

# REPORTER

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Locally owned and independently operated.

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 29

PO Box 75, North Waterboro, ME 04061 • 247-1033 • www.waterbororeporter.com

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022



Fair goers were lined up for the Sunday pancake breakfast at the 2019 Funshine Fair. COURTESY PHOTO

## LIMERICK Funshine Fair is back July 29-31

When the action wound down at the 36th Funshine Fair in July of 2019, organizers and hundreds of participants didn't think they would have to wait three years for the 37th edition, but the pandemic forced the cancellation of the fair each of the last two years. To the delight of the church and wider community, the Funshine Fair will return to St. Matthew Church, located on 19 Dora Lane in Limerick, on July 29-31, renewing a long summer tradition of faith, friends, and fun.

The fair is held inside and outside the church and parish hall and features family-friendly activities, a flea market, a bake sale, a clothing booth, and a variety of food, games, and even a dunk tank. The fair, including the vendors and booths, will be open on Friday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Special events are also scheduled:

- On Friday, the movie *Raya and the Last Dragon* will be presented outside at 8:30 p.m. Admission is free, but participants should bring their own blankets and chairs. A fire pit will also be available for s'mores (bring your own "ingredients").

- On Sunday, a pancake breakfast will be held from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children.

- Also on Sunday, an outdoor Mass will be celebrated at noon.

- The fair's traditional "super raffle" has returned with 44 participants set to receive prizes as high as \$1,500. To purchase tickets to the raffle, call 793-2244 or visit <https://stmatthewlimerick.weshareonline.org/funshine-fair>.

For more information leading up to the fair, visit the Funshine Fair Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/FunshineFair](https://www.facebook.com/FunshineFair).



Victoria Huff, Treasurer of the Maine State Grange and Walter Boomsma, State Communications Director for the Grange were recently at the Waterboro Grange Hall for a talk about the history of the Grange, sponsored by the Waterborough Historical Society. COURTESY PHOTO

## The Grange Past and present

By CYNTHIA MATTHEWS

The word "Grange" actually is the name of the building, "but it is used because that's what they called English farms," explained Victoria Huff, Treasurer of the Maine State Grange and a member of the Hollis Grange. "It eventually became the name of the organization, and the members became known as Grangers."

"The Grange was originally founded by Oliver Hudson Kelley in 1867," Huff explained. "There was so much devastation after the Civil War, Kelley was sent to the South to see what it would take to get people back into agriculture." She continued, "Kelley was from the North, a Yankee, so he was not well received. But he was a Mason,

and eventually people came around and the Grange as an organization began." Its official name is the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, referring to farming and agriculture, and replaced the old farming clubs of the 1850s. It is the oldest National American Agricultural Organization.

"At one time, there were over 30 granges in York County alone," said Huff. "People were traveling by horse and buggy, so there may have been more than one Grange in a town." Huff gave Saco as an example – there were at least two Granges in Saco – the one on North Street, and the North Saco Grange, which Huff reports is now a private home.

The mission of the Grange: To educate and elevate the American Farmer, to uplift rural communities and the rural way of life. The problem today, "There aren't that many farmers left," said Walter Boomsma, State Communications Director for the Grange. Huff added, "In the 19th and 20th centuries, 90 percent of the population was involved in agriculture. But after the year 2000, less than 10 percent of the population is involved in agriculture." She continued, "We still have blueberries, potatoes, maple syrup, and toothpicks (among other wood products), but today, we are doing more with less in agriculture." Boomsma added, "The Grange has still focused on education and elevation, but maybe not just on farmers anymore." He continued, "It started as a grassroots organization and continues to function that way. Different things are happening in each Grange around the state." Huff added, "Granges have become community buildings, but always with a base in agriculture."

"Two things haven't changed," said Boomsma. "The first is Agricultural Heritage. The organization is tied to the land. All the rituals and traditional practices haven't changed that much." Huff added, "The principles aren't going to change. The initiation is based on the four seasons of the year. Meetings follow a specific order and the same things are said. The same words are always used for opening and closing remarks, there is a Bible present, prayers are said, as well as the pledge, and the Star Spangled Banner is sung." She continued, "It's faith-based agriculture, but God is up to you and your faith." Boomsma added, "Some people like the predictability part, the ritual of the meeting. But we need to find a

(Continued on page 8)

## Shapleigh Volunteer Appreciation Day

By JOANNE BARGIONI

Friday, July 15 was a beautiful evening for a barbecue on the town Commons. This was a very special barbecue, however, as it was sponsored by the Board of Selectmen and the Town of Shapleigh to recognize the volunteers' service to the town.

All volunteers and spouses were invited to attend for the town-hosted barbecue. On the grill was Selectmen William Mageary, Mike Cote and Scott Cudworth.

