

Making a Difference

A monthly sampler of educational, cultural, and economic contributions of Maine's public universities

Kalikow Named USM President



PORTLAND—The University of Southern Maine welcomes Theodora J. Kalikow as its new president effective on July 10. Her appointment was approved by the UMS Board of Trustees at its meeting held on Monday, July 9.

Kalikow is known statewide as a model for establishing outstanding campus-community relations and led several successful

campaigns at UMF, including the Education Matters! campaign for the UMF Education Center and the innovative joint fundraising campaign for UMF's Mantor Library and the Farmington Public Library. Under President Kalikow's leadership, UMF was recognized as one of the nation's top public liberal arts colleges for 15 consecutive years and was named one of 20 model universities committed to maximizing student potential in "Student Success in College: Creating Conditions that Matter," published by the American Association for Higher Education.

Kalikow replaces Dr. Selma Botman, who requested reassignment and will work to develop a strategic, system-wide approach to recruitment of international students.

UMA Students Take a Week to Focus on Community Service

AUGUSTA—The University of Maine at Augusta Office of Civic Engagement recently hosted a week of creative mini-community service opportunities for students who want to serve, but have limited time.

The program was entitled "Take the Summer Plunge into Civic Engagement," included a variety of options—from working on an organic farm to cleaning a beach at Casco Bay. Some of the projects were kid-friendly, allowing UMA students who are parents to participate and demonstrate the importance of community service to their children.

The volunteers cleared trails, organized a mobile art van, and worked with seniors, youth and people with disabilities.

UM Technology Research Center Opens

ORONO—The University of Maine's new Technology Research Center (TRC), which will connect private industry with UMaine researchers in the Forest Bioproducts Research Institute (FBRI) opened last month in Old Town. The TRC will commercialize developing fuel, chemical and advanced material technologies from forest bioproducts.

The 40,000-square-foot, high-bay facility, located on the grounds of Old Town Fuel & Fiber, features state-of-the-art process control and process information systems.

Many of the projects already in development in the lab and ready for pilot trials are the result of public-private partnerships, with investment from federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Defense Logistics Agency and National Science Foundation, and collaboration with private companies, including Maine paper companies, land management companies and small entrepreneurial start-ups.



UMFK to Display Artwork Celebrating the History and Culture of Acadia

FORT KENT—L'ArtCADIE, an exhibition of work by artists from across eastern Canada that highlights the 400th anniversary of the founding of Acadia, will be on display at the University of Maine at Fort Kent's [Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes](#) through Wednesday, August 15.

The exhibition is free and open to the public during the archives' regular business hours, Mondays through Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The archives will open its doors on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. for the L'ArtCADIE exhibition.

This prestigious visual arts exhibit brings together works by 32 professional artists and reflects the culture, history and Acadian life through time.



UMPI, Healthy Aroostook, and TAMC Partner to Hold Youth Triathlon

PRESQUE ISLE—Local children are being invited to get “Redy” to improve their level of physical activity by participating in the very first Redy...Set...Let’s Go! Youth Triathlon, scheduled to take place on September 9th at the University of Maine at Presque Isle. The Youth Triathlon is a collaboration of The Aroostook Medical Center, Healthy Aroostook, and the University of Maine at Presque Isle.

When attending the triathlon, local children may see Redy, the well-known mascot of Let’s Go. Event organizers decided to name the event after Redy because he plays an active role in educating youth about building healthy habits. The event is open to any child between the ages of 7 and 13. Children between the ages of 7 and 9 will swim 50 yards, bike 2 miles, and run one-half mile. Older participants will swim 100 yards, bike 2.5 miles, and run 1 mile.

Several free training sessions are being held throughout the summer to help children prepare for the event. Swimming and yoga sessions have already been held, and swimming, running, and Zumba sessions are planned for the coming months. All of these training sessions will be held at UMPI’s Gentile Hall. [Visit TAMC’s website for more information.](#)

New Student Research Journal Announced at USM

PORTLAND—USM will publish a new student research journal, dedicated primarily to highlighting the accomplishments of the numerous students engaged in research, scholarship and creative activity from all academic fields at USM.

