

REPORTER

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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

York County unites after damaging April storm wreaks havoc

The heavy, water-laden snow that fell on April 3 and 4 wreaked havoc on the electric grid in every municipality in York County and across much of the southern and central parts of Maine. Those in the know – emergency management folks and electric company representatives – say this storm rivaled the ice storm of 1998 that people still talk about.

It was an exhausting, wearisome, difficult several days for those working very long hours trying to cope with the storm's impact, and for those at home, worried a tree limb would crash through their roof, if they'd lose the food in their refrigerator, and if they could stay warm.

And though there were more than 90,000 of the 129,000 Central Maine Power Company customers in York County without electricity at its peak, by Tuesday morning, April 9 – less than a week later, most were reconnected.

That happened because of line and tree crews – Maine crews and others from as far south as the Carolinas – along with firefighters, emergency medical personnel, police, dispatchers, public works, municipal emergency management directors, and York County Management Agency, worked together and got it done.

In all, CMP deployed more than 1,000 crews to restore power throughout their system in southern and central Maine.

The county EMA, located in a wing of the York County government building in Alfred, has been working these sorts of disasters and others for years. They work hand-in-glove with local first responders, prioritize the calls that need attention first, and help make sure matters are as safe as possible when there are tree limbs on power lines or trees and other debris in the road or a utility pole has snapped.

The six full time York County EMA employees and three part time staff activated the Emergency Operations Center around 8 p.m. on Wednesday April 3. They

worked in shifts, and some slept over – snatching a nap when they could, amid the hubbub. The EOC wound down early Monday.

It is a matter of focus, organization, and plain slogging through for these folks and for the first responders, no matter how weary.

In the first 24-30 hours of the storm and response, the county Emergency Operations Center crew processed and prioritized 460 calls and submitted them to CMP, said Deputy Director Megan Arsenault. The figure does not include the calls that came in following that period.

“By YCEMA handling this volume, it really reduces the strain on the CMP dispatch center in Augusta,” said York County Management Agency Director Art Cleaves.

The system has been in place for years, and it works.

CMP Communications Manager Dustin Wlodkowski said the relationship is strong.

“We’re proud of our close, decades-long partnership with York County EMA and the other EMAs



Parishioner Daniel Bryant was making pancakes at First Baptist Church in Shapleigh on Sunday morning, after volunteers came together to host a free breakfast after the storm that left so many without electric power. PHOTO BY YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

around our state to clear roads blocked by trees, respond to emergencies and make areas safe,” said Wlodkowski. “This work we do together is essential, both every day and during storms.”

The storm was expected, and

(Continued on page 3)



Ben Belanger and Brittany Parr, both of Central Maine Power parent company Avangrid and Jim Nassif of the York County Facilities Department clear the second floor of York County Court House in Alfred of cots and bedding after line crews working to help CMP restore power to York County spent two nights there. All hotels open for the season were full, so some crews stayed in school gyms, a community center, three fire stations, at the courthouse. PHOTO BY YORK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Higher state valuations and inflation leads to 7.38 percent York County budget increase

Inflation and increases in the state government's valuation of county municipalities has led to a proposed 7.38 percent increase in York County government's budget and an estimated 9.6 percent increase in municipal assessments for the fiscal year that begins July 1. The proposed budget is \$25.16 million, with \$21.55 million to be raised through taxes to the 29 municipalities, the latter up by about \$1.88 million.

York County Commissioners began their perusal of the proposed budget for the coming year on April 3 and were to continue the process on Wednesday, April 10. If the five-member board takes a vote at that time, then the spending plan moves on to the York County Budget Committee, which will review and also vote on the spending plan.

Overall, the state has increased the value of municipalities across York County by \$8 billion, to \$54.94 billion, York County Manager Greg Zinser told commissioners. He noted the valuation

of Wells increased by \$1 billion. Under the budget proposal, Wells would be assessed \$2.15 million, up by about \$286,000 from the current year. Biddeford's valuation was set at \$4.34 billion by the state, and would be assessed \$1.7 million in county tax, up by an estimated \$192,000 from this year. Zinser said he has made the municipalities aware of the proposed increase.

He told commissioners that the cost of wages, benefits and contracted services are up and that revenue projections are down, for the most part in the registry of deeds. Still, there are three months left in the fiscal year, and Zinser said he is hopeful the revenue picture can turn around. Real estate inventory is down, he noted, and there are fewer sales – so fewer deeds recording fees.

