

The Nor'ester

Newsletter of the Northeastern Maine Library District

Fall 2008

Some Final Thoughts From Retiring State Librarian Gary Nichols

I believe most of you know of my pending retirement October 24. It gives me great pleasure to announce that at it's meeting of September 8th, the Library Commission appointed Linda Lord Acting State Librarian effective October 27. Linda has served library interests and the State Library with distinction, energy and outstanding leadership. The State Library, statewide programs and your individual concerns will be in superb hands.

Let me take this opportunity to briefly thank all of you for your help and support during my 39 years here at the State Library. Your good will, encouragement and unwavering support over so many years has carried me through the tough times as well as allowing me the flexibility to take risks and therefore accomplish much. While I have certainly not fulfilled all your dreams and program interests, there have been some solid accomplishments that I will always treasure and feel honored to have created on behalf of you and the people of Maine.

My career has been a gift beyond my imagination and there are wonderful memories that were nurtured in this rich library environment of collaboration, unselfish cooperation, of spirited good will and amazing generosity toward me both professionally and personally.

Of course leaving this institution that I deeply love, and all of you, is bittersweet; there is no better word for ending a rich and long career, but I leave having no enemies and surrounded by good friends made over these years and that indeed is my greatest gift

NMLD Executive Board

Anna Carr - Northeast Harbor Library
Helen Fogler - Thompson Free Library
Jane MacDonald - Mount Desert Island High School
John McManus/S - Millinocket Memorial Library
Paula Maker - Washington Academy
Linda Packard/VC - Guilford Memorial Library
Marianne Thibodeau/C - University of Maine, Machias
Anna Tremblay - Fort Fairfield Middle/High School
Lucinda White - Eastern Maine Medical Center

Ex-Officio

Melba Leman - Maine Library Commission Delegate

The NMLD office is located in the
Bangor Public Library
145 Harlow Street, Bangor, ME 04401
207-947-8336 or 1-800-427-8336

District Consultant: Valerie Osborne
email: Valerie.Osborne@bpl.lib.me.us

New Library Commission Member Represents the NMLD

Governor John E. Baldacci appointed Rockport Public Library Director Molly Larson to the Maine Library Commission this summer. Molly will be representing the Northeastern Maine Library District. This is a five-year appointment. Molly has been the director at Rockport for the past three years. Prior to taking the directorship, she worked in the Reference Department for over twenty years at the Bangor Public Library.

Molly replaced Rich Boulet (Blue Hill Public Library) as the president of the Maine Library

CMLD Gets New Consultant

Stephanie Zurinski of Lubbock, Texas, is the new Library Consultant for the Central Maine Library District (CMLD). Stephanie started work at the Maine State Library on September 2nd.

Stephanie has an MLS from the University of Washington in Seattle. Prior to accepting the CMLD position, Stephanie served as a Library Consultant in a 29 county area in West Texas. Her duties in Texas consisted of providing continuing education workshops, assisting with strategic planning, and consulting on all areas of library management. Stephanie has also worked as a librarian in Anchorage, Alaska.

New Library Directors in NMLD

Kim DeVaney – Pembroke Library

Heidi Hinkley – Peabody Memorial Library

Mary Lester – Winterport Memorial Library

Amy Levine – Rockland Public Library

Nikki Maounis – Camden Public Library

Jane Ploughman – Brooksville Free Public Library

Jennifer Reece – Frenchman's Bay Library

Maine InfoNet Director Appointed

The Maine InfoNet Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of James Jackson Sanborn as the new Executive Director of Maine InfoNet. Prior to coming to Maine InfoNet, James served as the Associate Head of the Digital Library Initiatives Department at North Carolina State University Libraries in Raleigh, North Carolina. Mr. Jackson began working for Maine InfoNet in mid-August.

He hit the ground running, and is already involved in various projects. The Maine InfoNet offices have moved to York Village, Suite 58, on the University of Maine Campus. All staff members are now housed under one roof. He is directing the Downloadable Audio Project and working with the State Library and the University System on contract negotiations.

James is a Bates College graduate and grew up in Saco, Maine. He is married and has two daughters and resides in Orono.

Director Resignations and Retirements

Kathleen Daley – Thomaston Public Library

Elizabeth Moran – Camden Public Library

Ellie O'Neill – Winterport Memorial Library

Jan Patten – Foxcroft Academy

Vanessa Seura – Brooksville Free Public Library

2 **Helen Thomas** – Peabody Memorial Library

Literary Map of Maine Published!

