

REPORTER

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VOLUME 22, ISSUE 26 PO Box 75, North Waterboro, ME 04061 • 247-1033 • www.waterbororeporter.com THURSDAY, JULY 3, 2024



Jon Norton of Goodwin's Mills Fire Department is now a certified Maine firefighter following 240 hours of training. He was among 16 members of the York County Fire Chief's Association Firefighter 1 and 2 training program, and 18 members of the Sanford Regional Technical Center firefighting program honored at ceremonies June 20 at Thornton Academy in Saco. COURTESY PHOTO

New firefighters earn certification

Chandler Madore was a fellow who started hanging out at the fire house in Van Buren hometown at an early age.

He, like many in the profession, hails from a family of firefighters.

Fast forward a few years to June 20, 2024 – the night he and several others marked several months of hard work that led to their certification as Maine firefighters.

Madore has been with Saco Fire Department for eight months, and had been a volunteer with the Van Buren department before making the move to southern Maine. Not long ago, he graduated from an EMT program – as in most Maine communities, Saco's department provides emergency medical services as well as fighting fires and dealing with an array of other emergencies.

"I fell in love with firefighting," Madore said, and has gained experience working with his Saco colleagues.

Isabella Smith, a Kennebunkport dispatcher and call firefighter with her hometown department, said both roles offer her the opportunity to help folks in her community.

"And it's exciting; there's always something new," said Smith. She is the fifth generation of her family to become a firefighter, and among those on hand to cheer her at graduation, held at Thornton Academy in Saco, were her father Shawn and grandfather Royal.

Addressing classmates, instructors, and family, Smith said the hands-on training that complemented classroom work was challenging.

"I wasn't a huge fan of heights," she said, recalling ladder training day. "My instructors believed in me."

Elliott Payne, a call firefighter with the Shapleigh department and now certified, said his next step is

to take an EMS program. "I hope to make a career if it."

Madore, Smith, Payne and 13 others, most who are working or volunteering for area fire departments, are now graduates of the York County Fire Chief Association's Firefighter 1 and 2 courses, rigorous programs that start in late December and run through the end of May. Studying is done during the week after daily work schedules, and hands-on training is conducted on weekends. The chief's association program operates in partnership with the York County Fire/EMS Office.

As well, 18 Sanford Regional Technical Center firefighting students completed Firefighter 1 and 2 programs, studying and learning through hands-on applications throughout the school year. SRTC draws students from eight high schools from around the region.

"They worked hard, and learned a lot," said longtime SRTC Fire Science instructor Harold Smith.

Alexandria White of Arundel
(Continued on page 9)



Rylie Wright of Waterboro was among 18 students who completed the firefighting program at Sanford Regional Technical Center honored at ceremonies June 20.

Maine Lakes Conference



Lake Arrowhead volunteer, Debbie Broderick (second from right), answers a question at the 2024 Maine Lakes Conference at the University of Maine, Farmington on June 21. The panel consisted of volunteers from citizen science programs supported by the Lake Stewards of Maine and Maine Lakes - Look Out for Loons, LakeSmart, Water Quality Monitoring, and Invasive Plant Monitoring. Lake Arrowhead has a team of resident volunteers called PALZ (Patrollers of Arrowhead's Littoral Zone), who monitor invasive aquatic plants and report their findings to the Maine D.E.P. PHOTO BY DALE SCHULTZ



PARADE OF BUSINESSES



Community CALENDAR

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

YARD SALE at the East Parsonsfield Meetinghouse, 1637 North Road, East Parsonsfield July 5 & 6 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. All proceeds go to the restoration of this building. We are a 501c nonprofit. FMI contact Debbie Harrington at 415-0316.

YARD SALE at Alfred Parish Church on July 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale will be held in the Conant Chapel, next door to the Alfred Parish Church. Lots of great items at even better prices.

PIE AND CRAFT SALE on Saturday, July 6 from 9 a.m. to 2

p.m. to benefit the South Effingham West Parsonsfield Citizens Organization, a non-profit which maintains the historical community church building. Held outside next to Ye Olde Sale Shoppe at 1543 Province Lake Road (Route 153 S) in South Effingham, just next to the border with Parsonsfield. Interested crafters/vendors call Patty at 603-539-7518.

