EMMC to cut 100 positions to trim budget

Economy, outpatient services reducing demand for care

BY MRS. HASKELL

BANGOR — Eastern Maine Medical Center announced Wednesday that it will eliminate 100 full-time positions within the next five weeks. Administrators hope all or most of the cuts can be achieved through early retirement incentives and voluntary departures. Dean Dow, EMMC’s chief operating officer, said employees this week, but layoffs also may be considered.

According to a memo from EMMC President and CEO Deb- orah Carey Johnson, the need to reduce hospital staff in part reflects improved outpatient services that are driving down demand for inpatient care.

“In some ways our situation is the result of some good things we’ve done,” Johnson said in the memo to all EMMC employees. Better outpatient services, disease management and early care, she said, have reduced hospital admissions as well as the management and end-of-life care, she said.

Johnson also said, calls for staff reductions in clinical and non-clinical departments.

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Man gets 15 years for porn involving girlfriend’s child

BY ERIC RUSSELL

BANGOR — Anfalaford man was sentenced Wednesday to 15 years in prison for production of child pornography, misconduct of a federal judge referred to as “a bizarre, extraordinary and inex- plicable misuse of (the victim’s) privacy.”

U.S. District Judge John Woodcock issued the sentence to Daniel Poulin, 32, who used a sophisti- cated photoshadow camera system to videotape his girlfriend’s teenage daughter over a period of several months.

The victim, who was between the ages of 13 and 18 when the victim was observed, addressed the court on Wednesday and said Poulin’s “demoralizing and degrading” actions have scarred her for life.

“It ruined any boundaries with his inappropriate obsessions,” the young woman said.

Poulin, who wore a wrinkled suit and appeared relaxed during the 90-minute sentencing. In addi- tion to the 15-year prison write, he will also be subject to supervised release for 15 years and will have to register as a sex offender.

See Poulin, Page A2

Police report problem of drivers impaired by prescription drugs

BY DIANA BOWLEY

DOVER-FOXCROFT — Police can receive one incident after another where motorists were driv- ing while impaired not only under the influence of alcohol and illegal drugs, but also under the influence of prescription drugs.

Piscataquis County Sheriff’s Department Investigator Gary Dow recalls one instance of stopping a female driver who had her two grandchildren in vehicles as passengers. The driver happened to be under the influence of Oxycotin, a narcotic pain reliever.

“It’s something we encounter pretty regularly,” Dow said.

Police reported 15 cases.

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Workshops to assist college-bound with financial aid forms

BY JESSICA BLOCH

BANGOR — The black, spiral-bound notebook just six months old, but already shows signs of wear with a few dog-eared pages and a creased cover.

John Grotton bought the notebook last fall to help him and his parents fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which is the required federal financial aid form.

The shooting, which appears to have been prompted by an alterca- tion involving several teens and young adults, took place at 6 p.m. in front of a house at 21 Cum- berland Street in Bangor.

The group, he said, appeared to be involved in some kind of argument or fight.

“Then I heard a gunshot. At first I thought it was a firecracker but then I saw a young man running down Cumberland Street with his hands up,” Poulin said.

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“The shooting, which appears to have been prompted by an alterca- tion involving several teens and young adults, took place at 6 p.m. in front of a house at 21 Cum- berland Street in Bangor.

The victim, whose name was not released, was taken to Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor, where he died. According to Bangor police Sgt. Paul Edwards, the Police Department’s public information office, no information about the victim’s age, gender or cause of death has been released. The investigation continues.

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See Poulin, Page A2

Obama makes job growth top priority

President admonishes Congress that ‘Change has not come fast enough’

BY JENNIFER LOVE

WASHINGTON — Including “I don’t quit,” President Barack Obama sought to reassure Nasa- ral transportation embassy with a statue of the Chinaman to get 45 million back to work and stand on the side of Americans angry at Wall Street and Washington behold- ing itself reaching outbacks, he said be would fight on for ambitious overhauls of health care, energy and education.

“Change has not come fast enough,” Obama acknowledged Wednesday night before a political- ly packed House chamber and a TV audi- ence of millions. “Change is too ad- undable and conten- tions as the debates may be, it’s time to get serious about fixing the problems that are hampering our growth.

Obama looked to make the con- version from how his presidency is stalling — over the messy health care debate, a limping economy and the mistakes that led to Christmas Day’s barely averted terrorist disas- ter — to love he is seeing the rises.

He spoke to a nation given over to the mixed life unemploy- ment and real- ilities surrounding to a country that’s not yet ready, and to follow Democrats dis- pusted with the stale standing of a president they hoped would carry them through this fall’s midterm elections.

With hope of the Left for candidateDemocrats traditionally delivered at the end of January Obama had promised his pres- identy’s biggest platform — a tax cut and a health care overhaul — was not yet ready.

The president said that after the shoot- ing, several people felt new on the rank.

He also said there were several crimin- es in the incident and that police were still trying to identify a suspect late Wednesday.

Of the celebrating the shooting, a Bangor resident who heard the shooting and was among the first to arrive on the scene recognized what he saw.

“Garland Street resident David Carr said he had just left the post office on Monday night and was driving home when he heard a group of young people yelling on Cum- berland Street. The group, he said, appeared to be involved in some kind of argument or fight.

“Then I heard a gunshot. At first I thought it was a firecracker but then I saw a young man running down Cumberland Street with his hands up,” Poulin said.

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