

FOREST PRODUCTS NEWS

LePage, Cutler, Mitchell “Speaking from the Stump”

**By Patrick Strauch
MFPC Executive Director**



On Thursday, September 2, Maine’s three leading candidates for governor will participate in “Speaking from the Stump”, a forum being hosted by the Maine Forest Products Council, Forest Resources Association, Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine, and the Maine Pulp and Paper Association.

This event will mark the first major statewide gubernatorial forum of the season. It will also compliment an event held earlier in the year by the Maine Forest Products Council and Natural Resources Network,

where we discussed issues of concern with all of the candidates in the primary election.

The Maine Forest Products Council has met with several of the candidates to date, and continues to offer assistance on forest industry related policy issues.

Independent Eliot Cutler, Republican Paul LePage, and Democrat Libby Mitchell have all confirmed their attendance. Staff from each of the host organizations will be developing a series of questions that focuses on current issues facing Maine’s forest products industry including high energy costs, environmental regulation, taxation, land use, conservation, forest labor and more.

The forum will be moderated by veteran news reporter from WCSH 6, Don Carrigan. The event is open to the public and members of all four host organizations are being encouraged to attend. This will be a great opportunity to hear the candidate’s positions firsthand on issues facing your business.

The forum is being held at Jeff’s Catering in Brewer, and will take the place of the first regular FRA forestry forum of the season. Social hour begins at 5:30, with a meal at 6:15 and the gubernatorial

(Continued on page 3)

October Breakfast Series Planned- Sponsors Needed

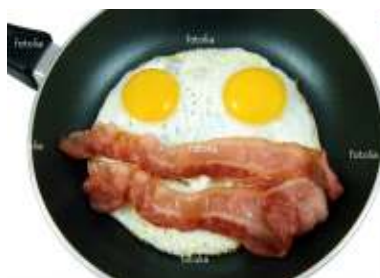
The Maine Forest Products Council is again planning on hosting a series of breakfasts across the state in October in an effort to visit with members and connect legislative candidates with industry professionals.

The breakfasts will be held in the following locations:

- Presque Isle (Northern Maine)
- Jackman
- Millinocket
- Farmington (between Skowhegan, and Rumford/Bethel)
- Lisbon (Southern Maine breakfast)

If you or your company would like to sponsor one of these breakfasts, please contact Sue McCarthy or James Cote at the MFPC Office.

Typical breakfasts cost between \$10-\$15 per head. More information on the dates and specific breakfast locations will be distributed in coming weeks.



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President's Message:

Looking In The Rear View Mirror

This is my last letter written as President of the MFPC. I often have had fun writing some of the articles and others have been therapeutic as I vented on what I perceived as injustices to our forest industry.

Hopefully, some of you enjoyed the ride as well. As my last letter I'm going to stray a bit from what folks might consider a proper focus but I had a few things I wanted to get out.

I'm most appreciative of the membership for allowing me to represent them as President of the Council. My family has lived a pretty good life due to my working in the forest Industry and I have looked at my association with the Council as a way to say thank you for the way I've been treated. Granted some of what I received came at a high physical cost but at least the opportunity existed to wrest a good life from the forest. I place an awful lot of my good fortune on the folks I have had the privilege to work for and with. Yes, the forest is key but without the special character and energy associated with the folks in our industry it would just be another work place. It would be convenient for our egos to think we are self made and independent of others, but in truth I can't begin to count the times folks have given me help along the way. This hasn't been an easy task for some as I learned long ago that I'm not the easiest person to work with.

I wish I could leave the office with nothing but rosy predictions for the future but that's one prediction not on my list

It's an understatement to say our industry has had serious challenges over the past two years. Naturally the



Doug Denico, President

economy in general has been a bear but a lot of our challenges are generated right here in Maine by our State government. I don't remember a more hostile environment against private ownership as long as I've been involved with the Council. I think one of our biggest challenges is have our legislature and future Administration recognize the contributions of private enterprise and lend appropriate support or at least stop putting up more road blocks.

One reaction to the current political environment has been for stronger alliances to be formed such as the Natural Resources Network. This organization in particular gives me hope we can collectively improve our situation.

In the past two years, I think I gained a new perspective on certain parts of our industry which was rewarding. You just can't get close to folks in our business without feeling good about the great efforts being made to be more competitive and successful. In a very hostile business and economic climate folks are still keeping the faith and investing – talk about courage.

Just one piece of advice for the Council. Enter into any "collaborative" process with folks that don't have something tangible to lose very very cautiously.

