

Wreaths Across America ceremony honors local fallen heroes



At a Wreaths Across America ceremony on Dec. 18, members of American Legion Post 58 posed behind flag poles and monuments in Belmont Village that pay tribute to all branches of the U.S. military. The group then set out to visit the town's 15 cemeteries where they and many others paid tribute to more than 100 local veterans who dedicated their lives to the fight for freedom
BY DONNA RHODES
Contributing Writer

BELMONT – The Town of Belmont's Cemetery Trustees teamed up with American Le-

gion Post 58 for a special Wreaths Across America dedication on Saturday, Dec. 18, which began with a brief ceremony at the Veterans Memorial

and Flags across from the Belmont Town Hall. "This is the first,



During the Dec. 18 Wreaths Across America event in Belmont, Pietro Carvalho and his mom Marina knelt beside the grave of U.S. Marine veteran Leo Ricard and his wife Georgianna as they honored them both for their service and sacrifices.

and hopefully annual, Wreaths Across America ceremony in Belmont," said Post 58 Commander Russ Fabian.

Joining him in the event were Vice Commander Rich Stanley, Post Adjutant Glen Jester, Sergeant at Arms

George Weeks, and members Woody Fogg, Mike O'Meara, Terry El-

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Death of woman found at Belmont transfer station ruled accidental

BELMONT — Attorney General John M. Formella, State Police Col. Nathan Noyes, and Belmont Police Chief Mark Lewandoski announce the following information in connection with the discovery of a deceased adult female in Belmont on Sept. 9.

On that day, the Belmont Police Department responded to a waste transfer station, and found the deceased body of Jessica Lurvey, age 28. Ms. Lurvey's body arrived at the transfer station among the contents of a disposal truck, and had been discovered when contents were being removed and separated.

Twelve days later, the deceased body of Matthew Schofield, age 29, was found at a solid waste facility in Lewiston, Maine. The facility in Maine where Mr. Schofield's body was found was a facility at which waste would continue on for processing from the Belmont transfer facility.

New Hampshire's Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Mitchell Weinberg, has concluded that Ms. Lurvey died as a result of crush injuries, and her manner of death has been ruled accidental — to wit, crushed by trash compactor while intoxicated by fentanyl. According to the Maine Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, Mr. Schofield's death has been ruled accidental, resulting from probable combined effects of buprenorphine, amphetamine, methamphetamine, and fentanyl.

Based on the investigation conducted into the deaths of Ms. Lurvey and Mr. Schofield, who were involved in a prior romantic relationship, it appears that on the evening of Sept. 8, during a heavy rainstorm, the two sought shelter from the inclement weather in a large trash or recycling bin, which was mechanically picked up by and loaded into a compacting waste removal vehicle. The contents of the vehicle, including the bodies of Ms. Lurvey and Mr. Schofield, were then brought to the waste facility in Belmont. There, Ms. Lurvey's body was discovered during the waste sorting process. Mr. Schofield's body was not discovered at the Belmont facility, but was further transferred with waste products to the facility in Maine where his body was subsequently discovered. Ms. Lurvey, like Mr. Schofield, was intoxicated by drugs at the time of her death, a circumstance that likely factored into her accidental death.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BELMONT — The Belmont and Berlin girls' hoop teams were supposed to meet in the first game of the season in Berlin, but that game was postponed, so instead of meeting up for the second time in a week, the two teams met for the first time on Friday, Dec. 17, in Belmont.

Belmont started strong, scoring 15 points in the first quarter, but the Mountaineers bounced back with a strong second period to cut the lead to just five at the break.

However, the hosts shut out the visitors in the third quarter and pulled away for the 45-25 win.

"We had a good practice yesterday and it carried over to the first quarter today," said Bel-

mont coach Mike Andriski. "We have a young team, really only two kids with lots of varsity playing time, so we're still understanding what it takes to play at this level and be competitive."

"We turned the ball over way too much," said Berlin coach Don Picard, noting his team turned it over 35 times in the season opener. "We turn it over and give other teams easy opportunities to score."

Belmont's Savannah Perkins scored the first four points of the game, hitting a foul shot and a three-pointer and then teammate Alyssa Edgren followed up with the next seven points, hitting a hoop, putting back a rebound and then draining a three-pointer for the 11-0 lead.

SEE GIRLS, PAGE A7



Alyssa Edgren looks to move the ball during action against Berlin prior to the holiday break.

Tilton's Robin Fleury reflects on five decades of giving



Tilton resident Robin Fleury was pleased that the communities of Tilton and Franklin were so generous this year in her campaign for Toys for Tots, conducted through Health First in Franklin.

BY DONNA RHODES
Contributing Writer

TILTON – For nearly five decades, Tilton resident Robin Fleury has worked for Toys for Tots to make the holidays brighter in her community. Ever humble, however, she credits all her labors to her neighbors who care for others as deeply as she.

Her passion for collecting gifts for children over the holidays began many years ago, when she and her then-husband would join with other motorcycle riders to bring donations to Toys for Tots to drop-

SEE FLEURY, PAGE A7

A new year begins at the Belmont Library

BELMONT — The Belmont Library is planning a January chockful of exciting events and great reading. Families

should mark their calendars for the Winter Reading Kick-off Jan. 7, 3-5 p.m. Drop in for stories, crafts, and treats.

What is Winter Reading? The Winter Reading program (Jan. 9-March 15) will be a lot like the Summer Reading program. Participants will track their reading hours and collect raffle tickets for prizes. There will be several Winter Reading events, which you will see on the monthly calendar, and programs during this time will focus on winter themes. All ages may participate.

Preschool Story-time (Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.) and Toddler Time (Wednesdays 10:30 a.m.) begin the week of Jan. 10. We will read stories, practice rhymes, and do a craft or collaborative activity together.

Also starting the week of Jan. 10 are two tween and teen groups. Movie Club: We will set up in the Children's Room to watch, discuss, and even create movies every other Monday at 3 p.m. This program is geared toward middle school and high school kids and will be led primarily by the club members to meet



their particular interests. Great Stone Face Book Club: Join this book club, which meets every other Thursday, to discuss some of the

best Junior fiction of the year. We will decide together which Great Stone Face book to read together, then meet to discuss! Every other Thursday at 4 p.m.

