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Running for Guatemala

Local Mainers are on a mission

By **SHELLEY BURBANK**
sburbank@waterbororeporter.com

The Chicken Run

The runners were dressed for the weather – low 30s, a tad chilly for March 14 – wearing long jogging pants, microfleece in every color, hats and chickens.

Yes, that's right. Chickens. As in chicken hats and stuffed animals. This was the Chicken Run, after all, a marathon relay fundraiser for teens and chaperons embarking on a mission trip to Guatemala in April organized by Massabesic High School coach and Stroudwater Christian Church mission director Darren Bantz of Waterboro.

The Chicken Run was created as a way for the group to raise money for a food program the teens will take part in while ministering in remote Guatemalan villages over spring break. According to Bantz, the idea grew from his own family's traditional Thanksgiving Day run where he, his wife and four daughters create a "flash mob" style running event to benefit local families with

needs. "People show up, bring gift cards for local families," Bantz said. Last year, they were able to collect \$700 in cards.

The Guatemala mission team built on that idea, with individuals signing up to run "legs" of a marathon and gathering sponsorships to raise funds for their trip. So on that chilly March morning, 24 runners and about 12 support personnel gathered at South Waterboro Bible Chapel on Route 202. The first set of runners took off, heading toward Ed's Grove Discount in East Waterboro. As runners reached their designated spots, helpers shuttled replacements in cars to run their section of the marathon. The route doubled back from Ed's Grove to Hamilton Road and looped around to South Waterboro Road and back to the church. Five runners completed half-marathons of 13.1 miles, while the others ran up to eight miles for a total of five marathons or 131 miles altogether, raising \$1,300 in the process.

"We were very organized," said Bantz when asked about the logistics of getting people to spe-

cific points on the course at the necessary times.

Travel with a purpose

Massabesic High School student Thyme Whitten is going on the mission trip in April, and she also participated in the Chicken Run, logging 5 miles. "It was so much fun," she said. "There was a lot of support from the community." Her sports training in both soccer and swimming helped with the running, Whitten said, so she didn't have to do any special training to prepare for the relay.

However, teens embarking on the mission trip receive extensive training before stepping foot in the South American country of Guatemala, which has been impacted by civil war and poverty. Bantz said he has led 15 mission teams with both adults and teens to places like Mexico, Nicaragua and West Virginia, as well as less exotic locales such as Washington County, Maine. Because of the culture shock that occurs both upon arrival in Guatemala and upon coming home to Maine, preparation for the mission trip takes about 15 months, Bantz said.

This year, of the 14 teenagers heading out to help villagers with a feeding program and work on construction projects such as building schools and ministering to people in any way they can, 10 are students at Massabesic High School. Two of Bantz's daughters, who are in the junior and senior classes, have a knack for drawing in other kids to the program, he said. Two daughters already graduated from MHS and also participated in mission trips as teens. Other teens going on the trip are from Bonny Eagle, Windham and Gorham.

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Members of a local mission team with participants who helped support their marathon relay fundraiser called the Chicken Run held on March 14. Mission team leader, Darren Bantz is at bottom right. COURTESY PHOTO

A legacy of kindness

By **SHELLEY BURBANK**
sburbank@waterbororeporter.com

father, grandfather, and friend who touched the lives of many over the years.

Charles E. LePage Jr. was honored posthumously at Limerick's annual town meeting on March 14 when his daughter-in-law, Lisa LePage, announced a room in the Municipal Building has been named for the husband,

According to his family, Charles, who was born in 1927 and died in 2013, was the custodian at the Limerick school building, which now houses the town offices and library. He was also a school

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Members of the Charles LePage Jr. family pose with the plaque dedicated to the husband, father, grandfather, and friend to many whose name will now grace the community room in the basement of the municipal building where he worked as a custodian for many years. From left, granddaughter Amanda LePage, son Dean LePage, and wife Cecile LePage.

PHOTO BY SHELLEY BURBANK

New kid on the block

– An interview with Sen. David Woodsome –

By **BRIGIT MCCALLUM**
brigit@waterbororeporter.com

the past week he has turned some kind of corner and, for the first time, he feels relaxed in his new job.

Almost four months into his first term representing District 33 in the Maine State Senate, David Woodsome (R-York) says that in

"I was really stressed, running all over the place, everything was so new and confusing And now,

(Continued on page 4)



Sen. Dave Woodsome showing off his District 33 license plate at Waterboro Town Hall.

PHOTO BY BRIGIT MCCALLUM

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Keilly Lynch and her father Mike, of Lyman, participated in the Chicken Run and will both be joining the mission to Guatemala. COURTESY PHOTOS

EASTER EGG HUNTS

LYMAN

The Lyman Community Library is holding an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 28 at the library at 10 a.m. for children ages 2 to 10. The Easter bunny will be present and parents are encouraged to bring their cameras. The library is located at 10 John St., Lyman. For more information call 499-7114.

