

October 11, 2024

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Fire Station Bond Draws Mixed Reviews from Modest-Size Crowd

By Lee Burnett

Opinion was divided at a heavily advertised forum last week on a proposed \$42.5 million bond issue to build two new fire stations. The Oct. 2 session lasted nearly three and a half hours and was punctuated by applause several times.

Eight people spoke in favor of the project: Dave Ouellette, Gerry Gay, Steve Benotti, Bruce Gordon, Anne-Marie Mastraccio, Jonathan Mapes, John Garvin and Zendelle Bouchard. Five people asked clarifying questions about specific aspects of the project: Bill Brink, Brett Williams, Lindsay Quinn, Steve Cabana and Shawn Goodwin. Some questions were pointed. Four people gave critical assessments: Jennifer Davie, Denise Cunningham, Dave Bowles, and Crystal Martell.

Several speakers noted the audience of about 150 people seemed small for the magnitude of the matter at hand. "This is not a big

crowd," said Bruce Gordon.

The City Council is proposing the project on the Nov 5 ballot to address longstanding sub-standard conditions at existing stations that are blamed for elevated incidence of cancer among firefighters, unequal facilities for women firefighters and weak recruiting pitch for new hires. If the bond issue goes down to defeat, backers say, the city could be subject to expensive lawsuits and federal sanctions.

Critics challenged some of the financial assumptions, the validity of cost estimates, the process of acquiring the land and the decision



Jennifer Davie speaks to the crowd
Center Photo: WSSR-TV

Cont'd on Page 3

Stabbing Incident at Family Dollar

Press Release

On Oct. 6 at 10:02 pm, the Sanford Police Department and Sanford Fire & EMS received a report of a stabbing that had just occurred at the Family Dollar store located in the Main Street Marketplace. The male victim, identified as Robert Wilson, 59 of Sanford, was found on his knees with bystanders actively controlling the bleeding.

Sanford Police Department detectives were notified at 10:17 pm and immediately began their investigation. The scene was documented, evidence collected, inquiries were made for potential video footage, and witnesses were interviewed. The York County Sheriff's Office

K-9 unit arrived to assist in tracking the suspect, who was last spotted heading north.

Mr. Wilson was transported to Maine Medical Center in Portland for treatment of stab wounds to his back and left side. He was listed in stable condition the following day.

Through the continued investigation by the SPD's Criminal Investigation Division, a review of video footage was completed. It suggests that the incident may have been the result of an ongoing fight between both parties,



Cont'd on Page 9

Community CALENDAR

Compiled by Lisa Blanchette

Visit our Events Calendar at SanfordSpringvaleNews.com for more details.

Saturday, Oct. 12

- 3rd Annual Pete Levasseur Fall Classic, (12th-14th), Shaw Field, 137 Shaw's Ridge Rd.
- Free Reiki Circle, 10 am, Springvale Library, 443 Main St.
- Art Sale, 10 am, Alfred Parish Church, 8 Kennebunk Rd. Alfred
- Sanford Farmers' Market, 8 am, Central Park, 920 Main St.
- Rolling Thunder Fundraiser Buffet Dinner, 4:30 pm, VFW 9935, 1 Hutchinson St.
- Romantic Atmos-FEAR, 7:30 pm, Nason Little Theatre, 457 Main St.

Sunday, Oct. 13

- Romantic Atmos-FEAR, 2 pm, Nason Little Theatre, 457 Main St.

Monday, Oct. 14

- Indigenous Peoples Day
- Community Cares Day, 8:30 am, North Parish Congregational Church, 895 Main St.
- A Family for ME Live Q & A Session, Noon & 6 pm, online

Tuesday, Oct. 15

- Flu Vaccination Clinic, Margaret Chase Smith School, 248 Twombly Rd.
- Flu Vaccination Clinic, Sanford Pride Elementary School, 708 Main St.
- Disability Inclusion Native Shrub & Tree Planting, 9:30 am, Community Forest, Oak St.

Cont'd on Page 3

Saturday, October 19
7:00pm

An exciting night of friendly competition, featuring some of Sanford's most notable figures in fun lip sync performances—all in support of a great cause!

SANFORD BACKPACK PROGRAM'S
LIP SYNC SHOWDOWN



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www.SanfordPAC.org

SPAC Stage all About Variety

The Sanford Performing Arts Center (SPAC) is thrilled to announce its 2024-2025 season lineup, offering a diverse mix of new shows and returning favorites as it celebrates its sixth year.

“We are proud to bring world-class touring performances right here to Sanford,” said SPAC Director Brett Williams. “Our community has become a destination for top-tier entertainment, offering audiences the opportunity to see the best touring acts without leaving Southern Maine. With affordable tickets, free parking, and a state-of-the-art venue, we ensure that everyone can enjoy an unforgettable live experience.”

The season begins with Phat Cat Swinger at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9. This high-energy pop-swing band channels the vibe of legends like Sinatra, Michael Bublé, and Bruno Mars, blended with the style of Big Bad Voodoo Daddy and Brian Setzer. Known for electrifying performances, this 11-piece powerhouse promises to deliver a night of unforgettable music and energy.

2024-2025 Spotlight SERIES HIGHLIGHTS

HOLIDAY POPS! - STRAFFORD WIND SYMPHONY 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30. The Strafford Wind Symphony returns with festive holiday tunes and sing-alongs for the entire family. This beloved SPAC tradition, featuring 55 talented musicians, will warm your hearts with classic holiday cheer.

A VICTORIAN NUTCRACKER - PORTLAND BALLET 2 and 7 p.m. Sat., Dec. 7. Portland Ballet’s cherished holiday classic, A Victorian Nutcracker, offers a fresh take on the timeless story with scenes set in the historic Victoria Mansion. Tchaikovsky’s score and a local twist make this a must-see family event.

A HOLIDAY SALUTE - US AIR FORCE HERITAGE OF AMERICA BAND 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. The United States Air Force Heritage of America Band presents an inspiring concert filled with patriotic favorites and holiday classics, honoring veterans and celebrating American values through music. Free admission but get tickets in advance.

