Judy Lizotte, 58, works at Bangor Savings Bank's wealth management division in Augusta. She hopes to keep working until she's 66 or 67 to boost her Social Security payments.



Workers

Cianbro — has developed

Age-friendly incentives at the 164-year-old financial services company include flexible scheduling, the opportunity to work fewer hours per week, training in new technologies, regular ergonomic assessments, ac-

"If someone's working here and doing a good job, we want to keep them as long as possible," Moffatt

Out of the company's approximately 740 employees, she said, about 130 — more than a third — are 50 years old or older, and 66 are over

58-year-old Judy wealth management divi-

boost her social security payments, but for personal reasons, "I may go beyond

that," she said.
"I like my job very much," Lizotte said recently in a phone interview. In addition to enjoying her interactions with co-workers and clients, she appreciates putting in a good day's work and the sense of accomplishment it brings.

Because her personal life includes caring for both an need to recruit younger peoaging parent and a family member with chronic illness, she is grateful for Bangor Savings Bank's familyfriendly policies. For example, she was recently given extra time off so she wouldn't use up precious vacation hours taking family members to their medical appointments.

"They said I needed to be rested to do my job," she said. "There is always coverage for me when I have to be away. Everyone just steps up. I feel very blessed.

Mutual benefit

AARP, which advocates on

ple to Maine, or to keep them from leaving," said Lori Parham, executive director of AARP in Maine. "But we can't forget about the fact that we have a large and growing population of 55plus workers right here who bring a lot of value to the workplace."

For boomers looking to stay in the workforce, Parham offered a few tips to

valuable skill. Almost every job these days requires a degree of comfort with digital devices and processes.

Second, if you're employed, don't be complacent. Even if you're not looking for new responsibilities, find opportunities to sharpen your skill set and expand your expertise, including professional conferences, academic courses and onsite training.

Third, if you have longtime experience in your workplace, consider mentoring younger employees just coming on board. Formal or informal mentoring relationships show your value and leadership, and younger employees have important ideas to teach you,

Finally, Parham said, while it's natural and important to develop friendly relationships with younger coworkers, draw mature boundaries. An occasional after-hours gathering is one thing, she said, "but don't go to happy hour every night after work with your 21-year-old co-workers."

Atwood

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cause I lost my brother to cancer in 2008 and my father has beaten stage 4 cancer."

She has a ton of hard work to do between now and July 24. People are always asking her what she's doing to train. She gave an answer in the blog she's writing about her experience.

"The toughest part for me in this off-season and living in Maine is I am not training outdoors the way I like to. Swimming is in the pool. Biking is in the speed lab. And thanks to mild plantar

blog, Marcia's Magic. She also is trying to raise money for the Ironman Charity Partner, the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation. There's a link to the fundraising page on her

fasciitis, running is limited

to the treadmill (dreadmill)."

cia's journey, check out her

If you'd like to follow Mar-

blog or you can visit http:// support.themmrf.org/site/ TR/EnduranceEvents/Endur anceEvents?px=1875820&pg=p ersonal&fr_id=2120, if you'd like to help her reach that goal - she's halfway there.

Read more of Diane Atwood on her BDN blog, Catching

Souls

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"Aging is not simply a physical process," she said, "but also an important time for elders' spiritual growth and exploration."

As Maine's population ages, Field said, churches of all denominations can play a key role by convening discussion groups such as "Seasoned Souls" to support its older members' spiritual

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strategies for attracting and retaining valuable older em-

cess to adaptive office equipment and more.

age 60.

Lizotte, who has worked in Bangor Savings Bank's sion in Augusta for the past five years, the idea of retiring holds little appeal. Working until she's 66 or 67 will and older, says age-friendly strategies like these help employers prosper from the availability of baby boom workers. The organization has launched a national initiative aimed at supporting and promoting the older workforce, pointing out that older employees bring valuable qualities such as reliability, a strong work ethic, professional expertise and life experience to the workplace.

You hear a lot about the

maximize employability.

First, she said, be proactive about keeping up with technology, including social media and computer applications. Technology is constantly changing and the behalf of Americans age 50 ability to adapt with it is a



Haskell

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emergency responders can

Although AEDs have been around since the 1970s, the technology was still unfamiliar to the general public in 2008 when I wrote that first story, and I suspect it still is now. Federal legislation cosponsored by U.S. Sen. Susan Collins in 2000 provided funding to push AEDs out into schools, town offices, community centers and other high-traffic public ven-ues, particularly in rural areas. Now, 16 years later, the devices hang on the wall in many public buildings and a growing number of private workplaces, group homes, health care facilities and other locations, especially where large numbers of people live, work or gather. You may have one near you and not even know it's there,

much less how to use it. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that the survival rate for cardiac arrest treated with CPR alone is less than 10 percent, with the odds of survival declining with every minute that passes. By contrast, individuals treated with AED within a few minutes of arrest have a survival rate of more than 30 percent. Nonprofessionals, with or without training, who administer CPR or use an AED to try to save the life of someone in cardiac arrest are covered by statelevel " good Samaritan laws" that protect them from legal action if they are unsuccessful.

CPR/AED training is easy to come by, not expensive and not especially challenging to complete. You can sign up for a class through the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association. Your local hospital may offer classes. Your workplace may be willing to bring a trainer in.

And if there isn't an AED nearby, you might want to look into getting one. I lobbied hard for the BDN to

hanging beside the water- emboldened to use it. cooler, not far from the lobby. It cost about \$1,500 not insignificant in these at http://livingitforward. budget-conscious days, but bangordailynews.com/.

purchase one back in 2009, it is a reassuring presence right after I learned about nonetheless, especially with them. It took a while, but I'm so many of my younger coglad to report we have one, workers newly certified and

Read more of Meg Haskell





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