

REPORTER

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THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022

Flag and flower challenge

BY JOANNE BARGIONI

On Friday, April 15, Preston Sharp, founder of the Flag and Flower Challenge, arrived at the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery in Springvale. He founded the Challenge after his grandfather, a Naval veteran, died. Sharp realized that veterans like his grandfather weren't being honored as he wanted them to be, so at age 10, with his mother April's encouragement, he founded the Flag and Flower Challenge.

Since the Challenge began, Preston, now 16 years old from Redding, California, and a sophomore at Foothill High School, has participated in planting over 290,000 flags and flowers in 42 states, making Maine the 43rd state in which veterans have been

(Continued on page 5)



Preston Sharp, left, and Kevin Warden, member of the Southern Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery Association, plant flags at veterans' graves in Springvale on April 15. PHOTO BY JOANNE BARGIONI

New law will close out-of-state waste loophole

A bill to stop filling Maine's State-owned Juniper Ridge Landfill with out-of-state waste was signed into law on April 18 by Gov. Janet Mills. LD 1639 will close a loophole in the state's waste laws that had allowed private corporations to import construction and demolition waste from across New England and dump it in Maine.

"Maine people have spoken clearly and with conviction that they will not be treated as the dumping ground for the Northeast," said Ed Spencer of Don't Waste ME, a coalition of Maine people and citizens of the Penobscot Nation that led the campaign to fix the state's waste laws.

(Continued on page 4)

Bonny Eagle Chess team earns another trophy

BY CYNTHIA MATTHEWS

The Bonny Eagle High School Chess Team, under the direction of Oisín O'Searcoid, has made their mark in Maine Chess this year. "We've come a long way," O'Searcoid reported. The team won 2nd place this year in the Scholastic Grand Prix with the Maine Chess Association. The Grand Prix is a series of 10 tournaments, in which the total number of points (wins) accumulated from the top 5 scorers of each team for each tournament is tallied. Bonny Eagle had the second highest number of points (wins) over the course of the season, from October to March.

O'Searcoid has been coaching the Chess Club since 2014, beginning with a group at Bonny Eagle Middle School, then adding a High School Club. 2017 was the first year the High School team went to the State Championship. "We've made steady progress over the years," said O'Searcoid, "clearly building the program



Members of the Bonny Eagle Chess team, back row, from left, Asst Coach, Sam Bowers, Finley Whiting, Kevin Lin, Maximilian Matthews, Piotr Wojcik (Exchange student from Poland) and Coach Oisín O'Searcoid. Front row, from left, Nate Hamblin, Jaxson Sprowl, Connor Burnham and Sam Coldwell. Missing from the photo are Kaiden Tillman, Veronica Cote and Ash Worthington.

COURTESY PHOTO

year after year." O'Searcoid mentioned a student who was new to chess who joined the club in 7th grade, and by his Senior year, was one of the top 5 players in the state. "And we won States!" O'Searcoid added.

In 2020, the Bonny Eagle Middle School Team won the State Championship, just before everything shut down for Covid, and as a result, were not able to compete at Nationals, as they were canceled that year. "A lot of play-

ers couldn't play during Covid," O'Searcoid said. The Team held on during Covid, as O'Searcoid moved meetings and competitions to virtual platforms.

Many High School players came back this year, for in-person play. But this year, the Middle School program did not have a coach, as only a High School Coach was funded through the district, and has collapsed. But there are still Middle School students who want to play, and there is interest in chess at the Elementary School level, too. Students from Buxton Center, Steep Falls, George E Jack and Edna Libby played sporadically in tournaments throughout the season, and came in 3rd in the Grand Prix.

O'Searcoid reflected, "It's wonderful to have a group who enjoys playing chess, who wants to play, and shows up. The rest works itself out!" Assistant Coach Sam Bowers added, "I've been impressed by the continued attendance to Club meetings after the season is over."

O'Searcoid, who is leaving Bonny Eagle at the end of the month, changing professions, reflected on the last few years. "All my goals have been met," he said. "We won a State Championship, we have an Exchange Student on the team, and everyone has grown in learning the game...One of the most complicated games!"

This year, Piotr Wojcik, Exchange Student from Poland, joined the team. Wojcik played Chess in Poland, but not on a Team. "I learned a lot, made good friends," said Wojcik. "It made me more motivated to play, to learn on my own, to think about chess more." O'Searcoid asked if he might join the Polish Federation when he returns. "Maybe," Wojcik replied. "It is fun to compete with other people." Wojcik has played some chess with his Bonny Eagle host family, who has been very supportive. Maybe his host siblings will follow in his footsteps?

(Continued on page 4)

TRANSPARENCY
with Hollis Select Board member Mary Hoffman

ADVERTISEMENT PAID FOR AND APPROVED BY MARY HOFFMAN



Community CALENDAR

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

COMING EVENTS

“I HAVE QUESTIONS.”
Opportunity to ask questions regarding funeral arrangements; to better understand the process of planning, what you are paying for; after-care programs etc. Sponsored by Hope Memorial Chapel April 26 from 6:30-8 p.m. in the J. R. Martin Community Center Room 8, 189 Alfred Street, Biddeford. For more information regarding this free workshop, email Pamela at: pamela@hopememorial.com.