MIKE SUPER MAGIC & ILLUSION 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 31. Magician Mike Super, winner of NBC’s PHENOMENON and a top finalist on America’s Got Talent, brings a thrilling show combining cutting-edge magic, illusions, and audience interaction. His performance blends Broadway-style theatrics, rock concert energy, and comedy, making it the perfect New Year’s Eve event.

JULIA GAGNON 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18. Maine’s own American Idol finalist Julia Gagnon takes the stage, showcasing her incredible vocal talent. With a platinum ticket from the judges Julia has become a sensation, bringing pride to her home state.

KAREN MORGAN 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25. Comedian Karen Morgan delivers relatable

humor with a local touch. Known for her appearances on Sirius XM Radio and Dry Bar Comedy, Karen’s clean, family-friendly performances are a perfect blend of wit and charm.

JEY YOON KIM 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2. Jeeyoon Kim offers an immersive classical piano experience, blending music, poetry, and photography. Known for her innovative approach and acclaimed albums, Kim connects deeply with audiences, making classical music engaging and accessible.

BROADWAY’S NEXT HIT MUSICAL 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 8. Back by popular demand, this improvised awards show creates a full-blown musical from audience suggestions. The spontaneity and humor of the show guarantee an evening of laughs and unforgettable moments.

THE STEP CREW 7 p.m. Saturday, March 1. Experience the fusion of Ottawa Valley stepdance, Irish stepdance, and tap in this high-energy performance featuring world-class dancers and musicians. The Step Crew showcases intricate choreography and traditional rhythms with a modern twist.

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER: NEW ORLEANS SONGBOOK 7 p.m. Saturday, April 5. Jazz at Lincoln Center’s New Orleans Songbook celebrates the rich legacy of New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz. Pianist Luther S. Allison and vocalists Quiana Lynell and Milton Suggs deliver an evening of soulful music that embodies the spirit and innovation of this iconic city.

iLUMINATE 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 23. iLuminate combines dance, technology, and music in a visually stunning performance. Featuring LED suits and synchronized choreography, this multi-sensory show is perfect for audiences of all ages, creating a family-friendly experience that captivates with pop, rock, jazz, Latin, and hip-hop beats.

NEIL BERG’S 102 YEARS OF BROADWAY 7 p.m. Saturday, May 31. This musical revue celebrates over a century of Broadway’s greatest hits with a cast of Broadway stars performing iconic songs from Les Misérables, West Side Story and more.

CELEBRATE AMERICA - CASCO BAY WIND SYMPHONY 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 2. The Casco Bay Wind Symphony returns with an “American Celebration” concert, featuring a mix of traditional and modern wind band pieces. Enjoy a patriotic and dynamic musical experience.

Ticket prices vary by show, with discounts available for seniors, military personnel, students and subscribers. SPAC subscribers receive 20% off single tickets, early access to next season, and personalized service. You can find more information and order tickets online at www.SanfordPAC.org or you can buy in person at the box

office, open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon, and one hour before performances. Call (207) 206-1126 for assistance.

Sanford Performing Arts Center, located at 100 Alumni Boulevard on the Sanford High School campus, has been a vibrant hub for arts in Southern Maine since 2019. With state-of-the-art facilities, SPAC hosts the Partners Bank Spotlight Series, community productions, school plays, and benefit events, making world-class entertainment accessible to all. ■

In our next issue, look for the first installment of our two-part listing of all the Halloween events happening in town!

PASSAGES

Compiled by Rev. Susan Murphy

Ralph Chasse, 84, of Sanford, died on Tuesday, September 24 at Gosnell Memorial Hospice House in Scarborough. At Ralph’s request, the arrangements will be private.

Harold R. Hall, Jr., 83, of Sanford, died Monday, September 30 in Berwick. A celebration of Harold’s life will take place at the Brothers in Alfred on Saturday, October 19 at 11 am. A light luncheon and refreshments will be served.

Jodi Hussey, 49, of Sanford, passed away on August 22. No services are planned at this time.

Linda Louise Kreider, 76, of York, died Friday, September 27 at Durgin Pines Nursing home, surrounded by her loved ones. Memorial Services will be held on October 18, 2024, at noon in the Southern Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Springvale.

Gayle Martineau, 66, went home to be with the Lord on October 1. A graveside service was held at St. Ignatius Cemetery on Friday, Oct. 11.

Rachel Normand Wallingford, age 76, passed away on September 29 at her home in Lebanon from a short but intense battle with cancer. A memorial service was held on October 3 at the Carll-Heald and Black Funeral Home, 580 Main Street, Springvale. ■

FORUM *Cont'd from Page 1*

to package the two stations as one project.

The most tantalizing news of the night came from City Manager Steve Buck who disclosed that the city is pursuing new commercial development that, combined with a law change, could ease the burden of new bonding.

"I know we have a \$120 million industry that has done site selection in Sanford right now," Buck told the audience. He did not disclose details of the investment, which he said would provide enough new tax revenue to cover debt payments. But Buck acknowledged that it could only be applied to fire station bonding if state law is amended to allow tax payments within a tax increment finance district to be earmarked entirely toward public safety projects, he said. Buck has previously sought changes in the current 15 percent limit, but timing might be more favorable now.

Jennifer Davie asked why the city didn't pursue less expensive construction of facilities for paramedics that don't require decontamination facilities, since the majority of calls are medically related. Chief Susi said the facilities would still have to be built to the same standard and if medical-only, stand-alone facilities were built, that would mean four stations instead of two.

Gerry Gay said, "the time is now" to address safety deficiencies that have been "ignored for 40 years." "The cancer issue has been a huge issue for years with me," he said.

Former State Representative David Bowles criticized the city council for delaying addressing the issue until a year when a tax increase was approved. "It was absolutely unconscionable for the council to have approved a nine percent increase in taxes for the current year when you knew this would likely result in significant cost increases down the road," he said.

Lindsay Quinn asked about the accuracy of the price if the buildings have yet to be fully designed. Architect Rob Frank said the recently completed Brunswick fire station built to the same safety standards provides reasonably comparable costs.

