

REPORTER

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100th Anniversary Pilgrimage Service at the Elder Grey Meeting House

By CYNTHIA MATTHEWS

The bell outside the church rang at 2:02 p.m., and notes of the prelude music from the pump organ in the back was heard. About 50 people sat on the one-plank benches in the boxed pews at the Elder Grey Meeting House on Sunday, Aug. 2 as the 100th Anniversary Pilgrimage Service began.

Why is it called a Pilgrimage Service? When we think of pilgrimage, we think of a long physical journey to a sacred place, not a quick trip up the hill for a church service. The Elder Grey Meeting House is a different kind of church, and in this case, perhaps pilgrimage refers to a symbolic return to an historic place to show respect.

Originally built in 1806, the church was moved to its current

location on Chadbourne Ridge (also known as Bradeen Ridge) in 1832. “In those days, Joseph and Samuel Bradeen, brothers, owned farms on opposite sides of the road. Joseph gave the site where the Meeting House was placed, and Samuel gave land across the road for the cemetery,” according to the “History of the Elder Grey Meeting House” booklet handed out at the service. It was moved by men and oxen during foundation restoration work in 2000, it was discovered that it was probably brought up the long, steep hill backwards, as the front peak is bowed forward slightly.

The Meeting House gets its name from Elder James Gray, one of the early pastors of the church who served for many years. When he died in 1854, there were periods of time where the church

was used infrequently, and “by the late 1800s, it had fallen into disrepair,” according to the booklet. But in 1924, the windows had been broken by vandals, and folks in the area, came together to repair and restore the building. The first Pilgrimage Service was held in 1926. “This occasion is to commemorate the restoration of the Old Meeting House to its original condition as our fathers worshipped in it,” according to the invitations sent by Eva Shapleigh, a copy of which was printed in the program for Sunday’s service. “These Pilgrimage Services have continued every year except for the pandemic year 2020.”

When you walk into the church, you immediately realize that you are at the front of the church, with the altar beside you

(Continued on page 5)



Tom Osbourne playing guitar at the Elder Grey Meeting House on Aug. 2. PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MATTHEWS

SENIOR LEGION STATE CHAMPS!

	PITCHES	BALL	STRIKE	OUT	H/E
	72	0	0	0	0

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	RUNS	HITS	ERR
TRENTON	0	1	0	0	0	1	0				2	7	3
RIDERS	0	0	0	0	5	2					7	8	1

The local American Legion Baseball team, the GSM Riders, clinched the Maine Senior American Legion State Championship by defeating Trenton 7-2 on July 29 in Bangor. The team, made up of 17- to 19-year-olds, is scheduled to play Thursday, Aug. 6 at 6 p.m. at the regional tournament in Worcester, Massachusetts for a chance to play in the 2026 Legion World Series. COURTESY PHOTO

‘Ship a Cup of Joe’ sends coffee to troops

By JOANNE BARGIONI

The Armed Forces Outreach Group (AFOG) of Saint Matthews Parish, Limerick participated in the parish’s annual Funshine Fair held on Sunday, July 25 and 26. They hosted a booth dedicated to supporting active duty service members and veterans. Led by Deacon Paul Lissandrello, AFOG is a parish-based volunteer group whose mission is to raise funds through community events, bake sales, and other initiatives to assist those currently serving in the Armed Forces as well as veterans. This special fundraiser benefited Soldiers’ Angels, an organization committed to providing comfort and care to military personnel and veterans. The event centered around the “Ship a Cup of Joe” initiative where the fairgoers were offered a free cup of coffee and invited to make a donation to help send coffee to service members overseas, active military personnel at home, and veterans in nursing homes and hospitals.

The funds raised helped Soldiers’ Angels ship entire pallets of coffee to those who serve.

(Continued on page 5)

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



COMING EVENTS

CHURCH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE Friends of Old Corner Church will be holding an open house at Old Corner Church on Aug. 8 from 12 to 4 p.m. Come walk through this 1804 church where the first settlement was started in Waterboro. This church is located at the Corner of Federal Street and West Road in Waterboro.

