

REPORTER

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Planes gather at Limerick airstrip

By SHELLEY BURBANK

Against the backdrop of a blue, October sky, a squadron of small-engine planes flew into the Limerick Airport on Saturday morning, Oct. 3, for a social gathering of aviation enthusiasts and pilots. The private airstrip is owned and managed by Arthur Carroll who said the event was a private fly-in for people to land and visit with each other.

Guests mingled near the planes which were lined up on the airfield on Central Avenue. B & D Roadside Grill foodtruck offered food at the event, as well.

The airport was originally built in 1926 and is now maintained as a private airfield. The Limerick Airport allows and encourages use by medevac services, as well. According to Carroll, a few years ago, two people were flown out by LifeFlight helicopters to Maine Medical Cen-



Planes parked after a friendly fly-in at the Limerick air strip. PHOTO BY SHELLEY BURBANK

ter in Portland. What would have taken over an hour took only 15

minutes, a flight that saved two lives. “Our goal is to keep it as an

airport as a benefit to the town,” Carroll said.

Shapleigh honors Jim Brown

By JOANNE BARGIONI

The Shapleigh community gathered on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 11 a.m. to celebrate the life and legacy of Jim Brown, a beloved sixth-grade teacher, whose vision and dedication helped create one of the town’s most cherished public spaces, Shapleigh Commons.

Mr. Brown, as his students called him, taught at Shapleigh Memorial School, where he believed deeply in the potential of every student. In 1992 he assigned his sixth grade class a community service project that would transform the vacant field beside the Town Hall into what Shapleigh Commons is now. His belief that a simple class project could become something larger continues to shape the town decades later.

The Shapleigh Community Center was filled with family, former students, friends, colleagues, and residents who came to acknowledge Jim’s life. His son, Eric, opened the celebration by thanking attendees and reflecting on his father’s impact on the community. Eric spoke of his father’s love for big school proj-



Eric Brown recalls the life of his father Jim, in a celebration of life held at the Shapleigh Community Center. PHOTO BY JOANNE BARGIONI

ects, his fondness for Shapleigh Boonies Store and the Shapleigh Corner Store, and his devotion to his family. Jim was the father of four and grandfather of six.

Eric invited speakers to share heartfelt memories of his father. David Gallant spoke first, a former student who described Mr. Brown as his favorite teacher.

He remembered him as

(Continued on page 6)



The former Methodist Church, which now houses The Arts Center at 8 Hancock (The Hiram Cultural Center), was built in 1885. Called the Hatch window, it was installed by Freeman Hatch, and named for Freeman’s father, William Hatch, born 1775, died 1872. Freeman was the major donor of the funding to build the church. At one point Freeman Hatch owned the Four Corners Store and the corner where Main Street, King Street, Christian Hill (Bull Ring Road), and Segabo Road met was called Hatch’s Corner. The stained glass window will be removed on Thursday, Oct. 8 starting at 9:30 a.m. and will take 4-5 hours. The window opening will be closed up and the restored window should be returned in about 12 weeks. COURTESY PHOTO



Kelsie Fitch.
PHOTO BY TAMMY WELLS,
YORK COUNTY
GOVERNMENT MEDIA

Recovery changed her life – now she helps others

Today, Kelsie Fitch is healthy, committed to her own long term recovery, helping others along that path, and living a happy life.

But it wasn’t always that way. Before recovery, her life was a seemingly never-ending cycle of drug use, homelessness, arrests followed by jail time where she got sober – and then back to using when her sentence was complete.

“I couldn’t stay sober when I was released from jail,” said Fitch.

That was then. Now 33, she has been in recovery for seven years.

Her life began to change when she was court-ordered to a six month residential recovery program several years ago.

She went, she said, because the alternative to the program was remaining in jail.

“I really didn’t understand what the program was or what recovery could look like,” she said. “That recovery center ended up changing my life.”

It wasn’t all clear sailing – there was a brief relapse and an additional period of time in the residential program, but Fitch wants others in the grip of substance use to know successful recovery can happen.

(Continued on page 11)



Scan for Tickets

Smiles
Sweetser

COMEDY SHOW

Friday, Oct. 23rd • 7-9:30 p.m.

Italian Heritage Center, Portland • 18+ • ComedyTickets.org

Community CALENDAR

Email non-profit event listings to: news@waterbororeporter.com

COMING EVENTS

FOURTH ANNUAL FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL Sat. Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Rain Date Oct. 11). Live music, food for sale, games, contests, history tours, White Elephant sale, Maker's Market of crafts of all kinds - roam the Village Green of historical buildings. Pop into the one room schoolhouse and receive a classroom lesson! 234 Windham Center Road, Windham. Sponsored by the Windham Historical Society and Parks & Rec.

PIE AND CRAFT SALE Saturday, Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to benefit the South Effingham West Parsonsfield Citizens Organization, a non-profit which maintains the historical community and church building. Held outside, next to Ye Olde Sale Shoppe at 1543 Province Lake Road (Rte 153 S) in South Effingham, just next to the border with Parsonsfield. Interested crafters/vendors call 603-539-7910 (Bill Taylor).

FREE CONCERT with Brad White Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. at the Oak Ridge Bible Church, 60 Oak Ridge Road, Biddeford. Brad White is a two time Grammy Nominee and has authored his own Christian piano course being used world wide. He has been referred to as "Mr. Gospel Music." The community is invited to attend a Bible Study at 9 a.m., Worship Service at 10 a.m., Lunch at 12 p.m., and the Brad White Concert at 2 p.m.

YORK COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE MEETING will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 14 at Alfred Town Hall, 16 Saco Road. Doors open at 6 p.m.; busi-

ness meeting is from 6:30-8 p.m. The guest speaker is Jon Fetherston, reporter with the Maine Wire. All registered Republicans welcome. FMI: YCRCsecretary@yorkgop.org, (508) 523-9197.

PARSONSFIELD SEMINARY'S HAUNTED HOUSE Oct. 16, 17, 23 & 24 630-9 p.m. at 504 North Road (Route 160) Parsonsfield. Free parking and Snack Shack on site. We take cash and Venmo. We are a tax exempt non-profit organization. FMI (207) 625 4449. Scare you there!

MOVIES IN THE PARK HALLOWEEN EDITION showing Hocus Pocus Friday, Oct. 16, Gowen Park Gazebo, 741 Main Street, Sanford. Movie begins at 6 p.m. Admission is FREE! Get ready for a spooky fall evening under the stars hosted by Sanford Parks & Recreation. Bring your blankets, chairs, dinner, and favorite snacks and settle in for a fun, family-friendly night with the Sanderson Sisters! Registration is highly encouraged to help the Recreation Department plan for attendance. Register online at sanfordme.myrec.com.

COMMUNITY CRAFT FAIR AND BAKE SALE The Shapleigh Community Center is hosting its Second Annual Craft Fair and bake sale on Saturday, Oct. 17 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. If you are interested in renting a table space, reach out ASAP to Penny at 636-2844 ext. 5 or officeassistant@shapleigh.net. Space is limited and available on a first come/first serve basis. Proceeds to go to the Shapleigh Emergency Heating Assistance Fund.

Join the Goodwins Mills Cemetery Association and the Lyman Historical Society for the second

annual **CEMETERY WALK** OCT. 18 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. (RAIN DATE Oct. 25) Come see actors portraying former residents of Lyman and Dayton and learn our histories from their stories.

OCTOBERFEST BOOK & BAKE SALE Sunday, Oct. 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thousands of items, priced to move. Stock up for winter. Also holding a free **SHARPIE TIE-DYE** event—who knew you could make tie-dye shirts without making a huge mess? Supplies available but limited, feel free to bring your own t-shirt if you need a specific size. Raindate: Oct. 25. Lyman Community Library, 10 John Street. FMI: 207-499-7114. Also holding a 50/50 **RAFFLE** and **SILENT AUCTION** that day. Outside will be Lyman Parks & Recreation's **2ND ANNUAL OCTOBERFEST** with handmade goods and crafts for sale, Local organizations to learn about, Good food, live entertainment, and more!