Brett Williams asked if the financial impact of the bonds would be compounded by higher insurance rates on homes that lie outside of a four-minute-response-time zone. Chief Scott

Susi said there shouldn't be any significant insurance impact because the city's overall insurance rating was recently reevaluated and upgraded to a better classification through the Insurance Services Office.

Denise Cunningham and Crystal Martell both questioned why voters aren't being given an option of voting for a single station. Cunningham pointed out that taxpayers would be taking a double hit this year. "I'm looking at a \$600 increase," she said. "In my realm, people can take one [station] but not two." Fire chief Susi said a single station wouldn't provide adequate coverage for the entire city without excessive response times. The two proposed stations have been strategically located for maximum coverage as determined by mapping of historical call data.

Steve Cabana suggested savings could be achieved by switching to an all-steel building and by eliminating a medical room. He said there should be a "Plan B" for next year should the bond measure fail and sought reassurances that any grant money received would be applied to reduce bonding cost rather than create add-ons. Buck said the terms and conditions of the grant would be specified as such.

The most dramatic comments came toward the end from retired fuel business owner and former school board member Jonathan Mapes, who had paid for a mailing of 5,000 glossy cards to boost attendance at the forum. At the outset, he bemoaned citizen apathy and chided city leaders for what he considered insufficient outreach effort, which drew an immediate retort from Mayor Becky Brink. He continued. "This isn't about the first responders ... This is a tax issue," he declared. Mapes recounted his efforts to educate himself, which included an hour-long meeting with chief Scott Susi and tour of the central station. "I don't know how you attract anyone to work there, it's terrible," he said. Mapes expressed his worry about rising labor costs and potential other bond issues.

"Taxes are going to go up. They always have and they will continue to go up." Mapes praised the questions asked and the explanations provided, then provided his conclusion.

"I don't have any questions, at this point in time," he said, shifting the papers in his hand. "I'm good. I'm supportive." Brink congratulated

Cont'd on Page 5

CALENDAR *Cont'd from Page 1*

- Family Story Time, 10:30 am, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Free Lunch at YCSP's Recovery Community Center, noon, 69 Brook St.
- York County Food Pantry, noon, YCSP, 5 Swett's Bridge Road, Alfred
- Cribbage, 2 pm, Springvale Library-Williams Reading Room
- 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.

Wednesday, Oct. 16

- Flu Vaccination Clinic, Sanford Middle School, 52 Spartan Dr.
- Flu Vaccination Clinic, Carl J. Lamb School, 233 Shaw's Ridge Rd.
- Thanksgiving & Christmas Salvation Army Assistance Applications, 10 am, 871 Main St.
- Community Café, noon-1 pm, Mayflower Place, 27 Mayflower Dr.
- Make It & Take It Craft Ghost in the Window, 2 pm, Springvale Library
- Lego Club, 2:30 pm, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Springvale Career Center Hiring Event at SCAE, 2:30 pm, 668 Main St.
- Thanksgiving & Christmas Salvation Army Assistance Applications, 4 pm, 871 Main St.
- Fiber Arts Group, 5 pm, Goodall Library
- Poetry Group meeting, 5 pm, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St.
- Author Talk-Stephen King's Maine-A History and Guide, 5:30 pm, Spvl Lib,
- Wednesday Night Bite Free Meal, 6 pm, Curtis Lake Church, 38 Westview Dr.

Thursday, Oct. 17

- Sensory Story Time, 10 am, Springvale Library, 443 Main St.

Cont'd on Page 5



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NEWS NOTES

Compiled by Carolyn Cadigan



Partners Bank Employee Appreciation Night in June honored some of its employees who were praised by their colleagues for their hard work.
Photo: Partners Bank

They did it again: For the third consecutive year, Partners Bank has been named one of the Best Places to Work in Maine. The organizations that make the list are determined by Best Companies Group, which conducts and collects surveys filled out anonymously by each company's employees. The surveys gather feedback on a company's leadership, corporate culture, and communication; the employee's role within the organization, work environment, and relationships with immediate supervisors; training and development, pay, and benefits. "In a modern world that demands more and better from businesses and employers, it is an honor to be consistently recognized by our employees for our

values and our culture," said President & CEO Blaine Boudreau.

Native Mainer makes the case for native plants: The Southern Maine Garden Club will host Shawn Jalbert, owner of Native Haunts, a nursery and landscaping company in Alfred. Jalbert is a lifelong Mainer and a native plant advocate. He will speak on the topic of invasive plants and explain why native plants need advocates. Anyone interested in this topic is invited to attend the meeting to be held on Oct. 17 at the Springvale Library from 1 am to 3 pm. New members are always welcome.

A better way to get there from here: The Moving Maine Network is partnering with groups across the state to host virtual community forums and listening sessions with the goal of improving access to transportation in Maine. Held on Zoom, the sessions allow participants to share their experiences, stories and concerns with transportation services; learn what is working well in other states and within Maine; identify policy changes needed in Maine; and prepare to take action to bring

needed changes to Maine. The Southern Maine sessions will be held Oct. 17 from 9 am to 10 am and 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Sessions for other regions within the state are being held on other dates. Those interested in participating can join any session. FMI www.movingmaine.org

Funding to help with bereavement support: The Center for Grieving Children received an investment from United Way of Southern Maine to support the organization's Bereavement Peer Support programming. This funding will help to provide a safe space, loving peer support, outreach, and education to grieving children, teens, young adults, families and the community.

A chance to support Great Bay Services and Mother Earth at the same time: Every \$3 reusable Give Back Bag purchased during the month of October at Shaw's Supermarket, 1364 Main St. in Sanford, earns a \$1 donation made to Great Bay Services. Donations go toward helping the organization support individuals with intellectual disabilities, their families, and those who care for them.

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YOUR VOTE MATTERS - November 5th!



Members of the Rotary Club of Sanford-Springvale work on the roundabout.

