

July 26, 2024

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## YMCA Expands Early Childhood Programming

By Sam Bonsey and Kendra Williams

Gov. Janet Mills stressed the importance of childcare and preschool programs on Tuesday during the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Sanford-Springvale YMCA's expanded childcare center. "High quality childhood programs prepare kids for success and give parents important peace of mind knowing that their children are learning in a safe environment," said Mills, one of three state officials who attended the event.

YMCA Board President Kimberly Stewart welcomed Mills, Health and Human Services Commissioner Sarah Gagné-Holmes and Director of Child and Family Services Bobbi Johnson to the celebration. She also welcomed the



Gov. Janet Mills, center, cuts the ceremonial ribbon at the expanded YMCA childcare facility. Photo: Sam Bonsey

large crowd of supporters and community members.

The expanded facility, scheduled to open Monday, July 29 after 18 months of planning and fundraising, includes three new classrooms adjacent to the existing center. It opens up 30 additional childcare slots and lowers the minimum enrollment

*Cont'd on Page 3*

## Sanford Native Living His Baseball Dream

By Sam Bonsey, Sanford Schools Communications Coordinator

Sanford native TJ Curley is living out one of his childhood dreams this summer, donning the jersey of his hometown team, the Sanford Mainers, in the New England Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL).

For Curley, a homeschool student who graduated from Sanford in 2023, this opportunity represents more

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TJ Curley  
Credit: Madison Giltner

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## Community CALENDAR

Compiled by Zendelle Bouchard

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

### Saturday, July 27

- Springvale Farm Walk, 10 am to 2 pm, Springvale farms (also on 7/28)
- Yoga at the Orchards, 8 am, McDougal Orchards, 201 Hanson Ridge Rd., Springvale
- Sanford Farmers' Market, 8 am, Central Park, 920 Main St.
- Yard Sale, 9 am, Sanford-Springvale Fish & Game Clubhouse, 449 Country Club Rd.
- Baby Blessings, 10 am, St. George's Episcopal Church, 3 Emerson St.
- Raise the Roof Contra Dance, 6 pm, McDougal Orchards
- "The Addams Family," 7:30 pm, Nasson Little Theatre, 457 Main St.

### Sunday, July 28

- Springvale Farm Walk morning bird walk, 8 am, McDougal Orchards
- Maine Senior Games Buoy Toss, 9:30 am, YMCA, 1 Emile Levasseur Dr.
- Arts Day In The Park, noon-7 pm, Gateway Park, 11 Riverside Ave.
- "The Addams Family," 2:30, Nasson Little Theatre
- Mainers vs Keene, 6:30 pm, Goodall Park, 28 Roberts St.

### Monday, July 29

- Baby Rhyme Time, 10 am, Springvale Library, 443 Main St.
- Sanford Food Pantry, 10 am, 1204 Main St.
- Tide Pool Touch Bin, 10:30 am, Goodall Library, 1364 Main St
- Lego Builders Club, 3 pm, Springvale Library
- Mainers vs. Vermont, 6:30 pm, Goodall Park

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# City Council July 16 Meeting Summary

By Renée Morin

Sanford city councilors approved a new business for the airport, heard updates on local public works projects and recognized public safety workers at their regular meeting July 16. All members were present, with Executive Administrator Lorisa Ricketts attending via Zoom.

During the moment of silence Mayor Becky Brink said people should pray for our politicians to have wisdom, and that she hoped our politicians will be civil.

There were no subcommittee reports or Mayor's reports.

## Airport Business

The council approved a lease option with Executive Air Dock LLC to build a commercial hangar on the west side of Sanford Airport. Once the construction is ready to begin, the lease option will be replaced by a land lease and operating rights agreement. The privately



Newly promoted Sanford firefighters (left to right) Assistant Chief Brian G. Watkins, Capt. Gregory Jones and Lt. Jayme Lappin  
Photo: Sanford Fire Department

owned hangar will house 10 units. If there is enough demand after the completion of the first hangar, the company has plans to build three more at the airport, for a total of 40 units. The council authorized City Manager Steve Buck to agree to the lease option.

## City Manager's Report

Buck said the city's new ordinance related to floodplain management has been found to comply with Federal Flood Plan Management maps. The new ordinance will not affect the coverage of residents with flood insurance.

Work continues on applications for a \$500,000 Area Wide Assessment Grant and a \$5 million Brownfields Cleanup Grant. Once the applica-

tion process is completed, the funds will become available after Oct. 1.

Several transformers leaking oil onto the ground were identified by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, following their inspection of the properties along Heritage Crossing. The city told the agencies that this isn't city-owned property and gave them contact information for the owner so the agencies can request payment for the cleanup.

## Communications/Presentations

Brink mentioned that the Springvale Farm Walk is being held July 27 and July 28, from 10 am to 2 pm. Ten farms are participating. There will also be a contradance at McDougal Orchards on July 27 from 6 to 8 pm.

The State of Maine recognized four Sanford-Springvale dispatchers for giving lifesaving CPR instructions. Honored were full-time dispatchers Megan Welch and Chelsey Breton and reserves Marc Cunningham and Jeff Clark.

Three Sanford-Springvale firefighters were promoted. Jayme Lappin was promoted to lieutenant. Gregory Jones was promoted to captain and Brian G. Watkins to assistant chief.

## Public Participation

Resident Chris Hart voiced opposition to the proposed polling place consolidation. Hart, a disabled veteran of the Iraq War, said that the consolidation from three to one polling place will hurt

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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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## YMCA CHILD CARE *Cont'd from page 1*

age from 3 years to 6 weeks at an affordable cost. Also, through a P-K partnership expansion grant between the Sanford School Department and the Department of Education, one of the new classrooms will provide 16 children with access to a full-day public kindergarten program this coming school year free of charge.