On Sunday, August 31st the Maine Sunday Telegram published *A Literary Map of Maine*, an idea brought to Maine by Shirley Helfrich, district consultant for the Southern Maine Library District/Maine State Library. Basing Maine's map on New York's literary map of Manhattan, Shirley worked with the Portland newspapers, several library and humanities groups in Maine and contributions from readers around the state. Ideas of real or imagined places from Maine children's and adult books – fiction and factual poured in. An eight-member panel narrowed the submitted titles to the final list of 50 places.

Visit the map on [Press Herald/Maine Sunday Telegram's online site](http://pressherald.maintoday.com/news/literarymap/map.html) at <http://pressherald.maintoday.com/news/literarymap/map.html> .

Our thanks to Shirley Helfrich for bringing this idea to Maine!

Gibbs Library in Washington Receives 1st Place Win



Gibbs Library is a flourishing center for learning and community life in the small town of Washington, Maine. This is true despite the fact they do not have a single paid employee and receive no funding from the Town of Washington. Their beautiful facility, which is housed in the same building as the town office and fire department, is accompanied by a dynamic up-to-date website, diverse programming, excellent transparency, savvy technological problem solving, and a healthy endowment to make Gibbs Library a very worthy recipient of the 2008

Dirigo Award. Here are a few highlights from their application:

- ❖ Gibbs has two (and this year three) teens on their Board of Directors. One of several successful programs that the teens have organized is the state-sponsored Chickadee Book Awards program for kindergarteners to third grade students. This is an after school literacy program in which the library collaborates with the local Prescott Elementary School as well as home schooled children and the Maine State Chickadee Award group. The teens read book award nominees to the children, and the children act out the stories by singing, dancing, and drawing. At the end of the six-week program, the children vote on their candidate books for the awards.
- ❖ Starting in 2007, Gibbs Library staff spearheaded a very successful fundraising effort for the entire town of Washington. The President and Vice President, who are knowledgeable in computer graphics and technology, and an artist from the Downtown Art Gallery have created a unique joint fundraising effort with other nonprofits by selling a wide array of cookbooks and sharing profits.

- ❖ Since inception in 1993, Gibbs Library has held Board of Trustee meetings every month that are completely open to the public and visitors are often invited to speak about current library issues. The board membership includes: a certified public accountant, a town selectman, a computer graphics expert, a broadcast electronic engineer/farmer, a clinical social worker, a registered nurse/massage therapist, a lawyer, a psychotherapist, several teachers, three high school honor students, a state lobbyist, and representatives from five community partner organizations.

The annual Dirigo Awards for Nonprofit Excellence in Maine are presented by the Maine Association of Nonprofits (MANP) to three Maine nonprofit organizations-one small, one medium, and one large-that best demonstrates tested and exemplary management practices that have contributed to organizational success and mission achievement.

The Dirigo Awards recognize organizations that have achieved significant results by utilizing ingenuity combined with sound practices and principles in eleven different management categories. The Dirigo Awards are part of the Guiding Principles and Practices of Nonprofit Excellence in Maine program, created in 2006 by the Maine Association of Nonprofits and underwritten by the Maine Community Foundation.

The competition is open to any 501c(3) nonprofit based in Maine. Winners in the three categories received \$3,000 in cash, a beautiful Maine-made handcrafted wooden trophy, and were recognized at the awards presentation held at the MANP Annual Conference on May 8th. Perhaps your organization would like to compete for this award as well. Check out the MANP web site at www.nonprofitmaine.org

Congratulations Gibbs Library for this wonderful honor!



The Maine Library Commission has announced recipients of the 2007/2008 New Century Construction / Renovation Grants for public libraries. Requests for grant funding totaled \$638,802.00 from 21 public libraries. The Maine Library Commission was able to fund \$496,577.00 to 16 libraries. The total value of the library construction/renovation projects supported by the New Century grants totaled over \$12,000,000.