WATERBORO

Lakeside Community Church will be hosting an Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 4 at the Waterboro Elementary School at 10:30 a.m. Due to the safety concerns of the younger children, the hunt is for children under the age of 10. All older siblings and family members are welcome to come and watch the little ones search for the candy-filled eggs.

GUATEMALA

(Continued from page 1)

"It has allowed kids to be excited about the things that are done," said Bantz of the impact his daughters have on the program. But he also wanted to stress that the mission isn't about his family, but about the ministry. Collectively, however, the family has participated in 14 mission trips, and their enthusiasm obviously is contagious.

Pre-trip training sessions are designed to help teens be comfortable and prepared for what they will encounter on the trip. This includes coping skills using Stephen Covey's ideas outlined in "7 Habits of Highly Effective People," learning about cultural differences, and studying a 14-page book on Guatemalan history, culture, civil war and social structure. One of the cultural differences Bantz gave as an example are the meanings of hand gestures. What is a harmless gesture here can have a very different, negative meaning there. "We teach them not to talk with their hands."

The teen mission team will be landing in Guatemala City on April 16, and even the landing can be something of a shock, as the runway is very short, said Bantz. The group will then connect with a local group called Centro Cristiano Cultural de Guatemala (CCCG), that feeds 250 children in Guatemala City in an area that used to be in between the two most dangerous zones in the city with rampant gang influence. CCCG also gives medical care, schooling, welding and autobody classes, art classes and galleries, and language education. Its outreach extends into the remote villages, helping with nutrition, water, medical needs, schools, sanitation projects, and microfinancing so villages can be more self-sustaining. "By providing food, education, and technical training," Bantz explained, "it eliminates the need to join gangs."

Ten years after the program started, the two most dangerous zones in the city have now become the two safest, with lowered gang influence.

Consequently, Guatemala has become a common destination for mission teams who help continue to provide "lift" in the area. Bantz explains. "Lift happens when increased health, education, and infrastructure improves on a micro level. It's the one family who goes to raise 50 chicks, sells them, and gets another 50 chicks. They sell enough to continue the process. It's a new process for people who are used to living day to day." After completing the process four times and giving back to the financing program, there is enough to provide another microloan to another family or village.

Chickens, then, are integral to the mission. When the students from Maine arrive in Guatemala, they will be providing chicks and chicken feed for dozens of families in a set of remote villages in the Rio Dulce area called the Cuatro Cayos, or Four Keyes. Each of these villages is in a remote jungle area across a river, landlocked for months of the year, each village 10 minutes further into the jungle, where villagers are fearful due to the ravages of civil war and concerns about their children being abducted. Once in the villages, the teens are trained to be aware of their own skill sets and to use them when they see a need. "They find a way to make a difference," Bantz said. "If they don't, they'll be devastated." In the past, mission teams have painted a school, brought clothes, shoes, and teaching materials, put chalkboards in a classroom, dug a well and built a medical clinic.

Universal gift of love

As well as ministering in the villages, the teens will spend time sightseeing and learning about the Guatemalan culture first hand.



Tracy Whitten and her daughter Thyme, of North Waterboro, are just two of the 20 local residents who are heading to Guatemala on a mission trip in April.

Their itinerary includes seeing active volcanoes, climbing a volcano, visiting hot springs, listening to the primitive calls of howler monkeys, touring a pirate fort, visiting the Guatemala City central square with its government buildings, cathedral, and underground markets for food and other vendors.

However, most of what they will learn is more than just geography, history, and culture. According to Bantz, kids who participate in this trip are changed philosophically. "Poverty is in the eye of the beholder," he said. "The most remote villages have nothing compared to what we have, but they are rich in community, heritage, family bonding, and a harmony we could never match. Students experience culture shock arriving in Guatemala and again on arriving home. By the time they leave, they will be jealous of what the villagers have that they don't."

Tracy Whitten, Thyme's mother and a trip chaperone, said she is excited about the opportunity for her and her daughter, especially, to give back. "You don't have too many opportunities to travel for this purpose. The kids are going because they want to give, not get," she said. "This will help Thyme figure out what makes her tick, to learn about the larger world, to network with a group of people. It will open doors to the future, give her a chance to bond, and to develop leadership skills. Each person brings their individual apprehensions and their gifts ... and a big heart."

Thyme said she learned about the trip from her soccer teammates who were going. "When they asked me if I wanted to go, I was really excited about making any difference I can," she said. "It will be an amazing opportunity."

Although she knows from the training that the cultural differences will be hard, Thyme said leaving the villages after doing the work there will be the hardest. "We were told there can be heartbreak when leaving the kids," she said. "The love we give is universal. We don't need to know the same language."

Bantz agrees. "Our kids come back with the understanding that our wealth is obnoxious. 'We waste more than any one person can ever use,' is what one girl said on coming back. And she came from a family that isn't wealthy. The students who go on this trip tend to be changed philosophically. They gravitate afterward toward the impact professions like teaching and nursing.

"If it impacts them like me, they'll never look at money the same way. A car payment can feed a village."