Photo: Rotary Club of Sanford-Springvale

Fall cleanup at the roundabout: Over the past few weeks, members of the Rotary Club of Sanford-Springvale helped to clear and remove weeds around the perimeter of the center of the roundabout at the junction of Routes 109 and 4. Leading the project was Bridget Salantri, a master gardener, with help from volunteers Sarah Boyer, David Spahn, Keith Patterson, Bob Myott and Andy Orazio. Next steps will be to add mulch and bring in some native plants.

Early in-person voting has begun:

In-person absentee voting for the Nov. 5 election began on Oct. 7 in City Hall’s 3rd floor conference room. The hours are 7:30 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Thursday. (Note that City Hall will be closed Oct. 14 for Indigenous People’s Day.) Special weekend hours are Oct. 18 and Oct. 19, 8 am to 12 pm, and Oct. 25 and Oct. 26, 8 am to 3 pm. The last day for in-person absentee voting is Oct. 31. For those choosing to vote in person, the polling location for all Sanford/Springvale voters is Sanford High School at 100 Alumni Blvd. in Sanford. On Election Day, Nov. 5, poll hours are 7 am to 8 pm. The city is

providing free transportation to the polls through York County Community Action Corporation (YCCAC). YCCAC will pick you up, bring you to vote, and take you back home. All vehicles are wheelchair accessible. Call YCCAC at 207-459-9283 by noon on Nov. 1 to reserve your ride.

Sign, sign, everywhere a sign: With the upcoming election, many people are displaying political signs for candidates or referendum issues. The York County Sheriff’s Office has reminded the public that all signs have value and are protected under the law. Anyone who chooses to remove or deface political signs is committing a class E crime. In addition, other laws covering the removal or defacing of temporary signs can result in a fine of up to \$250. The sheriff’s office reminds all people to be respectful of all political signs, regardless of the candidate or issue displayed.

Celebrating service to the city: Sarah Howe of the Sanford Police Department recently celebrated 20 years of service with the City of Sanford. The city commended Howe’s hard work and exceptional dedication to serving the community. Congratulations, Sarah!

Traffic light alert: The new traffic light at the intersection of School Street, Route 4 and Gavel Road is now fully active and no longer a flashing light. Be mindful of the new signal when traveling through the area and follow traffic safety rules. ■

FORUM Cont’d from Page 3

ed him for keeping an open mind and educating himself about the project.

John Garvin questioned why the city plans two bid openings, rather than combine projects in a single bid offering. Architect Frank acknowledged the benefit of getting a “good handle” on costs in the first project that could be applied to the second project. However, he warned of the danger of getting much higher bids asking a contractor to bid on two projects at once, knowing one wouldn’t begin for 15 months.

Shawn Goodwin asked about contingencies should bids come in “way over” budget. Frank said his firm has a “very good track record” of projecting costs and said there has been “only one project out of a 150 that surprised us.”

The biggest applause was for remarks by Zendelle Bouchard, who first warned that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration would soon be enforcing stiffer regulations on all fire departments. “This project really is not optional,” she said, “The only question is ... do we do it now, or do we wait and do it later for more money?” She also raised the possibility of civil rights lawsuits “that could make forty-two and a half million look like chump change.”

Bouchard said passing the bond this year is not just the least of expensive options, but also “the right thing to do. They take care of us on the worst days of our lives,” she said, “and it’s time we took care of them.” ■

CALENDAR Cont’d from Page 3

- Thanksgiving & Christmas Salvation Army Assistance Applications, 10 am, 871 Main St.
- Free Lunch at YCSP’s Recovery Community Center, noon, 69 Brook St.
- Food Bank at St. Thérèse of Lisieux, noon, Holy Family Church, 66 North Ave.
- Southern Maine Garden Club meeting, 1 pm, Springvale Library 443 Main St.
- Thanksgiving & Christmas Salvation Army Assistance Applications, 4 pm, 871 Main St.
- Free Community Meal, 5 pm, New Beginnings Christian Church, 181 Grammar Rd.
- Scrabble Night, 5 pm, Goodall Library
- Sign Party-Fundraiser, 6:30 pm, River Junction Brewing, 1491 Main St,

Friday, Oct. 18

- Flu Vaccine Clinic, Sanford High School, 100 Alumni Blvd.
- Salvation Army of Sanford Harvest Table Food Pantry, 9 am, 871 Main St.
- York County Food Pantry, noon, YCSP, 5 Swett’s Bridge Road, Alfred
- Romantic Atmos-FEAR, 7:30 pm, Nason Little Theatre, 457 Main St.

Saturday, Oct. 19

- Sanford Farmers’ Market, 8 am, Central Park, 920 Main St.
- Corner Cupboard, 10 am, Sanford Unitarian Church, 5 Lebanon St.
- Party in the Park, noon, Carpentier Park, 71 High St.
- Harvest Festival on The Ridge, noon, Sky Island Homestead, 273 Hanson Ridge Rd.
- Author Talk-The Shattered Curling Stone/David Florig, 1 pm, Goodall Lib,
- Harvest Party, 2 pm, Mercy Chapel,
- Corbin’s Legacy 5K Walk and Bucket Raffle, 3 pm, Location TBA
- Harvest Dinner, 4:30 pm, Sanford First Baptist Church, 905 Main St.
- 5th Annual Apple Tasting-McDougal’s w/Downhill Wine Bar, 5 pm, 201 Hanson Rdg Rd.
- Hocus Pocus Movie Night, 5 pm, Shaw Field, 137 Shaw’s Ridge Rd.
- Lip Sync Showdown, 7 pm, Sanford Performing Arts Center, 100 Alumni Blvd.
- Romantic Atmos-FEAR, 7:30 pm, Nason Little Theatre, 457 Main St.

Sunday, Oct. 20

- Grahastastic Connection 4K Run/Walk, 8 am, Nason Community Center
- Romantic Atmos-FEAR, 2 pm, Nason Little Theatre, 457 Main St. ■



Scan this with your camera to get our Weekly E-News sent directly to your inbox on Saturday mornings.

Nasson Alumni Gather for Homecoming

By Carl Johnson

The Nasson College Alumni Association held its annual Homecoming and reunion this past weekend.