The following libraries received grants:

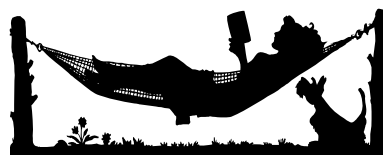
Library	Town	Project Name	Project Description	Recommended Amount to Be Funded
Calais Free Library	Calais	Air Conditioning the Children's Section of the Calais Free Library	Adding AC to two large rooms in children's section, located in older section, built in 1892, renovated in 2002	\$4,430.00
Carrabassett Valley Public Library	Carrabassett	Building For the Future	Build a new library of 4,100 square feet, located in an easily accessible, well traveled area	\$45,000.00
Cary Library	Houlton	New Energy Efficient Furnace	Replace 40 year old heating system with a new energy-efficient system	\$16,016.00

Charlotte Hobbs Mem. Library	Lovell	Expansion and Renovation of 100 Year Old Building	Existing areas to be rearranged and/or enlarged; Circ., YA & Children's area move to addition..	\$45,000.00
D.A. Hurd Library	No Berwick	Replacing Rain Gutters and Painting Exterior Wood Trim	Final steps to 2-year building maintenance to flooded children's room, storage area and conf. room.	\$500.00
Edythe L. Dyer Comm. Library	Hampden	Central Air Conditioning	Complete installation of two five-ton packaged rooftop air handling units, ductwork, required penetrations, etc.	\$24,631.00
Farmington Public Library	Farmington	Replace Historic-Architectural Slate Roof, Structural Repair, Insulate & Ventilate Attic	Replace slate roof and repair other structural deficiencies	\$21,000.00
Gardiner Public Library	Gardiner	Renovating the Main Floor	Renovate building by installing new HVAC system, removing old repairs, go back to original architecture	\$21,000.00
Jackson Memorial Library	Tenants Harbor	Construction of New Library for Town of St. George, Maine	Build a new library, accessible to all persons, accommodate whole community	\$45,000.00
Maine InfoNet/c/o Bangor Pub. Lib.	Bangor	Audiofile Duplication	Downloadable audio books for Maine libraries	\$40,000.00
Mildred Stevens Williams Mem. Lib.	Appleton	New Library & Comm. Center Const. Project Replacing 100 Yr. Old Grange Hall	Replace aging library with modern, safe & welcoming library	\$45,000.00
Orono Public Library	Orono	New Library Construction Project	To construct a new Orono Public Library	\$45,000.00
Pittsfield Public Library	Pittsfield	Expansion of the Original Carnegie Library	3,200 foot expand. for comm. meeting space, book stacks, new circ.desk, work area, ADA compliant elevator.	\$45,000.00
Shaw Public Library	Greenville	Renovating Building to Improve Accessibility and Compliance With ADA	Create 100% compliance with ADA; improve drainage; restore lost space for book storage and patron use	\$29,000.00
Vose Library	Union	"A Home of Our Own": A New Library Construction Project After Renting for 75 Years	A 4500 square foot energy efficient building to be constructed on property purchased 3 years ago.	\$45,000.00
Waterville Public Library	Waterville	Renovation and Expansion of 103 Year Old Building	Full renovation, w/ 800 square ft. addition with new ADA accessible entrance, elevator, centralized circ.desk	\$25,000.00
				Totals = \$496,577.00

Suggested Reading for Library Staff

***The Small Public Library Survival Guide* by Herbert B. Landau From ALA's new book announcement:**

If you're among the nearly 80 percent of libraries deemed "small", serving populations of 25,000 or fewer, then Landau's survival guide will give you the tested and practical techniques to ensure your small library's survival and growth. Landau, a seasoned marketer, applies his three decades of corporate marketing experience to save a small library faced with funding cuts. His customer-centric approaches brought in resources, volunteers, and in-kind donations and earned the



library local and national awards. In *The Small Public Library Survival Guide*, Landau shares practical tools and tested strategies, guiding small public library administrators, trustees, librarians, and friends to

- *Define the community's library service needs
- *Develop responsive programs
- *Generate resources to support the programs
- *Promote the library and its programs to patrons and funding communities

Packed with hands-on guidelines for attracting local support and building partnerships, this user-friendly guide outlines multiples avenues for obtaining funding and increasing cash flow. His low-cost, no-cost, and easily implemented techniques provide a solid foundation for small library success.

Herbert B. Landau is the Director of the Milanof-Schock Library in Mount Joy, PA. Under his direction, the library received the AARP's Award of Excellence for Services to Seniors and was a Pennsylvania Not-For-Profit Innovation Awards Contest finalist, and was named the 2006 Best Small Library in America by *Library Journal* and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. He holds an M.S. from the Columbia University School of Library Service.

