President Don Zillman has announced that U.S. Senator Susan M. Collins will deliver the commencement address during the University of Maine at Presque Isle’s 101st Commencement Ceremony, to be held on Saturday, May 15. During this event, Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degrees will be presented to Senator Collins as well as the Honorable David Griffths and Roberta Griffths, long-time pillars of the Presque Isle and university communities.

“As the University marks this commencement ceremony, we are honored to have an Aroostook County native who has gone on to achieve great things at the national level visit our campus and speak to our graduating class. Senator Collins is a true inspiration for our graduates who are preparing to make their own mark on the world,” President Zillman said. “We are also very pleased to be honoring Senator Collins, and our very own David and Roberta Griffths for the fine examples they have given us of the importance of serving the people in our community, our state and nation.”

Susan M. Collins, the 15th woman in history to be elected to the United States Senate in her own right, has represented Maine in the U.S. Senate since 1997. She is Ranking Member and former Chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, serves on the Appropriations Committee and Armed Services Committee, and is a member of the Special Committee on Aging. Previously, she served for six years on the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. She was also the first freshman Senator ever to lead the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

UMPI student named Mitchell Peace Scholar

Jared Monahan, a junior double majoring in Biology and Environmental Science at UMPI, has been named a 2010-2011 George J. Mitchell Peace Scholar. One student in the University of Maine System and one student in the Maine Community College System are selected for this honor each year.

This award was created in 1998 and honors the Northern Ireland peace accord brokered by Senator Mitchell between the governments and peoples of Ireland and the United Kingdom. The accord was reached on Good Friday, April 10, 1998, and accepted by vote of the citizens of Ireland and Northern Ireland on May 22, 1998.

The Peace Scholarship allows students from Maine to live in the city of Cork on the south coast of Ireland and spend a semester attending the University College Cork of the National University of Ireland.

“It’s a really big deal,” Monahan conceded. “It’s the opportunity of a lifetime because how many times do you get an opportunity to go to a foreign country to study and have it paid for?”

Monahan will be taking Gaelic and Celtic literature classes as well as some specialized science courses such as Aquatic Mammal Marine Biology. He’s hoping to...
Senator Collins was born in Caribou on December 7, 1952. Her family runs the fifth-generation lumber business S.W. Collins, founded by her ancestors in 1844, and operated today by two of her brothers, Sam and Gregg Collins. Both of Senator Collins’ parents – Donald and Patricia Collins – have served as Mayor of Caribou, and her father served Maine as a State Senator. Patricia Collins holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art from the University of Maine at Presque Isle’s Class of 1986. She also received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Maine at Presque Isle in 2001.

In 1975, Senator Collins graduated with magna cum laude honors from St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York, where she was also elected to the Phi Beta Kappa national academic society. After working for 12 years on the Capitol Hill staff of Maine Senator William Cohen, she joined the cabinet of Maine Governor John McKernan in 1987 as Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation. After five years in that post, she served as New England Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration from 1992 to 1993.

In 1994, Senator Collins ran her first campaign for public office. She emerged from an eight-way Republican primary in June 1994 as the first woman in Maine history to win a major-party nomination for governor. She lost that fall’s general election, but remained committed to public service.

In December 1994, Senator Collins became the founding executive director of the Center for Family Business at then Husson College in Bangor. She resigned in 1996 to run for the Senate seat being vacated by Senator Cohen. She went on to win both a contested Republican primary and a four-way general election later that year. In 2002, Senator Collins was reelected with 59 percent of the general-election vote, and in 2008, she was reelected with 61 percent of the vote.

Osborne the years, Senator Collins has received many honors and awards. She has been named “Guardian of Small Business” by the National Federation of Independent Businesses, “Legislator of the Year” by the American Diabetes Association, and has received honors from other groups ranging from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Association to the National School Boards Association. The Los Angeles Times referred to her as a “champion of good government” in a profile, while The New York Times has said, “Ms. Collins has a long history of taking on the Washington bureaucracy.”

Roberta D. Griffiths was born in Fort Fairfield on November 26, 1937, the daughter of W. Stuart and Louise Duncan. As a young woman, she attended the University of Maine and Fisher Junior College. She graduated from the University of Maine at Presque Isle in 1982.

