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Local artist inspired

BY SHELLEY BURBANK

After taking art classes at the Portland Arts and Technology High School (PATHS) and graduating from Southern Maine Community with a liberal arts degree concentrating in art, Kelsey Kay Harris of Limerick gave up painting for awhile. She worked at a marina fixing boat engines, working with plexiglass, and even doing some finish carpentry. However, a year ago a friend gave her a paint set and encouraged Harris to pick up the brushes again. That was all it took. Now this young artist is blooming like the flowers she loves to paint.

"I've always been interested in art," Harris said, sitting back with a cup of tea next to a beautiful quilt-in-progress beside her. At PATHS she specialized in commercial art. In college, she took art classes, and her work was displayed on campus and at several shows in the Portland area, including a week-long stint at Starbucks. One of her mixed-media paintings, "Zombies on Exchange Street," won first place in a juried art show of the same name at Artist & Craftsman, a high-end art supply shop Portland.

As soon as she began creating again in 2017, Harris dove back into art like an otter into water. Soon she was staying up until 2 a.m. painting abstracts with one



Kelsey Harris owner of Designs By Kelsey Kay holds up one of her self-designed quilts. PHOTO BY SHELLEY BURBANK

of her favorite mediums, acrylics. She took up quilting after visiting Annie's Teeny Tiny Quilt Shop in Limerick, creating her own patterns and learning the basics of the process in two short months. Friends began asking her to make gifts for them to give, and she took that next step.

Now, a year later, Harris is expanding even further, starting her own small business selling her creations online. Her web-based business, Designs By Kelsey Kay, opened in December 2017. With Facebook as her primary "store," Harris posts examples

of her quilts, horsehair bracelets, and personalized paintings, and she is taking custom orders from customers who would like to her to create similar items for them.

One example of a personalized painting incorporates the foot and handprints of a friend's children, using the prints as the basis for an image of three young bears and a momma bear set against a night-blue background. A swirly wash of stars and a moon and fireflies reminiscent of Van Gogh's Starry Night and the dark colors prevent the painting from being too cutesy.

(Continued on page 8)

LIMERICK

Voters to consider \$800K fire station

BY SHELLEY BURBANK

Limerick's fire chief, Michael McLean requested at Tuesday night's board of selectmen meeting, Jan. 16, that the town officials include a question on the March ballot regarding building a new fire station.

For many years, the town has been conducting studies and looking at plans to build a new station that would house all the fire department and EMS equipment, provide sleeping quarters and showers, and create a community function room. In 2014, voters turned down a proposal to purchase land on Washington Street for a new fire station estimated to cost \$3.2 million.

The new proposal is much more modest. At the meeting Tuesday night, Chief McLean said he would like to ask the town to approve \$800,000 for a new station that would be built across from the current station. The town already owns the property, and water and sewer have already been hooked up to the site. "We can get drawings. We will do whatever we have to do to help the town visualize this. It is time to move to the future," McLean said. "We should come together for a good cause."

McLean has been the fire chief for five years and during his tenure, the department was able to initially add weekend coverage of one person and then eventually added a second person on the weekend. At present there are 30 fire and EMS volunteers on the department.

This year, the department was able to purchase a new ambulance and a new fire truck paid for out of this Rescue Billing Fund, at no cost to the Limerick taxpayer, McLean said at their recent end-of-year dinner, citing this as the department's greatest achievement this year.

After much discussion about the proposed location and deed restrictions, whether it was prudent to ask the town to approve the expense without a firm plan and timeline in place, and further questions about spending more time and money creating yet another plan without first ascertaining the will of the taxpayers, Selectman Sonny LePage made a motion to put a question before the voters in March asking if they want to spend up to \$800,000 on a new fire station. John Medici seconded. LePage and Medici voted in favor, and Joanne Andrews abstained.

"At least we'll be moving forward," LePage said.

Children meet wild critters

BY ALLISON WILLIAMS

An enthusiastic group of youngsters recently gathered at Alfred Town Hall to meet an assortment of animals (an owl, falcon, porcupine and turtles) brought in by Katie Brodeur, an Education and Outreach Fellow

at the Center for Wildlife in Cape Neddick.

She explained the mission is to rehabilitate them for a return to the wild. Some cannot be returned to their natural habitat either because of injuries or because they have been "humanized" and it would not be safe for them. They become true ambassadors for their species, visiting schools and organizations.

The first "visitor" was a peregrine falcon, a raptor who feeds on a wide variety of foods. She explained he is carnivorous, and the fastest animal on the planet, being able to fold his wings close to his body and swoop down on his prey at 300 miles per hour. He is able to catch things that move quickly, is susceptible to pesticides and is common in New Hampshire. He enjoys having his pen placed close to a window where he can "people watch."



Fred the Peregrin Falcon eyes his handler Katie Brodeur during a Conservation Commission talk for youngsters at Alfred Town Hall on Jan. 11.



Learning about flight

Amy Titcomb, left, assisted in the presentation by the Center for Wildlife by showing interested youngsters the construction of wings at Alfred Town Hall last week. PHOTOS BY ALLISON WILLIAMS

(Continued on page 2)

ALFRED

Allison Williams

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WILD CRITTERS

(Continued from page 1)

The audience was next shown "Byron the Barred Owl." Over 50 percent of these handsome birds are hit by cars. They might swoop down to get a mouse, frog or snake in the road. People are warned not to throw out an apple core or anything an owl might perceive to be edible or something which might attract a predator. Their bones are hollow and won't heal like ours.

