



OUT & ABOUT WITH LAURA

by Laura Dunham



Howard and Laura Dunham's new kitten, Ike, sleeps soundly nestled in with Laura's collector dolls. (Laura Dunham photo)

I ran into Rodney Holbrook this week. He was so upset that someone had stolen one of the American Flags they had erected along Route 27 in New Vineyard. Howard and Rodney both agreed it's tough to accept that someone would go so far as to take a ladder and take down our flag that means so much to those who have lost someone or has served in the military.

I was sad to learn that Beulah Moore had fallen again and is a resident at Maple Crest Nursing Home in Madison. Her address is 174 Main Street, Room 106, Madison, Maine, 04940; or you can call her at 696-8225 or 1-800-545-8225.

My bingo buddy, June DeLong, told me Saturday that she along with her 10 brothers and sisters had given sister Gloria Lane of Embden a housewarming last Saturday after her new home had been put in place. June

and Gloria escaped from the house when it was destroyed by fire in April.

Last week Emmons and Barbara Pinkham told me they had met up with college friends in Bar Harbor, "Where we all worked at the Bar Harbor Inn," said Barbara "we were invited to check out a history wall there and there was a framed photo of Veronica Lake in 1953." I sure remember that I was a June Allison and Van Johnson fan myself with their photos on my bedroom wall.

Emmons and Barbara are also working on Lexington Old Home Days in observance of the 200-year celebration. If you would like to go on a guided bus tour of Lexington either at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m., from Happy Horseshoe Campground and learn more of the genealogy and history of the area, you should call 628-3171 to reserve a seat at \$5 per person.

Steve Pinkham, author of "Mountains of Maine" will be on hand to autograph his book and you will be able to pre-pay and order the "Pinkham Book" to be printed this summer.

I'm not sure that everyone is a fan of American Idol as I am but it is exciting to see one of the judges, Kara Dioguard, who in two weeks will be marrying Mike McCuddy of Phillips. Now the story goes that Mike, a contractor, was building a new home in Prospect Harbor next to Kara's home and she went to ask for some help and the rest is history. Mike graduated from Mt. Abram High School in 1993. Kara showed off photos this week on the Regis and Kelly morning TV show of the little chapel in Prospect Harbor where she and Mike will be married and photos of Mike's 12-year-old daughter who Dioguard referred to "as her wedding planner." Kara showed Regis photos of the mud flats and hopes that the tide would work in her favor on their wedding day.

How exciting! Brian and Kate Schulz formerly of Kingfield are parents of a new baby boy, Asher James, born June 24 at Mass General Hospital. Asher James will join his siblings, Maggie and Kiernan, at their home in North Reading, Mass.

The Central Girls enjoyed their lunch at the Old Mill Pub in Skowhegan and then went on a tour of the New Portland Historical House last week. This week, four of the Central Girls, Dize Dunham, Doris Philbrick, Carol McLaughlin and Billie Tripp, went on an overnight trip to Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts.

Some things you may want to mark on your calendar: on Aug. 1 there will be a bean-hole bean supper on Beanie Beach (on the Strong side) at 5 p.m. to mark the 40th anniversary of the Porter Lake Association. Anyone who would like to help with the supper or bring food should be there by 4 p.m. The money, said member Marge McHugh, will go toward the swim program, boat inspections and lake protection programs. Any questions call Marge at 684-5765. And the annual New Portland Community Library fund raising ice cream social will be held July 16 at 6 p.m. at the town fire station meeting room.

Stratton-Eustis Lion's Club members recently had as their guest speaker Supervisory Customs and Border Protection Officer Greg Pease of Stratton. The talk was

mainly on the requirement for new documents for border crossing that started June 1. Greg did say that of the 468 million people crossing the some 323 points of entry annually 20,000 criminal aliens are refused, 640,000 aliens apprehended; 6,700 people for drug charges and 7,500 accused of other crimes. The border officers have seized \$2.2 million in illegal drugs, \$130 million in illegal trade goods, 78,000 fraudulent documents and \$1.5 million in agricultural items, Greg said. Copies of the new documents for passports or passport cards for crossing the border may be picked up at the Stratton Post Office.

As members of the Casco bay band made their way off the Kennedy field at the Kingfield POPS Saturday night, I for one told them what a great job they had done and one man exclaimed, "Thank you for having us... it was an exciting day." He then told me the tour bus did not see any detour sign on the Katie Crotch Road and went right by to the Highland-Flagstaff area where they were lost for two hours... where are the signs? This is not the first time... a tour bus recently from Canada did the same thing trying to find Route 16 where a new bridge is being put in making Route 16 closed from the North Village.

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NEW VINEYARD: On the Anson Valley Road, a wooded 58+/- acre lot with available power and 450 feet of frontage on a year-round maintained road. Halfway between Farmington and Sugarloaf/USA ski resort. **\$99,500. #934153**



NEW PORTLAND: This town could use a store! 48x56' garage/shop with office and supply room, & 1/2 bath. Has steel roof, power, septic system. On a concrete slab. New 'store-front' look! Also an 8 unit storage building currently bringing in good income. These buildings are on two lots consisting of approx. .43 acre. **\$159,000 #I985158**

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