MEMOIR WRITERS GROUP West Buxton Public Library, Monthly on the 2nd Wednesday. Next meeting is July 10 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Via Zoom.

No Fees thanks to a grant from the Narragansett Number One Foundation. Sign up via email: lindcabin@gmail.com.

THE YORK COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE will hold its monthly meeting Wednesday, July 10 at Alfred Town Hall, 16 Saco Rd., Alfred. Doors open 6 p.m.; business meeting 6:30-8 p.m. Meeting will focus on upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. FMI: communications@yorkgop.org or 468-2395.

AUTHOR TALK Brilliant storyteller Jo Radner brings *Wit and Wisdom* to Hiram Historical Society Sat. July 20, at 1:30 p.m. Her new book *Wit and Wisdom* brings out a forgotten New England tradition of gathering to display knowledge, opinion and humor – what rural folks of all ages did on cold winter Saturday nights before Tik Tok. Great Ossipee Museum of Hiram Historical Society, 20 Historical Ridge, Hiram 04041. Free, light refreshments. HHS Mid-year news update at 1 p.m. FMI 207-625-4390. Radner is professor emerita of literature at American University and past president of both the National Storytelling Network and the American Folklore Society. She has roots in Fryeburg and Lovell.

FREE CONCERT IN THE PARKS Thursdays at 6:30 at 10 John Street, Lyman. Parking at the Community Library. July 11 Granite Planet; July 18 Henry Lowery; July 25 The Dilemma; Aug. 1 Maximum Effort; Aug. 8 North River Music; Aug. 15 The Dapper Gents; Aug. 22 Half Moon Jug Band

19TH ANNUL VICTORIAN TEA Sunday, July 14 from 1 to 4 p.m. Come join us celebrate our 19th Tea with Rita Parisian she

recreates a 1908 day at the beach. After the outside program, partake in a light repast elegantly decorated, 42 room building. Air-conditioned. \$30 pre-buy. (12 and under \$5) FMI: Jan Smith (603) 539-5233 or Marie Cobb (207) 625-8360. Hosted by: The Friends of Parsonsfield Seminary (friendsofparsem@aol.com) North Road, Parsonsfield (Route 160).

LYMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING on Tuesday, July 16 at 6 p.m. at the Arion Lodge (the Masons) on Goodwins Mills Road.

The Original's present **PRIVATE LIVES, A PLAY BY NOEL COWARD** at Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, July 19, 20, 25, 26, 27 at 7:30 p.m. and July 21 & 28 at 2:30 p.m. \$15 general admission: www.sacorivertheatre.org.

ANNUAL AUCTION of the Northern York County Rod & Gun Club, West Newfield, Saturday, July 20 from 9 a.m. until done! Hot dogs and hamburgers for sale. New members welcome. FMI www.nyrcgc.org.

SUMMER THEATER CAMPS at Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, Aug. 5-16. Join us for an enriching experience where children can explore their creativity and develop confidence through the theater. FMI, visit <https://www.sacorivertheatre.org/srt-jr>.

HAND CRAFTERS NEEDED The Alfred Shaker Museum is seeking Hand Crafters offering hand-crafted items for sale at the Shaker Hill Apple Festival being held on Saturday and Sunday, September 21 & 22. FMI call Jeannette Montgomery at (207) 289-9338.

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Scene from TV show ‘Wild Crime’ shot at historic York County Court House

The setting is a court room, where a man charged with murder is about to be arraigned. There is a judge on the bench, a gallery full of onlookers, and all the players – bailiffs, prosecutors, defense counsel, law enforcement – and the alleged perpetrator, poised to make his plea.

But he doesn't – he instead leaps over a barrier into the gallery, and is tackled and taken to the floor by security staff and law enforcement.

Pretty dramatic stuff. The scene itself isn't real. It is part of a television episode in the Wild Crime series, a production of ABC News and Lone Wolf Media, slated to begin its fourth season on Hulu later this year.

The courtroom scene is set in a location familiar to many: the stately York County Court House in Alfred.

