

# BUSINESS



Area Interfaith Outreach receives a donation of \$1,000 from Midcoast Federal Credit Union. Pictured are, from left, Judy Terrio, assistant director from Littlefield Memorial Church; Florence Mathieson, board member from Owls Head Baptist Church; Heidi Vanorse, vice president of branch operations in Thomaston; and Sally Case, vice president of AIO from Unitarian Universalist Church.

## Midcoast Federal Credit Union donates \$3,500 to food pantries

THOMASTON — Midcoast Federal Credit Union recently celebrated its 52nd annual meeting at the Bath Area Seniors Activity Center. With 120 members in attendance, the credit union shared its contributions and successes.

Gail Richardson, president and chief executive officer, acknowledged the members, staff and board for their diligence in fundraising. In 2007, the credit union donated more than \$17,500 to charitable organizations and the local community.

At the end of her comments, Richardson presented a \$1,000 check to both John Penniman of the Bath Food Bank and Father Ben Barnes of the Midcoast Hunger Prevention Program for their respective food pantries. Donations also were made to the Area Interfaith Outreach food pantry in Rockland for \$1,000 and the Help Yourself Shelf food pantry in Wiscasset for \$500 at separate presentations.

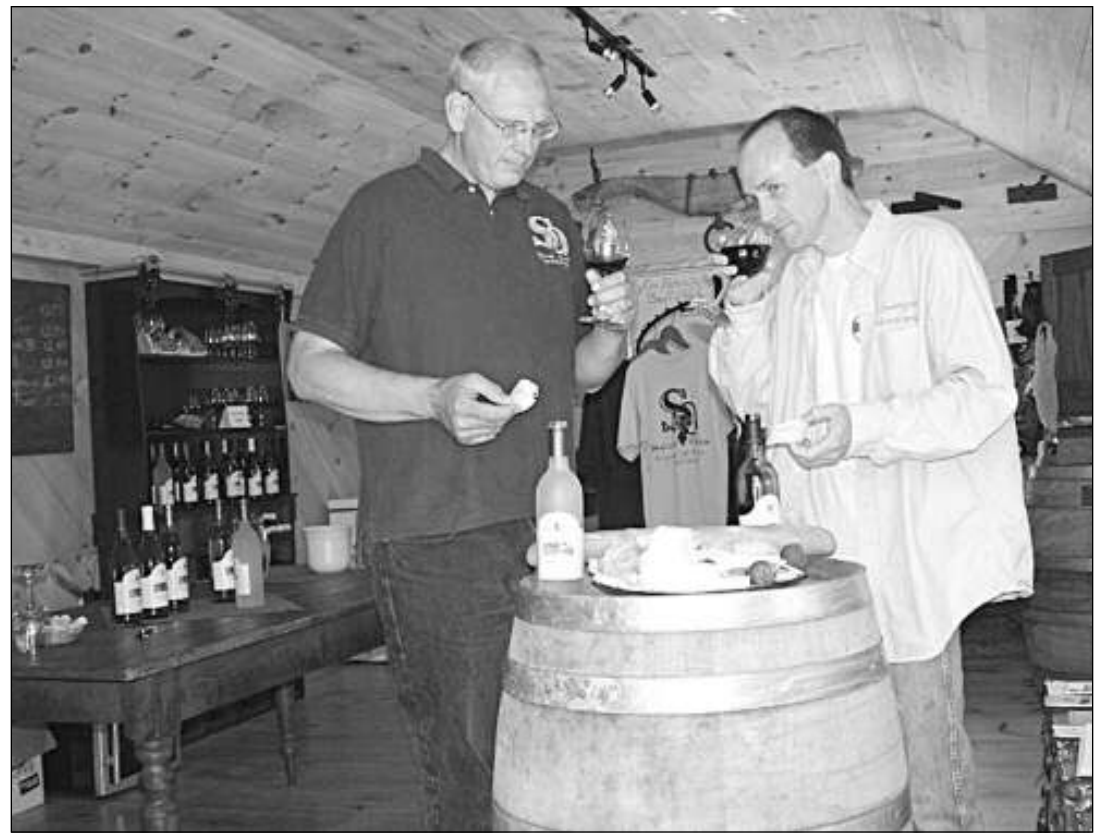
Debbie Considine, executive vice president/chief financial officer, reviewed the 2007 financial statement. She reported the credit union had grown more than \$11 million in assets last year and that it continues to have a strong standing.

