

REPORTER

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BUY THE BOOK
THE OSSUARY
By David E. Landry



Sanford author to speak July 21

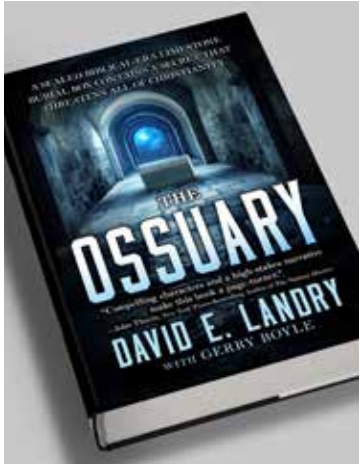
Sanford native and retired physician David Landry, MD has teamed up with noted Maine author, Gerry Boyle to write a fast-paced, high-stakes thriller.

A sealed biblical-era limestone burial box, an ossuary, is stolen from a secret crypt beneath a medieval cathedral in Paris. This isn't just another antiquities theft. This ossuary is like no other, as it bears the shocking inscription, Jesus of Nazareth—Crucified by Pilate. If the bones of Christ are indeed inside, that means there was no resurrection. The very foundation of Christianity would crumble. That world-changing possibility drives this fast-paced, action-packed novel. With its underlying theme of good versus evil and a vivid cast of characters, *The Ossuary* has the intrigue of a Dan Brown novel and will appeal to all fans of suspense-filled thrillers.

Dr. Stanton Moore has been fired from his job at the University of Miami because of his involvement with forged antiquity items. He's relocated to the small coastal community of St. Augustine, Florida, where he finds himself adrift, drinking too much and worrying about how to pay for his mother's increasingly expensive dementia care. The answer comes with a call from a past associate—the one responsible for ending his career at the university—offering Dr. Moore the sealed biblical-era burial box. Against his better judgment, Dr. Moore purchases the ossuary. He realizes too late what he has become entangled in. There are those who would kill to ensure that the secret within the ossuary remains hidden, just as there are others willing to die so its contents will be revealed to the world.

The novel takes its readers from the small coastal Florida town to Paris, Rome, and finally New York City for the story's climax.

While David Landry is the main author the novel, he turned to his longtime friend and neighbor,



COURTESY PHOTOS

bor, Gerry Boyle, for structural and character development advice. Landry stated, "There is nothing better than having a good friend who is an accomplished author willing to give much needed advice."

Gerry is a Maine novelist and author of 17 crime novels, including *Hard Line*, recipient of an IPPY Awards bronze medal for mystery novels in 2025. His novels have received multiple awards for crime fiction.

The Ossuary required a significant amount of research with Landry reaching out to Sanford native and longtime friend Father John Allen now of the Archdiocese of Charlotte, North Carolina. John read early versions of the story and provided advice and guidance. In the end he had high praise for the novel.

"A great story, like a great oration, captures our imagination and, imperceptibly, carries us into a thrilling adventure that leaves us longing for more. The *Ossuary* has accomplished this brilliantly and will reward its readers with deep satisfaction and spiritual encouragement."

As part of the story takes place at The Vatican, a behind the scenes look at the inner workings of the Catholic Church and the Vatican was needed. The Vatican Diaries, a factual account of the Vatican written by John Thavis who was a reporter for the Associated Press assigned to The Vatican in Rome for thirty years

(Continued on page 6)



Maine tall ships in Boston

The American Eagle, a 123-foot, two-masted Gaff-Rigged Schooner from Rockland, was one of six Maine vessels to participate in Boston's 'Sail 250' Parade of Tall Ships on Saturday, July 11 in Boston Harbor. The other Maine representatives were: Maine's first ship (originally built in 1607), The Virginia, a 65-foot replica Pinnace from Bath (built in 2022); the Tyrone, a 73-foot Schooner, also from Rockland; the Angelique, a 130-foot Gaff Topsail Ketch from Camden; the Harvey Gamage, a 138-foot Gaff-Rigged Schooner from Portland; and the Bowdoin, an 88-foot Gaff-Rigged Schooner from Castine. The American Eagle serves the tourist trade out of Rockland. Originally launched as the Andrew and Rosalie in 1930 in Gloucester, Massachusetts, she was the last auxiliary schooner (powered by both sail and engine) to be built in that port, and one of Gloucester's last sail-powered fishing vessels. The American Eagle is a National Historic Landmark, and the oldest known surviving vessel of her type, which was later replaced by modern trawlers. PHOTO BY KERRY DEANGELIS

Recruits join YCSO

Just a few weeks from now, in mid-August, Matthew Ryan and Lucas Labbe will be heading to the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Vassalboro for 18 weeks of law enforcement training. They'll learn about community policing, dealing with the vulnerable, police ethics, Maine criminal law, juvenile law, motor vehicle and liquor laws, use of force, domestic abuse, response to active shooter situations, investigations, and much more – in all more than 90 topics in the 720 hour curriculum.

Ryan, 25, and Labbe, 41, were recently hired as recruits at York County Sheriff's Office – the first

(Continued on page 6)



York County Sheriff's Office recruits Lucas Labbe, left, and Matthew Ryan will soon be off to the 18-week Maine Criminal Justice Academy law enforcement program. After they graduate and complete additional training inhouse, they'll be on patrol in York County. PHOTO BY TAMMY WELLS, YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT MEDIA

NEW EVERY THURSDAY!
LOCAL news, events and faces from your community.



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Community CALENDAR

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

COMING EVENTS

EDUCATION IN RURAL MAINE Calling history buffs, home schoolers, families and friends. Patricia Violette-Adams, executive director of the Sanford-Springvale Historical Society, will give an overview of education in rural Maine at Alfred's One Room Schoolhouse at 781 Gore Road in Alfred on Sunday, July 19, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Event is interactive and fun for all ages. Also, stroll the grounds to view parsons Memorial Library's latest story board walk. Details call Bruce Tucker at 324-5441.

THE YORK COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S CLUB affiliate of the Maine Federation of Republican Women invites all Republican women to relax, reflect and regroup at a Mid-Summer Social on Monday, July 20, 6 to 8 p.m. at Duffy's Tavern & Grill, 4 Main Street, Kennebunk. Appetizers served. Dinner and

beverages available for purchase by attendees. FMI: info.ycgop-women@gmail.com or 468-2395.

LYMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING Tuesday, July 21, at 6 p.m. at the Arion (Masons) Lodge in Goodwins Mills. The Trustees will meet at 5:45 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC by local performers, Jennifer Bryant, Carlton Ming and Brian Wardwell. Brought to you by the Historical Society of Newfield on Saturday, July 25 at 4 p.m. at the Elm Street Bandstand in Newfield.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY OUTDOOR MARKET Saturday, July 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Buxton Centre Baptist Church, 938 Long Plains Road, Buxton. Crafters, artists, vendors and quality second hand items, awesome raffles and bake table. Hope to see you there!

DOLLAR OFF EVERY PERENNIAL, NATIVE PLANT, AND HERB SALE for the Maine Open Farm Day Weekend Saturday, July 25 & Sunday July 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Doyle Family Farm at 515 Garland Road in West Newfield, Maine. Many unique used gardening, farming, and Maine cookbooks will also be sold. Information posted on "Doyle Family Farm in West Newfield, Maine" Facebook Page.

FREE GOSPEL CONCERT - Brad White First Baptist Church of Shapleigh invites the community to a free gospel concert featuring singer Brad White on Thursday, July 30, at 6:30 p.m. The concert will be held at First

Baptist Church of Shapleigh, 600 Shapleigh Corner Road, Shapleigh. A love offering will be received. Everyone is welcome.

WOMEN OF '76 Explore the untold stories of courage and conviction from FIVE remarkable WOMEN who witnessed and shaped the American Revolution. Denmark Historical Society at the Denmark Arts Center, 50 W Main Street, Denmark, Thursday, July 30 at 7 p.m. Donations at the door.

THE PENOBSCOT EXPEDITION - A Revolutionary War Naval Disaster. Join us to learn about this historic event at the Kezar Falls Library, 2 Federal Road, Kezar Falls, Friday, July 31 at 6:30 p.m.

CALLING ALL QUILTERS! The Bar Mills Community Church located at 13 Hermit Thrush Drive in Buxton Maine is hosting their biennial quilt show on Saturday August 1, 2026 from 9am to 2pm. There will be vendors at the quilt show and a raffle. Admission is \$5 and lunch is available for \$15. For more information or if you would like to display your quilts, call 929-5555.

COMMUNITY DAYS Tory Hill Meetinghouse is celebrating community days on Aug. 1. This lawn event will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. The church is offering a huge lawn sale table, a location with baked goods and raffle baskets and as usual a hot dog luncheon! The remainder of the lawn will offer vendor tables including a wide variety of crafts and the Dorcas Society will offer a large raffle table. The day begins with a road race, Cars and Coffee at 8 a.m. at

the Brewster House and a town parade at 11 a.m. The day ends at Salmon Falls Country Club/River Tap & Grill with a performance by the Mallett Brothers Band at 6 p.m.

ELDER GREY MEETING HOUSE 100TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE SERVICE Sunday, Aug. 2 at 2 p.m. at the historic Elder Grey Meeting House, 346 Chadbourne Ridge Road, North Waterboro. This is the 100th anniversary of the first Pilgrimage Service, which began in 1926. Guest minister is Pastor Mabel Laird of the Alfred Parish Church, Organist Marina Minkin from the Sanford UU Church, and Special Music will be provided by Tom Osborne on guitar. Following the service, the annual Business Meeting of the Elder Grey Meeting House - Cemetery Association will commence. All are invited to attend. For more info visit www.eldergrey.org.

ONGOING EVENTS

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

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.

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.

WEDNESDAY STORY HOUR The Acton Public Library holds Story Hour every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. Come meet other caregivers while your chil-

dren make new friends. The Acton Public Library is located at 35 H Road, Acton.

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.

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.

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.

NEWFIELD MUSIC JAMBOREE Town Hall, 23 So. Effingham Road, 1st Saturday of the month May-October. Summer hours 6 to 8:30 p.m. Free, open to public. Spectators welcome. All family friendly music. FMI call 468-1491.

ARTISTS OPEN STUDIO on Wednesdays from 1-4 p.m. **UKULELE PRACTICE** on Mondays in June and July from 1-2 p.m. **SUMMER READING PROGRAM** is open to all ages and begins June 22 and runs to Aug. 15. The Parsons Memorial Library is located at 27 Saco Road, Alfred.

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. We take turns meeting at member's homes; you are not obligated to offer your home. FMI Diane Dunn 207-229-6135.

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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.

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 whether 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 if you wish.

STAY; MAN TO MAN PEER SUPPORT GROUP Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 114 East Shore Drive (The Kita Center campus) in Acton. Stay; For Life facilitates a men's peer support group for men to talk about issues on their minds. Discussions are low-key, non judgemental and peer led. FMI: www.stayforlife.org.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets every Friday evening, 7 p.m. at the Waterboro Town Hall, West parking lot entrance. All are welcome.

BUXTON TOPS The Buxton Chapter (0175) of the non-profit group Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Support Group meets every Thursday morning at 8:45 a.m. for weigh-in and meeting at Buxton Center Baptist Church (back door entrance), 938 Long Plains Rd., Buxton. FMI Christy 329-1020.

LIMERICK TOPS The Limerick Chapter 208 meets every Thursday at 4 p.m. at St. Matthew Catholic Church (rear entrance) at 19 Dora Lane, Limerick. Call Kathy Harriman at 727-3729 with questions.

LYMAN TOPS meets every Thursday night at 5 p.m. at Beacon of Hope Community Church, 1298 Alfred Road, (Route 111), Arundel. For more information email jjstearns@sacoriver.net.

SANFORD TOPS Chapter 0113 meets Wednesday nights from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Crossroads Church at 15 Grammar Road, Sanford. For more info call Sharon Phillips at 651-0251.

TOPS SANFORD 0207 at the Willard School 668 Main St. Weigh in from 9-9:45 a.m. on Fridays with the meeting to follow. For more info call Gloria Richer at 284-3748.

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL THRIFT SHOP Open Wednesdays 12:30-2:30 p.m. at St. James Hall, Biddeford (use South Street entrance). Monies raised help those in need in York County. FMI Bob 229 2551.

