

S - T - E - A - R - N - S Oh, long may it stand! Ever and always, best school in the land!
Rah, rah, rah! We'll fight with all our might, For the colors blue and white When we
start out to win, we will never give in. Here's to Stearns High School! Rah!

Millinocket Alumni Foundation Newsletter 2025



Do you know these kids? Hint: They are way ahead of their time. (answers at the end)

Warm greetings from the Alumni Publications Committee!

We're excited to share the many activities planned for our Homecoming & Reunion, marking the 124th year of graduation ceremonies in Millinocket.

We are also sad to mark the end of an era of Alumni leadership. Former President **Michael R. Crowley '72**, our dear friend, mentor, and fearless leader, retired as president of the Alumni after ten years of service. Mike has given so much of his time and effort to the school and our hometown, which we love. Thank you, Mike!



Also leaving their board roles this year are **Maria Ippoliti Knowlton '84**, and **Alaina Nason Daisey '99**. These ladies have spent years and years serving on our board as treasurer and keeper of our giant mailing list, which is an immense job.

We hope you come home for the celebrations taking place over the Fourth of July week. Read on for more information, this year's class reunions, and what's happening around town in Millinocket.

Your dues, contributions, and submissions to our newsletter efforts are invaluable. They keep us connected and instill tradition in our future Alumni. Please continue your support for quality education in Millinocket by donating now.

The Millinocket Alumni Publications Committee

Judy Bartlett Michaud '69, Chair, **Marian Hale Fowler '61**, **Margie Appleby King '71**, **Cathy Thornton Brown '76**

***Are you interested in helping out?
Sign up at a meeting or email us!***



Our Alumni dues are only \$5. Dues and donations sustain our yearly scholarships and are the sole financial support. We are very proud of these annual awards and hope your generous contributions help it continue for many years.

2024 ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIPS

Our newsletter is mailed before graduation, and tradition dictates confidentiality until they are awarded, so last year's recipients are being reported now. Students apply anonymously, and the scholarship committee reviews the applications with no names attached. A committee of five rates the applications on community service, school activity participation, and a short essay.

Our 2024 recipients of \$1200 each were:

- Kennedy Emerson, daughter of **Angela Berry '99** and **Josh Emerson '00**. She is studying Radiology at Southern Maine Community College.
- Gracyn Sanders, daughter of **Steve Sanders '89** and Julia Sanders. She is studying Economics at Providence College.
- Faith Sinnott, daughter of Bill and Carrie Sinnott. She is studying Elementary Education at UMO.
- Kyla Welch, daughter of **Steve '97** and **Amanda '02 Welch**. She is studying Dental Hygiene at UMA

Congratulations to these deserving students.

Judy Bartlett Michaud '69

The scholarship committee plans awards for several graduates this year. Their names will be announced in our next edition and on our Facebook page.

2025 – ALUMNI HOMECOMING

July 2nd - Breakfast - 8:00 am - St Martin of Tours Catholic Church has donated their facility in the lower level - on Highland Avenue. An elevator is available at the entrance to this area. The stairs are available at the left as you enter the Church.

July 3rd – Thursday - 2:30 pm - The Events Center at New England Outdoor Center (NEOC). A talent show from Granite Street School along with the Jr. High students under the capable direction of **Zachary McEwen '11**, **Matt Waite '97**, and with Alumni musical graduates of SHS that will help stage this performance. The Events Center is located at Hammond Ridge overlooking Millinocket Lake. Matt Polstein generously donated this beautiful space with the spectacular view. We hope you come.

July 4th - Friday - 10:00 AM sharp a parade will leave the staging area from the Tractor Supply parking lot under the direction of **Thomas Malcolm, '71**, and will arrive at the bandstand where there will be a farmers market and other entertainment for the next several hours into late afternoon - sponsored by the Town of Millinocket.

July 5th - Saturday - Weather permitting, the fireworks display will be held at 9:15. I am also pleased to tell you at 2:00 pm, our newly renovated Millinocket Memorial Library will hold a Gala Celebration of events. At the Katahdin Gear Library, you can rent kayaks, bikes, skis, and other equipment with just a library card.

I hope any and all Alumni returning to Millinocket for these daily celebrations have a great 4-5 days of meeting and greeting old friends and making a few new ones.

