

# All Maine Matters

Because All of Maine **DOES** Matter!

Vol. 1, No. 7 July 2006

FREE

## Drop a Grain of Millet

by Dr. Bill Reid

A key reason I decided to run for the District 87 seat in the Maine Legislature is the burden of laws, rules, taxes, regulations, mandates and permits the legislature, and the bureaucracies responsible to it, impose upon us. Seven hundred new laws in the last legislature alone and more coming in future sessions. Load the whole set of our state's statutes into a canoe and it would sink straight down to the pickerel and perch at bottom of the pond. Set them, along with the volumes and volumes of rules, regulations and court decisions, onto a lobster boat and it will join the lobsters on the bottom of the bay. I begin to wonder how many laws it will take to sink the state.

It should be obvious that this creates an insurmountable obstacle to the individual citizen who wishes to be law-abiding. This ever-multiplying mass of laws makes compliance with them just about impossible. How many people know just the latest fifty laws passed this legislature and signed by the governor? If you don't know them all, with their penalties—if any—for failure to comply, you are courting trouble and failing to do your duty as a citizen.

We need people in Augusta who aim to reduce, not increase, the number of laws in Maine. One source of the problem is that the individual legislator, regulator, and bureaucratic executive fails to see the problem of excessive law as a whole. They deal only in individual cases. Many citizens react to new legislation from the same narrow perspective.

There is an old paradox by the ancient Greek philosopher Zeno the Eleatic, called "The Millet Seed." It goes like this: If you drop a grain of millet you can't hear a sound; drop a bushel sack and you will hear a resounding thump. The error made by those who are indifferent to the problem of legal and regulator excess is the same a man who assumes that the bushel sack will be as soundless as the single seed.

Logicians call this the "Fallacy of Composition." We commit it when we attach a property common to the members of a set to the set itself. A single, given, law or regulation seems harmless or benign in itself, so people assume that the whole mass must be equally inoffensive. No millet seed makes a sound, therefore the set of seeds in the sack will make no sound when dropped.

I was talking with a lady the other day about a new law the governor had signed. It required that anytime a person with a protection order tried to purchase a firearm, the person protected by the court judgment must be notified. I expressed my doubts about the necessity of the law because it seems pretty clear it was duplicative, added yet more bureaucracy, more complication, more chances for error, and most likely would do no good. She argued that we should have it because might do some good. It wouldn't be too difficult for the authorities to carry it out, it seemed to be reasonable, and besides it didn't seem to do any harm.

*Continued on page 4*



The steeple of the Millinocket Baptist Church towers over nearby houses.

## If Bill Gates Doesn't Want the Money, I'll Take It!

By Tom DeWeese

He might be a whiz at creating computer software, but beyond that, Bill Gates has proven time and again that he hasn't got a clue about why and how a free market works.

He constantly teams up with anti-free market types like the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) to produce "educational" programs that misdirect unsuspecting children with political propaganda. In 2002 he gave that group \$600,000 worth of software to help the environmental radicals run their programs to block the drilling of American oil. Apparently Gates doesn't understand that we need oil to create power to run computers.

When the Justice Department filed an anti-trust suit against Gates, rather than stand up in defense of his company and openly defend his business practices that made his company so

successful in a free market, Gates denied it all and turned his back on the very free market principles that made his success possible. Instead Gates admitted the government had the moral high ground in controlling the market place.

Now comes this from the confused mind of Bill Gates: Recently, Newsweek listed Gates as the world's richest man, (\$50 billion). In response Gates said "I wish I wasn't. There is nothing good that comes out of that."

Nothing good comes from being successful and rich? I'll bet his legions of employees would be unhappy to hear that. Apparently Gates fails to understand that it is only through success and money that he is able to hire them. How would his wife and family feel to learn that Bill Gates finds nothing good

*Continued on page 4*

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

## Taxpayer Bill of Rights: An Independence Day Story

By Bob Stone

The mid-July sun was working diligently, slowly burning off the damp fog settled in low over the tidal Kennebec. The tide was rushing in, near high, and the small group of patriots huddled against the early morning chill. No one uttered a word. They were listening.

"Here they come" whispered the diminutive leader, clearly the leader of the group. Dressed in black, she crouched low behind a mossy fallen pine, five silver stars on her collar. "Everyone be quiet and hold your fire" she said. "Pass it on."

The masts could be seen first. They quietly cut through the mist. The fog swirled behind the masts in small eddies of grayish vapor. Squawking gulls orbited nervously over the ghostly square rigs.

Soon the rest of the vessels could be discerned through the thicker layers of fog. They were magnificent sailing vessels, sure enough. Ships of the line. The best taxpayer money could buy.

The names could be read from the stern as the men-of-war

passed not fifty yards from the patrol of minutemen hidden on the steep banks of the peaceful Kennebec. Colonel Becker read the names to Captain Wibby as they passed.

"The 'N.E.A.', home port Washington, D.C. The 'More Money Always', port looks like, Augusta, Maine. The 'John Baldacci', out of Bangor." The craggy Captain furiously scribbled the dictation down on a leather bound notebook.

"Jeepers! Look at the redcoats on deck!" whispered a young militia man quite loudly.

"Not too loud, Sergeant Thumper" cautioned Major Fish. "It's not like we didn't expect them coming in with the gold."

With a steely gaze, General Adams sized the magnificent gilded trim on the massive ships. "They are coming with gold for the Tory Maine Media" she muttered. "Look at the reporters and editors running out onto the dock, jumping and clapping. It looks like Christmas morning."

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# K.I.S.S.

By Bob Sanders

On initial power up activation the Decoder Module senses ignition circuit resistance and if this resistance is correct, the Decoder Module will send a Pulse Width Modulated signal to the Powertrain Control Module, and will also power up the Start Enable Relay. The Powertrain Control Module will process the Pulse Width Modulated signal and will in turn activate the fuel pump and fuel injectors. This will allow for fuel delivery and start-er activation.

If you thought the above technical jibberish sounds kind of like the launch sequence for the Space Shuttle, then you would be wrong. But who could blame you, it sounds just contorted enough that it could pass for rocket surgery. It is, in fact, what happens every time you turn the key in your family grocery getter. The model in question is any General Motors vehicle with the Pass-Key Security System. But most vehicles have some sort of Theft Deterrent feature, either active or passive, so the above example is very, very average and other systems, although different in design, are more or less parallel in their level of complexity and the number of modules to accomplish this feat of engineering.

Which begs the obvious question- Is this level of technical hocus pocus REALLY necessary just to start your car?

I'm glad someone asked this question. In my lifetime there has been a 180 degree shift in the strategy of automotive engineering when it comes to solving engineering problems. It seems more and more the manufacturers will take systems that in the past were really quite basic in design and function and build layer upon layer of complexity into them.

They always were simple in design simply because the problem they needed to solve was, well, it was simple. The amount of unwarranted complexity in today's vehicles is growing all the time. While there are some systems that are horribly complex because of absolute necessity, all manufacturers, not just domestic, are engineering their cars to death. Systems that could be designed

with a philosophy of simplicity are swept up into the same euphoria of technical overkill that is unavoidable in other areas, such as engine and transmission control. The end result is vehicles that are extremely difficult to repair, you can read this as extremely expensive to repair, with lots and lots of little electronic gizmos that all cost lots and lots of money.

It wasn't always like this. We all know that cars were much simpler years ago, but it goes much deeper than that. Werner Von Braun was the first director of the agency that would later become NASA, and he as well as the generation of engineers that would usher in the space age and all the flight testing for hypersonic aircraft at Edward Air Force Base had an overarching philosophy when it came to solving engineering problems. The KISS philosophy. It was originally an acronym for Keep It Simple and Straightforward, but the guys on the ground as well as cowboy test pilots quickly re coined it into Keep It Simple Stupid. The idea was all about logic. These engineers were working on the cutting edge technology of their time, with extremely complex control, guidance, and power systems. If you solve these engineering problems by applying the simplest systems and solutions possible, then you minimize unforeseen failures. Simplicity fails less often than complexity. Logical. This theory of engineering was proven time and time again, aircraft that were the first and only of their kind would fly upwards of 300,000 feet above the earth at speeds of up to 4,500 miles an hour with very few failures.

I may be getting too comfortable with my inner Luddite, but the heaping on of ever higher levels of technology just for technology's sake is soon going to spawn a generation of vehicles that are so diagnostic intensive that most folks are simply not going to be able to afford to repair them once the ravages of time take their toll. The automotive world could really use a little KISS.

Bob Sanders is a Master Auto Technician who works in Brewer.

# The Token Conservative

By Jon Reisman

## The Governor's Race, Part II

Last month, I predicted that Chandler Woodcock would win the GOP primary with 39-40% of the vote, John Baldacci would have a tepid performance, and that the left would portray Senator Woodcock as a "scary conservative." Going two for two on election day was nice, but I have to admit I didn't expect the left and the Maine Stream Press to so quickly confirm Prediction #3. Not having crow for dinner was also appealing.

From Pravda on the Presumpscot:

"At the same time, his campaign won support from more conservative voters concerned with social issues such as abortion."

"...the sharp differences could hurt the Republican Party in the end, because Woodcock is too conservative for a majority of Maine voters, Democrats say."

"Woodcock is the candidate we wanted to run against," said Ben Dudley, chairman of the Maine Democratic Party. (Mark Peters, Portland Press Herald, 6/15/06)

"Democratic chairman Dudley later called Woodcock a 'yes man' for President Bush and an opponent of both abortion rights and gay rights.

"Signaling that the Democrats are determined to paint Woodcock as someone who is out of step with most Mainers, Dudley said Woodcock 'is a conservative candidate and he's not going to be able to hide from that.'" (Paul Carrier, Portland Press Herald, 6/15/06)

From the Baldacci Daily News:

"Mary Ellen Fitzgerald...said Woodcock 'is kind of a George Bush candidate in a John Kerry state.'"

(Democratic Chairman Dudley said Woodcock comes) "from the far right wing of the Republican Party..." (A.J. Higgins, Bangor Daily News, 6/15/06)

Green party nominee Pat LaMarche reportedly launched a post election ad campaign in southern Maine labeling Woodcock as an "ultraconservative."

One moderate Republican I know was quick to condemn Woodcock as an unelectable conservative. When I queried her, she admitted she had never seen or heard Chandler, but had reached that conclusion based on what she had seen and heard in the media.

The campaign and candidate Woodcock may well focus on the economic issues above social ones, but the Culture War will neither go away nor should it be conceded.

Chandler and the GOP are not in favor of the nanny state, and there is nothing out of the mainstream in that conviction.

If Woodcock is attacked for opposing "special rights", he should simply back the insertion of four words into Maine's Human Rights Act: "No discrimination, No preferences." If the Democrats and the left want to defend affirmative action preferences for gay, lesbian and transgendered protected class members, they are welcome to it. Under no circumstance should Chandler cede the culture war battlefield to the left, especially when they insist on bringing it up.

The left created publicly funded elections (the defunct Maine Citizen Leadership Fund, a principal of which unsuccessfully challenged TABOR, was behind the original initiative in 1998). In a delightful turn of the political screw, it may well deliver the Blaine House to Chandler Woodcock and the GOP. Through the magic of clean election funding, John Baldacci will face three adequately, if not lavishly funded candidates in November. Senator Woodcock has already shown he can use the funds wisely and well. The more money Baldacci raises or the left "independently" spends, the more money "clean" candidates get. LaMarche and Barbara Merrill will take a chunk out of Baldacci from the left. A sizable chunk of women, nanny state proponents and the left will vote for Pat or Barbara. Woodcock will win the general election with a 39-40% plurality. And then the screaming will really start.

Jon Reisman in the University of Maine System's token conservative.



Do not separate text from historical background. If you do, you will have perverted and subverted the Constitution, which can only end in a distorted, bastardized form of illegitimate government.

”

James Madison



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## Guest Editorial: Service Should Not Be A Hollow Concept

Elizabeth Prata

The Founders fought a bitter and terrible war to ensure that citizens in the brand-new United States would have proper representation. They held the Constitutional ideals dear and knew that citizens were part of, indeed the bosses of, their newly elected government officials. To that end, they gave "the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." It is an incredible gift.

The Founders also said that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

From that splendid ideal written on parchment by the brilliant Thomas Jefferson and John Hancock, Millinocket has tumbled to Councilor Matt Polstein publicly squashing dissent at meetings. Audience members who shake their heads in disagreement are told that their freedom of expression is not welcome and they should stop.

Freedom of Access might seem a minor thing individually, but cumulatively, each citizen is a soldier in the army of national civic participation. Each person who walks up to the town office seeking information about their government but is denied becomes a wounded soldier of the living Constitution. Every time a citizen who brings the gift of himself to a meeting with intent to participate but is squashed, it injures the process our Founders fought to give us.

Millinocket has done and is doing its part to snip away pieces of that sacred parchment. In 2002, during a statewide freedom of access audit, a citizen sought a copy of the Millinocket manager's expense sheet, a public document, but was told that information needed manager approval prior to release. Similar requests were freely fulfilled from the Millinocket police and the Millinocket schools. The town, however, failed the audit.

The Freedom of Access Audit was conducted under the aegis of the Society of Professional Journalists. It was to test the waters of access statewide and determine if corrective measures needed to

be employed. It was because of Millinocket's failure, and other towns like Millinocket, that the Maine Legislature took the failures seriously enough to establish The Committee to Study Compliance with Maine's Freedom of Access Laws. Over the course of three terms, the committee studied how to make the First Law in the state, Maine's Title 1, stronger. Just last year, the Legislature adopted the recommended changes and strengthened Maine people's first law.

In Millinocket, citizens are not the adversaries. The Founders knew that, State legislators know that. The Council is not a personal playground where childish Councilors afeared of head shaking use their power to silence the people. It is not a place to make money, to gain influence, to promote a personal agenda. It is place where Councilors serve the people.

And that service is best conducted when the people can be heard, where fairness should rein, and where the bonds of civic discourse across the great divide between councilor platform and podium should be shrinking, not growing.

I hope that the officials in Millinocket seek to reach out to the people and invite participation in all its forms, not squash it. Remember, the Founders gave 'the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity,' and that posterity is sitting before you. That posterity is people asking questions in town office. That posterity is a vigorous free press. Respect them as the gifts that they are- your peers, your bosses, your constituents whom you serve. The Founders are counting on you.

*Elizabeth Prata is the Editor of The Monument Newspaper, award-winning Newspaper of record for Gray and New Gloucester. She served two terms on the Committee to Study Compliance with Maine's Freedom of Access Laws, and is a member of the New England Press Association and the Society of Professional Journalists. She can be reached at editor@monumentnews.com, or 207-657-5353*

# All Maine Matters

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WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY ARTICLE OR AD SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION.

### CORRECTIONS:

In my June profile of the town of Brooks, Maine, I misidentified the President of the Brooks Historical Society as Betty Littleton. Her actual name is Betty Littlefield. She was very kind and helpful to me, so I am particularly embarrassed for having erred in the spelling of her last name. My notes said Betty Littlefield, and I thought of her as Betty Littlefield, yet for some reason when I wrote the article, it came out wrong, and I didn't catch it in the proofreading. I apologize for my error. -- Ken Anderson

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### Thoughts on Taxes

By Lenny Murphy

The US Constitution has to be respected first! Then, I would think, we should think about the Bible, treat others the way we would like to be treated! Between these two guidelines I know we can develop a new solution to old problems!

I will start with the most difficult part, for me, of the taxation formula. I try to stay away from this next topic but I do think at some time in the future, income, and or, the ability to pay, must be at the center of determining a tax structure for property tax! All I am saying is that if we know how much a person's or business's, yearly income is, then we have a beginning clue as to what their property taxes should be!

Property taxes, to some extent, have to be based on the ability to pay, or we will be forcing people to sell their land or we will take it. What kind of a scare tactic is that? It is a excessive fine, fee, or penalty, and it is unconstitutional to take someone's land for a few tax dollars that are owed to the town.

In my case Medford took my land and they were going to sell it to the people next door! I started making payment and they foreclosed anyway! They could have sold the land and buildings for over \$70,000.00 and I owed only \$2,600.00 I guess the towns in Maine are allowed to keep the profit of over \$67,000.00 and I would have received nothing. So if I was in the Veterans hospital for awhile and tried to go home, someone else maybe living there? Not in my book, things must change!

### Patriot's Corner

By Roger Ek

*"There would be no First Amendment without the Second Amendment."*

The "people" mentioned in our bill of rights are all the same people. As the old comic strip, Pogo said, "They are us." The people have a right to a free press just as they have a right to bear arms. "Bear" means carry. "Press" means to print and disseminate. It has been said that freedom of the press extends to those who own presses.

By the same token, the right to bear arms extends to those who own arms. Publishers vigorously defend their rights against those who may disagree with their writings and want to shut down their publication. However, the people will not allow this to happen. The right to publish is equal to the right to know.



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We Told You So. The UN Takes One More Step Toward Global Government

By Justin Darr

For years, Conservatives have been trying to alert Americans and all freedom loving people in the world about the dangers the United Nations poses to individual liberty and democracy. Whether it was "Agenda 21," the United Nations' plan for global sustainable development that would void your private property rights, force you to give up your car in lieu of a bicycle, and reserve almost half of the United States as no human zones to facilitate habitat for migratory animals, or the United Nations' plan to wrest control of the Internet away from the United States and place it under the "unbiased" control of China, Sudan, and Cuba, or NRA President Wayne LaPierre's warning that the UN's "Small Arms Review Conference" was nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to destroy the 2nd Amendment, Conservatives have always seen the UN as the anti-American organization it is. And, categorically, we have been ridiculed and called insane by the left as a result.

