



SERVING THE WESTERN MOUNTAINS OF MAINE WHERE THE KIDS GROW STRAIGHT AND TALL AND THE WOMEN ARE ALL GOOD LOOKING.

Aliberti to take over Kingfield school

By David Hart
Irregular Staff

SALEM — The big news of the night last Thursday at the MSAD #58 school board meeting came after a short executive session. It was announced that Kingfield middle school English teacher Marco Aliberti will be promoted and take the reigns as principal of the Kingfield school.

Aliberti will take over for Brenda Stevens who has been the principal there for seven years. Based on a school board decision last week, Stevens will be taking over as the new principal at Mt. Abram High School.

The vacancy at Mt. Abram comes with the retirement of award-winning principal Jeanne Tucker. Tucker had spent nearly 20 years at MTA and last year she became the Maine Principal Association's "Principal of the Year."

Also leaving the district next year as well as the 2009/2010 budget will be Phillips' principal David Crandall and Pathway Partners' Gary Perlson.

Superintendent Quenten Clark will become the district's "super-principal" — he will remain the superintendent of the district

and also become principal of the Phillips Elementary School.

It was announced that evening that elementary art teacher Steve Mitman will spend half his time at Mt. Abram doing part of what Perlson did for the high school and the other half teaching art at the elementary schools.

This means that the district will proceed into the next budgetary year less two full-time administrators —nearly a \$200,000 savings. This savings coming without the loss of an administrator in any one building, but principals in the future may be playing multiple rolls as teachers and/or program leaders.

Clark passed around the latest version of next year's budget. The newest version shows that the budget stands at \$10,132,326, up \$299,064 from the previous year.

This increase, Clark explained, was not due to added expenses of the district, but rather the state's desire to control and mandate how each district in the state formulates

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Sunny bunny day

Matthew Williams in the arms of the Easter Bunny, AKA Linda Lowell, at the Coplin Easter Egg Hunt at the old Coplin School House on April 11.

Kingfield Board of Selectmen

Commercial road upgrade draws crowd

By David Hart
Irregular Staff

KINGFIELD — The selectmen in Kingfield discussed the status of town-owned Commercial Road and some plans for future improvement last Monday, April 6.

Town voters decided to take over the road at the annual town meeting in 2008.

Some local businesses owners and abutting property owners were present that evening.

Board chair Heather Moody confirmed that the road will never be posted.

At the meeting, members acknowledged that the road needed to be reconstructed to its 22-foot width with new culverts, drainage ditches and catch basins. The commercial road, which provides access to the town's fire department, is 1,220 feet long.

"We are with you and we want to try to make it right. It might not happen yesterday —but we're on our way," Selectman Neal McCurdy said.

It was estimated that the road reconstruction may cost upward of \$25,000 with 325 tons of paving material needed.

There was additional discussion about the possible need to move the Nostalgia Tavern sign. This sign will act as the electrical source for a future blinking red emergency light that will signify that fire trucks are entering Route 27 during an emergency.

Moody stressed that they'll have to

work with several parties involved to find the final placement of the sign.

The road project is in the tax increment financing district and a qualified project for TIF expenditure. However town voters will have to be called for a Special Town Meeting to allow the use of any TIF funding.

Moody did stress that they would like to think "outside of the box" for other revenue sources noting that the road is crossed by local snowmobile and ATV traffic as examples. She was referring to any possible grants or funding sources outside of town funds.

The selectmen did note that they would work toward the project completion and agreed that the project should be done once and done right. However there was no specific commitment on a start date.

The selectmen went onto to disapprove a request from Road Commissioner Bruce White to enter a contract for weekly/monthly uniform supply. Although the initial weekly cost sounded reasonable, selectman Merv Wilson noted the annual costs at \$1,200 and stated that it sounded too high.

Wilson used his own practical experience in the construction field and his own use of work clothing and cited pricing.

Members then went on to hear from Bentley Woodcock of the Kingfield

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Another year younger

Rowena Reed, who celebrated her 90th birthday on Sunday, April 4, at the Parish House at the Strong United Methodist Church, is pictured with her nephew, Wayne Bernard of Milford, N.H. Reed hadn't seen Bernard for over four years until her Sunday celebration. See story on page 9.

(Laura Dunham photo)

Stages set for Reggae at the Loaf

By David Hart
Irregular Staff

CARRABASSETT VALLEY — This weekend marks the start of the 21st annual Bud Light Reggae Fest with festivities starting on Thursday, April 16 with VibeWise performing at the Widomaker Lounge.

Friday night's headlining band will be Westbound Train, a seven-member, Boston-based band that produces modern reggae and ska music. The band has toured the United States and Europe since its inception in 2001. The band will be coming on the King

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