"NOT BEFORE BEDTIME," a Past-Times Theatre production of Victorian tales of mystery and suspense, Saturday, Oct. 24 at 4:30 p.m. at Mousam Lake Pavilion, 25 Back Road, Shapleigh. Tickets \$10 each; children 16 and under are free. As the nights draw in, beneath flickering oil lamps, our Victorian ancestors enjoyed nothing more than being read stories, taking them on a journey of mystery, intrigue and suspense! You are invited to join British Actor, Andrew Harris in his Dickensian portrayal of one of the greatest storytellers of all time. Presented by the Acton Shapleigh Historical Society. FMI and tickets, visit www.actonshapleigh.org.

"AN EVENING WITH WILLIAM BREWSTER: READINGS FROM THE JOURNALS OF A NINETEENTH CENTURY ORNITHOLOGIST" is being presented by York County Audubon at the Wells Reserve and via Zoom, Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. Join us for this great program featuring the journals of one of the most notable early ornithologists, either in-person or by Zoom. For complete information, visit yorkcountyaudubon.org.

SHAPLEIGH TRUNK OR TREAT Saturday, Oct. 31 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Shapleigh Community Center, 24 Back Road, Shapleigh.

ONGOING EVENTS

MAHJONG every Wednesday 10 a.m. to noon at the Acton Public Library, 35 H Road. Please bring a set if you have one. Open to new and experienced players.

CRIBBAGE CLUB Wednesdays, from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Lyman Community Library. All ages, all skill levels. FMI: 207-499-7114.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NEWFIELD, 64 Elm Street in Newfield will be open every Tuesday in August from 10 a.m. to noon and then again from 5 to 6 p.m. for visitors.

WRITING GROUP opened to all levels and genres. Meetings first and third Fridays of the month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hollis Center Library, 14 Little Falls Road. Call 929-6817 FMI.

ACTON SEED LIBRARY Acton Public Library has its own seed catalogue. If you would like to donate some seeds or pick them up, you can stop by the Acton library at 35 H Rd.

ALFRED VILLAGE MUSEUM current museum display is Alfred Minutemen – 250 years. Museum open Wednesdays and Saturdays, 2 to 4 p.m. through September. Any questions contact Bruce Tucker, Alfred Historical Committee, 324-5441.

ADULT COED VOLLEYBALL every Wednesday night at the Line School, 818 Water Street, West Newfield, from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Questions? contact Dan McAllister at 247-8857.

CHESS MATES at Limerick Public Library, 55 Washington Street, Limerick. Play chess with old or new friends 2nd Wed each month at 6 p.m. **DROP-IN LEGO BUILD** every Tuesday at 3 p.m. and Sat. at 10 a.m. FMI-793-8975 or limericklibrary.org. Enjoy building a creation with our LEGO collection.

WRITERS GROUP: All levels and genres are welcome for readings and friendly discussions. From 2 to 4 p.m. on second and fourth Fridays of every month at the Limerick Public Library, Washington Street, Limerick.

RED HAT LADIES Women 50+ enjoy comradery, card games, meals out, bowling, mini golf, movies etc. Tuesday card games at 12:30 p.m.: Pay Me & Scat. Bring a snack to share. Take turns meeting at member's homes; you are not obligated to offer your home. FMI Diane Dunn 229-6135.

SHAPLEIGH CRAFT GROUP is held every second Wednesday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Shapleigh Community Center, 24 Back Road. All crafters are welcome wheth-

er you knit, crochet rug hook, embroider, etc. you are welcome at this group. You can bring some of your projects for a show and tell.

ARTISTS OPEN STUDIO on Wednesdays from 1-4 p.m. at the Parsons Memorial Library, located at 27 Saco Road, Alfred.

LET'S EAT!

BEAN SUPPER Saturday, Oct. 17, from 4 to 6 p.m. at St. Matthew's Knights of Columbus, 19 Dora Lane, Limerick. Menu: beans (2 types), hot dogs, sliced ham, coleslaw, casseroles, bread, drinks & dessert. Adults - \$12; Children 6-12 - \$6; Children 5 & under - free; Families - \$30.

TURKEY DINNER Saturday, Oct. 17 from 4:30-6 p.m. annual fundraiser Turkey Dinner to sponsor Operation Christmas Child. The menu will include Turkey, Mashed Potato, Carrots, Peas, Stuffing, Gravy, Rolls and Apple Crisp for dessert. Eat in or Take out. \$14 per plate. Sanford First Baptist church 905 Main St. Kimball Street entrance. Parking behind Shaw Hardware and behind Garnsey insurance. To reserve dinners, Call 324-5456.

BEAN SUPPER Massabesic Lions monthly dine-in or take-out the 2nd Saturday of the month (next on Oct. 10), 4 to 6 p.m. at the Lions Regional Medical Center, 813 Main St. Waterboro. Adults \$15. Children 6 to 12 are \$8, kids 5 and under are free. Pint of chop suey for \$8. Kidney and navy beans, chop suey, ham slices, red hot dogs, coleslaw, "our homemade" biscuits and dessert.

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER Public Welcome at the Goodwins Mills Advent Christian Church, 503 Goodwins Mills Road on Route 35 from 4:30-6 p.m. OCT. 17: Beans and Franks, Cole Slaw/Macaroni Salad, Rolls & Chocolate Chip Cookies. NOV. 21: Chicken/Turkey Casserole, Mashed Squash, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls & Pies.

TURKEY DINNER The Acton-Shapleigh Lions Club will host a turkey dinner on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 4-6 p.m. at the Shapleigh Community Center, 24 Back Road. The cost is \$10 per person and includes dinner with all the fixings, a drink, and dessert.

The Acton-Shapleigh Lion's Club **MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** the first Saturday of every month (Next on Nov. 7). \$7 includes pancakes (plain or blueberry), scrambled eggs, sausages, toast, orange juice, beans, and coffee, tea, and milk. The breakfast will be served from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Shapleigh Community Center at 24 Back Road, Shapleigh, next door to the Shapleigh Town Hall.

COMMUNITY CUP Tuesdays 9 to 10 a.m. Free coffee, donuts and conversation at Southern Maine Agency on Aging at 21 Braeden Street, Springvale.

COFFEE HOUR every Wednesday from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Hiram Arts Center, 8 Hancock Avenue, Hiram. Come for coffee, conversation, companionship, and community.

FALL IN LOVE WITH MAPLE

AT MAINE MAPLE FALL FEST

OCTOBER 10-11, 2026

10-4 BOTH DAYS



Local Vendors

Bruce's Boards and Bowls,
Kimberly Morrow Art
K&B Creations
Goat Milk Soaps Naturally by Wanda

Live Music

with Julia Bryant

Food Truck

Licensed to Grill -Saturday
Millside Creations- Sunday

Maple Store

Award Winning Syrup in
Glass, Tin and Plastic
Whoopie Pies, Fudge, Cotton Candy
Maple Sauces and Rubs
All things Maple!

Hilltop Boilers Maple Syrup, 159 Elm Street, Newfield Maine

PATRIOT PAINTERS

John Eder
207.283.5729

Animal Welfare Society to host free clinic Oct. 17

Rabies vaccine and microchip clinic helps pet owners keep vaccinations current as rabies remains endemic in Maine wildlife

Animal Welfare Society (AWS) Community Veterinary Clinic will host a free rabies vaccination and microchipping clinic on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 9 a.m. to noon at St. Martha’s Church, 30 Portland Road, Kennebunk.

According to the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 43 animals in 13 Maine counties had tested positive for rabies as of Sept. 14, 2026. Raccoons, skunks, foxes and bats are among the animals most commonly found with rabies in

Maine. Keeping pets current on their rabies vaccinations is one of the steps Maine CDC recommends to help prevent exposure, and fall is also a good time for dog owners to make sure vaccinations are up to date ahead of 2027 licensing and registration.

