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FREE

REPORTER

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Locally owned and independently operated.

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 47 • PO Box 75, North Waterboro, ME 04061 • 247-1033 • www.waterbororeporter.com • WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2026

SANFORD

City approves new security measures at abandoned mill

The City of Sanford is taking another step toward addressing ongoing public safety concerns at the International Woolen Mill Complex. At its Nov. 10 meeting, the Sanford City Council approved a one-year agreement with LVT Mobile Security to install three surveillance units around the property at an annual cost of $84,600.

The surveillance units are mobile trailers equipped with large solar panels and elevated camera systems mounted on tall poles. Each unit provides six unique camera viewing angles and features thermal sensors, floodlights, flashing warning lights, and speakers.

Together, the three units will provide continuous monitoring of the complex, using cameras and detection technology to establish a virtual security boundary that identifies people or vehicles entering restricted areas of the property. When unauthorized activity is detected, the system can automatically activate floodlights, flashing lights, and audible warnings to discourage further entry. Law enforcement personnel will also receive real-time alerts and have access to live video to assess situations before responding. Recorded footage can be used to document incidents and support enforcement efforts.

The system will operate as a closed network, with all recorded footage owned and controlled by the City of Sanford and accessible

(Continued on page 6)

MAINE CLASS A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



Bonny Eagle Football's Varsity Coach Kevin Cooper celebrating at Fitzpatrick Stadium on Nov. 21 after his team won the Class A State Title, defeating Oxford Hills 31-27. PHOTO BY AME PHOTOGRAPHY

BY MIKE DEANGELIS

Bonny Eagle built a 24-7 lead at halftime and held on for a 31-27 win over Oxford Hills at the Class A High School Football State Championship game on Saturday, Nov. 21 at Fitzpatrick Stadium. The win kept the Scots perfect with eight Gold Ball wins in eight tries under head coach Kevin Cooper.

Bonny Eagle got the ball first after the Vikings deferred. The Scots put together a lengthy 60-yard drive that ended with a two-yard TD run from quarterback Lucas Klehn, who ran for three scores and passed for another on the day.

The key play on the drive came from Oxford Hills' 22 on a fourth and short. Klehn kept it and powered up the middle for 11 to set-up the games' first

(Continued on page 7)



Kids make Socktober a success

Five years of making a difference, one pair of socks at a time

Socktober is a special community initiative that brings together some of RSU 57's 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students across our schools to collect socks for local community resources and, most importantly, to help put socks directly onto the feet of people right here in our own community. Throughout the month, students are encouraged to create flyers, learn about the purpose behind the initiative, bring the message home to share with family and friends, decorate collection boxes, count donations, set goals, and check in on their progress throughout the month. At the end of Socktober, students come together to celebrate their efforts and learn about where their donations will go. This year's socks will support Maine Needs, Caring Unlimited, Seeds of Hope, Preble Street, and individuals and families within our very own community. This year's collection totals are: Lyman Elementary 1,080 pairs; Line Elementary 887 pairs; Alfred Elementary 315 pairs; Waterboro Elementary 290 pairs; and Shapleigh Memorial 77 pairs, for a total of 2,652 pairs of socks! COURTESY PHOTO

FROM YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Criminal justice students tour York County Jail

There's no question that students can learn a lot in the classroom. Sometimes the classroom can be somewhere other than a room with desks and chairs.

On a recent day, students enrolled in the criminal justice program at York County Community College – held at the nearby county regional training center – got to tour parts of York County Jail, meet the jail's Board of Visitors and observe their interaction with resident inmates, and hear updates on the number of

(Continued on page 4)



York County Jail Board of Visitors member Charlyce Goodwin, chats with a resident inmate during a recent quarterly board meeting and tour that was also attended by York County Community College criminal justice students. PHOTO BY TAMMY WELLS, YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT MEDIA

Shop LOCALLY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

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Only 3 issues left in 2026! Advertise YOUR business by calling 247-1033 or email ads@waterbororeporter.com

COMMUNITY Calendar

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

COMING EVENTS

FESTIVAL OF TREES at 31 West Road, Waterboro, to benefit Waterborough Historical Society, Friday, Nov. 27 and 28 from 10-7 and Sunday, Nov. 29 from 10-4.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR Nov. 27 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Buxton Centre Baptist Church, Rte 22, Buxton. Craft and Bake Sale and a table for children to shop at.

ACTON TREE LIGHTING Acton Recreation is hosting its annual tree lighting event on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 5 to 7 p.m. The event will be held at Acton Town Hall, 35 H Road. Crafts and games for the whole family. Refreshments will be served, along with hot chocolate and holiday treats. Carolers and fun for all ages. After the tree lighting head over to the church for a picture with Santa and holiday bite.

GRAYSON'S LEGACY CRAFT FAIR will be held on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sanford Memorial Gym, 678 Main Street. There will be over 40 unique vendors, and Santa will appear from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. There will be face painting (price depends on style, etc.), plus free Pokémon cards and free kids' winter hats.

ST. MATTHEW HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR Get a head start on your holiday shopping on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Matthew Parish, 19 Dora Lane, Limerick. Browse a variety of handcrafted items, unique gifts, and holiday treasures from local vendors. Enjoy delicious homemade food and baked goods while supporting local crafters and your parish community. Everyone is welcome! Come shop local and get into the Christmas spirit!

CHRISTMAS CLASSICS, CAROLS, AND HOLIDAY SONGS Sunday, Nov. 29, at 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 141 North St., Kennebunkport. Former music director Joyce Painter Rice will accompany the Grassi family on violin. The Grassi sisters, Sophia, Antonia, Christianna, and their mother, Megan, are all accomplished musicians who grace our community with their talents. Concert goers are encouraged to bring a donation of gently used or new winter coats, hats, mittens/gloves, waterproof boots for adults and children in need.

