

June 7, 2024

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Congratulations SHS Class of 2024!



Sanford High School graduated 231 students at its commencement ceremony on Wednesday June 5. Look for a full recap of the ceremony in next week's edition. PHOTO: Kristie Baker

Community CALENDAR

Compiled by Lisa Blanchette

Add an event? Events@SanfordSpringvaleNews.com
School Sports: <https://tinyurl.com/bd89duyj>
See complete details at SanfordSpringvaleNews.com

Saturday, June 8

- Sanford Farmers' Market, 8 am, Central Park, 920 Main St.
- Community Forest Workday, 9 am, Sanford Community Forest, Oak St.-Route 11A
- Fortean Fest 2024, 9 am, Sanford Memorial Gym, 678 Main St.
- Free Reiki Circle, 10 am, Springvale Library, 443 Main St.

Sunday, June 9

- "Chamber Talk with Rick Stanley," 7 am, Radio Station 104.3 (weekly)
- An Afternoon of French-Canadian Music, 3 pm, Historical Society, 505 Main St. Springvale
- Low-Cost Rabies Clinic, 4 pm, Tractor Supply, 1770 Main St.
- Spring Sports Recognition, 6 pm, Sanford High School, 100 Alumni Blvd.

Monday, June 10

- Sanford Food Pantry, 10 am, 1204 Main St.
- A Family for ME Q&A, noon & 6 pm, Zoom

Tuesday, June 11 (ELECTION DAY)

- Municipal Operations & Property Subcommittee Meeting, 8:30 am, Zoom
- Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting, 11 am, Zoom
- Baby/Toddler Rhyme Time, 10:30 am, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Pre-K Story Time, 11 am, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Zoning Subcommittee Meeting, 1 pm, Zoom
- Water District Trustee Meeting, 4 pm, Sanford Water District, 243 River St., Springvale
- York County Food Pantry, noon, YCSP, 5 Swetts Bridge Road, Alfred

See "CALENDAR" -page 3

Council Gets Update on Encampment, Services

By Renée Morin

Despite the looming June 15 closure of the Heritage Crossing homeless encampment, the population of that area has continued to increase, Sanford City Manager Steve Buck told the City Council at its June 4 meeting.

Buck explained in his report from the Homelessness Task Force that the closure is necessary because of "environmental, health and safety concerns," and that the state Department of Environmental Protection plans to assess the site on June 12 in response to complaints it has received about water quality and solid waste.

The city hopes to use the land near the former mills in its Housing First initiative, which provides housing and then addresses people's other needs. A resource hub will be established at the Heritage Crossing en-



Brian Arborio expresses frustration with the council over the city's handling of the homelessness issue.

PHOTO: City of Sanford

campment by June 11 at the latest to offer assistance to residents being displaced by the upcoming closure, Buck said.

Councilors adopted the task force's re-

See "City Council" - Page 2

Neil Berg's 101 YEARS OF BROADWAY

Sanford Performing Arts Center

100 Alumni Blvd., Sanford, ME

Saturday, August 3 - 7:00PM | www.SanfordPAC.org

City Council *Cont'd from page 1*

port, which notes that the city will continue to work with partner agencies to address encampments “humanely and effectively.” Buck said the work will continue, but that “willingness to accept services continues to be an impediment.”

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The city’s response to the homeless encampments drew a few comments later in the meeting. Brian Arborio, who said he has been homeless for the last three years, expressed frustration with the council for how it has been handling the homelessness issue. He told councilors that he was unable to find housing in Sanford, and that other individuals hadn’t been able to either. He refuted the statement that the unhoused in Sanford are declining housing assistance, and instead claimed that there was no housing assistance offered.

The council also allowed a few non-residents to speak about the issue because of their interest in and knowledge of the issue. Rebecca Jackson, co-founder of It Takes a Village 207, said she has been helping residents of the Heritage Crossing encampment and that, so far, the city has not offered anyone housing. She also accused the city of having intentionally created a crisis five months ago when it stopped collecting trash at Heritage Crossing, providing an excuse to remove the encampment.

Journey, of the Maine Homeless Veterans Alliance, warned the city that if the Heritage Crossing Encampment is closed, it will be harder to prevent deaths from overdoses among the unhoused population.

But Donna Alger of Maine Homeless Resource Guide said the Homeless Task Force was doing a “fantastic job.” She suggested that Sanford should send a representative to the policy committee she is on, since they had helped delegate the funds for homeless assistance in the state, and some of the issues Sanford had sought funding for were not brought to the committee’s attention.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

President Biden designated the winter storms that took place from April 3 to April 5 as “Major Disasters” for York and Cumberland counties, which City Manager Buck believes will make Sanford eligible for reimbursement of much of the cost of tree removal and other repairs. He called the reimbursement rate of 80% federal, 10% state and 10% local extremely good.

