

# REPORTER

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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## Former landfill contamination investigated by DEP in Limerick

By SHELLEY BURBANK

Scientists from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Maine Center for Disease Control (CDC) shared findings and next steps regarding contamination from a former landfill with the Limerick Select Board at a special meeting Tuesday, June 30. The meeting was open to the public and attended by concerned citizens and taxpayers with questions about the extent of the contamination, health consequences for people living in impacted homes, and the responsible party for the remediation.

Project leaders Aaron Dumont, Brendan Auth, and Don White from the Maine Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management gave a slide presentation based

on their investigation on a former town landfill off Central Avenue and Pleasant Hill Road.

In 2018, the DEP was alerted to the presence of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) in a well at a former Maine Department of Transportation salt shed on Burnham Road near the Limerick Industrial Park and began their investigation. Further investigation on a larger scale involving the Central Avenue site began in 2023. The VOCs found were TCE and PCE, both cancer-causing chemicals used as industrial solvents and for dry-cleaning in the 1950s-1970s. These chemicals are known to cause health problems, especially at occupational levels.

At the Tuesday night meeting, Tom Simonos of the Maine CDC shared longterm affects both

non-cancerous and cancerous, of water contaminated by TCE/PCE. Exposure to PCE by pregnant women can result in heart defects. Effects of TCE are neurological, such as with attention and cognition. However, the studies were done at occupational settings which would have much higher levels of contamination.

Prior to 1972, Maine did not have the regulations or oversight that we have today. Aaron Dumont, DEP Project Manager, said, "It was local control going on out here." In their investigation, the team studied old photos and documents and talked to locals with knowledge of town history. The Central Avenue site was deeded to the town of Limerick as a "dumping ground" in 1951 and  
*(Continued on page 10)*



At a Tuesday, June 30 public meeting with the Limerick Select Board, Aaron Dumont, DEP Project Manager, shared findings and recommendations regarding industrial chemical contamination from an old landfill near Central Avenue. PHOTO BY SHELLEY BURBANK

## Sanford named ecomaine's 2026 Municipality of The Year

The City of Sanford has been named ecomaine's 2026 eco-Excellence Municipality of the Year, recognizing the community's commitment to recycling, sustainability, waste diversion, and environmental stewardship.

The Municipality of the Year award was established by ecomaine's Outreach & Recycling Committee to recognize member communities that go above and beyond in advancing recycling, community education, and sustainability initiatives.

Sanford was one of four finalist communities selected for consideration, alongside Topsham, South Portland, and Freeport. After evaluating each community's  
*(Continued on page 7)*

## Mustangs get walk-off win vs. Biddeford

Cylee-Rae Graham's two-out, two-run single in the bottom of the sixth lifted Massabesic Little League's (MLL) majors' all-stars to the District 4 Title, 5-4, over Biddeford (BLL) on Friday, June 26 at May Street Fields in Biddeford.

The mini-Mustangs had some wiggle room entering the contest with the Tigers in that they remained unbeaten entering, having gone 3-0 to get to the title game and with the added caveat of having topped Biddeford to open the tournament, 6-4, back on June 16. It turned out MLL didn't require their earned wiggle room, thanks to good starting pitching, timely hitting and late inning heroics.

The timely hitting began early when Sadie Marcotte opened the bottom of the second with a double. Norah Palminteri's productive out moved Marcotte to third and she raced home for a 1-0 lead  
*(Continued on page 9)*



Massabesic Little League's softball Majors All-Stars are the 2026 District 4 Champions. COURTESY PHOTO



# PARADE OF BUSINESSES



# Community CALENDAR

Email non-profit event listings to: [news@waterbororeporter.com](mailto:news@waterbororeporter.com)

## COMING EVENTS

**CHANCE TO WIN AN E-BIKE** plus helmet! Tickets are \$30 each and a Maximum of 100 tickets will be sold. The raffle closes July 3. Sponsored by Bonney Memorial Library and Local Gear of Cornish. Visit [bonneylib.betterworld.org/giveaways/e-bike](http://bonneylib.betterworld.org/giveaways/e-bike) for information and to purchase tickets.

**MOUSAM LAKE BOAT PARADE** There will be a 4th of July Boat Parade at Mousam Lake. This annual boat parade is an opportunity for members to decorate their boats with anything they wish (family, friendly, of course,) and travel down from Carpenters Cove to the Foot of Upper Mousam. Prizes are awarded to the top three entrants for both the large boat and the small boat categories. Registration begins at 11 a.m. at Carpenters Cove, which is the Upper Part of Mousam Lake and the parade travels down to the foot on the Shapleigh side. This is a lot of fun for

both young and old, with many lakefront residences viewing from the shoreline.

On Saturday, July 4, there will be an **OPEN HOUSE** at the historic Lyman Baptist Church, 1 So. Waterboro Road, Lyman. Displays of Revolutionary and Lyman town history will be available to view. This is sponsored by the Lyman Historical Society, courtesy of Judy and Steve Joyce.. Come and ring the huge steeple bell Theodore Lyman gave to the town in 1871. That's why the name was changed from Coxhall to Lyman! Join us in honoring our country's 250th birthday.

**PIE AND CRAFT SALE** on Saturday, July 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to benefit the South Effingham West Parsonsfield Citizens Organization, a non-profit which maintains the historical community and church building. Held outside, next to Ye Olde Sale Shoppe at 1543 Province Lake Road (Rte 153 S) in South Effingham, just

next to the border with Parsonsfield. Interested crafters and vendors can call 603-539-7910 (Bill Taylor) for more info.

