

63-year-old Maine fish market sold to new owner

BY SHELLEY WIGGLESWORTH
YORK COUNTY COAST STAR

KENNEBUNKPORT — After 63 years of being owned by Kennebunkport native Sonny Hutchins, Port Lobster changed hands last week when Kennebunkport native and town Selectman Allen Daggett bought the retail fish market that has been a mainstay in town for well over half a century.

Daggett also owns Cape Porpoise Lobster Company Inc., Cape Pier Chowder House and Cape Porpoise Bait Company.

Sonny Hutchins founded Port Lobster in 1953. The market was originally housed in the former Peabody's Boat House across the street from the current

building on Ocean Avenue. "I had been in the lobstering business before I went into the Army, I grew up in it, my father was a lobsterman for 44 years and then I fished too. I thought by doing this (selling retail and take out) I would be getting into the easier part of it — but I found out it wasn't," Hutchins said with a chuckle, explaining how he got into the retail end of the business.

Just like Hutchins, Daggett also grew up in the business. He began lobstering at the age of 12 and fished until his early 20s when in 1969 he began selling lobsters doing business as "Daggett's Lobster Company."

Eventually he gave up fishing to sell lobsters full time and over the years he expanded and ventured into

other fish related businesses such as the Chowder House he runs on the pier in Cape Porpoise.

Daggett and Hutchins are no strangers. Both are Kennebunkport natives from longtime lobstering families and Daggett's father grew up with Hutchins.

"I've known Sonny for as long as I've been on this earth. We use to live next door to each other," Daggett said. Hutchins laughed and commented. "That's for sure. We go all the way back."

Port Lobster had been on and off the market over the years with a couple of interested buyers, but nothing ever panned out. Hutchins said one day he and Daggett were talking and he asked Daggett "Why don't you buy the business?"



SHELLEY WIGGLESWORTH | YORK COUNTY COAST STAR
Allen Daggett (right) has purchased Port Lobster from Sonny Hutchins, who has owned the retail fish market for 63 years.

"I guess he thought about and decided it would be a good idea," Hutchins said.

Although the business has changed hands, both Daggett and Hutchins agree

that nothing will change. Hutchins will still be there every day as he always has and his daughter, Kathy Anueszweski will still manage the place.

All of the employees and associates will also stay on.

"Allen and I both feel if it ain't broke don't fix it," Hutchins said. He added, "I am happy to have someone local who knows the business buy it."

Daggett said he is equally happy that it all worked out the way it did.

"I'm not worried about a thing. It will be business as usual. When you walk in and do business here, you'll never know anything changed at all. Sonny has been good to me over the years, and I feel real good about buying this place."

Sappi

Continued from Page C1

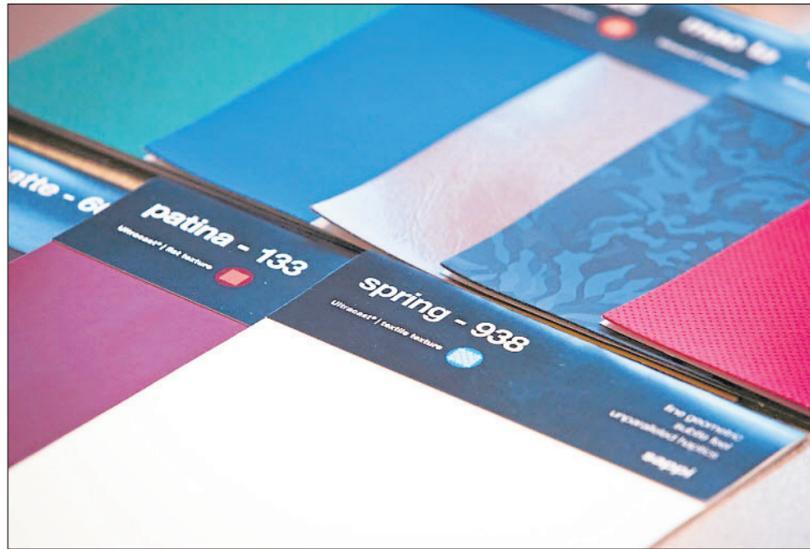
Two of those goals relate to the South African company's Maine mills, keeping what once was the world's largest pulp and paper mill in Skowhegan efficient to compete in printing and publishing while focusing on high-margin products in Westbrook.