Over 50 people joined together to enjoy the barbecue, which included hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken and beef kabobs, various salads and strawberry shortcake for dessert.

Mageary was the grill-master for hamburgers, chicken, and beef, while Mike Cote cooked the hot dogs.

Michelle Rumney, Town Administrator, mingled through the crowd and handed each volunteer a personalized Certificate of Appreciation and thanked them for their volunteer service to the town.

It was a delightful event, and the volunteers expressed their appreciation. Ron Rivard, the Superintendent of Cemeteries for Shapleigh, said that "this was a time for the town to give back to the volunteers. It is nice to know the community appreciates what volunteers do as the volunteers are a big asset to this town."

All of the volunteers thought that it was a great way to value



Selectman Bill Mageary, grill-master. PHOTOS BY JOANNE BARGIONI

them and to bring them together. They all very much appreciated what the town had done and thought that the food was great!

Lauren Masellas said that she was very appreciative. "People in the service industry are never appreciated enough." Masellas' husband is Captain of the Fire Department.

Denise DeAngelis from Fire and Rescue said, "it was a very nice atmosphere and very appreciated."



Selectman Mike Cote on the hot dog grill at the event on July 15.

# Community CALENDAR

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

## COMING EVENTS

**READ IT AND EAT IT** Thursdays July 21, 28 at 2 p.m., at the Springvale Public Library. Hear stories from around the world, and then try a treat from that country or culture in the story. This is for ages 5 to 12 years, and if interested, contact Sheila by email at [sdube@springvalelibrary.org](mailto:sdube@springvalelibrary.org) before the day of the program and advise if there are any allergies or concerns, 443 Main Street.

**SHAPLEIGH'S COMMUNITY DAYS** are back and begin on Friday afternoon, July 22, with the Lions Club Pasta Dinner at the

First Baptist Church, 600 Shapleigh Corner Rd. from 4 to 6 p.m. then the Cedar Mountain Boys bluegrass band will perform live on Shapleigh Common from 5 to 7:30 p.m. On Saturday, July 23, the Fair will include a parade, live music, children's activities, and a silent auction, as well as food, vendors, and much more. The Community Day Parade has a theme of a Fairytale this year. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy the parade, starting at Knox Road and traveling down past the Commons and through the intersection. The parade begins at approximately 9 a.m., and participants can check in between 8 and 8:30 a.m.

**WATERBORO CONCERTS IN THE PARK** at Friendship Park, Old Alfred Road Fridays at 7 p.m. July 22: Country Roads. July 29:

American Ride. Aug. 5: Kennebunk River Band. Bring a lawn chair and blanket.

**PEDIATRIC COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINIC** Saturday, July 23 from 9 a.m. to noon, at Northern Light Mercy Hospital's Outpatient Specialty & Surgery Center, 155 Fore River Parkway, Portland, ME 04102. The clinic will provide Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine to those aged 6 months to 5 years. While walk-ins are welcome, parents can save time at the clinic by pre-registering their child by calling 879-3836. Dose 2 clinic will be Saturday, Aug. 20 from 9 am to noon

**QUILT SHOW** Bar Mills Community Church is holding a quilt show, Quilts And More on Sat July 23 from 9 to 3 at the church located at 13 Hermit Thrush Dr. Buxton. There will be a display

of quilts etc. as well as vendors. Lunch will be served under the big tent. If you would like to display your quilt or for more information please call 929 5555.

**HOLLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS** Monday, July 25 from 10 to 11 a.m. Story Time, *Is This a House For Hermit Crab*. Nancy will have a special guest from Florida, Dannie Quinn, assisting her with the story. Wednesday, July 27, from 4 to 7 p.m. Hiking theme: Making a walking stick; Create snacks for hiking, mini first aid kit; Hike to waterfall behind the library. Hollis Center Public Library, 14 Little Falls Road, Hollis Center, ME 04042. Open Monday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday 2-7 pm; Friday 10 am-2 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 929-3911 or visit [www.holliscenterpubliclibrary.org](http://www.holliscenterpubliclibrary.org).

**BALDWIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING** Wednesday, July 27 at 5 p.m. at the West Baldwin Grange. There will be a tour of the newly renovated building hosted by owner Steve Wilkins. This grange hall had been the center of the Baldwin community since 1902 and many memories were created there. Its original features are beautiful and have been treated with respect. Don't miss this opportunity to experience this step back in time. No facilities at the building and many stairs to the 2nd and 3rd floor. All are welcome. The Grange is located on Route 113 Pequawket Trail, West Baldwin, diagonally across from the West Baldwin Cemetery.

