



Fall 2007

# MaineCF

NEWS FROM THE MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## legacies for maine

# Giving Without Recognition

The Belvedere Fund donor brought personal passion to her philanthropy.

Deborah Pulliam once told a friend that she had read an article in the *Bangor Daily News* about an anonymous philanthropic gift that so inspired her that she, too, wanted to give to the cause. Then she realized, with some embarrassment, that she already had given. She was the inspiring donor.

That story is as telling about Pulliam as any could be. She gave generously, passionately, anonymously—and without attachment. The results inspired her, and that was what mattered.

The daughter of Jane Bleecker and Eugene S. Pulliam, the former publisher of *The Indianapolis Star* and *The Indianapolis News*, Pulliam was raised in a powerful and comfortably affluent family.



*The Penobscot River Restoration Trust's ambitious collaborative effort to restore 11 species of native sea-run fish to the river's watershed received a major grant from the Belvedere Fund. The river holds deep cultural and spiritual significance to the Penobscot Nation, which has relied on it for sustenance and traditional activities for more than 10,000 years. Photo by Martin Neptune.*

## IN THIS issue

- A Nurse's Scholarship – p. 3
- York County Fund Launched – p. 3
- Schoodic Sculpture – p. 4
- Rescuing the Past – p. 4
- Campaign for Androscoggin – p. 5
- Professional Advisor – p. 6
- Five Presidents – p. 7
- Focus on Bangor Health – p. 7
- Merging for Success – p. 8

A writer herself, she was interested in carrying on the family trade, but in a more natural and simple setting. Twenty years ago, she came to Maine to work at the *Castine Patriot*. Then her father died, and four years later, she and her mother inherited a fortune. Literally.

Yet even friends close enough to share holidays with Pulliam did not know this. To them, she was a rather quiet woman who loved animals, cared deeply about textiles and history, and so loved cookies that she published two cookie recipe books and delighted in hosting cookie exchange parties before the holidays. To this day, many of her friends have no idea that she was at all philanthropic, just as

many did not know that the breast cancer she thought she had licked had returned—until it was almost too late to say goodbye. Pulliam died May 22, 2007. She was 54.

Stubborn, fun, smart, funny, opinionated and straightforward, Pulliam was fierce about not wanting people to treat her differently because she had money. When she heard about her estate, she contacted the Maine Community Foundation so she could give the bulk of her money away—on one condition. She demanded absolute anonymity.

Pulliam simply felt that she had been given more than one person needs or

(continued on pg. 2)



**Board of Directors**

- Kenneth S. Spirer**  
*Portland, Chair*
- Stephanie A. Bunker**  
*Dover-Foxcroft*
- Tae Y. Chong**  
*Portland*
- David M. Coit**  
*Cape Elizabeth*
- Jean M. Deighan**  
*Bangor*
- David C. Dixon, M.D.**  
*Strong*
- Caroline G. Donnelly**  
*York Harbor*
- Eileen M.L. Epstein, Esq.**  
*Portland, Treasurer*
- Sandra Featherman, Ph.D.**  
*Kennebunkport*
- Elisabeth C. Heyward**  
*Mount Desert*
- Horace Hildreth, Jr.**  
*Falmouth*
- Anne O. Jackson**  
*Yarmouth, Vice Chair*
- William H. Kieffer, III**  
*Bethel*
- David W. King**  
*Limestone*
- Donna M. Loring**  
*Bradley*
- C. Davis Pike**  
*Lubec*
- Betty D. Robinson, Ph.D.**  
*Auburn*
- Peter Rothschild**  
*Islesboro*
- Mary R. Saltonstall**  
*Camden*
- Bruce N. Schatz**  
*Manchester*
- Curtis Scribner**  
*Yarmouth*
- Calvin E. True, Esq.**  
*Brewer, Secretary*
- Anne L. Vartabedian**  
*Southport*
- Wendy G. Wolf, M.D., M.P.H.**  
*West Boothbay Harbor*
- Robert Woodbury**  
*Harpswell*
- Henry L. P. Schmelzer**  
*Somesville, ex officio*

