On October 4, the Maine Seafood Industry Gubernatorial Forum took place at the Strand Theatre in Rockland. The two-hour public event was hosted by the Maine Coast Fishermen’s Association, the Maine Lobstermen’s Association, the Maine Lobster Dealers Association, Maine Lobstering Union, the Alewife Harvesters of Maine and the Maine Aquaculture Association. The moderator was seafood journalist James Wright from the Global Aquaculture Association. The following is an edited account of Mills’ answers to the moderator’s questions.

**Opening remarks**

Mills — I am aware of the issues facing fishermen, issues like the high cost of health insurance, taxes and regulation, an aging population, fewer people to work these jobs anymore, who you are going to leave the business to. The risks that people take to bring us our food is what I think about every day.

**Question:** How do you plan to address the job of DMR commissioner? What are the skills this person will need?

Mills — I’m not here to promise anyone a job. I will be looking for people in my cabinet with expertise in the field that they govern and to enforce the laws. Someone who has integrity, honesty and a good work ethic. Someone who under-stands the various fishing industries, the growing aquaculture industry, some-one who hopefully has come up through the ranks, someone who can funnel information from industry to me, the chief executive, someone who can be a good messenger between the industry, consumers and policy makers, the legis-lators, someone who is a good communicator and has a good work ethic, and is available to talk to the policy makers, the legislators, on critical policy issues. There’s been too little of that in the last eight years. We need openness and transparency.

**Question:** There is a lot of concern among lobstermen about right whale regulations and extreme cuts to the herring quota next year. How will you ensure that the iconic lobster industry is fairly represented?

Mills — We don’t know why there’s been a reduction in births, scientists say that it might be because the whales have to travel further to get the plankton they eat because of climate change. That’s one factor. As far as I know from reading the newspapers, not one right whale has been found deceased or injured in the Gulf of Maine from fishing gear from Maine fishermen. So I think that’s an important thing. Until we find causa-tion, until they pin this on fishing gear and on Maine fishermen, they shouldn’t be imposing these kinds of limits and restrictions which could be devastating to the fishermen in Maine. Commissioner Keliher was quoted as saying this.

Continued on page 15.
When December rolls around, waterfront patterns begin to shift along the Maine coast. Many lobstermen have pulled their traps and hauled their boats from the water. Lobster dealers have put up a stock of lobsters, in saltwater ponds and in land facilities, to meet the strong holiday demand in the U.S. and abroad. As the lobster boats leave the water, the scallopers take to the sea. The Maine scallop season begins on December 1 and, if recent years are any indication, it should be a profitable one this year as well. Sadly, shrimpers are not preparing their gear this season. With stocks still deeply depressed, that fishery will remain closed through 2021.

Maine’s multiple fisheries will be the responsibility of Maine’s next Governor, Janet Mills, and the Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources (DMR). At the time of publication, Mills had not yet named the nominee for that position. However, Mills herself spoke about the qualifications she would seek in that individual during the Seafood Industry’s gubernatorial candidates forum in Rockland on October 6. This month Landings reports on Mills’ thoughts on the right whale issue, offshore wind power, working waterfronts and other matters related to Maine’s fishing industry from a transcript of that evening’s discussions.

Landings also continues its series “Voices of the Fishermen’s Forum,” courtesy of Maine Sea Grant. Dan Harriman is a mackerel fisherman from Cape Elizabeth who uses a fish trap to capture the schooling fish. He sets his trap around Richmond Island in Casco Bay, an area in which his family has fished since the 1890s. Harriman has a decided view when it comes how fishermen pursue their prey today. He laments the loss of traditional fishing knowledge: “I bet you that there’s … not so many that could teach you how to set up a weir or a pound net or how to jig fish or how to trap blackbacks.”

In our “People of the Coast” series, Landings talks with Amy Lent, executive director of the Maine Maritime Museum in Bath. Lent followed a different sort of path to her current position, one that started, of all places, at Saks Fifth Avenue in New York City. During her twelve years as director, Lent has overseen numerous new permanent exhibits at the museum, including the popular “Lobstering and the Coast of Maine,” as well as expanded community educational programs. As Lent said about the Museum, “The purpose is for people to come here and say ‘Wow! I had no idea that Maine’s maritime heritage had such an impact on America and still does. I want to know more!’”

DMR biologist Jessica Waller gives an update on the Lobster Research Collaborative’s projects. The Collaborative was created by DMR earlier this year to coordinate lobster research in the state and is funded through the Lobster Research, Education and Development (RED) fund. This summer the Collaborative funded an array of scientific studies related to lobster. Waller reports on the importance of bringing the research community together to further our understanding of Maine’s most valuable marine resource and provides an update on projects funded through the collaborative.

Landings also dives into the complicated world of fishing vessel engines. The EPA implemented regulations for large marine engines, called Tier 4 standards, last year that are designed to reduce emissions to help meet air quality standards. The problem with the Tier 4 requirements is that no engine manufacturers actually make engines to those standards yet. Plus, as Mack Boring product support specialist Peter Emerson points out in this month’s article, even if there were such engines available they would be unsuitable and unsafe for the offshore lobster fleet’s needs. Emerson and the Maine Lobstermen’s Association worked with Maine’s delegation and petitioned EPA to take a hard look at the practicality of those regulations, an effort that has had some positive results.

Finally, it’s not just the big things, like the boat’s engine, the weather, or lobster prices, that can affect a lobsterman’s life. Little things, like an unseen virus, can knock even the sturdiest lobsterman down like a bowling pin. That’s why getting a flu vaccine is so important, as we note in this month’s issue. Influenza killed more than 80,000 people last year, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Getting this year’s flu vaccine, even as late as January, can reduce your likelihood of getting the illness by 40% to 60%. And the vaccine is largely covered by Medicare, Medicaid and health insurance plans under the Affordable Care Act. So go get your flu shot! And remember, we welcome your ideas about future stories in Landings.
DMR LOBSTER RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS UNDERWAY

By Jessa Waller, DMR

As conditions continue to change in the Gulf of Maine, it is crucial that biologists and oceanographers work together to generate the science needed to sustainably manage the lobster fishery. The stock assessment model and other management tools depend on data that accurately describe lobster distribution, abundance and biology. The Department of Marine Resources (DMR) recognized the need for a collaborative approach to lobster research in Maine and formed the DMR Lobster Research Collaborative (LRC) earlier this year. The LRC is supported by a $340,000 investment from the Lobster Research, Education and Development (RED) fund supported by the sale of lobster license plates.

Through a request for proposals, DMR solicited collaborative research projects focused on improved science for the management of the lobster fishery. The RED board and DMR scientists reviewed ten proposals in April and selected six research projects targeting lobster distribution, shifts in lobster habitat and the changing environment. The board funded three projects proposed by UMaine Marine Science Professor Yong Chen. Dr. Chen and his graduate students were awarded a total of $190,000 for three projects that will be completed in the next two years. The objective of these proposals is to build computer simulations to project climate-driven changes in lobster distribution and habitat, evaluate the effectiveness of DMR monitoring programs and predict the effectiveness of conservation measures such as V-notching in warming Gulf of Maine waters.