The journal will be written in an accessible style to reach a broad audience, and all articles will be written by the students themselves. It will give quality student research important exposure to prospective students, parents, alumni, community members, donors, and the press, while providing a forum for the exchange of research and ideas. The journal will reflect the unique opportunities students, especially undergraduates, have to pursue scholarly activity outside the classroom during their time at USM.

The journal will be published electronically on [USM’s Research web site](#), with print issues released at Thinking Matters.



Works by Maine Master Harold Garde on Exhibit at UMF

FARMINGTON—The Emery Community Arts Center, located on the campus of the University of Maine Farmington has a new exhibit featuring paintings by Maine Master Harold Garde.

“Harold Garde’s People, Places and Things” will be on view in the Flex Space Gallery from until August 12, 2012.



The vibrant energy of Garde’s new paintings comes from the striking simplicity and boldness of color in his figures and objects. His use of surreal imagery blends seriousness and whimsy to captivate the viewer. Garde began his career in the 1950s as an abstract expressionist painter, later turning to the figurative subject. According to Garde, his use of acrylic paint on paper and canvas convey his desire for the simplest, the most direct, the most basic. Garde’s work appears in the collections of the Portland Museum of Art, the Farnsworth Art Museum, and the Museum of Florida Art, among many others. For information about Harold Garde’s work please visit www.haroldgarde.com.

Cooperative Extension Conducting Organic Milk Research



ORONO—Organic milk production has been one of the fastest-growing segments of organic agriculture in the U.S. in the last decade. Yet dairy farmers in the

Northeast are facing particular challenges due to federal regulations regarding animal access to pasture lands and the regional volatility of milk prices.

Cooperative Extension is part of a \$2.9 million study looking at ways to help dairy farmers meet the demands of the organic milk market. The four-year study is funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). For its portion of the research, UMaine is addressing needs expressed by organic dairy farmers in a 2010 series of focus groups.

UMaine researchers say Maine organic milk producers have indicated they want to make sure their product is highly marketable and provides a reasonable return for their labor and management. UMaine’s project as a whole looks at how to extend the pasture season and improve the quality of organic milk.

Machias Organizations Provide Youth Scholarships for Environmental Camp

MACHIAS— Thanks to contributions from two Machias-based organizations, more local youth will be able to enjoy a messy summer camp experience. The Maine Environmental Summer Session for Youth (MESSY), a hands-on environmental camp at UMM, has received contributions from the Downeast Coastal



Conservancy and Machias Savings Bank to provide camp scholarships for area youth.

Now in its fourth year, MESSY is aimed at promoting awareness, building knowledge, and stimulating active and creative approaches to environmental stewardship



and sustainability. Campers will take field trips, including a whale watch excursion, and will work with whale tracking and sighting data in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). They will also learn about the ways in which the Passamaquoddy people viewed and interacted with marine mammals.

UMaine Gets \$3 Million NSF Award For An Adaptation To Abrupt Climate Change Program

ORONO—The need to adapt environmental policies and management strategies to meet the social and ecological challenges caused by abrupt climate change events around the world is the focus of a new graduate program at the University of Maine beginning this fall, funded by a five-year, \$3 million award from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The program, called Adaptation to Abrupt Climate Change, is a collaboration between UMaine's Climate Change Institute and School of Policy and International Affairs, funded through NSF's Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program. It will support the international research of 24 Ph.D. students in Earth sciences, ecology, economics, anthropology and archaeology.

Their focus will be on threats of abrupt climate change to global security; ecosystem sustainability under abrupt climate change; and adaptation of economic, social, political and ideological systems to abrupt climate change. In addition to collaborative interdisciplinary research, the students will participate in policy and management internships with international, federal and state agencies and organizations.

UMPI, City of Presque Isle Team Up to Offer Fifth Annual "Music in the Park" Series

PRESQUE ISLE—Riverside Park in Downtown Presque Isle will once again be filled with music on Sunday afternoons this summer as the City of Presque Isle and the University of Maine at Presque Isle host the Fifth Annual "Music in the Park" Summer Concert Series.

The next concert, on August 12, features a jazz trio led by vocalist/composer Pyeng Threadgill. She will be accompanied by Maine's own Tyler Wood on keyboards and Evan Pazner on drums.