Although the College, which was located in Springvale, has been closed since 1983, the Alumni Association is still a very active group. It provides funds for scholarships, grants to local agencies such as the Little Theater, the Goodall and Springvale Libraries and provided funds to help the Nasson Community Center to replace its gym floor and siding over the past year.

A large group of Nasson Alumni held their annual meeting and luncheon in Springvale on Saturday before touring the old campus and then adjourning to Jonathan's Restaurant in Ogunquit for an evening of dinner and dancing.

The Homecoming concluded with a Sunday Brunch with speakers from Nasson's past faculty. The Homecoming is held the first full weekend in October annually. ■

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Sanford Springvale News

Colorful Railroad Era Subject of Upcoming Talk

Press release

The once bustling railroad that ran through Springvale will come alive in an upcoming slide show and talk by Jonathan Wells, a retired Pan Am Systems locomotive engineer who is an authority on the Worcester, Nashua and Portland division of Boston & Maine Railroad.

Sanford-Springvale Historical Society is hosting the lecture "Springvale's Colorful Railroad Era" at 3 pm on Sunday, October 27 at the Historical Museum at 505 Main Street, a National Historic Landmark site.

The old WN&P was the busiest single track freight railroad in the country in the early 1900s and carried rich vacationers to resorts Downeast. Due to primitive traffic control measures of the day, the railroad also had a terrible crash history.

Wells has been involved with a group that purchased and restored the former Sandown, NH depot, which is now a museum that commemorates the entire WN&P Division. Following the presentation, Lee Burnett will talk about efforts to return stone mileposts to their original location on the Springvale section of the rail bed, now a city-owned linear park.

The talks will be accompanied by a display



This 1905 photo shows a steam locomotive with the former passenger station on Pleasant Street, Springvale near the intersection with Railroad Avenue.
Photo: Maine Memory Network

of memorabilia collected by the family of Frederic Horne, who worked at the Springvale station of the B&M Railroad for 50 years and was the last employee when it was sold to Sanford & Eastern in 1949.

The lecture is open to the public and light refreshments will be served.

For any questions or further information, please call 207-651-1980 or email lfurbish@sanfordhistory.org ■

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SCHOOL NOTES

Compiled by Carolyn Cadigan



Matthew Hebert, a student at Sanford High School, earns his Direct Support Professional certificate.
Photo: Great Bay Services

SHS student earns his DSP certification:

Just days after turning 17, Sanford High School (SHS) student Matthew Hebert received his Direct Support Professional (DSP) certificate from Great Bay Services. Hebert completed the DSP certificate as part of an Extended Learning Opportunity in which he also played an instrumental role in developing the Unified Basketball Program between Great Bay Services and SHS. The requirements to earn the certificate include being 17 years or older and completing the Maine College of Direct Support coursework. Certification is required for DSPs supporting Maine citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

SHS band marches right into first place: On Sept. 28, the Sanford High School Marching Band performed at the US Bands New England

Invitational, held at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, and earned a first place finish in their Division III Class A section with 79.2 points. The band swept all available caption awards in best music, best percussion, best effect, best visual, and best color guard. The competition featured over 15 bands from various parts of New England, with the SHS band being the only band from Maine.

Free flu vax clinics: The Sanford School Department will be offering free influenza vaccination clinics for students this month. Parents are encouraged to complete the online consent forms for their children by the deadlines.

Forms must be submitted one week prior to the clinic date. Accurate insurance information is requested, if available. Students without insurance will still be vaccinated with a completed form. Clinic dates: Oct. 15: Margaret Chase Smith and Sanford Pride Elementary; Oct. 16: Carl J. Lamb Elementary and Sanford Middle School; and Oct. 18: Sanford High School and BRIDGE. FMI and access to the online consent forms, go to sanford.org

SRTC teacher named co-winner of Maine educator award: Susan Lamoreau, an Academy of Business teacher at Sanford Regional Technical Center (SRTC), was recently named one of two recipients of the 2024-2025 Maine Jump\$tart Coalition Financial Educator of the Year Award. She will be recognized at the upcoming Fostering Financial Education

in Maine Schools Conference, which is held annually in May. Lamoreau joined SRTC in the fall of 2013, where she started the Academy of Business Program. In this dual enrollment program, students earn both high school and college credits in the areas of Business, Finance, Marketing, Management, Entrepreneurship and Computer Applications.

SRTC students explore a future in the maritime industry: Over 200 Sanford Regional Technical Center students attended Maritime Industry Day in Portsmouth on Oct. 2. The students were able to interact with employers and tour the USS Albacore as part of the kick-off to October's Manufacturer's Month.

Scholarship opportunity for AFCU members: Atlantic Federal Credit Union is now accepting applications for their \$2,500 Amable A. and Vivian Caron College Scholarship. Long-time members of the credit union, Amable A. and Vivian Caron wanted to help young members pursue higher education. Applicants must be enrolled in a Fall 2024 undergraduate or graduate program. To enter, applicants must fill out an application form and submit a 250- to 350-word essay about their favorite mentor and how they have impacted the applicant's life. The deadline is Nov. 18. The recipient of the \$2,500 scholarship will be chosen at random from all entrants that qualify. AFCU members can apply and get details, including the scholarship rules and requirements at atlanticfcu.com. ■

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for Sanford



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OUT IN THE WOODS

By Kevin McKeon, Maine Master Naturalist

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

Fall Rains Bring Mushrooms

There are an estimated 27,000 species of mushrooms worldwide. The Maine Mycological Association has identified about 2,500 of those in Maine. There are at least 15 mushroom farms in the state, growing popular Maine varieties such as porcini, oyster, chanterelle, black trumpet, hen, and chicken of the wood for local and regional markets. Some mushrooms are treated with UV (ultraviolet) light which enhances vitamin D content and may be labeled as such or "rich in vitamin D".

Where do mushrooms come from? Think of them as apples, with the "tree" part underground. Mushrooms are neither plant nor animal, but the fruit of fungi. Some are called mycorrhizal fungi and form a symbiotic relationship with the roots of an estimated 90 percent of Earth's plants, providing them needed soil nutrients and enhancing water absorption in exchange for the plants' sugars made from photosynthesis.