FIX-A-BIKE-WORKSHOP
Are you interested in being your own bike mechanic? Do you own a bike that needs some work? The Goodall Memorial Library, 952 Main Street in Sanford, will present a workshop on bicycle maintenance on April 30 at 10 a.m. for ages ten years to adult. A representative of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine will be there to

Saco River Theatre



Jennifer Porter and Gerald Davis star in 'Humble Boy'

THE ORIGINALS PRESENT HUMBLE BOY, a play by Charlotte Jones, April 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30 at the Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills. Tickets are \$15 and for sale online at www.sacorivertheatre.org.

demonstrate the basics and help you learn to fix and maintain your bike. You must sign up ahead for

this program as space is limited. The library telephone number is 324-4714.

BEAN SUPPER AT TROLLEY MUSEUM The Arundel Historical Society will host a Baked Bean and Pasta supper at the Trolley Museum, 196 Log Cabin Road, Arundel/Kennebunkport, on April 30 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. There will be two kinds of beans, hot dogs, American chop suey, salads, cornbread, drinks, coffee and delicious homemade desserts. Historical displays and July raffle calendar tickets will be available. Trolley rides are included as part of your supper ticket, so a good fun filled night will be had by all those who attend. Tickets are \$8/person and children under 5 are free. Take out will be available. All donations benefit the Arundel Historical Society.

TWO-DAY ART EXHIBIT called Acton and Shapleigh: Painting Stories featuring works by lo-

cal artist Sarah Louise Tremblay on Saturday and Sunday, April 30 and May 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day at the Society headquarters, 122 Emery Mills Road. Tremblay will feature original paintings based on iconic locations in Acton and Shapleigh. Tremblay plans on presenting a one-hour demonstration at noon on Saturday. You can visit her website at www.saralouisetremblay.com for more information. Sponsored by the Acton-Shapleigh Historical Society

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Tuesdays, May 3-June 21, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Hope Memorial Chapel, 480 Elm Street, Biddeford. For more info regarding this free workshop, email Deanne at: celebrant@hopememorial.com.

YORK COUNTY SHELTER PROGRAMS' BAKERY OPENING; VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Shaker Hill Bakery, the bakery operated by York County Shelter Programs, is opening on Thursday, May 5. The bakery will be open every Thursday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hours will increase during the summer. All proceeds from the bakery help fund YCSP. The bakery is in need of volunteers. If interested, contact Scott Davis at 324-1137 or scottd@yespi.org.

“CHOCOLATE SUNDAY” BUFFET Sunday, May 15 from 2-4 p.m. Route 160 North Parsonsfield at Parsonsfield Seminary (Par Sem). If you are a chocolate lover you will enjoy our “Chocolate Sunday” buffet Presented by “The Friends of ParSem” \$12 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.

AGE FRIENDLY BUXTON SPRING CLEAN UP DAY Sunday, May 15 from 9-11 a.m., rain or shine. Help our community -be part of our first annual Buxton Clean up Day! Our project

will begin at 9 a.m. at the Buxton Transfer Station. If possible, bring your own trash bag; Some will be available. We will then disperse to clean our own neighborhoods, leaving the bags at curbside for the regular pickup day. Sponsored by the newly formed AARP Aging in Buxton Team. Spread the news and bring a friend! Aginginbuxton@gmail.com for details.

FREE COMMUNITY PLANT EXCHANGE Saturday, May 21, (rain date May 28) from 9 a.m. until 12 noon in the parking lot of the Sanford Elks Club and the Trafton Senior Center located at 13 & 19 Elm Street in Sanford. Plant Drop off from 9-10:30 a.m. The exchange starts at 10:30 a.m. with first arrivals having the first choice. All plants must go before noon! Bring your extra plant divisions, seeds, seedlings, cuttings, and house plants. Exotic invasive plants in the State of Maine will not be accepted. For more info call Bridget at 267-261-2122.

PINE TREE STATE COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION is holding a special awards show May 22 at Skips lounge in Buxton at 1 p.m. An afternoon of great entertainment, dancing, great food, cash bar and presentation of several awards. Entertainment by Garry and friends band, Maine Ole' Opry members (Joe Smyth who is also Sawyer Brown drummer, Dennis Moro, Peter Allen, Deedee Record Allen and Bobby Le. Guest appearances also by Dennis Buzzell, Chris Floyd, Kathy and Buzz Vanadestine and Brian Plato. Admission at door is \$10 and advance tickets \$8. For advance tickets call Joan 490-1232, Dennis 418-8390 or Bobby 572-8620. Advance tickets can be held at door.

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AN ESSAY FROM ALFRED

Eliab Littlefield goes hunting

When my classmates and I graduated from high school back in the fifties, our choices of careers were slim. We could go to college if we had the funds (I didn't), go to work (there was always work available) or get married. None of these looked attractive so I went into nurses' training at Children's Hospital in Boston. My mother had started there but had to leave when her father died and the family business needed all hands to help in the family greenhouses and flower shop.

The first day was hectic. We had already been given physicals so they knew we were fit. Finding our way around was difficult - I had never lived in a city. But I soon became acquainted with classmates and learned that they were all as confused as I was. We each had our own room and quickly learned how to find the cafeteria and our classrooms. We also learned there was a drugstore down on the corner which supplied ice-cream and apple pie and whatever else you needed.