Friends Parsonsfield Seminary **33RD ANNUAL AUTO SHOW AND PARSEM DAY**, Saturday, Aug. 6 on the Parsonsfield Seminary Campus, Route 160, North Parsonsfield. Rain or Shine. Pancake breakfast 7:30 a.m., music, food, vendors, yard sale, penny auction and book sale. Car registration is \$5 from 7-11 a.m. Voting ends at 12. Awards at 1:30 p.m. for 15 classes. Free admission, no Alcohol. FMI call Tiffany at 625 1341 or email [Tiffchapman@hotmail.com](mailto:Tiffchapman@hotmail.com).

**YARD SALE, ALFRED PARISH CHURCH**, Saturday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the green in Alfred. Featuring new jewelry and accessories, home décor, unique collectibles, cookware, garden supplies, china, glassware, furniture, books, and toys & baby items. FMI call 247-8949.

**YARD SALE ITEMS NEEDED** Proceeds go to Lyman Historical Society. Drop off items in front of double door garage at 411 Hill Road in Lyman. It's the first white house on left from South Street and last house on right from Route 111. **YARD SALE** is Aug. 19 & 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. **RAIN DATE** Aug. 26 & 2.

**4TH ANNUAL YORK COUNTY BLUES FEST** Aug. 20 at Friendship Park, Old Alfred Road from 1 to 7:30 p.m. with Thronetta Davis & Joanna Connor Band. Visit [YorkCountyBluesFest.com](http://YorkCountyBluesFest.com) for tickets, \$17.50 in advance, \$30 at the gate. Gates open at noon with 12:30 pre-show by Deej-SG.

**Highland Grove Cemetery Association meeting**  
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# SPORTS

## SOFTBALL

### Scot girls win state title They face Canton, MA on Saturday

By MICHAEL DEANGELIS  
Sports Editor

Reese Bryant (15K) went the distance, giving up just one hit, and Bonny Eagle's major girls' softball all stars got all the runs they'd need in a two-run third inning to help lift them to a convincing 9-0 win over District 1 champion Acadia in the final of the Maine state championships on Wednesday, July 13.

The Scots (7-0) played small ball in the third. Bryant helped herself, bunting her way on base to open the inning. Next, Emma Twomey laid down a nice sacrifice

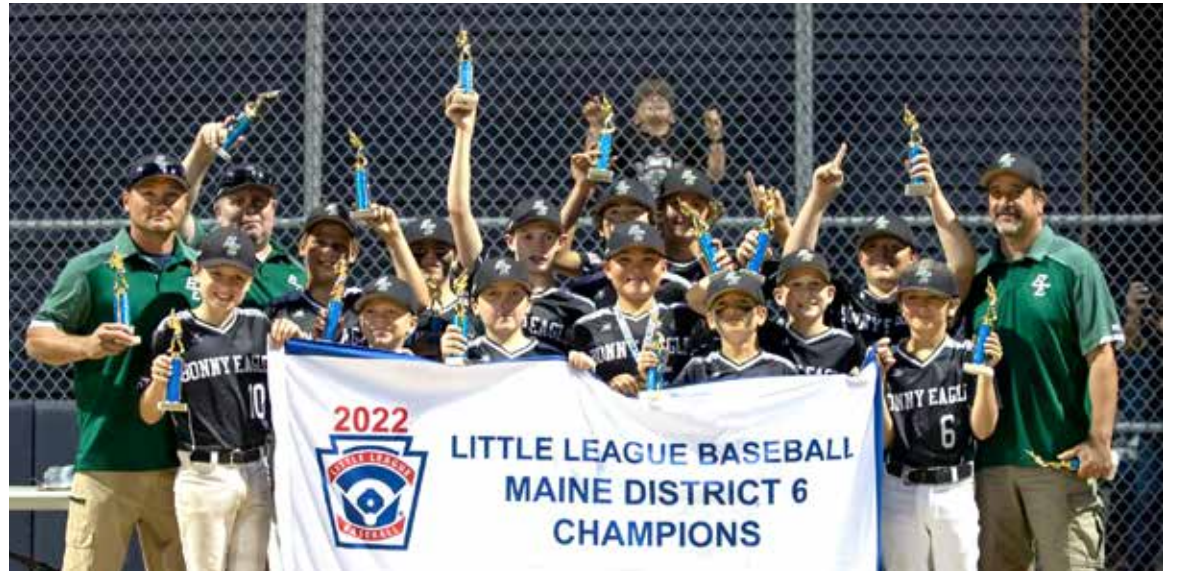
bunt, moving Bryant to third, after the pitcher moved up to second on a wild pitch. Shortstop Leah Story tripled, scoring Bryant, and Amelia Fries kept the pressure on the defense with a RBI safety-squeeze bunt, scoring Story for a 2-0 lead.