HOLLY DAZE PARADE & TREE LIGHTING The City of Sanford's annual Holly Daze Parade and Tree Lighting will take place on Friday, Dec. 4. The parade will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the annual Tree Lighting at 6 p.m. in Central Park.

Parsonsfield Seminary, 6th annual, **DECK THE HALLS**, Formerly Festival of Trees Friday Evening Preview Dec. 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. with live music, Wassail and nibbles Saturdaym Dec. 5 & 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission Friday evening $15 Saturday & Sunday $5 tickets at the door. Under 12 Free. Parsonsfield Seminary 504 North Road. Parsonsfield, ME. Questions? Call 603-452-4725.

CHRISTMAS MARKET PLACE at the Bar Mills Community Church 13 Hermit Thrush Drive Buxton, Friday, Dec. 4, from 2 to 7 p.m. Handmade Crafts, Breads, Baked Goods, Pickles, Fresh Holiday Greens & Wreaths, home made desserts, snacks for your pets, and a wide variety of hand made gifts for you to choose from. Homemade grab and go meals to conveniently heat and serve at home: chicken pot pie, mac and cheese, and a variety of soups and desserts for you to enjoy. FMI contact Judy at 929-5555.

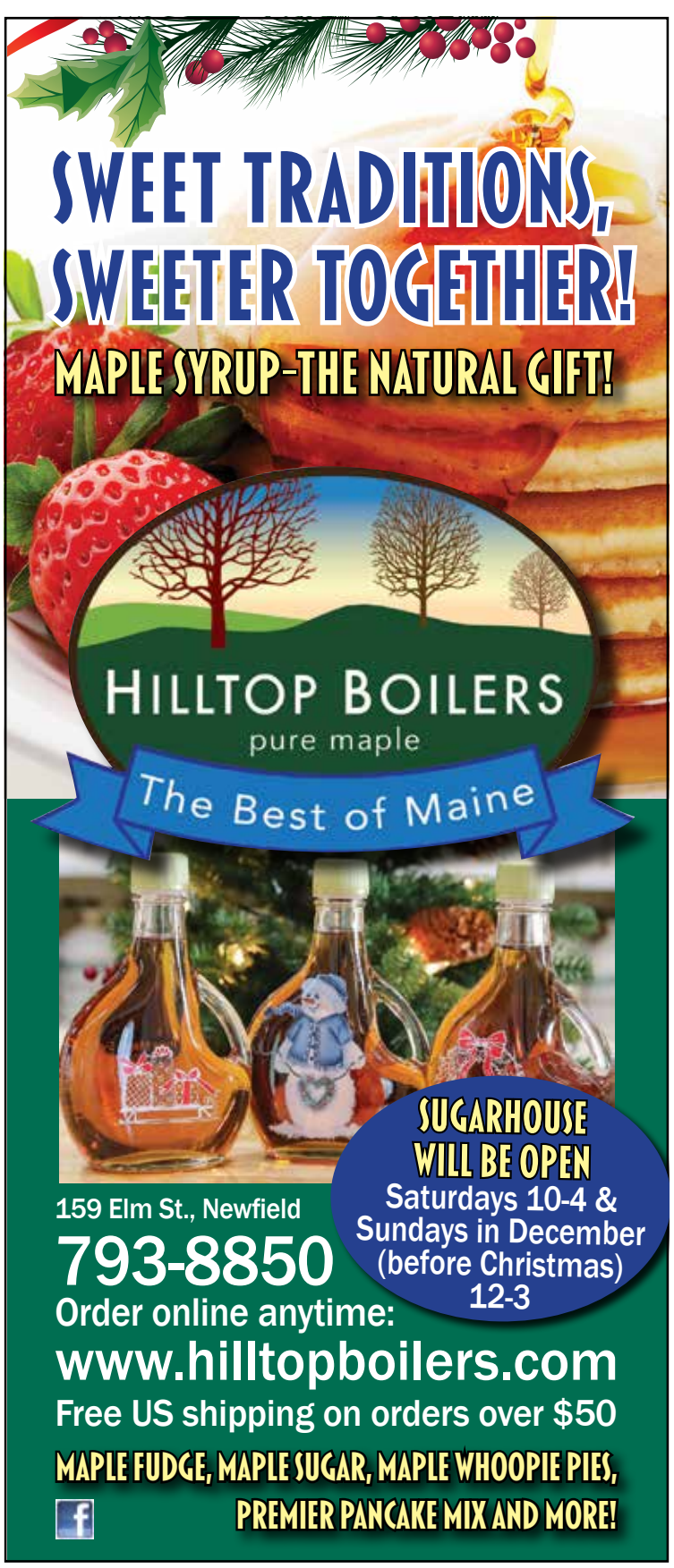
LIMERICK CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING ceremony Saturday, Dec. 5, at 5 p.m. at the Band Stand on Main Street. Hosted by the Limerick Research Club. Bring Flashlights.

FREE PICTURES WITH SANTA Following the Tree Lighting - Saturday, Dec. 5, at 5:30 at the Limerick Brick town hall, enjoy hot cocoa and cookies, free prize drawings for kids and write letters to Santa. Hosted by the Limerick Historical Society

Buxton Hollis Historical Society Third Annual **SANTA'S SHINDIG AND LUNCHEON** Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 100 Main Street, Route 4A, Buxton. Lunch available from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Chili, soup, cornbread, desserts and a beverage for $6. Shop our fundraiser for Books, Baked Goods, Knit Goods Jewelry, Quilts, Ornaments, BHHS Merchandise, White Elephant Table, Christmas Table, Used Office Furniture, Pottery and Prints.

NOTE: The Reporter will NOT be published on 12/24 or 12/31. The last issue of the year is 12/17, with a 12/15 deadline. The first issue of next year will be 1/7/27 with a 1/5/27 deadline. Submit your listings accordingly.











HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR Bonny Eagle Middle School, Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Benefiting Best Buddies, 92 Sokokis Trail, Buxton.

MERRILY GREET THE SEASON CONCERT by Southern Maine Harp Circle, Sunday, Dec. 6 at 1 p.m. in the Alfred Parish Church Sanctuary, 8 Kennebunk Road, Alfred. Harps, flutes and musical surprises. Donations gratefully accepted for the Alfred Parish Church.

NEWFIELD TREE LIGHTING AND CAROLING Sunday, Dec. 6 at 4:30 p.m., Join the Historical Society of Newfield for the annual Tree Lighting and Caroling at the bandstand on Elm Street in Newfield.

"SOUNDS OF THE SEASON" to be held at the Bar Mills Community Church 13 Hermit Thrush Drive, Buxton on Sunday, Dec. 6. This event of Christmas Joy is presented by churches in the Bar Mills, Buxton and Hollis area. Please join us as we celebrate the joy and light of Christ's birth!

MAINE DEP CERTIFICATION IN EROSION CONTROL PRACTICES Shoreland Zoning Regulations require any "contractor" working in the municipal Shoreland Zone must ensure an individual certified in Erosion and Sedimentation Control Practices (ESC) by Maine DEP is present on the site during all phases of soil disturbance and is responsible for the installation and maintenance of any Best Management Practices (BMPs). Dec. 10 or Jan. 20 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m in Sanford. Cost is $75 for new certifications or $50 Recertification. Contact: melissabrandt@yorkswcd.org or 207-459-6914 to sign up.

ONGOING EVENTS

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

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

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

CHESS MATES at Limerick Public Library, 55 Washington Street, Limerick. Play chess with old or new friends 2nd Wed each month at 6 p.m. **DROP-IN LEGO BUILD** every Tuesday at 3 p.m. and Sat. at 10 a.m. FMI-793-8975 or limericklibrary.org. Enjoy building a creation with our LEGO collection.

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

RED HAT LADIES Women 50+ enjoy comradery, card games, meals out, bowling, mini golf, movies etc. Tuesday card games at 12:30 p.m. Pay Me & Scat. Bring a snack to share. Take turns meeting at member's homes; you are not obligated to offer your home. FMI Diane Dunn 229-6135.

NEWFIELD ACOUSTIC JAMBOREE first Saturday each month from 1 to 3 p.m. Newfield Town Hall. So. Effingham Rd. Call 468-1491.

ARTISTS OPEN STUDIO on Wednesdays from 1-4 p.m at the Parsons Memorial Library, located at 27 Saco Road, Alfred.

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

MAHJONG every Wednesday 10 a.m. to noon at the Acton Public Library, 35 H Road. Please bring a set if you have one. Open to new and experienced players.

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

WEDNESDAY STORY HOUR at the Acton Public Library every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. Come meet other caregivers while your children make new friends. The library is located at 35 H Road, Acton.

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL THRIFT SHOP Open Wednesdays 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at St. James Hall, Biddeford (use South Street entrance). Monies raised help those in need in York County. FMI Bob 229 2551.

FREE MEN'S GROUP, every Wednesday beginning at 6:30 p.m. at 114 East Shore Drive in Acton (The Kita Center). Stay; Man to Man Peer Support offers an open, confidential, and supportive environment for men to gather to discuss life's stressors. Peer facilitated, and comfortable. FMI visit www.stayforlife.org and click on programs

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets every Friday evening, 7 p.m. at the Waterboro Town Hall, West parking lot entrance. All are welcome.

LIMERICK TOPS The Limerick Chapter 208 meets every Thursday at 4 p.m. at St. Matthew Catholic Church (rear entrance) at 19 Dora Lane, Limerick. Call Kathy Harriman at 727-3729 with questions.

LYMAN TOPS meets every Thursday night at 5 p.m. at Beacon of Hope Community Church, 1298 Alfred Road, (Route 111), Arundel. For more information email jjstearns@sacoriver.net.

SANFORD TOPS Chapter 0113 meets every Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m. at the Crossroads Church at 15 Grammar Road, Sanford. For more info call Linda Rose at 206-6234.

TOPS SANFORD 0207 at the Willard School 668 Main St. Weigh in from 9-9:45 a.m. on Fridays with the meeting to follow. For more info call Gloria Richer at 284-3748.

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

LET'S EAT!

TIRED OF TURKEY? TRY OUR DELICIOUS HADDOCK SUPPER BUFFET Saturday, Nov. 28 at 5 p.m. at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: $12 Adult, $5 Child, $24 Family.

BEAN SUPPER Massabesic Lions monthly dine-in or take-out the 2nd Saturday of the month (next on Dec. 12), 4 to 6 p.m. at the Lions Regional Medical Center, 813 Main St. Waterboro. Adults $15. Children 6 to 12 are $8, kids 5 and under are free. Pint of chop suey for $8. Kidney and navy beans, chop suey, ham slices, red hot dogs, coleslaw, "our homemade" biscuits and dessert.

The Acton-Shapleigh Lion's Club **MONTHLY PANCAKE BREAKFAST** the first Saturday of every month (Next on Dec. 5). $7 includes pancakes (plain or blueberry), scrambled eggs, sausages, toast, orange juice, beans, and coffee, tea, and milk. The breakfast will be served from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Shapleigh Community Center at 24 Back Road, Shapleigh, next door to the Shapleigh Town Hall.

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

COMMUNITY CAFÉ at Southern Maine Agency on Aging, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 21 Bradeen Street, Springvale (Use the entrance on Bodwell Ct.) and the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at Mayflower Place, 27 Mayflower Drive, Sanford. Call 396-6500. Suggested donation $8.