I soon became acquainted with Elda from New York City, Alice from Cape Cod, Betty from Vermont, Elaine from Maine, Amy from Florida, and others who became good friends. The curriculum included spending time in other hospitals which was part of our education. Three months at Boston Lying In left us with a good knowledge of maternity issues. Three months at Peter Bent Brigham gave us a handle on many adult issues. Some of those patients I will never forget, like Jo-Jo, the yo-yo man. Or the time the gypsies visited. The gypsy queen needed surgery and

the rule in the gypsy tribe was that the elders in the tribe had to watch the surgery on their queen! So they did, from the amphitheater overhead. As I recall, the surgery was an appendectomy. When we came off duty the gypsies were always eager to "cross our palms with silver" and tell us our fortunes. They camped on the benches at the hospital entrance, washed diapers in the sinks and hung them to dry on the radiators! That was where I met my future husband who was working his way through college by working in the hospital.

In Vermont I learned to ride a horse which meant I could hardly sit down for a week afterwards! We went to the beach on Cape Cod, and visited Plymouth Rock. When visiting Elda we learned exactly what living in a high rise was like. Elda took us to Rockefeller Center where we saw the Rockettes perform - Wow! Three months at McLean Psychiatric gave us a good understanding of psychiatric issues. At that time it was felt electric shock could cure a patient of her problems. The patient didn't have much to say in the matter. I remember Big Annie, who became increasingly nervous before her shock treatment. I was with her in the waiting room when she finally just picked up a stack of magazines and whacked me over the head with them! I didn't blame her! I was near McLean many years later and noted

with interest the patients had much more freedom on the grounds than they did when I was a student nurse there.

We all managed to graduate and many of us specialized in different aspects of nursing. I spent a year working at Boston Lying In before getting married and moving to Virginia (my husband was still in the service) where I received a different kind of education because it was before integration. We had saved enough to purchase a farm in Maine and were fortunate to find one that just suited us. I kept in touch with former classmates but slowly time and health issues intervened. Alice, Elda, and Amy died. We visited Betty one weekend in Vermont but then lost contact. We decided to make another visit but there was no response when we contacted the address.

Our daughter, who works for a large insurance company (scanning medical records), said there was no one at that address. She might be in a nursing home? Or maybe staying with a family member? She decided to make another try, and contacted the town clerk in that community. That is where she found her, staying with her daughter! I was more than pleased. The telephone rang and a familiar voice said "Finchie?" (My nickname.) The mystery was solved. We plan to visit as soon as we can manage it! We will have lots to talk about.

- By Allison Williams

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

Write to us at: news@waterboro reporter.com

Maine Pottery Tour April 30-May 1

Springtime in Maine can mean daffodils or snow, and sometimes both, but the first weekend in May has meant the Maine Pottery Tour for a decade. The 10th annual Maine Pottery Tour welcomes visitors on Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1. The self-guided Tour is an opportunity to enjoy spring in Vacationland and the hospitality of local potters in their studios. Eagerly anticipated by all who enjoy handmade pottery, as well as anyone looking for a special and unique Mother's Day gift.

Nearly 60 pottery studios around the state are organized into 4 regions, allowing several studios to be visited in a single outing. It's a fun chance to meet the artists, peek in the kilns, see demonstrations, and shop for pottery and other handmade goods. Interactive maps of each region are available at MainePottery-Tour.org.

The tour's goal is to make people aware of the potters in the state and to cultivate an appreciation and affection for handmade pots. Because of the tour, eating, drinking, and serving from one-of-a-kind plates, mugs, bowls, pitchers, platters and casseroles has become standard practice for large numbers of people. Once you drink morning coffee from a



Zwellyn Pottery in Limington is one of the local stops on the Maine Pottery Tour. COURTESY PHOTO

handmade mug, a production cup seems lackluster. Pots are uniquely intimate. What other art form do you raise to your lips, cradle in your hands, and trust with your food?

Don't need anything for the food and drink? You will be surprised and delighted by the artists who sculpt, make tiles, vases, planters and other visual treats.

It's amazing what a lump of clay can do, in the right hands.

Funded in part by a grant from the Maine Arts Commission, an independent state agency supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

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ATTENTION HOLLIS RESIDENTS:
TRANSPARENCY
with Hollis Select Board member Mary Hoffman
TRANSPARENCY is defined as the condition of being transparent.
TRANSPARENT is defined as having thoughts, feelings, or motives that are easily perceived.

My lawyer that I had back in 2011 called me to let me know that someone in Hollis had been looking at my file when I was a nurse. The information in the file is transparent. I was accused of not following procedure, not following physician orders, and being unprofessional in my interaction with patients. That accusation rocked my world. As I waited to meet with the Department of Nursing, I decided that if individuals were able to make accusations so easily that nursing was not for me.

Two years later, the Board of Nursing decided to review my case and despite having witnesses to the event and character witnesses decided that anything that I said was not true. My lawyer said at the time that based on the input from colleagues, physicians, and others that I could take the case to court and win but that it would be a very costly venture. Anywhere between \$25,000 to \$50,000. Instead of wasting the money, I signed a consent agreement for probation that specifically listed out what I was accused of and what I had to do to get my license back without any conditions.

Having a family meeting with my brothers and sister as well as my father, I decided that I wanted to spend quality time with my father- travel with him, go up to camp, and visit relatives. I quit nursing and never looked back.