The scene was shot June 19, when the county-owned building that houses the registries of deeds and probate, the York County Probate Court and other functions was closed for the Juneteenth holiday. And because the state courts have been consolidated in a new building in Biddeford, the large second floor courtroom was available.

Lone Wolf Media is based in South Portland, so when producers were looking for an available courtroom, they approached the Maine Administrative Office of the Courts for advice.

"They pointed us here," said producer Noah Keates. "I met with Noah and walked the building, and they loved the space," said York County Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont. "The county welcomes the opportunity to showcase the amazing building and all of its history."

With the state courts now located in Biddeford, much, but not all, of the second floor space is slated to be leased, deRochemont noted.

"The courtroom and law library will remain as is for various events like mock court for schools, large meetings, and filming if the opportunity arises in the future," deRochemont said.

Those familiar with Wild Crime know it is a true crime series, with episodes taking place in national parks and forests or other wilderness areas.

Lone Wolf Media operations manager Tracey Costa said Wild Crime productions adhere to journalistic standards.

Producers interview primary investigators, said Costa.

This particular Wild Crime did not take place in York County, and so the scenes filmed at the courthouse, and at York County Jail earlier in the day, are not specific to the location of the crime.

"We're doing recreations of what happened in the story," Costa explained prior to the shooting of the courtroom scene.

As the suspect leapt over the barrier, those in the gallery who had signed on as extras screamed on cue.

The crime being featured – well, wait and see.

Maria Skillings, a digital content producer for NewsCenter Maine by day, has a background in theater and film as well as journalism, and said she has been called by Lone Wolf Media on other occasions when there are roles available.

"I tried out for the FBI agent (role)," she said – she and got it.

On the bench was Jack Melanson, a retired administrative law



This courtroom scene is not real – it is part of an episode of Wild Crime, a Lone Wolf Media and ABC News series, shot at York County Court House in Alfred on June 19. The fourth season of the true crime anthology airs on Hulu later this year. PHOTO BY TAMMY WELLS, YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

judge for the U.S. Social Security Administration, who also has a background in criminal law and as a prosecutor.

A consultant with Lone Wolf Media, Melanson scrutinized the courtroom and advised on how the props had been set up, noting that a fan wouldn't be on the table where the defense counsel and suspect sat – nor would a pen, or "anything that could be used as a weapon," he said.

Donning a judicial robe, Melanson stepped into his role, and the scene began.

Lone Wolf Media has been making documentaries for 27 years. In addition to Wild Crime, Lone Wolf Media wrote and produced The War on Disco, featured on PBS's The American Experience, among other productions.

As yet no airdate has been scheduled for the episode containing the scenes shot in Alfred, but producers said the fourth season of the Wild Crime series begins in late fall.

– By Tammy Wells, Media Specialist for York County Government

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Know beach warning flags

While on vacation this summer, I went to the beach like many people. I never really noticed the warning flags, but this particular time, I saw the flag was red. I had no idea what a red flag meant and had to ask the lifeguard. These warning signs help people know when conditions are potentially hazardous. The International Life-Saving Federation has developed universal guidelines for beach warning signs; some flags may look different in some regions, but here are some of the most common warning flags and what they mean.

DOUBLE RED FLAG: the water is closed to the public.

RED FLAG: high hazard, such as strong currents or high surf. Even strong swimmers

should exercise extreme caution. Red flags may also indicate dangerous rip currents, which was the case on my vacation.

YELLOW FLAG: medium to moderate currents or high surf. Weak swimmers should avoid the water, and others use caution.

GREEN FLAG: low hazard, calm conditions, but caution should be exercised.

DARK BLUE OR PURPLE FLAG: dangerous marine life, such as sharks or jellyfish, have been spotted; use extreme caution.

BLACK AND WHITE CHECKERED FLAGS: this area is designated for non-powered watercraft, such as kayaks and surfboards

ORANGE WINDSOCK: indicates strong winds or offshore conditions.