On the mound, Bryant was in control. She fanned the first six hitters, walked the leadoff batter in the third, then promptly followed by whiffing the next three batters. She wavered in the fourth after the Scots made it 3-0 in the top half, but kept the shutout intact, when she got a strikeout to close the frame with the bases loaded.

The celebration began to kick in when the Scots scored four more runs in a decisive top of the fifth. Twomey, who would wow the crowd in the bottom of the frame when she hooked up with Story at shortstop for a sparkling strike-em-out throw-em-out double play that closed the inning, reached on an error and moved up a base on a passed ball. Story (2-2, 3R, 3B, 2BB, 2RBI) singled making it 4-0 and another error put runners on the corners for Catherine Lopresti who hammered a triple that plated both runners for a 6-0 bulge. Bonny Eagle added a run later in the inning plus two more in the top of the sixth.

The Scots head to Bristol, Connecticut for the Eastern Regional Championships, which begin this weekend. Opening ceremonies begin Saturday, July 23 at 7 p.m. and they'll face Canton, Massachusetts one hour later at 8 p.m., viewable on ESPN.

## BASEBALL



Bonny Eagle Little League's Baseball All Star team won the Maine District 6 title on July 15. PHOTO BY JASON GENDRON, S4 ACTION PHOTOGRAPHY

### Scot boys join girls, grab D6 LL title They head to Waldoboro for states

By MICHAEL DEANGELIS  
Sports Editor

The Bonny Eagle boys major all stars won the District 6 championship thanks to a 12-hit, 11-0 shutout over Falmouth on Friday, July 15. The Scot stars got all the runs they'd need thanks to a two-out, three run rally they put together in the top of the first. Parker Bjorklund singled, stole second and advanced to third on a passed ball. Ben Havu singled home Bjorklund and Garrett Secord lined a triple to right that plated Havu. Secord raced home on a wild pitch for the 3-0 advantage.

Bonny Eagle put the game out of reach with another two out rally, this time a five-run fourth. Michael Moran and Parker Havu opened with singles, but back-to-back strikeouts left it up to Jackson

Humphrey who lined the second pitch he saw to center for a two-run double and a 5-0 bulge. Nate Collins (3-4, 2R, 2B, HR, 4RBI) knocked in Humphrey with an RBI single and Bjorklund's triple made it 8-0.

Collins got the first eight outs on the mound, giving up just one hit. He moved behind the plate with two down in the third and Bjorklund was perfect, retiring all 10 batters he faced while recording six strikeouts. Colby Burnell led off the sixth with a single and Humphrey doubled. Collins bombed a three-run homer to center making it 11-0 and the celebration began in earnest.

With the District 6 win the Scot stars moved their record to 5-0. They began their run with a 15-0 thumping of Freeport back on June 24. Five days later, they topped Cumberland 4-3 thanks

to a clutch two-run homer in the third from Moran who erased a 3-2 deficit with one swing of the bat. On July 1, Bonny Eagle met Falmouth for the first time and came away with a 4-0 win. Collins was superb, going the distance and tossing a no-hitter, (one walk away from a perfect game) while fanning 15. South Portland fell 3-1 on July 6, the game prior to the District 6 final. The Scot stars used a two-run fourth to snatch the lead when trailing 1-0. Cooper Dow dropped down a safety-squeeze sacrifice-bunt that plated Bjorklund who led with a walk and moved to third on double from Ben Havu. Moran drove home Havu for a 2-1 lead and Bonny Eagle got a big insurance run in the bottom of the fifth. The Scot boys were scheduled to open the State Championships on Saturday at 4:30 in Waldoboro against District 4 champ Saco.

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## ALFRED

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## Gravestone matters

The Parish Church Cemetery was a busy place this past weekend. There were many people in attendance but it wasn't for a funeral. Instead, Joe Ferrannini and his staff of volunteers were working on the cemetery stones. This is a group that not only cleans cemetery stones, but resets them (individual stones or an entire cemetery of stones), repairs, and restores them.

Bruce Tucker, Alfred's well-known historian, had contacted him regarding the Parish Cemetery. It needed a lot of attention. The first matter is condition. An assessment must be done – some of the stones date back to the Revolutionary War. When questioned, Ferrannini admitted the largest cemetery they have worked on was in Albany, New York. It includes 467 acres. The largest one

in Maine was in Ellsworth. When asked which ones they enjoyed working on the most, he replied "All of them!"

It is precise work. The stones must be dug up and cleaned, using a solution called "D2" for the cleaning. Then there is resetting – is the stone just leaning or has it toppled over? Repairs can include epoxies, restoration mortars, pinning, injection grouts and stone consolidation to conserve the stone. "Grave- Stone Matters" provides workshops for workers or volunteers at the cemetery. Approximately 30 workers were on hand at the Alfred site.