York County Registrar of Deeds Nancy Hammond, one of several department heads presenting their budgets on April 3, estimated recording fees are currently

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NEW EVERY THURSDAY!

LOCAL news, events and faces from your LOCAL community.



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COMING EVENTS

Ossipee Valley Fair Annual **TAKE-A-CHANCE AUCTION**, Saturday, April 13 at Sacopee Valley Elementary School. Tickets go on sale at 3:30 p.m. with live drawings starting at 6 p.m. Over 300 items to be auctioned.

LYMAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING Tuesday, April 16 at 6 p.m. at the Arion Lodge (Masons) in Lyman. The Trustees will be meeting at 5:30 p.m.

“MAINE’S CHAMPION BIG TREES” presented by York County Audubon at the Wells Reserve and also via Zoom, Tuesday, April 16 at 7 p.m. Jan Santerre has managed the Maine Register of Big Trees for the Maine Forest Service for over 20 years. Join in for this entertaining program. For complete information, visit yorkcountyaudubon.org.

THE LYMAN REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE will hold its April meeting Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Lyman Community Library, 10 John St., Lyman. All Republicans are urged to attend. FMI: bill@mrsne.com (207) 730-6950.

The Original's present **A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED BY AGATHA CHRISTIE** at Saco River Theatre, 29 Salmon Falls Road, Bar Mills, April 19, 20, 25, 26, 27 at 7:30 p.m. and April 21 and 28 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15 General Admission at www.sacorivertheatre.org.

Community CALENDAR

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

ST. MATTHEW'S BEAN SUPPER The Knights of Columbus will hold a Bean Supper in the parish hall at 19 Dora Lane, Limerick, on Saturday, April 20, from 4 to 6 p.m. The menu includes two types of baked beans, hot dogs, coleslaw, assorted casseroles, bread, drinks and dessert. Adults pay \$12, Children ages 6 to 12 pay \$6, Children ages 5 and under eat free, and a Family pays \$30.

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER April 20 from 4:30-6 p.m. at Goodwins Mills Advent Christian Church, 503 Goodwins Mills, Route 35. Menu is American Chop Suey, green beans, rolls, cookies and beverages.

DELICIOUS HADDOCK SUPPER BUFFET Saturday, April 27 at 5 p.m. at Living Waters Church, Parker Farm Road, Buxton. Suggested donation: \$10 Adult, \$5 Child, \$20 Family. We will offer the option of takeout containers for those who do not want to come inside for seating.

The Arundel Historical Society will be hosting a **BAKED BEAN AND PASTA SUPPER** on Saturday, April 27 at the M.L. Day School Gym from 4:30 to 6 p.m. located at 600 Limerick Road, Arundel. There will be Baked Beans (2

kinds), Mac-n-cheese, American Chop Suey, Hot Dogs, Cole slaw, Cornbread/Rolls, Drinks and coffee and Homemade desserts. Takeout is available. Suggested donations are Adults \$10, Kids 6-10 yrs- \$5, Children 5 and under free. There will be historical displays, membership info, Spring Raffle, and merchandise available. This is to benefit the Arundel Historical Society and all are welcome.

SHAPLEIGH'S 3RD ANNUAL ROADSIDE CLEANUP will be the morning of Saturday, April 27. Gather family and friends to help clean up your road and meet at the Shapleigh Commons at noon for some sweet treats. The cleanup is sponsored by the Shapleigh Conservation Committee.

ONGOING EVENTS

WRITERS! The Tuesday Writer's Group meets on first and third Tuesdays of every month at the Waterboro Library from 6-7:30 p.m. Fiction, nonfiction, memoir, poetry. Join us for readings and friendly discussion. All levels welcome!

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

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 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 Massabesic Lions monthly dine-in or take-out the 2nd Saturday of the month, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Lions Regional Medical Center, 813 Main St. Waterboro. Adults \$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.

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

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.

WATERBORO COMMUNITY PANTRY 26 Townhouse Road, East Waterboro. Open the first Tuesday of month from 4 to 7 p.m. all other Tuesdays from 1 to 4 p.m. Donations can be dropped Saturdays 2 to 4 p.m. or put non perishable in drop box on the porch. FMI 247-7789.

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.

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 Valerie Fecteau at 324-4808 or Judie Berry at 247-5211.

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.