YORK COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 12 at Alfred Town Hall, 16 Saco Road. Doors open at 6 p.m.; business meeting is from 6:30-8 p.m. All registered Republicans welcome. FMI: YCRCsecretary@yorkgop.org, (508) 523-9197.

TOOTSIE ROLL FUNDRAISER The Knights of Columbus Council 8868 will be conducting their annual Tootsie Roll Fundraiser for Special Olympics Programs at SAD 6, SAD 55, and RSU 57 on Friday & Saturday, Aug. 14-15 at the following locations: Call's Shop 'n Save, Cornish; Limerick Supermarket, Limerick; The Milk Room, Waterboro; and Plummer's Shop 'n Save, Buxton.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND PICK-A-PRIZE RAFFLE, with lots of different prizes Saturday, Aug. 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the South Effingham Church, 1560 Province Lake Road (Route 153). Proceeds to benefit the South Effingham West Parsonsfield Citizens Organization, which maintains the historic building. FMI call Patty at 603-539-7518.

ALFRED SUMMER FAIRE Sponsored by the Alfred Parish Church & Parson's Memorial Library Saturday, Aug. 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Crafters and vendors can reserve a space for \$20 by calling 324-3841.

Community CALENDAR

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

COLONIAL GENDER IDENTITY: CULTURAL, RELIGIOUS AND FAMILIAL OUTLOOKS IN THE COLONIAL ERA Saturday, Aug. 15 at 10 a.m. at the Sweat-Morin Homestead, 374 School Street, Sanford. Explore the 18th-century Americas, when gender identity was defined by men in public power and women in domestic, private roles. The homestead house and barn are handicapped accessible. For questions call 207-490-1028 or email info@sanfordhistory.org.

LEARN A NEW PAINTING TECHNIQUE at this month's Adult Craft Night at the Lyman Community Library, 10 John Street, Tuesday, Aug. 18 at 6 p.m. Supplies provided, free to the public. FMI contact the library at 499-7114.

INTERESTED IN RAISING YOUR OWN BEES? On Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 6 p.m., Valerie Cole from Andy's Farm & Garden will be at the Lyman Community Library to talk about what to consider before buying that brand-new bee-keeping suit. FMI call the library at 499-7114.

ONGOING EVENTS

KIDS' CRAFTS AT THE LYMAN COMMUNITY LIBRARY Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 11 a.m. Upcoming projects: Painted Veggie Stones and Owl Pellet Dissection. Supplies provided, free to the public. FMI contact the library at 499-7114, 10 John Street, Lyman.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

CHESS MATES at Limerick Public Library, 55 Washington Street, Limerick. Play chess

with old or new friends 2nd Wednesday each month at 6 p.m. **DROP-IN LEGO BUILD** every Tuesday at 3 p.m. and Sat. at 10 a.m. FMI-793-8975 or limericklibrary.org. Enjoy building a creation with our LEGO collection.

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

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

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

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 Aug. 29) 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.

The Acton-Shapleigh Lion's Club **MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** the first Saturday of every month (Next on Sept. 5). \$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.

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

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

COMMUNITY CAFÉ at Southern Maine Agency on Aging, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 21 Bradeen 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.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

- LUNCH SPECIALS READY IN THE WARMER BY 11 AM
- DINNER SPECIALS READY IN THE WARMER BY 4 PM

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCH	AMERICAN CHOP SUEY \$8.00 BBQ RIBS WITH WHITE RICE \$8.00	SHEPHERD'S PIE \$9.00	BBQ TOPPED MEATLOAF DINNER SERVED W/ CORN & MASHED POTATOES \$9.00	TRADITIONAL LASAGNA & CHICKEN SPINACH ALFREDO LASAGNA \$9.00	BBQ PULLED PORK SANDWICH \$6.25 MAC & CHEESE \$6.00
SOUP	CHILI \$6.50				
DINNER	CHICKEN KABOBS W/ STARCH \$8.50	CHICKEN PARMESAN \$8.50	BURRITO BOWL \$8.50	COUNTRY FRIED STEAK W/ STARCH & VEG \$8.50	

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STATE NEWS

Maine voters can now request absentee ballots for Nov. 3 election
Ballots will be mailed beginning 30 days before the election

The Secretary of State’s Office has announced that Maine voters may now request absentee ballots for the Nov. 3, 2026 General Election. Voters may request ballots online or by contacting their town or city clerk. Contact information for municipal clerks can be found on the Secretary of State website at <https://absentee-ballotrequest.sos.maine.gov>.

