



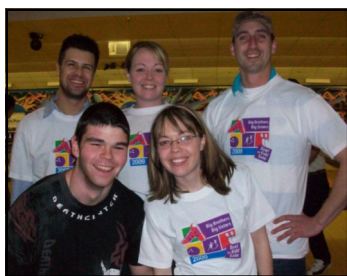
Big News

**Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Bath/Brunswick**
Serving Southern Mid-Coast Maine

Spring 2009

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and the children we serve we would like to extend a BIG thank you to all of the sponsors and bowlers who made BFKS 2009 a huge success !!

**A record number of 520
bowlers from 130 Teams
Joined us at this year's event!**



The Tim Horton's of Topsham team raised \$800, and earned this year's "Big Team Award" as the highest single fundraising team!



Thank You to Our Lane Sponsors

Androscoggin Bank, Bath Elks Lodge, Bath Industrial Sales, Border Trust Co. Topsham, Chief Petty Officers Association, C.W. Rogers Ace Hardware, Downeast Energy, First Federal Savings, Goodwin Chevrolet, Ground Covers, Inc., Maine Natural Gas, Northeast Bank, Martin's Point Healthcare, Norway Savings Bank, Office of Cornelia C. Vieck, CPA, Pearl Vision, Shaw's in Bath & Brunswick, Slocum Chiropractic, Topsham Rotary Club, US Cellular Topsham.

Congratulations to Doug Munsey, grand prize winner of the over night stay in Boston via the Amtrack Downeaster and two tickets for a Red Sox game!

A special thanks to Carrot Signs for providing our BFKS banner!

Thank you to John Ater our special guest entertainer

Thank You to Our Corporate and In-Kind Sponsors

American Legion —Post 21, Androscoggin Dental Care, Bath Iron Works, Bath Savings Institution, Bar Harbor Whale Watch Co., Bill Dodge Auto Group, Comcast, Getetched, Hannaford Topsham, Lockheed Martin AEGIS Test Team, Topsham, Lowe's, Reality Productions, Savings Bank of Maine, Team Woody's Performance Center, Terry Goan Brunswick Police Department, The Coastal Journal, The Cryer, The Times Record, Wal Mart.



The B.I.W. CROF building was this year's recipient of the "King Pin Award," with nine teams participating the group raised \$3,605!
(bowlers pictured at left)



Big Brothers Big Sisters Honors Volunteers with Mardi Gras Themed Dinner Party at the Holiday Inn at Bath

Now Presenting the School-Based Mentors of the Year!

Sheriff Joel Merry has been mentoring in the School-Based program at Mt. Ararat Middle School since 2006. His positive, consistent, and caring nature has made him a strong role model and friend. Despite his busy schedule and full plate he reserves time every week to have lunch with his middle school mentee, making him a strong inspiration for the community.



Mary Buckowsky has been a School-Based Mentor since fall of 2007. She has a wonderful bond and connection with her mentee, a student at the Jordan Acres School. Her warm smile and welcoming demeanor brings comfort to everyone around her. She and her mentee enjoy talking and crafts, and she often brings treats to share with other matches.

Meet the High School Student Mentors of the Year!

Jessica Dolloff is a student leader at Morse High School and has been a mentor since 2007. She offers support, guidance, and friendship to a child with her genuine kindness. She is consistent and reliable, an exceptional mentor and an asset to the Bath community.



Kendra Wiley from Brunswick High School has been a mentor since 2007. She shares a friendship with her mentee at Hawthorne School. She is kind and encouraging, upbeat and helpful, and above all patient and warm. Kendra also recruited 15 student bowling teams in support of BFKS!



Christian Lalonde has been a mentor from Mt. Ararat High School since 2007 and shares a comfortable and friendly relationship with a 7th grade student. Christian served as the Student Mentor Coordinator this year and worked hard to recruit fellow high school student mentors. He and his mentee are extremely helpful at facilitating activities with the group.