WATERBORO CONCERTS IN THE PARK kicks off Friday JULY 17 with THE MASTER-STROKE QUEEN EXPERIENCE at Friendship Park, 255 Old Alfred Road in Waterboro from 7-9 p.m. Bring a lawn chair and/or blanket. Concerts are free to the public. The Maine Community Bank Snack Shack will be open with bagged snacks, candy, pizza, water, soft beverages and the official ice cream of Waterboro Concerts: Shaker Pond Ice Cream! JULY 24-VYNTYGESKYNRYD JULY 31 - NORTHERN CROSS AUGUST 7-COUNTRY ROADS Visit waterborconcerts.com for more info.

LET'S EAT!

BEAN SUPPER Massabesic Lions monthly dine-in or take-out the 2nd Saturday of the month (next on Aug. 8), 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.

BAKED BEAN & CHOP SUEY SUPPERS The First Congregational Church monthly baked bean & American chop suey supper the last Saturday of each month from April to September (next on July 25) from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the church, 141 North St., Kennebunkport. Two types of home baked beans, American chop suey, mac & cheese, hot dogs, rolls, and cole slaw, topped off with a slice of homemade pie. Adults and children age 12 and over \$12 per person, \$5 per child under 12.

DELICIOUS HADDOCK SUPPER BUFFET Saturday, July 25 at 5 p.m. at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$12 Adult, \$5 Child, \$24 Family. Takeout containers available.

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

COMMUNITY CAFÉ at Southern Maine Agency on Ag-

ing, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 21 Braden Street, Springvale (Use the entrance on Bodwell Ct.) and the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at Mayflower Place, 27 Mayflower Drive, Sanford. Call 396-6500. Suggested donation \$8.

The Acton-Shapleigh Lion's Club **MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** the first Saturday of every month (Next on Aug. 1). \$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.

WATERBORO COMMUNITY PANTRY 26 Townhouse Road, East Waterboro. Open the first Tuesday of month from 4 to 7 p.m. all other Tuesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Donations needed!

NEWFIELD FOOD CUPBOARD & VILLAGE FRIDGE are open and available to all 24/7/365 at the Newfield Community Church, 643 Water St. (Route 11), outside the side entrance facing the town office. Donations welcome. FYI 229-9245, newfieldcc@gmail.com.

The **CORNER CUPBOARD** which offers personal care, paper, cleaning, household, and baby items to anyone in need, is open the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Sanford UU Church, 5 Lebanon St., Sanford, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring your own bag.

ST. THERESE FOOD CLOSET open every Thursday from 12 to 2 p.m. at 66 North Ave., Sanford, directly behind the St Therese Church in the gray trailer.

ST. MATTHEW CHURCH FOOD PANTRY at 19 Dora Lane, in Limerick open every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon and the first Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. FMI call 793-2244.

ACTON FOOD PANTRY at 59H Road open the first Monday of the month (next on July 6) 9:30-11 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. FMI call 977-0228.

EMAIL NON-PROFIT MEAL LISTINGS TO: news@waterbororeporter.com.

PATRIOT PAINTERS
John Eder
207.283.5729

Stay; For Life's 4th Annual Motorcycle & Jeep Ride returns July 18

What began four years ago as a local motorcycle ride in support of men's mental health has grown into one of southern Maine's most meaningful community events.

On Saturday, July 18, Stay; For Life will host its 4th annual Motorcycle & Jeep Ride, bringing together hundreds of riders from across Maine and New England in support of men's mental health awareness and suicide prevention. The event will begin at Trailblazers Family Club in Wells, and conclude at Iron Tails Saloon in Acton, where participants and community members can enjoy an afternoon of food, live music, raffles, and mental health resources.

Our organization strives to shine a light on the importance of mental health, especially for men, by creating opportunities for connection and conversation," said Angela Whitten, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Stay; For Life. The non-profit was established after the suicide death of her 18 year old son, Trent, in June of 2022. "Every year we see more people coming together to support one another, to honor loved ones, and to remind those who may be struggling that their lives matter."

Last year's event drew 324 participants, including 120 motorcycles and 72 Jeeps, representing a 43% increase in attendance from the previous year and demonstrating the incredible momentum behind the organization's mission.

The event's growth has translated directly into greater community impact. In 2024, the annual ride raised \$23,409 to support Stay; For Life's mission. In 2025, that number grew to \$30,078—a nearly 29% increase in funds raised. Proceeds from the event directly support the organization's

weekly Man to Man Peer Support Groups, suicide prevention education, school and business presentations, crisis intervention resources, and support for those grieving the loss of a loved one to suicide.

The event has become known not only for its scenic route and organization, but also for the overwhelming sense of community that surrounds it. One first-time participant shared: "I have no words for how amazing my first Jeep ride was. Seeing all the people on the side of the road offering support for Stay; For Life filled my heart with so much love." Another attendee remarked: "Of all the rides I've done, this was one of the most organized. From the time I got to the beginning parking lot through the end destination, it was incredible."

Perhaps one of the most meaningful comments came from a participant who said: "So many men suffer in silence. By hosting events like this and having your weekly men's peer support group meetings, it does bring light into the dark. This was my first ride with Stay; For Life, and certainly not my last."

A memorial banner will once again be on display during the event, where participants are invited to add photographs of loved ones lost to suicide in remembrance and honor.

At its heart, the Stay; For Life Motorcycle & Jeep Ride is about community, connection, and hope. Every motorcycle, every Jeep, and every participant sends a clear message that no one walks—or rides—alone.

Driver ticket is \$20 and all passengers must purchase a ticket for \$10. Pre-registration available at www.stayforlife.org.

Contact me with any state related questions.

(207) 283-5729

John.eder@maine.legislature.gov

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ALFRED

“... in need of assistance from their country”

Alfred Revolutionary Veterans

When the Minutemen marched from Alfred to answer the Lexington Alarm, Alfred was very much a frontier community. When the soldiers returned to town after the war, veterans found their village wracked by a small-pox epidemic, a series of poor harvests due to drought and harsh winters, and a community picked clean of assets during the war effort. Most returning veterans were not paid for their service and those who were paid received wildly inflated worthless paper money. Disappointed but not deterred, Alfred farmers did what they always did - made the best of what they had and got back to work clearing their farms. Life in post war Alfred was not easy.

