



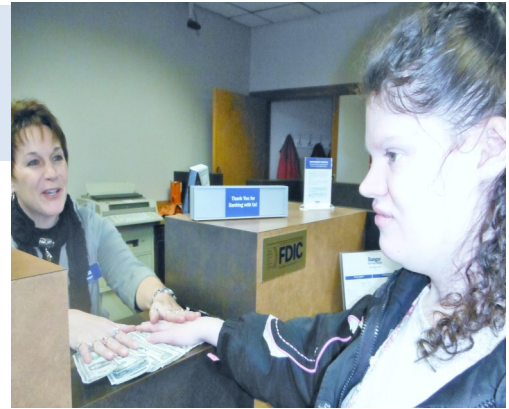
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Congratulations to Gail Fanjoy for being elected President of Maine APSE for 2014!

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MILLINOCKET'S NEWEST BUSINESS OWNER

We are very pleased to announce that Courtney Cyr has recently become the sole proprietor of her very own vending machine business, Cyr Vending! Courtney benefited from a customized employment process that included “discovering” her passion for putting things in other



Making deposits and withdrawals is becoming second nature



Courtney refills her machines weekly

things. Members of her team included her VR Counselor, community case manager from UCP, KFI staff, and her parents. VR was so impressed with Courtney’s business plan, they contributed \$1910 to her business start-up!

She owns four high-end vending machines, and in January she placed her first machine at **(story continued on page 2)**

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KFI has been awarded a \$30,000 grant from the *Maine Developmental Disabilities Council* to facilitate customized employment opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities.

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Conference 2013

In December, a delegation from KFI attended the TASH National Conference in Chicago, Illinois. Gail Fanjoy (CEO), Sally Sweeney (Vice President of Services), Barbara Cyr (Vice President of Operations), Peggy Jamieson and Hilary Emery (Support Coordinators) attended the four day conference. TASH is a national organization whose mission is “to promote the full inclusion and participa-

tion of children and adults with significant disabilities in every aspect of their community, and to eliminate the social injustices that diminish human rights” (www.tash.org). KFI has a long history of membership and participation with TASH.

Conference goers had the opportunity to attend sessions with leading experts in the **(story continued on page 2)**





Dan shows off his laundry room in his home with its high capacity equipment

Everyone Can Work !

Dan Crosby is a self-employed man who operates a small laundry business in Lincoln. Dan picks up his customers' clothing to be laundered, brings it to his home where he washes, dries, and then folds it, and then he delivers the laundry back to his customers. Because Dan charges his customers by the pound, upon delivery he weighs the laundry to determine his payment. Dan is a hard worker and is always looking for more customers! If you are interested in Dan's laundry services, please contact Erica Cooper at 794-2979.

Volunteer Spotlight

Jared Mulligan has been volunteering at the Lincoln Region Thrift Store for about a year and a half. Jared brings the donated items into the store where he cleans them up, prices them and puts them out on the shelves. Jared's favorite part of volunteering is the media room where he organizes the books and music. Jared is also a long time volunteer at Colonial Acres Nursing Home in Lincoln.



(TASH 2013 cont.) disability field focusing on topics such as policy, community living, advocacy, employment and human rights. In addition to her duties as a TASH National Board member, KFI's Gail Fanjoy was a presenter at a full day Community Living Workshop titled "A Life Worth Living: Expanding Personalized and Individualized Supports". During the conference, Gail also helped facilitate "The Community Gathering" which was a social and learning space for dialogue and innovation.

KFI's delegation is excited to share information with their coworkers and use new information to further our mission of supporting people to lead regular lives in their communities. We look forward to a continued relationship with TASH and future opportunities to attend conferences which allow us to stay current with best practices and connected with other agencies and experts on a national level.

(Cyr Vending cont.) the Katahdin Region Higher Education Center, located in East Millinocket. At this location, Courtney is offering healthier snacks and drinks per the request of students and other people who access the building. Courtney has her sights set on placing her three other machines at different locations in the Katahdin region, providing a variety of foods from different kinds of snack foods and drinks to microwaveable entrées. Congratulations, Courtney!



DSP SPOTLIGHT



Rob Calderon

Leroy found Rob when he was supported by Joanne to attend a regular meeting in Sanford. Rob was welcoming

and supportive of Leroy, and the two struck up a relationship immediately. A few conversations later, and Rob came to work for KFI as a Community Advocate supporting both Leroy and his wife, Betty. A certified DSP with experience elsewhere in the field and resident of Sanford, Rob brings a lot of experience and community connection to his work. We could mention some of Rob's strengths, like he is a problem solver, a vocal advocate for the people he supports, an employee who treats people with respect, and who sees the good and the potential in people. But more

importantly, this is what Betty and Leroy have to say about Rob: (Betty) "I feel great about Rob being here; I enjoy his company. He has done a lot for us. He has been a great help. He has taught me a lot of stuff I did not know. He is always happy in the morning. I could not ask for a better person." And from Leroy, "He is a great staff and support for us. He is the best we have had. I feel safe around him. He is very reliable, always here on time." All that's left to say is, "Thanks Rob, for being you and for all you do!"

We want to know....

What has being a member of SUFU* taught you?



Marco Orlando

"People sometimes think I'm too nice. SUFU allows me to be more assertive so people can't take advantage of me."

"SUFU has taught me how to grow closer to friends and how to meet new friends. I testified at the State House".



Rakel Arthers

*"Speaking Up For Us" (SUFU) is Maine's statewide self-advocacy network.

Do you have an idea or something you would like to submit for our next issue? We would love to hear from you!

Questions or comments about our newsletter may be sent to:

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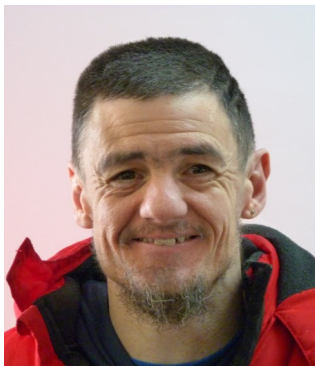
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Visit us on the web
www.kfmaine.org

We want to know....

What has being a member of SUFU taught you?

“I’ve learned a lot about voting and I’ve learned about the State House.”



Lenny Berry



Curtis Glidden

“SUFU has taught me to try new things. I am the secretary for the Lincoln SUFU chapter and have learned how to do this leadership role.”

“Speaking up for yourself is very important!”



Shirley Christensen