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TOWN OF SHAPLEIGH
NOMINATION PAPERS
for the March 12, 2027 Municipal Election are available for the following offices:

(1) Select Board, Assessor, Overseer of Poor - 3 Years
(1) Forest Trustee - 3 Years
(1) Budget Committee - 3 Years
(2) Library Trustee - 3 Years
(1) RSU #57 Director - 1 Year
(1) RSU #57 Director - 3 Years

Nomination Papers will be available 11/24/2026 and must be filed with the Town Clerk by 4:30 PM January 05, 2027.

From York County Government

Advisory Board members sought for York County Regional Recovery Center

If you are a community leader, healthcare professional, or perhaps have lived experience and are committed to strengthening local substance recovery services, you may be a good fit for the York County Regional Recovery Center Advisory Board.

The 58-bed recovery center is set to begin operations during the first quarter of 2027 and York County government officials want to be ready with an advisory board in place.

The board's purpose is to serve as a community and professional group that provides guidance, recommendations and support to strengthen substance disorder treatment and recovery services within York County.

York County Regional Recovery Center will offer detoxification services, an intensive outpatient program, and 30- and 180- day residential treatment.

The make-up of the 8-member advisory board, which would meet quarterly, will include individuals from the recovery community, healthcare, behavioral health, law enforcement, a substance use treatment professional, a community organization representative, and a housing/re-entry representative.

As a group, the board would offer feedback on program development, services, and long-term goals along with an array of other responsibilities - like strengthening relationships with social service and healthcare providers, recovery organizations, hospitals and community partners, and help promote awareness of services. The board would provide input on program initiatives, delivery, bring forward community concerns and perspectives, and more.

"We are seeking members who are passionate about strengthening recovery services, reducing barriers to treatment, and improving outcomes for individuals and families affected by substance use disorders," said County Manager Greg Zinser.

Members would meet for about 60-90 minutes each quarter, with optional participation in special initiatives or community events. Membership term is two years, with opportunity for reappointment.

To apply, visit www.yorkcountymaine.gov or, email Patricia Murray, at pamurray@yorkcountymaine.gov to obtain an application. Applications must be emailed to Murray by close of business on Dec. 18.

– By Tammy Wells, York County government media

JAIL TOUR

(Continued from page 1)

inmates currently housed at the jail, what programs are available to them, and more.

"They were great students," said Board of Visitors member Susan Wiswell. After their tour of the facility, and speaking with residents and BOV members, some students said they were considering corrections, she added.

"It gave them a glimpse," Wiswell said, "and they got to see how the units are setup and staffed."

Berwick resident Heather Sanborn, in her last year of the two-year criminal justice program, said when she was in high school she was drawn to pursuing a career in the military but her circumstances changed, and that didn't happen.

"Now, I want to work in law enforcement," she said. While she has interest both in corrections and policing, Sanborn said she is currently leaning toward corrections.

YCCC student Cooper Cronin made up his mind about his future career early on. The North Conway, NH resident said he also studied criminal justice while in high school and is looking for a career as a police officer.

The students were members the Contemporary Corrections Class, taught by York County Sheriff William King, and the Practical Applications in Criminal Justice class, taught by Seabrook, NH Police Lt. Tim Mone, Kennebunk Police Deputy Chief Eric O'Brien and YCCC Criminal Justice Department Chair and former Portland Police Chief Tim Burton.



Criminal Justice program students at York County Community College toured York County Jail and observed as members of the jail's Board of Visitors met with inmates on a recent day. PHOTO BY TAMMY WELLS, YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT MEDIA

On Nov. 17, the date of the BOV meeting and student visit, there were 184 resident inmates at York County Jail, including 18 who had been sentenced, and 166 awaiting trial – among the latter are five people charged with murder, two with attempted murder and one with manslaughter, said King.

Of the five people charged with murder, King said three have been awaiting trial for three or more years, including one individual for five years. His report was among several aired at the briefing. As part of her report, Release Planner Melissa Leeman spoke of the number of inmates released to another facility – 27 – from Aug 12 to Nov. 16, with five returning to the jail.

The 7-member Board of Visitors meets quarterly at the jail to inspect the facility, speak with inmates and hear reports. They also prepare an annual report for the Legislature. In Maine, each county jail is required by state statute to have a Board of Visitors. York County Jail's Board of Visitors includes Janet Drew, Nicole Butler, Charlyce Goodwin, Kenneth Blow, Gary Prolman, Deborah Hamilton and Wiswell, with alternate member Sarah Johnson.

Goodwin credits York County Jail and the former Layman Way program for helping her achieve her own five-year success rate in recovery, and joined the BOV a year ago.

"I'm just happy to be a part of this," Goodwin said as she and the other BOV members spoke with inmates and with students.

King and Jail Administrator Lori Marks spoke of programs and events available to inmates, like high school equivalency, recovery coach training, faith- based programs, AA, NA and more. There is a gym at the jail, and there are art classes, and music groups periodically come to the jail and give concerts.

Marks noted that when inmates are busy and engaged in programs, fewer behavior issues arise.

Students observed BOV's interaction with inmates in the female housing unit and with male inmates in C-3, a medium security housing unit.

King said the YCCC students have a great academic understanding of the field of corrections and that having them attend a Board of Visitors meeting provided them an "insider's view" of the inner working of the jail.

"That, accompanied by watching the BOV members interact with inmates and listening to the inmate's concerns really provided the students with an exposure to the corrections environment – from those who oversee the services to those who are recipients of that service," King said. "And the BOV members were very impressed with the level of maturity and intelligent questions that were posed by the students."

– By Tammy Wells, York County government media

TOWN OF HOLLIS
PUBLIC NOTICE

The Hollis Select Board is holding a SPECIAL TOWN MEETING Tuesday, December 8, 2026 at 7:00 PM Hollis Meeting Room 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis, ME 04042

The warrant and proposed *"Town of Hollis Ordinance Establishing A Temporary Moratorium on Data Centers"* can be reviewed at the Hollis Town Office, 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis, and online at hollismaine.org.

YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO VOTE.
The Registrar of Voters will be available at the polls.

Posted by the Hollis Select Board

TOWN OF HOLLIS
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Hollis Planning Board is holding a PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, December 9, 2026 at 7 PM Hollis Meeting Room, 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis, ME 04042

To review the proposed cistern updates for new subdivisions.

The proposed changes can be viewed at the Town Hall and on our website www.hollismaine.org. The public is welcome to attend the hearing in person or virtually.

If you are unable to attend and want to submit comments prior to the hearing, please e-mail: planningboard@hollismaine.org. Written comments can be submitted to the Hollis Town Hall during regular business hours or by mail to: Hollis Planning Board, 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis, ME 04042.

Heather Sullivan, Planning Board Chair

TOWN OF WATERBORO
PLANNING BOARD
Notice of Public Hearing

The Waterboro Planning Board will hold the RESCHEDULED **Public Hearing** on an application for a **wireless telecommunications facility at 87 Thyngs Mill Road**.
A copy of the application is available at the Town Hall or on the Waterboro Town Website: https://www.waterboro-me.gov/information_center/public_hearings.php

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC HEARING, THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE:

- **Attend in-person** at the Town Hall and speak at the Podium during the Public Hearing. ***Meeting information below.***
- **Send in a letter** to the Town of Waterboro Planning Board: Town Planning, 24 Townhouse Road, E. Waterboro, Maine 04030.
- **E-mail a letter** to: achute@waterboromaine.gov.
- All Public Hearings are streamed live on Youtube accessible via the Town's website and recorded for future viewing at www.youtube.com/WaterboroMaine.

Please contact the Town Planner with application questions at mjordan@waterboromaine.gov or 247-6166 ext.122. Please contact the Planning Board Administrator at 247-6166 ext.121 to receive information on how to participate via phone.

DATE: RESCHEDULED to December 2, 2026
TIME: 6:00 PM *(Previously scheduled for Nov. 18)*
LOCATION: Town Hall - 24 Townhouse Road, E. Waterboro, Maine 04030.

– Rebekah Higgins, Chairman

Send your news to:
news@waterbororeporter.com

From Ohio to Kennebunk: Animal Welfare Society welcomes 10 chinchillas following major rescue

The chinchillas, among 951 rescued from an Ohio breeding facility, are now available for adoption – with community support, AWS hopes to help even more

Animal Welfare Society (AWS) has welcomed 10 chinchillas rescued from a commercial breeding facility in Ohio as part of a large-scale operation led by Humane World for Animals, formerly the Humane Society of the United States. Now available for adoption, the chinchillas are getting a fresh start in Maine, complete with names inspired by characters from the hit television series The Offi ce.

The 10 chinchillas are among 951 rescued following years of documented federal Animal Welfare Act violations at R & R Chinchilla in Jenera, Ohio. At the request of the U.S. Department of Justice, Humane World for Animals began removing animals from the facility on October 13. The operation concluded November 3, when the remaining animals were surrendered and removed.

Veterinary examinations of the rescued animals revealed conditions including severely matted fur, infl amed skin, overgrown teeth, sores and other injuries. Some were missing limbs, toes or ears. The facility has since been shut down.

With hundreds of chinchillas needing care and placement, Humane World for Animals coordinated with shelter and rescue partners across the country, including AWS, to help the animals begin their next chapter.

All 10 chinchillas at AWS are now available for adoption, and the organization hopes to welcome additional chinchillas from the rescue as community interest and support allow.

"When nearly a thousand animals need help, it takes organizations and communities working together to give them a fresh start," said Heidi Marston, Executive Director of Animal Welfare Society. We're grateful to be able to welcome these 10 chinchillas to AWS, and we'd love to help even more. Every adoption opens the door for another animal in need, and with the support of our community, we hope to continue being part of this incredible rescue effort."

While their journey to Maine was no laughing matter, the chinchillas' new names offer a little comic relief. Inspired by their impressive, parkour-like jumps, each has been named after a character from the hit television series The Offi ce, bringing a bit of personality to their new beginnings.

Chinchillas are small, social mammals native to the Andes Mountains of South America. Known for their exceptionally soft fur, energetic personalities and impressive jumping abilities, they require specialized care, including spacious habitats, regular dust baths, proper nutrition and opportunities for exercise. They are also a long-term commitment, with lifespans that can reach 15 years or more.

AWS encourages prospective adopters to learn about the animals' unique needs before welcoming a chinchilla into their home.

Community members can help by adopting, donating or sharing the chinchillas' stories. With continued community interest and support, AWS hopes to expand its role in providing care and new homes for additional animals from the rescue.



Three Animal Welfare Society team members prepare to transport rescued chinchillas back to Maine following a large-scale rescue operation. The animals were safely loaded and ready for their journey to AWS in Kennebunk. PHOTO BY ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY

To learn more about the chinchillas, explore adoption opportunities or support their care, visit www.animalwelfaresociety.org or call (207) 985-3244.

Animal Welfare Society exists to serve as a safety net for pets through adoptions, affordable services and resources, so pets and their families stay together and thrive. Through pet adoption, affordable veterinary care, canine training and community programs and resources, AWS supports pets and the people who love them throughout southern Maine

Got Business News?

Special events? Accolades?
Changes to your business?
New hours or location?
Press releases? Photos?

If your business has news to share with the community, we'd love to hear from you!

Send your submissions to:
news@waterbororeporter.com

LIMERICK MILLS ANIMAL HOSPITAL
135 Elm St.
Limerick
793-4493

Saturday, December 5
from 10am to 1pm



Have your pet's picture taken with Santa and his Elf!

For a $5 DONATION, we will e-mail the photo, or print for you to take home.
(CASH & CHECKS ONLY. NO CREDIT CARDS.)

