



# What's Up

on Bangor's Main Street as the \$131 million Hollywood Slots takes shape **A6**

**Sweat for a cause**  
Sunday's Race for the Cure  
**ShopGirl C6**

This year's designer scarf

# Bangor Daily News

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## Is Ellsworth ready?

### Large retail development likely will change the face of Hancock County's hub

BY ERIC RUSSELL  
OF THE NEWS STAFF

**A** retail expansion more than 10 years in the making is sitting on Ellsworth's doorstep, knocking louder by the minute.

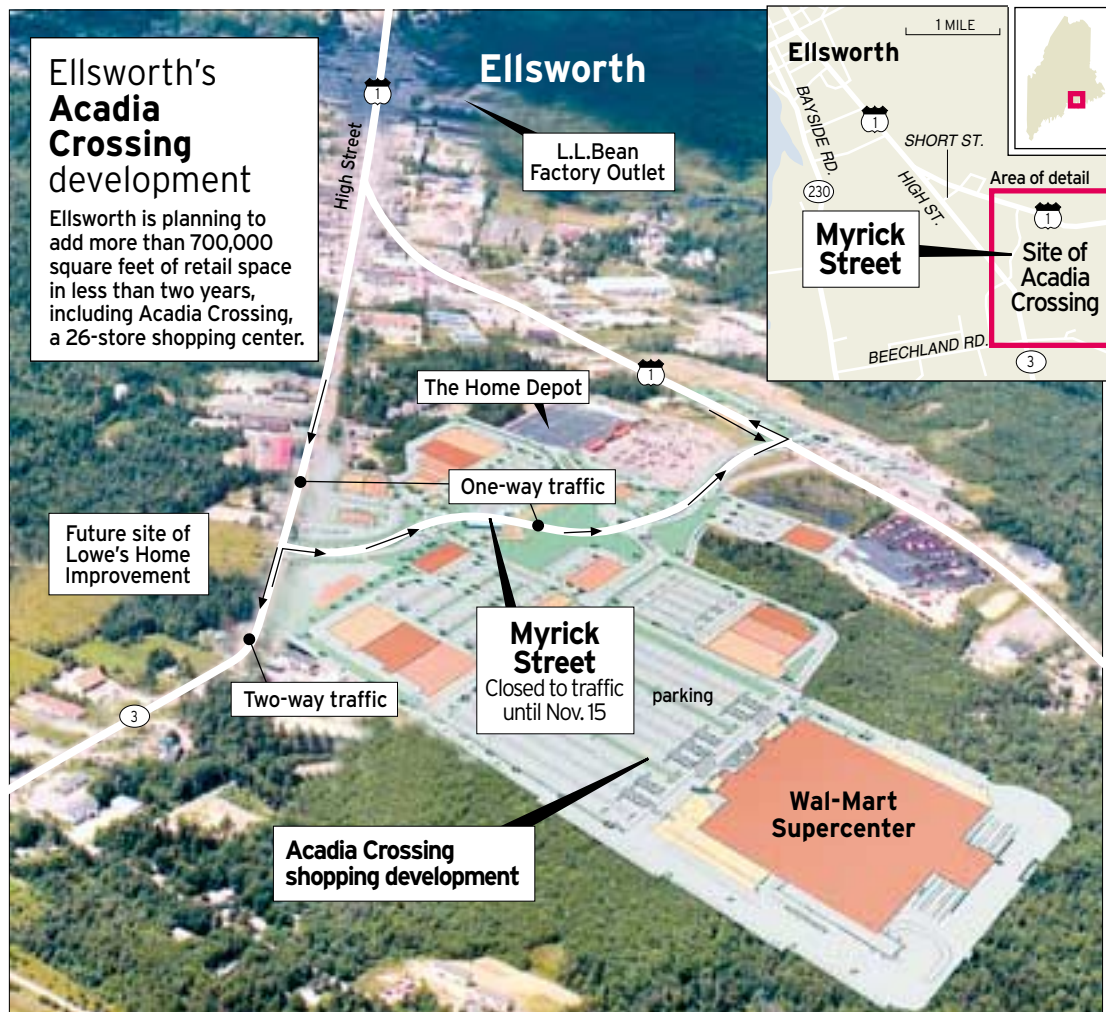
After countless behind-the-scenes meetings and planning sessions, the signs of growth are finally visible. Trees have been cleared. Land has been leveled. Roads are being widened to handle the inevitable influx of traffic.