**High School Student Mentor of the Year not pictured is
Brittany Harris from Hyde School. **



Matthew Leopold is a Bowdoin College student who has been mentoring a child in the first grade since October of 2008. This child went through a transition period where he changed schools and was unable to meet with Matthew for some time. To keep in contact Matthew maintained regular check-ins with BBBS staff and put together a picture book of activities that he and his mentee had enjoyed together. He gave this book to his mentee as a gift. His devotion and dedication to his mentee has been unwavering, he is a strong role model and great friend.

Put Your Hands Together for Our Bigs of the Year!

Frank & Linda Talbot have been spending time with their Little Brother since June of 2008. During their first meeting together this stand out “Big Couple” took the time to learn about their Little Brother’s interests and found that they all have a lot in common. Skyler’s mother cannot say enough good things about Frank and Linda. She describes their time together as positive and consistent, and is very pleased with the number of activities that they offer to enjoy with her son.



Anne Bridgeman has been matched with her Little Sister Desiree for close to 2.5 years. This pair spends two afternoons each week taking part in activities such as creative craft projects, walking Anne’s dog, cooking meals, and spending time on homework. Anne helped Desiree acquire a student lobstering license and they spend many of their visits painting pink and purple buoys, setting and pulling traps, and collecting lobsters. Desiree has opened a savings account for the profits she gains through lobster sales and is learning about money management.

Shannon Sprague became a Big Brother in August of 2007. He and his Little Brother Calvin share lots of jokes and laughs, they also talk about their values and about Calvin's hopes for the future. The friends spend a significant amount of time together being active outdoors, cooking or sharing a meal, or simply talking while riding in the car. Shannon is a member of our Board of Directors, assists with volunteer recruitment, and is always willing to lend a helping hand.



A BIG Thank You to Our Supporters!!

Business Partner of the Year

Jeff Geiger, President BIW

Media Partner of the Year

Charlie Crosby, Publisher The Cryer

Good Neighbor of the Year

John Ater, Comedian

Special Volunteer Recognition

Eric London, Board of Directors

Volunteer School-Based Mentor

BIW CROF Building

Event Sponsor of the Year

Tom Whalen, President Bath Savings Trust

Kathy Reed, Branch Manager Bath Savings Institution Brunswick

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW STAFF MEMBER

**The Staff and Board of Directors are pleased to welcome
Holly Snowdon to the BBBS family as
the Site-Based Coordinator.**

Holly worked as a professional baker and caterer for The Humble Gourmet until 2004 when she decided to pursue her secondary education and make a career change. She holds a B.S. in Behavioral Science from the University of Maine at Augusta. She is pleased and excited to work with our area school partners, the children we serve, and to support the BBBS of Bath/Brunswick agency. Outside of work Holly enjoys spending time with her children, cooking, distance running, hiking, and spending time out doors.



Community Program News

Summer Theater Opportunity for Bigs & Littles!

Through generous support from The Davenport Trust Fund in Bath, Community Bigs and Littles will have the opportunity to enjoy the unique experience of attending a theater production free of cost! We are very pleased to offer tickets to three upcoming children's shows; A Year With frog and Toad (in June), The Lion, The Witch, & The Wardrobe (in June), and School House Rock Live! (in August) at The Maine State Music Theater.

Quarterly Mentor Training with Guest Speaker Steven Rowe

We were pleased to welcome former Maine Attorney General Steven Rowe at a recent mentor training session held at the Fairfield Inn and Suites conference room. Over 20 community program Big Brothers and Sisters engaged in a discussion about childhood development; namely the necessity of caring, nurturing relationships to maintaining healthy childhood growth. Mr. Rowe stressed that there is a tremendous need in the State of Maine and across the nation for more adults to take an interest and actively influence the lives of today's youth. Mr. Rowe expressed gratitude and admiration of the individuals who devote their time and energy to be a friend, confidant, and role model to children in our community. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to Steve Rowe for taking the time to share his knowledge with us in support of our community Bigs!

New Partnerships Support Community Matches!!

The Gelato Fiasco, Cold Stone Creamery, and Subway at Cook's Corner, have partnered with BBBS of Bath/Brunswick to support low-cost opportunities for volunteer Bigs and their Littles! Each business will provide a buy-one-get-one-free discount so matches can enjoy gelato, ice cream, and sandwiches. We are grateful to these local businesses for supporting children in need.