Microchips provide pets with permanent identification and can significantly improve the chances of being reunited with their families if they become lost. Unlike collars or tags, which can fall off or be removed, a microchip remains with the pet and can be scanned by shelters and veterinary clinics.

The clinic operates on a walk-in, first-come, first-served basis while supplies last. RSVPs are appreciated and help AWS anticipate attendance and prepare adequate supplies, but an RSVP does not reserve a place in line or guarantee service at a specific time. Pet owners should be prepared to wait in their cars with

their pet(s). To ensure pets already in line can be served before the clinic ends at noon, the line will close at 11:30 a.m.

Free rabies vaccines and microchips are available for dogs and cats 12 weeks of age and older. All pets must be leashed or secured in a carrier. To receive a 3-year rabies vaccine, pet owners must bring their pet’s previous rabies certificate or veterinary re-

cords showing prior vaccination. Without documentation, pets will receive a 1-year vaccine. Donations to support AWS’ community programs are appreciated.

“Rabies is present in Maine wildlife, so keeping pets current on their vaccinations is an important part of protecting them year-round,” said Heidi Marston, Executive Director of Animal Welfare Society. “Our goal with

clinics like this is to make preventive care easier to access, while helping pet owners stay ahead of things like annual licensing and making sure their pets can be identified and reunited with them if they ever get lost.”

For more information and to RSVP, visit animalwelfaresociety.org/event/october-17-rabies-and-microchip-clinic/ or call (207) 985-3244.



COURTESY IMAGE

From Fleece to Fiber

Come watch and learn how natural fiber has been processed into usable fibers from the past to the present day on Saturday, Oct. 3 at Sweat-Morin Homestead, 374 School Street, Sanford as the Fiber Friends spinning group will offer fiber tool demonstrations. From 10 to 11:30 a.m., they will discuss and demonstrate how to turn wool locks into usable roving to spin into yarn. The group will be working with a variety of dyed and natural color wools, silk, and other natural fibers combed or carded into batts, roving, puni or rolags.

After 11:30 a.m., they will focus on a group effort to process donated wool into roving to support the “free learn to spin” classes. The public is welcome to observe. There will be spin-

ning wheels, as well as a weaver demonstrating her skills.

Be aware that they will be working with pointy tools. Children are welcome to observe, but please keep some space.

In addition to the special event guests are invited to tour the meticulously restored grounds until 2 p.m. — including the historic home, carriage house, barn, and family cemetery — or walk the expansive wooded trails.

The homestead house and barn are handicapped accessible. Admittance to this event is free to the public, although donations are always welcomed. Signing up in advance is not required but does help us prepare for the number of attendees.

For questions, please email info@sweatmorinhomestead.org.

Undercover Extremism

My articles, so far, have been about what we can do on issues like expanding health care access and lowering costs; helping the development of businesses old (farming) and new (drones); lowering crime, and taxes. Today I want to focus on one of the core reasons that business does not get done efficiently in Augusta, and that is the extremism brought on by interest groups, and parties.



There is a lot of money being spent on national elections, and it makes it hard to concentrate on the State level, but I would like to expose some of the extremism hiding in plain sight on the ballot this election. And remind you in District 141 you have a moderate choice.

From the left...

PLANNED PARENTHOOD – I support Roe vs Wade level of choice for women, so I thought that a PP endorsement would be something that made sense for my campaign. BUT. That was not what they were asking me to commit to at all. To get that Planned Parenthood endorsement you MUST COMMIT to:

- Transgender treatment including surgery on minors
 - No restrictions on EXPANDING care for non-citizens, not present legally.
- Do not let someone try to back out of it, I applied for the same endorsement, and a lady named Lisa calls you up and presses you on both issues.

EQUALITY MAINE – Honestly thought I had this one in the bag until I got the questionnaire. There purview had greatly expanded since the days of gay marriage. To get the Equality Maine endorsement you MUST COMMIT to:

- Post-pubescent males on girls sports teams, locker rooms, and bathrooms in schools. That was one of EQME’s must haves.
- I am a big supporter of education, because I think it is essential. It also is a way where federal money comes into a community. But, the Maine Education Association wants a
- Commitment to allowing schools to administer health care without the parents consent.

From the Right...

The State of Maine Republican Party has a Platform that they update regularly. They expect that people running under that banner are committing too. They can talk about their free will, and voting their mind, but to get backing from the party at some point they had a conversation where they committed to the priorities that the party has laid out. In Maine those priorities include:

- Banning Abortion COMPLETELY.
- Platform - Part VI item 11: “Sanctity of human life - from conception to natural death – No clause about rape, no clause about incest, no clause to save the mother. Full stop
- Banning Gay Marriage ENTIRELY
- Platform - Part VI item 9: Recognizing the definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman”. Nothing about civil unions even, just back in time.

- Undercutting unions across the public and private sector and calling it economic growth

Platform - Part IV item 5: “Enacting “Right to Work” laws to better stimulate economic growth.”

This is a far cry from the first thing that needs to be done to draw business to Maine.

The problem is two-fold

First, is simply that many of us just do not hold these extreme positions.

Secondly, is that these are the money makers. These are the issues that go out in fundraising mailers, and the issues that get the facebook posts. They are the wedge issues that parties like to drive. They are the issues that bring about the whole dog and pony show each session in Augusta, where each party caters to their special interest groups, by debating these same select ideas perennially. Part of that process is to submit dozens of pieces of contentious legislation, just for the point of showing that they can be contentious, when they should be doing the business of Maine. The solution is electing people who refuse to cater the most extreme positions.

District 141 has a choice with - no party enrollment, and independent thinking. With me you will not have to make some of the uncomfortable, or even insane compromises that these extreme positions cause to be on the ballot.

- You do not have to allow young men on your daughters team to protect the environment,
 - You do not have to completely give up a woman’s agency over her body to protect the First, Second, and Tenth Amendments.
- More good news, I am not alone.
- There are 14 Districts with a non-party candidate in this year’s legislature.
 - Over 50 of the candidates will be rookies this session.

- Rick Bennett is a strong Independent choice for Governor. I have never met the man, but he had me at math. His website has actual plans, and actual facts and figures.

- At the County level there is a strong Independent candidate for Sheriff.

And the last really important bit of good news. We can make a difference. The current legislature of 151 seats is broken down 75 Dems 73 Rep and 3 other. Math works out that we only need one or two more ‘other’, and either party will need a moderate approach to govern.

- That means:
- No more jamming bloated budgets along party lines
 - No more looming threats of constitutional changes for party gamesmanship
 - No more staying in their own sandboxes and refusing to play with the other party(s).

My name is David Mongeau, and I would ask you to do more than just dream about the idea of a better functioning government in Maine this year. Make it happen.

District 141 was won by 1 vote last year. If you want an Independent Representative, let’s Go!!

I am knocking on doors all over the District daily. Please take a minute to say hello.

DAVID R. MONGEAU • Candidate State Legislature District 141
Email: votefordave141@gmail.com • 207-432-4552
Learn more at www.votefordave141.com

POLITICAL AD PAID FOR BY MCEA FUNDS

Contact me with any state related questions.

(207) 283-5729

John.eder@maine.legislature.gov

REPRESENTATIVE

JOHN EDER

LYMAN, ALFRED & WATERBORO



Rotary Club launches new grant program

York County nonprofits have a new opportunity to access funding to help them pursue their missions. The Rotary Club of Ogunquit is pleased to announce its new Community Impact Grants program, with the initial round of grant applications due Nov. 15, and awards announced and funded in January.

Ogunquit Rotary will award Community Impact Grants each year in one or more of four categories that are priorities to Ogunquit Rotary club members: Mental Health, Food Insecurity, Families/Kids/Seniors, and Environmental Sustainability. Typically, the maximum grant award will be \$1,000.