The left is so consumed in their anti-Americanism that they tend to gravitate toward and support anyone who is opposed to the United States, even to the point of becoming apologists for terrorists, and in this case, a dysfunctional and corrupt international organization. When a liberal is defending the UN, the arguments are generally based on some perceived notion that just because the majority of petty juntas, Communist dictatorships, and radical theocracies of the world have an opinion about something, then that opinion is, by default, granted the coveted Liberal mantle of "international moral authority."

However, reality paints a very different picture of the United Nations. Generally, the world body's member states oppose and attack the United States not out of the interests of their populations, but their own personal ego and lust for power. There is no international sense of the common good, and unless under extreme pressure, desire to make the world a better place among the nations motivating the actions of the UN. What there is, instead, is a pathological obsession

to force the United States to conform to the bidding of the absolute worse of the member states. The operative word there is "force." The world is jealous of America's wealth, power, and strength, and has opted to use the United Nations as the vehicle to undermine America by whatever means possible.

Until now, as the left loves to point out, the United Nations had no mechanism to enforce its policies or other neo-Communist resolutions. Compliance with United Nations resolutions was voluntary, and had to be, in the case of the United States, approved by our elected representatives. If any nation does not like what the UN has to say, then they can just ignore it, and in most cases, there is nothing anyone can do about it. That is until now.

Last week, the United Nations unveiled a proposal to develop its own standing army to enforce what it deems to be international law. Oh, wait! Did I say "standing army?" I should have used the UN's own words.

Last week, the United Nations unveiled a proposal to develop its own "Emergency Peace Service" to "take action to prevent war and dire threats to human security and human rights."

Do you know what those rights might be? Do not feel bad; nobody else does either, including the people who wrote the proposal. Other than genocide, there are no clear definitions of what the UN would consider a "crime against humanity," just as it has no clear definition of what terrorism is more than five years after 9/11. So really, the proposed UN army could be used for whatever the UN wants.

The proposal is also unclear about who can deploy the United Nations army. Actually, the problem with the proposal is that lots of people can deploy the force wherever they want, and only one of them is the Security Council. Under the plan, if the Security Council fails to approve an international intervention, the Secretary General of the UN can override the Council and deploy the troops anyhow. Even if the resolution fails because of a veto from one of the five permanent Council mem-

bers.

This is where the fun part starts. If the Council decides that the Secretary General was wrong, then they can vote under normal rules to bring the troops back. That sounds great, but the problem is that under "normal rules," the permanent members' veto comes into play. The Security Council would be powerless to end the United Nations militant presence until a bunch of bureaucrats can get around to find the nuanced wording required to avoid a veto. In effect, the Secretary General would become more powerful than the Security Council, and the United States would be unable to stop UN military actions against its interests without the support of France, China, and Russia.

You will have to forgive me if I do not hold my breath for that to happen, or if this proposal is ever passed, plan any trips to Israel. The United Nations proud anti-Semitic past makes Israel the prime target of any UN military action unchecked by the United States UN veto power. And, that would be only the first of many abuses of this unaccountable military power.

Granted, a United Nations army would probably look like an unholy hybrid of a yoga class, group therapy session, and a gun shop, but it is still a first step. It is not as important how effective an UN proposal could be as it is the fact that yet another piece of our sovereignty has been chipped away from us and yielded to an unaccountable foreign body. Do allow yourself to be deceived, American sovereignty is the only thing that keeps Americans free and preserves our way of life. And, each small step the UN makes takes us one small step closer to losing our liberty. If we allow that day to come, do not claim you were not warned.

*Justin Darr is a freelance writer living in the Philadelphia area with his wife and twin children. He can be read widely on the Internet and in publications across North America and in Europe.*

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Vladimir Lenin



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**Electability**

By Matt Jones

I would like to say congratulations to all of the primary election winners.

Now let's hurry to the "middle of the road." You know that there will be a poll soon, so you need to appear "electable." It's OK, your base supporters will understand the distance you need to put between yourself and them. You need to appear "electable" in order to get enough donations to run a good campaign.

This conversation (or one similar) is now taking place in Republican and Democrat headquarters around the country. It is a sad truth. It happens in all elections: the "far right (or left wing)" may get you past the primary, but they won't get you elected.

This thought process turns my stomach. Chandler Woodcock is in such a position right now. On Tuesday we voted. On Wednesday, when it was evident that he won, the Republican effort to claim the "middle of the road" began. Ben Dudley, the state Democrat party chairman said that Woodcock "is a conservative candidate and he's not going to be able to hide from that."

This would be a good time for the Republicans to take pride in their "conservative" views. Oh, yeah....that was the Republican party of the past. The "new and improved" Republican party wants to distance themselves from such accusations.

Julie O'Brien, state chair of the Republican Party said that Woodcock "really isn't as conservative as some may think." This is sickening. The Republican party used to stand for something. This is one of the reasons I left the party in the first place. The only thing the Republican party stands for anymore is electing Republicans.

If it requires spitting on conservative values and claiming the middle of the road, so be it. This is why so many people are leaving the Republican party for the Constitution Party. The Constitution Party stands for everything the old Republican party used to stand for: pro-life, pro-second amendment, pro-liberty, and anti-big, unconstitutional government.

As the head of the Constitution Party of Maine, I can assure you that we would never run from our values. "Electability" means nothing. Holding to your personal beliefs and values means everything. I invite you to join our re-organization process. You can e-mail me if you would like more information. You can help stop the "run to the middle."

*Matthew Jones is a businessman and Christian political activist from Chelsea, Maine. He is the head of the Constitution Party of Maine where principle overpowers politics. He can be reached at mattykid91@yahoo.com. For information on the Constitution Party please visit www.ConstitutionParty.com or call 1-800-2-VETO-IRS.*

**Drop a Grain of Millet**  
(Continued from page 1)

When she offered her reasons, I was struck by the fact she was committing the Fallacy of Composition.. She was at ease that the new law was harmless at worst and accepted the addition of yet another soon-to-be-forgotten law to the huge heap already accumulated on the books. She saw this single law as no big deal and, in fact, most of the individual laws not terribly oppressive in themselves. They might do some good; would not be too difficult to carry; won't do any harm. She figured what is true of each of the laws in Maine is true of the whole "set" of Maine Laws.

This is exactly the mentality we need to change. Look at the big picture—the whole set—and you see a demonstration of Thomas Jefferson's dictum: "It is the nature of government to expand and of liberty to retreat before it."

It is merely common sense to recognize that unless the big picture is kept constantly in view, the point will be—must be—reached where liberty can only exist in defiance of the law. In a sense, the more regulated we become, the less law-abiding we will be; both from ignorance and conscious evasion.

*Dr. Bill Reid is a Candidate, House District 87 (New Sharon, Jay, Mercer, Starks, and Chesterville)*



**If Bill Gates Doesn't Want the Money, I'll Take It!**

(Continued from page 1)

in their comfortable life style or the special opportunities he can now provide to his children?

The world, of course, would be a very different place without Bill Gates' software creations. Most of us would be much harder pressed to go about our daily routines without it. Of course, none of it would be possible if Bill Gates hadn't been successful and therefore rich, in order to pay for the development of his ideas. But according to him, nothing good has come out of any of it.

What Bill Gates has failed to understand is the true nature of money. He sees it as an evil to be controlled by some self-appointed moral authority. Money, of course is simply the means by which we measure and reward success. As Ayn Rand so clearly put it, "Money is a is a tool of exchange that can't exist unless there are goods produced and men able to produce them...Money is made possible only by men who produce." There is nothing evil about it. The evil comes from those who loot from those who create. It is simply a sign of moral depravity to loath such a result of honest effort. The only substitute for the free exchange of money among producers is the muzzle of a gun.

Bill Gates is certainly the modern socialist businessman. Rather than standing strong in defense of the system that allowed his success, he feels guilty about his wealth. Perhaps he would be much happier if he were just another government employee working in his cubical, carrying his lunch pail, shoulders hunched, frown permanently on his brow, joyless, oppressed, nothing special.

I'm sure that if he truly wanted to turn his entire company and all of his assets over to the government and let it run his company, the government would be more than happy to accommodate him so he can live out his days, guiltless and plain.

The only problem for the rest of us is that once the government consumes yet another piece of the free market system there will soon be a sever shortage of computer software.

*Tom DeWeese is president of the American Policy Center and editor of the DeWeese Report. Contact information: apcmail@americanpolicy.org*

## Taxpayer Bill of Rights: An Independence Day Story

(Continued from page 1)

"Shhhhh! Shhhhh" Mr. Wibby loudly signaled. "Look, here come the rest of the Tories."

Sure enough, smaller vessels materialized out of the lifting fog.

"These must be the locals...the supporting cast" figured Colonel Becker. "Let's see...ayuh...the 'John Richardson' out of Brunswick...the 'Kathadin Institute' out of Portland...the 'St. John' from Phippsburg.

On and on, about 85 more coastals cruised by. They were a loud and boisterous bunch. They yelled noisy greetings to the Tory Media on the dock as they approached.

Soon, the docks were a sea of red coats. With the sun now having burned off the last remnants of the fog, the gold on the decks of the men-of-war glistened fiercely.

A long line formed and the gold was passed, as in a bucket brigade, up onto the docks. The swarming red coats eagerly loaded it on to the media carriages. Some of the bullion was off-loaded onto each of the coastal schooners. There was whooping and yelling as each gold brick reached one of the supporting vessels.

With the improving visibility, the quaint village could now be seen overlooking the docks. The local residents stood on their porches and peered from the windows of the weather beaten small homes. They were quiet. Very, very quiet.

"How much do you think they brought in, Colonel Becker" queried the young sergeant.

"Well, a couple of years ago they brought in about \$1.5 million for the Question 1A side" whispered Becker. "The local Tories raised over a million for the 1B bunch. They have all kinds of money. I think this time it will be nearly 2 million."

"Where do they get their money?" asked the younger man.

"Most of it comes from the taxpayers in one way or another," said Captain Wibby, slamming his journal shut. "They use taxpayer monies to fund these campaigns which are totally designed to take even more taxes out of the citizens' wallets."

"But that's not fair!" shouted the young patriot.

"Quiet!" barked the Captain.

"Don't worry, Mr. Wibby," said General Adams, in a calming voice. "They are so busy whooping it up over their in their gold haze that they will never hear a thing from over here on the Western bank."

The small group of militia watched for the better part of an hour as the tide turned, lines were cast and the fleet headed down the Kennebec for the open sea. The ships of the line rode high on the tide while the smaller schooners were drafting much more, loaded with the gold bestowed upon them by their benefactors.

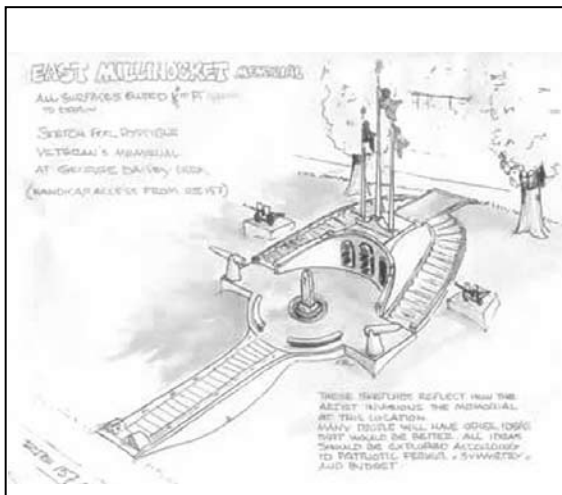
The 'Baldacci' rode at anchor and did not join the procession down the Kennebec. The redcoats also stayed and started to walk up through the town, guarding the Tory Media wagons as their horses strained to get up the steep hill leading from the docks.

"So it begins. So it begins" repeated General Adams.

"Come on, people. We've got work to do."

The group started away but General Adams paused as she noticed a couple of bald eagles soaring freely and majestically in the rising thermals of the morning. There was a twinkle in her eye.

*Bob Stone is a retired banker and treasurer for Common Sense for Maine Taxpayers. Maine's Taxpayer Bill of Rights site is at [taxpayerbillo-frights.com](http://taxpayerbillo-frights.com).*



In East Millinocket, a War Memorial is being built in order to commemorate those who gave their lives fighting for our country. The memorial is being built in George Daisey Park, and the current memorial will be moved to Daisey Park as well and expanded to include veterans who gave their lives fighting wars starting with WWII. If you know of anyone whose name should be included on the memorial wall, or if you want to donate to the memorial, you are asked to contact Shirley Tapley at [stapley@midmaine.com](mailto:stapley@midmaine.com) or the American Legion Post #13 c/o Veterans' Memorial Fund, PO Box 446, East Millinocket, ME 04430.

## Freedom Fighters From All Eras

By Roger Ek

I was asked to speak at an Independence Day gathering in our little town. At the appointed time I came out from behind the trees and marched toward the gathering. I had on a tri-cornered hat, cotton muslin tunic laced at the throat, loose trousers and moccasins. I was carrying a muzzle-loading rifle. People seemed surprised at my get-up. I spoke about our Founding Fathers, their sacrifices and how they fought for our freedoms. I spoke their names. They did all this because it was the right thing to do.

I then took off my tri-cornered hat, tunic and trousers to the surprise of the crowd. Underneath I had on a flight suit that I had worn in Vietnam. I had my .45 in the shoulder holster I wore in Vietnam. I put on my flight helmet and spoke about the flight crews and how every single one of them had been a volunteer. I spoke about their courage, their sacrifice, their dedication to each other and their service to our country. They are in many ways like our founding fathers. I spoke their names. Our Vietnam veterans did all that because it was the right thing to do.

Then I took off the flight suit. Underneath I

had on an ordinary short-sleeved shirt and dungarees. I spoke about the freedom fighters we have right here in Maine, struggling to keep the freedoms we still have and maybe, just maybe, regain some of the freedoms we have lost since the days of those Founding Fathers. We still have freedom fighters today.

We need to support them in their efforts to preserve freedom whether they are in our military in harms way or under attack right here at home in Northern Maine trying to keep what we have in economic harms way. I spoke their names. Today's freedom fighters do this because it is the right thing to do.

These things need to be spoken about today, before they are forgotten altogether. The audience stood quietly. Maybe they were wondering if I was going to take anything else off. Perish the thought. Maybe they were wondering where all that came from. When they figured out that I was done and gathering up my stuff they broke out into applause.

I gave this talk about 12 years ago. I send this around Independence day on the years that I'm reminded of it.

## The Anti-Christ's Live Amongst Us

Bob Parks

We all recently experienced June 6th, 2006. "666" is supposedly the day when the Anti-Christ will be born. I contend that several million currently walk amongst us.

Last weekend, one of my kids during a passing conversation said that, with all due respect, some in our generation are kind of "computer challenged". I had to remind him, with all due respect, that it was our generation that created computers and the Internet. It's his generation that simply uses them.

The more and more I think about it, I have to admit, I hate kids today. There are times I can barely tolerate my own.

I've come to despise those we used to call "soccer moms." You know, those women who are slavishly devoted to her kids and will drop everything to drive them here, cook several different dishes for several different "orders", go to all the PTA meetings, sell hot dogs at all the Little League games, basically give up most of her waking hours to kids whose last thought it is to issue a simple "thank you", and at the end of the day think they're better than the rest of us because they care about their kids more than the rest of us do.

(The following is the commencement address I should have read....)

Now that a lot of high school commencements are over, complete with student speeches describing how they've grown, how much they've learned about themselves, and how much all of this was always all about them, I'm going to be one parent whose going to tell them just how much (or little) I think of them.

A few weeks ago, Hillary Clinton publicly commented on how she believes this generation thinks "work" is a four-letter word, and how they feel oh so entitled. Her daughter then publicly launched in to her and Hillary backed down and apologized. This woman wants to be president, yet can't stand up to her own kid who because of family name, graduated from two pricey colleges and is now earning six-figures. But what else would Chelsea expect?

How many times do you tell a kid anything with him or her responding "I know..." but when you ask them why they did something bad, their response is almost always "I dunno..."

In a few short years from now, these kids are going to be running the show. God help us as these kids are already breeding more self-absorbed brats.

A lot of the blame for this lost generation is some of us parents and an intrusive government system that acts like they own our kids. I'll personally never forgive pop culture and Hollywood that continues to portray parents as punchline buffoons and the kids as wise-ass geniuses. Be it the whiny, social skills-challenged babies on "The Real World", or the entitlement-sickening brats on "Sweet Sixteen" which is probably the worst show ever produced for kids, they can out-sass us and that's supposed to be cool.

Government intrusion in family affairs is a big problem.

Not that I advocate abuse, but why can't we smack the crap out of our kids anymore? Surely when I got smacked as a youth it was because I pushed the envelope and did something really bad. After the smackdown, I thought long and hard before I did it again. Because of do-something politicians and make-work government employees in your neighborhood Department of Social Services (they should just take the D off of DSS), kids have been encouraged to report parents who attempt to discipline them.

Shouting at them is "emotional abuse." Spanking is "physical abuse." The result is parents who are powerless to address the many instances of malfeasance by back-talking, no-conscience youth.