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Presidents Message... (Cont. from page 2)

Just one piece of advice for the Council. Enter into any "collaborative" process with folks that don't have something tangible to lose very very cautiously.

I feel a little deflated that things aren't better for our industry but with the great people involved we will have a viable forest industry into the future.

I would like to keep active on the Council for the foreseeable future, if I can be helpful. Thanks for your support and I wish you all the very best.

Respectfully, Doug Denico

"Speaking from the Stump".. (Cont. from page 1)

program beginning at 7:00. A large industry turnout is expected. Cost is \$25, which includes a buffet meal, and \$15 for students with a valid ID.

Pre-registration is required to assure an accurate head count for meals. Please RSVP to James Cote at 622-9288 or jcote@maineforest.org.

We hope to see you there!

Biographies of the Candidates-continued on page 5

Stormwater & Site Law Changes

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection is making several revisions to its stormwater and site location of development standards.

Recently, MFPC's James Cote attended a public listening session in Portland to get a taste of just what the changes to site law may entail. It appears that many other interests, including tourism, real estate developers, and land use consultants are paying attention to these changes as well.

More information on the changes to site law will be distributed in coming weeks, but concerning to MFPC are new deer yard and habitat connectivity standards, natural buffers and scenic protections. MFPC plans to meet with DEP and DIFW in coming weeks to discuss these proposed changes.

While a draft of the site law changes was expected to be posted for official public comment in August, it appears that the DEP is waiting to post the document until a new commissioner of DEP is appointed. Commissioner David Littell has been appointed to a post on the Maine Public Utilities Commission.

Stormwater changes are also being proposed, and a forest products specific listening session is being planned by the DEP for sometime after the first week in September. We will inform the membership as we learn more about the details of all these rule changes and public meetings.

For more information, please contact James Cote, or visit www.maine.gov/dep.

Farm Credit OF MAINE advertisement with logo, text: 'We understand your industry. We're dedicated to your success.', list of services, contact info for Auburn and Presque Isle, website, and Farm Credit System logo.

MFPC Publishes “Maine’s Economy Grows on Trees” Recommendations

With the help of several members, the staff at the Maine Forest Products Council has put together a five point plan with a series of recommendations that will assist Maine’s next Legislature and Governor strengthen the economic impact of Maine’s forest products industry.

The five point plan, titled “Maine’s Economy Grows on Trees,” outlines simple and effective measures that Maine policymakers can take immediately to reduce the difficulty of doing business here in Maine.

The five point plan consists of the following:

1. Lower manufacturing and energy costs.
2. Encourage rural economic growth through private land stewardship.
3. Appoint business professionals to positions in government leadership.
4. Protect and enhance programs important to the forest industry.
5. Develop a comprehensive transportation strategy.

Each of the five points consists of several more specific policy actions Maine can take to achieve those goals. The plan will be printed and distributed to all legislative and gubernatorial candidates. Additional copies will also be made for other interested parties. A copy will be posted on our website in coming days.

For more information, or to obtain a copy, please contact James Cote at jcote@maineforest.org.



MFPC 50TH Anniversary and Annual Meeting

REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS. MFPC will be celebrating its 50th anniversary and annual meeting on Sunday, September, 12, and Monday, September 13 in the Augusta area.

Please sign up as soon as possible. More information is available by visiting our website, or contacting Sue McCarthy at 622-9288.

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Biographies of the Candidates- Speaking from the Stump

As part of the Maine Forest Products Council's efforts to educate our members on the various candidates, we wanted to provide you with a brief biography of each of the three candidates who will be attending our forum on September 2.

MFPC will be producing a variety of products this fall to help inform the public and our membership about legislative, gubernatorial, and congressional candidates. For more information, please contact James Cote.

Democrat, Libby Mitchell



Elizabeth (Libby) H. Mitchell was unanimously elected as Maine's 113th Senate President on December 3, 2008. She has the distinct honor of being the first woman in America to serve as both the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. Senator

Mitchell represents Senate District 24, which includes Augusta, China, Oakland, Sidney and Vassalboro.

A resident of Vassalboro, Senator Mitchell was first elected to the Maine Legislature in 1974. Her legislative service includes nine terms in the House and three in the Senate. During her time in the legislature she has been a tireless advocate for education; successfully championing legislation to improve Maine's K-12 and higher education systems and sponsoring first in the nation legislation that used state funding to expand the Head Start program.