Dr. Kathy Mills and Dr. Andy Pershing of the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GOMRI) were awarded $80,000 to compile and develop indicators that show how the Gulf of Maine is changing over time and examine how these indicators affect the Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank lobster stock. Potential indicators include sea surface temperature, bottom temperature, salinity and position of the Maine Coastal Current. UMaine Research Professor Rick Wahle was awarded $40,000 to develop computer simulations that will be used to examine the relationship between lobster larvae and their likely zooplankton prey across the Gulf of Maine. This research team will examine correlations between existing small-scale datasets and larger Gulf of Maine trends. UMaine Marine Science professor Robert Steneck was awarded $10,000 to supplement his work on changes in lobster settlement, kelp bed distribution and density of legal and sub-legal lobsters along the coast of Maine over the last few decades. Dr. Steneck and his team will conduct scuba surveys at four sites originally surveyed between 1989-1999. These sites include sampling areas in York, Pemaquid, Mt. Desert and Jonesport. In addition, the board awarded $5,000 each to Dr. Nick Record, senior research scientist at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences; Dr. Jeff Rame, research scientist at GMRI and UMaine; Dr. Eric Anns, biology professor at Hood College; and Dr. Damian Brady, assistant research professor at UMaine. These scientists will contribute their expertise on a broad range of topics and provide data to supplement LRC-funded projects. All of these projects will take place over a two-year period (2018-2020) and researchers will meet quarterly to give updates on their work and discuss issues relevant to lobster research in Maine. At the conclusion of the LRC each group will produce a final report and contribute to a summary document describing the findings of each project.

The LRC met for the first time in October in West Boothbay Harbor. Fifty people from across New England attended this meeting including state stock assessment scientists, industry members and representatives from several state and federal agencies. In the morning, the LRC-funded groups introduced themselves and gave an overview of their proposed work. Later in the day DMR lobster biologist Kathleen Bearden presented a summary of DMR’s lobster monitoring programs and the types of data collected by these programs. I gave a presentation about two new lobster research projects that DMR undertook this summer. We began a study to determine the length at which female lobsters reach maturity along the coast of Maine. This study will enhance our understanding of female lobster growth, egg production and changes in reproductive development over time. We also conducted a survey of lobster larvae in the Boothbay area to examine larval distribution and abundance in this region. Maine Sea Grant facilitated two discussion sessions focused on the goals of the LRC and future lobster research priorities. Members of the LRC agreed that one of the goals of this group is to provide an opportunity for researchers from different institutions to share observations, data and research methodologies.

The LRC provides a rare opportunity to develop new lobster research projects and collaborations that will continue past the duration of the LRC. The next LRC meeting will take place in February in West Boothbay Harbor. During this meeting LRC members will provide updates on their projects and discuss how to work together as their research develops. For more information about these meetings or the LRC in general contact me at jesica.d.waller@maine.gov.
A vivacious woman, Lent has brought a practical, business perspective to the Museum. “Our purpose is to preserve Maine’s maritime heritage but we are not a warehouse. We are here to educate and teach people and we use the collections to do so,” she said. “We don’t exist to make money, we make money in order to continue to exist.”

Lent followed an unusual path to her position as museum director. Brought up in New Jersey, she visited New York City museums on school trips while a child but never considered a museum career. “I wanted to be a buyer for Saks Fifth Avenue while a child but never considered a museum career,” she said. “I visited New York City museums on school trips after I was twelve years old;” she laughed. “That’s all I wanted.” As a young woman she did land a job at the venerable company, eventually becoming a women’s designer-sportswear buyer. From there she moved on to work in several national fashion retail companies as well as a pet supply company based in Toronto. She last worked for seven years as the head of operations and marketing at the James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.

“We don’t have investors here. We have donors. Those donors want to feel that their investment in the museum returns value to them in individual ways,” Lent explained. That means building relationships with a diverse set of donors. The Museum and its 28-person board underwent a strategic planning process shortly after Lent arrived. Since that time Lent has overseen establishment of numerous new permanent exhibits as well as expanded public education programs targeted at local communities.

“The purpose of the Museum’s exhibits is for people to come here and say ‘Wow! I had no idea that Maine’s maritime heritage had such an impact on America and still does. I want to know more!’” Lent said enthusiastically. “We’ve added one big new thing each year since 2012. Exhibits that are interactive and capture people’s imaginations.”

Among the museum’s major new exhibits is one on the state’s lobstoring industry, opened in 2015. “People visiting the museum would ask crazy questions about lobstoring because they just didn’t know. That’s our job, to give them information in fun and engaging ways,” Lent explained.

The new, 5,000-square-foot exhibit involved gutting two floors of a building and took three years to complete. To ensure that “Lobstoring and the Maine Coast” covered the most important aspects of the fishery, Lent drew on the knowledge of scientists, lobstermen, and others involved in lobstoring. “We heard that they wanted us to emphasize the sustainability of the fishery, how diverse the industry is, and that there is no one stereotypical lobsterner,” Lent said. One wall of the building is covered with lobster buoys donated by lobstermen. Using touch-screen kiosks, visitors can see information and pictures related to each buoy, including the lobsterman’s name, location, boat name, and stories he or she contributed.

Lent beams with pleasure when talking about the Museum’s new exhibits, whether on lobstoring, lighthouses or the newest topic, neighboring Bath Iron Works’ long history. The words “new,” “exciting,” and “fun” bubble up throughout her conversation. “My job is to get the resources to help the curators do the best they can do, to make cool, fun things happen. There are a lot of great people here who figure things out and take risks,” she said.

After twelve years on the job, Lent shows no signs of slowing down. Next among the Museum’s many projects is a revamp of the entire landscape and entrance plan for the Museum. Currently visitors face a daunting series of steps to move from the parking lot to the Museum’s entrance. The new plan replaces the climb with a gentle entranceway interspersed with parking areas and small groups of native trees species used in traditional boatbuilding. An elevated boardwalk will run along the river in the south section of the 5-acre property. At the new entry plaza an outline of the Kennebec River, from Moosehead Lake to its mouth at Popham Beach, will be inset in concrete. “Children will love it!” Lent said. And not only children. It’s clear that for Lent, each new project is an expression of her love of Maine and its rich maritime history.

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“One week notice needed on pallet purchases”
In 2017, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Tier 4 emissions rules for commercial marine vessels with engine power above 599 kW (803 hp) went into effect. Tier 4 refers to standards set by the EPA to reduce emissions of particulate matter (PM), oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and other toxins from new, non-road diesel engines. Previously Maine lobster boats were subject to Tier 3 standards for their vessels.

The regulations, however, may be an example of putting the cart before the horse. "First, no engine manufacturers had any emissions-certified products in the engine displacement ranges used in our applications above 800 hp that were Tier 4-ready," explained Peter Emerson, OEM and Dealer Support Specialist New England for Mack Boring and Parts Company. "The second problem is that even if there were products available above 800 hp, we can't properly install and use the emissions equipment that is attached to the engines to make it meet the emissions legislation." Boat builders were exploring installing twin engines in new lobster boats as a way around this requirement.

More Maine lobstermen are now fishing offshore. That means there has been an increase in the number of larger, high-powered vessels heading thirty or forty miles offshore to tend trawls of traps. Many of those boats have 1000 hp engines. A fishing day for an offshore lobsterman may be 12- to 24-hours long, which means the big engines are running for much longer than those in the inshore fishery.

In 2016, before the standards were implemented, Emerson and several Maine boatbuilders decided to take the issue directly to the EPA. "There was very little movement," Emerson commented wryly. He led a presentation on the impact of the Tier 4 standards at the Maine Fishermen’s Forum in 2017 which Patrice McCarron, executive director of the Maine Lobstermen’s Association (MLA), attended.