Stewart spoke of the difference the YMCA's childcare program made in her life several years ago when she was working out of town and had two preschoolers. She then introduced the YMCA's Executive Director Andy Orazio, who thanked donors and stakeholders for their significant contributions to this \$775,000 project and the importance of an additional \$250,000 from the Maine Department of Health and Human Services' Child Care Infrastructure Program that made this much needed expansion possible.

School Superintendent Matt Nelson called the opening "a great day for Sanford and what a great day for the YMCA...the work that we do, educating our youth and

impacting our youth is more important than ever." He said education is hard work, and he's proud to be the superintendent in Sanford, where partnerships within the community make it possible to get hard work done.

Mills then spoke about the many working parents in Sanford and Springvale who have children under age 5. She cited research that shows that 90% of brain development occurs between birth and the age of 5. "High quality childhood programs prepare kids for success and give parents important peace of mind knowing that their children are learning in a safe environment," she said. She went on to say that investments in early childhood programming are good for the children, the parents and our economy.

Following the ribbon cutting, children continued to play on the many pieces of new playground equipment made possible by donors. The new facility was then opened for a tour.

To learn more about the YMCA's Early Learning Childcare programs, call 207-324-4942 or go to [www.sanfordymca.org](http://www.sanfordymca.org). ■

## CALENDAR *Cont'd from page 1*

### Tuesday, July 30

- Ocean Story Time, 10:30 am, Goodall Library
- Free Hot Meal, noon, Lafayette School, 69 Brook St.
- York County Food Pantry, noon, 5 Swetts Bridge Rd., Alfred
- Knit Lits, 3 pm, Springvale Library
- Bingo, 6 pm, Sanford Elks, 13 Elm St.
- Sticky Water Challenge, 5 pm, Springvale Library

### Wednesday, July 31

- Adventure Craft: Recycled Robots, 2 pm, Springvale Library
- Lego Club, 2:30 pm, Goodall Library
- Fiber Arts Group, 5 pm, Goodall Library
- An Evening with Monica Wood, 6 pm, Nason Little Theatre
- Wednesday Night Bite, 6 pm, Curtis Lake Church, 38 Westview Dr.

### Thursday, August 1

- Coding Games, 10 am, Springvale Library
- Community Food Distribution, 10 am, Willard School & Sanford High School
- Free Hot Meal, noon, Lafayette School, 69 Brook St.
- St. Thérèse of Lisieux Food Bank, noon, Holy Family Church, 66 North Ave.
- Free Community Meal, 5 pm, New Beginnings Christian Church, 181 Grammar Rd.
- Scrabble, 5 pm, Goodall Library

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# New Assistant Principal Named at Carl J. Lamb Elementary School

Press Release

The Sanford School Department is pleased to announce the appointment of Kristy Richards as the new Assistant Principal of Carl J. Lamb Elementary School, effective July 29. She will succeed Trish Leet, who retired at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

The selection committee was impressed by the pool of applicants, but Ms. Richards' background, experience and commitment to student success and school improvement set her apart as the best fit for the Carl J. Lamb community.

Superintendent of Sanford Schools Matt Nelson said, "Kristy is well-suited for this important leadership position. Her knowledge, leadership skills and ability to build strong relationships are a great fit for Carl J. Lamb School. She is well-respected and her in-depth knowledge of student behavior, effective intervention strategies and special education experience will serve Kristy well."

Richards is no stranger to Sanford. She is a graduate of Sanford High School and has a Master of Science in Education from the University of Southern Maine, with a focus on administration. She also holds certifications for building principal, assistant principal and assistant special education director. She has a Certificate of Advanced Study with a concentration in Response to Intervention (Behavior) from the University of Maine.

Richards has served the Sanford School Department in a variety of



positions. She spent 16 years as a special education self-contained teacher followed by three years as a special education resource room teacher at Carl J. Lamb School. Most recently, she was an elementary behavior coach for over 6 years.

"I am honored to join Carl J. Lamb Elementary School as Assistant Principal," said Richards. "I share the school's commitment to developing the whole child and fostering a strong community. By setting high academic standards, addressing social-emotional needs, and building strong relationships among staff, students, and families, we can create an environment where every child thrives. I look forward to collaborating with the Carl J. Lamb team to build on our strengths and create new opportunities for success."

The Sanford School Department would like to congratulate Kristy Richards on her new role and continued dedication to Carl J. Lamb Elementary School and its students. ■

## Thank You

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following recent donors to Sanford Springvale News:

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## TJ CURLEY *Cont'd from page 1*

than just a chance to play high-level baseball. It's a tribute to the community that has supported him throughout his journey. "Having the opportunity to play in such a high-level league in my hometown has been a dream come true," Curley said. "This summer has been one that I will never forget."

The 6-foot-2, 180-pound lefty relief pitcher completed his first year at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, Maryland this spring and is 2-1 with a 4.50 ERA and 1.19 WHIP in eight games this season with the Mainers. He has struck out 20 batters over 16 innings in those appearances while holding batters to a .196 average against him.

His performance this summer helped him earn a spot on the East Division All-Star team through fan voting. Curley appeared in the eighth inning of the All-Star game on July 21 and recorded two outs to help the East secure a 3-0 win.

Growing up in Sanford has shaped Curley's baseball career. He said the town's "small-town baseball culture" has helped to relax him and made play-

ing baseball more enjoyable. "Sanford is filled with good-hearted volunteers like coaches and parents who give countless hours to kids with baseball dreams from Little League all the way up to the Mainers," he said. "That kind of support has been behind me all the years I have played, and I appreciate it very much."

