

“Keep Your Nose Out of My Business”—Two Sides to Every Story

Taken from MCS Anecdotes file entitled Navy Discharge

Correspondence in a Senator’s office is heavy and especially so during wartime, as many letters come in from wives, mothers and friends of those in the service. Mine was not any different. One woman from Hancock County wrote that she had ten children, that her husband was in the Navy and she felt he should come home and help take care of the farm and children. I took the letter seriously and asked the

into the Navy to get rid of my wife and brats, have never made application for discharge and don’t intend to. Now will you please keep this a secret between us.”

Up to this time, I had forwarded letters of inquiry and complaint with respect to servicemen in World War II to the Secretaries of the services but this case taught me a

lesson—that there are always two sides to a problem and that I should find a better way to handle such cases. Out of this came the policy followed from then

on, that such letters as the one from this wife should be answered with the advice that such an inquiry or request could not be made without the use of the name of the serviceman. Also, that the serviceman himself should write me of his desires. This policy was followed throughout my career and brought positive results and much less trouble for the services, the service officials telling me later that it would be so helpful if other offices would follow a similar pattern.

Pacific inspection trip during World War II, December, 1944

Secretary of the Navy to look into this case and see what could be done, that it seemed to me a man with ten children who was requesting a discharge because of dependents should be given some attention. The answer came back that they had no record of such a request nor any complaints from the serviceman. This letter was sent to the wife which quickly brought in a response that there must be something wrong because her husband had repeatedly made a plea for discharge because of the family needs. Soon after, I received a letter from the serviceman himself saying, “Will you please keep your nose out of my business—I came

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Twenty Years of Scrapbooks

When Angela Stockwell came to the Library in 1983 to assist Senator Smith in a secretarial capacity, her duties also included Library work. Angie first catalogued the more than forty bound Statements and Speeches volumes, working closely with then-director, Dr. James C. MacCampbell. Two temporary part-time assistants were hired during one summer to catalog the scrapbooks which numbered over 500. Only highlighting a limited amount of the material in the scrapbooks, a more thorough cataloging was done by Angie when time allowed. A glorious day in the annals of the Library's twenty years was the completion of the cataloging of the more than 530 volumes on December 17, 2002. Hooray and Hallelujah! Through the years, the scrapbooks have proved an invaluable resource for researchers visiting the Library. The scrapbooks chronicle Margaret Chase Smith's life from her childhood until her death in 1995. The events and historical periods in the nation are detailed in newspaper accounts and provide insight into the issues of the time. Special Projects Assistant Crystal Perkins and Administrative Assistant Vanessa Caron continue to peruse state (*Air Force*) newspapers for any mention of Senator Smith. Such articles are then placed in the scrapbooks as a continuing resource. Angie is pleased to have this project done and looks forward to completion of other projects—the cataloging of the numerous volumes of Armed Services, Appropriations, and Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee hearings. Currently, Angie is reviewing each reference file to assure all names, topics, and photographs are in the database in an easily accessible format.

Much has happened in those twenty years—additional staff members; increased programs; co-sponsorship of civic engagement programs with other educational institutions; initiation of outreach and learning programs; increased school tours; improvement in computer technology and the creation of a MCSL web site; and further involvement with Northwood University programs including the University College and the MCS Fellowship programs.

Angie is shown entering scrapbook data into Dayflo/Tracker database.

Amazon Jungle Beckons Maine Youth

Six students from Leavitt and Piscataquis Community High Schools and Foxcroft Academy will be traveling for ten hours in 4-wheel drive vehicles to the central Amazon jungle and living for six days in the homes of the Ashaninka people who live without electricity and running water and hunt with bows and arrows. As part of the Empowering Maine Youth program, these Maine young people will visit and talk with the Ashaninka children about the importance of continuing their traditional ways of living gently on the earth, honoring all life, and harvesting their needs in a sustainable way. While in Cuzco, they will volunteer at an orphanage and visit local schools to teach English. Advisor Steve Maines coordinates this annual "Let's Make a Difference" Journey to Peru.