Next came Henry, a handsome fat porcupine with fur covering his quills. It was explained if they lose quills they regrow them. They eat apples or anything sweet, and during his visit he munched constantly on crackers. His tail acts like an extra foot.

Last to be displayed were two box turtles. These are not like those we see along a river; they do not require water. If one is seen crossing a road the best thing to do is to pick it up and take it across closer to its destination.

After the presentation the children were invited to come up and see the animal artifacts on the front table and have questions answered. The next program by the Conservation Commission will be a tracking session in the woods in February and in March, an opportunity to make bird houses.



Wally Alberts celebrated her 90th birthday in the Keywood Manor Clubhouse last Saturday with many friends and family in attendance. She is shown chatting with Anita Williams and Ginny Timmons. The party was a well-kept secret. PHOTO BY ALLISON WILLIAMS

90th birthday gala

A surprise 90th birthday party was given Wally Alberts last Saturday at Keywood Manor. Approximately 75 friends, neighbors and family showed up to help her celebrate the occasion, which was a complete surprise to her. Among them were two of her sons (who planned the party) Robert and Edward. She has a third son, Craig, and daughter, Beth.

Wally states she has lived in Alfred for 18 years, having come from Amherst, NH. previously. Although she no longer gardens, she is known as a very competent gardener.

She states she was surprised to see so many cousins present, and that she enjoys the activities at Keywood.

New music leader

A new music director began providing the music at Alfred Parish Church this past Sunday. He is Eric Klaxton from Somersworth, N.H. His past education in music includes a B.A. in music performance from the University of New Hampshire. He is proficient

on the piano, saxophone and clarinet and is a teacher and lecturer presently instructing all age levels at the Portsmouth Music and Arts Center where he is also an ensemble coach.

He is an active composer/arranger and has performed with a number of groups in the New England area. He has been a substitute choir director or accompanist at churches in southern York County and has won several Seacoast Spotlight awards over the past six years.

Parish church

Sunday, February 4 the annual church meeting will be held following the service. At the annual meeting it will be determined whether to continue the time of 9:30 for services for the remainder of the winter and whether to continue services in the chapel until the end of February. A Family Fun Day will be held on Saturday, February 10, from 4 to 6 p.m. Game boards will be available, also snacks. Adults and children are welcome.

Republicans meet

York County Republicans met in the community room at the York County Jail on January 15 with representatives from York County towns reporting on upcoming activities and fundraisers. A Lincoln Day Breakfast is planned for Duffy's in Old Or-

chard on Feb. 2 from 9 to 11, for \$25. There was also discussion on who is paying those who are gathering signatures? Dr. Demi Kouzaunas brought up this problem as did several others. The group is meeting in the community room at the jail rather than at Town Hall because it is accessible.

The Alfred Town Committee met in Town Hall this past Monday, with Heidi Sampson, our representative. George Donovan stated he was resigning as chairman but will stay on until May. Problems with recruiting members was discussed.

Activities for seniors

If winter is getting you down – you can join those playing "Hand and Foot" at the Trafton Senior Center in Sanford on Tuesdays, from 9:30 to 11:30.

Or join those playing cards on Tuesdays in Parsons Memorial Library from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Or join the rug hookers at the Almon Williams home on Tuesdays from 1 to 4.

Food pantry

The York County Food Pantry will be opening in a new location, off route 4 in the building formerly known as the sheriff's office, behind the "elephant grave". It is planned to have it open on the same hours, 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. FMI call York County Shelter.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Email events to: news@WaterboroReporter.com

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER Saturday, Jan. 20, 5-6:30 at Goodwins Mills Advent Christian Church on the Mill Pond, Rt 35, Goodwins Mills.

BENEFIT SPAGHETTI DINNER & DANCE to benefit Cherie Eastman of Kreationz Hair Studio in Limerick, and her family, who lost their home to a fire on Jan. 2. Everyone is safe, but the house and all of their belongings have been destroyed. Bella Vista Event Center is hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, Jan. 20, from 4-6 p.m., \$10 for adult, \$5 ages 12 and under. Dance is from 7-11 p.m. and costs \$15 per person or \$20 per couple, BYOB, 50/50 raffle. Both events will be held at Bella Vista Event Center in the Old Limerick Mill, 171 Washington Street, Limerick.

BAKED BEAN SUPPER Saturday, Jan. 20 from 4:30-6 p.m. at St. Matthews Church, 19 Dora Lane, Limerick. Baked beans, ham, hot dogs, chop suey, casseroles, desserts and beverage and door prize. Adults \$8 and children 6-12 are \$3. Under 5 is free.

TABLE TOP GAMING SOCIAL at Goodall Memorial Library, 952 Main Street, Sanford on Jan. 20 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Community Room. Refreshments will be provided. Covered drinks and outside food are welcome in the Community Room for this event. Come in from the cold and have some fun with us.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Monday, Jan. 22, 1-6pm at St. Matthews Church, 19 Dora Lane, Limerick.

CALLING ALL QUILTERS! The Evergreen Quilt Guild will meet on Monday, Jan. 22, from 6-9 p.m., at St. David's Episcopal Church, Route 1, two miles south of Kennebunk Village. Evergreen Quilters usually meet the 4th Monday of each month except July and December.

COMEDY IMPROV NIGHT Fundraiser for RSU 57 Odyssey of the Mind, Jan. 26 at Massabesic High School auditorium. Doors open 6 p.m., showtime 7 p.m. Fun for all ages, tickets \$7.50 at the door.