As of the writing of Buck’s report, the

city had received 17 applications for the recently created position of assistant city manager. More are expected between now and the cutoff date of June 12. The city plans to begin the first round of interviews this month and hopes to fill the position by mid-July at the latest.

Members of the Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council, along with Buck, attended a conference in Portland held by the Brownfields Program. The purpose of this conference was to receive instruction on how to administer the two EPA grants the city received for the cleanup of the International Woolen Mill Boiler House.

COMMUNICATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

Superintendent of Schools Matt Nelson gave a presentation on the June 11 school budget referendum. (See our previous story more information) <https://sanford-springvalenews.com/primary-election-features-school-budget-referendum/>

FIREFIGHTER CONCERN

During the public participation session of the meeting, resident D. R. Connolly asked the council why the Fire Department’s Truck 37 has been out of service for an extended period. She also questioned the methods used to remove PFAS from firefighters’ turnout gear. She has requested a public forum for residents to ask questions of the council.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A hearing was held on the approval of a liquor license for Guerrero Maya, a new Mexican restaurant that will be located on School Street. An employee said the restaurant, at the site of the former Back Street Sanford, will tentatively open next week.

NEW BUSINESS

The council was presented with, and approved, a new slogan to be used to promote the November referendum on the building of two new fire stations: A Safer Tomorrow Starts Today.

The council approved an amendment to Chapter 280 of the Sanford City Ordinances regarding “Standards for Conditional Use Approval for the addition of Subsection F. Excavation Contracting Business.”

A presentation was given regarding funds spent on the operation of Anderson Learning Center.

Fire Chief Scott Susi presented a draft of a proposed city ordinance to require a permit for open fires larger than 3-by-3

feet, to comply with state law. Councilor Jonathan Martell gave several critiques of the proposed ordinance, including the lack of a definition of “wood waste,” and only the landowner being able to obtain a permit without exception for family members or friends. Deputy Mayor Maura Herlihy agreed with Martell on some of his points, but disagreed on the second one, since many permits require the consent of the landowner. The ordinance will go back to the subcommittee to try to address these issues.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

According to Buck, a year-end financial estimate of the Public Works budget and anticipated unexpended funds will be presented at the June 18 city council meeting. A request will also be made then to move funds to the Capital Program for road construction projects. ■



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.

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PO Box 958, Sanford, ME 04073
SanfordSpringvaleNews.com

Contact Us

STORIES: Submissions@SanfordSpringvaleNews.com
ADS: Adperson@SanfordSpringvaleNews.com
COMMENTS: SSNews@SanfordSpringvaleNews.com

Editors and Contributors

Lisa Blanchette, Sam Bonsey, Zendelle Bouchard, Gail Burnett, Lee Burnett, Carolyn Cadigan, Barbara Crider, Lawrence Furbish, Connie Garber, Kristi King, Jack McAdam, Kevin McKeon, Renée Morin, Rev. Susan Murphy, Dave Rude, Barbara Sutcliffe, Kendra Williams, Jordan Wilson

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Our fiscal agent, Strategies for a Stronger Sanford, is a registered 501c3 non-profit.

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.
- Matthew Meal, 6:00 pm, St. Thomas School, 69 North Ave..

Wednesday, June 12

- Land Bank Authority Meeting, 8:45 am, Zoom
- 5th Annual Healthy Living Expo, 10 am, YMCA, 1 Emile Levasseur Dr.
- Lego Builders Club, 2:30 pm, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Weekly Cruise-In, 4 pm, Shain's of Maine, 1491 Main St.
- Friends of Downtown Meeting, 4:30 pm, Sanford Economic Growth office, 919 Main St.
- Poetry Group, 5 pm, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Fiber Arts Group, 5:30 pm, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Wednesday Night Bite Free Meal, 6 pm, Curtis Lake Church, 38 Westview Dr.
- SCAE Graduation Ceremony, 6 pm, Willard Building, 668 Main St.

Thursday, June 13

- Airport Advisory Committee Meeting, 8 am, Sanford Airport, 9 Presidential Ln.
- Senior Citizen Food Mobile, 10:00 am, Crossroads UMC, 15 Grammar Rd.
- Food Bank at St. Thérèse of Lisieux, noon, Holy Family Church, 66 North Ave.
- Free Community Meal, 5 pm, New Beginnings Christian Church, 181 Grammar Rd.
- York County Stamp Club-Program TBD, 6:30 pm, Preble Lodge #143, 16 Elm St.
- Sanford Mainers vs. Upper Valley, 6:30 pm, Goodall Park, 32 Roberts St.