WATERBORO
Parks & Recreation

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Registration begins April 1 for:

- Summer Day Camp - June 29-Aug. 7
- Teen Adventure Camp - July 7-Aug. 13
- Vacation Fun Camp - June 22-26, Aug. 10-14 and Aug. 17-21

Red Cross Swim Lessons will begin June 22
Testing and registration will be mid-June (TBA)

Registration forms available online at:
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INDICTMENTS

from York County Superior Court
FEBRUARY

The following area people were indicted when a grand jury rose in York County Superior Court in Alfred in February:

Alan J. Shaw, 19, of Ramsdell Way, Waterboro, Class C aggravated operating after revocation with one prior and Class D OUI/alcohol in Hollis

Eric W. Cook, 34, of Shaker Hill Road, Alfred, Class C theft in Sanford.

Darrion L. Daye, 21, of Depot Road, West Baldwin, two counts of Class C theft by deception, two counts of home repair fraud/impression and two counts of Class E violation of bail in Parsonsfield.

Cory Flewelling, 26, of Lewiston, Class E violation of bail in Alfred.

Lonnie J. McMahon, 19, of Mast Road, Alfred, Class C assaulting an officer in Alfred.

Cole A. Meserve, 21, of Chadbourne Road, Standish, Class B burglary of a dwelling, Class C theft and Class E violation of bail in Limerick.

Robert R. Solomon, 45, of North Road, Cornish, Class D assault, Class D terrorizing and Class D criminal mischief in Cornish.

Barry A. Whitten, 50, of Hopper Road, Acton, Class B burglary of a dwelling, Class E theft and Class D criminal mischief in Acton.

Joey L. Robinson, 33, of Summit Drive, North Waterboro, Class C theft by deception, Class B aggravated forgery/public and Class D unemployment fraud in North Waterboro.

Shapleigh election results

At their annual town meeting and election the weekend of March 13-14, Shapleigh residents elected Mark Cobb with 85 votes in an uncontested race for a three-year term as selectman. Voters also passed all warrant articles, including an article to potentially hire a public safety administrator.

At the annual town meeting on March 14, an article asking whether to appropriate \$50,000 from the undesignated fund to explore and potentially hire a public safety administrator for the town was discussed. The board of selectmen recommended approval, while the budget committee recommended appropriating instead \$5,000 for exploratory purposes. According to the report from town hall, Selectman Michael Perro explained that the board was looking to develop the position with auxiliary

staff, adding more responsibility to the position. If approved, the public safety administrator would replace the fire and rescue chiefs; both positions are due to expire.

An initial motion to pass the budget committee recommendation failed with a close vote of 18- 20. A second motion to pass the selectmen's recommendation then passed 26-12.

Other uncontested races decided at the polls included Joanne Rankin for town clerk and tax collector; Karla Bergeron for RSU 57 director; Claudette Bartosch and Shirley Danis for trustees of the Shapleigh Community Library; Michael Roux Jr. and Michael Roux Sr. for trustees of the Shapleigh Community Forest; and Verna Gold for budget committee member.

LEGACY

(Continued from page 1)

bus driver for many years. There are stories of him transporting sick children home from school when necessary, and everyone knew him – whether as Mr. LePage, Charlie, dad, Uncle Charlie, or papa.

“That was his building,” said his wife, Cecile LePage, while holding on to the handsome plaque with Charles’ photo and biography to be placed in the Charles E. LePage Jr. Community Conference Room.

Charles’ son, Dean LePage, who is also a Limerick’s selectman, said he recalled spending many hours in the school building with his dad, often helping him clean. “The whole family would go down there,” he said of the base-

ment area of the building, where the community room is now and a cafeteria was once located. “The hot water was in the basement. We lugged water.”

Charles LePage retired from his custodial career in 1989 and began building furniture. He came out of retirement in 1995, however, when he got a call asking him to be the custodian of the Limerick Municipal Building. He stayed in that job until 1997.

A notice at the bottom of the plaque dedicating the Charles E. LePage Jr. Community Conference Room reads, “Charles was a kind soul and had a wonderful sense of humor, often teasing those he loved especially the children. He is sadly missed by his loving family and the entire Limerick community.”

Owls visit Lyman school

Joy Spencer

Have you ever come face to face with an owl? The third graders in Mrs. Townsend’s and Mrs. Lajeunesse’s classes at Lyman Elementary School have. And what an interesting program it was! On March 9, Chewonki arrived at Lyman with their traveling Natural History Program based out of Wiscasset. The third-graders have been learning about owls throughout the year and this was definitely the highlight of their studies. The program introduced the students to the habits and adaptations of Maine’s native owls using slides, diagrams, displays and live owls. The students also learned how to recognize different owl calls, how to find pellets in the wild, and what to do if they found a young owl in the woods. The program also offered the participants the opportunity to take a close look at real owl artifacts, such as wings, talons, skulls, and contents of owl pellets.