In a prelude to their liberal indoctrination to come in their later academic years, kids today have been taught that

they have "rights." Parents indulge them by letting them wear whatever they want, pierce themselves more than Africans, provide them their "crack" (cell phone minutes that they always seem to run out of despite the pricey plans their parents obtain), and seldom do we get any gratitude. Instead, kids go right to the fridge, eat more than their share, and give your family provisions to their friends who aren't supposed to be in your home when parents are not for all the obvious legal reasons. Rules are constantly broken because kids feel entitled to do whatever they want. Deal with it, Chelsea.

There are no "no's" that are binding. Telling a kid to avoid MySpace because of the obvious hazards, results in an eye-rolling that makes the back of our hands tingle, yet we all know the moment we walk out the door, both AIM is activated and MySpace is opened.

I wish I could have had an "emotional day" off when I was younger. On those occasions when I knew I was in for a traditional ass-whuppin' from a school bully, a day off would have been nice. Bullying was not a crime in those days and we all had to learn how to embrace our fears, and more times than not, the ass-whuppin' never happened. Today's kids are wimps.

They cry on national television reality shows when things don't go their way. They are devoid of personal responsibility, and when they hang out amidst riots and get hurt (or worse), it's everybody else's fault. They go to spring break, drink while underage until all hours, and should some evil befall them, we never ask why they were there in the first place doing what they were doing. That would be insensitive.

We've created shortcuts in life they now expect. Instead of paying their dues and growing naturally in a craft, we prematurely award them as American Idols, and their careers are mediocre at best. We watch them complain about how hard their short lives have been constantly on MTV. What kind of generation is this going to be? I fear for the future....

One afternoon a few weeks ago, I heard a fairly loud and arrhythmic banging outside our home. I peeked through the blinds and saw one of the kids in my extended family taking Barry Bonds-like swings with a baseball bat on the doors of his car and rear taillight. Apparently, instead of performing the routine maintenance required as responsible car ownership mandates, he blew the money he bums off his mother elsewhere, and when the car started to fail, it was the car's fault.

I can only imagine what would be going through my mind if people bought the house next door and within their first month in a new neighborhood, we all witness a kid bashing the hell out of his car in their driveway. I'd be talking about them in the most unflattering of terms. What kids do to embarrass their parents is the last thing in their minds, because God knows, their response as to why they do what they do is always "I dunno..."

So, what will the future bring?

This generation can't write new music or a decent movie script. Rap artists will be sampling radio jingles soon after they deplete the Time-Warner music library for hooks. There are hundreds of bad, old television shows and movies that today's movie executives will remake, and it's only a matter of time before we have a reality show based around a toilet cam. Today's youth will really find that funny.

I'm sure many of you will be extremely upset that I show so much disdain for today's kids. Maybe I am getting old and this is a cyclical sentiment. I remember my Dad's generation looking down on us, they could at least get some satisfaction by issuing a good old fashioned spanking that eventually got our minds right. Again, I've never advocated child abuse, but you

*Continued on page 12*

We are also on the web at <http://allmainematters.com>

# Chandler Woodcock And The Campaign To Come

By John Frary

Senator Chandler Woodcock's victory in the Republican primary election on June 13 will have a good deal to do with the fight about who has access the taxpayers' wallets in this state.

Before considering this, let's be clear on one point: all contestants in the general election in November agree that Maine's taxpayers need relief.

Governor Baldacci and the Democrats boast that LD1 is a grand and glorious tax-cutting achievement. Few taxpayers seem convinced, and the governor has gone on to promise new measures to contain property tax increases.

Patty LaMarche, the Green Party candidate, calls the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights a cry of pain. Barbara Merrill, a former Democrat legislator running as an Independent, finds it convenient to blame both parties for "driving Maine taxpayers out of their homes." The independent, Phillip Morris Napier, wants to abolish the income tax. David Jones, another Independent, supports the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights. Peter Mills, Woodcock's leading rival in the primary, favors a constitutional amendment requiring a two-thirds majority in the legislature for any tax increase.

If you know of a candidate for the legislature that thinks Maine's tax level is right where it should, send word. I'd happily drive all the way to Presque Isle or Lubec to gape at him—and I'll throw in ten bucks for a ticket of admission.

There are three clear lessons here. First, if you think you are under-taxed, you are out of luck. You have no candidate in 2006. Second, when you hear screams and sobs about the dangers of tax limitations you should remind yourself that tax cuts or limitation are in the platform of every single contender for the governor's office. Third, if Maine had tax limitations in place years ago, we would not be faced with the disastrous taxation that all now condemn.

Chandler Woodcock's nomination gives Mainers the opportunity to vote for a candidate who is solidly committed to the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights. A candidate, in short, who believes that our state's taxpayers are entitled to a say about how much of their incomes Augusta is allowed to spend.

Think about this half a minute: you may become witnesses to the birth of a whole new entitlement! A candidate who actually believes that take-home pay is not a "tax expenditure;" that your income is not an allowance granted to you by the government; that taxpayers might actually have needs of their own—other than chewing gum, cosmetics, ammo and beer.

Takes your breath away doesn't it?

Seventy-five organizations of one kind and another have already declared their frantic opposition to the whole idea of the taxpayers interfering in the business of government—their business.

Over two thousand years ago, an obscure politician in the Roman Republic named Cassius Longinus provided us with a key tool of political evaluation: "Cui bono—to whose profit."

These seventy-five organizations have numerous members who depend on the government for all or part of their incomes. They know the answer to cui bono? And so do you.

I am not arguing that these groups are totally unprincipled. Some of them have grand plans for improving your lives with your money. The Taxpayers' Bill of Rights will give you a chance to approve of their projects. What can be wrong with that?

Mary Adams, Jack Wibby, Bill Becker of the Maine Heritage Policy Center, and other workers for the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights represent the interests of the taxpayers only. They represent no narrow interest groups. They stand to gain nothing more than any other taxpayers.

Chandler Woodcock knew that when he took a stand for the taxpayers that he was going to come under fire from these seventy-five organizations. They can't spend money attacking him directly, but their attacks on the Taxpayers' Bill of Rights have no financial limits under Maine's clean election laws. They will outspend Mary Adams' coalition by a wide margin and Chandler Woodcock will catch plenty of indirect flak from them.

I leave you to draw your own conclusions on election day.

*John Frary was born in Farmington, where he now resides. He graduated from U of M, Orono. He did graduate work in Political Science and in Ancient, Medieval, Byzantine and modern history at U of M., Rutgers and Princeton, completing his Masters degree along with all courses and examinations for the PhD. He worked in administration and as a professor of history and political science at Middlesex County College in Edison, NJ for 32 years. He is associate editor of The International Military Encyclopedia, has been assistant editor of Continuity: A Journal of History as well as editor and publisher The LU/English Newsletter. After returning to Maine he was chosen to be the conservative columnist for The Kennebec Journal and The Morning Sentinel. He was dismissed from this position in December for refusing to drop his criticism of the Dirigo Health Plan. He is currently chairman of the Franklin County Republican Committee.*

# Needed Reforms: Part 4 - Alternative Incentives

By Michael Fundalewicz

I've skipped #4 in my "Overview", in case you've been keeping track, to opine on an equally important issue that only a few corporations have just recently addressed.

Listening to the news this morning I heard of several companies and corporations giving monetary incentives to their respective employees to purchase "Hybrid" vehicles. Hey, I think it's great! But what about the rest of us?

The government's new "drive" to encourage each and every one of us to convert to using an alternative energy is quite commendable but falls way short of implementation. WHY? Because the price of these vehicles is out of sight for the ordinary working person. It's not logical to spend the amount paid for an average house as you will have to for a car is it?

What ever happened to simplicity? A car is a vehicle you drive to go from point A to point B right? Do we really need heated leather seats, a back massage, a DVD player, a proximity alarm, tilting headlights and a stereo to blow the windows out of the car you just blew off doing 0 to 110 MPH in 6.3 seconds from the stoplight in a crowded intersection?? Sounds like you're driving in a living room recliner smoking a crackpipe. Let's get real here ok!

If you want to travel in luxury, buy a motor home. If you want economy, buy something simple. I hate to keep referring back to this but the VW, of the day, was the best car ever made. You could dump a bottle of 100 proof "Stolichnaya Vodka" in it if you ran out of gas and keep going.

Why can't we do the same again? Is it because the companies who control the "E-85" production are aligned with the same ones who own the oil companies? Is this a way for them to control prices? If you pay attention to the news and the advertisements lately you'll see the who's- who in advocating alternatives; don't forget to read the fine print at the bottom, it's them! Has the government mentioned any financial incentives to buying alternative fueled vehicles yet? NO!

Another facet of energy alternatives is home heating. Here again, the same companies own that too. Think about it. Diesel, kerosene, gasoline...same companies making different products from the same fossil fuel; crude oil.

BUT, and I do mean BUT; has anyone advocated electricity?? NO! Why? Because they can't control it. You can buy a wind powered generator, a turbine, for around \$3000.00 and it'll last for years. You don't hear much about that now do you?

Are there any federally funded financial incentives to go that route? NO! There's no plan in place to entice the general public to do anything but sit and suffer the consequences of the energy crisis that has fallen upon us at the behest of the profiteering oil conglomerates. God forbid they should lose a dime of their profits even if you have to freeze to death in the dark!

What do you think they'd do if you decided to erect a windmill? You'd have to face local variances, permits to construct, the Dept. of Environmental Protection, because you need sulfuric acid based batteries containing lead plates to maintain energy storage, and then you'd face the inevitable restrictions and regulations of the Public Utilities Commission for rates regarding their having to pay you for any energy they are mandated to accept and financially compensate you for. In effect, you're being financially stonewalled by every entity imaginable to do what they are expecting us to accomplish.

What if the government decided to practice what they preached and be nice?

Let's say they drop the financial prohibitions, reward us via tax breaks and work with us instead of against? We'd have free energy to run our homes via electricity. Baseboard or circulating heating systems are safe, clean and efficient. We'd have cars using nothing but alternative fuels that would cut costs, increase fuel availability and efficiency, alleviate environmental pollution and allow the average family to regain it's prosperity.

In summary: We'd have cheap and efficient transportation, our homes would be totally efficient, we'd have money in our pockets and we could tell those countries, with whom we've based our conflicting moral, ethical and political policies towards, to blow it out their tail-pipes.

*Michael Fundalewicz moved to Ashland with his wife and four kids in the early '90s to escape the dictatorial confines of the State of Massachusetts' taxation policies and the mayhem of drugs and crime for the protection of his kids' futures. He has, in recent years, come to see that those very same issues have followed him in the form of self-serving governing officials and the reluctance of the citizens of northern Maine to stand up and speak out for themselves before they wind up in the same mess.*

## Insane Laws!

In the state of New Jersey, it is illegal to wear a bullet-proof vest while committing a murder or a rape.

2C:39-13. Unlawful use of body vests

1.Unlawful use of body vests. A person is guilty of a crime if he uses or wears a body vest while engaged in the commission of, or an attempt to commit, or flight after committing or attempting to commit murder, manslaughter, robbery, sexual assault, burglary, kidnaping, criminal escape or assault under N.J.S.2C:12-1b. Use or wearing a body vest while engaged in the commission of, or an attempt to commit, or flight after committing or attempting to commit a crime of the first degree is a crime of the second degree. Otherwise it is a crime of the third degree.

As used in this section, "body vest" means bullet-resistant body armor which is intended to provide ballistic and trauma protection.



# Straight From Nana Beth's Kitchen!

Since camping season is upon us, and if you're like me and pack everything BUT the skillet,... (yes, I did do that), this is a GREAT recipe to have stashed away with you're camping gear....just in case! Just make sure you have plenty of Ziploc freezer bags in there, too. (Wish I'd had this recipe back then. Tin foil isn't such a great replacement for the old skillet. It was also a good thing my husband has such a great sense of humor.)

I want to thank June Wagnor for sending this recipe to me and sharing.

June mentions it would be great with a coffee cake, so my recipe for that will follow. If you're going camping, this cake travels very well.

## ZIPLOC OMELET

Have guests write their name on a quart-size Ziploc freezer bag with permanent marker.

Crack 2 eggs (large or extra-large) into the bag (not more than 2) shake to combine them.

Put out a variety of ingredients such as: cheeses, ham, onion, green pepper, tomato, hash browns, salsa, etc.

Each guest adds prepared ingredients of choice to their bag and shake. Make sure to get the air out of the bag and zip it up.

Place the bags into rolling, boiling water for exactly 13 minutes. You can usually cook 6-8 omelets in a large pot. For more, make another pot of boiling water.

Open the bags and the omelet will roll out easily. Be prepared for everyone to be amazed.

Nice to serve with fresh fruit and coffee cake; everyone gets involved in the process and a great conversation piece.

## Coffee Cake

Bake at 350\*  
35-40 minutes

**Cake mix:**  
3/4 cup sugar  
2 eggs  
1/3 cup of shortening

**Mix then add:**  
1 cup milk

**Sift in:**  
2 cups of flour  
2 teaspoons of baking powder  
1/2 teaspoon of salt  
1 teaspoon of cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon of nutmeg

## Filling:

2/3 cup light brown sugar  
2 Tablespoons of flour  
2 teaspoons of soft butter or margarine  
1 cup of chopped nuts

Mix thoroughly.

Now, I use a bundt pan, sprayed with Pam, putting half the cake mixture in, then the filling on top, spooning the rest of the cake mix on top making sure that the filling is covered. This guarantees that the crumb topping stays put, especially if you're camping and don't want crumbs everywhere. The center is moist and yummy.

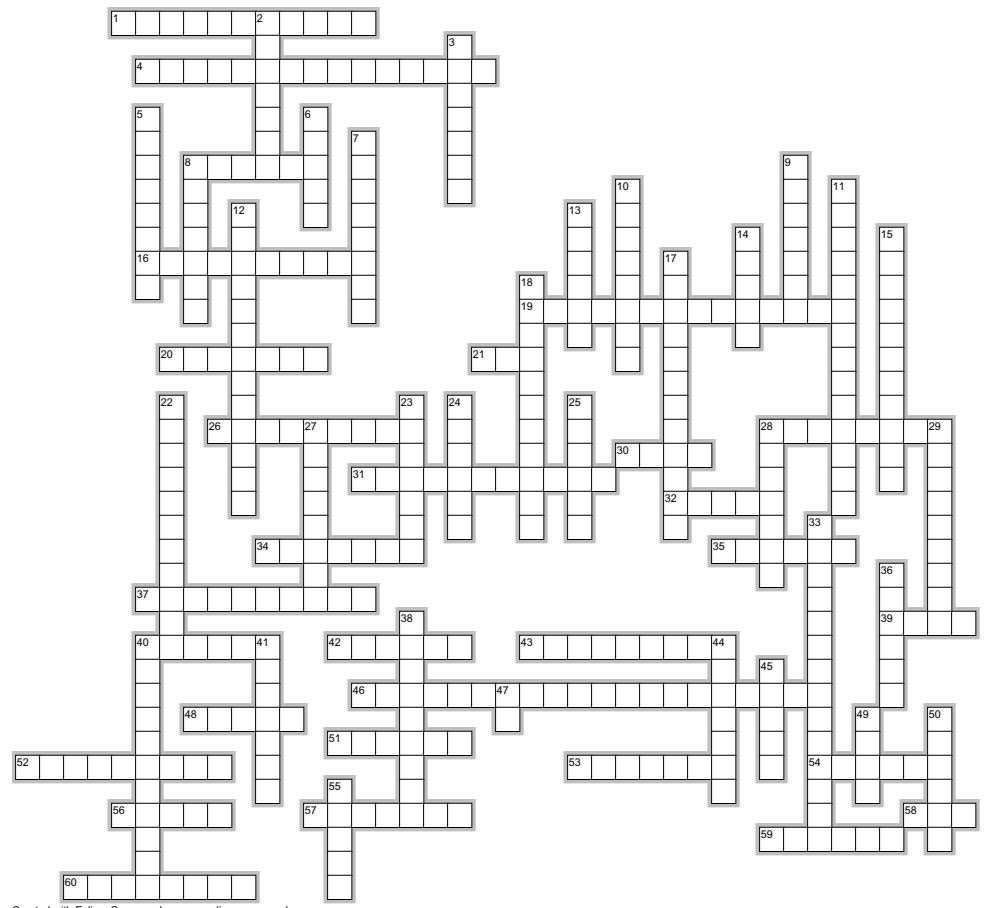
You can also use a greased 13"x9" putting the crumb mixture on the top, which gives you more of a crustier crumb topping.

It's all according to taste.  
Hope you enjoy!