Friday, June 14

- Salvation Army of Sanford Staples Box Distribution, 9 am, 871 Main St.
- Salvation Army of Sanford Produce Pantry, 10 am, 871 Main St.
- York County Food Pantry, noon, YCSP, 5 Swetts Bridge Road, Alfred
- Sanford Art Walk, 4 pm, Central Park, 920 Main St.
- Block Party, 5:30 pm, Nasson Community Center, 457 Main St., Springvale

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.
- Corner Cupboard, 10 am-noon, Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church, 5 Lebanon St.
- Mainers vs Keene, 6:30 pm, Goodall Park, 32 Roberts St.
- Visit our Events Calendar at sanford-springvalenews.com for details on these and future events. ■

Walkers and Cyclists to Get Passage Under Route 4



Left to right: Parks & Rec Director Brady Lloyd, Sanford Trails Committee Chair Lawrence Furbish, and Public Works Director Matt Hill gather at Powers Bridge on Route 4. PHOTO: Lee Burnett

By Lee Burnett, Submissions Editor

The Maine Department of Transportation plans to allow an underpass for walkers and cyclists in the revised reconstruction plans for Powers Bridge on Route 4, a modification that surprised and elated advocates.

"I'm immensely happy," said Lawrence Furbish, chair of the Sanford Trails Committee. "I do know the underpass was a big part of the trails master plan we worked so hard for. This is great news."

Furbish, Public Works Director Matt Hill and Parks & Recreation Director Brady Lloyd gathered at the bridge recently to share congratulations, plan next steps and to pose for a photo.

"This is my first involvement with DOT. I figured they don't often alter their plans," said Lloyd. "I was surprised and really happy."

Hill said he was similarly surprised and attributed success to an effective grassroots campaign. "Certainly, it's a tribute to responsible advocacy," he said. Advocates included members of Sanford Trails Committee, Cycle Sanford, York County Audubon and others. Devan Eaton, senior project manager for the DOT's bridge program, confirmed the influence of the grassroots campaign.

"It did play a big part, not the only part," he said. Another big factor influencing design is the volume of traffic – 15,000+ cars a day. Introducing crosswalks and phasing signals for walkers and cyclists would create unacceptable traffic backups, he said.

Powers Bridge spans the Mousam River in the low spot between intersections of Jagger Mill/Route 4 and School Street/Route 4. The bridge is 67 years old, shows signs of deterioration and is too narrow for modern

safety considerations, according to the DOT. The original reconstruction estimate of \$3.5 million has escalated to about \$5 million due to inflation, construction of a temporary bridge during construction to minimally inconvenience traffic and the underpass itself, according to Eaton. The underpass can be accommodated by extending the length of the bridge by 15 feet, at a cost of "several hundred thousand dollars," according to Eaton.

The underpass would allow walkers and cyclists to cross Route 4 without battling traffic and provides eventual connectivity to the Sanford Sewerage District's birding ponds and the Eastern Trail. The specific routing remains to be worked out through a separate planning partnership process involving the Sanford Public Works Department and the DOT.

"We're going to be answering that question," said Hill.

The planning initiative would design bicycle and pedestrian accommodations within a half mile of the roundabout at Route 4 and Route 109, which handles more than 30,000 cars a day. Demand for accommodations is driven by people on foot and bicycle, Hill said. "We're seeing that kind of traffic." Bids from design firms are now being sought, he said.

Maine DOT is still taking comments on its revised Powers Bridge plan through June 14. To view the plans and leave a comment, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera. ■



Editor's note: Lee Burnett is member of Cycle Sanford.

Downtown Facades Eligible for Upgrade Assistance

By Lee Burnett, submissions editor

Sanford's downtown got another boost recently with an award of a \$100,000 grant to upgrade building facades, according to the Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council.

It's the second facade improvement grant in two years from Maine Department of Economic and Community Development. The money will be sub-granted to property owners pledging to invest at least 25 percent of their own funds for an award of up to \$25,000.

"Sanford's downtown is entering a renaissance," said Keith McBride, executive director of the growth council. "The goal of our facade grant program is to incentivize new investment in our downtown commercial structures, and further the revitalization."

Funds from the 2022 grant were used to make improvements at 880 Main St., a former 7-11 which was renovated and is now a T-Mobile retail location; 16 River St., a former CarQuest auto and garage which is under renovation to be a new river-front restaurant; and 41 Washington St., where new windows and facade treatments have replaced the plywood boards that have secured the building for more than five years.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact Mary Hastings, small business advocate at the growth council. She can be reached by phone at 608-4176, email at mwhastings@sanfordmaine.org, or by in-person appointment at 917 Main St., Suite D. ■

A Graduate's Story

By Lisa Blanchette



Many teenagers have just graduated or are getting ready for graduation in the coming week. Savana Summers is not one of them... not a teenager, that is. Savana is 26. When her peers were getting ready for graduation in 2019, she had already been through a lot in her life. She was living in New Hampshire, couch surfing, dealing with a parent's addiction, developing an addiction of her own, She was a struggling student and then a high school drop-out. Jump ahead to 2024 and Savana is nervously preparing her student speech for Sanford Community Adult Education's Graduation ceremony, scheduled to take place on June 12.