While they were working other people arrived to see how it was done. Hopefully their comments will result in another old cemetery being restored.

## Coming to the library

Parsons Memorial Library will be hosting the " Fiddling Thomsons" on Saturday, July 23 from 3 to 4 p.m. It is free but those attending will want to bring a chair. Then on July 25 from 6 to 7 p.m. there will be a free program on "Touchstones by the Sea."

## The Hoarder's Widow

*The Hoarder's Widow is a book about loving, hoarding, submitting, and grieving. It is serialized here weekly in chapter form. Read, learn, enjoy.*

CHAPTER 28  
"Bob, Jealousy, and the Green Stanley Thermos"

January 2015

When I married Bob in 2002, I was delighted to find another husband even if his house was a mess. I had been looking hard for a new soul mate for ten years. Why a "new husband"? (See last week's chapter, 27.) I was positive I knew a little more about being a help-mate, kind partner, and a Godly wife than I did in the first marriage that lasted 2555 days too long.

I'd read Christian marriage books, gone to conferences, listened to endless Christian radio shows, and studied Elisabeth Elliot's Passion and Purity until the pages were frayed with underlining, spills of tea, and rumped from a drop in the bathtub. Reading 1 Corinthians 13 daily, studying the Bible for three or four decades, and never missing Sunday School as a child for six straight years should have helped.

I declared to God and Bob, "I shall never be jealous, angry, rude, or irritable!"

That goal lasted the for first eleven months of our marriage until we began seriously clearing his house for the fake, antique, colonial restoration. Bob hollered, raged, bared his teeth, and snarled like a vicious dog about my getting rid of his treasured 1970s Massachusetts telephone books and his four-foot-tall pyramid of Uncle Henry's standing on duty by his toilet. I cried and crazed back. We were both broken people. Bob had stuff. I wanted my

selfish way. From then on, until his sudden death twelve years later, I forgot all I thought I had learned during the twenty-six and one-half years of the first marriage and by studying I Corinthians 13.

Bob wanted to be Bob. I wanted him to be the useful handyman he promised to be before the wedding and each night at dinner as we planned the next day's construction projects. I needed the nest finished. For years, I had been making and gathering treasures to decorate my fake, antique, colonial palace: cross-stitch samplers, pewter, crocks, wooden rolling pins, cast iron cooking pots, 1800s pine furniture, quilts, and yellow-ware pottery. Still, my nest was not ready for hospitality nor was my sewing room complete. I wanted Bob to keep his word, be a man of honor, stay home with me sometimes and snuggle on the sofa, scratch my back with his useful, rough hands, and be my friend.

Bob tired of the daily grind of carpentry, electrical, plumbing, painting, and landscaping. He starts leaving the unfinished house for hours, often from five in the morning till six at night, arriving home just in time to eat the Weight Watcher's gourmet dinner I had prepared. I remember the Bible verse, Proverbs 27:8 "A person who strays from home is like a bird that strays from its nest." That was Bob. I am the sorrowful partner-bird awaiting my mate's return with my beak full of ideas and projects.

Bob had an early morning ritual of brewing twelve cups of extra strong Folgers Decaf Coffee, putting them in his green Stanley Thermos, and standing the thermos by the back door preparing for a day of great adventures. He could seek and find, conjure up ideas for his new loot, and talk

to his Bible buddies. It was a day of leaving. He always used this twenty-year-old green Stanley Thermos with its silver metal top full of dents and the green painted sides marred with smaller scratches and dings. When I saw that green Stanley Thermos by the back door, I was sad, angry, discouraged, and hopeless. I knew Bob would not be doing what he promised to do the night before.

Chores stall until he felt like doing them. Bob did not want to hire any help and resented anyone who could do a better job than he. I am jealous when he leaves. I beg him not to go. While I continue doing my promised parts of the reconstruction, hoping to check off many projects on my to-do lists, Bob was driving around, drinking his coffee, and having lots of fun. I wished I could go with him but he never invited me along. He would probably be fitting in a shopping trip to Marden's or Walmart for some much-needed toilet paper, stopping at a yard sale, all the while searching for rusty metal as he drove around drinking his Folgers. Maybe Bob would take a ride into the country looking at the golden, fall foliage, stopping at a fried seafood take-out, ordering a king-size seafood platter, and eating all the fried clams himself, washing down my share with coffee from his green Stanley Thermos. I am left alone, without help, to keep going on his half-done chores, his messes, and my endless to-do list. I become resentful when I see that green Stanley Thermos, on guard and ready by the back door for another day on the road. I blame the thermos for taking Bob away from me, from my dreams of having a contented marriage, and a completed home ready for hospitality and sewing.

