

## New trimester starts at Gilford schools



A group of parents put together “Kindness Bags” for girls in Gilford schools with some little essentials.

BY ERIN PLUMMER

mnews @salmonpress.news  
A new trimester has started in Gilford schools, with some new reminders for parents as well as some holiday cheer and acts of kindness.

The second trimester for Gilford schools started on Dec. 14 and students have started their new classes. The principals at Gilford Elementary and High Schools have been post-

ing updates for parents on the schools’ Web sites reporting the different happenings in the schools.

Before the trimester began parents had the option of changing if their students would be doing in-person learning or remote learning for the new period. GHS Principal Anthony Sperazzo reported in a parent update on the school website that students doing remote learning had



Some holiday artwork created by Gilford Elementary School learners.

an orientation after the trimester began.

GES Principal Danielle Bolduc wrote in the GES parent update that 14 students are returning to school at GES in-person for the new trimester.

“Our staff is ready to welcome our new learners and help them transition into school,” Bolduc wrote.

Bus routes have also been updated and some routes have changed. Parents have been advised to look at the schedule to see the latest information.

Parents are asked to fill out applications for free and reduced lunch, a process that takes 10 minutes with information kept confidential. According to the New Hampshire Department of Education’s Office of Nutrition the more applications received for a school district the more chances that district can receive state and federal funding, after school programs and enrichment activities, funding for computers and technology, classroom resources, and more. Contact [jdupuis@sau73.org](mailto:jdupuis@sau73.org) for applications and more information.

The schools were getting ready for Christmas vacation coming a little over a week after the trimester started.

GES students were doing different holiday activities including learning about different traditions, singing holiday songs, making artwork, and much more. The school had different theme days for the week of vacation including Holiday Attire, Grinch Day, and Pajama Day on the last day of school before vacation.

Female students got a special gift from a group of parents. GHS reported that gift bags had been given to the school nurses containing toothbrushes and toothpaste, feminine hygiene products, hair ties, lip gloss, gum and candy, and much more. The bags will be available for students who need those “little extras.”

The Gilford PTA is selling Spirit Wear including sweatshirts, hats, and bumper stickers. Contact the schools for an order form. Inventory is limited.

## Basketball programs starting soon at GYC

BY ERIN PLUMMER

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Kids can have some fun on the court with some coming basketball programs at the Gilford Youth Center in the next few weeks.

Lakes Region Elite Basketball will be hosting some basketball programs at the GYC including a winter camp for grades 1-8 during vacation and the start

of the winter season for kids in PreK-2.

Winter Vacation Basketball Camp will run Dec. 28-31 for students in grades 1-8 who want to build their fundamental skills in basketball or fine tune their skills.

“The camp will focus on proper techniques, basic and advanced skills, and basketball IQ, all in a fun, safe and learning environment,”

read the GYC Web site.

Each day, different grades and genders will have two hours of time. Students grades 1-3 of all genders will go from 9-11 a.m. Boys in grades 4-6 will go from noon-2 p.m. followed by girls in grades 4-6 from 2-4 p.m. Girls in 7-8 will go from 4-6 p.m. and boys in 7-8 will be from 6-8 p.m. The whole session will be \$60

SEE BASKETBALL PAGE 8

## Gilford Library hosting a variety of remote programs

BY ERIN PLUMMER

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Story times, crafts, and a book discussion are a few of the upcoming programs at the Gilford Public Library in January.

The new year will bring in more of the library’s programs for people of all ages with their own remote options.

Children’s Librarian Maria Suarez is hosting

a few special story times for kids.

Starting on Jan. 12, Miss Maria hosts “Bilingual Storytime” every Tuesday from 10:30-11 a.m. with stories, dancing, songs, and more fun in English and Spanish. The program will be available on Google Meet.

Every Thursday she also hosts “Mother Goose on the Loose” vir-

tual story time for babies through three-year-olds. Miss Maria will be on Facebook Live for nursery rhymes, songs, and more from 10:30-11 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 13 is “Wacky Wednesday Take & Make Craft.” Families can stop by the library during regular hours to pick up the materials and make the craft with the kids at

SEE LIBRARY PAGE 8

## Parks and Rec offers socially distanced holiday fun



The house at 296 Edgewater Dr. won the “Griswold Award” in the Holiday Home Decorating Contest held by Gilford Parks and Recreation and the Gilford PTA. (From the Parks and Rec Facebook page).

