

# REPORTER

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



VOLUME 18, ISSUE 34

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2020

## Music man



Frank Baxter, owner of the new Maple Street Music Shop in Cornish. PHOTOS BY CYNTHIA MATTHEWS

## A new shop in town

BY CYNTHIA MATTHEWS

Perhaps you've noticed a new white picket fence on Maple Street in Cornish, or you saw an 'open' flag waving from what otherwise looked like someone's house. Maybe you thought you heard piano music or something that didn't seem to be coming from a radio. You were probably hearing the music of Frank Baxter, coming from his home and new Maple Street Music Shop!

Pianist, composer and piano tuner-technician, Baxter had been living in Parsonsfield (you may have heard him playing piano or organ at Par Sem during Hauntings). Due to a life change about a year ago, Baxter moved to Cornish, and set up "shop" on Maple Street, "I was missing music," he said.

Baxter grew up with music. "My father played the piano," he said. His father was an iron worker, and would come home from a long day at work and play the piano. His older sister plays, too. In

the late 50s, a friend of his sister's had a rock band that used to practice in their living room. "It was a safe place for them to play," he chuckled. Baxter himself played with rock bands in the 60s and 70s.

"I grew up working in a music store," he explained, the Curtis Music Store in Massachusetts. He began by cleaning all the instruments, all the pianos. "Every key," he reported. "The deal was, if my hands were clean

and I didn't abuse them, I could play them." In High School, he started delivering pianos, organs and stereo systems. The owner, Raymond Curtis, took him under his wing, and taught him the piano business and he became a top salesperson. When Curtis retired, his son-in-law, George Cole took over, and taught him the basics of piano tuning. Baxter left from time to time to work other jobs, to "do an adventure," often with his

*(Continued on page 2)*



A streetview of the Maple Street Music Shop in Cornish.

## Local Red Cross volunteer deployed to California to join wildfire relief efforts

American Red Cross volunteers from Northern New England are deploying to California, where dozens of dangerous wildfires have forced tens of thousands of people to leave their homes, and to Texas in advance of Hurricane Marco and Tropical Storm Laura.

Crystal Abbott of West Newfield is heading to San Jose, Calif., where she will report for duty as a shelter worker. Abbott has deployed in various roles to major disasters including Hurricanes Matthew, Maria, Florence, Michael and Dorian, fires and floods.

Abbott is the latest Red Cross volunteer from the Northern New England Region deploying to California wildfires, with two others from Vermont also assigned. A New Hampshire volunteer left for Texas on Sunday. Last week, a New Hampshire volunteer went to Iowa to help people affected by the derecho. Other Red Cross volunteers from Northern New England are supporting these disaster relief operations virtually.

Abbott is among the nearly 400 trained Red Cross disaster workers mobilized to support relief efforts in California or virtually. They are focused on helping to make sure evacuees have a safe place to stay, including shelters



Crystal Abbott of West Newfield at the Portland International Jetport on Aug. 24, on her way to California with the American Red Cross to be a shelter worker. COURTESY PHOTO

and emergency hotel lodging, where possible. Volunteers are also supporting cooling centers and temporary evacuation points, which are sites dedicated to directing evacuees to the best sheltering option for their individual

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Maine Maple Sunday to take place in October

Due to COVID-19, the Maine Maple Producers Association (MMPA) and its members postponed Maine Maple Sunday, traditionally held the fourth Sunday in March. The association announced today the event will take place Oct. 9-11, 2020. There will be new virtual elements and in-person experiences at a variety of sugar houses.

The event will be held in conjunction with the new North American Maple Tour in the U.S. and Canada.



"Based on guidelines from CDC and local government officials, we are prepared and excited to host Maine Maple Producers Weekend in October. There is no doubt, the pandemic has hit our producers *(Continued on page 2)*

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**BUSINESS NEWS**

**MAPLE SUNDAY**

*(Continued from page 1)*

really hard. While the weekend of activities might look and feel a little different, we are confident we can provide the opportunity for people to safely celebrate pure Maine maple and support local producers. October is also perfect timing to raise awareness about the health benefits of maple products. Information about our recipe contest and the producers participating in Maine Maple Producers Weekend can be found at [mainemapleproducers.com](http://mainemapleproducers.com)," said Scott Dunn, president of the MMPA.

As part of the celebration and events, the association announced two virtual components for 2020, including a pure Maine maple recipe contest. The contest will provide participants the opportunity to share their best recipes using pure Maine maple products in three categories, beverage, entrée and dessert. The association will vote to determine the top three recipes in each category. Celebrity judges will taste the recipes and announce the winner on Oct. 9 at the Cumberland Fair sugar house. The winners will receive a trophy and gift basket from the Maine Maple Producers Association. Contest entries must be received by Sept. 20, 2020 at 12 p.m. ET. The contest rules are available at [mainemapleproducers.com](http://mainemapleproducers.com).