Griffiths has served her community and the University for many years. Her UMPI activities have included serving on the Board of Visitors for seven years – she is a charter member – and on the Foundation Board, where she is presently an Executive Board member. She has been a member of the Centennial Planning Committee, several Presidential Search Committees, the Capital Campaign for Gentile Hall, the One-Percent-for-Art Committee, which oversaw the Fiddleheads sculpture installation in Gentile Hall, and the development of the Centennial Garden on campus. She is its current “supervising gardener.”

In her community, Griffiths currently serves on the Presque Isle Downtown Revitalization Committee where she works with the Main Street Flowers sub-committee. She has served as president of the Presque Isle Community Concert Association and the Northeast Audubon Chapter of the National Audubon Society, where she was involved with a project to prevent the construction of the Dickey-Lincoln Dam in Allagash.

Her interest in gardening led to her participation in the Presque Isle Garden Club, where she has been a member for more than 40 years and has served as president. She also has served on several state committees of the Garden Club Federation of Maine as well as in capacities with the New England Regional District. She has been active in planning and maintaining the Downing Park on the Presque Isle Bike Path, landscaping at the Turner Memorial Library, and planning and planting flower beds at A. R. Gould Memorial Hospital [TAMC]. She also has served on the Presque Isle Arbor Council and represented the Garden Club on the Presque Isle Elm Tree Replacement Committee.

A member of the Presque Isle Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, she has directed the Junior Choir for 25 years, has sung in the choir for 49 years, and has served as a Deacon, handbell choir director and coordinator of women’s activities.

Griffiths also has played with the Presque Isle Recorder Consort for nearly 40 years – a group that includes UMPI Emeritus Professors Jan Kok and Richard Kimball, as well as Evelyn Kok and Jean Hamlin.

David B. Griffiths, the son of Dr. Eugene B. and Kathryn P. Griffiths, graduated from Presque
Sarah Smiley to speak at HHEC celebration

Sarah Smiley – author of the nationally syndicated newspaper column “Shore Duty,” which reaches more than 2 million readers weekly – will serve as the guest speaker during the Houlton Higher Education Center’s graduation celebration at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 20.

The nationally known writer is coming to northern Maine through the coordination of Bernadette Farrar, assistant director of the Houlton/Hodgdon SAD #29/70 Adult Education program, which is housed at the Houlton Center and HHEC Director Chuck Ames. The center, which opened its doors for classes in August 2001, is administered by the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

Smiley will speak during a celebration that marks the achievements of students who are graduating from the many partner organizations at the Houlton Center, including the SAD #29/70 Adult Education Program, the Carleton Project, Northern Maine Community College, and the University of Maine at Presque Isle, as well as students from the University of Maine System campuses affiliated with University College at the Houlton Center. About 200 people are expected to attend.

Smiley is the author of the memoir Going Overboard: The Misadventures of a Military Wife and a collection of essays titled I’m Just Saying... According to her website, Smiley’s writing “embodies the non-traditional aspects of military wives and brings to life an area long avoided by others in the military community: the pithy, humorous and sometimes politically incorrect side.”

She has been featured in The New York Times Magazine, as well as on news shows on ABC, CNN, CBS, Fox News, and MSNBC. Her life rights were optioned by Kelsey Grammer’s company, Grammnet, and Paramount Television.

Smiley has a B.S. in Education from Samford University in 1958, and from Boston University School of Law in 1961. He was admitted to practice law in the State of Maine that same year and subsequently practiced law in Presque Isle from 1961 to 1988.

In 1988, Griffiths was appointed by Governor John McKernan as a District Court Judge and as the resident judge in Presque Isle and Houlton. In 2003, he retired as an Active Judge and was appointed by Governor John Baldacci as an Active Retired Judge. Since that time, he has served in courts throughout the state at the direction of the Chief Judge of the Maine District Court.

Griffiths has served in various community, county and state activities. He taught Business Law as an adjunct instructor of the University of Maine at Presque Isle at Loring Air Force Base. He has been active as a life-long member of the Presque Isle Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, where he has taught church school, and served as Trustee, Moderator and Deacon. For 15 years, he served as a leader and Scoutmaster of Troop 168.