EAT LOCAL - DRINK LOCAL



HAPPY HOUR TUE-THU 3-5
LIVE MUSIC TUESDAYS 5:30-8:30

Salmon Falls Country Club
OPENING SOON!
 52 Golf Course Lane, Hollis

Book now for Mother's Day reservations!

OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER!
WED.-FRI. AND SUNDAY BRUNCH

View our menu at: www.rivertapandgrill.com

HOURS: TUE. 3-9; WED.-FRI. 11:30-9; SAT. 11-9; SUN. 9-8 (BRUNCH 9-2) 298-9620

STORM DAMAGE

(Continued from page 1)

York County EMA knew it would be significant.

“Little did we know it would be of this magnitude,” said Cleaves. Heavy wet snow that damaged much of the electrical grid in York County came in silently, arriving just after 5 p.m. Wednesday evening as a light mix of rain and snow - and then got worse. As much as 21 inches of heavy wet snow fell in some inland locales, lesser amounts at the coast.

It brought a big punch. Trees and tree limbs came down on power lines and into the roadway from Kittery to Old Orchard Beach, and inland to central and northern York County.

York County hospitals were on generator power for a time, first responders couldn't always make their way to calls due to the amount of trees, wires, and debris in the roads, and there was worry about potential issues at municipal sewage treatment plants.

“There were so many competing priorities,” said Arsenault. When calls come in concerning life safety issues, the ability to speak directly with the CMP service center in Alfred is a big help, she said.

“They were typically handling six priorities at the same time, trying to coordinate the response,” said Cleaves of the EOC crew.

EMA crews had earlier placed generators at communications towers, just in case. A cell tower lost capability at one juncture, complicating matters.

There was more. It soon became apparent help was needed in the form of spaces where crews could sleep. Cleaves said he got a call from CMP, looking for assistance, because while they had been able to book some hotel rooms, there weren't enough. Cleaves called area fire chiefs and school superintendents - and they helped.

Weary crews, tired after many hours of putting York County's grid back together, one line at a time, slept in school gyms in Biddeford, Old Orchard Beach and RSU 57 among others, in fire stations in Kennebunk, Cornish, Ogunquit and York, at an Ogunquit, in all hotel rooms available, and on the second floor of the York County Court House in Alfred.

Some communities pitched in to provide food for the crews working 12 hour shifts.

Laura Dolce, director of the Chamber of Commerce for Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Arundel, put out the word over the weekend that donations of food would be welcome to help feed crews - and the response was immediate and robust. “Cars were backed up at Kennebunk Fire and Rescue, with people waiting to drop off donations,” she said. Restaurants and community members donated everything from pizza to homemade lasagna, and food that could be consumed on the road, and cases of drinks.

“The second Kennebunk Fire Chief Justin Cooper asked for help,” the towns jumped into action, she said.

Folks in other communities also did their bit - at First Baptist

Church in Shapleigh, volunteers put on a free community pancake breakfast on Sunday morning - the church had electricity, when many folks in town did not. The dining room smelled of bacon and pancakes and syrup, and folks chatted as ate.

Pastor Ken Baratta, mindful of the power outage, said he called some parishioners on Saturday about hosting a free breakfast, open to anyone, before the 11 a.m. service on Sunday. “The volunteers came together,” he said.

- By Tammy Wells, Media Specialist for York County Government

COUNTY BUDGET

(Continued from page 1)

off about 6 percent from a year ago and that revenue the office received from its share of the transfer tax - the state gets 90 percent and the counties 10 percent of what they collect - is up less than 1 percent.

“We are looking at a potential shortfall of about \$225,000 in revenue,” for the deeds office, she said. Typically, deeds recording

fees yield about \$1.3 million annually in revenue.

Zinser said investment income is projected to be up slightly in the next fiscal year, by about \$20,000, but he has penciled in a \$100,000 revenue decrease for the deeds registry and left revenues from other departments at the same rate as this year.

He explained two changes: the Fire Administrator position has been moved to a newly created York County Regional Training Center account as that project moves forward, and the juvenile fire prevention specialist position is now reflected in the York County Emergency Management Agency budget.

Commissioner Donna Ring asked the source of \$264,600 in revenues marked as utilization of reserves.

Zinser said that will primarily come from undesignated surplus, which is at \$3.1 million and is where it is required to be.

“If we dip into that too much ... to buy down the taxes, it compromises the foundation of our finances,” he said. “It is money we typically don't use.”

He noted the downturn in rev-

enue and an increase in expenses. “I am trying to be as conservative as possible,” he said.