"We see this contest as a way we can continue to promote the creative ways to use pure Maine maple. With flu season coming,

and as people closely monitor their health, especially related to COVID-19, using pure Maine maple syrup in food and beverages can help foster a healthy immune system. With important antioxidants and other vitamins, using pure Maine maple not only tastes great, it can help improve your overall health. We can't wait to see the recipes," said Dunn.

During the pandemic and to provide an additional virtual experience, producers have started selling their products online. Several producers also now offer new pick-up options. With the new purchasing options, producers have set a goal to sell more than 10,000 gallons of maple syrup products during the North American Maple Tour from Oct. 9-18. The new 14-day tour includes the promotion of maple products at events, breweries, distilleries and restaurants across the Northeast.

The MMPA represents more than 240 members that are licensed maple producers. Producers range from small artisan producers to bulk syrup providers who serve major grocery store chains, food-service distributors and retailers.

Maine Maple Producers Association members produce 580,000 gallons annually. Their business operations generate more than \$21.6 million for the Maine economy. Members of the association also support more than 560 full-time and part-time jobs that generate more than \$17.3 million in wages.

**MUSIC STORE**

*(Continued from page 1)*

brother, but he always came back to the music store.

Baxter has worked many jobs over the years, from off-shore lobstering, to construction, to working in publishing, web development and marketing. "Music was always a part of it," he said. "I always kept my hand in music."

Baxter has owned his own piano tuning business for years. In 1996, he began his online store, Piano World, which today has about 3 million visitors each year! He then added PianoSupplies.com. The inventory for the Music Shop is largely made up of items from his online stores, and you can see some of the items displayed in the window at the front of the house. He has welcome mats, car mats, ties, scarves, plates, pencils, pens and erasers and more, all music-themed. He also has music supplies, such as reeds for clarinets and sticks for playing the drums. "I need to get in touch with local music teachers," he said. "What are they doing during this time? What do they need?" Baxter stated that he can get and stock whatever is needed, and would love to hear from local musicians and teachers.

"I'd like to get more involved in the community," he said. He will begin to offer piano lessons soon, but has even more ideas in mind. The house, known as the Boynton House, was built in 1850, and has 9 bedrooms and a big barn. "The house has needed



A repurposed grand piano is used as shelves at the Maple Street Music Shop in Cornish. PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MATTHEWS

some work," he said, "but I've been chipping away at it bit by bit." He'd like to turn it in to a Bed & Breakfast, and has been

collecting/picking up some furniture here and there from auctions and things to put in the rooms. He added, "I'd love to have live music in the barn, too."

Baxter has had a slow opening of the shop, starting in July. "I'm still trying to establish regular hours," he stated, but is currently open on the weekends from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and weekdays by chance or by appointment. "If the truck is here, I'm here," said Baxter. Give Baxter a call at 625-3765 or email him at [Frank@PianoWorld.com](mailto:Frank@PianoWorld.com) to set something up, or check out the online store at [www.PianoWorld.com](http://www.PianoWorld.com). Maple Street Music Shop is located on 48 Maple Street in Cornish. You can also visit [www.MapleStreet-MusicShop.com](http://www.MapleStreet-MusicShop.com).

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ALFRED

Allison Williams

awilliams@waterbororeporter.com  
324-5823

**Outdoor town meeting**

The 2020 Alfred Town Meeting, that was originally postponed due to COVID-19, will be held Saturday, Sept 12 at 10 a.m. on the athletic field across from the fire station. This is the same day as the Massabesic Lions Club drive through supper.

**Summer bargains**

Bob Liberty, who had restored bicycles for sale at the recent Legion Yard Sale, still has a few at his home – three for children, one for adults. These are offered at VERY reasonable rates. The Libertys live on Mouse Lane, down the road from the collector of antique farm equipment. Tim Leddy also on Mouse Lane, has offerings from his garden – tomatoes, cukes, a really huge squash, and a collection of glass vases. All are being sold by donation. There is also a farm stand at the old Chadbourne home on Kennebunk Road. I suspect their prices are also reasonable.

In season the Williamses (us) have seedlings and berries on Gore Road. The second crop of raspberries will soon be ready – just look for our card table down by the road. On Gore Road Ray Graber sells beautiful roses. His place is called Old Sheep Meadows Nursery (there is a sign out front). Ray



Some of those selling from home, like Maddie-May Kahn, do use signs, others simply exhibit their wares. PHOTO BY ALLISON WILLIAMS

is very knowledgeable about roses. Before you arrive at Grabers you will pass Rev. Holmes former home, where flowers are for sale. A former member of our 4-H Club, Maddie-May Kitty Kahn now lives there.

