

June 14, 2024

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## Tenters Appear Unmoved by Looming Closure

By Lee Burnett

An air of anxiety pervaded the tent encampment in the mill yard this week, just days before Saturday's deadline to vacate.

"It's certainly frustrating. There's not a single one of us who knows where we are going to go to next," Alex, a former commercial truck driver who declined to give his last name, said of those tenting in the woods bordering the Mousam River. "They've told us if we're not out [by June 15], they're going to start arresting us."

An estimated 30-50 people live in increasingly risky conditions in the mill yard. Trash lies everywhere. Rats prowl at night. Drug use, fights and thefts are part of the deal.



Robert Pelkey, left, and Alex ponder the closure threat at Heritage Crossing. PHOTO: Lee Burnett

"It's not easy living out here," Alex said. "But it's not the worst."

The city is pulling out the stops to warn

*Cont'd on Page 2*

## Sanford Man Arrested on Charges Related to January 6 Capitol Breach



Christopher Belliveau speaking during publicly-available interview. PHOTO: Dept. of Justice

*Press Release: Department of Justice*

A Sanford man has been arrested on felony and misdemeanor charges, including for allegedly assaulting law enforcement during the Jan. 6, 2021, breach of the U.S. Capitol that disrupted certification of the 2020 presidential election results.

According to a press release Wednesday from the U.S. Attorney's Office, Christopher Belliveau, 38, is charged with five felony offenses, including civil disorder; assaulting, resisting, or impeding certain officers using a dangerous weapon; entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without

*Cont'd on Page 3*

## Community CALENDAR

Compiled by Lisa Blanchette

### Saturday, June 15

- Sanford Farmers' Market, 8 am, Central Park, 920 Main St.
- Low-Cost Rabies Clinic, 9:30 am, Pet Supplies Plus, 1364 Main St.
- Flag Day Ceremony, 10 am, Gateway Park, 11 Riverside Ave.
- Corner Cupboard, 10 am, Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church, 5 Lebanon St.
- Kitten Adoption Event, 12:30 pm, Pet Supplies Plus, 1364 Main St.
- Father's Day Cruise In, 3 pm, Summer Commons, 21 June St.
- Mainers vs Keene, 6:30 pm, Goodall Park, 32 Roberts St.

### Sunday, June 16

- "Chamber Talk with Rick Stanley," 7 am, Radio Station 104.3 (weekly)
- Father's Day Pool & Pizza, 9 am, YMCA, 1 Emile Levasseur Dr.

### Monday, June 17

- Sanford Food Pantry, 10 am, 1204 Main St.
- Baby Rhyme Time, 10 am, Springvale Public Library, 443 Main St.
- Wildlife Encounters: Tiny Creatures, 10:30am, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Lego Builders Club, 3 pm, Springvale Public Library
- Free Mindfulness & Sound Therapy, 5:30 pm, Springvale Library, 443 Main St.
- Mainers vs Danbury "Education Week," 6:30 pm, Goodall Park, 32 Roberts St.

### Tuesday, June 18

- Baby/Toddler Rhyme Time, 10:30 am, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Pre-K Story Time, 11 am, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- York County Food Pantry, noon, YCSP, 5 Swetts Bridge Road, Alfred

*Cont'd on Page 3*

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# Voters Approve School Budget & Other Election Results

By Zendelle Bouchard

Sanford and Springvale voters trickled into the polls on Tuesday, June 11 to cast their ballots in the annual school budget validation referendum and the mostly uncontested primary races for state, federal and county candidates. The school budget passed by a wide margin, with 852 votes in favor and 346 opposed. Eight ballots were left blank. The total of 1,206 votes cast for the school budget referendum represents just 7.6% of Sanford's 15,851 registered voters. By contrast, 8.9% of voters cast a ballot on the school budget in 2022. That election also featured a 3-way race for a vacant seat on the City Council. In 2023, when there was no primary or other election held, only 3% turned out.

In the primary races, 556 Republican, 583 Democrat and 33 Green Independent



PHOTO: Nicole Tate Shepard

ballots were cast. Unenrolled voters, sometimes referred to as independents and who outnumber those enrolled in either of the two major parties, were able to vote in the primary for the first time. They were able to choose either the Republican or Democrat ballot without having to change their party of enrollment to do so.

In the only contested race of the primaries, Ron Russell of Kennebunkport beat Andrew Piantidosi of Cape Elizabeth to become the Republican challenger to U.S.

