

## USM Applied Energy Program Gets 'Dream Home'

GORHAM – USM's applied energy program, which gives students hands-on experience in measuring and testing energy efficiency, has acquired its dream home.

The university-owned building, at 19 College Avenue on USM's Gorham campus, was built as a private home in the late 19th century. It features poor insulation, a fieldstone foundation, and an old, oil-fired burner.

The Department of Environmental Science's applied energy program is reaching out to private and public organizations to partner in the testing, research, and education of affordable and new energy-saving technologies. Plans for the house include the installation of real-time sensors, probes, and cameras to test and monitor the performance of improvements.

## UMaine's Engineers Without Borders Wins \$25,000 Newman's Own Grant

ORONO – The UMaine student group Engineers Without Borders (EWB-UMaine) was named the winner of the Newman's Own Foundation Campus Community Service Challenge, which comes with a top prize of \$25,000.

EWB-UMaine won the challenge for its project in Dulce Vivir, Honduras, where they have been working to implement a student-designed community sanitation system. The group has been consulting with the community on its priorities, collecting information needed for the system design, and developing contacts needed to ensure the project's success.

[The Newman's Own Foundation Campus Community Service Challenge](#) was developed to encourage the practice of philanthropy among younger generations, specifically on college campuses.



## Finalists Named for UMPI Presidency



Jon H. Connolly



Linda K. Schott



Michael E. Sonntag

PRESQUE ISLE – Three finalists were named in the search for a new president at UMPI.

A 13-member committee has been working on the national search for several months. The search committee includes members of the UMS Board of Trustees, as well as UMPI faculty, staff, students, and local community members.

Forums with students, faculty, staff, administration, community leaders, alumni, and others will enable the candidates to be viewed from the perspective of all stakeholders and encourage comments as to who will best lead UMPI.

Following the visits, the search committee will review all feedback and present its impressions on each candidate to the UMS Chancellor. One candidate will be recommended to the full Board of Trustees for approval. The new president is expected to start this summer.

Complete information about the candidates, including itineraries for their visits, maybe found at <http://www.umpi.edu/presidential-search>.

## UMA's Terry Plunkett Poetry Festival

AUGUSTA – UMA's 10th annual Terry Plunkett Maine Poetry Festival, the state's largest annual poetry event, will take place on Friday, April 13 and on Saturday, April 14.

With a theme of "Revolution", this year's Plunkett Festival will feature a special multimedia performance by the nationally renowned [Climbing Poetree](#).

The event is free and open to the public. For more information and the complete schedule of events, contact Ellen Taylor at [ellent@maine.edu](mailto:ellent@maine.edu), or by phone at 207-621-3114.

## UMaine Accepting Applications for High School Marine Science Program

ORONO – Applications are now being accepted for the UMaine's Dive In 2012, which will be held July 23-25 at UMaine's Darling Marine Center in Walpole.

Dive In, a program for college-bound high school students interested in pursuing a career in the marine sciences, is open to high school juniors and seniors.

The three-day immersion program gives incoming students a taste of one of UMaine's most popular scientific majors. Participants explore marine biology, oceanography, scientific diving, remote ocean sensing, aquaculture, and more.

The program is free and applications are due June 1. More information and application materials are available at [www.dmc.maine.edu/divein.html](http://www.dmc.maine.edu/divein.html), or by calling 207-563-3146, extension 200.

## Free Caregivers Conference at UMM



MACHIAS – Providing resources and expert advice to family caregivers will be the focus of a free one-day conference scheduled for March 30 at UMM.

The event, which is open to caregivers and their families, begins at 8 a.m. All conference speakers have had experience working with caregivers or providing direct care for family members.

The event will also include a resource fair that will highlight the work of area agencies and the resources that are available to caregivers.

The conference registration deadline is March 15. The conference is co-sponsored by UMM, Aramark Corporation, and the Eastern Area Agency on Aging. For more information or to register, contact Naida Pennell at 207-255-1289, or by e-mail at [naida@maine.edu](mailto:naida@maine.edu). You can also register online at <http://www.umm.maine.edu/caregivers-conference-registration.html>.