**PERENNIAL AND HERB SALE** Saturday, July 4 and Sunday, July 5, rain or shine from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Doyle Family Farm at 515 Garland Road in West Newfield. Over 250 varieties of plants will be available for sale. Cash, Venmo, checks are accepted. An updated plant inventory and prices are posted on the new "Doyle Family Farm in West Newfield, Maine" Facebook page.

Join us at the Lyman Community Library on Tuesday, July 7 at 6 p.m. for a **JIGSAW PUZZLE TOURNAMENT**. Teams of 2-4 people race against the clock—and each other—to see who can finish assembling their 500-piece puzzle first. Call the library at 499-7114 to pre-register.

**REPTILE PRESENTATION** Our friends from the Chewonki Foundation will be at the Lyman Community Library on Friday, July 10 at 11 a.m. to give their Scales & Tails presentation, complete with live reptiles and reptilian artifacts. Call the library at 499-7114 to pre-register, 10 John Street, Lyman.

Join us for a **DINO DANCE PARTY IN THE LIBRARY!** Drop in on Saturday, July 11 at 11 a.m. for dino-themed snacks, crafts, and a dinosaur stomp in the children's area. Costumes and cameras encouraged, and there might even be a visit from a T. Rex! FMI 499-7114. 10 John Street, Lyman.

**SHAPLEIGH GARDEN TOUR** Join the Shapleigh Conservation Committee for the second annual Shapleigh Garden Tour on

Saturday, July 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Explore eight unique gardens. Talk with your hosts and get some great ideas for your own gardens. Maps are available for purchase for \$10 at the Shapleigh Town Hall and at Springvale Hardware. Proceeds go to cover maintenance to the trailheads on the town trails.

**21st ANNUAL VICTORIAN TEA** at the Parsonsfield Seminary, 504 North Road, Parsonsfield, Sunday, July 12 from 1 to 4 p.m. \$30 each (pre-buy) \$5 for 12 and under. Join us for an enjoyable afternoon with Jon Hively in his impersonation of Thomas Edison. Then proceed into our elegantly historic (1832) Doe Hall to partake in a light repast of Victorian victuals. Jane Hively — Harpist will be entertaining during the tea. Many years ago Jane played the harp for Queen Elizabeth. FMI (603) 539-5233 or (207) 625-8360 or (207) 793-8825. Proceeds Benefit the Restoration Fund of Historic Site. Non-profit organization hosted by Friends of Par Sem.

**LOON PROGRAM** On Tuesday, July 14 the Acton Public Library will be presenting a program on Loons and how to be a good steward for the welfare of our beautiful lake inhabitants. Come to the Loon presentation given by the Loon Preservation Committee on Tuesday, July 14 at 5:30 p.m. at Acton Town Hall, 35 H Rd., and sponsored by the Acton Public Library.

## 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.

**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.

**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 children 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](http://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.

**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.

**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.

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**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.

**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.

## LET'S EAT!

The Acton-Shapleigh Lion's Club **MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** the first Saturday of every month (Next on July 4). \$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.

**ROAST BEEF SUPPER** at the Hiram Community Center, 14 Historical Ridge, Hiram (off Main Street, Route 117). Saturday, July 4, Supper at 5 p.m., doors open at 4:45 p.m. Adults \$20, children 6-12 pay less, children 5 and under are free.

**BEAN SUPPER** Massabesic Lions monthly dine-in or take-out the 2nd Saturday of the month (next on July 11), 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Lions Regional Medical Center, 813 Main St. Waterboro. Adults \$10. Children 5 to 12 are \$7, kids 4 and under are free. Kidney and pea beans, chop suey, ham, hot dogs, coleslaw, "our homemade" biscuits and a variety of desserts.

**BAKED BEAN & CHOP SUEY SUPPERS** The First Congregational Church will host its monthly baked bean & American chop suey supper the last Saturday of each month from April through September (next on July 25) from 4:30-6 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.

**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 AND 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.

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## COLLEGE NOTABLES

University of Maine at Augusta (UMA) Provost Joseph Szakas announces the Spring 2026 Full-Time and Part-Time President's Lists and the Spring 2026 Full-Time and Part-Time Dean's Lists.

**Full-Time President's List:** Katerina Crowell, Limerick; Sarah Dayton, Sanford; Bill Diffenderfer, Hollis Center; Laurie Grant, Waterboro; Felicity Haller, Berwick; Kayla Hansen, Arundel; Cassidy O'Dee, Berwick; Kaitlyn Regan, Limington; L Umber, Limington; Olivia Wattles, Berwick; and Kylie White, Sanford.

**Part-Time President's List:** Chad Tope, North Waterboro; Lisa Houde, Berwick; and Mariah Lang, Kennebunkport.

**Full-Time Dean's List:** Maddie Gelinias, Lyman

**Part-Time Dean's List:** Barth Mayengo, Sanford; Kristi King, Sanford; Molly Brennan, Cornish; Nicole Pierrottet, Kennebunk; Sarah Lynn, Kennebunk; Trevor Prescott, Limington

The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that several area students have been named to its Spring 2026 President's List. Among them are Kathryn Fullerton of Limington and Abbey Gifford of Shapleigh

The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that Haley Black of Limington has been named to its Spring 2026 Dean's List.

Jacob B. LeBrun, of Alfred, was named to second honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Spring 2026 semester.

