



# Celebrate active aging

Learn more about Eastern Agency on Aging's George Hale Silver Frame Award winners in special pullout **INSIDE**

## Bangor's Goddess

Camden artist's statue unveiled at new sculpture garden downtown **B1**



# Bangor Daily News

It's what you need. To know.

FINAL EDITION  
bangordailynews.com

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2007

60 cents

## Mill stops use of phosphoric acid

BY KEVIN MILLER  
OF THE NEWS STAFF

Katahdin Paper Co.'s Millinocket mill has stopped using a chemical that state officials say triggered a massive algae bloom in the Penobscot River last month, a company official said Tuesday.

Glenn Saucier, spokesman for East Millinocket-based Katahdin Paper, said the company stopped using phosphoric acid at the beginning of the month after identifying a suitable alternative for whitening the mill's paper products.

Saucier said the company has no plans to

go back to using phosphoric acid, the primary chemical culprit in a bloom of blue-green algae that affected a 75-mile stretch of the Penobscot.

"We put it in a tanker and moved it off-

### Chemical linked to blue-green algae bloom in Penobscot River

site," he said. "That is our commitment. We don't plan on using it, and if it's off-site we can't use it."

Representatives of the Penobscot Nation

and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection welcomed news of the mill's transition, which followed several weeks of finger pointing over the events leading up to the algae bloom.

"I certainly hope they do take any measure necessary to prevent the algae bloom from occurring next summer," said John Banks, director of the Penobscot Nation's Department of Natural Resources. "If that's what it takes, then they're on the right track."

Some types of cyanobacteria commonly known as blue-green algae can be harmful  
*See Chemical, Page A8*

## Officials see Bush backing troop cuts

BY MATTHEW LEE  
AND ANNE FLAHERTY  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Bush will tell the nation Thursday evening that he plans to reduce the American troop presence in Iraq by as many as 30,000 by next summer but will condition those and further cuts on continued progress, The Associated Press has learned.



Bush

In a 15-minute address from the White House at 9 p.m. EDT, Bush will endorse the recommendations of his top general

and top diplomat in Iraq after their appearance at two days of hearings in Congress, administration officials said. The White House plans to issue a written status report on the troop buildup on Friday, they said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because Bush's speech is not yet final. Bush was rehearsing and polishing his remarks even as the U.S. commander in Iraq, Gen. David Petraeus, and U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker were presenting their arguments for a second day on Capitol Hill.

In the speech, the president will say he understands Americans' deep concerns about U.S. involvement in Iraq and their desire to bring the troops home.  
*See Bush, Page A2*

## OUT WITH THE OLD: Construction begins at 'haunted' 'Extreme Makeover' site in Milbridge



BANGOR DAILY NEWS PHOTOS BY KEVIN BENNETT

Students from Narraguagus High School cheer during the taping of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" Tuesday along Wyman Road in Milbridge where the Ray-Smith home was torn down and a new one started to take shape.

# Extreme Reaction

BY AIMEE DOLLOFF  
OF THE NEWS STAFF

Excavators started by taking a few nibbles out of the roof and walls, then proceeded to demolish the Ray-Smith family residence in Milbridge. The demolition Tuesday paved the way for ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" to begin building a new place to call home for the family of Brittany Ray, Ron Smith and their three children.

**Click it**  
Watch a video of the demolition online at [bangordailynews.com](http://bangordailynews.com)

"Extreme Makeover" episodes typically have multiple story lines about the featured family and their home. In the case of the Ray homestead, which was built in the early 1900s by Brittany Ray's great-great-grandparents, the house is believed to be haunted by one or more ghosts with a fondness for sharp objects.

"The haunting in Brittany Ray and Ron Smith's house really stands out," Marcus LiBrizzi, author and University of Maine at Machias professor, said Tuesday.

Brittany Ray and Ron Smith both are



Members of the cast and crew of TV's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" watch and film the demolition of the Ray-Smith house in Milbridge on Tuesday.

teachers in the area. Members of the community nominated them to receive an "Extreme Makeover" home.