Parents and caregivers might also consider dropping in to our Bring Your Own Baby event or taking home a craft for the kiddos. For the Bring Your Own Baby event on Saturday, Jan. 15 at 11 a.m., we will choose a family-friendly movie to watch, while your little ones play nearby and are free to be noisy. While you're in, grab a craft to take home with you, or stop in on Friday Jan. 14 or 28 for Crafternoon, any time after 3 p.m.

The January non-fiction book group is centered on "I'll be gone in the dark," a masterful true crime account of the Golden State Killer—the elusive serial rapist turned murderer who terrorized California for more than a decade—from Michelle McNamara, the gifted journalist who died tragically while investigating the case. The discussion is set for Thursday, Jan. 13 at 1 p.m. Our Friday Fiction book group meets on Friday, Jan. 21 at 10:30 a.m. to discuss "I let you go" by Clare Macintosh. "I Let You Go" follows Jenna Gray as she moves to a ramshackle cottage on the remote Welsh coast, trying to escape the memory of the car accident that plays again and again in her mind and desperate to heal from the loss of her child and the rest of her painful past. Both book group titles are available digitally and at the library and we welcome hybrid attendance.

The Library will be closed Jan. 1 and Jan. 17. The Belmont Public Library is open six days a week and any time at www.belmontpubliclibrary.org, serving the community with books, digital resources, and cultural programming. In 2018, the library celebrated 90 years in the same building and 125 as Belmont's community library.

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Dawn Beers, VP – Marketing Officer, and Julie Buker, VP – Retail Banking & Branch Administration Officer, are surrounded by toys generously donated by Franklin Savings Bank employees and customers for WMUR’s annual Toys for Tots campaign

Franklin Savings Bank makes holidays brighter for children and families

FRANKLIN — Children and families in the Franklin area and across the state will have a brighter holiday due to the kindness bestowed by Franklin Savings Bank, its employees and customers. The bank made a \$1,000 donation to the Franklin Toy Drive spearheaded by Boomer’s Barbeque to collect unwrapped toys for children. In addition, the bank’s employees sponsored 25 children through Franklin Police Department’s annual Toys for Tots campaign, and delivered countless toy donations from customers to a similar campaign organized by the Boscawen Police Department.

Established in 1869, Franklin Savings Bank is an independent, mutually-owned community bank, offering a full array of commercial lending, personal banking and investment services. Headquartered in Franklin, the Bank has offices in Bristol, Boscawen, Tilton, Gilford, Merrimack and Goffstown. Through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Independence Financial Advisors, Franklin Savings Bank also offers investment, insurance and financial planning services. A recognized leader in providing the latest in financial services technology, Franklin Savings Bank is committed to serving the needs of businesses, families and the communities it serves, through

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Charles E. Tilton Block owner recognized by Historical Society



The Tilton Historical Society is happy to present this year's third annual Historic House Plaque to building owner, Michael Gagne. Gagne owns the building located at 293 Main St., known as the "Charles E. Tilton Block," built in 1886 by the town's wealthiest and most prominent and influential citizen. Charles Tilton made his fortune during the California gold rush by opening supply stores that catered to the masses that swarmed to the west coast. The building was better known in recent years, as "Bank Block" since it housed both Iona and Citizens banks. The block is broken up into two sections... The "western section" on the left, which held the tow banks, and the "eastern section" to its right, recognizable by its large store front. Gagne owns the eastern section on the right, which used to be the home of "The Blooming Iris" shop but now is home to his real estate business, HomeSmart First Choice Realty.



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Snowy weather is nothing new

The first big snow dump of the season has come and gone, leaving us with anywhere between three and eight inches of snow, depending on where you are. As with most things, we like to think about how our ancestors handled certain situations. On a personal note, it was during a snowy drive last winter that we writer became more grateful for studded snow tires and heat, after thinking about how those before us dealt with travel during snowstorms.

During the winter of 1717, a storm dumped four feet of snow creating snowdrifts of up to 25 feet. Passing through the snow-covered roads was too much for a postman who traded his horse for a pair of snowshoes. Objects similar to skis were attached to carriages as a means of winter transportation.

Streets had to be passable for wood and food deliveries. When the roads were not passable townspeople would gather together in large groups and dig out a path. The snow was placed into the back of a horse-drawn cart by gangs of men and driven to the closest river to be dumped. Salt was also used on streets, but many people complained because it ruined their shoes and clothes.

Fast forward to 1840, when the first snowplow patent came to be. It wasn't until 1862 that the first snowplow was put into use. The plow was attached to a cart and pulled by a team of horses. Soon after, many cities began to use the horse-drawn snowplow.

Typically, the use of the horse-drawn plow was only used to clear main streets, leaving side streets and sidewalks snowed in by large piles often blocking entrances to businesses. Many business owners actually brought lawsuits against the plowing companies as a result because their customers could not gain access to the storefronts.

The solution to that conundrum, was the hiring of snow shovelers to accompany the plow. The blizzard of 1888, however, was too much for the "modernized" plow, leaving many people trapped inside their homes. This emergency was the catalyst cities needed to begin coming up with a better plan for snow removal. One idea was to stay on top of the storm as it started, instead of waiting for it to end. Different men driving the plows were assigned to certain neighborhoods as well.

The invention of the automobile brought with it a crutch and a new possibility as far as snow removal went. The crutch being that an entirely new method needed to be engineered and put into use. In New York in 1913, a dump truck could be seen on city streets. Seven years later, the first snow loader, came on to the scene. It had a big scoop with a conveyor belt. The snow would go into the scoop via the belt, then dumped into the back of the truck. From there, off to the river it went.

It wasn't until 1959 when the weather was able to be predicted more accurately, allowing towns and cities to better prepare for any incoming storms.

Reading old diaries of our New England ancestors gives the perfect window as to what it was like to experience a bitter cold winter, prior to modern practices. Below a quote literary critic Van Wyck Brooks.

"All praise to winter, then, was Henry's feeling. Let others have their sultry luxuries. How full of creative genius was the air in which these snow-crystals were generated. He could hardly have marveled more if real stars had fallen and lodged on his coat. What a world to live in, where myriads of these little discs, so beautiful to the most prying eye, were whirled down on every traveler's coat, on the restless squirrel's fur and on the far-stretching fields and forests, the wooded dells and mountain-tops,—these glorious spangles, the sweepings of heaven's floor."