## UMFK to Host Its Annual "Sucrerie"

FORT KENT – UMFK will host its annual "Sucrerie" on Thursday, March 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Nowland Hall.



The "maple sugar recreation" has drawn more than 300 community members to campus in years past.

The event features a traditional maple taffy pull on the snow, an Acadian meal, and live entertainment. Food will be served by staff, faculty, and student volunteers, from the UMFK campus community, who will be dressed in Acadian costumes provided by the Greater Madawaska Chamber of Commerce.

The maple taffy pull and taste testing are free to the public. A nominal fee of \$10 per plate will be charged for the Acadian meal and entertainment. Local school teachers interested in bringing their classes to the event should contact the University Relations office, in advance, at 207-834-7557.

## USM Researches Indoor Air Quality in Homes Burning Wood

GORHAM – Last spring, a team of faculty and student researchers from USM began groundbreaking research about the potential dangers of indoor air toxicity and pollution created by ash from wood and pellet stoves in Maine homes. The team's research and findings are some of the first in this area of study.

As part of the project, the team has been participating in outreach initiatives in an effort to inform citizens about safe practices when using and cleaning a wood stove. They presented their findings at the [Maine Indoor Air Quality Conference](#) in August and distributed an online survey to assess wood stove use and clean up practices in Maine. Future plans include developing air quality sampling methods that will be available to the public.

For more information about the study, contact Joe Staples at 780-5552 or by email at [jstaples@usm.maine.edu](mailto:jstaples@usm.maine.edu).

## UMPI to Host Grant Writing Workshop

PRESQUE ISLE –UMPI will host a workshop entitled Grant Writing Basics, presented by experienced grant writer Kimberly Smith, on Tuesday, March 20, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Campus Center.

The presentation will cover many topics within grant writing, including everything from what the trends are today to what happens after you get the grant (or don't.)

Workshop presenter Kimberly Smith holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from Husson University; and a certificate in Non-Profit Management from Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia

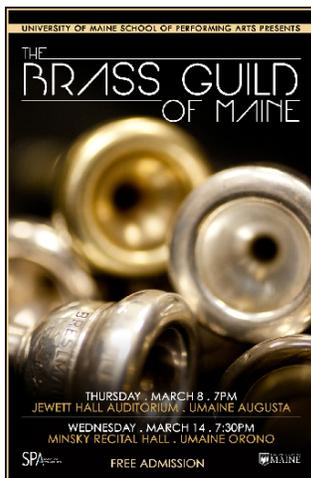
Cost for this public workshop is \$45 for community members, \$15 for UMPI students. The registration deadline is Noon on March 16. To register, call 207-768-9502 or e-mail [marialuisa.udasco@umpi.edu](mailto:marialuisa.udasco@umpi.edu).

## UMA Hosts The Maine Brass Guild

AUGUSTA – On Thursday, March 8 The Maine Brass Guild performed its first-ever concert.

A collaborative effort between faculty at several UMS institutions and professional brass players in Maine, The Maine Brass Guild is comprised of 15 brass players, including UMA faculty member Tim Weir.

The concert featured music for large and multi choir Brass Ensembles by Bach, Albinoni, Gabrieli, Richard Wagner, the Canadian Brass among others.



## Maine Entrepreneurship Week Panel at USM

GORHAM – As part of Maine Entrepreneurship Week, USM recently hosted “CreateMaine,” featuring a free, public panel of three Maine entrepreneurs who shared their paths to success.

Cindy Thompson of Transformit; Tony Boffa of the Tony Boffa Band; and Emily Danchuk, intellectual property attorney spoke about their tales of starting a business in Maine.

The “CreateMaine” event was followed by a networking reception where people got a chance to talk with the panelists.

## UMF Recognized for Student Friendly Jobs

FARMINGTON – UMF is one of three national universities recently cited for their promising student employment strategies by the [Forum for Youth Investment](#), a national research-based organization associated with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



According to the organization’s research findings, student jobs like those created by the UMF Student Work Initiative help engage students in learning, improve their work skills, and give them an advantage in today’s job market, while also helping them afford college.