Any 501c3 nonprofit organization based in or providing services in York County under one or more of the four priority categories is eligible to apply. A grant may be used for capital items, and special projects or services, and should be unique and innovative. Grant money will not be awarded to retire debt, for general operating expenses, or to duplicate established projects in the community.

The committee will evaluate each proposal based on its response to community issues, financial and community need, availability to the community as a whole or large segment in need, feasibility of accomplishment based on resources available, ability to improve community members' lives, and measurable results.

For more info or to apply, visit ogunquitmerotary.org.

Maine's public universities offer \$250 scholarships to 24,500 Alfond Grant recipients

The University of Maine System is the most affordable in New England, and hopes the new scholarship will raise aspirations and help keep even more students in the state for college and their careers, consistent with Harold Alfond's vision

As part of broader efforts to keep more Maine students in the state for college and careers, the University of Maine System (UMS) will offer \$250 scholarships to 24,500 Alfond Grant recipients who are now in high school and even beginning to graduate, supporting their educational attainment and upward mobility while strengthening Maine's workforce.

Alfond Grant recipients born in the 2008 pilot year at Maine-General and those born statewide 2009-2012 who enroll at Maine's public universities are eligible for the one-time \$250 scholarship, which is being funded by the System, in large part using slot machine revenue it receives through the State.

Chancellor Dannel Malloy announced the new incentive last night at a celebration hosted by the Alfond Scholarship Foundation at the University of Maine at Augusta to mark the first Alfond Grant recipients starting higher

education this fall.

"We want young people in this state to see a pathway to college, Maine careers and success through our excellent public universities," said Chancellor Malloy. "While our System is already the most affordable in the region, this additional scholarship builds on Harold Alfond's incredible legacy and makes our public universities and upward mobility even more accessible to Maine families. We believe this is a win-win-win that strengthens student opportunities, enrollment at our public institutions, and the state's employers and economy."

Amid the most difficult demographics for higher education in the nation and professional workforce shortages that are limiting economic growth and competitiveness, the scholarship is the System's latest effort to raise aspirations and encourage more of the state's high school students to earn door-opening degrees through Maine's public universities. Other initiatives include free early college, direct admission, credit for Jobs for Maine's Graduates microcredentials, new degree programs aligned with workforce needs, the most af-

fordable four-year tuition in New England and a free tuition guarantee for Pell-eligible Maine students at most UMS universities.

According to U.S. Department of Education data, the Northeast is experiencing the nation's steepest decline in high school graduates, and Maine's graduating class is shrinking faster than those in 45 other states.

"Eighteen years ago, the Alfond Grant helped to establish and encourage my family to make regular contributions to my college savings account, which is now helping me attend the University of Maine," said first-year Black Bear Jillian Boyden, who was born in 2008 in Waterville and is among the pilot recipients. "I am grateful to Mr. Alfond and my family for investing in my brighter future. I couldn't be happier with my choice to attend the state's flagship university and I hope other Alfond Grant recipients take advantage of this added benefit to enroll in Maine's public universities, where the dollars they saved will go even further toward their higher education."

System leaders have additionally committed to promoting the scholarship to high school stu-

dents and to working with the Alfond Scholarship Foundation and the Harold Alfond Foundation — which is investing \$320 million in Maine's public universities to improve student success and Maine's workforce and economy through UMS TRANSFORMS — to support students with Alfond Grants born in 2013 and later and encourage their families to save for higher education.

Maine's public universities are the most affordable in New England, with about 30% of undergraduates paying nothing out of pocket for tuition and mandatory fees. More than 40% of System undergraduates are considered first-generation students and their bachelor's degree attainment rate is more than double the national average for this population. Working-age alumni of its flagship UMaine earn more than two times the state's median earnings. In the last decade, UMS has awarded more than 60,000 door-opening degrees and certificates, led by those in majors most aligned with the state's workforce needs, including business, education, healthcare, liberal arts, and engineering and computing.

LETTERS

Daylight Savings Time

There is something terribly wrong with our government.

So far, venting our dissatisfaction still seems to be legal which I'm doing.

Setting aside the many issues with Donald Trump, Congress itself appears to be dysfunctional.

For something as simple as removing the twice-a-year time changes, they can't even do that.

Locking in to year-round Daylight Savings Time, would functionally place Maine in the Atlantic Time Zone, where it should be.

The House passed the legislation, but it's hung up in the Senate, because one individual is keeping it in Committee Review and away from a vote. Now Congress won't reconvene until Nov. 3, and clocks will have to be set back on Nov. 1.

This legislation should be allowed to be voted on and let the majority decide!

— John Lemire
North Waterboro

Tilburg for District 137 State Rep

I have gotten to know Charles Tilburg while driving him around to meet and talk with people in my district. He's an engineer - a problem-solver! He will work across the aisle and get things done. Charles is devoted to family; education; the environment; and affordability. He has a way with people and can engage with them on multiple levels. I have watched him with people who agree with him and with people who don't. He is equally interested in them and is able to communicate and have them open up to him. He approaches everyone

with grace and respect and all with a good sense of humor. He is exactly the type of person I want to represent me in Augusta!

— Doris Luther
Hollis

TOWN OF ALFRED PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Tuesday, October 20, 2026 — 6:00 P.M. Alfred Town Hall

The **Alfred Board of Selectmen** will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. to receive public comment on the following matter:
As a result of a citizen petition, voters will consider the following question:

Article #__: Video and Audio Recording of Alfred Town Meetings and Board Meetings

Shall the Town of Alfred vote to:

Require that the following meetings and public hearings be electronically video and audio recorded and that such recordings be retained and made accessible to the public for live and on-demand viewing pursuant to Title 1 Maine Revised Statutes § 403:

- The Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meetings
 - Select Board Meetings and Select Board Public Hearings
 - Planning Board Meetings and Planning Board Public Hearings
 - Zoning Board of Appeals Meetings and Zoning Board of Appeals Public Hearings, **AND**;
- Appropriate \$5,950.00 from the Town's Unassigned Fund to implement the services to electronically video and audio record the following meetings, including the services to retain such records, and the services to provide the public's live viewing and on-demand access to such recordings, starting January 1, 2027.

This will be voted on at the November Election, Tuesday, November 3, 2026 – Secret Ballot Referendum. The public is invited to attend and provide comments.

Alfred Board of Selectmen – Town of Alfred, Maine

TOWN OF LYMAN PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

11 SOUTH WATERBORO ROAD, LYMAN MAINE 04002
207-247-0648 www.lyman-me.gov

The **PLANNING BOARD** will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** on **Wednesday, October 21st, 2026, at 6:00 PM** at Lyman Town Hall, 11 South Waterboro Road.

This **Public Hearing** is to allow public comments regarding the site plan review application of **Craig Larochelle of Larochelle Sheds, 1354 Alfred Road Map 12 Lot 013-1**. The hearing will address a change of use to create a medical Marijuana Dispensary and grow in the existing business building. Copies of the application and plans can be viewed in the Code Office during regular business hours

Write to us!



Send your letters, recipes, photos, poems & stories to:
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Please include name, town and phone number (for verification).

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no political letters published on Oct. 29, the issue prior to the Nov. 3 election. Political letters run as space allows. The opinions expressed on these pages are not necessarily those of the Reporter or its contributors.

FROM THE YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Looking for work? Maine Hire-A-Vet event is Oct. 15 in Alfred

Veterans and others looking for work can meet and chat with dozens of prospective employers all at one central location at an upcoming Hire-A-Vet event on Oct. 15.

As of now, about 60 employers will be featured at the event, set for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15 at the York County Regional Training Center in Alfred, said Veteran Representative Bradley Bean of the Maine Department of Labor.

Bean, himself a U S Navy veteran, said there will be employers from “virtually every field,” from law enforcement to medical, trucking, industry, janitorial, and state, federal and other governmental positions, and more.