In 2008, the Music in the Park series was offered for the first time thanks in great part to a \$7,500 grant from the Maine Arts Commission. Local donations and sponsorships helped to cover the costs of the \$10,000 series, which featured six consecutive Sunday afternoons of music.

Since then, especially because of a strong community desire to see the series return, funding has been raised through donations and sponsorships so the event can continue.

UMF's "Mainly Outdoors" Program Announces Summer Schedule



FARMINGTON—University of Maine at Farmington's Fitness and Recreation Center is pleased to announce the outdoor recreation activities being offered this summer through its Mainly Outdoors program. This UMF program creates opportunities for individuals and groups to participate in all types of outdoor adventure activities, clinics, workshops and excursions.

The aim is to promote fitness, get people active, expose individuals to new recreation opportunities and take advantage of the abundant natural resources in our area. Activities are open to both the campus and members of the public.

Visit the [UMF website](#) for more information.

UMaine Unveils New Comprehensive Strategic Plan

ORONO— Earlier this month, University of Maine President Paul Ferguson released a strategic plan that creates a blueprint for the state's flagship public university to become one of the most distinctive universities in the country for student achievement and community engagement.

The plan, "[The Blue Sky Project: Reaffirming Public Higher Education at Maine's Flagship University](#)," was accepted by the University of Maine System trustees at their July meeting. It outlines five strategic pathways, summarized as the "Five M's," and a series of related initiatives and strategies to transform UMaine in the next five years:

- Maine's Renewal
- Money and Management
- Morale and Marketing
- Mentoring and Modeling
- Master Plan and Maintenance

Ferguson, who came to UMaine in July 2011 and was formally inaugurated as the 19th president this past April, began the "Blue Sky" project shortly after arriving on campus. More than 30 informational meetings attracted hundreds of participants and more than 250 contributors submitted "blue sky ideas."

Variety of Teacher Certification Courses Available Online

AUGUSTA—Educators and students at all levels seeking courses toward teacher certification or re-certification can choose from a growing number of courses offered at

University College for the Fall 2012 semester, which begins in September. Courses are taught by UMS faculty at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Courses are offered at many centers statewide, but most of the courses are delivered online. Students without high-

speed internet access can participate in the courses at University College's well-equipped computer labs. Staff at each center offer support to all students who are new to online learning.

Registration for the Fall 2012 semester courses is open and ongoing. Call 1-800-868-7000 for more information. To view a complete listing of fall semester education courses, please [click here](#).



Steuben Artist Robert Bryson Exhibits at UMM Art Galleries

MACHIAS—Steuben artist Robert Bryson has an exhibit at the University of Maine at Machias' Art Galleries through August 10.

Bryson's show at UMM, "Portrait Project-2011/2012," features paintings and drawings of individuals he has encoun-

tered over the past 25 years. The full collection includes paintings and drawings of more than 175 subjects, including friends, relatives, strangers, newsworthy individuals, and self-portraits. His favorite pieces from the collection will be on display during the UMM show.

Bryson is a graduate of the University of Maine with a degree in art education. He has exhibited extensively throughout Maine and his work has been published in Relix Magazine and Outer Darkness Magazine. His editorial cartoons appear regularly in the Machias Valley News Observer. The UMM Art Galleries, located on the first floor of Powers Hall, are open weekday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. For more information, please call Art Gallery Director Bernie Vinzani at 255-1279.

USM Program Faculty Meet with Maine Tourism Leaders

PORTLAND—As faculty in USM's [Program in Tourism & Hospitality](#) get ready for their first year, they are taking time to meet with key individuals in Maine tourism, the arts, and community development. These meetings allow USM faculty to explain the goals of the program and discuss ideas for aligning the program with the needs and interests of key stakeholders throughout the state.

These meetings reinforce one of the key goals of the program, which is to build strong connections with key elements of the Maine tourism and hospitality industry in order to provide students with the most relevant knowledge and experiences possible. USM is looking to create graduates who are ready to enter the landscape of tourism in Maine and beyond with a full appreciation and understanding of the scope of the industry and its connections to the arts, cultural heritage, and community development.