I happened to be present in Columbus, Ohio at the Association of Rural and Small Libraries conference in September 2007 when Mr. Landau received the 2006 Best Small Library in America by *Library Journal* and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The book is filled with some thoughtful suggestions and great ideas. In 2002 his library became the first

State Librarian To Retire

passport acceptance agency in his region. His library earns an additional \$50,000 per year on this service! **Sonja Plummer-Morgan, director of the Mark and Emily Turner Library in Presque Isle**, was one of the members of the Maine delegation at this conference. Sonja came back to Maine and started this service in her own library. What a great way to bring some much needed capital into the local library and provide a great service for the public at the same time. At the Joint Fall Council meeting on October 3rd, the Turner Memorial Library was presented with the **2008 Maine Library Excellence Award** for their **Passport Services Program**.

After 38 years as Maine State Librarian, J. Gary Nichols will be retiring on October 27. In 2004 he received the **Outstanding Librarian** award from the Maine Library Association which honored Nichols for providing all the people of Maine with free and equal access to the wealth of library resources, and for serving "as a visionary in the effort to craft an environment of statewide resource sharing through innovative library cooperation and for exceptional dignity, warmth, grace, and good humor exerted on behalf of the profession."

He is the longest tenured State Librarian in the United States and currently serves as the national President of COSLA (Chief Officers of State Library Agencies). The following major accomplishments have taken place under his tenure as State Librarian:

- o Formation of the Maine Regional Library System
- o Creation of the Northeast Document Conservatory Center in Andover, MA
- o Creation of the Maine School and Library Network
- o Creation of the Maine Telecommunications Educational Access Fund

Calendar of Events

October	National Medical Librarians Month
October 6	FoML Annual Conference, Maine State Library, Augusta
October 17	Upper Penobscot Lib. Meeting, Katahdin Public Library
October 19-21	NELA Conference, Radisson Hotel, Manchester, NH
October 23-24	Maine Libraries Conference, Grand Summit Hotel, Bethel
October 29	Librarians That Lunch, Bangor Public Library
November 3	Maine Library Commission, Maine State Library
November 7	Mid-Coast Librarians Meeting, Stockton Springs Public Library
November 20	Tri-County Librarians, Abbott Memorial Library, Dexter
November 21	NMLD Executive Board Meeting
	Librarians That Lunch, Bangor Public Library
December 8	Tri-County Librarians, Thompson Free Library, Dover-Foxcroft
December 17	Librarians That Lunch, Bangor Public Library
January 12-16	Maine Libraries Week
January 21	Librarians That Lunch, TBA
January 23-28	ALA Midwinter Meeting, Denver, CO.
February 13	NMLD Executive Board Meeting
February 27	Librarians That Lunch, TBA
March 2	Maine Library Commission, Maine State Library, Augusta
March 27	Librarians That Lunch, TBA

Journal Entry #1 by Candis Joyce **The Swans Island Library Fire**

In trying to record the events surrounding the fire that burned the Swan's Island library, I have been trying to keep a journal of my thoughts and perceptions. Following is the first entry.

My phone rang a few minutes after 4 a.m. Ken Dutille, a board member, was on the phone saying the library was on fire. I was out the door a few minutes later only to return to my apartment to get the key to the front door of the library. Of course, I was thinking, I would have to let the firemen in.

As I was getting into my car I quickly look at the skyline and no glow was evident-ah, I thought, good. As I rounded the first corner from my apartment to the library the sky was lit up and all I could say to myself was no – no, no, no.

The fire department was already on the scene when I arrived. As I approached the building Seth Joy, one of our volunteer firefighters, spoke to me with more strength than I ever knew he had in him. “Candi,” he said, “we can’t put water on the fire until the power is cut off.”

It was all over then.

As I continued to look at the burning building I realized where the fire had started – on the side of the building where the Archives & Genealogy room was located. I felt sick.

Not that side of the building! So much history, unique papers & reminiscences. Everything from the Seaside Hall Centennial Exhibit!

As board members arrived we hugged each other and just stared at the fire. Siobhan came, Maili came, Christal – all distraught. Those who were involved in the renovation of the historic Old Atlantic Schoolhouse stood in shock as they watched their blood, sweat and tears go up in smoke. Community members gathered to watch the tragedy as we all supported one another.