Those higher margins help shield the mill from fluctuations in wood and energy costs, better than for mills like the shuttered Lincoln Paper and Tissue, Cassese said, which struggled after losing the ability to produce pulp on-site.

"Integrated mills definitely have an advantage over nonintegrated mills," Cassese said. "[In Westbrook], we are fortunate that the margin is enough that we can afford to buy market pulp."

At its mill in Westbrook, its Somerset mill in Skowhegan and its inside sales operation in South Portland, Sappi employs about 1,200 people. That's less than half the historical peak employment in Westbrook alone.

Sappi's third aim is to produce dissolving wood



TROY R. BENNETT | BDN

Market research for Sappi's Westbrook mill consists mostly of predicting and responding to quickly changing trends in fashion. Sappi can make prototypes of its patterns that sales teams can then pitch before going into full production runs.

pulp out of its Minnesota mill. That pulp can make Rayon fiber, used in clothing and other textiles.

Cassese said the mill remains concerned about access to wood and the state's logging capacity.

"Maine has had a reputation as the most diverse market in the whole United States, so if I go in and cut, I

can get rid of junk trees as biomass, I can get rid of the softwood pulp, the logs, hardwood pulp," Cassese said.

Plummeting gas prices have changed that, with biomass plant shutdowns limiting the market for that wood and other mill closures cutting customers for softwood species.

Loggers have said the situation puts them in a jam and prompted the Professional Logging Contractors of Maine to promote a bill during this past legislative session to prop up the state's biomass power generators using a dedicated power procurement.

Cassese noted the Pulp and Paper Association

didn't take a position on that bill, as members didn't have uniform opinions about the proposal. Sappi and Catalyst objected to an initial version of the bill increasing power rates. The final version of the bill, LD 1676, uses unappropriated money in the state's General Fund to pay for above-market costs of those deals.

But for the remaining mills, she said, are largely all seeking hardwood species.

"Hardwood is what everybody wants and finding hardwood is still a little bit tough," Cassese said.

To that end, she said Sappi has taken steps to secure wood supply in Maine, by hiring foresters to work with private landowners, particularly in southern Maine. It's an issue she said the association may take up later this year in legislative proposals. But much still rests on the backs of the state's papermakers, she said.

"We own being efficient and making the products that people want to buy — we get that we own most of it," Cassese said. "But that there are some public policy pieces that would definitely help us."

Workforce Development Summit slated in Bangor

BANGOR — Maine Career Connect, in partnership with the Maine State Chamber of Commerce, will host a Workforce Development Summit 9-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 27, at Cross Insurance Center in Bangor.

The summit will explore ways to develop and grow Maine's workforce by retaining valuable workers and attracting people from other states to live and work in Maine, under the premise that a strong and stable workforce is important to the overall health of Maine businesses and local and state economies.

The summit also will explore what out-of-state businesses considering moving to Maine are looking for so better efforts can be made to attract them here.

Speakers and panelists include Bob Montgomery-Rice of Bangor Savings Bank, Dana Connors of the Maine State Chamber, Peter DelGreco of Maine & Co., Jeff Hecker of the University of Maine, Michael Aube of Eastern Maine Development Corp., Joanna Russell of the Northeastern Workforce Development Board and LuAnn Ballesteros from The Jackson Laboratory.

The event is free, but pre-registration is recommended. To register, email Rita Stoddard at the Maine State Chamber at rstoddard@mainechamber.org.

Maine Career Connect, which was established in 2013 by a grant from the National Science Foundation, helps families who move to Maine integrate into their communities and workplaces in order to increase and improve Maine's workforce.

Pine State sells convenience store supply business

BY DARREN FISHELL
BDN STAFF

PORTLAND — The Gardiner-based distributor Pine State Trading Co. has agreed to sell its convenience store supply business to national distributor Core-Mark for about \$112 million.

Core-Mark, a publicly traded company based in South San Francisco, estimated the transaction price in a news release to

investors Monday.