During COVID, I worked as a volunteer in Sanford checking patients in to the clinic. There are many other issues that were going on with my supervisors in 2011. But with the legal advice that was provided, I decided to move on with my life and let the accusations stay on my permanent record.

I firmly believe that this had nothing to do with my running for a Select Board position in the Town of Hollis. I had nothing to hide and the accusation was never raised or asked. Unfortunately, I did not bring the issue to the forefront.

If anyone would like to talk to me about it, please contact me at the Town Office and I will be glad to set up a private time to discuss the issue with you. I do not like to have anyone feeling that it can and should affect my decision making as a Select Board member.

In the interest of transparency and because the whole episode still upsets me greatly, I wanted to let the residents of Hollis for whom I serve know about the issue. Hopefully, this will not influence what you think of me and will not be able to be used as ammunition for an outcome that I am not aware of. **I thank you sincerely for listening.**

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A call from Maine to extend lobster gear deadline

Scarcity of required gear is making it extremely difficult for lobstermen to meet the May 1st deadline

With new federal regulations fast approaching and supply chain challenges delaying access to key materials, U.S. Senators Susan Collins and Angus King, Representatives Chellie Pingree and Jared Golden, and Governor Janet Mills are urging the Biden administration to give Maine lobstermen and women more time to comply with updated gear rules. In a letter to Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo, the Maine lawmakers request a delay in the implementation of part of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) new Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan (ALWTRP) rule that requires weak points in lobster lines, highlight the supply chain and availability issues facing lobstermen who are trying to acquire the required gear, and stress that the current deadline puts the lobster industry in what the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy described as an "impossible scenario."

The letter calls for the implementation date for gear conversion to be postponed two months from May 1, 2022, to July 1, 2022. According

to NMFS' own data, changing the compliance date to July 1 would result in a potential increase in risk to whales of just 0.9 percent. On the other hand, failure to delay the rule will cost Maine's lobstermen \$7.3 million, which could pose a significant economic threat to the small businesses that power this industry.

"We are providing an update on the supply chain and availability issues related to the requirements of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) new Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan (ALWTRP) rule and requesting that you reconsider a modest delay in implementation of a component of this rule," said the Maine Delegation and Governor Mills. "The continued scarcity of required gear is making it increasingly unlikely that fishermen, despite their best efforts and those of suppliers, will be able to achieve timely compliance."

"In good faith, lobstermen have been seeking out the necessary supplies required to modify their gear by the May 1st deadline, and suppliers have been hard at work trying to meet the demand," the Maine Delegation and Governor Mills continued. "Once again, we ask you to urge NMFS to extend the compliance date to July 1, 2022 in light of the operational realities of the supply chain and with less than six weeks from the

implementation date."

"This reasonable request is supported by the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy, which asserted in a March 3 letter to you that the agency was putting fishermen 'in an impossible scenario', and 'if they are not granted a short delay of the compliance deadline, they may stand to lose significant amounts of revenue, or in some instances their entire business,'" the Maine Delegation and Governor Mills concluded. "We could not agree more with the objective assessment."

The Maine Delegation and Governor Mills have been steadfastly opposed to undue burdens that would threaten the lobster fishery without meaningfully protecting whales. Following the release of the final rule in late August 2021, the Maine Delegation and Governor Mills issued a statement in opposition to the rule and highlighting the Maine lobster fishery's record of repeatedly making significant improvements to their practices and modifications to their gear to protect right whales. In October 2021, they wrote to Secretary Raimondo to urge her to rescind the rule, and in February 2022 called for a postponement of the rule due to difficulties lobstermen were having obtaining the necessary gear.

LANDFILL

(Continued from page 1)

"Changes like this are necessary if Maine is to truly lead us on a less wasteful path that diminishes the danger and damage from climate change."

"This is a massive victory and the culmination of years of organizing by communities directly impacted by the Juniper Ridge Landfill," said Dana Colihan, the Maine State Director at Community Action Works. "We are thrilled to see the state finally begin to address the injustice this landfill has created."

"This update to Maine's waste laws will help make sure that our landfills are managed with the best interests of Maine communities in mind. It will never be okay for companies operating here to exploit Maine's environment for profit," said Sarah Nichols, Sustainable Maine Director at the Natural Resources Council of Maine.

Maine purchased the Juniper Ridge Landfill in Old Town to reserve the limited capacity for the needs of its residents, but because of the loophole one-third of the waste going into it each year is from surrounding states. In total, more than one million tons of waste generated in other states has been dumped in Juniper Ridge, equivalent to the weight of 10 aircraft carriers. As a result, the landfill is filling faster than anticipated, leaving less room for waste from Maine.

The billion-dollar waste corporation Casella Waste Systems tried unsuccessfully to block the bill because it had long been exploiting the loophole for profit while ignoring concerns from neighboring residents, the Penobscot Nation, and environmental groups. Casella holds the long-term contract to manage the Juniper Ridge Landfill.

LD 1639 was sponsored by Senator Anne Carney of Cumberland.

CHESS

(Continued from page 1)

"It has been fantastic watching you grow in a game I love," O'Searcoid told the Club on Tuesday at their end of season gathering, "and to see new faces come on board. It has been a real joy for me."

The team has 2 trophies on display at the school: 3rd Place in the 2021 Maine State Scholastic Team Championship; and 3rd place in the 2022 Webber Cup* High School Reserve Section. Their 2nd place Grand Prix Trophy will soon be added.