**Staff**

- Karen Allen-Maguire**  
*Accountant*
- Lorrie Webster Ames**  
*Accountant*
- Ann Marie Bartoo**  
*Regional Coordinator (Androscoggin, Franklin, Oxford and Somerset)*
- Pamela Cleghorn**  
*Philanthropic Services and Program Officer*
- Elizabeth Fickett**  
*Administrative Assistant to Scholarships and Grantmaking*
- Cherie Galyean**  
*Regional Coordinator (Hancock, Knox, Waldo and Washington)*
- James Geary**  
*Vice President, Finance and Administration*
- Karen Hartt**  
*Philanthropic Services Research Coordinator*
- Marty Huckins**  
*Database Assistant*
- Meredith Jones**  
*Vice President, Program Development and Grantmaking Services*
- Liana Kingsbury**  
*Grants Manager*
- Carl Little**  
*Director, Marketing and Communications*
- Garrett Martin**  
*Director, Program Strategy*
- Helen McCain**  
*Administrative Assistant*
- Bethany Murray**  
*Grants Assistant*
- Amy Pollien**  
*Assistant to President and Program*
- Ellen Pope**  
*Vice President, Philanthropic Services*
- Charles Proctor**  
*Information Systems Administrator*
- Laura A. Reed**  
*Regional Coordinator (Piscataquis)*
- Gail Richardson**  
*Director, Finance*
- Pamela Scheppele**  
*Regional Coordinator (Aroostook)*
- Henry Schmelzer**  
*President*
- Jennifer Southard**  
*Director, Philanthropic Services*
- Peter Taylor**  
*Director, Grantmaking Services*
- Jean Warren**  
*Scholarship Funds Manager*
- Timothy Williams**  
*Receptionist and Office Assistant*
- Laura Young**  
*Vice President, Advancement*

**Giving Without Recognition** (continued from cover)

should have; she wanted to see what that money could do, says Ellen Pope, MaineCF’s vice president for philanthropic services. Not surprisingly, Deborah—and numerous organizations across the state, especially downeast—discovered that, yes, much could be accomplished.

Many of the grants from Pulliam’s Belvedere Fund, the foundation’s largest, are directed toward historic preservation, including the \$1 million anonymous challenge grant to the Bangor Museum and History Center to energize their \$3 million campaign (it was probably this gift that Pulliam read about in the *Bangor Daily News*). She also gave generously to the Maine Historical Society, as well as to the Maine State Museum, Ruggles House, Waterville Opera House and the Tides Institute and Museum of Art.

Hugh French, director of the Tides Institute, recalls the day MaineCF president Henry Schmelzer called to tell him about the Belvedere Fund grant. He was in the middle of the first phase of renovating the institute’s historic building in downtown Eastport. “It was a huge shot in the arm, a major reason why we were able to be successful,” says French of the grant. It did more than pay the bills; the funding showed the community that someone believed that the institute was on the right track. “It was an enormously beneficial award at a very critical time for us, and it ensured that we were going to be able to complete that first phase successfully,” adds French.

Pulliam’s grants to support land conservation have amounted to more than a million dollars and range from the Penobscot River Restoration Trust to Katahdin Lake to the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village to the Fund for Maine Land Conservation. Says Laura Rose Day, executive director of the Penobscot River



*Deborah Pulliam on a sunny day in Castine. Photo Mary Kneisel.*

Restoration Trust, “[The Belvedere grant] built a new era of momentum and confidence that will help us continue until the river flows freely.”

Pulliam was also a strong supporter of animal welfare groups, ranging from Hancock County’s Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to the global Jane Goodall Institute. Additionally, her passion for traditional crafts led her to support organizations such as Maine FiberArts, Maine Indian Basketmakers Alliance and Haystack Mountain School of Crafts.

But that isn’t all, says Pope. Pulliam cared deeply about people and social justice. She gave to food pantries, homeless programs and to organizations in the wake of the Asian tsunami and Hurricane Katrina, as well as to healthcare, especially community healthcare, including Castine Community Hospital. She might read about a homeless shelter in Bangor and call up the foundation to direct a grant to that group. “She had a real interest in downeast Maine and a real soft heart,” says Pope.

Giving without recognition, adds Pope, is considered the highest form of giving. To Deborah Pulliam, it seems to have been a matter of course.

new fund

## A Waterboro nurse leaves a special legacy

Bennett Scholarship supports students pursuing careers in medicine.