NEW ART EXHIBITION "Passionate about ART" by the Maine Art Education Association at the Saco Museum. Opens on Saturday, Jan. 27. Reception 1 to 3 p.m. Runs until March 30. Museum hours Tue., Wed., and Thu.: noon-4 p.m., Fri.: noon-8 p.m. (free after 4 p.m.), Sat.: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 371 Main Street, Saco.

GOT NEWS?

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LIMERICK

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Not the worst roads in RSU 57

Limerick resident Heath Edgerly, speaking up for Limerick Steeplejacks, the plowing company contracted with Limerick for this year's road service, told selectmen Tuesday, Jan. 16, that they had their information wrong. Limerick's roads were not the worst in the school district, he said.

Edgerly said he spoke with Matt Kearns, RSU 57's transportation director following last week's selectmen's meeting. "He [Kearns] said they wouldn't say that Limerick had the worst roads," Edgerly said.

Selectman John Medici said that he did not speak with Kearns who wasn't available but rather with someone else in the transportation department. He said he had been getting calls from concerned taxpayers. "We've been discussing the conditions of the road for weeks," Medici said when asked whether the three selectmen decided to call the school. He did, however, make the decision to call the transportation department on his own. He also pointed out that he stated publicly that the plowing contractor had been quick to respond to all concerns.

Edgerly, who works for Steeplejacks, explained that his crews were out working the entire four days of the storm and were more than fulfilling the obligations set out in the contract. Not only are they using the recommended amounts of salt and sand, he said, but also they have doubled the amount to combat the icy condition of the roads. "We've gone above and beyond. We know the roads are bad before you do," he said, also mentioning trees bent across the road preventing the plow trucks from doing their job and asking why those impediments weren't being addressed. He also referenced plowing and sanding turnarounds on private property for the buses because there were no town-owned turnarounds—a potential issue for insurance bonding. "There's more to it than people can see."

The contract between the town and the company states that the contractor would plow the roads shoulder to shoulder and sand them, Edgerly said. There was nothing in the contract about using salt. He also talked about his years of experience plowing in Limerick and other nearby towns. "I don't see that we are doing anything wrong."

Code Enforcement

Mike Gilpatrick, Limerick's code enforcement officer recently reported that he is being proactive regarding bringing the town's shoreland zoning ordinance into line with upcoming state laws. Changes include a different definition of a building's "footprint" in the shoreland zone which will include decking. There will also be new rules about cutting and replacing hazardous trees. Gilpatrick said the wording is almost completed for getting the changes on the ballot as the DEP has reviewed it and Maine Municipal Association has reviewed it.

Gilpatrick said the state has not set a deadline yet, but he wants to be proactive about getting the wording into the zoning ordinance and circulate it to the public.

Gilpatrick said he was using the slow time of year to clean up old permits and encourages people to contact the office if they have completed their work.

Research Club donates

The Research Club of Limerick is grateful to the citizens of Limerick and surrounding towns for the donations made to their Red Bow project, says club member Jeanine Houseley. The red bows purchased at Christmas time helped to decorate the lighted tree in the gazebo in the center of town during the holiday season. The group was able to donate \$1,063.21 to The Wounded Heroes of Maine Program.

The Wounded Heroes of Maine was started about eight years ago by Pam Payeur, Executive Director and mother of a wounded soldier. This program supports the military by coordinating assistance for wounded veterans so they receive the support they need. All monies raised stays here in the state to help Maine's wounded return to civilian life. For more information go to www.woundedheroesmaine.org.

A closer look at the Parks & Recreation budget

Reflecting four years of expanding programs and improving infrastructure as well as the potential for further expansion, Lisa LePage, current Town of Limerick Parks & Recreation Director, submitted her 2018 budget to the town's budget committee who felt they could not recommend the budget to the taxpayers as written and reduced the numbers in several key areas, prompting recent questions and discussion again at the Tuesday, Jan. 16 selectmen's meeting.

The 2018 budget submitted by LePage was significantly higher than the previous year, asking for capital expenditures on the irrigation system, high school field expansion and goals, and a scoreboard (which was actually purchased in 2017). This week, when asked about the proposed budget, committee chairman Gil Harris explained, "The total rec department budget request for 2018 was \$45,583. The 2017 budget of \$21,179 was, I believe reduced at the town meeting to \$18,929 after removing Lacrosse tee shirts and trophies."

One of the items reduced by the committee was the parks and rec director's stipend. Harris explained, "The 2018 budget request for the director's stipend was \$7,000, an increase of \$4,000 over the previous year." That amount represents a 233 percent increase.

The budget committee recommends the stipend be cut fifty percent from \$3,000 in 2017 to \$1,500 in 2018, a decision LePage takes to heart. "I felt so unappreciated, like they don't value my position."

When asked to address this cut, Harris replied, "After the discussion about the rec budget, including the requested stipend increase, a motion was made for the budget including the \$1,500 stipend. Per the minutes of the meeting, there were a number items reduced from the budget Lisa LePage proposed. I do not know all the reasons that members made the motion or voted for the revised budget."

"I wouldn't have been happy if the stipend had been left at the 2017 level," LePage said, "But I

wouldn't have been as upset."

According to budget committee member Bill Jones, the decision to cut the stipend was due to the fact that the position had been run on a volunteer basis in the past. "As far as Lisa's stipend being cut in half, it was discussed as a board that the position was always based on being a volunteer and the board thought that \$1,500 was a good number to be at."