— The Flowering of New England, 1815-1865

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Local students spread holiday cheer at Veterans Home

The Tuesday before Christmas, Shaker Regional School district students were spreading holiday cheer by making Christmas trees for the NH Veterans Home in Tilton. New to the area, Allison Dufresne brought her family tradition of making and donating little Christmas trees to Canterbury Elementary School where 4th graders learned how to assemble them. "They're made of coat hangers and 30 feet of garland," explains Dufresne. She continues, "The kids really love learning to make one themselves, and it also teaches the kids the importance and joy of giving back to your community." Fourth grader, Abel Hopeny-Sogren, reflects, "I like being able to share the things I do at school with the veterans." The Veterans Home was happy to have the little trees to decorate the common rooms of the home.



STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

Believe it or not

BY LARRY SCOTT

Serena Williams, ranked "among the best tennis players in the world," holds 308 grand slams, four Olympic gold medals, and in the process made a cool \$92 million in prize money ... according to Ripley.

By now, you know, if you've been following my writing, that, although I respect her accomplishments, I am not all that concerned about Serena Williams. Or, frankly, about Ripley either.

But there is another Believe it or Not that does concern me. And this one will have fewer followers than anything Ripley may claim, but it is still true.

About a week before His crucifixion, Jesus

was called to the home of Mary and Martha. Their brother Lazarus was seriously ill, and they got a message to Jesus hoping He could intervene and restore Lazarus to health. And Jesus finally made it to Bethany, but four days late; Lazarus was totally, completely, and unalterably dead!

But not to worry. Jesus went to the tomb, called on Lazarus to "come out." And then, still in burial bandages and walking stiffly, Lazarus emerged from the tomb. The man for whom much of Bethany had mourned was back!

Not that it did Jesus any good. Although some believed, civil authorities would have none of it. They thought Him a threat to their influence and control.

So, despite His growing popularity, and the fact He was the finest man society has ever known, they had Him crucified. When you can't handle the truth ... kill the messenger!

And that highlights the frustrating task before me. I can tell of Jesus' life and message, defend the facts surrounding His death and resurrection, and offer evidence that, in effect, constitutes proof of His deity. And yet intelligent people, friends I respect, men and women who know me, and some who, frankly, know the Gospel record as well as I, refuse to believe.

Lack of evidence? Not at all. It cannot be an issue of historical reliability; the evidence is clear-cut. It is, I sus-

pect, personal. Believe in Jesus, take Him at His word, and fundamental life-style changes must take place.

And that's the kicker, isn't it? We all resist anyone, including God, telling us how to live.

That is sad, for the Christian life is no drag. I will grant that if we are to follow Jesus, we must discipline our actions and control our drives. But that is not as difficult as it may sound, for there is a pay-off. The pleasure of a clear conscience, the conviction that death no longer threatens, and the knowledge that God is overseeing our progress ... all add up to a lifestyle we wouldn't trade for anything in this world. Anything!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Common sense is as easy as pie

To the Editor:
Freedom to one person can be an injustice to another, but that which supports life is universal to us all.

There was a recent post on Facebook that describes freedoms in a common sense way: "Common sense is as easy as pie! This should be easy to understand how freedoms work... This person took his part [of the pie], but it affected others negatively [because they cut their piece from the middle of the pie which cut into every other piece of the pie]. He exercised his freedom, but with an injustice to others. Freedoms can't be exercised as every individual wants without looking at injustice to others. Justice disappears when you harm others. An example of bad exercise of individual freedom."

Freedoms can compete with other freedoms in the same way that rights can compete with other rights. The right to clean water, uncontaminated soil, and fresh air is only enjoyed by those that can afford to protect the few areas that have not been impacted to a significant degree by industrialization. Those that cannot afford to live in cleaner environments must live in areas that have been contaminated for commercial profit.

The freedom to profit in this country appears to be the ultimate "right" that belongs to a few corpo-

rate actors that can exercise their "rights" to harm people and the environment at the expense of those being sickened and dying. Our system of law and government elevates these unjust corporate "rights" to harm above our individual rights to protect our health, safety, and general welfare.

As an example, the recent news article from In-Depth NH, Higher Than Expected Kidney and Renal Cancers Found in Merrimack describes the lengthy, bureaucratic process that continues to uphold corporate constitutional (both state and federal) "rights" to cause harm in the name of profit while all the human and natural inhabitants impacted by such harms will likely be sick or dead by the time there is any change in law or government to protect them, the ecosystems, or future generations. We cannot use the system that created these injustices to solve them.

Local lawmaking power using a community rights-based approach has successfully deterred harmful corporate activities in a dozen Granite State towns. Visit the NH Community Rights Network at www.nhcommunityrights.org, or contact us at info@nhcommunityrights.org to learn more.

Michelle Sanborn
Belmont

TNS Christmas Fund grateful for community's support

To the Editor:

The Tilton-Northfield-Sanbornton Christmas Fund is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, which has been in existence since 1987 to assist families in need. We provide coats, ski pants, boots, hat, mittens and toys for all eligible children. We provide families with a food basket with everything needed for Christmas dinner and also a small gift for the elderly within our communities.

This project is funded (or funded in part) by the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction and from many other organizations including: 94.1 WFTN Cash and Cans drive with Fred Caruso, Tilton House of Pizza, Pauli's Restaurant, Thomas Richard Salon, and Northway Bank all collect toys and clothing that their patrons very generously purchase for us to distribute. The Sanbornton Congregational Church

donates hand knitted hats, mittens, scarfs and other items to us every year. We receive donations from area businesses and from many other individuals. Without all of them this program would not be as successful as it is!

We are very fortunate to have The American Legion Post 49, the Doric Centre Lodge #20, and the Tilton Northfield Rotary help us with food baskets and deliveries every year.

Last year, the TNS Christmas fund serviced 125 families that included 359 individuals, 132 adults, 163 children and 64 elderly households. We are very thankful to have so much help from so many people and we are truly grateful for each and every person involved!

TNS Christmas Fund
Tilton

North Country Notebook



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

This week, a few words about the Internet, both a blessing and a curse—a blessing because it offers unfettered exchanges and information, and a curse because it's willfully or carelessly misused.

As a guy who's been newspapering for better than half a century, I can certainly remember a time when there were no such things as email, cell phones or the Internet, and in fact no personal computers at all. In fact, I was there for the beginning of desktop publishing. Weekly newspapers, by the way, led the wave.

It's more fun to focus on the blessings of the medium; there are more than enough critics focusing on the curses. The social media have more than earned the curses, largely because of the excess that often comes when something that never existed suddenly becomes both unconstrained and cheap.