Veteran pensions

As Revolutionary veterans aged, it became apparent that many were struggling financially. In 1818 Congress decided to award pensions to veterans in financial need, and in 1832 Congress extended pensions to all of the surviving Revolutionary soldiers and their widows. A soldier

who was 20 in 1776 was 62 years old in 1818 and 76 years old in 1832. To get their pensions, veterans had to recount their service, name their officers and any battles they witnessed. The veterans also had to record his assets and his current level of poverty. The pensions reflected the gratitude of a free people for the brave Americans who secured their freedoms.

Joseph Roberts

Joseph Roberts was a disabled marine living in Alfred after the war. He had enlisted from his hometown of Somersworth and had his left arm blown off in a naval battle on the Penobscot River in 1779. Joseph's ship was captured and he was exchanged, then he was sent to a Boston hospital for his wound. While recuperating, Joseph contracted an unnamed illness that kept him hospitalized for nearly two years. Roberts was discharged, married and eventually moved to Alfred. Roberts lived near the Gore Road- Federal Street intersection and was beset by numerous financial setbacks- he was often sued for debt and rendered homeless. He received an invalid pension of \$5 per month. He died in 1817, leaving twelve children, the youngest was only seven years old at his death. His widow Tamson moved to Dover and never remarried. Twenty years after his death, widow Tamson reapplied for Joseph's disability pension which had stopped at his death. She was denied assistance because Joseph was aboard his

ship for only four months and the government would not credit his hospital time as service. Roberts is reportedly buried in the Smith cemetery off Federal Street across from Ray Graber's house. He has no stone.

Levi Hutchins

Alfred resident Levi Hutchins enlisted in a Continental regiment for three years. In his company were other Alfred men: Joseph Hibbard, Asa Lassal, Ezekiel Hatch, Seth Peabody and others. Levi's company built fortifications around Boston during the seige, then fought at Ticond- aroga, Saratoga, Monmouth NJ and Brandywine Creek near Philadelphia. Alfred men in Levi Hutchins regiment who wintered in Valley Forge together included several men with Alfred connections: his brothers Eastman and Asa Hutchins, John Patch, Benjamin Trafton, Joseph Hibbard, Caleb Lassal, Isaac Kimball, Seth Peabody, Paul Webber and James McDaniel (McDonald).

In the sprig of 1778, Shaker Hill residents Levi Hutchins and Joseph Hibbard wrote a letter to Maj. Morgan Lewis from Valley Forge describing their pitiful condition and seeking assistance from Sanford selectmen.

[We] Suffered the loss of all our cloathing last year in the Retreat from Ticonderoga & Suffered Everything Else but Death itt Self and have had a hard fa- teauguing Campain last year & a very uncomfortable Winter... We are both of us exceeding Poorly

out for cloathing... Joseph Hebbard is Lame with his old Rheumatizm pains and has been for 4 weeks past & we have as much to do, as we can do to support ourselves here with our Rations & Wages both. Levi Hutching has a family he Expects at home, but how they are Supported or how they are to live I cannot tell But Pray they may not be left Destitute of friends So as to Suffer while in a Christian land. He cannot get leave to come home & If he could, not Save anything to help his family. We remain your Dutifull & Suffering Servants. Signed : Levi Hutchings & Joseph Hebbard

Sargent Levi Hutchins was discharged January 1, 1780 and walked from New York to his Alfred home on the Back Road.

Levi's life was not easy. Constantly in debt, creditors chipped away at his homestead until all he had left was a "hovel" on a small plot of gifted land. Levi's pension was granted April 8, 1818- \$8/month. In 1820 Levi again applied for his pension stating he was 72 years old, a laborer, owned no real estate, had one cow, his entire estate worth less than \$22.50. Levi's wife Olive, age 66, had a weak constitution and was of no aid to the family and Levi's daughter Thankful Hutchins, age 36, suffered from consumption (tuberculosis) for many years. Living on a sympathetic neighbor's land, Levi had the right to draw water from a well and take the apples from four trees in his dooryard. Levi and his wife were granted the

right to be buried on the land next to the grave of their daughter Thankful.

Levi Hutchins died in 1835 or 36. Wife Olive died a few hours after her husband. Both are buried just off the Back Road next to their daughter Thankful.

Capt. John Patch

Captain John Patch was not originally from Alfred. A native of Eliot, apparently illiterate and homeless, Patch had asked Samuel Leighton to make out his pension application in 1820. Patch served in the same regiment as Levi Hutchins and several Alfred men. They all saw the same service- Boston siege, Ticondaroga, Saratoga, Monmouth and the horrific winter at Valley Forge. Patch' last service was garrison duty on the Hudson River. He was discharged and walked home in 1783.

Following the war, Patch is listed in the Shapleigh 1800 census with a wife and five childrens, all under the age of 10 years. He was back in Eliot by 1815, asking for public assistance. Sam Leighton helped fill out Patch's pension application in 1820 which stated Patch owned no real estate or property. "I have no family residing with me. My children are all dead. I had a wife who, 25 or 30 years ago eloped from my residence and went and lived with another man. I have by infirmity of age been unable to support myself and in 1815 applied to the over seers of the poor in Eliot and they granted me relief until I received my pension from my country." In April 1818, Patch was awarded his pension of \$8 / month at age 75 years.

When the application needed updating in 1828 Patch followed Sam Leighton to Alfred. Patch lived a short while up on Bracket Hill among the Sayward, Trafton and Allen families. He is referred to as Captain Patch but the title is honorary- he served as a private during the war. Leighton wrote in his diary: March 4, 1828- "after breakfast, I fixt Patch's papers for his pension in the morning, he is very sick & low." Leighton carried Patch's amended pension papers to Portland but the effort was a little late. On April 29, 1828 "Old Capt. Patch died about 6 o'clock this morning." The day after John Patch's death, "the funeral which took place at 3 o'clock. ... We halld the corpse on my wagon & Mr. John Sayward, Mr. Benjn Trafton, Jotham and Timothy Allen were bearers..." ...and it was done. From Leighton's diary we know who washed Patch's body, who built his coffin, who dug his grave and names of his pall bearers. However, we have no clue where he was buried. Patch is buried in an unmarked grave in one of the family plots on Brackett Hill ... resting among the Saywards or Traftons or maybe the Allens.

- by Bruce R. Tucker
Alfred Historical Committee

To learn more about Alfred Revolutionary veterans, visit the current exhibit at the Alfred Village Museum located at 118 Shaker Hill Road, Alfred. Admission is free. Wednesdays and Saturdays 2 to 4 p.m.