Zinser noted some county departments are being advised not to spend, so as to end the current fiscal year in the black.

As to the proposed budget, Zinser said has found the county's proposed increases aren't far off as compared to municipalities with similar-sized budgets.

“It feels good this isn't out of whack, where we are in the budgeting world today,” he added.

The budget was up about 5.8 percent for the current fiscal year, and the tax to municipalities about five percent, he said in response to a question from Commissioner Justin Chenette.

Commission Chair Richard Dutremble gave an historical view, recalling that starting about 16 years ago, county budget increases were around one percent.

“It's inflation,” said Dutremble. “We have no control over what inflation is doing to us.”

- By Tammy Wells, Media Specialist for York County Government

BRIEFS

Free listening session for York County farmers

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension York County Listening Session for York County Farmers, April 18 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Alfred Parish Church, 8 Kennebunk Rd, Alfred, ME 04002.

Join the newest faculty member in Sustainable Agriculture, Dr. Ankit Singh in this casual event that offers York County farmers an opportunity to meet Ankit, share insights, request research topics, and collaborate for effective solutions to your farming issues. Your participation will help to foster new and lasting relationships between Cooperative Extension and the York County agricultural community.

This event is free of charge and includes dinner. Register by April 15 to be included into the dinner count. You can find more information and register at: extension.umaine.edu/york/event/listening-session-for-farmers/

For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation, contact 207-324-2814; ankit.singh@maine.edu.

Send your news to: news@waterboro-reporter.com

TOWN OF LEBANON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 10:00 am

Lebanon Elementary School Gymnasium
65 Upper Guinea Road, Lebanon, ME

A Public Hearing to review the Warrant/ Referendum Items:

- Shall an ordinance entitled ‘Floodplain Management Ordinance’ be enacted?
- Shall the Town of Lebanon vote to adopt the changes made to the ‘Lebanon Shoreland Zoning Ordinance’ adopted 1993, amended June/2024?
- Shall the Town of Lebanon vote to amend the ‘Lot Size Ordinance 2017’?
- Shall the Town of Lebanon amend the ‘Maine Uniform Build and Energy Code Administrative Ordinance’?
- Shall the Town of Lebanon amend the ‘Site Plan Review Ordinance’?

For the Annual Town Meeting/Election on June 11, 2024

Copies of the Warrant/Referendum Items available at Town Office

TOWN OF WATERBORO

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Waterboro Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 16, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m.** at the Town Hall, to receive public comment regarding the FY2025 Municipal Budget. All Waterboro Residents are invited to attend.

All Public Hearings are aired on the local cable station SRC-TV Channel 5 or 1302 and live streamed on the Town's website. Questions and comments may be emailed or asked via Zoom link. A request for a Zoom link or emailed questions may be emailed up to the day before the meeting to the Administrative Assistant at llowe@waterboromaine.gov. Questions will be addressed during the meeting.

HOW ARE YOU healing?

From skilled nursing to rehabilitation services, we're here to ensure your healing journey is comfortable and supported. You can rest easy knowing you'll recover in the comfort of your own home. Connect with our Northern Light Home Health team at **800-757-3326** or visit northernlighthealth.org/HCAAtHome

Northern Light Home Care & Hospice HOW ARE YOU?

Non-profit organization is seeking local host families for high school exchange students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs (ASSE), in cooperation with your community high school, is looking for local families to host high school exchange students aged 15 to 18 from diverse countries such as Australia, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Japan, and more.

ASSE Exchange Students, are carefully selected based on their academic achievements and personalities. Host families have the opportunity to choose a student from diverse backgrounds, countries, and interests. These students arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance coverage.

Whether you're a young family, retired, a single parent, or empty nesters, hosting a foreign exchange student presents an extraordinary chance to expand your family's cultural horizons without ever leaving the comfort of your home.

To become an ASSE Host Family and to find out how to become involved with ASSE in your community, contact the ASSE Eastern Regional Office at 1-800-677-2773 or visit www.host.asse.com to initiate your host family application. Our students are excited to learn about their American host families, so why wait? Start the journey of welcoming your new son or daughter today.

OPINION

PART 3 of 5

The sorting hat: Is there a 'Slytherin' of Neuroscience that applies to education

Understanding how information is processed for understanding, for memory, and for application is imperative. The five articles in this series review research-based understandings that can support many interactions.