As we watched the fire department do their work, shock started to turn to action. Siobhan said she had to do something – She went home and started making phone calls: Channel 5, the insurance company, our bank.

Someone thought of food for the firemen – I just wanted a cup of coffee, hoping maybe the hot bitterness would wake me from the nightmare I was in. Someone called Sheila at the Island Bake Shoppe to order drinks and some of their morning goodies. Sheila and her family were already loading everything into their car.

Dexter Lee, one of our selectmen, came up to me and said that the selectmen had decided that we could use part of the main room in the town office as a temporary library.

The sun was just starting to come up.

To step back a bit....

That was the worst thunder and lightning I can ever remember. It just didn’t stop or take a pause. The night sky shone as day behind the curtains of my bedroom. The bang and pop of the thunder was deafening. I know which strike lit the fire. It was the one that literally shook my bed. I know it wasn’t a good sign, but I settled back under the covers to drift back off to sleep as the noise started to subside. Jus a bit more sleep before getting up and readying for work – that peaceful place between waking and sleeping....

The phone rang a few minutes after 4 a.m.

The sun was just coming up.

The day continued, people gathered, firemen fought the fire, the tanker truck went back and forth refilling the water reservoir, people cried, they said sorry, they asked what we would do, people went away, they came back again. The Board of Trustees met at 8 a.m. at the Church of God annex. Others came too, Maili, Wesley, Fran – I can't remember what we talked about. It's written down somewhere. Oh, on my yellow pad of paper.

Phone calls started coming in:

The insurance company – they were on it, the fire marshal will be out.

Channel 5 News called –Susan Farley needed a ride, the ferry wasn't running because of a power outage.

Insurance call, taking notes, answering question, Susan Farley can't get to the island, hugging people, more phone calls in and out, insurance people, Susan Farley is coming out, people looking, talking, encouraging, what are you going to do, being encouraged.

The day continued as above.

The building was gone.

We will rebuild.

The library opened at the town office that afternoon for its usual Thursday hours.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the folks at the **Orono Public Library!** After years of hard work, the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Orono Public Library took place on Tuesday, September 23rd.

Our hearty congratulations to all the libraries in the district who were recipients of King Foundation Grants--**Thomaston Public Library, Orono Public Library, Cherryfield Public Library, Stockton Springs Public Library** and the **Tri-County Consortium**. We are sure there are others, but these are the ones that we have heard from. We wish you all the best with your projects.



**Maine Community Foundation Awards Challenge
Grant to two NMLD Libraries**

As part of its 25th anniversary celebration, the Maine Community Foundation has awarded \$25,000 challenge grants to 19 nonprofits in Oxford, Franklin, Somerset, Piscataquis, Aroostook, Washington, and Hancock Counties to establish new

permanent endowments or expand existing endowments. The challenge grants recognize the foundation's origins in rural Maine and in Hancock County, where MaineCF has been headquartered since its founding in 1983.

The 25/25 Nonprofit Endowment Challenge is a one-to-one matching opportunity that will require selected organizations to raise \$25,000 in new funds within 18 months in order to secure the challenge grant, resulting in \$50,000 of new or additional endowment dollars.

Selected nonprofits will also receive technical assistance from MaineCF to help them develop a case for support for their endowment-building campaigns and to explore new advancement opportunities such as bequests and other planned gifts.

The 25/25 Endowment Challenge winners are:

Acadia Senior College, Mount Desert
Center Theatre, Dover-Foxcroft
Frenchman Bay Conservancy, Hancock
Great Auk Land Trust, Milbridge
Great Pond Mountain Conservation Trust, Orland
Healthy Island Project, Deer Isle
Mahoosuc Land Trust, Bethel
Maine School of Science and Mathematics, Limestone

Milbridge Public Library, Milbridge

Northeast Historic Film, Bucksport
Opera House Arts, Stonington
Penobscot East Resource Center, Stonington
Pierre Monteux School, Hancock
Rangeley Region Health Center, Inc., Rangeley

Robert Frost Memorial Library, Limestone

Salt Pond Community Broadcasting, East Orland
Western Mountains Alliance, Farmington

Whitneyville Library and Whatnot Association, Inc., Whitneyville

Woodie Wheaton Land Trust, Durham

The foundation received 57 applications for the challenge grants. A committee of MaineCF county and regional program advisors and several staff members reviewed the applications and made the selections.