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Massabesic High School Bicentennial Class of 1976 to celebrate 50th reunion during America’s Semiquincentennial

The Massabesic High School Bicentennial Class of 1976 will celebrate its 50th reunion on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2026, during America’s Semiquincentennial (250th anniversary), creating a unique connection between two historic milestones in our nation’s history.

Known as the Bicentennial Class, the graduates of 1976 received their diplomas during the nation’s 200th birthday celebration. Fifty years later, they will reunite during America’s 250th anniversary, making this a once-in-a-lifetime occasion that bridges two generations of American history.

Members of the Class of 1976 share another special distinction. They began their high school years together as seventh graders during only the second year that Massabesic High School was open. Coming from the six communities of Alfred, Limerick, Newfield, Shapleigh, Waterboro, and Lyman, they formed friendships that have endured for more than five decades.

As classmates return to southern Maine from across the country, the reunion will celebrate not

only this milestone anniversary but also the lifelong friendships, shared memories, and strong sense of community that have united the Bicentennial Class for fifty years.

The reunion will be held Sunday, Oct. 4 from 1 to 5 p.m. at The Ridge, 49 Shaw’s Ridge Road, Sanford, ME 04073. The afternoon will feature great food, a cash bar, games, prizes, plenty of laughter, and the opportunity to reconnect after fifty years.

The reunion committee is asking for the community’s help in locating classmates who may not yet have received reunion information. Anyone with contact information for members of the Massabesic High School Class of 1976 is encouraged to get in touch.

Local businesses and organizations are also invited to help make the reunion even more memorable by donating gift certificates, merchandise, or other items to be used as door prizes or raffle prizes. These donations are a wonderful way to support a community celebration while showcasing local businesses to classmates returning from near and far.

WATERBORO

Local firefighters graduate



Members of the Waterboro Fire Department (WFD) recently attended the graduation ceremony for the 2026 Firefighter 1 & 2 Academy. Firefighter/EMT John Bryant, left, received the Student of the Year award. Bryant recently began working with the WFD full-time and is currently assigned to Field Training Officer and FF/Paramedic Mike Hersom. Once he completes this phase of his training, he will be assigned to his regular shift. Firefighter/AEMT Sean Perkins, right, has been a tremendous asset to the WFD team for many years. COURTESY PHOTOS

For more information, to share contact information for a classmate, or to make a donation, contact Diane (Lavigne) Cyr, MHS Reunion 2026, 20 Buzzell Road, Biddeford, ME 04005, Phone: (207) 283-3993, Email: dianepcyr@gmail.com.

Help us find every member of the Massabesic High School Class of 1976—because every classmate is part of our story.

BRIEF

Annual service

The Elder Grey Meeting House on Chadbourne Ridge Road, North Waterboro, will be observing the 100th anniversary of the first Pilgrimage Service on Sunday, Aug. 2, at 2 p.m. This historic place (on the National Register of Historic Places) is one of Waterboro’s “gems”. The service will be led by Rev. Mabel Laird of the Alfred Parish Church. The pump organ will be played by Marina Minkin, an accomplished musician and performer who is the pianist at the Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church. Tom Osborne will be providing special music. Refreshments will follow.

The Meeting House was built in 1806 and over time the building became neglected. In 1924 a group of people interested in preserving the historic place began making much needed repairs, and in 1926 they held the first Pilgrimage Service. The Elder Grey Meeting House-Cemetery Association was formed in 1928 and continues to this day.

The Meeting House is best reached from Route 5 in North Waterboro. Chadbourne Ridge Road is between the Dollar General and the Post Office. Continue on Chadbourne Ridge Road to the top of the hill.

More information can be found at the website <https://eldergrey.org>.

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Full details, trail maps, and downloadable passports will appear in our News section of our website (<https://fsht.org/news/>) on Friday, July 17th. Trail maps are also posted at the trailheads and paper passports available at local town halls and libraries.

Stay Tuned! Make sure you are subscribed to our website updates so you don't miss the official launch day link drops!

YCSO RECRUITS

(Continued from page 1)

in more than a decade. Until they depart for MCJA, they're learning policy and procedures, going on "ride alongs" with seasoned deputies, and undergoing other training opportunities.

Following their MCJA graduation, Ryan and Labbe will complete field training with a veteran deputy before being released on their own, said Chief Deputy Jeremy Forbes. Then, they'll be on a probationary status for a year from their hire date.

In Maine, those looking to pursue policing as a career are first hired by a law enforcement agency and then undergo training, at the agency's expense.

Law enforcement agencies also hire experienced officers who are looking for a change as well as those looking to start their careers as recruits.

York County Sheriff William L. King Jr. explained.

"Typically, we hire a lot of people that come to us from other agencies," King said. "They're already trained, they've been to the academy. In these two recruit cases – Ryan and Labbe, we feel their potential really shines."

Ryan was completing his business degree at St. Joseph's College in Standish and working in area restaurants when he read about a citizen police academy YCSO was starting in the spring of 2025. Intrigued about the program that gives ordinary citizens a glimpse of law enforcement procedures, he signed up. Ryan said he enjoyed what he learned so much, he signed on second time when the citizen academy was offered this spring. Then, he applied at the sheriff's office, and after completing the application process, was hired.

"I've been interested in law enforcement for most of my life," he said, and had initially thought of a federal career but ultimately decided staying local was what he wanted to do.

"It's a career that brings new challenges, new scenarios," said Ryan. "You're constantly being

challenged by the job."

His goal is to join the Special Response Team and said he could see himself as a detective someday, but for now, he said he'll see where the job takes him.

As a recruit, Ryan has experienced each shift in the six weeks he's been on the job.

"There's a lot more to the job than traffic stops and paperwork," he said. "It's nice to get the whole picture."

Labbe taught sociology, civics and government at Massabesic High School for the last 5 years of his decade-long teaching career at RSU 57 and served as head football coach and assistant wrestling coach. He previously worked in social services in case management and also managed an emergency shelter and a family shelter.

Married, he and his wife have two children and live on a farm complete with chickens, horses, dogs, and ducks.

Labbe said he was looking for a career compatible with his military service. He'd joined the U.S. Army after high school, served in Iraq in 2004 and after his tour was complete, he later joined the Maine Army National Guard, where he continues to serve.

"These professions are more in line with each other," said Labbe of his newly chosen career in law enforcement and his military service. "Law enforcement is a profession always held in high regard and I had considered many times before."