Several employers, like York County government, among others, will feature opportunities close to home:

“The qualities veterans developed in the military, like leadership, teamwork, and staying calm under pressure, are exactly what we look for in our deputies and correctional officers at York County Sheriff’s Office,” said Jennifer Elwell of the York County government human resources department. “We’re also excited to share opportunities with our new Integrated Medical and Behavioral Health Division, which provides medical care and recovery services in our jail and the new York County Recovery Center, which is set to open early

next year. Veterans with medical or healthcare experience, like medics and corpsmen, would be a tremendous fit.”

The event is open to all, with a focus on veterans.

“We have had over 2,200 veterans hired since Maine Hire-A-Vet commenced in 2015,” said Bean of the program.

Why hire a veteran?

“Veterans are typically reliable, punctual, easily trainable, come with tons of soft skills, and most have supervisor experience,” said Bean.

“We welcome veteran and non-veteran job seekers and the 60 or more employers to our York County Regional Training Center,” said its director, Roger Hooper. “We’re happy to provide this central location where folks can explore employment options and employers can showcase opportunities and chat with prospective employees.”

So far this year, there have been Hire-A-Vet events in Augusta and Bangor. In addition to the Oct. 15 event in York County, the last Hire-A-Vet of the year will be scheduled for Norway.

York County Regional Training Center is reached by taking Layman Way off Route 4 in Alfred, followed by a right onto First County Way – the training center is at the far end.

– By Tammy Wells,
York County government media



If you are a veteran – or not – and looking for new employment opportunities, the Maine Hire-A-Vet job and resource event, sporting 60 or more employers, takes place 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15 at York County Regional Training Center, 79 First County Way in Alfred. While the event has a veteran focus, Maine Department of Labor officials say all job seekers are welcome.

PHOTO COURTESY MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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- ★ Protecting our seniors and veterans
- ★ Making sure local businesses survive
- ★ Controlling unnecessary spending in Maine
- ★ Protecting our rural way of life
- ★ Expanding property tax relief



It's time to enjoy the outdoor heritage Maine has to offer. From late August to October, Maine apple orchards open their gates for families to pick your own apples. These orchards are local, family-owned businesses that need your support to survive and to continue the centuries-old tradition that connects the local community to the land. I encourage all families to spend a few hours enjoying a tradition that your family will cherish forever.

PLEASE BUY LOCAL!



I will work hard to solve the challenges that Senate District 22 and the State of Maine face. Being honest and straight forward will always be my mission.

I would be honored to earn your vote.

Thanks, Kim



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Joanne Bargioni

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Appreciation BBQ

The Town of Shapleigh hosted its annual Volunteer Appreciation BBQ on Friday, Oct. 2, welcoming local volunteers to the Shapleigh Community Center at 24 Back Road for an evening of food, gratitude, and community spirit.

The day began with rain, but by afternoon the skies cleared, allowing organizers to set up the grill outside the community center. Selectman Tom Small manned the grill, cooking hot dogs, hamburgers, and cheeseburgers as volunteers arrived at 5:30 p.m.

Inside, every seat was filled with volunteers who were eager to enjoy the evening together. Guests made their way around a well-stocked food table, featuring pulled pork, hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans, potato salad, and a selection of desserts. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming, with neighbors sharing stories and enjoying the chance to connect.

Each volunteer received a special notebook printed with the message “May you be proud of the work you do, the person you are, and the difference you make.”

The gift served as a heartfelt reminder of how much the town values the time, energy, and dedication its volunteers contribute throughout the year.

The appreciation BBQ was a cheerful, meaningful event that gave volunteers a chance to relax, enjoy good food, and feel recognized for their efforts. The smiling faces made it clear the evening was both enjoyable and deeply appreciated.

Tanya Mills appointed new Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Tanya Mills was appointed as the new Shapleigh Town Clerk/Tax Collector on Sept. 11. Mills has been employed as the Deputy Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector for three years and replaces the outgoing Town Clerk, Kayla Moulton, following her resignation. The Clerk’s office is accepting applications for the filling of the deputy role. For more information, please reach out to the town clerk or visit the town website for information at shapleigh.net/operating_hours/job_openings.



Selectman Tom Small grilled hot dogs and hamburgers for the Shapleigh Appreciation BBQ in honor of the town’s volunteers. PHOTO BY JOANNE BARGIONI

JIM BROWN
(Continued from page 1)

hands-on, encouraging, and full of humor, sharing stories that stayed with him throughout his life.

Tom Nash, another former student who had visited Mr. Brown shortly before his passing, spoke through tears. He read quotes that captured Mr. Brown’s character, including his belief that he cared for each student and the sentiment many shared: he was the best teacher.

Robert Powers then took the podium. A former RSU 57 supervisor who first met Jim in 1959 at teachers’ college. He recalled inviting him to work at Shapleigh Memorial School. He spoke warmly of his popularity, kindness, and a memorable golfing story that occurred at Salmon Falls, where a lucky bounce placed Jim’s golf ball near the green after a terrible shot. Powers described Jim as a “great friend, colleague and person.”

Bob Dyer, a fellow teacher who met Jim at Shapleigh Memorial School, shared that Jim offered guidance in teaching and in life, and that they shared a love of golf that strengthened their friendship. Dyer describes Jim as “number one in his life and a gift to humanity.”

After the speakers finished, Eric returned to the podium to thank everyone. He invited attendees to enjoy refreshments, walk through Shapleigh Commons, and take part in a tree-planting ceremony in Jim’s honor on the Commons, a lasting tribute to the man whose vision helped bring the park to life.

October is Raptor Month

Let’s talk about the fastest animal on Earth

The peregrine falcon can reach speeds over 200mph but recovery of this Endangered species has been a slow and steady journey.

Peregrines were absent from our state for over 30 years due to negative effects from the (now banned) pesticide DDT. Since re-introduction in the 1980s, a small breeding population has reestablished, successfully nesting on both natural cliffs and in urban environments such as quarries, bridges, buildings, and towers. The population remains vulnerable due to modest numbers and sensitivity to disturbance during the breeding season (March through August).

Last year, 26 pairs and 11 individual peregrine falcons were documented in Maine.

- 20 successful nests (9 on natural cliffs, 11 on human-made structures)
- 44 chicks hatched (35 reached fledgling age, 20 observed in flight)

Productivity is stable, but disturbance, signs of population stress, and recent declines in other states underscore that our work isn’t done. Rebuilding a population takes time and collaboration.

Managing sensitivity to nesting disturbance across diverse sites remains a constant challenge. When nest locations are identified, proactive, site-specific conservation strategies are developed to reduce disturbance risks, protect human safety, and promote nesting success.

From disturbance mitigation to breeding season surveys,

mortality tracking, banding, and more; explore how we keep this raptor’s recovery moving forward in the latest Peregrine Report.

More ways to celebrate Raptor Month

- Contribute to MDIFW Raptor Program efforts by reporting observations of golden eagles, American goshawks (March through July), and American kestrels. You can also report observations of any raptors to Maine eBird.
- Participate in the Maine Golden Eagle Study.
- Follow us on Facebook and Instagram stay tuned for upcoming opportunities to help American kestrels through community



Peregrine falcon. COURTESY PHOTO

science and nest boxes.

- Learn about Maine bald eagle recovery, one of Maine’s best conservation success stories.

– From the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

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BUSINESS NEWS

Sanford-Springvale Chamber says “Huzzah!” to the past year

The Sanford-Springvale Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual meeting and banquet recently with nearly seventy members in attendance. The evening’s theme was ‘The Renaissance,’ focused on the rebirth and forward progress that the Chamber has experienced in the last year, as well as the economic growth that its businesses are seeing.

“Sanford is priming itself for increased growth in the near future including work on our infrastructure with the three-year RAISE grant that the city is managing. We have new housing developments for a variety of economic classes being built, as well as grants and revolving credits that our downtown business owners can take advantage of for improvements and growth. All of these elements work together to improve the economics of the city at large,” said Cari Quater, President and Executive Director of the Chamber.