Representative Chellie Pingree in November. Russell was heavily favored by Sanford voters, garnering 74% of the votes here and 56% across the district.

In the primary races for our State Senator and State Representatives, all candidates ran unopposed. Sen. Matt Harrington will face off against Dan Lauzon in the November 5 general election. District 141 Rep. Luke Lanigan will be challenged by Patty Kidder, District 142 Rep. Anne-Marie Mastraccio will face Amy Bell, and District 143 Rep. Ann Fredericks will go up against Katie Manende Hall. We will have full coverage of those candidates as the election nears.

Complete election results, with vote counts by ward, are available by scanning the QR code with your smartphone camera. ■



The Mission of the Sanford Springvale News is to produce a free weekly publication that provides current and factual information about what is happening in Sanford and Springvale.

News and stories are published in print, electronically and posted on Facebook.

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Design & Production - Brett Williams (interim)

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### ENCAMPMENT - Cont'd from Page 1

residents of impending closure. Notices have been posted. Outreach workers visit regularly. Housing navigators, mental health outreach workers, and others are on hand to provide referrals and case management for various agencies.

City officials say they are acting to protect people from worsening sanitation conditions. Mayor Becky Brink told city councilors last week that "the city finds the site to be a public health hazard due to accumulated waste that is now entering the Mousam River." City Manager Steve Buck told councilors that "willingness to accept services continues to be an impediment."

The Sanford Springvale News visited the encampment Wednesday morning and found residents going about daily life with no urgency to move.

Robert Pelkey said he visits the encampment daily to help maintain morale. He sleeps in a camper parked at a friend's house and comes around to pick up trash, including needles and lend a sympathetic ear. "I try to keep people in a positive spirit," he said.

Pelkey and others say housing is what's needed, and it's just not available. A temporary warming center at the former Lafayette School, which had nightly provided meals and zero-gravity chairs for 40 or more people, closed May 1. "They keep spouting that we have options, but we don't," said Alex.

The encampment site in the mill yard

was recently acquired by the City of Sanford through tax foreclosure. The city is working with the Sanford Housing Authority to develop it into an apartment building for unhoused people trying to rebuild their lives around a foundation of stability. That could take years. In the meantime, encampment residents say the city should work to manage homeless people in one location.

"Keep the encampment where it is. We all get along with the cops," said Karl Brown, a disabled veteran who said he lived at local cemeteries before landing at the Heritage Crossing encampment. "Now that [the site] is owned by the city, there's no reason not to improve it," he said. He envisions a managed campground with dumpsters, portable toilets, showers, laundry, and a charging station. "A semi-supervised place. Police could come in anytime. We have nothing to hide." ■

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If you have an interest or an area of expertise you'd like to write about, please contact us at [SSNews@SanfordSpringvaleNews.com](mailto:SSNews@SanfordSpringvaleNews.com).



## CALENDAR - Cont'd from Page 1

- Knit Lits, 3 pm, Springvale Library, 443 Main St.
- Bingo, 4 pm (doors open) 6 pm (games start), Sanford Elks Lodge, 13 Elm St.
- City Council Meeting, 6 pm, Sanford City Hall, 919 Main St.
- Mainers vs. Valley, 6:30 pm, Goodall Park

### Wednesday, June 19

- Lego Builders Club, 2:30 pm, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Weekly Cruise In, 4 pm, Shain's of Maine, 1491 Main St.
- Poetry Group, 5 pm, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Paint Night with Lizz, 5 pm, Pilot's Cove, 199 Airport Rd.
- Fiber Arts Group, 5:30 pm, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Wednesday Night Bite Free Meal, 6 pm, Curtis Lake Church, 38 Westview Dr.

### Thursday, June 20

- The World's Largest Swimming Lesson, Time TBD, YMCA, 1 Emile Levasseur Dr.
- 33rd Annual YMCA Golf Tourn., 9 am, Sanford Country Club, 588 Country Club Rd.
- Food Bank at St. Thérèse of Lisieux, Noon, Holy Family Church, 66 North Ave.
- Crafting Fairy Houses w/Anna Desmond, 2 pm, Springvale Public Library, 443 Main St.
- Community Food Distribution, 3 pm, SHS & Willard, 100 Alumni Blvd & 668 Main St.
- Free Community Meal, 5 pm, New Beginnings Christian Church, 181 Grammar Rd.