"It is a ridiculous situation. The only engine models currently available for Tier 4 marine engines are far too large for any lobster boat. Obviously EPA didn’t understand the Maine lobster fleet," McCarron said. The MLA board of directors voted to take the issue to Maine’s Congressional delegation to inquire about options to exclude lobster boat engines from Tier 4 requirements. However, since the EPA had already been through rulemaking, the delegation urged MLA to raise this issue with EPA.

The MLA worked with Mack Boring and sent a letter in February to EPA director Scott Pruitt, explaining the problems with the Tier 4 requirement for Maine’s lobster fleet, with little result.

So Emerson, several Maine boatbuilders, and the MLA went back to the delegation asking Representative Pingree and Senators Collins and King to put pressure on EPA for relief. EPA responded. In mid-November, Emerson took three EPA staff from the Ann Arbor, Michigan, office to meet with Maine boatbuilders throughout the coast to discuss the needs of lobstermen concerning boat safety and performance. "They came very open-minded, very professional, and very willing to dig into this issue and understand customer use and application the best way possible," Emerson said. Emerson introduced the EPA team to people at Wesmac Boat, SW Boatworks, Light’s Fiberglass as well as Billing’s Diesel and Marine, Toppin’s Diesel and Marine, Kennedy Marine Engineering, and Jason Chipman, a lobsterman, from Milbridge.

"The message was consistent and clear that for this type of fishing it’s very hard to use Tier 4 equipment and furthermore there are no engines available that are certified," Emerson said.

The EPA allows a type of waiver to boatbuilders under a “hardship provision” in the regulations. Maine boat builders can apply for this waiver to receive relief from the Tier 4 regulations for a 12-month period. "They gave information about the contact at EPA who would be responsible for working with each of them to file the paperwork necessary. They were very helpful," Emerson said. The EPA will work to amend the Tier 4 regulations during the next nine months to get a long-term solution in place before the hardship provisions expire, according to Emerson. "They understand that there are no Tier 4 certified engines available in the displacement range this application requires and no engine manufacturers are currently working to produce them due to cost and technical feasibility," Emerson said. "For now we have an interim solution on a case-by-case basis and going forward it appears to look positive that the EPA will be making some changes. He anticipates any changes to the regulations to be unveiled late in 2019.
MAINE LOBSTERMEN'S ASSOCIATION UPDATE

STEAMING AHEAD

As 2018 draws to a close, it is time to reflect on the year past as we prepare for new opportunities and new challenges in 2019. This was certainly a year of significant change for the lobster industry. Maine people elected a new Governor and Legislature. We’ve seen two marine species that significantly impact the success of the lobster industry — herring and right whales — get hit hard by rapidly changing ocean conditions. Governor-elect Janet Mills will take the reins from Governor LePage in January. Mills, a Democrat and the first female Governor to serve the State of Maine, brings a very different political philosophy from Governor LePage. Her view on government and its role will translate into many changes for the state. When a new party comes to power in Augusta it often means wiping the slate clean and bringing in new leaders to work in the Governor’s Cabinet.

Sometimes, the transition period gives the new Governor the opportunity to kick an ineffective administrator to the curb. At other times, like now, the notion of changing the guard at the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) is a scary thought. It's worth noting that the DMR Commissioner serves a unique role when compared to the heads of Maine's other state agencies. While many of DMR's duties take place on the state level, DMR has other important responsibilities which happen in political arenas outside of Maine. For Maine's fishermen, working waterfronts and marine economy to remain vibrant and profitable, Maine must be effective in governing and regulatory arenas outside of Maine. Fisheries are a public resource and are managed cooperatively among the states and with the federal government. As an adjoining ocean state with limited economic opportunity, Maine's needs are specific when compared to other states such as Massachusetts. Having a strong leader who has earned political capital and is respected by others is essential to Maine's success. Commissioner Keliher has established effective relationships in regional and federal management arenas which, combined with a strong working knowledge of the regulatory structures and issues, is invaluable to the continued success of Maine's commercial fishing industry.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), New England Fisheries Management Council (NEFMC) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) all have their hands in management issues that affect the Maine lobster industry. It is through their actions that Maine lobstermen are facing a significant reduction in the 2019 quota for herring, new restrictions to protect North Atlantic right whales, potential lobster trap reductions, and also recently in the latest harvester reporting by 2020.

Fortunately for Maine's lobster industry, Commissioner Keliher currently serves as co-chair of the ASMFC and will be appointed chair next year. This level of leadership at ASMFC is essential in ensuring that any new changes coming from ASMFC will work for Maine lobstermen. Maine's success in 2018 in increasing its menhaden quota, gaining additional quota from other states and maintaining the small scale/incidental menhaden fishery are a direct result of Keliher's leadership at ASMFC.

Commissioner Keliher has also earned significant political capital with the NEFMC and NMFS. With the implementation of large herring reductions and new whale rules being decided in 2019, Maine cannot afford to start over with a new Commissioner. Keliher has been extremely proactive on the whale issue, publicly pushing for more accountability from Canada, saying "No" to ropeless fishing, working with the ASMC to document enforcement concerns, and spearheading new gear research in Maine to ensure that any new whale regulations make sense for Maine and enable lobstermen’s safety. He understands the history, the issue and the players, which is a tremendous asset moving forward. The MLA has strongly voiced its support to the Governor-elect’s transition team and collaborated with seven other fishing organizations in a letter supporting the reappointment of Commissioner Keliher in the MMs administration. We all agree that "the future success of Maine's seafood industry depends on the continued strong leadership, stability, institutional knowledge and political capital that only Commissioner Keliher possesses.'

There are few people who understand how to navigate this complex political arena and possess the leadership skills to be effective. In addition to his skill and political instincts, Commissioner Keliher has established a strong rapport and track record with fishermen. While not everyone will agree with all of his decisions, he has certainly gone out of his way over the years to listen to fishermen and make well-informed decisions to keep our resources sustainable and our communities vibrant for years to come.

Have a wonderful holiday season with your family. As always, stay safe on the water.

Patrice
lobster fishery, California Dungeness crab fishery, Canadian snow crab fishery, Oceanographic (acoustic release with spool for deep water offshore fishery). These various technologies have been trialed in the inshore Massachusetts lobster fishery, California Dungeness crab fishery, Canadian snow crab fishery, and southwest Nova Scotia lobster fishery. It should be noted that those groups testing the technology have an interest in gaining access to a closed area. The idea of ropeless fishing remains an emerging technology and is only in the early development and testing phase. The MLA board expressed their strong opposition to the development of ropeless technology for the Maine lobster fishery.

The NARWC meeting featured many right whale research updates. The current estimate of the right whale population is 465 whales. Twenty new whales were added to the right whale catalog – eight females, six males and six unknown sex. Fourteen of these were juveniles. Only 39% of the calves known to have been born are catalogued as they have not yet formed callouses when they are first sighted. Right whale 1327 (Scoop) had not been seen since 1983 and 1956 respectively and was added back to the catalog. It is now the oldest whale in the catalog. There have been four right whale deaths in 2017: 1) from entanglement in snow crab gear, 2) due to probable acute entanglement (due to deep abrasion but no gear present), 3) was a skull (no cause of death yet determined), and 4) was due to probable acute entanglement (dead lumpfish around flippers found floating off Georges Bank).

The MLA Board reviewed several potential gear modifications, including weak ropes produced for Canada, time-tension line cutter, weak sleeves, and a tag line technology developed in Canada. MLA staff will continue to follow up on these. MLA staff will attend the ASMFC working group on right whales.

The MLA will be meeting with the DMR Commissioner to discuss strategies related to bait for next year. Lobstermen continue to make adjustments to their bait use, and identifying new freezing and storage space. The Area 1A fishery has no landings day restrictions beginning November 16. NMFS is expected to publish the proposed rule for the 2019 herring quotas in late November. MLA Directors from Zone B raised concern about lobster gear being lost to purse seines this year.

The Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative is developing a revised marketing strategy for 2019. The MLMC will develop programs aimed at increasing the value of Maine new shell lobster, which represents more than 80% of Maine landings. Commissioner Keliher did not support the vote. The 2018 33/34 landed more than 70 million pounds valued at CN $502 million, the second largest landings on record. This represented 60% of the total inshore lobster landings in the Maritimes Region. LFA 34 has 985 lobster licenses. Lobstermen from Grand Manan took up traps from the Grey Zone on November 6 to begin the LFA 38 season, which runs November 13 through June 29, with a limit of 375 traps. The LFA 38 lobster season was closed a week early last year due a right whale sighting the Grand Manan critical habitat. DFO reported LFA 38 landed 12.5 million pounds in 2016. There can be up to 136 lobstermen in this area.

2018 ATLANTIC HERRING LANDINGS

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<th>Area</th>
<th>Cumulative Catch YTD</th>
<th>Original Quota 2018</th>
<th>REVISED 2018 Quota</th>
<th>% Revised 2018 Quota</th>
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*Quota June 1 thru Sept 30 = ~18,581; Oct 1 thru Dec 31 = ~6,942

Area 1A Herring Fishery Update

The Area 1A herring fishery reopened to all gear types on October 1 with five consecutive landings days to catch the remaining quota, totaling approximately 8,900 metric tons. On November 16, landings days restrictions were lifted with 3,500 mt of quota remaining. The fishery will close when 92% of the quota is projected to be harvested.

2018 Herring Spawning Closures

The Eastern Maine Spawning closure was in effect from August 28 to September 24. The Western Maine Spawning closure was in effect from October 4 to 31. The Mass/NH Spawning closure was in effect October 26 to November 22.

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS PUSH CANADA TO DO MORE TO PROTECT WHALES

Nine environmental groups, including those who are currently suing NMFS, to implement new whale protection measures for U.S. fishermen, sent a letter to the Canadian government on November 1 urging them to do more to protect right whales. The letter highlights the right whale deaths which occurred in Canada due to fishing and vessel strikes. The groups urge Canada to maintain and expand fishing closures in right whale high use areas and to expand fisheries measures such as banning floating rope on the surface, reporting lost gear, and requiring gear marking for fixed gear fisheries outside the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

ASMF CLOSES SHRIMP SEASON THROUGH 2021

The ASMF Shrimp Section extended the moratorium on commercial fishing for northern shrimp through 2021. This three-year moratorium was set in response to the low levels of biomass and recruitment and the fact that, should recruitment improve, it would take several years for the shrimp to be commercially harvestable. Commissioner Keliher did not support the vote. The 2018 Stock Assessment Update indicates the Gulf of Maine northern shrimp population remains depleted. Long-term trends in environmental conditions have not been favorable for the recruitment of northern shrimp. Warmer water tem-
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Williams CPA Group LLC
Worcesters Lobster Bait

Mariottus and his wife is a member of the town’s school committee. for 15 years and crewed on it as kid. Alley serves on the Cranberry Isles Board of other things necessary to get the it up and running. Alley has owned the boat

“Maine Fisherman Needs Help After Storm Took Boat” Craig Garland’s lobster boat, Gianna, sank on October 27 in Kettle Cove during a storm. “Craig is a good man that has worked hard his entire life as a Maine lobsterman, fisherman, volunteer fireman, first responder, and certified volunteer diver for search and rescue missions.”

“Under Pressure” Corey Alley’s lobster boat, Under Pressure, sank on the moon- ing on October 25 in the Islesford harbor. The fund will help with the expense of raising the boat, cleaning the boat and making it operational as well as any other things necessary to get the it up and running. Alley has owned the boat for 15 years and crewed on it as kid. Alley serves on the Cranberry Isles Board of Selectmen and his wife is a member of the town’s school committee.

“Save the Working Waterfront” This is raising money to help offset the costs of helping to conserve the working waterfront in Portland. “Please contribute if you think fishermen and their ability to continue to access the working waterfront is more important than a hotel on the waterfront. The funds raised from this effort are for: printing materials, public relation efforts, and legal fees.”

HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

Health insurance open enrollment ends December 15, 2018. Consumers can find information on 2019 plans on www.healthinsurance.gov. Or you may contact one of the following:

- State-wide Navigator line, 855-806-7333
- Midcoast Maine Community Action, Bath, 442-7963
- The Opportunity Alliance, Portland, 523-5045
- Penquis, Bangor, 973-3645
- Waldo Community Action Partners, Belfast, 338-6809
- York County Community Action Corporation, Biddeford and Kittery, 800-965-5762

The North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium released the 2018 Right Whale Report Card covering activities from November 2017 through October 2018. The report card, issued since 2004, includes updates on the status of the cataloged population, mortality and entanglement events, and a sum- mary of current management and research efforts that have occurred over the previous 12 months.

The population declined over the past year. The National Marine Fisheries Service population estimate is 411 whales. There were no new calves born in 2018, and only five born in 2017. There is always a lag time before calves are added to the population because they have not yet formed their unique calloties. Typically genetic samples are taken which aids in identifying them when they are older. Only 39% of known calves have been catalogued. The female population is down to 2007 levels.

From January through October 2018, there were three right whale mortalities. Two were from entanglement and one was unknown cause. One of the entanglement mortalities was in Canadian snow crab gear. This is down from 17 mortalities in 2017. There were also two non-lethal vessel strikes in 2018.

**Right Whale Population Status**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RW catalogue estimate</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMFS estimate</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New calves</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First time mothers</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg calving interval</td>
<td>10-2 years</td>
<td>6,6 years</td>
<td>5.5 years</td>
<td>4.4 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortalities</td>
<td>1 (1 CN) (2 Ent, 1 VS)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1 (1 F, 1 M, 1 unk)</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 (2 femail, 1 male)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessel strikes</td>
<td>2 (non-lethal)</td>
<td>5 (lethal)</td>
<td>1 (lethal)</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entanglements</td>
<td>17 (4 new)</td>
<td>17 (4 new)</td>
<td>17 (4 new)</td>
<td>17 (4 new)</td>
<td>17 (4 new)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Year of Report Card; population estimated for previous year.

Researchers continue to sight fewer right whales each year as a result of the dramatic shift in right whale distribution habitat and use. The shift in right whale distribution has reduced both the number of whales sighted each year and the percent of the population seen annually since 2011. In 2018, at least 246 individual right whales were sighted in Cape Cod Bay, 335 individual right whales in the Gulf of St Lawrence, 15 in the mid-Atlantic and only five individuals were sighted in the Bay of Fundy.

---

**Report Card reports on the impact of injured right whale injuries. Through June 2018, researchers have documented 74 injured whales. Nine of these were new injuries documented in 2018. The full text of the Right Whale Report Card can be accessed at www.narwc.org.**
A LIFETIME OF BUILDING TRAPS
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ejerry@friendshiptrap.com
Jimmy Emerson  (207) 483-6555
ejemerson@friendshiptrap.com
Friendship Office: (207) 354-3356
Columbia Falls Office: (207) 339-6558
Visit our website: www.friendshiptrap.com

RDR LOBSTER AND SHELLFISH
Buying Scallops! Instant Pay
- Will pick up if needed -
Trenton: 667-2250  Jonesboro: 434-2590

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
to all our members and supporters.