"A picture is worth a thousand words... be it hard copy or internal imagery"

NEURO-MOVE #3: Dual Coding

Unpacking Dual Coding

Let's explore imagery in the brain. Close your eyes and ask yourself, "How many windows are in my living room?" Our visual memory scans the room and knows exactly. Right? Now ask,

"What type of locks are on the windows?" Internal visual scanning now focuses on the location of the locks. The brain visually codes information as experiences are processed. All of this without intentional study.

Infants first learn to understand the world through their senses. Prior to letters and numbers, the mind learns by seeing/hearing patterns and by trial and error. Processing visual cues becomes a vital component of assessing the world into which we are born. When available, the visual modality is key to both early and later learning and is often underutilized.

What if...

we placed pictures of Winston Churchill and Abraham Lincoln side-by-side. Things in common written between the images while things that distinguished them on the outside of respective pictures. Dual coding is the merging of visual and verbal cues for the learner simultaneously. EXPLICITLY (directly stated, not implied) and SIMULTANEOUSLY (at the same time) are imperatives. When we use both modes to consciously process verbal and visual attributes together, our brain integrates pathways. This is NOT to be construed as having students use pictures to understand text. It is a deliberate, conscious interweaving. Visuals contain many cues, subtleties and prompts that support memory, recall and transfer. Whether internal imagery, paper, screen or otherwise visual processing occurs naturally.

What if...

we provided each student with an enlarged copy of a central representation regarding their study. Students write directly on the image in whatever way has meaning for them. Materials often have an image cueing something meaningful about the content. Students capture anything relevant, locations, chronologies, characterizations of key people, etc. on the visual. They create symbols and markings that signal importance for them. This builds clarity, connections, and potentiates deeper understanding. Many students struggle to retain the ocean of content before them. Ultimately, when a learners create their own internal imagery, cueing memory and capacity for transfer increases.

What if...

we "drained text" from visuals? As words come to mind from a key image learners contribute ideas, emotions, and personal references. Group generated vocabulary and perspectives can lead to word choice, synonyms, genres—whatever the objective. Purposeful images provide learners opportunity to interpret and build meaning that enhances processing.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Dr. Robert K. Greenleaf was formerly a professional development specialist at Brown University and lives in Newfield. Bob has 45 years of experience in education ranging from teacher to superintendent. As President of Greenleaf Learning Bob traveled the world conducting Brain & Learning Institutes. Dr. Bob's doctoral work was at Vanderbilt.

Elaine M. Millen, M.Ed. C.A.G.S., has over 50 years of experience in education as a teacher, principal, special education director, curriculum director and assistant superintendent, teaching at undergraduate and graduate levels. As an educational consultant she has worked countrywide with school leaders in leadership, instructional coaching, and student engagement. She guided project work with Brown University.

Town of Acton Job Opening - Treasurer

The Town of Acton is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of Treasurer. This is an salaried position of 26 hr a week, with an additional 10 hours available performing other miscellaneous office work as an Administrative Assistant. The Town of Acton Personnel are on a 4 day work schedule, set as T, W, and F from 8:00am - 5:00pm and Thursday from 10:00am - 7:00pm. Work is performed under the direction of the Town Administrator/Select Board with independence of action in accordance with applicable laws and following accepted accounting practices. The ideal candidate will have strong math and computer skills as well as an accounting background. The Town of Acton offers competitive pay, benefits that include, 85% paid health insurance, longevity, paid time off, retirement and more.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Reconciling daily deposits, deposits to bank and check scanning via RDC software
- Creating bank transfers as needed
- Collecting and processing revenue from various departments
- Preparing weekly payroll and accounts payable warrants, uploading ACH files for direct deposit, uploading check register for handwritten checks for Positive Pay @ bank, reconciling deductions
- Posting daily work and creating adjusting journal entries as needed.
- Filing Quarterly returns for Federal and State income tax withholding
- Filing Quarterly unemployment reports with MMA
- Creating W4 and 1099 for employees and vendors annually
- Schedule annual audit and scan and upload to the auditing firm all relevant information to complete the audit
- Reconcile Ambulance Billing Service Balances monthly
 - Workers Comp Insurance Administrator
 - Property/Casualty Insurance Administrator
 - Unemployment Insurance Administrator
 - Health Insurance Administrator
- Maine Public Employees Retirement System Administrator- monthly reporting to MEPERS
 - Prepare annual budget
- Create RFP's for banking, loan, and audit services
- Administer "new hire" information and communicate with Maine DOL for new hire notifications
- Assisting Select Board with the annual Tax Commitment
- Tax Liens, discharge paid liens with the registry, send 45 day notices during the automatic foreclosure process
 - Supporting the budget process
 - Other duties as assigned

Interested candidates should mail a complete resumé to:

TOWN OF ACTON, ATTN - TOWN ADMINISTRATOR,
35 H ROAD, ACTON, MAINE 04001

Or Email - With PDF Attachments to jroux@actonmaine.org

Applications submitted by May 1, 2024 will be given priority, but applications will be accepted until the right candidate is found.