It is almost enough to discourage anyone from starting their own garden! Fresh veggies – and flowers – a short drive from your home.

**An international education**

When I was growing up, if my folks were very busy at the family owned flower shop, my mother might have to leave her work in the greenhouses to join my aunt and grandmother with the “funeral work.” This was before, in lieu of flowers, money was left for a favorite charity. I liked to join my mother at the shop. If we were terribly busy, and unable to go

home for supper, we would order a sandwich from the restaurant across the street. This was a special treat. I could order whatever I wanted!

What was my contribution to the “funeral work”? Winding the stems of flowers with wire for the sprays, helping “make up” the baskets, and do whatever was needed. The store was a busy place with people coming and going all the time. It was the last store in “the block” purchased, I suppose, by my grandfather.

Next door Mr. Wolski, a Russian with a large black moustache, had a cleaning establishment. And next door to him Mr. Johnson had his cobbler’s shop. At that time if your shoes needed new heels or whatever you took them to the cobbler’s. You did not throw them out. Mr. Johnson’s daughter Sally and her husband Ensio lived in the apartment in our house down at the greenhouses.

The last apartment beyond the cobbler’s was a small restaurant but the owner needed more space so he eventually moved across the street. That apartment is now home to someone, I do not know whom. The restaurant is still a busy business. That is where we order our sandwiches when we’re busy.

Sally and Ensio became our good friends. He had been born on the boat coming from Finland so he was not an American, not even a naturalized one. When World War II broke out, my dad, a Canadian, Ensio, a Finn, and Johnny who was Polish and spoke poor English, decided to sign up. They went to the draft board and volunteered but were turned down. They needed only volunteers who were American citizens. My grandmother stated my father could not volunteer anyway – he was needed at the greenhouses (which he ran). So he gave up that idea but did eventually get naturalized. Just in case.

We lived in an area in Massachusetts where there were many woodworking industries. Immigrants coming to the U.S. needed jobs and woodworking attracted them. Thus many settled in our area. When we became better acquainted with Sally and Ensio we learned they never missed their Saturday night polka dances, and as soon as the children were old enough to dance, they accompanied their parents. Until then they stayed home with a sitter and being right next door I was elected.

They also were faithful attendees at the steam baths, now called saunas. This mystified me.

My mother took me with her and I found there were an awful lot of Finnish people who were dedicated to their steam bath. They would be lined up on the long bench along the wall, waiting their turn. Didn’t they have bath tubs at home?

I later learned that a sauna was a custom, and even with a tub or shower at home, the sauna got you REALLY clean. Sally’s father had built one at his cottage. We were welcome to use it, so we did one day. Mr. Johnson lit the fire in the afternoon so the rocks were well heated for us. To create steam hot rocks were needed. You splashed pails of water on the rocks to get your steam.

I also learned that the Finns were generally quite athletic. Sally and Ensio spent summers at a nearby campground where there was a pond. Ensio would challenge his brother Eino to a swim across the pond and off they would go, Ensio generally winning. They were really great swimmers.

There was one incident I must mention. Between our house and barn there was a large attached shed with a slanting roof. You could access it via a small upstairs door from the Johnson apartment. My mother and Sally would work on their tans there, unseen by the world. Or at least that is what they thought. One day a small private plane flew over while they were enjoying their sunbaths.

It returned the next day and this time it flew low. There was a sudden scramble for towels by the naked sunbathers and for the apartment door. That was the last day they did any sunbathing!

# ALFRED RESIDENTS - NOTICE

# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

## Saturday, September 12, 2020

### at 10:00 am to close



TO VOTE ON THE 2020/2021 WARRANT at the ALFRED BALLFIELD located on School Street, across from the fire station.

The final signed 2020/2021 Town Meeting Warrant will be available at the Town Hall at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2020 and on the Town’s web site at:

## www.alfredme.gov

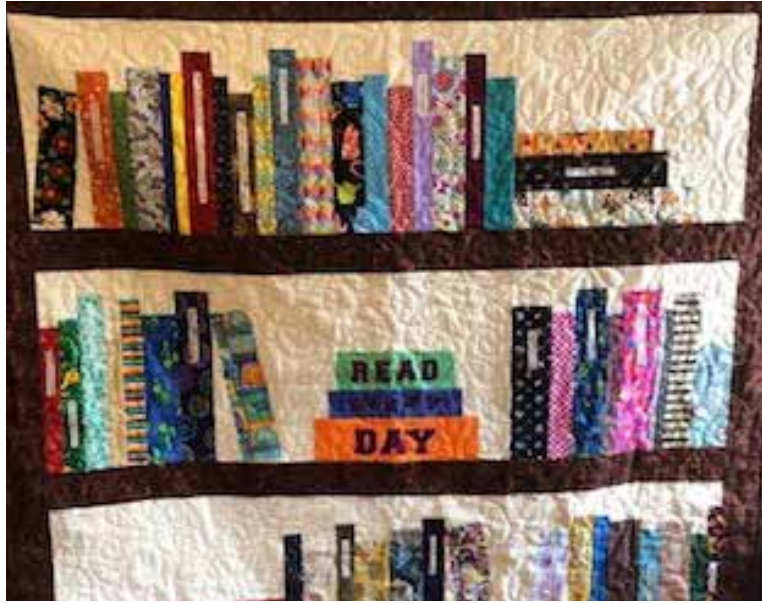


*Thank You,*

*Board of Selectmen,*

*Tony Palminteri - Glenn Dochtermann - Rich Pasquini*

The meeting will be held under a 40' x 100' tent - Masks/Face Shields and social distancing, please.



### Acton library quilt raffle and more

The Acton Public Library is raffling a beautiful, handmade, book themed quilt (47"x47"), valued at \$350. As with most non-profits, they were unable to host their annual spring fundraiser and are heavily relying on this quilt raffle to balance the budget. All money raised will go to the Acton Public Library (501(c)(3). The winner will be drawn on the library's centennial anniversary, Sept. 25. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. If you would like to purchase tickets, call: 636-2781, email: [actonpublib@gmail.com](mailto:actonpublib@gmail.com) or mail a check payable to: Acton Public Library, 35 H Road Acton, ME 04001.

In addition to curbside pick-up, the library is offering computer use and browsing by appointment on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays 4 to 7 p.m. They offer 30 minutes for families and computer use, all other appointments are 15 minutes. Use the provided hand sanitizer before browsing. Call 636-2781 to make an appointment. Visit the StoryWalk at the Mary Grant Nature Preserve, 420 Sam Page Road, Acton. A new story is put up each season.



## SHAPLEIGH

Joanne Bargioni  
joannebargioni@gmail.com

### Emery Mills Bridge to be rebuilt

Emery Mills Bridge is located off Route 109 and Deering Ridge Rd., in Shapleigh. It was built in the early 1950s. If you utilize this bridge, you notice it is in a state of disrepair. The Town of Shapleigh realized the need to repair this bridge back in 2012 when the Board of Selectmen received a notification from the State of Maine Dept. of Transportation with the latest inspection report on the bridge at Deering Ridge Rd in Emery Mills. The BOS at that time met with the Road Commissioner, and the consensus was to establish a Capital Improvements Bridge Repair account in the towns next budget.

The bridge was initially maintained by the State of Maine and was turned over to the town of Shapleigh years ago. The cost of any repairs or replacement of the bridge is the town's responsibility. The bridge was not in the best of shape when the town originally acquired it from the state.

The state of the current bridge is poor, and since it is a heavily traveled road and has automobile and loaded trucks that cross over it daily, the Dept. of Transportation has issued a 22-ton weight limit restriction on the bridge.

The Shapleigh Capital Improvement Committee was instituted in July 2018. Under the Selectmen, the committee members set to work immediately on their first project to acquire information to rebuild and replace the existing bridge. The channel underneath the bridge will be maintained with additional support as needed for the permanent support of the new bridge design. This summer, the town placed an advertisement for bids from qual-



View of Emery Mills Bridge to be replaced, with new 22 Ton Limit.



Road crumbling on Emery Mills Bridge. PHOTOS BY JOANNE BARGIONI

ified engineering firms to perform engineering services on the Emery Mills Bridge Project.

The engineering design services we're awarded to Milone and MacBroom Inc. and a kickoff meeting is planned to outline the project guidelines, etc. The BOS appreciated the great job that the Capital Improvement Committee has done to bring this project to fruition.

The proposed project schedule will include five assignments. Task 1 is the kickoff and site walk, including a Topographical survey of bridge, roadway, and stream. Task 2 is preliminary engineering with field visits and geotechnical, field boring and engineering reports. Task 3 entails preliminary

design, and Task 4 will obtain permits and hydraulics, Task 5 will identify funding sources. Public Meetings will be held in October - November, and in light of the COVID-19 restrictions video conferences may be employed.

### Change of venue for voting

Nov. 3 is voting day for the General Election. This year instead of casting your ballot at the Town Hall, voters in Shapleigh will be voting at the Shapleigh Memorial School, 467 Shapleigh Corner Rd. Requests for absentee ballots are available at the Town Hall, 22 Back Rd. You may request an absentee ballot by calling the Town Clerk's Office 636-2843 ext. 1 or visiting the state on-line portal <https://apps.web.maine.gov/co-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl>, if you would prefer to mail in your ballot.