— By Joanne Bargioni

An evening with Monica Wood

Springfield Public Library, 443 Main St., and Goodall Library, 1364 Main St., Sanford, have collaborated to bring author Monica Wood to the Nasson Little Theatre, 457 Main St., Springvale. Monica Wood is the author of “How to Read a Book”, the story of a chance encounter between three people in a bookstore in Portland, and their unlikely friendships, exploring redemption and how exchanging stories can influence and change a life.

Goodall Library and Springvale Library have purchased extra copies of Wood’s new book and will have it available for reading before her program on July 31 at 6 p.m. For more information, call Springvale Library at 207-324-4624 or Goodall Library at 207-324-4714.

— By Joanne Bargioni

OPINION

LETTERS

Outdoor memories

What do you remember about the outdoors of your childhood? When we talk about the weather today, we’re often playing a memory game. My mother-in-law visited on one of the hottest days we’ve ever seen in June. She kept asking – why didn’t everywhere have A/C if it “gets so hot here?” And we kept having to remind her, it’s not usually like this.

I wished I had a way to show her how it had been. I kept thinking about all the conversations I had with folks this past winter, during those storms this spring, and all throughout June. I realized, if we don’t collect them, those memories will be lost.

So, we’ve started the Outdoor Memory Archive. I am asking you, your friends, your family – of all ages, 5 to 105 – to send in your memories. What was it like in Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, growing up in Maine or away? What did it feel like to be outside? What were the big weather events, and what was it like day-to-day? What activities did you do each season? What animals did you see? What did the air feel like?

You can do it any way you like. A list. A few lines. A journal entry. A poem. A story. It can even be fiction,

as long as the nature and weather parts are true! If you’re a visual artist, send in art – photos, paintings, drawings, collage! Answer any (or none) of the questions (they’re to get you thinking) but try to get into the five senses of being outside when you were a child, or teen, or young adult, or middle aged – any you before now.

If you can, include what year/years you are remembering (or a guess). Comparison is okay, but try to spend more time talking about then than now. And please let me know if you’d like to be Anonymous or have your name (and age, if willing) attached to your submission.

Send your memories to outdoormemoryarchive@gmail.com. Feel free to share this with others. Memories will be shared on an upcoming website (outdoormemoryarchive.org), and we hope the project will continue to grow!

— Eben Thomas, Waterboro

TOWN OF HOLLIS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE PUBLIC BE WARNED

The Hollis Zoning Board of Appeals has *postponed* the meeting and public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, July 9, 2024, per request of the appellants listed below.

This hearing has been rescheduled for **Monday, August 5, 2024 at 6:00 PM** at the Hollis Community Building, 35 Town Farm Road, Hollis, Maine.

A request by Van Hertel / Narragansett Builders LLC for an administrative appeal review for notice of violations of Map 4, Lot 2A issued by the Code Enforcement Officer, in accordance with Hollis Zoning Ordinance, Article 3.7.3.2.a. Administrative Appeals.

Any affected property owner or person with information about the lot may attend. Comments may be submitted prior to the meeting by writing to: Board of Appeals, 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis, ME 04042 or by e-mail to adminsecretary@hollismaine.org.

Bart Sughrue, Chairman
HOLLIS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

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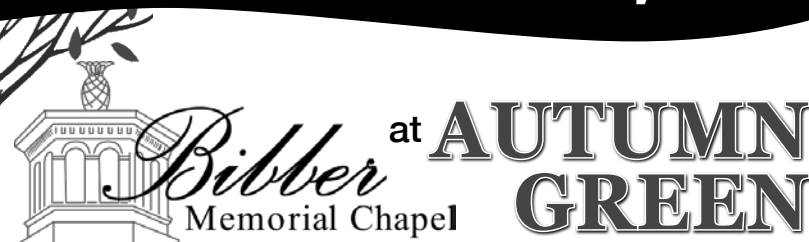


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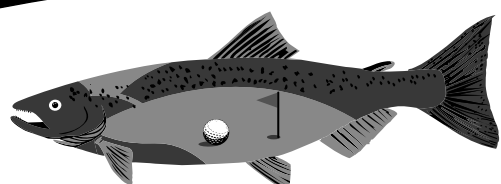
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County Commissioner Justin Chenette, left, presents Gregory Brunk of Buxton, right, this year's Chenette Leadership Scholarship. Gregory recently graduated from Bonny Eagle High School and will be attending Maine Maritime Academy later this summer for marine engineering. Gregory received a \$500 scholarship recognizing his efforts volunteering through his church and youth group as well as his commitment to his studies with a 4.0 grade point average. He also excelled in sports, placing 3rd in the state championship for wrestling. COURTESY PHOTO


CONGRATULATIONS!