Curley's fondest memory of playing baseball in Sanford dates back to his senior year of high school when he and his longtime friends clinched a playoff victory at Goodall Park. This experience underscores the deep connections and camaraderie that have defined his baseball journey. Now, as a member of the Mainers, Curley relishes the opportunity to represent his community on a larger stage.

"Being able to wear a Sanford jersey again has made this summer a very special experience," he says. "The Mainers have been something that this community has rallied around every summer, so being able to have a part in that has been a blessing."

*Statistics in this article are accurate as of July 23, 2024. ■*

## CALENDAR *Cont'd from page 3*

### Friday, August 2

- Produce Pantry, 10 am, Salvation Army, 871 Main St.
- Music on the Patio with Dann Wolfe, noon, Springvale Library
- Community Cookout, 5 pm, Pleasant Street Free Baptist Church, 10 Pleasant St., Springvale
- First Friday Spaghetti Dinner, 5 pm, New Beginnings Christian Church

### Saturday, August 3

- Sanford Farmers' Market, 8 am, Central Park
- Yoga at the Orchards, 8 am, McDougal Orchards
- "Neil Berg's 101 Years of Broadway," 7 pm, SPAC, 100 Alumni Blvd.

### Sunday, August 4

- Car Wash fundraiser for Sanford Soccer, 10 am, Napa Auto Parts, 960 Main St.
- Summer Splash, noon, Curtis Lake Church
- SHS Powder Puff Football Game, 4 pm, Shaw Field, 137 Shaw's Ridge Rd.
- Low-cost Rabies Clinic, 4, Tractor Supply, 1770 Main St.
- DaPonte String Quartet, 4 pm, Sanford-Springvale Historical Museum, 505 Main St.

Visit our Events Calendar <https://sanford-springvalenews.com/events/> for details on these and future events. ■

## Public Hearing Notice

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

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

Per M.R.S.A Title 21-A S631 and 5631 -A (2), the City Council will hold a public hearing to take resident comments on the proposal to consolidate Wards and reduce the current three City voting locations to one. The location of the new polling place will be the current Ward 3 polling place at Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center, 100 Alumni Boulevard, Sanford. The regular voting entrance is door #41 with an alternate accessible entrance to be labeled on election days.

All persons may appear in the City Council Chambers on August 6, 2024 at 6:00 PM to give comments for or against the proposed changes to voting places and consolidation of City Wards. This meeting will be conducted in person and via remote video and teleconference. Members of the public may join the meeting by phone or via computer by the link provided on the City website.

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 Executive Assistant, Lorisa Ricketts at (207) 324-9173 so that accommodations can be made.

Susan H. Cote, City Clerk

Dates Posted: July 8, 2024 Sanford Springvale Newspaper: July 19, 26 & August 2



# NEWS NOTES

Compiled By Carolyn Cadigan



## A fun way for kids to get their fruits and veggies:

The Power of Produce (PoP) Club is a free kids' program offered at the Sanford Farmers' Market, which is held Saturdays from 8 am to noon at Central Park. Each week children can receive a \$2 voucher to spend on fresh fruits and vegetables from local farms. The program aims to encourage healthy eating habits and give kids the opportunity to meet the growers of their food within the community. In addition, the PoP Club offers special activities for kids throughout the summer.

## Rotary Club donations and a special honor:

The City of Sanford recently recognized the Rotary Club of Sanford-Springvale for its donations of money and clothes for unhoused people over the past two years. The money was used to purchase shower vouchers at the YMCA as well as to pay for motel rooms, travel expenses and rental assistance. In other Rotary Club news, David Spahn was named a Paul Harris Fellow earlier this month. President Bob Myott recognized Spahn for his involvement in many of the club's activities as well as for his generous contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Congratulations, David!

**A second chance for Emily:** Emily King, the 7-year-old Sanford resident who was in dire need of new lungs, is now recovering from her second transplant surgery in five years. The delicate surgery was performed July 18 at Boston Children's Hospital. Lung transplant operations are known to be difficult, especially the second time. Emily is currently in a delicate period with her family, friends, and followers all supporting her and each other. "Emily is making amazing progress in her recovery and is the strongest little girl I know!" her mother, Stephanie King, said. "We are so thankful to both her donor families for the gift – a future with our baby girl." Updates on Emily's condition are available through a group Facebook page, Fight Like Emily.

**Amusement park tickets for less:** Discount tickets are on sale at Sanford Parks & Recreation for Funtown/Splashtown, York Wild Kingdom Zoo (zoo tickets only), and Aquaboggan. Purchases are cash only at the Recreation office.

**If you get a call like this, hang up:** Fraudsters, pretending to be Kennebunk Savings' employees, have been calling the bank's customers saying their accounts have been compromised. The fraudsters ask customers for their banking credentials, full account numbers, passwords, debit card numbers, texted codes, and CVV numbers. They use the information to make a purchase. When the customer receives a text to verify the purchase, the fraudsters convince the customer to approve the transaction. In some cases, fraudsters also ask customers to download an app on their cell phones so they can gain access to all their information. Know that the bank will never ask you to provide personal account information, approve a transaction you know is fraudulent, or download an app to your personal device. If you get a call asking for any of this information, hang up immediately and call the bank's customer care team at 800-339-6573.



Sanford High School

**Hearing on voting location consolidation:** The City Council will hold a public hearing on Aug. 6 at 6 pm in the City Council Chambers to gather resident comments on the proposal to consolidate wards and reduce the city's voting locations from three to one. The proposed new polling place will be at Sanford High School and Regional Technical Center, 100 Alumni Blvd. The regular voting entrance is door #41, with an alternate accessible entrance clearly labeled on election days. All residents are welcome to attend the hearing in person or participate remotely via video and teleconference. To join the meeting by phone or computer, use the link provided on the city's website.