**The Webber Memorial Cup is a Chess Tournament hosted by Bonny Eagle, which honors Claude E Webber, a Standish native who served as a fighter pilot during World War II, flying a record 36 missions over Europe. Mr. Webber served the Bonny Eagle School district first as a teacher, and became the first principal of George E. Jack Elementary School. He held that position for 23 years. Mr. Webber passed away in 2015 at the age of 96, and the first Claude E Webber Memorial Cup was held in 2018. The Bonny Eagle Chess Club is proud to honor his memory in this annual event, held every year in March.*

Making it more affordable to become a health care worker in Maine – Gov. JANET T. MILLS

Our hospitals, nursing homes, and other members of the health care sector are one of Maine's largest employers. They put thousands of Maine people to work in good-paying jobs and they protect the lives and health of Maine people.

But for a long time now, health care facilities across the state have had to grapple with a shortage of workers. This shortage has been over a number of years, but the stress and the length of the pandemic only made that problem worse.

This week, I announced a new program through my Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan. It's called Healthcare Training for ME. It provides free and low-cost career training to make it easier and more affordable for people, especially young people, to pursue careers in health care and to move up the career ladder into higher-paying jobs.

We've created a website — www.maine.gov/healthcaretrainingforme — that website connects individuals and employers with training curricula from adult ed programs, and community colleges, and the university system. People can then apply for tuition assistance to enroll in training programs, or employers can offer training to their employees, at little or no cost.

This program will help healthcare workers advance their careers, and support workforce training needs of healthcare employers, and it will attract new workers to these fast-growing fields. It is funded by the federal American Rescue Plan Act, with support from the Harold Alfond Foundation.

My Administration is committed to supporting our hospitals and

nursing homes and other health care employers and to strengthening our health care workforce in the long-run. That's why we're also investing in scholarships and student loan relief for people in health care professions; also new recruitment efforts to encourage young people to enter careers in health care; and creating health care career navigators to direct people who are interested in health care fields to the right career path for them.

If you are a health care worker and you want additional training, or if you employ health care workers and want training for your staff, please visit maine.gov/healthcare-trainingforme to see a list of upcoming, free trainings..

—Originally aired as a radio address on April 14.

NOTICE
TOWN OF SHAPLEIGH
Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office
Please take note of change in hours of operation.
EFFECTIVE MAY 5, 2022:
THURSDAY EVENING HOURS WILL BE 4PM TO 7PM

GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR COMMUNITY!
The Town of Shapleigh needs involved citizens for the following boards and committees:
Assessing Board of Review
Community Day Committee
Forestry Committee
Zoning Board of Appeals
Conservation Commission
Fair Hearing Authority
Planning Board Alternate

If you are interested or need more information, contact the Town Administrator at townadmin@shapleigh.net or call 207-636-2843, ext. 0.



Town of Acton Public Notice
The Acton Planning Board is scheduling a **SITE WALK** for Saturday, April 30th, 2022 at 10am for Acton Sand & Gravel Pit
David J. Pepin Gravel, LLC H Road, MAP 220, LOT 007
Conditional Use for Mineral Extraction
For more detailed location, please contact the Land Use Secretary.
For more information, please call 636-3497 ext. 409

Town of Acton Siding Request for Proposals
The Select Board are currently seeking bids to complete the Siding on the Municipal Building. Please contact the Town Administrator for a copy of the request or it can be found online at www.actonmaine.org.
DEADLINE TO BID IS APRIL 27, 2022.

Town of Acton Public Notice
The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 6:00pm to Review the Proposed Amendments to the Town of Acton Zoning Ordinance to be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting on June 18, 2022. This meeting will be held in person at the Acton Town Hall, 35 H Road.
Copies of the proposed amendments are available at the Towns Clerk's Office or they can be viewed online at www.actonmaine.org.
For more information, please call 636-3497 ext. 409



Flags and flowers for veterans

Volunteers for the Flag and Flower Challenge at the Southern Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Springvale. PHOTO BY JOANNE BARGIONI

CEMETERY

(Continued from page 1)

honored in this way. A small group of people gathered at the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery to help plant the flags and flowers on the graves. The Flag and Flower Challenge involves getting a 12 x 18 in. American flag and a red carnation, to clean the stone if needed, and to place a flag and flower in front of the stone, then say the veteran's name

out loud and thank the veteran for their service. Sharp said we do this because "a veteran's name not said out loud, is a veteran forgotten." He would like people to take a picture of themselves by the stone showing the flag and flower and post the picture on social media with the #fandfchallenge.

The goal of Sharp and his mother is to travel through all of the 50 states in the US and to honor the veterans. Sometimes Sharp needs to take a little time

off school, but mainly he goes during vacation times or days off. From Springvale, he will be leaving the New England area, and he will be traveling to Indiana to plant the 44th flag. In attendance at the ceremony was Niall Breen, the Supervisor of Southern Maine Veterans Cemeteries from Freeport, and Melissa Willette, The Superintendent of Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery from Augusta. Also in attendance were the Southern Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery Association, the US Veterans Reserve Corps, and local supporters and veterans.

The Challenge is funded through donations. For more information, you can contact Sharp at prestonsharp.net.