TOWN OF SHAPLEIGH

The Shapleigh Planning Board will be holding a PUBLIC HEARING on:

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. for the following:

Construction of a Private Way Property located on Shapleigh Tax Map 11, Lot 23 (Newfield Road)

Bruce & Penny Wakita, Applicants

The Public is invited to attend.

Steve Foglio, Chairman - Shapleigh Planning Board

TOWN OF SHAPLEIGH

The Shapleigh Planning Board will be holding a PUBLIC HEARING on:

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. for the following:

Conditional Use Permit for a Cold Storage Building for Wakita Electric Property located on Shapleigh Tax Map 11, Lot 23J (522 Newfield Road)

Bruce Wakita, Applicant

The Public is invited to attend.

Steve Foglio, Chairman - Shapleigh Planning Board

TOWN OF SHAPLEIGH

The Shapleigh Planning Board will be holding a PUBLIC HEARING on:

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. for the following:

Conditional Use for a Multi-use Municipal Building Located on Shapleigh Tax Map 5, Lot 28A (Back Road) - Adjacent to the Town Hall Property

TOWN OF SHAPLEIGH, Applicant

The Public is invited to attend.

Steve Foglio, Chairman - Shapleigh Planning Board

SPORTS

Spring sports starting up

BY MIKE DEANGELIS
Sports Editor

GIRLS TENNIS

The lady Spartans begin their season with three consecutive road contests. They visit Marshwood on Thursday, April 11 with a 12-day break to follow. They visit Cheverus April 23 and have a match against South Portland two days later. Sanford finished with the #7 seed last year after a 6-6 campaign.

Bonny Eagle finished 8th last year, also 6-6. The Scots start with a road match at Biddeford on April 11 and follow with a visit to Scarborough on April 22. They'll host Kennebunk three days later, April 25.

Massabesic hosts Portland April 11 before a two-week break. On April 25, the Mustangs (0-12 last year) visit Westbrook.

BOYS TENNIS

The co-op team of Massabesic/Biddeford begins their season at Bonny Eagle on Friday, April 19. They'll head to Kennebunk on April 23 before their home opener against Scarborough on Thursday, April 25. The Scots host Scarborough April 23 and they visit Kennebunk April 25.

Sanford gets an early start, visiting Marshwood April 11. They'll visit Cheverus after a 12-day break and the Spartans return home for their opener on April 25.

GIRLS LACROSSE

Varsity Girls' Lacrosse opens its season on Friday, April 12 with Massabesic hosting Cheverus. The Mustangs host Messalonskee on Wednesday, April 14 before visiting South Portland on April 19. Massabesic earned the 15th and final playoff spot last year in the 22 team Class A 'One Region.'

Sanford earned the 12th playoff spot last year with an 8-6 finish. The Spartans host Traip Academy on Thursday, April 11 at 4:30p.m. before getting a weeklong break and hosting Westbrook. They'll

play a home-and-home with Bonny Eagle on April 20 and April 22.

The Scots finished last year 4-10, missing the playoffs. They host Biddeford in their opener on April 18 before the back-to-backs with Sanford.

BOYS LACROSSE

The Lacrosse season opens on April 11 with Massabesic visiting Kennebunk. The Mustangs (2-12 in 2023) will host the co-op team from Noble/Sanford (9-5 last year) in their home opener five days later and they'll host Traip Academy in game number 3 of 14 on Friday, April 19.

Bonny Eagle hosts Westbrook in their opener and they'll follow with a road game on Tuesday, April 16 against Cheverus. On April 19 the Scots (4-10 last year) travel to Windham.

BASEBALL

Varsity Baseball begins on April 17 with Massabesic hosting neighbor Bonny Eagle in the opening game for both schools. The Mustangs visit Scarborough two days later and they'll return home to face Marshwood on Tuesday, April 23 for game three on their 16-game regular season schedule. Massabesic finished 7-9 last season, making the playoffs and while earning the 11th seed.