LePage says that the program has come a long way from when it was volunteer run, only offering a soccer and basketball program for elementary students. Since she and her daughter Amanda began directing the program, she says the programming has been significantly expanded. Due to the increased activity, she regularly puts in an average of 30 hours a week managing the department, recruiting and meeting with volunteer coaches, the Line Elementary principal, she lines the soccer fields, fields calls and emails from parents, purchases supplies and equipment and organizes program events, among other tasks.

What about volunteers? This year there were 11 volunteer coaches for soccer plus five or so family volunteers to help out, five volunteers for the Village Christmas festival table, and 12 volunteer basketball coaches, she said. "The coaches are basically for that particular sport. They run practices and coach games." Someone, however, needs to be in charge, LePage said.

Expanding the offerings of parks and rec has been high on the list of priorities. According to LePage, the department has added the following programs and events: Village Christmas craft table; pee-wee soccer; pee-wee basketball; five movie nights; three weeks of skills & drills soccer practice; grades 7-8 to soccer program; high school soccer program; sledding party in Feb.; Boy Scout Island picnic tables; a community cookout day; a Meet Your Local Heroes day; adult basketball; country music concerts; and an ice-skating rink at the park.

Although the soccer program was expanded to include high school age students last year, the games had to be held in Buxton because Limerick does not have a high school sized field, LePage said. One of the items on the proposed budget was an expansion of one of the soccer fields to high school regulation size so that

games could be played in town. It's good to have this program for the high school kids, LePage said. Not all of them in middle and high school get to make the school teams. She also said she had hoped to start an adult soccer team that could play on the field.

Harris, however, explained the rationale for denying the request for an expanded soccer field, saying, "The budget requested funds to expand the soccer field to accommodate a potential increase in the number of older players. The budget committee felt that it was premature to ask the town to pay for this in 2018."

However, if interest and participation continue, it will be considered again at a later date. The budget committee minutes from their Dec. 17, 2017 meeting state: "It was discussed that the committee would like to see the program grow over the next few years and see a consistent level of participation by high school athletes before funding the proposed expansion."

On Monday night, at the Jan. 16 selectmen's meeting, Harris spoke to the board explaining that a large portion of the budget was for capital items which were for soccer field irrigation. He said the budget committee recommendation was that expanding the field and the sprinklers on it will be at a later date. He also reiterated that the budget committee was charged by the voters of Limerick to make a recommendation regarding the department budgets and that it is up to the voters to decide at the town meeting.

"The Budget Committee's responsibility to the citizens of Limerick is to recommend what expenses the town should make to provide necessary services while keeping the tax rate affordable," explained Harris in an email earlier in the week.

Voters at town meeting will have a chance to discuss and propose and vote on changes to the budget items before voting yes or no to accept each budget at that time. Limerick will hold its annual town meeting on March 10.

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SHAPLEIGH

Joanne Bargioni
joannebargioni@gmail.com

4-H club leader nominated for national award

Hazel Goodwin of Shapleigh was nominated for the 2017 National 4-H Salute to Excellence Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer Award. The winner was announced earlier this week and although Goodwin did not receive the National award being nominated is an award in itself. According to Sarah Farrell, 4-H Youth Development Professional, prior to becoming a 4-H Club volunteer, Goodwin was a member of the 4-H Club for 11 years during the Great Depression (1931-42). When her own children joined the club she decided to give back and become a volunteer. Under her guidance the 4-H Club became an integral part of the Shapleigh Community. Goodwin has been adamant that the Club members serve the community and the 4-H Club members clean the Shapleigh Fire Station and Town Hall. As a result of this commitment the town gives the Club a stipend each year. Fundraising is another way the Club gets involved with the community. One of the ways the Club raises money is having members and parents volunteer at the Acton Fair 4-H food booth held in August. Goodwin has been volunteering at the food booth since 1954 and has been volunteering with the 4-H Club for over 63 years. Prior to being nominated for National recognition Goodwin was honored by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension 4-H Salute to Excellence Award in May of 2017. Sarah Farrell states, "Hazel has touched many generations of families over the years and now is helping great-grandchildren of her original members. Her Club is a great example of letting the youth choose their own projects based on their own interests."

The University of Maine Co-operative Extension helps support, sustain and grow the food based economy. The Extension also conducts the most successful out-of-school youth educational program in Maine through 4-H.

The Shapleigh 4-H Club is always looking for boys and girls aged 5 – 18 years to join. The members work on their own projects and present them to their parents on Parents Night held each year in April. They do fundraising and field trips throughout the year and participate at the Acton Fair. The 4-H Club meets the first Monday of the month at the First Baptist Church in Shapleigh, 600 Shapleigh Corner Rd. If you are interested in joining telephone Elsa Cook 207-324-4215.

Ice fishing tournament

The Annual York County Lakes Region Ice Fishing Tournament is a charity event to benefit Bryant Pond Conservation Camp. The event will be held on Sunday, Jan. 28 and you can fish any lake open to pond or ice fishing in York County. Weigh in will take place at the foot of Mousam Lake on Route 109 in Acton/Shapleigh from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Prizes will be awarded. The entry fee is \$20 per adult and \$10 per child. You can register at Lakeside Marina, Route 109 and Beadles Bait and Tackle, Rt. 109. For more information go to Springvalefish-handgame.org.

Shapleigh Memorial School news

The Shapleigh Memorial School Parents Teachers Committee is in need of canned goods and food to stock their food pantry. Donations can be sent to school with the student or you can drop it off at Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 467 Shapleigh Corner Road. For more information contact the Shapleigh PTC at shapleighptc@yahoo.com.

Budget committee

The Shapleigh Budget Committee will be meeting on Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall, 22 Back Road, 2nd floor. This meeting is open to the public.