In the 1960s, he served as a director of the Maine School Administrative District # 1 and on the State of Maine School Board Association. He served as a member of the Board of Directors of Aroostook Mental Health Services for 12 years and was President of that organization when it was granted a federal staffing grant to provide for mental health services for Aroostook County. He served on the initial Board of Directors of the Foundation of the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

In 1985, he was elected to the Presque Isle City Council and was elected as Council Chairman. In 1988, he served as President of the Aroostook Bar Association. He has been a member of the Maine State Bar Association and is a Fellow of the Maine Bar Foundation. In 2003, he was recognized at the Blaine House by the Battered Women’s Coalition for continuing support and work done on behalf of the coalition. In 2004, he served as the judicial representative of a group of Maine lawyers and academics in a seminar in Arkangel, Russia, in providing assistance to the Russian response to the worldwide problem of domestic abuse. He has been a member of the Presque Isle Kiwanis Club for over 40 years. In 2004, he was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Presque Isle Area Chamber of Commerce.

David and Roberta Griffiths celebrate their 50th anniversary later this year. Together, they are the parents of Jeffrey B. Griffiths of Portland, Suzanne L. Griffiths of Vassalboro, Christopher D. Griffiths of Saco, and Jeremy J. Griffiths of Fort Kent, and have four grand children, Eva, Cole, Lucy and Phoebe.

The University’s Commencement Exercises are scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 15 in Wieden Gymnasium. **
Students in Professor Shirley Rush’s Social Work 287 course “Human Behavior in the Social Environment II” spent the day on May 3 helping to create awareness for the people affected by the recent earthquake in Haiti during their project “A Tribute to Hope.”

Students undertook a campus wide, non-verbal demonstration for the project, which included a multimedia presentation in the Campus Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., as well as the 24-hour installation outside of Folsom Hall of a tent constructed with salvageable materials to symbolize resilience. The tent was similar to the make-shift shelters Haitians have had to make for their families after the earthquake.

Earlier in the spring semester, Rush’s class watched a documentary on PBS Frontline called “The Quake,” about Haiti in the aftermath of an earthquake which struck Port-au-Prince on January 12, 2010. The current death toll from that quake is at approximately 200,000.

“The video was so moving that, as a class, we decided to do a project which would educate the campus community about Haiti and what the earthquake means to not only Haitians but the world community as a whole,” student Keren Dumond said.

As part of the multimedia presentation, students created several table displays and informational booths, providing facts about Haiti’s earthquake and a timeline that traced the history of Haiti, its poverty, governmental infrastructure, and natural disasters.

Participants were encouraged to peruse these displays and to view the 30-minute documentary “The Quake,” which ran on a continuous loop during the presentation.

The goals of the project were three-fold: for participants to learn something they didn’t know about the history of Haiti, to learn about the ongoing challenges affecting Haitians in the aftermath of the recent earthquake, and to gain a sense of what it is like to be affected by a natural disaster.

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Gelder, Williams receive “Discover Life in America” grant

Dr. Stuart R. Gelder, Emeritus Professor of Biology and Ms. Bronwyn W. Williams, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Canada, have been awarded $4,940 from the “Discover Life in America” fund to partially support the first survey of crayfish worms in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP), located in Tennessee and North Carolina.

According to Gelder, the Appalachian region has the highest concentration of branchiobdellidan species in the world. The study will involve collection and identification of crayfish worms from crayfishes sampled at selected sites across the park. From this information, a species and distribution list will be constructed for the park.

Representative worms will be preserved and mounted on microscope slides as permanent preparations, and placed in the GSMNP repository for future reference.

“As surrounding areas change, it is vital to know what species are present in the protected park,” Gelder said.

Selected specimens will be used in Williams’ doctoral work on the reconstruction of a molecular phylogeny of crayfish worms of the world using genetic sequencing methods.

In addition, it is anticipated that a number of new species will be found. Before naming the new species and writing the necessary manuscript for publication, the researchers will first have to make permanent slide preparations of the specimens at UMPI. Once this has been completed, the slides will be deposited in the Smithsonian Institution, the Park’s own reference collection, and other relevant museum collections.

