

COUNTY NEWS



Maine County Commissioners Association Newsletter

In this issue:

- Maine Municipal Tax Collectors' & Treasurers' Association Conference
- ATV Safety Grant for Aroostook County
- NACo News on WIOA
- Elder Abuse Awareness
- MSA President Seeks to Inspire UMA Graduates
- Counties Working the DARE Program
- Waldo County and the Restorative Justice Project Outreach
- Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics



Maine Municipal Tax Collectors' and Treasurers' Association 2014 Annual Conference

The Register of Deeds for Penobscot County, Susan Bulay, was a presenter at the Maine Municipal Tax Collectors' and Treasurers' Association 2014 Annual Conference held recently at the Cross Center in Bangor.

Susan spoke about recent changes in the filing of municipal quit claim deeds, the law regarding free copies from registry internet sites, how to search the records and the procedure for filing municipal tax liens and discharges. Attendees asked very good questions about the presentation.

The Registers routinely speak at these types of events and are always willing to educate submitters and researchers so that everyone can do their jobs more efficiently.

The Aroostook Sheriff's Office has received a grant to begin carrying out ATV safety patrols in the county. Riders are encouraged to drive safely and soberly while enjoying all of the natural beauty and adventure the county has to offer.



NACO News on WIOA

On June 25, 2014, the Senate passed H.R. 803, the **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)** with a 95-3 vote. H.R. 803 (as amended) represents a bipartisan, bicameral compromise between the SKILLS Act, (H.R. 803), which was passed by the House in March 2013, and the Workforce Investment Act of 2013 (S. 1356), which was passed by the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee in July 2013. This bill will consolidate job training programs under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) into a single funding stream. It will also amend the Wagner-Peyser Act, reauthorize adult-education programs, and the programs under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The various job programs are being authorized for six years with a requirement that they record and report on how many people get new jobs through their participation in the programs.

MSA President Seeks to Inspire UMA Graduates



This month, Kennebec County Sheriff Randall Liberty spoke at the UMA Graduation as the President of the Maine Sheriffs' Association. "Remember that leaders are lifelong learners," he said. "Although you are graduating today, remember, you must continue to grow and learn."



Counties Working the DARE Program

In June, the Aroostook County Sheriff's Office sent a dispatcher to Camp Postcard as a camp counselor. The Deputy Sheriff's youth fund also donated food for the kids. Camp POSTCARD ("Police Officers Striving to Create and Reinforce Dreams") is a free week-long summer camp for Maine 5th and 6th graders which helps them build relationships, learn life skills, change their perceptions of law enforcement, reduce high school dropout rates, and improve literacy and college acceptance rates. Launched in 1994, the camp is held every June on the grounds of Agassiz Village in Poland, Maine. It is staffed by volunteer law enforcement and criminal justice professionals, community volunteers, and Volunteers of America personnel. Camp POSTCARD is a long-term partnership among the Maine Sheriffs' Association, the Maine D.A.R.E. Officers Association, and Volunteers of America Northern New England.

Knox County Sheriff's celebrated recent essay winners with a "2014 DARE Picnic" held at Damariscotta Lake State Park. This picture features Nathaniel Jack, John Palmer, Lance Mitchell, Tim Carroll and Donna Dennison with the winners.



Elder Abuse Awareness

Maine Sheriff's departments worked together to promote "Elder Abuse Awareness Day" on June 15th. Maine's most vulnerable adults, the older adults in our communities, experience abuse at an alarming rate. Over 33,000 older Mainers are abused each year.



370 people from across the state met at a recent summit to address a wide variety of aging issues affecting Maine communities. This summit resulted in a 16-member working group organized by House Speaker Mark Eves and the Maine Council on Aging. A collaborative, statewide effort to prevent elder abuse is one goal of the "Blueprint for Action on Aging", which this council issued in March. The blueprint lays out a community-centered approach and key legislative steps for strengthening opportunities for housing, transportation, workforce, health and public safety for aging Maine people. Community meetings in each of these areas will be held throughout the state in the coming months. Sagadahoc County Sheriff Joel Merry, who sits on the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention, is calling on all Maine residents to step up awareness, prevention, and response efforts.

~Read more here.



Waldo County works with the Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast, a program promoting fundamental change in the justice system and schools. It just received a \$60,000 grant from the Emanuel and Pauline A. Lerner Foundation which will enable comprehensive outreach to the community to promote understanding of restorative justice. RJP provides services to schools, juvenile court, and the Maine Coastal Regional Re-entry Center in Belfast. Key components of this outreach effort are to involve more community members as facilitators of restorative conferences and as mentors of juvenile and adult offenders, to equip them to bring restorative practices into many aspects of their lives, and to build public understanding of restorative justice.



The second annual Rancourt's Run/Walk 5K was organized to benefit Special Olympics Maine in honor of Androscoggin County Sheriff's Deputy David J. Rancourt. It is a Law Enforcement Torch Run event which was held at Central Maine Community College on June 21st. 130 people came out to participate and almost \$4,000 dollars were raised. This was one of many events around the State for the Special Olympics Maine. Among others, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office participated in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run on June 4th.