NEWFIELD

C.J. Pike
fudgecupboard@yahoo.com
793-8760

Meetings

Cub Scout Pack #329 - Jan. 22, at Line School at 818 Water Street at 6 p.m.

Boy Scout Troop #329 - Jan. 22, at Scout Hall at 7 School Street in Limerick at 6:30 p.m. New members always welcome. Jim Dion is the Scoutmaster. Call Joe Iannazzo at 850-6237.

Newfield firefighters work session - Jan. 23, at the Public Safety Building at 85 Water Street at 7 p.m.

Newfield Selectmen - Jan. 23, at the Public Safety Building at 85 Water Street at 6 p.m.

Tea Time - Jan. 24, at the Newfield Village Library at 637 Water Street at 3 p.m.

Happy birthday!

Birthday wishes this week go to Paul Colwell, who celebrates on Jan. 24, and Murray Greenleaf, who celebrates on Jan. 30.

COUNTRY CUPBOARD

Get your day off to a great start with a low carb breakfast. The Ham and Cheddar Frittata, from The Low-Carb Bible is a great way kick start your day.

Ham and Cheddar Frittata

- 3 eggs
- 3 egg whites
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 1/2 cups, 4 ounces, frozen broccoli florets, thawed
- 6 ounces deli smoked ham, cut into 1/2 inch cubes, 1 1/4 cups
- 1/3 cup drained bottled roasted red bell peppers, cut into thin strips
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/2 cup (2 ounces) shredded sharp Cheddar cheese

Preheat broiler. Beat eggs, egg whites, salt and pepper in large bowl until blended, Stir in broccoli, ham and pepper strips.

Melt butter over medium heat in 10-inch ovenproof skillet; cover. Cook 5 to 6 minutes or until eggs are set around edges. (Center will be wet.)

Uncover; sprinkle cheese over frittata. Transfer skillet to broiler; broil, 5 inches from heat source, 2 minutes or until eggs are set in center and cheese is melted. Let stand 5 minutes; cut into wedges. Makes 4 servings.

Only 5 carbs per serving

STATE NEWS

Woodsome invites students to serve as honorary pages

With the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature just around the corner, Sen. David Woodsome (R-York) would like to once again invite all area students to join him at the State House for a day to serve as a page in the Maine Senate.

As a page, students have the opportunity to participate in a legislative session, delivering messages and distributing documents within the Senate Chamber.

"It's always a pleasure to see young Maine citizens at the Capitol, contributing to the legislative process. The experience creates a lifelong connection to their government," said Senator Woodsome.

The program, which lasts for one day's session, is open for students from third grade through high school. The Legislature schedules pages for each session day, which began on Jan. 3 and will conclude on April 18.

For more information, contact Woodsome's office at 287-1505.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is accepting applications for grant funding through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program. The application period will close Friday, Feb. 2, at 5 p.m. This year, Maine applicants received more than \$2.3 million in grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$349,143 in FY16 funds.

"The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program provides invaluable support to the firefighters and emergency health professionals who risk their lives protecting us every day," said Senators Susan Collins and Angus King in a joint statement. "We encourage Maine fire departments and emergency organizations to apply for funding through this program to help obtain the vital resources they need to do their jobs and keep our communities safe."

The AFG Program funding assists fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations in improving their emergency response capabilities. The program provides federal funding that enables these organizations to purchase equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources to better protect emergency personnel and the communities they serve.

Sen. Collins serves as the

Chair of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, and Senator King is a member of the Caucus.

Grant guidance for fire departments and other organizations interested in applying for AFG grants can be found [HERE](#) and the AFG Get Ready Guide can be found [HERE](#). Applicants that require assistance should contact the AFG Help Desk by email at firegrants@fema.dhs.gov or by calling 1-866-274-0960.

Additional campsites on Google Earth

Winter pastimes in Maine include dreaming about next summer's garden and planning the annual summertime camping trip.

To help you plan your camping adventure, two more Maine State Park Campgrounds have campsites photos on view on Google Earth, Aroostook State Park and Lamoine State Park.

View the entire list of State Park Campgrounds on Google Earth, and download campground maps too at the Campground Maps webpage.

State collars 83 moose in fifth year of study

Despite the subzero temperatures and a raging blizzard, MDIFW wildlife biologists and a helicopter-based aerial capture crew located, captured, and collared 83 moose last week and this week in northern and western Maine.

This is the fifth year of the Maine Moose Study which is providing important insight into factors impacting moose reproduction and survival. The research focuses on moose calves and adult female moose in a study area in northern Maine east of the Allagash River and another study area located between Jackman and Moosehead Lake.

"The crews had no problems locating moose to collar, in fact on one day in between Jackman and Moosehead, they captured and collared 21 moose," said Lee Kantar, MDIFW's moose biologist.

While it may be early to draw definitive conclusions concerning Maine's moose population, there are some preliminary results appearing in the study.

"There are trends that are emerging," said Kantar. "For instance, survival rates for moose calves and adults in northern Maine, and adult moose in western Maine are very high. However, calves in western Maine have a low survival rate."

(Continued on page 8)

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SPORTS

ICE HOCKEY

Split MOB

Portland/Deering (PD) got goals from four different players including two in the final period to lift them to a hard fought win, 4-2, over Massabesic/Old Orchard/Bonny Eagle (MOB) on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 15 at USM.