Perhaps it's worth observing that most reasonable people eventually want some sort of guidance (if not governance) on things that are cheap, mostly free, and available to all.

My wanderings (and wonderings) on the Net have led me down all sorts of paths, some augmenting old curiosities with new information (the days of sail, for example, or the voyages of discovery), and some entirely new.

Longtime reading about the first Europeans to visit the North American continent led me to visit the Net again and again as it made a wealth of information, particularly so much new material, so readily

available. Someone is always finding something in an old attic trunk.

For instance, like many people I knew about the hostility early Europeans experienced from Native Americans. As the great sailor and historian Samuel Eliot Morison wryly observed when recounting one such episode along the Maine coast, it seemed as though the Indians were acting on experience.

Indeed they were. Even the relatively primitive paper-trail of the time (i.e., pre-Internet) had led me to a wealth of reading on early Norse visits, and such settlements as L'Anse aux Meadows (ca. 1020) in Newfoundland. Then there were the various "touchings" along the East Coast, the Maritimes, and the St. Lawrence itself by Spanish and Portuguese fishermen to salt and dry their catches and trade with native people.

Lifelong friend William H. Gifford, in his book "Colebrook: A Place Up Back of New Hampshire," devoted three pages to a list of terms that had crept into Abenaki use in previous centuries, and compared them to the languages of the day. The comparisons were amazing.

All during early colonization, various tribes of the Wobanaki Nation had become alarmed by the swindling and claimed "purchases" of their tribal lands by European colonists. Early settlers were still under some royal control on such matters. After the colonies gained their independence, all bets were off.

Independence came just as settlers were spilling over the Appalachians and illegally occupying land in the Ohio Valley and beyond. For this and other rea-

Oh, the wonders of the Net

Where did today go, anyway?



This photo of the Baker River, where it flows into the Pemigewasset at Plymouth, was taken more than a century ago, in 1907. (Courtesy Library of Congress)

sions, the new colonies were targeted during the French and Indian War, a Europe-driven conflict that ran from 1754 to 1763 and brought raids instigated in Quebec, Montreal, and Indian villages in southern Quebec.

From earlier reading, I knew that raiders captured settlers in Portsmouth, Dover, Exeter, and other seacoast towns, and took them on the weeks-long trip to Canada. The Captive Trail went along the upper Merrimack River to where the Baker River flows into the Pemigewasset at Plymouth; and thence up the Baker Valley to the height of land, and down into the Connecticut River valley and thus on to French Canada.

The Indians had been paid to conduct the raids, after all, and were paid for each scalp or captive brought home. Cap-

tives were valuable for the ransom they would bring from families back home. But how would their families know they had survived the raids, and were being held captive far to the north?

I knew that there had to be a faster way of carrying word of this than the long journey by sail down the St. Lawrence and around the Maritimes and on up the coast to Boston. Conventional reading brought hints of longstanding Indian trails connecting the Canadian and Bay Colony settlements. And just a bit later on, times had changed, and it was "Internet to the Rescue."

(For the fun of it, enter "French and Indian War captives," or with the same intro, "ransom notes," and see what you get. Presto! Ransom notes.)

A final note on all this. Millennia before,

the various tribes of the Wobanaki Nation had found faster ways to communicate with their northern kin. Runners, accustomed to dog-trotting the trails, carried messages back and forth during times of war, and later, during strife from conflicts in Europe. Express trails were marked through the woods, and word from settlements in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont could be carried back and forth in a matter of days.

I cannot let the use of the Internet drift by without a blatantly self-serving comment or two, so here goes.

--No search engine can perform better than the words you use; i.e., choose your words carefully. To assuage any fear, go to (guess what?) a Web site--just enter "using a website" and go soak your brain. Hint: look for a ".org," because other sites have motives.

--Once answers pop up, beware the ".coms" and other obvious commercial sites. Stick with ".orgs" unless you're experienced enough in your field of interest to wade in and be selective.

--The Internet has very few truthful, selective, impartial, apolitical (i.e., without politics), fair-minded guides. To save time, let's call them "editors," or even better, "gate-keepers."

There are few ways for people to know when (and when not) to open the gate. "Caveat emptor" is the old Latin warning: "Buyer beware." You had better know your stuff, lest the time-wasters and muton-heads slip through.

(Please address mail, including phone numbers for questions, to campguyhooligan@gmail.com or 386 South Hill Rd., Colebrook, NH 03576.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Belknap residents, voters & taxpayers beware

To the Editor:

Ladies & gentlemen I would like to introduce a concept that many of us may have heard of before called "term limits." This important concept is defined as: "A provision, as in state constitution or city charter, that restricts the number of terms an elected or appointed official may serve." In Belknap County, our 18 State Representatives are not subject to this very important provision of "term limits." Other levels of government public officials are subject to term limits.

I am presenting this matter before you, because five members of the Executive Committee on the Belknap County Delegation, will be meeting on Thursday, Dec. 30 at 1 p.m. at the County Complex, 34 County Dr., Laconia, in conference room #1 to consider the 2022 budget recommendation from three Belknap County Commissioners. This group will then report back to the full delegation for a vote on the next county budget in 2022.

The Belknap Commissioners presented their budget to the full delegation in a public setting in early December 2021. Having been involved in numerous budgets at the town, county and state level, I know from experience that changes will and should often be made to a budget proposal.

My concern: this group of five (Rep. Sylvia, Rep. Howard, Rep. Comtois, Rep. Aldrich, and Rep. Silber) have served, in many instances, multiple terms. Most importantly, I have previously witnessed decision making by this group, that has not been in the best interests of the Belknap County taxpayers, residents and voters. When Belknap County individuals need help it is our moral obligation to help our neighbor.

When politicians enjoy the privilege of serving in public office for many terms, their views on public policy get tainted by individual personnel philosophy. Their decisions can evolve from imported ideals

from out of state organizations, making it not in the best interest of Belknap County taxpayers, residents and voters.

In conclusion, with term limits, the real power belongs to you: the Belknap County taxpayers, residents and voters. If you discover, that your best public interests is NOT being honored by the rogue members of the Executive Committee namely (Rep. Sylvia, Rep. Howard, Rep. Comtois, Rep. Aldrich, and Rep. Silber) then please exercise your real power in November 2022 at the ballot box and politely retire these folks as your future Representatives.

Brian Gallagher
Sanbornton

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Shaker Regional School District will hold a public hearing relative to a withdrawal from Technology Expendable Trust Fund on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Belmont Middle School cafeteria.