Bigs & Littles Social at Bath Area Family YMCA

Sunday, March 22nd the Bath Area Family YMCA hosted an afternoon of fitness activities for Bigs and Littles. Matches tried rock climbing on the indoor wall, played basketball and racquet ball, walked on the in door track, and swam in the therapy and lap pools. The group also enjoyed a pizza lunch sponsored by Dominos in Brunswick.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT & PARTNERSHIPS



JMG Students Award BBBS with Grant Funding

Morse High School and Mt. Ararat High School students enrolled in the Jobs For Maine's Graduates (JMG) Programs were afforded the opportunity to learn about philanthropy and local non-profit organizations. The JOY Initiative funded by the Unity Foundation provided middle and high school JMG programs with \$1,000 grants to be used in support of area non-profits. Students wrote and analyzed requests for proposals and made decisions on what organizations would receive funding. MHS students opted to split the funding and provide \$500 to two organizations; BBBS of Bath/Brunswick and the Art Van. MTA students awarded BBBS of Bath/Brunswick with the full \$1,000. Funds will be utilized in support of School-Based mentoring programs and service learning opportunities for high school students. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the JMG students in both programs for supporting children in need and strengthening volunteer opportunities for your fellow students.

The staff would like to thank Board Members Kelly Klaiber and Tara Perron for organizing the recent Comcast Cares Day. Kelly and Tara, with a group of about 20 volunteers that included Comcast employees, Board Members, and volunteers from the BNAS, gathered at the BBBS/BB office for a day of cleaning, organizing, and painting. We are grateful to Comcast and the volunteers for their support of the staff as we enjoy the fresh new paint job and a better organized storage area!



In April the Old Navy store in Brunswick hosted a lemonade stand fundraiser. Bigs and Littles volunteered at the stand to greet shoppers and serve lemonade in return for donations. This fundraiser was coordinated by volunteer Big Sister Shawn McMullen!



Staff from the Bath McDonald's pose in front of a window covered by donation pin-ups.

BORDERS.

During the month of April, patrons of the Borders Store in Brunswick were asked to purchase books for children enrolled in the BBBS/BB programs. Books were specially selected to suite the needs of the children we serve and ranged in price from \$3.00—\$20.00. Our Community matches enjoyed visiting the office to “book shop.” Books were also given away at the School-Based programs. Thank you to Borders and all of the wonderful community members who chose to give the gift of reading and brighten a child's day!

McDonald's Restaurants in Bath and Brunswick Supported BBBS/BB with Fundraiser

From Monday, May 11— Sunday, May 24th McDonald's Restaurants in Bath and Cook's Corner Brunswick supported our agency by offering customers the opportunity to donate \$1.00 and write their name on a “We do a lot with a Little” colorful paper pin-up. The two participating restaurants raised a total of \$2,425.00! Thank you to McDonald's for supporting children living in your community.





**Big Brothers Big Sisters
Of Bath/Brunswick**
Serving Southern Mid-Coast Maine

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United Way
of Mid Coast Maine

*Thank You to the United Way
of Mid Coast Maine
for your continued support of our agency*

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Dear Valued Friends!

As I reflect upon the past year and look ahead into our future, I am reminded of the great opportunities presented to us as we strive to improve the lives of children in need through one-to-one mentoring relationships.

Today, our services are more important than ever before. The current economic status is especially challenging for low income families living in rural communities. Incidents of increased stress, anxiety, and depression among parents and guardians are significantly affecting the lives of children we serve. These "at-risk" or "in-need" children are being exposed to more serious high-risk situations. Due to these economic stressors we see a growing number of children at-risk and in need of a positive adult role model.

What brings value to this organization is our devoted friends who have the willingness to invest in at-risk children living within our community. Whether it be volunteering as a mentor, participating in our fund raising events, or becoming a lifetime donor. This commitment to our organization is the vehicle which provides positive results for the children we serve.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you personally for all that you do. You are a part of the "Little Moments Big Magic" we experience each day.

Sincerely,
Connie M. Hartley, Executive Director

www.mysmilesforlife.com
Check out this unique fundraising opportunity in support of children's charity organizations by viewing the above website or contact Androscoggin Dental Care for more info: 729-3911