PD got on the board first with a power play goal halfway through the first period and they extended the lead to 2-0 before the end of the frame. MOB cut the lead in half at 2-1 with the lone goal of the middle period when Ajay Cates knocked in a shot after collecting a pass from Brady Cormier. Wyatt Blanchette also assisted on the goal. Bryson Pomerleau made several big stops in goal for MOB in the second period on the way to 21 on the night, but PD (4-3-2) put thoughts of a comeback to rest with the first two scores of the third period to go ahead 4-1.

Alex Demers' goal with 11 seconds left in the contest, Tayte Harris assisting, closed out the scoring.

Three days prior MOB (3-6) picked up a big win over Scarborough. Wyatt Blanchette scored the lone goal of the game early in the second period and Bryson Pomerleau made 23 saves to lift the visitors to a victory over the Red Storm (2-8) at the Androscoggin Bank Coliseum in Lewiston.

BASKETBALL

Hoop wrap

Kenzy Ouellette had 30 points, but host Falmouth came away with a 50-49 win in varsity girls' basketball held Thursday, Jan. 11.

Ouellette had 16 of the Mustangs 21 first half points, but Falmouth went into the break with a seven-point advantage. Massabesic had a strong second half, despite significant foul trouble; with a trapping defense that created points off of turnovers and the third period ended deadlocked at 38.

The Mustangs pulled ahead 49-46 with time winding down, but Falmouth converted on its next two possessions, one aided by a phantom traveling call, to give them the surprising 50-49 win.

Noelle DesVergnes was the second leading scorer for Massabesic with eight points.

The Mustang men, like the women, have a 2-8 record on the season. Neither team has yet to secure a victory since the calendar turned to 2018.

SWIMMING

Cheverus dominates pool

Due to illnesses, a depleted Massabesic swim team managed wins in just three events, giving them 96 total team points combined between the men and women, and Cheverus picked up 226 to give them an easy win in varsity swimming held Friday, Jan. 12 at the Sanford YMCA.

The lady Mustangs won two events: Eryn Cretien won the 50-yard freestyle with a 29.27 and Grace LaFrance won the 100-breaststroke with a 1:27.16. Quinn Judkins picked up the lone win for the men with a 1:17.31 in the 100-breaststroke.

TRACK & FIELD

Girls second; boys third in track

Biddeford finished with 110 points and the lady Mustangs had 102 at a four-team track and field meet held on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, Jan. 15 at USM. Kylie Johnson won the one-mile run and she was runner-up in the two-mile. Hallie Benton was runner-up to Johnson in the one-mile and she was also second in the 800. Syeira New won the long jump with a leap over 13-feet and she was third in the 55-meter-hurdles. Morgan Pike was second in the triple jump, Jacklyn Bearse was second in the shot put and Logan Champlin was right behind Bearse in third. Massabesic won the 4 x 800 with a time of 11:47.26.

Cheverus finished third with 79 points and Scarborough was fourth with 76.

The Mustang men picked up 58 points, good for third, behind Scarborough who had 192.5 and Biddeford's 77.5. Cheverus finished with 51. Jarrod Hooper won the 600 with a 1:21.81 and he was runner-up in the 800. Aiden Galbriath was third in the 400.

WRESTLING

On the mat

Massabesic wrestlers swept a three-squad meet with host Cheverus and Portland/South Portland held Monday, Jan 15.

The Mustangs won by nine over the Monks with a 39-30 victory and slipped past the combined team of Portland/South Portland (PSP) 40-38. Cheverus fell to PSP 39-31.



Massabesic freshman Brady Cormier breaks away from Portland/Deering's Bay Smalley on Jan. 15. COURTESY PHOTO

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EMPLOYMENT

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- The applicant must be available to work extra hours as weather events or local emergencies dictate all year long during evenings, weekends and weekdays under sometimes stressful conditions. Winter work may require snow removal/sanding 24 hours per day, 7 days per week as needed.
- This job will require multitasking as the applicant will be required to work part-time at the transfer station and part-time at other duties as required by the Public Works Department.

Rate of pay will be determined by the applicant's qualifications. Health insurance and retirement contributions are included. Please submit a separate cover letter and completed application form to Town Administrator Gary Lamb by 4pm, Friday, February 16, 2018. Application forms are available at Waterboro-me.gov under forms and documents. Submit by email to administrator@waterboro-me.gov or mail to 24 Townhouse Road, East Waterboro, ME 04030.

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OPINION

Bette Davis Eyes

I'm a county worker, so this may not be a good idea, but recently I saw a picture of Greg Zinser in a local daily. Zinser is the County Manager which is a whole new phrase for me. I happened to be in the presence of a fellow transplanted New Yorker, also a county employee. I reminded myself there is no such thing as a stupid question and then asked, "what exactly is a County Manager?"



by
Jon Simonds

He explained to me it was like a borough president. The city of New York has a mayor and each of the five boroughs have borough presidents. The borough presidents, who earn an annual salary of \$160,000 tax dollars a year are

elected. The Mayor, whom they report to and earns an annual salary of \$225,000 tax dollars a year, is also elected. So, I found it odd to read Mr. Zinser is contracted for an annual salary of roughly \$128,000 tax dollars a year. He does take a nice picture though, lacking those Bette Davis eyes, while capturing that Paul Ryan grin.

Senator Ryan earns roughly \$224,000 tax dollars a year. He recently came up with a brilliant idea for those individuals on Medicaid. This idea calls for all Medicaid recipients to either work for their benefits, or volunteer time for community services. This sort

of reeks of an old idea a New York mayor came up with in the late '70's for welfare recipients. If you wanted a check, you had to work for your benefits. Seemed like a good idea at the time, until it was put into practice.