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## Town of Acton ROAD COMMISSIONER OPENING

The Town of Acton is currently accepting resumé for the position of Road Commissioner. This is for District 2, the Southern side of Acton, Maine. The position will be responsible for overseeing approximately 25 miles of road. Road maintenance will include, but is not limited to, road clean up, grading, repair, paving, plowing, etc. The ideal candidate will have experience in public works or highway / road maintenance and construction, building and equipment. Additionally he or she will have supervisor experience, be able to prepare and administer budgets, and strong communication, people and computer skills. The chosen candidate must have a valid Commercial Drivers License, the ability to pass a drug test and have a background check. This is an appointed position until June 30, 2021 and said individual will report to the Board of Selectmen. The Town of Acton is an equal opportunity employer and reserves the right to accept or reject all resumes.

**Interested parties should send a complete resumé, along with 3 letters of recommendation to the Town Administrator, Jennifer Roux, 35 H Road, Acton Maine 04001 no later than 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 9, 2020.**

## TOWN OF HOLLIS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Zoning Board of Appeals**  
34 Town Farm Road, Hollis ME 04042  
(207) 929-8552 Fax: (207) 929-3686

The Hollis Zoning Board of Appeals will be meeting and holding a public hearing on **Wednesday, August 31, 2020, at 6:30 PM** for the following appeal:

A request by Dylan Carmichael for relaxation of bulk and space requirements for property located at 222 Pleasant Hill Road, Map 7 Lot 21B, in accordance with Hollis Zoning Ordinance, Article 3, Section 3.7.3.2.b.  
Variance from dimensional standards.

This will be a Zoom meeting, as all Town buildings are still closed to the public. Details, including password to sign in, will be posted on the Hollis website: [www.hollismaine.org](http://www.hollismaine.org).  
The public is welcome to join this online meeting.  
Comments may be submitted prior to the meeting by writing to: Board of Appeals, Town of Hollis, 34 Town Farm Road, Hollis ME 04042, or by email to [planningboard@hollismaine.org](mailto:planningboard@hollismaine.org).

**Bart Sughrue, Chairman**  
Hollis Zoning Board of Appeals, August 17, 2020

**NOTICE TOWN OF SHAPLEIGH**

**Town Clerk/ Tax Collector & Code Enforcement Offices will be CLOSED Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020 Labor Day Weekend.**

*Have a safe and happy holiday weekend!*

NEWFIELD

C.J. Pike

fudgecupboard@yahoo.com  
793-8760

Library news

The Newfield Library at 637 Water Street will be closed from Thursday, Aug. 27 to Tuesday, Sept. 1. They will reopen at 10 a.m. on that day.

Happy birthday!

Birthday wishes go to the following people: Louis Campbell and Larry Dyer, Jr.

RED CROSS

(Continued from page 1)

needs. The largest fires include the LNU Lightning Complex fire, SCU Lightning Complex fire and the CZU August Complex fire, which have already consumed over 732,000 acres and destroyed nearly 1,000 structures in northern California. Two fires — the LNU Lightning Complex fire and the SCU Lightning Complex fire — are among California's three largest wildfires in recorded history.

On Saturday night, the Red Cross and its partners provided more than 2,300 people in California with refuge from the wildfires with emergency lodgings, including shelters and, in some circumstances, hotels.

**HOW TO HELP** You can help people affected by disasters like wildfires by making a gift to Red Cross Disaster Relief. Your gift is a commitment to helping people in need, and every single donation matters. Visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org), call 800-RED-CROSS, or text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a \$10 donation.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org)/NNE or visit us on Facebook at @RedCrossNNE, Instagram at @RedCrossNNE or at Twitter at @ARC\_NNE.



**GOT NEWS?**

We want to hear from you!

[news@waterboro-reporter.com](mailto:news@waterboro-reporter.com)



MASSABESIC STUDENTS PROTEST IN AUGUSTA

From left, Laura Jacobs and her daughters Emily and Micaela Jacobs, who are both members of the Massabesic Varsity Field Hockey team, recently participated in a demonstration held at the Blaine House, as part of the 'let them play' movement. Other players were set to speak at the Aug. 26 School Board meeting in favor of playing this fall.

COURTESY PHOTO

Chance to honor your personal hero at the Maine Mall

American flags representing community heroes will be displayed inside the mall

The Portland Rotary Club and the Maine Mall are working in partnership to honor our local heroes. At least 100 American flags will be displayed, each honoring a hero. The flags will be on display at the Maine Mall beginning September 11, a fitting day to acknowledge community members who have made a difference. The flags will be shown in the mall for the following two weeks.