He said he believes his years in social work helped him develop skills, as did his work as a teacher and coach. "I think a big part of policing is talking and listening to people," Labbe said. "There's a lot I need to learn, and hopefully I'll help people out."

The process to being hired as a recruit includes passing a physical agility test, a polygraph, psychological testing, background checks, and numerous interviews with YCSO personnel and the county's Human Resources department. It is a rigorous process that not everyone who applies can pass, noted Forbes.

"Ryan is a very mature young

man and made a very measured decision," said King. He noted the recruit's decision to attend the citizen academy and that he asked good questions. "He is mature beyond his years. I think he'll do very well as a law enforcement officer."

King noted Labbe's work as a teacher and coach, his military service and years in social services often dealing with people who are in difficult situations.

"Labbe's career is a win-win for the sheriff's office," King said. "We choose very carefully who we hire as recruits and send to the academy. With Ryan and Labbe, we made two very good investments."

York County Sheriff's Office currently has two vacancies for deputies. King said potential recruits and those already in law enforcement are encouraged to apply.

– By Tammy Wells,

York County government media

SANFORD AUTHOR

(Continued from page 1)

provided that information. With the internet you can contact anyone these days, so Dave reached out to John Thavis who very graciously read the novel and offered constructive advice that greatly enriched the story. At the time of publication, John Thavis had this to say about *The Ossuary*:

"Compelling characters and a high-stakes narrative makes this book a page-turner."

–JOHN THAVIS, NEW YORK

TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
THE VATICAN DIARIES

I think all authors develop their characters from people they know. I certainly used some of my friends in Sanford area in that regard. Although the ex-priest psychopathic killer found in *The Ossuary* had no role model in this area.

The Ossuary is available on Amazon in paperback and e-book format. Dave Landry will be speaking at Goodall Library at 952 Main Street, Sanford on July 21 at 10 a.m. The public is invited.

SHAPLEIGH



The local folk rock band 'b-side' will perform Friday night at Shapleigh Community Days. COURTESY PHOTO

Shapleigh Community Days July 24-25

Shapleigh will hold its annual family-friendly Community Days celebration on July 24 and 25 at Shapleigh Commons located beside the town hall at 22 Back Road. This two-day event brings together music, food, activities, local history, and community spirit.

The festivities begin Friday with a free outdoor concert from 6 to 8 p.m. featuring the folk rock band from Southern Maine, b-side. Concessions will be open, offering pulled pork sandwiches, potato salad, homemade cookies, and refreshments. The Kona ice truck will also be on site for a cool treat.

This year's Community Days is proudly sponsored by Exit Key Real Estate, Real Estate 2000, Partners' Bank, Kennebunk Savings, the Lions Club, and Hanaford Supermarket.

Saturday's events run from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with activities for all ages. Families can enjoy an animal encounter presentation, a giant bounce house, face painting, games, crafts, and more. Shapleigh's fire and rescue team will be present and visitors can learn about opportunities in 4-H Clover Club and Scouting.

The American Spirit Parade in honor of America's 250th Anniversary begins at 9 a.m. from Knox Road traveling to Shapleigh Commons. Concessions will be available from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Other Saturday highlights include the library book sale on the Commons and a local veterans exhibit at the Mousam Pavilion (across from the Town Hall.) Many vendors will be set up throughout the grounds and a silent auction will be held with all the proceeds supporting the Shapleigh Community Days scholarship.

This year the Community Days Committee included a special tribute in the gazebo to Jim Brown, the sixth-grade teacher, whose vision helped create Shapleigh Commons. In 1992 Brown encouraged his students to transform the empty lot beside the Town Hall into a community service project and their work grew into a long-term effort involving tree plantings, a skating pond, benches, and eventually the gazebo itself. Visitors are invited to stop by the gazebo to learn about the origins of Shapleigh Commons and reflect on Jim Brown's dedication and the students' lasting impact on the community.

– By Joanne Bargioni

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SPORTS

LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL

JUNIOR LEAGUE
STATE TOURNAMENT

Bonny Eagle/
Westbrook
co-op takes
the crown
*Team heading to
Pennsylvania*

The junior little league co-op team from Bonny Eagle and Westbrook (BEWB) won their eighth game of the summer on Friday, July 10. That victory was the most important to date: it sent the gang from Maine to Pennsylvania with a state championship banner in tow where they will compete in the Northeast Regional Tournament. BEWB handed Lincoln a 20-10 thumping in the final behind a 19-hit outburst.

BEWB trailed 4-1 entering the top of the third. They left ahead 5-4 and never trailed again. Brylee Goriss singled home two runs and Baylee Pouliot drilled a two-run homer to center that whipped the momentum level to 11 for the local nine. They added nine runs in the fourth to blow the contest open. The first 12 batters reached base in the inning. Kenzie Curtis had a two-run single and Reese Otis followed with a carbon copy two-run single of her own and an 8-5 lead. Liberty Atkinson banged a line drive single to right to make it 9-5 and Goriss' grounder went for an error that made it 10-5. After a walk to Pouliot, Greta Reinhard smashed a triple to the fence in center that made it 13-5. Breeanna Labon made it 14-5



The Bonny Eagle/Westbrook co-op team is the Maine State Champions in the junior little league division, after their win on July 10. The team heads to Pennsylvania for Regionals on July 23 and you can watch them on ESPN2. PHOTO BY AME PHOTOGRAPHY

with a double to right field to close the huge inning. Lincoln made a push to get back in the game with a five-run bottom of the fifth that made the score 15-10, but BEWB plated five runs in the top the sixth that put thoughts of a shocking comeback to rest. BEWB, in compiling their 8-3 mark have outscored opponents 104-62.

Bonny Eagle/Westbrook will represent the state of Maine at the Northeast Regional in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. Opening ceremonies are set for July 22 with the tournament championship scheduled for July 28.

STATE LITTLE LEAGUE
TOURNAMENT:
MAJORS SOFTBALL

Gorham tops
Massabesic in final

Gorham defeated Massabesic (MLL) in the state championship game, 7-5, for majors softball on Saturday, July 11 in Westbrook.