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Edward Jones: Financial Focus

What are your financial resolutions for 2022?

As you know, 2021 was full of challenges. We were still feeling the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic when supply chains shut down and inflation heated up. So, if you're like many people, you might not be sorry to see the year come to a close. But now it's time to look ahead to a brighter 2022. And on a personal level, you may want to set some New Year's resolutions. You might resolve to improve your health and diet, and possibly learn some new skills, but why not make some financial resolutions, too?

Here are a few ideas to consider:

- **Prepare for the unexpected.** If you haven't already created an emergency fund, now may be a good time to start. Ideally, you'd like to have three to six months' worth of living expenses in this fund, with the money kept in a low-risk, liquid account. (If you're retired, you may want your emergency fund to con-

tain up to a year's worth of living expenses.) Once you've got this fund established, you may be able to avoid dipping into long-term investments to pay for short-term needs, such as costly home or auto repairs or large medical bills.

- **Boost your retirement savings.** The pandemic caused many us to reevaluate our ability to eventually enjoy the retirement lifestyles we've envisioned. In fact, 33% of those planning to retire soon said they started to contribute even more to their retirement savings during the pandemic, according to a study from Age Wave and Edward Jones. This year, if you can afford it, increase your contributions to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.
- **Reduce your debt load.** The less debt you carry, the more money you'll have available to support your lifestyle today and save and invest for

tomorrow. So, this year, resolve to cut down on your existing debts and avoid taking on new ones whenever possible. You can motivate yourself by measuring your progress – at the beginning of 2022, record your total debts and then compare this figure to your debt load at the start of 2023. If the numbers have dropped, you'll know you were making the right moves.

- **Don't overreact to the headlines.** A lot can happen during a year. Consider inflation – it shot up in 2021, but it may well subside in 2022. If you changed your investment strategy last year to accommodate the rise in inflation, would you then have to modify it again when prices fall? And inflation is just one event. What about changes in interest rates?

How about new legislation coming out of Washington? And don't forget extreme weather events, such as wildfires and floods. Any or all of these occurrences can affect the financial markets in the short term, but it just doesn't make sense for you to keep changing the way you invest in response to the news of the day. Instead, stick with a strategy that's appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. You may need to adjust this strategy over time, in response to changes in your own life, but don't let your decisions be dictated by external events. These aren't the only financial resolutions you can make – but following them may help you develop positive habits that can help you face the future with confidence.

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This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Before investing in bonds, you should understand the risks involved, including credit risk and market risk. Bond investments are also subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of bonds can decrease, and the investor can lose principal value if the investment is sold prior to maturity.

~ Comfort Keepers ~

Ways for seniors to remain socially connected

BY MARTHA SWATS
Owner/Administrator
Comfort Keepers

Many people worry that their senior loved ones spend too much time alone, and may be suffering from isolation.

But there are many ways for people to stay connected to the older adults in their lives. And, studies show that seniors are physically and mentally healthier when they maintain social connection and foster relationships

It's important to remember that it takes a team to ensure the highest quality physical and mental care for a senior. According to the AARP, nearly one in five family caregivers is providing unpaid care for an adult with health or functional needs. There are many ways that other family and friends can provide social support and create

meaningful interactions with their senior loved one.

For those trying to connect with a senior in their life, they can consider the following options:

Teach them something new – while many seniors are adept at using technology, some could use extra help getting set up for video chats or finding sources of online connection. Helping a senior learn to use new technology can be a fun bonding experience and pays off in continued contact! And if the family member or friend isn't an expert, they can consider taking a class together.

A study by William Chopik, a professor at Michigan State University, found "greater technology use was associated with better self-rated health, fewer chronic conditions, higher subjective well-being and

lower depression."

Involve others – Group video chats have never been easier to set up, and there are free options that are great for small groups or paid options for larger gatherings of friends and families. Seeing each other's faces and sharing stories is a great way to stay connected.

Play together online – Popular board games have gone virtual! Classics like Monopoly, Scattergories and Scrabble can be played online together, and there are a host of sites with card games, trivia and other fun activities to do together. Sometimes, a game night is all it takes to make people feel closer.

Spend time in-person when possible – While it may not always be possible, it's great to see loved ones when the situation permits. Families should take some time out of

their week when possible to take their senior loved ones to community events, or plan special meals at home. This can be especially important for seniors with mobility issues that can keep them from doing the activities they love outside of the home.

Become pen pals – The art of writing letters may be rare today, but everyone still loves to receive notes in the mail. Send letters with updates, drawings, photos and other small mementos, and encourage the recipient to reply. Letters and cards will quickly become cherished memories that can be shared and revisited in times of separation.

Consider hiring an in-home caregiver – For seniors that need a little extra help around the house, a caregiver not only provides assistance with daily living, but companionship and

conversation too. And, a caregiver can facilitate calls and video chats with loved ones. Caregivers are also trained to keep seniors safe in their home, and can be a great option to provide companionship during periods of illness or isolation.

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BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

TILTON — The Winnisquam hoop girls had a slow first quarter on Friday, Dec. 17, but they came on strong after that and finished with the first win of the year, 46-31 over Somersworth.

"It took some time to

get going," said coach Mark Dawalga. "Our defense is really what got us going and created a lot of chances in the second quarter that we were able to get it going on the offensive side of the ball."

Sophia Day had a big second quarter, as she

scored six points and the Bears went from being down 7-3 after one quarter to leading 19-13 at the halftime break. Winnisquam led 31-20 after three quarters of play.

"Very proud of this team," Dawalga said. "They work hard every day in practice and to see

it payoff is great.

"But still lots to work on," he added.

Dawalga praised Day for being a lift off the bench for the team with six points, five rebounds and four blocks to help a balanced offensive attack. Lauren MacDonald had 10 points,

five rebounds and four blocks, while Makenzie Phiippy added 10 points, five rebounds and four steals. Triniti Carter put in 10 points, added eight rebounds and four steals and Isabella Sargent had six points and nine rebounds. Victoria Kelly chipped in with four points and four rebounds.

Winnisquam dropped a 47-14 decision to Stevens on Monday, Dec. 20.

"We just came out flat

tonight," said Dawalga, noting that Alicia Paquette scored her first varsity points in the loss.

The Bears return to regular season action on Tuesday, Jan. 4, at Franklin at 6 p.m. and will host Fall Mountain on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

LITCHFIELD — Coming off their first win of the season, the Belmont hoop girls made their way to Litchfield on Monday, Dec. 20, and dropped a 49-37 decision to the Cougars.