Families and loved ones are encouraged to sponsor a flag for their personal hero. Heroes can be veterans, first responders, grocery store clerks, or teachers- Any person who's made a difference in the lives of others and has contributed

to making our community a more open, safe, and vibrant place to live.

"More than ever now, there are so many heroes among us." Rotarian Charlie Friar said, "This is a chance to recognize those that have made sacrifices to strengthen our communities during hard times."

Each flag will be sponsored for \$100. A plaque attached to the flag will show the name of each hero and can be taken home by its sponsor at the end of the week. The money raised will be put back into the community through Rotary projects. This will be the second annual "Flags for Community Heroes" display.



Sponsorships can be attained either online or by order form. To sponsor a flag online please visit [portlandrotary.org](http://portlandrotary.org). To order by form, either print out a sponsor form from the website or contact

Charlie Frair at 807-5348 to request one.

The rotary can be contacted with any questions about the project by email at [portlandrotary-club@gmail.com](mailto:portlandrotary-club@gmail.com).

TOWN OF WATERBORO

Absentee Ballots Requests

Absentee ballot requests may be in writing, by phone, online, or in person. However, if you are asking to receive your ballot by mail, please request it early enough to allow for postal mail delivery time – both to receive it and return it (at least 4-5 days each way).

- You can request an absentee ballot by calling your Municipal Clerk's office at 207-247-6166, each person requesting needs to speak to the clerk personally.
- You can request an absentee ballot online or by mail from the Secretary of State's website: <https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/online-form.pl>. The SOS will then inform the town clerk to mail you an absentee ballot.
- Absentee ballot requests are being accepted right now. Printed ballots will be available by first of October or earlier, and we will issue your ballot as soon as ballots are received at Town Hall.
- Ballots must be returned to the municipal clerk no later than 8:00 pm on Election Day.

Absentee ballots are very secure. We have a check out process, as well as a return process. We verify signatures on envelopes. If you have any questions or concerns, please give me a call 207-247-6166 ext. 110.

Happy Voting  
Christine Torno CCM  
Deputy Clerk, Town of Waterboro  
[townclerk@waterboro-me.gov](mailto:townclerk@waterboro-me.gov)



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(207) 703-0415

READER PHOTO



Paul Hanson grew up on Pleasant Hill in Hollis. In 1955, which was his senior year of high school, Paul chose, as his 4-H woodworking project, to build a fence around the single burial plot at the top of Upper Tarbox Road. The burial plot is that of James C. Brown, 1818-1890 and Rebecca M. Jewett, 1819-1910 (Brown's wife.) The wooden fence had fallen into disrepair over the ensuing 65 years, so what did Paul Hanson do? He returned to the site this summer and rebuilt the fence, giving it a fresh coat of paint as well. Paul still takes seriously his 4-H pledge, which includes service to others. COURTESY PHOTO  
**Thank you, Paul. Your hard work and generosity are appreciated.**

OPINION

LETTERS

Why Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) matters

*On behalf of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) York County in light of our current civil unrest.*

In 1987, TN Police Department shot and killed a young black man. As the city cried out with pain and anger, the police department reviewed that shooting, as well as many of the departments use of forces. The review revealed that the underlying causes of the majority of the use of forces involved an individual experiencing a mental health crisis. As time passed, research has indicated that mental illness and mental crisis are the precipitating cause of the majority of office involved shootings and use of forces, especially here in the State of Maine. Since then CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) have developed in 44 states across the country based off the initial program developed in 1987, including here in Maine. When CIT is implemented with fidelity to the model it has been found to decrease injuries sustained to individuals and officers, as well as increasing the diversion of individuals from the criminal justice system.

law enforcement, mental health providers, advocates and peers and family member together to discuss issues that are specific to their communities and work together to develop ways to respond and support everyone within their communities. Currently 53 Maine Police Chiefs have signed on to participate in the standards of programming to ensure that CIT is implemented effectively, including 7 of the Elected Sheriffs.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness is a United States-based advocacy group originally founded as a grassroots group by family members of people diagnosed with mental illness. NAMI identifies its mission as being "dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness"

To see which departments participate in this community policing model visit: <https://www.namimaine.org/page/CITparticipatingdepts>

If you are interested in becoming involved in your local CIT Program please contact Hannah Longley at NAMI Maine, [hannahl@namimaine.org](mailto:hannahl@namimaine.org) or 622-5767 x2319

One of the key components of CIT is the utilization of regional councils in order to bring together

– Sheila McNeil  
 Affiliate President  
 NAMI York County

Obituaries

Robert Franklin Brulotte

Robert Franklin Brulotte, age 94, passed away on Aug. 18, 2020 at his home in West Baldwin, from complications of diabetes.