Chewonki brought three live, non-releasable owls into the classroom: barred, great horned, and screech or saw-whet owls. These



A great horned owl

owls have various injuries to their wings, prohibiting their ability to survive in the wild. Students learned how owls survive and what they do to find food. Mrs. Townsend summed it up by saying, “It was a great presentation and the students loved being able to see live owls after studying about them.” Most of us have never seen these silent nocturnal hunters up close - unless we ourselves are night owls. (Pun intended!)



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RSU #57 Budget Review Session for the 2015-2016 Budget

The RSU #57 Finance Committee invites the public to a budget review session on **Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

There will be a review of the budget and time for the public to share views and questions regarding the fiscal 2015-2016 budget.

Massabesic High School Auditorium at 88 West Road in Waterboro, Maine.

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WATERBORO

Brigit McCallum

brigit@waterbororeporter.com

Old Home Days update

The Waterboro Old Home Days Committee is considering hosting a talent show on Friday, July 10, as part of Old Home Days 2015. The show is themed "Life's Shining Moments." The now-15-member committee hopes there will be interest among groups, businesses, families, individuals and anyone else in the community to participate in a talent show to offer community-based entertainment.

They are also looking for nominations for a grand marshal for the Saturday morning parade. There is a ballot box at the town hall, or emails can be sent to Claire Tutt at claretutt@waterboro-me.gov.

The committee is also planning a "Water Field Day" with six different water-related games such as a water balloon toss, a fill the bucket first with water, a wet sponge throw and others. This is planned to follow the parade, so kids and families can stay right at

the festivities and cool off rather than leaving to go to the beach and coming back later. Area youth organization volunteers will host the games. Some of the groups include Massabesic Area Youth Football and Cheering, Shaker Valley Little League, The 57 Stalions and others.

Anyone who would like to volunteer or FMI, contact Claire Tutt (above) or April Tucker at apriltucker@waterboro-me.gov.

Hearing on driveway ordinance planned

Waterboro selectmen decided this week to schedule a public hearing on the proposed Town of Waterboro highway entrance ordinance for Tuesday, April 14, at 6 p.m. Chairwoman TammyJo Girard proposed inviting Natalie Burns to be present at that hearing, and Road Review Committee chairman, Charlie Drapeau, added the committee's desire that Burns be present. A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review at the office of Tammy Bellman, the administrative assistant for the code/planning offices at the town hall.

DAVE WOODSOME

(Continued from page 1)

I can say to myself, 'It's a job,' and just do it," – although he repeatedly uses the word "fascinating" to describe his experience in the Senate so far.

Woodsome continued, "Now, just last week I actually started enjoying it all. But being chair of a busy committee and a member of another makes for a pretty hectic week," he said in reference to his post as head of the the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee. He is also a member of the State and Local Government Committee.

Asked whether it is unusual for a first-year senator to be appointed chair of a committee, Woodsome replied, "Since the Republicans are in the majority in the Senate, that party appoints chairs. So each senator serves as a chair on one and a member in another. I co-chair with Democrat Sen. Mark Dion of Portland. He's a good guy and we work really well together, so far anyway."

Asked if he is surprised to find himself in Augusta, Woodsome replied, "A year ago, I couldn't have imagined where I am today. I'm convinced things happen in life, and if you keep a positive attitude things work out. I had no clue a year ago. My teaching position was canceled, and I could've bumped someone because of my seniority, but I'd been thinking about retiring, and I just couldn't bump someone younger with a family. So I decided to run as a write-in candidate for the House. I spent five weeks campaigning and lost by eight votes. That was hard, but being a write-in is tough."

In that same June 2014 election, the primary race between Democrat incumbents John Tuttle and Andrea Boland had been close enough that the ballots went to Augusta for a recount. "Everybody in

Augusta knows everybody else, so word got around that my name had shown up all over the place on Democratic ballots. I was written in for senator, representative, tax collector, you name it."

He recalled how Rick Bennett, head of the Republican party, had called him and said, "'Great campaign!' I said, 'But I lost!' He said 'Nobody wins as a write-in. How would you like to run against John Tuttle?' And the rest is history. I think people were tired of some incumbents, and there was the bear referendum. That helped Republicans a lot."

Asked how engagement on the local level compares with the state level, Woodsome said with a laugh, "It's like going from kindergarten to PhD. It is a HUGE learning curve. You have more responsibility and authority, but you also have to know the protocols. There is a lot to learn. It's very formal up there in some areas, and you have to go through the right staff to get to first base, and even then you may get called out, because it's not what the party wants or other reasons."

"Institutional knowledge is critical. As a freshman senator, new to the club, I have to appreciate the institutional knowledge. I have to understand what went on in previous sessions, and figure out what they were thinking. I've been going out of my way to find those with experience and credibility to pick their brains. I have to understand their thinking and try to find ways to apply it to today's deliberations."

Woodsome explained that one of the reasons he ran was that he was sick of the fighting on the national level, and saw that happening at the state level, and his desire was to focus on compromise and finding the middle ground. "But there is so much interest in the extremes, especially among the press."