Over the course of the evening, five awards were given out by the Chamber. Karen Staples from the American Legion Post #19 was recognized as Ambassador of the Year as a new and active volunteer for the Chamber. Kate Waterhouse, owner of Cruisin’ Infusions, was awarded the Spirit of the Chamber award for her community service and Chamber involvement. Andy Austin of 104.3 The Goat was given the President’s Award for his support and advocacy for the Chamber and for the business community in Sanford.

The Chamber celebrated Brett Williams and the Sanford Performing Arts Center as the “York County Conversations” Episode of the Year. The radio show airs on 104.3 The GOAT Sunday mornings at 7am, with Quater and Austin bringing in businesses and non-profits in the community as guests.

Habitat for Humanity was celebrated as Non-Profit of the Year in recognition of its five completed houses in Springvale, and the five upcoming houses to be built in Sanford. “Through partnering with homeowners on lower-interest housing, Habitat for Humanity is giving individuals and families a chance for homeownership that might not have been possible. They are invested in our Sanford/Springvale community, and we are excited to have them as community partners,” said Quater at the ceremony.

The keynote speaker was Ed Hodgdon, Executive Director of The Maine Beaches Association, the regional tourism group for York County. He spoke about the unique outdoor experiences that

Sanford already has in place, such as trails, ponds, and lakes, that could be used to attract visitors to spend their day in Sanford, contributing their dollars to the economy of the city through food and retail purchases.

“We invited Ed here to speak about the role Sanford can play in tourism on the west side of 95. We began planting the seeds this summer with our “Explore Sanford” initiative by adding new pages on our website, and creating rack cards which were distributed throughout the city as well as at the other Chambers of Commerce,” Quater explained. “As the downtown continues to grow, we need to be purposeful in getting the word out to coastal visitors that Sanford has recreational and cultural experience to offer. The Chamber will play a large role in getting that message out in the next few years.”

The Chamber also revealed its new logo, which represents the three areas of the city under a cheery blue sky. It features a generic manufacturing building for South Sanford, the historic Brown Building in downtown Sanford, and the former Springvale National Bank building in Springvale. Special to the logo is a nod to the city’s love of lampposts, as well as a single sidewalk uniting the three parts of Main Street as one. The red that is used is the same red as the previous “S” logo, and a mid-tone orange was added as a nod to the tan business buildings on Main Street.

The Chamber thanks all of the corporate and table sponsors, ‘Dessert Dash’ donors, and guests for making the event a success. The event was hosted and catered by The Ridge Wedding & Event Venue/Above and Beyond Catering.



From left, Cari Quater, Chamber President, presents Brett Williams, Director of the Sanford Performing Arts Center, with his award for ‘Episode of the Year.’ COURTESY PHOTO BY SANFORD-SPRINGVALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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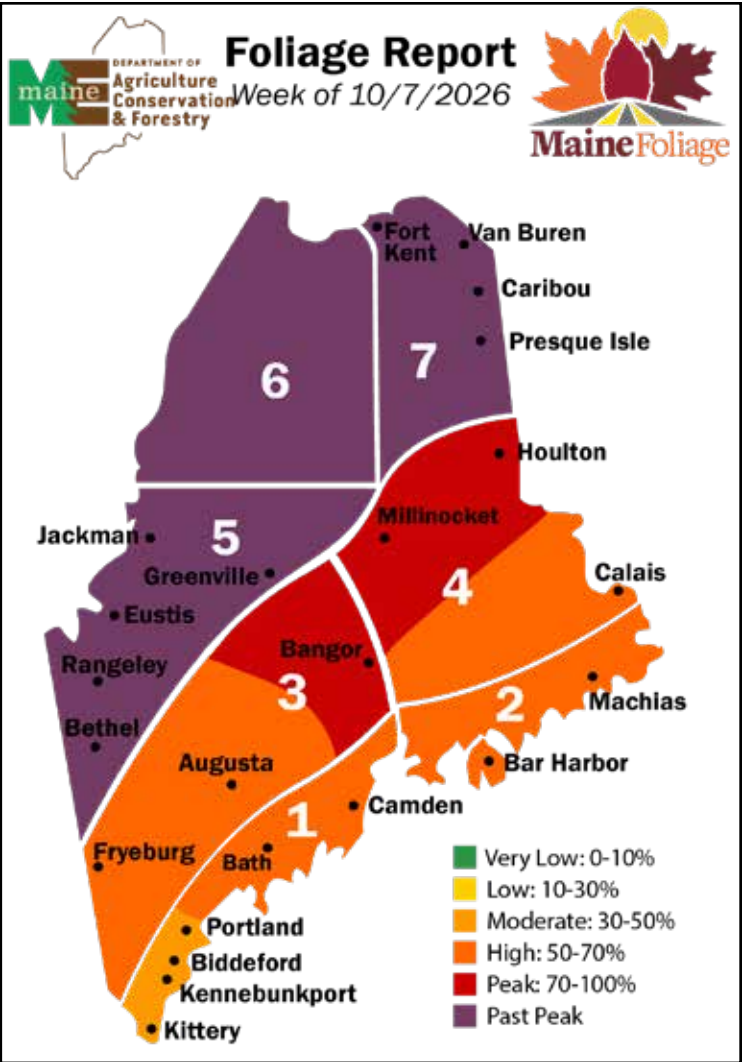
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WEEKLY SPECIALS

LUNCH SPECIALS READY IN THE WARMER BY 11 AM

DINNER SPECIALS READY IN THE WARMER BY 4 PM

MONDAY	LUNCH - AMERICAN CHOP SUEY \$8.00
	BBQ RIBS WITH WHITE RICE \$8.00
	SOUP - TRADITIONAL CHILI \$6.50
TUESDAY	LUNCH - SHEPHERD'S PIE \$9.00
	SOUP - PASTA FAGIOLI \$6.50
	DINNER - BANGERS & MASHED \$9.00
WEDNESDAY	LUNCH-BBQ TOPPED MEATLOAF DINNER SERVED W/ CORN & MASHED POTATOES \$9.00
	SOUP - WEEKLY ROTATING OPTIONS
	DINNER - CHICKEN ENCHILADAS \$8.50
THURSDAY	LUNCH - TRADITIONAL LASAGNA & CHICKEN SPINACH ALFREDO LASAGNA \$9.00
	SOUP - CORN CHOWDER \$6.25
	DINNER - POT ROAST W/ POTATOES & VEG \$10
FRIDAY	LUNCH - BBQ PULLED PORK SANDWICH \$6.25
	SOUP - FISH CHOWDER \$8
	MAC & CHEESE \$6.00
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SPORTS

FOOTBALL
Scots clip Eagles

Bonny Eagle got six touchdowns, two passing and four rushing, from quarterback Lucas Klehn to help lift them to an easy 42-6 win over host Windham on Friday, Oct. 2.

The Scots scored 21 points in the first quarter to effectively put the game in the win column and move them to 5-0 on the season. Klehn (98 yards) threw just five passes on the night while completing two, both for touchdowns. Benedito Noe and Wes Pinkham were on the receiving end. Bonny Eagle rolled for 231 yards on the ground with Klehn accounting for 143. Benjamin Havu added 76 yards on 10 carries. The Scots host unbeaten Oxford Hills next.

Mustangs edge
Knights

Massabesic moved its record to 4-1 after topping visiting Noble 14-7 on Friday, Oct. 2. Gavin Jipson caught a touchdown pass from Ayden Kirk and Dustin Maley took a toss-sweep 75 yards for a score. The Knights cut the lead to 14-7 with 10 minutes left in the game but Massabesic's defense, which allowed just 147 yards total, stood tall. The Mustangs visit South Portland (2-3) for their next contest.

VOLLEYBALL
Scots spike Tigers

Bonny Eagle survived an early scare from host Biddeford to post a 3-1 win on Tuesday, Oct. 6. The Tigers won the first set handily, 25-16, but the Scots pulled it together with wins in the next three sets: 25-20; 25-11, and 25-17.