Constance Bennett knew the cost of going to school, especially in the field of medicine. Through a special bequest, Bennett, a nurse all her life, made sure that students in her part of York County would get financial help if they chose to follow in her footsteps.

Born Constance Allen on a farm in Waterville in 1924, “Connie,” as she was known to family and friends, graduated from Maine Central Institute in Pittsfield and the Providence Bible Institute in Rhode Island. She received LPN training at Booth Memorial Hospital in Boston. Following nursing stints in Massachusetts, Colorado and Maryland, Bennett got “the wandering” out of her system and returned to Maine where she worked in neurosurgery at Maine General Hospital in Portland.

It was there, in September 1953, that she met Howard Bennett of Waterboro, a surgical patient under her care. They fell in love and married. After moving to her husband’s family home, Constance worked at Goodall Hospital in Sanford, eventually transferring from LPN work to the lab. She once said that sometimes when seeing a familiar face she would not remember the name, but could remember the blood type.

Bennett retired in 1974, but continued to take care of her paraplegic husband, her mother and her mother-in-law. She volunteered for local organizations,



*Constance and Howard Bennett at their 25th wedding anniversary. Photo courtesy Linda M. Hanscom.*

including the Massabesic Middle School where she was a foster great grandparent.

At her death in 2003, Bennett left \$365,000 to provide scholarships to students from Massabesic High School in Waterboro pursuing careers in medicine. The Howard and Constance Bennett Scholarship Fund is a remarkable legacy to her commitment to supporting educational opportunity.

Information about this scholarship and many others can be found on the Maine Community Foundation website, [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org)

### York County Fund launched

As we go to press, MaineCF’s newest county committee is being formed. The York County Committee, chaired by foundation board member Caroline Donnelly, will oversee a permanent fund designated to support York County nonprofits. The committee expects to make its first grants in March 2008.

To learn more, please contact Laura Young, MaineCF’s vice president for advancement, at 207-761-2440 or [lyoung@mainecf.org](mailto:lyoung@mainecf.org).

Grant application information will be posted at [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org).



# “Pride of Place”

The Schoodic International Sculpture Symposium builds community.

This past summer seven sculptors from around the world (including two from Maine) gathered in Winter Harbor to create sculptures, working with native granite and basalt. The public was invited to view the works in progress at the Schoodic Education and Research Center.

MaineCF’s Hancock County Committee hosted a special reception at the symposium in August. In his welcoming remarks, HCC Chair Daniel Farrenkopf underscored the participatory and place-based nature of the foundation’s county funds. “Philanthropy is something observed by most from afar,” Farrenkopf

stated. “The county fund process is something community members participate in, which brings an unequalled pride of place.”

The symposium received significant support from MaineCF, including grants from the Hancock County Fund, Maine Expansion Arts Fund and Marshall Dodge Memorial Fund. In addition, two grants to Northeast Historic Film in Bucksport from the Hancock and Washington County Funds supported filming of the symposium.

Installation of the completed sculptures will take place this fall in Ellsworth, Milbridge, Southwest Harbor, Steuben, Sullivan and Winter Harbor.



Sculptors Dominika Griesgraber (left), from Poland, and Narihiro Uemura, from Japan, enjoy working in stone at Schoodic. Photo Daniel Farrenkopf.



# Rescuing the Past

Glass plate negatives offer images of Monson from the early 1900s.

When Frank Sherburne set up a studio in Monson back in the early 1900s, he proceeded to photograph the citizens of this Piscataquis County hamlet, as well as local landmarks. He captured women and children, workers at the local quarry, hunting dogs and snow-topped rooftops.

Among the photos in the Sherburne collection are several portraits of Carl Sprinchorn (1887-1971), the well-known Swedish-born painter, who came to Monson in the 1910s to live and paint. Photo courtesy Monson Historical Society and Todd Watts.

Thanks to a \$7,000 grant from the Piscataquis County Fund in 2006, some of those memorable portraits and scenes have been brought back to life. Todd Watts, a master photographer and printer from Blanchard, developed a selection of the negatives, which date from roughly 1909 to 1919.