Discover Life in America [DLIA] is the non-profit organization that coordinates the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory [ATBI] in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. According to its website, the DLIA is committed to developing a model for research in biodiversity and using that knowledge to develop and disseminate information to encourage the discovery, understanding, preservation and enjoyment of natural resources. For more information about DLIA, visit its website at www.dlia.org.
UMPI Professor named Social Worker of the Year

UMPI Professor Shirley Rush has received a top honor for those in the Social Work field in the State of Maine.

Rush, Associate Professor of Social Work at UMPI, was named the 2009 Social Worker of the Year by the Maine chapter of the National Association of Social Workers during the organization’s spring conference held at the Samoset Resort in Rockland in April. This is the second time Rush has received the award. She previously was given the award in 2000.

Rush, who has served as a professor at UMPI since 1998, was nominated and selected for the award based on her work as a Social Work educator, and for her work promoting social justice and international social work through the trips she has helped to facilitate for her students to the United Nations in New York City and to Guatemala.

In addition to this work, Rush serves as the chair of the Faculty Evaluation Committee for UMPI’s College of Professional Programs and as Advisor to the Student Organization of Social Workers.

The NASW Social Worker of the Year award is given to a member in good standing who integrates experience and education to help people personally and professionally, enlists support for improved social services, contributes to the public’s knowledge of social work in the recipient’s area of expertise, and reflects professional ethics.

During the Social Work spring conference, student Glenda Wysote-Labillois was recognized as the recipient of UMPI’s Outstanding BSW Student Award. The Social Work program annually brings Social Work majors to the event to provide them with experience in attending a professional conference.

Rush’s award during this year’s conference adds to the Social Work program’s distinguished reputation around the state – all three Social Work faculty members at UMPI have earned recognition as the Maine Social Worker of the Year.

Student Support Services Program awards grant aid

During a President’s Reception held on May 5, 18 students at UMPI received grant aid awards through the Student Support Services (SSS) program. SSS awarded each full-time student approximately $2,200, and the funds will assist the students by reducing their loans.

On December 15, 2000, Section 17 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 was amended to provide grant aid for eligible TRIO Student Support Services program students. The respective college/university SSS program selects the recipients and awards the grant money to eligible freshmen and sophomore college students who have accessed SSS-sponsored workshops, tutoring, career, financial, academic, and/or disability counseling, have successfully completed at least one semester, and are receiving Federal Pell Grants.

This is the ninth year, since the passing of this act, that the University of Maine at Presque Isle’s SSS Program has been able to fund its participants with grant aid. A total of $36,846 was awarded. Mary Kate Barbosa, Director of TRIO Student Support Services, and Chris Bell, Director of Financial Aid, worked together to make the selections.

The following students received funding: Keyleigh Bennett – Caribou; Brandon Bosse – Madawaska; Lauren Camargo – Easton; Tabitha Caron – Hodgdon; Shannon Deabay – Oxbow; Jacqueline Eye – Caribou; Mackenzie Flannery – Smyrna; Kimberly Francis – Auburn; Amanda Harrop – Sanford; Lingjing Jiang – Unity; Desiree Mattoon – Limestone; Nicole Mazzola – Orange, Mass.; Roxanne Murphy – Limestone; Danielle Pelkey – Caribou; Daniel Rosebush – Dover-Foxcroft; Hannah Saunders – Brooksville; Lydia Thebarge – Fort Fairfield; and Wendy Walsh – Presque Isle.

Music in the Park returns July 11

The ever-popular Music in the Park program returns this summer from July through August at Riverside Park in Presque Isle. The season starts off on Sunday, July 11 with Boreal Tordu, four musicians with a shared love of Acadian French music. On July 18, the Justin Wood Trio brings their contemporary jazz sound home to northern Maine. Will and Luke Mallett and the Mallett Brothers Band provide a unique acoustic-based performance on July 25.

Musicians of the Northern Maine Fair offer something for everyone on August 1. On Sunday, August 8, the seven-member Afro Pop band Koliba rounds out the summer with African rhythms.
Live classical music returns to the Wieden stage with a special recital concert by the students of Dr. Anatole Wieck, Professor of Upper Strings at the University of Maine in Orono, at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 14.

Dr. Wieck’s students will perform their year-end recital, and Dr. Wieck will play a collaborative piece with local musician Carol Ayoob during this very special performance done in partnership with the two UMaine campuses.

