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Currents (November 17, 2014)

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Flag Raising Ceremony First at USM Veteran Camden Ege, and Air National Guard members Erin Hartley and Paul Nelson raised the POW-MIA flag for the first time at USM during a well-attended ceremony on Veteran's Day.

USM is recognized for its work with members of the armed services, veterans and their families. Victory Media again named USM a Military Friendly School for 2014-2015. The American Association of State Colleges and Universities lists USM as a Service Members Opportunity College, through a program funded by the Department of Defense. USM also participates in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Yellow Ribbon Program.

Currently, the university has 280 veterans, 30 active duty guardsmen, six reservists, and 67 dependents of service members or veterans enrolled in classes. Thank you all for your service.

Muskie's Life and Legacy Celebrated Last Saturday, USM celebrated the legacy of one of Maine's — and the country's — most dedicated public servants, [Edmund Muskie](#). Friends and family of the distinguished politician, along with Muskie school students, alumni and members of the public packed Hannaford Hall for an afternoon full of anecdotes and lessons from Muskie's career.

The standing-room-only crowd was treated to the words of two of Muskie's former staff members — and friends — former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and political analyst and PBS "NewsHour" commentator Mark Shields. Both Albright and Shields worked for Muskie during his illustrious political career.

"Because of the political and public consensus Ed Muskie was able to forge and the laws he was able to craft, this country's children are healthier, our lives are longer and fuller," said Shields of Muskie's service.

"He inspired us and showed the government could be a force for good," Albright remarked of the man who inspired her renowned work.

Combined Charitable Appeal Update As we enter the third week of the Combined Charitable Appeal for University Employees (CCAUE), total USM pledges stand at \$3,750. This is down from last year, when donations totaled \$10,049.04 by this time. The campaign runs until November 23.

Visit [CCAUE](#) and click on “online donation service” to make your pledge, and visit [CCAUE Participating Federations](#) to learn what organizations will benefit from your support.

Thanks to all who have already made pledges that will help us reach our goal of surpassing last year’s total of \$21,211.04. Campus Co-Chairs [Katie Mahoney](#), 780-4484, or [Hannah Elwell](#), 780-4276, can answer any questions you may have.

Project Login Reception On November 10, [Project Login](#), a statewide, business-driven program of Education Maine, held a reception for computer science and information technology students on USM’s Gorham campus. Students from USM, SMCC and YCCC came and networked with representatives from WEX, Unum, Maine Health, Tyler Technologies, Jackson Laboratories, IDEXX and other companies that were looking to hire student interns and recent graduates.

USM Short Takes

- **RiseUp** — The Level 2 deadline nearing! On November 3, Provanthhealth send an email to all employees explaining that there was still time to complete your Level 2 wellness activity points to qualify for the \$100 rebate on your health insurance premiums. Log on to [Riseup](#) to check your incentive points.
- **“USM in the News”** has been updated through October 15. To view all the October 1-15 posts, click on the “<<Older Entries” button on the bottom left side of the page.

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