While cleaning Bob's truck after his death, I found the hated green Stanley Thermos lolling on the front seat, waiting for Bob's return. Still mad at it, I emptied the sludgy, several days old coffee, gave the thermos a quick rinse, and put it upstairs under the eaves, behind closed doors. I did not want to see it or be reminded of my resentful feelings about it or Bob.

*Next week, Chapter 29. Is it possible for Carol to repent of her jealousy and resentful feelings? I'd love to hear your reactions. cephil@securespeed.us.*

"The Hoarder's Widow" is on Amazon as an ebook or paperback. You can read previous chapters online at [www.waterbororeporter.com](http://www.waterbororeporter.com).

– Author Carol E. Niles  
lives in Dayton

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**SEALED BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY Tuesday, August 23, 2022** to the Town Administrator at 22 Back Road, Shapleigh, ME OR:

**MAIL BID TO:** Town of Shapleigh, Attn: Snow plowing Bid, PO Box 26, Shapleigh, ME 04076

Bid must include list of all equipment, vehicle size, a copy of valid driver's license and a certificate of commercial liability insurance. A copy of contract language is available upon request. The Board of Selectmen reserve the right to refuse or reject any or all bids. For full contract details call the Town Administrator at (207) 636-2843, ext 0 or email at [townadmin@shapleigh.net](mailto:townadmin@shapleigh.net).

*Shapleigh Board of Selectmen*

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Obituaries

**William Newton Bates**

William Newton Bates, age 64, of W. Newfield, passed away on Thursday July 14, 2022 at 7:08 a.m. after an extended illness with loved ones by his side. He was also known as Bill, Billy, Uncle & Grandpa.



William Newton Bates

He was born Dec 19, 1957 in Gloversville, New York to Newton V. and Shirley M (Smith) Bates. He was a believer of and loved his Jesus Christ. He can be quoted as saying "You must have Faith".

Bill was 12 years of age when the family relocated to Vineland, NJ. He was a graduate of Vineland High School Class of 1975, he loved sports and played football, basketball, and excelled and lettered in baseball. After high school he played on many teams including, but not limited to Rutledge Olds AA, Marshall Services, Bagley's Electric, Poor Peoples Pub Hobo softball teams, as well as traveling teams which included a tryout with the Chicago Cubs. He played ball well into his 40's.

His love for the outdoors was displayed by his passion for the White Mountains of NH and for snowmobiling, fishing, boating, and spending quality time with family & friends, especially on Great East Lake, NH.

His character was bigger than life. Anyone that came across him came to love him and his sincere smile and tendency to look deep into your eyes. There wasn't a thing he wouldn't do to help someone in need. He was a hard worker that wouldn't take a dime he hadn't earned.

Bill started his own general construction company in 2010. He earned a stellar reputation among his clients & employees. His eye for detail was unmatched, thus his business grew servicing NH, ME & Massachusetts.

He leaves behind a beautiful legacy for his son William J Bates

companion Mariah McGowen, and his two beautiful granddaughters Sophia Mae Bates & Aria Rose Bates all of Dover, NH. Billy was a very loving, highly respected, joyous Godfearing man.

He was pre-deceased by his grandparents Rev. Raymond J Bates & Myrtle E (Hawkins) Bates of East Greenwich R.I., his parents, Newton Vaughn Bates & Shirley M (Smith) Bates of Vineland, his brother Richard G Bates NC, brother Kenneth G Bates of Chicago IL, and nephew Richard G Bates II (Richie) of Waynesville, NC.

Billy is survived by his loving significant other Louise MacGregor of W. Newfield, ME, his sister Brenda L (Bates) Dyer and her husband William of North Myrtle Beach, SC., brothers Raymond J Bates II and his wife Ellen of Buena, NJ, Donald E Bates and his wife Terry of Hyndman, PA, sister-in-law Pam E Bates of NC, brother John P Bates and his wife Yolanda of Acworth, GA. He also leaves nieces Sharleen N Dyer, Rebecca E Dyer, Shirley M Bates, Ashley N Bates, and nephews William C. Dyer, Raymond C Bates, Donnie E Bates II, Charles Erhart, and Jonathon M. S. Bates. He's also survived by many great nieces and nephews.

Bill would also want us to remember all his New England family, friends, clients and colleagues. Remember him by casting a line or sitting on a rock somewhere on the "Kanc".

You will be sorely missed, Bill Bates, but we'll be looking forward to the day we are reunited in heaven. In his words, "I'll leave the light on for ya".