Bonny Eagle captured a straight set win over host Yarmouth on Tuesday, Sept. 29. The Scots got stronger as the game went on. They won the first set 25-20, the next 25-18 and they closed the victory with a 25-16 win.

Mustangs fail to
navigate

Falmouth edged host Massabesic 3-2 in a back-and-forth affair on Thursday, Oct. 1. The Mustangs won the opening set 26-24, but the Navigators won the next two (25-17 and 25-18). Massabesic forced a fifth set with a 25-16 win in the fourth but Falmouth took the tiebreaker, 15-10, to grab the win. Ophelia Klausmeyer had an excellent night for the Mustangs with 19 kills. Paige MacAlpine had four aces and seven blocks in a contest loaded with lengthy rallies.

— By Mike Deangelis
Sports Writer



Lois May Doughty

Lois May Doughty, age 86, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026, at her home in Hollis.

She had COPD and other serious health-related issues. She had been in-home hospice for two years, unable to get out of her bed. She lived in her daughter Ina's home and was lovingly cared for by Ina and Stacy primarily. But many in her family came to help often, along with the hospice staff. MaryAnn made sure she always had fresh flowers because Grammy Doughty always told us to bring flowers for the living who can enjoy them.

She was born on June 16, 1940, in Boothbay, to Warren Sumner Doughty and Rita Elizabeth Doughty.

Lois graduated from Boothbay Harbor High. Married Maurice Rubin Sprague on Feb. 16, 1958, in Edgcomb. Then, after he passed away, re-married Frank Doughty on Aug. 9, 1992, in Buxton.

She worked at the Maddocks Packing Factory in Boothbay where she met Maurice, with whom she fell in love and married in 1958. She would tell her children stories about playing as a child in the Back Narrah's in Boothbay Harbor.

Lois also worked at a restaurant named Country Kitchen run by the Stanhope family. Later she worked at another restaurant named Two Trails in Standish. Later she worked at the Portland Fish factory and Barber Foods. Also, her and her husband Maurice raised many specialty breeds of hunting dogs. She was in the American Legion, women's auxiliary. And the VFW.

Lois loved to sing and play guitar and was very talented with any stringed instrument. She also sang in Maine country music awards. She sang with groups such as Elmer Larsen's Country Fever and Duke Knight and the Comancheros. Her love of music brought her to many bluegrass festivals, where she played and sang. She wrote many of her own songs also. She reached a goal of being able to go



Lois May Doughty

to the Grand Ole Opry to be able to listen there.

Lois loved to play card games. The one she played with her family at home, her mom and her dad, and her siblings was ROOK. She would fondly call her father the worm because he managed to win quite a bit.

She absolutely loved to play the game of cribbage. And she would win there quite a bit as well. Her children would remember her on road trips, reading off the license plate, and at the same time counting 15/2, 15/4, 15/6, and a pair is 8 and so on. She loved swimming outdoors and made it a point to be certain that each of her children learned how to swim.

Lois's husband Maurice and her oldest son-in-law Cliff went into the lobstering and crabbing business for work. She would pick out the meat and sell it to help feed the family. And with the leftover lobster meat that was in the bodies she would make the best lobster bisque ever.

Each year around Thanksgiving, she would start to bake pies. So many different kinds. Never wasting anything, she would take the leftover pie crust and make cinnamon rolls that were amazing. She would take the crust from the leftover bread and make the best bread pudding, and she could make so many other things that were just delicious.

One of the fun things that Lois did was drive in the Powderpuff Derby at Beach Ridge Speedway. Her car's name was "Bite You Bite You."

As you can guess, she loved to play her country music and have a good time and was always fun to be around.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Maurice Sprague, and her only son (Buddy), Maurice Sprague II. Then her second husband, Frank Doughty and one grandson, Christopher Mathon.

The birth order of Lois's children in order of birth was Rhonda, Buddy, Ina, MaryAnn, Suzie, and Stacy.

Her surviving relatives are her oldest daughter, Rhonda Ruby, and her husband, Cliff. Their children are Travis, Harry, and Nicholas Ruby, and great-grandchildren, Ezio, born to Travis and (mother Megan), and Kai and Rome with Millie and Travis Ruby (Megan). Kai, and Rome, (Milly Mother),

great-grandchildren are Nicholas and (Mary) who had Lucianna and Eva Ruby. Lisa Hall and her son, Michael. From her second marriage to Frank Doughty. (Buddy) Maurice Sprague, married Kathy also later Susan, but had the longest relationship was with Lisa Hill and her son, Donny. They were best friends until Buddy passed. Not long after, Donny also passed away.

Ina and (John Larson) had John Larson Jr. later In's married Phil Boulter. John Larson Jr. married Jen Larson and had two more great-grandchildren, John Larson the third, and Zoe Larson. Ina Boulter, who was married to Phil Boulter, had two girls, Anna and Joy Boulter. Anna had two children, Alanna Boulter and Zander Hodsdon.

We cannot forget Ina's niece, Kathline (Kat), and her husband, Mathew Wood. And her three boys that were Lois's extra "grandchildren." Kat helped care for Lois on many occasions. They all would fondly call Lois "Gram." As many did. Because she was a natural Grammy to many.

Then Daughter number three, MaryAnn Clay, her husband Jim Clay, and their two boys, Millard and Andrew Southwick, born from a previous marriage with Michael Southwick.

Jim had several children from a prior marriage as well.

Andrew's son, Rowan Southwick, another great-grandchild, and his mother, Ashlee White.

Previous marriage and then daughter number four, Susan Mathon (Suzie), and her husband, Bill Mathon, their children, Fredd Wright, born to Susan and Fredd Wright, a previous marriage.

They also had Christopher Mathon, then Ryan Thompson was with Bill Mathon and Maureen Thompson, prior to his marriage to Susan. Ryan Thompson and his fiancé, Stephanie Pelletier, and their daughter, Kynlee Thompson. Great grand child to Lois.

Then save the best for last, daughter number five, Stacy Leach, who was married to Chis Leach, and her children, Cassidy Leach and Austin Leach. Stacy cared for her mother, Lois, with Ina in their home for many years, helping her before she became bedbound.

Lois and her music and love will forever be in her family's hearts. Held close with all the warm, loving memories, songs, and good times.

Services for Lois will be held at Ina's house at 303 Plains Rd. Hollis Center, ME 04042 with the date and time to be announced later.

Instead of flowers, you can send a donation to the Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland, PO BOX 498, Westbrook, ME 04098

Arrangements have been entrusted to Chad E. Poitras Cremation and Funeral Service, Buxton, www.maineFuneral.com.

(More obituaries on page 11)

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Kerry DeAngelis . . . Publisher/Advertising Manager
ads@waterbororeporter.com

Joanne Bargioni Contributing Writer
Mike DeAngelis Sports Writer
Cynthia Matthews Contributing Writer

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RECOVERY

(Continued from page 1)

"Recovery gave me a life that I truly never thought was possible for me, and I hope someone who is struggling knows that their life can change for the better too," she said.

Now employed as housing director for a couple of women's recovery residences and as a recovery care navigator and an alcohol and drug counseling aide for a program for those with opioid disorders, she is doing what she can to bring long-term recovery to others.

Fitch, of the Biddeford area, dropped out of high school in 10th grade. Like others, she had dabbled in alcohol and marijuana use.

Then things changed. She was prescribed oxycodone after gall bladder surgery, and became enamored of it.

"Someone told me heroin could give a similar effect, and from there, one thing led to another," Fitch said in a September interview. "I began using heroin, and eventually I was using heroin and crack cocaine. Later fentanyl became a part of that as well."

Her use went on for two years. "Toward the end of using, I knew I didn't want to live life that anymore," she said. "I didn't like who I had become, and I didn't feel like myself. I knew I was ready for something different, but I honestly didn't know how to stop."

Fitch's recovery date is etched in her memory – June 13, 2019. A

year later, she began working at Shalom House in Portland.