Kitty St. John '47, Vice President

KATAHDIN



Alumni Directory

Our Alumni Directory lists all class graduates since the beginning of Millinocket High School in 1903. It also notes deceased members (to the best of our knowledge). To order, send a check for \$13 (including postage) to Millinocket Alumni Association, Judy Michaud, 44 Lincoln Street, Millinocket, ME 04462. Email Judy: michaudd@myfairpoint.net with any questions.

Reunions

- **Class of '60 & '61** information TBD. Contact **Albert Fowler '70** albertleefowler@gmail.com
- **Class of '65** meets July 6 at 5:00 pm at the Northern Timber Cruisers. Contact **Mitzi Rideout Daggett '65**, sdmd4347@yahoo.com
- **Class of '75** meets July 18, 19, & 20 for golf, group photos, great music, and a party. Contact **Bobbie Pinette Allen '75**, bobbiesgardens@outlook.com
- **Class of '80** meets July 5 from 5 to 9 at the Northern Timber Cruisers. Contact **Julie Pederson '80**, japederson23@yahoo.com
- **Class of '85** meets June 28 at 3:00 pm at the Northern Timber Cruisers. Contact **Amy Cutliffe '85**, amycutliffe60@gmail.com
- **Class of '95** meets June 28 at 5:00 pm at The Moose Shack in East. Contact **Trisha Rossignol Burke '95**, trishaburke7@gmail.com or **Diana Dumais Lakeman '95** campdiana4402@gmail.com

'Worth Coming Home For' Events

September 12th, 13th, and 14th **Come on home to the Trails End** to celebrate the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail and celebrate Millinocket and the folks who visit our area year-round to enjoy the beauty of nature. It's a wonderful time of year, the leaves are beautiful, the days are moderate, and the blackflies and mosquitoes are gone. Expect free music on the bandstand, great food, shopping from local crafters and vendors in the Veterans Memorial Park, and lots of people. trailsendfestival.org

The **Millinocket Marathon and Half** is December 6th. It will be 10 years in December since Maine runner Gary Allen organized a Millinocket marathon, drawing 40 runners. He had a novel idea: rather than charge runners an entry fee, he thought the participants and visitors should spend their money locally to help the struggling town. The following year, race day was brutally cold, but runners still came and were given stunning views of Katahdin. Jump ahead ten years, and it is now an official qualifier for the Boston Marathon and the Chicago Marathon. Last year nearly 3000 runners and walkers participated, and the race attracted serious runners from literally all over the world.

Several years ago, I asked **Julie Jean Farquhar Guerrette '87**, an experienced marathoner, why so much enthusiasm, and she told me that in the marathon world, it is a 'niche' event - its extra challenges enhance it. It has been a magical process, and people who care and want to be involved have given magic back to the Magic City. The marathon features unique rest stops along the way, encouraging the runners and walkers with food, beverages, snacks, warming fires, and even offers of a warm car to sit in. The whole town gets involved and everyone has fun. It's wonderful to see Millinocket come to life for a few days early in December, no matter the weather! For more information go to www.crowathletics.com.

The Honor Roll: Sharing Inspiring Stories of Our Alumni

Marian Harris, Class of '41



She was a Millinocket girl...born and raised here in the 1920s. She went off to college, got married, and then spent decades in Connecticut. She eventually returned home to Millinocket, where she spent her later years, living almost to 100.

Marian grew up on Knox Street. Her family consisted of parents Albert I. Harris and Marian (Russell) Harris plus siblings

Dorothy, Lucille, Ralph, and Lester. In recent months, the historical society has received many photos, paper items, military items, and some unusual items from her family.

At Stearns, Marian was involved in all the activities they had to offer. She was an A+ student, on the debate team, in the band and orchestra, captain of the girls' basketball team, and valedictorian of her class. She wrote a piece for the 1939 yearbook titled "Why?" Well ahead of her time, Marian pondered why some folks thought basketball was "too strenuous and rough, that girls tire easily and are likely to strain themselves."

She attended Tufts College for two years and then finished her education at UMaine. Always looking for the next challenge, Marian owned a 1933 Elgin bicycle. She rode that bicycle 750 miles from Millinocket to visit relatives in Connecticut. Her brother Ralph went with her.