Best wishes,

December 2018
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#1 Best-Selling Trap Wire in the World

At Riverdale Mills we take pride in knowing that Aquamesh® has been the best-selling trap wire since it was invented almost 40 years ago. Aquamesh® is made using our exclusive galvanized after welding (GAW) and automated PVC coating process. Our specialized manufacturing methods and proprietary marine-grade coating typically lasts 5x-10x longer than imported galvanized wire and sets Aquamesh® apart from its foreign competitors. Aquamesh® is the only galvanized after welding (GAW) trap wire in the marine industry that is made in the U.S. and fished in waters all around the world.

When it comes to trap wire you have a choice, choose the #1 top performing, best-selling and American-made Aquamesh®.

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Trenton & Jonesboro, Maine
WEIGH AND PAY
OPEN YEAR-ROUND

$ $$$
ALL BONUSES PAID
UP FRONT!

207-667-2250 or rdrlobster@yahoo.com

2018 IN REVIEW:
LOOKING BACK ON THE MLMC’S EFFORTS

As this year comes to a close, the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative reflects on the year’s efforts. The year kicked off with a renewal, for which the MLMC would like to thank all of its supporters in the industry.

The MLMC hit the ground running, and prior to peak season, enlisted four rock star chef partners to visit Maine and record a series of videos about their experiences. The chefs came together for the industry’s first ever live broadcast, then took to the road, bringing Maine to Chicago for a culinary industry night event.

The MLMC also debuted culinary how-to videos, showcasing how to use processed product, which were also translated into several languages for use with overseas customers. The videos premiered shortly after the fourth official National Lobster Day, when the MLMC partnered with Senators King and Collins to pass a resolution to celebrate on Sept. 25.

Between programs and ongoing media relations, the Maine Lobster industry made headlines, totaling over 1 billion impressions – thanks to coverage in media such as FOX News, Food & Wine, Martha Stewart, Today.com, New York Post, and more.

The MLMC is looking forward to 2019 and all that it has in store!
Milton Cat is the Northwest and upstate New York Caterpillar dealer. Our complete range of marine power systems solutions is backed by a team with exceptional knowledge and experience.

- More engine choices.
- More fully equipped and staffed locations.
- More support for your commercial fishing vessel, ferry, tug, or pleasure craft.
- More ordering and delivery options for unparalleled part availability.

Contact:
Kevin Hampson, 508-634-5503, Kevin_Hampson@miltoncat.com

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THE LAST LOBSTER
Boom or Bust for Maine’s Greatest Fishery?
By Christopher White
My hat’s off to White for tackling lobstering with a clear appreciation for the industry, the culture, and all its characters.”
— National Fisherman
Narrative Nonfiction from St. Martin’s Press
www.lastlobster.com

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International, Inc.
Lee Fisher has been a leading provider of quality commercial fishing supply in the US since 1982.

2018 October Special
Poly-Dac (sink rope)
7/16” x 1200’ Coil
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Prices Good Through Dec. 31, 2018
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## DISCOUNT DIRECTORY

Being an MLA member can save you money!
Show your MLA card to receive great discounts at these fine businesses.

### Vessel Insurance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smithwick &amp; Mariners Insurance</td>
<td>Discounted vessel insurance plus 5% discount with proof of CG approved Drill Conductor course w/in the last 5 years, Wooden boat builders coverage, no lay up period, discounted electronics deductible, and automatic coverage of researchers and more!</td>
<td>Call Scott Smithwick 207-370-1883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fishing, Marine & Industrial

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton Marine</td>
<td>Searsport, Rockland, Portland, Southwest Harbor, Jonesport, ME -- Discounts available to commercial fishermen.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Atlantic Power Products</td>
<td>Exeter, NH -- 10% discount on parts and service. 603-418-0470</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Automotive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Newcastle Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep</td>
<td>3 years of oil changes (total of 12) for all vehicles, cars and trucks, when you purchase a new or used vehicle. 207-563-5959</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Weirs Buick - GMC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arundel ME</td>
<td>Purchase a new GMC and get a free Bullet Liner. Must show MLA card 877-861-0070</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bessy Bait, LLC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seabrook, NH</td>
<td>$5 discount per drum on multiple drum purchases (must show current MLA card). 603-300-2846</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Boat Builders/Repairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW Boatworks</td>
<td>$1000 discount for hull or top on a 38' CB or 44' CB. 207-667-7427</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chiropractic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midcoast Marine Electronics</td>
<td>Rockland, ME -- 10% off list price on all marine electronic products excluding MRP products. 207-691-3993</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Navtronics, LLC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>York, ME</td>
<td>5% off of purchases. 207-363-1150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Electronic Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slocum Chiropractic: a Maine Vitality Center Brunswick, ME -- $25 initial visit and nervous system scan. Value $125. 207-725-4222</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Financial & Investment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Back River Financial Group</td>
<td>Free initial consultation and review of previous tax returns. 207-622-3772</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Atlantic Edge Lobster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boothbay Harbor, ME</td>
<td>Fuel discount for MLA members. 207-633-2300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Maine Camp Outfitters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunset, ME</td>
<td>10% off all apparel and promotional product orders. 800-560-6090</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Refrigeration Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applied Refrigeration Services</td>
<td>$250 off new installations. 207-893-0145</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Newspaper

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Fisheries News</td>
<td>Discounted annual subscription rate for $18.75 with MLA membership noted on check. 800-989-5253</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Propellers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accutech Marine Propeller, Inc</td>
<td>10% off propeller repair &amp; new shafts. New propeller discounts vary. 603-617-3626</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bait

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bessy Bait, LLC</td>
<td>$5 discount per drum on multiple drum purchases (must show current MLA card). 603-300-2846</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hotel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hampton Inn, Ellsworth</td>
<td>(Ellsworth, ME)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampton Inn, Downtown-Waterfront</td>
<td>(Portland, ME) Bath, ME.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampton Inn, Rockland/Thomaston</td>
<td>(Rockland, ME)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence Inn by Marriott</td>
<td>(Scarborough, ME) Discount: Special rates for MLA members and Business Supporters. Please contact the MLA for booking information, or mention MLA when booking.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hydraulics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Hydraulics</td>
<td>Seabrook, NH -- 10% discount on all in stock items for MLA members. 603-474-1914</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Safety & Training & Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penobscot Marine Museum</td>
<td>Searsport, ME -- Free admission for MLA members.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine Maritime Museum</td>
<td>Bath, ME -- Free admission to MLA members.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Desert Oceanarium</td>
<td>Bar Harbor, ME -- Free admission to commercial fishermen and their families.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Museums & Entertainment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Insurance Arena</td>
<td>Special discounts to shows at the Cross Arena in Portland! Use promo code GFRIEND at checkout, order tickets by phone, online, or in person at the box office. More information at <a href="http://www.mainelobstermen.org">www.mainelobstermen.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Gifts

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<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunset, ME</td>
<td>10% off all apparel and promotional product orders. 800-560-6090</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Trap Builders, Stock & Supplies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sea Rose Trap Co</td>
<td>5% off list price on traps. Must show MLA card. 207-730-2063</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### New England Propeller Inc

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth, ME</td>
<td>Discounts on marine propeller, shafting, and related items, sales &amp; repairs. 508-746-8804</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Nautilus Marine Fabrication, Inc

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trenton, ME</td>
<td>5% Discount on propeller reconditioning. 207-667-119</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Winter Harbor Fishermen's Coop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Offer</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winter Harbor, ME -- 10% off picked lobster meat. 207-963-5857</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sea Rose Trap Co

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<tr>
<td>S, Portland -- 5% off list price on traps. Must show MLA card. 207-730-2063</td>
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</table>

### Chase Leavitt Co.

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<tr>
<th>Company</th>
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<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portland, Ellsworth -- 5% off service fee for liferaft repack OR $50 off new liferaft purchase w/ MLA card or current Maine CF card <a href="http://www.chaseleavitt.com">www.chaseleavitt.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### McMillan Offshore Survival Training

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<tr>
<th>Company</th>
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<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belfast, ME -- 5% off service fee for liferaft repack OR $50 off new liferaft purchase w/ MLA card or current Maine CF card <a href="http://www.chaseleavitt.com">www.chaseleavitt.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
will be the largest challenge for this fishery and I believe he's right. There are lawsuits going on now in Massachusetts and the District of Columbia, federal lawsuits by NGOs who brought suits against the federal government. The State of Maine is prepared to file an amicus brief in the next month or so in those lawsuits against the federal DMR and BOEM. But until they prove that the mortalities of right whales have any relationship back to the Maine fisheries, they should not be seriously considering those kinds of restrictions on our fishermen.

