Cain also earned a master's degree in higher education from Harvard University. An accomplished singer, she led those in attendance in a rousing rendition of the Stein Song. Sylvia A. Tapley '65 was presented the Hilda A. Sterling '55 Class Correspondent Award in recognition of exemplary service to her class as their correspondent since 1972. A loyal alumna who was sociology major, Tapley came to the university as a sophomore and immediately became active in campus organizations. She joined Chi Omega and served as its president her senior year. She belonged to the Maine Christian Association, worked on the Prism yearbook, served on the Pan Hellenic Council, and belonged to the Social Work Club. She also joined the board of Associated Women Students (AWS) and was activities chair for Hart Hall. Alicia J. Nichols '82 received the 2010 Block "M" Award presented for outstanding leadership in local alumni chapters, class activities and support of programs sponsored by the association. Nichols, a professional fundraising consultant, was honored for generously volunteering her time and expertise in assisting in UMAA's fundraising efforts as well as for her work with her class

reunion committee and the Kennebec Valley Alumni Chapter. Nichols was instrumental in developing a Maine Women's Ice Hockey Program in the 1980s and recently helped organize a highly successful alumni day celebrating three decades of women's hockey at UMaine. "I dedicate this award to all the women who've played Division I Ice Hockey at UMaine... because there is no 'I' in team," she said in accepting the award. Saucier called on Dana Humphrey, dean of UMaine's College of Engineering, to induct Elwood "Woody" Beach '51 as a Distinguished Member in the Francis Crowe Society. The society is named for the 1905 UMaine alum who spearheaded construction of the Hoover Dam, among the largest, most complex engineering projects of its time. Beach, a general engineering major at UMaine, commented on how the breadth of his engineering education from the university helped him succeed in overcoming many diverse challenges he faced during his long career in the paper and related industries. The event also featured formal creation of a new recognition society: the Alvin S. McNeilly '44 Cornerstone Society. The society recognizes those who have made outright or planned gifts of \$10,000 or more to the UMAA endowment. Adrienne Pelletier '05, '08G, director of alumni giving, presented the plaque to McNeilly and quoted his many accomplishments and contributions. In accepting the honor, McNeilly talked about his relationship with the Class of 2010 and said, "If you are worried about the next generation, don't be. These are smart kids who will make a mark on the world." The highlight of the afternoon was the unveiling of the 2010 Traditions Garden, a gift from the most recent graduating class with assistance from several other classes. The traditions concept grew out of the class's interaction with McNeilly '44, who initiated the "adopt a class" program four years ago. Asked to speak to first year students about UMaine traditions from the past, McNeilly formed a bond with those students that led to the Class of '44 working with the Class of 2010 to help them build class unity and make a difference to the university. According to Class of 2010 president, Ashley Robinson, the class could think of no better way to contribute than to help preserve the university's heritage through their new garden. The landscaped area features stepping stones, benches and plaques explaining each of the traditions, such as Maine Day, Ivy Day, Senior Skulls and Sophomore Owls among others. It is located on the side of Buchanan House facing Lengyel Gym.

FISHLab Plan On Website

12 Nov 2010

The website allaboutfeed.net, which is based in the Netherlands, [mentioned UMaine's plan to build a high-level containment cold-water lab](#) in which fish pathogens can be studied in order to develop vaccines and medicines for fighting diseases. UMaine received a \$600,000 grant from the Maine Technology Institute for the new lab.

News Reports On Connection Between Pine Needles And Antiflu Drug

12 Nov 2010

Portland-based WGME has a report on UMaine research into the extraction of a starter molecule of antiflu drug Tamiflu. Chemistry professors Ray Fort and Barbara Cole were interviewed for the report. [Canada-based Digital Journal also ran a story about the findings.](#)

UMaine ROTC Members In Portland Newspaper

12 Nov 2010

[Members of UMaine's Army ROTC program were photographed at a Veteran's Day event Thursday in Portland.](#)

New Zealand Website Has Report On Animal Disease Testing Kits

12 Nov 2010

The website Horsetalk.co.nz highlighted [a story about UMaine's work to develop new and inexpensive field test kits](#) that would detect certain bacteria in animals, including the bacteria that causes equine strangles. Robert Causey, a veterinarian and associate professor in the university's Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, is driving the research.

Cooperative Extension Charitable Garden Program Doubled 2010 Harvest

12 Nov 2010

Contact: Barbara Murphy, (207) 743-6329; George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 SOUTH PARIS -- The numbers are in and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Maine Harvest for Hunger Program this year surpassed by more than 56.3 tons -- or 112,687 pounds -- the 87,319 pounds of fresh garden produce donated to charity last year by volunteer gardeners around the state. Volunteer gardeners in 13 counties this year donated 200,006 pounds, or 100 tons, of vegetables and fruit, which included nearly 9 tons of potatoes, to food pantries, shelters and charitable organizations around the state, according to a jubilant Extension educator Barbara Murphy in the South Paris Oxford County office. Murphy oversees the program, renamed this year from "Plant-A-Row for the Hungry" to "Maine Harvest for the Hungry." That's 112,687 pounds more than the 2010 goal of 125,000 pounds of fresh produce. "Extension volunteers, with the support of Extension employees, produce and gather fresh fruit and vegetables for distribution to 45 Maine food pantries and soup kitchens," Murphy says. "We asked for an extra effort this year to attempt to meet the growing need, and our volunteer gardeners really came through. We couldn't be more excited." The Maine Harvest for Hunger program engages nearly 200 highly committed Master Gardener volunteers across the state in growing, gleaned and distributing food for Maine residents with limited finances or resources to buy fresh produce. Murphy has worked to raise awareness of the opportunity for backyard gardeners and others to "plant an extra row" to donate to one of many drop-off locations in Maine. She says the program is growing, but needs to grow more. "Local farmers are critical to the effort and donate thousands of pounds to the project," Murphy says. Donated fruits and vegetables increase in volume each year, as does the number of gardeners participating in the program. So, too, Murphy says, does the need. Since 2000, volunteers have now raised, gathered and donated almost 452 tons of fresh produce to the Extension charitable gardening program. For information and details on future participation, Murphy can be reached by email at Barbara.murphy@maine.edu or by telephone at 1-800-287-1482 in Maine. The charitable garden harvest program was the 2010 winner of the Steven Gould Award for Service to the University.

Business Professors Available to Assess Possible Phone Book Elimination

12 Nov 2010

Contact: Paul Myer, 581- 1992; Nory Jones, 581-1971; Harold Daniel, 581-1933 ORONO -- Three University of Maine business school faculty members are available to discuss the implications of the potential cessation of telephone directory distribution in Maine, as is being done in a growing number of states, as consumers continue shifting to the Internet for information, including telephone numbers. Tech-savvy tourists and many Maine residents may already be accessing business product and service information, including online yellow pages, through the web by computer, GPS or smart phones, according to Maine Business School marketing professor Harold Daniel. "The loss will be for those isolated households in rural communities that do not yet have Internet service, or where Internet connections are difficult to obtain," he says. "Even some urban households will consider the withdrawal of white pages and yellow pages service to be an inconvenience." Paul Myer, marketing professor and executive in residence at the business school, suggests that most Maine residents and business would not welcome the extinction of paper telephone directories, should it be proposed in Maine. "If it happened here, it could represent a potential market opportunity for another entity to provide the service," Myer says. "Would businesses want to continue to pay for listings and advertisements? Perhaps that's a task for the non-profit sector." Nory Jones, director of graduate business programs and associate professor of management information systems, also is available to discuss the state's preparedness to offer more widespread broadband access. They agree that older people not completely at ease with Internet navigation could be among the population of most significantly effected people.

Former UMaine Ph.D. Student Credited with New Mineral Discovery

12 Nov 2010

Contact: Edward Grew, (207) 581-2169 The October issue of the journal [The Canadian Mineralogist](#) includes a peer-reviewed article by UMaine Department of Earth Sciences faculty researcher Edward Grew, recent Ph.D. student Jeffrey Marsh and colleagues about the discovery in 2009 by Marsh of a new mineral, a species of garnet named "menzerite-

(Y)" in honor of the German crystallographer Georg Menzer (1897-1989). Marsh, now a faculty fellow at Colby College, discovered the mineral in specimens from his field area in Canada during work for his doctoral thesis at UMaine. This is the first time that a Maine student has ever discovered a mineral species that is new to science, according to Grew. Menzerite-Y was officially recognized and approved in 2009 by the Commission on New Minerals and Mineral Names of the International Mineralogical Association. The final step in establishing a new mineral is publication in the peer-reviewed scientific literature, which has now been done. The National Science Foundation and University of Maine Doctoral Research Fellowship sponsored the research by Jeff and the Maine team.

Budgeting Expert Offering Holiday Shopping Tips

12 Nov 2010

Contact: Jane Conroy, (207) 564-3301 or toll free in-state, 1-800-287-1491 DOVER-FOXCROFT -- The holiday shopping season is the most lucrative time of the year for many retailers, but it also is a time when consumers can build up sometimes unmanageable debt splurging on gifts or personal impulse-buying. University of Maine Cooperative Extension educator and family budgeting expert Jane Conroy is available to discuss how following basic budgeting principles can help prepare consumers for wise and efficient holiday shopping. Conroy's advice can help shoppers plan ahead and control the type of unplanned impulse buying that can land personal finances deep in the red or result in excessive credit card balances at rising interest rates. Conroy can be reached in the Piscataquis County Extension office in Dover-Foxcroft at (207) 564-3301 or toll-free in Maine at 1-800-287-1491.

Collegiate Chorale, Chamber Choir Concert Saturday

12 Nov 2010

Contact: Collins Center for the Arts box office, 581-1755 The University of Maine's Collegiate Chorale and Chamber Choir will perform a diverse program of choral work dating from the 16th century through the 20th century on Saturday, November 13 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall. Admission is \$7; admittance is free for students with a MaineCard.

UMaine Inclement Weather Policy Reminder

14 Nov 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- As winter approaches, members of the UMaine community may wish to review the university's inclement weather plan, online at <http://www.umaine.edu/weatherpolicy/>. While class cancellations attributable to weather are rare, there are a number of ways to stay informed about the current status of scheduled classes. Broadcast television and radio cancellation lists may be useful, but they are less timely and reliable than the numerous information channels UMaine uses to directly update students, faculty members and staff members: - Recorded announcements at 581-SNOW - Posted updates at <http://www.umaine.edu> - Text messages delivered through the UMaine.txt emergency messaging system (<http://www.umaine.edu/emergency/>); be sure to select the "Class Cancellations Due to Inclement Weather" group option - Information notices in several First Class folders: Announcements & Alerts, Provost/Acad Affairs, University Forum and Parking/Traffic Issues - The UMaine News Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/umainenews> - The UMaine News Twitter feed: <http://www.twitter.com/umainenews>

Hamilton in New York Times Glacier Story

15 Nov 2010

Comments from Gordon Hamilton, a professor in UMaine's Climate Change Institute, are included in [a front-page Sunday New York Times story](#) detailing scientific research related to changes in Greenland's glaciers. The story says that Hamilton and others are working "to answer one of the most urgent - and most widely debated - questions facing humanity: How fast is the world's ice going to melt?" Hamilton calls the changes "alarming," telling the Times that scientists are seeing "ice sheets changing literally overnight." Hamilton is also featured in [an online slide show that](#)

[accompanies the story.](#)

Nelson Discussed Mercury Research on Radio Program

15 Nov 2010

Sarah Nelson, a researcher in UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, was interviewed last week for a segment on WERU radio's "Talk of the Town" program. Along with representatives of Old Town High School and the Schoodic Education Research Center Institute, she discussed a collaborate project in mercury ecosystem science.

Jackson in Sun Journal Turkey Story

15 Nov 2010

Comments from Tori Jackson of UMaine Cooperative Extension were included in [a Sunday Lewiston Sun Journal story](#) about Thanksgiving alternatives to turkey. She provided some historical context about how turkey came to be associated with the holiday meal.

Brewer Comments on Relevance of Political Parties

15 Nov 2010

Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty provided comment for [a Maine Sunday Telegram story](#) about the impact and relevance of political parties in Maine politics. The story is based in part on post-election comments from Eliot Cutler, the independent candidate who lost Maine's gubernatorial election by about one percent of the vote.

Cohen Papers Forum News Coverage

15 Nov 2010

Saturday's Bangor Daily News included a report about Friday's UMaine forum, "The Promise and Problem of Transparency." The session, which featured an address by Cary Coglianese of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, was part of UMaine's William S. Cohen Papers Forum series. It was sponsored by UMaine's Fogler Library (home of the Cohen papers), UMaine's William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce, the Max Kagan Family Foundation, the Bangor Daily News and the Maine Humanities Council.

UMaine Professor Rubin Appointed Chair of National Committee

15 Nov 2010

ORONO -- Jonathan Rubin, a professor in the University of Maine School of Economics and Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, has been appointed chair of a national committee looking at issues related to energy use and efficiency in passenger and freight transportation. The [Transportation Energy Committee](#), which Rubin now chairs, is part of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) of the National Academies. Based in Washington, DC, TRB provides "leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary and multimodal," according to its Web site. It is jointly administered by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine. Rubin, whose areas of expertise include the economics of alternative transportation fuels and vehicles, has been on the UMaine faculty since 1998. He has conducted extensive research on market-based solutions to achieve environmental goals. He was the lead author of a 2009 study, conducted on behalf of the Maine Dept. of Transportation, reviewing Maine's winter road maintenance measures, including the use of road salt, the environmental impact and driver safety. Rubin is currently leading the effort, funded by the Energy Foundation, to evaluate a national low carbon fuel standard.

Getting There From Here; Coastal Access Information Now Available in Five States

15 Nov 2010

Contact Kristen Grant, (207) 646-1555 x115, kristen.grant@maine.edu Across the country, fishermen, kayakers, town officials, and waterfront property owners face local conflicts over access to beaches, rivers, and shorelines. In Maine, where such conflicts revealed a need for information about legal mechanisms for addressing coastal access issues, Maine Sea Grant created an online access resource with funding from the National Sea Grant Law Center.

Seeing that the website—"everything you wanted to know about rights and responsibilities of accessing the coast of Maine"—was adaptable for application in other coastal areas, the National Sea Grant Law Center provided additional small grants to four other Sea Grant Programs to replicate the Maine model in Alabama, Hawaii, Mississippi, New Jersey, and Virginia. These five new websites offer a host of new and expanded features in addition to the legal toolbox for coastal access. Several states plan to add mapping capabilities to their sites in the future. The Auburn University Marine Extension and Research Center adapted the website for Alabama and Mississippi aided by the expertise of the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Legal Program and local stakeholders. The Hawai'i site created by Hawai'i Sea Grant includes that state's unique distinction between access to the beach (regulated by counties) and access along the shore (regulated by the state). [NJ Coastal Access](#), adapted by New Jersey Sea Grant, brought greater awareness to the issue, leading to the administration of a New Jersey Beachgoer Survey to determine their perceptions and needs for public access to New Jersey's coast. Virginia Sea Grant's Accessing the [Virginia Coast web tool](#) also serves as the online presence for the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority, a special unit of government dedicated to improving public access to Virginia's waterways. The Virginia site features a Working Waterfront Master Plan, and a searchable database of coastal access resources. "One of the main objectives of the Law Center's grant competition is to build capacity of individual Sea Grant programs to conduct outreach on legal issues in their states," said Law Center Director Stephanie Showalter. "It is therefore essential that the tools developed are shared throughout the network. I'm glad the Law Center could facilitate the replication of the Maine website, and I hope other Sea Grant programs will consider adopting and building on this model in their states." Website creators hope the new resources will foster cooperative solutions to resolving local coastal access conflicts.

Boston Globe Bridge-in-a-Backpack Story

15 Nov 2010

Monday's Boston Globe includes [a story about "bridge-in-a-backpack" technology created at UMaine](#). The story features comments from Prof. Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center, along with Brit Svoboda, chief executive of Advanced Infrastructure Technologies. His company licenced the technology from UMaine to develop it for commercial applications.

Extension Researcher in News Report

15 Nov 2010

Laura Wilson from the UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty was featured in a WLBZ (Channel 2) news story about the importance of having well water tested for contaminants. The report says that more than half of Mainers get their water from wells.

Channel 2 Story on Phone Books Includes Myer

15 Nov 2010

A Sunday WLBZ television story included perspectives from Paul Myer of the UMaine business faculty, discussing the demise of the printed telephone book. In the business context, Myer says, those publications are a "historical relic."

Peterson in BDN Tidal Power Story

15 Nov 2010

Comments from Mick Peterson of the UMaine mechanical engineering faculty are included in a Bangor Daily News story reporting on a tidal power forum held Saturday at Maine Maritime Academy.

Dancer, Choreographer Alison Chase at CCA Friday

15 Nov 2010

Contact: CCA Box Office, 581-1755 Celebrated dancer, choreographer and artistic collaborator Alison Chase, founding artistic director of the Pilobolus Dance Theater, will perform Friday, Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts at UMaine. Details are available on the [CCA website](#).

Harrison in Channel 5 Report on Wolves in Maine

16 Nov 2010

Prof. Dan Harrison of the UMaine wildlife ecology faculty is featured in a WABI television story about issues related to wolves in the Maine woods. The report was the first in a two-part series scheduled to conclude on Tuesday evening's news.

Former Black Bear Gets NHL Coaching job

16 Nov 2010

Former UMaine hockey All-American Jack Capuano has been named interim head coach of the National Hockey League's New York Islanders. Tuesday's Bangor Daily News has a [story](#) about Capuano and his new job, announced on Monday by Islanders general manager (also a former Black Bear hockey player) Garth Snow. Capuano, who lives in Bangor with his family, played for UMaine from 1985-88.

UMaine Grad Appointed to Ambassador Post

16 Nov 2010

President Obama has appointed 1971 UMaine graduate Pamela White ambassador to The Ghana. White is an Auburn native who earned a UMaine journalism degree before embarking on a career in public service that began with work as a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon. She joined the U.S. Agency for International Development in 1978, serving in a variety of leadership roles leading to her appointment as ambassador. The Lewiston Sun Journal published a [Tuesday story](#) about White.

Heat of Battle: A Military Historian's Research Sheds Light on the Timeless Dilemma Posed by War Crimes

16 Nov 2010

By Jessica Bloch (207) 581-3777 The troop battalion that went into battle this morning has been ravaged by losses. The surviving soldiers are hungry and tired. War weary. And there are no reinforcements in sight. After walking miles, the battalion comes upon a farmhouse recently vacated by enemy sympathizers. Here for the first time in days is the promise of fresh water and food. A search of the house also turns up a cache of jewelry, to which the soldiers help themselves. In the heat of battle, the black-and-white rules of engagement can blur. And the interpretation and perception of proper military conduct can vary greatly, depending on whether you're on the front lines or on the homefront. The dilemmas are timeless, whether talking about the ongoing conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan, or a turn-of-the-century war in South Africa, according to British military historian Stephen Miller. And the answers are no clearer. "How much has changed in 100 years?" asks Miller, a University of Maine professor of history. "Do we want to hear about atrocities in Iraq? Do we want to see images of dead Iraqis or dead American soldiers? I think there is a large segment of society now, just as there was then, that does not want to hear the details." In his research, Miller focuses on the British army and the South African War known as the Boer War of 1899 to 1902. It was a conflict in which the

British were ultimately successful, but the cost was high. The British lost many men in battle and to disease, and morally it weighed heavily on both combatants and civilians. British soldiers regularly violated the rules of warfare and committed a number of atrocities, Miller says. Among them were murder, rape, forceful removal of civilians to concentration camps and unlawful destruction of property. Many transgressions were not hidden. Stories circulated throughout South Africa and some made their way home to Great Britain. But few soldiers were prosecuted and, for the most part, the British public overlooked whatever crimes were committed in pursuit of empire. Miller is interested in the nature and practice of discipline and punishment in the late-Victorian army. That includes exploration of what the British military defined as a criminal act, and how charges were investigated and punishment meted out. Using court martial records, personal letters, diaries and memoirs, he is looking at how British soldiers in South Africa viewed their actions and those of their comrades. How society defines crime on and off the battlefield was an important question in the late 19th century as more and more countries developed professional armies that were often supplemented by civilians in times of war. The relationship of the individual to the state was in great flux. “Traditionally it was argued that soldiers are different, and the reason why you need strict discipline in the service and separate laws, such as those which regulate military courts, is because soldiers have to act differently in battlefield situations, and they’re asked to do things that civilians would never have to do,” says Miller, whose newest book, *Volunteers on the Veld: Britain’s Citizen-Soldiers and the South African War, 1899–1902*, focuses on British citizen-soldiers and the depictions of the military in the South African War. “Theorists argued that a soldier must be trained to act without question when given an order by a commanding officer,” Miller says. “But this unquestioning belief in blind obedience was challenged by those who argued that soldiers needed education, not just training. They needed to take responsibility for their actions on the battlefield and not just follow commands. And as the battlefield grew larger, the individual soldier gained more independence and decision making devolved down the chain of command.” Rank-and-file professional soldiers were supplemented by civilian-soldiers —volunteers, yeomanry and militia — on the battlefield and as an occupation force, Miller adds. These soldiers did not see themselves as members of an elite military cast, but just regular men from London or Liverpool or Edinburgh. “As such, these men were not just soldiers, but they were in some ways cultural ambassadors,” Miller says. “Their actions were a reflection of their culture’s morals and values.” During the South African War, Miller says, the governments of the Boer republics continuously complained about the treatment of their civilians and prisoners of war. Many captured Boers eventually disappeared or were found dead, yet during the war only four British soldiers were found guilty of murder. In addition, the number of reported rapes was too low to be accurate, says Miller. In nearly three years of conflict, with a force of around half a million men who routinely came into contact with the enemy, only 14 soldiers were charged with rape, attempted rape or aiding and abetting rape. Of these, nine were acquitted. “In my research, I show that soldiers often shared their experiences with family and friends, and discussed their willingness to execute a prisoner if necessary, though none personally admitted to doing it,” Miller says. “According to the rules of law and conduct codes developed at the Hague Convention, which concluded only a few months before hostilities erupted, the execution of prisoners was clearly murder. There’s no other way around it. So then why were there so few British soldiers found guilty of murder? Britain was trying to preserve an image of itself.” On the homefront, some scope of the atrocities was known, but the spin was clearly pro-British. The media of the day perpetrated that in a number of ways. “Race is a term that was very fluid at the end of the 19th century and often refers to nationality,” he says. “But certain newspapers projected the Boers as sort of these backward farmers, hillbillies, hicks. And so racially they’re seen as different and not like ‘us,’ so who are you going to believe in that situation?” And it’s important to remember, Miller says, that the British soldiers fighting in the South African War came from a range of societal classes — workers, members of the middle class, elites. British society was deeply connected to its military in that sense — in a way we don’t see in contemporary society. The combination of disdain for the “other,” the importance of the British reputation, and a strong, often personal investment in military success may have set the stage for public sympathy for the military and a willingness to overlook the atrocities it committed. There was a kernel of opposition in the form of small but very vocal groups that traveled to South Africa to document the situation. Miller says one of the most well-known members was a woman named Emily Hobhouse, who documented appalling conditions in concentration camps filled with Boer women and children. “She made a big difference, because the government responded to public pressure generated around this issue,” he says. “But she was just one person from one small group, and there were many people in the public who called her a pro-Boer just for exploring the truth. That truth reflected poorly on the flag, so she was somehow anti-patriotic.” Not much has changed since the South African War, Miller says. Today, news programs still catch heat for reminding people of the war dead. Many atrocities still go unpunished. In times of war, the public “wants the job done,” but doesn’t always want to hear how it would be done, Miller says.

