

**YESTERDAY ...**  
**10 years ago - Jan. 28, 2006**  
(As reported in the Bangor Daily News)

BANGOR — In case local residents were in any doubt, a new nonfiction book about places to live has declared their city to be “fabulous.”

Kathleen Shaputis, a writer and former city employee in Chino, Calif., has listed Bangor in the third edition of her book “50 Fabulous Places to Raise Your Family.”

The communities in the book are not ranked against each other but make up the “top 50 family-friendly communities in the country,” according to the book jacket. They are listed in alphabetical order.

“We appreciate the recognition,” Rodney McKay, Bangor’s community and economic development director, said Friday. “We strive hard to be a great place to live, to work and to enjoy.”

City Manager Ed Barrett said the listing is welcome, but not surprising to people who live in the area. Bangor has low crime, and its economy, schools and outdoor recreation opportunities are all good, he said.

“When you look at that package, it certainly is an unusual community for its size and location,” Barrett said.

In the introduction, Shaputis indicates that she used a list of 15 criteria for choosing which places to include in the book. Typical concerns such as economy, housing, education, crime and taxes are listed, as are environmentally sensitive attitudes, scenic beauty, social diversity and transportation.

Without pointing or counting on his fingers, 4-year-old Humam Al-Fdeilat was readily able to tell a small circle of admiring adults that there were four small wooden blocks forming a square on the exam room floor.

When Dr. Leonardo Leonidas picked up one of the blocks, Humam promptly identified it as one of the four. “One fourth,” suggested Leonidas. He picked up a second block. “Now how many?” he asked the self-confident little boy. “Two fourths!” Humam responded with a huge grin. Everyone cheered. Leonidas, who has prac-

ticed pediatrics in Bangor for more than 30 years, is on a mission to make Maine children smarter. Long an advocate of beginning a child’s deliberate education in infancy — even before birth — Leonidas recently published his second book to help guide parents and other caregivers.

“Baby Math” is a slender, simply written volume that any parent can learn from. The concepts and exercises are easy to understand and perform. The “tools” of teaching - fingers, blocks, Cheerios - are readily available.

Leonidas recommends that parents begin stimulating their babies’ brains at birth with simple concepts of quantity, proportion and relative position. “We can look at math as another foreign language that our children should learn. And just like any languages, it is better started as early as possible,” the book states in an introductory section.

“Baby Math” suggests visual, auditory and tactile exercises for babies just a few hours old. On Friday at Leonidas’ office, Humam’s younger brother Laith, 6 weeks old, gazed attentively as his father, Abdullah Al-Fdeilat, showed him his raised index finger. Al-Fdeilat, a native of Jordan, slowly turned his hand so his finger pointed in three different directions - up, sideways, down - softly repeating the Arabic word for “one.”

**25 years ago - Jan. 28, 1991**

Health care is providing the United States with some of its most difficult problems and challenges. Millions of people don’t have health insurance and the number is increasing daily. Meanwhile, costs continue to skyrocket.

In this setting, politicians, business owners and the medical profession have joined in a debate over who should receive health care, who should pay for it, and where and how it should be delivered.

Husson College has decided that these difficult questions should be addressed in the classroom. The Bangor business school will add a health-care management concentration to its master’s degree program in business administration.

Charles Sullivan, a Hus-



BANGOR DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO BY DANNY MAHER

**The NRA club of the Brewer Y-Teens held a Valentine party at the YWCA Friday evening, Feb. 13, 1953 and crowned Dean Hayden and Linda Collette Valentine King and Queen. In the picture are Rachelle Fortier (left), advisor, Collette, and Hayden.**

Maybe it’s time  
We have an opening! Call today!

Affordable, truly INDEPENDENT living  
that looks and feels like home.  
207-944-3650 • [www.parkeastapts.com](http://www.parkeastapts.com)



**Park East**  
Retirement Villa  
321 Stillwater Ave., Bangor  
Attached to Stillwater Health Care

son professor and chairman of the division of managerial studies, is the man behind the academic endeavor. He is uniquely qualified for the challenge.