Liberty Bove, of Dayton, has been named to the Spring 2026 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, in Bristol, R.I.

The University of Hartford is pleased to announce that Kera Galbraith of Alfred has been awarded the degree of Master of Science in Prosthetics and Orthotics from the College of Education, Nursing, and Health Professions.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) has announced the university's Dean's List for academic excellence for the spring 2026 semester. The following students were recognized:

Waterboro resident Hannah Samson, class of 2026, majoring in Biomedical Engineering

Newfield resident Jack Trask, class of 2027, majoring in Computer Science and Interactive Media and Game Development - Technology

Dayton resident Seth Beyea, class of 2026, majoring in Mechanical Engineering

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LYMAN, ALFRED & WATERBORO

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FROM THE MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

# New Maine restrictions on certain rodenticides and herbicides now in effect

The Maine Board of Pesticides Control (BPC) is notifying homeowners, pesticide users, retailers, and applicators that new restrictions on certain rodenticides and herbicides took effect on June 16, 2026.

Under the new rules, products containing the following active ingredients are now classified as Restricted Use Pesticides in Maine:

- Rodenticides**
- Brodifacoum
  - Bromadiolone
  - Difenacoum
  - Difethialone
- Herbicides**
- Tebuthiuron

As a result, these products may only be purchased and used by individuals who hold a valid pesticide applicator license issued by the BPC.

General Use Pesticide Dealers may no longer sell products containing these active ingredients, and unlicensed individuals may no longer purchase or use them.

## What homeowners need to know

Homeowners and other unlicensed individuals who currently possess products containing these active ingredients may no longer use them. Existing products should be stored safely and disposed of properly.

Residents are encouraged to contact their local municipality to learn about household hazardous waste collection events. Additional information about pesticide disposal options, including facilities that accept pesticides and annual collection programs, is available through the BPC website.

## Why the Rules Changed

The restrictions were enacted in response to legislation passed by the 132nd Maine Legislature, including:

- LD 356, Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Prohibit the Use of Rodenticides in Outdoor Residential Settings (Resolve 2026, Chapter 47)

- LD 1697, An Act to Increase Penalties to Deter Violations of the Laws Regarding Improper Pesticide Use (Public Law 2026, Chapter 292)

The legislation was intended

to limit the use of Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) and Tebuthiuron-containing herbicides by homeowners and other unlicensed individuals.

The Board has posted a list of currently registered products affected by these restrictions. The list was generated on June 23, 2026, and may not include products that are not currently registered but could seek future registration in Maine. Users should consult the Board's website (<https://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/pesticides/index.shtml>) for the most current list of registered pesticide products.

For additional information, including the complete rule language contained in 01-026 CMR Chapter 40, contact the BPC at [pesticides@maine.gov](mailto:pesticides@maine.gov) or 207-287-2731.

– From the Board of Pesticides Control

**Send your news to:**  
[news@waterboro-reporter.com](mailto:news@waterboro-reporter.com)

## TOWN OF LYMAN

11 So. Waterboro Rd Lyman, ME 04002  
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[www.lyman-me.gov](http://www.lyman-me.gov)

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ASSESSING SERVICES

Now accepting proposals from qualified individuals or firms to provide professional assessing services on a part-time contractual basis. The selected contractor will provide municipal assessing services and be responsible for administering a fair and equitable property tax assessment program in accordance with Maine law and accepted assessment practices.

All bid proposals due by:  
**8/3/2026 1:00pm (EST)**

For more information/ RFP Form, contact: Town Manager

[townmanager@lyman-me.gov](mailto:townmanager@lyman-me.gov)  
(207)-247-0642



## Town of Lyman

### Nomination Papers Available

Nomination papers are available beginning June 23, 2026 for the following elected seats:

#### One (1) – Budget Committee, 1-year term

Papers are available at the Clerk's Office during regular business hours and are due back by the end of business day July 14, 2026

For more information, contact the Clerk's Office  
11 South Waterboro Rd Lyman, ME 04002  
(207)247-0650 or [townclerk@lyman-me.gov](mailto:townclerk@lyman-me.gov)

*Note: The Select Board of the Town of Lyman give notice that they have ordered, pursuant to 30-A M.R.S § 2525(4)(E), that a shortened nomination process be used to fill one (1) vacancy on the Budget Committee*

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## WATERBORO

### Drinks from the garden at the library

Tuesday, July 7 at 5:30 pm. Join the Waterboro Public Library staff for a fun-filled, hands-on class that will have you explore a variety of ways to incorporate herbs, fruits and vegetables into drinks (mocktails and cocktails included!) you can make at home! UMaine Extension Master Food Preserver Volunteer Claire Schreiber will lead this hour-long session. Spend time on vinegar shrubs - a fruit-infused vinegar that early settlers used as their own version of a refreshing sports drink. In addition to shrubs, you'll discuss other creative uses of fruits, herbs, and vegetables in drinks such as flavored simple syrups and lightly touch on the topic of kombucha. This is a very fun class with many opportunities to sample! Registration is required. FMI call 247-3363 or email librarian@waterborolibrary.org.

### The Life and Times of Milton Bradley

Monday, July 13 at 10 a.m. The Life and Times of Milton Bradley: A deep (and fun!) dive into the man behind the games, his New England roots, and how he revolutionized the way we play and learn. Presented by University of Maine Business Reference Librarian and Patent & Trademark Resource Center Representative, John Hutchinson. FMI call 247-3363 or email librarian@waterborolibrary.org.