Massabesic forced the so-called "if" game by beating the

junior Rams earlier that same day by a 4-2 count. Maci Tyler went the first four innings giving up just one run. She left with a 3-0 lead thanks to an RBI double from Reese Duplisea in the second and an RBI single from Norah Palminteri in the fourth that plated Tyler. Cylee-Rae Graham got the save. Aubrey Bissonnette knocked in an important insurance run with a sac fly in the sixth.

In the state final Gorham raced out to a 6-0 lead after three

innings but MLL got back in it with a three-run third that cut the lead in half. Bissonnette drew a walk that forced in the first run then Graham singled in two more to make it 6-3. The Rams added a run in the top of the fourth to go ahead 7-3, but the Mustangs never quit. They scored single runs in the fourth and fifth to get to within two runs but could get no closer.

– By Mike DeAngelis
Sports Writer

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Tammy Patricia Macedo

Tammy Patricia Macedo passed away suddenly on June 29, 2026, at home in Sanford. Born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, she was the daughter of the late Irene Gail (Rousseau) Macedo.



Tammy Patricia Macedo

She is survived by her daughters: Savanna Arral and her husband, Mike Davis; Mariah Arral and her husband, Nicholas Weber; and Sierra Arral. Tammy was a Care Coordinator at Spurwink Services, a career to which she was deeply dedicated.

She is remembered for her joyous laugh, her love for her girls and chosen family, and her passion for music and dance. Her spirit is twirling in harmony as she has returned to our natural universe.

The family invites all those who knew Tammy to a celebration of her life on Saturday, July 18, 2026 from 12 to 4 p.m. at the Waterboro Grange Hall, 31 West Road

in Waterboro, ME 04087. In lieu of flowers, the family asks any donations be made in Tammy's memory to Spurwink, in support of the community she cared about.

Linda Jennie C. Dahms

A Life of Faith, Wonder, Creativity, and Love

Linda Jennie C. Dahms passed away peacefully at her home following a brave battle with cancer, the day after her 83rd birthday, surrounded by loved ones.



Linda Jennie C. Dahms

Born Linda Jennie Shepard in Westbrook, on June 24, 1943, she was the eldest daughter of Ethel Straw and Edwin Shepard and one of seven children. She spent much of her early childhood on "the farm," the beloved dairy farm in Gorham, Maine, with her grandparents Robert and Jennie Straw and Uncle Bud and Aunt Bea. Though life would eventually take her far from Maine, the farm was always home and her years there were among her happiest.

From an early age, Linda noticed the quiet beauty of the world

around her. She inherited a love of animals from her grandfather. As a girl, she delighted in singing to the cows and even conducting them in song from the fence. From her Aunt Bea, she learned to sew. From her grandmother, she inherited a love of hymns, which brought her lifelong comfort and joy. Indeed, this introduction to the music of faith developed into Linda's devotion to the practice of Christianity. Her beliefs were truly foundational in guiding Linda's life through its many challenges. In these various ways Linda's Grampa and Grammie Straw help shape a woman who saw extraordinary beauty—and experienced spiritual awe—in daily life. She freely shared this sense of wonder—and her love of Jesus, children, and dogs—with everyone around her.

Linda was predeceased by her mother, Ethel Straw; her father, Edwin Shepard; her husband, Walter "Peter" Dahms (d. 2004); and her brother, Robert Shepard (d. 2015).

She is lovingly remembered by her three daughters: Tamarra Clark Towle & husband, Haydn Towle, of North Waterboro; Jo Ann Clark & husband, Zhenya Zafirin, of Ossining, New York; and Susan Clark of Porter. She is also survived by her first husband, John M. Clark, of Temperance, Michigan.

Linda also leaves behind five beloved grandsons: Johnathan Cook of Tokyo, Japan; Julian Clark & wife Stephanie of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; of St. Augustine, Florida, James Cook & wife Jessica Rutherford and Taylor Cook & wife Kacie; and Teshar Clark Zafirin of Ossining, New York.

Linda was the great-grandmother to a cherished twelve ranging from ages 19 to 1: Alison, Rowan, Isla, Kieran, Jameson, Thorsten, Rune (Cook); Baylen and Maclen (Cook); Morgan and Damian (Clark); Ashton (Zafirin). Each child claimed a place in her heart, as did Ashton's mother, Sunuchi Mattis, whose role in the family brought Linda joy.

She is also survived by her beloved siblings, Amanda McConihe, Holly Pinkham and Rusty Rowe; brothers Dwight & Peter Shepard; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and cousins; and dear friends, including those in the Class of 1961,

the last to graduate from Buxton High School.

As the wife of a serviceman for two decades, she embraced military life with grace, adapting to each relocation. From postings in Alabama, Massachusetts, Alaska, Kentucky and Tennessee, she instilled in her daughters a love of adventure with a stabilizing sense that Maine was their true home.

It was in Maine where she met Walter "Peter" Dahms. They married in 1991 and shared many happy years together. Peter was a devoted husband, a proud grandfather, and a fine companion whose warmth—and goofy sense of humor—matched Linda's own.

A lifelong learner, Linda studied at Westbrook College in Maine. She graduated from Southern College in Orlando, FL with an Associates Degree in Interior Design & Business. She drew inspiration from designers Charles Rennie Mackintosh, Gustav Stickley, and William Morris. Linda's favorite courses were in architecture and her study of Craftsman and Shaker styles. These would remain a creative touchstone, including when designing her own home.

Linda's professional life reflected her creativity, leadership, and eye for beauty. In the 1970s in Alaska, she built a career as an independent contractor with Home Interiors & Gifts, Incorporated. Her success at HI&G earned her promotion to Regional Director. She traveled extensively, leading teams and attending conventions. She mentored women across Alaska and elsewhere, taking pride in helping women build confidence and financial independence.

After returning to the "lower 48" in 1977, Linda continued working in design and home decor, expanding her expertise into custom kitchen planning, window treatments, and design consulting with JCPenney, Joann Fabrics, and a family-owned custom kitchen firm. Clients and employers alike praised her keen aesthetic.

Linda launched her own wallpaper design and installation business and worked as a Tailor, Embroidery, & Monogram Specialist for L.L.Bean. Easing into retirement, the ever-energetic Linda worked in the Shapleigh Post Office and at the Maine CareerCenter. Her most treasured volunteer roles

were with the Foster Grandparent Program and the Good News Club at Shapleigh Elementary School.