Child Development Learning Center Appeals for Food

16 Nov 2010

Contact: Theresa McManus, 581-2441 Children who attend the Child Development Learning Center in Merrill Hall are collecting food donations for the Black Bear Food Exchange on campus. The Exchange, located at the back of Estabrooke Hall, is a food pantry that serves the UMaine and surrounding communities. Those who would like to donate are asked to drop off food items at collection boxes in the hallway on the first floor of Merrill Hall. When boxes are full, the children will deliver the supplies to the food pantry.

Socolow Paper Referenced in Slate Column

16 Nov 2010

Slate columnist Jack Shafer uses research by UMaine journalism professor to counter opinions offered by former ABC journalist Ted Koppel in a [Sunday Washington Post column](#) on the current state of television journalism. In that piece, Koppel writes that network news divisions were "loss leader(s) that permitted NBC, CBS and ABC to justify the enormous profits made by their entertainment divisions" until 60 Minutes came along in the 1960s. Shafer's column makes frequent, detailed references to Socolow's study published in the December issue of Journalism, describing the "myth" of unprofitable news divisions designed only to serve the public.

Orono Village Market Study Reported

16 Nov 2010

Today's edition of the Bangor Daily News includes a news release about UMaine business and marketing professor Paul Myer and graduate student Kathy Welch embarking on a collaborative market study with merchants in downtown Orono. The object, Myer says, is to consider new ways to capitalize on the synergy between the University of Maine and the Orono business community to heighten Orono's visibility and identity as a destination location.

Page Farm & Home Museum Announces Holiday Activities

16 Nov 2010

Contact: Patty Henner, 581-4100 ORONO -- The University of Maine Page Farm and Home Museum has announced two popular annual holiday activities, a series of wreath-making workshops Nov. 27, Dec. 1 and Dec. 2, and Ye Olde Holiday Shoppe artisan and crafter sale on Saturday, Dec. 4. The public is invited to participate in wreath-making workshops, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 27, and from 5-7 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 1-2, at the farm and home museum. Organic decorations, including pine cones and conifer tips, along with instruction, will be provided as part of the \$15 workshop fee. Participants are welcome to accessorize with their own ornaments. Twenty-two crafters and artisans are scheduled to exhibit and have available for sale a variety of homemade items and products, including hand-wrapped wreaths, 18th and 19th century reproduction toys, woven rugs, soaps and jewelry. Artisans include Freyenhagen Family Farm (maple sugar products), Donna's Daily Bread (wholesome, unique breads), Friday Fiber Friends (hand-knitted and felt items), Olde Oak Farm (cow and goat cheese), and Black Dinah Chocolatiers of Isle au Haut (hand-crafted chocolates). "The people that sell at our event are true artisans. This is a real treat to get this many talented individuals under one roof," says museum Director Patty Henner. "Everything sold during the holiday shoppe is quality, hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind and cannot be found at the local big box stores. "We do not charge the artisans to exhibit and we do not charge an entrance fee," she says. "The museum takes great pleasure each year in bringing together these wonderful individuals from around the state and encouraging our local and regional economies." For additional information, contact the Page Farm and Home Museum at 581-4100.

Fried Quoted In Look At Growth Of Political Blogs In Maine

17 Nov 2010

UMaine political scientist Amy Fried was quoted in a Maine Media column on downeast.com about the growth of

political blogs in Maine. Fried said openly partisan political blogs are a return to the time when newspapers were openly partisan, which many were until the early 20th century.

Future Of Oyster Industry Discussed At Meeting

17 Nov 2010

A recent meeting at UMaine's Darling Marine Center in Walpole about Maine's oyster industry was the subject of an article in Fenceviewer.com. Oyster growers and state officials discussed an oyster disease that, while not lethal to humans, could affect the oyster market.

Website Notes UMaine Bridge Technology

17 Nov 2010

CompositesWorld.com noted a recent story in the Boston Globe which highlighted UMaine's bridge-in-a-backpack technology.

Russian Company Considering UMaine Bridge Technology for 2014 Olympics

17 Nov 2010

Contact: Habib Dagher, (207) 581-2138 Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's AEW C Advanced Structures and Composites Center and private company Advanced Infrastructure Technologies LLC (AIT) are talking with a Russian company about exporting UMaine's Bridge-in-a-Backpack™ technology to Russia for use in preparation for increased traffic related to the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. Representatives of Noviy Proekt, the Russian company coordinating the \$1.5 billion construction effort at the Olympic sites, will join UMaine and AIT officials on Friday morning at 11 a.m. at UMaine's AEW C Center to describe their discussions and provide details about a potential deal. Following brief remarks, news reporters will have opportunities to interview representatives from each organization, and to see demonstrations of how the bridge technology works. The Russian company is also considering the technology for use in railroad bridge construction and other public infrastructure construction in Russia and neighboring countries. Advanced Structures and Composites Center Director Habib Dagher and AIT President and CEO Brit Svoboda will host the Russian delegation, which includes the strategic development director of Noviy Proekt and heads of bridge engineering and railway development for the Russian Railway. They will be joined during Friday's announcement by officials from UMaine; Deputy Administrator Greg Nadeau from the Federal Highway Administration, who will travel from Washington D.C.; Maine Department of Transportation Commissioner David Cole and MDOT engineers; and representatives from Maine's congressional delegation. The Bridge-in-a-Backpack™, an innovative inflatable composite-concrete arch bridge, was developed at the Advanced Structures and Composites Center. This composite bridge system can reduce construction time and costs, potentially double the lifespan of bridges, reduce maintenance costs, and significantly reduce the carbon footprint of bridge construction. Six bridges have already been built in Maine using the center's technology and more are planned across the country. Advanced Infrastructure Technologies, founded by Bangor native Svoboda, is an Orono-based firm that has raised private financing and licensed the UMaine bridge technology. AIT hired engineers in Maine to design the bridges, and is manufacturing these bridges in partnership with the Kenway Corporation of Augusta. "AIT is pleased and excited to welcome our guests from Russia," Svoboda says. "It has been the goal of AIT to not only advance this Maine technology throughout the United States but to share this innovative and transformative technology globally. We continue to work closely with the USDOT, Federal Highway, state departments of transportation, counties and municipalities throughout the states and we are making inroads with our product. The response to this product has been at times almost overwhelming with calls and emails from around the U.S. as well as countries from almost every continent. This potential relationship with Russia fits perfectly in our marketing plan for 'Technologies Bridging Nations' starting in the U.S. then bridging to other nations." As part of the potential deal with Russia, AIT would provide design and engineering expertise, manufacture the elements of the bridges in Maine in partnership with other Maine companies, and export the bridge kits to Russia for construction at the Winter Olympics sites. "This would provide a wonderful opportunity for creating Maine jobs, and a historic opportunity to contribute to the success of the Winter Olympic games," Dagher says. "We are

honored that Noviy Proekt is considering a UMaine-developed technology for the Winter Olympics construction.” Noviy Proekt LLC is a diversified company engaged in the development and implementation of innovative projects in the areas of construction, complex rail systems and power transmission. A leading developer of Olympic sites and transportation infrastructure, Noviy Proekt is interested in the composite arch bridge system because it would bring cutting-edge technology to the Winter Olympic sites.

ORSP Workshop Scheduled

17 Nov 2010

UMaine's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has scheduled an informational workshop, "ORSP 103: The Post-Award Process," for Wednesday Dec. 8, 9-10:30 a.m. in Soderberg Lecture Hall. RSVP to [Amanda Ashe](#) on or before Dec. 1. More information is on the ORSP Web site.

Hamilton Glacier Research Featured in Discovery News

17 Nov 2010

The work of UMaine Climate Change Institute researcher Gordon Hamilton is featured in a [Discovery News story](#) detailing Hamilton's observations relative to changes in Greenland's glaciers. The Greenland ice sheet is retreating at what Hamilton has called an "alarming" rate. The Discovery story references an extensive Nov. 14 [New York Times report](#) about this issue and the related research.

Channel 5 Story Includes Harrison

17 Nov 2010

Comments from Prof. Dan Harrison of the UMaine wildlife ecology faculty were included in a Tuesday WABI television report about reports of cougars showing up in the Maine woods. "In terms of a viable population of cougars, I'm very, very skeptical about that," he said.

Geddes Simpson Lecture Nominations Sought

17 Nov 2010

Contact: Judy Round, (round@maine.edu) The Simpson Lecture Series Selection Committee is calling for nominations for the 10th annual Geddes W. Simpson Lecture, which will be held on Monday, April 4, 2011. The Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture was established to support a lecture series through which speakers of prominence that have provided significant insight into the area where science and history intersect are invited to speak on campus. A statement of nomination along with the nominee's vita should be submitted to Judy Round, University of Maine Foundation, Two Alumni Place, Orono, ME 04469-5792 no later than Friday, Dec. 10, or via e-mail round@maine.edu.

UMaine Grant to Help Address Shortage of Special Ed Teachers

17 Nov 2010

Contact: Lu Zeph, (207) 581-1207; Sandra Horne, (207) 581-1236 ORONO – The University of Maine has received \$1.2 million in grant funding to begin preparing more and better-qualified early intervention special education teachers to serve increasing numbers of children with disabilities in Maine. The four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs is enabling the UMaine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS) and the College of Education and Human Development to collaborate in offering a Master's in Special Education degree with a specialization in early intervention. It includes a new fifth-year advanced degree option that begins with graduate courses in a student's fourth undergraduate year and includes two summers and a fifth year of graduate study. Within four years, up to 20 students now in college will enter school systems, childcare centers, Head Start programs and other facilities that work with children from birth to age five. They'll have had experience with

diverse learners and new coursework to better prepare them for the growing population of special needs students. In addition, 20 specialists or teachers already working in the field will be able to pursue an advanced degree online from anywhere in or out of the state, according to Lu Zeph, director of the CCIDS and principal investigator for the grant. The new fifth-year master's option is designed to "accelerate the trajectory and get highly qualified educators out there faster," Zeph says. "It also ensures that when students do internships or practicum, they're doing them in settings that include children with disabilities. This gives them that experience at the undergraduate level." Mary Elin Logue, associate professor of early childhood education and a co-investigator who will help provide future teachers for the CCIDS courses, says most teachers would benefit from more coursework to~prepare them to work more effectively with young children with diverse learning needs. "It's our goal that our students will have the ability to work with all children, including children with disabilities," she says. The Early Childhood Opportunities (EChO) Scholars project will provide tuition scholarships for students selected through a competitive process, and addresses a serious shortage of credentialed early intervention teachers in Maine. UMaine students now in early childhood education can begin applying this month and will begin the program in the 2011 spring semester. Recruitment for practicing professionals will begin in early 2011. "There is a great need both nationally and in Maine for highly qualified professionals to work with young children with disabilities, birth to five," Zeph says. "This project also emphasizes understanding and accommodating high-needs children and families. Not only are we looking to prepare early educators to work with children with disabilities and their families, but in particular those who are underserved -- such as children who live in poverty, are homeless, and those who live in rural and remote areas where access to specialized services is limited." The population also includes English language learners. Deborah Rook-Ellis, EChO project coordinator and assistant professor of birth-age 5 early intervention in CCIDS, calls the shortage of special education teachers "critical." "There are workers in those fields who are not certified to be there," she says. Providing early intervention and addressing children's special needs at an earlier age can have a substantial positive impact on their development, Zeph says. A child's neurological development is most rapid from birth to age 3, which makes it even more important, she adds.

Holidays Not So Bright for Some

17 Nov 2010

Contact: Len Kaye, (207) 262-7922, Nancy Webster, (207) 217-8185 BANGOR -- For most people, the holiday season is traditionally a time for giving thanks and celebrating, but for many, holidays can be lonely, discouraging times of isolation. Homebound elders, people with debilitating health issues, newly divided families or people who have recently lost a loved one are among the many who may feel they have little to celebrate with friends and family members. Len Kaye, professor of social work and director of the University of Maine Center on Aging, and Nancy Webster, a Bangor child and adolescent psychotherapist and University of Maine adjunct faculty member in social work, are available to offer tips and advice to help keep elders, shut-ins, children and others safe, connected and engaged during the holidays. "The holidays can bring back memories of healthier, more active, more socially enriched times in the lives of older adults and can underscore some of the harsher realities of aging including, physical decline, loss of loved ones -- including family and friends -- increased economic difficulty and -- above all -- a sense of separation or isolation from the hustle and bustle of daily life," Kaye says. In the case of families that have experienced death or divorce, family gatherings don't necessarily mitigate loneliness, says Webster. "Holidays can exacerbate loneliness," she says. Being surrounded by family or friends can even make a depressed person, young or old, feel like just a face in a crowd. In the case of a divided family, children's loyalty to their parents can become an issue when they must decide in which home to spend a holiday. "Very often, the children love both parents and don't understand why it has to be so rigidly defined," she says. Kaye and Webster are available to discuss some relatively simple and straightforward strategies for family and friends to help protect loved ones in need of support from additional stress and discouragement during traditional times of familial camaraderie. Professor Kaye can be reached at 262-7922 or by email at len.kaye@umit.maine.edu. Dr. Webster can be reached at 217-8185 or by email at woolweb@aol.com.

Nursing Professor Involved in Suicide Study

18 Nov 2010

John Cutcliffe of the UMaine nursing faculty is one of the investigators involved in a research study of suicidal young men in Northern Ireland. [A news release](#) from Ireland's Public Health Agency describes the project, intended to

"increase the understanding of suicidal young men, and inform the delivery of accessible, acceptable and appropriate mental health services." It follows a 2006 report that called for research to help structure modifications to policy and the provision of services.

AP Reports Visit by Russian Company

18 Nov 2010

An Associated Press story on several news websites picks up on [a Wednesday UMaine news release](#) about UMaine "bridge in a backpack" technology. Representatives of a Russian company and others involved with that country's transportation infrastructure are visiting UMaine this week to assess the technology and its possible usefulness for infrastructure related to the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. A Friday morning news event at UMaine's AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center will include UMaine Prof. Habib Dagher; Brit Svoboda, president and CEO of Advanced Infrastructure Technologies, UMaine's technology development partner on this project; and from the Russian company Noivy Proekt.

Brewer Comments in Blog Post on Snowe

18 Nov 2010

Comments from Mark Brewer of the UMaine political science faculty are included in a blog post on the National Journal website. The post examines issues related to moderate Republican U.S. Senators, such as Maine's Olympia Snowe, and whether they might face challenges from the right.

Zimbabwe Human Rights Activist to Speak Dec. 2

18 Nov 2010

Contact: Jim Settele, (207) 581-1835 "Political Violence in Zimbabwe: A Curse or An Age Old Culture" is the topic of the next Bangor Foreign Policy Forum, supported by the UMaine School of Policy and International Affairs, Thursday, Dec. 2 at 7:30 a.m. at the Bangor Public Library lecture hall and at 11 a.m. in the Bangor Room of the UMaine Memorial Union. The speaker is Jestina Mukoko, 2010 Human Rights Fellow, The Oak Institute for the Study of International Human Rights at Colby College. A former Zimbabwe radio broadcaster, Mukoko is the national director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP), an NGO that monitors human rights abuses throughout the country. A long-time leader in the human rights and activist communities in Zimbabwe, Mukoko was abducted from her home in December 2008 by state security agents for her work monitoring the brutality of the Mugabe government. During her 21-day abduction, she was tortured, beaten and forced to confess to a crime she did not commit. She was detained until March 2, 2009. Biographical and other details are available on the [SPIA website](#). Please RSVP for the 7:30 a.m. talk at the Bangor Public Library by email to admin@bangorforeignpolicyforum.org, or call (207) 581-1835. The 11 a.m. presentation at UMaine is free, open to the public, and requires no registration.

UMaine Observes Great American Smokeout Today

18 Nov 2010

Vice President for Administration and Finance Janet Waldron is reminding members of the University of Maine community that today is the 35th anniversary of the Great American Smokeout, and that the campus is just weeks away from becoming a smoke-free environment, joining some 400 other colleges and universities around the country. Information about the new policy and resources to help break the tobacco habit are available on the UMaine website dedicated to the subject. Today's observance includes a presentation of information in the Memorial Union, soon to be followed by educational flyers, signs and other information about UMaine's adoption of the tobacco-free policy.

President Kennedy's Biomed Comments Reported

18 Nov 2010

A Thursday Bangor Daily News story provides details about Wednesday's Greater Bangor Chamber of Commerce meeting about biomedical research collaborations in the region. The story includes comments from UMaine President Bob Kennedy, who was one of three featured speakers at the event.

News report on public administration program hearing (CBPPH)

18 Nov 2010

Thursday's Bangor Daily News includes a report on a Wednesday hearing held by the UMaine Faculty Senate's Program Creation and Reorganization Review Committee. The session was intended to gather public feedback about the proposal to suspend UMaine's Dept. of Public Administration. Several members of the UMaine community, including faculty members in that department, spoke at the hearing.

Animal Testing Center Award Reported

18 Nov 2010

A Thursday Bangor Daily News story reports on a \$500,000 Maine Technology Asset Fund grant to UMaine to establish a center for research, testing and education related to animal diseases. More details are in [a UMaine news release](#).

National Renewable Energy Specialist to Receive UMaine Engineering Award

18 Nov 2010

Contact: Vicky Blanchette, 581-2204 ORONO -- The University of Maine College of Engineering has selected former faculty member Lawrence L. Kazmerski, now the executive director of the Science and Technology Partnerships at the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colo., to receive the 2010 the Edward T. Bryand Distinguished Engineering Award. The highest award for career excellence and accomplishment from the college, the Edward Bryand award was established in 1979 to recognize an individual outside the university who has, by his or her activities, achievements and scholarship brought distinction to the profession of engineering. Kazmerski will receive the award at the annual Edward T. Bryand Recognition Banquet being held Friday at 5 p.m. at the Wells Conference Center. Kazmerski served on the electrical engineering faculty at the University of Maine, where he performed pioneering research on the first thin-film copper-indium-dieselenide solar cell until 1977. He has contributed annually to a UMaine fund to build quality academic and research programs in solid state and semiconductors at the university. In April 2009, he gave the keynote speech on solar and renewable energy at the Haskell Energy Conference in Bangor. After leaving UMaine, he joined NREL and later served as its director of the Center of Photovoltaics from 1999 to 2008. Kazmerski received a B.S., an MS and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Notre Dame, and served in a postdoctoral position at the Notre Dame Radiation Research Laboratory in 1971. He has taught at the University of Colorado, Colorado School of Mines, and the University of Denver, and has published more than 320 refereed journal papers in the general area of solar cells. In addition, he is the author or editor of four books, serves on the editorial board of several journals. He has made more than 160 invited presentations at international conferences, workshops or seminars. Kazmerski was co-founder and editor of the journal SOLAR CELLS, published by Elsevier-Sequoia (1979-1991) and is currently editor-in-chief of the Elsevier Journal's, Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews. For his contributions to science and leadership in technology development, Kazmerski has received several prestigious awards and has been featured in many newspapers, magazines, and in a NOVA TV series. "In recognition of his significant contributions to solar energy science and technology, it is with genuine pride and appreciation that the College of Engineering recognizes Dr. Lawrence L. Kazmerski with its highest honor, the Edward Bryand Distinguished Engineer Award," says college Dean Dana Humphrey.