Maine’s no-excuse absentee voting laws allows any registered voter to request a ballot three months before Election Day, and their ballots will be issued by their municipal clerks beginning 30 days prior to Election Day. Once a ballot request is submitted, Maine voters can track the process of that request and their ballot online.

Maine’s no-excuse absentee voting period, including in-person absentee voting at town and city halls, extends through Oct. 29. All absentee ballots for the upcoming General Election must be received by a voter’s municipality by 8 p.m. on Nov. 3, 2026.

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SANFORD



The flexible roadway delineators are meant to narrow the travel lanes and improve pedestrian visibility on the crosswalks. COURTESY PHOTO

Traffic calming measures

While driving around Sanford recently, you may have noticed new roadway features at the intersection of Grammar Road and Grammar Street and near the Hannaford crosswalks on Main Street. These changes are part of the City of Sanford’s ongoing effort to improve roadway safety through traffic calming, an approach that uses proven traffic engineering techniques to encourage safer driving behaviors.

Traffic calming is intended to influence how drivers interact with the road. Rather than relying solely on posted speed limits, these techniques use visual cues and roadway design to encourage motorists to slow down, remain aware of their surroundings, and navigate intersections and crosswalks more safely.

“Traffic calming isn’t about making it harder to drive through Sanford,” said Public Works Director and City Engineer Mat-

thew Hill. “It’s about creating streets that naturally encourage safer driving.”

The new installations were developed through a partnership between the City of Sanford Public Works’ Engineering Division and the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) as temporary demonstration projects. At the intersection of Grammar Road and Grammar Street, the City installed roadway delineators that visually narrow the travel lanes, along with a temporary four-way stop. On Main Street near Hannaford, flexible delineators create temporary curb extensions, or “bump-outs,” at two pedestrian crossings to improve pedestrian visibility and discourage drivers from passing stopped vehicles by using the right-side breakdown lane.

These projects are part of Sanford’s broader Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan, a long-term initiative focused on reducing serious and fatal crashes throughout the

community. The plan uses crash data, traffic analysis, public input, and engineering best practices to identify locations where targeted safety improvements can have the greatest impact.

“The work we’ve done through our SS4A Safety Action Plan is what identified these two locations as areas where improvements could make a meaningful difference,” said Hill. “These projects demonstrate how the City can test targeted, low-cost solutions, evaluate how they perform in real-world conditions, refine them if needed, and, if successful, use what we’ve learned to guide future transportation improvements”

As Sanford continues implementing its SS4A Safety Action Plan, residents may notice additional safety initiatives throughout the community. Each project is tailored to the unique needs of its location, but together they are part of a broader effort to create a transportation system that is safer for everyone, whether traveling by car, bicycle, or on foot.

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Green Futures scholarship award

The Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council is proud to announce Ryan Alexander as the inaugural recipient of the 2026 Green Futures Scholarship. Established in May 2026 in partnership with Walden Renewables, the Green Futures Scholarship Program supports students pursuing careers in Maine’s rapidly growing green energy industry.

Alexander, a Sanford resident and recent Sanford High School graduate, will enroll in the Electrical Engineering Technologies program at Southern Maine Community College this fall. He brings valuable hands-on experience from working alongside his father in their family electrical business, which he hopes to one day take over and expand. In addition to his technical skills, Alexander is a multi-sport varsity athlete and a dedicated community volunteer who assists with local youth sports camps.

Funded through a community benefit agreement with the City of Sanford, the Green Futures Scholarship Program offers Toolship Awards and Training & Education Scholarships to help build the region’s workforce in renewable energy, energy efficiency, electrical technology, and HVAC. Applications open each Spring through the Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council, with priority given to students from the Sanford area.