*If you have recipes you'd like to share, or questions about a recipe you can't find, please contact Nana Beth at ec06@localnet.com*

**Across**

1. Colonel Oliver Payne was a former treasurer of this company (two words). (11)
4. Branches off of Katahdin Avenue to form Millinocket's commercial district (two words). (15)
8. The first white settler in the area that was to become Millinocket. (6)
16. Built a two-story brick building that included a basement, and housed a lodge room, assembly room, dining and kitchen facilities. (10)
19. The Pines (three words). (14)
20. Three of the initial investors in Great Northern Paper Company held this rank. (7)
21. Acronym for a volunteer work program set up by President Roosevelt. (3)
26. A settlement that sprung up behind the mill site, later discontinued (two words). (9)
28. Around 1860, Charles and Daniel Watson cleared land on what was to become known by this name (two words). (8)
30. This kind of road was first built to join Millinocket with Medway, in order to facilitate lumber operations. (4)
31. Where Forest Avenue now curves into Hillcrest Avenue (two words). (11)
32. The last name of a family known for selling insurance in Millinocket. (5)
34. Type of system used to recruit Italian workers. (7)
35. Last name of the initial founder of Great Northern Paper Company. (6)
37. Played for the Boston Braves in 1911 and 1912 (first and last name). (10)
39. A settlement first known as Five Islands became this town. (4)
40. A part of the Millinocket workplace from the beginning. (6)
42. Last name of the man who Thomas Fowler sold his farm to in 1882. (6)
43. Recreational area serving the New Development (two words). (9)
46. Built on the site of the original Millinocket High School in 1931 (three words). (20)
48. Millinocket is known for making this. (5)
51. Street that runs behind the Congregational Church. (6)
52. The press began calling referring to Millinocket as this (two words). (9)
53. Great Northern also owned a sulphite mill in this Maine town. (7)
54. Located at the place where the East and West Branches of the Penobscot join to form the main river. (6)
56. A portion of the town's first Pest House still exists, and is now being used as a residence on this street. (5)
57. Bangor native who took on the task of procuring wood for the mill after Charles Mullen resigned. (7)
58. Acronym for the paper company that built Millinocket. (3)
59. Succeeded John Decker as mill superintendent. (6)
60. First hometown Millinocket pilot. (8)



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**Down**

2. Last name of the man who once lived where the municipal pool is now, and grew potatoes where the baseball field now is. (7)
3. Garrett Schenck was working at a paper mill here before he was recruited as a partner in GNP. (7)
5. Relationship of Charles Powers to Thomas Fowler. (8)
6. Opened an osteopathic hospital in 1938. (5)
7. GNP's first chief consulting engineer. (8)

8. Industrial facility on the northern end of Katahdin Avenue. (7)
9. Built the second store in Little Italy. (7)
10. The month in 1900 that the first newsprint came off of the machines at Great Northern. (8)
11. Millinocket's first street (two words). (14)
12. The paper company that founded Millinocket (two words). (13)
13. Last name of the people who cleared the land on what was to become known as the Rice Farm. (6)
14. Residential area that opened up along the Iron Bridge Road in the 1950s. (5)
15. Italian neighborhood of Millinocket (two words). (11)
17. Baptist church in the New Development (two words). (12)
18. A one-block section of Aroostook Avenue known as a place for troublemakers (three words). (11)
22. A ban on alcohol. (11)
23. A family that came to Millinocket in 1899, first living in two tents on a hill near the Fowler Farm. (7)
24. Last name of the first mill superintendent for GNP. (6)
25. School that was discontinued in 1943, and later deeded to the VFW. (6)
27. Region that includes Millinocket. (8)
28. The first proprietor of the Great Northern Hotel. (7)
29. Descendants of the Fowler family, still living in the Millinocket area, include those with this surname. (9)
33. Residential area that was opened up when Central Street was expanded eastward from the Medway Road to the town line (two words). (14)
36. Chief Engineer for Great Northern. (6)
38. Isolation ward (two words). (9)
40. The town's first church building (two words). (11)
41. Charles Mullen sold half his interests in what was to become Great Northern Paper Company to a man with this name. (7)
44. Since the 1970s, Millinocket's population has been on the ... (7)
45. Last name of the missionary who conducted the first (outside) church services in Millinocket. (5)
47. Acronym of the paper company that Garrett Schenck served as Vice President of before resigning to promote the Great Northern Paper Company. (2)
49. Sponsored the Millinocket Tigers of 1909. (4)
50. Opened Millinocket's first surgical hospital, in 1920. (6)
55. Early shopkeeper in Millinocket. (5)



# Profiles in Rural Maine

By Ken Anderson

## Millinocket, Maine



Nazarene Church, in the New Development

This month, I'll be departing from my usual convention and writing about a town that I know something about, although certainly not everything, since I've lived here in Millinocket only since 2001.

Millinocket grew up as a paper mill town; and in fact, the Great Northern didn't locate in Millinocket; the town rose up around the mill.

The first white man to take up residence in the area was not a millworker, but a farmer. Thomas Fowler came to the region in 1829, initially settling on the west side of the West Branch of the Penobscot River, below Grand Falls at the head of Shad Pond, bringing with him his grown children, who cleared land nearby.

Fowler and his family lived there until the late 1830s, having two more children. Adeline Fowler became the first white child to be born in the territory.

Ranging outward from Bangor, people were starting to settle along the Penobscot River. A settlement first known as Five Islands became the town of Winn. The town of Mattawamkeag sprung up at the point where the Mattawamkeag River joined the Penobscot.

An active settlement grew up where the East and West Branches of the Penobscot joined to form the main river, and this became the town of Medway. A tote road was built connecting the area that is now Millinocket with the town of Medway, as lumber operations were moving up the river and into the Katahdin region.

Perhaps because access to Grand Falls was difficult, Fowler abandoned his home and moved upstream about two miles, clearing land for a new farm along the banks of Millinocket Stream, in the area that was later to become the mill yards of the Great Northern Paper Company. This was sometime in the late 1830s.

In 1882, he sold his farm to Charles Powers, a grandson, who lived there until 1899, when the Great Northern Paper Company purchased the farm.

Even today, descendants of the Fowler family, which include the Cliffords, Hales, Martins, McCauslins, Wileys, and others, remain in the Millinocket area.

Around 1860, Charles and Daniel Watson cleared land on what was to become known as the Rice Farm.

Much has been written about the formation of the Great Northern, yet it would be impossible to discuss the town of Millinocket without including the pulp and paper mill that built it.

Great Northern began with Charles Mullen, an engineering graduate of the University of Maine, who had participated in the building of a dam and groundwood pulp mill in Enfield. When the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad had completed a section of its track from Bangor to Houlton, crossing the West Branch near the rapids and falls between Quakish Lake and Shad Pond, Mullen recognized that this area was ideal as a power source for a large pulp and paper mill.

Initially, Mullen brought together a syndicate of Bangor investors, purchasing the necessary land, in Indian Township 3, then he bought them out and sold half of his interests to Garrett Schenck, who was then serving as vice president of an International Paper Company mill in Rumford.

In an effort to raise capital, they took on some partners, including Colonel Henry Haskell, a Rumford associate of Schenck's, as well as Colonel Augustus Paine, a New York industrialist who had been born in Maine.

More money was needed in order to get the project off the ground, so Schenck resigned his position with IP and went to New York. Colonel Oliver Payne, a former treasurer of Standard Oil, was interested; as was his brother-in-law, William Whitney, who was once the Secretary of the Navy. Payne

and Whitney were already in business together, owning two sulphite mills, one in Wisconsin and the other in Madison, Maine.

These two wealthy men agreed to back the project, on the condition that Schenck agreed to run the Madison plant as well, since it had been doing poorly.

On March 2, 1899, the new enterprise was named the Great Northern Paper Company. Mullen and Schenck sold their interest in the land to GNP in return for stock in the company, and Colonel Payne sold them the Madison mill for stock.

Great Northern bought all of the available land between the two waterways, about 1,800 acres, enough to contain the mill and the village that would spring up around it.

Harvey Ferguson served as the Great Northern's first chief consulting engineer. George Stearns was employed as the Company's land agent, and it soon acquired 252,060 acres of forest land.

Construction on the mill began on May 15, 1899, and the first newsprint came off of its machines on November 9, 1900. The whole plant was operational five months later.

Great Northern's founding father, Charles Mullen, resigned at the end of 1900, and was replaced by a Fred Gilbert, a Bangor native who took on the important task of procuring wood for the mill.

Since water power was crucial for the operation of the mill, temporary dams were built to supply power until permanent dams could be constructed, providing ponds for log storage, a constant flow to the penstocks for grinding wood and producing electricity.

Soon a legal and legislative battle ensued over control of the Penobscot River, which had until then been under the auspices of the Penobscot Log Driving Company. As the river was important to Great Northern, not only for the transport of logs but for the generation of power, Gilbert felt that GNP needed to control the river, a fight that he was to win, albeit after a couple of troubling years that included several lawsuits against GNP, even from its founder, Charles Mullen, who was by then no longer with the company.

The first mill Superintendent was John Decker, who came to Millinocket from Rumford Falls. He was succeeded by George Witham and, in turn, Ingleton Schenck and Joseph Nevins. Frank Bowler was recruited as a draftsman for the Great Northern; and in 1911, he became the company's Chief Engineer.

Italian workers were imported to do much of the construction work, using a padrone system, in which contractors supplied the laborers from Europe for a price from which they turned a profit. At first, Marco Lavonia was the top padrone working for GNP in Millinocket, but Ferdinando Peluso later became better known in that position, prospering in this setting, operating a store on the east side of Millinocket, becoming a bank manager, and officer in the Chamber of Commerce.

Peluso built a large rectangular home facing the stream where the foot bridge crosses to the mill site. It was a two-story house with a half attic in the center of and below the eaves of the roof. The house faced a square where a small store was built on the north side. Heating pipes from the store to the house basement served as a passageway, and a wine press was set up where grapes in large barrels could be quickly rolled out of sight.

Palmer DiNardo built a second store, and Little Italy became a settlement, a neighborhood distinct from the remainder of Millinocket. By the mid 1930s, the Company relocated the small houses down river and two new



Great Northern Paper Company offices

streets were opened. The land was leased to those who wanted to live there, then sold to those who wanted to own their own homes.

Among the early Italian families were those carrying surnames such as Angotti, Brigalli, Caruso, Civiello, DiCentes, DiNardo, Gagliardi, Manzo, Mosca, Pasquine, Peluso, and others.

Little Italy grew to become a distinct neighborhood, separated from the rest of Millinocket by language and culture. Even today, there are those, not of Italian ancestry, who can remember when they dared not trespass into Little Italy.

Gradually, the barriers were broken down, as children grew up speaking English rather than Italian. As is the case everywhere, there was both good and bad in that.

But the Italians weren't the only people brought in to build the Great Northern. Laborers imported from Europe included Poles, Finns, Lithuanians, and Hungarians. They moved rocks and earth, building the dams and constructing the foundations of the mill buildings themselves.

Peter Plourde came to Millinocket, with his family, in 1899. They put up two tents on a hill near the Fowler Farm, and went to work helping to build the new town, beginning with their own home.

French Canadians came from along Maine's northern border with Canada, and from the St. John Valley, to work in the woods, as well as the mill. Some of the early families carried surnames that included Albert, Beaulieu, Bilodeau, Michaud, Theriault, Cyr, Pelletier, Ouellete.

People came from all over the country, and world, becoming the carpenters, railroad men, shopkeepers, and millworkers who were to form the new settlement.

Among the early tradespeople, many whose businesses had first been established in Bangor, were those who carried names from the Far East, such as Hikel, Jamo, Maguris, and Maragus.

Families whose names were of English lineage included Baker, Boynton, Caffrey, Doyle, Galvin, Hunt, McPheters, and McInnis. Scandinavians, most of whom came from the Kennebec River Valley, included the Andersons, Carlstroms, Johnsons, Larsons, and others.

From Scotland, John Crawford came to Millinocket to take a job in the new mill. After a year, he had put aside enough money to be able to send for his family.

Newcomers needed somewhere to live. Some built behind the mill, where there was higher ground, in an area that was to be called "Shack Hill," where they lived until the GNP needed the land for expansion of the mill itself. Others settled along the tote road, in an area now known as Old Medway Road.

The Great Northern itself encouraged and even assisted with building much of the town, in order to provide housing for its rapidly expanding workforce. In July of 1899, GNP placed an advertisement in the Bangor Whig and Courier, asking for responsible parties to erect one hundred tenement houses, business blocks, and a suitable hotel and boarding house.

Once GNP began producing paper, the steady traffic between the railroad station and the mill, a distance of about a mile, brought about the construction of boarding houses. The early boarding houses were similar to those seen in any mill town, from three to five stories in height, except that they were not placed in rows of identical design, as was the custom.

Construction on the Great Northern Hotel began in 1900. The elegant 52-room structure was completed the following year, and leased to J.P. Randall, its first proprietor.

The mill operated in eight-hour shifts. Since everyone would be walking to work, the locations of the first homes were in part determined by convenience. More areas opened up west of Katahdin Avenue near the mill, and just across the tracks.

Between November 1, 1899, and December 31, 1927, GNP's president, Garret Schenck, signed over deeds to hundreds of lots owned by the company in Millinocket and East Millinocket.

Most of the houses in Millinocket were built by private parties; but in 1901, GNP contracted with Charles J. Rush to build 22 houses of four different styles, at costs ranging from \$1120 to \$1850.

More commonly, the Company would lay the foundations for new residences, leaving the houses themselves to be built by the emp-

loyees who were to reside in them. These houses remained the property of GNP until the occupant was prepared to purchase it. In some cases, the Company would deed the land to the resident once he had completed \$700 in improvements to the property.

Fowler's farmhouse was turned into a boarding house for a time, run by the Moore family; and later, the first Millinocket post office.

Dick Levasseur erected a boardinghouse for his crew, and a man named McCluskey built a boardinghouse and dance hall on Shack Hill.

The town's first store occupied a temporary building in the mill yards, just behind the stable, and was operated by James F. Kimball and Company. As the town grew, other stores were built to serve the town, including the Boots and Shoes Store, operated by the Gonya brothers; and William Heebner opened a drug store, both of which were located near where the mill was later to erect its office building.

Prior to 1901, there was no town administration, but the Great Northern saw to the organization of the settlement that it had largely built, as it was to continue to do even after the town was incorporated.



House on Katahdin Avenue

Security was provided by Fred Gates, a deputy sheriff employed by the Great Northern; and the Company saw to it that houses were built according to a plan. In fact, most of the early residences followed the same basic floor plan, although dormers, bays, and porches were added for variety and convenience.

Just before the turn of the century, there were only a farm house, a barn, and some outbuildings, on a few acres of cleared land. There were two occupants of the Fowler Farm, Charles and Eugenia Powers. Ed Adams, the section foreman for the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad, lived near Millinocket Stream, with his two cousins, Fred and Quincy; and another section hand was living nearby. A camp known as Hunter's Home, operated by Almon Reed, was the only other habitation. Yet, on March 16, 1901, Millinocket became Maine's 467th town; and by 1903, it boasted a population of 3,000. In a very short time, it had become one of the state's wealthiest towns, heralded in the press as the "Magic City."

The first town meeting was held on April 18, 1901

Katahdin Avenue was Millinocket's first street, which soon branched off to form a business district to the east, called Penobscot Avenue, more commonly referred to as "main street." Then Central Avenue was built, intersecting both Katahdin and Penobscot, and forming a triangle that became the center of town. Next came Pine, Poplar, and Spruce Streets, cross streets within this triangle.

There was once a small cemetery where Memorial Park now is, containing three graves, that of a man and two children. The man's name was Ossinger. When the municipal cemetery was built in Little Italy, the graves were removed, and the plot was landscaped with walks and flower beds, to serve as a town park. Later, a brook coming up from Ferguson Pond was dammed to form a wading pool, which served as a skating rink in the winter, and which some people in town still remember. Still later, the pond and brook were filled in, and a bandstand was placed there.

The only way into Millinocket was by railroad, except for the water route along the West



## Millinocket, Maine



This unusual house, located at 16 North Terrace, was planned by a Bangor and Aroostook Railroad employee familiar with the B&A locomotive round house.

Branch, or the old Sourdnahunk tote road, so the town asked the county to lay out a road connecting Millinocket with Medway and Mattawamkeag. A bridge was erected over Millinocket Stream, extending Central Street along a familiar trail to Medway, becoming known as Medway Road.

Houses had already been built along the stream, forming a basis for State and Congress Streets. This neighborhood became known as the Flat.

Just east of the bridge, where the town's first dump was located, Medway Road curved south and downstream behind Little Italy and the town cemetery. It didn't run straight east to Medway, as it does now, because it was cut off by high sand banks that served as a place of adventure to the town's children.

Houses and businesses soon cropped up along this road, now known as Old Medway Road, becoming largely a French area. Charles Tapley built a public dwelling there, which included a Chinese laundry and dance hall. After leaving Shack Hill, Mr. Barbien purchased this building, which is now known as the Hotel Terrace.

Where Forest Avenue now curves into Hillcrest Avenue, in the new development, was a neighborhood known as Skunk Hollow. Fairly early in the town's history, settlers built their homes along a small brook that fed into Millinocket Stream. This area was later burned over, and became a place for blueberries, checkerberries, and wildflowers.

People now drive through what was Skunk Hollow to get to the Hillcrest Golf Course.

Skunk Hollow included the area now taken up by Stearns High School. A man named Arthur Russell had a farm where Skunk Hollow bordered the river, at the current site of the municipal pool. The football and baseball fields were once planted with Russell's potatoes. Another farmer, by the name of Sutherland, raised pigs in Skunk Hollow.

Another street near the mill, running parallel and to the east of Penobscot Avenue, was Aroostook Avenue, which at first, was only one block long, extending from Cherry Street north to Birch Street. At first, this area was settled primarily by Greeks, but soon the Poles predominated. This part of town became known as a trouble spot, called Tin Can Alley.

Maine was known for its prohibition sentiments, and the Great Northern discouraged the use of alcohol, so Millinocket was for a long time a dry town. Still, Little Italy employed underground wine tunnels as a means of hiding contraband from authorities, and Tin Can Alley residents used a pipe into which all good liquor was poured, in the event of a raid, to be collected in a basement hideaway.

In time, Aroostook Avenue was extended the almost the full length of Penobscot Avenue, angling slightly west to intersect Penobscot, which itself angles gently to the east, just before Bowdoin Street.