**Sanford native nominated for DHHS commissioner:** Governor Janet Mills announced on July 18 that she will nominate Sara Gagné-Holmes to serve as commissioner of the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Gagné-Holmes, who grew up in Sanford, served as DHHS deputy commissioner for the past five years, and has led the department in an acting capacity since June 1, following the departure of Jeanne Lambrew. As deputy commissioner, she was an integral member of the executive leadership team overseeing the department's more than 3,000 employees across eight offices and two psychiatric hospitals. Her nomination is subject to a hearing before the Maine State Legislature's Health and Human Services Committee and confirmation by the Maine State Senate.

**Free medical assistant training at YCCC:** Nason Health Care is again participating in the York County Community College (YCCC) Medical Assistant Apprenticeship program. This all-expense-paid, nine-month accelerated program provides paid, on-the-job training along with blended classroom and online instruction from YCCC instructors. FMI and eligibility requirements, call 207-216-4300.

**A fun time and money raised in memory of Ray Bourre:** The Maine Children's Cancer Program (MCCP) Committee of the Sanford Elks Lodge #1470 hosted the 2nd Annual Ray Bourre's Day on July 13 at Iron Tails Saloon in Acton. The event, which included raffles, silent and live auctions, food, entertainment and more, raised over \$29,000 for MCCP kids and their families. The committee thanked the many, many businesses, organizations and individuals involved, and recognized the part they played in making a positive impact on the lives of children and their families bravely fighting cancer and blood disorders.

**Time's running out for YMCA swag:** Less than one week remains to be part of the raffle contest being run by the Sanford-Springvale YMCA. The winner will receive an adult hoodie, a water bottle, three YMCA stickers, and sunglasses. One entry per Facebook profile/name is allowed. However, the contest is not open to YMCA staff or their families. The winner, to be drawn July 31, will be contacted on Facebook. To enter the raffle, just like and share the YMCA post found on the YMCA Facebook page. ■

# Celebrated String Quartet Returning to Springvale

Press Release

The DaPonte String Quartet, renowned for their exceptional musicality and artistry, returns to the Sanford Springvale Historical Museum with a concert at 4 pm on Sunday, Aug. 4, that will feature the debut of a new musician.

Violinist Philipp Ellsner will be joining the quartet for a series of performances featuring Beethoven's Opus 127 quartet and Mozart's K589 quartet. The Beethoven quartet is a masterpiece of the string quartet repertoire. Known for its emotional depth and intricate musical interplay, this piece will showcase the DaPonte String Quartet's impeccable musicianship and ability to connect with audiences on a profound level.



Quartet members Lydia Forbes and Kirsten Monke, seated, and Myles Jordan and Philipp Ellsner  
Photo: DaPonte String Quartet

In addition, the quartet will present Mozart's K589 Quartet, a delightful and lively composition that displays the quartet's technical prowess and musical sensitivity. Mozart's genius shines through in this late work, with its melodic richness and exquisite harmonies.

"We are so happy to welcome Philipp Ellsner to the DaPonte String Quartet," say the other quartet members. "His exceptional talent and musicality will undoubtedly bring a fresh perspective to our performances. We can't wait to share this exciting program of Beethoven and Mozart with our audience."

Tickets are \$30 and are available through the quartet's website, [dapontequartet.org](https://dapontequartet.org). [https://dapontequartet.org/](https://dapontequartet.org) Students are admitted free. ■

## CITY COUNCIL *Cont'd from page 2*

turnout. He likened it to voter suppression and said that it was too close to the November election to avoid confusion. He also voiced concerns about the ability of voters to get to polling places if Sanford High School is too far for them to walk.

Resident Dave Lehoux also expressed disapproval of the consolidation and referred to it as a "power grab."

Bobette Gordy applauded the city for its cleanup efforts at the former homeless encampment but expressed frustration over the problems she was now experiencing. Gordy said that her grandchildren are afraid to walk to her home at the Sanford Mill because of loiterers in the area. She says residents of her building are afraid of the loiterers as well, and that the loiterers sometimes wait in the doorway of the building for residents to come out.

Gordy shared anecdotes of finding drug paraphernalia and witnessing drug use. She also encountered people engaging in public indecency and defecating where they are not supposed to. Gordy says her attempts to combat this behavior by contacting law enforcement were met with rude gestures by the loiterers.

Brink responded that the city is working on an ordinance to address the problems. (See a story about this issue in last week's paper.)

## Consent Agenda

An off-premises catering permit for the July 26 Cruising with Friends Car Show at the Main Street Marketplace (formerly Mid Town Mall) was approved for Above & Beyond Catering.

## New Business

The council did a first reading of a proposed new chapter in the city code, Chapter 107: "City Property." A proposed ordinance in this new chapter would allow the city to restrict public access to city property.

The council reviewed the draft informational inserts that will be mailed along with this year's tax bill. The inserts will have information on municipal taxes and the upcoming fire station referendum. The council offered feedback on the inserts and approved

their inclusion with the tax bill.

The council voted to put forward Fire Chief Scott Susi as a candidate for the Senate District 33's second seat on the Maine Municipal Association Legislative Policy Committee from July 2024 to June 2026. Sanford is entitled to the first seat because of its population, with Buck filling that role. The three other towns, Lebanon, Waterboro, and Alfred, have not nominated anyone for the second seat.

The council approved a Community Benefit Agreement and a Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) for a solar project on about 140 acres off Route 4 near New Dam Road and School Street. The development will cost about \$26 million. A portion of the municipal taxes generated by the development will be allocated back to the project, as an economic development incentive. The council was informed that the project will generate enough power for 15,000 Maine homes and will create 123 temporary jobs.

The council approved the fourth quarter city financial reports for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Revenues and expenses were very close to the budgeted amounts. Councilor Ayn Hanselmann offered some critiques of the budget, and asked whether the city was using its funds in the best way it could.