“This scholarship represents an investment in the next generation of skilled tradespeople who will power Maine’s clean energy future,” said Keith McBride, Executive Director of the Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council. “Ryan’s work ethic, community involvement, and clear career goals made him a standout candidate, and we’re excited to support him on his path.”

AT LEFT: Keith McBride and Ryan Alexander. COURTESY PHOTO

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SHIP A CUP OF JOE

(Continued from page 1)

A donation of \$200 covers the freight cost of sending one pallet which contained 65 cases of coffee, with 18 bags per a case, which is a total of over 1,170 bags of coffee!

These shipments provide far more than a caffeine boost, soldiersangels.org states that “for those deployed in remote and challenging environments, a hot cup of coffee is a connection, a moment of normalcy, a sense of home, and a meaningful morale boost. Veterans in VA hospitals

also benefit as a shared cup of coffee can spot conversation, offer comfort and demonstrate ongoing appreciation for their service.”

AFOG is pleased to announce that thanks to the generosity of fair attendees they successfully reached their fundraising goal of \$200 and that a full pallet of coffee will be shipped to support service members and veterans.

AFOG extends thanks to everyone who contributed to this effort and continues to support their mission of caring for those who are/have served our nation.

AT RIGHT: Members of the Armed Forces Outreach Group of St. Matthew’s Parish in Limerick accepting donations for “Ship a Cup of Joe.”

From left, Barbara Caputo, Dee Mahoney, Don Berthiaume and Deacon Paul Lissandro. PHOTO BY JOANNE BARGIONI



Send your news to:
news@waterbororeporter.com

ELDER GREY MEETING HOUSE

(Continued from page 1)

(left or right, depending on which door you enter from), and the pulpit, a big piece of furniture with stairs on either side for the pastor to climb to address the church. The middle section of pews rise up at an angle with the pump organ at the back, while the pews on either side are all at the same level. And when you take a seat and look towards the altar, you see flowers, but there is no cross.

Perhaps this is because the original church was universalist. Elder Gray was a Free Will Baptist minister. “We have scant information about the services there after he died in 1854,” said Linda Hanscom, Treasurer/Clerk of the Elder Grey Meeting House-Cemetery Association. “Over the 20th century and recently, we have had many denominations represented, determined by the guest minister.” She added, “Sometimes they weren’t ministers. We’ve had a judge and a governor!” She continued, “Traditionally, the president of the association finds the guest minister.” The current President, Leslie Ortiz, contacted Rev. Mabel Laird of the Alfred Parish Church, who had been recommended, and led Sunday’s service.

At the start of the service, Rev Laird welcomed guests and offered announcements. She made note of the flowers on the altar, picked that morning by the Downs Family and arranged in the style of their mother/grandmother/great-grandmother, Ethel Sinclair Downs. There were several members of the Downs family present for the service, coming from different parts of the country, as Ethel, who was heavily involved in the association, and served as its Treasurer for many years, was being honored. Her mother, Annie Chadbourne Sinclair, was one of the founding members. “Our local Downses are Debby Downs and her husband Jon Gale,” said Hanscom. Phil Mugridge, a grandson of Rev Lester Homes, who led the first Pilgrimage Service, was also in attendance.

Rev. Laird then asked for a moment of silence for those from the Meeting House who have passed away, as she read their names. After the scripture readings, special music was offered by Tom Osborne of Limerick. “He plays guitar and sings in churches in the area,” said Hanscom, who asked him to come and play at the Elder Grey Meeting House a couple of years ago. According to Hanscom, he replied, “I’ve been wanting to attend there for a long time!” He performed a beautiful

acoustic version of the song, “Turn, Turn, Turn” by The Byrds.

Rev Laird’s Message was titled, “Full-filament.” She told the congregation that Jesus summed up all the commandments into one when he said, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength, and love your neighbor as yourself.” He also said, “You are the salt of the earth” and “You are the light of the world.” Laird explained that the “You” here is not singular but plural. That we must all work together, and we have a lot of work to do. “We can stand together for good.”