This past summer the Monson Historical Society displayed the photos. While many of the negatives came with names, the society invited townspeople to help with identifying those that did not.

## Campaign for Androscoggin

An opportunity to increase grantmaking for “greater community benefit.”



Turner Center for the Arts Board Chair Garrick Grant and Director Jennifer Wadsworth take a tour of the juried exhibition “Circle of Life.” The center received a grant from MaineCF’s Androscoggin County Fund to cover fees for artists submitting work to next summer’s juried show—“a way to expand participation,” says Wadsworth. Photo Anne Ritchie.

### mark your calendar

## Maine Employers’ Initiative Program

On Tuesday, November 6, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Penquis Higher Education Center in Dover-Foxcroft, MaineCF’s Piscataquis County Committee will host a forum for business and community leaders to explore the Maine Employers’ Initiative program. One of five strategies of the Maine Compact for Higher Education, this program will support employers’ efforts to increase the educational attainment levels of their workforce.

For more information, contact Laura Reed, MaineCF regional coordinator for Piscataquis, at 564-3236 or call the foundation at 1-877-700-6800.

Thanks to a challenge grant from The Betterment Fund, the Androscoggin County Committee of the Maine Community Foundation will receive a dollar for every two dollars it raises—up to \$100,000—through October 15, 2008.

A successful campaign will expand the committee’s grantmaking activities in the county. “The Androscoggin County advisors hope many community-spirited individuals and businesses join our efforts to achieve this goal,” said William Hiss, chair of MaineCF’s Androscoggin County Committee. “A successful campaign will enable us to invest in more projects for greater community benefit,” he said.

Established in 2000, the Androscoggin County Fund has grown from \$50,000 to just over \$225,000 today. Since making its first grants in 2001, the committee overseeing the fund has awarded 60 grants totaling more than \$165,000 to nonprofits and public agencies in Androscoggin County.

The Betterment Fund has now awarded four challenge grants aimed at helping to spur the growth of MaineCF county funds.

### FMI

For information about ways to contribute to the campaign, contact Androscoggin County Fund coordinator Ann Bartoo (207-353-0600) or Laura Young, Vice President for Advancement (207-761-2440).

# Gifts That Keep On Giving

An attorney makes a case for planned gifts that sustain the organizations we value.

When Jeffrey Jones, an attorney specializing in trusts, estates and probate law, talks to clients about charitable giving, he encourages them to consider charitable giving independently, not just for tax reasons. He also believes in endowments, as he explained in a recent conversation with Ellen Pope, vice president for philanthropic services at the Maine Community Foundation.

**MaineCF:** *When and how do you bring up charitable giving with clients?*

**Jeffrey Jones:** I send a questionnaire, which the client fills out before the first conference. It asks, "If taxes weren't a consideration, describe your estate plan." After that it asks them some specific questions, one of which is, "Would you like to give any portion of your estate to charity?" At our first conference I review the answers, which in nearly every case leads to a conversation about charitable giving (even if the answer was "no").

**MaineCF:** *You place charitable goals before tax considerations?*

**Jones:** My philosophy of estate planning is that you should plan your estate the way you want to and forget about the tax laws. Then my job is to structure the estate plan to accomplish the client's wishes at the lowest tax cost.

A lot of [clients] don't have a particular charitable organization that they want to benefit. That's where the Maine Community Foundation can help, to add focus to estate plans. With a donor-advised fund, for example, clients can fine-tune what they want to achieve and be confident that the fund will be managed the way they want it to be.

**MaineCF:** *You have made a strong case for endowment giving.*

**Jones:** I think that's the way we can keep the organizations that we think are valuable going.

Here's a story that highlights that idea. A client of mine, a widower, made annual gifts to his church and to other organizations. He called me a few years ago and said he wanted to make a new will. He wanted to include a charitable bequest of \$100,000 to be divided among five organizations. I asked him what motivated this idea and he said, "I give each of these organizations \$500 a year. I want to do something to keep that going." He was endowing his annual gift. I call that "the gift that keeps on giving."

**MaineCF:** *What resources would you recommend to fellow attorneys?*

**Jones:** The Maine Planned Giving Council is an excellent resource. I also like the Planned Giving Design Center on the Maine Community Foundation website. I signed up for the email alerts, so I get notices of new tax laws and other news on a regular basis. I think it's the best charitable planning resource for professionals on the web.