Preston Sharp, left, addresses the volunteers at the cemetery with Ron Rivard, Secretary of the Association. PHOTO BY JOANNE BARGIONI

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TOWN OF WATERBORO

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Waterboro Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, May 4, 2022** for an application from Girard Farm for a Conditional Use for Horticultural Activities in the General Purpose Zone. The applicant requests approval for the facility located at 385 Main Street in East Waterboro.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC HEARING, THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE:

- Send in a letter to the Town of Waterboro Planning Board to: 24 Townhouse Rd, E. Waterboro, 04030
- E-mail ceosec@waterboro-me.gov with a letter or to receive information on how to participate via phone or video via Zoom.
- Attend in person at 24 Townhouse Road, E. Waterboro
- Call 207-247-6166 ext. 106 during the Public Hearing

Please contact the Department with any questions at ceosec@waterboro-me.gov or 207-247-6166 ext. 121.

DATE: Wednesday, May 4, 2022
TIME: Public Hearing 6:30PM
LOCATION: 24 Townhouse Road, E. Waterboro

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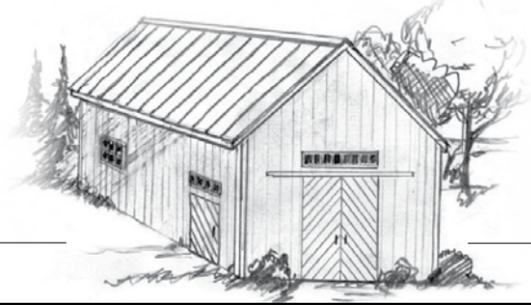
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York County Audubon donates birding backpacks to Waterboro Public Library

The Waterboro Public Library is excited to announce that York County Audubon has donated two birding backpacks to the library. Beginning April 30th, WPL cardholders will be able to check out the backpacks for up to two weeks at a time. Each backpack contains everything you will need to go searching for birds in Maine. The kit's binoculars will help you see the birds up close. The birding guides will help you identify which bird you see! Checklists for both children and adults will help you organize your bird findings and perhaps start your birding "life List". The suggestions about where to find birds and the maps of local land trusts will point you in the direction of the birds and their favorite habitats. The Waterboro area is rich with bird life, and

whether you're trying out a new hobby, teaching your children, or simply wanting to enjoy a weekend in nature, WPL & YCA hope that these birding backpacks will help you get to know the beautiful birds of Maine.

We are offering a Nature Walk with Kathy Donahue from the York County Audubon Society on Saturday, April 30th from 8-10 AM. We will introduce the backpacks and look for local wildlife and birds at a Waterboro Land Trust property. Please call to register as the walk is limited to 12 people.

The Waterboro Public Library is located at 187 Main St., East Waterboro, Maine. For more information, please call 207-247-3363 or email us at librarian@waterborolibrary.org



Barbara Carlson, the rug braider in North Alfred, displays some of her rugs. Barbara and Alfred Carlson hosted the New Century Club on April 11 at the Alfred Shaker Museum where Barbara explained "How Rug Braiding Became My Passion." PHOTO BY ALLISON WILLIAMS

We'd love to share YOUR photos!

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The Hoarder's Widow

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CHAPTER 15 I'll fly away, O glory

For the funeral, I set up several displays of Bob's interesting and valued treasures. On the altar was the church's bronze cross. I added a large bouquet of sunflowers in a John Deere bucket and Bob's big, black King James Only Bible. Beside the altar was his Air Force Sergeant uniform, decorated with his many earned metals. He wore his Air Force uniform proudly during the Vietnam era when soldiers, like Bob, were being spat upon. His official Air Force sunglasses hung out of the breast coat pocket. Bob had enlisted and took pride in his service to the people of the United States. He would be honored with a color guard and taps. I would be presented with an American flag.

Kathy, my Christian friend down the road, made a wonderful collage using Bob's best photos. His Eagle Scout badge sash and about twenty of his Cub Scout manuals plus his Cub Scout shoebox were on display. Bob's Gene Autry cowboy outfit and the adorable photograph of his wearing it

when about seven, and his last-step boots with duct tape holding the soles on were part of the exhibit. There was a whole table of free stuff: gloves, 1968 business cards, outdated Tractor Supply Catalogs, John Deere mementos, new Home Depot tee shirts, Builders Supply ballcaps, and carpenters' pencils.

About one hundred and twenty people signed the funeral guest book. Until I read the signatures, I didn't know so many had attended. Lots left sympathy cards with encouraging notes about Bob, some telling stories of good deeds, others of funny adventures.

The talented hospitality committee was ready. The church smelled of crockpots full of hardy chili, beef stew, and homemade chicken noodle soup. The goodies, buttery lemon squares, gigantic chocolate chip cookies, and gooey brownies loaded the table, more than any Weight Watcher should even admire.

Bob's Sunday morning church coffee and kitchen friends were all there, two confessed finders and keepers and proud of it. The three of them always had the best time comparing their "collecting free, amazing junk" stories, none ashamed of having a little more than necessary. These are the men he talked with every Sunday about plumbing, electrical work, or happenings at Auto Supply. Bob insisted on leaving the house at least a half-hour early to be ready in the kitchen for his buds. I always sus-

pected one of Bob's reasons for going to church was to drink free coffee and visit with his church kitchen friends.