Maximilian Matthews of Limington is a class of 2024 Summa Cum Laude graduate of Bonny Eagle High School.

Max graduated with a Stretch Academy diploma, a challenging program involving Advanced Placement and dual enrollment classes through the University of Southern Maine. He will be attending Bryant University in Rhode Island in the fall, studying business/finance. Max started playing chess in Middle School and was on the team that won the




State Championship in 8th grade and continued to play his Freshman and Sophomore years of High School. He joined the football team his sophomore year, but then found his love for volleyball, and developed the Bonny Eagle/Massabesic boys volleyball team. COURTESY PHOTO



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BUSINESS NEWS



Partners Bank Scholarship Awarded to 20 High School Graduates in Southern Maine and Northern New Hampshire

President & CEO of Partners Bank, Blaine Boudreau (left), celebrates with a few of the recipients of the Partners Bank Scholarship. The scholarship winners (left to right) are Korriane Greer, attending Wake Forest University as an Arts History major; Raissa Pedro, attending York County Community College as a Psychology major; Paloma Carrillo, attending Sacred Heart University as a Communications major; Emma Janousek, attending York County Community College as an Information Technology major; and Tyler Seigny, attending Southern Maine Community College as an HVAC major. COURTESY PHOTO

Dedication Ceremony & Open House

The Limerick Fire-EMS Department will be hosting a dedication ceremony and open house at the newly constructed Fire-EMS station located at 23 School St., Limerick. The grand opening ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. with an open house to follow.

The \$4,767,556.00 fire station began construction in April 2023

and concluded in June of 2024. The cost of construction was funded by the Town of Limerick and Congressionally Directed Spending Funds through the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development agency.

Light refreshments will be served, and guided tours will be available.

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SPORTS



Little League All-Star Tournaments

MINORS ALL-STARS GIRLS

Mini-Mustangs open with back-to-back wins

Maci Tyler struck out 13 batters and Massabesic Little League's (MLL) 8-9-10 All-Star softball team banged out 12 hits to help lift them to an 11-1 win over York on Sunday, June 30 in South Berwick. The mini-Mustangs got all the runs they'd need with a three-run first inning highlighted by an RBI single from Cylee-Rae Graham and a two-run single by Paisley Pelletier. Massabesic made it 7-0 with a four-run third and they closed out the game with four more runs in the bottom of the fifth. MLL opened the double



The Massabesic Little League 8-9-10 All-Star softball team. PHOTO BY JASON GENDRON

elimination tournament with a 6-4 win over Saco on Saturday, June 29 in Biddeford. Tyler was excellent on the mound with 16K. She gave up one earned run and two hits while walking five. Tyler had one of the three hits the mini-Mustangs generated, and she scored a run. Gracie Picard and Pelletier each had a hit. Emmalynn Picard reached base twice and scored a run. MLL was scheduled to play in the winners' bracket final against Biddeford on Wednesday, July 3 at South Berwick.

MINORS ALL-STARS BOYS

Massabesic Little League's (MLL) 8-9-10 Baseball All-Stars scored twice in the bottom of the sixth to walk-off with a 7-6 win over Kennebunk on Friday, June 28 in the opening contest of the Zone 4 double elimination tournament.

The mini-Mustangs jumped ahead 4-0 early with three-runs in the first and a single run in the second inning.

Kennebunk responded with a six-run third to surge ahead, but MLL cut the lead to one with a run in the fourth, that set them up for walk-off heroics in the sixth.