**First Eight Communities Selected for
Maine Community Heritage Project**

By Linda Lord, Deputy State Librarian and Steve Bromage, Assistant Director, Maine Historical Society

The Maine Historical Society, in partnership with the Maine State Library, is excited to announce that the first eight Maine communities have been selected to participate in the Maine Community Heritage Project (MCHP). The communities are: Bath, Farmington, Hampden, Islesboro, Lubec, New Portland, Presque Isle, and Thomaston.

Collaboration:

The Maine Community Heritage Project is an innovative new program that promotes collaboration between local schools, historical societies, and public libraries through the exploration and celebration of local history. It grows out of the [Maine Memory Network](#), the Maine Historical Society's nationally recognized statewide digital museum, and is supported by a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum & Library Services.

"We are thrilled at the response to the program, and very excited to be working with these eight communities," says Steve Bromage, Assistant Director of the Maine Historical Society. "Each brings great enthusiasm, commitment, and ideas. It is a diverse group-geographically, economically, socially, culturally, historically-something that is very important to us. They each bring their own interests, resources, and senses of who they are as communities. These teams will help us refine our program model and develop resources that, ultimately, will be available to any community in Maine."

Timeframe June 2008 - June 2009:

Each team will participate in an intensive one-year process (June 2008-June 2009) that will mobilize their communities around the exploration, gathering, and sharing of their local history. They will also receive a \$10,000 grant to support project activities. Working closely with Maine Historical Society and Maine State Library staff, they will: (1) inventory local historical and cultural resources; (2) digitize 100-200 historic documents, photographs, artifacts, etc. from local collections and upload them to the Maine Memory Network; (3) write an illustrated online narrative that introduces key themes and topics in the history of the community (approximately 3000 words); (4) create online exhibits that draw on historic documents, photographs, artifacts, oral history interviews, and/or other resources to explore specific topics in local history; and (5) create a new website within the Maine Memory Network that showcases and provides access to these resources.

Popular Program:

The Maine Historical Society received fifty applications for the program. Applications were reviewed by a panel of librarians, educators, and historians and evaluated based on the team's enthusiasm, commitment to local partnership, and ability to complete the project. Selection of communities also took into account the geographic, economic, and social diversity of the applicant pool and overall balance of the eight teams.

Future Opportunities:

Eight additional communities will be selected next spring to participate in a second project cohort that will run from June 2009-June 2010. Application guidelines will be posted in early 2009.

Participating communities:

Bath: The Bath team - a partnership between the Patten Free Library, Bath Historical Society, and Bath Middle School - will explore the history of downtown Bath and create an online map exhibit with links to highlight important events, sites, and people in Bath's history.

Farmington: The Farmington team - a partnership between Farmington Public library, Farmington Historical Society, Mount Blue Middle School, and the Center for Community GIS - will identify local resources, use technology to promote the study of history, and to put their recently completed walking tour online.

Hampden: The Hampden team - a partnership between the **Edythe L. Dyer Community Library**, Hampden Historical Society, **Reeds Brook Middle School**, and the Hampden Communication Committee - will promote broad citizen involvement in presenting Hampden's history and is interested in using broadcast and web media to make local resources available to the public.

Islesboro: The Islesboro team - a partnership between the **Alice L. Pendleton Library**, Islesboro Historical Society and **Islesboro Central School** - will collaborate to preserve the island's historical resources and to create a user-friendly way to access local historical source materials about the island.

Lubec: The Lubec team - a partnership between the **Lubec Memorial Library**, Lubec Historical Society, **Lubec Consolidated School**, West Quoddy Lightkeepers Association, Association to Promote and Protect the Lubec Environment, and the Lubec Bicentennial Committee - will focus on preparing for Lubec's bicentennial in 2011 and providing new research for an updated town history.

New Portland: The New Portland team - a partnership between the New Portland Community Library, New Portland Historical Society, and MSAD #74 - has created a new partnership to document and share the town's history for the upcoming bicentennial and the 20th anniversary of the their library.

Presque Isle: The Presque Isle team - a partnership between the **Mark & Emily Turner Memorial Library**, Presque Isle Historical Society, MSAD #1, and the **University of Maine at Presque Isle** - will utilize the MCHP to strengthen existing partnerships and tie their work into Presque Isle's downtown revitalization, upcoming sesquicentennial, and their existing oral history project.

