

United Way of  
Eastern Maine

GIVE, ADVOCATE, VOLUNTEER.

**LIVE UNITED**



ENEWS FROM YOUR LOCAL UNITED WAY

**DECEMBER UPDATE**



**United Way Hosts  
Annual Meeting**

**Successful**

The annual meeting, held November 13, 2008, was a great success. Among the crowd were community leaders from businesses and organizations across Eastern Maine. Keynote speaker, Alex Sanchez, Vice President of Community Impact with United Way of America left a lasting impression with the statement that if we can't sell improvements to education, income and health we're in the wrong business. Awards were given to an excellent volunteer and past board chair, George Thomas of Sargent Corporation. Additional awards include the Pillar of the Community awarded to Maine Community Foundation and The Community Builder Award given to Penquis.

Visit our website to read Meg Haskell's write up in the [Bangor Daily News](#).

**United Way is Pleased to Announce New President**

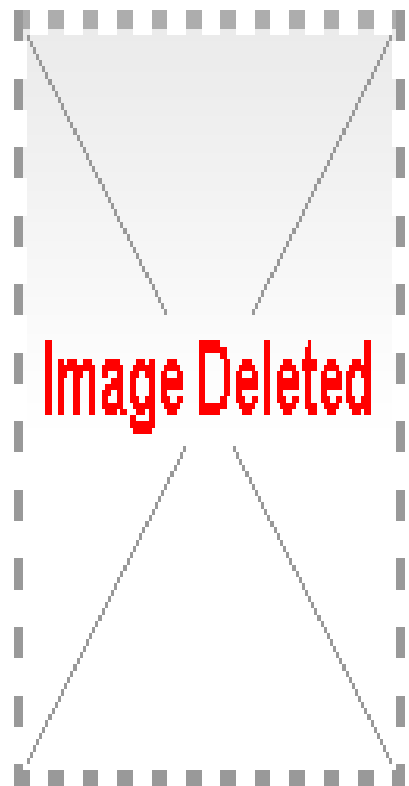
John Kuropchak comes to UWEM with more than 20 years of United Way experience. "I look forward to again working with a local United Way." Kuropchak said. "I am excited to join in the impressive work of the Board of Directors and the professional staff to increase United Way's role as a community problem-solver, creating even greater impact in the lives of people and working toward lasting changes in this community."

Visit [www.unitedwayem.org](http://www.unitedwayem.org) to learn more about John Kuropchak.

**Give.**

United Way's campaign has reached 71% of our goal. We are well on our way to reaching our goal of helping over 45,000 people in Eastern Maine. Our mission is to mobilize the caring power of people and communities. The work of United Way and its community partners is focused on improving **health, education** and **income**.

Visit [United Way](#) online for updates on campaign, our work and the work of our community partners!



**Campaign Success Highlights**

**Bangor Hydro-Electric** has had an excellent campaign this year with an 17 percent increase.

**Bangor Savings Bank** issued a \$10,000 challenge grant for new and retained Leaders' Circle members, if above last year's total LC giving.

United Way is pleased to welcome the following new board members:

**Bob Hanf**, President Bangor Hydro-Electric

**Jim Miller**, President Wooden Boats Publications

**Mike Labun**  
Senior Vice President  
Customer Service Center  
Bank of America

### Agency Spotlight:

Penquis and Eastern Maine CA\$H Coalition getting ready for Tax season!*Tax Preparation Sites Help Across Eastern Maine*



Last year, the Creating Savings, Assets and Hope (CA\$H) Coalition worked with its partners including Penquis, IRS, AARP and United Way to hold free tax preparation sites around Eastern Maine. Approximately 2,800 tax returns were filed with refunds in excess of \$2 million to tax filers. This year, the free tax sites are looking for more volunteers to participate in tax preparation. Volunteers are trained to use a computer system tool to assist individuals in the best tax filing possible.

Want to volunteer? Visit the opportunity listing for tax preparation at [VolunteerMaine.org](http://VolunteerMaine.org)!

### News & Events on Our Webpage!

Visit the website to read what reporters from all over Eastern Maine have written about United Way work including:

- Annual Meeting
- Born Learning and School Readiness Pilot
- Weatherization Efforts
- Partner awards

Much more can be found at [www.unitedwayem.org](http://www.unitedwayem.org)!

### Volunteer.

United Way and Volunteer Centers work with volunteers and local nonprofits to develop the best opportunities for youth, busy working adults and seniors.

Visit [VolunteerMaine.org](http://VolunteerMaine.org) and get involved locally with volunteer opportunities and in-kind material needs at hundreds of organizations statewide!

### BE AN ADVOCATE

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