He illustrated what he meant by looking at the very recent Public Utility Commission's vote 2-1 to reduce Efficiency Maine funds, focusing on the exact wording of the bill to fund the program, rather than on the bipartisan intent, which was to fund the program \$60,000 from three sources. Because the word "and" was not written into the final printing of the bill, \$40,000 was lost to the program. "Reactions range from the extremes of 'Just include the word and so we can fund the program,' to 'take the PUC to court' and the press runs to those who are quickest to criticize. The PUC went with the legal wording rather than the bipartisan intent. So people are jumping up and down, rather than figuring out what to do. I talked with my co-chair and we're going to send a letter to the PUC requesting the records that they reviewed, read them ourselves and ask them to meet with us. Our goal is doing it in the least expensive and the least public forum. It'll all be resolved one way or another, without all the drama."

Woodsome reflects, "I never expected to be on this committee, let alone chair it, so when I asked the party leadership how this happened, they said, 'Given the governor's priority of cheap energy, in order to bring business to Maine, this is a very important committee, and we need someone like you who has common sense and you're fair-minded. That's what we need.'"

He acknowledges that some of the issues, like this PUC decision, and the "open carry" gun issue are very emotional, and that can be draining. "I know that no matter how I vote, some people will think I'm wrong. I've got to figure out what I think and represent my constituents, and that can put me in a bind, because sometimes I may not do that, as I've also sworn to uphold the state constitution. It's a lot to consider."

Woodsome represents Senate District 33, which includes Cornish, Limerick, Newfield, Parsonsfield, Sanford, Shapleigh, and Waterboro. He can be reached at david.woodsme@legislature.maine.gov.

BRIEFS

WE LOVE TO EAT

A benefit breakfast for the JD Foundation will be held at the Cozi Corner Café on Saturday, April 4 from 7 to 11 a.m. The cost is \$12 per person for a special menu and there will be raffles and a 50/50. For more information visit www.thejdfoundation.org.

The Tyler John Woodsome memorial dinner will be held on Saturday, April 11 at 5 p.m. in the

Massabesic High School Cafeteria. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students \$10 and \$5 for children 10 and under. Proceeds will benefit the MHS Class of 2015.

The senior luncheon get-together in the Massabesic Lions Den will start up again Tuesday, April 7 at noon. The menu will include tuna noodle casserole, biscuits, tropical fruit and a Jello chiffon dessert.

REPORTER

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P.O. Box 75, North Waterboro, ME 04061
206-5639 • news@waterbororeporter.com
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Kerry DeAngelis... Owner/Publisher/Advertising Manager
kdeangelis@waterbororeporter.com or ads@waterbororeporter.com

Michael DeAngelis Sports Writer
mdeangelis@waterbororeporter.com

Ann Fisher..... Copy Editor
afisher@waterbororeporter.com

Shelley Burbank..... Copy Editor/Contributing Writer
sburbank@waterbororeporter.com

Brigit McCallum Contributing Writer
brigit@waterbororeporter.com (Waterboro correspondent)

Allison Williams..... Contributing Writer
awilliams@waterbororeporter.com (Alfred correspondent)

Jack Melanson Contributing Writer
jackmelanson@waterbororeporter.com (MHS correspondent)

Joy Spencer..... Contributing Writer



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TOWN OF WATERBORO

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Waterboro Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall, 24 Townhouse Road, on **Tuesday, April 14, 2015 beginning at 6:00 p.m.** The purpose of the hearing is to receive comment regarding the proposed Highway Entrance Ordinance. The proposed ordinance is available at the Town Office during regular office hours.

Waterboro Board of Selectmen

ALFRED

Allison Williams

awilliams@waterbororeporter.com
324-5823

Odyssey preparations

The problem of the Odyssey of the Mind competition was to find a problem. After that, it had to be solved in a visual manner. Five middle school members opted to solve it with a Monopoly board and two movable traps, one for rats, another for mice. The traps were on wheels designed to run around the giant Monopoly board, which had all manner of gaps, speed bumps, and places to drive over, around and under. The traps ran around the track in the manner of a runaway train.

The inventors were busy perfecting their traps this past Sunday in the Masonic Hall, with Pearl McLaskey painting the track and Jeremiah VanTassel and Daniel Johnson working on balancing the traps (with rocks) so they didn't run off the track. Hayden Peters painted the starting gate, which was also the end of the track. The team has been working on their Odyssey project for five months. Their state competition is this Saturday, March 28 in Sanford. They have already been in the regional competition but hope to do even better.

War of 1812 reviewed

When Bruce Tucker began reviewing the War of 1812, he wanted to see what, if any, involvement there was by local men. What he learned was that after the Revolutionary War, local militias, tired of war, just wanted to return home and go back to farming or whatever occupation had been theirs before enlistment.

So to make volunteering more attractive, the federal government offered volunteers acreage in Illinois, Michigan or Ohio. The bounty land for volunteers was in 160-acre parcels. There was also that sign-on bonus at a time when money was scarce in Maine.