Thomaston: The Thomaston team - a partnership between **Thomaston Public Library**, Thomaston Historical Society, **Georges Valley High School**, and The General Henry Knox Museum - is committed to forging strong community relationships that will give student and adult researchers access to local history resources, capture local stories, and generate local interest in town history.

For more information, please contact Stephanie Philbrick, Community Partnership Coordinator, Maine Historical Society, at sphilbrick@mainehistory.org or (207) 774-1822. For ongoing updates, please visit <http://www.mainememory.net/mchp>

The Maine Historical Society <http://www.mainehistory.org> preserves the heritage and history of Maine: the stories of Maine people, traditions of Maine communities, and the record of Maine's place in a changing world.

Maine InfoNet Downloadable Audio Project

Maine InfoNet received a \$40,000 grant to offer libraries everywhere in the state the opportunity to provide their patrons access to downloadable audio books and other digital resources. The grant will pay for the configuration and license fees for three years and for one year of maintenance fees. Libraries that join this new project will be asked to pay an annual fee to purchase content.

This project will provide online access to downloadable audio books, eBooks and other popular digital media through OverDrive. Patrons will be able to checkout downloadable digital content via the Internet utilizing state-of-the-art digital copyright protection technologies for free, 24/7, from a statewide collection of audio books. Audio books can be downloaded in full or in segments, burned to a CD (where permitted by publisher) and/or transferred to hundreds of supported audio devices such as MP3 Players, iPods (where permitted by publisher) or Zune players.

The working committee is Shirley Helfrich, Valerie Osborne, Stephanie Zurinski, (the three State Library District Consultants), James Jackson Sanborn and Barbara McDade. Bangor Public Library has agreed to be the fiscal agent for the project

The committee is negotiating a three-year contract with OverDrive, since it is the only company right now that has rights for use on iPods and Zune Players. Fees for libraries will be based on population served, regardless of type of library. Academic libraries will base the population on the head count of students, faculty and staff.

The annual fees will be:

Libraries serving	
under 1,000	\$100.00
1,000-2,499	\$200.00
2,500-4,999	\$300.00
5,000-9,999	\$500.00
10,000-24,999	\$1,000.00
25,000+	\$1,500.00

Twenty percent of the fee will be used to pay the \$12,000 a year maintenance cost, 80% will go to purchase content that will be available statewide. We are asking libraries to make a three-year commitment to the program.

Any library that is a member of the Maine Regional Library System may join. However multiple copies cannot be purchased for use in school libraries, nor can the website be limited by library, so adult bestsellers will be available to everyone. Individuals may participate through their Area Reference and Resource Centers. The committee recommends that school libraries suggest that students use this service through the local public library or the ARRC library.

Libraries may join after the initial set up period, but it will cost them more money. If a library does not have its own ILS, or is a member of one of the MIN consortia, it will cost \$300 to join. If the library has its own, independent ILS, it will cost \$1,500 to join at a later date.

After the contract is signed the working committee will turn the project over to a Governance Committee that will have representatives from the ARRC libraries, one representative from each of the regional library districts, an academic library

representative, a special libraries representative and the Executive Director of Maine InfoNet. This committee would draft policies and appoint the "Selection Committee" which would become the Digital Collection Committee of Maine InfoNet.

This program will allow any library in Maine that chooses to participate to give its patrons access to a large digital collection. This service would not be possible for many small libraries. This collaboration will also benefit larger libraries since each library will not have to contract for basic set up and pay the annual maintenance fees.

Maine InfoNet
Downloadable Audio Project

1) Name of Library: _____
Phone number: _____
Address: _____

2) Director or Contact Person: _____
Address: (if different) _____
Email Address: _____

3) Type of library (circle one): public school system special academic

4) To which library district does your Library belong: _____

5) Is your library a member of _____ URSUS _____ Minerva _____ SOLAR
_____ Independent III Library) _____ Independent Circ./Cataloging System
_____ Other (please name)

6) If you have branch libraries, please indicate the # of separate physical libraries: _____

7) Does the general public have full access to your library: YES NO
If no what are the limitations on the public's use of your library:

8) Population your Library Serves: _____
(For school and academic libraries, please give "Head Count" of students, staff and faculty)

Signature _____ Date _____

Title _____

Return the application with check for first year's membership to:

Maine InfoNet
Downloadable Audio Project
% Bangor Public Library
145 Harlow Street
Bangor, ME 04401