EMMY participant Jordan Shank with Advisor Steve Maines

Gallant Attends West Virginia Conference

Library Director Greg Gallant was invited to join a select group for the Conference on Congressional Centers at the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies at Shepherd College in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, on May 1 and 2. Sponsored by the Byrd Center and the Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives, the conference brought thirty individuals from policy centers across the country to discuss the development of successful programs and activities. The two-day event culminated in the formation of a new organization, The Association of Centers for the Study of Congress, with the mission to support a wide range of programs designed to educate students, scholars, and policy makers on the history, legislative process and current issues facing Congress.

Participants at Conference on Congressional Centers in West Virginia. Dr. Gallant is in back row second from the left.

McCarthy Transcripts Unsealed

According to Senate Historian Richard A. Baker, the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations has released its previously closed executive session transcripts for the 83rd Congress (1953-1954). These hearings were conducted during the chairmanship of Senator Joseph R. McCarthy and deal largely with investigations into alleged subversion and espionage. Under Senate regulations, the hearings and other files were sealed for fifty years and are now open for research. The subcommittee requested that the Senate Historical Office prepare the transcripts for publication, to make them fully accessible to students and the general public across the nation.

“The release of these hearings on their fiftieth anniversary marks the largest opening of documents related to the McCarthy anti-Communist investigations. They include hearings on allegations against the State Department, Voice of America, U. S. Information Libraries, Government Printing Office, Army Signal Corps and American defense industries, and culminated in the Army-McCarthy hearings,” says Baker. During that period, more than 161 closed hearings were held with nearly 500 witnesses. Senators Carl Levin and Susan Collins, as former chairs of the Subcommittee, authorized this publication.

The MCS Library is pleased to have a copy of this five-volume transcript for use by scholars. Said Levin and Collins, “These hearings are a part of our national past that we can neither afford to forget nor permit to reoccur.”

*Margaret Chase Smith Citizenship Award recipients at the MCS School in Skowhegan are shown above after receiving a long-stemmed red rose, a \$50 savings bond, and a copy of *A Woman for All Seasons* from Library Administrator Lynnette King. L-R are: Bradley Prescott, Abigail Dolan, Billy Clark, Nathan Dionne, Annastashia Kranz, Katie Pullyard, and John Little.*

Sheri Shares—Margaret Chase Smith in the Media—“Cover Gal” Display Opening in September

Margaret Chase Smith appears on over seventy covers of magazines, books, and newsletters in the Library’s collection. Through cover photographs, clothing, jewelry, and other memorabilia items, this dynamic new exhibit illustrates how Senator Smith presented herself as one of the first women politicians in the nation and how the media identified her during her lifetime in public service. Once in the national spotlight, Margaret Chase Smith balanced the need to conform to traditional ladylike behavior with shaping a serious political position in a professional world dominated by men. Throughout her career, the press and the public were ever demanding of her to meet this challenge. Combining a chronological, historical and sometimes artful perspective, this cover exhibit demonstrates Margaret Chase Smith’s transformation from Skowhegan’s hometown girl to a first-time woman politician; from the “Lady of Maine” to a national role model; and from using a rose to personally identify herself to battling for the rose as the national flower. The eight-section exhibit will reveal Smith’s early years as she prepared for public service; her entry into national politics; her personal style, her role in the national spotlight as a female politician; her legislative work, and her lasting legacy. This colorful exhibit will have something for everyone to enjoy – beautiful cover photographs, clothing and jewelry (some on display for the first time!) and other memorabilia that relate to the covers. All of the covers on display will develop a composite portrait of the Senator as a lady, politician, a symbol of Skowhegan and of Maine pride, an American rose, and a woman of conscience. They will also celebrate the characteristics that identified her – frankness, directness, self-reliance, hardwork, frugality, independence, honesty, conscientiousness and good listening. Come and see for yourself!

Allison Clair of S. China, Maine, conducted research on Senator Smith’s career for her middle school project. She was most particularly interested in the story of the wearing of the rose.

Members of the Margaret Chase Smith Foundation Board of Directors met on June 20 to discuss Library operations. Seated L-R are: Davida Barter, Georgia McKearly, Janet Mills; Standing L-R: Charlie Cragin, Mert Henry, Ray Hearn, and Michael Quinlan.

Save Those Tabs from Soda Cans!