### Friday, June 21

- Salvation Army of Sanford Produce Pantry, 10 am, 871 Main St.
- Friday Story Time, 10 am, Springvale Public Library, 443 Main St.
- York County Food Pantry, noon, YCSP, 5 Swetts Bridge Road, Alfred
- Mainers vs. Ocean State, 6:30 pm, Goodall Park

### Saturday, June 22

- Sanford Farmers' Market, 8 am, Central Park
- Yard Sale, 8 am, Sanford-Springvale Fish & Game Club, 449 Country Club Rd.
- Baby Blessings, 10 am, St. George's Episcopal Church, 3 Emerson St.
- Mainers vs Bristol, "Country Night," gates open at 5:00 pm, Goodall Park

### Sunday, June 23

- Chamber Talk with Rick Stanley, 7 am, Radio Station 104.3
- Low-Cost Rabies Clinic, 4 pm, Tractor Supply Co., 1770 Main St.

Visit our Events Calendar at [sanfordspringvalenews.com](http://sanfordspringvalenews.com) for details on these and future events.

Add an event? [Events@SanfordSpringvaleNews.com](mailto:Events@SanfordSpringvaleNews.com)

School Sports: <https://tinyurl.com/bd89duyj>

See complete details at [SanfordSpringvaleNews.com](http://SanfordSpringvaleNews.com) ■



Christopher Belliveau seen discharging bear spray at a Capitol Police Officer on January 6, 2021. PHOTO: Dept. of Justice

### JANUARY 6 ARREST- Cont'd from Page 1

lawful authority with a deadly or dangerous weapon; disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building or grounds with a deadly or dangerous weapon; and engaging in physical violence in a restricted building or on restricted grounds with a deadly or dangerous weapon.

The FBI arrested Belliveau on Wednesday in Berwick with help from local police departments, including Sanford and Wells. Belliveau is the thirteenth person from Maine to be charged in connection with the events of Jan. 6.

In addition to the felonies, he is charged with three misdemeanor offenses, including disorderly conduct in a capitol building; act of physical violence in the Capitol grounds or buildings; and parading, demonstrating or picketing in the Capitol buildings.

According to court documents, a man identified as Belliveau was among a group of rioters on Jan. 6, 2021, on the Northwest Lawn of the Capitol grounds. At the time, rioters were congregated behind temporary fencing comprised of interlocking bicycle racks. The group of rioters, with Belliveau allegedly at the front, crossed the bicycle rack fencing and advanced toward the police.

The complaint alleges that as Belliveau

approached police with a bullhorn in one hand, he pointed at one officer and then walked away. He then returned, allegedly carrying a green canister with an orange safety cap consistent with bear pepper mace. It is alleged that Belliveau then discharged a canister at the police officer he initially pointed at and then fled the area. The officer pursued Belliveau but was knocked to the ground by another rioter.

Later, a group of rioters overran a police line on the Northwest stairs at the Capitol. In the minutes that followed, hundreds of rioters subsequently advanced up the stairs to an area of the Capitol known as the Upper West Terrace. At approximately 2:13 pm, rioters broke the windows next to the Senate Wing Door and breached the Capitol. Belliveau, as shown on surveillance video, allegedly entered the Capitol at approximately 2:17 pm.

Belliveau traveled to an area of the Capitol known as the Crypt, where rioters confronted a police line, before leaving about 15 minutes later.

The case is being investigated by the FBI's Boston and Washington field offices, with assistance from the U.S. Capitol Police, the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department and the FBI Boston field offices. The investigation remains ongoing. ■

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# Pride Flag Raising Delayed at City Hall

By Zendelle Bouchard

Eagle-eyed residents may have noticed a delay in raising the rainbow flag symbolizing LGBTQ+ Pride at City Hall this month. The City Council voted 6-1 at its May 21 regular meeting to approve the request by Councilor Ayn Hanselmann to fly the flag for the month of June. Councilor Jonathan Martell was the only vote in opposition.

City Manager Steve Buck told the SSN that he was directed by the mayor to hold off on flying the Pride flag until the City's flag policy could be reviewed to ensure the Council's vote was compliant as an expression of official governmental speech. "The review confirmed that the City's current policy on the Display of Flags is legally compliant," he said. Buck informed the members of the City Council's Municipal Operations and Property Subcommittee of this at its regular monthly meeting on the morning of June 11, and the Pride Flag was raised immedi-

ately thereafter. The City Council may consider amendments to the policy in the future, he added.