Despite the rain, more than 500 people participated in Tuesday morning's rush of builders and volunteers march-

ing to the site to officially begin work. A sea of maroon and white brought up the rear as about 300 Narraguagus High School students and employees showed up to support two of their own.  
*See Makeover, Page A4*

## 9-11 ceremonies held in NYC park

Rebuilding under way at ground zero

BY AMY WESTFELDT  
AND SARA KUGLER  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Victims' families huddled under umbrellas Tuesday in a park to mark the sixth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks in the first remembrance ceremony not held at ground zero, an event that failed to evoke the same emotions as the hallowed ground of the World Trade Center site.  
"I guess they mean well, but I

**Inside**  
Homeland security grants have hidden costs for Maine  
**Page B4**

really wasn't happy," said Sal Romagnolo, whose son Joseph Romagnolo worked in the trade center's north tower. "I never got my son back. That's the only place we have.

"I get nothing out of this park."

Around the country, Americans went through familiar mourning rituals as they looked back on the day when terrorists hijacked four jetliners and killed nearly 3,000 people.

President Bush attended ceremonies at the White House and the Pentagon and the 40 passengers and crew members who  
*See 9-11, Page A4*

## Seismic change seen in fishing 'sectors'

BY JAY LINDSAY  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — Fishermen catch fish. At least, Robert St. Pierre thought that was his job, but years of working under restrictive and complicated federal rules made him wonder.

Daily catch limits on protected species such as cod were so low, he had to be careful not to catch too many fish too fast. Once he reached the 1,000-pound limit, he had to stop fish-

**Inside**  
Herring fishery improves in Gulf of Maine  
**Page A5**

ing for everything else, and any cod caught over the limit were thrown back dead.

But now, St. Pierre fishes differently by working in one of the "sectors" that are bringing profound change to how the troubled New England fishery is run.

Under the new system, fishermen form groups that have annual catch limits and decide together when and how to fish. This system frees them from hated current restrictions, including a shrinking number of days they're allowed to fish and daily catch limits.  
*See Fish, Page A4*

### Index

Amusements C6	Larry Mahoney C1
Business A5	Lifestyle C5-7
Classifieds C8-D5/8	Lottery A2
College Report C1	Obituaries B6-7
Comics D6-7	Scoreboard C2
Crossword D6	Sports C1-4
Cryptoquip C8	State B1-8
Dear Abby D7	Sudoku C7
Dr. Donohue D7	Tidbits C5
Editorial A6-7	TV listings C7
Horoscope D6	Weather B8



MEGAN RATHFON PHOTO

Miriam Zulema Alvarado (from left), mother of Delkin Padilla-Alvarado; Sofia Gomez; Angela Diaz Alcantara, 31, Padilla-Alvarado's wife; and Alcides Chavez, 6, son of Padilla-Alvarado, gather earlier this year to remember how Padilla-Alvarado died five years ago at age 23 in a van accident while working at a remote site deep in Maine's North Woods.

## Pain from Allagash tragedy still fresh

In five years since 14 seasonal workers died, families remake their lives

BY ABIGAIL CURTIS  
SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

SANTA LUCIA, Honduras — Lina Maldonado Cruz took shelter from the afternoon sun on the veranda of the farmhouse her husband built with his own two hands.

The spare, deeply religious woman sees the house — perched high in the Central American country's jagged green mountains — as a fitting tribute to Dionisio Funez, her husband of 35 years.

"He was a good man," Cruz

said earlier this year of Funez. "What my husband wanted was to improve my situation, and we were also thinking about our children and improving their situation... But now we just have to face life by ourselves."

Lina Maldonado Cruz has years of experience in taking care of things herself — five years, to be exact. Her husband died the morning of Sept. 12, 2002, in a different green wilderness very far from home.

Dionisio Funez, 54, was the oldest of a group of men from Honduras and northern

Guatemala who were working that summer planting and thinning pine trees at a remote work site deep in Maine's North Woods. The seasonal workers, 15 altogether, were speeding on an unpaved woods road when their Dodge van skidded on John's Bridge, a one-lane wooden pass without railings that spans a section of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, and plummeted into the water below.

Fourteen drowned. The lone survivor, a Guatemalan, escaped out the back window and swam  
*See Tragedy, Page A8*

Vol. 119, No. 74



© 2007 Bangor Publishing Co. Periodicals postage paid at Bangor, Maine 04401. Publication number USPS 041000