In 1943, when she was twenty, she moved to Caribou to take flying lessons, which she paid for by delivering mail and picking potatoes, earning her commercial pilot license and then her flight instructor's rating. This was during the war, when women were taking over jobs previously held by men who entered the military. Marian regularly flew a J-3 Piper Cub plane. On one occasion, she performed a dead stick landing in a potato field after the engine shut down. (The historical society has a pair of Marian's leather fur-lined flying gloves.)

Marian's dog, Honey almost enlisted in the Coast Guard program called Dogs for Defense, where dogs were trained to patrol the coast for intruders. Honey was shipped to Massachusetts, then Maryland where a mix-up occurred. Honey's and another dog's identities were switched, but Honey was eventually found and made it to training school, but he was sent home, deemed unfit because he reacted badly to shellfire.

Marian married, and raised two children. In her later years, she returned to Millinocket, where she enjoyed backpacking, canoeing, and hiking in Baxter Park.

(Thanks to Trudy Wyman of the Millinocket Historical Society for this great story. Follow her Odds and Ends Curator's Column for more great Millinocket stories.)

Stearns High Performing Arts & Sports

The Unified Performing Arts has had another fantastic year. The season began with auditions the first week of school for the fall musical, "Newsies." Sixty students from Stearns, Schenck, and Granite Street grades 2-12 participated in the opening night on November 22.

Unified Harmony Show Choir, fifteen students from Stearns and Schenck, attended both District and State Vocal Jazz Festivals, performing songs from the musical "Chicago."

The Stearns/Schenck One Act Ensemble, with a cast and crew of 27 area students, performed "Wendy's Tale," a comedy about a teenage girl reflecting on why she doesn't test well. Students honed their skills in researching characters, character development, and accents. There were many new tech crew students this year. "Wendy's Tale" was a great show to create sets, lighting, sound design, and manage the backstage.

It was a busy year of festivals and competitions. We were runner-up at the regional festival, received special commendations, and students were named all-festival cast members. Stearns hosted the state competition on March 21- 22 and Jazz Night on April 4, with the One Act Ensemble and both show choirs performing.

Our instrumental music programs are growing stronger by the year. Stearns concert band is increasing the grade levels of music and starting to explore Jazz. This year, Jr/Sr bands will perform separately in the Spring Concert.

The Stearns Pep Band is incredible! This year we opened it up to alumni participation, which has been a great success. Way to go, Alumni! These volunteers gave us the ability to play for sporting events and that brought us to Husson University to play for a broadcasted college basketball game with plans to return next season.

Shelley Danforth Farrington '87

In Sports the Stearns Football team won the Northern Maine Championship, our first title since 2010. Coach **Cody Herring '11** was a player on the 2010 team and coached the 2024 team.

The team also won the 2024 Sportsmanship Award. Many of the players also received awards at the annual LTC Football Banquet. Stearns Field Hockey had a good season under coach **Heather Herring Girsra '92**. Girls' and boys' basketball both had successful seasons and made it to the preliminary round.

The girls lost to a tough Southern Aroostook team, and the boys lost to the Easton Bears. The girls won the 2025 Class D Sportsmanship Award. Baseball and Softball are just getting started, and both teams are looking to have a good season.

The softball team is looking to make it back to the playoffs, and the boys are looking to defend their Northern Maine Championship. GO BLUE!!!

Nick Cullen, Athletic Director

Stearns High School 100 Years Ago

One hundred years ago, Stearns High School began building a "gymnasium to be one of the best in the state." Although the high school had been built for some years, the students were temporarily walking to the Armory on Aroostook Ave. for gym class and games.

The new gym would have "an office for the physical education director, a room for rubbing tables, first-aid treatment," and a ticket office. The floor would be 105 feet long by 55 feet wide. The balcony would seat more than 400 people. Directly above it would be the new auditorium, another beautiful facility.

History does not tell us when the gym was first used. The 1926 yearbook states the girls' team is "looking forward to some fast games in the new gymnasium, which will, no doubt, be ready for their practice during the next basketball season." It was the site of the 1928 Junior Exhibition, "the first to be held in the gymnasium," followed by decades of events for both the school and the town.