I was surprised when several garden club members and my quilting buddies from a small quilt group attended. Most of our neighbors were there, and all of Bob's Bible study cohorts attended, sad, but ready to add their words of wisdom and to tell their humorous stories about Bob. They laughed, cried, joked, and took some of the excellent, free "Bob" stuff I'd put out. Freddy, Bob's best sidekick, read a poem his wife had written. Bob's childhood friends traveled from Massachusetts and New Hampshire, the same comrades who journeyed to celebrate our wedding, twelve years and two months before. We sang, "I'll Fly Away, O Glory". What a rally of support for Bob. He would have been proud. It was almost a gala event with storytelling, laughing, and wishing Bob a fond farewell. And Godspeed.

Four pastors were part of the funeral service: our pastor, the minister who married us, and the two who tried counseling us about "bringing glory to God" but, unfortunately, to no affect.

Shortly before the service began, Bob's brother tried to force me to look at pictures he had taken of Bob's "prepared" body in his "going to heaven outfit." That was the very moment Bob's big, very, very holy, know-it-all, Hospice chaplain brother went from being Bob's

brother to becoming Bob's BAD BROTHER! During the funeral, he was to give a five to ten-minute eulogy. But being an arrogant man who couldn't stop talking, he blabbed on and on about himself for thirty minutes, hogging the time Bob's friends were to tell their 'Bob' stories. I got madder and madder as he pontificated beyond his allotted time. I tried to catch the pastor's eye and signal to him to get up there, shut up the brother, and continue the funeral. The pastor did not see me. My daughter who was sitting beside me as I tried to motion to the pastor, finally kicked me in the foot and told me to settle down. I did but I was still fuming about how he ruined what started off to be a celebration of Bob's life, ministries, and quirks and ended up being the bad brother show!

I received an email twenty-six days after the funeral from Bob's brother that continues to ignite my anger and hardened my opinion. The email started: "Here are a few things I would appreciate receiving..." and the list began...

Next week, Bob's bosom buddies say goodbye.

Thanks to all who have emailed me. Please continue, Your comments are encouraging and helpful. I am grateful to you and The Reporter.

*- Author Carol E. Niles lives in Dayton
Send your comments to
cephil@securespeed.us*

ARTS

Museum of American Art opens May 1

Ogunquit Museum of American Art (OMAA) will open the 2022 season on Sunday, May 1 with a full slate of new exhibitions, programs, and a newly renovated space. Members are invited to celebrate the opening with a reception on Saturday, April 30 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The museum will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Oct. 31.

This season, the Museum will feature a variety of paintings, sculpture, historic photography, political cartoons, and a dash of hopefulness. The museum opens May 1 with two exhibitions that continue through July 19: Josephine Halvorson: On the Ground; and Philip Koch: Isle of Dreams. The second half of the season opens on August 1 with two new exhibitions and continues through Oct. 31: Sue Miller: Personal Voyage; and John Walker: From Low Tide to High Tide. In addition, six exhibitions will be open throughout the season, from May 1 to Oct. 31: Jim Morin: Drawing and Painting; Virginia Overton: Untitled (Cardinal C-80); The View from Narrow Cove; I'll Bring the Luck with Me: Hunting and Fishing with Henry Strater; Robert Laurent: Open Studio; and Hopeful: A Project by Charlie Hewitt.

For the 2022 Exhibition Schedule, visit <https://ogunquit-museum.org/exhibitions-collections/current-exhibitions>.



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 Compensation will be based on qualification and experience. Job description is available on the Town's website www.hollismaine.org.
 Interested applicants should submit cover letter, resume and references to adminsecretary@hollismaine.org or send to Town of Hollis, Select Board Office, 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis, ME 04042 no later than May 6, 2022.

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NOTICES

COUNTY OF YORK REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Auditing services for budget years FY22, FY23 & FY24

The County of York, Maine is requesting proposals from qualified Certified Public Accounting firms to conduct our annual, year-end financial audits for (3) years.

THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATION MUST BE MET:

1. Audit shall be a financial and compliance review of all accounts and funds of the county in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.
2. Audits shall cover fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, June 30, 2023, and June 30, 2024.
3. Audit firm shall assist the Finance Director in preparation of all financial statements and schedules.
4. Single audits in accordance with OMB A-133 are required and can be quoted separately.
5. Audit firm shall submit a written report expressing an opinion regarding the financial statements and a management letter identifying any weaknesses in internal control.
6. Audit firm shall provide (10) copies of the auditor's report, management letter and financial statements and schedules
7. Audit firm shall satisfy GASB requirements, review and update the county's fixed asset listing, and provide calculation of depreciation.

Written proposals should be received by Finance Director, Lori Lemieux, **by 10 a.m. on May 11, 2022.** Mailing address is 45 Kennebunk Road, Alfred ME 04002. Physical address is 149 Jordan Springs Road, Alfred ME. All proposals must be in a sealed envelope marked "Audit Proposal". Proposals will be opened and evaluated at 10 a.m. on May 11th by the Finance Director and County Manager. For questions or a copy of last year's audit and current balance sheet, please contact Lori Lemieux at llemeieux@yorkcountymaine.gov or 207-459-2317.

The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Cost will not be the only determining factor for awarding the bid. The County will evaluate based on qualifications, responsiveness, relevant experience, reputation as well as cost.