The first religious services in Millinocket were conducted outdoors by the Reverend C.E. Young. The first church was the Union Chapel, which was first located on the corner of Cherry Street and Penobscot Avenue, but later moved to Spring Street and Aroostook Avenue, to become the Armory and, more recently, I-Care Ministries. This building was used for interdenominational church services, and served as the town's first school for many years.

In late 1899, the Catholic Church was built. The Episcopal Church was constructed in 1902; and the following year, the Baptists built a church on Penobscot Avenue and Spring Street, with Rev. Young as its pastor. In the summer of 1903, the Congregational Church was erected at its present location, calling the Rev. W.J. McNeil as pastor.

The sudden population explosion in 1900 was not without its problems, however. Newly added streets weren't provided with sewage systems until the 1920s, the outside privies were the rule; and with houses built on small lots, this became more of a problem than they

would have been in a more rural setting. Plus, people raised pigs and chickens, to supplement their incomes and diets, adding to the natural odors of a mill town.

The constant arrival and intermingling of people from all over the world also brought disease. Many infants died of such childhood diseases as mumps, measles, or whooping cough in the early 1900s. By 1902, cases of diphtheria were appearing, particularly in Shack Hill. Then, by 1903, the town had to deal with epidemics of typhoid and smallpox.

In 1912, the Great Northern built an isolation facility at what was then the edge of town. It was a long rectangular structure that sheltered ten isolation beds. Today, about half of the structure remains, as a residence on Water Street, but it blends in well with the neighborhood, bearing little resemblance to its original role. In 1917, another Pest House was built on the Medway Road. This was a two-story structure, with five small camps built around it. Groups of people were required to live there awaiting the incubation period of the disease before they were permitted to return to their homes.



Railroad depot, on the left, and the Great Northern Barn behind it. The barn was once used to house GNP's horses.

Health officials later determined that the spread of disease was due in part to the town pumping river water into the town's water system, a problem which was summarily corrected.

When it came to sports, baseball was Millinocket's game. A recreational area was built where I-Care Ministries is now, featuring a baseball diamond, a grandstand, and a large pavilion, extending all the way to Water Street.

The Millinocket Tigers of 1909 earned some fame, being the first team to represent the whole town, playing against neighboring towns. Members of the team were Dick Breen, Ed Donley, Ralph Good, Billy Jones, Jesse Lemeur, Joe Monahan, Harry More, Hammy Ordway, Ralph Pond, and Pete Willey. Dr. Cody sponsored the team, and Billy Jones became its manager. Jones was also the star of the Tigers, and went on to play in the majors for the Boston Braves in 1911 and 1912.

By 1910, Millinocket had a population of 5,000, ten miles of streets, a water system, and one of the best sewage systems in the state. It had a bank, a fire station, and four churches. There were 700 students attending two school buildings, plus another that was rented for that purpose.

By then, there were 408 dwellings in town, 26 businesses, a steam laundry, and two opera houses. Apart from the mill itself, there was also a foundry, a sawmill, and two blacksmith shops.

The Great Northern Paper Company itself owned, within the town, the Great Northern Hotel, 17 residences, and several business and residential lots.

The Unions were a part of the Millinocket workplace from the beginning. The first people recruited to work at the new mill were mostly union men. The International Machine Tenders Union was representing GNP workers as early as 1901, and the first local union was formed the following year, #27 of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers. Other unions were formed shortly afterward, including Local Union #69 of the International Brotherhood of Firemen, Oilers, and Helpers; and in 1906, Local Union #12 of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite, and Papermill Workers.

The 1920s brought rapid growth in Millinocket. The addition of two more paper machines greatly increased the workforce, which in turn increased the population of the town.

The town was growing to the west so fast that the Elm Street railroad crossing could no longer meet the demands, so another was built at Spruce Street, extending the town further. Maine and Highland Avenues were extended to Bowdoin Street.

The Millinocket Oddfellows built a two-story brick building, which included a basement, and housed a lodge room, assembly room, dining and kitchen facilities.

A new, wider bridge replaced the original Central Street bridge over Millinocket Stream, as many Millinocket residents were by then driving their own cars.

In the fall of 1921, the Millinocket High School burned to the ground. To complete the school year, students were crammed into the Armory building, which was partitioned into four rooms, an arrangement that served the town's high school students for the following school year, as well. The town voted to raise \$30,000 by assessment, and to take out a bond for an additional \$150,000. Additional money included a gift of \$50,000 from the Great Northern.

The new school, the George W. Stearns High School, opened in the fall of 1923, with 743 students. In 1926, the town voted to equip this new school with a gymnasium, at a cost of another \$50,000. This building is now in private hands, serving as an apartment building for assisted living residents.

Millinocket's first surgical hospital was built in 1920, after Dr. Bryant sought to bring the medical experience he had acquired during the World War I to benefit the civilian population of Millinocket. Housed within his private residence, it was equipped with eight beds and an operating room. Before then, serious accident victims were sent to Old Town by baggage car.

The 1930s, of course, brought the Great Depression. However, the people of Millinocket suffered far less than those in other parts of the country. Being essentially a one industry town, people knew one another and helped on another out. As jobs became scarce due to shutdowns, workers with seniority would voluntarily give up their right to work so that others could have part-time employment. The spirit of cooperation that existed in Millinocket kept the percentage of seriously unemployed down, as compared to other parts of Maine.

The federal government also helped by forming the Civilian Conservation Corps, initiated by President Roosevelt to take unemployed people off the streets during the depression. Several hundred volunteers with the CCC were housed near where the Airport Cabins now are, and another camp was established at Baxter Park. The road leading from Bates Street already led as far as Millinocket Lake, but the CCC extended it to Baxter Park, and provided much of the labor in building the airport, which was completed by 1939.

Some early Millinocket pilots were Merle Fogg, who was not from Millinocket but used the ballpark as an airfield more than a decade before the airport was completed. The first hometown flier was Pat Violette, who flew his own Curtis Robin from 1937 until he joined the army. John Luke, Paul Michaud, Binkie LePage, and Bob Steeves learned to fly at the Rockland Flying School, and flew in Millinocket for a time. Soon the Millinocket Aero Club was formed, its nine members including Angus Bears, Gene Betterly, Chet Crawford, Charlie Eustis, Bob Laverty, Bob Mott, Nook Noyes, Charles Turner, and John Walsh.

The Katahdin Avenue School was built in 1931 on the site of the original Millinocket High School. It contained eight classrooms, with a capacity of 320 students. Originally a one-story brick building, additional classrooms and office spaces were added in the 1960s. The building was demolished in 2003.

The Bangor and Aroostook Railroad made improvements to its Millinocket facilities in 1938, raising the railroad yard eleven to thirteen feet, extending it north as far as the Iron Bridge. The railroad station itself was moved across the tracks and turned around, and built an underpass crossing Bates Street, so that the road to the station no longer went to the end of Katahdin Street.

This opened up new areas for housing along Bates Street. The short streets on the Highland Avenue plateau dipped to cross Katahdin Avenue, which was the original lifeline. Colby Street, which had opened very early for the building of the Catholic Church, now crossed Katahdin Avenue and rose to join the new School Street. With a sharp turn off Katahdin, this street moves northward behind the Congregational Church until it becomes a dead end where a sand bank drops to the flat area below.

The late 1930s and the 1940s brought, not only the firestorm in Europe known as World War II, which took the lives of many Millinocket soldiers, but it also was a time of several fires in and around Millinocket.

The Millinocket Theater, operated by Frank LePage, Jr., was destroyed by an explosion, hot enough to scorch the face of Hikel's store across the street, and destroying the theater building. A fire prompted a remodeling of the Opera House, removing its third floor.



Now the Keepridge Inn, this home was built for George Parks, a mill official who left Millinocket soon after, selling the home to Harry Bragdon, an undertaker.

Outside of town, hot and dry weather during the spring of 1941 brought several forest fires, burning many acres of forestland, and destroying about sixty camps.

Frank Speed, the owner of an insurance company in Millinocket, published a letter addressed to camp owners which read, in part:

*Do not be discouraged after your many years of hard toil. Be determined. Build immediately. Ferns will grow this summer to obliterate most of the blackness. The beautiful lakes and Old Katahdin are still with us. These views cannot be taken away.*

People responded. They rebuilt. And the ferns, the blueberries, and other young plants did grow to hide the scars from the fire. Poplar and birch gradually grew to fill the gaps, until they could be taken over once again by the evergreens.

The war in Europe took its toll on Millinocket, as more than 600 Millinocket men and women were serving in the armed forces by 1943. Over the course of the war, more than a thousand soldiers were sent from Millinocket.

At the end of the war, returning war veterans were in need of housing and, at the same time, the mill was hiring, bringing newcomers to town. A national aid program was making it possible for veterans to finance their homes, but there were not enough available.

The old Oxford School was deeded to the Veteran's of Foreign Wars, as its use as a school had been discontinued in 1943.

Central Street was expanded eastward from the Medway Road to the town line, and an area opened up that soon became known as the New Development, as it still is. As the town grew in that direction, Jerry Pond became the area's recreational area.

The Great Northern itself built five houses in the New Development, at a cost of \$8,500 each, and offered to rent them at \$45 a month. But most of the homes erected in the New Development were built through funds raised by homeowners. As the amount of money available through financing was less than the amount that it would take to have new homes built, most people did their own work.

In 1947, GNP made 51 lots in the new development available to anyone who wanted to buy, without regard to employment in the mill, and released seven others around town. The company built 57 cellars, to get people started on their homes.

In most cases, local contractors were employed only to do the more difficult parts of the construction, such as plumbing, heating, and electrical installations. At times, the company lent its larger purchasing power to local merchants. The company cleared the ground, excavated, and filled. The GNP drafting department helped with blueprints. Those who went into the forest and cut their own logs could use the company's horses and trucks at a special rate. The Faith Baptist Church and the Church of the Nazarene were built to serve those in the New Development.

Another new residential area was opened up west of the Medway Road, extending from Central Street to East Avenue, High, and South Streets. Granite Street now connected the Medway Road with the Cherry Street Bridge, and Eastland Avenue and Maple Street were built on the high ground. The Great Northern built the first three houses on Eastland Avenue, identical in design but spaced so as to avoid repetition, and continued its policy of pouring concrete foundations for new homebuilders.

On the Flat, new houses were built along State Street north as far as the Athletic Field Bridge. A new street, called Water Street, was built along a footpath that followed the stream east of State Street. No longer isolated, the old Pest House became an attractive residence.

Bowdoin Street was extended further west in 1948, as far as the railroad siding, and side streets were built eastward of the Medway Road, forming Garden and Wassau Streets.

*Continued on page 15*

# Risk Audit Project Begins

by Susan C. Stratton

A survey was created for parents a couple months ago that they could use to question school board members and candidates concerning moral issues in their local school. The survey included questions like:

1. Do you support or oppose abstinence programs over and above birth control programs in the schools?
2. Do you support or oppose books, films, or other media in the school curriculum that include graphical displays of sexual behavior (rape, incest, sexual intercourse, etc.) and/or glorifies suicide or death?
3. Do you support or oppose homosexuality, bisexuality and/or transgenderism in the school curriculum?

An effort to pass out the survey by general community members also entailed so that an assessment of individual board members could be made. This was meant to allow voters in future town elections to choose board members they deemed appropriate given their responses.

The survey found trouble amongst board members whom refused to answer the survey and/or told fellow board members who were in the same district to ignore the survey. That was a scary thought itself; that board members would wish to hide their positions from parents concerning the educational recommendations they were instilling upon our children. And some responses were just plain discriminatory and rude. It was obvious in some school districts that immoral curriculum, such as the homosexual lifestyle or sex-laden literature was not offensive enough to keep out of the minds of our children.

The Risk Audit Project created by Mission America is a nationwide survey, which is given to each individual school district via the superintendent office. Its main intent is to question whether or not a district receives funding for immoral student clubs or activities; and to see to what extent homosexual, bi-sexual and transgenderism has been incorporated into the curriculum or teacher training programs.

In only a couple years Maine has witnessed a growing influx of activists, using our children to push their sexual preferences. They use the civil right agenda, equating sexual preference to racial discrimination, as part of their strategy to force schools to use books that support

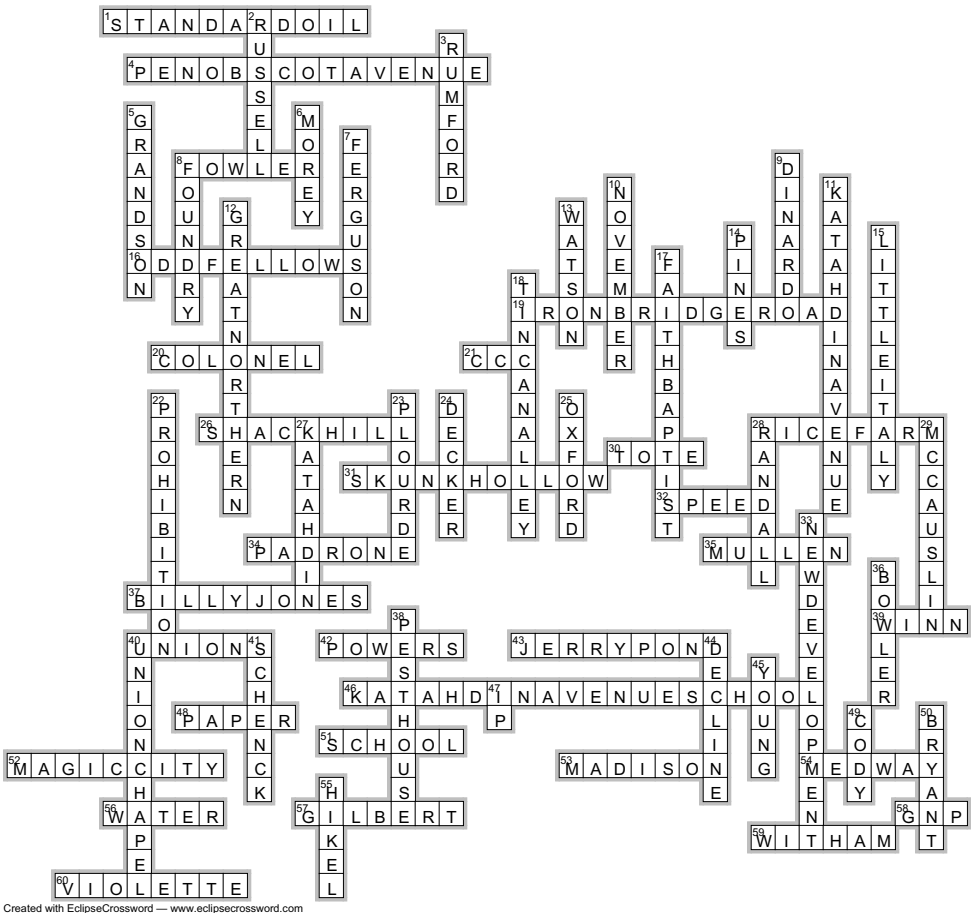
same-sex relationships or hold day-long events such as the "Day of Silence" wherein students remain speechless throughout the day while wearing pro-gay symbols to signify their support of homosexuality, bi-sexuality and transgenderism. (Note: If you have experienced the "Day of Silence" in your school district, there is now an option which students can use. Check out: [www.dayoftruth.org](http://www.dayoftruth.org))

Around the rest of the country we've heard reports of shocking indoctrination such as a homosexual books (ex. King and King) read to kindergarten children or young teenagers treated to gay-hosted party events complete with adult homosexual men passing out "club cards" to invite young boys to their get-togethers; and attendees wearing scant attire (often dressed in drag) or woman dressed as men. Many of these moral crimes against our children have been committed in Massachusetts, which is a close political ally to Maine. Many good parents fear, what is happening there, will soon happen here in the same degree.


While concerned parents are pulling their children out of public schools, some of us are holding strong, watching with careful eye over the subject matter presented to our children. There are good teachers too, who know that a parents decision is MORE important than activist positions and they are more than happy to leave the decision up to the parent regarding moral or politically charged issues. Unfortunately, not all school officials feel this way and wish to remove a PARENT'S RIGHT to know what is best for their children. That is why the Risk Audit Project was created for all states to use and why Maine has decided to take on this task.

In future articles, the results from the Risk Audit Project will be made available for the general public. Parents and community members can use this information to question their school official decisions and to try to vote out those members who are corrupting our public schools and using our children for their own activist cause.

*Susan C. Stratton is a Catholic wife and mother of 3 children in Corinna, Maine. She is a freelance writer and current chairperson of the Corinna Chapter, Maine Right to Life. You can reach Mrs. Stratton at: [kaylancor@adelphia.net](mailto:kaylancor@adelphia.net).*



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## A Discussion With Stu Kallgren, of the Maine Leaseholder's Association

The Maine Leaseholder's Association was formed in 1990 to address the concerns of leaseholders in the State of Maine, and Stu Kallgren has served as its president since 1996.

AMM: Last month, we left off announcing the annual meeting of the Maine Leaseholder's Association on August 19, 2006, and we talked about a letter that had been sent by the Judiciary Committee to Governor Baldacci, asking him to set up a commission to study leaseholder issues. Has anything else transpired on that?

STU: The governor has yet to schedule the first meeting.

AMM: Have you spoken to him?

STU: I've spoken to people in his office. He hasn't refused to schedule a meeting, he just hasn't done so yet. We're all set to go on our end. Peter Pray, Jim Giffune, and George Lee are prepared to participate for our side.

AMM: Do you expect that he'll come through, or try to stall until after the election?