Students in Betty Haymon's first grade class from the Dunn School in New Gloucester collected tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Portland. They made "Tab" houses for each teacher in the school and collected over 74 pounds of tabs, using the money earned to buy such things as food, toiletries, and cleaning products for the Ronald McDonald House. The boys and girls took turns reading from the booklet they created about their project. To reinforce the concept of community service, Dr. Richards spoke to the boys and girls about Senator Smith's receipt of the "Others" Award by the Salvation Army in 1975. Smith's concern for "others" during her career paved the way for a lifetime of achievements. In the photo, Mrs. Haymon assists three students in reading about their exemplary community service project.



Many Students End Year with Worthwhile Community Service Projects and Involvement in Service Clubs

School Groups Visit—Busy Days Before School Year Ends



Winslow High School Service Club and Civil Rights Team held blood, food, and coat drives. They were Big Brothers and Big Sisters as well as helping with school projects.



Classes from Brownville and LaGrange Elementary Schools were here with teachers Sally Wallace and Mary Lynn Kazayaka.



The classes of Mrs. Fortuna and Mrs. Thibault from the Albert Hall School in Waterville were here to explain the Heifer project in which they raised almost \$1000 to purchase cows to help the hungry in Third World countries. So well-behaved were they, the Library has instituted a "**Listening and Learning Award**" for being attentive, inquisitive and model visitors. Congratulations, boys and girls!



The classes of Mrs. Bushey and Mrs. Harrington at the Albert Hall School were involved in the planting of trees on Earth Day and taking care of the mulch at Castonguay Square in downtown Waterville.



Each year students from the MCS School in Sanford make the long trek to Skowhegan. The three-hour bus ride can be tedious for third grade students but they enjoy a picnic lunch on the library grounds on arrival, tour the library and home, and sing the school's Margaret Chase Smith Song before their departure. Says student Katherine Brady, "The ride was a long ways but it was worth it." Says Devin Romano, "I will come again when I'm in my 30s and when I am 50." You will be most welcome, Devin!

Weakness Invites Strategy of “Price of Citizenship”

Terror November 20, 1971, editorial by
Margaret Chase Smith

Given the justifiable and understandable concern of the American people for a greater allocation of our national resources to domestic and welfare needs—and given the public repugnance to the Vietnam involvement and the unfair spin-off of backlash against the military—there is a desperate need for a wider public understanding not only that the balance of military power is shifting against the United States, not only that it is the first duty of the national Government to “provide for the common defense” of our country but as well that our domestic and welfare priorities mean nothing if we grow so militarily inferior that the enemy takes over.

In our free democracy—where dissent is almost unlimited even in its extreme forms of violence as contrasted to the complete intolerance of dissent in a totalitarian regime—the ultimate defense posture is determined by the will of the people. But the will of the people is shaped by what they know and what information they have.

As the President has said, “if we are less strong than necessary...there will be no domestic society to look after.” Military weakness and national insecurity literally invite diplomatic blackmail and the strategy of terror from the Soviet Union. Military weakness and national insecurity increase the chances of overconfidence and miscalculation by the enemy to trigger war.

These are not just the views of a senatorial “hawk” or “warmonger.” They are the warnings that have also been eloquently expressed by the Blue Ribbon Defense Panel composed of outstanding private citizens.

There is a desperate need to remind the American people of the continuous external pressures exerted against our nation and people. There is a desperate need to remind the American people that the road to peace has never been through appeasement, unilateral disarmament, negotiation from weakness, or scaling down to parity to prove sincerity.

History is precisely to the contrary. There is a desperate need to remind the American people that among the great nations only the strong survive and that weakness on our part in military capability and national will would be the greatest threat to the peace of the world.

The most serious question is the will of the American people. It is my opinion that the only reason for any doubt about that will is the fact that the serious situation has not been gotten across to the American people. I have no doubt about their will if they know and realize how serious the situation is.”

Topic of Maine Town Meeting

Do earnings and poverty levels have anything to do with citizenship? How has welfare affected the role of citizens? Does the power of small town government get lost in the bureaucracy of big government? These questions were addressed by guest speakers at the annual Maine Town Meeting. Attorney Merton Henry welcomed the group and Facilitator Kathy Hunt from the University of Maine introduced speakers, Dr. Michael Katz (see photo on p.8), Dr. Ann Acheson, and Christopher Spruce.