Employers all over the city were pulling people from the welfare rolls and putting them to work, cutting out annoying little things like payroll taxes and health insurance and salaries for employee's because, after all, they were receiving welfare and that's how they were paid for their services. The best part of this plan was, once they learned how to do what a paid employee was doing, you could pink slip the paid employee who would embark on a twelve-week vacation courtesy of the unemployment office before having to run to

the welfare office so they stood a chance of getting their old job back. Needless-to-say, in less than a year the program was deemed a failure and abandoned.

I only have one question for Mr. Ryan. How can a man who will never pay a red-cent on a health insurance premium for a family of four because it is a benefit of his six-figure salaried job, rather than an entitlement, ask those who can't afford the average \$1,200 a month premium to do more?

I may not be a county worker for much longer, but in reading the terms of Mr. Zinser's new five year contract the article suggests Mr. Zinser is saving the county money with a deferred pay raise in exchange for the county paying the complete coverage of Mr. Zinsers' family health insurance. If premi-

ums don't increase over the next five years, this is possibly a good deal for the county, but in lieu of the fact insurance companies have been hitting us with an annual rate increase of between \$200 and \$300 a year, the savings are doubtful. At any rate, congratulations on the new contract, Mr. Zinser, or should I call you Mayor Zinser? And oh, by the way, you could help a lot of county employee's struggling to get by on less than half your salary by doling out the same welfare benefit, no-cost health insurance, you and Mr. Ryan feel your entitled to and we won't even discuss the rest of the working stiff's in this county.

Jon Simonds lives in North Waterboro and is the author of "Brooklyn Encounters," a collection of short stories available on Kindle.

OBITUARIES

Paula F. Quimby

Paula F. Quimby, 79, beloved wife, mother and Uma, died peacefully while in the comfort of her home in Sanford and surrounded by her devoted family, on January 9, 2018.



Paula F. Quimby

Paula was born with her twin brother, on March 6, 1938 in St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada the daughter of Joseph L. and Florence A. (Tyrell) Goodine. She grew up in a happy home with her twin brother, Paul and five other siblings.

As a young woman, Paula visited the United States often and met the man that would become her husband and best friend for the past 59 years, Robert A. Quimby. They were blessed with three children and made their home in the Sanford/Springvale area before living in No. Berwick for 18 years. Robert worked very hard to care for his family as he wanted Paula to be home tending to the needs of their children. She worked part

time jobs at different times in her life; but her heart was first and foremost towards taking care of her husband and her children.

In Paula's younger years, she loved to go roller skating and bowling; often playing on a league in Sanford. She was a proud member of TOPS and it was a very important part of her life; especially the wonderful friends she met within the group. Paula loved to play Bingo and going to Foxwoods with her sister-in-law Shirley Quimby. She looked forward to taking bus trips and exploring new areas.

As a family, they enjoyed camping in Conway, NH and visiting with friends and family in Robbinston. Paula was full of energy and fun! She could strike up a conversation with just about anyone and was known for her love of sweets. Paula had style and class; never venturing out until her hair was styled just right with her outfit matching her shoes and purse. Her world was complete as the grandchildren and great-grandchildren came by and they lovingly called her Uma. Paula and Robert were so pleased to have purchased a home in Sanford and have made their home there for the past 32 years.

She was definitely the matriarch of her family and will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

She is lovingly survived by her husband and faithful friend, Robert A. Quimby; her three children, Kathy L. Poole, Robert P. Quimby and Kim V. Wedel; her wonderful five grandchildren, and three special great-grandchildren; her twin brother, Paul Goodine; her sister, Marie Hill and several nieces and nephews.

Paula was predeceased by her siblings, Joseph and Gerald Goodine, Kathleen Wendling, and Margaret Goodine.

Family and friends are invited to visit and share memories on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 1 – 4 p.m. at the Autumn Green Funeral Home, 47 Oak St., in Alfred.

To leave a message of condolence for the family, visit www.autumngreenfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Assoc. of Maine, 383 US Route 1, Suite 2C, Scarborough, ME 04074.

The Autumn Green is respectfully handling arrangements.

Alan (Al) D. Racicot

Alan Racicot, or Al to his close family and friends, died Tuesday

afternoon, Jan. 16, 2018 at the Gosnell Memorial Hospice House in Scarborough, following a long struggle with lung cancer. He passed away in the presence of his wife and two children and his niece.



Alan (Al) D. Racicot

Al was born in Lowell, Massachusetts on Jan. 13, 1962. His family relocated to Maine in the mid-1970s and resided in and around Alfred, for the remainder of his life. He was the fourth child and first son of Marie Claire Racicot and David John Racicot.

In his early adult years, Al was employed around New England as driller who worked in quarries, road construction and foundation work. He was particularly proud of his onetime work on a technically challenging dam project in Burlington, Vermont.

Al's brother, Brian, reported

that Al had "was always willing to try any overhaul of a wide range of mechanical problems." He was capable of helping friends and family with difficult automotive and household repairs and was always ready and willing to lend a hand.

Al had a passion for doing a job right the first time. He enjoyed the challenge of planning for and finding solutions to complex carpentry and mechanical problems. He would listen to other's advice on a project, however from time to time, Al would follow his own advice in keeping with one of his favorite adages, "it's my way or the highway."

Al was preceded in death by his mother, Marie Claire Racicot and is survived by his father, David John Racicot of Alfred; his wife Cherie Reuker Racicot and two children, Cory and Kierstin of Alfred. Additionally, Al is survived by his siblings, Linda Racicot Record of Sanford; JoAnn Racicot Meekins of Alfred; Nancy Racicot Marble of Lyman and Brian Racicot of Acton; as well as a large extended family.