All proceeds collected will go to a local family in need.



Coffee & Hot Cocoa

Shop our retail for the 4-legged friends and pet lovers in your family!
We will not be open for appointments and NO food or Pharmacy pick-ups.

Pets do not need to be patients here to come for photos.

TREELINE TO SHORELINE
REALTY



May the blessings of Thanksgiving bring warmth and peace to your home this season.

DIANE GRAY BROKER/Owner
treelinetoshoreline.com
graysofmaine@hotmail.com
P.O. Box 105 ▪ N. Waterboro, ME 04061
Cell: 207-632-1943

MLS "PROUDLY serving our community"

SANFORD

Imelda Fund provides heating assistance to residents in need

As colder weather approaches, the City of Sanford would like to remind residents about the Imelda Fund, a longstanding, donation-supported initiative that helps residents experiencing short-term financial hardship with winter heating and fuel costs.

The fund was established by the City to provide an additional source of heating assistance for residents in need, particularly elderly individuals and those who may not qualify for traditional assistance programs. Through the generosity of community members and local businesses, the fund helps bridge the gap for residents facing financial challenges during the winter months.

Know Someone Who May Need Assistance?

The Imelda Fund works in coordination with the City's General Assistance Program to help residents who demonstrate a financial need but do not qualify for other heating assistance programs. Residents seeking support should contact the General Assistance Office at (207) 324-9110 to determine eligibility.

Interested in Making a Donation?

Donations from community members and local businesses help make this assistance possible. Anyone interested in contributing to the Imelda Fund can visit the City Clerk's Office at Sanford City Hall during regular business hours to make a donation.

Whether you know someone who may need assistance or would like to contribute, your support can help keep our neighbors warm this winter. The Imelda Fund is an important community resource to keep in mind.



K9 Officer Maximus graduates nine week Narcotics Detection School

Sanford Police Department K9 Maximus and his handler, Officer Cotton have successfully graduated from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's nine-week Narcotics Detection School. With this accomplishment, Maximus is now fully trained in patrol apprehension, tracking, and narcotics detection, making him a valuable resource for the Sanford Police Department and neighboring law enforcement agencies. This achievement reflects the dedication, training, and teamwork of Officer Cotton and K9 Maximus. COURTESY PHOTO

SANFORD MILL

(Continued from page 1)

only to authorized City personnel. It does not use facial recognition, license plate readers, or tracking technology. Footage will not be shared with outside agencies or national surveillance databases.

The City Council also voted to strengthen the data privacy provisions of the agreement with LVT Mobile Security. These additional protections will include language specifying that LVT has no affiliation with Flock Safety, that the City retains full ownership and control of its data, and that the data cannot be shared with outside parties, even if LVT is acquired by another company.

In addition to approving the new security system, the City Council authorized an amendment to the existing Emergency Declaration that will allow Heritage Crossing roadway and sidewalks to reopen once the surveillance units are installed. The surveillance system is anticipated to be installed and operational by the end of November 2026.

Reopening Heritage Crossing will restore public access to the roadway and sidewalks while allowing City crews to resume routine maintenance, including snowplowing during the winter months. The International Woolen Mill Complex itself will remain closed, with unauthorized entry strictly prohibited and the property monitored by the new security system.

The system is intended to address immediate safety concerns while the City continues working with State and Federal partners to explore long-term solutions for the International Woolen Mill Complex.

Age Forward: Celebrating our community, introducing AgeMaine

On Oct. 5, nearly 200 guests gathered at our Portland Center for Age Forward: Building Maine's Future Together. Under a beautifully lit tent surrounded by fall décor, neighbors, friends, and community partners shared an evening of delicious food, conversation, and possibility.

It was a chance to celebrate the people who make our work possible, consider the future of aging in Maine, and introduce a new name that reflects our commitment to that future: AgeMaine.

The evening held a special milestone for our organization. President and CEO Megan Walton revealed our new name and identity, AgeMaine, to the community gathered with us.

The unveiling connected our history with our hopes for Maine's future. After more than 50 years as Southern Maine Agency on Aging, we're building on relationships with generations of older adults, caregivers, volunteers, and community partners. Those relationships will continue to guide us as AgeMaine.

The new identity also echoed the evening's conversation about the role we can play in Maine's future. Alongside our services in Cumberland and York counties, we'll continue bringing the needs and perspectives of the people we serve into statewide conversations about aging.

It was a moment to celebrate where we've been and look ahead together, with the familiar staff, volunteers, and programs our community counts on.

Learn more about our new name and what it means for you at https://www.agemaine.org.



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SPORTS

FOOTBALL

(Continued from page 1)

score. The defense for Bonny Eagle got off the field with a three and out next, but the Scots turned the ball over on their next possession deep in their own territory.

The Vikings cashed in on the first play of the second quarter to tie the score at 7-7. Klehn hooked up with Drew Gervais on a 37-yard pass on the Scots' next possession, and they went back ahead 14-7.

Ben Havu, who had a superb day in all phases of the game, showed his defensive prowess on the next possession with a sack on third down to keep Bonny Eagle in control. The Scots added another dominant drive that featured a nice 20-yard catch-and-run from Gervais and ended with a short TD run from Klehn that put the Scots ahead 21-7. They added three more points before the break when Havu (money with his foot all season) nailed a 30-yard field goal after Wes Pinkham made a huge play with a blocked punt, his second in as many weeks.

The Vikings came out of the break and assembled a superb drive of their own that ended with Carter Davis catching his second touchdown of the day from quarterback Toby Ouifiero that made the score 24-14. Davis caught a third TD later.

The Scots got a key score early in the fourth that effectively sealed the win, putting them ahead 31-14, but tense moments remained after Ouifiero hit Davis with a 59-yard TD pass. The contest was still in doubt with 3:43 left when the Vikings cut it to 31-27, but the Scots closed out the win with the offense keeping the ball on the ground and running out the clock.