STU: That's a long time to stall, so we're still waiting on him. We've invited him to our annual meeting on August 19th. We'll be inviting other legislators and candidates, as well.

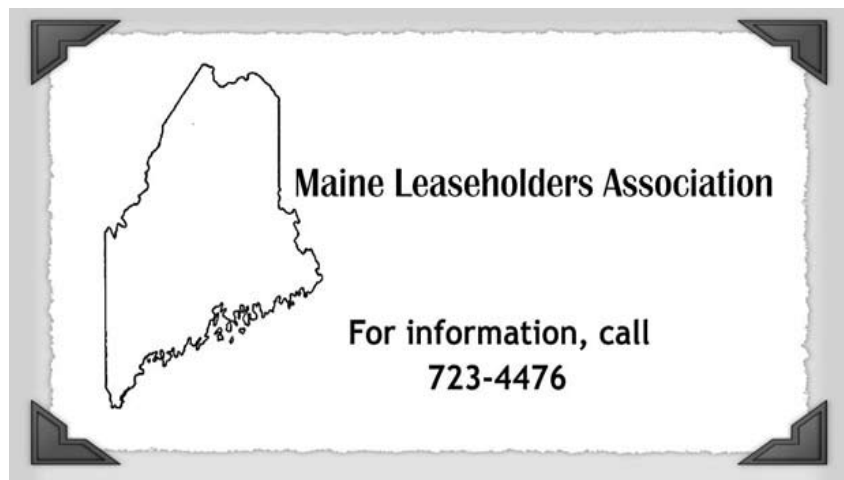
AMM: Has there been any changes in the schedule?

STU: No, it's on Saturday, August 19th, at 12:00 noon. There'll be a barbecue.

AMM: Anything else going on?

STU: I've met with some of the people from the Cross Lake Association. We had a good meeting. They are concerned. Most of them lease from Irving, and they're worried about their property as well. Gene Lynch is the director coordinating things in Aroostook County, and we still hope to get them down here for the annual meeting. If there's enough interest, we'll have a bus available to bring them down. With the price of gas these days, that might help.

AMM: All right. To remind everyone then, the annual meeting will be at 12:00 noon on Saturday, August 19, 2006, at Perley Wheaton Ford Garage in Millinocket, Maine.



## Another Hidden Tax on Maine State Citizens

The Maine State Housing Authority, under the tutelage of Dale McCormick, has formulated a plan to shake down your local oil dealer. I know: Everyone loves to hate the "oil dealer". However, before you skip gleefully off to another article, you need to continue reading to find out how much of her scheme will eventually come out of your pocket.

First, the Maine State Housing Authority is responsible for the oversight of the Low Income Fuel Assistance Program, known as LIHEAP. Dale's division racked in \$25,000,000.00 from the Feds, \$5,000,000.00 from the State's budget, \$5,000,000.00 from Governor Baldacci's friend President Chavez of Venezuela. After crying poverty she scored another \$9,000,000.00 compliments of Susan and Olympia, which turns out to be an advance off next years \$25,000,000.00.

Have you ever heard the saying "Some for the bulls, some for the bears, and none for the pigs?" Well, you have this now. Instead of doling out the same amount of money that LIHEAP recipients had come to expect and then wait for those individuals to ask for more, our state's "high rollers" just issued a lot more money to each recipient. Keep in mind that the Northeast experienced one of the warmest winters on record, and a lot of these LIHEAP recipients have sizable LIHEAP credits sitting on their heating oil accounts. You would think the State would say, "Okay, any money that hasn't been used, send it back to the State so we can redistribute it next year" Nope, the State has told the oil dealers to just keep it on those accounts, and they don't need it back.

**Psst...Only people who have too much money would say that.**

Okay...here's the shake down: The State of Maine wishes to do to the oil dealer what they did to your local pharmacist. In the future, the State will not reimburse the oil dealer a \$1.00 for a \$1.00 of oil delivered. They will establish a lesser reimbursement amount for LIHEAP deliveries based on the State's expert opinion.

Who pays for this forced discount or cost shift?

Yes, you -- the average citizen of Maine -- are likely to pay again to support your less fortunate neighbors. How? By forcing dealers to charge less than they need to make in order to pay their employees, keep the trucks rolling, pay taxes, and perhaps make a return on their hard work. The dealers are either going to have to reduce wages, reduce benefits to employees, reduce investment in Maine, and/or increase the costs of the products they sell.

That is where you -- the average citizen -- come in. You will pay more through higher prices in order to offset the forced subsidization of the LIHEAP customer.

You already pay the taxes that provide the LIHEAP benefit. Now the state is going to charge you again, except this time without you having any say.

This is a new method of taxation without representation. The state simply says you can only charge this class of citizens this amount. Therefore, everyone else needs to make up the difference from what it really costs. In order for an oil company to stay in business it has to be able to make a certain amount of money. Every sale contributes to covering a wide range of expenses.

This strategy has been played out before, and has had dire consequences for the locally-owned pharmacies in Maine.

Additionally, this has similarities to the Dirigo Health Insurance program. Again, offer a program to the uninsured, subsidize those folks so that they can afford it, and then place a 4% surcharge on everyone else's policy in order to help pay for it.

This slippery slope is getting slipperier and will eventually encompass other programs like food stamps, Section Eight Housing, and the like. Make no mistake. This is a hidden tax, and they're hoping that that the average Maine citizen isn't paying attention.

“

A nation of well informed men who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the region of ignorance that tyranny begins.

”

Benjamin Franklin

Ask

*Alvina*

Dear Alvina,

I have just retired and am considering going back to school. I would like to get trained in social work, but at my age, I'm not sure that it would be worthwhile. Is it a good time? Is this a good thing to get into?

My birthday is 9/14/46, and I was born in York, Maine.

Dear Retired:

You are still young. You have many years ahead of you. And best of all, you are a perfect fit for going into social work. You are a Virgo sun with a moon in Cancer. The Virgo part of you needs to be of service. Some Virgos have to deal with the tight rope of being of service and not a servant. I can tell you that if you do not follow the dream you have had all your life, to be of service, you will find yourself being a servant to a person or persons that will not bring you the fulfillment that your new profession will bring.

The second reason you are perfect for what it is you want to do is that your Cancer moon is a nurturing moon that makes you a good "mother" and a person with great perception.

Go for it! You will never regret it . . . I see you dealing one on one with people you can touch rather than being behind a desk interviewing those who need help

KEYWORDS: LEARN TO SAY NO

Do you have a question for Alvina? Send it - along with your birth date, time, and place of birth - to Alvina at PO Box 6547, Santa Fe, NM 87502

We are also on the web at <http://allmainematters.com>

Dear Alvina,

My daughter has had a drug problem for many years, and is now about to go to jail for a year. My two grandsons need a place to go, and although I am getting older, I feel it is on me to take them in. Can this work?

I was born 4/19/52. My grandsons were born 9/11/2000 and 3/23/2002. All of us were born in Maine.

Dear Grandma,

Your chart shows me that you will have great concerns in your life until August, 2007. There seems to be no way that you can avoid this. You are still young and quite a determined woman who has a tenacity that makes it hard for you to let go or give up.

I am sorry you have this to go through, but more than that, I am happy that you will have two great children who will bond with you. It will be hard work if you decide it will be. We have been given free will to choose whether we will use the energy God gives us in a positive way or a negative way.

The older boy is a born survivor. His chart shows that an older person will be the most important person in his life. You will find that he is a little different than others, which will make him unique. The second child will keep you busy. He will have to work hard to identify with his father. He is more like his mother. I say this even though I do not have her birthdate.

You will not be sorry if you do this with joy and goodwill.

KEYWORDS: BE AN ANGEL

Alvina has been a psychic, astrologer, consultant, writer and speaker for over 40 years. This is a powerful combination to help people realize their own timing for this lifetime. Alvina Turner reaches out and connects people with their past present and future.

Alvina's book, *Visions, Wishes, and Dreams...Oh My!* is available now. You can buy it by calling this toll-free order number 877-484-6464.

## The Fleecing of Maine: Governmental Decay Must Be Arrested

By Reps. David Trahan and Jon McKane

"Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." These simple, eloquent words, pulled from our nation's Declaration of Independence, create the basic principles of our republic. It goes on to state, "That whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the People to alter or abolish it."

We believe it is time to alter the destructive course that Maine has been following for far too long.

Over the last four weeks, we have described rampant financial mismanagement, countless gimmicks and misleading statements by elected officials that are corroding the people's trust in state government. We went on to expose the real levels of state spending and taxation, much higher than we have been told. We revealed the truth about the broken promise of property tax relief. These facts should disturb Maine citizens of all political parties and philosophies because their impact hits us all.

The unsettling situation revealed in our series is a direct result of civic and governmental decay. We believe this decay is not terminal and can be reversed. But it will be difficult, requiring members of all political parties, the media and Maine citizens to unite in demanding change.

To start with, the state budget "process" must be more open and inclusive. The budget has descended into little more than late night deal-making sessions where special interests hold sway. It is common practice for the Legislature's Appropriations Committee, which reviews and reworks the governor's budget, to meet and work until 5 o'clock in the morning. This is by design. After weeks of public hearings and grueling work sessions, members of the committee meet with leadership to cut deals. Late in the night, dozens of amendments that have never seen public hearing are horse traded. This is done while you sleep. The only non-elected people in attendance are those lobbyists paid to promote their clients' agendas.

This late-night deal-making allows controversial, unpopular and outright whacky policies to be inserted in the budget. Last spring, a whole raft of such things mysteriously appeared. Sunday hunting, a tax on canoes and kayaks, the primary seatbelt law and the so-called "bird-watching tax" became part of the budget. Thankfully, they were stopped by a firestorm of public criticism. The tax on casual rentals, the 6 percent state employee pay raise and the new "fair share" plan forcing all state employees to pay union dues, were not stopped. The infamous and disgraceful \$450 million borrowing plan also came from these late night sessions. That fiasco was stopped only by the threat of a "people's veto."

These things would have been laughed out of the Legislature and lampooned in the press if they had been discussed openly. Yet they were secretly bartered into the budget because some "power broker" wanted them in there.

Unfortunately, when one party controls all political power, including the executive office, this situation is aggravated. For example, an alarming trend of the last several years is for the majority party to draft so-called "majority budgets." This enables one party to cast aside the hard work of debate and compromise and reject any input from the rest of the Legislature. Majority budgets guarantee that nearly half the elected members of the Legislature - and the people they represent - have no voice.

That's not democracy. That is what leads to bad public policy, high taxes and

public cynicism. It is time to return to traditional two-thirds budgets with the full public hearing process.

Because the government makes law, anything it does is seen as legal. But being legal is not always the same as being ethical or acceptable. To devise the best, most honest policies for our state, we need public debate guided by our society's values.

Maine needs a "truth in budgeting" act. We must open up the budget process to the scrutiny of the entire Legislature. The decision-making power and influence that comes with billions of dollars in the hands of a few people in leadership affects every Maine resident. It's too important to be left to back room operators. Sunshine is the best disinfectant.

Maine also should become the 34th state to provide televised coverage of legislative sessions, plus the Appropriations Committee's budget hearings. Taking government to the people, instead of forcing people to come to government, would end many of the bad habits that have eroded public trust. There is currently legislation being considered by the Rules Committee to place cameras in the Legislature. It is vital that this important communication tool be implemented.

Other remedies would include total reform of the state auditor's office to ensure an impartial evaluation of our state's financial records. Also, independent performance reviews of Revenue Services, the state controller's office and the department of administration and financial services would shake up and root out weaknesses, cronyism and institutional inertia.

School administrators and teachers should be urged to renew civic education based on the open and free exchange of ideas. For democracy to survive, we need an informed and engaged population, and that should begin in the schools. Parents in turn must teach that to live our lives free and in a decent society, we all must be involved. True democracy is not a spectator sport.

The press could play an important role through fair and fact-based reporting to keep all politicians honest. Unfortunately, blatant political biases often prevent that from happening. But a neutral press, unafraid of aggressive reporting, could expose governmental malfeasance regardless of who suffers politically. The information in this series was there to be had, for example, but the major media ignored it.

When we, the elected representatives, see slick gimmicks and accounting practices that we believe violate ethics or the principles of democracy, it is our duty to speak out. That is what has compelled us to write these articles; we take no pleasure in doing so. But we could not sit silently and watch the deterioration continue. In the future, the Legislature must exercise its constitutional responsibility of government oversight. It must stop turning a blind eye to what it knows is wrong.

The non-partisan National Conference of State Legislatures reported recently that "the public generally views politicians as corrupt." That should send shivers down the spine of every civics teacher, news editor and public servant who cares about the survival of our system of government.

As our Founding Fathers wisely stated in the Declaration of Independence, government derives power by the consent of the governed, and when it goes too far, it can be abolished. We're not at that point yet. But the hour is late.

*Rep. David Trahan of Waldoboro is a self-employed logger. Rep. Jon McKane of Newcastle is an electrical contractor.*

## The Enemy of the People

By Randall H. Nunn

Thomas Paine, the great writer and pamphleteer of the American Revolution, once said that "the honesty of the press is as great an object to society as the freedom of it." Today in this country we have freedom of the press but very little "honesty of the press" when it comes to the mainstream media.

It is beyond dispute that the mainstream media is controlled almost entirely by liberals and that what passes for news is presented as though it is objective reporting while it is, in fact, infected with liberal bias throughout. While the country is predominantly conservative, the mainstream media is overwhelmingly leftist and opposed to virtually everything the majority of Americans support. Not content with this state of affairs, the mainstream media is convinced it can change public opinion and our culture if it can control the way the issues are presented. It is becoming clearer with each passing day that the greatest enemy of the American people today is the mainstream media.

Few Americans advocate restraints on the freedom of the press to print or broadcast whatever they choose. But many Americans now realize that the purported "news" disseminated by the mainstream media is little more than propaganda. One could select almost any issue from the top twenty issues of concern to Americans today and without first reading an article or listening to a broadcast, predict the theme and conclusion of any mainstream media piece on the topic. Immigration, war in Iraq, terrorism, abortion, gun control, global warming, the environment, affirmative action or any other hot topic of the day will be presented with a pre-packaged analysis and conclusion that supports liberal doctrine on that subject. For liberals and conservatives who are engaged and well informed, this propaganda simply reinforces their beliefs or infuriates, depending upon who the recipient is. But for those who have no firm opinions on the subjects or who have little interest in these issues, the steady stream of manufactured news and slick propaganda can cause the recipients to adopt the positions of what they mistakenly believe to be the popular sentiment of the moment. If the mainstream media were selling a product, they would be guilty of fraud and misrepresentation. But since they are selling selective information and half-baked opinion masquerading as fact, they are guilty only of unprofessionalism. But they deserve the contempt of every American who understands what they are doing and how they are perverting the concept of a free press.

Some will no doubt argue that to call the mainstream media the enemy of the people is a gross exaggeration. But if an institution in this country deliberately attempts to generate anti-war sentiment

by misstating the facts while American troops are fighting and dying, doesn't that suggest that the media is aiding our enemy? If the media accuses the U.S. government and our soldiers of war crimes before an investigation has been completed and without regard to the presumption of innocence that accused Americans enjoy while at the same time showing little or no outrage for acts of unspeakable brutality such as beheading civilians and murdering innocent men, women and children, doesn't that suggest active aid and encouragement to our enemy? And if the media intentionally discloses details of secret programs designed to obtain intelligence about al-Qaeda, doesn't that directly aid the terrorists who have sworn to destroy us?

The mainstream media has shown, and continues to show, that it favors defeat in Iraq rather than victory by the United States. The media condemns the U.S. military based upon unsubstantiated allegations and calls for punishment of our soldiers while largely ignoring admitted and documented savagery by terrorists. An element of our society that wishes the failure of our forces in war and the defeat of western civilization at the hands of terrorists can only be described as an enemy of the people of this country, the vast majority of whom support the free and open institutions of western civilization that are under attack by radical Islam.

The Viet Nam War was lost largely as a result of the anti-war campaign instigated and carried out by the mainstream media. The same forces are at work in America today, trying to achieve a similar result. The mainstream media, still seething from the defeats of their "chosen" candidates in 2000 and 2004 are more openly hostile than ever before to the current administration and conservatives in general. This hostility and arrogance can be seen daily in the faces and words of network news anchors and commentators and on the pages of the liberal press. It is time that the majority of Americans recognize that the mainstream media holds them and their conservative values in contempt.

It is too much to hope for that those autocrats at the helm of the mainstream media today will repent and pursue the goal of "honesty of the press". But if enough Americans stop patronizing the mainstream media outlets, the old anti-war and anti-American mainstream media will fail and be replaced by media that more truly reflects the culture of which they are a part.

*Randall H. Nunn is a Staff Writer for The New Media Alliance. The New Media Alliance is a non-profit (501c3) national coalition of writers, journalists and grass-roots media outlets.*

## The Anti-Christ's Live Amongst Us

(Continued from page 5)

can't tell me that there haven't been times that some of you parents haven't felt like chaining your spoiled brat to a radiator when you know they'll defy a justified grounding.

If this rant sounds unreasonable, think about this: this generation of kids is some of the most heartless we've ever seen. They'll take over a whole neighborhood, participating in violent gang activity that makes those in "West Side Story" look like pansies. They plot to shoot up and bomb their schools, and are yet dumb enough to document their plans on blogs. Some succeed.

They'll show no mercy for their parent's bank accounts as they rack up more minutes on their cellphones (that we stupidly justified giving them for "safety" reasons), and they'll pout when we reign them in because we just can't afford to pay over \$100 a month so they can talk to their friends constantly on a cellphone instead of the boring home phone.