Question: Would you use the resources of the Attorney General’s office to fight what could be onerous whale regulations throughout the court system?

Mills — As you probably know, the Attorney General’s office is separate from the chief executive’s. But the Attorney General’s office also represents the DMR and we are now representing the DMR on this very issue and we are filing briefs in these proceedings.

Question: What steps would you take to ensure that the working waterfront is prioritized and protected throughout Maine?

Mills — This is an issue I feel pretty passionate about. Not being a fisherman myself, I’ve met with so many people who are outraged about the encroachment on our fishing wharves. When I was in the Legislature we fought tooth and nail to get a Constitutional amendment enacted. We went out to the Maine people and the Maine constitution was changed so that waterfront land that supports commercial fishing can be exempt from the part of the constitution that requires fair value taxation. You can tax at the current use. We thought that would be great, to allow fishing wharves to thrive, places where people can land their fish and pick up their bait. Then stuff happened in Portland and in 2010 there was an ordinance and now they’re not really complying, I think, with the things that we’ve protected.

But for 30 years we’ve also had this thing called the Land for Maine’s Future (LMF). A few years ago, after that Constitutional Amendment, they amended that to say you can use the LMF bond money to buy up easement and purchase land that includes fishing activities, waterfront lands for commercial fishing. We’ve got to promote the LMF, fully fund it, not stymie it, not prevent people from buying these easements in making those bonds for years at a time, fully fund it as the people have voted to do over and over again. And fund it proportionately for oceanfront, waterfront, commercial fishing purposes as for inland easements to protect farmland and the like. We’ve got to fully fund the LMF especially the part that applies to working waterfronts. That’s a passion of mine and I promise I will work for that.

Question: What is your position on development of ocean energy resources off the coast and how will you balance this new industry and growing investment against Maine’s longstanding fishing traditions and way of life?

Mills — We have about 186 gigawatts of offshore wind power within 50 miles offshore. If we use just 1% of that that’s equivalent to two Maine Yankee power plants. A heck of a lot of energy. The role of the fishing industry is one of partner or co-partner in this and getting the right sites, not those bonding for years at a time, fully fund it as the people have voted to do over and over again. And fund it proportionately for oceanfront, waterfront, commercial fishing purposes as for inland easements to protect farmland and the like. We’ve got to fully fund the LMF especially the part that applies to working waterfronts. That’s a passion of mine and I promise I will work for that.

Question: What is your position on development of ocean energy resources off the coast and how will you balance this new industry and growing investment against Maine’s longstanding fishing traditions and way of life?

Mills — When I was District Attorney in Androscoggin, Franklin and Oxford counties, I was in my mid-30s, a career woman, no kids, never married. I met and married my husband Stan. He was a widower with five daughters, ages 4 to 16. By God, I learned to listen a lot. And to learn to manage a family and learn about relationships, to manage relationships, the same way I’ve learned to manage relationships in an office of nearly 200 people with a budget of $42 million. Being a public servant and making decisions and looking forward responsibly?

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Mills — I was eager to talk about workforce needs, the need for apprenticeship programs, the need for seafood workers, the need for foreign-born workers, the need for health care for small businesses and the self-employed. The herring fisheries, I wanted to talk about the sea-run restoration projects and private-public partnerships out there and how we can restore river-run herring and what’s happening with the Togus Stream and the NOAA grant earlier this year.

And with all the problems we talk about, whether it’s bait or environmental issues, right whales or whatnot, I’m an eternal optimist. I know we can solve problems. I know we can do that together. I worked on the Appropriations Committee for four years during some of the toughest economic years in Maine’s history. We put together a bi-partisan budget, we did it working across the aisle, collaboratively, and figuring out what the people wanted us to do and listening to them. And I’ve run an executive agency with a $42 million budget and I know how to hire and fire and manage people and manage budgets and manage public policy.

When it comes down to it, I want to be the Recruiter in Chief. I want to bring new business into Maine and expand existing businesses in Maine and recruit people to return to Maine and expanding our work force. I want to be the Promoter in Chief when it comes to telling people what a great place Maine is, great people, great work ethic, great natural resources. And I want to be the Closer in Chief. When it comes to cutting deals on behalf of the people of Maine, my word will be my bond. I won’t renge on contracts. I’ll send a good

Continued on page 17

532 Lobster Traps for sale by the state of Maine
Bidding ends on Dec. 9, 2018

Items for bid:
- (10) Lots of 50 Traps (lot numbers 1-10)
- (1) Lot of 23 Traps each (lot number 11)

Traps are in a variety of condition, from poor to excellent. Most lots do not include buoys and lines

Miscellaneous Buoys and line (lot number 12) are also available for bid.

Bidding: Bidding will take place online on GovDeals auction website.

You must register with GovDeals before you can bid. There will be no other types of bids taken. You can view items online and register to bid at bid.govdeals.com. You can find the items on the website by searching “Maine” or by going to www.maine.gov/surplus and clicking on the GovDeals icon. Or you may e-mail to harold.e.jones@maine.gov.

Onsite Viewing: Viewing may be done by appointment between 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Mon. – Fri. Dec 3 to Dec 7. Please contact Matt Talbot at 592-1290 for more information.

Location: 15 Viens Run (off Rankin St.) Rockland, Maine

Pick up of awarded items: Items are sold “As Is, Where Is” with no warranties either expressed or implied. All items must be paid for prior to picking up. You will need to show the paid receipt you get from GovDeals at the time you receive your items. Loading will be the responsibility of the successful bidder and shipping arrangements and cost are the sole responsibility of the successful bidder. To schedule a time to pick up items, contact Matt Talbot at 592-1290. Please read all rules associated with each item on the GovDeals website.
Dan Harriman, 60, is a fisherman from Cape Elizabeth and the last active operator of a mackerel weir in Maine. This interview was recorded in March 2018 at the Maine Fishermen’s Forum. Dan Harriman was interviewed by Galen Koch and Matt Prassica. This interview was edited by intern Kaitlyn Clark.

I live in Cape Elizabeth, my family came there in the 1890s from Denmark. My family’s fished or trapped on Richmond Island somewhere around 130 years. I think it’s the most sustainable fishing going. What we catch, if we don’t want it, we can release it alive. It’s a fish trap, like a weir, except there’s no poles. The main box of the trap is 70 feet by 90 feet with a 600-foot leader going to shore like the lead on a weir. It’s an enclosure with a V-shape funnel entrance that allows the fish to swim along the shore and then they hit the leader and then they think it’s the shore, they just follow it, follow the leader. What we catch in a pound net is schooling fish. So they’re all moving in a group, and that’s really how the trap works. As long as they stay in the circular schooling motion, they’ll stay in the trap because they stay away from the funnel.