Dr. Wieck and Ayoob will be playing a collaborative piece called “sticks and stones and rubber tones.” This fluxus improvisational piece involves Ayoob creating a score on stage with sticks and stones and rubber tire pieces that she has collected from U.S. Interstate 95. Dr. Wieck will play the score as Ayoob creates it.

Dr. Wieck has taught upper strings at the University of Maine since 1986 and conducts the University of Maine Chamber Orchestra. As an accomplished violinist, violist and conductor, he has performed, taught, and conducted in Europe, North America and South America and has participated in chamber music festivals all around the globe.

Born in Latvia, Dr. Wieck received his early musical training in Riga and Moscow. In 1973, he came to the United States to study at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City where he earned his Bachelor, Master and Doctorate degrees.

His principal teachers in Russia were Yuri Yankelevich and Zinaida Gilels. At Juilliard he studied with Ivan Galamian, Joseph Fuchs, Lillian Fuchs and Paul Doktor, and chamber music with members of the Juilliard String Quartet. After graduating from Juilliard he continued to study with composer-philosopher Iosif Andriasov.

Tickets for the show are $10 for adults and $2 for students. The event is free to UMPI, NMCC and SAGE students with proper ID. For more information, call 768.9452.

Mitchell Peace Scholar continued from page 1

Monahan, who hails from Brownville and started attending UMPI in 2007, said going to Ireland and learning the Gaelic language has special significance for him because of his heritage.

“Where my family is Irish, I thought it would be nice to bring the language back into my generation and teach it to my kids,” he said.

In order to become a Mitchell Peace Scholar, Monahan had to write an essay, demonstrate his success in academics, community service and leadership, and go through a competitive selection process that included a phone interview. For Monahan, the hard work paid off.

“This is a very prestigious award, but this shows that even people from small towns and small schools can go on and do anything if they put their minds to it,” he said.

Dutch Soccer Academy returns to UMPI fields

The University of Maine at Presque Isle soccer greens will once again serve as host fields for the Dutch Soccer Academy during June and July, 2010. Each year, students entering grades 5 – 13 have the opportunity to enroll in a unique sports experience. Under the direction of world-class international coaches, players from different regions unite in a competitive and exciting soccer atmosphere for the week-long, overnight camps. The first week, June 27 – July 2, is for students entering grades 5 – 12. The second week, July 5 – 9, is for grades 7 – 13 (entering college).

Deadline to register is Tuesday, June 1. For information, call 492.1147 or visit www.dutchsocceracademy.com.

Congratulations, Michael!

April Student of the Month:

Michael Best

A senior Fitness & Wellness major, Michael has been an outstanding campus leader. Consistently on the Dean’s List, he is a strong spokesperson for the Native Voices student group, currently serves as its President, and is an active member of the Project Compass Community of Practice. He was instrumental in organizing Native Appreciation Day. Recognized in April as UMPI’s Outstanding Fitness & Wellness Student, he is a true leader - dedicated, generous, and always willing to help others.
Sports!

University holds 2010 Athletic Awards banquet

The University of Maine at Presque Isle held its 2009-2010 Athletic Awards banquet on May 4, honoring 12 MVPs, as well as most inspirational athletes, rookies of the year, and individual award winners. At the end of the evening, the University’s Female Athlete of the Year and Male Athlete of the Year were announced.

2009-10 Most Valuable Players:

Men’s Cross Country
- Justin Fereshetian (Turner, ME)

Women’s Cross Country
- Shelly Hanson (Charleston, ME)

Men’s Golf
- Christopher Coffin (Presque Isle, ME)

Women’s Golf
- Christopher Landry (Truro, NS)

Men’s Soccer
- Craig Maffei (Reading, ME)
- Devon Peaslee (Woolwich, ME)

Women’s Soccer
- Chelsea Boudrea (Wallace, ME)
- Katherine Moody (Presque Isle, ME)

Women’s Volleyball
- Erica Davis (North Yarmouth, ME)

Men’s Basketball
- Raymo nd Mitchell (Cleveland, OH)

Women’s Basketball
- Morgan Korhonen (Littleton, ME)

Men’s Basketball
- Julie Peers (Caswell, ME)

Women’s Basketball
- Jacob Fillebrown (Stoneham, ME)