What happened to Savana during those years? She had two children, she got clean, got married, became

the licensed foster parent of her 4-year-old sister, developed a goal/mission to go to cosmetology school, and she found a place of support and encouragement at Sanford Community Adult Education. SCAE was the place where she received her preparation to complete the HiSET (High School Equivalency Diploma). It was no easy task. She still struggles with comprehension of reading materials and childcare was not always available when she needed time to study. Savana says the administration and teaching staff of SCAE were like a family for her while she studied, and she was fortunate to have the support of her husband at home as well. The help she received at SCAE was not just academic. The staff went out of their way to provide support in any way they could.

What is next for Savana? A whole new chapter of her life... a chapter she could not even have dreamed would be open to her five years ago. She starts Empire Beauty School in September with scholarships and grants in place for financing. When asked why cosmetology, Savana answered that it's a career for herself and to help provide for her children. But also, it's a career that will make others feel good about themselves. In the future Savana would like to explore the possibility of taking her cosmetology talents to sober houses.

When asked what advice she would give to someone without a high school credential, she said, "make your goal your mission and go for it!" ■

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Live French-Canadian Music Returns to the Historical Museum

The Sanford-Springvale Historical Museum is set to host a late-spring event that promises to be a vibrant celebration of French-Canadian culture. On Sunday, June 9, the Museum—at the historic former Town Hall (505 Main Street, Springvale)—will come alive with the sounds of fiddles and pianos as the renowned musical duo, Don and Cindy Roy, take the stage.

For nearly four decades, the Roys have been torchbearers of Franco-American music in Maine. Their dedication to preserving the rich tapestry of this musical tradition has earned them accolades from critics and fans alike. The Bangor Daily News has lauded them as “outstanding musicians,” with roots that trace back to the Maritimes and Quebec. It is this lineage that fuels their passion for French Canadian and Celtic music, a passion that is deeply intertwined with their family heritage.

Don Roy, a virtuoso fiddler whose family hails from Quebec, and Cindy Roy, a talented pianist and step-dancer with roots in Prince Edward Island, have become synonymous with the genre. Their performances are more than just concerts; they are a gateway to a bygone era, a time when music was the heart of community gatherings and celebrations.

The duo’s journey through music has seen them grace stages at prestigious venues such as Wolf Trap, the National Folk Festival, Carnegie Hall, and on the airwaves of National Public Radio’s *A Prairie Home Companion*. Their ability to connect with audiences and share the joy of their culture ensures that every performance is a toe-tapping,



PHOTO: Molly Haley, mollyhaley.com

soul-stirring experience.

Don’s unique fiddling style, a blend of New England, Quebec, and Canadian Maritimes influences, is complemented perfectly by Cindy’s keyboard accompaniment. Together, they form a crowd-pleasing pair that guarantees an authentic and resonant musical experience. Don’s craftsmanship extends beyond the stage as he is also a skilled luthier, handcrafting violins, violas, cellos, and basses that sing with the history and spirit of their music.

The Roys’ commitment to their art goes beyond performance. They are educators and mentors, leading the community fiddle orchestra Fiddle-icious, which boasts over 100 members. Their teaching extends to music camps, private lessons, and Don’s shop in Gorham, Maine,

where he guides aspiring craftspeople in the art of instrument making.

The upcoming concert at the Sanford-Springvale Historical Museum is not just an afternoon of entertainment; it is an immersive cultural experience. Doors open at 2:15 pm, with the performance commencing at 3:00 pm. Admission is \$15 for adults, with children welcomed free of charge. Tickets are available at the door or you can reserve in advance by emailing gcauger@me.com or calling 207-651-1980. The Museum is also handicapped accessible.

Don’t miss this opportunity to step into the rhythm of French-Canadian history and be part of this captivating musical journey at the Sanford-Springvale Historical Museum! ■

OUT IN THE WOODS

By Kevin McKeon, Maine Master Naturalist

Twilight Bird Becoming Uncommon

Legends of the whip-poor-will, or whip-o-will, begin with early Native American lore that the birds' unique and unmistakable wailing song is an omen of death; the tale then morphed to the idea that the singing can capture departing souls of the dying.

Whip-poor-wills live in thick, young, dry, deciduous or mixed woodlands, especially near fields and other open areas. The size of the forest opening is an important factor for the birds' habitat. Shade and small amounts of ground cover are also important in whip-poor-will nesting habitat. During their migrations to the southern tip of Florida, Mexico, and Central America in early September or October – and their return in April or May – they'll frequent forested habitats. These birds live up to 15 years.

The male establishes and maintains his territory by calling along the perimeter and by chasing off in-truders while making aggressive calls and hisses with raised wings and mouth open. Whip-poor-wills are generally solitary, but they'll form small flocks during migration. They eat mostly at night, flying to catch their insect prey, including mosquitoes, flying beetles, ants, grasshoppers, and crickets, but moths make up most of their diet. They sometimes search rotten logs and leaves for ants, caterpillars, beetles, worms, and other insects. The cycle



Eastern whip-poor-wills nest directly on the ground.
PHOTO: Dominick Fenech, eBird

of forest life dictates that these birds get preyed upon by skunks, raccoons, snakes and coyotes.