Hancock County's largest community and its governmental center are preparing to add more than 700,000 square feet of retail development in less than two years.

Construction on a 175,000-square-foot Lowe's home improvement store off Route 3 is moving along rapidly, and the store could open as early as next spring.

On its heels is the highlight of Ellsworth's economic boom: Acadia Crossing, a 26-store open-air shopping center between Route 3 and Route 1 with a 200,000-square-foot Wal-Mart Supercenter as its anchor. Crews broke ground on the project only a few months ago, but its first stores could open next year as well.

The \$50 million shopping center by Boston-based W/S Development Associates is one of the state's largest since the  
*See Ellsworth, Page A2*



SOURCE: W/S Development Associates of Chestnut Hill, Mass.

BANGOR DAILY NEWS GRAPHIC BY ERIC ZELZ



Traffic from Myrick Street in Ellsworth is directed to the intersection of Route 3 and Route 1.

BANGOR DAILY NEWS PHOTO BY GABOR DEGRE

## Developer to pull LNG application

### D.C.-based firm plans to refile permit information, renegotiate

BY ANNE RAVANA  
OF THE NEWS STAFF

**ROBBINSON** — Downeast LNG announced Friday it will temporarily withdraw its application for state permits to build a liquefied natural gas import terminal and pipeline in Washington County.

The Washington, D.C.-based company notified the Maine Board of Environmental Protection of its decision in a letter sent Friday.

#### Inside

Appeals court revives tribal members' challenge of LNG lease deal  
**Page A8**

Downeast LNG President Dean Girdis said Friday that the application is missing critical information from the Maine Department of Marine Resources and data from additional studies.

"Basically we want to ensure that the record is complete and all the evidence can be reviewed," Girdis said. "It is in our best interest, as well as that of the local residents and the state of Maine, to ensure that our applications include this information. Filing new applications is the best way to accomplish this."

Downeast LNG also would  
*See LNG, Page A8*

## Bangor senator seeks tax break for Milbridge pair

### Sen. Perry: Levy goes against intent of reality TV show

BY AIMEE DOLLOFF  
OF THE NEWS STAFF

**BANGOR** — In an attempt to help a family from the Washington County town of Milbridge pay the taxes on a new home provided to them by a reality TV show, state Sen. Joe Perry, D-Bangor, has submitted a bill that he hopes will give them and people in a similar position a tax break.

Perry's proposed legislation, which will be considered when the Legislature resumes in January, would exempt state income taxes that could be collected based on the value of the home given to the Ray-Smith family by ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." The bill would help any family in the future receiving a house from only that TV show.

The two-story wooden home is being constructed on property purchased by the Ray-Smiths and is expected to be completed this weekend.

ABC officials couldn't be  
*See Perry, Page A4*

### 'Makeover' volunteers play key role

BY AIMEE DOLLOFF  
OF THE NEWS STAFF

**MILBRIDGE** — Volunteers are vital to completing an "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" project, and Mainer have answered the call this week as crews work to complete a home for the family of Brit-tany Ray, Ron Smith and their three children.

"There is no project without volunteers," Denise Cramsey, the show's executive producer, said Friday. "The importance of the volunteers can't be overstated."

As of Thursday, about 600 people had volunteered at the site and the count was expected to rise to 800 to 900 before Sunday when the house is completed. Coordinating and checking in the majority of volunteers at the site has been left up to the Washington  
*See Volunteers, Page A4*

#### Inside

Orland rockers to perform at 'Extreme' cast party  
**Page A4**

## Ex-lawmaker called on ethics lapse

### Democrat from Lewiston acknowledges misuse of Clean Election funds

BY FRANCIS X. QUINN  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**AUGUSTA** — A recently resigned Democratic lawmaker from Lewiston has acknowledged using all the Clean Election funds from his last campaign for other purposes and submitting bogus expenditure reports to state overseers, according to the state ethics commission staff.