At the meeting, Subcommittee members Hanselmann, Mayor Becky Brink and Deputy Mayor Maura Herlihy discussed the flag policy further. Herlihy noted that the City's government speech could change as the composition of the Council changes. She expressed her concern that future councilors could use the policy to promote hate, and questioned whether it would be better to not hang extra flags at all. Brink said she was also concerned about that. Hanselmann pointed out that the Council's May 21 vote could not be changed by the subcommittee and added that "we would be crippled today as a council if we worried about every action of future councils. We have to put faith in decisions we make today." She said she supports the flag policy but has no objection to it being revisited at a future meeting of the full Council.



PHOTO: Zendelle Bouchard


At its July 2 meeting, the Council is scheduled to review a request by Martell to fly the Gadsden flag at City Hall for Independence Day. The Gadsden flag is a yellow flag with a design of a coiled snake and the words "Don't Tread on Me." The flag was first flown by American colonists in the runup to the Revolutionary War but was resurrected by Libertarians in the 1970s and by the Tea Party movement in recent years as a political symbol. ■

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# A New Kind of Circus is Coming to Town

After enchanting audiences across the country with their outdoor circus “Stars Above,” Hideaway Circus is back with a sequel that promises to be breathtaking. “Canvas Sky” is the latest production from the innovative company, and it’s coming to Cobb Stadium for multiple performances, July 5-7.

The show features a cast of ten world-class artists who bring a contemporary twist to the classical circus format. At the heart of “Canvas Sky” is a touching narrative that follows a clown’s struggle to find his place within the troupe. It’s a story of friendship, self-acceptance, and the celebration of uniqueness, as the clown learns to embrace his voice with a little help from a friend. This performance is set to take the audience on an uplifting journey of self-discovery.

Brooklyn-based Josh and Lyndsay Aviner, the founders of Hideaway Circus – also known for its dance and multi-media productions – have crafted this all-ages experience with original music and a storyline. The tour began this month and is set to travel to over 60 towns in 22 states over 35 weeks. They have also released over 135 episodes of Hideaway Circus Podcast, offering a behind-the-scenes look at the circus world, featuring interviews with creators, producers, and directors.

The initiative to host the Hideaway Circus was led by Daniel Bowden, owner of Bowdini’s Ice Cream in



An outdoor hula hoop performance  
PHOTO: Courtesy of Hideaway Circus

Springvale, who was profoundly impressed by their performance in Portland a few years ago. He was thrilled when the chance arose to feature them in a summer event for the area. “We are very excited to be able to partner with the Sanford-Springvale Chamber of Commerce to bring this great family-friendly, open air, no-animal circus to our community,” Bowden said.

The circus will feature two evening performances on July 5 and 6 at 7:30 pm, and two afternoon matinees on July 6 and 7 at 4 pm at Cobb Stadium, behind Sanford Pride Elementary School. For accessibility and comfort, there are a range of ticket options. For \$25, the general admission ticket invites you to bring your own portable chair or blanket. At \$45, the premi-

um reserved seat offers a stress-free experience with a pre-arranged lawn chair and excellent stage views. For an indulgent, one-of-a-kind experience, the \$65 VIP seat provides plush seating in the prime center front, ensuring an unparalleled view of the spectacle.

The two-hour show, including a 20-minute intermission, is a family affair requiring all children to be accompanied by an adult and includes special effects, such as fog and strobing lights, and snacks from vintage concession trailers. The outdoor setting calls for weather-appropriate attire. With no cover over the performance area, guests are advised to come prepared with sunscreen, hats, and rain gear.

Tickets are available at <https://tinyurl.com/CanvasSkySanford> ■



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# SHS Graduates Urged to Aim High, Be Kind, Take Breaks

By Sam Bonsey

Sanford High School's 131st commencement ceremony, held Wednesday, June 5, in the school's Partners Bank Gymnasium, featured lighthearted and more solemn speeches from students and staff and awards to outstanding members of the Class of 2024.

Valedictorian Zach Parison shared valuable life lessons he said were inspired by his beloved dog, Shami. He spoke about the importance of making connections, finding a balance between productivity and fun, and maintaining a positive outlook.

"Life is all about finding the balance between being productive and having fun," he said. "Take breaks or else you won't be able to be productive and be productive or else you won't be able to take breaks."