**MaineCF:** *Are there any recent changes to laws covering charitable giving that you would bring up with your clients?*

**Jones:** The latest thing is last year's legislative change that allows some limited gifts from IRAs to charities without having a full tax impact. A lot of people with large IRAs have an impression that they're going to be able to pass them on to the next generation. I have to give them the bad news: not only are IRAs subject to estate tax, they're also subject



Jeffrey W. Jones is a counselor at law based in Ellsworth, Maine. He helps clients plan for the protection and transfer of family real estate, businesses and other significant assets to their descendants. A graduate of Princeton University and Rutgers University School of Law, Jones is a founding member of the Maine Planned Giving Council.

to income tax when the money is taken out. If charitable giving is a part of an after-death estate plan, the best assets you can give are IRAs. You're not only saving the estate taxes on those assets, you're saving the income tax that any individual would pay.

## Public Good, Private Benefit

Opportunity to contribute IRA assets is open through 2007.

A temporary provision allowing people 70 1/2 years or older to make tax-free distributions from their individual retirement accounts (IRAs) for charitable purposes will come to an end in December 2007. The Public Good IRA Rollover Act (S.819 and H.R. 1419) allows individuals to exclude from income up to \$100,000 a year in charitable gifts from IRAs.

If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, please call Ellen Pope or Laura Young at the Maine Community Foundation.

## A Fete for Edward Kaelber

More than 80 friends of Edward Kaelber gathered at a reception in mid-July to honor his leadership as founding president of College of the Atlantic and the Maine Community Foundation and to celebrate the establishment of the Kaelber Scholarship for Maine Students of Outstanding Promise. The scholarship currently has assets of more than \$150,000 and is growing.



Five (actually six) past and present presidents of College of the Atlantic and the Maine Community Foundation gather in the Newlin Gardens at COA. L to R: Henry Schmelzer, MaineCF president; Marion Kane, former MaineCF president; Edward Kaelber, founding president, COA and MaineCF; Steven Katona, former COA president; David Hales, COA president. Photo Toby Hollis.

## Grantmakers Gather

Penobscot Valley Health Association



Nine members of the PVHA committee met at Merrill Bank in Bangor to review grant applications. Back row, l to r: Dr. Tom Kandra, Lewis Payne, Dr. Frank Bragg (committee chair), Don Winslow; front row, l to r: Connie Ronco, Susan Blier, Shawn Yardley, Marilyn Lavelle and Brian Welsh. Photo: Laura Reed.

The committee that advises the Penobscot Valley Health Association Fund at MaineCF meets once a year to review applications from Bangor-area organizations focused on health. This past June they recommended grants totaling \$106,000 to five organizations, including Eastern Maine AIDS Network, Penobscot Community Health Center and Grace for Grace Ministries. The committee is interested in supporting efforts to address overlooked health issues in the community, in particular the physical and mental health needs of youth.

spotlight grant

# Institute for Civic Leadership and The Board Network

A merger leads to greater effectiveness.

Last year two Portland-based nonprofits merged. Both the Institute for Civic Leadership (ICL), founded in 1990, and The Board Network (TBN), established in 2000, served the needs of individuals and organizations through training, education and capacity-building programs. While their missions didn't entirely overlap, their services were complementary, and that fact made their consolidation not only possible, but also logical.

Three grants totaling \$20,000 from funds at the Maine Community Foundation supported the merger. "This joining of forces offers a model for nonprofit collab-

oration," said MaineCF President Henry Schmelzer. "We applaud the thoughtful process that brought together these two important organizations," he said.

The ICL/TBN is eager to assist other nonprofits interested in learning more about the opportunities and challenges related to merging with another organization. The ICL/TBN also offers training and consulting in leadership development and teambuilding, as well as workshops, assessment and consulting in nonprofit board governance.

For more information, contact Ellen Grant at 773-3254, ext. 105, or visit [www.civicleadership.org](http://www.civicleadership.org).



MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

245 Main Street • Ellsworth, ME 04605

[www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org)

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
AUGUSTA, ME  
PERMIT NO. 121