The site of many happy memories, exciting games, and events, the old gymnasium lives on in many of our memories. Do you remember the Minuteman Muster?



19 46 ONE OF THE BEST—Stearns high school in Millinocket has one of the best gymnasiums of any school in Eastern Maine and should provide Bangor hoop fans with food for thought about the local basketball setup, the Rams forced to practice in the school gym and play their games in city hall until January. The ten members of the Stearns squad are shown set for a shot off the classy glass backboards. (Staff photo by Maher.)

Thank you to the Millinocket Historical Society for the scrapbook photo and the story.

Millinocket on the Rise – Town Manager Peter Jamieson '05

As a proud member of the Stearns Class of '05, I'm honored to be the Town Manager of Millinocket—a place that will always be home. The last three and a half years in this role have been both challenging and deeply rewarding. My wife **Stephanie (Shorey) '10**, our two kids, and I feel incredibly fortunate to be part of this community as we work together to revitalize our town.

With support from our dedicated Town Council and administrative team, we've focused our efforts on four key areas: Beautification, Community Engagement, Economic Development, and Housing. We've made incredible strides in each of these areas, and there's even more exciting work ahead.

Beautification efforts have brought new life to our public spaces. Once overlooked due to funding cuts, we're now investing in the little things that make a big difference, colorful flowers downtown, festive lighting, and attractive wayfinding signage. We've also been tackling more substantial projects, including the clean-up of unsafe and derelict properties. One standout initiative is our new grant program for commercial property owners, offering funding to improve building facades and enhance curb appeal.

When it comes to community engagement, Millinocket is more connected than ever. We've expanded our communications through email, text alerts, and social media, and adopted a transparent, inclusive approach that's helping rebuild trust in local government. We're also bringing people together through events like Earth Day cleanups, drive-in movie nights, our new Festival of Lights parade, and activities in the park. The creation of the Millinocket Dog Park has even sparked a vibrant community within our community, proving that small ideas can have a big impact.

In terms of economic development, we're making bold moves. Through a strong partnership with Our Katahdin, we're working to redevelop the former mill site, now known as One North. Two major projects are in the works: a land-based salmon aquaculture facility and a biofuel manufacturing plant that will produce 20 million gallons annually. Together, these businesses are expected to bring around 150 direct jobs and over 100 additional indirect opportunities to the area. It's all part of our vision to attract sustainable, modern industry with deep roots in forest products and renewable resources.

Of course, new jobs mean we need more places for people to live. That's why housing is a major focus. Millinocket is unique. We're an "island in the forest", landlocked by private ownership. We're actively working with surrounding landowners to explore options for housing expansion. Progress is promising, and we're hopeful to see development in the near future.

Our town is buzzing with progress, and I truly hope that on your next visit, you can see the momentum for yourself. If you're ever in town, please stop by the town office—I'd love to catch up with fellow Stearns alumni who, like me, will always call Millinocket home.

Peter Jamieson '05, Millinocket Town Manager

Our Katahdin 2025 Update

As we celebrate Our Katahdin's 10th anniversary, our vision remains constant. ***We envision the Katahdin region as a vibrant community where hard-working people and families have the opportunity to live, learn, work, and play.*** Knowing families are relocating to and returning to the Katahdin Region is testimony that things are moving in the right direction.

Community Updates: In spring of 2024, **Erika Baker '90**, joined Our Katahdin as their official bookkeeper! Having Erika as part of the team has not only added capacity, it has been a great factor in the organization's current progress and future success.

Michele McInnis '89, Operations Manager & Community Development Coordinator has led several recent community-focused initiatives, including fundraising for updated textbooks for the Granite Street School Library; Emergency Heat Fund for those in need; Region III SkillsUSA State Competition, and more. The Community Champion program continues to shine a spotlight on the unsung heroes of the region. Check out our website for these local leaders.

"Opportunity Hub" project: *Located at 230 Penobscot Ave, strategically in the heart of downtown Millinocket, the Opportunity Hub will include retail space for small businesses on the first floor and the Katahdin Gear Library (KGL), and co-working space on the second floor.*

One North Updates: Katahdin Salmon has been renamed Great Northern Salmon (GNS). We commenced the abatement and consolidation of 170,000 cubic yards of sludge in the 27 acres of wastewater treatment lagoons last summer. Contractors have also started the long process of decanting 50 million gallons of water. Final site preparation will be finished in Spring 2026. Our Katahdin is proud to have raised \$7 million in federal and state grants to leverage \$7 million in private funds provided by GNS for this \$14 million project that will remediate one of our largest, long-term liabilities and deliver a development site for aquaculture development.