Shell Hatcheries

19 Nov 2010

You've seen plenty of bumper stickers urging people to save the whales. But what about the lobsters? In the ocean, lobster larvae have a survival rate of less than 0.1 percent in the first three months. It's a wonder any full-grown lobsters make it to the trap, let alone the dinner table. Aquaculturists have tried to raise crustaceans in captivity, but there's a bit of a problem with that: lobsters are cannibalistic. And to keep the babies separated is cost-prohibitive. Bob Bayer, director of the Lobster Institute at the University of Maine, figured there needed to be a better solution, so in early 2009, he turned to biological engineering professor David Neivandt and undergraduate researcher Ryan Dawes. Neivandt — whose primary research focuses on the transport of certain proteins linked to cancer and other diseases across cell membranes — has a reputation on campus for working on unusual problems. Dawes, a senior biology major and honors student who has worked in Neivandt's lab since his freshman year, has a reputation on campus as a conscientious, curious researcher. With the help of the Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education, working with Brian Beal in Beals, Maine, and a Maine Technology Institute seed grant, they're testing a simple, innovative procedure. They're using discarded clamshells as small-scale hatcheries, sealing them with a biodegradable polymer and etching them with notches to allow the flow of food — algae. Though their early trials have had mixed success, the process has been a tremendous learning experience for Dawes. The logistics alone — perfecting the shell notches and transporting shells seeded with living larvae to a field station several hours away from campus — have been an eye-opener. "I've learned how to plan an experiment, how to collaborate with others, and how to keep an ultimate goal in mind without getting bogged down in the research," Dawes says. Since his high school days in Belgrade, Maine, Dawes wanted to participate in research. He knew that hands-on experience would bolster his graduate school applications, and he found that it improved his work ethic, as well. "I always thought of myself as a hard worker before coming to college, but the demands of the actual coursework and being employed in a lab were quite a shock," Dawes says. "Because of how busy I was, and because I had graduate students and Dave (Neivandt) to look up to, I became a much better student." Over the years, Neivandt has become a trusted mentor and friend, and on the drive to and from Beals, Dawes was able to use him and Bayer as a sounding board for his career choice. "I want to pursue a Ph.D. and become a professor partly because of that conversation," Dawes says.

Injury Reduction Research Noted in Newspaper

19 Nov 2010

Wednesday's Bangor Daily News included a story about UMaine plans to develop a Biomechanics Laboratory for Injury Reduction and Rehabilitation. The project, funded by a \$533,000 Maine Technology Asset Fund grant, will use state-of-the-art crash test dummies to test equipment designed to prevent head injuries. The newspaper story is based on a [UMaine news release](#).

Online Story Features UMaine technology

19 Nov 2010

The Emergency Management news Web site features a story about bridge-in-a-backpack technology developed in UMaine's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center. "The new technology could be one way to help rebuild the country's bridge infrastructure, which has scored poorly in recent years on an annual report card of their integrity," the story notes.

Dana Comments in Alcoholic Energy Drinks Story

19 Nov 2010

Comments from UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana are included in a Friday Central Maine Morning Sentinel story about alcoholic energy drinks. The Food and Drug Administration has issued warnings about these drinks, marketed under brand names such as Four Loko and Joose.

Cain Elected Minority Leader

19 Nov 2010

State Rep. Emily Cain, whose legislative district includes UMaine's Orono property, has been elected minority leader of the Maine House of Representatives. Cain, who is a UMaine graduate, is pursuing a UMaine degree and she serves as coordinator of advancement in the Honors College. A Maine Today Media (Portland Press Herald, Kennebec Journal, Central Maine Morning Sentinel) story includes more details about Thursday's vote by the Democratic House caucus.

UMaine Student Capstone Art Show Dec. 3-Jan. 20

19 Nov 2010

Contact: Barbara Denaro, (barbara.denaro@umit.maine.edu) ORONO -- Two dozen UMaine art students are exhibiting 80 works of art for the 2010 Capstone Senior Exhibit Dec. 3 through Jan. 20 at the Lord Hall Galleries. The show, titled "You Are Here," includes paintings, drawings, prints, sculpture, mixed media, ceramics and photography. The work represents what the students consider their best work of the semester. Most student exhibitors are from Maine, but include Vermont, New York and New Hampshire. An artists reception, scheduled from 5-7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 3 at Lord Hall, is free and open to the public. Musical entertainment is planned for the event. Lord Hall Galleries are open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Concerts, Theater on Weekend Arts Calendar

19 Nov 2010

The UMaine School of Performing Arts calendar for the coming weekend includes theater, chamber music and choral performances. The student theatrical production of "[Brilliant Traces.](#)" directed by Marcia Douglas of the theater faculty, continues tonight and Saturday, Nov. 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 21, at 4 p.m. at the Cyrus Pavilion Theater. Also Saturday, the Athena women's and Black Bear men's choruses perform at 7:30 p.m. in Hauck Auditorium. On Sunday at 2 p.m., a choral performance by [UMaine's Oratorio](#) takes place at 2 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall.

Online News Service Cites Klimis-Zacas Blueberry Research

19 Nov 2010

Contact: Dorothy Klimis-Zacas, 581-3124 Research by UMaine professor of clinical nutrition Dorothy Klimis-Zacas and colleagues about the positive health effects wild blueberries have had when fed to hypertensive laboratory rats was cited in [an article Nov. 18 on the NutraIngredients-USA.com website](#), a daily online health and nutrition news service. The article discusses findings of research previously published in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry. The research suggests that supplementing the diet with antioxidant-rich wild blueberries could also benefit human beings with high blood pressure.

Cooperative Extension Specialist Recommends Alternatives to Expensive Gifts

19 Nov 2010

Contact: Leslie Forstadt (207) 581-3487 or leslie.forstadt@maine.edu It's the time of year when thoughts turn to holiday shopping – and the pressure of buying the perfect gift or making sure no one is forgotten. University of Maine Cooperative Extension Child and Family Development Specialist Leslie Forstadt says there are plenty of alternative gift ideas for holidays such as Christmas and Hanukkah that can alleviate the stress of shopping and bring meaning back to the holidays. "There is a movement where people are trying to give less on the holidays and think about what the holidays are really about," Forstadt says. "It's not about the stuff. It's really about creating experiences and a gift having meaning and a lasting impact." Adjusting to that mindset can open up families to the concept of alternative gift-giving. Forstadt suggests considering experiences that bring together a family, combining funds to make a donation, running a Secret Santa-type gift exchange for a large family, and adding personal touches to inexpensive store-bought gifts. In addition, Forstadt says, parents or others doing gift-purchasing should take into consideration the often short attention span of children when thinking about toys used as marketing tools of the latest movie or television show. Such toys could be cast aside after just a few weeks or months of use. Forstadt also suggests rethinking family vacations to include

picnics, treasure hunts or geocaching instead of, for example, expensive and travel-heavy trips to amusement parks. “The idea that spending time together is a quality thing is undervalued,” she says. It may be difficult to resist the lure of a pile of presents on Christmas morning, but creating a habit of thoughtful gift-giving methods when a child is young can generate reasonable expectations about the gift-giving process. “There’s this feeling of, I have to buy a lot of stuff for my kids and family,” Forstadt says. “Of course, you want the best for your family and to give them the things they want. But we have to think about whether we’re overindulging our kids. Some nice conversations to have with your kids at this time are about wants vs. needs. It’s kind of changing the culture within the family to be less focused on stuff.” Contact Forstadt for more ideas and information.

UMaine's Annual Holiday Book Drive Begins

19 Nov 2010

Contact: Theresa McMannus, 581-2441 The College of Education and Human Development, in collaboration with the University Bookstore and the Old Town-Orono Kiwanis Club, has begun accepting books for its annual children's holiday book drive, now in its 33rd year. New books for toddlers through teens can be dropped off unwrapped at the office of college Dean Anne Pooler at 151 Shibles Hall or the Bookstore through Dec. 10. The Bookstore is offering a 20 percent discount on any children's book purchased there as part of the drive. In addition, for every book purchased and donated, the Bookstore also will donate one. Kiwanis members will distribute the books to deserving community children and teens at the club's annual holiday party for area children.

Website Has Story About FISHLab

19 Nov 2010

The website FISHupdate.com has a story about a new high-level containment lab being built at UMaine in order to study fish pathogens that occur in cold-water species. Construction on the lab, which was funded in part by a \$600,000 grant from the Maine Technology Institute, is expected to begin next spring.

Cleveland Newspaper Picks Up Extension Shopping Tip

19 Nov 2010

In [an article listing tips for holiday shopping](#), the Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper gave a suggestion from UMaine's Cooperative Extension. The suggestion was for parents who bring children shopping to give the child something to do during the shopping excursion, such as looking for an item organizing coupons.

Early Coverage Of Friday's Bridge Technology Announcement

19 Nov 2010

The Bangor Daily News posted a story to its website a few hours after Friday's announcement that a company marketing UMaine's bridge-in-a-backpack technology had signed a memorandum of understanding with a Russian firm that could put the carbon-fiber bridges, developed at the AEWCA Advanced Structures and Composites Center, to use during the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. The Russian firm, Noviy Proekt LLC, is partnering with Advanced Infrastructure Technologies LLC of Orono to look at other uses for the technology in Russia and surrounding countries. In addition, the bridge technology was highlighted in [a story on a website that focuses on regional preparedness](#), urban security and first-response execution.

AP Story Updates Hazing Research

22 Nov 2010

[An Associated Press story](#) details a new stage in the extensive hazing research project being conducted by Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden of the UMaine education faculty. Following their 2008 survey that provided the most extensive

information ever collected on the subject as it relates to U.S. colleges and universities, Allan and Madden have launched a "National Agenda for Hazing Prevention in Education." This next step, Madden says in the story, involves "a concerted effort to move that research into action."

Conroy Comments in Holiday Shopping Story

22 Nov 2010

Comments from Jane Conroy of the UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty are included in a Central Maine Morning Sentinel story providing advice about budgeting during the holiday season. In the story, Conroy also points to her recent research about the economic value of shopping locally.

News Report Covers Visit by Russian Delegation

22 Nov 2010

A front-page Saturday Bangor Daily News story reports on Friday's visit to UMaine by representatives of a Russian company with broad responsibilities for transportation infrastructure at the 2014 Winter Olympics. They were in Maine to investigate the possibility of using bridge-in-a-backpack technology, developed at UMaine and licensed to an Orono-based company called Advanced Infrastructure Technologies.

Press Herald Publishes Student Column

22 Nov 2010

Saturday's Portland Press Herald included an op-ed column, "Advice for LePage: let lawmakers lead," written by UMaine sophomore and student senator Mark Brunton.

Business School Receives Grant to Strengthen MBA Business, Sustainability Program

22 Nov 2010

Contact: Terry Porter, 581-1990 ORONO -- The Maine Business School's Business and Sustainability Program recently received a Learning Circle Grant from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Assessment (CETA) at UMaine to explore and develop ways to enhance sustainability in the business school curriculum and program. The grant will allow members of the MBS Learning Circle Committee -- faculty members Terry Porter, Scott Anchors and Nancy Forster-Holt, along with graduate student Cassie Vaillancourt -- to consider potential initiatives to strengthen the program. Such initiatives include providing opportunities for students to travel to sustainability-related events and conferences, increasing participation by undergraduate students considering the MBA sustainability track, and possibly a certificate in business and sustainability for non-degree students. It also will help bring in guest speakers, faculty development, networking with other departments, student groups and other colleges and universities, including the possible start-up of a Net Impact chapter. Net Impact is an international student-based business and sustainability organization with 16 member campuses already established in New England. The modest grant will go a long way toward supporting and improving the Business and Sustainability program, now in its third year with 12 MBA student members, says Porter.

Pilot Insulation Project Proves Itself

22 Nov 2010

Contact: Mike Swartz, 581-2624 ORONO -- A demonstration project with a new pipe insulation material manufactured by a Maine-based company has proven efficient for the University of Maine and also can be considered a successful field trial for the Auburn company that is patenting it. The trial, conducted in the past year at a university Facilities Management building on campus, could save an estimated \$2,280 in energy costs and reduce carbon emissions by 7.3 tons a year, according to initial testing and a computerized model. The insulation material is being patented by Auburn Manufacturing Inc. The company approached the university with a request that UMaine participate in a pilot

demonstration to test the company's new EverGreen Cut 'n Wrap insulation. Evergreen Cut 'n Wrap is an alternative to custom-made blankets for insulating bare piping components such as valves, flanges, pipe fittings and other hard-to-get-to components. "Coincidentally, we had a boiler replacement project underway in our service building, so the timing was perfect," says Mike Swartz, energy and utility manager at UMaine. "The new boilers had exposed hot water pipe that required insulation, so we asked our insulating contractor, Northeastern Insulation Service, to apply the Cut 'n Wrap to the fittings in conjunction with insulating the straight lengths of pipe." Independent testing has shown that heat loss can be reduced by at least 85 percent and emissions by up to 1,000 pounds per square foot per year by using the insulation, according to Auburn Manufacturing Inc. The demonstration project with Cut 'n Wrap was a cost-free way to explore the viability of the new way of insulating the components with a new insulation product designed to reduce the cost of wasted energy and reduce carbon emissions, Swartz says. "We are very pleased with the installation and the performance thus far," he says. UMaine has developed a plan to eliminate net greenhouse gas emissions on campus by 2040, according to Swartz, so the university is continually looking for new ways to conserve energy. "We look for every opportunity for improvement," he says.

Cyber Monday Analysis, Expectations

22 Nov 2010

Contact: Nory Jones, 581-1971 Nine in 10 retailers are telling the National Retail Association's survey partners they are planning special Cyber Monday sales and specials, with plenty of free shipping, on what has become the biggest online shopping day of the year. On Cyber Monday, the first Monday after Thanksgiving, as many as 54.5 percent of the workforce, or 70.1 million Americans, plan to shop online from work, according to the NRF. UMaine associate professor of management information systems Nory Jones of the Maine Business School is available to discuss the economic impact of and social trends contributing to the burgeoning retail phenomenon known as Cyber Monday, considered to be in its fifth official year. As Black Friday traditionally kicks off the frenzied holiday shopping season, Cyber Monday is the online equivalent, and also can mean boom or bust for many retailers as shoppers hit their keyboards instead of the aisles. Cyber Monday traditionally offers good deals for consumers and robust sales for online merchants. According to Jones, the vast majority of the nation's retailers are planning specials for online shoppers today. The NRF predicts nearly 90 percent of retailers will offer exclusive Cyber Monday bargains, up from just more than 70 percent last year. Total holiday sales nationally are projected to rise 2.3 percent, the NRF says. Consumers are becoming more astute about bargain hunting, Jones says, and price comparison has never been easier. "Many consumers are turning to Internet sales, especially if they didn't get what they wanted on Black Friday," says Jones. Others use the days following Thanksgiving to browse stores, and then turn to the Internet for price comparison. Jones is available to discuss Cyber Monday and consumers' increasing reliance on the Internet for shopping. She can be reached by telephone at 581-1971 or by email at njones@maine.edu. Please contact George Manlove at 458-9296 for assistance reaching Jones.

Tuesday Talk on Next Version of Internet and Security

22 Nov 2010

Contact: George Markowsky, 581-3940 The Tuesday, Nov. 23 Cybersecurity Club Talk at 3:30 p.m. in 227 Neville Hall will be "Setting up a Secure IPv6 Network" by Will Dean of the University of Maine. The talk will explain Internet Protocol Version 6, the successor to version 4, the first publicly used Internet Protocol in operation since 1981, and security considerations when implementing the newer version. The talk originally was scheduled on Nov. 9, but was rescheduled.

Press Herald Editorial Praises UMaine Researchers

23 Nov 2010

A Tuesday [Portland Press Herald editorial](#) praises UMaine hazing researchers Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden for developing a "National Agenda for Hazing Prevention in Education," a follow-up to their 2008 report documenting hazing behaviors at colleges and universities around the U.S. The editorial follows a recent Associated Press story on

this effort, published in Tuesday's Bangor Daily News.

Press Herald Reviews "Frustrating" Football Season

23 Nov 2010

Tuesday's Portland Press Herald includes [a story looking back at the 2010 UMaine football season](#). The Black Bears finished the season with a 4-7 record, ending with a 14-10 Saturday loss at home to James Madison University. The [Bangor Daily News reports that six Black Bear players](#) have earned All-Colonial Athletic Association honors for their performances this season.

A Holiday Favorite, Cranberry May Also Be Germ Fighter

23 Nov 2010

Contact: Alison Lacombe, (845) 453-5385 or alison.lacombe@umit.maine.edu; Vivian Chi-Hua Wu, (207) 581-3101 or vivian.wu@umit.maine.edu Vivian Chi-Hua Wu, University of Maine associate professor of microbiology and food safety in the department of food science and human nutrition, is a leading researcher in studying the health benefits and antimicrobial properties of the American Cranberry – the same berry that graces many holiday tables in the form of molded side dishes, sauces and dressings. The antioxidant properties of the cranberry are well known, but Wu and Alison Lacombe, a Ph.D. candidate, are researching the cranberry's power to fight food poisoning and improve food safety, including the ability to inhibit the growth of or possibly kill food-borne pathogens such as *Salmonella* Typhimurium, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *E. coli* O157:H7, and *Listeria monocytogenes*. Lacombe and Wu, along with co-authors Seth Tyler and Kelly Edwards of UMaine's School of Biology and Ecology, published this year a paper in the International Journal of Food Microbiology about the cranberry's effect against *E. coli* O157:H7.

President Search Mentioned in Article

23 Nov 2010

UMaine's search for a new president was included in an Associated Press article that ran in the Boston Herald. UMaine, which is seeking to fill the position after current president Robert Kennedy announced last spring he would step down in 2011, is one of several New England universities, including the University of Connecticut, the University of Massachusetts, and Tufts University, seeking new presidents.

Conner Finishes Strong At NCAA Championship

23 Nov 2010

UMaine junior nursing major Corey Conner placed 42nd out of 253 runners at the NCAA Cross Country Championships Monday, according to [a story in the Bangor Daily News](#). Earlier this season Conner won the New England Championship and placed fourth in an NCAA regional race.

Mainebiz Mentions Russian Interest In Bridge Technology

23 Nov 2010

Mainebiz had a story about the possibility of UMaine's bridge-in-a-backpack technology being used at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Russia. A Russian company which is working on transportation infrastructure projects at the Olympics signed a memorandum of understanding with Orono-based Advanced Infrastructure Technologies, which is commercializing the bridge technology developed at the university's AEWCA Advanced Structures and Engineering Center.

Maine Sea Grant Welcomes New Research Coordinator

23 Nov 2010

ORONO, Maine – The University of Maine has appointed James McKenna of Mount Desert as part-time coordinator for the NOAA Sea Grant research program. McKenna is an associate professor of marine biology at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine. McKenna received a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Boston College and a doctorate in oceanography from the University of Rhode Island. He has taught oceanography at Williams College and Wesleyan University, and served as research coordinator at the Schoodic Education and Research Center at Acadia National Park from 2005 to 2008. McKenna continues his relationship with the National Park Service through research projects to develop and implement estuarine and marine wetland monitoring protocols for parks in the Northeastern US. His research interests include conservation ecology of estuarine and coastal resources, and the application of science to policy and decision-making processes. As part of his work with Maine Sea Grant, McKenna will supervise the 2011 request for proposals for NOAA Sea Grant research funds, act as a liaison between researchers and Maine Sea Grant's administration, education, and outreach teams, including the Marine Extension Team, and help ensure the relevance and significance of Sea Grant research. "The Maine research community and Maine Sea Grant provide meaningful and significant scientific contributions to Maine and our nation, and I am excited about my new role in this effort," he says. McKenna can be contacted at sgresearch@maine.edu or 207-581-1433. For more information about Maine Sea Grant's research program, visit <http://www.seagrant.umaine.edu/research>

UMaine Nursing Graduate Tapped To Head National Group

24 Nov 2010

Amy Cotton, the director of Rosscare and a UMaine School of Nursing Graduate, has been [selected president-elect of the National Gerontological Nursing Association](#), according to a story in the Bangor Daily News. The association represents more than 1,700 nurses nationally and is dedicated to improving the quality of nursing care given to older adults.

Center On Aging Program Highlighted

24 Nov 2010

The [Bangor Daily News health and wellness section has a column](#) about the UMaine Center on Aging's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, known as RSVP. Founded as part of the National Senior Service Corps in the 1970s, RSVP is for people 55 and older who want to use their life experiences and job skills to strengthen their communities.

Hazing Research Story Updates

24 Nov 2010

A [Wednesday Inside Higher Ed story](#) reports on the continuing hazing research project headed up by UMaine professors Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden. Building on extensive survey research from 2007 and 2008, Allan and Madden have now created a "National Agenda for Hazing Prevention in Education," to inform efforts aimed at preventing hazing on college campuses and in other settings. A similar story is on the Maine Public Radio Web site.

McConnon in Holiday Shopping Story

24 Nov 2010

Comments from Jim McConnon of the UMaine School of Economics were [included in a Lewiston Sun Journal story](#) about holiday shopping data and predictions for "Black Friday" retail activity.

Correll Chair Candidate Presentations Set

24 Nov 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- Two candidates for UMaine's Correll Presidential Chair in Energy will present seminars during the week of Nov. 29. Jannette Fransden, who currently serves as an ocean and coastal energy consultant in Europe, will discuss "Offshore Wind Energy Developments in European Seas" on Monday Nov. 29, 1:10 - 2 p.m. in Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium. Krish Thiagarajan, a professor at the University of Western Australia in Perth, will present on the subject "From Truss Spars to Wind Float: the Heave Plate Story" on Wednesday Dec. 1 from 2:10-3 p.m. in 137 Bennett Hall.