BY ERIN PLUMMER

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While a lot of traditional holiday activities could n’t happen this year, the Gilford Parks and Recreation Department offered some

socially distanced activities to spread some seasonal cheer including a decorations contest and an art contest for kids.

The Parks and Recreation Department hosted

some holiday activities for people of all ages to participate in virtually.

Parks and Rec and the Gilford District PTA co-sponsored the Holiday Home Decorating Contest where



The award for best Traditional Decorations went to 8 Wild Acres Rd. (From the Parks and Rec Facebook page).

homeowners submitted photos of their holiday decorations. Photos of the different houses were posted on Parks and Rec’s Facebook page and people could look through them to find their favorites. The contest received 20 submis-

sions, all of which were listed by address and put on a special map for people to drive past and see the decorations.

People were then asked to vote for their favorites on Survey Monkey and those with the most votes won in differ-

ent categories.

The categories were for “Traditional Decorations,” “Over the Top Lights” (the “Griswold Award” after the elaborate lights on the Griswold house in the film

SEE FUN PAGE 8



# Notes from the Gilford Public Library

Classes & Special Events  
Dec. 24 – Dec. 31

\*Sign up and face masks required

Thursday, Dec. 24  
The library will be closing at 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 24 for Christmas.

Friday, Dec. 25  
LIBRARY CLOSED

Saturday, Dec. 26  
LIBRARY CLOSED

Monday, Dec. 28  
21 Books for 2021 (Virtual), 1-1:30 p.m.

Join us on Facebook Live for 21 Fantastic Books for 2021! We will share some great new books to spice up your yearly reading list, and all books are available from the library.

Tuesday, Dec. 29  
NO EVENTS

Wednesday, Dec. 30  
Phone-In Check out an Expert, 10 a.m.-noon

Thursday, Dec. 31  
The library will be closing at 5 p.m. on

New Year's Eve. We are closed on New Year's Day. We will return to normal hours Saturday, Jan. 2, 2021 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

## Gilford Public Library Top Ten Requests

1. "The Sentinel" by Lee Child
2. "A Time for Mercy" by John Grisham
3. "Daylight" by David Baldacci
4. "Deadly Cross" by James Patterson
5. "The Awakening" by Nora Roberts
6. "The Law of Innocence" by Michael Connelly
7. "Transcendent Kingdom" by Yaa Gyasi
8. "A Promised Land" by Barack Obama
9. "Let Him Go" by Larry Watson
10. "Fortune and Glory: Tantalizing Twenty-Seven" by Janet Evanovich

## Rotary to launch Flags for Charity program

ALTON — There are five major patriotic days per year where we cel-

ebate and display our American flag in tribute to what those days represent. They are: Flag Day, Independence Day (4th of July), Constitution Day, Memorial Day, and Veterans Day. It's also an opportunity to juxtapose our patriotic support for helping to fund local and national charities.

This is why and how a number of Rotary Clubs throughout the country, soon to include the Alton Centennial Rotary club, will be engaged in a program selling American flags for public display to raise money for com-

munity needs.

At Alton's Rotary club weekly Zoom meeting last Thursday, Dec. 10, members heard guest speaker George Mobley, from the Henniker Rotary Club talk about how his club adopted the 'Flags for Charity' program. It's a simple case of selling a buyer on the idea of displaying an American flag on their property, that Rotarians will install, and store after each use, for a yearly cost of only \$50. The first year Henniker engaged in the program, they sold 205 flags.

"We're excited we'll be doing the same thing here in Alton, Barn-

stead, and New Durham in 2021," said Alton Rotary President Bob Regan. The Flag size is three by five feet, and stands 10 feet tall. If you are interested and would like to subscribe to participate, contact Chair of the "Flags for Charity" program, Rotarian Rhys Stucker, at: hrstucker@tds.net. Alton Rotary will install your flag every one of the five selected days, on your property, remove them five to seven days after the holiday and store your flag until the next display date all for a low annual fee.

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# Political signs find a new purpose

ALTON — The election is over, and none too soon for many. The prevalence of political signs in yards, on houses, and along the roadways has long been a topic of discussion in New Hampshire, with many viewing them as a blight on the natural landscape. The good news, however, is that at least some of the local political activists have collected their signs and are putting them to good use.