Training day had a holiday-like flavor with soldiers on parade and their musketry skills displayed. Some who had seen action in the Revolutionary War were active in

recruitment, which led to increased social status, which might not have much to do with military skills or leadership.

Much of the theater of operations for the 33rd U.S. was Lake Champlain and Plattsburg, N.Y. An asset (if it can be stated as such) was a galley, or oar boat, 75 feet long and built by the Americans. It was unfortunately of green pine, but it sufficed except during battle when fighters were injured by flying splinters, according to Bruce Tucker in his talk to the Alfred Historical Society on the War of 1812. The British were also making oar boats.

The plan was to invade Canada and seize Montreal, but with roads becoming impassable and no supplies or wagons, Gen. Hampton decided his men would make camp for the winter. Communications being what they were, his superior received the letter too late to change. Hampton also had granted leave to any officer who wanted to go home to Maine. Most took that option. Besides the weather, dysentery affected the men from what was termed "lake fever," probably from drinking the water of Lake Champlain.

In the spring of 1814, enough oarsmen were recruited to man the American galleys, a difficult task as there were neither sleeping quarters nor protection from enemy bullets or the weather. They ended up chasing smugglers, mostly a night task. But on Sept. 11 a hot battle between American ships and galleys and the British was at least partially aided by the wind, which died, slowing the British approach. By 2 a.m. on Sept. 12 the British army, having been out-manuevered (and out-battled), was in full retreat to Canada. Thus ended the War of 1812 with a treaty signed on Christmas Day.



Nathan Gile poses beside the sap evaporator during Maple Maple Sunday on Shaker Hill. He is the third generation of Gile to be involved in the tapping of trees on Shaker Hill. PHOTO BY ALLISON WILLIAMS

During the society's business meeting, Harland Eastman announced the Portland String Quartet would perform at the Sanford/Springvale Museum on Saturday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m. Purchasing a book on trees was discussed, to be in memory of Sydney Emery. That the Alfred Village Museum's theme for 2015 will be "The Work of Our Hands II" was announced.

Maine Maple Sunday

There was maple apple crisp, maple butter, peanuts coated with maple syrup, and warm cider to tempt those lined up inside the sugar house on Shaker Hill this past Sunday on their way to the "store" where more maple goodies waited. When queried whether the day had been slower this year because of the cold weather, Sylvia Gile responded "Busier! We opened at 10, it slowed down at 2:30 and (the line) picked up again at 2:45."

Outside the barn, Brown-Emmons Post was manning their "weiner wagon" with franks, coffee, etc. to warm those waiting in line.

Inside the sugar house the warmth of the evaporator, with steam rising to the roof, kept everyone warm. On hand to answer questions were Steve Gile, who now runs the operation; his father, Alden; and his son, Nathan Gile, the third generation of Gile involved in tapping the trees. It is actually a joint operation of Gile's Family Farm and the Brothers of Christian Instruction.

Village notes

There has been a change in dates for the April "America Sings!" program. It will be April 18 and 19, both at 2 p.m. It will be held in the Parish Church.

The Master Food Preserver

course is available to both adults and youth and includes 10 three-hour sessions throughout June to September, with canning, freezing, drying and winter storage included. Those interested may contact Lois Elwell, 781-6099 or 1-800-287-1471. Application deadline is May 1.

The Alfred Quilters will welcome both quilts and rugs made by anyone, not just in their groups, when they hold their quilt and rug show in the fall.

The next Country Jam held in Legion Hall will be this weekend, starting at 1 p.m. on March 28.

The Ukulele Strummers of Southern Maine meet on the first Sunday of the month. The next session will be April 5, from 1-3 p.m. Although the library will be closed that Sunday, Easter Sunday, the strummers will be there. All are welcome to listen and join in.

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Please call the library to sign up for this important program at 793-8975. Light refreshments will be served after the program.

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THE NEWS STAMPEDE

Massabesic Mustang Nation



Who will be crowned Mr. MHS?

The Massabesic Student Council presents its annual biggest and most popular event of the year, "Mr. MHS." Standing for "Mr. Massabesic High School," the show is similar to a beauty pageant, and will include four guys from each grade, all battling and performing to be crowned the champion of the evening. The comical show will be held at the Massabesic High School Auditorium at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 2; doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$7, and all tickets will be sold at the door. The funds raised will go towards Student Council, and will be used to better the school in ways such as physical structure, student spirit, etc.



by **Jack Melanson**

Mr. MHS will be hosted by seniors Deidra Lantagne and Haley Poulin, both of whom were seen either hosting or as a guest on "MHS Tonight," a student council event that premiered earlier in the 2014-2015 school year. For contestants, the freshmen will be represented by Brady Cyr, Simon Roberts, Zander Newton and Noah McGrath. The sophomores are all return contestants: Justin Goodwin, Roger Langlois and Matt Landry. Juniors competing for the title are Adam DeAngelis, Nate Baert, Derek Coulombe and Blake Foglio, who have all been in the show before. For the seniors, Adam Marcotte, Will Secunde, and myself, Jack Melanson, will

be in their fourth Mr. MHS, along with Jordan Drain, who is taking his first stab at the crown. Mr. MHS is being judged by Assistant Principal James Hand, Mrs. Gallo a math teacher at MHS, Ms. Hunter, who is a history teacher at MHS, and guest judge, Nick Vigue, who was last year's Mr. MHS pageant winner. Nick was a member of the class of 2014, and can't wait to come back to judge

the show he competed in during each of his four years at Massabesic. Other recent winners of the show were Baxter Parent (2012), and Paul Peck (2013). Baxter was also last year's guest judge.

