

Skowhegan Adult Ed receives grant from Bush Foundation

Mrs. Barbara Bush announced that the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy's Maine Family Literacy Initiative (MEFLI) has awarded \$5,000 to RSU 54/MSAD 54 Adult and Community Education.

Adult Education teacher Susan Knight proudly accepted the award from Mrs. Bush at a ceremony held at the J. Richard Martin Community Center in Biddeford, on June 10. The grant will be used to plan a family literacy program in Skowhegan.

"The abilities to read, write and comprehend enable people to create brighter and more prosperous futures for themselves, their families and their communities," said Mrs. Bush. "The staff and volunteers with the MEFLI programs

are making a wonderful difference in many lives, and I am grateful for their work to make Maine a more literate state."

To learn more, visit www.mainefamilyliteracy.com.

Founded by Barbara Bush in 1989, the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy supports the development and expansion of family literacy programs in settings where parents and children read and learn together. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to nonprofit organizations, correctional institutions, homeless shelters, schools and school districts, libraries and community- and faith-based agencies. To learn more, visit www.barbarabush-foundation.com.



Skowhegan Adult Ed teacher Susan Knight, left, accepts the Barbara Bush Literacy Initiative award on June 10, from Barbara Bush, in a ceremony held at the J. Richard Martin Community Center in Biddeford.

Contributed photo

Library accepts new book



Recently a copy of the book *Forgotten Patriots* was presented to the Stewart Library by the Eunice Farnsworth-Ruth Heald Cragin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. It was accepted by Emily Mitchell on behalf of the library. From left to right, Linda Miller, vice regent, Emily Quint, registrar, and Kathy Palmer, regent.

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SOLON & BEYOND

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Good morning, dear friends. Don't worry, be happy!

The Stewart Public Library in North Anson is having their annual Book Sale on Saturday, June 26, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., at the North Anson Fire station. There will be lots of books and some miscellaneous items for sale, all money goes to benefit Stewart Public Library.

Eight Solon Elementary students won Most Improved Student awards this spring. This program is sponsored each year by the Portland Sea Dogs baseball team to recognize students in Maine schools who have shown improvement in academic skills, study habits, social skills, and/or behavior. Winning this award this year from the Solon school were the following students: Grade K, Hunter Tewksbury; Grade I, Kyle Pooler and Austin Brown; Grade 2, Skyler Chipman; Grade 3, Keigan Quimby; Grade 4, Kiara Pinkham and Jacob Gatcomb and grade 5, Otto Evans. Each student received a certificate and a free ticket to the May 22nd Sea Dogs game. At that game the students were recognized during a pre-game ceremony on the field, and their names were shown on the scoreboard.

Two Solon students are the recipients of "Promise for the Future" education scholarships in a program sponsored by Skowhegan Savings Bank. Fourth grader Kaitlin Dixon and fifth grader Breannah Bean won \$100 college scholarships based on essays they wrote and submitted in April.

Bank personnel visited the school this winter and presented an assembly for students in grades three to five to encourage them to aspire to pursue higher education after high school. Students were invited to submit essays about their future education plans, and winners were chosen from schools in the Central Maine area based on their essays. The students, their families, and Ms. Butler attended an awards ceremony at the Skowhegan Community Center on May 13 where they received their scholarships.

The students and staff at Solon Elementary School enjoyed a barbeque picnic lunch at the

Evergreens Campground in Solon on June 2. This activity coincided with the Solon PTO's spring fundraiser, a Rubber Ducky Race down the Kennebec River. Lots of parents were able to join the fun for this event. Over 400 ducks were launched from Mrs. Stevens's house and floated down the river to the Evergreens. Students got to see the ducks arrive at the finish line. Thanks to Mrs. Lawrence and the PTO for organizing the picnic lunch.

Last Wednesday was a wonderful day! Peter asked me to ride up to the camp at Flagstaff. Usually we don't see much wildlife when we go up, but lo and behold, what should appear on the way in but a powerful moose swimming across the body of water at Blanchard Bog! Such a sight, and because I got so excited I couldn't get my camera out fast enough to get a picture. We waited to see if it would cross the road in front of us, and sure enough it did.

We continued on our way and had a picnic lunch on the porch at camp, it was a picture perfect day and so peaceful and relaxing. Dave and Eleanor and Mark and Karen arrived after lunch and we visited with them in the afternoon. It was indeed a day to remember, on our way out what should cross our path but a bear! That is something you don't see every day, even here in Maine. Forgot to mention that Mazy was with us, and how she barked and took on, both with the moose and the bear. Peter was the only calm one in the bunch. Such a perfect day, and one that will be tucked into my memory box forever.

Percy continues to wake me early, (as early as 3 a.m.) especially on days when we must write our column, such as this morning. He would like to leave you with these wise words: "You must love all that God has created, both his entire world and each single tiny sand grain of it. Love each tiny leaf, each beam of sunshine. You must love the animals, love every plant. If you love all things, you will also attain the divine mystery that is in all things. For then your ability to perceive the truth will grow every day, and your mind will open itself to an all-embracing love." (words by Fyodor Dostoyevsky)

Frog Day is June 26, at Bates Museum

Saturday, June 26, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., is Frog Day at the L.C. Bates Museum. Celebrate all things frog!

Drop in on the hour to explore the pond and do fun frog activities. Grab a net and explore the lovely pond behind the museum. Discover not just the amphibians, but also the insects, mammals, birds, and crustaceans that make this wetland their home. Children will also play frog games, look at a frog skull up close, and bring



Kids will explore the frog pond at L. C. Bates Museum on Frog Day, Saturday, June 26. Contributed photo

home a froggy craft. A series of frog and pond discovery activities will be set up in the museum. You can tour the museum to see the beaver, muskrat, heron, and other wetland animals. Fun for all ages.

Be prepared to explore the amazing pond life and please wear footwear that can get wet or muddy.

Please contact the L.C. Bates Museum at Good Will-Hinckley 207-238-4250 or lcbates@gwh.org if you have any questions or would like more information about Frog Day activities or other fun museum summer programs. The L.C. Bates Museum is located on Rte. 201 in Hinckley, on the campus of Good Will-Hinckley.

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