## Councilor Comments

Councilor Nathan Hitchcock recognized the Sanford Sewerage District for its assistance to the Kennebunkport Sewer Department. The Sanford district was able to send Kennebunkport bacteria to help treat untreated water that was being dumped in the Kennebunk River.

Hitchcock urged the public to vote in the New England Collegiate Baseball League Fan Vote for Sanford Native TJ Curley to be added to 2024 NECBL All-Star Game roster. Curley currently plays for the Sanford Mainers as a pitcher. If selected, he would be the first Sanford native to participate in the All-Star Game, says Hitchcock.

Hanselmann pledged to engage in conversation with community members on how to limit the impact of construc-

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# Scammers Targeting Section 8 Applicants

By Zendelle Bouchard

The Sanford Housing Authority wants to make the public aware of a scam targeting housing assistance applicants that has been circulating on social media channels including Facebook, Instagram and Tik Tok. The scam purports to expedite applications or reduce waiting list times for those seeking Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV), formerly known as Section 8. The scam ads direct applicants to govassistance(dot)org, which is not a legitimate website. The purpose of the scam is to obtain the personal information of prospective applicants to facilitate fraudulent activity.

Scams targeting Section 8 applicants are not new, and variations on this approach have been circulating online for years. Some target their victims through text messages, which contain a link to a phony website.

“At Sanford Housing Authority, we are deeply concerned about the recent Section 8 scam targeting our community,” said SHA Executive Director Diane Small.

“This fraudulent activity not only undermines the integrity of our housing programs but also puts vulnerable families at risk. We urge all residents to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity immediately. Our priority is to ensure safe, fair, and legitimate housing opportunities for all.”

If you are currently on the waiting list for an HCV, and want to update your application, or if you need to apply for a voucher, the real website is <https://www.affordablehousing.com/mainecwl>. This is the centralized website for all the public housing agencies in Maine. The waiting list is open and accepting new applications.

You may also stop by the Sanford Housing office to pick up a paper application or if you need assistance, call (207) 324-6747, ext. 115. The office is open Monday through Thursday, 9 am to noon and 1 to 3 pm and Fridays by appointment only.

### Important things to remember:

- You will never be charged to join a legitimate waiting list for a Housing Choice Voucher.

- Never give your social security number, bank or credit card information or other personal details to a website without first verifying if it is legitimate.
- If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.
- If you think you may have been a victim of this or another Section 8 scam, you can file a complaint at the Internet Crime Complaint Center at <https://www.ic3.gov/>. Additionally, if someone contacts you about a scam involving housing assistance, please reach out to the Office of Housing and Urban Development’s Computer Incident Response Team (CIRT) at [CIRT@hud.gov](mailto:CIRT@hud.gov). ■



Village View Apartments in Springvale

Photo: Sanford Housing Authority



## Public Notice City of Sanford

A Façade Grant is being offered by the City of Sanford to owners and/or tenants of commercial properties in the downtown. This is an incentive to improve the outside appearance of the downtown. The buildings must include a commercial space on the first floor, and must be correcting blight conditions or code violations. The maximum grant awarded is \$25,000. A 25% minimum private investment match is required. This is a federally funded program through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Program Guidelines, Questions and Applications, can be obtained by contacting Mary Hastings, at 207-608-4176, Monday – Thursday 9am to 4pm., or by email [mwhastings@sanfordmaine.org](mailto:mwhastings@sanfordmaine.org).

Deadline for applications is Noon on August 29, 2024 where applications will be scored and awarded. Applications with attachments must be mailed in or dropped off to the Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council, 917 Main St, Suite D, Sanford, Maine 04073. If there are any leftover grant funds, the SREGC will announce a second round.

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## Ghost Pipes: Pretty White Forest Parasites

They're white, look like they should be a mushroom, have a flower and produce seeds. They have no chlorophyll, so they don't photosynthesize. When noticed by Sanford trail walkers, they often stop and ask, "what exactly are ghost pipes?" They're perennial woodland flowers, an herb, related to the rhododendron and blueberry. They like dark places, so look for them in a forest area with dense, moist, rich soil.

Poking up from leaf litter in the shade, near an oak or beech tree, ghost pipes, *Monotropa uniflora*, are 2" to 12" tall with a single pendulous (drooping) flower that blooms from early summer to mid-autumn, often after wet weather. After pollination—usually by a bumble bee—it straightens and turns slightly pink. As the seeds mature, an oval-shaped fruit capsule forms and the plant begins to turn almost black. When mature, the capsule splits, and the tiny seeds disperse in the wind.

The very small "scales" along its stem are actually the flower's leaves. But, like over 3,000 other plants, it doesn't make its own food. So how does it survive? Well, some science teachers get their students' attention by using the term "ménage à trois!" (It's OK; this is "G"-rated—your kids can read this!).

It all begins with the roots of trees and various mushrooms seeking and finding each other by chemical signals, then bonding. The mushroom's roots are tiny white threads called mycorrhizae, forming a massive underground network so extensive that there are 300 miles of it under one of your feet! The tree gives some of the food it photosynthesizes to the mushroom roots and the mushroom roots give the



*The tiny scales on the stem are actually leaves*  
Photo: ramapithecus via Creative Commons

tree water and mineral food from the soil, forming a symbiotic relationship

Now, for the "ménage à trois" and where the ghost pipes enter the equation. The ghost pipe's roots mimic the tree's roots, tricking the roots — or mycorrhizae — of certain mushrooms into attaching to it. So now, the ghost pipe receives food via this new root connection from both the tree and the mushroom. Neither the tree nor the mushroom seems to know about it. If they did, they couldn't do much about it anyway. The ghost pipe gives nothing to either one of them in return, making it a parasite...but a pretty one!