Bernard Pagurko, board director, was re-elected for a three-year term. Pagurko started his cred-

it union service on Feb. 16, 1969 on the board of St. Charles Federal Credit Union. He continued his service through the merger with Midcoast Federal Credit Union in 1986.

The guest speaker was Debbie Atwood, Meals on Wheels and money management coordinator for Senior Spectrum Generation's in Brunswick, who shared information on its free financial services for low-income adults older than 60. She encouraged members and caregivers to refer themselves and/or qualifying individuals to use the Money Management Program as a resource in extending an individual's independent living. The program offers free financial assistance on a monthly or as needed basis for those in need of sorting mail, balancing checkbooks, writing checks and organizing monthly expenses. She also shared how the Money Management Program has made a difference in the independence of clients currently using the program.

Midcoast Federal Credit Union was established in 1956 and offers a full line of financial products and services to the counties of Sagadahoc, Lincoln and Knox, along with the towns of Harpswell and Freeport. Their four offices are located in Brunswick, Bath, Edgcomb and Thomaston.



Winemakers Buddy Savage, left, and Keith Bodine pair local cheese with this year's wines.

## Union area wineries slate wine and cheese tasting

UNION — Sweetgrass Farm Winery & Distillery and Savage Oakes Vineyard and Winery, in conjunction with The Maine Cheese Guild, will host Maine cheesemakers on Father's Day. There will be the opportunity to taste local cheeses, paired with this year's vintage wines and spirits.

The event will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 15.

Savage Oakes Vineyard and Winery, now open for its third season, is a 95-acre family farm with four acres of vineyards.

Holly and Buddy Savage craft nine cold hardy varietals into delectable wines. This year's offering includes two new wines, Crooked Tree and White Rose, as well as favorites Barn Red and Come Spring. Try these new wines or old favorites paired with Appleton Creamery's award winning goat milk and fresh sheep cheeses.

Sweetgrass Farm Winery and Distillery specializes in fruit wines and spirits hand crafted from Maine fruit and berries. Winemaker Keith Bodine and his

wife, Constance, run the 70-acre farm and winery to produce five fruit wines, ports and spirits, including the popular Back River Gin. Their BleuJolais wine is a vibrant young blueberry wine with notes of chocolate, bramble fruits and spice. Pair it with State of Maine Cheese Co.'s Katahdin cheddar. Sunset Acres Farm's goat milk cheese pairs nicely with the fresh apple and cranberry apple wines.

Cheesemakers and winemakers will be on hand to discuss their products and pairings.

## Dagley is new KeyCenter branch manager in Rockland

ROCKLAND — KeyBank announced that Jane Dagley is the new branch manager/vice president at its Rockland KeyCenter.

Dagley comes to Key with 17 years of banking experience, most recently as relationship manager with Union Trust Co., where she focused on residential mortgage lending and small business lending.

In addition to managing the Rockland KeyCenter, Dagley is the board president of the Penobscot Bay Regional

Chamber of Commerce and immediate past president of the Rockland Kiwanis. She is an affiliate member of the Midcoast Board of Realtors and was the St. George River Council Affiliate of the Year in 2007.

Dagley is an active member of the Rockland Downtown Business Alliance and is the Midcoast council chairman of the Northern New England Center for Financial Training.

Keybank is located at 331 Main St. Dagley can be reached at 596-7122.



Jane Dagley

## Governor rolls out program to save truckers' diesel costs

AUGUSTA — Gov. John E. Baldacci last week unveiled an initiative to help truckers in Maine who are hard hit by skyrocketing diesel fuel prices. The new program, sponsored by several state agencies, will help truckers reduce their costs by \$12,000 or more per rig, while improving air quality.

"Energy costs are hurting the entire economy," said Baldacci. "Businesses of every size are struggling to account for oil and gas prices that seem to set new records every day. We need our Maine truckers to stay on the road, and this initiative can help keep them rolling. This is a terrific example of state agencies working together to get something done for Mainers."

The program provides low-cost loans to trucking and other businesses for investments in energy-saving equipment. Truckers are already lining up for funds to purchase auxiliary power units, or APUs, which drastically reduce diesel consumption when a truck is idling.

Baldacci hailed the program for providing much-needed relief for Maine's small trucking companies, which have been squeezed by diesel prices that have nearly doubled over the last year to more than \$4 a gallon.

"These loans are available right now at 3 percent for small businesses in Maine and that can go a long way toward easing the pain of high energy prices," he said, "and the program has another important benefit — reducing emissions from burning diesel fuel, which contribute to lung disease and global warming."

The governor said the initiative marks a significant expansion of a low-cost energy conservation loan program administered by the Maine Public Utilities Commission.