Belknap County Democrats made arrangements to deliver their leftover signs to the University of New Hampshire, other campaign signs are being re-used in a variety of different ways, including as movable walls in chicken coops and other

ties. Therese Wilkomm, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy, has used her own creativity to imagine new uses for discarded objects. Her students, who reconfigure the signs, at UNH benefit in multiple ways, learning sustainability and helping the disabled community at the same time. The people to whom these objects are distributed also benefit, by receiving adapted technologies that help them live more independent lives. And the community at large benefits by a reduction in the amount of trash and by restoring the landscape to its more natural beauty.

In addition to the signs being repurposed at the University of New Hampshire, other campaign signs are being re-used in a variety of different ways, including as movable walls in chicken coops and other



Pictured above are campaign signs being used as movable walls in a local chicken coop. In the second photo, Alton resident Andrea Caruso (on the right) is pictured with some of the hundreds of signs she delivered to the University of New Hampshire.

animal enclosures.

If you would like to join the sign recycling

effort, the contact information for Therese Wilkomm is therese.willkomm@unh.edu. A

YouTube video showing the repurposing effort is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mN31Cq-LKU4>.

## Lakes Region students earn academic honors at Brewster



Brewster Academy students Neillie Alperin of Alton Bay, Abigail Jarvi of Gilford, and Grayson Mouradian of New Durham, each earned the top honor—Summa Cum Laude—on the school's Fall 2020 Academic Awards list.

WOLFEBORO — Brewster Academy announced its academic honors for the fall trimester last week. Of the 216 students who received honors, 37 call the Lakes Region home.

“The fact that so many students earned a spot on the Fall Academic Honor Roll after what was certainly one of most trying and unusual trimesters in recent memory,” said Brewster’s Director of Communications Suzanne Morrissey, “is a testament to their incredible focus, resilience, and drive. It also speaks to the dedication our faculty and staff have shown to make sure the stu-

dents in our care had an enriching, meaningful learning experience despite all the hurdles the pandemic set in everyone’s path this year.”

At Brewster, Summa Cum Laude designation goes to students with grades of 92 or higher, and all courses must be at the Accelerated or AP level. Magna Cum Laude indicates grades of 90 or higher with all courses at the AP, Accelerated, or Standard level, and Cum Laude is awarded to students with grades of 85 or higher in all classes at the AP, Accelerated, or Standard level and grades of 90 or higher in all classes at the Foundational level. (For

more information about Brewster’s academic program and its unique team-centered approach to learning, visit [www.brewsteracademy.org](http://www.brewsteracademy.org).) Below is a list of the local students who achieved these academic honors this fall:

Summa Cum Laude  
Neillie Alperin, Senior, Alton Bay  
Abigail Jarvi, Sophomore, Gilford  
Grayson Mouradian, Freshman, New Durham

Magna Cum Laude  
Alison Ansorg, Senior, Center Harbor  
Alec Beland, Senior, Gilmanton  
Bodhi Boston, Senior, Wolfeboro

Cailean Corbally, Freshman, Wolfeboro  
Hailey Fuller, Senior, Mirror Lake  
Libby Harris, Junior, Wolfeboro  
Marvell James, Freshman, Wolfeboro  
Julia Koumrian, Freshman, Wolfeboro  
Katherine Martin, Senior, Wolfeboro  
Jillian Pollini, Senior, Melvin Village  
Rylee Rizzitano, Freshman, Gilford  
Zoe Schwartz, Sophomore, Wolfeboro  
Emmett Shea, Junior, Center Barnstead  
Tyler Rizzitano, Sophomore, Gilford

Cum Laude  
Kai Alvelo, Sophomore, Wolfeboro  
Jake Apgar, Junior, Wolfeboro  
Caleb Brennion, Junior, Wolfeboro  
Hayden Brooks, Sophomore, Wolfeboro  
Tucker Carlisle, Senior, New Durham  
Mitchell Coope, Senior, Wolfeboro  
Alexis Copp, Junior, New Durham  
Reid Demain, Senior, Wolfeboro  
Henry Dumont, Junior, Wolfeboro Falls

Annabelle Hunt, Sophomore, Wolfeboro  
Makenzie Kavanagh, Sophomore, Wolfeboro  
Catherine Ling, Senior, Wolfeboro  
Archer McClain, Sophomore, Center Tuftonboro  
Madelaine O’Blenis, Junior, Wolfeboro  
Timothy O’Keefe, Ju-

nior, Wolfeboro  
Kendall Proulx, Senior, Sanbornville  
Valeria Ramos, Junior, Alton Bay  
Ana Reynolds, Sophomore, Wolfeboro  
Alfred Schoenbucher, Senior, New Durham  
Olivia Tibbs, Junior, Alton Bay

### HE’S HERE!

We are proud to announce that Jerry Mello, who was previously working at Garneau’s Garage, has now joined our team at Bumper To Bumper Auto Repair Inc., here on Rt. 115, Twin Mountain, NH. Jerry has over 43 years of active experience in the automotive field, with his expertise in automotive repair. Come on in and help us give Jerry a warm welcome to our team. Jerry is anxious to be here, and to take care of all your automotive needs. You can call him at 603-846-0000.