Salutatorian Aidan Gendron reflected on the 13-year journey he and his classmates had shared. While acknowledging the bittersweet nature of this transition, Gendron urged his peers to embrace the future wholeheartedly. "I urge you to take this moment in time, this celebration, to look back up and aim even higher than before, rocketing up into the stars," he said. "Chase your dreams, and enjoy the chase."

Guest speaker Beth Letourneau, director



Class President Tatum Milley leads the 231 graduates of Sanford High School's Class of 2024 in turning their tassels together after the final diploma was awarded. PHOTO:WSSR-TV

of school counseling, emphasized the importance of forming meaningful connections throughout life. "What matters most in life is people. And finding your people is the most important thing you will do in your life," she told the graduates. Letourneau encouraged the Class of 2024 to be inclusive and kind to all, saying, "Treat everyone well whether they're your people or not...It takes nothing to offer a smile or a kind word to someone."

Before presenting diplomas to all graduates, Principal Amanda Doyle presented four prestigious awards. Sophia Tounge received the Alumni Cup awarded by the Sanford

Alumni Association to the graduating senior with the highest number of total service hours to the school and local community.

Hailey Tarbox was honored with the Tribune Cup, which was awarded to a girl who has demonstrated character and leadership and exhibited superior physical and mental achievement.

Tanner McCann was honored with the Campbell Cup for remarkable improvement in athletics, scholarship, and character. And Aidan Gendron received the Sanford High School Achievement Cup for excellence in school activities. ■

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# Sanford Senior College Celebrates 25 Years of Test-Free Learning

By Lee Burnett, Submissions Editor

York County Senior College celebrated its 25th anniversary at its annual meeting and luncheon on June 4 at Ferry Beach Conference Center in Saco.

Formed in 1999, YCSC originally held classes in-person at a variety of locations, including Springvale's UMA/Anderson Learning Center, and Springvale Library; in Saco at UMA/Saco Center, The Wardwell, Biddeford Pool Community Center, Huntington Commons, and Trinity Episcopal Church.

COVID tested the organization's skills, prompting it to adopt the Zoom format and halting face-to-face interaction temporarily. With perseverance and good humor, educational opportunities continued – fall classes, spring classes and our Gary Sullivan Winter Lecture Series. The Senior College is working to bring back a full array of in-person classes while still offering online access.

The organization needs and welcomes new instructors and members. As the college says: "We offer free, intellectual activity – no prerequisites, no homework, no papers to write, no tests, no grades."

For more information, go to [yorkcounty-seniorcollege.org](http://yorkcounty-seniorcollege.org) or call 207-282-4030. ■



Some Senior College classes, like this birding outing in Biddeford, are held in the field.

PHOTO: York County Senior College

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# NEWS NOTES

Compiled By Carolyn Cadigan



### SFD gets dangerous chemical training:

Last week, Specialty Response Solutions, Inc., which offers safety and emergency response training and consulting, conducted hazardous materials refresher training for the Sanford Fire Department. This training is an annual event for the department.

**She's there in an emergency:** Sanford resident Megan Arsenault, deputy director of the York County Emergency Management Agency, recently won certification by the International Association of Emergency Managers. Arsenault, who served as incident commander for the county's response to the coronavirus pandemic, is among a relatively small number of managers to be certified. For the past several months, she and others with York County EMA have been coping with the aftermath of the storms that battered the coast and caused heavy damage countywide and preparing for the upcoming hurricane season.

**The change in Maine is mainly in the name:** On June 1, Southern Maine Health Care and Maine Medical Center came together under one multi-campus hospital license and one name: MaineHealth Maine Medical Center. To keep up to date on what's happening at their locations throughout southern Maine, scan this QR code:



**Rid your home of hazardous waste:** Household Hazardous Waste Collection is scheduled for June 30, rain or shine, from 9 am to noon at the Sanford Transfer Station, 81 Rushton St. This opportunity is open to Sanford and Springvale residents with a transfer station sticker or current proof of residency. The fee is \$20 per unit (5 gallons, 20 pounds, or a combination), payable by cash, check or credit card. Only household hazardous waste, including vapes and vape pens, will be accepted.