Robert Franklin Brulotte

He was born in Limerick on March 29, 1926, a child of 13 of the late Napoleon "Nappy" and Sarah (Whitten) Brulotte.

After attending school, Robert began his working years at the Limerick Yarn Mills. He later worked for SD Warren and Cianbro.

He will always be remembered for his love of the outdoors – including hunting and fishing, watching NASCAR events, and being with his beagle "Molly".

He is survived by stepchildren- Linda Peters and her husband Gerald of Baldwin and Lawrence Reed and his wife Barbara of Limington; sister- Ethel of MA; grandchildren- Tom, Christopher, and James; and several great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held on Friday Aug. 21 at 11 AM at Highland Annex Cemetery, Rt. 5, in Limerick.

Online condolence messages can be submitted at the Poitras, Neal & York Funeral Home website, [www.maineFuneral.com](http://www.maineFuneral.com)

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Baldwin Fire Department, c/o Chief Jason Brown, 534 Pequawket Trail, West Baldwin, Maine 04091

Charlotte C. (Stuart) Hopkins

Charlotte C. (Stuart) Hopkins died peacefully at her home in Connecticut on Aug. 3, 2020. The daughter of Ronald L. and Adelaide M. (Stewart) Stuart, in her younger years she lived in Wells.

Charlotte worked and retired in Connecticut while earning a Bachelor of Science in Business

Administration degree from Eastern Connecticut State University.

She was predeceased by her husband Douglas Hopkins, her mother, son James Christopher and brother Eugene. She is survived by her father of Waterboro, her daughter Teresa E. and son William M., her nephew Shannon, ten grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

Services will be private.

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## “One little match can spark a big fire that we might be unable to put out.”

— GOV. JANET MILLS

Thanks to the efforts of Maine people, all of you who have largely abided by public health measures that we have imposed to keep us all safe, our state has been relatively successful in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in the last few months.

I know the worst parts of this pandemic, the ones we see in other states, those can feel pretty far away from the relative safety of our State of Maine.

Little by little, you may have started to reconnect with friends that you haven't seen in months, or venture out for a small backyard barbeque, or got to a close friend's wedding, or a drive-in graduation party. Things almost feel normal, after the constant worry of the last six months especially, and you start to relax. You might forget to wear your mask or to keep your distance, but you think, hey it's ok what are the chances, you live in Maine. Odds are you won't catch anything you tell yourself.

What you don't realize is that one person at the party you went to has COVID-19 and doesn't even know it. They don't have symptoms, they are feeling okay, and you have no warning. You leave that party and go home to your family, you see a few friends, you stop by the grocery store and you go back to work, never knowing that you have caught the virus and you are exposing others, including people you may never meet yourself.

Hey this isn't just a possibility – it is reality.

You know what happened in Millinocket.

A woman who didn't attend the wedding or the reception, but who simply interacted with someone else who did, she died from that exposure.

Sixty people are now associated with that outbreak, they've been tested positive for COVID, and that has spread to Madison and down to York County and maybe many other places too.

One little match can spark a big fire that we might be unable to put out.

As we reach the end of summer, we are beginning a new phase of reopening with many schools and universities bringing students back for classroom instruction.

We are expanding testing to identify and isolate outbreaks before they can spread. But hey testing alone can't prevent new cases or a new outbreak. Only we can do that as each of us keeps doing our part.

I know people are getting tired, you're going to be impatient and anxious maybe. We all are. But we cannot let down our guard. Pandemic fatigue could cause fatal consequences for people if we don't stay focused on the end game which is keeping everyone safe.

So, we got to remember, wash our hands frequently, maintain six feet of distance, stay home when you can, especially if you are older or have an underlying health condition, and wear a face covering when you're out in public when it is hard to maintain six feet

of distance between ourselves and others.

Please, do not attend or organize large gatherings, indoors or outdoors. Don't take a chance.

We have got to protect our health and the health of our families. It concerns me, for instance, that childhood immunizations have plummeted in recent months as parents avoid doctor's offices out of fear of the virus. Whether your child is returning to classroom or not, getting protected against the flu and other contagious diseases is critical, as part of our overall public health plan and as part of our efforts to control the pandemic. Any outbreak of whooping cough, measles or the flu could overwhelm our hospitals that are already working to combat COVID-19. And immunization allows your physician to rule out preventable diseases like the flu when your child shows symptoms that are similar to COVID-19. This is really important.