Jones Featured in Holiday Shopping Television Story

29 Nov 2010

Nory Jones of the UMaine business faculty was the primary source for a Friday WLBZ/WCSH television story about marketing strategies that retailers employ in the few days following Thanksgiving.

Channel 5 Covers Museum Wreath-making Workshop

29 Nov 2010

Channel 5 (WABI) covered Saturday's wreath-making workshop at UMaine's Page Farm and Home Museum. The story included an interview with Patty Henner, the museum's director.

Maine Today Media Profiles Cain

29 Nov 2010

A Maine Today Media (Portland Press Herald, Kennebec Journal, Central Maine Morning Sentinel) story profiled Rep. Emily Cain, who will become the Democratic House leader when Maine's 125th legislature is sworn in this week. In the story, Cain discusses her reasons for enrolling at UMaine, from which she earned a bachelor's degree in 2002. Currently a UMaine doctoral student, she works as advancement coordinator in UMaine's Honors College and represents the district that includes UMaine's Orono campus and property.

Murphy in Sunday Telegram Harvest Story

29 Nov 2010

Comments from Barbara Murphy of UMaine Cooperative Extension were included in a Maine Sunday Telegram story about the 2010 Maine growing season. The story notes that farmers and gardeners donated more than 200,000 pounds of produce through Extension's Maine Harvest for Hunger program. That's more than double last year's yield of 87,319 pounds.

Professor Writes Campaign Donations Opinion Column

29 Nov 2010

A guest column by Carolyn Ball of the UMaine public administration faculty appears in Monday's Bangor Daily News. In the column, she analyzes issues related to transparency in political campaigns, especially as it relates to contributions by nonprofit organizations.

McConnon, Jones Interviewed about Holiday Sales Projections

29 Nov 2010

Jim McConnon, UMaine Cooperative Extension specialist and professor of economics, was interviewed for a Nov. 22 news report on Channel 5 (WABI) about consumer shopping forecasts in advance of Nov. 26, the traditional Black Friday shopping bonanza, which can help retailers bolster their businesses and put ledgers in the black. McConnon and

Nory Jones, associate professor of management information systems, also were included as sources for a Bangor Daily News article Nov. 24 on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, traditionally the first Monday after Thanksgiving when millions of Americans do a substantial amount of holiday shopping online.

LED Alternatives Offer Efficient Holiday Lighting

29 Nov 2010

Contact: Donna Coffin, (207) 564-3301 As this year's holiday celebrants dig out some of the the same old holiday lights they've been using for years, Donna Coffin, UMaine Cooperative Extension educator in the Piscataquis County office, advises there are many new LED lighting options available to both reflect the holiday spirit and reduce electric bills in the process. LED (light-emitting diode) lights can offer just as much twinkle and enjoyment at a fraction of the cost of older decorative lights. Coffin says LED lights can reduce the cost of electricity for holiday decorations by as much as 98 percent. Consider, she says, that the cost of using a 500-foot string of older C7-type holiday lights for six hours a day for 40 days (240 hours) is \$134. C7 lights are the old large light strings that get hot. People who have switched to mini-lights or twinkle lights, spend about \$35 per season. Newer LED holiday lights, on the other hand, cost even less to run: less than \$3 for the whole season -- or 2 percent of the cost of the old C7 lights. In addition, LED lights are virtually indestructible, last longer than standard holiday lights, reduce the risk of fire and stay lit if a single light goes out, Coffin says. With no filament or glass bulb in LED lights, they convert electricity directly to light without the heat. Coffin can be reached at 207-564-3301 or 1-800-287-1491 in Maine, or by email to donna.coffin@maine.edu. For more ideas on home energy conservation, visit the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Energy website at <http://extension.umaine.edu/energy/>.

CCA Hosting Natalie MacMaster Dec. 7

29 Nov 2010

Contact: 581-1755 Acclaimed Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster performs a "Christmas is Cape Breton" concert featuring foot-tapping rave-ups, heart-wrenching ballads, world-class step-dancing and "fiddling fireworks" Tuesday, Dec. 7 from 7-9 p.m. at the [Collins Center for the Arts](#) at UMaine.

Orono Bog Walk Featured In Newspaper

30 Nov 2010

The Orono Bog Walk, which is managed in part by UMaine and serves as an outdoor classroom for UMaine students, was featured in a Bangor Daily News story.

Sea Grant Coordinator Named

30 Nov 2010

The Bangor Daily News has a story about the appointment of James McKenna of Somesville as the part-time coordinator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sea Grant research program, which is based at UMaine.

Annual Tree Sale Underway

30 Nov 2010

Members of UMaine's Xi Sigma Pi forestry honor society are selling Balsam and Fraser fir trees, 4'-8' tall, outside Nutting Hall until Thursday Dec. 9. The sale runs 3-4:30 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays; 12-5 p.m. Fridays; 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sundays. Proceeds from this annual sale benefit the Xi Sigma Pi scholarship fund.

Art Museum Gallery Talk Thursday Dec. 9

30 Nov 2010

The [UMaine Museum of Art](#) in downtown Bangor will host an ART@NOON gallery talk on Thursday Dec. 9. Featured artist Ilya Askinazi will comment on the photographs in his UMMA exhibition *A Pointed View* as well as his creative process. Education coordinator Gina Platt will discuss several works currently on display in the Permanent Collection Gallery.

Trostel in Ohio Education Story

30 Nov 2010

Comments from UMaine School of Economics professor Philip Trostel are included in a [PolitiFact Ohio story](#) assessing Gov.-elect John Kasich's criticisms of the state's public education system. Referencing a report that Trostel developed, Kasich says that Ohio spends too much money on school administration and not enough on classroom instruction. State education officials say that the state has made improvements in the two school years that have passed since Trostel created the report.

Wreath-making Workshop News Coverage

30 Nov 2010

Saturday's Bangor Daily News included a story about wreath-making workshops at UMaine's Page Farm and Home Museum. The story includes comments from Patty Henner, the museum's director.

Peterson Research Highlighted in Synthetic Race Track Story

30 Nov 2010

A [Horse Talk magazine story](#) reports on research headed up by Prof. Mick Peterson of the UMaine mechanical engineering faculty. An expert on race track surfaces, Peterson has studied horse performance on synthetic tracks, which are becoming more common as the industry works to reduce injuries. Peterson's research shows that horses run slower when temperatures are higher, perhaps because of the physical characteristics of the synthetic materials used in track construction.

Jones Featured in Online Shopping Story

30 Nov 2010

Prof. Nory Jones of the UMaine business faculty was interviewed for a [Monday WABI television story](#) about online shopping during the holiday season.

Exercise Science Research Repeated in News Report

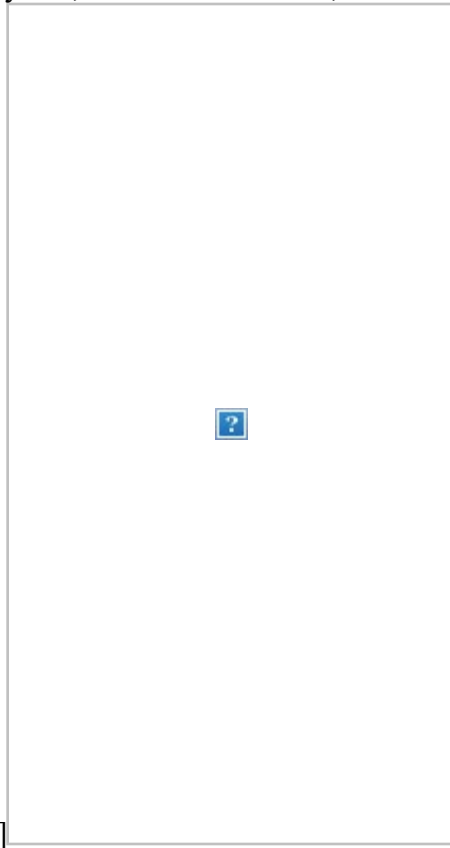
30 Nov 2010

A Monday WABI television story described a high-tech research project underway in UMaine's Dept. of Kinesiology and Physical Education. Graduate student Tom Ordelt, working with engineers and coaches, is using computer modeling techniques to assess the effectiveness of certain exercises on athletic performance. The story also includes interviews with UMaine track coach Dave Cusano and with Black Bear track star Jesse Lebreck.

Tech Styles

30 Nov 2010

When stars want to make a splash on the red carpet, they usually call in the heavy hitters: Oscar de la Renta, Chanel, Versace. But for the 2010 Met Costume Institute Gala, pop star Katy Perry wanted to light up the night. Literally. So her stylist called in Ryan Genz and Francesca Rosella of CuteCircuit, a London-based company that designs high-fashion wearable technology. The result — a floor length confection of pink and white silk, striped with thousands of LED lights — made international headlines. For Genz, a Caribou, Maine, native who graduated from the University of Maine in 1998 with a double major in studio art and cultural anthropology, it was a watershed moment. “We didn’t really know what the reaction would be,” Genz says from his London studio. “In a way, it validated our feelings about merging new technologies and fashion. We do think it’s exciting and fun.” As a result of all the publicity, Genz and Rosella have received several high-profile commissions, including one from the London-based department store Selfridges. The retailer asked CuteCircuit to design a scaled-down version of Perry’s frock for its 2010 holiday offerings. It retails for about \$2,000 U.S. Genz and Rosella met in 2001 while studying at Interaction Design Institute Ivrea, on the edge of the Italian Alps. The institute offered the world’s first master’s program in interaction design, and faculty included professors from Stanford, MIT and the Royal College of Art, as well as representatives from industrial design powerhouses such as Microsoft and Whirlpool. The research-intensive course called on students to quickly develop and prototype new products for clients — and the sky was the limit. “We were working with types of technology that weren’t in existence yet,” Genz says. “These were ‘Wizard of Oz’ scenarios.” At the time, one of those scenarios involved computer processors that were small enough to wear, but the only people who were working with this technology were using it for practical purposes, such as using sensors to protect firefighters or others working in hazardous environments. But Genz and Rosella had other ideas. They immediately connected because of their mutual interest in the intersection of technology and fashion. The couple saw the potential for real innovation in a field that hadn’t changed much since the introduction of synthetic fabrics. “Film, technology, medicine, all of these have been revolutionized over the last 100 years, but fashion has not, so it’s time,” says Genz. [caption id="attachment_6178"



align="alignright" width="224"] Ryan Genz wears a Twinkle Shirt, featuring LED technology that makes the design — a stylized eye — glow and twinkle when he moves. [caption] **Yes, hemlines rise and fall with the seasons**, but pants are still just pants. Skirts are still just skirts. And shirts are still just shirts. But what if a shirt could be more than a shirt? That’s exactly the question Genz and Rosella set out to answer when they designed the Hug Shirt, which Time magazine named one of the top inventions of 2006. Using sensors, Bluetooth technology and mobile phones, the shirt can replicate the feeling of a hug from afar. The sensors track the strength of the wearer’s touch, heart rate and body temperature. The data are transmitted via mobile phone to the recipient (who also needs a Hug Shirt — it takes two to tango), and he or she is, in essence, able to download a long-distance hug. “It may be silly,” Genz says. “Why do you need a hug? But there’s that unfulfilled desire when you’re away from home. It’s not

necessary. No technology is necessary. We can still plow fields with horses and avoid zippers and only use buttons, but the role of the designer, the role of the artist is to show what is possible.” By combining the fundamentals of traditional fashion design with cutting-edge technology, CuteCircuit has redefined what a garment can be. It started with the Kinetic Dress, which Genz and Rosella created for the “How Smart Are You Dressed Tomorrow?” event at the NEMO science museum in Amsterdam in 2004. They embroidered a black Victorian lace dress with electroluminescent wire, which was connected to five motion sensors. When the wearer moved, the wire glowed. From there, they created the Galaxy Dress, commissioned in 2008 by the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago for its “Fast Forward: Inventing the Future” exhibit (it is on view alongside the Hug Shirt). The floor-length silk gown is embroidered with 24,000 full-color LED lights, which run off iPod batteries, and 4,000 Swarovski crystals so the dress looks good even when the lights are off. The LEDs are flat and small, and the wires and circuits used are incredibly fine so as not to weigh down the fabric. Katy Perry had seen photographs of the Galaxy Dress online, and her stylist, Johnny Wujek, wrote to CuteCircuit asking if she could wear it. Genz explained that the dress is in a museum, but told Wujek to keep CuteCircuit in mind if Perry ever needed a custom light-up dress of her own. Last April, Wujek let Genz and Rosella know that Perry did. In two weeks. At the same time, they were commissioned to design a dress for Safura, a contestant in the Eurovision Song Contest. Her dress not only lit up, it displayed streaming video. “We had to work on both of these dresses at the same time,” Genz says. “I’ve never not slept so much in my life. Sometimes, we do stuff just for the adrenaline.” **Though the technological foundation** for CuteCircuit was laid at Ivrea, that up-all-night work ethic and tenacity has its roots at UMaine, Genz says. He recalls a class when Michael Lewis, a painter and art professor, gave students a tour of his studio. Lewis told them that even when he doesn’t feel like painting, even if he’s feeling uninspired, he finds it important to come to the studio daily. That message resonated with Genz, who adopted that philosophy at CuteCircuit. Some of the first “wearable art” pieces Genz made were done at UMaine. He drew a series of images on T-shirts for a performance piece in Lewis’ sequential drawing class. For another class, he created a cocoon that could envelop the wearer. “When I was at UMaine, I remember this feeling of intense inspiration and possibility, like we could do absolutely stunning things if only there were enough time and materials,” Genz says. “And in the end, that got channeled into various successes and failures.” Genz also worked at ASAP Media Services, a new media laboratory on campus. At ASAP, students work in teams to create websites and other products for paying clients. When Genz arrived on campus in the early 1990s, technology was evolving so rapidly that everything was new to the students. The Internet was in its infancy, people still made phone calls on landlines and few people used e-mail. “I had the opportunity to experiment and fail and to not do things the ‘right’ way, but maybe do things a better way,” he says. “It was a new approach to learning to me and it worked. And today, I encourage people to do that in my studio.” The spirit of pushing technology, of taking risks and of challenging the status quo still informs everything Genz does. It has led to hoodies that hug and gowns that glow. It has led to T-shirts that twinkle and dresses that double as mobile phones. It has allowed Genz to innovate. To redefine. To shine — whether in the studio, in a gallery or on the red carpet. “Mentally, I still go back to that state, of being in Maine, or UMaine, and it is still inspiring,” Genz says. “I can’t even put my finger on what it is or where it came from, but it has never failed to make me think in new ways and produce more focused or startling ideas.”

Holiday Events at the Page Farm and Home Museum

30 Nov 2010

Wreathmaking Workshop 12/01/2010 at 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM The cost is 15.00 and includes instruction and all materials to complete one wreath. Wreathmaking Workshop 12/02/2010 at 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM The cost is 15.00 and includes instruction and all materials to complete one wreath. Holiday Party 12/03/2010 at 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Trim the tree, sing carols, make ornaments, decorate holiday cookies. We will have refreshments. All University and community members are invited. Visit the gift shop while you are here. Holiday Shoppe 12/04/2010 at 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Just in time for the holiday season, the old-fashioned shoppe brings together 22 Maine crafters and artisans to display and offer their unique goods for sale. The event is free and open to the public, with plenty of free parking, says museum director Patricia Henner. Among this year's shoppe offerings are maple sugar products from Freyenhagen Family Farm, wholesome breads from Daily Bread, in addition to items hand-knitted and felted by the Friday Fiber Friends, along with wreaths, reproduction toys, woven rugs, and handcrafted soaps and jewelry. Edibles such as fresh cow and goat cheeses from Olde Oak Farm in Orono will be available for purchase. Black Dinah Chocolatiers of Isle au Haut will be selling scrumptious hand-crafted chocolates. Those who attend are sure to discover wonderful gift ideas, as well as Maine's thriving community of crafters. Good tidings and cheer will also be present. More information is

available by calling the Page Farm and Home Museum at (207) 581-4100. The farm and home museum Web site (www.umaine.edu/pagefarm) also has details about its many public outreach programs for young and old.

Helping Grow Healthy Kids: FoodCorps Chooses UMaine Cooperative Extension as a Partner for its Ten-State Launch

30 Nov 2010

Contact: Debra Eschmeyer at (419) 905-8612 Ellen Libby at (207) 832-0343 **High-caliber organizations with demonstrated experience implementing Farm to School and school garden programs selected as inaugural host sites for 2011 NEW YORK CITY** – FoodCorps, a new national AmeriCorps school garden and Farm to School service program, has selected University of Maine Cooperative Extension as one of ten partners to collaborate on a national launch in 2011. FoodCorps will serve vulnerable children, improving access to healthy, affordable food, while training young leaders for careers in food and agriculture. "UMaine Cooperative Extension is very excited to be part of the FoodCorps project," says John Rebar, Extension's executive director. "We have been committed to healthy kids, food production and building tomorrow's leaders for over 90 years. This project matches our values with that of the AmeriCorps program for the betterment of Maine children and schools. It's a real win-win for everyone." In the spirit of service for healthier kids, FoodCorps will put 82 members on the ground in 10 states to work 139,400 hours during the 2011-2012 school year. Utilizing the public service model of AmeriCorps, FoodCorps leverages federal funds to place young adults in high-need communities, with the mission of improving children's education about healthy food while working to increase access to it. FoodCorps service members will build and tend school gardens, conduct nutrition education and increase the quality of the food served in the lunchroom. FoodCorps also aims to grow the next generation of farmers and food systems professionals through hands-on experience. "Getting kids connected with local food sources and involved in gardening projects leads to having them involved in food preparation and cooking projects. As a result, they often learn to broaden their food horizons and make better food choices," says Ellen Libby of Cooperative Extension, who specializes in youth development. "Farm to school programs and school garden projects are sprouting up throughout Maine's 16 counties. Those programs will continue to grow and blossom thanks to FoodCorps and the service members who will enhance current efforts." Service members will receive training and support from the FoodCorps national office, yet daily work will be directed by high-impact organizations working in their home communities. In a competitive selection process, the FoodCorps planning team reviewed 108 host site proposals submitted from 39 states and the District of Columbia requesting 512 service members and partnering with 1240 groups. The ten selected host sites all possess proven records of success in improving the quality of school food, capacity to grow with FoodCorps across their region and compelling community need that service members will readily address. These are the 2011-2012 FoodCorps host sites, announced today:

- Arkansas: The Delta Garden Study at Arkansas Children's Hospital Research Institute
- Arizona: Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health
- Iowa: National Center for Appropriate Technology
- Massachusetts: The Food Project
- Maine: University of Maine Cooperative Extension
- Michigan: C.S. Mott Group at Michigan State University
- Mississippi: Mississippi Roadmap to Health Equity
- North Carolina: North Carolina 4-H and the Center for Environmental Farming Systems
- New Mexico: Office of Community Learning and Public Service at the University of New Mexico
- Oregon: Oregon Department of Agriculture

"These organizations all demonstrated a clear commitment to combating childhood obesity through hands-on Farm to School and school garden programs," says Debra Eschmeyer, a FoodCorps founder. "Essentially a domestic Peace Corps, FoodCorps is now poised for a fruitful first year." "We are proud to help scale up these efforts to improve nutrition education around the country. By working collaboratively, we can reverse obesity rates and help children avoid the ravages of diet-related illnesses," adds Curt Ellis, a FoodCorps founder. "Selecting just ten sites from 108 applicants and 22 finalists was an enormously challenging task," says Cecily Upton, a founder of FoodCorps. "All our finalists demonstrated a tremendous amount of need in the communities they serve, making the decision that much more difficult." As a pioneer in applying the proven model of national service to the widening epidemic of childhood obesity,

FoodCorps and the 10 chosen host sites are poised to improve the well-being of thousands of children in its first year and millions over the next decade. For more information on FoodCorps and how to participate in the program, visit www.Food-Corps.org. ABOUT FOODCORPS: FoodCorps is a national AmeriCorps program that focuses on service in rural, urban, and suburban school food systems that have children challenged with high rates of obesity and limited access to healthy foods. Service members will build and tend school gardens, conduct hands-on nutrition education experiences, and facilitate Farm to School programming that brings high quality local food into public schools. The program will serve vulnerable children, improving access to healthy, affordable school meals, and train a cadre of leaders for careers in food and agriculture. FoodCorps, a New York based nonprofit organization, was developed with funding from AmeriCorps and the WK Kellogg Foundation, in partnership with Occidental College, the National Farm to School Network, Slow Food USA, The National Center for Appropriate Technology, and Wicked Delicate, as part of an open planning process that engaged thousands of stakeholders from around the country. For more information about FoodCorps visit www.food-corps.org. ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE: The University of Maine, founded in 1865, is the state's premier public university, located in the town of Orono. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about the University of Maine visit <http://www.umaine.edu>.

Annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale Dec. 11

30 Nov 2010

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, (207) 581-1904 ORONO -- The 2010 Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale and Demonstration will take place Saturday, Dec. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts at the University of Maine. The event is free and open to the public. The annual holiday event features Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Basketmakers who sell their hand-made, one of a kind, ash-splint and sweetgrass basketry. Work baskets, such as creels, pack and potato baskets, and fancy baskets ranging from strawberry and blueberry shaped baskets to curly bowls can be found along with quill jewelry, wood carvings and birchbark work. Traditional music, demonstrations of brown ash pounding, basketmaking, carving and birchbark work, in addition to traditional drumming and dancing, will be part of the day's activities. The schedule is as follows: 9 a.m., doors open for the public; 9:30 a.m., a traditional welcome with Penobscot Chief Kirk Francis and traditional greeting songs with Watie Akins of the Penobscot Nation; 10 a.m., a brown ash pounding and work basket demonstration with Micmac Eldon Hanning; 10-11:30 a.m., a book signing with Penobscot author Charles Norman Shay; 10:30 a.m., a fancy basket demonstration with award-winning basketmaker Molly Neptune Parker and family; 11 a.m., a bead-working demonstration with Penobscot Jennifer Sapiel Neptune and Passamaquoddy Gal Frey; 11:30 a.m., a birchbark wigwam presentation by Barry Dana, Penobscot, in the Hudson Museum; 12 p.m., a carving demonstration with Penobscot master carver Rick Love; 2-3 p.m., Burnurwurbskek Singers with traditional signing and drumming; 3 p.m., the drawing for the Hudson Museum Friends Maine Indian Basket Raffle. This year's Hudson Museum Friends Raffle basket is made by Molly Neptune Parker, an award-winning Passamaquoddy basketmaker. Her work has received recognition from the Maine Arts Commission and the First Peoples Fund. Parker's baskets are included in many museum collections, including the National Museum of the American Indian, and in private collections. Parker uses tools that have been passed down in her family for generations and creates basket forms that she learned from her mother and other relatives, according to Hudson Museum Director Gretchen Faulkner, who coordinates the annual basketmakers' sale in collaboration with the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance. The raffle basket is a large fancy sewing basket that includes a pincushion and sewing notions pocket on the inside. The museum can be contacted at (207) 581-1904 for further details.

Business Planning Seminar at Student Innovation Center Dec. 1

30 Nov 2010

Contact: 581-1454 Jason Harkins of the Maine Business School faculty and expert on entrepreneurship is the speaker

scheduled for a small business seminar Wednesday, Dec. 1 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Foster Center for Student Innovation at UMaine. The discussion is free and open to all students, faculty, staff and others. Harkins will speak about business planning. RSVP is requested by calling 581-1454 or emailing student_innovation_center@umit.maine.edu. Pizza will be served.

UMaine Hosting 'Adventure Girls' Activity

30 Nov 2010

Contact: Amie Dick, (201) 415-0933 or amie.dick@umit.maine.edu The Bangor-based "Adventure Girls" program for girls in grades 2-6, created by the nonprofit advocacy group Hardy Girls Healthy Women (HGHW) in Waterville, is accepting registrations for one of its upcoming activities to be held in Deering Hall at UMaine on Jan. 15 from 1-3 p.m., a presentation and bug collection display by Maine Department of Agriculture entomologist Kathy Murray. Registration and program information is available by contacting College of Education and Human Development associate research professor Mary Madden, an HGHW board member, at 581-2414 or Amie Dick at (201) 415-0933. Adventure Girls gives girls the opportunity to meet once a month with women who are defying gender stereotypes and challenging notions of what a girl or woman "should" do or be, according to the organization. Adventure Girls brings girls together with college mentors and women facilitators to learn how mountaineers, race car drivers, boat captains, and other daring women chose to do what they do and how they've found the courage to follow their dreams.

Blog Post Features Lobster Institute Story

01 Dec 2010

The Maine Boats, Homes and Harbors magazine website includes [a blog post highlighting a UMaine Lobster Institute project](#). In collaboration with Wind Reef Group LLC and American Concrete of Veazie, the Lobster Institute has created a specialized concrete lobster mooring that provides safe habitat for young lobsters and other ocean creatures.

Lehnhard Set for CNN Interview

01 Dec 2010

Bob Lehnhard of the UMaine kinesiology and physical education faculty will be interviewed live on CNN television Wednesday Dec. 1 at approximately 1:45 p.m. CNN became interested in UMaine exercise science research activity as the result of [a Monday WABI television report](#) highlighting an innovative project that measures the impact of certain exercises on athletic performance.

Former Education Commissioner Albanese to Visit UMaine Dec. 6

01 Dec 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO — Former Maine education commissioner J. Duke Albanese will visit UMaine on Monday Dec. 6, as part of the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Distinguished Maine Policy Fellow Program. Albanese currently serves as senior policy adviser in Maine's Great Schools Partnership. Albanese will spend the day at UMaine, meeting with students, faculty members and staff members. He will also offer a 3 p.m. colloquium, "The Elusive Pursuit of Education Reform: Prospects for Change." That talk is scheduled for the Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium in Barrows Hall. UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, its College of Education and Human Development and its Maine Center for Research in STEM Education will co-sponsor the colloquium. The Distinguished Maine Policy Fellows Program, which began in the spring of 2006, brings Maine elected officials and senior policymakers to UMaine for intensive one-day programs through which they can learn more about UMaine, the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, and the work of the university's faculty members and students. It is also intended to provide opportunities for UMaine students to have access to high-level public officials, through whom they can learn more about government and the development of public policy. A Rhode Island native, Albanese earned both a master's degree and a certificate of advanced study from UMaine. He served for several years as superintendent of the Oakland-based Messalonskee School District. He served as Maine's education commissioner from 1996-2003. Several news

coverage possibilities exist, in addition to the 3 p.m. colloquium. Albanese will learn more about UMaine initiatives related to enhancing the use of laptop computers in Maine schools when he visits with UMaine professors Bruce Segee and Yifeng Zhu between 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. at the Foster Center for Student Innovation. He will also meet with Prof. Susan McKay to discuss the new Maine Center for Research in STEM Education (Maine RISE Center) from 1:30-2:45 p.m. in the Aubert Hall conference room.

Riess Discovery Noted in Shipwreck Story

01 Dec 2010

[A Wednesday Seacoast Online story](#) previews a Dec. 11 York event commemorating the 300th anniversary of the wreck of the Nottingham Galley on Boon Island, six miles off the coast of that southern Maine town. The story notes that UMaine marine archaeologist Warren Riess recovered several artifacts from that wreck in 1995.

'Snow Place Like Home' Sleepout to Benefit Habitat for Humanity

01 Dec 2010

Contact: Amanda Missud, 251-3011; Meghan McCarthy, 841-1596 Members of Habitat UMaine, UMaine's chapter of Habitat for Humanity, are camping out in a homemade shanty in front of Memorial Union today through Friday, Dec. 3, as part of the annual "There's Snow Place Like Home" fundraiser. Teams of four students will each spend a night braving the winter weather for three chilly days and two frigid nights to raise funds and awareness for sub-standard housing in the greater Bangor area. All funds raised will go to the Bangor Habitat for Humanity to help build a house for a deserving family. House number 13 was recently completed by the Bangor organization. Members of the UMaine and surrounding communities are invited to stop by the blue tarp shanty during the period to show support, learn more about the mission or make a donation. Habitat UMaine co-President Amanda Missud says business donations are welcome, in addition to individual contributions. "As little as a dollar will help," she says. The students, who are scheduled to be interviewed live by Channel 5 (WABI) today during the 5 o'clock news hour, hope to raise \$1,000.

UMaine Irrigation Research to Advance Water Conservation, Efficiency

01 Dec 2010

Contact: Stephanie Burnett, (207) 581-2937 ORONO, Maine -- A University of Maine horticulturist is using a novel moisture sensing system to monitor and control water delivery to plants to see exactly how greenhouse conditions affect ornamental plant productivity and health. The research is intended to help Maine growers and others economize on water and energy use, and produce better crops in the process. In a quonset greenhouse behind UMaine's Libby Hall, one or another of dozens of small black solenoids click on and off every 20-30 seconds at the command of sensors embedded in selected leafy green alumroot plant pots. Researcher and assistant professor of horticulture Stephanie Burnett explains that the moisture sensors wired to solenoids control and track plant watering. "We have lots of environmental sensors that can track climate in the greenhouse," she says. The sensors compare the shifts in plant water needs as light, temperature and humidity change from minute to minute. "In addition to that, we have a counter in our data logger that counts how often water is turned on or turned off." Most greenhouses have inexpensive light and temperature sensors, she says, but since moisture sensors can cost upwards of \$60 apiece, that's often too expensive for many small, family-run greenhouses to buy more than a few. Burnett, whose research interests include improving the efficiency and sustainability of ornamental plant production and irrigation technologies, hopes to produce a mathematical model to advise growers when and how much to water, based on soil moisture. "Many growers guess, depending on the soil conditions, or by feeling the soil or gauging the weight of a pot," she says. Within a few months, she adds, "I'll have some recommendations for how much water specific plants use and a somewhat reliable model for some of these crops to determine how important the environment is for the crops." That's important, Burnett says, because the landscaping industry brings about \$353 million to the Maine economy each year, and ornamental plants are a significant part of that industry. It is one of the fastest-growing industries in Maine, according to economist and small business expert Jim McConnon, a Cooperative Extension specialist and professor of economics. "It's kind of a hidden industry," Burnett says. "Nationally, it could be as high as \$4 billion. Most growers in Maine are just mom-and-pop

businesses, but they do hire a lot of people so they create a lot of jobs." From a global perspective, she adds, irrigation of agricultural and horticultural crops uses about 60 percent of the world's water supply. With increasingly limited availability of clean water, a sensor-based irrigation system can substantially reduce water waste and still produce robust crops. Burnett's two-year research project is being funded by a modest grant from the American Floral Endowment. She says many research institutions are using sensors to monitor the environment inside greenhouses, but using moisture sensors to automatically trigger irrigation is something being done "by only a handful of institutions in the U.S."

UMaine Annual Commemorative Ornament Program Benefits Student Organizations

01 Dec 2010

Contact: Joe Carr, University Relations, (207) 581-3571, joe.carr@umit.maine.edu Richard Young, University Bookstore, (207) 581-4184, ryoung@umerl.maine.edu ORONO -- Every year, the University Bookstore—the University of Maine's official bookstore—commissions the design of a UMaine ornament. Each edition is carefully crafted of the finest materials and depicts a university landmark or symbol. This year the bookstore offers a golden, three-dimensional UMaine Snowflake Orbit with many of the familiar Maine logos including the bear head, the paw, Go Blue! and the big M. However, the real beauty of the ornament lies in how it benefits others. Through its annual commemorative ornament program, the University Bookstore allocates 100 percent of the proceeds from ornament sales to a UMaine student organization that helps others. This year's selected beneficiary is the Habitat UMaine student group. While the organization is based on campus, its impact is felt throughout the Bangor area. The Habitat UMaine group represents students from across the campus who have created a consortium to help local people with decent, affordable housing. They completed a "Snow Place Like Home" sleep-out, which raised money with students sleeping outside on the UMaine Mall for three nights last February to raise awareness of sub-standard housing in the greater Bangor area. The group works closely with the Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Bangor Area in fundraising for future homes and volunteering at the ReStore in Holden. Habitat UMaine also is affiliated with the MBS Corps, the Maine Business School's community outreach organization. Richard Young, UMaine's director of Auxiliary Services, noted that stories like these that get to the heart of the ornament program, which began in 2003. "The students in these organizations dedicate their energy and talent to making a difference," Young says. "We at the University Bookstore are honored to recognize their important work through the ornament program. We are a student-focused organization, and this initiative is a special way that we can give back. It gives us great pleasure to honor student groups like Habitat UMaine who try to make the lives better for those who need a little bit of help." The 2010 ornament, as well as the complete collection, is available at the University Bookstore, located on the lower level of Memorial Union on the University of Maine campus. Ornaments are also available through the University Bookstore website at www.bookstore.umaine.edu. This year's ornament is the eighth in the series. Previous beneficiary organizations have included Alternative Spring Break, Gamma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Phi Omega, Rotaract, Colleges Against Cancer, the Central American Service Association and Engineers without Borders. High-resolution images of the new and previous ornaments are available upon request. Please contact Tom Diaz, Auxiliary Services marketing coordinator, at (207) 581-4350 or tdiaz@umerl.maine.edu.

Allan, Madden Interviewed on Hazing

01 Dec 2010

UMaine hazing researchers Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden have done several news interviews since the [recent Associated Press story](#) updating their extensive research relative to hazing behaviors at U.S. educational institutions. Allan was a Wednesday guest on the WZON radio (103.1FM and AM620) morning program. Madden appeared on "College Connection," an Oklahoma radio program about higher education issues.

Bear Brook Project Featured in Journal

01 Dec 2010

UMaine researchers Ivan J. Fernandez and Stephen A. Norton served as guest editors for the most recent volume of the journal Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, which featured "The Bear Brook Watershed in Maine -- The

Second Decade," a special issue that includes a series of 10 papers about UMaine's long-term, whole-watershed research project in eastern Maine. Fernandez, Norton and others at UMaine are studying issues of acid deposition, climate change and forest sustainability in one of the longest-running studies of its kind in the world. The special issue follows a book published after the first decade and follows more than 150 scientific papers that have been generated from the Bear Brook project.

Wind Power Research In News Reports

02 Dec 2010

Several media outlets, including MPBN mentioned UMaine's pioneering research into deepwater offshore wind turbine technology after the National Wildlife Federation released a report Wednesday. The report made a case for the government to expedite permits for and invest in offshore wind projects. UMaine has received more than \$20 million in federal funding for its work in offshore wind power, according to an [Associated Press report](#) on the Business Week website. The [Portland Press Herald](#) also reported on the National Wildlife Federation's findings and the research at UMaine.

Babkirk in Story on Extension's Falmouth Facility

02 Dec 2010

Comments from Doug Babkirk, associate director of UMaine Cooperative Extension, were included in a Falmouth Forecaster story about Extension's plans for a new Cumberland County learning center and office facility in Falmouth. The University of Maine System Board of Trustees recently approved the Tidewater Farm Regional Learning Center, a collaboration involving UMaine, the Cumberland County Extension Association and the Tidewater Conservation Foundation.

Rubin Comments in Public Radio Lee Academy Story

02 Dec 2010

Prof. Jonathan Rubin from the UMaine School of Economics was interviewed for a Maine Public Radio story about Lee Academy's decision to turn down a federal grant that would have funded a wood-pellet boiler. School officials were concerned that biofuels emissions standards would have created unmanageable operational costs.

Television Report on Student Fundraiser

02 Dec 2010

WABI television broadcast a Wednesday story about students the Habitat UMaine group, sleeping in a shanty on the Mall for several nights to raise money for Bangor's Habitat for Humanity chapter.

Fogler Library Extending Hours for Finals Week

02 Dec 2010

Contact: Fogler Library, 581-1666 Fogler library has announced extended hours for finals week, Dec. 8-17. They are:

- Wednesday, Dec. 8, 8 a.m. – Thursday, Dec. 9, 2:30 a.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 9, 8 a.m. – Friday, Dec. 10, 2:30 a.m.
- Friday, Dec. 10, 8 a.m. – Saturday, Dec. 11, 2:30 a.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 11, 10 a.m. – Sunday, Dec. 12, 2:30 a.m.
- Sunday, Dec. 12, 10 a.m. – Monday, Dec. 13, 2:30 a.m.
- Monday, Dec. 13, 8 a.m. – Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 14, 8 a.m. – Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2:30 a.m.

- Wednesday, Dec. 15, 8 a.m. – Thursday, Dec. 16, 2:30 a.m.
- Thursday, Dec. 16, 8 a.m. – Friday, Dec. 17, 2:30 a.m.
- And Friday, Dec. 17, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

News Report on Zimbabwe Violence Presentation

02 Dec 2010

The Bangor Daily News website features a report on a Thursday morning UMaine presentation by Jestina Mukoko, the executive director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project. That organization works to assess and monitor human rights abuses in that country. She is currently serving as the 2010 Human Rights Fellow at Colby College's Oak Institute for the Study of International Human Rights. Herself a victim of political violence in her native country, Mukoko provided insights into the history and current state of Zimbabwe's political culture. She also gave a presentation on Thursday morning, as part of the Bangor Foreign Policy Forum series. Her UMaine talk was presented by the School of Policy and International Affairs.

Keeping Holidays Green with Proper Tree Care

02 Dec 2010

Contact: Louis Morin, 5812854 With a backdrop of UMaine's School of Forest Resources' annual holiday tree sale at Nutting Hall, forest resources instructor Louis Morin is available to discuss proper care of holiday trees to keep them healthy, robust and - more important - safe indoors during the holiday season. While many people like the convenience of having an artificial tree in their home, others enjoy the tradition of heading out with the family to cut their own or buy a freshly cut tree. Buying a tree from a local tree farm helps the local economy, Morin says, and the environmental impact of those farms is substantial. A tree farm converts carbon dioxide to oxygen, thus removing carbon from the atmosphere, he explains. A young stand also is more aggressive in removing carbon from the air than an older, larger stand. Morin says there's more to keeping indoor holiday trees beautiful and healthy through the holidays than merely watering it to retain fragrant, hearty needles. The key to getting the most out of a tree has a lot to do with the health of the tree and when it is cut, he says. Whether a balsam fir, renowned for fragrance, or a Fraser fir, known for long-lasting, blue-green needles, all trees react to the approach of freezing temperatures and instinctively drain their sap so it won't freeze, swell and crack the wood, Morin says. It's best to cut before the ground freezes, but after a couple of good hard frosts, he says, to ensure that the tree still has some life-sustaining sap left in it. Now is the perfect time to harvest a holiday tree. While aesthetics are important, safety is more so, Morin adds. If a tree stand dries up, the cambium layer, the circulatory system for a tree, dries up and seals itself, preventing water absorption from that point on. "As the tree dries out, it becomes very flammable," he says. Consumers should take care to keep candles or any other source of flame at a safe distance, and also select lighting that is not prone to heating up. Some trees can require as much as two liters of water a day, Morin says. Before setting the tree in its stand, he suggests using a utility knife to cut a beveled edge around the trunk of the tree exposing cambium layer, the tree's inner bark, and then fill the tree stand with hot water - not quite boiling - for its first watering. This stimulates the capillary action and begins drawing water. Morin can be reached at 581-2854 or by email at lmorin@maine.edu to discuss proper tree selection, care and important safety tips for the holiday season. The School of Forest Services' Xi Sigma Pi forestry honor society's annual scholarship tree sale runs through Sunday, Dec. 12, or until the trees sell out, in the courtyard at Nutting Hall. Trees 4' to 8' tall are available from 3-4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 12-5 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Prices range from \$15 to \$38. The society uses proceeds for its scholarship fund. The trees are purchased from UMaine alum Toby Hall and his wife Cynthia's Hall's Christmas Tree Farm in Sangerville. In addition, the UMaine Horticulture Club is raising funds for field trips and educational activities through a wreath sale. Custom-made wreaths can be ordered by calling club member Katey Coulling at (207) 756-5553 or email kathleen.coulling@umit.maine.edu. Prices based on wreath size range from \$12 to \$28, plus the cost of additional decorations.

UMaine to Join International Sustainability Teach-In

02 Dec 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine will be a host site for the international Sustainable Development Teach-in Day, scheduled for Friday, Dec. 3. Universities and other organizations will participate in the "inclusive event," described in detail [here](#). The teach-in aims to provide a mechanism for interested parties to share information about sustainable development initiatives, while working to raise awareness of related issues. UMaine activities include a noon keynote address by Bob Kates, UMaine presidential professor of sustainability science. Kates, who is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, is one of the foremost authorities in this field of study. He has studied subject including natural hazards, climate impact assessment and global change in local places. Kates' UMaine work focuses on community adaptation to climate change. He will discuss "Sustainable Development: Can it Be Done in this or Any Century?" in Memorial Union's Bangor Room. Other activities include a workshop involving SSI and UMaine Cooperative Extension personnel, addressing sustainability issues relevant to UMaine. That workshop is scheduled for 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in Norman Smith Hall. UMaine researchers and the Penobscot Valley Senior College will collaborate on a 9 a.m.-11 a.m. session featuring a series of presentations by UMaine Ph.D. students on their areas of expertise. UMaine's Sustainability Solutions Initiative (SSI) is the lead sponsor of UMaine's Friday event. SSI is a National Science Foundation-funded collaborative, statewide effort aimed at improving the science and practice of sustainable development.

Center for Sustainable Living to Open March 2011 in Falmouth

03 Dec 2010

Contact: Doug Babkirk at 712-1414 or doug.babkirk@maine.edu Unique UMaine initiative to engage children, families and communities in year-round educational programs FALMOUTH, Me. -- The University of Maine Regional Learning Center plans to open in March of 2011 at Tidewater Farm in Falmouth. The center will offer sustainable living education programs for children, families and home-based business owners in the region. It will occupy a 5,000-square foot space in the Tidewater Village office condominium complex next to Tidewater Farm. The construction of the interior space will include UMaine Extension offices and a large meeting room for public, non-credit programs. The center will also house the southern Maine offices of University of Maine's admissions, development and foundation. Land at Tidewater Farm will be used for public teaching and demonstration gardens. The innovative public-private partnership among the University of Maine, the Cumberland County Extension Association and the Tidewater Conservation Foundation will focus on teaching youth and adults how to grow healthy foods for good nutrition; teaching life skills through 4-H programs for urban, suburban and rural youth; and teaching adults how to start and sustain natural resource, home-based businesses. "This is a unique opportunity to benefit from an historic saltwater farm situated within an hour of half of Maine's population to teach area youth and adults how to live more sustainably," says Bill Lunt, president of the Tidewater Conservation Foundation. UMaine Extension's partnerships with Cumberland County government, the University of Southern Maine, Southern Maine Community College, and area businesses and community groups will continue at Tidewater Farm. "At Tidewater Farm we will expand our partnerships with area schools, non profit groups and businesses in helping build healthy families and communities that rely on a vibrant regional agriculture and economy to sustain them," says Doug Babkirk, associate director of UMaine Cooperative Extension. Participants in Cultivating Community and SMCC Sustainable Agriculture programs grew vegetables at the Farm this past summer. The plan is for USM students to begin learning on adjacent land next year.