Following the message, the congregation stood and sang the final Hymn, “Be Thou My Vision,” accompanied by Marina Minkin on the pump organ. Minkin lives in Sanford and plays for the Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church. Ortiz had asked Minkin to play. “It’s not always easy to find someone who can play

a pump organ,” Hanscom said. To play a pump organ, one must “pump” the foot pedals to breathe air into the bellows that then force air past the reeds that make the sound. It is hard work! “One year a woman injured her ankle as she played,” said Hanscom, and as you can imagine, never returned.

After the service, refreshments were served out on the lawn and folks were invited to visit the cemetery across the street.

Why are there two different spellings of Gray and Grey. “When we write about Elder James Gray, for whom the meeting house and cemetery are named, we use the ‘a’ spelling,” Hanscom explained. “When we refer to the meeting house itself, the cemetery and the association, we use the ‘e’ spelling because a descendant of Elder Gray involved in the forming of the association used the ‘e’ spelling. “It’s confusing, isn’t it?” said Hanscom.

The Elder Grey Meeting

House-Cemetery Association was formed in 1928 by 10 founding members, and is registered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. They continue to care for and maintain the Meeting House and the Cemetery. In 1979, the Elder Grey Meeting House was entered into the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information on the Elder Grey Meeting House and Cemetery, visit <https://eldergrey.org>.

SIDE NOTE:

If you are interested in other old churches, The Old Corner Church, on the corner of Federal Street and West Road in Waterboro will be holding an Open House this Saturday, Aug. 8 from noon to 4 p.m. Their annual worship service will be at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 16. It is one of Maine’s oldest historic meeting houses, and the oldest public building in Waterboro.

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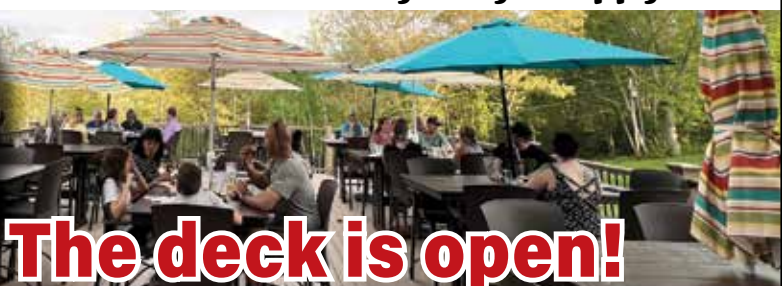
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Obituaries

Alberta Ann (Carll) Richards

Alberta Ann (Carll) Richards, 93, of Buxton, passed away on July 26, 2026, at Maine Medical Center in Portland.



She was born at home in Buxton, Maine, on September 6, 1932, the daughter of the late Guy and Grace (Pinkham) Carll.

As a child she attended a one room schoolhouse located on the Simpson Road in Buxton. She would walk to school and was often responsible for arriving early to start the wood stove and bring in water. Alberta later attended the S.D. Hanson High School and graduated in 1951. She was the captain of the girl's high school basketball team and won the championship her senior year.

She met her husband Earl U.B. Richards, Jr. during high school and they were married on September 28, 1951. Together they raised 4 sons, Mark, Peter, Paul and John. They were married for 65 years before Earl passed away in 2017. He was the love of her life. She called him her 'good ole boy' and after he passed away, she named her cane "Earl." "Earl" went wherever she went, and she often remarked on all the ways "Earl" was able to help her.

Alberta was loving, giving, family-focused, and adventurous—she loved to have fun with her family and friends and loved making memories. Over the years, Alberta enjoyed camping, golfing (getting a hole in one), dancing, snowmobiling, motorcycling, birdwatching, and gardening. She and Earl traveled across Canada to Alaska and traveled through 49 of the 50 states on their motorcycle pulling a small camper behind. She reminisced about their trip to Alaska for many years. She was involved with the Sokokis Snowmobiling Club, the Saco River Grange, Tory Hill Congregational Church, the Red Hat Society, the Maine Golden Eagles Motorcycle Club and the Maine Retreads XL Plus Motorcycle Club.