We have set up immunization clinics throughout Maine to help parents “catch up” on their child's health. Parents can call 207-287-4112 Monday - Friday 8:30 - 4:30 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

If we protect ourselves and one another by taking these steps, we can continue to restart our economy and reopen schools in a safe way, and limit the spread of this dangerous virus as we welcome autumn in Maine.

Thank you for listening and please stay safe..

—Originally aired as a radio address on Aug. 25.



Sen. Susan Collins visiting with businessowners in downtown North Berwick last week. COURTESY PHOTO

## Senator Collins visits local businesses in South Berwick

On Aug. 21, U.S. Senator Susan Collins visited several small businesses in downtown South Berwick to meet with small business owners, employees, and local residents. Stops included Nature's Way Market, a full-service local grocery store, and South Berwick Pharmacy Seacoast Compounding Inc., an independent, full-service, neighborhood pharmacy.

“During my visit to South Berwick today, I had wonderful discussions with members of the community. Small business owners and their employees have worked hard to keep their doors open during the COVID-19 pandemic and safely provide local residents with groceries, supplies, and services,” said Senator Collins. “Downtown businesses are the focal point of communities across our state. I am pleased that the Paycheck Protection Program I co-authored has provided forgivable loans to more than 28,000 Maine small businesses, which has

helped support 240,000 jobs and strengthen our downtowns.”

The Paycheck Protection Program has been a tremendous success, providing more than \$525 billion in forgivable loans to more than 5.2 million borrowers nationwide since its launch in early April. In Maine, more than 28,000 small businesses and self-employed individuals have received nearly \$2.3 billion in forgivable loans, which has helped to support approximately 240,000 jobs throughout the state.

To support the hardest-hit small employers and their employees, Senators Collins and Marco Rubio (R-FL) introduced legislation that would allow the most severely affected small businesses to receive a second PPP loan. In general, eligible small employers with 300 or fewer employees that have suffered a 35 percent revenue decline could apply for a second forgivable loan.

## MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

# Three men die on the same day in separate ATV crashes

At approximately 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 22 in Lang Township, Maine, Tyler Curry, age 29, of Groton, Massachusetts was riding alone on a private access road after leaving the group he had been riding with earlier in the day. Just prior to crossing a bridge, Curry exited a left turn and his ATV began sliding toward the edge of the road at a high rate of speed, and he straddled the outside edge of the bridge before he slid off the bridge and into the river. It appears that Curry was thrown from the ATV as he fell. Curry was not wearing a helmet. Two men who came to fish the river discovered the body and called 911 at 6:20 p.m. He was pronounced dead at the scene by emergency service personnel due to injuries sustained in the crash.

Speed appears to be a factor in the crash, and the Maine Warden Service continues to investigate. Rangeley Fire, Rangeley PD & US Border Patrol all assisted the Maine Warden Service. No further information is available currently.

**The Maine Warden Service Reminds all ATV riders to:**

- Always Wear Your Helmet
- Always Ride Under Control
- Always Ride Sober
- Stay On Marked Trails

“ATV riding can be a wonderful way to enjoy the outdoors when they are driven properly,” said Game Warden Corporal John MacDonald. “Always wear your helmet, always ride under control, always ride sober and stay on marked trails.”

*Earlier in the day...*

In Anson, Maine, a 69-year-old Freedom man was killed when he was thrown from the ATV he was riding on a trail in Solon.

Roland Robitaille was second in a line of seven ATVs riding on a trail behind the Solon Road in Anson at approximately 10:40 a.m. on Aug. 22 when he went over a bridge on the trail, lost control of his 2017 Yamaha Grizzly ATV, rolled, and was thrown off the ATV.

Robitaille, who was not wearing a helmet, was found face down in the trail by the by the ATVs following in his group, with severe trauma to his head and chest. His group called 911, and performed CPR until rescue personnel ar-

rived, but he was pronounced dead at the scene, and was transported to a funeral home in Skowhegan.

The Maine Warden Service was assisted by the Anson Fire Department, and Anson-Madison Rescue. No more information is available at the time.

In The Forks, Maine, a 32-year-old Readfield man died when he lost control and flipped his ATV.

Joshua Violette was the fifth ATV traveling in a group of nine ATVs on the Divide Road in the Forks when he hit a depression in the road, lost control and flipped his 2007 Polaris Sportsman 500 ATV at approximately 10:00 a.m. this morning. Violette died at the scene. His passenger, 33-year-old



Ashlie Dostie of Mt. Vernon suffered non-life threatening injuries and was transported to Reddington Fairview Hospital in Skowhegan. Neither Violette or Dostie were wearing helmets.

The Maine Wardens Service, West Forks Fire and Rescue, and Upper Kennebec Valley Ambulance all responded to the incident. No further information is available currently.