Whip-poor-wills' mating and nesting behavior is timed in such a way that their chicks hatch a week or so prior to full moons, allowing the parents to forage all night long under the moonlight to feed their young. The eggs – usually two of them – are incubated by both parents. After hatching, both feed their young. While one parent is finding food, the other is protecting the nesting site. These birds don't build nests but lay their eggs directly on the forest floor in leaf litter, bare soil, or sand, their body weight and incubation movements sometimes forming a shallow depression. In about eight days, the hatchlings molt into well-camouflaged plumage. The female then will leave

to start a new clutch nearby, and the male will care for the chicks. Their camouflaged plumage, along with the adult behavior of feigning injury while leaving the nesting site, helps to protect the young birds from predators. After about three weeks, the chicks are on their own.

Watch a singing whip-poor-will here, among other pictures and videos: [here](#).

The singing of the Eastern whip-poor-will is becoming rare; a 2% yearly decline in their population, mostly due to habitat loss, has resulted in an over 60% population loss in the past 50 years or so. The loss of natural habitat has caused these birds to learn that roads are good areas to forage for insects at night, resulting in an increasing mortality from vehicles.

So, drive carefully along our rural roads, especially at night. Perhaps stop along a roadside field for a short minute or so, hoping to hear the wailing of a wondrous creature of the twilight world, the Eastern whip-poor-will. ■

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

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Planning Update - May 2024

By Kendra Williams

Townhouse Solar: At its May 15 meeting, the Planning Board voted unanimously to table an application to amend plans for a solar power generation facility being developed by Townhouse Properties on Hanson Ridge Road and Angola Street. The plan now calls for a reduced footprint for the solar array. The board received and read into the record letters from three abutters who had objections to the project's size and appearance. Board members expressed concerns that the required 50-foot buffer has been erased by trees cut down along Hanson Ridge Road. They requested a better landscape plan to replace the buffer and added another buffer on the east end of the solar farm. They said storm-water issues also need to be corrected to the satisfaction of the assistant city engineer.

Nasson Redevelopment Phase II: Also on May 15, the board unanimously granted an extension of a preliminary subdivision approval originally granted

last November for an 18-unit multi-family building to be added to the site of the former Nasson College buildings at 16 Summer St. in Springvale, site of the school's long-ago Upper Division.

16 West Elm St: The board approved an application by Coldfire Properties LLC for a density bonus for a third dwelling unit to the rear of a principal structure. The application had been tabled at the board's May 1 meeting until the applicant could speak to the fire chief and come to an agreement on access.

Excavation contracting businesses: At its May 1 meeting, the board was divided on a zoning ordinance amendment to allow excavation contracting businesses as a conditional use in the rural residential and rural mixed-use zones. Four board members voted in favor and two against passing the proposal to the City Council for approval.

19 Bodwell St LLC: An amended application to construct one multi-family

building with eight dwelling units and one single family building was approved May 1. The property at 19 Bodwell St. is currently owned by the City of Sanford.

Manufactured housing: The board learned that a new Maine law allows manufactured housing units to be placed on individual lots anywhere single-family housing is allowed use. A mobile home is considered a manufactured house for this ordinance change. The Planning and Codes departments as well as the Planning Board will collaborate to refine this ordinance amendment.

Whispering Pines: At its May 14 meeting, the Site Plan Review Committee considered an application for a minor site plan and preliminary subdivision to construct a two-story, multi-family building with 16 dwelling units on property owned by Scarborough Woods LLC and located at 1749 Main St. in South Sanford, across from Marc Motors. Although some clarifications and updates to the site plan are needed, the committee unanimously agreed to send it to the Planning Board. ■

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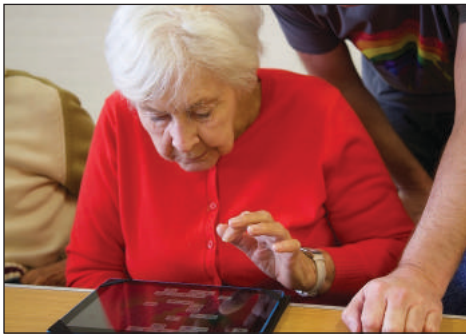
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NEWS NOTES

Compiled By Carolyn Cadigan



A senior with dementia uses a tablet computer.
PHOTO: WaveLength Charity/Creative Commons