Horticulturalist in Story on British Website Horticulture Week

03 Dec 2010

The website Horticulture Week cites research by UMaine's Donglin Zhang in a story about invasive plants. Zhang says selecting vigorous American native woodland plants is one way of countering invasive aliens.

Orono-UMaine International Program Mentioned In Story

03 Dec 2010

In a [story](#) about Maine high schools attempting to increase their enrollment of international students, the website [fenceviewer.com](#) mentioned UMaine's agreement with Orono High School to provide housing space and create university-based programs for high school students coming from abroad beginning next year.

Bangor Paper Reports on Student Senate Action

03 Dec 2010

Friday's Bangor Daily News includes a story about the UMaine Student Senate's recent approval of a resolution calling for Congress to support the DREAM (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors) Act. The initiative would provide a way for aliens between the ages of 12 and 35 to gain citizenship under certain circumstances. The story includes comments from UMaine student Jose Roman.

Dagher Interviewed About Wind Power

03 Dec 2010

The website [Offshore Wind Wire has an interview with UMaine's AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center Director Habib Dagher](#), who answered questions about the progress of the DeepCWind floating turbine project and the type of work which will be done at the UMaine's offshore wind laboratory, which is currently under construction.

John Dearborn 1933-2010

05 Dec 2010

John Dearborn, UMaine professor emeritus of marine sciences, died on Wednesday Nov 24 at his home in Orono, as reported in [a Saturday Bangor Daily News obituary](#). Born in Bangor, Dearborn earned a Ph.D. from Stanford University before joining the UMaine faculty in 1966. A renowned expert in marine animals, Dearborn made several research expeditions to the Arctic and to Antarctica, where Mount Dearborn was named for him. He also received the Antarctic Service Medal of the U.S. Congress in 1968. Other forms of recognition include UMaine's Distinguished Maine Professor Award in 1973 and the Presidential Research and Creative Achievement Award in 1987. Relatives and friends are invited to a memorial celebration 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21, 2011 at UMaine's Buchanan Alumni House, Gifts in Dearborn's memory may be made in support of the John H. and Bethel B. Dearborn Marine Sciences Fund or the John H. and Bethel B. Dearborn Darling Marine Center Fund, care of the University of Maine Foundation, Two Alumni Place, Orono, ME 04469-5792.

Bilodeau Comments in Story About Grass Pellet Fuels

05 Dec 2010

Mike Bilodeau, director of UMaine's Process Development Center, was quoted in a Sunday Maine Today Media story about issues related to a grass pellet fuel R&D project that's underway in northern Maine. UMaine researchers, including Cooperative Extension experts, are looking at ways to create an energy-producing crop on unused farm land in Aroostook County. The story examines competition issues as they relate to the wood pellet industry.

New York Times Languages Story Mentions UMaine

05 Dec 2010

[A Sunday New York Times report mentions UMaine](#) as one of the colleges and universities considering changes that would affect academic programs in the languages. In his academic reorganization plan announced last May, President Kennedy recommended that UMaine suspend academic majors in Latin and German, while retaining the capacity for instruction in those languages.

Massachusetts Papers Report Sorenson Award

06 Dec 2010

The Wicked Local newspapers in [Massachusetts report](#) that Jon Sorenson of Boxford, Mass. was one of four people recently honored with a UMaine Stillwater Society Presidential Award. Sorenson, a 1986 UMaine graduate, was recognized along with Prof. Habib Dagher and UMaine alumni benefactors Russell and Barbara Bodwell. The Stillwater Society honors those who have "made a significant contribution to the betterment of the university and the people of Maine and beyond," through "demonstrated leadership, loyalty and dedicated service on the university's behalf."

Newspaper Features New Media Art Project In Downtown Bangor

07 Dec 2010

The Bangor Daily News has a feature about "Clutter: A Creative Exploration of Junk and Stuff," an exhibition organized by 10 UMaine students and scheduled for 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, December 10, at 29 Broad Street in Bangor. UMaine graduate student Allison Melton is heading up the project, which will allow the students to express their personal definitions of the word "clutter" through paint, sculpture, performance, digital and audio media, for a creative concept development course Melton is teaching this semester.

UMaine Extension Economist Helps Revise National Entrepreneurship Curriculum

07 Dec 2010

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO, Maine -- A recently unveiled A-Z educational package for entrepreneurs and small- and micro-businesses, and those who work with them, will be explained in a 90-minute webinar scheduled for a global broadcast Wednesday, Dec. 8. The home-based and micro-business training curriculum originally was created in the late 1990's by a team of faculty members from universities across the country to aid Land Grant faculty, outreach entrepreneurship educators, economic development professionals and entrepreneurs. A similar national team revised the material during the last two years. Jim McConnon, University of Maine Cooperative Extension specialist and professor of economics, served on the original team and the revisions team, which also extended the curriculum to the web. The 20-chapter package, "Cashing in on Business Opportunities," is freely available and covers everything a person would want or need to know about starting and growing a business enterprise. Topics range from technical and logistical business planning analysis and legal questions to practical concerns, including how to set a price for a product or service and avoiding familial conflicts when basing a business in the home, McConnon says. "The curriculum targets educators and faculty across the U.S. and economic development professionals, and others who work to support micro and home-based business development in the U.S.," he says. There is no charge for any part of the guidebook and related educational and reference materials. Target audiences also include non-profit associations and others who support micro and home-based business owners in Maine, New England and the United States. The curriculum, divided into four sections, is hosted by the Southern Rural Development Center in Mississippi. The guide and curriculum, along with downloadable PDF documents and PowerPoint presentations, is located on the web at <http://srdc.msstate.edu/cashing/>, with additional details in an SRDC news release at http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/081210_cashing.html. Those interested in participating in the free, interactive webinar Dec. 8, log onto <http://msues.na4.acrobat.com/srdc/> 15 minutes before the program begins. The webinar is from 1-2:30 p.m. EST. The revision team included Alan Barefield, Mississippi State University; Mike Best, Tennessee Tech University; Karen Biers, Utah State University; Rachael Carter, Mississippi State University, Hank Cothran, University of Florida; Jim McConnon, University of Maine; Glenn Muske, North Dakota State University; Katy Williams, Southern Rural Development Center; Kent Wolfe, University of Georgia; and Al Wysocki, University of Florida.

UMaine Representatives Part of Chechen Delegation's Visit to State

07 Dec 2010

Contact: William Murphy, (207) 581-4124 ORONO -- William Murphy, director of the UMaine Bureau of Labor Education, and Charles Scontras, historian and research associate with the bureau, along with Maine's Labor

Commissioner Laura Fortman, will participate Dec. 17 in a 10-day visit to Maine by a parliamentary delegation from the Chechen Republic to provide members with a profile of Maine's labor institutions. The visit is sponsored by the Open World Leadership Program and hosted by the American- Caucasus Work Group with the University of Southern Maine's Lewiston-Auburn College and the UMS Muskie School of Public Service. Coordinator of the event is Barry H. Rodrigue of Lewiston-Auburn College. During its visit, the delegation will meet with several of Maine's Congressional representatives, Gov. John Baldacci and representatives from Maine's business, educational, Native American, religious and coastal communities, in addition to other highlights that characterize the state of Maine, according to Scontras. The Open World Leadership Program defines its goals and objectives as working to "enhance understanding and capabilities for cooperation between the United States and the countries of Eurasia by developing a network of leaders in the region who have gained significant, firsthand exposure to America's democratic, accountable government and its free-market system."

Segal Book Review Published

08 Dec 2010

Monday's Bangor Daily News included a book review written by Howard Segal of the UMaine history faculty. The book, "The Three-Legged Woman and Other Excursions in Teaching," was written by Robert Klose, a biology professor who serves on the University College of Bangor faculty. In the book, Klose describes various experiences in his teaching career with, in Segal's words, "wit and wisdom, concern and compassion."

Recent UMaine Grad Becomes Cricket Celebrity

08 Dec 2010

Ashley Kerekes, a recent UMaine graduate from the College of Education and Human Development, has become a celebrity of sorts in the world of cricket. Her Twitter handle [@theashes](#) matches the name of a popular Australian cricket tournament, "The Ashes." During the tournament, fans began communicating with Kerekes through Twitter, assuming she was affiliated with the sport. When she responded with humor, Australian media began to take note, leading to a series of interviews, including [one on that country's version of the Today Show](#). As Kerekes mentioned in the television interview, there is now some discussion of flying her to Australia to learn first-hand about the sport. She is currently living and working in Massachusetts.

Waldron Recognized by APLU

08 Dec 2010

UMaine Vice President for Administration and Finance Janet Waldron received special recognition from the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) last month, when she stepped down from her role as chair of that organization's Council on Business Affairs Executive Committee. Waldron received a plaque "in appreciation for....outstanding service and leadership to the Council." She continues to serve on APLU's audit committee.

UMaine Presenters Highlighted Legislative Policy Forum

08 Dec 2010

Three UMaine presenters highlighted the Thursday Dec. 2 legislative policy forum on preparing Maine's workshop in Augusta. More than 100 members of the new Maine Legislature attended the forum, sponsored by the Legislative Council. UMaine's Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center worked with the Maine Development Foundation and USM's Muskie School of Public Service to plan the event. From UMaine, Prof. Susan McKay spoke about "Engaging Maine Students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math;" College of Engineering Dean Dana Humphrey spoke on "Maine Advanced Technology and Engineering Center - Engineering Education Partnership: USM, SMCC and UMaine;" and Doug Hall from the UMaine Innovation Engineering program gave the keynote address: "Driving Economic Development and Policy with Innovation."

UMaine Graduate Students Selected for Sea Grant Fellowships

08 Dec 2010

Contact: Catherine Schmitt (207) 581-1434 or catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu ORONO, Maine – Two University of Maine Ph.D. candidates have been selected to join the group of Sea Grant/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Service Fellows earning doctoral degrees in either fisheries population dynamics or marine resource economics, according to the NOAA National Sea Grant College Program. Sam Truesdell, whose research focuses on the spatial dynamics of fishing fleets, and Peter Hayes, who studies interactions between natural processes and cycles of human behavior and decisions in three Gulf of Maine fisheries, were among seven graduate students chosen for the fellowship from across the country. UMaine hosts Maine Sea Grant, which is a federal-state partnership between NOAA and the State of Maine in support of marine and coastal scientific research and education. Each fellowship award is in the form of a multiyear cooperative agreement between NOAA's Fisheries Service and the Sea Grant university or college in the amount of \$38,500 per year. UMaine was the only educational institution to have more than one student selected. Other universities include University of California Davis, University of California Santa Cruz, University of Miami, University of Maryland, and University of Massachusetts. California Sea Grant had two fellows named. The NOAA Fisheries/Sea Grant graduate fellowship program has awarded 61 fellowships since its inception 11 years ago. "NOAA established this unique graduate fellowship program in 1999, focusing on population dynamics and marine resource economics, two areas of fisheries science that are highly specialized," says Leon Cammen, director of NOAA's National Sea Grant College Program. "Education and recruitment of new doctoral candidates in these disciplines is important to NOAA's Fisheries Service and to the National Sea Grant Program."

News Report Details Weekend Classroom Incident

08 Dec 2010

Wednesday's Bangor Daily News includes a story about a weekend incident in a UMaine documentary film class. According to news reports and accounts of those present, a student threatened to "butcher and skin" a live rabbit as part of a presentation to the class. The story includes comments from that student, along with two others, and two of the class instructors -- Michael Grillo and Mike Scott. UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana is also quoted in the story, pointing out that the matter has been referred to the UMaine conduct office and police department. Dana notes that criminal charges are unlikely but that the student may be sanctioned for violating the university's Code of Student Conduct.

McConnon in Sun Journal Retail Story

08 Dec 2010

Comments from Jim McConnon of the UMaine School of Economics faculty and Cooperative Extension are included in a Wednesday Lewiston Sun Journal report looking at the holiday retail season in Maine.

Riess Contributions Included in State Museum Exhibit

08 Dec 2010

The [Lewiston Sun Journal reports](#) on a new exhibit at the Maine State Museum in Augusta, commemorating the 300th anniversary of the wreck of the Nottingham Galley off the Maine coast near York. The exhibit includes video and photo depictions of the efforts of UMaine marine archaeologist Warren Riess, who recovered some of the ship's cannons and related supplies from the ocean floor in 1995.

Award-Winning Native Basketmaker Part of UMaine Sale, Demonstration

08 Dec 2010

Contact: Gretchen Faulkner, 581-1904; Theresa Secord, 314-3120 ORONO -- Celebrated Maine Indian basketmaker

Jeremy Frey, who Tuesday evening received a prestigious \$50,000 arts grant during ceremonies at Lincoln Center in New York, plans to return as an exhibitor in the University of Maine Hudson Museum's annual Maine Native Basket Sale and Demonstration Saturday, Dec. 11. Frey of Indian Township, a member of the Passamaquoddy community, is a long time exhibitor at the 16-year-old basket sale and basketry exhibition, being held at the UMaine Collins Center for the Arts. On Tuesday, he was one of 50 artists to receive unrestricted \$50,000 grants from the Los Angeles-based United States Artists (USA), a national grant-making and advocacy organization. USA's founders -- the Ford, Rockefeller, Prudential, and Rasmuson foundations -- created the organization in 2005 as a way to invest in America's finest artists and illuminate their value to society. USA grants are among the largest individual arts grants in the country, according to Theresa Secord, executive director of the Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance (MIBA), and an award-winning basketmaker herself. Chosen for the caliber and impact of their work, the USA Fellows for 2010 are from 18 states and Puerto Rico, range in age from 32 to 71, and represent some of the most innovative and diverse creative talents in the country, according to the USA.org website. Artists include cutting-edge experimenters and traditional practitioners from the fields of architecture and design, crafts and traditional arts, dance, literature, film and media, music, theater arts, and visual arts. USA considered 138 nominations. Frey, a 32-year-old father of two sons, was taught basketmaking by his mother, Frances "Gal" Frey, with assistance from the MIBA. He is now a member of the MIBA board of directors and a master basketmaker, says Secord, who nominated Frey for the USA award. "He is an extraordinary artist in his own right, and a great result of the efforts of the MIBA," Secord says. The mission of the basketmakers' alliance includes promoting and strengthening the time-honored Native tradition of hand-weaving utility and decorative baskets, one of the first industries of the state of Maine. Part of that includes convincing Maine's tribal youth to take up the art of basket weaving, she says. "As a director and friend of the founding directors, we had some idea of how this would come about and how we would save Maine Indian basketry," Secord says of the challenge, "but we really never saw this kind of artist -- very contemporary but remaining true to his tribal history at the same time." Secord says Frey credits basketmaking with many successes in his life. "It's been quite a meteoric rise over the last decade for him," she says. The UMaine basketmakers' sale and exhibition is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. The annual holiday event features several dozen Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot basketmakers who sell their hand-made, one of a kind, ash-splint and sweetgrass basketry. Work baskets, such as creels, pack and potato baskets, and fancy baskets ranging from strawberry and blueberry shaped baskets to curly bowls can be found along with quill jewelry, wood carvings and birchbark work. Traditional music, demonstrations of brown ash pounding, basketmaking, carving and birchbark work, in addition to traditional drumming and dancing, will be part of the day's activities.

Correll Chair Candidate Presentation Monday Dec. 13

08 Dec 2010

Correll Chair candidate presentation Monday Dec. 13 Bert Sweetman, a candidate for UMaine's Correll Presidential Chair in Energy, will present a seminar on Monday Dec. 13. Sweetman, who is currently a Texas A&M faculty member, will discuss "Floating Wind Turbines Subject to Large Angular Motions: Dynamic Simulation using the Euler Equations of Motion" at 3:10 p.m. in Arthur St. John Hill Auditorium.

Renaissance Fall Show Friday

08 Dec 2010

Renaissance choral ensemble performs its fall concert Friday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Minsky Recital Hall, Class of 1944 Hall, with an opening performance by Bear Vocals. Admission \$5, or \$2 with a MaineCard.

UMaine Student Computer Games Competition Thursday

08 Dec 2010

Contact: George Markowsky, 581-3940; George Manlove, 581-3756 ORONO -- The lobby of UMaine's Jenness Hall will become somewhat of an electronic games arcade Thursday, Dec. 9, from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., as eight teams of students will competitively showcase computer games they have created in a class, COS 125, Introduction to Problem

Solving through Python Programming. At stake are prizes of \$100, \$80 and \$60 for games voted to be the best, and for one team, a \$3,000 contract from Jackson Laboratory to write a STEM education game for distribution to high schools. Students' games are interactive and members of the campus community or the public will be invited to play. Many of the games are typical computer games where things move around and collide with other things. Some of the games feature rockets and others feature zombies or other favorite subjects, according to George Markowsky, professor and chair of the UMaine Department of Computer Science. One game, for example, is "Escape from Neville Hall," which requires the player to complete a variety of challenges to get out of Neville Hall, and another that requires a player to operate a spacecraft that must shoot and destroy or navigate around floating space objects. The competition is part of Computer Education Week events at UMaine. On Friday, Dec. 10, Cybersecurity Morning, from 8 a.m. to 12:20 p.m., in Room 120 of Neville Hall, highlights from DefCon 2010 will include topics such as jackpotting ATMs, bypassing locks, cybersecurity in China, hacking Facebook, hacking tire pressure systems and how anonymous is your browser? Afternoon sessions cover a range of programming topics.

Murphy In Story About Crop Gleaning

08 Dec 2010

CNBC had on its website an Associated Press story in which UMaine Cooperative Extension's Barbara Murphy was quoted about gleaning leftover crops to donate to the needy. Murphy said gleaning is becoming more popular as a way to reduce waste.

Dagher Writes Letter To Bangor Daily News In Support Of Federal Investments

08 Dec 2010

In a Bangor Daily News letter to the editor, UMaine's Habib Dagher, director of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center, advocates for federal research investments he writes have helped the UMaine-based offshore wind technology development program create 250 jobs this year within 25 Maine companies and organizations.

Maine Farriers Clinic/Presentation at UMaine Farm on Friday

08 Dec 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The Maine Farriers Association will present a cash donation to the University of Maine equine program on Friday, Dec. 10, as part of a series of events including a seminar, clinic and demonstration. Farriers have expertise in equine hoof care. Their functions include the placement of shoes on horses' hooves. The association's \$1,500 donation is meant to thank the students, faculty and staff associated with UMaine's equine program for the partnership that has evolved between the organizations. That collaboration has brought UMaine resources to bear in helping the farriers group accomplish its goals relative to optimal horse care throughout Maine. The presentation, which will also involve UMaine students and Wicky, one of UMaine's retired mares, is scheduled for 12 noon at the farm. She had a significant hoof problem two years ago, and UMaine clinicians and farriers worked together to resolve it successfully, leading to a healthy existence for this treasured animal.

Article Cites UMaine Center on Aging Legal Needs Study

09 Dec 2010

An article in the Dec. 8 edition of the Bangor Daily News about Legal Services for the Elderly attorney Julie Millet in Bangor, and the increase in the number of older people needing legal services, [cited](#) a recent study by the [University of Maine Center on Aging](#) that established a growing need. Legal Services commissioned the study to quantify the problem and help policymakers prepare for the future.

Basket Sale Exhibitor Featured

09 Dec 2010

Jeremy Frey, who will be exhibiting his Maine Indian baskets Saturday at the Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale and Demonstration at the Hudson Museum, was featured in a Bangor Daily News article about a national arts grant he received Tuesday. Saturday's event will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Collins Center for the Arts. [Click here for more information about the sale and demonstrations.](#)

Bodwell Holiday Gift Collection Deadline Near

09 Dec 2010

The Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism is reminding members of the UMaine community that Friday, Dec. 10 is the deadline for donating holiday gifts to be distributed to those in need this year. Drop-off boxes are located in Memorial Union, the Student Recreation and Fitness Center, dining facilities and in Hannibal Hamlin Hall. Suggested donations include hooded sweatshirts, polar fleece throws, body and bath kits, art supplies, books, winter clothing, board games, gift cards, DVDs or toys. For information contact Lauren Wagner at (207) 581-1796 or email her on FirstClass.

Verdi's 'Don Carlo' Met Opera Broadcast Sunday

09 Dec 2010

The Collins Center for the Arts at UMaine is scheduled to present Verdi's "Don Carlo," a live broadcast from the Metropolitan Opera, on Sunday, Dec. 12 from 1-3 p.m. Director Nicholas Hytner calls Don Carlo the "quintessential Verdi opera," with "on the one hand, an implacable expression of impending doom and, on the other hand, a succession of the most gloriously open-throated arias, the most fantastically determined music." Ticket information is available at the CCA box office at 581-1755.