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## Merry CHRISTMAS

*and Happy New Year!*



# Making SMART resolutions

With New Year’s Day just around the corner, we, like many, are thinking about resolutions. We could debate that September is actually the start of a new year given the clean slate of grades to start a new school year, but a new year is a new year, and not all of us are still in school.

More than half of all resolutions end in failure, but we like the fact that generally, we, as people, seek to improve ourselves and our lives. One reason resolutions fail is that a person just hasn’t chosen the right one, something that has meaning. Many people fail before the end of January.

A resolution isn’t the right one for you if it’s too vague, if it’s someone else’s expectations for you, or if you have no plan.

The acronym SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound) can be used to help facilitate your success. If you make a specific goal of losing a certain amount of weight, your goal will be easier to obtain. If you set a time limit, (baby steps) by saying I will lose one pound each week, your plan becomes more effective. As a side note if you haven’t seen ‘What About Bob’ starring Bill Murray, you must.

We all like to see progress and to see it fast. One way is to make something measurable. If you want to scale back on something, say using social media, you can use the ‘see how much time you’ve spent on Facebook’ setting to watch your usage go down. Or if you’ve set out to watch as many old classic movies or read as many John Grisham novels as you can this year, you can make a check list, and as you finish each one, check it off the list. Or bring an empty bookcase into your house, and as you finish a book, pop it on the shelf.

Pick a goal that is achievable. By taking a leap that is too big, you might find yourself in over your head and likely frustrated. Having a goal of saving more money than you can will leave you hopeless; however, if you can put away \$50 per month, then you’re on to something.

Choose a resolution that is relevant. Doing something for the right reasons is key. A relevant goal is a lasting goal. If you want to do more research on your family’s ancestry, so that your family will have the information for years to come, then what you’re doing has meaning to not only you but to the people you care about. Choosing to bring others in on your goal is never a bad idea either. We all need a coach at times.

Using a timeline for your goals should be realistic. Knocking off small goals along the way will lead you to your larger goals and will also give you a chance to create your new habit.

Learning something new is one of the most refreshing things about being alive. Being able to continually grow and morph into the best versions of ourselves is what life is all about. The more you enjoy, the more meaning you get out of life.

As the poet T.S. Eliot said, “For last year’s words belong to last year’s language, and next year’s words await another voice.”

## Send us your letters!

We seek your input! Tax rate got you down? Glendale too congested for your liking? Do you approve of a recent selectmen decision? Hate the paper? Love the paper? Let us know!

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We’re looking forward to hearing from you!



COURTESY

### Vista Foods supports Christmas Angel Program

Vista Foods in Laconia donated food baskets to the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Angel Program to the families who were adopted for Christmas. From left to right are Assistant Store Director Jordan Swanson, Christmas Program Coordinator Sue Page, and Customer Service Manager Michelle Dion.

#### North Country Notebook

## Missing the furnace, and its smoke. And who starts the day at 9 a.m.?



By JOHN HARRIGAN  
COLUMNIST

*Editor’s note: Mr. Harrigan was unable to submit a new column in time to meet our press deadline for this week’s edition. The following North Country Notebook column was originally published in 2018.*

Doing dishes is something I don’t mind at all, because it can be done by rote and gives me time to think. This chore is made all the more pleasant by the scene out the window, which takes in back lawn, bird feeders, apple trees and an alder swamp.

I miss something, however, and I didn’t realize how keenly until now. Back in October, with medical issues looming, I had to make a decision on whether to run the outdoor wood-fired boiler, which easily heats the entire house and annex and provides domestic hot water, or shut it down. And because what circulates is water, not antifreeze, shutting it down meant draining the whole system, buried pipes and all, not an easy thing, but so it went.

It’s not that I begrudge Chip Bean and crew at C. Bean Transport the money I’ve had to spend on fuel oil, not one red cent. I’m fortunate to have an oil-fired backup system and a dependable supplier, which as is typical with dealers in this often-wild territory will deliver the product no matter the weather.