No electronic waste. The Transfer Station will not be open for regular operations on June 30. FMI, including a list of acceptable items and what not to bring, scan this QR code:



**Summer reading program at Goodall Library begins June 17:** "Adventure Begins at Your Library," the 2024 Summer Reading Program at Goodall Library, runs June 17 through Aug. 17. Children and adults who wish to participate can pick up a welcome packet at the library and register for the challenge on the free Beanstack app. Kids earn prizes as they read, and adults earn raffle tickets to win a \$100 Amazon gift card or a bundle of books. Top readers in all age categories will also win two tickets each to a Portland SeaDogs game. FMI or to sign up using your computer, scan this QR code:



**YMCA scholarships help many in the community access healthier lifestyles:** The Sanford-Springvale YMCA accepts hundreds of scholarships each year for

memberships. These scholarships, the result of sponsors and donors who give each year, greatly reduce the cost of monthly membership fees and ensure that more people have access to YMCA programs, equipment and education. FMI on this opportunity, call 207-324-4942. To apply for financial aid, download the application by scanning the QR code, or visit the YMCA Welcome Center Desk.



**Springvale Library's summer reading program kicks off June 17:** "Adventure Begins at the Library," the 2024 Summer Reading Program at Springvale Library, runs June 17 through Aug. 9. After earning five stickers for their reading, children may pick a prize book and a tattoo. The suggested age range for this program is 2 to 12. Adults may participate in a "Choose Your Own Adventure" program. FMI on the reading program, as well as other weekly and special programs scheduled at the library, scan this QR code:



Precision Roofing owners Sue and Joe Pierce cut the ribbon at their company in Springvale. Left to right: Sean Dumont, Stephanie Wilkins, Andrea Pais, Sue and Joe Pierce, Rick Stanley and Dan Bowden. PHOTO: Sanford-Springvale Chamber of Commerce

**Chamber of Commerce welcomes Precision Roofing:** The Sanford-Springvale Chamber of Commerce ambassadors and board members recently assisted Precision Roofing owners Sue and Joe Pierce with their ribbon cutting ceremony at 554 Main St., Springvale. The

company provides residential and commercial roofing services throughout York County and beyond. With over 20 years of experience in the field, they work with all roofing materials, including asphalt shingles, standing seam metal, and rubber roofing. ■



# Garden Club Seeking New Members



Traffic Island in Springvale  
PHOTO: Southern Maine Garden Club

By Lee Burnett, Submissions Editor

The folks who plant the flowers at key intersections in Sanford and Springvale are looking for new members for their club.

The next meeting of Southern Maine Garden Club is 1 to 3 pm on Thursday, June 20, at Springvale Library. The scheduled speaker is Pamela Durack, the horticulture and landscaping instructor at Sanford Regional Technical Center.

The club has been in existence for 28 years. Its primary purpose is educational

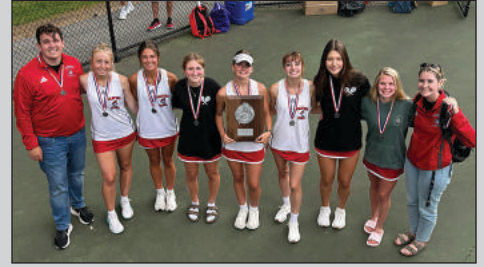
but involves social and community service aspects as well. The Garden Club designs, orders and plants the flowers in the islands in Springvale and Sanford, Central Park Statues and Gateway Park. After the plantings, the town of Sanford is diligent about watering and fertilizing. The Garden Club also has a yearly plant sale that takes place on the first Saturday in June.

Benefits of joining the Garden Club include: sharing of information and ideas from other gardeners, receiving state and local garden newsletters, hearing monthly speakers, receiving news about upcoming gardening events, and meeting new friends and fellow gardeners.

If you are someone who enjoys gardening, or who would like to learn about gardening, the club would make you feel welcome. Knowledge about gardening is not a requirement. While purposeful, educational and fun, membership does not require an enormous time commitment. If you are interested or would like more information, please email the Southern Maine Garden Club at [smgc.1996@gmail.com](mailto:smgc.1996@gmail.com). Folks from Lebanon, Acton, Shapleigh and North Berwick are welcome as well as in-town residents. ■

## SPORTS NOTES

By Sam Bonsey, Sanford Schools Communications Coordinator



Sanford High School's girls' tennis team finished 11-5 to earn the No. 7 seed in the Class A South playoffs.

PHOTO: Ryan Geary

**SHS girls' tennis end magical season in Regional Final:** Sanford High School's girls' tennis season ended at the Class A South Regional Final against Falmouth on Monday, June 10, at Bates College in Lewiston.

Sanford finished the season at 11-5 to earn the No. 7 seed and beat No. 2 Gorham and No. 3 Cheverus to make the regional final.