The two species of mushrooms favored by the ghost pipes are known to have caused human deaths. The active chemicals within these mushrooms seem to have made their way into the ghost pipes, but in a slightly modified way. Knowledgeable and trained herbalists make a tincture from ghost pipes that may provide health benefits for epilepsy, physical, and psychological pain. But this plant contains neurotoxins that can be deadly. Observe these pretty parasites all you want but realize that it's best, for them and you, to leave them anchored in their home soil, connected to the trees and mushrooms. ■

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# Maine Author Monica Wood to Discuss Her New Novel

Thanks to a generous grant from the Nasson Alumni Association, the Springvale Public Library and Louis B. Goodall Memorial Library are presenting local book lovers with an opportunity to meet Monica Wood, acclaimed Maine author. Wood will be discussing her latest novel, *How to Read a Book*, at the Nasson Community Center (457 Main St., Springvale) on July 31 at 6:00 pm.

Monica Wood is an accomplished novelist, memoirist, and playwright. Born in 1953, she grew up in Mexico, Maine, a setting that influences many of her works. Her accolades include the 2024 Sara Josepha Hale Award and the 2019 Maine Humanities Council Carlson Prize. Among her literary achievements are the national bestseller *Any Bitter Thing* and *The One-in-a-Million Boy*. Her narrative *When We Were the Kennedys: A Memoir from Mexico, Maine* was a New England bestseller and an Oprah Magazine summer reading pick. Wood is also a successful playwright, whose debut play *Papermaker*



*Wood has written a powerful story of redemption and new beginnings.*

Photo Credit: Monica Wood Facebook page

set the Portland Stage's all-time attendance record.

*How to Read a Book* delves into the transformative power of literature and the resilience of the human spirit. The story follows Violet, a woman recently released from prison after a tragic event. Lost and grappling with guilt, Violet encounters Harriet, a kind woman who led the book club in the prison. Their reunion reignites a connection forged through shared experiences and

a love of reading.

As the narrative unfolds, Violet confronts societal judgment and the weight of her past. She also encounters Frank, a retired machinist who works as a handyman at a bookstore. Together, the three characters form an unlikely and unexpected bond, finding solace and understanding in their shared experiences.

The novel has garnered rave reviews for its themes of forgiveness, second chances, and the power of literature to heal and connect. People Magazine calls it "an utter gem; funny, sweet and moving," while the New York Times describes it as "a charming, openhearted novel, deceptively easy to read but layered with sharp observations, hard truths and rich ideas."

Readers still have time to dive into this remarkable novel before the event. The library has ordered extra copies, including large print and audio versions, to ensure everyone can read it. You can call or visit the Goodall or Springvale library to reserve your copy, and books will also be available for purchase at the discussion. Whether you're a book club member or simply enjoy a good read, this heartwarming and thought-provoking novel is sure to resonate with you.

To reserve your spot at the upcoming author discussion, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/monicawoodevent>. Don't miss this opportunity to meet a talented local author and explore the transformative power of books! ■

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## Day Camp is Up in the Air Next Month

Youth interested in aviation are encouraged to sign up for a day camp that runs Aug 14 to 17 at Sanford Seacoast Regional Airport.

Maine ACE Camp Seacoast is open to youth 12 to 16. Tuition is \$500, and scholarships are available. Registration must be complete by Aug. 7.

Campers are introduced to many aspects of aviation, both military and civilian. They learn through classroom instruction, hands-on activities and many field trips. Weather permitting, campers will fly in at least one general aviation airplane during the week.

Maine ACE Camp, Inc., is organized and staffed by many aviation professionals from various industry



organizations, including the Federal Aviation Administration, Maine Department of Transportation, Portland International Jetport, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Boy Scouts of America - Pine Tree Chapter, and many other local aviation businesses.

For more information, see: <https://www.maineacecamp.org/> ■



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

Or go to [SanfordSpringvaleNews.com](http://SanfordSpringvaleNews.com) and go to the SIGN UP tab.

# Art Day in the Park

The Sanford Arts Commission is sponsoring “Art Day in the Park” on Sunday, July 28 in scenic Gateway Park at the corner of Washington Street and Riverside Avenue. Artists and the community are invited to this free event, which will be held from noon to 7 pm.

Makers, artists, performers... you are encouraged to join us! No fees. No registration. Bring family and friends and everything that you need to set up such as a table, a canopy or an event tent if you have one. Ample parking and electrical outlets are available for musicians to plug in. A restroom is on site.

Do you face-paint, dance, do performance painting, gymnastics, tightrope walk, sing, do martial arts, or yarn-bomb? Do you do sidewalk chalk drawing, blow bubbles, hula hoop or do magic? Be a part of this community arts party!

Thank you to all art walk artisans who participated in our most recent art walk.

Yvonne Batara (fabric), Cheyenne Boucher (whimsical free-hand crochet), Searra Canfield (diamond art, photography), David Jeannette (surreal paintings), Emily Goldman (greeting cards, prints), Rob Koerner (Greater Bay Paintings), Amie Lynne Martin (author, crochet), Sarah Martinelli (mixed-media), Cindy Mathieson (paintings), Bob Mongue (paintings), Linda Rankin (acrylic paintings), Alec Robinson (juggling), Wendy



David Jeannette displays some of his surrealistic paintings  
Photo: Evelyn Nitzberg

Smith (leather), Gray St. Page (painter), Heather Wechsler (soft sculpture, prints, jewelry) and Elizabeth Wyatt (fiber-arts, clothing) The weather was perfect and we had a steady flow of attendees. Thank you for supporting our local Artists!