New Springvale service hub supports “aging in place” for more Mainers: To address the growing need for services for older adults in Maine, Southern Maine Agency on Aging (SMAA) is opening a new service hub in the Anderson Learning Center in Springvale this summer. The new location will make services more accessible to people living in Acton, Alfred, Lebanon, Newfield, N. Berwick, Sanford, Springvale, Shapleigh and Waterboro. As nursing homes continue to close in New England and especially in Maine, it is increasingly important to strengthen local supports that allow people to “age in place” at home. Programming at SMAA’s Sanford/Springvale Hub will include an Adult Day Program for individuals with Alzheimer’s and other dementias, Nutrition Services including Meals on Wheels and Community Cafés, Falls Prevention exercise classes, and Medicare Counseling. Resource Specialists will also be available on site to help older adults and caregivers navigate issues with housing, healthcare, benefits and more. FMI, go here. <https://smaa.org/news>

Two SFD firefighters retire: After each gave more than two decades of service to our community, Sanford Fire Department firefighters Steve Ouellette and Thomas Moses are hanging up their gear, each ready to enjoy his next chapter in life. The community is thankful for the bravery shown and sacrifices made by these first responders in keeping us safe. Congratulations to you both!

Partners Bank donates to battle food insecurity: The Sanford Backpack Program (SBP) received a \$1,000 donation from Partners Bank through its Employee Donation of the Month, by which the bank chooses an employee who selects an organization that will receive the donation. For the month of May, Residential Underwriter Donald MacDougall selected the SBP, a program by the Sanford Strong Coalition that sends children

home for the weekend with a backpack full of nutritious and easy-to-prepare food. The food from SBP helps students maintain a balanced diet so they can return to school on Monday ready to focus on learning. “Food insecurity is a challenge in every community. We have all known (or been) someone who struggled with the decision either to pay the light bill or to feed their family,” MacDougall said. “I like the unique approach this charity takes to provide food to kids outside of the school day.”

Release date of federal grant money for library is still unclear: Goodall Library got some good news last week about its stalled construction project. The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development has signed the grant agreement, according to Library Director Ann Thomas. She said it remains unclear how soon the funding would be released so construction can resume. Work on the \$3.9 million expansion at 952 Main St. was halted April 11 because the library had exhausted internal financing and had yet to access federal grant money. The library is occupying rental space at the Center for Shopping until construction is complete.

Help meet our community’s food needs with a Fight Hunger Bag: For the month of June, The Salvation Army Sanford will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag at Hannaford, 800 Main St. in Sanford or 107 Wells Plaza in Wells.

Proposed county assessment up by 9.6%: A proposed \$25.1 million spending plan for York County government goes to a public hearing on June 10 at 6 pm at York County Government Building, 149 Jordan Springs Rd., Alfred. The plan increases the budget by 7.38% and increases assessments by 9.6% on all 29 cities and towns in the county. Attend by Zoom here. Use Meeting ID: 892 5216 3494, Passcode: 413687. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89252163494?pwd=6FDLejP2m-MCAa354keqPJeqoRsp1fx.1>

Updated fee program helps those in need receive health services: Nasson Health Care is committed to offering high-quality and affordable health care to all, welcoming people with and without insurance. The organization offers a sliding fee scale and hardship assistance for those who qualify and need help financially. The sliding fee scale has recently been updated, so patients are encouraged to

review it and apply if financial assistance is needed. FMI and to access the updated sliding scale, go here. <https://nassonhealthcare.org/payment-insurance>

Substance use recovery center is open: A limited capacity opening at the Sanford Recovery Community Center (SRCC), which offers support and resources for individuals in recovery from substance use disorder, took place on June 5. The center provides a safe, supportive environment that fosters connection, promotes wellness and helps people build a fulfilling life. Membership is free and open to all who are interested in recovery. FMI, call 207-888-3291.



PHOTO: Johntex/Creative Commons

In case your yarn and fabric stash is running low: The grand opening of Knots & Bolts Creating Company, a new studio and shop for quilting and knitting enthusiasts, will take place June 8, 8 am to 4 pm, at 911 Main St. in Sanford.

Waypoint Maine benefits from Breezeline donation: Cable TV provider Breezeline recently donated \$5,000 to Waypoint Maine to support services to children and adults with intellectual and other disabilities. “Waypoint’s work enriches the lives of so many people in Maine,” said Sean Brushett, vice president of customer and technical operations for Breezeline. Waypoint runs a school for children, offers case management services, provides clinical support for adults and children, and offers housing assistance for adults. “We appreciate Breezeline’s generous donation, which will help us continue to provide essential services to children and adults in Maine,” said Jennifer Putnam, executive director of Waypoint Maine.

Comments on proposed bridge replacement due by June 14: The Maine Department of Transportation is holding a public meeting, available online and on demand, to discuss replacing Powers Bridge over the Mousam River on Alfred Road/Route 4. Interested people can share comments

online until June 14. Built in 1957, the current bridge measures 26 feet wide, while the roadway leading up to it is 35 feet wide. The new bridge would be 36 feet wide with two 12-foot lanes and 6-foot shoulders. In addition, the project will provide an area for a future 10-foot multi-use path below the bridge. (See related story, “Walkers and Cyclists to Get Passage Under Route 4,” in this issue.) Replacing the existing bridge would solve current structural issues, provide a longer lifespan, and create a wider bridge with a better hydraulic opening. The City of Sanford encourages those interested to view the public meeting and share your comments here. <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/2d08fec921fc4acfa3dc1b562a3e6daa>

Dissolved Sanford ATV Club suggests an alternative to its members: The Sanford ATV Club, which had as many as 386 members at one time, has dissolved. Riding will continue in Southern Maine, however. The club’s leadership has encouraged its members to consider the Mousam Valley Trail Riders, based in Shapleigh, as an alternative.