UMaine Charitable Giving Catalog Available

10 Dec 2010

Contact: Joe Carr at (207) 581-3571 ORONO -- The University of Maine's Women in Leadership and Philanthropy (WLP) program has created UMaine's first-ever Charitable Gift Catalog, a 23-page brochure that describes the ways in which alumni and other friends can support UMaine students through contributions. Featuring a series of photos, the brochure provides information about giving opportunities related to student scholarships and fellowships; research, student life, the UMaine President's Club and the WLP Presidential Challenge Fund. The latter initiative aims to match a \$25,000 university investment with private gifts to support student-faculty research projects and to provide operational support for continuing the WLP program. "As the calendar year winds down and the holiday season progresses, many people are considering a philanthropic contribution as an alternative to traditional gift-giving," says Barbara Beers, UMaine senior philanthropic adviser. "This catalog provides clear, useful information about some of the most meaningful ways that donor contributions can help UMaine students achieve their goals." Copies of the catalog are available by contacting UMaine's Development Office at 207-581-1151 or Lisa.daniel@umit.maine.edu.

Engineering Students Judge Robotics Competition

10 Dec 2010

Some UMaine engineering students spent last Saturday in Cape Elizabeth judging the Southern Maine VEX Robotics Competition, according to the South Portland Sentry blog. The UMaine will host the state robotics competition in February at the Bangor Auditorium, the blog posting stated.

Advice Available on Coping with Seasonal Affective Disorder

10 Dec 2010

Contact: Sandra Sigmon, (207) 581- 2049 ORONO -- Many of us, especially in northern climates, can experience the depressing effects of seasonal affective disorder, or SAD, as days grow shorter and darker with the onset of winter. For some, the syndrome can be debilitating. UMaine professor of psychology Sandra Sigmon, a cooperating professor of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, is available to discuss coping with SAD. She suggests getting as much outdoor exposure as possible when there is daylight, but there are other ways to combat SAD, she says. Her advice? Try to get outside in sunlight at least 15 minutes a day; surround yourself with light surroundings, sit near a window or paint walls a light color; keep up usual hobbies and interests; keep exercise levels similar to spring and summer; try to keep diet similar throughout the year; and maintain social activities. If symptoms are disruptive, consider a light therapy box, which retails from \$150-\$400, and see a physician for evaluation, she advises. Sigmon is reachable at 581-2049.

Computer Games Competition News Coverage

10 Dec 2010

WABI television broadcast a Thursday report about a UMaine competition involving computer science student who have been designing computer games. The competition, conducted in conjunction with Jackson Laboratory, was a final project for a programming course.

UM Engineering Francis Crowe Induction Ceremony Today at 2 P.M.

10 Dec 2010

Contact: Victoria Blanchette (207) 581-2204 The College of Engineering at the University of Maine is honoring some of its finest today during the Francis Crowe Induction Ceremony being held at 2 p.m. at 120 Little Hall. Honored inductees include distinguished, honorary, faculty and graduate members. "This is a wonderful way to recognize the hard work and tenacity of our engineering graduates for completing B.S. and M.S. degrees in engineering," says Dana Humphrey, dean of the College of Engineering. "In addition, we are pleased to be able to honor distinguished alumni with careers that span the field of construction to veterinarian." The purpose of the Francis Crowe Society is to recognize UMaine engineering graduates as they accomplish the formidable goal of completing their engineering degrees and to recognize others who have made considerable engineering contributions and honored the profession. The college is honoring: Distinguished Engineers: Each year each engineering department may nominate an individual who has made major contributions to advancing the art, science or practice of engineering. Honorary Engineers: Honorary members are chosen by the college to honor them for their non-engineering contributions to the college community. Faculty Dean's Awards: Faculty members are nominated by the chairs of each department and then chosen by the dean of engineering. Graduating Engineers: December 2010 class of engineering grads.

UMaine Student-Teachers Now Have Down Under Option

10 Dec 2010

Contact: Pam Kimball, (207) 581-2456 ORONO -- University of Maine education students now have a new student-teaching option -- in Australia and New Zealand classrooms. The College of Education and Human Development recently formalized a partnership with AustraLearn, an Australian nonprofit that places students in schools in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. The program helps arrange 10-week student teaching placements for elementary and secondary education students. One UMaine student did part of her student-teaching in Australia last spring, before the program became formal, and another is scheduled to teach in New Zealand in the coming spring semester, according to Pam Kimball, field experience and certification program director at UMaine, and Study Abroad Adviser Orlina Boteva in the Office of International Programs. "We are delighted to offer this formalized experience for student teachers at the University of Maine," says Karen Boucias, director of the Office of International Programs. "AustraLearn has a proven track record of programs." Boteva says the advising, application and pre-departure process is streamlined and efficient. "Students are given a budget from the very beginning and they can work with the Office of Financial Aid on applying their UMaine financial aid package to this program," she says. Kimball adds that the international aspects of the teaching experience for UMaine students will make them more attractive employment candidates. "As a former principal who has reviewed many teacher candidate resumes, I valued highly the diverse teaching experiences of the

applicants," she says. "An experience such as student teaching abroad is a 'value-added' factor. School populations today vary greatly in all aspects -- culturally, socio-economically and developmentally."

Television Station Reports on Equine Program Donation

13 Dec 2010

UMaine Prof. Robert Causey was interviewed as part of a Friday WABI story about a clinic and check presentation at UMaine's Witter Farm. The Maine Farriers Association, as part of a meeting, seminar and clinic at the farm, gave \$1,500 to the UMaine equine program to support future educational programs that benefit UMaine education programs and Maine horse industries.

UMaine Sig Ep Brothers Deliver Holiday Gifts

13 Dec 2010

WABI television featured members of UMaine's Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity in a Friday story about the group's holiday philanthropic efforts. In the story, which included an interview with chapter president Chris McGary, the students delivered 25 children's gifts to Brewer Federal Credit Union as part of the credit union's partnership with the Salvation Army to provide gifts to area youngsters.

LED Holiday Lights can Save Money

13 Dec 2010

WLBZ/WCSH had a Friday news report featuring Donna Coffin of UMaine Cooperative Extension describing the benefits of LED holiday lights. Those decorations can save a good deal of money compared to other lights, and they are safer because they do not get as hot.

News Report on Hudson Museum Event

13 Dec 2010

WABI broadcast a Saturday report from the annual Maine Indian Basketmakers Sale and Demonstration, held at UMaine's Collins Center for the Arts and Hudson Museum.

Report on Pets as Holiday Gifts

13 Dec 2010

Leslie Forstadt, a child and family development specialist in UMaine Cooperative Extension, was quoted in a Sunday Maine Today Media story about pets as holiday gifts. Forstadt urges that families consider carefully the ramifications of such a decision. She also recommends that parents consider interim steps to prepare the family for a new pet, such as the gift of a collar or a book about raising an animal.

Scontras Column in Portland Paper

13 Dec 2010

Monday's Portland Press Herald includes a [guest column](#) by labor historian Charles Scontras, a research associate in UMaine's Bureau of Labor Education. The column looks at the "meteoric rise" of the Knights of Labor in Portland in the late 19th century. Scontras describes that organization as the nation's "first major labor movement."

BDN Published Column by President Kennedy

13 Dec 2010

Saturday's Bangor Daily News included an op-ed column by President Kennedy. The column describes the benefits of public-private partnerships in helping UMaine achieve its goals and serve the state.

Farrier Association Donation Supports UMaine Equine Program

13 Dec 2010

Contact: George Manlove at (207) 581-3756 ORONO — In a show of appreciation for the University of Maine's support of the equine industry, the Maine Farriers Association presented a cash donation to UMaine's equine program on Dec. 10. The association's \$1,500 donation was to thank the students, faculty and staff associated with the UMaine program for the partnership that has evolved between the organizations. That collaboration has brought UMaine resources to bear in helping the farriers group accomplish its goals relative to optimal horse care throughout Maine. The university also provides a place for the association to hold educational activities. Farriers, otherwise known as horsehoers, are skilled technical artisans who use a combination of reshaping the hooves of horses and applying shoes to optimize stride and to correct lameness in horses of all kinds. Farrier association members Kevin Oliver of Eddington and Brent Brown and Barton Patrick of Belfast presented a check to Nonni Daly, an Animal & Veterinary Science faculty member and event coordinator at the J.F. Witter Teaching and Research Center, and Robert Causey, a veterinarian who serves on the teaching faculty and is director of equine programs.

Chief LaCroix in Emergency Procedures Story

14 Dec 2010

WVII television interviewed UMaine police chief Roland LaCroix for a story describing UMaine's emergency notification procedures (umaine.edu/emergency). The story was developed following last week's news reports indicating that a U.S. Dept. of Education report says that Virginia Tech did not provide the required timely notifications during the April 2007 shooting on that campus.

VillageSoup Report on Donation to Equine Program

14 Dec 2010

The VillageSoup Web site features a UMaine news release about a recent donation to the UMaine equine program by the Maine Farriers Association.

Greater Bangor Area NAACP and UMaine to Host 2011 Martin Luther King Breakfast Celebration Jan. 17

14 Dec 2010

Contact: Diane Khiel (dkhiel@adelphia.net) ORONO -- The Greater Bangor Area NAACP and the University of Maine will present the 2011 Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast Celebration on Monday, Jan. 17, 2011 at UMaine's Wells Conference Center. The event is scheduled for 8:30-10:30 a.m., with doors opening at 8 a.m. The UMaine student singing group Renaissance is scheduled to perform from 8-8:30 a.m. and the Destiny Worship Praise Team, a diverse group of gospel singers from the nondenominational Destiny Worship Center, will perform at the close of the program. Imam Johari Addul-Malik, the director of outreach at the Dar Al Hirjah Islamic Center in Falls Church, Va., will serve as this year's keynote speaker. He is the former Muslim Chaplain at Howard University and was the first Muslim officially installed as a chaplain in higher education there. He also serves as the head of the National Association of Muslim Chaplains in Higher Education and the chair of government relations for the Muslim Alliance in North America. In addition, Addul-Malik is president of the Muslim Society of Washington, Inc. and is a founding member of the Muslim Advocacy Commission of Washington, D.C. Along with Rev. Graylan Hagler, he started the Ramadan Feed-the-Needy Program in Washington, D.C., feeding more than 100 homeless women of all faiths nightly during the holy month of fasting. Addul-Malik lectures on a variety of subjects that motivate the Muslim community and the community at large to better themselves and their world. He is known nationally for his fundraising efforts for

masjids, schools and relief and support organizations and recently returned from a U.S. State Department outreach trip to Afghanistan. Tickets for the 2011 Breakfast are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors 65 and over, \$10 for high school and college students with ID, and \$10 for children 12 and younger. Those interested in attending are encouraged to purchase tickets early by calling (207) 581-1406. Ticket purchases are not refundable.

UMaine to Host Compost Scientist for Soil Fertility Talk

14 Dec 2010

Contact: Sue Erich, (207) 581-2997 The University of Maine Department of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences, along with the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station Analytical Laboratory and Soil Testing Service, will host Dr. Will Brinton, the founder and president of Woods End Laboratory in Mt. Vernon, for a seminar starting at 10 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 17. The seminar, which will be followed by discussion and a reception, will be held in Deering Hall, room 113. The event is free and open to the public. Brinton will discuss a relatively new method he has developed to evaluate active carbon in soils and predict soil-supplying potential for nitrogen and phosphorus. Woods End Laboratory is the country's longest-running independent organic soil and compost laboratory. The lab specializes in testing soils, plants, organic wastes and agrichemicals. Brinton has published more than 50 scientific papers on soil, compost and horticulture. For more information contact Sue Erich, UMaine professor of plant and soil chemistry.

Walsh's Sons In Spotlight

15 Dec 2010

The [Bangor Daily News](#) reported about the sons of late UMaine men's ice hockey coach Shawn Walsh. Following his transfer from Michigan State, Tyler Walsh is now a student at UMaine and Black Bear hockey team manager. His brother, Travis Walsh, is playing in the United States Hockey league and will attend MSU in 2012. A [YouTube video](#) of a shootout goal Travis Walsh scored in a recent game has been circulating on the internet and was featured on ESPN's SportsCenter. Travis Walsh was featured in a Dec. 11 story in the Muskegon Chronicle in Michigan.

UMaine Graduate Named Head Of Regional Organization

15 Dec 2010

Brenda Harvey, a UMaine graduate who is currently commissioner of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, is leaving that post to become executive director of the New England States Consortium Systems Organization, according to the [Portland Press Herald](#). NESCSO is a nonprofit organization affiliated with the University of Massachusetts Medical School whose mission is to foster communication and collaboration on Medicaid programs and other human services among the New England states.

Bangor Daily News Article About Athletic Director Search

15 Dec 2010

The [Bangor Daily News](#) has a story about UMaine's search for a new athletic director. The search is expected to start in January. The athletic department is currently under the direction of interim AD Steve Abbott, an Orono native who was a Republican gubernatorial candidate last year.

Ward in Offshore Wind Report

15 Dec 2010

Jake Ward, UMaine assistant vice president for research and economic development, was interviewed for a Tuesday WCSH/WLBZ story about a Belfast conference on deepwater offshore wind energy. Ward described UMaine's

progress in developing technologies to tap that resource to create clean energy. UMaine's Hutchinson Center hosted the forum.

Dana Disputes Online Ranking

15 Dec 2010

Dana disputes online ranking In a Tuesday WABI news report, UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana discussed an online ranking suggesting that UMaine has serious issues with drug abuse. Dana described the survey methodology as "bogus" and "irresponsible," pointing out that UMaine has well-received, effective substance abuse education and intervention programs that are unique within Maine.

Consider Immune System Boosters in Holiday Feasting

15 Dec 2010

Contact: Mary Ellen Camire, (207) 581-1627 ORONO -- Epicurean indulgence during holiday festivities -- too many sugary foods or too much alcohol -- can lead to excess fat gain, all of which can contribute to weakening the human immune system. Some simple serving suggestions can help counteract potentially negative consequences of the eat, drink and be merry approach to holidays. University of Maine professor of food science and human nutrition Mary Ellen Camire, a Fellow of the Institute of Food Technologists, suggests including on the menu several foods that have been proven to boost the immune system. "Vitamin A helps the immune system, so yams, carrots, spinach, mangoes and vitamin A-fortified foods like milk could be served this season," advises Camire, whose research has led to numerous nutritional articles and columns for national and international journals. "Emerging research indicates that red, purple and blue fruits and vegetables, including our own blueberries, red grapes, strawberries and cranberries also protect against infections." In addition, foods that contain probiotics can boost the immune system, so yogurt smoothies with blueberries could be just what the doctor ordered, she adds. Camire can be reached at (207) 581-1627 or by email at Mary.Camire@umit.maine.edu to discuss the nutritional and health aspects of various food groups that can help or hinder good health during the holiday season.

Extension Dietician Issues Advice To Fighting Winter Sickness

15 Dec 2010

Kate Yerxa, a registered dietician with UMaine's Cooperative Extension, was interviewed for [a Bangor Daily News story](#) about how to ward off winter illnesses. Yerxa said the best way to stay healthy during cold and flu season is to eat a varied diet of fruits, vegetables, dried beans, nuts, whole grains and lean cuts of meat.

UMaine Testing Mentioned In Egg Safety Article

16 Dec 2010

In [a Bangor Daily News story](#) Thursday, Maine state veterinarian Don Hoenig credited testing done at UMaine labs as a major reason the state's large egg processing facilities have tested Salmonella-free again this year. Other factors included the work done by egg farmers and the collaborative nature of Maine's effort to keep out Salmonella.

Wind Conference Media Report

16 Dec 2010

The weekly Village Soup newspaper had a report about a deepwater offshore wind energy conference held Tuesday. UMaine's Hutchinson Center in Belfast hosted the conference.

Professor Advises On Holiday Eating

16 Dec 2010

Physorg.com had [a UMaine report about the connection between holiday food overindulgence and the immune system](#), which included comments from UMaine professor of food science and human nutrition Mary Ellen Camire. She said foods such as yams, carrots, spinach, mangoes and fortified milk, which contain immune system-boosting vitamin A, are good choices this time of year.

UMaine Student Killed in Auto Accident

16 Dec 2010

A Thursday Bangor Daily News story reports on a Wednesday crash in Troy that claimed the life of David Brown, a first-year UMaine student who lived in Unity.

The story includes a comment from UMaine Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Robert Dana.

News reports on Parking Lot Flooding

16 Dec 2010

The Bangor Daily News published a story about Wednesday flooding, including issues related to UMaine's Steam Plant parking lot. The story, which includes comments from assistant director of parking transportation and security Alan Stormann, notes that UMaine contacted several students by email and phone to have vehicles moved before the rising Stillwater River damaged them.

Former Professor Dies at the Age of 69

16 Dec 2010

Michael Anthony Vietti of Southwest Harbor died on Dec. 7 at the age of 69. A former member of the UMaine physics faculty, Vietti served as vice president for engineering at Bar Harbor's Rainwise, Inc. for the past 23 years. More information is in an obituary that is available online.

Report Analyzes System Economic Impact

16 Dec 2010

A Maine Today Media story details "Making Maine Work: The Role of Maine's Public University System," a report released on Wednesday by the Maine Development Foundation and Maine State Chamber of Commerce. The report outlines the ways in which Maine's public universities can better serve the Maine business sector and it notes examples - including specific UMaine technology development initiatives -- where the universities are having a positive impact.

Editorial Cites UMaine's Role In Job Creation

16 Dec 2010

[An editorial published in the Brunswick-based Times Record newspaper](#) cited UMaine's involvement in the Maine Advanced Technology and Engineering Center as an example of job creation in Maine. The center, a public-private collaborative, will be based at the Brunswick Naval Air Station when the Navy closes the base next May. The editorial claims more than 600 jobs will be created by businesses set to open in the former base.

Students Hone Skills for International Business Plan Competition

16 Dec 2010

Contact: Paul Myer, (207) 581-1992) ORONO -- The Maine Business School has announced the team members heading to Montreal, Canada Jan. 3-8 to compete in the annual Molson MBA International Case Competition, an event in which UMaine business students typically perform well. Team members are Nicole Gogan of Orrington, Joseph Kellner from Hampden, Mass. and Bangor, Victoria Thornton of Lee and Kim Williams of Carrabassett Valley. Frederick Kaiser of Blue Hill is an alternate member of the team, which is being coached by Paul Myer, executive in residence in the business school, and assisted by faculty member Jason Harkins. Selection for the team is competitive and students begin honing business presentation skills in the fall each year. During the competition, teams are assigned a business planning challenge or receive information about hypothetical business proposals for which they must create a plan and a short "elevator pitch." This year 36 teams from around the world are scheduled to participate in the competition, the 30th since its inception at the John Molson School of Business in Montreal. Visit the following link for competition details: <http://www.mbacasecomp.com/en/>

Acheson, Murphy Scheduled for Radio Program

17 Dec 2010

UMaine Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center Research Associate Ann Acheson and Barbara Murphy from the Cooperative Extension faculty will be part of a panel discussion on WERU radio, 10-11 a.m. Friday Dec. 17. [WERU is at 89.9FM with live streaming online.](#) The subject will be local agriculture as a means for addressing hunger in Knox County and Waldo County. Acheson, editor of Maine Policy Review, wrote a 2009 report detailing issues related to poverty in Maine.

UMaine Alum a Contestant on "The Bachelor"

17 Dec 2010

Friday's Bangor Daily News reports that UMaine alum Ahsley Hebert, a 26-year-old Madawaska native who's now a University of Pennsylvania dental student, will be one of 30 contestants on the next season of ABC television's "The Bachelor." The report says she was captain of the dance team when she was a UMaine student. The season premieres Monday Jan. 3 at 8 p.m.

Hazing Research Cited In Story About Idaho Football Incident

17 Dec 2010

The findings of a national hazing study conducted by UMaine researchers Elizabeth Allan and Mary Madden were mentioned in a [Reuters story](#) about incidents that took place last at a high school in Blackfoot, Idaho, involving college football players from Boise State, Idaho State, and Carroll College in Montana. The study found 47 percent of students enrolled in college had experienced hazing in high school and 55 percent of college students involved in clubs, teams and organizations had been hazed.

Cranberries In Connecticut Newspaper Story

17 Dec 2010

Information from UMaine Cooperative Extension about the popularity of the cranberry around the holidays was included in a [story](#) in a report in a Connecticut newspaper. The Bristol Press mentioned the health benefits of the cranberry, its history in North America, and ways cranberries can be cultivated in a home garden. More information can be found in a [press release here](#).

Rebar Thanks Collins In Letter

17 Dec 2010

John Rebar, executive director of UMaine Cooperative Extension, has a letter to the editor in Friday's Bangor Daily News. The letter thanks U.S. Sen. Susan Collins for her support of the University of Maine Potato Integrated Pest Management program. The program provided in 2008 and 2009 early warnings and strategies that averted an estimated \$43 million in crop losses.