Dr. Katz is the Walter H. Annenberg Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. Having published many books about the social history of America, Dr. Katz notes that the American welfare state is an invention arising after the 1950s. By definition, it is a collection of programs designed to assure economic security (food and shelter) to all citizens. Its transformation from the charity and relief practices used in the 30s and 40s is a result of the Cold War. The structure of the Welfare State consists of two tracks—public and private. The public track includes public assistance programs such as AFDC and TANF; social insurance such as social security; and tax breaks such as Earned Income Tax Credit. The private track includes charities and social services, such as Catholic and Jewish charities, and employee benefits such as health insurance and pensions. Only through work, says Katz, do strangers become members of the national family, citizens who merit our sympathy and help. And yet, as the definition of citizenship increasingly includes work, more Americans will find themselves strangers in their own country, outside the circle to which they thought they belonged. Katz asks, does citizenship have to be earned? Or is it a status—a right of birth? In his opinion, the welfare state is a precondition of democracy. The marketization of democracy and citizenship is the root issue at stake in the redefinition of the welfare state.

Dr. Ann Acheson of the MCS Center for Public Policy at the University of Maine presented a county-by-county picture of poverty in Maine in terms of education, income, housing, employment, benefits and assistance. Profiling statistics regarding poverty in Maine was part of a Community Services Block Grant to conduct a statewide needs assessment in contract with the Maine Community Action Association and the MCS Center.

Christopher Spruce of Sunrise County Economic Council in Machias explained the Small Town Empowerment Project, which assists local leadership by engaging rural Maine communities in the legislative process. Spruce explained the problems and challenges inherent in small town government’s inability and lack of expertise in dealing with state government. The Empowerment Project establishes a direct line of information about bills before the Legislature and provides more input from citizens in helping to create laws and policies more reflective of the needs of its rural constituency.

Essay Winners Announced

Winners of the Margaret Chase Smith Essay Contest from three Maine high schools have received first, second and third place prizes as well as honorable mention awards. Emily Parker from Greely High School, Yarmouth, has won the \$500 first place prize. Emily plans to major in journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the fall. Her interests are literature and writing as well as history. Excerpts from her essay entitled "*What qualities will leaders need to possess in order to be effective in the twenty-first century?*" follows: "In his study of Harry S. Truman in Character Above All, David McCullough writes, 'Character counts in the presidency more than any other single quality. It is more important than how much the

Emily Parker

President knows of foreign policy or economics or even about politics.' The character of a president greatly affects his leadership, and the three presidents, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, and Dwight D. Eisenhower, all had character strengths and weaknesses, both unique and shared, that dictated the leadership of each. All had confidence in the American people and democracy, a profound sense of history and tradition, and all were successful because they were true to their characters. As a result of their shared trait of confidence, all three presidents could make widely-impacting and controversial decisions and then remain unfazed by criticism. As effective leaders, their presence is still felt today, and as the United States moves into the troublesome and trying time of war, we hope President Bush and all our nation's leaders may emulate the same traits of these former presidents. All three presidents demonstrate that a leader must have faith in the system that elects him and allows him to govern. All three men led differently, in a testament to their varying beliefs and background. Their greatness reflected the strength of their leadership, a leadership that embodied America and its citizens. The future is never certain, and it is likely that in a hundred years, moving into the 22nd century, others will expound upon the greatness of the past century's select few whose commitment and passion for democracy secured them a spot in history as a truly superior leader."

The \$250 second place prize goes to Rachel Culley from the Kents Hill School for her essay entitled "Shapers of the Earth: Leaders of the Future." Rachel plans to pursue a career in International Relations, Near East Studies and English Language and Literature at Harvard College in the fall. Having also been accepted at Yale, Princeton, Dartmouth and Cornell, a recent article in the **Bangor Daily News** writes, "Mercer senior is on the move." Quite literally, she participates in cross country races and plays lacrosse. As a student ambassador, she is active in the Seeds of Peace program which brings young people together from war-torn areas. Rachel has the distinction of being the only essay winner to actually have met Margaret Chase Smith. When a small child in a backpack carrier, Rachel and her parents met Senator Smith where MCS described Rachel as "a beautiful baby."

Rachel Culley

Miles Kirby has won the \$125 third place prize. From Orono

High School, Miles plans to attend Gordon College, majoring in biology with emphasis on marine biology or medicine. Playing the guitar, base and saxophone in an acoustic rock band, "Shoot the Piano Player," keeps Miles busy when he's not involved in running track, swimming or surfing. He was selected to represent his school for the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership event and Boys State.