For more information email: [evelyn-nitzbergart1@gmail.com](mailto:evelyn-nitzbergart1@gmail.com) with subject-line: “Art Day in the Park”

Like us on Facebook: Sanford Arts Commission <https://www.facebook.com/sanfordartscommission> to stay up to date on upcoming SAC events. ■

## Join our SSNews Volunteer Team!

We are looking for more writers and volunteers to help us bring you this free weekly newspaper.

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

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# SCHOOL NOTES

By Carolyn Cadigan



**Welcome back, welcome back, welcome back:** Tracy Gibson returned to Sanford, this time as the new principal at Sanford High School (SHS), effective July 22. Gibson started her educational career as a classroom teacher in Sanford. For the last seven years, however, she was at Biddeford High School, where she held the positions of director of the Alternate Pathway Center, truancy/student services coordinator, and curriculum team administrator. While there, Gibson honed her skills in managing comprehensive educational programs and leading initiatives that prioritize the academic and social well-being of students. In her various roles, Gibson collaborated effectively with stakeholders and built strong relationships with students, staff, families and community partners to meet the diverse needs of students. Gibson succeeds Amanda Doyle, who left SHS to become the assistant superintendent in RSU 57.

**Hit the playground running:** As the start of school approaches, incoming kindergarten students are invited to attend their school's Playground Exploration, where they can explore the school playground, meet peers and staff, and enjoy a popsicle. Parents will have the opportunity to learn about the PTA. For Carl J. Lamb and Sanford Pride Elementary Schools, the event will be held Aug. 21, from 4 pm to 5:30 pm. For Margaret Chase Smith Ele-

mentary School, the date is Aug. 27, from 4:30 pm to 6 pm. Save the date, too, for the upcoming Kindergarten Orientation and Open House, scheduled for Aug. 29 from 5 pm to 6 pm, where incoming kindergarten students can meet their teachers, see their classroom, and tour the school. These events are planned to help prepare students for their first day of kindergarten on Sept. 4.



**Recent SHS grad named Mitchell Scholar:** Korrinne Greer, a Sanford High School Class of 2024 graduate, was named a Mitchell Scholar by the Mitchell Institute, a Maine-based non-profit scholarship and research organization founded by Senator George J. Mitchell to improve college outcomes for students from every community in Maine. Greer, one of 184 scholarship recipients representing public high schools statewide, will receive a \$10,000 scholarship, as well as ongoing leadership and professional development programming and supplemental funding opportunities for activities related to career development. The 2024 class of Mitchell Scholars will have the support of the broader Mitchell Institute community, including more than 3,600 alumni who mentor Mitchell Scholars and provide them with career networking opportunities. Congratulations on this achievement, Korrinne! ■

## Available for Adoption at Another Chance Rescue



Say hello to Monroe, a 4-month-old male. He is up to date on vaccines and is scheduled for his neutering appointment. He is energetic and loving. Monroe enjoys attention and playing with toys. He will make a great addition to any home! See more information about Another Chance Rescue on Facebook or call 490-2855. ■



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# REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Compiled by Carolyn Cadigan



10 Maple St.

(6/28 closing date, listed below)

**6/28, 10 Maple St.**, 9-room Victorian, 5 bed/2.5 bath, updated kitchen, built-in cabinetry, den, attached 1-car garage, covered porch, patio, large backyard, \$430,000 (pictured above)

**7/15, 229 Railroad Ave.**, Springvale, 5-room Colonial, 3 bed/2.5 bath, primary bedroom with ensuite, laundry on first floor, full walk-out basement, attached 1-car garage, deck, 2.34 acres, built in 2022, \$459,000

**7/17, 58 New Dam Rd.**, 5-room Cape, 3 bed/2 bath, two bedrooms on first floor, primary bedroom with ensuite, unfinished basement, deck, carport, outbuilding, frontage on Trout Pond, rural, 25 acres, built in 2016, \$600,000



573 Main St., Springvale

(7/17 closing date, listed below)

**7/17, 573 Main St.**, Springvale, 5-room Cape, 1 bed/1 bath, bedroom on first floor, full basement, detached 1-car garage, patio, porch, shed, outbuilding, intown, corner lot, \$358,900 (pictured above)

**7/17, 9 Breton Ave.**, 7-room Cape, 4 bed/2 bath, two bedrooms on first floor, laundry on first floor, full walk-out basement, attic, two sheds, intown, .37 acre, \$356,000

**7/18, 41 Sunset Rd.**, Springvale, 8-room Contemporary, 2 bed/2.5 bath, laundry on first floor, mudroom, library, unfinished basement, attached 2-car and separate 1-car garage, generator, screened-in gazebo, deck, tennis court, 3.4 acres, \$500,000

**7/19, 229 High St.**, 6-room Ranch, 3 bed/1 bath, open concept kitchen/living room, pantry, finished basement, intown, built in 2017, \$405,000 ■



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## Notice of Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Sanford City Council will hold a public hearing at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, August 6, 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 additions to City of Sanford Ordinance Chapter 107, City Property Article I, Use of City Property § 107-2 Definitions; § 107-3 Prohibited; § 107-4 Enforcement; and § 107-5 Violations and Penalties.

Further information on the proposed changes may be obtained through the City Manager's Office prior to the public hearing. Written comments and questions should be directed to the Office of the City Manager, Sanford City Hall, 919 Main Street, Sanford. The proposed ordinance changes can be viewed by visiting the City of Sanford website at [www.sanfordmaine.org](http://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://townhall-streams.com/towns/sanfordme>.



# SPORTS NOTES

By Sam Bonsey, Sanford Schools Communications Coordinator



Raymond Velazquez slides into home during Sanford's 19-14 win over Ocean State on Tuesday, July 23  
Photo Credit: Madison Giltner Photo

## Mainers catcher wins All-Star game MVP as Sanford continues winning ways

Sanford Mainers catcher Colin Barczy won the 2024 NECBL All-Star MVP for helping to lead the East team to a 3-0 win over the West on Sunday, July 21, at Muzzy Field in Bristol, Connecticut. Barczy hit an RBI single in the top of the first, driving in Mainer teammate Christopher Willis to give the East a 1-0 lead.