The Waterboro Public Library is located at 187 Main St., East Waterboro. Programs are held in the Community Room. For more information, call 247-3363 or email librarian@waterborolibrary.org All programs are free and open to the public.



# Electrical wiring champion!



MAINE CONNOR WILCOX

SANFORD REGIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER

At the National SkillsUSA Student Leadership and Skills Conference held recently in Atlanta, Connor Wilcox, a high school student from Waterboro, won Gold! He competed for the Sanford Regional Technical Center (SRTC) and the State of Maine at the National level and took home first place in Electrical Construction Wiring. COURTESY PHOTO

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FROM THE WATERBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Community conversations on Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) at Waterboro Public Library

Wednesday, July 15 at 1:30 p.m.

AI technologies are being celebrated for their potential to revolutionize business and everyday life: doctors are using AI transcription to record appointment notes; Google is providing AI summaries of websites; and ChatGPT is being consulted by individuals and companies for all kinds of questions each and every day. But there are significant ethical risks that come along with every emerging technology – and generative AI is no exception.

Responding to the rapid increase in AI tools requires AI literacy, a combination of knowledge about how these technologies work alongside critical engagement with ethical concerns. In this session, we'll help you bolster your AI literacy skills, outlining the basic functions of these tools and helping you weigh the

potential risks with the potential benefits. We'll tackle questions such as: What questions should I ask if I'm thinking about using AI tools? How should individuals and groups disclose their use of AI? When should I refuse AI technologies? Who is benefiting most from AI development? And are the benefits being equally distributed? What does the future of AI look like? These are key questions we all must ask and answer together. Join philosopher Jonathan Beever and literacy/writing scholar Laurie A. Pinkert for a discussion about the evolving AI landscape and its implications for everyday individuals.

The Waterboro Public Library is located at 187 Main St., East Waterboro. Programs are held in the Community Room. For more information, call 247-3363 or email [librarian@waterborolib.org](mailto:librarian@waterborolib.org). All programs are free and open to the public.

# Sanford Fire Department's Technical Team rescues person trapped in garbage truck

On Wednesday, June 24, 2026, the Sanford Fire Department responded to a report of a person injured inside a garbage truck. Upon the arrival of the initial companies, crews found an individual injured and trapped in the forward section of the garbage container. It appears that the individual was sleeping in or otherwise occupying a dumpster that was unloaded into the garbage truck.

With multiple members of the Technical Rescue Team on duty, the incident was upgraded to a technical rescue response, bringing additional department resources to the scene. This specialized rescue was necessary due to the confined space and high-angle conditions involved.

The Sanford Fire Department's Technical Rescue Team is a specialized group of firefighters trained to respond to complex rescue situations that require advanced skills, equipment, and techniques beyond those used in routine emergencies. Team members receive specialized training in areas such as confined space rescue, high-angle rope rescue, trench rescue, structural collapse rescue, and other low-frequency, high-risk incidents. The team is equipped to safely access, stabilize, and remove victims from challenging environments while minimizing risk to both the patient and rescuers.

EMS personnel safely entered



COURTESY PHOTO

the location of the patient and began treatment while the Technical Rescue Team and other personnel on scene worked to establish the systems necessary to secure and remove the patient. Once the patient was extricated from the container, they were transported to Maine Medical Center in Portland.

The actions of all personnel and the successful outcome of this



incident demonstrate the vital importance of training, preparation, and teamwork. As a specialized low-frequency, high-risk event, this rescue highlights the value of the department's investment in maintaining a Technical Rescue Team and its ongoing commitment to being prepared for any emergency our community may face.

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**ECOMAINE**

(Continued from page 1)

recycling performance, outreach efforts, sustainability initiatives, and participation in multi-family recycling programs, the committee selected Sanford as the 2026 recipient. According to ecomaine, Sanford stood out for its strong educational engagement, impressive recycling rate, and successful partnership with the Sanford Housing Authority through the Multi-Family Recycling Initiative.

Over the past year, organizations throughout Sanford have worked closely with ecomaine to engage residents through a variety of community programs and events. Outreach efforts included participation in National Night Out, a transfer station kickoff event, senior center presentations on composting and sustainable gift wrapping, middle school recycling education programs, and Green Team initiatives.

The City's sustainability efforts were further strengthened through

innovative waste diversion programs. In partnership with Apparel Impact, Sanford's textile recycling program collected nearly 134 tons of textiles, helping keep reusable clothing and fabrics out of the waste stream.

Sanford also partnered with ecomaine through its Multi-Family Recycling Initiative to expand recycling access for residents living in multi-family housing. What began as a pilot program serving 61 housing units quickly grew to include 173 units, diverting nearly 1,800 pounds of recyclables within the program's first few weeks. The initiative's success was made possible through strong collaboration between ecomaine, Sanford Housing Authority staff, and residents.

"Receiving this award is a reflection of the commitment shown by our Residents, staff, community partners, and local organizations who support sustainability efforts throughout Sanford and Springvale," said Public Works Director Matt Hill. "We are grateful to ecomaine for this recogni-

tion and proud of the collaborative work that has expanded recycling opportunities, reduced waste, and strengthened environmental stewardship across our community."

Sanford has partnered with ecomaine for the past four years and currently maintains a 27% recycling rate, demonstrating the community's ongoing commitment to reducing waste and increasing participation in recycling programs. These sustained environmental

stewardship efforts are evidenced by Sanford previously receiving the 2019 eco-Excellence Award for Municipal Leadership as the City led the way in adaptation to enforced recycling contamination standards.