Bonny Eagle brought home the Gold Ball for the first time since 2019. They won in 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2013, 2016, 2019 and 2026. Head coach Kevin Cooper has been at the helm for 29 seasons. His lifetime mark is 198-87.

– By Mike Deangelis
Sports Writer



Bonny Eagle's Lucas Klehn running the ball.
PHOTO BY AME PHOTOGRAPHY



Coach Kevin Cooper getting a Gatorade shower after the win.
PHOTO BY AME PHOTOGRAPHY



Travis Cote playing the bagpipes. PHOTO BY AME PHOTOGRAPHY



Bagpiper Travis Cote, of Limington, led the Bonny Eagle Scots onto the field at Fitzpatrick Stadium on Nov. 21 for the Class A State Championship game. Cote has appeared at many district events over the years, including soccer and field hockey games and is a Bonny Eagle alumnus, Class of 2001.
COURTESY PHOTO



Bonny Eagle senior wide receiver and safety Brayden Dunn. PHOTO BY AME PHOTOGRAPHY

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BRIEFS

Lasting Friendships at First Church

First Church is welcoming back former music director, Joyce Painter Rice, for a holiday concert on Sunday, Nov. 29 at 2 p.m. She will accompany the Grassi family, mother Megan, with daughters Sophia, Antonia, and Christiana, on their violins for a performance of Christmas classics, carols and seasonal songs.

A bit of history: While First Church was raising money, (2016-2018), to restore its 1854 E. & G. G. Hook organ, then music director Joyce Painter Rice tirelessly arranged concerts, tapping talented musicians from throughout New England. Local favorites continue to provide special music for our community enjoyment.

The Grassis reconnected with Joyce Painter Rice at Bellville Congregational Church in Newburyport, MA where Joyce is a substitute organist. It is the childhood church of Megan Grassi and her parents still worship there. Joyce arranged for Christiana to play her violin while she accompanied on the organ.

The Grassi musicians fondly remembered their time at First Congregational Church of Kennebunkport and wondered if it would be possible to return. Joyce made a phone call, dates and times were negotiated for the Sunday after Thanksgiving, Nov. 29.

The Grassi sisters grew up in Kennebunkport, attending local schools where they are remembered as good students, conscientious citizens, and talented musicians. They began playing violin with their mother around age three, and all have been members of Mozart Mentors Orchestra under the direction of Anthony Antolini. Their accomplishments are impressive.

Sophia is currently attending Connecticut College and served as concertmaster for the college's orchestra tour to Japan, and as a Granted 'Young Artist' at the Trentino Music Festival in Italy. This January she will continue her musical studies in Vienna.

Antonia studies voice and violin at the conservatory of Lawrence University in Wisconsin. She received a scholarship to Point Counter Point and was a recipient of the national Leonard Bernstein Award for outstanding musicianship. She also received an honorable mention in the Rossini Competition.

Christiana has been a member of the Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, and played trumpet in the Concert Band at Kennebunk High School, where she is a Junior. She attended Ogontz Summer Institute from 2014-2020; her teachers include Brianna Fischler and Shaina Graff.

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STATE NEWS

Maine State Library welcomes the public back to its renovated home

Following major renovations, the Maine State Library is excited to welcome visitors back to its home in the updated Cultural Building on the Capitol Complex in Augusta on Tuesday, December 8, 2026 with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:00 am!

Visitors to the Maine State Library will find improved accessibility, updated storage for the Library's extensive collections, and more flexible spaces for reading, working, and participating in programs. New space-saving shelving on the first floor helps house the Library's collections, which stretch nearly seven miles if lined up end to end. On the second floor, movable shelving makes it easier to adapt public spaces for seating and events.

The newly renovated Library also includes new spaces for people who need a quiet, private place to work or take meetings and calls. Privacy pods offer visitors a place to participate in telehealth appointments, conduct online job interviews, or take digital meetings.

"We are so excited to welcome the public back into the Cultural Building," said Lori Stockman, State Librarian. "Our renovated spaces offer new opportunities for people to use the Library in different ways, whether they're exploring our rich collections, looking for a quiet place to work, seeking assistance with a research question, or simply stopping by while visiting the Capitol Complex. We hope people will come in, take a look around, and make themselves at home!"

The Maine State Library, Maine State Archives, and Maine State Museum moved their staff and collections out of the Cultural Building in June 2020, after a heating system failure and the discovery of asbestos. Over the next six years, the building underwent extensive renovations, creating updated spaces for these three institutions and the people they serve.

The Maine State Library welcomes visitors during the following regular hours:

- Tuesday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m.–7 p.m.
- Thursday: 9 a.m.–7 p.m.
- Friday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

The Library is closed on all state and federal holidays. Visitors are encouraged to stop by and discover the renewed spaces and services available at the Maine State Library.

About Maine State Library: Established in 1837, the Maine State Library strives to help people, make Maine libraries stronger, and transform information into knowledge. The services provided by Maine State Library are available to all Maine residents and are free of charge. To learn more, visit https://www.maine.gov/msl/.

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A Dance to Complete

The yellow leaf twirled and danced
across the empty road
in the cold, damp, late fall wind.
With a bow to the pavement
it ended its dance at my feet
and then…
it was off in the wind,
into the woods on the other side.
It was a bright, short encounter
on a dark, cold day.
The leaf had glowed
against the dark pavement
and for just a moment
it seemed like life itself
dancing in the gloom,
and then…
it was gone to who knows where.
Standing there only a moment longer,
I pulled my collar up around my neck,
my hat down over my ears
and I moved on.
I couldn't stay any more than the leaf
for I too had my own dance to complete.