Olivia Guinard won the only match for the Spartans as she beat Falmouth's Sophia Tucker 6-2, 6-3. ■

## CITY OF SANFORD INVITATION TO BID ON: SOUTH SANFORD MULTI-MODAL PPI MaineDOT WIN 028742.00



The City of Sanford, Maine will receive sealed bids for: SOUTH SANFORD MULTI-MODAL PLANNING PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE until 12:00 NOON on THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024 at the Public Works Office, 156 School Street, Sanford, Maine, at which time and place all technical proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The Invitation to Bid, Request for Proposals, and Scope of Work are available at the Public Works Office and online at [www.sanfordmaine.org](http://www.sanfordmaine.org) under Business: Bid Opportunities.

## That ‘Snake Spit’ is Really Someone’s Home

We’ve probably all noticed the spit-like white foam clinging on herbaceous growth and among evergreen needles during our woods and trails walks — that stuff some people call “snake spit.” This stuff is actually a microhabitat: It’s the home of spittlebugs.

Plants move water and nutrients from their roots up to the leaves during the photosynthetic process of making food from the sun. The tubes that carry this nutrient-filled water are called xylem, and some bugs feed themselves by penetrating xylem using their tube-like mouths that have evolved into elongated, sucking beaks. These bugs — called leafhoppers, treehoppers, and froghoppers — can leap 100 times their body length. They’ve been hopping from leaf to leaf and plant to plant for almost 2 million years! It’s the froghoppers that create the spittlebugs that live within the “snake-spit” microhabitat.

Before becoming adult froghoppers, these bugs hatch in spring from eggs that overwintered in leaf litter or at the base of a meadow plant. After hatching, feeding, and “spitting” for six weeks or so, the final

molt results in the adult emerging from its frothy shelter in early summer.

There are about 30 species of spittlebugs in North America, but only two species — the pine spittlebug and the Saratoga spittlebug — are considered minor pests in Maine, feeding on our famous pine trees and some hay and alfalfa. Heavy infestations cause needle browning, dead terminal growth, and stunted, distorted stems and branches. Rare heavy infestations can kill a tree in two to three years. But mostly, spittlebugs are not too damaging.

So where does the “spit” come from? And why is it made? Spittlebugs suck up enormous amounts of sap relative to their size, and thus generate a lot of waste. In human equivalencies, it’d be 2,700 gallons a day! Also, a lot of air is released with it, generating all those bubbles. But as with everything in nature, there’s an evolutionary reason for the foam: Predators are kept a bay by the acrid taste of those bubbles, the bubbles conceal the nymph, and the insulation value of those air-filled bubbles helps protect the nymph from heat, freez-



Spittlebug deposits can damage the plants they inhabit. PHOTO: Kevin McKeon

ing, or drying up. Several spittlebugs often congregate, building a spittlebug “hotel” where they all share the same frothy home.

So, as you walk along our trails through fields or next to tall grasses, revel at the knowledge that there’s a spittlebug inside that “snake spit” you happen upon.

*Editor’s note: Did you see something unusual last time you were out in the woods? Were you puzzled or surprised by something you saw? Ask our “Out in the Woods” columnist Kevin McKeon. He’ll be happy to investigate and try to answer your questions. Email him directly at: [kpm@metrocast.net](mailto:kpm@metrocast.net) ■*



### Sanford Planning Board PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SanfordMaine.org

**Tuesday, June 25, 2024 6:30 PM**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**City Hall Annex, 917 Main St., Sanford, ME**

The Sanford Planning Board will hold public hearings and receive written & oral comments on the following:

- **Central Park Residences**, Application for Minor Amendment to Major Subdivision originally approved on October 20, 2021, to change 4 of the apartments from 1 bedroom units to 2 bedroom units on property owned by ReinCorp at 10-14 School Street & 6 Bodwell Street (*Map K30, Lot 41*)
- **Levesque’s Excavation Inc.**, Application for Conditional Use and Minor Site Plan to construct a 9,840 sf structure and approximately 9,300 sf of parking on property owned by on property owned by LM&J Properties LLC at 402 Lebanon Street/Route 202 (*Map R8, Lot 11B*)

The hearing will be held in Council Chambers at City Hall, 919 Main Street, Sanford, and via remote video and teleconference. Testimony may be provided in person, via mail or email, or via Zoom. Meeting information, including how to connect via Zoom, is provided at [www.sanfordmaine.org](http://www.sanfordmaine.org). Questions or written comments should be directed to the Planning Office at 324-9150 or [jlbabcock@sanfordmaine.org](mailto:jlbabcock@sanfordmaine.org).