Mr. MHS will start promptly at 7 p.m. with the casual wear section, as each contestant will individually model a ridiculous and hilarious costume for the crowd in the style of a runway. The show rolls on with the talent section, where anything continues to be possible. Students in the past during this part of the night have prepared raps, sang, danced, preformed stand up comedy, and many other talents of that nature. The talent section is traditionally the longest portion of Mr. MHS, and allows the contestants to stand out from the rest. The audience then howls through the class skits, which are practiced and acted out by each grade. Following the skits will be formal wear, when the guys model tuxes for prom, which

are generously donated by Bridals by Sandy in Alfred. The last and final chance for the contestants to prove they should be crowned Mr. MHS is the question and answer section, as each contestant picks a question at random from a hat such as "What would your first purchase be if you won a million dollars?" or even "If you were to be on the cover of any magazine, what would it be and why?" The students do not know what their question will be and must answer it on the spot.

While the judges leave the auditorium to tally up the results, the escorts then have their chance in the spotlight to also model their dresses, which were donated by Bridals By Sandy. The escorts were previously a part of the show and walked the guys out when they modeled both their casual wear and tuxedos. The escorts for the evening will be seniors Erin Roberts, Alicia Blanchard, Allison Cahill and Ashley Cryer, along with juniors Madi Russell, Delia Sylvain, Sierra Arral and Erika Suttles.

So don't forget to mark your calendars for April 2 for this year's Mr. MHS pageant for what promises to be a very funny show. The contestants have been preparing for a little over a month, and can't wait to get their shot on stage and make the entire audience laugh.

Jack Melanson is a senior at Massabesic High School in Waterboro and the president of the student council. He can be reached at jackmelanson@waterbororeporter.com.

SPORTS

MHS winter sports awards

Annual winter sports awards went to the following athletes: Emma Desrochers was named MVP for girls' basketball. The Mustang Pride award went to Hannah Lundrigan and the coach award went to Haleigh Couture. For boys' basketball it was Dan Amabile as MVP (he was also named to the all-conference honorable mention squad), Weston Bergeron was named defensive MVP, coach award went to Jesse Hall and the spirit award went to Dawson Renaud.

For cheering it was Elizabeth Schepis as MVP. Most improved went to Gabrielle Langlois and Allison Cahill won the coach award. Cahill was also selected for the first-team all-conference squad.

For indoor track it was Mike About taking MVP honors on the boys' side. Karissa Lambertson was MVP for the girls'. Maddy Bantz and Grace Gile shared the most improved trophy. Joshua Guilmette, Moriah Biener, Karissa Lambertson and Haley Bantz each made the all-conference team.

For swim it was Cam Mayhew and Elaine Dudley taking MVP honors. The Kevin Broad award (coach award) went to Garrett LaFrance and Ashley Cryer and the Sue Rubin award (most improved) went to Ryan Burke and Emily Cyr. Jake Bixby was named to the all-conference diving team. Mayhew was also named to the all-conference team for the

100-breaststroke, the 400-freestyle relay and the 100-freestyle with Dudley also named to three all-conference teams: the 100-butterfly; the 400-freestyle relay and the 200-freestyle. Dudley also was named to two all-state teams: the 200-freestyle and the 400-freestyle relay.

The MVP for wrestling went to Mike Risti with Noah Schneider taking home most improved honors. The Larry Phinney award went to Leo Amabile and Logan Martin received the 100 career wins trophy. All-conference first team selections went to Jeff Bryan, Zac Richard, Risti and Trevor Walton. Second team all-conference went to Amabile and Martin.

For hockey it was Matt Bridges (Bonny Eagle) as MVP with Branden Roy (Massabesic) taking the most improved award. Cam Roy (Massabesic) won the coach award and the Bruce Dobkowski award for sportsmanship went to Tanner McClure (Bonny Eagle). Kyle Whitman and Justin Miles (both from Bonny Eagle) were named second team all-conference and Whitman took home the MOB scoring crown.

LETTERS

Calling all musicians!

My name is Ken Tyler, I am a retired director of the United States Air Force Academy Drum and Bugle Corps and I am looking for musicians. Along with some other marching band members, I am trying to see if there is interest out there to march in an All State Marching Band. We are in the planning stages and want all the input we can get. Our tentative plans are to have rehearsals in different areas of the state, then combining the groups for performances. There appears to be much interest in having a marching band for parades and festivals throughout the state and we would love to fill that void.