We have reached substantial completion of our \$6.8 million infrastructure project, improving roads and building electrical infrastructure throughout the mill site. These improvements included a new truck scale at the Poplar Street entrance, road improvements, and road expansion to the Greenfield, refurbishment of electrical Substation 3, reconnection to Brookfield's Substation 4, and installation of more than 40 utility poles and conductors to distribute behind-the-meter power throughout the mill site.

Phase II of this infrastructure work will make final infrastructure improvements to the EME Biofuels leased premises on the Greenfield, such as further road widening and improvements, and installation of water and wastewater infrastructure. We hope to commence construction in late 2025. EME Biofuels will be continuing detailed design for the biofuels plant in anticipation of a Spring 2026 groundbreaking. The plant will consume 300,000 tons of forest residuals (biomass) annually, which is equal to 10,000 truckloads and will produce 20,000 gallons of biofuel that will be used as a heating fuel for institutional customers throughout the Northeast.

As always, we appreciate the continued support of the Stearns and St. Martins Alumni following and look forward to keeping you updated as our mission progresses. Please follow us on Facebook and visit our website to be more involved in our story!

Steve Sanders '89, Director of Millsite Development

Millinocket Historical Society

The museum at 80 Central Street is a great place to reminisce over memories of high school and connect with your hometown's history. Visit the displays, browse our yearbooks, and find out... do we really have a pair of George Wentworth's sneakers?

If you haven't already, please follow our Millinocket Historical Society Facebook page for "Odds and Ends," Curator Trudy Wyman's weekly column, and don't miss our new page, Magic City Stories, created by **Stacie Cyr '05**, for fascinating glimpses into our town's history. Both pages keep followers updated on museum events.

Our collection continues to grow, however, we hope you'll keep us in mind when you clean out your attic! We love it when people bring in an old local newspaper, a program from a school activity, a Great Northern artifact, or an advertising giveaway from a local business. These and other Millinocket treasures are rare and worth saving.

Visit us when you come home! Shop for Millinocket gifts and books. Curators: Trudy Wyman, Leola Dubois and the museum volunteers: **Jane White Disselkamp '65, Laurie Yeo York '71, James Day '75, Cathy Thornton Brown '76, Rodney Gagnon '77, Barbara Blackburn Beaulieu '77, Suzanne Morrow Sirois '77, and Stacie Cyr '05** Visit millinockethistoricalsociety.org

Millinocket Memorial Library

Hello Alumni, I'm Diana Furukawa, the Director of Millinocket Memorial Library, and here's a brief update about what's new at the Library.

2024 was a busy year for us, with over 25,000 people coming through our doors! Last year, we hosted many impactful programs, including a fascinating discussion with *Mill Town* author Kerri Arsenault and a lively visit from *Mr. Drew and His Animals Too*. But one of the events that stands out to me most was the official launch of our Teen Space. After seeing an increasing number of teens using the Library over the past couple of years, we realized they needed a space of their own. So we worked closely with local teens to transform an underutilized room on our first floor into a lounge just for them.

In 2024, we also relaunched our new and improved Help Desk, which provides one-on-one assistance with accessing local resources and using technology— from applying for heating assistance, to learning how to use an iPad. Both the Teen Lounge and the Help Desk exemplify our commitment to responding to emerging community needs and serving as a safe space for everyone.

Lastly, I wanted to personally invite all of you to a special **Anniversary Celebration we'll be hosting on July 5th from 2-4 pm** to mark 10 years as a nonprofit (and 106 years in existence!). It will be a fun open house for the whole family with storytelling, music, food, library tours, and more. Whether you live nearby or are visiting for the holiday weekend, we'd love to see you there and welcome you back to what will always be your library. For more information about our work, visit www.MillinocketLib.org, give us a call at 207-723-7020, or follow us on social media (@MillinocketLib).