But what’s missing from my window picture is the gentle wafting of white smoke when the boiler is idling, and the blast of equally white

smoke when it’s firing up. It is a comforting scene, and the smoke tells me the direction of the wind, which gives me a pretty good guess on the weather.

+++++

Smoke from outdoor wood furnaces is a big issue, which is why they never should have been allowed or installed in closely built neighborhoods. But they were, back when oil became outrageously expensive and people turned to wood. It was allowing these things to be set up too close to neighbors, plus people doing really dumb things like burning tires and garbage, that got us into all the regulations.

My unit, a Central Boiler made in Minnesota and built to last, was one of the first in the territory, and people came from all over to see it. It is a pretty straightforward apparatus, sort of like a Model A Ford—pretty hard to improve on except for comfort and gadgets. It burns wood right down to a fine powder, like flour, and there is no need for an ash-pit. Cleanout (which for me, if I burn carefully, is twice a heating season) involves using a long-handle flat-bottom shovel to transfer the ashes into the bucket-loader, to be spread uphill of the apple orchard.

Alert readers will have noted that I was careful to say “white smoke.” Properly dried firewood emits white smoke; unseasoned, (i.e. “green” wood) emits a pale blue. If any blue smoke came out of my furnace all my neighbors would see it, and I’d be some embarrassed and would maybe even have to move.

+++++

Speaking of smoke, the story that was big news one day and gone the next concerned the



John Harrigan  
The furnace has a five-gallon bucket turned over on its stack and a crown of snow to boot—no smoke to help gauge the weather.

government’s plan to cut nicotine content in cigarettes in not-so-subtle increments, to the tune of something like 90 percent.

This, one might predict, will create a brisk black market and all sorts of cross-border shenanigans, virtually overnight, to provide desperate smokers with good old (or not so good) nicotine-loaded smokes. Not that any smuggling whatsoever goes on anywhere in northern New England, nosiree Bub.

+++++

My laugh of the week came from a PBS story on the Pennsylvania primary, in which a news crew visited a wood-working factory.

“Even at 9 a.m.,” an

evidently amazed reporter said, “this factory is already humming.” Yes, you heard it, “Even at 9 a.m.” (emphasis mine).

Well, yup, hello, and welcome to the real world. How about factories that start the day at 7, or the loggers, truckers, road crews and tradesmen grabbing coffee and a bit of breakfast at (gulp) 4:30? It might cause one to faint.

(This column is syndicated in papers covering two-thirds of New Hampshire and parts of Maine and Vermont. Address letters, with town and telephone numbers in case of questions, to [campguyhooligan@gmail.com](mailto:campguyhooligan@gmail.com) or to Box 39, Colebrook, NH 03576.)



MARK ON THE MARKETS

So, what now?



BY MARK PATTERSON

Back in the spring, our stock market, bond market and almost every other asset class had a sharp decline based on the uncertainty of COVID-19 and an abundance of cheap oil floating around in tankers with no place to go. The

supply chain was caught short based on factory shutdowns which hurt production, distribution shutdowns and a fair amount of hoarding by people that were afraid of not having basic necessities. Certain companies that provided services for stay-at-home activities did very well along with their stockholders. And as we got into summer, the virus appeared to subside from the initial cases, hospitalizations and death. Many restaurants offered outdoor seating, take-out menus and were able to survive. Many technology companies and companies that provide at-home entertainment such as Netflix, Disney,

Zoom video also increased their share price significantly. The equity markets also rallied on government stimulus and low interest rates. A lot of the run up in the equity markets was also based on the hope of a vaccine which is now being delivered across the country. Another round of stimulus is currently being negotiated in Washington, where everything is a political football.

There is an old saying on Wall Street that goes, “buy the rumor and sell the news!” As the vaccine is distributed and those who are in the greatest need receive their vaccine, I must ponder what will be the

catalyst to continue to push these markets in a positive direction. Yes, I understand that with the vaccine, hopefully people will be able to return to a normal life, but I am not really sure what that new normal will be! We all have opinions what it may look like, but we really do not know. The equity markets have come extremely far and amazingly fast since the downturn in the spring. The markets trade on much emotion and momentum. We may have gotten a bit ahead of ourselves with pricing of many shares and I believe those companies will have to prove their market multiples and valuations with earnings

and not emotions.

Will the movement out of big cities to more rural areas continue? Will these big office buildings in major metropolitan areas remain empty? Will restaurants, bars, gyms, barbers, and hairstylists be able to survive in metropolitan cities or the suburbs that matter?