– By Frank Vasalle, Lebanon

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Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic raises $250,000, breaks all-time fundraising record

Maine's high school football all-star game became one of the top fundraisers in the country for Shriners Children's

The Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic board of directors announced today that this year's Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic on July 18 at Lewiston High School raised a total of $250,000 for Shriners Children's. The total amount donated breaks the all-time record for the game in Maine and is one of the top fundraisers in the country for Shriners Children's. Logan Vigue from Medomak Valley High School set a new all-time individual fundraising record with $27,000 in donations.

The Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic is an all-star football game for high school seniors. Each year, the game raises thousands of dollars for Shriners Children's as players, cheerleaders and coaches raise funds by reaching out to family, friends and businesses to support the game and raise money.

This year, the game was broadcast on Maine Public and included several new events and increased promotion by the players on social media which helped the fundraising reach the $250,000 mark breaking the all-time record raised by the game by $125,000.

This month, members of the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic board of governors presented a check to Shriners Children's in Boston for $125,000, half of the total from the net proceeds from the game this year. On October 16, the board also presented a check for $125,000 to the Shriners Children's in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Three athletes, Logan Vigue, Lily Alley and Dawson Sukeforth all raised more than $10,000, including Logan Vigue who raised $27,000, a new Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic fundraising record. Vigue leaned heavily on local donations from family and friends, including local businesses, including an NIL community partnership Aroma Joe's.

"This year was incredible. The athletes and their families stepped up and made it all possible. With the support from the board, sponsors, athletes, coaches, their families, friends and communities across Maine and beyond, we broke the record from last year, which was also a new record. We are all very proud that this game is now among the top fundraisers in the country, which was a goal we set a few years ago. The class of 2026 raised the bar beyond our wildest imagination. To beat the record again, we've already started planning and fundraising for next year," said Joe Hersom, President of the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic.

Planning is already underway for 2027. For more information, including sponsorship opportunities or how to donate, visit MaineShrineLobsterBowl.com.

The Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic is an All-Star football game for high school seniors. Each year, the game raises thousands of dollars for Shriners Children's as players, cheerleaders and coaches raise funds by reaching out to family, friends and businesses to support the game and raise money for a great cause. Each year, the Maine Shrine Lobster Bowl Classic donates to the two Shriners Children's locations in Springfield and Boston, Mass.. To learn more, visit MaineShrineLobsterBowl.com.



Pictured, from left, Bernie McAllister (Kora Shriners) Bo Clark (Kora Shriners), Kerri-Lynn Tichy (SC-New England), Jesse Thomas (Anah Shriners), Lilly Alley, Tom Coppens, MD (Chairman of the SC-NE Board of Trustees), Dawson Sukeforth, Brent Tanguay (Kora Shriners), Logan Vigue, Bruce Walls (Anah Shriners), Mike Robitaille (Kora Shriners), Charlie Pray (Anah Shriners).
PHOTO BY SHRINERS CHILDREN'S

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Discover the appeal of lakefront living in this stunning, octagon style home on Lake Arrowhead! Beautifully renovated from top to bottom, this year-round waterfront property offers almost 2,000 square feet of living space, 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. The gorgeous kitchen features all-new stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, custom built cabinets and an eye-catching backsplash that makes it a true standout. The main living area offers vaulted ceilings with a cozy woodstove, creating the perfect gathering home in every season. Enjoy your morning coffee or evening cocktail in the screened porch overlooking your owned 245 feet of lakefront. The lower level offers additional outdoor living space with a lovely patio, perfect for grilling, while the waterfront and dock provide the ideal setting to relax and take in the beauty of Maine. There is even a space that would make a perfect office and additional storage options. Spend your days kayaking, casting a line for bass, or simply watching the loons and eagles glide across the lake. Whether you're looking for a year-round residence or a peaceful waterfront getaway, this fabulous renovated home offers the best of Lake Arrowhead living. Only 2 hours to Boston and an hour to the slopes. Shopping, restaurants and more all within 20 minutes of home.

"PROUDLY serving our community"

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SANFORD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



Tony Danza: A Tony Danza Christmas is playing at the Sanford Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Dec. 12. COURTESY PHOTO

Tony Danza brings Christmas standards, stories and plenty of charm to Sanford

Who knew Tony Danza could sing, tap dance and play the ukulele? Audiences can see another side of one of America's most beloved entertainers when Tony Danza: A Tony Danza Christmas comes to Sanford Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.

Best known for his iconic television roles in Taxi and Who's the Boss?, Danza has spent more than four decades entertaining audiences on television, Broadway and the big screen. Now he brings his easygoing charm, humor and musical talents to the stage for a festive edition of his acclaimed live show, Standards & Stories.

Backed by a four-piece band, Danza will perform favorite holiday classics alongside selections from the Great American Songbook, mixing the music with personal memories, behind-the-scenes stories and plenty of laughs. And because this is Tony Danza, audiences can expect a few surprises along the way — including some fancy footwork and a tune or two on the ukulele.

More than a traditional holiday concert, A Tony Danza Christmas feels like spending an evening swapping stories and songs with an old friend — if that old friend happened to be a celebrated actor, singer and Broadway performer.

Danza continues to entertain new generations of fans, appearing in the STARZ series Power Book III: Raising Kanan and starring alongside Mario Lopez in the new holiday film Christmas at the Starlight.

Tony Danza: A Tony Danza Christmas comes to Sanford Performing Arts Center on Saturday, December 12, 2026 at 7 p.m. Tickets are $54–$79. Seniors and military receive a 10% discount, and Spotlight Series subscribers receive a 15% discount. A $3 per-ticket handling fee applies.

Beloved actor and entertainer Tony Danza brings holiday classics, Great American Songbook favorites, hilarious stories, tap dancing and even a little ukulele to the stage for a warm and wonderfully entertaining Christmas show.

The Sanford Performing Arts Center is located at 100 Alumni Boulevard, Sanford. For tickets visit: https://ci.ovationtix.com/35877/performance/11852250.