In 1955, Byron "Barney" Perry was the first Minuteman mascot. Dressed in colonial garb and sporting a real coonskin cap, after each quarter, he fired his dad's black powder rifle, just like a musket, filling the pit with noise and smoke. His senior photo called him "an unofficial cheerleader!"



Who are those smart kids on the cover?

The 1975 yearbook's Computer Club, Left to Right: M. Ippoliti, B. Blanchett, C. Locke, E. Wright, F. Appleby, T. Atwood, J. Byther, J. Theriault, Mr. Larlee



Marian's Mail Bag – with Margie Appleby King '71 & Marian Hale Fowler '61

"Thank you for the scholarship! It will help me throughout school :) Love, **Kyla Welch '24**"

"Dear Scholarship Donors, I am honored and extremely grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the Millinocket Alumni Association Scholarship. I'd like to thank everyone who took the time to consider and read through my scholarship application. It means a lot to me to now be known as an Alumna. This will be very helpful with college expenses. Thank you again. Sincerely, **Kennedy Emerson '24**"

We always love hearing from our scholarship recipients. We hope your first year of college has been all that you hoped it would be. Best wishes to you both, Kyla and Kennedy!

"It's always such a huge treat to receive the newsletter! Love all the information plus remarks. All the hard work you all put into the Association is much appreciated. Looking forward to re-connecting in July of 2025!" **Judy Stevens Herrick '58, Sedgwick**

"Thank you for the newsletter! Would it be possible to add a QR code for donations? Many of us don't carry checks anymore." **Jill Russell Cram '96, Hampden**

Jill, we had hoped to have things ready for this year but hit a big snag. We aren't giving up!

"I'd like to say thank you very much for helping me when I went to school back in 1969-70-71-72. I have to thank some of the teachers for helping me to get a good job. David Labun, I never would have got the job on my own. Thanks again. I like that they had co-op back then. It was very helpful to me. Good job! I'm very grateful for the help. God bless you and all of them." **John Howes '72, Patten**

"Thank you to all committee members who put together "our" newsletter. Looking forward to next year's big Alumni celebration. Our **class of '69** will be also celebrating our 55+1 class reunion. We will follow up with details." **Lona J. Hawkes Gagnon '69, Millinocket**

"Great job with the Alumni newsletter. Proud to have attended Stearns High School. They prepared me extremely well for the world. Thanks to all the teachers, administrators, town residents, family and friends. So blessed to have grown up in Millinocket." **Steve Pound '68, Millinocket**

"So enjoy reading the newsletter every year and especially memorable entries from former townspeople...."*never*" forgotten. Keep up the good work. Your volunteerism is greatly appreciated. God bless you all." **Joyce Morrison Harris '71, Mesa AZ**

"Thanks for the newsletter! Always a treat to read! We were at Baccalaureate last night for the scholarship awards. It's great to see how much money the Alumni Association is able to give away each year! The class of '78 had their 45th reunion in the fall of 2023 and had a great time! So nice to see so many classmates all these years later! Please use the donation where needed." **Deeann Manzo '82 and Cal Wilson '78, Millinocket**

It really is great to see how many of our alumni contribute to make these scholarships possible!

"Thank you for all your hard work. Shout out to Mike Crowley!" **Carole Mattall Philbrook '73, Fryeburg**

"Look forward to next year's big celebration when we see some of our friends we haven't seen for a while." **Robert Lyle '59, Millinocket**

"Thank you to the committee for the amazingly comprehensive newsletter. I appreciate the time and work necessary to keep all far-flung alumni in the community loop. Those who insist "You can't go home again" have never read the Mail Bag!" **Joyce Dientes Berlucchi '67, South Portland**

"Thanks for all the work put in on the newsletter! I moved back to the area after about 45 years away." **John Willett '77, Milford**

Welcome back to Maine, John!