Stay fit and healthy with YMCA activities this summer: The Program Guide for the Sanford-Springvale YMCA’s summer session, running June 17 to Aug. 17, is available.

Registration opened on June 3. Access the guide here. <https://www.sanfordymca.org/program-guide>

Owners who proposed Sand Pond campground consider alternatives: The Sand Pond development, a 39-site campground proposed by longtime Sanford residents Mike and Bonnie Patterson, is on hold for now. On May 21, the Sanford City Council approved a 180-day moratorium on campground proposals while ordinances are reviewed. Several Sand Pond residents along with Brian Dumont, president of the Sand Pond Association, were in favor of the moratorium, concerned about the impact the proposed campground could have on the pond, the environment and residential areas. Stricter requirements from the city, however, may affect the viability of the campground. If their plans are denied, the Pattersons have stated they might consider building affordable homes or a marina on the land instead but will not comment on those possibilities until they know the details of any updated ordinances.

Senior day trip offers great band, great food and great friends: A few spots remain for the July 17 day trip planned by the Traf-

ton Senior Center and Royal Tours — “Life’s a Beach” with the Malibu Brothers at Casleton in Windham, NH. A variety of music, from Doo Wop to Country and everything in between, will have participants up on the dance floor. The cost of the trip is \$125 and includes transportation, a choice of luncheon entree, taxes and gratuities, and the Malibu Brothers show. FMI and to reserve your seat, contact Robin Bibber at 207-457-0080.

Yet another scam warning from the sheriff’s office: Deputies in the York County Sheriff’s Office (YCSO) have reported an increase in scam calls in which scammers request large sums of money to be transferred via gift cards. The scammers glean information from open sources and threaten the potential victims by revealing their personal information. The scammer seems to know enough information to be convincing, but they are bluffing. The YCSO warns not to purchase gift cards or anything else when being threatened. Also, report these calls immediately to the authorities. ■



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Sanford Springvale News

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Paras Pizza: Making Pizza and Memories for 60 Years



Peter and Michelle Mitropoulos, owners of Paras Pizza, are celebrating their business' 60th anniversary this year. PHOTO: Ericka Sanborn

By Jenna Smith
Grade 7 - St. Thomas School

“Paras Pizza is a staple in the community.” These are the first words that come to mind when Peter Mitropoulos, the current owner of Paras Pizza, reflects upon his business, which is gear-

ing up to celebrate its 60th anniversary. That’s six decades of mouth-watering pizza, Italians and memories.

Back in 1964, Peter’s father, George Mitropoulos, opened Paras Pizza on School Street, next to where Moe’s Italians currently stands. As a young boy, Peter would watch his father slip pies in and out of the oven and interact with customers. He would lend a hand after school when extra help was needed. Like his father, Peter found that Paras Pizza became part of his DNA. When George passed away on Oct. 14, 2012, Peter and his wife, Michelle, knew exactly what they had to do to honor George’s legacy: keep the business going, and keep serving the community.

Except for a move to 45 High St. following a fire in March 2005, not much has changed. The Mitropouloses share that, besides the pizza, that’s what customers have come to love most about the establishment. The interior looks and feels just as it did decades ago. Customers comment on this frequently and often reminisce about patronizing Paras Pizza over the years. The Mitropouloses

enjoy the many stories that their patrons share at the counter before placing their orders. Parents and grandparents delight in telling their children and grandchildren about memories from 40 years ago — or even earlier. That, according to the Mitropouloses, is the most rewarding part of running their business, a sign that they’ve done something right over the years.

Paras Pizza has earned the title “Best Pizza in Sanford/Springvale” from Market Surveys of America for seven consecutive years. They are grateful for this honor, bestowed upon them by members of the community, and look to give back as often as they can, donating to various causes and fundraisers. Most recently, they donated pizzas to Sanford Pride Elementary School for their 2024 Teacher Appreciation Week.


Paras Pizza currently employs six people, five of whom are graduating high school seniors. The Mitropouloses are searching for a new batch of employees to help carry on the Paras Pizza tradition, a legacy that they hope will last another 60 years — and beyond. ■

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Alfred Planning Board Greenlights Recovery, Training Center



York County government plans to break ground soon on a new substance use treatment and recovery center and separate first responder training center in Alfred.

By Tammy Wells
York County media specialist

York County government’s proposed substance use recovery center and separate first responder training center are now a go. The Alfred Planning Board approved the projects on Monday, June 3.