Honorable Mention awards of \$25 each went to John Coons, Nokomis High School (Newport); Virginia Flood, Wells High School, Scott Keenan, Greater Portland Christian School; Han Park, Washington Academy (Machias), and Dan Sorrells, Erskine Academy (China).

Miles Kirby

Plans are already in the works for the 8th annual MCS Essay Contest for the 2003-2004 school year. The theme will be Civic Engagement. Information will be sent to Maine high schools in the fall. For further information, contact Dr. David Richards at davidr@tdstelme.net. To review the winning essays in their entirety, contact the University of Maine Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy at www.umaine.edu/mcsc/mpr.htm and ask for the Spring, 2003, issue of the **Maine Policy Review**.

Meghan Wranosky and Jayde Veilleux sign "I'm Proud to be an American," for Library staff members.

Winslow Junior High School Students Prove That The Young Care About Others

Over the past five years, students from the classes of Linda Voss have been involved in numerous community service projects. This past school year, they have raised thousands of dollars for such worthy causes as the American Cancer Society, Voice for Animals, Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter, Charley's Strays, Make-a-Wish Foundation, and the American Heart Association, as well as provided volunteer services for Inland Hospital, the Salvation Army, and the Evening Sandwich Program. They also held a "Salute to Our Troops" and a Veterans Day Assembly in which they honored veterans and their families. They wrote letters and collected items for 350 "Care Packages," which included personal care items and \$1400 worth of phone cards, for our troops in Iraq. Sale of yellow ribbons, bake sales, and fund-raising dances contributed to raising over \$3000 for these worthy causes.

Visitor/Reader Comments:

Says instructor Katy Perry of the “So You Think You Know Maine” Senior College class at the University of Maine at Augusta, *“Margaret Chase Smith and her amazing library and home could have no more charming, informative and friendly custodians...such an excursion—for youngsters and oldsters—truly makes learning FUN! You made my “teaching” job a breeze.”*

Atwood-Tapley students write, *“Thank you for inviting us to your museum. You didn’t hurry us along, you were patient, and you listened to our opinions. We learned that Margaret Chase Smith accomplished her dreams, and as long as we don’t give up, we can all achieve our dreams. P.S. I think I can, I think I can; P.S.2, We knew we could, we knew we could!”*

Editor’s note: *It appears the copy of the “Little Engine That Could” on display in Senator Smith’s home is making an impact on the minds of visiting students. After their visit, the class voted to give half of the money they received to the homeless shelter and the other half to the playground fund to replace outdated, unsafe equipment.*

Says Dr. Betsy Schenck, *“In several years of reading the newsletter, this is the first trivia answer I have found easily. I especially enjoyed reading MCS’s comments on peace...while I was reading it, MSNBC had breaking news of another missile attack in Israel—it seemed so timely.”*

Reminder!

The “Friends of the Library” will hold their annual gathering on October 17 and 18. Mark your calendars and join us for a review of Library activities for the past year. Renew acquaintances with old and meet new friends. In fact, if you wish to become a “Friend,” give us a call.

Hillary’s Book Recalls 1993 Letter

The just-released autobiography of Hillary Rodham Clinton, **Living History**, calls attention to a letter from Mrs. Clinton to MCS dated October 4, 1993, *“I recently heard a radio interview with you taped a few years ago that impressed me again with your positive views about life and politics. I have often mentioned how you were an example for me as I was growing up and how grateful I am still today for your leadership.”*

Free Library Educational Programs

The Library offers many educational programs which meet the needs of all ages. **An Introduction to Margaret Chase Smith** is our basic offering and is suitable to all grade levels. The program includes a twenty-minute video about the life of MCS, a self-guided assignment in the museum timeline exhibit, a tour of Senator Smith’s home, and an explanation of the research library.

Margaret Chase Smith: A Legacy of Service is one of our most popular programs. The Library invites groups to visit the Library and tell us about their service projects. We will support you with publicity in our newsletter and possibly with a donation. Discussion about Senator Smith’s thirty-two year public service career in Congress and many additional years of community service assisting civic and charitable groups is on the agenda. MCS established the Library in part as a forum where she could meet with young people and teach two lessons. One was the importance of service; the other was the significance of aspirations. **Margaret Chase Smith: The Little Engine That Could** discusses how a young woman, who grew up at a time when women did not even have the right to vote, overcame these obstacles to become one of the most powerful women in the United States.