The Scots, who finished 3-13 and missed the playoffs last year will host Biddeford for their second game and then Bonny Eagle will head to Windham on April 23.

Sanford will open their season at home against South Portland. The Spartans will get a six-day break before heading to Deering for game two on April 22 and

they'll host Biddeford two days later. Sanford finished 10-6 last season, earning the #7 seed.

SOFTBALL

Varsity Softball begins on April 18 with Massabesic hosting Deering. The Mustangs visit Thornton Academy two days later and they'll head back home to host Gorham on April 22. Massabesic finished 6-10 last year, earning the 10th and final seed in Class A South.

Bonny Eagle visits Windham for their opening contest and they'll host Westbrook for their home opener two days later. The Scots travel to South Portland on April 22 for game number 3 of 16. Bonny Eagle missed the playoffs last year, finishing 2-14.

Visit mpa.cc for up-to-date schedules and standings.

Home & Garden

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LETTERS

Still many unresolved issues

Another legislative session is nearly done; however, many issues appear to be irrelevant and a bit unimportant to the legislative leadership. That includes, among others, transportation improvement needs, with sufficient funding for infrastructure improvements and repairs. Transportation infrastructure, including bridges, roads, railroads and railroad crossings, needs attention, improvements and repairs. Many old bridges are in dire need of replacement. Many roads need significant repairs along with many railroad crossings. Additionally, utility infrastructure needs further improvements with more upgrades, especially with stronger storm events, adversely impacting our utilities and infrastructure.

What progress has the ME Legislature made in these areas? What's the actual plan to improve and upgrade our infrastructure all-around? Cities and towns need to be improving their respective road and other infrastructure. It is imperative that infrastructure improvements, with needed repairs and/or replacement of bridges and related infrastructure occur in an expeditious and timely manner. Ignoring and stalling all needed repairs and improvements isn't good nor helpful to all, including to the taxpayers.

Other unresolved issues appear to be getting stonewalled and tabled by this legislature by its leadership.

Mainers deserve better, including better legislative leadership and representation with troubleshooting and problem solving of a multitude of bureaucratic and systematic issues. Will anything ever change or be improved by this current legislature? It appears that nothing much can or will change in the near term.

In closing, there seems to be a lack of care or concern of the issues and of taxpayer funds used to fund the legislative sessions. Mainers deserve better and should expect better from Augusta. It is time to be critically reviewing what has transpired in Augusta and carefully evaluating the ME Legislature. May the people of Maine speak up more to voice their constituent concerns with their state representative and state senator and demanding better performance of the Maine Legislature and Maine State Government.

— David Hall
Cornish

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Obituaries

Rita Carolyn (LaBelle) Tuttle

Rita Carolyn (LaBelle) Tuttle, 89, of Newfield, passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 7, 2024. She was born in Salem, Massachusetts to John B. T. LaBelle and Nettie (Kimball) LaBelle. Rita was one of ten LaBelle siblings raised in Peabody, Massachusetts. She was a true angel who walked among us. Always quick to give of herself and ask for nothing in return.



Rita Carolyn (LaBelle) Tuttle

Preceded in death by her husband Harold Albert Tuttle Sr. and her Father, Mother, three Brothers and four Sisters.

Rita is survived by her Sister Ada and Brother Leo, four sons and their wives, Harold and Sue, Arthur and Christal, Mark and Trish and Steven and Liz. She had 12 Grandchildren and 17 1/2 Great Grandchildren.

Rita began her career working in a pharmacy soda fountain in Peabody Mass. She received her certification in Cosmetology

and was certified in Massachusetts and Maine. Her career as a housewife and mother was intertwined with her other work as a pre-school teacher, Newfield Town Clerk and Tax Collector, furniture refinisher at the Willowbrook Museum and many other positions and jobs throughout her life. Rita was always quick to help with her sons in any endeavor. She volunteered to be the bird dog and flush out birds for her 12 year old son Arthur who wanted to go bird hunting one day. She was a Cub Scout Den Mother and Newfield Softball Coach.

Rita was always up for an adventure. She went snow sledding with her son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren at the age of 70, parasailed with her grandson at the age of 72, Tandem Skydived for her 75th birthday, jet skied at the age of 82. She loved to take walks, hike Picket Mountain, snowshoe and cross-country ski.