This on-campus student employment opportunity was launched in 1998 by UMF President Kalikow to empower students to be involved with their learning and help them be successful with their educational and career goals.

## UMM Students Plan Disabilities Awareness Night

MACHIAS – Students in the Recreation Services for Special Populations class at the UMM will host the sixth annual Disabilities Awareness Night from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21 in the Reynolds Center Gymnasium.

Aimed at increasing awareness and understanding about disabilities, the event will provide participants with the opportunity to experience simulated disabilities at a dozen different stations. Stations will include hearing impairments, spinal injuries, visual impairments, temporary disabilities, permanent disabilities, aging, learning disabilities, autism, mobility, and more.

The public is invited to join UMM students, faculty, and staff in experiencing firsthand what it is like to live in another’s world. The event promises to be an evening of challenges, learning opportunities, and fun, with drawings and door prizes. Information booths will also be available for participants to learn about resources, services, and career opportunities.

For more information, please contact Jo-Ellen Harvey at 207-255-1228, or by e-mail at [jharvey@maine.edu](mailto:jharvey@maine.edu).

## UMaine Hosts Engineering Expo

ORONO – The Maine Engineers Week Expo was held March 3 at the UMaine Field House. The annual event attracted more than 1,500 Maine schoolchildren and adults, who were able to see and touch some of the innovative contributions that Maine Engineers make to improve life.

The Expo, organized by the Maine Engineering Promotional Council, was held to encourage Maine youth to pursue engineering careers and add to a diverse and robust future workforce. As many as 50 of Maine's top engineering firms, schools, educators, government agencies, industries, and others offered hands-on activities and exhibits.

Exhibits included a working wind tunnel designed and built by Freeport High School students that generates wind of 150 miles per hour, a Bath Iron Works 100-gallon ship modeling tank, robots of all types, and research projects from the UMaine College of Engineering and Maine Maritime Academy.

## UMFK to Play Integral Role in Congrès Mondial Acadien 2014



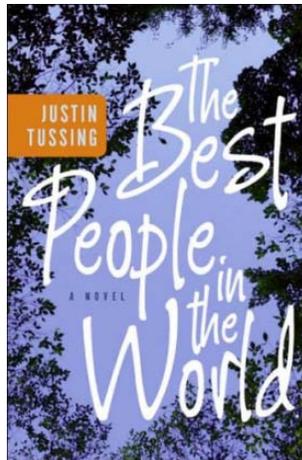
Members of the Congrès Mondial Acadien/World Acadian Congress conference organization committee

FORT KENT – UMFK will play a major role in the organization of the scientific and intellectual conferences to be held during the [Congrès Mondial Acadien\(CMA\)/World Acadian Congress](#),

which will be hosted by Acadia of the Lands and Forests throughout August 2014. These conferences will be free and the public is invited to attend any and all.

The international collaborative will unite the UMFK with the Université de Moncton, campus d'Edmundston and the L'Université du Québec à Rimouski campus. Professors and researchers from the three institutions met in December 2012 with the executive director of the CMA 2014, and the director of the National Society of Acadia.

## UMF Presents Reading by Noted Author Justin Tussing



FARMINGTON – The UMF Writers Guild and the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program features award-winning author Justin Tussing as the next author in its 2011-12 Visiting Writers Series on Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 7:30 p.m., at The Landing in the UMF Olsen Student Center.

Tussing's debut novel, "The Best People in the World," was awarded the 2006 Ken Kesey Award for the Novel. Tussing is currently a full-time English professor at the University of Southern Maine.

The event is free and open to the public, and will be followed by a signing by the author. For more information, contact Pat O'Donnell at 207-778-7419, or by email at [podonnel@maine.edu](mailto:podonnel@maine.edu).

### Meet the Editor



BANGOR- This issue of *Making a Difference* was researched, designed, and edited by Whitney Tulloch, of Gorham, Maine. Whitney is a UMaine senior majoring in communication with a double minor in English and public relations.

Whitney is a communications intern in the University of Maine System Office. She graduates in May.