UMaine Community Assists with Holiday Giving Efforts

17 Dec 2010

Contact: George Manlove, (207) 581-3756 ORONO -- More than \$4,000 in cash donations, more than 675 toys, more than 400 children's books, along with food, clothing and handmade fleece blankets were just some of the results of members of the UMaine campus community teaming up with surrounding communities to brighten the holidays for area families in need this season. Bake sales, car washes, toy collection boxes, food bins and cash donation jars, holiday tree and wreath sales, raffles, calendars, handmade fleece blankets and children's books were a handful of the many ways hundreds of volunteers raised money for gifts for children and adolescents in communities surrounding UMaine, according to participating volunteers. Area charitable organizations will pick up, wrap and deliver holiday gifts to families in more than 40 surrounding communities, or, in the case of the Old Town-Orono Kiwanis, will distribute them to children and families at its annual holiday party. Chi Omega, which raised \$1,800 in cash through raffles and other fundraising efforts for the holidays, received a plaque and special recognition from Dean of Students Robert Dana for its toy drive success. In addition, the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee raised more than \$800 through collections at seven recent home games, and members of Kappa Delta Phi NAS collected varied amounts of canned foods and have pledged to help serve food at Manna Ministries kitchen in Bangor. While a complete list may not be possible, since many 2010 holiday initiatives are still under way, some of the campus entities contributing to the effort included: the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteering (Holiday Sharing program); National Society of Collegiate Scholars; Res Life; Office of Student Affairs; Admissions Office; students and staff from the College of Natural Science, Forestry, and Agriculture; Student-Athlete Advisory Committee; Chi Omega; Kappa Delta Phi; Phi Gamma Delta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Phi Kappa Sigma, Pi Beta Phi, the UMaine Bookstore; College of Education and Human Development; The Marketplace, Office of Human Resources, Women's Resource Center, Department of University Relations, Student Social Work Organization, Alternative Spring Break, the UMaine Horticulture Club, the Marine Corps Toys for Tots, plus many other unidentified departments, offices and clubs. Also distributing the books, toys, clothes, food and other donated items will be organizations such as Hands of Hope "Smile of a Child" Christmas Program, Make-a-Wish Foundation, Manna Ministries and Crossroads Ministries in Old Town, the Black Bear Exchange, and several area businesses and an organization of families of deployed National Guard troops. Community support has included a cash contribution from the Orono Health Association, which donated \$1,000 for gifts purchases, and members of the public who donated nearly \$100 to students collecting at Marden's in Brewer. The Old Town-Orono Kiwanis typically oversees collection and distribution of many items received from many sources, including UMaine's longstanding holiday book drive. The book drive, begun by the College of Education and Human Development more than three decades ago, collected about 400 children's books this year, including 50 donated by the UMaine Bookstore, which matched privately purchased books for the book drive. Opportunities to contribute are still available. The Hands of Hope "Smile of a Child" Christmas Program will have a holiday tree in the Spirit Room of the Memorial Union through Dec. 23, with tags bearing names, ages and a short wish list from area children. Those who wish may take a tag and fulfill the gift wish, according to nursing student Nicole Marden, a Hands of Hope coordinator on campus and member of Alternative Spring Break. Last year, the tree accommodated 170 children.

David Brown Memorial Service Saturday, December 18

17 Dec 2010

A memorial service for UMaine first-year physics major David Brown, who died Wednesday, Dec. 15 in an automobile accident, will be held Saturday, Dec. 18, from 1-4 p.m. at the home of his grandparents at 515 Maple Ridge Road in Winslow. Brown, 18, was from Unity, Maine.

Dagher Quoted in Louisiana Newspaper

20 Dec 2010

Habib Dagher, the director of UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center, was quoted extensively in an [article](#) in the Thibodaux Daily Comet of Lafourche Parish, La., about the potential for offshore wind in the Gulf of Mexico. Dagher said there is a heightened level of interest on the part of the Obama administration in moving forward with development of offshore wind projects, and discussed UMaine's partnership with the DeepCWind Consortium to develop floating platforms for wind turbines.

Science Now Story Includes Hamilton

20 Dec 2010

A Science Now online news story describes a new measurement technique developed by scientists using seismometers to monitor icequakes, seismic activity caused by calving and other physical changes in glaciers. Gordon Hamilton of the UMaine Climate Change Institute comments in the story, which describes the data collection method and its potential impact on climate and glacier research.

Stack Quoted in Poinsettia Story

20 Dec 2010

Lois Berg Stack of the UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty comments in a [Maine Today Media story](#) about the notion that poinsettias are poisonous to ingest. While she doesn't advise eating them, Stack agrees with other experts who call reports of the plant's toxicity "a myth."

UMaine Archaeologist Robinson in Boston Globe report

20 Dec 2010

Comments from Brian Robinson of the UMaine anthropology story are included in a [Monday Boston Globe story](#) about research looking at the impact of climate change on prehistoric New England-area culture. New data are available to scientists, allowing them to build on a 2005 report looking carefully at a 1,300 "mini ice age" reflecting significant changes in both the culture and the climate of the region.

Retired Professor Beenfeldt Dies at 66

20 Dec 2010

Eric Beenfeldt, a UMaine electrical and computer engineering faculty member who retired in May, died on Dec. 15 at the age of 66. Beenfeldt, a former NASA engineer who also earned a UMaine master's degree before joining the faculty, lived in Belfast. A private family ceremony is planned for spring. Donations in his memory may be made to the Mesothelioma Research Fund, care of Dr. David Sugarbaker, Division of Thoracic Surgery, Brigham & Women's Hospital, 75 Francis St., Boston, MA 02115-9950. An [obituary](#) appeared in Saturday's Bangor Daily News.

Analyzing GOP Fallout for Collins' Support for 'Don't Ask'

20 Dec 2010

Contact: Mark Brewer, (207) 581-1863 ORONO -- Republican Senator Susan Collins is being largely lauded for her support of the pending repeal of the controversial "don't ask, don't tell" ban on gays and lesbians serving in the nation's armed forces, but will there be a price for her break with the GOP party faithful? Although U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe also crossed the aisle to vote for over the weekend to lift the ban, Collins and Connecticut independent Joe Lieberman are the chief architects of the Senate Defense Authorization bill, which the Senate approved 65-31 on Saturday, to the chagrin of conservative Republicans. University of Maine political science professor Mark Brewer is available to discuss how Collins and Snowe's votes may be viewed by Republicans, in addition to how their votes

square with conservative constituents back home. Professor Brewer can be reached at 581-1863 or mark.brewer@umit.maine.edu.

Newspaper Profiles Grammy-Nominated Alumna

21 Dec 2010

The Waterville Morning Sentinel has a profile of Waterville native and UMaine music major Judy Pancoast, who was nominated for a Grammy award for a children's album she wrote. Pancoast's CD "Weird Things Are Everywhere" is nominated in the category of Best Musical Album for Children and is up against previous Grammy winners Pete Seeger and They Might Be Giants.

Dagher in Story on Federal Spending Bill

21 Dec 2010

Comments from Prof. Habib Dagher, director of UMaine's AEWAC Advanced Structures and Composites Center, were included in [a Saturday Maine Today Media story](#) about the federal government spending bill defeated in the U.S. Senate last week. The bill included a \$10 million appropriation for ongoing UMaine-led R&D efforts in deepwater offshore wind power technology.

Library Renovation Project Underway

21 Dec 2010

An air conditioning installation project is underway in UMaine's Fogler Library. This effort, supported by a bond approved by Maine voters, will continue through late spring. To keep distractions to a minimum, the most disruptive work will occur when the library is closed and/or during semester breaks. Library users will notice signs designed to assist in finding locations that are most conducive to research and study. For more information, call 581-1655.

Author Used Fogler Library To Research Book

21 Dec 2010

Sargentville author Jessica Kerwin Jenkins told the Bangor Daily News she used UMaine's Fogler Library to research her book "The Encyclopedia of the Exquisite." According to the story, Jenkins' book is about more than 100 wondrous, delightful individuals, objects and ideas that make life a little more fantastic.

UMaine Mentioned in Out-Of-State Recruitment Story

21 Dec 2010

UMaine's growing number out-of-state students was mentioned in a [Connecticut Post story](#) about the intersection of admission standards and high rates of accepted out-of-state students at the University of Connecticut. UMaine's out-of-state student body is growing, according to the article, with about 17 percent of the student body coming from outside Maine.

Bouchard Interviewed for National Fisheries Newspaper Article

22 Dec 2010

A newly published article in the national Fish Farming News aquaculture newspaper about the MSX oyster disease outbreak in the Damariscotta River that threatens Maine's million-dollar oyster industry included an interview with Debbie Bouchard, UMaine researcher and manager of the Maine Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory. Bouchard says that while this parasitic disease isn't new to Maine, the size of the outbreak is unusual. MAAHL a collaborative service of

UMaine's Department of Animal & Veterinary Sciences, Cooperative Extension, and the Lobster Institute.

Holberton in MPBN Bird Migration Story

22 Dec 2010

Comments from UMaine Prof. Rebecca Holberton, leader of the Gulf of Maine's Northeast Regional Migration Monitoring Network, were included in a [Maine Public Radio report](#) about a new report documenting the migratory patterns of certain bird species off the Maine coast. Holberton notes that the study is important to helping scientists identify the species that could be affected by offshore wind power generation technology.

Extension Educator Talks Beans

23 Dec 2010

Kate Yerxa, a UMaine Cooperative Extension nutrition educator, contributed to the [Bangor Daily News a story](#) about the health benefits of beans. Yerxa says beans are a perfect way to eat healthy and inexpensively.

UMaine Police Arrest Theft Suspect

23 Dec 2010

Thursday's Bangor Daily News includes a report on a Tuesday arrest by UMaine police. Alexander Nimon, a 25-year-old non-student was arrested in Memorial Union after allegedly assaulting two of the officers who were attempting to question him as part of their investigation into a series of laptop computer thefts on campus. Police ask UMaine personnel to check their departmental laptop inventories to make sure none are missing, and to report any issues by calling 581-4040.

Rosenwasser in Oprah Magazine Online Story

23 Dec 2010

Research by UMaine psychology professor Alan Rosenwasser is referenced in an Oprah Magazine Web story about natural sleep and wakefulness patterns, and the impact of changes on physical and emotional health.

Dean Manev Touts Value of Collaborations

23 Dec 2010

UMaine College of Business, Public Policy and Health Dean Ivan Manev is featured in a Thursday Bangor Daily News story about UMaine's business school and its role as an important collaborator in university-based technology commercialization efforts. In the story, Manev also noted the business school's rise in U.S. News and World Report and other rankings, along with the success of its graduates in finding good jobs in Maine. The report also provides information about Manev's own academic expertise and his thoughts on ways to improve Maine's business climate.

Majka in Story on Handling Leftovers

27 Dec 2010

Alan Majka, a registered dietician and UMaine Cooperative Extension faculty member, was quoted extensively in a Maine Today Media story about techniques for the safe handling of leftovers.

Sunday Telegram Features Holberton

27 Dec 2010

[A Maine Sunday Telegram story](#) examined issues related to bird migration and plans to develop deepwater offshore wind power technology in the Gulf of Maine. UMaine professor Rebecca Holberton, who is leading the research related to this aspect of the project, is quoted in the story.

Blizzard disrupts hockey team's travels

28 Dec 2010

[A Tuesday Bangor Daily News story](#) describes the challenges the UMaine Black Bear hockey team is facing as it travels to Florida for a tournament scheduled to begin Wednesday. The team's Monday flight from Bangor was cancelled, so they traveled by bus to New Hampshire where they expect to get a charter flight from Manchester to Florida. The Black Bears, ranked #9 in the country, will take on #6 Miami of Ohio in the tournament's first round on Wednesday evening.

Barry Eager 1961-2010

28 Dec 2010

Barry Eager, a 32-year UMaine staff member who worked most recently as a Memorial Union custodian, died on Sunday at the age of 49. A long-time Orono resident, Eager had suffered from esophageal cancer. "Barry was a great friend to all of us in the UMaine community," says Robert Dana, UMaine's vice president for student affairs and dean of students. "Working in the Union, he came in contact with a great many students, who enjoyed his company and appreciated his efforts in making the student union a warm and welcoming place. He will be missed, and we all extend our sympathies to Barry's family and friends." [A Tuesday Bangor Daily News obituary](#) has more information about his life and his family members. It notes that "a memorial service will be held 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, at Brookings-Smith, 133 Center St., Bangor, with the Rev. Herman C. Frankland officiating. The family invites relatives and friends to share conversation and refreshments at the Family Reception Center at Brookings-Smith, 163 Center St., Bangor, after the service. Interment will be in the spring. Gifts in his memory may be made to Veterans Memorial Room Fund, care of University of Maine, Andrea Gifford, Deans Suite Memorial Union, Orono, ME 04469. Condolences to the family may be expressed at www.BrookingsSmith.com."

Newspaper reports on Smith success as a novelist

28 Dec 2010

Tuesday's Bangor Daily News includes a story about "Fifth Avenue," a suspense novel by Chris Smith, the electronic communications manager in UMaine's Dept. of University Relations. Smith, who has a UMaine bachelor's degree and master's degree, started the book more than 20 years ago when he was a UMaine student. He decided to revise and complete it earlier in 2010, then [self-published it on amazon.com](#) in October. Its download numbers are among the highest in its amazon categories since publication, and it's recently become available in the U.K. Smith is finishing a second novel and working with a literary agent on potential publishing deals.

Tainted Eggs Still a Threat; Expert Advice for Small-Scale Egg Producers

28 Dec 2010

Contact: Anne Lichtenwalner, (207) 581-2789 ORONO -- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) implemented new egg-handling safety regulations this year for corporate producers after Salmonella enteritidis (SE) outbreaks in the Midwest and the recall of millions of chicken eggs as a result. SE-contaminated eggs, however, remain a threat for any size of farm, including backyard chicken owners throughout Maine. SE is the salmonella strain most likely to cause egg-borne disease in humans. As the FDA becomes more involved in food safety on the farm, small poultry producers may wonder how they can assure the quality of their products and reduce the risk of infectious disease in their flocks. Anne Lichtenwalner, director of University of Maine's Animal Health Lab, a diagnostic lab on the Orono campus assisting livestock and poultry farmers, is available to discuss precautions that consumers and small-scale egg producers can take to reduce risks. She also is Maine's Extension veterinarian and a member of the animal and veterinary sciences faculty.

Routine environmental testing has long been required of major producers, but not of small to mid-size producers, Lichtenwalner says. As of 2010, large egg producers (more than 50,000 layers on a single farm) were required to follow the FDA "egg rule," finalized in 2009. In July 2012, the egg rule will extend to mid-size farms (more than 3,000 layers) that do not sell all their eggs directly to consumers. Since most small egg producers either sell directly to customers or have fewer than 3,000 layers, the current FDA rules detailing bio-security, pest control, record-keeping, environmental sampling and egg-testing requirements do not apply. Some of these requirements, however, are based on common sense and good farm practices, and should be followed nonetheless, says Lichtenwalner. UMAHL can test the flock's environment for salmonella. In addition, many flocks are allowed to "free range," and due to the presence of old buildings, abandoned farm machinery and other sources of heavy metals, sometimes eggs can become contaminated. UMAHL also can assist with testing for heavy metals in eggs. Bacterial or other contamination of eggs "is an emerging issue in food and it always will be," she says, particularly in light of the popularity of raising chickens in backyard, residential settings. "Good, basic, common-sense food handling techniques can kill salmonella," Lichtenwalner says. Use hot, soapy water to wash hands, utensils, counters and cutting boards, rinse well and dry. Lichtenwalner can be reached at (207) 581-2789 for more information.

Former Black Bear Owens Selected for NFL Pro Bowl

29 Dec 2010

Montell Owens of the Jacksonville Jaguars has been selected to represent the AFC in the Pro Bowl, scheduled for Jan. 30 in Honolulu. A special teams star, Owens was a UMaine running back who made his NFL debut with the Jaguars in 2006.

Budget Expert Offers New Year's Resolution Advice

29 Dec 2010

Contact: Sarah Morehead, (207) 951-4551 ORONO -- If saving more money in 2011 is on your list of New Year's resolutions, University of Maine home finance expert Sarah Morehead has advice that might help. It's all about mindset, says Morehead, a research assistant who oversees the UMaine School of Economics' Household Financial Education Program and the Knowledge Transfer Alliance, a program providing business management and marketing consultation for small businesses throughout Maine. "Mostly, wasting money comes from emotional spending, or ignorance," says Morehead, whose research interests include the psychology of economics and basic budgeting, "but where we really end up spending money is when we spend it on our emotional needs." The realization of how and when unnecessary spending takes place can be a first step in changing behavior, she says. Morehead says, for example, that she has been surprised when reviewing the amount of money she has spent over the course of a year on fast food. Morehead suggests taking a positive approach to prioritizing finances. Success and better budget control can result from thinking positively about accumulating savings, as opposed to dwelling on what we're going without. "Instead of a \$4 latte, maybe you can get the same gratifying effect with something less expensive, something that gives you that same bang for less money," she adds. "It shouldn't be an either-or situation." Then, deposit any daily savings into a savings account. In addition, she recommends considering frame of mind when we spend more than we should or even want to. Do we tend to spend frivolously when we're feeling down? Morehead, who conducts workshops and seminars in Maine schools on budgeting and household financial education, says it is important to understand the root cause for failing to keep on top of budget priorities. She discusses this topic in more detail on her Facebook blog at <http://financetherapy.wordpress.com> and can be reached for other advice and tips on better budgeting at sarah.morehead@umit.maine.edu or by calling (207) 951-4551.

Tips on Keeping Kids Active this Winter

30 Dec 2010

Contact: Kate Yerxa, (207) 581-3109 ORONO -- As the new year arrives, many parents resolve to encourage their children be more active indoors and out, in spite of the colder, shorter days of winter. Even though it's often a major challenge to keep children engaged in physical activity, exercise keeps kids' minds sharp and ready to learn, reduces

stress, keeps kids healthy, and builds healthy lifestyle habits for the future, according to Kate Yerxa, University of Maine Cooperative Extension statewide educator for nutrition and physical activity. Yerxa offers several suggestions for keeping kids motivated and moving this winter:

- Play in the snow. Take the whole family outside to go sledding, build a snowman, build a snow fort or just go for a walk and enjoy the white world around you.
- Interested in outdoor sports? Now is the time to try snow-shoeing, cross-country or downhill skiing. If you don't have equipment and are willing to rent, check with a local recreation department, school or ski resort for prices and availability. Or, ask friends and family if they have older equipment you and your kids could borrow.
- Also, check out the nonprofit Winter Kids at www.winterkids.org. Winter Kids has the goal to get kids active by trying outdoor winter activities. A WinterKids Passport offers Maine 5-7th graders opportunities to learn and enjoy winter sports, with free and discounted tickets, lessons and rentals at more than 50 outdoor recreation areas across the state.
- Find indoor recreation. Check out the options for open gym times from local recreation departments or the local YMCA. Also, look for indoor pools, ice rinks, indoor tennis or soccer opportunities nearby.
- Do you have a new baby or toddler? Do you need to get out of the house and worry that the weather is too cold for the babies? Put the little ones in the stroller and take a walk around the local mall; you can still be active and the little ones get a change of scenery.
- For young children, get them dancing or create a parade route through your home.
- Look for group activities; find sports that interest your children to keep them interested in staying physically active this winter.

Yerxa can be reached on the Orono campus at (207) 581-3109 for more information and ideas.

UMaine Hosting Tour of State's Dairy Industry

30 Dec 2010

Contact: David Marcinkowski, 207-581-2740 or instate toll-free 1-800-287-7170; davidmar@maine.edu The University of Maine department of animal and veterinary science is hosting the New England Dairy Travel Course, a week-long tour of Maine dairy farms and related businesses set to begin Monday, January 3. The travel course, which will be based in Waterville, includes bus trips to the University of New Hampshire Dairy Farm, as well as farms and facilities in Maine towns such as Cornish, Canton, Farmington, Embden, Clinton, Exeter, Lamoine, Knox, Sidney, Unity and New Gloucester. Other stops include UMaine's Witter Teaching and Research Center in Old Town, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources in Augusta for a meeting with the commissioner of agriculture and the state veterinarian, Blue Seal Feeds, Inc. feed mill in Augusta, and IDEXX Laboratories Inc. in Westbrook. The tour will make a stop on the UMaine campus at around 11 a.m. on Wednesday, January 5. About 40 dairy students and five advisors from the universities of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont are expected to participate. There are eight students from UMaine on the tour. The trip is being sponsored by the six universities and is being funded by a \$5,000 grant from Farm Credit, a nationwide network of borrower-owned lending institutions that provide loans and leases to farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural and rural businesses. "This tour is an excellent opportunity for us to feature the diversity of dairy farms we have in the state of Maine," said David Marcinkowski, a UMaine department of animal and veterinary science associate professor and Cooperative Extension dairy specialist. "The students will see large, small, organic, conventional, purebred, cow, goat and value-added farms. Most importantly they will see the diversity of career opportunities that are available to them in the dairy industry." The is the 15th year of the tour, which is unique nationally in that it is a collaboration of the six land-grant universities in New England. For more information, contact Marcinkowski at 207-581-2740 or 1-800-287-7170 (instate toll-free), or email davidmar@maine.edu.

Master Gardener Program Set To Begin

30 Dec 2010

The Morning Sentinel has a story about the UMaine Cooperative Extension's Somerset County Master Gardener

program, which begins next month. The focus this year will be on ornamental horticulture.

Extension Expert Reports On Importance Of Winter Activity For Kids

30 Dec 2010

[Kate Yerxa of UMaine's Cooperative Extension wrote](#) about the importance of activity for kids during the winter months. Yerxa writes despite the challenges of encouraging kids to play on cold winter days when daylight is short, exercise helps keep kids' minds sharp and ready to learn, reduces stress, and builds healthy lifestyle habits for the future.

UMaine Wind Effort Named One Of Top Ten Stories Of The Year

30 Dec 2010

The website [OffshoreWindWire.com](#) has [named Maine's advances in deepwater offshore wind technology](#) one of the top 10 wind power stories of the year. The website said Maine has emerged as a leader in the area, and mentioned UMaine's involvement in the effort. UMaine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center is developing turbines for deepwater offshore floating platforms.