**50 years ago - Jan. 28, 1966**

OLD TOWN — Penobscot Shoe Company Thursday announced plans to construct two new one-story factories, one in Old Town and the other in Pittsfield, at a cost of “well over \$1 million.”

The new factories will replace multi-story plants in each town. These existing factories will be converted to use as storehouses, it was indicated.

A company spokesman said that the Pittsfield factory will be adjacent to an existing plant on Waverly Street. It will operate under the name of the Northeast Shoe Company.

The new Old Town plant will be located about three-quarters of a mile from the

existing factory, on Gilman Falls Avenue.

Jerome Grossman, general manager and assistant treasurer for Penobscot Shoe Company, said that the latest equipment and automation techniques will be utilized in the new factories.

The Old Town plant will run about 60,000 square feet; the Pittsfield factory is planned for about 70,000 square feet, he indicated.

A comprehensive explanation of four programs of interest to citizens of Bangor was given Thursday evening during a meeting at the Jewish Community Center sponsored by the Bangor League of Women Voters.

Items discussed were the proposed day care center for children of working mothers, the Halfway House project, and the Head Start program. Also outlined and discussed was the Economics Opportunity

Act as it concerns planning of activities in Bangor.

The panel presenting programs consisted of Mrs. Helen Swett of the Bangor Public Welfare Department; Richard Whittmore, Alcoholic Rehabilitation counselor, Mrs. Valerie Jordan, school-home coordinator of Bangor School Department; and Peter Helfrich, Penobscot County director of the Office of Economic Opportunity. Mrs. Lloyd Brown chaired the panel.

In presenting the plan for a day care center, Mrs. Swett stated that her department is concerned with the problems of the working mother who can’t afford regular nursery care or all-day care. These mothers also cannot use community resources available because they can’t pay full charges.

Mrs. Swett noted the changing trend in agency philosophy.

“It was — that low-income families received services from social agencies, now agencies expect the government to pay for services and they provide more services to middle income families. We are encouraging mothers, when it seems advisable, to become self-supporting instead of on welfare. The primary purpose of the day care center would be the care and development of children of working mothers in one-parent families, or children of working fathers where the mother is absent or incapacitated, or where a child has specific need that can be met in the center.”

The day care center plan, as explained by Mrs. Swett would be situated in the Elm Street School to accommodate 45 pre-school children from three to five, 16 kindergarten children in off-school hours, and 15 children in grades one through three for after school care.

Whittmore cited the serious need of a Half-Way House for the rehabilitation of homeless, unemployed, alcoholic men as being “recognized by the courts, law enforcement officials, and social workers.”

**100 years ago - Jan. 28, 1916**

At the Bangor Arena tonight there will be given another in the series of weekly boxing shows and the management has announced that it will stage five all-star bouts. The arrangements are such that a very good show can be staged and the public expect the bouts to be up to the standard that Bangor sports fans insist on getting.

Several good local boys have been matched and a number of boxers from out of town appear on the card. What these men from outside will do is of course an uncertainty but the management has promised that if they do not show the class expected the bouts will be called off and others substituted.

In the main bout, Eddie Twombly a very good boy will try conclusions with Ed Ryan of Troy, N.Y. and if the New Yorker can show some skill a very good bout is in prospect.

*Compiled by Ardeana Hamlin and Aimee Thibodeau*

Subscribe

for just \$24.95

That’s 12 full issues of Bangor Metro magazine for just **\$24.95!**

**Already a Bangor Daily News subscriber?**  
**You can get the Bangor Metro for just \$14.95!**

Your information:

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_



EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Send a gift subscription to:

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Pay by check. ☐  ☐  ☐ 


CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_ CCID CODE (3 digits on back) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_ AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

CARDHOLDER’S ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with payment to:  
**Bangor Metro Magazine • P.O. Box 1329 • Bangor, Maine 04402-1329**



\*Price includes sales tax.

For subscriptions,  
**call 990-8075**

BANGOR **METRO**