"Thanks for all the hard work you do. Looking forward to the 45th reunion this year." **Beth Gerry Kinsey '79, Bangor**

"Life is good here in Utah. My sister **Sandra Rideout '60** just moved here from New York and we are starting a new chapter of our lives together. We started life in the same boat and we are fortunate to be able to spend our last years back in that boat together." **Judith Rideout Barfield '62, So. Jordan UT**

"Always pleased with what is being done to help students. I taught seniors for 33 years and know how important it is to receive financial aid. Thank you for your wonderful work!" **Barbara Blakely Page '54, Brewton AL**

"Thank you for the wonderful newsletter. Always fun to read. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our "50th" class reunion, July 6th." **Linda Beaulieu Curtis '74, Millinocket**

"When are we having class reunion?" **Steve Gallant '60, Dahlonaga GA**

"Millinocket will always be HOME! I find myself missing it more and more each day. The midwest just doesn't have the same beauty as the Katahdin region. It's been about a year, June '23, since my last trip to lay Mum (**Brenda Burrell Kimball '61**) to rest. Hoping to make it back for the 2025 festivities. Thank you all for the hard work you do!" **Bethany Kimball Gerrish '97, Round Lake Beach IL**

Thank you for the extra donation in memory of your dear mum, Bethany.

"**Norma Mascetta '38** passed away in November 2023 after a nursing career that included serving on a hospital ship in WWII and a long retirement." **Paul Pasquine '65, Bangor**

Thank you for letting us know that another of our military heroes has passed.

"Enjoyed reading comments from so many fellow classmates from years past to present day. We all shout from our hearts even though we are older "Go Stearns, Go". Congratulations to our baseball team for putting us on the map and don't forget thanks to any of our sports teams from Stearns. Good luck to all players." **Francis Megno '66, Millinocket**

"Please accept my small donation on behalf of the class of 1975. I'm always happy to receive the wonderful newsletter which requires at least two cups of coffee to get through. Thank you to all who put so much work into putting it together." **Gail Cummings Gamboa '76, Bulverde TX**

"Another fine news-packed annual Alumni letter. Very much looking forward to Homecoming 2025 celebration and hoping to attend, if at all possible!" **Donna Morrison Swanson '69 (Wow 55 years ago now!), Port Charlotte FL**

"Just spent another 4th in Milli. Great to see some old faces and a wonderful parade. Still spend many days in a special area hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing in the great North Woods. Thanks for another great newsletter and all you do at the Alumni Association." **Joe Wentworth '69, Wolfville, Nova Scotia**

"Thank you for all your hard work. I've been gone from Millinocket for a very long time. I don't recognize very many names, but I do enjoy reading about what's going on up in Millinocket." **Ann Civiello Ouellette '54 St. Martin's, Auburn**

"So look forward to the newsletter to see the positives happening in my home town. Saint Martin's former teachers, the Sisters of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, celebrated being 125 years as a teaching community in Maine. Looking forward to hopefully attend Alumni Homecoming 2025." **Jean M. Bissonnette '60, Yarmouth**

"From the 'Wet End' 4 July 2024: I found a place to sit and a beer to sip and let the parade pass me by." **Franklin Angotti '52, Caribou**

"As every year I always enjoy reading the newsletter. This year I was able to attend my 60th class reunion. Held at the Hillcrest Golf Club, it was nice to see classmates from everywhere. Both those who live in the Millinocket area and from out of town. I would like to thank organizers **Carol and Ronnie Daigle '64**. Thanks to you and your helpers for putting on such a wonderful day for our class 1964. If God willing, I look forward to next reunion." **Peter Howard '64, Bridgton**

"Living the dream - part time in Bradenton FL - most of the time in KY. Playing a lot of golf and wrestling with the little boys, 5 grandsons. Married to Lori since 1979." **William McAtee '75, Louisville KY**

"Appreciate our class Facebook page and all the folks that keep us informed." **Lynn Thibodeau Cyr '76, Clermont FL**

"Aloha Alumni, Glad to see many of you stay in touch through the Newsletter. I moved away a long time ago, but the wonderful memories of growing up in a great little town and neighborhood (Little Italy) and going to one of the best schools in the State will be with me forever. My donation is in memory of my wife (High School Sweetheart) of 64 years **Patricia Dawn Wilson Healey '54** who passed in 2019. Planning on coming home for 2025 Homecoming Alumni." **Terry Healey '54, Oahu HI**
Aloha Terry. Thank you for the impactful donation in memory of Patricia Dawn.