Often, when adding plants to our gardens, we'll notice those very fine, white, thread-like fibers in the soil: That's the mycelium that makes up the underground mycorrhizal network — the "tree" part of the mushrooms. Mushrooms are the "apples" part of this fungal network — the fruiting bodies that erupt from the mycelium and release reproductive spores at maturity. The late summer/early fall rains seem to excite the fungi to form the fruit, so that's a good time for a mushroom walk around Deering Pond's bog habitat. But beware: Danger lurks in some of those enticing beauties.

According to Greg Marley, whose expertise has been relied upon by various New England poison control centers, about half of all mushrooms express some level of toxicity, from mild discomfort to potential death. During mushroom season, Marley is contacted two or three times a week about potential mushroom poisonings. But on average, there are only three deaths a year in the United States from toxic mushrooms. The most common mistake mushroom foragers make is confusing toxic jack-o'-lantern mushrooms



Fly amanita mushroom, which has been documented along the Vigue Trail, is poisonous and psychoactive.
Photo: iNaturalist

(which are orange) for delicious golden chanterelles (which are yellow). Poisonous mushrooms primarily damage liver cells. In 2008, two Portland chefs mistook poisonous lilac-brown boletes for porcini mushrooms and spent some time in the hospital as a result.

Amanita phalloides, commonly known as the death cap mushroom, is generally considered the most poisonous and deadliest mushroom in the world. Eating only about 1/2 of this mushroom's cap can cause death, and its appearance resembles many other edible mushrooms. It's responsible for 90% of mushroom-related fatalities every year, causing more deaths worldwide than any other mushroom, according to British Columbia Medical Journal. It is one of many in the genus Amanita, introduced to us from Europe, probably with non-native chestnut, oak, and pine trees, around the early 1900's, and evolved to form symbiotic relationships with various broadleaved trees.

The deadliest distinction arises from the fact that this mushroom presents itself with variable colorations, resembling many other tasty edible species under the Amanita genus. All this is to say: If you don't know what you're foraging in the wild, take great care. The Northern New England Poison Center at Maine Medical Center (800-222-1222) in Portland, where about 50 or so exposures are reported yearly, asks us to remember: "There are old mushroom hunters, and bold mushroom hunters, but there are no old, bold hunters."

So, my advice is to get your tasty and healthful mushrooms from our very own Mousam Valley Mushrooms or Sanford Farmers' Market. ■

A Reminder About Walking Sanford Trails During Hunting Season

By Lawrence Furbish, Chair Sanford City Trails Committee

Some people have asked about the safety of walking on the Sanford Trails system during hunting season. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

Sanford has a "No Firearm Discharge Zone" where discharging a firearm is prohibited. It runs from the intersection of Routes 4 and 109 in South Sanford to the intersection of 109 with Deering Neighborhood Road in Springvale and it extends for 3/4 of a mile on either side of 109. However, it isn't always followed as hunters have been seen in some areas, especially along the Rail Trail above Oak Street. Because the Rail Trail is now part



Fluorescent orange gear for hiking
Photo by Barbara Sutcliffe

of the City Park system, hunters should not be discharging firearms while on it, but unless the land is posted, they can legally hunt on either side of the trail right of way. Discharging firearms is prohibited on the McKeon Reserve, a Mousam Land Trust property on Blanchard Road in Springvale.

Hunting is prohibited wherever "No Hunting" signs are posted. However, in some cases landowners post their land but also give permission for some people to hunt on it.

Hunting in Maine is prohibited on Sunday, but not in New Hampshire.

The general rule in Maine is that if a parcel of land is not posted, it is open to hunting. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife recommends that hunters ask permission, but they do not have to.

The times when caution is most important is the deer hunting season which runs as follows:

Cont'd on Page 12

SPORTS NOTES

By Sam Bonsey, Sanford Schools Communications Coordinator



Bob Randall

Sanford native to be inducted into Maine Running Hall of Fame: Bob Randall of Sanford has been selected for induction into the Maine Running Hall of Fame as part of the 2024 class of inductees. Randall has been involved with founding, directing or helping organize several road races, including Randall's Run to the Gym, Grahamstastic 5k, Halloween 5k, St. Thomas 5k, Acton Apple Fest and the Shapleigh Lions Club 5k. He has served on the Boards of the Maine Running Hall of Fame, New England 65+ Club and was Founder and President of the Winner's Circle Running Club. Randall has completed over 40 marathons and ran up Mt. Washington 15 times. Randall will

be inducted at the Maine Running Hall of Fame's induction ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Governor Hill Mansion in Augusta. The Maine Running Hall of Fame induction cycle occurs every two years.

Help kids have a ball: It's time for Sanford Soccer's Fall Fundraiser that supports the organization's youth teams. The Fall Calendar Raffle, with drawings throughout the month of November, helps provide young athletes with the resources and opportunities to grow in the sport. To purchase tickets, go to <https://tinyurl.com/ypakfa4z> ■

STABBING *Cont'd from Page 1*

but it remains unclear what the fight was about or if any specific incident led to it.

The suspect is described as having long hair and was last seen wearing blue jeans, a backward-facing hat, and a multi-colored hooded sweatshirt (not tie-dye or camo).

Sanford Police are actively seeking witnesses to the incident and the unknown male seen in the photo. He may have an eye injury and could provide crucial information to help detectives better understand what transpired.

If you have any information or recognize the individual in the photo, please contact Detective Cutler at 324-3644 (option 1) immediately. ■

THANK YOU

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City Council Chambers and Via Remote Video and Teleconference Pursuant to 1 MRSA §403-B (2) (D) and Section 6 of the City Council Rules of Procedure Tuesday, October 15, 2024 6:00 PM



Notice is hereby given that the Sanford City Council will hold a public hearing at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 in person at City Hall Council Chambers, 919 Main Street, Third Floor, Sanford, Maine and via remote video and teleconference pursuant to 1 MRSA §403-B (2) (D) and section 6 of the Sanford City Council Rules of Procedure. The purpose of this public hearing is to receive public comments on proposed changes to the City of Sanford Airport Ordinance. Further information on the proposed changes may be obtained through the Airport Manager prior to the public hearing. Written comments and questions should be directed to Allison Navia, Airport Manager, and will be accepted until 4:00 pm on October 14, 2024 at the Airport Manager's Office, 9 Presidential Lane, Sanford.