"Tough night offensively tonight," said coach Mike Andriski. "(We) had great looks at

the hoop but only shot 18 percent from the floor and all the looks were great but couldn't get one to fall when we needed one."

The Raider coach also noted that the team had 22 turnovers, but despite that and the poor shooting, it was still a seven-point game with three and a half minutes to go.

Belmont trailed 10-4

after one and 22-12 at halftime before the Cougars took a 35-22 lead to the final quarter.

Courtney Burke led the way for the Raiders with 14 points, nine rebounds and seven steals while Savannah Perkins added eight points.

"Very happy with the effort, but we need to clean up the ball handling part of the game if

we want to win games," Andriski said.

Belmont will be at home on Monday, Jan. 3, at home against Stevens, at 6 p.m. and will be in Berlin on Wednesday, Jan. 5, at 6:30 p.m.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.

BELMONT POLICE LOG

BELMONT — The Belmont Police Department reported the following arrests from Dec. 6-20.

A 25-year-old from Alton and a 24-year-old from Belmont were taken into protective custody for intoxication on Dec. 6.

A 36-year-old from Meredith was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Dec. 6.

Henry Raphael Murray IV, age 39, of Barnstead was arrested on Dec. 8 for Acts Prohibited with a Controlled Drug, Control of a Premises Where Drugs have been Kept, and Possession of Drugs.

Sadie L. Stanley, age 36, of Tilton was arrested on Dec. 10 for Driving Under the Influence-Impairment and an Open Container violation.

A juvenile, age 17, was arrested on Dec. 10 for Domestic Violence-Simple Assault-Physical Contact and Criminal Threatening.

Mark A. Dexter, age 33, of Northfield was arrested on Dec. 11 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension, Suspension of Vehicle Registration, Breach of Bail Conditions, and violating Driver's License Prohibitions.

Therese Helen Liberty Bolduc, age 35, of Laconia was arrested on Dec. 12 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension and Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

Heaven Knapp, age 23, of Laconia was arrested on Dec. 12 for Reckless Operation.

Terry L. Keator, age 32, of Loudon was arrested on Dec. 12 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension.

James C. MacDonald, age 60, of Belmont was arrested on Dec. 13 for Resisting Arrest or Detention, Breach of Bail, and multiple counts of Domestic Violence-Simple Assault-Physical Contact.

John M. Stebbins, age 47, of Gilford was arrested on Dec. 14 for Stalking-Notice of Order.

Joshua Carr, age 42, of Canterbury was arrested on Dec. 14 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension and Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

Joshua K. Moon, age 32, of Barnstead was arrested on Dec. 14 in connection with multiple bench warrants.

Dana M. Gebo, age 28, of Belmont was arrested on Dec. 17 in connection with multiple bench warrants.

Jordan Andrew Tremblay, age 27, of Belmont was arrested on Dec. 18 for Domestic Violence-Obstructing Report of a Crime or Injury, Domestic Violence-Simple Assault-Physical Contact, Second Degree Assault-Strangulation, and Domestic Violence-False Imprisonment.

Devin W. MacDonald, age 25, of Belmont was arrested on Dec. 19 for Criminal Mischief.

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Monday, Jan. 3	
BELMONT	Boys' Hoops at Stevens; 7
GILFORD	Girls' Hoops vs. Stevens; 6
BELMONT	Boys' Hoops at St. Thomas; 6:30
GILFORD	Girls' Hoops vs. St. Thomas; 6
Tuesday, Jan. 4	
WINNISQUAM	Boys' Hoops vs. Franklin; 7
GILFORD	Girls' Hoops at Franklin; 6
Wednesday, Jan. 5	
BELMONT	Girls' Hoops at Berlin; 6:30
GILFORD	Nordic Skiing at Gunstock; 2:30
BELMONT-GILFORD	

Hockey vs. Pembroke-Campbell; 5
GILFORD
Girls' Hoops at Stevens; 6:30
Nordic Skiing at Gunstock; 2:30
WINNISQUAM
Hockey vs. Berlin-Gorham; 4
Wrestling Home Meet; 6

Thursday, Jan. 6

BELMONT
Boys' Hoops vs. Laconia; 6
GILFORD
Unified Hoops vs. Berlin; 3:30
WINNISQUAM
Girls' Hoops vs. Fall Mountain; 7

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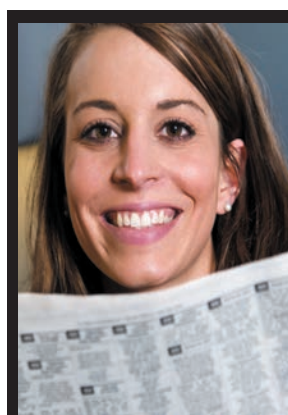
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Phone: (603) 388-4236
Ucvh-hr@ucvh.org
EOE



TOWN OF TILTON PART TIME LAND USE TECHNICIAN

Individual is responsible for performing clerical and technical duties in the Land Use Office for the Land Use Coordinator and Building Inspector. Serves as the Town's primary contact with the general public concerning building, planning, and zoning matters.

Position is part-time, 16 hours per week. Application and job description are available on the Town of Tilton website. www.tiltonnh.org. Prior office experience and computer skills a must. Wage commensurate with experience, up to \$16/hour.

Mail a letter of interest and a resume to the Land Use Coordinator, 257 Main Street, Tilton, NH 03276 or email to lmoynihn@tiltonnh.org. The Town of Tilton is an EEO Employer. Position will remain open until filled.

TOWN HOUSE APARTMENTS

* 2 & 3 BEDROOMS

NORTHERN VIEW APARTMENTS

W. Stewartstown, NH
Heat, Hot water and Electric Included
On-site Laundry
24-hour Maintenance



Federally subsidized - must meet income guidelines



Rents based on 30% of your gross income

PLEASE CONTACT FOXFIRE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
FOR AN APPLICATION AT
(603)228-2151 ext.312 or (TDD) 800-545-1833

This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider & Employer

BLUEBERRY STATION

is looking for
Friendly & Reliable

NIGHT CASHIER

Other shifts available.

Please apply in person:
BLUEBERRY STATION
1 Suncook Valley Road
Barnstead, NH

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FROM THE LAKES REGION TO THE GREAT NORTH WOODS.