We’re not gonna fix the draggers. If [the government] would just open up the damn fishery to hook fishermen, sustainable fisheries, those big 100-foot steel boats, they’re gonna be dinosaurs. When diesel fuel hits $5 a gallon, it’s not gonna compete with me. Burning 3,000 gallons of fuel to go the Grand Banks or Georges or offshore is a huge issue in this business. I really think that if we opened up the fishery to sustainable means that the large-scale operations are gonna meet their own demise.

So I just think maybe that’s hope. But who’s gonna teach the next generation, who’s gonna teach them? I don’t know how it was done in the past, how are we gonna learn our way in the future? And that is being lost at a breakneck speed, the basic knowledge of how to go catch things in a sustainable way. I went to school with a bunch of guys and I thought I was ‘Joe Fisherman’ because I knew how to go fishing, it was my heritage. These guys ended up in the wheelhouse of those 100-foot steel boats, you know why? Because they knew how to turn the damn electronics on and somebody showed them plots on a piece of paper where the fish are. ‘Go there and go around and you’re gonna make money!’ And they did. I was stubborn and stayed in my little boat. I’m kicking myself now. I’m 60 years old, I want to go into the wheelhouse of one of those draggers and just retire, but I’ve really come to the conclusion that isn’t really where I want to be. I don’t agree with it, even though it’s my family history. My people came from Denmark in 1890s to run steam-powered beam trawlers. So it’s funny how things play themselves out. It’s kind of come full circle from steam-powered beam trawlers to destroying the fishery, back around to what the eldest of the two brothers who started doing, I’m still fishing off the same beach, the same site that he set on. He fished seven traps, I fish one. Near kills me. And this was the hot spot. That’s what I inherited is the knowledge, that this was the best out of all the sites. ’Cause pound netting is a site-specific fixed-gear fishery. If the fish come to me, I make some money. If the fish don’t come, sometimes I lose money. If the fish don’t come, sometimes I lose money. I wanna go fishing. If he took the job with NOAA, he had to give up his fishing rights. You can’t be a fisheries regulator and a fisherman, too. You can’t. You can’t do it. You know? Hard choices. What do you really want to do, where do you really want to go? What is it really all about?

A lot of young guys coming in have a family and kids. They don’t want to miss their kid growing up but they don’t want to miss going fishing. They don’t want to go to work for Gulf of Maine Research Institute or NOAA. My son bailed on NOAA. I sent him to school for marine biology and he worked for NOAA as an intern through the whole time and they offered him $67,000 starting pay and he decided to say, “No, I wanna go fishing.” He took the job with NOAA, he had to give up his fishing rights. You can’t be a fisheries regulator and a fisherman, too. You can’t. You can’t do it. You know? Hard choices. What do you really want to do, where do you really want to go? What is it really all about?

[We’re losing] access. Not just access to the water but access to knowledge. I really believe if the government would just see that if we’re gonna open up access to fish, those big 100-foot steel boats, you know why? Because they knew how to turn the damn electronics on and somebody showed them plots on a piece of paper where the fish are. ‘Go there and go around and you’re gonna make money!’ And they did. I was stubborn and stayed in my little boat. I’m kicking myself now. I’m 60 years old, I want to go into the wheelhouse of one of those draggers and just retire, but I’ve really come to the conclusion that isn’t really where I want to be. I don’t agree with it, even though it’s my family history. My people came from Denmark in 1890s to run steam-powered beam trawlers. So it’s funny how things play themselves out. It’s kind of come full circle from steam-powered beam trawlers to destroying the fishery, back around to what the eldest of the two brothers who started doing, I’m still fishing off the same beach, the same site that he set on. He fished seven traps, I fish one. Near kills me. And this was the hot spot. That’s what I inherited is the knowledge, that this was the best out of all the sites. ’Cause pound netting is a site-specific fixed-gear fishery. If the fish come to me, I make some money. If the fish don’t come, sometimes I lose money. If the fish don’t come, sometimes I lose money.

...
The events and parties of the holiday season are upon us. But there's a dark side to all the fun and festivities: the flu. December is the beginning of peak flu season throughout the country. As we rub shoulders and shake hands with each other, an invisible menace, a flu virus, might make its way into our bodies.

That's why getting a flu vaccine as soon as you can is so important. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) it takes about two weeks after vaccination for the flu antibodies to develop, so it's best to get vaccinated early in the fall. But even if you get vaccinated as late as January, the vaccine can still help you avoid falling ill.

Last year was a particularly deadly flu season. The CDC recorded more than 80,000 flu-related deaths in the U.S. last winter. Nine out of 10 of those deaths were people 65 years old or older, but the flu also killed 180 young children and teenagers. Despite the fact that the flu vaccine minimizes the risk of contracting the flu, the CDC estimated that only 37.1% of adults 18 or older were vaccinated last year, a drop of 6.2% from the previous year.

The effectiveness of the flu vaccine varies each year principally because drug manufacturers are making the vaccine six months before the flu season begins. CDC scientists evaluate flu strains erupting in other parts of the world and, based on a variety of factors, estimate which strains will eventually turn up in the U.S. during the winter. But the flu virus is a tricky creature. It has the ability to take bits of the genetic make-up of the organisms it infects, such as chickens, so it's best to get vaccinated early in the fall. But even if you get vaccinated as late as January, the vaccine can still help you avoid falling ill.

Most people with health insurance that complies with the Affordable Care Act are entitled to a flu shot without a co-payment or coinsurance, but be sure to check with your insurer on the specifics. People on Medicare receive no-cost flu shots through Part B. Medicaid covers flu shots for children and young adults through age 20. Adults eligible for Medicaid are also generally covered.

The peak of reported flu cases in the country generally occurs between December and February, although last year outbreaks continued into May. The CDC monitors certain key indicators across the country, such as flu hospitalizations, laboratory results, and deaths, to keep track of the illness's progress. When these indicators rise and remain elevated for a few weeks, flu season has started. In addition to getting a flu shot, you can take some simple actions to keep yourself healthy. The first is to wash your hands frequently during the winter months.

Until a few years ago, a typical flu shot included three strains of the virus: two strains of influenza A, one of influenza B. Now, manufacturers are adding a second B strain to create a vaccine that provides more protection.

By Melissa Waterman

TO YOUR HEALTH: Get your flu shot!

Until a few years ago, a typical flu shot included three strains of the virus: two strains of influenza A, one of influenza B. Now, manufacturers are adding a second B strain to create a vaccine that provides more protection. The type of shot you get is generally based on your age. Older people often have weaker immune responses to the vaccine, so experts suggest those 65 and older get either a high-dose shot, which has four times the regular dosage, or a shot with adjuvant, an ingredient that boosts immune response.

Most people with health insurance that complies with the Affordable Care Act are entitled to a flu shot without a co-payment or coinsurance, but be sure to check with your insurer on the specifics. People on Medicare receive no-cost flu shots through Part B. Medicaid covers flu shots for children and young adults through age 20. Adults eligible for Medicaid are also generally covered.

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In addition to getting a flu shot, you can take some simple actions to keep yourself healthy. The first is to wash your hands frequently during the winter months. If you can, stay away from sick people. And if you do come down with the flu, stay home! You do no one any favors by arriving at work or school coughing and sneezing and spreading the virus in the air.