The proposed amendments can be viewed by visiting the City of Sanford website at www.sanfordmaine.org and clicking on Public Notices.

Instructions for joining the meeting by in-person and remote methods are posted on the City's website on the Meetings calendar. The meeting will be broadcast on cable channel 26 and archived at <https://townhallstreams.com/towns/sanfordme>.

New Restaurants Liven Up Sanford's Dining Scene

By Zendelle Bouchard

Several recent and upcoming restaurant openings are offering Sanford and Springvale residents new choices for dining out.

Downtown

In the Main Street Marketplace (formerly known as the Midtown Mall), **Ted's Fried Clams** opened in the former home of Bubba Frye's the last week of September and was met with such a rush of customers they ran out of food on multiple days. In addition to all your seafood faves, Ted's serves pizza, chicken wings and more from Tuesday-Saturday.

Also, at Main Street Marketplace, Cruisin' Infusions and Addy's food truck have partnered up with plans to open **Gabby's**, a new downtown lunch spot.

Pho Saigon has reopened as **Pho Time**, serving the same great Vietnamese cuisine including noodle bowls and bubble teas.



OTTO Pizza is hiring for its newest location in South Sanford.
Photo: Zendelle Bouchard

Around the corner at 6 River St., the owner of **Mousam River Bistro** is working feverishly to open as soon as possible, according to Mary Hastings of the Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council.

Springvale

Thai food lovers have a new option in Springvale. **Jasmine Thai Kitchen** had a soft opening this week in the space where Kai Asian Fusion was formerly located at 459 Main St.

At Colonial Village, you may have noticed the new sign for the **Meeting Grounds Café**, set to open very soon in the former Springvale Florist building. The owners have been working for several months to get the restaurant ready.

And in case you missed it over the summer, **Downhill Bagel** at 446 Main St. is now open in the evenings too, with a wine bar serving small plates and live music.

South Sanford

OTTO Pizza is planning to open at 1299 Main St., formerly home to the Country Egg Café and Christo's. OTTO has 26 other locations throughout Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire serving thin crust pizza with high-quality ingredients. A soft opening is planned for early November.

Starbuck's newest location, at the Center for Shopping, is currently under construction. ■

Public Safety Notes: October 2024

By Zendelle Bouchard & Carolyn Cadigan

New officer joins

SPD: The Sanford Police Department recently welcomed Hayleigh E. Lathrop to the force. A graduate of Husson University with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Lathrop has seven years of law enforcement experience at the Biddeford Police Department, was on active duty with the U.S. Air Force, and is serving in the Air National Guard. She will serve as the department's professional development officer and reserve police officer.



Chief Eric Small welcomes Officer Hayleigh Lathrop to the force.
Photo: City of Sanford

Fire Prevention Month: October is fire prevention month and Sanford firefighters have been speaking at schools and senior living facilities to spread awareness about smoke detectors and safety. "Hear a BEEP, get on your feet. Hear a CHIRP, make a change" (of batteries, that is.)

September stats: Sanford Police responded to a total of 62 accidents last month, 34 of which were on Main Street. 13 of the accidents involved injuries and three involved pedestrians. Three were

caused by a physical impairment, four by sleepy or fatigued drivers, and one was under the influence. 21 were attributed to driver distraction. Thursday was the most crash-prone day of the week, averaging about twice as many accidents as any other day.

Sanford Fire & EMS responded to 336 incidents in September, including eight fires and 267 emergency medical calls. Total incidents for the year are at 3,553 so far, a 6% increase over 2023.

Dispatchers at the Sanford Regional Communications Center fielded a total of 9,311 calls for service in September, including 2,172 911 calls for the six police and fifteen fire departments they serve.

Decontamination: This week, Assistant Fire Chief Brian Watkins gave the City Council's Public Safety Subcommittee a detailed presentation on how the department decontaminates its equipment following a call. Decontamination is imperative due to the carcinogens released during a fire, which coat gear as well as the skin of firefighters. He said a major cause of the problem is modern building materials which are primarily synthetic. "Everything today is made to make us sick," he said. He said after decontamination, uniforms are sent to Launderite on

Main Street to be cleaned due to the shortage of space at the stations. Mayor Brink asked if his presentation could be repeated at the next Council meeting so the public could view it as well.

911 dispatchers up their skills: Last week, SRCC Assistant Director Darcy Valido and Supervisor Megan Welch traveled to Augusta to attend the Center Management Certificate Program through the National Emergency Number Association. The course provided new tools in operational and administrative management, as well as the opportunity to connect with other supervisors, assistant directors, and directors from all across Maine. Dispatchers Juli Ouellette and Janet Gallaher recently attended a First Responders Mental Health Resiliency course. In-house trainings for September included active shooter scenarios and boat/jet ski accidents.

911 hangups, misdials and open lines: Welch gave a presentation to the Public Safety Subcommittee on these calls. Brink said she would add it to the full Council's agenda for a meeting later this year. One key takeaway: If you accidentally dial 911, don't hang up – they need to know you are OK.

I'm walking here: Public Works Director Matt Hill reports that new crosswalk signs will be installed by the end of October. The work is being paid for with
Cont'd on Page 12

Local Author to Discuss Stephen King's Maine Inspirations at Springvale Library

For fans of horror master Stephen King, the Springvale Public Library has a fun Halloween treat in store. Attendees will have a unique opportunity to explore the real-life Maine locations that inspired some of his most famous – and most frightening – fictional towns and stories at an upcoming author event at the library (443 Main St., Springvale).

On Wednesday, October 16 at 5:30 pm, the library will host author Sharon Kitchens to discuss her new book "Stephen King's Maine: A History & Guide." Her book is not a biography of King himself, but rather an exploration of the locations and environments that inspired his work. The book takes readers on a journey through the Pine Tree State to uncover the real places that served as the basis for King's iconic fictional settings like Castle Rock, Jerusalem's Lot, Derry and Haven.