- The Baysider
- Meredith News
- Berlin Reporter
- Gilford Steamer
- Granite State News
- Littleton Courier
- Record Enterprise
- Winnisquam Echo
- Newfound Landing
- Coös County Democrat
- Carrol County Independent

CALL 603-279-4516
TO PLACE YOUR
AD TODAY!





MOULTONBOROUGH- Delivery Driver

Belletetes has an immediate opening in our Moultonborough location for a full-time delivery driver. A CDL-B license is required with 3 years experience and a safe and clean driving record. This position can involve heavy lifting.

You may apply in person or download a **driver application** from our website. All applications should be submitted to:

Leigh Duquet, c/o Belletetes Inc.
121 Whittier Highway, Moultonborough, NH 03254
or you may email to lduquet@belletetes.com.

E.O.E.

▶ Competitive Wages	▶ Paid Vacation	▶ Paid Holidays	▶ Paid Time Off
▶ Health Insurance	▶ Profit Sharing	▶ Store Discounts	▶ Much More!



ASHLAND - CASHIER

Are you friendly, outgoing and enjoy meeting new people? Belletetes is looking for a full-time cashier to work in our Ashland store. Hours include every other weekend. Must have excellent customer service skills.

You may apply in person or download an application from our website. All applications should be submitted to:

Rick Ash, Hardware Manager
Belletetes, Inc., 20 West St., Ashland, NH 03217
or you may email to rash@belletetes.com.

E.O.E.

Competitive Wages	Paid Vacation	Paid Holidays	Paid Time Off
Health Insurance	Profit Sharing	Store Discounts	Much More!



MOULTONBOROUGH- Delivery Driver

Belletetes has an immediate opening in our Moultonborough location for a delivery driver. Must have a valid driver's license with a clear driving record. As part of the job requirement, a DOT medical card is required (employer will assist candidate in obtaining medical card). Heavy lifting is required.

You may apply in person or download a **driver application** from our website. All applications should be submitted to:

Leigh Duquet, c/o Belletetes Inc.
121 Whittier Highway, Moultonborough, NH 03254
or you may email to lduquet@belletetes.com.

E.O.E.

▶ Competitive Wages	▶ Paid Vacation	▶ Paid Holidays	▶ Paid Time Off
▶ Health Insurance	▶ Profit Sharing	▶ Store Discounts	▶ Much More!

**To place
your
classified
line ad
please call
our TOLL
FREE number:
1-877-766-6891**

Help Wanted

Call our toll-free number 1-877-766-6891
and have your help wanted ad in 11 papers next week!

VARNEY-SMITH Lumber Company, Inc.

CDL TRUCK DRIVER/ YARD MAN

Duties to include:

- Local deliveries of lumber-building materials.
- Loading-off loading incoming and outgoing deliveries
- Must be conscientious, self-motivated, good with people, a team player
- Able to lift a variety of building materials
- Preferably long-term employee

Benefit to include:

- Competitive Wages
- Health Insurance
- Vacations
- Holidays
- Overtime pay

Please Apply in person at
2701 Route 302, Lisbon, NH 03585
No phone calls please.

PERMANENT FULL TIME PLANNING/ZONING & ASSESSING COORDINATOR

The Town of Campton, NH is seeking candidates for the position of Planning/Zoning & Assessing Coordinator. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent; 3 to 5 years of office experience, preferably in municipal government; or any equivalent combination of education or experience which demonstrates possession of the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. Applicants must enjoy working with the public. This is a full-time position with benefits with an hourly pay range from \$19.45 to \$23.69, depending on experience.

A full job description and application form is available at www.camptonnh.org

**Applications must be submitted by
January 10, 2022, to:**

Corey J. Davenport, Town Administrator
12 Gearty Way, Campton, NH 03223
Toc.cd@camptonnh.org

The Town of Campton is an
equal opportunity employer.
The position will remain open until filled.

Help Wanted

Contracted Maintenance Person

Moultonborough Public Library is looking for a skilled, independent Maintenance Contractor to perform upkeep tasks such as repairs and maintenance. The hours vary and in general they are 15 hours or less per week.

Call 603-476-2504 or email
director@molultonboroughlibrary.org
for more information.

The National Domestic Violence

HOTLINE

1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

WWW.THEHOTLINE.ORG

HELP US SAVE LIVES.

NOW HIRING!

JOIN OUR TEAM TO MANUFACTURE TURNOUT GEAR THAT PROTECTS FIREFIGHTERS.

Our mission is to keep firefighters safe by providing protective gear they can trust, helping to ensure they can return safely to their loved ones.

MSA Globe has handcrafted Turnout Gear since 1887. Today, we continue to lead the market in serving firefighters by providing innovative head-to-toe solutions that offer advanced performance and safety.



Earn up to \$25/hr

Rate dependent upon experience and ability to demonstrate skills and proficiency over time.



Earn up to \$2,000 Sign-On and Stay Bonus



Growth Opportunities

Pathways are set up for associates to learn and grow within the company.



Full-Time Associate Benefits

- Medical insurance
- Dental insurance
- 401k w/ company match
- Productivity and attendance bonuses
- Tuition reimbursement of up to 90% after one year
- And more...



Hours

- 6:00 am - 3:30 pm (Offering flexible hours)
Monday-Friday
- OT available

To view all career opportunities at MSA Globe go to
msasafety.com/careers

*Terms and conditions apply. HOURLY ASSOCIATES HIRED FROM JUNE 1, 2021, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021



16-6493-MCP / 11/2021

FRAMERS AND LABORERS WANTED FOR INDOOR WORK

Do you have construction framing or laborer experience but don't want to be out in the cold this winter? Wallace Building Products is a 100% employee-owned business looking to hire for our Danbury NH facility. This position will work with other employees to build rough-framed walls for the construction industry in a shop environment.

We currently offer health insurance, vacation pay, and a retirement plan, monthly bonuses for good attendance and have plans to offer more benefits in the near future. We will also train those who don't yet have experience.

Apply in person at 1525 US Route 4 in Danbury NH or call 768-5900 to set up an appointment.



Winner 2021 Hospitality/Tourism Business of the Year
— Business NH Magazine —



J.J's On The Common

Join our team. Seeking dependable and experienced retail help for an exciting new store located in down town Plymouth.