Alleging "very serious wrongdoing" by former state Rep. William Walcott, who stepped down from his House District 72 seat last month in the middle of his third term, the staff is recommending that the five-member commission refer the case to the state attorney

general for possible criminal prosecution before considering civil penalties of its own.

The amount of Maine Clean Election Act money involved is not large — \$4,874 — and the staff of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices said all had been recovered.

"Unfortunately, we find no reason to believe that he would have returned this money had he not been audited by the commission," Executive Director

Jonathan Wayne wrote to commission members in a memo in advance of the panel's scheduled meeting next week.

Walcott's home telephone number as listed in the current state legislative register rang unanswered at midday Friday. Lawyer David Van Dyke, who has represented Walcott in dealings with the ethics commission, said he had no comment.

According to Wayne's account, Walcott had received a total of \$4,874 in 2006 and in campaign finance reports filed on Nov. 1 and Dec. 19 he reported seven campaign expenditures adding up to \$2,933.44.

When Walcott was 48 days late in returning unspent campaign money after the election,

an audit was prompted, according to Wayne's memo.

Subsequently, at a meeting on Aug. 28, "Rep. Walcott admitted that the seven expenditures, totaling \$2,933.44, in his campaign finance reports were completely fabricated," Wayne wrote.

"He stated that, in fact, he made no financial expenditures in connection with his 2006 campaign because his re-election was 'safe.' Rep. Walcott also admitted that he began spending the MCEA funds in the summer of 2006 and eventually spent the entire amount he received," Wayne wrote.

The commission staff memo said Walcott declined to account  
*See Walcott, Page A8*



Walcott



Perry

## 2 men accused of fatal arson after learning of porn charges

BY DUNCAN MANSFIELD  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HELENWOOD, Tenn.** — Everybody in this little mountain community knew that Timothy Carl Chandler had been arrested on child pornography charges. It was in the newspaper and all over the TV news.

Two of Chandler's neighbors decided to do something about it, police say. They're accused of trying to scare him off by setting fire to his tiny house tucked away in a hardscrabble

Appalachian hollow. Chandler, 53, escaped from the flames. But his wife was killed in what authorities are calling an example of vigilante justice.

"I really wish it wasn't me who got out," Chandler told Knoxville television station WBIR. "I wish it was her. She didn't deserve that."

Robert "Bobby" Bell, a 37-year-old construction worker, and Gary Lamar Sellers, a 39-year-old coal-mining equipment mechanic, are jailed on \$1 million bond,  
*See Vigilante, Page A8*

## Defense, Homeland Security fail audits

BY MARTHA MENDOZA  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ten years after Congress ordered federal agencies to have outside auditors review their books, neither the Defense Department nor the newer Department of Homeland Security has met even basic accounting requirements, leaving them vulnerable to waste, fraud and abuse.

An Associated Press review shows that the two departments' financial records are so disorganized and inconsistent that they repeatedly have earned "disclaimer" opinions,

meaning that they simply cannot be fully audited.

"It means we really can't put

### Neither agency meets basic accounting standards

any faith in the numbers they use," said Ross Rubenstein, who teaches public administration at Syracuse University's Maxwell School.

The Federal Financial Management Improvement Act of 1996 requires, among other things, that the financial systems of major federal agencies "comply substantially" with generally accepted accounting standards. Each year, those agencies are required to release results of outside audits.

The AP review of financial statements from the federal government's 15 executive departments shows that most pass their audits, although many agencies — including NASA, the Coast Guard and FEMA —  
*See Audits, Page A8*

### Index

Album	C10	Lottery	A2
Amusements	C9	Obituaries	B6-7
Business	C1-5	Outdoors	D6-7
Classifieds	F1-J4	Religion	C11
Comics	J2-3	Renee Ordway	B1
Crossword	J2	Sports	D1-8
Cryptoquip	F1	State	B1-8
Dear Abby	J3	Stocks	C4
Dr. Donohue	J3	Sudoku	C12
Editorial	A10-11	Television	T1-4
Horoscope	J2	Weather	B8
Lifestyle	C6-12	WSJ Sunday	C2-3

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