"It's about the small towns and big characters which shaped his work," Kitchens told the Bangor Daily News "King nails small towns and the intense personalities you find in them — kind of like Mayberry meets Twin Peaks."

Through extensive research and interviews with locals who knew King, Kitchens pieced together the connections between actual Maine locations and their fictional counterparts. The book explores how everyday life in small

Maine towns provided inspiration for settings in classics like "Carrie," "Salem's Lot," "The Dead Zone," "Cujo," "IT" and "11/22/63."

At the October 16 event, Kitchens will discuss her research process and highlight some of the key real-life inspirations she uncovered for King's fictional towns. Attendees will learn about locations in southern and central Maine that King drew upon, from his childhood hometown of Durham to the city of Bangor where he has lived for decades.

The author will also share stories from her conversations with Maine residents who knew King growing up or interacted with him over the years. Their recollections help paint a picture of the people and places that left an impression on the young writer who would go on to become one of the world's bestselling authors.

The event continues the library's popular series of author talks and book discussions. Recent programs have featured local historians, novelists and nonfiction writers discussing their latest works.

This must-attend event for King enthusiasts will be followed by a Q&A session where attendees can ask questions about Kitchens' research and discoveries. Copies of "Stephen King's Maine: A History & Guide" will also



Stephen King holds author Sharon Kitchens' book, which he calls "really interesting."

Photo: Twitter/X

be available for purchase and signing after the talk.

Due to expected high interest, the library is requiring advance registration for the free event. Those interested in attending can register on the Springvale Public Library website www.springvalelibrary.org or by calling the library (207-324-4624).

The Stephen King-focused event is expected to draw fans from across southern Maine eager to learn more about the local roots of the author's imaginative worlds. Register today to secure a spot for what promises to be an enlightening look at how Maine's people and places shaped some of horror fiction's most memorable settings. ■

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Sanford Planning Board will hold a public hearing and receive written and oral comments at its October 16, 2024 meeting, starting at 6:30 pm, on applications for the following projects:

- File # H32-01 – 36 Wilson Street – Genest Concrete Works (Tax Map H32, Lot 01) - Major Site Plan and Conditional Use Application for the proposed addition of approximately 10,000sf to an existing manufacturing building for the production of precast concrete products made on site, and associated site improvements.
- File # R9-63 - 137 Shaw Rd – Sanford-Springvale Soccer Association – Zone Change - Application to change lots R9-63 and R9-64 from Rural Residential Zone to Urban Zone to allow a year-round food truck park in the existing gravel parking lot, in conjunction with the continued use of youth sport programming.
- File # K14-35 – 5 Water St – Jagger Lofts – Zone Change – Application to change lots K14-35 and K15-32 from Industrial Reuse Zone to Urban Zone in conjunction with the redevelopment of Jagger Mill into multifamily residential.

The Planning Board will also hold a public hearing and receive written and oral comments at this same meeting on proposed changes to Chapter 280 of the Sanford City Ordinances pertaining to:

- §280-11-6 Urban Zone – Proposed Ordinance revision to §280-11-6F(3) to remove the minimum unit sizes from the Ordinance and replace with allowances for urban infill lots.
- §280-14-13 Signs – Proposed Ordinance revision to allow historical signage to remain on buildings following the closure of a business and to not be counted towards the total allowable signage of a new business, at the discretion of the Planning Board.

The hearings will be held in Council Chambers at City Hall, 919 Main Street, Sanford, or 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. Questions or written comments should be directed to the Planning Office at 324-9150 or jlbabcock@sanfordmaine.org.



WALKING TRAILS *Cont'd from Page 8*

- Archery - Oct. 5 to Nov. 1
- Firearms youth days - Oct 25 and 26
- Firearms (ME residents only) - Nov. 2
- Firearms (anyone with a hunting license) - Nov. 4 to Nov. 30
- Muzzleloaders - Dec. 2 to Dec. 14

Having said all of that, for your own safety it is always a wise thing to wear some fluorescent (hunter) orange, a vest, hat or both, when in the woods or on trails during hunting season. It is safest to keep your dog on a leash, but if you are bird hunting or just want to let your dog run, put a hunter orange vest on it and perhaps a bell.

Try to avoid walking in low light times such as dawn or dusk. If you must, consider wearing a head lamp. If you see a hunter, say hello loudly enough for them to hear you.

Most hunters avoid popular walking trails, but if the land is open to hunting, people can legally hunt from the trail. Hunters are people who enjoy the outdoors, carrying out traditions that have often been handed down for many generations. They must take and pass a state certified safety class before they can get a license. The vast majority of people hunt very safely and are respectful of others in the woods. November is a beautiful time to be in the woods in Maine, but please be careful. ■

PUBLIC SAFETY *Cont'd from Page 10*

grant money. Some crosswalks still need to be painted, and his department may issue some parking bans to ensure the roadways will be clear when the contractor is there.

Route 4 signal: If you are concerned about getting stuck behind a big truck at the new traffic signal at the intersection of Route 4 and School Street in winter weather, the new smart light system is capable of detecting traffic coming up the hill and making the determination not to stop large trucks. Hill said he will do some testing before snow flies to see if that actually works.

Emergency alerts: The York County Emergency Management Agency is now using a wireless alert system that sends a message to mobile phones, similar to Maine State Police and National Weather Service. The wireless alert system allows York County EMA to send messages to anyone with a mobile phone and can be targeted to entire counties, towns or neighborhoods. The alerts must be ordered by an incident commander at the scene of an emergency, said York County EMA Deputy Director Megan Arsenault. To enable your mobile phone – android or iPhone – to receive the new wireless alerts, go to settings and then to notifications. ■



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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The advertisement for Eldredge Lumber & Hardware features a green banner with the company name and logo at the top left. Below the banner, there are two circular images: one showing stacks of lumber on a pallet and another showing potted plants. The background of the ad shows a large, modern building with a green roof. At the bottom, there are four columns of text providing contact information for the York, ME, Portland, ME, Sanford, ME, and Portsmouth, NH locations.

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