MAJORS ALL-STARS GIRLS

Massabesic Little League's (MLL) 10-11-12 softball all-stars rattled off three consecutive wins after an opening night loss, but they couldn't solve Biddeford, who won the Zone 4 championship

after topping MLL 6-5 on Wednesday, June 26 in South Berwick. The Mustangs fell 14-0 to Biddeford on June 17, the first game of the five-team double elimination tournament. They responded two nights later with a 20-0 win over Saco. Kennebunk fell 10-9 the next night when the Mustangs scored twice in the bottom of the sixth to walk-off with the win. On Tuesday, June 25 MLL topped Wells 6-5 to lift them into the final where they fell to the Tigers.

MAJORS ALL-STARS BOYS

Massabesic's 10-11-12 boys' baseball all-stars opened their tournament with a 1-0 loss to Biddeford on Saturday, June 29. The Tigers got the games lone run in the first inning as well as two of their five hits. The Mustangs will look to keep their season alive on July 6 when they face the loser of the Kennebunk/York tilt.

- By Mike DeAngelis
Sports Editor

PARADE

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Obituaries 

Thomas F. Seery

Thomas F. Seery, 90, peacefully passed away at his home in East Waterboro on June 16, 2024 after a two year struggle with cancer. He was born on Nov. 27, 1933 in Bristol, CT and was raised in Wolcott, CT.



Thomas F. Seery

In adulthood, he relocated his family to Maine. He was married to Jean Tuller Seery for 67 years, the two met just as Tom was graduating from high school. Tom was a paratrooper in the Army. They had two daughters, Virginia Seery and Brenda Seery. For nearly four decades, Tom ran his own appliance service business, Tom's Appliance Repair, with his wife Jean. He was dedicated to his family—always involved in his daughters' activities—4-H, horseback riding, dance, and drama club. He continued

this tradition with his grandchildren—Emily Hawley, Aidan Hawley, and Kate Seery. He attended lacrosse, baseball, hockey and soccer games as well as concerts, dance recitals, and horse shows. Tom and Jean loved visiting the rocky coast of Maine where they saw Maine's light houses, flew kites, and picnicked. Tom was a member of the SAD 57 School Board while his daughters were in middle and high school. He was an avid reader and appreciated the support from the Waterboro Public Library who kept him in books. One of Tom's life-long passions was picking blueberries every summer. He once exclaimed "I just love doing this, I don't know why." Of course, he loved a good blueberry pie or cake. Tom was an independent and generous man. All those who knew him would agree that he would do anything to help and support others. He will be greatly missed by his wife who he said he "would love forever," his daughters; sons-in-laws, Glynn Hawley and Tod Glasgow; grandchildren; nephews; nieces; and siblings, Barbara Lass and Clyde Seery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to

the Waterboro Public Library, 187 Main Street, East Waterboro, Maine, 04030.

A celebration of life service will be held for Tom on Saturday, July 13th at noon at the East Waterboro Free Baptist Church, 213 Main Street, East Waterboro, Maine, 04030.

Erlan C. Wentworth

It is with great sadness we share the news that Erlan (Ernie) Wentworth, of Alfred, left this life on June, 4, 2024. Erlan was born in Sanford Hospital on Oct. 15, 1935. He was one of the identical twins born to Helen Dunnells Wentworth and Norman Wentworth.



Erlan C. Wentworth

Until his retirement, he worked many years for his twin brother, Harlan, as Warehouse Manager for Wentworth TV and Appliance in Portsmouth, NH. Before working with his brother, he owned his own business known as E&W Dry Cleaning in Acton. It was while delivering

clothes to one of his customers that he met their daughter, Roberta, and the spark of love was kindled! The couple was married on June 15, 1968 in Eliot. After living for a few years in Eliot which was Roberta's hometown, Erlie's mother offered them a piece of land on Poverty Pond in Newfield so that they could build a home. The land was special because it had been in the Wentworth family for four generations. The woods and lake made a perfect spot for this couple to settle down. They both felt that being in this particular place surrounded by nature was a place where they could live and feed their souls. It was Erlan's anchor for his whole life.

Erlan and Roberta's home on the lake was known as Birch Knoll and became a gathering place for many friends and family by blood or family by heart. Erlan's welcoming presence and love for people created an environment where people could have fun, relax and heal. He was happy and content at the lake and would say, "I do not care about doing much traveling". There were two exceptions however, in that he loved the ocean as well as the lake. He loved telling people he owned two time share condos at the Samoset Hotel in Rockland, Maine. His other place to retreat was to a cottage in Friendship, Maine. He would say, "I feel the peace here, as I do at home".