On opening day of the 124th Legislature, President Mitchell set a tone for the session by calling on everyone, regardless of party, to work together to increase opportunity for Maine people by creating jobs, expanding access to health care, improving the quality of our education system, and moving the state towards energy sustainability.

In addition to serving her community in the Legislature, Libby has served three terms on the Vassalboro Board of Selectmen. She also serves on the board of Maine General Health, Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education, New England Board of Higher Education and Jobs for Maine Graduates. She served seven years on the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, chairing the board for four years. She has also served on the board of Kennebec Health Association, Home Resources of Maine, Kennebec Valley Medical Center, Oak Grove-Coburn School and as director of the Maine Homeless Coalition.

Libby and her husband Jim live in Vassalboro. They are the proud parents of four children (J. Elizabeth, Will, Charlie and Emily) and six grandchildren.

For more information on Libby Mitchell, please visit www.libbymitchellforgovernor.com.

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learned about the value and importance of public service from his parents. In addition to raising three sons, his mother, Catherine (Kay) Cutler, devoted herself to improving family services and mental health care and to protecting women and children from domestic violence and abuse. His father, Dr. Lawrence (Larry) Cutler, was a much loved and highly respected family doctor who had a passion for improving public education, serving as chairman of the Bangor School Board and as a member and as president of the board of trustees of the University of Maine for two decades.

Eliot has carried on his family's tradition of public service. Following his graduation from Harvard College, he worked in Washington, D.C., for Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, helping Sen. Muskie craft the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act and other laws important to Maine.

He later served as Associate Director for Natural Resources, Energy and Science in the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), where he was responsible for overseeing the policies and budgets of the Departments of Agriculture, Energy and Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency. Eliot's job was to make the tough decisions about how tax dollars were spent – to cut out programs that weren't working, to reshape others and to force necessary changes in government priorities.

Eliot also was the principal White House official for energy matters from 1977 to 1980, and at President Carter's request, he helped negotiate a settlement to the Maine Indian Land Claims dispute. No stranger to politics, Eliot also has been a senior official in four presidential campaigns.

Eliot also knows what it's like to start a business and meet a payroll. Following his government service, he founded the law firm of Cutler & Stanfield, which grew under his leadership to be the second largest environmental and land use law firm in the United States. Eliot and the firm worked mainly with cities, towns and counties in nearly 30 states on major projects involving airports, highways and other major facilities. He is credited with developing and implementing the legal and political strategy that led to the development of the Denver International Airport, the only new commercial airport built in the United States for decades and one of the most successful airports in the world.

Eliot also has been a successful businessman and entrepreneur. He has been an owner of a manufacturing company, a business advisor to one of the world's largest construction companies (and its first American director), a director of a mortgage company, and a founder and trustee of a highly regarded family of mutual funds.

Independent, Eliot Cutler



Eliot Cutler was born and raised in Bangor. His parents were the children of immigrants who came to this country – to Bangor and Old Town – in search of freedom and a better life.

Eliot

Eliot returned to Maine for good in 1999, and he lives in Cape Elizabeth with his wife Dr. Melanie Stewart Cutler. Eliot and Melanie have been married for 36 years, and their family includes three grown children – Abby (29), Zack (26) and Katherine (22).

Eliot was chairman of the board of visitors of the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine for nearly a decade, until November, 2009, and he helped lead the School to its position as one of the leading graduate schools of public policy in the United States.

**For more information on Eliot Cutler, please visit
To learn more about Eliot Cutler, please visit
www.cutler2010.com.**

Republican, Paul LePage



Paul LePage, mayor of Waterville and general manager of Marden's, is a man with a remarkable life story. He faced challenges early in life, and overcame them to have success in both business and government.

He has also proven he can reach consensus on important issues with an all

Democrat City Council, and has successfully been elected and re-elected in Waterville – one of Maine's most Democratic communities.

The oldest son of eighteen children in an impoverished, dysfunctional family, Paul left home at the age of eleven and lived on the streets of Lewiston for two years, making a meager living shining shoes.

At age thirteen, two families jointly "adopted" Paul. Eddy and Pauline Collins kept him busy washing dishes at the Theriault's Cafe. Bruce and Joan Myrick kept him busy hauling boxes. Bruce was a Pepsi-Cola truck driver. Later Paul worked at the Antoine Rubber Company and at a meat packing company. While attending Husson, he supported himself as a short order cook and bartender, while making time to be the editor of the college

newspaper.