Men’s Nordic Skiing
- Justin Fereshetian (Turner, ME)

Women’s Nordic Skiing
- Chandra Wisneski (Amherst, NH)

Men’s Baseball
- Corey Harding (Plymouth, ME)

Women’s Softball
- Nicole Russell (Newcastle, ME)

2010-10 Most Inspirational Awards:

Men’s Cross Country
- Christopher Rines (Caribou, ME)

Women’s Cross Country
- Julie Rugg (South Paris, ME)

Men’s Golf
- Christopher Landry (Truro, NS)

Women’s Golf
- Makayla Gahagan (Caribou, ME)

Men’s Soccer
- Joshua Peaslee (Woolwich, ME)

Women’s Soccer
- Brian Korhonen (Littleton, ME)

Men’s Basketball
- Makayla Gahagan (Caribou, ME)

Women’s Basketball
- Megan Korhonen (Littleton, ME)

Men’s Nordic Skiing
- Jacob Fillebrown (Stoneham, ME)

Women’s Nordic Skiing
- Leah Finnemore (Hartland, ME)

Men’s Baseball
- Seth Dorr (Hodgdon, ME)

Women’s Softball
- Emily O’Neal (Limestone, ME)

Women’s Softball
- Danielle Humphrey (New Gloucester, ME)

2009-10 Rookie of the Year awards:

Men’s Cross Country
- Jason Johnson (Presque Isle, ME)

Women’s Cross Country
- Kathleen Christoffel (Clifton Park, NY)

Men’s Golf
- Randy Whitmore (Meford, ME)

Men’s Soccer
- Jacob Paradis (Fort Fairfield, ME)

Women’s Soccer
- Lainey Herring (Houlton, ME)

Men’s Nordic Skiing
- Emily Pelletier (Fort Kent, ME)

Women’s Nordic Skiing
- Kathleen Christoffel (Clifton Park, NY)

Men’s Baseball
- Jacob Fillebrown (Stoneham, ME)

Women’s Softball
- Lainey Herring (Houlton, ME)

Athlete of the Year

Male: Corey Harding (Plymouth, ME)
Female: Megan Korhonen (Littleton, ME)

Al Armon “Make a Difference” Award

Male: Chad Parker (Truro, NS)
Female: Melinda Sullivan (Lisbon, ME)

Ruel Park Coaches Award

Emily Moore (Lisbon, ME)

Stanley H. Small Coaches Award

Hannah Shepard (Yarmouth, ME)

Athletic Training Student of the Year

Hannah Hopkins (Halifax, NS)

Athletic Training Rising Star Award

Paul Rucci (Millinocket, ME)

The electronic suggestion box is open and available for your ideas!

Please e-mail: umpi-suggestions@maine.edu with your concerns and ideas for solutions to make our campus the best place it can be to study and work. On behalf of the Campus Quality Improvement Work Group, thanks for your input!
UMPI Community Band presents Spring Concert
The UMPI/Community Band, directed by Kevin Kinsey, will perform its annual Spring Concert on Monday, May 10, at 7 p.m. in Wieden Auditorium. It will include many band favorites: “Hosts of Freedom” by Karl King, and “Toccata for Band” by Frank Erickson, as well as, a George Gershwin medley, the “1812 Overture,” “Simple Gifts-Four Shaker Songs” by Frank Ticheli, and “Ashken Farewell” from the PBS Civil War series. In addition, three featured young trumpeters, Adam Scott, Josh Jones, and Kyle Goupille, will perform “Bugler’s Holiday.” Guest conductors will share the podium. Sean Diette, the band director for Washburn schools, will direct “The Magnificent Seven”; Adam Metzler, of Central Aroostook, will direct “Star Wars – The Marches”; and Mr. Jon Simonoff, director of the Ashland Bands, will conduct his composition, “Motions.” Admission is free; the auditorium is handicapped accessible. For information, call 768.9452.

Students experience visual arts on campus
Sixty area students enrolled in Aroostook County’s Gifted and Talented program spent the day on campus taking part in hands-on art workshops as the University’s Art Department once again hosted Visual Arts Day on Friday, April 30, in Pullen Hall. The theme for the day, “What’s in My Face?” encouraged students to explore with drawing, puppetry, and mask making the many different aspects of the face. Visual Arts Day was coordinated by Associate Professor of Art Dr. Leo-Paul Cyr with assistance from workshop instructors Ben Nason, Heather Nunez, and Jodi Smith.