Rita spent hours playing cards with friends and family. She was an avid puzzle maker and occasionally let her friends finish them for her.

Rita's front door was always open for any visitor to stop by, drink tea and chat.

She rests peacefully now with her husband and family. There will be a funeral service at Saint Mathews Parish 19 Dora Ln, Limerick on April 15 at 11 a.m. There will be no graveside service.

Henry Raymond Desruisseaux

Henry Raymond Desruisseaux of Lebanon, beloved husband, father, grandfather, sibling, and friend, passed away peacefully on April 7, 2024, surrounded by his family, closest friends, and cherished pets. He was 64 years old. He was predeceased by his parents, Renaud "Speed" Desruisseaux and Henrietta (Brin) Desruisseaux.



Henry Raymond Desruisseaux

Henry is survived by his devoted wife, Kelly Desruisseaux, siblings: Jeanne Houde her husband Andy, Denise Paquet her husband John, Elaine Voigt, Louie his wife Karen, and Carl his partner Eileen, and his children: Amy Sullivan her husband Bob, Heidi Flint, Christopher Desruisseaux his wife Skye, Shawna Drouin her husband Jay, Meaghan Decourt, Justin Decourt his wife Ashley, and Amber Decourt and her partner Mike. He also leaves behind 17 grandchildren: Annalise, Levi, Bobby, Spencer, Gavin his wife Lacey, Dominic, Guiliana, Siarra, Adam, Kaelynn, Bryce, Blake, Bentley, Austin, Vanessa, Jaelynn, Shyla, a great-grandchild, Avana, and several beloved pets, including Paisley, Denis, Boo-boo, Jack, Reba, Deaglan, 10 chickens and 3 ducks.

Henry lived a life characterized by a remarkable balance of intention and spontaneity. He approached every aspect of life with passion and determination. As the founder of HD Builders, he demonstrated his meticulous craftsmanship and entrepreneurial spirit. Later, he transitioned to a Foreman position for a commercial construction company and eventually found fulfillment

working as a Millwright, often taking to the road with his wife Kelly. His work ethic was unmatched, and he tackled every project with the highest level of skill and care.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Henry embraced life's joys to the fullest. He found immense happiness cruising around on his Harley Davidson motorcycle with his beloved wife Kelly, sharing the open road and creating unforgettable memories. Music was another passion of Henry's, and he could often be found jamming out on his guitar with his buddy George or singing karaoke with his family. He was a dedicated sports fan, enthusiastically cheering on the Patriots, Celtics, Bruins and Red Sox, relishing in the excitement of each game. His love of sport extended to fishing, where he lived for the thrill of each catch, sharing many fishing trips with his long-time friend Brad.

However, Henry's greatest pride came from his roles as a husband, father and pepe're. He cherished every moment spent with his always growing family. He was always there to celebrate the moments that mattered, he pushed his children to their full potential, and he brought warmth, adventure, and laughter to every gathering.

Henry will be remembered for his jovial spirit and genuine love for life. He leaves behind a legacy

of hard work, resilience, and love that will continue to inspire all who knew him.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 15 at the Alfred Parish Church in Alfred. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Compassionate Cares ALS in his memory.

Henry Desruisseaux will be deeply missed but never forgotten. May he rest in peace, surrounded by the love and memories he cherished dearly.

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

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



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LIMERICK

Limerick Research Club donates \$1,000 to Limerick Fire Station

By JOANNE BARGIONI

At their meeting on April 2, the Research Club of Limerick presented the Limerick Fire Station with a check for \$1,000 to help furnish supplies for the new Fire Department kitchen. The money was raised by sales from the Club's Red Bow Christmas project, which began at the Research Club over 20 years ago. The organization sells red bows for a \$5 donation that is placed on the Christmas tree in the Bandstand on Main Street, which they set up each year. Bows can include a message

or be in memory of someone.

The Research Club of Limerick was organized in 1913 and has been affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs since 1914 "to provide programs of interest to women, for them to become informed on current affairs, and social and moral questions of the day," according to Club President Jackie Foglio. Today, they have a diversity of programs of general interest to women. They meet at the Free Baptist Church at 2 School Street, on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. and invite all women to join them.



Limerick Fire Department was recently presented with a check for \$1,000 by the Research Club in Limerick. Pictured are, from left, Elaine Jedrychowski, Rob Fossett, Fire Chief Vincent Pelletier, Jackie Foglio (Club President), Cindy Mullis and Trula Woods. COURTESY PHOTO

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