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to St. Jude Research Children's Hospital, stjude.org

Funeral services for Bill will be held on Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 11 a.m. from the Wainwright-Bernhardt Funeral Home with Rev. Louis Spyes officiating. Family and friends may gather one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Siloam Cemetery, Vineland.

Condolences may be shared with the family at [www.wbfuneralhome.com](http://www.wbfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements are in the care of Wainwright-Bernhardt Funeral Home, Vineland.

**Abram Alexander McCoy**

Abram Alexander McCoy, 38, of Sanford, passed away on Saturday, July 9, 2022. Abram was born May 26, 1984 to Wanda (Guay) and Sammuel McCoy. He grew up in Waterboro and attended Both Waterboro schools and St. James in Biddeford. He is survived by his daughter, Abbygale, a grandson, Julian, his father, Sammuel McCoy, siblings, Timothy, Joelle, Samantha, Seth, and Benjamin and their significant others, as well as multiple nieces, nephews, uncles, aunts, and cousins. Abram was predeceased by his mother, Wanda Guay.



Abram Alexander McCoy

Abram had a contagious smile that could light up a room; his eyes sparkled with the smallest of grins. As a teen his mischievous ways often led him to trouble. School was not his style, so he picked up random jobs to earn his way. Most notably was a job he had in Nantucket, but he hated to fly in the small planes!

At the age of 20 Abram was involved in a motorcycle accident that left him paralyzed and he developed long term health complications.

Abram was loyal, loved fiercely, and desperately wanted to do right. Sadly, he did not fully see his own self worth and potential. As a result he often made poor choices and it led to a life of struggle; not only for himself, but for those who loved him. Throughout his life including most recently he acknowledged his failings; expressing the desire to do better and help others that shared similar challenges. Unfortunately, the struggle was too much for his kind heart. In lieu of flowers we ask that you reach out to loved ones and those in our local community with acts of support and kindness. Abram would be honored that we are helping others in his name.

A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Black Funeral Homes and Cremation Service, Sanford-Springvale.

To leave a message of condolence for the family visit [www.blackfuneralhomes.com](http://www.blackfuneralhomes.com).

**Sharon A. Abbott**

Sharon A. Abbott passed away peacefully at her home on July 13, 2022. Sharon was born June 23, 1944 in Gorham, the twelfth of the eighteen children of Clarence and Alzina (Greene) Wight.



Sharon A. Abbott

She attended Gorham schools, and graduated from Gorham High School in the Class of 1962. After graduation she worked at Swan's Insurance. Sharon married George Abbott on July 27, 1963 and moved to Waterboro. There, she had four children and was a homemaker for many years. She returned to work at Shape, for many years until she medically retired.

Sharon was a member of the Waterboro Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and the Rebekah's Lodge in East Waterboro. She enjoyed shopping, dining out, and collecting teacups.

Sharon was preceded in death by: her parents; her husband George Abbott, Sr.; a son George Abbott, Jr.; a granddaughter Amanda Abbott; sisters Florence Hersom, Elanor Parker, Janice Hannon, Hazel Wight, Ann Buzzell, Joan Lapointe, Louise Wing, Grace Sanborn, Pauline Carroll, Linda Sullivan, and Dianne Wight; and her brothers James Wight, Sr., and Norman Wight.

Sharon is survived by: her son Jeffrey Abbott of Waterboro; her daughters Lori Abbott Place and husband William Place of Waterboro and Debra Abbott Taylor and husband Travis Taylor of Berlin, New Hampshire; her grandchildren Dan Place and his wife Billie, Seth Place, Jim Place, Sara Roy, Nicholas Roy, Brianna Taylor, Alexis Abbott, Tyler Abbott, Taylor Abbott and Nathan Abbott; several great-grandchildren; her sisters Judy Fistere of Hollis, Jane Tucci of Standish, and Dottie Abbott and Kathy Sawyer, both of Gorham; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27 at the Pine Grove South Cemetery on West Road in Waterboro. Pastor David Frye will officiate.

To share a memory or leave a message of condolence, visit Sharon's Book of Memories page at [www.bibbersautumnngreen.com](http://www.bibbersautumnngreen.com).

**Raymond DesRoberts**

Raymond DesRoberts, 88, a longtime resident of Lyman, passed away at his home on Tuesday, July 12, 2022.



Raymond DesRoberts

Raymond was born on Aug. 21, 1933, in Biddeford; the son of Alexander and Alexina (Boudreau) DesRoberts.

As a young boy, he attended St. Joseph School. Raymond enlisted in the United States Army and married his true love, Annette Bald in 1955. Together they raised three children Linda, Jerry, and Louise. It was with open hearts that Raymond and his wife Annette lovingly fostered many babies and helped guide each of them into their teenage years while running a successful carpentry business with his son Jerry of which he was so proud.