A note of thanks
I would like to express my sincere appreciation and thank you to those of you at the University who sent cards, flowers, messages, donations, and attended the calling hours and/or the funeral for my mother, Delta Roix. I would also like to thank the Alumni Association for the beautiful plant, the Secret Owls for the lovely dish garden and the University for the donation to the Alumni Association Scholarship. At times like these, the company of friends is very comforting and it really touched me that so many of you attended the calling hours and/or the funeral. Your thoughtfulness and friendship is greatly appreciated. Even though I retired from the University almost four years ago, I still feel a closeness to you. — Sharon Roix

Two UMPI students to attend MMC mini-medical school
Congratulations to Stephanie Correia and Christina Babcock-Bell, UMPI Biology, Premedical students, accepted to attend a weeklong Mini-Medical School to be held May 23 – 28 at Portland’s Maine Medical Center. Through a series of lectures, hands-on activities, and clinical experiences, student participants are offered the unique opportunity to learn first-hand about the medical field and how to apply to medical school - as well as observe researchers and practicing professionals in the field. They have been working under the advisement of Professor of Biology Dr. Bonnie Wood.

Senior class active with spring events
The UMPI Senior Class of 2010 and advisor Keith Madore thank all who came out and supported their recent Annual Spaghetti Supper & Auction held on Friday, April 23. Proceeds from the meal and auction totalled nearly $1,700. Many thanks, in particular, to area donors for their support: Bill Forbes, Natalie Dupuis, Michelle Burns, Virtue’s Day Spa, The Stepp Family, Harding Photography, ACE Rent a Car, Linda McLaughlin, Kim-Anne Perkins, Clare Exner, Enman’s Disc Golf, Leo’s Citgo, The County Quick Stop, Sharon Roix, Portage Lakeside Cabins, The Hampton Inn, The Braden Theater, Big Rock, Gentile Hall, Barb Lambert, The Portland Sea Dogs, Roger Rabideau, Patti Hale and ARAMARK Dining Services. Special thanks to Bonnie Devaney, Laurie Boucher and Heather Craig. The Senior Class Banquet is scheduled to take place on Friday, May 14, with a 6 p.m. dinner and 7 p.m. program to include words by Senior Class President Tyler Delaney; performances by Harrison Kilpatrick, Kristian Martineau, and Glenda Wysote; plus the ever-popular annual Senior Slide Show. For information, call 768.9570.

Caribou Vet Center seeks memorial designs
The Caribou Veteran’s Center is looking for artists or other creative individuals who would like to submit original designs for a memorial to be built and placed on the Vet Center grounds in Caribou. Each submission must incorporate six main elements: the five military service seals and a POW/MIA plaque, and will be judged by a panel of local veterans and built with the help of local artisans and craftspeople. Those with an interest in submitting a design can contact John Reed at 496.3900 for further information or to schedule a time to view the proposed memorial site. Deadline for submissions is July 4, 2010.

Houlton Education Center hosts May 14 Job Fair
A job fair, with both a local and international theme, will be held in Houlton on Friday, May 14, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Houlton Higher Education Center. Organizers of the “Work in Maine Job Fair 2010” invite job seekers to meet with business and government representatives, as well as agency personnel, for help with their job search. Those represented include: Loring Job Corps, McCain Foods, US Customs & Border Protection, Community Living Assoc., US Army, ALLIES, ACAP, TEMPO, Wal-Mart, Gardiner Health Care, MDOT, Lane Construction, and MDOL. The fair was coordinated by the Maine Department of Labor, Aroostook County Action Program and Houlton/Aroostook Adult Education. For information, contact Otis Smith at 521.3100 ext. 5 or otissmith@msln.net.