Besides computer viruses, what will they create? That would take imagination, and those who are capable will be denigrated by their peers. They'll be called "geeks" because they'll actually see the value of studying and later getting a job. I couldn't wait to get a job when I was younger. These kids act as though you're telling them to enter a gas chamber.

"666" came and went. We, as a society, will have to deal with a generation of youth who may not be the devil's spawn, but they sure do act like it at times. If there was ever a time to pray for the second coming, now would be a good time to start.

*Bob Parks is a former Republican congressional candidate (California 24th District), Navy veteran, single father, member/writer for the National Advisory Council of Project 21, and is a Staff Writer for the New Media Alliance, Inc.*

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## "Comprehensive" Sellout: Illegal immigration, the Senate and the White House

By Tom DeWeese

There are moments in history when destiny is determined. President Bush and the U.S. Senate now face such a moment as they determine the course of U.S. immigration policy. For this is not simply a policy decision to be based on petty political maneuverings of the day. Ultimately they are deciding the future of the United States of America. Greatness divides the statesmen from the political hucksters.

Last December, the U.S. House of Representatives passed an immigration reform bill that takes several steps to restore order from the chaos that now defines America's southern border. The bill calls for construction of a security fence; it streamlines federal and local law enforcement cooperation on immigration matters, specifically allowing local police to arrest illegals. And the House bill mandates that employers verify the legal status of workers. The bill passed the House with strong bipartisan support.

The House took this action because the current system is broken. It doesn't serve the national or economic security interests of our country. Our porous borders and lax interior enforcement create opportunities for criminal activity. The smuggling of illegal aliens has become big business for a criminal element. The influx of these illegals are causing economic breakdowns in our neighbors, our schools and our hospitals. Smuggling of illegal drugs plague our cities and our children. Huge holes in the border allow potential terrorists who seek to do us harm to come and go at will, undetected.

At risk is the very make up, traditions and culture of our nation as those who invade our borders express no interest in assimilating as has literally every other immigrant movement in the nation's history. Truly we are at a crossroads for the future make up of this nation.

The House did a rare thing in today's political atmosphere by passing its immigration reform act. It took action in response to massive outcries of more than 80% of the American people who are demanding that something be done to stem the invasion of illegals. Even rarer, it has stuck by its guns in support of the bill as hundreds of thousands of illegals and their supporters marched in the streets against it; as the White House derides it; and the Senate ignores it.

Statesmen look beyond their own political needs and consider those of the nation as a whole. The House took the action that was necessary, though many

considered such strong action politically incorrect and even dangerous to political careers.

Not so in the United States Senate. On May 25th, the Senate passed its own "comprehensive reform" bill, which bore little resemblance to the House version. It bares even less relationship to anything the overwhelming majority of Americans demanded.

On the day the Senate bill was passed, California Congressman Dana Rohrabacher pointedly told the House "The bill that passed the United States Senate is a travesty. It is a cruel hoax on the American people, using the title "Immigration" to let people think that something is being done that will in some way curb this massive influx of millions of foreigners into our country. It will not. It will make the situation worse, and any rational analysis of this bill will lead to that conclusion."

Anyone who knows anything about the cause of illegal immigration knows that the first order of business must be to cut off the flow of free benefits paid for by oppressed American tax payers. Stop welfare benefits; stop the free access to medical care; stop the free access to schools, etc.

The Senate bill, far from doing anything to curb illegal immigration, opens the doors to encourage more. As Rep. Rohrabacher said, "This 'shamnesty' bill spells out the level of contempt the Senate has for middle-class Americans.

The "comprehensive" Senate bill includes:

- In-state tuition for illegal aliens - while American kids have to pay full price if they cross state lines.
- All temporary "guest workers" have to be paid a prevailing wage.
- All agricultural "guest workers" cannot be fired - except for what the bill calls "just cause."
- Illegal aliens are made eligible for Social Security benefits. Not only will they receive retirement benefits, but their children will receive survivor benefits should the parents pass away. This is all in a time when the massive influx of baby boomers reaching retirement age threaten to bankrupt the system.
- Increases the number of immigrants who may come here, even as our cities are overrun with foreigners.
- Employers of illegals are granted amnesty too. Employers would be exempt from civil and criminal tax and criminal liability under the Senate bill.

- Taxpayer dollars to radical immigrant groups like La Raza (THE RACE) so they can help illegal aliens "adjust" their status. Millions of American tax dollars will go to the same groups who organized the massive demonstrations.

- Will not bar illegal aliens convicted of felonies from obtaining citizenship.

"This bill," said Rep. Charlie Norwood (R-GA), "constitutes treachery against U.S. sovereignty. This allows every illegal alien in America to use the fraudulent document industry they have created in the criminal back alleys of our country to claim they have been here 5 years and can now stay forever. They (the Senate) have granted blanket amnesty for citizens of foreign nations against tax fraud, Social Security fraud, Medicare fraud, identity fraud, and bank fraud - all crimes for which there is no forgiveness or mercy for citizens of the United States."

Meanwhile, President Bush is on an all out campaign to convince us that the Senate bill does not provide amnesty. And that the bill simply helps some good honest folks become American citizens in search of the American dream. The President speaks of a "solemn obligation of the federal government" to secure our borders. He makes a big show of sending National Guard troops to the border. Yet just a few months ago he said building a wall was "impractical."

Obviously he is talking out of both sides of his mouth as he tries to quietly implement an immigration policy that complies with both international agreements he has signed on to and with personal assurances he has given Mexican President Vicente Fox that the border between the two countries will be eliminated.

While the illegals were marching in our streets, President Bush was in Cancun, Mexico meeting with Fox and celebrating the one year anniversary of the creation of the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP). This is a White House plan being perpetrated by the Bush Administration to construct a new super-regional structure completely by executive orders rather than through legislation. What the Administration has in mind is a NAFTA-Plus or a North American Union on the lines of the European Union to be fully implemented by 2010. Yet, President Bush has said not one word about it in a single speech.

As Jerome Corsi wrote in the May 30th addition of Human Events, "Anyone who has wondered why President Bush has not bothered to secure our borders is advised to spend some time examining the SPP working groups' agenda. In every area of activity, the SPP agenda stresses free and open movement of people, trade, and capital within the North American Union. Once the SPP agenda is implemented with appropriate departmental regulations, there will be no area of immigration policy, trade rules, environmental regulations, capital flows, public health, plus dozens of other key policy areas that the U.S. Government will be able to decide alone or without first consulting with some appropriate North American Union regulatory body. At best our border with Mexico will become a speed bump, largely erased, with little remaining to restrict the essentially free movement of people trade and capital." That explains a lot. Obviously the Senate bill is specifically designed to fit into the SPP plan.

Meanwhile, Vicente Fox talks, not of immigration, but of "migration." He told the Utah state legislature, "Since the beginning of my administration, the government of Mexico has promoted the establishment of a new system that regulates the movement of people across our border in a manner which is legal, safe and orderly." He also told Canada to accept more low-skilled Mexican workers in its temporary work force, making his push for guest workers a continent-wide affair. Now we know what he means. He was in a small way revealing the plans for the North American Union that he and President Bush have been secretly hatching.

Americans are angry. They will become angrier still as they are ignored in their demands for an end to the illegal alien invasion of our nation. We must stand behind the House efforts to pass its version of immigration reform. To do so would put a mighty road block in the secret plans of Bush and Fox.

Americans must come to grips with the fact that a sinister plan to destroy the sovereignty and independence of the once mighty United States of America is underway. The Senate bill is not pushed through in arrogance. President Bush is not acting out of ignorance or lack of understanding. What we are witnessing is the wholesale sell out of our freedom.

*Tom DeWeese is president of the American Policy Center and editor of the DeWeese Report. Contact information: [apcmail@americanpolicy.org](mailto:apcmail@americanpolicy.org)*



## THE NORTHERN MAINE LAND MAN

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- **Cary:** 200 acre Maine farm. 3 BR home, 42 by 42 solid barn and separate workshop. 52 acres tillable now. Good soils. Woods were fields. Could be again. Old stone walls, great hunting, snowmobile trails out back. \$229,000
- **Waite:** Huge five or six bedroom home on 7.5 acres. This would be a great bed and breakfast. It is very well kept and still has the traditional "tin" ceilings. The kitchen is large and efficient. There is an attached barn with useful space above for storage or even more rooms. The large dining room has a built in china cabinet. Nicely landscaped with traditional flower varieties in the gardens, this property even has an 18 foot deep trout pond. \$97,000
- **Burlington:** Nearly new camp on Madagasgal Lake. Owned land! Insulated, wired for generator and neatly finished with knotty pine inside. This camp looks west at the sunset. Prevailing west wind keeps the bugs away. Great fishing for the accomplished sportsman and kids both. Snowmobile and ATV right from the camp. Trails connect with the new ATV regional system. Sandy bottom for swimming and there is a babbling brook beside the camp. A perfect four season getaway. Madagasgal Lake is a quiet lake with many camps owned by area families. \$139,000
- **Danforth:** 3 acres of nice open woods on the shore of East Grand Lake. Power and phone at the road. Over 300 feet of lake frontage with good deep water access. This is one of Maine's premier salmon and togue lakes. Great small-mouth bass fishing. Driveway already in and a site cleared for your home or camp. \$150,000
- **Lowell:** 45 acres on a paved road with power and phone. Trim some trees for a mountain view. Driveway and 2 acres of old field to build in. Heavily wooded and not cut for over 20 years. Close enough to Bangor and colleges to commute. \$35,000
- **Springfield:** 47.3 acres in the back country where the deer are. Nicely wooded with cedar and spruce. Some high ground for a camp and some low ground where the deer hang out. 4WD access. Three lakes within a mile and many lakes nearby. \$25,000

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# Letters to the Editor

## Correction:

Last month, All Maine Matters published a letter to the editor from a reader asking a question. We neglected to answer that question and will do so now.

"A Freeper from Maine" asked:

"Do you think you will ever use the HTML format as I would like to post some of your writings on Free Republic.Com where it must include linking to your site, have the date timely, and the author. And read by thousands of readers per day across the country as well as some of our military overseas."

"I read the actual paper as takes to long with acrobat reader to load...or to easily cut and paste. I have dial up at around 50Kbps and a newer computer but am not a fan of pdf.

"Lets get your paper out across the country for national reader enjoyment. In FR are many reporters and news people that use us as their "google" as it often the comments that give credibility to a story or dissect the untruths. It was on FR that Dan Rather was exposed moments after he appeared with his story on 60 minutes. The following week they continued to spin the truth with another story, not learning from what had happened the previous week."

In response to that question, we have begun to publish our newspaper in strict HTML for our readers who do not have broadband. June's issue is up at <http://allmainematters.com/June06/>. In the second week of July, July's issue will be up at <http://allmainematters.com/July06/>.

Thank you for your suggestion and your question. We value all feedback from our readers and wish to facilitate reading our newspaper for all potential readers.

--Editor

## Spending Us Into Debt

Dear Editor:

Maine is one of the poorest states in the nation, excluding some southern ones who beat us slightly. But in general, just look at the statistics if you will. Lowest per capita income, excluding, of course, our well-heeled people from away and/or summer property owners who take advantage of our borders. Add to this the fact that we are #2 in state taxes and something just is wrong.

What is happening is simple. Our elected representatives are spending us into debt. We owe billions in loan payments, and still this government is telling us all is well. Gee. Sounds just like the politicians in Washington.

Another thing: As someone from away (I hate that saying), after twenty years in Maine, I can't fathom why the registry doesn't notify residents when their car or truck registration is due. Every state I ever lived in always sent you the bill and form to fill out. Here in Maine, it is up to you. I see so many old stickers on cars and trucks that it is frightening as all the state is waiting for is an alert cop to pick you off and then bring more money into the coffers of the state.

LD #1, another farce, was supposed to lower taxes? I asked my town officer how come I just added \$7800 in exemptions and my taxes went up? Well, you all know the same BS. It was the fault of the state. Case closed, eh? Not really. Dirago is a red herring and only worked as long as the state kept on getting money from the feds, \$44 million, if I recall, but hay seed to them.

Another problem: Over forty percent of Mainers are on Medicaid through no fault of their on. Married couples and poor singles sometimes find out that if working are not eligible for Medicaid but are too rich - what a laugh! - so albeit making minimum wage boxes them out of health insurance. No wonder so many people in Maine are working under the table. Oops! Better watch it, or the state may start tracking you. Think about this when you vote.

To quote another transplant I moved to Maine to get away from the politicians in this country but found that Maine has become just like any other state, probably due to the influx of people moving here to get away from beaurocracy, but instead have found that even Maine is now just like everywhere else. This, in essence, is what diversity is all about, so live tith it, and unfortunately, the old saying "As Maine goes, so goes the nation." Live with it and give up as no matter what the old timers say, you can't stop progress, sad to say.

Sincerely,

Frank D. Slason, Somerville, ME



## Articles Are Real Eyeopeners!

Dear Friends,

Enclosed is my check for \$18.00. I know I could get this newspaper FREE at the grocery or the gas station, but I want to support the paper!

The articles are REAL eyeopeners! The satire on animal ID was great (though the N.A.I.S. is itself yet another horror story).

I don't have as computer system. I'm retired and live a single life...but I'd sure like some written material on N.A.I.S. and on that other horror "New Freedom Commission on Mental Health."

Could you print, in your newspaper, addresses to write to to obtain written info on these disgusting, infringing outfits? Many thanks!

Love your paper!

Sandra Walker (Prairiestar)  
Orneville Twp., ME

The postal address for the National Mental Health Information Center is 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 13C-26, Rockville, MD 20857. Their telephone number is 800-789-2647. And the postal address for the MindFreedom Support Coalition International is 454 Willamette, Suite 216 / P.O. Box 11284 / Eugene, OR 97440-3484 USA

We have published articles on two different organizations known as NAIS. The contact for each of those is below.

The postal address for the National Association of Independent Schools is 620 L Street NW Suite 1100, Washington DC, 20036-5695. Their phone number is 202-973-9700.

The postal address for the National Animal Identification System is U.S. Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250. They offer no phone number in their contact information.

--Editor

## Election Thoughts

I'd like to thank All Maine Matters for allowing me to have an opinion and printing such.

I had to laugh the other day. It was about two days before the primary elections. I was working at my job and as I was outside doing what was asked of me. Inside there was an over 50's group having a luncheon. One of their guest speakers was a candidate for district rep. I didn't hear a word of what he was talking about until he left the building.

He walked by me without saying a word until I uttered, "Have a nice day." He turned and looked at me as one of two things, a potential vote or a courteous person.

He approached me and made his comments of a potential candidate like most of them would do looking for a vote. I listened to what he was hoping for, if elected. The basic things of, better jobs, healthcare, tax cuts, you know, the stuff that's on most everybody's lips.

Well, after he was done, I started in. My enjoyment turned to aggravation as I spouted off what I thought the government should be looking at. It wasn't healthcare and better jobs. It was taking care of the elderly Mainers who need help and the starving families who need to choose between fuel oil or food.

I told him that my job would be a lot more enjoyable if at the end of the week I didn't have to look at all the taxes sucked out of my pay check. It's damn depressing when a person works in the heat, cold, rain and all the other elements of northern Maine every week and receives a pay check, knowing full well that some one out there is nursing off the government teat.

I went on for about 20 minutes with what I thought was wrong and he agreed. He actually stepped back a few steps when he seen my face and eyes turn red. After I was done, I asked him what he thought. He said that he would pass it on and thanked me. He also asked for my vote. Well, come to find out, he was in the wrong district for me to vote for him. Maybe we should have established that first.

There is a whole on slot of people looking for votes this year. I see them on TV. The problem I have with them, is they feel that the larger populous is where they need to be.

There is one lady that popped up in Presque Isle the other day. She decided to have coffee with some of the locals. Good idea. How many did she talk to? Was she in my voting district? I don't have a clue because I don't know who she is or when she is showing up. Do I feel informed enough on what she is going to do for the state to get my vote, probably not.

So, a piece of advice: Don't forget the small towns. There may not be a lot of people, but enough of them will add up to a large population and the word spreads a lot faster too.

There is one who is not getting my vote. It's the governor at this present time. I saw his ad on TV the other day also. He wants my vote because a lot has been done, but there is a lot more that needs to be done. Vote me in again and it will be done.

Well governor, let's see. I'm quite sure I said this once before, "steal from the tax payer and give to the illegal immigrants." If I was to vote for you I might just as well put a fox in my chicken coop. Either way, I'm going to lose out. It's still amazing how some politicians can lie, cheat and steal their way through life and still go on TV and ask for more and smile about it. Personally I can see a small cartoon balloon over their heads with the word, "SUCKER!!" written in it.

HA! This government system today is a joke, I mean really, people. The elderly are starving because they have to buy medications. The people on welfare that don't need it are riding snowmobiles and ATVs and having a good life at it. The illegal immigrants are flocking in here for "THE FREE." The husbands, wives, sons and daughters of the American people are getting killed once again over seas and some of the concerns of this state government are, whether or not Moxie needs to be the state drink. Come on now, get real. If any drink needs to become the state drink, it should be beer. That's because the average working person can still afford it.