Family and friends are invited to call on Saturday, January 27, 2018 from 1 – 4 p.m. at the Autumn Green Funeral Home, 47 Oak St., in Alfred. At 3:00 p.m., stories and memories will be shared with Al's family.

In his last few months, Al expressed a great deal of admiration and respect of the work of St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. It was among his last wishes that donations might be made to their work. In lieu of flowers, donations in Al's memory may be made to <https://www.stjude.org>. Envelopes will also be available at the funeral home.

The family is grateful for the care and treatment provided by the medical team at the New England Cancer Specialists in Kennebunk. Additionally, they would like to express their deep gratitude to the great caring and professional staff at the Gosnell House in Scarborough.

To leave a message of condolence for the family, visit www.autumngreenfuneralhome.com.

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LYMAN



Weatherman visits school

A very enthusiastic group of students at Lyman Elementary braved the cold to welcome Tyler Cadorette, to the right, weatherman from WMTW, Channel 8 on his very first "WEATHER AT YOUR SCHOOL" visit. Cadorette met the group of students out in the challenging cold on Tuesday, Jan. 9. Later in the morning Cadorette conducted a question and answer session in the warmth of the gym. Students were given the opportunity to ask weather related questions and were given age-appropriate answers. One student was televised asking his question which was broadcasted at a later time. A special cake made and decorated by a local baker, Billie Jo McGahey, was inscribed with the sentiment, "THANK YOU CHANNEL 8." If you ask many of the students about their experience, you would hear, "We are famous!" or "That was awesome!"

COURTESY IMAGE

MOOSE STUDY

(Continued from page 4)

In fact, survival rates for adult moose in both study areas average 86% and for calves in northern Maine, it is 64%. However, survival rates drop to 35% for calves in western Maine. The survival rates for the adults in both study areas and the calves in northern Maine are consistent with survival rates determined by research in other states.

"Over the past four years, we have captured over 375 moose," said Kantar. "It has given us unprecedented insight into moose survival and reproduction in the east." Currently there are 165 active collars on moose in Maine, including 51 adults and 35 calves in northern Maine, and 46 adults and 33 calves in the western study area.

"Once the moose is captured, the crew attaches a GPS collar and ear tags, collects a blood, hair and fecal sample, conducts a tick count and weighs the animal," said Lee Kantar. "The entire process takes between 10 and 12 minutes, we don't have to sedate the animal, and the moose is released unharmed."

Along with the field data that is

collected concerning survival and reproduction, lab results gleaned from examinations and necropsies of dead moose have revealed clues about challenges impacting Maine's moose population.

"Anemia, due to blood loss caused by an excessive number of winter ticks, is the leading cause of mortality for moose calves," said Kantar.

The opportunity to gather this type of biological data is due to the GPS-enabled collars which transmit locations twice per day, providing biologists the ability to track moose movements. The GPS collars transmit location signals for four years. If there is no movement for a certain period of time, the collar transmits a mortality signal, and biologists then travel overland to investigate the cause of death.

"Once we receive a mortality signal, we locate the dead moose within 24 hours," said Kantar. Biologists conduct an extensive field necropsy on each moose, taking blood, tissue and fecal samples that will later be analyzed by the University of Maine-Animal Health Lab as well as other specialized diagnostic facilities.

The radio collar study is just one component of the research

that IFW conducts on moose.

IFW also utilizes aerial flights to assess population abundance and the composition of the moose herd. During the moose hunting season, biologists also examine teeth to determine a moose's age, measure antler spread, monitor the number of ticks a moose carries, and examine cow ovaries in late fall to determine reproductive rates.

New Hampshire and Vermont are also conducting similar studies. All three states are sharing information gathered through the study, which will provide biologists insights into moose survival in a variety of habitats, environmental conditions and moose densities.

IFW contracted with Native Range Capture Services out of Elko, Nevada to capture and collar the moose. The crew specializes in capturing and collaring large animals by helicopter and using net guns to capture and collar female moose and calves. Funding for the study comes from a federal Pittman-Robertson grant (funded by the sale of hunting equipment) and the state's dedicated moose fund (funded through sale of non-resident moose applications and permits).

ARTIST INSPIRED

(Continued from page 1)

It registers, instead, as tender and wistful.

"I like abstract things," Harris said, who enjoys creating intricate patterned pieces with colored pencils and markers similar to the adult coloring books that are all the rage right now. "And quilting is like an art with fabric. Making one is like a forever gift." She loves working with the colors, and her artistic eye is apparent in the color choices. Her work in progress, a lap quilt, incorporates mustard yellow, turquoise, purple, salmon pink, and maroon. She works at a large dining room table for now, does the binding by



hand, and sends the pieces out to be quilted with a long-arm machine. "They're expensive!" she said of the large machines, but she hopes to have her own someday.

Though she is starting simple and small with her Facebook-based business, Harris plans on creating a line of pottery and eventually opening a physical retail space in Limerick. "This town inspired me to do this," Harris

said, referring to a local shopping event held by retail shops in Limerick just before the holidays. "When I went to the Snowflake Trail, I saw people spending money and shopping. When I saw that, it was so inspiring to see them being successful." She decided if they could do it, there was a chance that she could also be successful with her own craft-based retail business.

Harris is also active in her church, the Kezar Falls Assembly of God in Parsonsfield, and will be hosting a ladies paint night on Friday, Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m. To learn more about Designs By Kelsey Kay, go to the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/handmadebykkh>.



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