NOTICES

COUNTY OF YORK REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The County of York, Maine invites qualified applicants to submit qualifications to provide design, specification services and cost estimates for a public safety training facility, a substance abuse recovery center and a 40-unit supportive housing complex. This notice is being posted in accordance with federal procurement standards as codified in 2 C.F.R. § 200.317 through § 200.326 and Local, and State procurement policies or legal instruments.

The full RFQ is available on the County's website www.yorkcountymaine.gov/bids-proposals. RFQ Proposals shall be received **by 2:00 p.m. on Monday, May 2, 2022.** RFQ's may be submitted via email to Greg Zinser, County Manager at gtzins@yorkcountymaine.gov or by hardcopy to the Attn: of Greg Zinser, County Manager, 149 Jordan Springs Rd. Alfred, ME 04002.

Obituaries

Pamela Jean Coburn

Pamela Jean Coburn, 59, a resident of East Waterboro, passed away suddenly on April 15 at her home with her husband Jim and faithful companion Cricket at her side.

Pamela was born Oct. 1, 1962 in Biddeford, the daughter of Richard David and Jean Ellen Robinson Labonte, and is a graduate of Biddeford High School, where she was a member of the cheerleading squad. She then attended the University of Maine, Orono, earning degrees in fashion merchandising, a Bachelor of Arts in speech communication, and an Associate Degree in resource and business management.



Pamela Jean Coburn

She was employed with Waban Projects for the past 7 years as an early childhood educator and loved working with children.

An outdoors person, Pamela loved to fish with Jim, lounge in the sun, and be on the water, be it salt or fresh water. Always a wanderer, she loved to travel, and just before Covid shut the planet down, she had the opportunity to travel with her mom to Russia to visit a longtime family friend. She and her husband Jim loved traveling and enjoyed many vacations together. She loved animals and especially her dogs. Pam enjoyed planning and hosting parties and loved cooking. Pam was gracious and loving and enjoyed being surrounded by friends and family.

She was predeceased by her father, Richard Labonte.

Survivors include the love of her life, James Coburn of East Waterboro; her mother Jean Ellen Labonte of Venice, FL; two brothers Michael D. Labonte of Merritt Island, FL, and Roger (Tim) Labonte of Biddeford; nieces and nephews include Michael D. Labonte Jr, Sarah Labonte, Callum Labonte and Wyatt Labonte, and friend whom she considered a brother, John McKeown of Biddeford, and her faithful companion Cricket.

Family and friends may call on Monday, April 25 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Bibber Memorial at Autumn Green, 47 Oak St., in Alfred. A celebration of Pamela's life will be at 1 p.m. at the funeral home, Tuesday, April 26.

Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 350, Westbrook, ME 04092 or to the Animal Welfare Society, PO Box 43, West Kennebunk, ME 04094.

To share a memory or leave a message of condolence, visit Pamela's Book of Memories Page at www.autumngreenfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are in care of Bibber Memorial at Autumn Green 47 Oak St, Alfred, ME. 04002.

David Kenneth Bemis

David Kenneth Bemis, 78, a resident of Keywood Manor, passed away on Patriot's Day, April 18, at his home with his loving wife of almost 45 years and his children by his side.

Ken, to all who knew him, was born May 9, 1943, in Sanford, the son of Clifton and Clotilda Demers Bemis. While school was not Ken's forte, he did attend St Ignatius School in Sanford briefly before he set off to explore the world.



David Kenneth Bemis

Enlisting in the US Navy, he served 4 years, including time aboard the USS Betelgeuse, who's homeport was Charleston, SC. Upon his discharge, he entered the US Merchant Marines, serving another 4-year enlistment. Returning home, he soon moved to Massachusetts for better employment opportunities, where he joined the Dedham Fire Department. During a fire there, he rescued a tenant of an apartment house, and received injuries which forced his early retirement and affected his health ever since.

A natural born salesman, he became a real estate agent, then held several sales positions. His family would remember him driving by a house, commenting that "I could sell that house easily." In retirement, Ken was a volunteer with York County Community Action as a driver. He was an avid fan of the Red Sox and Patriots.

Ken was predeceased by a son Larry Butler, who died in 2017 and by his brothers: Cliff and Mike, and sister Gloria.

Survivors include his loving wife Doris Knox Bemis of Lyman; a son Raymond Butler of Shapleigh; daughters Paula Chamalain and husband Jean Marc of Biddeford and Crystal Tobias of Lyman; grandchildren Anthony, Corey, James, William, Samuel, Luke, and Tessa; brother's Robert Bemis and wife Irene, a sister Barbara Leach, and many nieces and nephews, and his longtime friends Dan Bourque and Louie Lacroix.

Friends and family are invited to an open house to be held on Sunday, May 1 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Keywood Manor Clubhouse, 85 Pools Crossing Rd., Alfred.



Shawn Buck's Celebration of Life

event will be held
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SANFORD-SPRINGVALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 23, 2022 AT 7:30 P.M.

Sanford-Springvale Historical Society, 505 Main Street, Springvale, Maine
Admission is \$15.00 for ages 18 and older. Children are admitted at no charge.
Seating is limited to 100, reservations recommended. Please call 207-324-2797.
The Museum is handicapped-accessible.

To be admitted, concert patrons must show proof of vaccination or evidence of a negative test not more than 72 hours before. Face masks must be worn.

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