# PASSAGES

Compiled by Rev. Susan Murphy

**Elisabeth P. (Beth) Hanscom**, 68, formerly of Sanford, and a graduate of Sanford High School, died on May 18 in Huntsville, AL. Her ashes will be scattered in the Gulf of Mexico at a later date.

**Maxine Cecillia "Cecile" Bouchard**, 67, passed away on May 20 surrounded by her loved ones. A memorial visitation followed by a celebration of life service was held on June 14 at Bibber Memorial at Autumn Green in Alfred.

**Eric Russell Cobb**, 68, of Sanford, passed peacefully at his home on May 24. No formal services were planned.

**Jenni "Wallace" Hoffman**, 52, of Sanford, passed away at her residence on Friday, May 2. No services were planned at this time.

**Bryan M. Hill**, 86, of Springvale, passed away on May 28 at the Lodges Care Center in Springvale. A service with military honors was held on June

4 at the Carll-Heald and Black Funeral Home. Interment will be held at a later date at the Southern Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Stanley Road in Springvale.

**Irene P. Roberge**, 89, of Sanford, passed away peacefully on May 30 at the Lodges Care Center in Springvale. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 am on Friday, June 28 at St. Thérèse of Lisieux Parish, Holy Family Church. Interment will follow at St. Ignatius Cemetery in Sanford.

**Roland F. "Bo" Boivin**, 67, of Acton, formerly of Sanford, passed away on June 1 surrounded by his family. A funeral mass was held on June 14.

**Anita J. Arsenault**, a resident of Sanford passed away on June 3 at Maine Medical Center in Biddeford following a period of failing health. A graveside service, time to be announced, will be held at St. Ignatius Cemetery.

**Rodney D. Brackett**, 79, of Sanford, Maine went home to be with his Lord on June 7. Visiting hours were held on June 12 at Carll-Heald and Black Funeral Home. A funeral service was held at the Sanford First Baptist Church on June 13.

**Philip J. Fortier**, 85, of Sanford, died peacefully on May 28 at his home. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Thérèse of Lisieux Parish, Holy Family Church at 10:00 am on Thursday, June 27, 2024, with burial to follow at St. Ignatius Cemetery.

*For more in-depth obituaries sign up for our e-newsletter to be delivered to your email inbox at every Saturday morning at <https://sanfordspringvalenews.com/sign-up/> or scan the QR code. ■*



## Maine Community Development Block Grant Program PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE

On or about July 1, 2024, the City of Sanford will submit a request to the Department of Economic and Community Development (OCD) for the release of CDBG funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the project described as a downtown façade improvement program. Total estimated funding is \$100,000 of CDBG and \$25,000 local funding.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under the HUD regulations at 24CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at: **Sanford City Hall, 919 Main Street, Sanford, ME 04073**. The ERR may be examined or copied Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Public Comments:** Any individual, group, or agency, disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project, may submit written comments on the ERR to: **Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council, 917 Main Street, Suite D, Sanford ME 04073**. All comments received by June 30, 2024, will be considered by the City of Sanford prior to submission of a request for release of funds.

**Release of Grant Funds:** The City of Sanford certifies to DECD that (Chief Executive Officer) Steve Buck in his/her official capacity consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. DECD's acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and allows the City of Sanford to use Program funds.

**Objections to Release of Funds:** DECD will accept objections to its release of funds and the City certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Sanford; (b) the ERR indicates omission of a required step, decision or finding; (c) the grant recipient has incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by DECD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and shall be addressed to DECD at 59 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0059. Potential Objectors should contact DECD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.



# Southern Maine Health Care and Maine Medical Center are coming together as **MaineHealth Maine Medical Center.**

**Alex Mejia,**  
Physician Assistant  
MaineHealth Primary Care  
Family Medicine

We are updating our logo  
and **hospital names**, as well  
as **medical practice** and  
**outpatient location names**,  
across Cumberland and  
York County.

While our name is changing  
we will continue to deliver the  
same excellent care, from the  
**same care teams** you trust, at  
the **same locations** you know.  
Now with a new look that lets  
you know, wherever you go  
at MaineHealth, you'll receive  
**exceptional, trusted care.**

Learn more at  
[mainehealth.org/together](https://mainehealth.org/together)