Pine State, in a news release, said Core-Mark will retain all of the more than 500 employees in Pine State's convenience supply division, which operates out of the Market Street Business Park in Gardiner.

Tom Perkins, president and CEO of Core-Mark, said Core-Mark decided to buy Pine State to expand in an area "where we have a limited presence." Core-

Mark said Pine State "has long been a leader in the industry" and that its convenience store division logs about \$1 billion in annual sales.

Perkins attributed Pine State's value to "providing exemplary customer service and advocating vendor consolidation and data-driven selling."

Pine State said with the deal that its corporate headquarters will move to a new office space in the

Libby Hill Business Park in Gardiner and will retain its Pine State Beverage, Pine State Spirits and Pine State Vending and Town & Country foods divisions.

Charlie Canning Sr. started Pine State Trading Co. in 1941.

The company is now run by three of his grandchildren, managing partners Keith Canning and Gena Canning and CEO Nick Alberding.

Hannaford recalls bakery items

CBS 13

SCARBOROUGH — Hannaford Supermarkets is advising their customers that three cookie items sold from their bakery may include an ingredient that contains peanut, even though the allergen was not listed on the packaging.

Customers can return the products back to the store for a full refund.

The three items are: Gourmet Oatmeal Raisin Cookies, 11 ounces, 6 pack, UPC#4126872715

Candy Cookie Tub, 16 ounces, 24 count, UPC#4126875484

Assorted Cookies, 37 ounces, 18 count, UPC#4126875535

So far, no illnesses have been reported.

Forum

Continued from Page C1

payouts to beneficiaries that do not directly file claims with the insurance company."

Consumer Forum reached out to Kemper, which agreed with many points about other companies' behavior. But Kemper said in a statement that "the story did a poor job of explaining that Kemper did not engage in those practices."

The statement continued: "Because we behaved appropriately, we won't agree to

be punished as if we were one of the companies that knowingly failed to pay claims."

Kemper's homepage, kemper.com, lists toll-free numbers for several companies and links to 14 states that offer help in finding lost policies.

Maine is in the process of setting up a "lost policy locator service." You can call Maine's Bureau of Insurance at 800-300-5000 for help, but realize there may not be simple answers. Relatives aren't always told they've been named beneficiaries. Insurance compa-

nies are bought and sold and may change names. So, do as much research as you can.

The Insurance Information Institute lists 12 steps for finding lost life insurance documents at iii.org/article/how-can-i-locate-lost-life-insurance-policy.

You can check online at unclaimed.org and search individual states for unclaimed property, including insurance benefits. You can do a multistate search for unclaimed property at missingmoney.com.

Consumer Forum is a col-

Software help for nonprofits offered

PORTLAND — CPA Greg S. Bossen will demonstrate to nonprofit organizations how easily and accurately they can track restricted grants in QuickBooks from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 11.

Participants will learn how to set up a restricted grant, enter a grant budget, mark checks and bills as being paid out of the grant, point payroll to the grant and create a memorized report to see how the dollars have been spent and compare the results to the grant budget.

Call Maine Association of Nonprofits at 871-1885, email Learn@Nonprofit-Maine.org or visit nonprofitmaine.org.

HALF MAN - HALF ALLIGATOR

PENOBSCOT THEATRE COMPANY

April 28 - May 15, 2016

DUCK HUNTER SHOOT

ANGEL A Play by Mitch Albom

TICKETS: 207-942-3333

Headless body in Topless Bar

BABY PARTS LAKE MICHIGAN!

TUBBY TABBY RULES RETIREMENT ROOST!

FAT CAT OWNS 23 OLD LADIES

ON FACEBOOK

Join the conversation.
facebook.com/bangordailynews

Sparkle

Mother's Day | Sunday, May 8th

Two stone ring with one carat total weight of natural diamonds set in 14 karat white gold with a wave of rose gold \$2,195

DCLST1348

DAYS JEWELERS
SINCE 1914

AUBURN • BANGOR • TOPSHAM
SO. PORTLAND • WATERVILLE
MANCHESTER, NH
www.daysjewelers.com