In announcing this year's award, ecomaine noted that what distinguished Sanford was not any single initiative, but the collective effort taking place across the community, from engaged residents

and active community partners to successful, measurable programs that have made sustainability an integral part of how the City operates.

The City extends its appreciation to the Public Works Department, Transfer Station staff, Sanford Housing Authority, community partners, local organizations, and residents whose participation and support helped make this recognition possible.



The City of Sanford recently received the 2026 'Municipality of the Year' award from ecomaine. COURTESY PHOTO

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<b>JULY 26<sup>TH</sup></b>		<b>Ryder Cup - Final</b>
<b>AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup></b>		<b>Club Championship - Day 1</b>
<b>AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup></b>		<b>Club Championship - Final</b>
<b>AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup></b>		<b>Sabin's Annual Orange Ball MS Tournament</b>
<b>AUGUST 24<sup>TH</sup></b>		<b>Lords of the Lake Men's Invitational</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup></b>		<b>So Long Snowbirds</b>
<b>OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup></b>		<b>Leaf Peeper Par 3 Tournament</b>
<b>OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup></b>		<b>Howie Knight Turkey Trot</b>

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Accepting New Patients



The swimming area at Holdsworth Park is officially open for the season. COURTESY PHOTO

## Springvale swimming area open for the season

A favorite summer destination for residents, Holdsworth Park features two covered picnic pavilions, a playground, open green space, hiking trail access, and a swimming area, making it a great place to spend a summer day with family and friends.

Lifeguards will be on duty most Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays, unless otherwise posted at the lifeguard shack.

Note that the swimming area will be closed to the public on Tuesday and Wednesday (Aug. 19) from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for Summer Camp activities. Swimming outside of staffed hours is at your own risk. For safety reasons, visitors are asked to use the park only during its open hours, from dawn to dusk.

Before heading to the water, please keep these safety reminders in mind:

- Always supervise children
- Follow all lifeguard instructions
- Swim with a buddy
- Stay hydrated and reapply sunscreen regularly
- Consider dressing children in brightly colored or neon-colored swimsuits, which can be easier to see in the water

Springvale Recreation Area at Holdsworth Park is located at 278 Main Street, Springvale.

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# SPORTS

## LITTLE LEAGUE SOFTBALL

### DISTRICT CHAMPS

(Continued from page 1)

on Reese Duplisea's RBI ground-out. BLL tied it with a run in the fourth, but the mini-Mustangs escaped further damage when a second run was cut down at home (9-1-2) to end the inning. Duplisea made it 2-1 in the bottom of the fifth when she singled home Marcotte who singled after Graham reached on an error to open the frame. Graham, who was excellent on the mound, had to navigate through a leadoff error and dropped third strike in the sixth that opened the door to three runs and a 4-2 lead for the Tigers. She got the win with 10 strikeouts and no earned runs allowed. Paisley Pelletier opened the bottom of the sixth with an all-important leadoff double. Julia Chambers' single put runners on first and third. Teagan Darigan reached on an infield single to load the bases for Emmalyn Picard who ripped a single to center that scored Pelletier and made it 4-3 while reloading the bases. Biddeford cut down the tying run on a force play at home for the first out and a strikeout made it two down, bases juiced

for Graham. She smacked a 2-1 pitch on a line to center that plated Darigan and Picard for the 5-4 banner clinching win. Massabesic had hits from eight different batters while fanning just four times. They did not draw a walk.

MLL opened the tournament with a 6-4 win over Biddeford (Graham whiffed 12). They followed with a 7-2 win over Marshwood and a 16-1 thumping of Sanford before they met BLL in the final.

The state championship will take place in Westbrook with a start date after the holiday.

- By Mike DeAngelis  
Sports Writer

### Tigers take small star tournament with win over Massabesic

Biddeford's 8-9-10 (BLL) all-stars won the district four minors' championship thanks to an 8-2 win on Tuesday, June 30 in South Berwick. The Tigers, who lost their first tournament game, forced the final "if" game after a 13-2 win the night before over the mini-Mustangs. In the final, Massabesic led 2-0 after one inning, but BLL scored four times in the second inning and never trailed thereafter. Massabesic finished 3-2.

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**LIMERICK**

(Continued from page 1)

was abandoned in the 1960s. It was then sold and subdivided in the 1970s.

At the meeting Tuesday night, Limerick resident, Tony Carroll, spoke about dumping from the Limerick Mill in the 1950s at the time a company used it to produce rectifiers, a process that involved the use of solvent chemicals. Longtime resident and current Limerick selectboard member, Howard Burnham, said he remembered the mill “dumping barrels of waste into the Central Ave landfill” when it was used by shoe companies. “Truckload after truckload.”

At that time and up until the 1970s, when environmental protections were put in place, towns did not understand the impacts of this kind of dumping. The dump

was closed in the late 60s. The land was subdivided. Everyone forgot about the chemicals. The chemicals, however, didn’t disappear. They traveled.

**Testing results**

DEP geologist, Brendan Auth, shared information about how the chemicals leached into the ground in a “plume” and spread. The area involved is a valley with lots of sand and gravel, and the chemicals spread from the Central Avenue dump area down toward Lake Arrowhead. In fact, the salt shed where VOCs were first detected in well water is not far from the lake.

Lake Arrowhead Community (LAC) homes are on the HOA’s water system, not private individual wells, and no TCE or PCE has been detected in LAC water testing to date.