Funds provided by the Finance Authority of Maine have boosted the loan cap to \$250,000 for energy-saving equipment, including APUs, bunk heaters for truck cabs and other technologies.

In addition, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection plans to secure \$100,000 in federal funds to be matched by the PUC funds and dedicated to loans for APUs and other diesel pollution-reduction technologies.

"At today's diesel prices, I'll save enough to pay back the loan in 13 months," said Larry Sidelinger of Yankee Pride Trucking in Nobleboro. "After that I can use the savings to completely cover the payments on

two of my trucks."

Sidelinger's company is one of two that took early advantage of the energy conservation loan program to secure APUs. Also speaking Thursday were Lonnie and Diana Adams of L&D Trucking in Caribou.

PUC Chairman Sharon M. Reishus said the loan program would result in significant energy savings for successful applicants.

"Under our mandate, we must make sure that actual, quantifiable savings do occur," Reishus said. "We are projecting that each truck with an APU installed will save an average of 2,900 gallons of diesel fuel a year."

Bill Norbert, governmental affairs manager of FAME, said, "During this time of rapidly increasing energy costs, FAME is eager to be partnering with the PUC to make available to businesses such as truckers increased funds at lower interest rates for energy conservation purposes."

The conservation loans are available to small businesses in Maine for APUs and other energy-saving technologies. For more information, call Shirley Bartlett, program manager for state energy programs, at 287-3318. She also can assist small Maine businesses with a free energy audit to help them identify potential energy-saving investments.



**FUELING DREAMS** — May 31, Mainway Irving kicked off the Special Olympics torch run week with its annual Fueling Dreams event at all of its Maine locations. Mainway Irving donated 5 cents from every gallon sold to the Special Olympics of Maine. This event is the largest fundraiser for the Special Olympics of Maine. Members from the Rockland Police Department and Rockland Coast Guard Station pumped gas, washed windshields and handed out free hot dogs, hamburgers, and sodas to Mainway's customers from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pictured are, from left, Police Chief Bruce Boucher, Patrolman Lloyd Daniels, Traffic Officer Troy Peasley, Danielle Tincher of the Coast Guard, Mainway employee Marie Zwecker and Shannon Riley of the Coast Guard.

## Local attorneys donate to Campaign For Justice Project

ROCKLAND — The Knox County Bar Association received a request from the Campaign for Justice for funding to create a Campaign for Justice informational video.

This video would be an easily accessible and low-cost means for the campaign to communicate its mission: to increase access to legal services for disadvantaged Maine people by raising funds on behalf of six legal aid organizations, namely, Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic, Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project, Legal Services for the Elderly, Maine Equal Justice Partners, Maine Volunteer Lawyers Project and Pine Tree Legal Assistance. The campaign was created in 2004 to increase

access to justice for low income and elderly Maine citizens.

In response to this request, the Knox County Bar Association agreed to donate \$400 toward the cost of the project. This donation represents a substantial portion of the total cost for the video. The KCBA plans to post this video on its Web site later this year.

KCBA President Don Briggs said, "The attorneys of Knox County fully support the critical role of these legal aid organizations; especially in these difficult economic times."

The campaign helps to fund the work of legal aid providers, which collaborate to insure the availability of a comprehensive, integrated network of legal services for low

income and elderly Maine citizens throughout the entire state.

Some examples of those the providers serve: A mother and her children face illegal eviction from their home; a victim of domestic violence needs assistance obtaining a court order of protection; a disabled worker has been illegally denied medical benefits; and an older couple faces separation after a lifetime together because of government regulations for long-term care.

The 2006 Annual Report has stories of individuals and families who attained access to justice thanks to the providers. One can learn more about the Campaign for Justice by visiting [www.campaignforjustice.org](http://www.campaignforjustice.org).

## Massage school sets open house

WALDOBORO — Downeast School of Massage, 99 Moose Meadow Lane, will hold a free open house for the public 2 p.m. Saturday, June 21.

Participants will be introduced to the many opportunities in the massage therapy profession and

to the competency-based curriculum that the Downeast School of Massage will offer in the upcoming September 2008 and January 2009 programs. The event will include a tour of the classrooms, library, hydrotherapy department with spa and sauna and DSM

store. Refreshments will be served in the student lounge.

Moose Meadow Lane is off of 220 North (Washington Road). Call 832-5531 or send e-mail to [admissionsdm@midcoast.com](mailto:admissionsdm@midcoast.com) for a catalog, more information or to sign up for the open house.