The Wright brothers flew the first airplane three days after Margaret Chase’s sixth birthday. She quite literally grew up with advances in aviation and was always fascinated with flight. In the **Margaret Chase Smith: Up Above the World So High** program, learn about her first plane ride in 1925, her jet flight breaking the sound barrier in 1957, and the pivotal role she played overseeing the development of the American space program as a member of the Senate Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee.

In the **Using Primary Sources: The Cold War**, students learn that MCS’s Congressional career overlapped with the emergence and rise of the Cold War with the Soviet Union. By examining speeches, newspaper accounts, and political cartoons, students can learn a great deal about one of the most important historical developments of the twentieth century. Senator Smith’s perspective on world events provides an especially important opportunity to study how the role of gender might have affected American foreign policy.

Other programs offered include: **So You Think You Know Skowhegan; Women’s History: A Woman’s Place...; and the Homes of Margaret Chase Smith.**

Teachers are encouraged to take advantage of these programs by contacting Dr. David Richards at 474-7133.

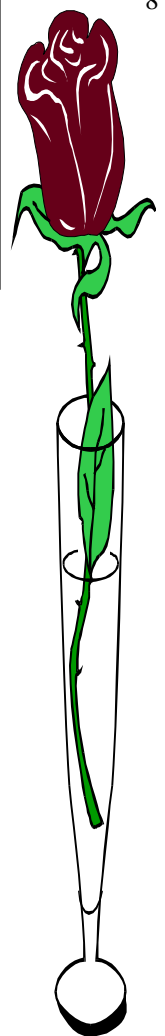
From the Archives

(Scrapbook v. 359, p. 4, article by George Rockwell)

Mr. Philip Walker, gentleman farmer, hawk enthusiast and friend of the late J. Edgar Hoover is still furnishing [electronic] midgets for the FBI. Equipped with tape recorders, Walker’s midgets are secreting themselves in waste baskets in the offices of senators and congressmen. It was from one of these midgets that Mrs. Wassip learned that Robert Monks had been to Washington and called on Senator Margaret Chase Smith, who gave him such a shellacking in the state primary.

After congratulating Mrs. Smith, Monks asked if she would use her influence in getting him a political appointment of some kind. “Such as?” she laconically inquired. “Oh, a commissioner of some kind or maybe an ambassador,” Monks replied. “What qualifications do you feel you have?” “Half a million dollars,” he said. “I hardly think money would have any job rating,” Mrs. Smith told him. “Children of the wealthiest parents in this country can’t play the piano without practice. There is no shortcut. We all have to start at the bottom of the ladder.” She smiled, and so did Monks as he said, “I thought owning the ladder might carry some weight.”

“Trivia” Answer from May Newsletter—The answer is on p.7 under the center column highlighted box. Everett Dirksen preferred the marigold as the national flower. Summering in Maine, Bette Wakefield from Canton, Ohio, called with the correct answer and its location. Congratulations! Local folks, Colin Quinn, Phillis Russakoff, Rella Collins, and Michael Lord called as did Margaret Schroder from NewYork, Jonathan Glidden from California, Betsy Schenck from Texas, and Sara Kulzer from England. Remember, the answer and location are required! The July trivia question is: Margaret Chase Smith was a Lieutenant Colonel in which branch of the military? The answer is somewhere in this newsletter. Be the first to respond with the correct answer **and** where you found it in the newsletter. You might win a prize!



“ The Welfare State is how we insure against the risks inherent in human life— unemployment, poverty, sickness, and old age. The Welfare State is so rickety,” says Dr. Michael Katz at Maine Town Meeting.

See full story p.5.

Dr. Michael Katz

Shown above is sample front cover photo of MCS. See full story of “Cover Gal” Exhibit coming in September on p.3.

"Friends" Newsletter is published by the Margaret Chase Smith Library. Editor: Dr. Gregory P. Gallant; Coordinator: Angela Stockwell, with the assistance of Vanessa Caron, Lynnette King, Sheri Leahan, Crystal Perkins, Byron Pooler, and David Richards. The Library is a non-profit research center and museum of 20th century political artifacts committed to bringing the ideals of Senator Smith's career in public service to the people of Maine and the nation.
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