Additional resources

www.cdc.gov/flu
https://vaccinefinder.org

Get your flu shot!

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ACTIVITIES IN GREY ZONE DUE TO NAVIGATION AIDS

Lobstermen in Zone A noticed a flurry of activity around North Rock, off Machias Seal Island, this fall. This island is in disputed waters between Canada and U.S. known as the grey zone. According to the U.S. State Department, the activity was part of a joint effort between the two countries to reestablish an aid to navigation on North Rock. Under an existing agreement, Canada is responsible for constructing the navigation tower and the U.S. for setting up an "electronic signaling device." The Canadians constructed a helicopter landing pad, there on North Rock, which was required for the construction and maintenance of the new aid to navigation. The State Department noted that under longstanding international legal interpretation, this sort of construction activity is understood to not further either nation's claim to disputed territory.

NEW SCALLOP DRAGGER LICENSES AWARDED

Four men won the right to apply for new scallop licenses, the first issued since 2009, in a Department of Marine Resources lottery in November. Matthew Alley from Beals Island, Chase Fitzsimmons from Lubec, Johnathon Oliver from Deer Isle, and Frank Gott from Bar Harbor were the lucky winners. The new licenses are the result of a limited-entry system mandated by the Maine Legislature. Each year through a lottery two individuals will be awarded eligibility for a drag license for every three individuals who did not renew their drag license in the previous calendar year. One of the licenses issued will go to an individual over the age of 18 and under the age of 31, and one of the licenses will go to an individual 31 years of age or older. One person will also be awarded license eligibility for every person who held a commercial dive license but did not renew the license in the previous calendar year. Since no dive licenses were retired in 2017, there were no dive licenses available in the lottery. Of the 1,290 lottery entrants, 401 applied for the 18-30 category and 889 applied for the 31 years and older category.

MASSACHUSETTS REQUESTS WIND FARM LEASES INCLUDE FISHING AREA EXCLUSIONS

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker wrote to Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke to ask him to consider eliminating the highest-priority fishing areas from future leases for offshore wind projects, particularly in the New York Bight, a heavily fished area south of Long Island. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has begun evaluating potential locations in the New York Bight for possible wind farms. "Some of the areas under consideration for leasing represent very productive and high-value grounds for fishermen from Massachusetts and other states," Baker said in the letter.

BOOTHBAY HARBOR WORKING WATERFRONT UNDER SIEGE

Boothbay Harbor was included in Maine Preservation's annual list of the Most Endangered Historic Places in the state, released in November. The town's working waterfront has been the subject of conflict over commercial development in recent years. The historic preservation group's designation adds to the latest waterfront issue, a rezoning proposal that would allow hotels, recreational marinas and housing in a Maritime Zone on the east side of the harbor. The district is the site of three of the four wholesale and lobstering businesses in town. Boothbay Harbor and neighboring Boothbay have experienced dramatic development in recent years, led largely by liquor baron Paul Coulombe, who built a multimillion-dollar mansion on nearby Prat's Island. During the past six years, Coulombe has purchased more than 50 properties in the Boothbay area.

SHELLFISH SPECIES EXPERIENCE DOWNTURN DUE TO WARMER CLIMATE

Valuable species of shellfish have become harder to find on the East Coast because of degraded habitat caused by a warming environment, according to two scientists who sought to find out whether environmental factors or overfishing was the source of the decline. Clyde MacKenzie, a NOAA shellfish researcher and Mitchell Tarnowski, a biologist with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, concluded that the decline in the harvest of eastern oysters, northern quahogs, softshell clams and northern bay scallops in coastal areas from Maine to North Carolina was primarily due to warming waters. One of the ways warming has negatively impacted shellfish is by making them more susceptible to predation.

CLEARWATER SEAFOODS PHOTOGRAPHS LOBSTERS TO DETERMINE QUALITY

Clearwater Seafoods, a Nova Scotian seafood company, was granted a U.S. patent for a system that better identifies how suitable a lobster is for market. The camera-based system is expected to determine the meat content and quality of lobsters as they ride a conveyor belt during processing. According to the U.S. Patent Office, Clearwater Seafoods was granted a patent in November for its new system. It consists of a camera that photographs the lobster using visible, infrared and ultraviolet light spectrums. By comparing the patterns established with these images, the software can determine a lobster's molt stage, according to the patent filing.

Voices continued from page 16...
Events Calendar

You can find more information, links, and photos at www.mainelobstermen.org.
And let us know if you would like us to list your upcoming events!

December 4-6
New England Fishery Management Council meeting, Newport, RI.

December 6
NERACOOS Annual Meeting, Portsmouth, NH.

December 7-12
Christmas by the Sea, Ogunquit.

December 11
Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative board meeting, 1 p.m., Island Institute, Rockland.

December 12
Maine Lobstermen’s Association board meeting, 5 p.m., Darby’s restaurant, Belfast. FMI: 967-4555.

Upcoming
January 2
Inauguration of Governor Janet Mills, Augusta.

January 3
ASMFC Atlantic Herring Advisory Panel meeting, 9 a.m., www.asmfc.org.

January 17-20
Massachusetts Lobstermen’s Association Annual Weekend, Hyannis, MA.

January 28-31
American Lobster Benchmark Stock Assessment Workshop, noon, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, New Bedford, MA.

January 29-31
New England Fishery Management Council meeting meeting, Portsmouth, NH.

MLA Seeks Nominations for Board of Directors

MLA Members -- Don’t miss your opportunity to influence the future of your organization and your industry!

Annual Meeting will be held Friday, March 1, 2019 at 9am

Did you know?
• MLA Directors are elected for a 3-year term
• MLA Directors meet monthly (except August) in Belfast.
• Board members expected to attend at least 4 meetings/yr

Overview of MLA Board
• Maximum # of Board members: 21
• Current Board: 20 members
• Number of Directors with Terms expiring: 6
• Average age of MLA Board: 49
• Youngest MLA Board member: 25
• Oldest MLA Board member: 70

MLA representation
• Zone A 4 (1 expiring)
• Zone B 3 (1 expiring)
• Zone C 3 (1 expiring)
• Zone D 4
• Zone E 2
• Zone F 3 (2 expiring)
• Zone G 1 (1 expiring)
• Islands represented 4

2019 Board Priorities
• Dedicated lobstermen who care about the future of the industry
• Lobstermen who can talk about the industry’s needs and priorities
• Young lobstermen

MLA Director Nomination Form (detach and return)

Nomination Requirements
• To make a nomination, you must be an MLA member in good standing.
• All nominees must hold a Maine lobster license & be an MLA member in good standing.
• Deadline for nominations: January 31, 2019.
• Feel free to nominate yourself, or someone else.

Nominee Information (must be MLA member)
Name:
Zone: ______ Town of residence: ______
Fishing Port:
Please let us know how this nominee could contribute to the MLA Board:

Thank you for helping to keep the MLA strong!

Mail your nomination to the MLA office: MLA, 2 Storer St, Ste 203, Kennebunk, ME 04043
Or feel free to call in your nomination to 967-4555 or email: patrice@mainelobstermen.org.
HOLIDAY SEASON ALONG THE COAST OF MAINE

The Far Sea, photo courtesy of the Ralston Gallery.

The holidays are a time to celebrate, to enjoy color and light during the darkest month of the year. From Eastport to Kittery, we wish you Happy Holidays and a safe New Year.

Santa Claus arrives in Camden. Photo courtesy of PenBay Pilot.

Jonesport’s lobster trap tree lights up the sky. Photo courtesy of the Bangor Daily News.

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