Getting into Husson presented a challenge in itself. Paul was brought up speaking French. With the help of Sen. Olympia Snowe's first husband Peter who persuaded friendly Husson administration officials to administer a written exam in French to prove Paul's strong comprehension abilities, Paul was admitted.

In college, Paul's academic achievements soared and he graduated with a BS in Business Administration in Finance/Accounting.

Paul then went on to earn an advanced college degree – an MBA from the University of Maine.

Mickey Marden hired Paul as general manager of Marden's in 1996. Paul's achievements as general manager of Maine's best known retail institution fits into a career which equips him with a broad base of experience and knowledge, starting with an executive position with Arthurette Lumber in Canada. He has made a specialty of growing private businesses in unique markets, exactly the kind of talent that Maine needs.

As head of LePage and Kasevich, a private consultancy, he has provided chief executive officer, chief operating officer and chief financial officer services and advice to banks, law firms, client companies, insurance companies, bankruptcy courts and trustees. Paul has acquired knowledge and experience of the manufacturing, wood products, forestry, power, furniture, food and beverage, building supply and construction industries in Maine and Canada. There is no one in politics, government or academia who has a broader or deeper practical knowledge of what makes Maine work.

Next to escaping a life of poverty in Lewiston, Paul's greatest success has been as Mayor of Waterville. As a Republican in a solidly Democrat town, working with a Democrat council he set himself a goal of reducing taxes every year of his tenure- and succeeded.

He did not accomplish this by gimmicks like mindless "cross the board cuts", but by the same methods he brought to business time and time again throughout his career. That is, by attention to detail combined with a constant view of the big picture and a zeal for efficiency.

During his time as Mayor, Paul helped increase Waterville's rainy day savings fund 1000%, increase the Standard and Poors bond rating twofold to an A+, lower taxes, eliminate waste and increase efficiency.

**To learn more about Paul LePage, please visit
www.lepage2010.com.**

MFPC Weighs in on Biomass Issues

Over the course of the summer the Maine Forest Products Council has weighed in on a variety of different biomass issues at the state and federal level.

Earlier this summer, the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences published a report on biomass sustainability for the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, which many environmental and media organizations interpreted to conclude, “wood is worse than coal”. Understanding the significant and severe consequences that an interpretation or finding such as this could have on Maine’s biomass industry due to our energy relationship with Massachusetts and RGGI, the Maine Forest Products Council invited Dr. John Gunn of Manomet to meet with us in July and discuss the findings of the report in full detail. Landowner, biomass, paper mills, and saw mill members were all invited to attend this meeting as well.

With a better understanding of the study, MFPC developed formal comments in partnership with the Maine Renewable Energy Association to send to Massachusetts for their consideration. Since that time, Executive Director Patrick Strauch has been in contact with personnel at the Massachusetts DOER, and hopes to discuss new biomass harvesting standards with them prior to a draft of any new biomass standards.

More recently, MFPC has been monitoring discussions at the federal level on the Tailoring Rule and new biomass MACT (maximum achievable control technologies) proposed rules from the Environmental Protection Agency. While the Tailoring Rule appears to have taken a back seat in policy discussions, the boiler MACT proposal is causing significant heartburn among paper mill and saw mill interests.

The proposed rules will require facilities to meet impossible emission standards in some cases and could require costly new investments into filter and monitoring technologies for up to 33 forest product facility boilers in Maine- including both small and large wood manufacturers. Industry representatives have concluded that this rule alone could cost the industry up to \$7 billion dollars nationwide.

With input from many manufacturing members, the Maine Forest Products Council has developed official comments that have been submitted to the Federal Register as well as Senator Snowe and Senator Collins.

We will continue to monitor these biomass issues as they advance and will inform members of opportunities to weigh in on the discussion. For more information, please contact Patrick Strauch or James Cote. All comments are available on our website at www.maineforest.org.



MFPC Calendar of Events:

- September 1- Monthly LURC meeting at the Spectacular Events Center in Bangor
- September 2- President Obama’s Public Listening Session on the America’s Great Outdoor Initiative, Bangor Civic Center
- September 2- “Speaking from the Stump”, gubernatorial forum at Jeff’s Catering in Brewer
- September 12& 13- Maine Forest Products Council Annual Meeting and 50th Celebration in Augusta
- October 6- Monthly LURC meeting at the Spectacular Events Center in Bangor
- October 14- Maine Forest Products Council Executive Committee Meeting
- November 2- Election Day
- November 3- Monthly LURC meeting at the Spectacular Events Center in Bangor
- November 11- Maine Forest Products Council Board of Directors and Executive Committee Meetings