This means the county can now seek bids for site work for the two projects on county-owned property off Layman Way and Route 4. Scarborough-based Landry French Construction is providing construction management services.

“We’re very happy and grateful for the approval,” County Manager Greg Zinser said. “We’ll break ground as soon as we can.”

A regional recovery center to combat substance misuse and a first responder training center emerged as top priorities as York County Commissioners began considering options for use of about \$40 million the county was awarded through the American Rescue Plan Act in 2021. Commissioners were committed to projects that would make lasting differences

in the lives of county residents.

The York County Substance Use Treatment and Recovery Center will sport 58 beds – 50 licensed substance use disorder beds offering detox, short- and long-term options – and eight observation beds, allowing for immediate access to care.

The York County First Responder Training Center will offer workforce development for law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical services and related professions, all close to home.

The vote was 4-1, with Planning Board members Andy Bors, Lee Steele, Michael Gibney and Al Carlson voting in favor and member Dorothy Guinard opposed. Two board members, Stephen Gile and Owen Brochu, were absent.

There were conditions – among them that the county pay for an Alfred Water District main to be upgraded from the current 8-inch size to 12 inches; that project construction be conducted between 7 am and 7 pm, and that once the 58-bed recovery center is complete, the county would surrender its current 36-bed land use permit for Layman Way Recovery Center. ■

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

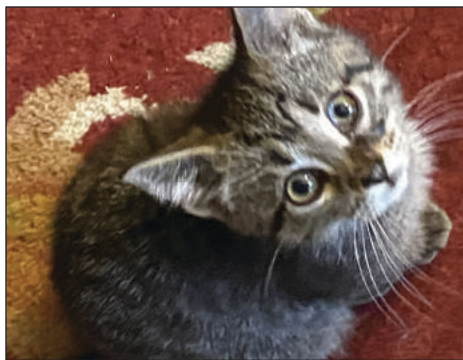


The City of Sanford, Maine will receive sealed bids for: SOUTH SANFORD MULTI-MODAL PLANNING PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE until 12:00 NOON on THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2024 at the Public Works Office, 156 School Street, Sanford, Maine, at which time and place all technical proposals will be publicly opened and read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

Kitty Korner

By Lisa Blanchette



Courtesy Photo

Available for Adoption at Another Chance Rescue: Meet Marilyn, a sweet and loving 10-week-old female cat that is ready for adoption. She's very playful and doesn't mind dogs.

Apply for adoption online by scanning this QR code:



SPORTS NOTES

By Sam Bonsey, Sanford Schools
Communications Coordinator



Connor Ball threw six shutout innings for the Mainers on opening day
CREDIT: Sanford Mainers

Sanford Mainers shut out Vermont Mountaineers on opening day

The Sanford Mainers shut out the Vermont Mountaineers 2-0 on Tuesday, June 4, the opening day of the NECBL league season.

The Mainers took a 1-0 lead in the fourth inning when Matt Miceli drove in Devan Kodani on an RBI triple. Miceli scored on a passed ball four pitches later to give Sanford a 2-0 lead.

The two runs were enough support for Connor Ball as he threw six scoreless innings, allowing three hits while striking out four.

Sanford Boys finish 6th at State Track and Field Championships

Sanford senior Tucker Walker was the runner-up in two events, helping the Spartans to a sixth-place finish at the Class A outdoor track and field state championships held at Thornton Academy in Saco.

Walker took second in the shot put (with an outdoor personal best of 52 feet, 2 ½ inches) and in discus (155 feet, 9 inches), to score 16 of Sanford's 53 points.

Nick Farrington finished second in the javelin with a throw of 169 feet and fifth in the discus (142-03 feet).

The Spartans also received a 4th place finish in the long jump from Carter Buswell (21 feet, 8 inches). In the pole vault, Mason Van Gieson, Landon Gosling, and Jack Van Gieson finished 4th, 6th, and 8th respectively, adding points to the Spartans' total.

Sanford's 4x400 relay team of Arthur Bahuze, Richard Simpson, Gregory Waterman, and Devonti Revers took 4th in a time of 3:33.45.

Annalise Stimmell led the girls' team with a tenth-place finish in the 800 meters (2:35.31). ■



City of Sanford PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE SanfordMaine.org

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
City Hall Annex, 917 Main St., Sanford, ME

The City Council will open a public hearing to seek and receive comments on the following:

An application for a New Liquor License with Malt and Vinous privileges from
Downhill Bagel CO, LLC, 446A Main Street, Springvale, Maine.
Application signed by William Nichols, Owner.

All persons may appear at the location and time stated above to give comments for or against the requested license application.

The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers at 6:00 P.M. on the date above-referenced. TDD/TTY users may call local TTY number or 711. If you are physically unable to access any of the City's programs or services, please call Lorisa Ricketts at (207) 324-9173 so that accommodations can be made.

Date Posted: June 7, 2024
Susan H. Cote, City Clerk