Mainers Connor Ball, Bijan Anvar, and TJ Curley appeared on the mound as

the East team held the West to just seven hits.

Two days later, the Mainers exploded for 19 runs to extend their win streak to six as they beat the Ocean State Waves 19-14 in South Kingstown, Rhode Island. Devan Bade and Raymond Velazquez each homered and drove in four runs for Sanford. Barczy went 4-for-5 with four RBI and a double.

## Developing life skills through boxing:

A Jass Boxing exhibition is set for Aug. 24 at Sanford Memorial Gym. The Berwick non-profit organization, Jass Boxing, partners with outreach programs to teach life skills such as respect, self-control, discipline, self-esteem, and physical fitness to disadvantaged youth and adults through boxing. Participants are encouraged to maintain healthy habits, and some have continued boxing long after completing the outreach program. Tickets for the exhibition start at \$15. Doors open at 5:30 pm with boxing to start at 7 pm. FMI, call 603-978-9563 or visit [www.jassboxing.org](http://www.jassboxing.org). ■

## Public Hearing Notice Tuesday, Aug 6, 2024 6:00 PM City Council Meeting



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

An application submitted by Fifo Cultivation, 72 Emery St, Unit 407, Sanford, Maine, for a NEW Medical Marijuana Grower/Cultivator License.

The hearing will be conducted in person in the Sanford City Council Chambers and via remote video & teleconference at 6:00 P.M. on August 6, 2024. Members of the public wishing to join the meeting by phone should dial 1 (929) 205-6099 and use the meeting ID & Password provided in the link on the City of Sanford website calendar for the meeting date listed above: ([www.sanfordmaine.org](http://www.sanfordmaine.org)).

Public comments may be submitted via email to [info@sanfordmaine.org](mailto:info@sanfordmaine.org) in favor or against the requested license.

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 Executive Assistant, Larisa Ricketts at (207) 324-9173 so that accommodations can be made.

Date Posted: July 26, 2024  
Susan H. Cote, City Clerk

# PASSAGES

Compiled by Rev. Susan Murphy

**Gordon T. Adams**, 94, of Springvale passed away peacefully on July 9, 2024. Funeral services will be held Saturday, August 24, at 11 am at St. Anne's Church/Good Shepherd Parish, 345 Pleasant St., Berlin, NH. Interment will follow at St. Anne's Cemetery. Arrangements are entrusted to the Johnson Funeral Home in North Berwick.

**Jeannette L. Fletcher**, 90, of Springvale, died peacefully at her home on Wednesday, July 17, 2024. A graveside service will be held at the Southern Maine Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Friday, Aug. 2 at noon.

**Theodore L. Hargrove (Ted)**, of Sanford, formerly of New London, CT, and Worcester, MA, passed away on July 17, 2024, after a brief illness. Funeral services will be held on Monday, July 29, at 11 am at Black Funeral Home in Springvale. There are no calling hours.

**Janet Smith**, 83, passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 14, 2024, at Pinnacle Health and Rehabilitation Center in North Berwick. At Janet's request, arrangements will be private.

**Yvette St. Pierre**, 89, passed away on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at Durgin Pines in Kittery after a long illness. A Celebration of Life was held on July 24 at Bibber Memorial at Autumn Green, 47 Oak St., Alfred, followed by a committal service at St. Ignatius Cemetery.

**Tavayne Enley Weir and D'andre Morris Graham**, stepbrothers who died together in a tragic drowning accident on July 8, 2024, in Springvale, were remembered in a service at Carll-Heald and Black funeral home on Saturday, July 19, and were buried at the Oakdale Cemetery in Sanford. ■

## CITY COUNCIL *Cont'd from page 7*

tion work on businesses downtown.

Councilor Robert Stackpole says that the council should not have to review the city's flag policy every time someone has a disagreement with it. However, if there are ways to improve the policy, he thinks the council should adjust it accordingly. Stackpole says it is important that the councilors can "agree to disagree."

Stackpole also challenged citizens of Sanford-Springvale to educate themselves about the proposed new fire stations, and why they are necessary.

Councilor Jonathan Martell thanked the council for a good discussion about the flag policy (see last week's story), and for the agreed-upon compromise.

### Future Agenda Items

Hanselmann would like the city to plant a permanent Christmas tree in Central Park. She says this agenda item is not urgent.

Martell reminded members of the public interested in speaking, that the Aug. 6 council meeting will have discussions on the proposed polling place consolidation. ■

## Public Hearing Notice Tuesday, Aug 6, 2024 6:00 PM City Council Meeting



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

An application submitted by Fifo Cultivation, 72 Emery Street, Unit 407, Sanford, Maine, for a NEW Marijuana Manufacturing Tier 1 License.

The hearing will be conducted in person in the Sanford City Council Chambers and via remote video & teleconference at 6:00 P.M. on the date above-referenced. Members of the public wishing to join the meeting by phone should dial 1 (929) 205-6099 and use the meeting ID & Password provided in the link on the City of Sanford website calendar for the meeting date listed above: ([www.sanfordmaine.org](http://www.sanfordmaine.org)).

Public comments may be submitted via email to [info@sanfordmaine.org](mailto:info@sanfordmaine.org) in favor or against the requested license.

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: July 26, 2024  
Susan H. Cote, City Clerk



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

We are updating our logo  
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as **medical practice** and  
**outpatient location names**,  
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**Alex Mejia,**  
Physician Assistant  
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