He had a passion and long-time commitment to three organizations.

His church, wherever he held membership, was where he would serve in a variety of different capacities, such as Sunday school teacher, Deacon, custodian, and always the choir! He joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in his early twenties. He had enjoyed going to lodge meetings with his father and felt this was a worthwhile service organization. He continued his involvement with the Saccarappa Lodge in Westbrook till his death. His third interest was in a spiritual retreat organization called Rekindled Spirit Retreats. His wife and a friend were the co-founders. He believed in their mission and spent time learning about the activities, but most importantly he served as a prayer partner to the group and the work being done.

Having no children of their own, Uncle Erlie was surrounded by love from many nieces and nephews who are connected both by blood and by heart, both local and as far away as Las Vegas, Nevada and Minnesota. When asked if he would be a Godfather to twin girls, he said, "Nothing could bring more joy to my heart". Years later he was asked by his Goddaughter if he would be the Great Godfather to her son. He said, "Yes, I guess my heart is bigger than I thought!" Erlan did not take the role of Godparent lightly. He thought this was one way an adult could show a child that God loved them and how important that relationship was to

(Continued on page 9)



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OBITUARIES

(Continued from page 8)

their lives.

Everyone who met Erlie or called him friend, knows exactly how it feels to be with someone deeply connected and radiating God's light. We all know Erlie left this life with a light heart and a soul full of grace.

"There is nothing to be afraid of anymore when you have touched the Great Power of Spirit, which controls the very forces of creation, all the machinery of this universe." -Paramahansa Yogananda

Join Erlie's family and friends for a Memorial Service at the Acton Congregational Church, 59 H Road, Acton, ME 04001 on Saturday, Aug. 10, at 11 a.m., followed by a luncheon reception at the church. In lieu of flowers, the family requests any donations be made to Rekindled Spirit Retreats, 30 Flecher Street, Kennebunk, ME 04043.

If you are physically unable to attend, the service will be live-streamed. Please see the church website for the link to the live-stream service: <https://sites.google.com/site/actonmaineucc>

To share a memory or leave a message of condolence, visit www.bibbersautumnngreen.com.

Arrangements are in care of Bibber Memorial at Autumn Green 47 Oak St, Alfred, ME 04002.

FIREFIGHTERS

(Continued from page 8)

is 17 and knows where she wants to land after she completes high school next year.

The SRTC student said she plans to work locally and earn her associate degree in fire science, with an eye to a somewhat unique future endeavor.

"I want to do mountain search and rescue," White said. It is a skill that runs in the family – her father at one time volunteered with the ski patrol, doing mountain rescue in New Hampshire.

SRTC student Rylie Wright of Waterboro – the Maine winner of the Skills USA competition in firefighting, was to be off to Atlanta, Georgia a few days after the ceremony to compete in the national competition. "I've always heard firefighting is a great career," she said, noting her father is a Portland firefighter.

SRTC student Ryan Barrett of Kittery is applying to area departments, looking to build his skills.

"I want to help people," he said.

Students complete a rigorous training program that includes health and safety protocols, fire behavior, hazardous materials, firefighting tactics, forest firefighting, hose and appliances, ground ladders, personal protective equipment, car fires, structure fires, mental health and resilience,

forcible entry, sprinkler and alarm systems, building construction, and more – 240 hours of training in all.

Sen. Matt Harrington, a former firefighter who later became a law enforcement officer, serves on the Maine Legislature's Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. He spoke of recent fire and EMS legislation, and wished the graduates well.

Harrington said the legislature has made recent gains in supporting firefighters and emergency medical service professionals – allocating \$250,000 for diesel exhaust systems and heavy duty extractor washing machines to reduce occupational cancer; \$12 million to help Maine's most vulnerable EMS services at risk of closing, another \$19 million in grants for long term sustainability, and \$1.5 million in funding for fire service training facilities. Harrington noted a bill he sponsored requiring vacant seats on the Maine EMS Board be filled passed, though he said several remain vacant, including a York County seat.