Raymond loved the Christmas season; he took great pride in decorating during this magical time of year.

Celebrating Christmas with his family meant a great deal to him. The celebrations often consisted of nine grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, as well as many foster kids, including games and a buffet fit for royalty.

He was an active member of St. Philips Church and gave service to the Knights of Columbus. One of his favorite activities was going out to All-Day Breakfast with his wife and also sharing good times with the Dunkin Donut gabbers.

He is predeceased by his wife Annette in 2019.

He is lovingly survived by daughter Linda Cantara, son Jerry and his wife Sue DesRoberts and Louise and Al Barden.

Friends and family were invited to a period of visitation at Hope Memorial Chapel, 480 Elm Street, Biddeford on July 17. A mass of Christian burial was held at St. Phillips Church, 401 Goodwins Mills Road, Lyman, followed by a graveside service at St. Mary's Cemetery, Elm Street, Biddeford. Following the graveside service, the family hosted a reception at Hope Memorial Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Raymond's name to St. Jude Children's Hospital or the Shriners.

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**THE GRANGE**

(Continued from page 1)

balance between the predictability and short attention spans.”

Boomsma continued, “The second is, it’s a community-based organization. And in order for the Grange to continue, it’s got to have relevance to the local community.” Both Boomsma and Huff cited several examples of local Granges and what they are doing.

In Blue Hill, farmers/grangers merged together and purchased silos, so farmers could buy their grain in bulk, “saving the farmers a lot of money,” said Huff.

In East Sangerville, young farmers with smaller family farms are doing things organically, and are grinding their own wheat locally.

In Dexter, the Grange Hall has been converted into a theatre, with a focus on the arts. And in Westbrook, the Highland Lake Grange

does foursuppers a year. According to Huff, these were hugely successful, and the organization was able to sustain the Grange.

“These Granges are successful because they are doing things in the community,” Boomsma said. “People want to do something, they want something to happen.”

Some of the projects that the Grange does are: Word for Thirds, providing dictionaries for kids in 3rd Grade; Sock it to us, collecting and distributing socks for those that need them; Linus Project, collecting and distributing blankets to those in need; and Book Worms, local Grange members visit elementary schools and kids read to the Grange member. “There are opportunities to create after school programs,” said Boomsma. “What are our resources? What do we have? We have old members.”

The Grange was once the Center of social life in rural communities,

and most communities do not want to see their Grange, the building, go. In Waterboro, membership in the Grange dwindled, but the Grange Building itself was important to the community. The Waterborough Historical Society was able to purchase the building and hold meetings there. At the beginning of June, both Boomsma and Huff gave a presentation on the History of the Maine State Grange for the historical society at the former Grange Hall on West Road.

This month, Katherine Rhoda gave a concert at the Newfield Community Church in Newfield of Vintage Grange Songs. According to Huff, music has always been a part of the Grange, and song books have evolved over the years, from 1874 to the present. Rhoda performed music from Songbooks dating back to 1874!

During the concert, Rhoda mentioned that there was a Willowbrook

Grange in 1899, there’s the Maplewood Grange in Newfield, the Shapleigh Grange as well as the Mt. Cutler Grange in Hiram. There are also Granges in North Baldwin, Porter, Sebago and Scarborough. Rhoda’s grandparents were small dairy farmers and were part of the Grange, but her father left the farm. Rhoda’s Aunt Lydia was big in the Grange, and perhaps that is what sparked her interest.

Huff is a 3rd Generation Granger. Her grandparents were members of the Grange, and her mother and father met at the Buxton Grange. Huff is a member of the Hollis Grange. “Out of 7 children, 5 of us belong to the Grange,” said Huff.

Boomsma is a member of the Valley Grange in Guilford. He joined the Grange when he moved to Maine. His Uncle had been a dairy farmer, and a member of the Grange. For Boomsma, “I came to Maine in search of small town living, and looking for an outlet, a way to con-

nect to the community.” Boomsma ended up writing a book about the Grange: *Exploring Traditions - Celebrating the Grange Way of Life*, available on Amazon.

Today, the Grange still lobbies in Washington. Huff said, “It is a non-partisan group. We vote on the issue. Is it good for everyone? For the country? For the nation?” Something the Grange brought us — rural free delivery... The Postal Service! One current issue the Grange is dealing with is rural broadband.

For more about the Grange, visit the Maine State Grange online at <https://mainestategrango.org>.

If you are interested in learning more about Katherine Rhoda and Grange Songs, visit <https://katherinerhoda.com/offerings/vintage-grange-songs>.

To keep the Grange alive, Boomsma says, “Don’t ask what needs to be done, ask ‘What can I do?’”

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