Sewing was Linda's love language. As her seamstress skills grew she gifted entire generations with clothing, quilts, and Halloween costumes (often of her own design). Whenever possible she involved her grandsons—at every age—in choosing fabrics and patterns for new jackets, pajamas and shirts. She never tired of hearing the question, Nana, can you fix X?, or Can you make Y?. For her grandsons, she was always at the ready to hem something new or repair their well-worn favorites.

Linda marveled at storms on the horizon, weathered barns, and mountains. She delighted in catching sight of the elusive Lady Slipper or in gathering bouquets of May Flowers.

She treasured her lasting friendship with across-the-street neighbor Pauline Stocker, with whom she shared more than two decades of good times.

Above all else, Linda's greatest joy was her family. She was a devoted mother, yet her most cherished role was that of "Nana." She lived for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, delighting in every visit, celebration, and handmade gift. Their lives were enriched by her stories, with a vault full of memories: of pulling over to the side of the road, standing in awe under the Alaskan Northern Lights, ice skating as a girl across the frozen fields, the time she dropped the Thanksgiving Turkey, sending it skidding across the length of the dining room floor, or the time she locked herself inside her goat barn; She may have been in her 70's but still the farm girl at heart, she made her "Great Escape" after several, well-placed, mighty horse kicks! There was never a better Nana. Ever.

Linda was loved, and will be missed by the many people whose lives she touched. Her legacy lives on. Through her determination in all things, the values she instilled, the example she set, and love she gave.

The family extends heartfelt gratitude to the hospice teams who cared for Linda with compassion and dignity. To Calvary Hospice of New York, thank you for your kindness and devoted care during her time with her New York family. To Gentiva Hospice of Maine, especially Denise, Sarah, and Kate, thank you for your warmth, gentleness, laughter, and steady compassion during difficult days. To Linda and her family, you brought comfort to all.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Aug. 1 at 11 a.m. at Shapleigh Baptist Church (600 Shapleigh Corner Road). An on-site reception will follow.

An internment service will be held privately.

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EMPLOYMENT

TOWN OF ALFRED

HELP WANTED:

Part-Time Library Assistant

Parsons Memorial Library – Town of Alfred

The Parsons Memorial Library is seeking a creative, community-minded individual to join our team as a part-time Library Assistant. This position focuses on patron services, circulation desk tasks, and helping build library visibility within our community.

Hours: Saturdays 10am – 3pm, every other alternating Monday and Wednesday evenings 3pm – 7pm.

Requirements: Strong communication and customer service skills, basic computer proficiency, and a passion for community engagement. Must be available to work flexible hours during library operating shifts (including Saturdays).

To Apply: Please submit a resumé and brief cover letter or go to the Town’s website (under tax information & miscellaneous) download the job application - submit to Library Director Roycean Weyand at rweyand@alfredme.gov, or drop them off in person at the library (27 Saco Rd, Alfred, ME). Deadline to apply: Friday, July 24, 2026

The Town of Alfred is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

EMPLOYMENT

TOWN OF HOLLIS

NOW HIRING

Deputy Tax Collector / Deputy Treasurer

The Town of Hollis is seeking a **Deputy Tax Collector / Deputy Treasurer**. This is a full-time clerical/customer service position involving significant public interaction by phone and in person, collection of fees and accurate record-keeping in accordance with town, state and federal laws.

Essential duties include manning the counter for walk-in traffic, receiving tax payments, completing motor vehicle transactions (registration, excise tax, etc.) and providing requested public information both in-person and by phone.

The position requires strong organizational skills, attention to detail and ability to work directly with the public in a friendly and helpful manner.

Qualifications: Computer skills, ability to work in an occasionally fast-paced environment. Communications and public relations skills along with prior municipal experience is a plus.

Compensation is commensurate with experience. Vacation, insurance included and retirement benefits are available.

Interested candidates please submit resumé, cover letter, and references to the Town of Hollis, Attn: Town Manager, 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis, ME 04042 or e-mail townmanager@hollismaine.org. Resúmes will be accepted until the position is filled.

The Town of Hollis is an Equal Opportunity Employer

4 week minimum

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\$7 per week

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FROM THE MAINE DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY: BUREAU OF PARKS AND LANDS

Just keep going

An Allagash Wilderness Waterway Experience

The scenery in northern Maine is unforgettable. Spending five days on the Allagash Waterway is a bit otherworldly. But, as is so often the case, it's the people you meet along the way who stay with you the longest.

Late on the fourth day, on our way to Allagash Falls, we stopped at Michaud Farm Ranger Station to check in. Arguably, it's the prettiest setting on the entire waterway.

As we approached the shoreline, we couldn't find a clear route through the ever-changing sandbars. We ended up dragging our canoe across several of them before finally reaching shore ... all while the ranger watched with an amused smile.

"Well," I said, "that wasn't very impressive."

She laughed. "Those sandbars are always moving. It's a tough landing."

Just like that, she gave us a little of our pride back.

We talked for a while. She shared that she'd worked as a ranger in Maine, spent time serving in another state, and eventually found her way back home. Her name was Alissa.

She asked Chris what he did for a living.

"I'm an elementary school teacher in Colorado."

Interestingly, throughout our trip, whenever Chris told people he was a teacher, the response was almost always one of two things.

"Oh ... that must be tough." Or ... "Oh ... that must be rewarding."

Alissa didn't hesitate. "That must be very rewarding."

That answer didn't surprise me. Within a few minutes, it was obvious what kind of person she was. The kind who naturally sees the good before the difficult. The kind who leaves people feeling better than she found them. The kind who gives away encouragement as freely as advice.

As we were getting ready to leave, she shared something she often tells paddlers who stop at Michaud Farm. By then, they're four or five days into their journey. They've battled headwinds, bugs, sore muscles, rain, low water and long days. There are still nearly 30 miles left, and this is the last place where someone can realistically decide they've had enough.



Allagash Wilderness Waterway Ranger Alissa Lutz greeting paddlers at Michaud Farm.
"It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop." - CONFUCIUS

She smiled and said, "If you've got the attitude, the morale and the energy ... you just keep going."

I've thought about those words several times since coming home. She was talking about

the Allagash. But she could have been talking about life. Because very often, that's exactly what carries us through. Not perfect conditions. Not smooth water. Not an easy path.

Just attitude.

Morale.
Energy.
And the decision to keep going.

— by Mark Jones
President & CEO, Saco & Biddeford Savings

Real Estate

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