Alberta loved planting flowers, and if someone gave her a flower, she often named it after that person, like her plant "Aunt Agnes." She was proud of her huge rhodo-

dendron bush and would marvel at the blooms each year. Growing glads with her sister Helen was a favorite summertime activity and decorating Christmas baskets while her sister made wreaths was a favorite winter one. She also loved feeding and watching the birds, playing cards and dominoes with family and friends, and watching The Weakest Link.

Family meant everything to Alberta. She was very happy and thankful to have so many of her family members living close by. She checked her calendar frequently and made sure to send her family birthday, anniversary, and Christmas cards. On Thanksgiving and Christmas, her house was the early morning meeting place for the family tradition of eating homemade chicken pie for breakfast. She loved her family, loved them more, and loved them to the moon and back.

Alberta was predeceased by her husband, Earl, her son John Richards, her grandson Cory Richards, and her sisters Helen Betts and Sabra Saindon.

She is survived by her sons, Mark (Edith) Richards, Peter (Diane) Richards, Paul (Marjorie) Richards, all from Buxton; grandchildren Melissa, Amanda, April, Amber, Ryan, Ben, Josh, and Peter; great-grandchildren, Hannah, Hailee, Olivia, Alexandria, Cody, Garret, and Curtis, and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held Aug. 7 at 10 a.m. at the Chad E. Poitras Cremation and Funeral Service Chapel, 498 Long Plains Road (Rt. 22), in Buxton followed by the memorial service at 11 a.m. Burial will immediately follow at the South Buxton (Tory Hill) Cemetery. Online condolences can be submitted at www.maine-funeral.com.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Tory Hill/First Congregational Church of Buxton, PO BOX 37, Bar Mills, ME 04004.

EMAIL OBITUARIES
W/PHOTO TO:
news@waterbororeporter.com

LETTERS

Support for Mark Vigliotta

I'm writing in support of Mark Vigliotta, candidate for Maine Senate District 33, which includes Sanford, Springvale, Lebanon, Alfred and Waterboro. Mark is a tireless advocate for working families who has a long record of fighting for the rights of working people as a union leader at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Mark's number one priority is affordability. We need affordable housing, health care and child care in southern Maine. Decisions made in Washington mean prices keep going up with no end in sight and I worry how younger people will be able to buy homes and start families, and how older people will be able to hold onto what we have. With his years of experience at the bargaining table, I am confident Mark will be able to fight for us effectively.

Please join me in voting for Mark Vigliotta for State Senate on Nov. 3.

– Zendelle Bouchard
Sanford

Support for Rebecca Flood Andrews

I am writing to express my strong support for Rebecca Flood Andrews for State Representative in District 141, serving Newfield, Sanford, Shapleigh, and Springvale. Rebecca is one of the most active community members that I know, and will be a devoted and dependable representative.

Rebecca knows the daily challenges we all have, as she lives them. As a parent, PTA member and substitute teacher, she understands the challenges the school system deals with, as well as public safety concerns every family has. Caring about the community on all levels, she is a member of the Sanford Arts Commission and the Clean Air and Water Coalition.

As a small business owner and member of the Sanford Springvale Chamber of Commerce, she has had to navigate the unpredictabil-

ity of our economy, and understands the diverse needs of our community farms and businesses.

Her healthcare experience includes helping people expunge almost a million dollars of medical debt, and having been in need of the neonatal intensive care unit, sees medical access and care for all as a mission.

Personally, her sincerity and dedication inspire me. From her enthusiasm helping organizations plan and implement fundraisers, to the excitement and fellowship in her voice when she points out a Barbara Bush Children's Hospital license plate, I know how deeply Rebecca cares about our community.

I believe if you go to her website, <https://rebecca4maine.com>, send her an email or give her a call, you will be endorsing her too. Rebecca wants to hear from everyone, feels value and finds common interests, concerns and solutions

in every conversation. The people of district 141 deserve to have Rebecca representing them, showing up every day to fight for what is best for the community.

– Sarah Johnson
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