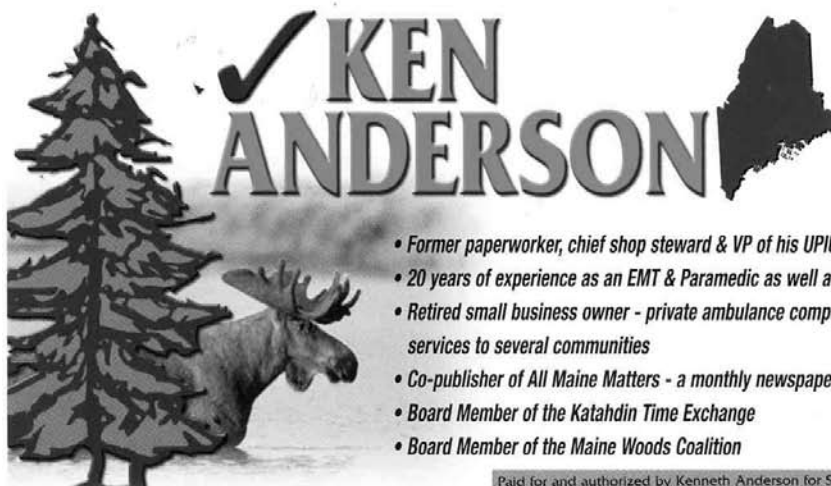
Anyway, when it comes to election time, I don't know who I'm going to vote for.

Just remember people, if you don't vote, then you shouldn't complain.

Thank you again.  
Perry Charette  
Nashville Plt., ME

Letters to the Editor are most welcome and even encouraged! Email editor@allmainematters.com or send it via USPS to PO Box 788, Kingman, ME 04451.

We do publish anonymous letters to the editor, or those signed with a pseudonym.



- Former paperworker, chief shop steward & VP of his UPIU Local
- 20 years of experience as an EMT & Paramedic as well as EMT Instructor
- Retired small business owner - private ambulance company providing services to several communities
- Co-publisher of All Maine Matters - a monthly newspaper for rural Maine
- Board Member of the Katahdin Time Exchange
- Board Member of the Maine Woods Coalition

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# Letters to the Editor

## Math gone wrong!!

I was just watching the local news on 6/29/06. There was an individual on the news from Saco whose name is Rep. Donald Pilon. He seems to be endorsing a new registration plate for the automobile in the state. Its design is to support the families of the troops in Iraq. The sample on TV looked very nice. The state of Maine with a yellow ribbon in the center of it. The look is very tasteful and not tacky. The cost of the plate will not be the usual \$25.00 fee. It will be \$45.00.

The news reported a very simple breakdown of the cost and where the money will go. The production of the plate will be \$10.00. The fund that will support the families of the troops will receive \$10.00. That's pretty good, if the state can sell hundreds or even thousands of them.

It's always nice to show support of the troops no matter if you agree with the war/conflict or not. It's a job that they applied for and their boss has told them that they have a job to do. The troops are working people like most everybody else in America. What they do for a job, which consists of a multitude of tasks, everything from the cook, security police, mechanic, sniper, infantry, and many other positions, all are applied for, trained for and all have an ultimate boss. If they want a paycheck, then they better do what the boss says or they may not have the job at a later time.

Oh, by the way, if you noticed the title of this article is "math gone wrong!!" Let's get back to that. If a person pays \$45.00 for a registration plate and the production costs are \$10.00 and the fund will receive \$10.00, what has happened to the other \$25.00? Is somebody sitting in a big leather chair in Augusta raking in the profit, or are they all dipping their tin cups in? As far as I'm concerned, if you're going to promote a plate of this nature, by all means, take out the production costs and the cost of registration paperwork.

But unless there is a cost that wasn't mentioned about the plate, then the fund should receive at least \$30.00. If the Representative wants to help a hungry or cold family, that's fine. But don't feed a hungry family a saltine cracker and don't give a cold family one match and a toothpick to stay warm with.

Think about people. It's basic math that was taught in 3rd grade. Where is the other money going? Unless Rep.. Pilon can explain this, then I'd watch your wallets because somebody might be reaching in for their own fund.

THINK ABOUT IT!!!

Curiously,  
Perry Charette, Nashville Plt

## "Free Love" Community Members

I read with interest a letter from a reader concerning Laura Adelman's article titled: Liberals Silence Parents, Sacrifice Children At Altar Of Tolerance (May 2006 issue). I think the reader did not realize the theme of the article. The reader was concerned with persons from the "free-love" generation being labeled liberals but most conservatives often use these extreme words to clarify political positions on very serious matters. Most liberals even incorporate labels ("right-wing" or "religious radicals") to point fingers at Christians, Jewish or Muslim faithful who uphold their conservative moral standards (You can actually see this in action on the Maine Education Association (NEA affiliate) in their political activism policy section wherein they refer to anyone who disagrees with their position as "right-wing" or "radical".)

Not to say labels are always a good thing. They can be used in a derogatory way but I think most authors use them to describe the political agenda of the issue being discussed so that the impact of the argument can be felt in an emotional way.

Labels aside, I think many in the "free-love" generation have indeed grown up and become active members of the community. However, the question needed to be asked is: what exactly are those "liberals" doing in their activism? For example, we have seen a great uprising of homosexual activists pushing their agenda on children in the public schools, even children who are in kindergarten class. These persons are indeed "free-love" individuals who have contributed to society by forcing their sexual preferences on other people's children; even to the point of taking away the religious liberty so afforded to American families.

Recently we heard in the news that the NEA, a volunteer teacher organization that is known for its power and influence in the public school system, is hoping to add same-sex marriage to the school curriculum nationwide (Note: Just recently, the new addition to policy was voted down after parents complained, but it still pushes homosexual curriculum in states that already endorse same-sex marriage.)

What disturbs me concerning this activism is the fact that this will make public schools an environment friendly only to those who support unnatural sexual orientation. (Note: in fact, this is already happening here in Maine.) Forget the rights of children of Faith or those who disagree with different sexual gender identities. Their rights are no longer allowed in the public school system when activists march in and force their own particular indoctrination upon students.

Read about NEA desire to promote homosexual marriage in public schools here:  
<http://www.afa.net/neaendorses.asp>

Along with this news, we learned too of the Parker struggles in the Lexington, Massachusetts, school district. For those unfamiliar with the case, the Parker family discovered that their kindergarten son was given pro-gay reading materials in his class. The 5 year old children were sent home with an entire book bag of promotion materials for same-sex marriage. Since the parents did not condone this type of education for their child (let alone the idea of sexual issues being brought up to kindergarteners), they asked that their son be opted out of curriculum that involved sexual orientation matters. They were denied this. They ended up taking the school district to court and because of their opposition to the school decision, outside "liberal" groups rallied against the family. The anti-Parker demonstrations in which children are encouraged to attend have caused confusion amongst very young students so much so that Parker's son (now 7 years old) was beaten up by a mob of children. It was discovered that the attack was pre-planned and initiated by children of the same individuals who run the campaign against the Parker family.

I mention the Parker case because it does show "free-love" community members in action and does show the same threat which may come to Maine as parents in the school system become divided on moral issues creating a place of hostility rather than education and protection for children. Perhaps many "free-love" individuals from the 60's and 70's abandoned their liberal ways in favor of traditional family values but for those who did not, they are actually creating a hate-filled environment for the rest of us and our children.

You can read about this case at:  
<http://www.lifesite.net/ldn/2006/jun/06061410.html>

Often the same individuals who uphold sexual orientation equality, also become active in pro-abortion issues. How many "free-love" individuals attend the March for Choice pushed by Planned Parenthood in Washington, DC every year? I seriously doubt most conservatives venture into those parades. Instead, we often hear about conservatives who may hold pro-life signs in counter action against abortion supporters and are harrassed and even physically attacked for it by "liberals" in the crowd. But that is a whole other letter given the length of what I could write!

Mrs. Stratton, Corinna, ME  
kaylancor@adelphia.net

We are also free on the internet at  
<http://allmainematters.com>

## Profile: Millinocket, Maine

(Continued from page 9)

Following the death of Dr. Bryant in 1938, his property was purchased by Dr. Lloyd Morey, who opened the Morey Osteopathic Hospital there that same year. Doctors Ernest Young and Martin Grumley had formed the Millinocket General Hospital, set up in the Curran house on Maine Avenue, which functioned until the Millinocket Community Hospital opened in 1955.

Within the mill, the unions had been talking about combining their efforts to promote a larger hospital that would be managed by the community. In 1948, the fundraising began. The union's pledge one week's pay per employee, and GNP responded by putting up an initial grant of \$150,000, later adding another \$203,500 to the citizens' pledges, for a total of \$800,000. Additional funds came from the federal government and from the Ford Foundation.

The northern end of Somerset Street, near the new road to Brownsville, was chosen for a location, and construction began in 1954. The Millinocket Community Hospital was opened for public viewing on March 12, 1955.

The 1950s saw additional growth in the town, almost to the extent of its capacity. I say this because, while most townships in Maine are about 200,000 acres in size, Millinocket was restricted to 7,500 until 1989, when 4,000 acres was annexed to the town, still leaving the town far short of the amount of land available to other towns in the state.

But in the 1950s, there was still some room for growth. The full length of Aroostook Avenue was built up in house lots, north from the Aroostook Avenue School north to Second Street, where the old ball park had been.

In 1953, more lots were opened up for housing along Aroostook Avenue, on the other side of Central Street south to Birch Avenue, at the foot of Tin Can Alley. Lots were also made available on Congress Street, from the bend in Millinocket Stream to Cherry Street.

The Elks building was built in 1953, the club moving from its much smaller building on Penobscot Avenue, which it sold to the Bangor Hydro-Electric Company.

Additional plots of land were opened up in the New Development, extending it almost to Jerry Pond. Houses were being built along the streets leading to the golf course, along Forest Avenue and Orchard Street. The more recent houses being built in the New Development were different in design and color, as can be seen today.

Construction continued, not only in these new areas, but in other parts of town as well. Frank Rush had owned a large amount of land surrounding his farm and sawmill, and when James Kelley took over the farm, he turned much of the land surrounding it into the Kelley Trailer Park, which exists yet today.

Originally the Iron Bridge Road had been part of the old tote road along Millinocket Stream. By 1954, people were wanting to build there, resulting in a street of about forty very small houses. This area became known as the Pines.

Ash and River Streets were constructed near the spot on Central Street where the town dump used to be, offering more house lots to hungry homebuyers.

The Granite Street School opened in the fall of 1955 as a ten-room elementary school. More classrooms and a library were later added.

The Millinocket Junior High School was built in 1963, at its current location just beyond the State Street Bridge. It was later added to, and now includes Stearns High School, after the building on Katahdin and Central was closed.

Not much new has been built since the 1970s, when the St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church built its new building, and for a couple of reasons, as far as I can determine.

Today, the population of Millinocket has declined for a peak of nearly eight thousand people in 1970, most of whom were gainfully employed, to fewer than five thousand today, many of whom are receiving public assistance or struggling desperately to get by.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to discuss the decline of the "magic city" without talking about the pulp and paper mill that built it, but that is a subject that wouldn't fit onto the number of pages that I have available to me, and would likely be contradicted by every other person who read it.

For one thing, the fate of the town has always been inextricably linked to the pulp and paper mill that built it, so that when the mill wasn't hiring, there were no reasons for new people to come to Millinocket. When the mill way laying off, there were no alternatives for furloughed employees, other than to move. There was nothing else here, and Millinocket

is too far from everywhere else for people to commute.

Of all the reasons for the demise of the Great Northern that I have heard or imagined, the one that seems the most likely is that its demise was assured on that day in 1970 when it merged with Nekoosa-Edwards and ceased to be the Great Northern Paper Company.

Some of the other things (the Indian land claim, the spruce budworm, the Big A Dam, and others) probably played their parts in quickening the mill's demise, but things were never the same after GNP quit being GNP, and became Great Northern Nekoosa.

Someone tried to tell me the other day that the labor unions were the cause of Great Northern's demise, as some of the unions refused to agree to concessions. I believe that is shortsighted, as by the time a company has to come to the unions for concessions, it's already on its way down. No, the Great Northern had always contended with labor unions, and done so successfully.

Further illustrating the strong relationship between the town and the mill, census figures will demonstrate that Millinocket's population peaked in 1970, and has been in a steady decline ever since, worsening everytime the ownership of the mill changes hands.

It was during the 1970s that new high school graduates could no longer be assured of finding employment in the mill, and there were few employment alternatives that didn't involve moving out of town or commuting long distances.

The only other industry in town has been the Millinocket Foundry and Machine Company, a small industry that has been around almost since the beginning, or at least as early as 1906, but it employs only about thirty people, at most.

As mentioned earlier, the town is severely restricted in size, and there is no available land that is not owned by the paper company - a company which, having changed hands several times since its Great Northern days, is reluctant to sell land to anyone likely to employ people at a decent wage, and they seldom sell land at all.

Throughout most of the history of Millinocket, a child could graduate from Stearns High School one day and report for work in the mill the next, where he could be assured of lucrative employment for the all of his working life, but he couldn't buy an acre of land within driving distance of his hometown.

If he were intelligent, hardworking, and thrifty, he might be able save enough money to start his own business, but couldn't find land in Millinocket on which to locate his business.

The town is now suffering from its lack of diversity in employment opportunities. When the mills closed in 2002, and remained closed for more than a year, its workforce was forced to seek employment elsewhere, in a state that has itself suffered great economic devastation from too many years of mismanagement.

Although the mills in Millinocket and East Millinocket have since reopened under new ownership, they now employ only a few hundred people, most of whom do not feel confident in the future.

And there is nothing else. Large amounts of money, appropriated from local, state, federal, and private funding sources, intended for economic development, have instead been used up on eco-tourism schemes that have served to benefit only a few, and mostly those who were closely associated with the agencies set up to administrate these funds, who are themselves working in concert with outside environmental interests.

Seemingly resistant to industry, manufacturing, and entrepreneurship, and handicapped by the fact that the new owners of the lands that once belonged to the Great Northern Paper Company refuse to make land available to those who desire to locate their businesses here, the town is instead trying to attract wealthy second home buyers from Massachusetts.

If at times it may appear that Millinocket is at war with itself, this is because there are those who realize that the path that the town has chosen is one that excludes them, and they don't want to leave.

An unfortunate fact is that while Millinocket is a wonderful place to live, it is not an easy place to earn a living.

Much has been written about the Great Northern Paper Company and Millinocket, Maine. Books and other texts that I have referenced and found useful are listed on page 16.

Ken is, among other things, the editor of the online news outlet *Magic City Morning Star*, on the web at <http://magic-city-news.com>.

**Editor's Note:** We recently re-read the Declaration of Independence for the first time in more than 25 years. While we remembered the beginning paragraphs, we found we had forgotten about the rest of the document. As a birthday present to our country, we are reprinting the Declaration in its entirety. We hope you will take a moment and read it as well.

## IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776 The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected, whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

*The 56 signatures on the Declaration appear in the positions indicated:*

<b>Georgia:</b> <i>Button Gwinnett Lyman Hall George Walton</i>	<b>North Carolina:</b> <i>William Hooper Joseph Hewes John Penn</i>	<b>Massachusetts:</b> <i>John Hancock</i>	<b>Pennsylvania:</b> <i>Robert Morris Benjamin Rush Benjamin Franklin John Morton George Clymer James Smith George Taylor James Wilson George Ross</i>	<b>New York:</b> <i>William Floyd Philip Livingston Francis Lewis Lewis Morris</i>	<b>New Hampshire:</b> <i>Josiah Bartlett William Whipple</i>
	<b>South Carolina:</b> <i>Edward Rutledge Thomas Heyward, Jr. Thomas Lynch, Jr. Arthur Middleton</i>	<b>Maryland:</b> <i>Samuel Chase William Paca Thomas Stone Charles Carroll of Carrollton</i>		<b>New Jersey:</b> <i>Richard Stockton John Witherspoon Francis Hopkinson John Hart Abraham Clark</i>	<b>Massachusetts:</b> <i>Samuel Adams John Adams Robert Treat Paine Elbridge Gerry</i>
		<b>Virginia:</b> <i>George Wythe Richard Henry Lee Thomas Jefferson Benjamin Harrison Thomas Nelson, Jr. Francis Lightfoot Lee Carter Braxton</i>	<b>Delaware:</b> <i>Caesar Rodney George Read Thomas McKean</i>		<b>Rhode Island:</b> <i>Stephen Hopkins William Ellery</i>
					<b>Connecticut:</b> <i>Roger Sherman Samuel Huntington William Williams Oliver Wolcott</i>
					<b>New Hampshire:</b> <i>Matthew Thornton</i>

Books used for the Millinocket profile include:

- Millinocket: Magic City of Maine's Wilderness; Dorothy Bowler Laverty; 1973
- So You Live in Millinocket; Dorothy Bowler Laverty; 1988
- Magic City Doctor; Lloyd W. Morey, Sr; 1977
- Now I Am an Old Man: Odyssey of a Teacher; Edgar C. Alward; 2003
- Growing Up in Millinocket in the '20s, '30s, & '40s; Edgar C. Alward
- The Interrupted Forest: A History of Maine's Wildlands; Neil Rolde; 2001
- Timber! The Fall of Maine's Paper Giant; Paul McCann; 1994
- Lumbering in the Millinocket, ME. Area 1930 thru 1950; Sylvio J. Caron; 1994
- It began with the Wasps; Frank Colburn Bowler; 1949
- The Town of Millinocket's Comprehensive Plan



# Happy Birthday, America!



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**Maine Leaseholder's Annual Meeting  
August 19, 2006 at 12:00 noon  
Perley Wheaton Ford Garage  
Millinocket, ME**