He told graduates they should

be proud of their accomplishments.

"I know I speak for everyone here when I say that we are all incredibly proud of you," Harrington said. "Congratulations, and stay safe."

"Recruiting and retaining qualified and committed staff... is challenging," said York County Fire Administrator Roger Hooper. "It's refreshing to see young people who want to serve, and pursue a fire service career."

Hooper said he looks forward to the day there is a fixed facility and permanent staff to deliver this program and others. He noted this was the 38th annual York County Fire Academy.

"We are fortunate to have such quality training close to home," he said.

Saco Fire Department Division Chief Raynald Legendre, program manager of the York County Fire Chief Association training program, spoke to the graduates: "Be true to yourself, continue your training, be a team player, and remember – everybody goes home."

- By Tammy Wells, Media Specialist for York County Government

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NOTICES

Town of Acton Invitation to Bid Bituminous Materials

Sealed bids for paving roads in the Town of Acton with hot bituminous materials are now being requested. Proposed pricing must be valid through June 30, 2025. All paving bids received must include separate prices for: Per ton laid; Hand work per ton; Curbing per ton; and Reclaiming per square foot.

Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes plainly marked "Bid for Paving" and shall be mailed to:
**Town of Acton, Town Administrator
35 H Road, Acton, ME 04001**

Bids will be received until 4:00 pm on Wednesday, July 17, 2024. The Town of Acton reserves the right to waive all informalities in bids, to accept any bid or any portion thereof, or reject any and all bids should it be deemed in its best interest to do so.

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ASTRONOMY CLUB A new program for children in grades 1-5 on the first Monday of each month from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Waterboro Public Library, 187 Main Street., East Waterboro. Children will explore astronomy and other topics in Space exploration with Gwendolyn from Ossipee Hill Farm & Observatory.

FIBER ARTS GROUP A crafting group meets every Monday from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Waterboro Public Library, 187 Main Street., East Waterboro. Do you love to knit, crochet, hand sew, or spin? Want to learn something new? You are invited to join us for an afternoon of crafting and conversation. Bring your tools, materials and current project with you. All skill levels welcome!

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets every Friday evening at 7 p.m. at the Waterboro Town Hall, 24 Townhouse Road, East Waterboro. Use the west parking lot entrance. All are welcome.

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

The Acton-Shapleigh Lion's Club **MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** the first Saturday of every month. \$7 includes pancakes (plain or blueberry), scrambled eggs, sausages, toast, orange juice, beans, and coffee, tea, and milk. The breakfast will be served from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Acton Town Hall, 35 H Road.

BEAN SUPPER The Massabesic Lions Club's monthly dine-in or take-out bean supper is

the 2nd Saturday of each month, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Lions Regional Medical Center, 813 Main St. Waterboro. Adults are \$10. Children 5 to 12 are \$7, kids 4 and under are free. Kidney and Pea Beans, Chop Suey, Ham, Hot Dogs, Coleslaw, "Our homemade" biscuits and a variety of desserts.

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

SANFORD TOPS The Sanford Chapter 0113 meets every Wednesday night at 5:45pm at the New Beginnings Church

(bottom floor), 181 Grammar Road, Sanford. For more info call Linda Rose 206-6234.

The **SANFORD CHAPTER 0207** of the non-profit Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) weight loss support group meets every Friday morning at 10 a.m. at the Willard School, 668 Main Street, Sanford. All are welcome to come and check us out. If you have any questions, contact Karen Lemay at 850-1741.

LIMERICK TOPS The Limerick Chapter 208 meets every Thursday at 4:45 at St Matthew Catholic Church at 19 Dora Lane (off Route 11) Limerick. Call Kathy Harriman at 727-3729 with questions.

LYMAN TOPS meet every Thursday night beginning at 5:15 p.m. We meet at the United Methodist Church at 55 Church Street

in Lyman. For more info call or text Judy Brown at 651-3907.

ADULT COED VOLLEYBALL every Wednesday night at the Line School in Limerick from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Questions? contact Dan McAllister at 247-8857.

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

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