"Always enjoy the newsletter. Thanks to all for your hard work! Hello to everyone in the '73 & '75 classes. It was great seeing folks last year at the 50th reunion party!" **Carolyn MacArthur Morrill '75 and Kevin Morrill '73, Wells**

"Great job! The museum is wonderful!" **Marty '67 and Sarah Mascetta Hikel '76, Brewer**

We agree, the museum is wonderful! They have been a valuable resource for us while updating our database. The collection grows continually so everyone should drop by every time they're in town to see what's new.

"Thanks to **Donna Cole Godbout '65** for sharing the story about my cousin, her brother, with all of you. He was a wonderful man and he is very missed. Keep up the good work." **Debbie and Rodney Cole '66, Levant**

"I lost my sister, **Sheryl Cole Dworak '68**, in July of 2024. Have lost my parents and 3 siblings in the past 10 years so, needless to say, it's been tough on our remaining family members (3 of us left). Thank you so much for the endless amount of information you pass on to each of us every year to keep us updated on the happenings in Millinocket. Please know that you are all appreciated more than you could possibly know." **Donna Cole Godbout '65, Columbia CT**

Donna, Rodney and Debbie, thank you so much for your kind words! Our deep condolences on the loss of Sheryl and your other family members. That certainly is a lot of heartbreak in a short period of time.

"I'm sending a donation in memory of **Norman R. Pinette '56** St. Martin of Tours. You all are doing a wonderful job. Big star to you all!! Please use my donation where needed and for dues." **Ina Russell Pinette '56**

Ina, thank you for your generous donation. It will be put to good use. Marian has been given your message about your dear sisters.

"I was so excited to hear about all the new construction and developments in Millinocket going on this year. I truly love receiving the newsletter and just wanted to say "Hi" to Marian Fowler. Michelle Fowler was my first true love, and I still think about her now. I will try to get up there next year. My brother Joe still lives in Millinocket." **Kent Shorette, Medway MA '56**

"So sorry I've been so poky getting back to you! I'm so impressed with all that you folks do to keep us informed. Thanks so much and keep up the great work!" **Margaret Cheney Bond '66, Millinocket**

There's no need to apologize, Margaret! We're happy to accept notes and donations all year.

"As usual again this year I enjoyed your Newsletter. Please keep up the good work. I can appreciate how many hours you must volunteer to keep it all going. I was fortunate enough to be able to come up to Millinocket to see the eclipse in April. Driving up and seeing all the snow in the woods as I passed Brownville Junction I thought that my chosen viewing site, the Millinocket Cemetery, would be wet and cold. Imagine my surprise when I got there and found the snow gone and all the ground dry enough so that several families had spread out blankets and enjoyed picnics. It was a perfect day to be there, the mountain was covered with snow and stood out with crystal clarity. I really enjoyed my time there that afternoon. I skipped all the big goings-on downtown. I have never seen it so crowded. My wife said it was good that I enjoyed the eclipse from the cemetery since that is where I will be when Millinocket has its next eclipse. Enclosed is my check to cover my dues and some extra in memory of my classmate **Judy Pinette Pelletier '57** who died this winter. Plus \$13 for an Alumni Directory and some extra just to make the math in my checkbook a little easier." **Bob O'Halloran '57, Winthrop**

I never found the exact right adjective to describe how magical the eclipse was! Thank you for sharing your memories of that special day. There were people from all over the world in our little town that week. Bob, I think we watched it in the same area in the cemetery. My "social butterfly" brother spoke with a nice couple sitting near the fence with their friendly dog Riley. If I remember correctly, they said they were from Winthrop. Thank you for remembering Judy in this special way.

THANK YOU! Once again, we are so pleased with the notes and donations from so many of Millinocket's alumni! We appreciate all the updates on name and address changes for you and your family members.

PLEASE write and tell us what you're up to! This is everyone's favorite part of what we do. It's really all about connecting with you!

IMPORTANT: Each year, **MANY** newsletters are returned to us by the post office marked "undeliverable, unable to forward". We are grateful for your help in keeping the list updated.

SEND US A NOTE: Feel free to write to us at any time during the year or contact us by private message on our Facebook page "Millinocket Alumni Association".

Happy Homecoming!

Write to us at:

Millinocket Alumni Association
P.O. Box 188
Millinocket, ME 04462

Name _____ Class Year _____

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City, State, Zip _____

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Comments _____

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