Of all the locations tested, the Central Ave area has the highest

concentration of homes with concerning levels of contaminants in water and air samples.

The DEP tested soil, water, and air on several properties spanning the plume. Soil sampling detected some PCE and TCE at several locations but at levels below the residential Remedial Action Guidelines (RAGS). Three homes in the Central Ave area had groundwater detection levels above the residential RAGS. Three homes also had air (sub-slab soil gas) levels detected above the residential RAGS.

Air contamination is caused when gases leak up through the basement into the airflow of the home. To remediate the problem, filtration systems were installed, and further tests showed reductions in the high 80s and 90s percents.

In answer to concern about the safety of trailer homes in the Limerick Trailer Park on Pleasant Hill Road, the DEP representatives said that because the trailer homes sit on slabs rather than dug basements, they do not have to worry about soil gases. The park has its own water system, not individual wells.

**Next steps**

The DEP will continue to do quarterly sampling of the water



The old Maine Department of Transportation salt shed on Burnham road was the first reported TCE/PCE water contamination site in Limerick for a current DEP investigation. Uncovering the toxic industrial chemicals kicked off several years of investigation into a former Limerick landfill located a few miles away from the shed in an area off Central Avenue near Pleasant Hill Road.

PHOTO BY SHELLEY BURBANK

filter systems through the remainder of 2026. They will also work with homeowners to seal cracks in basement slabs to prevent soil gas seeping into the homes. Moving forward, the DEP will also be working on source zone delineation at the old landfill and studying the geophysics of the area. “That will tell what’s going on beneath the soil and we will be able to formulate an approach,” said Dumont.

Regarding the flow toward Lake Arrowhead, they have no

plans at this time to test soil and water near Lake Arrowhead Community saying that at this time it’s all funding dependent. Funding for these expenditures will be reduced significantly next year. Last year \$4,000,000 was the top expenditure allowed, according the DEP reps at the meeting. Next year it will be \$500,000, they warned.

Questions were raised about who is responsible for ongoing costs of cleaning up and mitigating the effects of the old “dumping ground” decided to the town in the 1950s. According to the presenters, the DEP bore the cost for the air filtration, not the DEP. Because the contamination occurred on the site of a town dump, the town of Limerick is considered the Responsible Party (RP) in this case.

The best long-term solution would be to get town water run to homes in the affected area, the DEP said, and that would be Limerick’s responsibility.



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# Sanford High School celebrates 133rd Commencement Ceremony

Sanford High School held its 133rd Commencement Ceremony on Wednesday, June 3, at Alumni Stadium, gathering graduates from the Class of 2026 alongside their families, faculty, and friends for an evening of celebration and reflection.

The ceremony opened with music, as the SHS Chorus performed "May the Road Rise to Meet You," followed by the SHS Band with "Salvation Is Created." Teacher Erin Murphy-Putnam then delivered the charge to the graduates before the evening's student speakers took the stage.

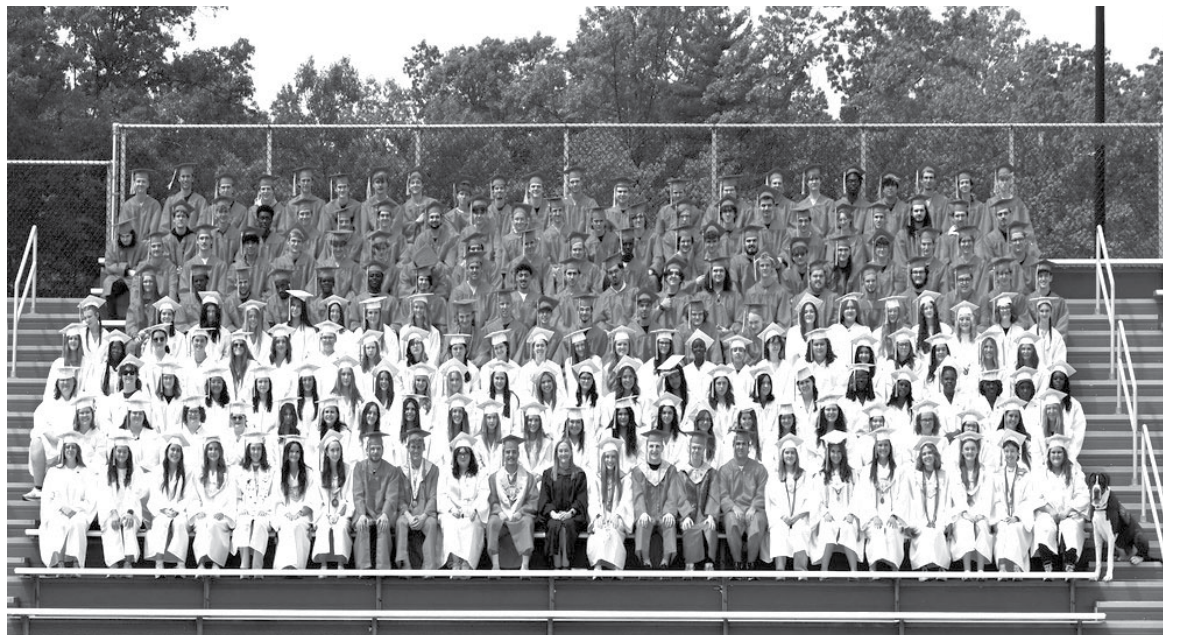
Salutatorian Annalise Stimmell opened her address by walking her classmates through the shared journey of their school years: the excitement of kindergarten, the eagerness to reach middle school, the anticipation of high school, and the long countdown to graduation. Her message to graduates was a simple but meaningful one: stop waiting for the next milestone and start appreciating where you are. "Instead of sitting around and waiting for the next big thing to come along, enjoy the journey you take to get there," Stimmell told her classmates. "This moment will soon be a memory. Never again will you be here, sitting with your class, graduating from Sanford High School."