Caribou Vet Center receives more donations
The Caribou Veteran’s Center is again receiving donations from the community. Donations received to date include a casket, a sympathy card, and a metal wall stele, which will be inscribed and displayed on the proposed memorial site. The Trebbick and Smith families have also recently donated both a piece of land and a memorial bench to the center. Further details will be announced at a later date.
UMPI undergrads and professor attend biological/medical symposium
Professor of Biology Dr. Bonnie Wood and three UMPI undergraduates participated in the 37th Maine Biological and Medical Sciences Symposium hosted by Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory. The April 23-24 Symposium consisted of a keynote address, presentations by 28 Maine scientists, faculty members, graduate students and undergraduates whose research covered the disciplines of molecular genetics, general biology and ecology, developmental biology, and neuroscience. The UMPI students who attended were senior Biology major Dan Sheffield, sophomore Biology major Amy Michaud and senior Psychology/Biology major Harrison Kilpatrick. “For our students, it was their opportunity to observe professional presentations and the outstanding level of research being done by undergraduates and others in Maine,” said Wood.

Marriage Equality: a discussion
The UMPI Gay-Straight Alliance is sponsoring a discussion of the right to marry in Maine. Ali Vander Zanden and Dee Hutchins, field coordinators for EqualityMaine, will present a review of the efforts that have been made to grant equal marriage rights to same-sex couples in this state, and the continuing campaign to gain those rights. This presentation will be Monday, May 17 at 6 p.m. in the Alumni Room. All interested people are invited. For more information, contact Dick Harrison, 768.9604, dick.harrison2@umpi.edu.

Aroostook River Run Fun
Saturday, May 22, canoeing starts at Thomas Brewer Park in Washburn. Paddle 8 miles on the flatwater of the Aroostook River, Washburn to Presque Isle. Registration is 8-9:15 a.m. ($15). There will be also a mountain bike wildlife poker run for all abilities. Your race fee includes a BBQ lunch. Prizes include an Old Town kayak. Race in a number of different divisions or just paddle for fun to help raise money for the area Girl Scouts. For information, contact Amanda Morin, 768.9401.

Student Senior Thesis art exhibition opens June 1
Nine Fine Arts students – all women recently completed Art 499 Senior Thesis Project, a two semester class that culminates in installing a one-person exhibition in the Pullen Art Gallery during the spring semester. Works were selected from each one-person exhibition for inclusion in a show, the Senior Thesis Group Exhibition, for the Reed Gallery in the Campus Center. This exhibition will open on Tuesday, June 1 and close on Friday, Sept. 10 with a reception for all the participating artists. Gallery hours are Mon-Fri., 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. For information, call Gallery Director Sandra Huck at 768.9611.

French story time
Community members enjoy a story hour in French at the Turner Memorial Library on April 24, courtesy of UMPI’s French Club. Here, Sam Portera and Katie Petley read The Three Little Pigs in French to local children and their parents. Kalina Kredl and Kimberly Englund also participated in a second story hour held on May 1.

Congratulation, Sydney Churchill!
Fort Fairfield High School freshman Sydney Churchill, granddaughter of Darla Craig in the Business Office, is a member of the State Class D Girls’ Basketball Championship Team. Go Lady Tigers!
OAPI enjoys busy Spring 2010

The advisor and members of OAPI would like to thank you, and brag (just a little) about our successful Spring 2010 Semester! It started off with a small rumble as we hit Big Rock Ski Mountain in below zero weather, then pushed our cold factors as we snowshoed on property in ~20 degree weather. Then BANG! A packed trip learning the traditional sport of dog sledding! That momentum kept us rolling through six more Wednesday nights at Big Rock and really set the tone for our Mount Katahdin Winter Ascent in March. Then it was on to Spring Break week riding Mont-Sainte-Anne in Québec.

No slowing this club as we represented UMPI at one of the best attended Sportsmen Shows yet! Our fundraiser at the rock wall generated over $1,000. The following weekend, we traveled downstate to assist Dr. Anja Whittington at the Teens 2 Trails Conference. And we’re ending the semester with our Rock Climbing Day Trip to Acadia National Park and our indoor kayak roll clinic.

With our busy fall semester – which included our Mount Katahdin fall summit, white-water rafting down the Penobscot, and caving in Québec among other events – we’ve had a packed 2009-2010 academic year. OAPI had 150 students, faculty, staff and community members participate in our trips. Thank you to those adventurous souls who participated and supported our active Outdoor Adventure Program! We look forward to providing exciting trips and events to this campus and community in the future.