

Machias Valley News Observer



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Washington Academy 1000 point scorer Ben Teer holds a plaque and the game ball that was presented to him by Athletic Director Blaine Steeves (left) and Coach Steve Pineo after Teer reached the milestone on January 29 against the Narraguagus Knights.

Phil Roberts photo

Teer Scores 1000th in WA Win

by Phil Stuart

Senior guard Ben Teer of Washington Academy scored his 1000th career point on Friday, January 29th, as the Raiders won for the 15th time in 16 games with a 73-47 victory over the Narraguagus Knights at Gardner Gym in East Machias.

The Raiders had a much easier time with Pete Wolley's Knights than they did in the first game at Harrington.

Steve Pineo's club jumped out to a 20-8 first-quarter lead and kept building on it as the game progressed.

In quarter number two, WA outscored the Knights, 15-11, for a 35-19 half-time advantage.

The lead grew wider in the third as the Knights' offense got

shut down again. WA outscored the visitors, 16-8, for a solid, 51-27 lead going into the final quarter.

Both teams put the ball in the hoop at a fairly steady clip down the home stretch, with the Raiders narrowly winning the battle, 22-20, for a 73-47 decision.

Noah VonRotz scored a game high 23 for the 15-1 Raiders. Ben Teer and Bryce Colbeth chipped in with 16 and 10.

Steve Strout led the 3-13 Knights with 19 and guard Tyler Tenney added 12 more.

In the preliminary contest, Barry Terrell's young Raiders rolled to a convincing, 69-25, win over Janice Moores' Knights. ■

Drug Forum Centers on Cultural Core

"...most people want to get better, but they don't want to change."

by Ruth Leubecker

Focusing on the diverse, often detrimental, influences prevalent in Washington County, last week's drug forum urged purposeful intervention and cultural change.

Labeled a winter retreat, the partnership of the Washington County Drug Action Team and the Washington County Sheriff's Department hosted the all-day session at the Pelion Center in Machias. About 50 health-care professionals, law enforcement officials, therapists

and concerned citizens listened to presentations defining area culture, identifying issues affecting addiction and exploring recommendations for tackling remedial solutions.

"Drugs and alcoholism are part of the culture in Washington County," said Bill Lowenstein, executive director, New England Institute of Addiction Studies, and facilitator of the session. "And our jails have become our crisis stabilization units."

Mike Driskoll, case manager See *Forum* page 28. ■

Wharf Seen as Enticement for Institute

\$1 K Could Boost Studies Into Broader Arena

by Ruth Leubecker

At a time when college enrollments have flattened, Brian Beal's Down East Institute on Great Wass is aiming high and on a definitive course for expansion.

"We're building at DEI during these very tough times," explains the UMM marine researcher. "But if you've got the vision and it makes sense, the time is now. We already have the \$1-million grant from the Maine Technology Asset Fund. We're hoping we'll be finished (with the wharf) by July."

The three-pronged proposal focuses on the wharf, an education center, which is part of the master plan and a suite of offices and laboratories. "The matching grant gave us the blueprint for moving ahead," explains Beal. "The existing wharf will be replaced and it won't be like any other in the area. It will be a model for wharves everywhere. Low-maintenance, and tied to the ledge at three different points 30-plus feet under water. The wharf will also be large enough to accommodate trailer trucks,



Brian Beal announces new \$1-million expansion plans at Down East Institute.

Ruth Leubecker photo

with a crane at the end, and a parallel walkway that goes up and down with the tide."

This grant, plus a \$600,000 National Science Foundation grant reported in the *Bangor Daily News* last week, are seen as providing the impetus for attracting students and researchers to the Down East Institute for Applied Marine Research on

Great Wass. "We have to look at what DEI looks like down the road," explains Beal. "These are stages of funding that will get us to the final place. The \$600,000 grant is in the basic step toward the master plan."

Marine biology enrollments at UMM have increased in relation to other enrollments at See *Wharf*, page 26. ■

Community Responds to Heating Crisis

by Ruth Leubecker

Communities in crisis will receive unexpected funding this week mostly because the Maine Community Foundation has responded to a recent press conference describing the growing need.

"We were just notified that THAW (The Heating and Warmth Fund) will get \$20,000 in additional funds from the MCF," said Tim King, executive director of WHCA, on Friday. "There have been smaller donations, but this will make a big difference in the help we can offer."

Earlier in the day, partner Wendy Harrington of the Maine Seacoast Mission, had said, "We're still looking for help. But Haiti and the economy have both been factors (in slowing our efforts)."

This most recent response from the MCF has been the largest action taken since WHCA and the Seacoast Mission held

a joint press conference making a united public plea for philanthropic donations to aid those needing additional heating assistance.

WHCA established THAW five years ago as a fund that would kick in when all other funding sources had been exhausted. This year, as the need has tripled and the guidelines

have expanded, THAW has also simultaneously fallen short of its goals.

An unprecedented number of people are cold inside their homes this season. Donations to help toward emergency assistance may be made by calling WHCA, 546-7544, or the Maine Sea Coast Mission, 546-4466. ■

Emergency Responders Need Visible Location Numbers

Many people believe that police, fire and ambulance drivers know street numbers and everyone's location, but safety may be jeopardized without posting your house number where it can be easily seen. The numerals on your house should be high enough not to be obscured by snow during the winter. The numerals should be of a contrasting color to the background. Mailboxes should also have the numerals as this provides even more opportunity to be found quickly. If your house is not visible from the road, the mailbox will be the only clue to your location. The following are guidelines that may assist in the process:

1. Remove old numbers from the property and mailbox.
2. Post your new numbers on the property, which should be a minimum of four inches high. Reflective materials improve visibility.
3. If your property is visible from the road, post the number on home and the mailbox.
4. If your property is not

visible from the road and the mailbox is not beside the driveway, post the number on the mailbox and erect a number post at the driveway entrance to the property. Remember that posted numbers must be visible above most snowbanks.

5. If your mailbox is located at the end of a road, post the number and road name on both sides of the mailbox to help emergency responders with property numbers that are out of sequence.

6. If property owners use post offices boxes for mail, a physical address is still needed.

The first responders pride themselves on quick responses to emergency calls. They all ask that residents help by identifying their homes so that responders can find the locations easily.

Contact: Warren Gay, 911 Addressing Officer, Machias Town Office.

For further assistance in determining where to place the numerals for a property, the Fire Department can provide some suggestions. ■

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