Valedictorian Isabella McCall followed with an address grounded in resilience, confidence, and self-compassion. Drawing inspiration from the television series "Ted Lasso," McCall encouraged her classmates to "be a goldfish." To acknowledge setbacks without dwelling on them, and to keep moving forward. She spoke about the pressure students place on themselves, and urged her peers to extend themselves the same kind-

ness they would offer a friend. "I am never down on my peers when they do not reach a goal. However, many of us, including myself, have a history of doing this to ourselves."

McCall reminded the class that the outcome is rarely what matters most. "The part many end up enjoying and missing the most is the process, the time spent with friends, the hard work put into anything you do, the journey of finding confidence is what makes it special. Living in the moment, it's a gift. That's why they call it the present."

Principal Tracy Gibson then presented the school's annual cup awards to four deserving members of the graduating class. The Alumni Cup, awarded to the senior with the highest verified total hours of school and community service, was given to Braeden Landry. The Tribune Cup, recognizing a female student for character, leadership, and superior physical and mental achievement, was presented to Annalise Stimmell. The Campbell Cup, awarded to the male student who has shown the most marked improvement in athletics, scholarship, and character, went to Brady Boissonneault. The Achievement Cup, honoring



Sanford High School Class of 2026. COURTESY PHOTO

outstanding achievement in major school activities, was presented to Senior Class President Matthew Hebert.

The presentation of diplomas followed, with Principal Gibson joined by Superintendent of Schools Matt Nelson and Amy Sevigny, Chair of the Sanford School Committee. Hebert announced each graduate as they crossed the stage to receive their diploma

The ceremony concluded with

the class song, "Landslide," by Fleetwood Mac. You can watch the 133rd Commencement Cer-

emony on WSSRTV's Youtube page at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qmM8FDZLI>



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Know your rights

Happy Independence Day on this 250th Birthday Celebration, aka, sescentennial for this country.

Let's hope that it will be a festive, enjoyable and safe one for all, with more gratitude for our rights that we have, besides the rights that we are all supposed to have. Let's fully restore all of our fundamental rights, including more to be done for restoring all our unalienable rights. Real freedom with civil liberties includes having our fundamental God-Given, inherent unalienable rights, pursuant to the Declaration of Independence. These vital unalienable rights shall NOT be blocked, infringed on or denied or removed by any Government.

On July 2, 1776, the Second Continental Congress voted for Independence from Great Britain. On July 4th, the delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a critically important document drafted by Thomas Jefferson and signed by him, among several others. This is an important key document for the birth of our nation. This document, the Declaration of Independence, is a critically important founding document, in conjunction with the Constitution for the United States of America.

During this time over this holiday weekend, we should take time to re-read the Declaration of Independence and study it in greater detail. Let's all remember and realize that our rights and our personal civil liberties are fundamental, inherent natural God-given rights, also known as unalienable or inalienable rights. Also, and subsequently, our unalienable rights and civil liberties come from our Creator; they DO NOT come from the Government. However, this Government, including the previous Administrations, seem to act to the contrary and see things differently, in total contradiction to our Declaration of Independence and to the National Constitution, the latter being the supreme Law of the Land.

In closing, it's time for many more American people, including Mainers, to understand and fully appreciate all of our fundamental natural rights, including our inherent unalienable rights, realize this and wake up to past, recent egregious situations, including earlier on, while the pandemic occurred. As we know, much was unlawfully done in total contradiction to the aforementioned founding documents of this country. Let's all do a much better job to uphold and protect our God-given unalienable rights. Happy Independence Day, all.

— David Hall  
Cornish

What ever happened to Poor Farms?

When I was very young, my aunt and uncle managed a town Poor Farm.

This was a place for homeless people to live. While subsidized by the town, residents were required to do animal husbandry (raise chickens, pigs, etc) and gardening (vegetables) to provide their own food.

They were also expected to do housekeeping and property maintenance.

I and my niece were invited to spend a weekend there and it was a very rewarding experience.

Why did they disappear and wouldn't it timely to re-establish them?

— John Lemire  
North Waterboro

THAT NIGHT

*It was a perfect June day, and evening was coming on perfect too.*

*The light played in the trees and bounced on the field and pond, filling my young eyes and soul.*

*As I turned and headed for the house all was well with the world.*

*Dad had been sick in bed for a number of days, missing this joy of June.*

*As I opened the door from the porch there he was, trying wobbly to make his way down the stairs.*

*Being too weak to finish the trip he sat down midway in tears; the strange sight tore at me.*

*Mom came and together, in more tears, they finished the journey, leaning one on the other.*

*A long, gray ambulance came and Dad was moved to the hospital for the night and morning tests.*

*With Dad safely resting, I in the dark of the summer night, with stars shining bright over the pond and over the fields, laid down to a good night's rest*

*with that peaceful vision dancing through my dreams. From some distant place a hand shook my shoulder hard, and my sister's voice crashed into my dreams, "Wake up! Wake up! Daddy's dead."*