We anticipate starting rehearsals in April and marching in parades this summer. What we need now are musicians! We are looking for junior high and high school students who need the experience and practice, rusty musicians who want to get back in shape and just about anyone who can play an instrument and can march. We've done this before and it is fun.

If you are a musician and are interested give me a call at 592-4536. We also need more instructors and some support people. Thank you for your interest.

*Ken Tyler
West Gardiner*

We want to hear from you!

Send your letters, recipes, photos, poems & stories to: news@waterbororeporter.com

Please include name, town and phone number for verification.



OBITUARIES

Patricia A. Collupy

Patricia A. Collupy of East Waterboro passed away on March 3, 2015 at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Massachusetts after a brief illness.

She was born on July 6, 1934 in Melrose, Massachusetts the daughter of Robert B. Collupy and Vivian (Goodwin) Collupy. She graduated from Melrose High School in 1954 and spent the majority of her working years in Massachusetts in manufacturing. On her weekends and freetime, Pat could be found at the family farm in East Waterboro, where she eventually moved upon retirement. She truly loved living in Maine, being surrounded by family and friends. She loved to shop for clothes and most anything else, especially if it had the red white and blue. Patricia was very patriotic and loved to show it.

Patricia never married nor had children, but she loved to sur-

round herself with her brothers and sisters and many nieces and nephews. She would spend her

winter months with her loving sister Marilyn (Collupy) Macleod in Massachusetts, until the snow was gone and she could come back to Waterboro.

Patricia was predeceased by her parents, her older sister Dorothy, and an older brother Everett. Patricia is survived by her older sister Marilyn and older brother Donald; both of Medford, Massachusetts and an older brother Robert B Collupy Jr. of Waterboro.

A memorial service is planned for her in the spring in East Waterboro.

Obituaries are a FREE service in the Reporter.

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Patricia Collupy

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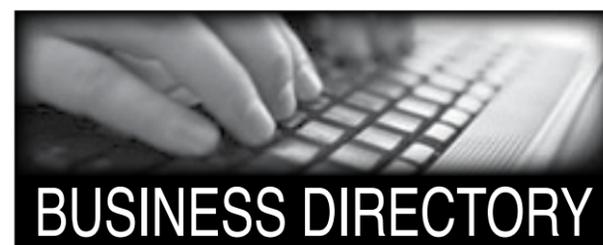
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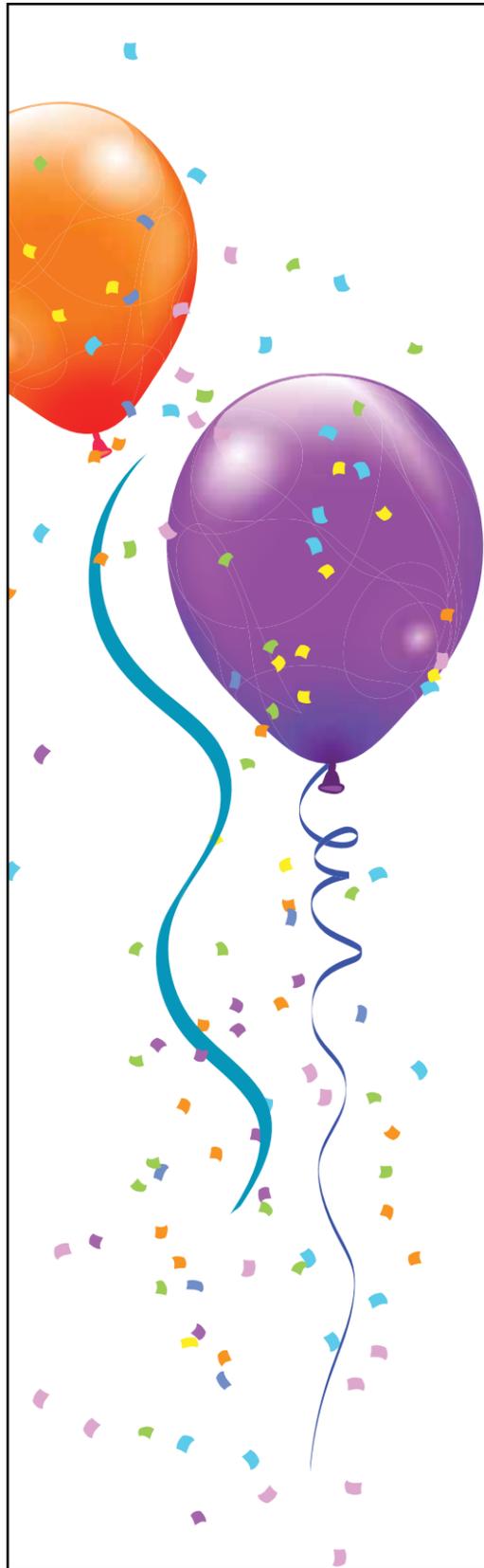
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