Please stop by 91 Main Street and ask for Cathy or email renewberrys@thecman.com

To place your classified line ad, please call our TOLL FREE number: 1-877-766-6891

PLYMOUTH STATE

18712021

150

AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Plymouth State is offering a limited opportunity for you to make your mark on campus. Add to your legacy or honor someone you love by purchasing a commemorative brick to be installed on University Way by Rounds Hall.

When you give to Plymouth through the 150th Anniversary Brick Campaign, you invest in campus beautification for the next generation of Plymouth State students.

ORDER YOUR BRICK TODAY AND MAKE YOUR MARK ON CAMPUS—VISIT [PLYMOUTH.EDU/BRICKS](https://plymouth.edu/bricks)

*All text will be engraved in uppercase and centered on the brick. Brick sponsorship is tax deductible.**

4"x 8" Engraved Brick - \$150
3 lines of text, 20 characters per line including spaces and punctuation
*(\$150 tax-deductible)**

MARY SMITH
CLASS OF 1971

1"x 3" Mini Replica Brick - \$50
Replicas may only be ordered with purchase of a 4"x 8" brick
*(\$40 tax-deductible)**

MARY SMITH
CLASS OF 1971

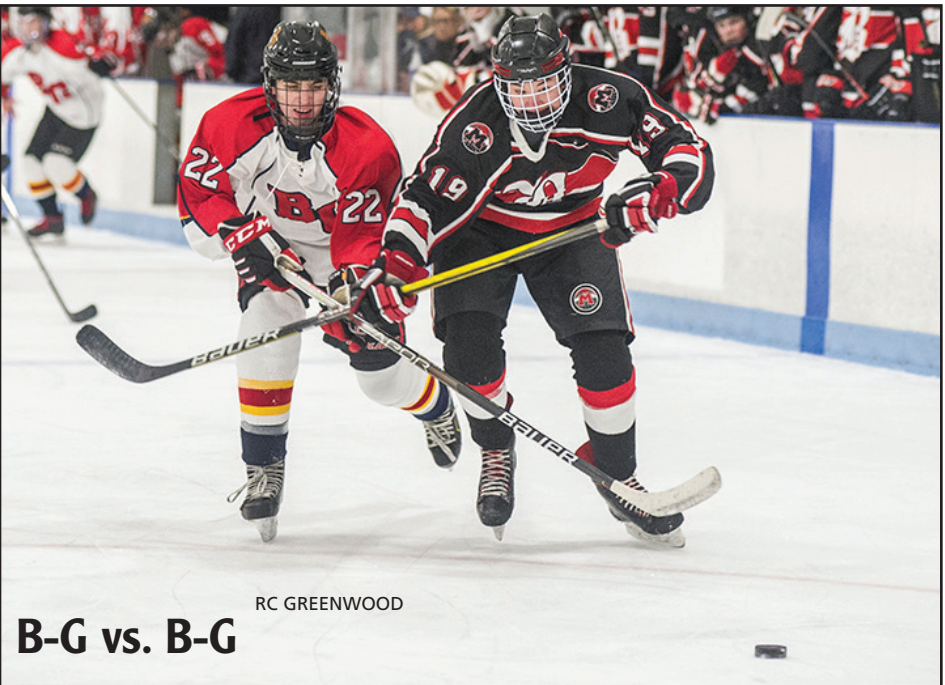
8"x 8" Engraved Brick - \$500
6 lines of text, 20 characters per line including spaces and punctuation
*(\$500 tax-deductible)**

THE JONES FAMILY
JANE JONES '90
JOHN JONES '90
JOHN JONES JR. '12
JULIA JONES '14
GO PLYMOUTH STATE!

3"x 3" Mini Replica Brick - \$100
Replicas may only be ordered with purchase of a 8"x 8" brick
*(\$86 tax-deductible)**

THE JONES FAMILY
JANE JONES '90
JOHN JONES '90
JOHN JONES JR. '12
JULIA JONES '14
GO PLYMOUTH STATE!

To learn more or place an order visit plymouth.edu/bricks or call University Advancement at (603) 535-2589 for assistance.



B-G vs. B-G

RC GREENWOOD

Belmont-Gilford's Aidan McKenzie races Berlin-Gorham's Jonah Berthiaume for the puck in action prior to the holiday break in Laconia. The Mountaineers prevailed with a 2-1 win, with Jaxson Embree getting the lone Bulldog goal. Colin Logan was stellar in net for Belmont-Gilford, stopping 30 shots in the loss. The Bulldogs hosted the Brady Sullivan Holiday Tournament after deadline this week and return to regular season action on Wednesday, Jan. 5, at home against Pembroke-Campbell at 5 p.m.

www.MaxfieldRealEstate.com

Happy Holidays!

FUTURE-

ARE YOU READY FOR A CHANGE?

START, CONTINUE, OR FINISH YOUR EDUCATION THIS JANUARY AT LRCC

Flexible scheduling, with easy transfer to four-year schools.
Affordable, flexible, personal.
Let Lakes Region Community College help you get started.

1/11/2022 IS OUR EXPRESS ADMISSIONS DAY

Tuesday, January 11th • 4pm – 6pm

We'll walk you through the enrollment process and help you plan a program that works for YOUR needs — from start to finish! We make enrolling EASY!

Learn More at LRCC.EDU/EXPRESS

Pre-Register To Save Time

Walk-Ins Welcome

LAKES REGION COMMUNITY COLLEGE

379 Belmont Rd. • Laconia, NH 03246 • (603) 524-3207 • www.LRCC.edu

GO GREEN IN

2022

☐ Install a Heat Pump Water Heater (\$750 Rebate) to replace an electric or fossil fuel system

☐ Install a Heat Pump for Cooling & Heating (\$500/ton Rebate + Tax Credit) to replace or supplement a fossil fuel system

☐ Install Solar PV (25% Tax Credit if in service by 12/31/2022) to provide clean renewable electricity to my home

☐ Buy a Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle (\$600 Rebate) to spend less time at the gas pump

☐ Buy a Battery Electric Vehicle (\$1,000 Rebate) to skip the gas pump for good

☐ Install an EV Charger (\$300 Rebate) to charge my EV off-peak and save

☐ Install a Battery Backup for my home rather than a gas or diesel generator

☐ Consider buying an electric or battery operated lawn-mower rather than a gas model (you may get an end of season deal)

☐ Consider buying an electric or battery operated snow blower rather than a gas model (you may get a pre-season deal)

☐ Install a Sense home energy monitor (\$75 discount from Sense, \$75 NHEC Rebate) to better understand your electric use

Visit www.nhec.com for complete program details