*As my eyes were beginning to open she was gone. The faint light in the hall that drifted up the stairs from below was all that broke the darkness, piercing my mind, ending my nearly-asleep questions, telling me this wasn't a dream. In a fog I stumbled from the bed to the hall in that shadowy light. As I stood there, barefoot and alone, my mother's loud wailing mounted the stairs; the announcement that my young life had forever, irrevocably, changed.*

— Frank Vasalle  
Lebanon

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**ROADSIDE MOWING SERVICES**  
The Town of Buxton is soliciting bids for roadside  
mowing of approximately 120 miles of road.  
This is a two-year (2) contract covering mowing  
periods of July & August 2026 and 2027.  
**Bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly  
marked "Roadside Mowing Bid!"**  
**HOT BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT IN PLACE**  
The Town of Buxton is soliciting sealed bids for  
hot bituminous material to be delivered starting in  
July 2026 through June 30, 2027. **Bids must be in  
a sealed envelope clearly marked "Paving Bid!"**  
**CRACK SEALING FOR TOWN ROADS**  
The Town of Buxton is soliciting sealed bids for  
the crack sealing of Town roads to be delivered  
starting in July 2026, through June 30th, 2027.  
**Bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly  
marked "Crack Sealing Bid!"**  
**SEALED BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO:**  
Board of Selectmen, Town of Buxton,  
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**The deadline for bid submissions is**  
**Wednesday, July 15th, 2026 at 12:00 PM.**  
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Public Works Director, at 207-229-8574.

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Obituaries

**Annabelle Farley**

It is with heavy hearts and profound sadness, we announce the passing of Annabelle Farley, of Arundel, who gently left this world on June 30, 2026, at the tender age of six. Annabelle passed away peacefully at Barbara Bush Children's Hospital, surrounded by the unwavering love of her family.

Born on Aug. 1, 2019, at York Hospital, Annabelle was a beacon of joy and light from the moment she arrived. As the beloved daughter of Camden Farley and Abigail Ouellet, she graced the lives of all who knew her with her radiant smile and vibrant red hair, which perfectly complemented her spunky yet loving personality. Annabelle had a unique ability to light up any room she entered, and her contagious laughter was cherished by everyone she met.

Annabelle was a proud student of Carl J. Lamb School, where she made it to the first grade.

Her desire for learning and her innate curiosity were evident to her teachers and classmates alike. Her love for singing, dancing, and painting revealed her artistic soul and provided her family with countless cherished memories.

A spirited participant in taekwon do, Annabelle embraced the discipline and camaraderie of the



Annabelle Farley

sport with enthusiasm and grace. Her determination and zest for life were evident in every kick, punch, and bow she performed.

Annabelle is survived by a loving family who will forever hold her memory close. Her little brother, Theo Farley, will carry forward her legacy of joy and laughter. She is also survived by her stepmom, Braelynne Trempe, and her stepdad, Noah Ouellet, who loved her as their own.

Her grandparents, Michelle and Daniel Mitchell and Justine and Peter Farley, will miss their precious granddaughter's visits, filled with giggles and tender hugs. Annabelle's life was also celebrated by many aunts, uncles, and cousins, all of whom shared in the delight she brought to family gatherings.

Though Annabelle's time with us was far too brief, her impact was immeasurable. She taught us the importance of savoring every moment, embracing our passions, and spreading kindness unconditionally. Her bright spirit will forever guide and inspire those who were fortunate enough to know her.

In honor of Annabelle's life, her family encourages donations to organizations that support children's cancer research. To create hope for other children and families facing childhood cancer. Annabelle fought with incredible courage, strength, and joy. While we couldn't change the outcome for her, together we can help change the future for other children.

A public service will be held for family and close friends to celebrate Annabelle's life and the indelible mark she left on our hearts on Friday, July 17 at 6 p.m. at the Chad E. Poitras Cremation and Funeral Service Chapel, 125 Sokokis Trail (Rt. 5), East Waterboro. Online condolence messages can be submitted at the funeral home website, www.maineFuneral.com.

Her memory will live on in each note of a song, each brushstroke of paint, and every burst of laughter shared in her name.

Annabelle Farley, though your time with us was short, your spirit and joy will echo through the ages. We love you forever.

**Ray Davis earns statewide recognition as Road Scholar**



The City of Sanford is proud to recognize Ray Davis of Sanford Public Works for earning designation as a Maine Roads Scholar through the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT). COURTESY PHOTO

The Maine Roads Scholar Program recognizes municipal road professionals who demonstrate a commitment to expanding their knowledge and strengthening their skills in roadway maintenance, transportation infrastructure, safety, and public works management. To earn the designation, participants must complete a rigorous series of training workshops covering topics such as pavement preservation, roadway fundamentals, drainage systems, snow and ice control, work zone safety, traffic control, tort liability, and transportation regulations.

In total, Ray completed eight required workshops and three elective workshops, investing significant time in professional development while gaining practical knowledge that can be applied directly to maintaining and improving Sanford's transportation

infrastructure. The designation reflects Ray's commitment to public service and continuous learning. The skills and knowledge gained through the program will support Sanford Public Works' ongoing efforts to provide safe, reliable, and high-quality services for residents while helping the department implement industry best practices in roadway maintenance and management.

Ray joins Public Works Deputy Director Peter Smith as one of two current Maine Roads Scholars within the department. Several other Sanford Public Works employees are also pursuing the coursework required to earn the designation, reflecting the department's ongoing commitment to professional development and excellence in public service.

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