"It taught me so much about mental health, and some residents were cooccurring with substance use," Fitch said. "I have worked in the field ever since."

The residential program she attended – the former Layman Way Recovery Center – was York County government's first foray into recovery services, and provided an alternative to jail for nonviolent offenders who were in the grip of substance use. The program was operated by York County Shelter Programs, Inc. through a contract with the county government. "That program really supported me," she said, and not only with the recovery piece – Fitch earned her high

school equivalency while there.

She also took advantage of a 12-step program, and continues to follow the steps.

"Ultimately I have that choice to stay sober and be the best version of myself; it lies within the person the ability to do well," she said.

Early next year, the York County Recovery Center is poised to open on First County Way, off Route 4 in Alfred. The 58-bed residential recovery center will sport a detox program, along with 30-day and 180-day residential components and an intensive outpatient program. Those with substance use issues will be able to apply.

Fitch said she's glad to see that happening – she's happy to

see more recovery services becoming available.

And she had these thoughts for folks considering recovery:

"Take suggestions from people willing to help, people who have been where you are," she said. "Really hear the words. It's one day at a time, so cliché, but it's true.....You don't have to have everything figured out, you just have to be willing to take that first step and accept help."

– By Tammy Wells,
York County government media

This is the first of a series of occasional articles focusing on recovery, ahead of the opening of the York County Recovery Center in the first quarter of 2027.

Obituaries

Elijah David Smith

Elijah David Smith, age 22, of Alfred, passed away tragically in the early morning hours of Sunday, Sept. 27 2026.

Elijah was born on Oct. 3, 2003 to Tammie Elwell Smith and Jeffrey Smith. After an expeditious 44 minutes of labor, he made his appearance on this earthly plane and he never once slowed down from that point. He was incredibly gifted at making others laugh, hurting himself, and being a really good brother. He could be forgiven for just about anything because he knew how to make people forget about any transgression with that infectious grin of his.

He was an incredibly hard worker, doing multiple jobs through his short life including cement work, food service, roofing, and being Mr. Fix It to anything and anyone that needed repair. He had a huge heart, and he was always willing to show up for the people in his life that mattered to him, no matter the circumstances.

He is predeceased by his Uncle Bud (Timothy Elwell) and brother Noah Abram, who was born sleeping.

He is survived by his loving girlfriend Phaedra Eggleston of Alfred; maternal grandparents Ellen and George Strickland of West Newfield; maternal grandfather Lloyd Elwell of Standish; paternal grandparents Cindy and John Smith of Shapleigh; his parents Tammie Elwell Smith of Parsonsfield and Jeffrey Smith of Shapleigh; Aunt Melanie Smith of Shapleigh; sisters, Maryellen Esposito of Hollis, Kayla Esposito of

Standish, Hanna Smith and Isabelle Smith of Limington, Avis Smith of Rochester, NH, and Heidi Smith of Sanford; his brothers, Johnathan Smith, Thaddeus Smith and Timothy Smith who reside with their mother in Parsonsfield; his nieces Willow, Kyran, Penelope and Peyton; nephews Henry and Callum; plus many friends, cousins and extended family members.

Elijah's celebration of life was held on his 23rd birthday, Oct. 3 at his maternal grandparents' home in West Newfield. Private family burial service will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made out to the gofundme <https://gofund.me/4ce1cfb24> meant to support his girlfriend Phaedra and her younger sister Bailey during this difficult time as Elijah was their main financial support.

Elijah was loved by everyone who knew him, even when he was difficult it was impossible to ignore the bright light that he cast out into the world. While he was only with us for just short of 23 years, he left an incredible impact on all who knew him. Rest in peace Elijah, you will be sorely missed.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Chad E. Poitras Cremation and Funeral Service, East Waterboro, www.maineFuneral.com

William Augustus Goodrich

William Augustus Goodrich Jr. of East Waterboro, born on Nov. 2, 1943, in Brockton, Massachusetts passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Sept. 29, 2026.

William was a devoted husband to his predeceased wife, Sally A. Goodrich, whom was the love of his life and best friend. He was also

the cherished father to Micheal Goodrich and his wife Denise, Denise Bailey and her husband Craig, Timothy Goodrich and his wife Pamela, Tricia Goodrich and her fiancé Tom Dube, Mandy Goodrich and her fiancé Jason Roy, and to his predeceased son Peter Goodrich.

He was a beloved grandfather (Bubba) to Brandon Goodrich and his wife Lindsey, Bryan Bailey and his fiancé Hannah Smith, Kathleen Boudreau and her husband Blake, Joshua Goodrich and his wife Rebekah, Kristin Ayotte and her fiancé Dylan Stiles, Morgan Ayotte and her fiancé Tim Dyer, William Goodrich, Cameron Goodrich, Elizabeth Goodrich, Ethan Roy, Sammy Roy and Morghan Roy. His great-grandchildren, Layla, Grace, Oliver, Maya, Corbin, Colton, Brantley and Mason. William also shared a deep family bond with Peter and Donna Roussin and their family members Victoria, Mark, John and Braylynn.

William was a machinist as a trade but could build just about anything with a hammer and nails! He loved working around the house, working outside with his wife Sally. The two would spend many nights cheering on their Boston Bruins and Red Sox!! He loved family barbeques and games of horseshoes, most favorite was sitting by the fire with the love of his life anytime of the day.

He had many adventures in his life which included family camping trips, fishing with his boys, trips to Labrador and trips to the casino. He was a rock and with Sally by his side, they were a mountain!!

He now joins the love of his life, their son Peter and other that passed before him his mom and dad.

William's strong but loving ways will be deeply missed, and we

learnt so much from him and how to be the best person we can be and live life to the fullest.

He will be missed, but now he is with the love of his life Sally and truly happy!

There will be a Celebration of Life for the both of them. In the near future and will be posted on social media when they become available.

Online condolences can be submitted at www.maineFuneral.com.

Zelene Denise Rondeau

Zelene Denise Rondeau, 74, of Limerick, passed away on Oct. 4, 2026, at Maine Medical Center surrounded by family.

Zelene was born in Biddeford and is the daughter of Irene Huff Keirstead and Gerard Lapierre and was the adopted daughter of James Huff.

She held a variety of occupations, including working at the former Dry Dock restaurant in Biddeford. Working and retiring from Cloverleaf in Brooksville, Florida.

In her retirement she settled comfortably in Limerick surrounded by her loving family. She enjoyed catching up with her grandsons and watching them develop into adulthood.

Zelene married Paul Rondeau in Biddeford on May 15, 1992. She is survived by her stepsons Paul Rondeau, Jr and Pete Rondeau; son, James Huff and her grandsons Jacob Powlesland and James Huff of Limerick; her niece, Cynthia Vermette and her husband

Dominic Vermette and their children, Jenna, Nicole, Miranda, and Anastasia Vermette of Limerick; her sisters, Lillian Babcock of Sanford; Claire Jacques of Hills Beach; Linda Fleming of Alfred and Julie May Parese of New York; her brothers Robert Therrien of Florida and Thomas Therrien of North Carolina and Jerry Lapierre of Biddeford and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews & cousins. She was pre-deceased by her beloved husband, Paul H. Rondeau; her father Gerard Lapierre; her adopted father James Huff; her mother Irene Huff Keirstead; and her sister Theresa Merrill Wood.

She was an avid NASCAR fan and enjoyed cheering on her favorite drivers and following the excitement of every race. Her passion for NASCAR was one of the many things that brought her happiness and gave her something to look forward to sharing with family and friends.

A memorial service to celebrate Zelene's life will be held on Thursday, Nov. 5 at 6 p.m. at the Chad E. Poitras Cremation and Funeral Service Chapel, 125 Sokokis Trail (Rt. 5) in East Waterboro.

Prayers and burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 6 at the Goodwins Mills Village Cemetery in Lyman.

Online condolences can be submitted at www.maineFuneral.com.

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