With changes in Washington, there is much uncertainty as to future policy regarding taxes and regulation that is a big unknown. The equity markets prefer divided government that prevents fast and radical change. We have a runoff election in Georgia that will decide control of the Senate.

I believe the market is pricing in divided government, but I am really not certain because of the political leanings of large technology companies that have a lot of influence in our elections. I believe if nothing else, we have some very interesting and challenging times ahead that make me feel even stronger about actively managed investment portfolios, with uncorrelated asset classes that in time will increase your returns and decrease your volatility. If you have any questions or comments please visit our website, MHP-asset.com or you can reach me, Mark Patterson at 447-1979 or Mark@MHP-asset.com

Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative announces virtual meet and greets with Colonial management

LACONIA — The Belknap Mill is happy to announce that its new theatre program, Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, will be hosting virtual opportunities to introduce Spectacle Management to the Lakes Region community. Spectacle Management is the company that will be managing the Colonial Theatre in Laconia when it opens in 2021. Powerhouse, led by Bryan and Johanna Halperin, will be the resident theatre company at the Colonial and will be helping Spectacle get to know the local arts community.

There will be two opportunities for Lakes Region groups who might wish to utilize the Colonial for their own events to meet the Spectacle team and ask questions about scheduling, rental rates, ticketing, etc.

“We understand a lot of groups are excited to find out how they can get involved at the Colonial, but also that they don’t know what the process will be. This will be the perfect opportunity to get those questions answered,” says Bryan Halperin.

Besides theatre, dance, and music performances, the Colonial will be appropriate for groups that want to host speakers, videos, large meetings and more.

The Zoom meetings will be held on Jan. 12 at 6:30 p.m. and Jan. 19 at 11 a.m.

Advanced sign up is required and it is requested that groups choose one or two people to represent them so that there is time in each session for each group to introduce themselves and have their questions answered. Those representatives can then bring the information back to their groups. Along with the Halperins as facilitators, Spectacle team members Peter Lally, Dan Berube, and Brandon Caron will

be present to do a short presentation and make (virtual) connections to the groups.

“In addition to the National Touring Artists Spectacle Management will bring to the Colonial, community and non-profit events will become a key part of the building’s schedule,” said Spectacle Management Marketing Director Dan Berube. “The Colonial is going to be an exceptional theatre, and will be able to host a wide variety of events, including live theatre, dance competitions, galas, speakers, and much more. We look forward to introducing Spectacle to the Lakes Region, getting to know the community, answering your questions, and working to make the Colonial the center of a vibrant downtown Laconia.”

Spectacle and Powerhouse are busy making plans for the 2021 season, but recognize that there is still a lot of uncertainty in the near future about producing live events. A “Grand Opening” will be delayed until it is safe to fill the audience, but a “soft” opening may happen this spring or summer with some smaller, socially distanced events.

“As excited as all of us at Spectacle and Powerhouse are to get going, we all recognize that the health and safety of performers and audience members is paramount. In the meantime, events like these “meet and greets” are a good way to stay in communication with the public so everyone is ready to go when the time is right,” says Halperin.

To sign your group representatives up for one of the virtual meetings in January go to <https://coloniallaconia.com/> or check out the Colonial or Powerhouse on Facebook. Questions about the event can be addressed to Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative via [powerhouse@belknapmill.org](mailto:powerhouse@belknapmill.org).



COURTESY

The Belknap Mill is happy to announce that its new theatre program, Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, will be hosting virtual opportunities to introduce Spectacle Management to the Lakes Region community. Spectacle Management is the company that will be managing the Colonial Theatre in Laconia when it opens in 2021. Powerhouse, led by Bryan and Johanna Halperin, will be the resident theatre company at the Colonial and will be helping Spectacle get to know the local arts community. [belknapmill.org](http://belknapmill.org).

The Belknap Mill Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve the Belknap Mill as a unique historic gathering place and a center for award-winning cultural and educational programs.

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Edward Jones: Financial Focus

Investment Lessons from 2020

As the year draws to a close, it’s fair to say that we’ve all learned something about the social, political, physical and environmental forces that have affected everyone. And, in some ways, our lives will be changed, perhaps permanently. But as an investor, what lessons can you learn from 2020?

- The markets look ahead. Here’s something many investors discovered in 2020: Investment prices don’t always move in the same direction as the overall economy. This might not have seemed apparent right after the COVID-19 pandemic struck in mid-February, as the overall economy and the stock market took big hits. But just about five weeks later, the markets began a rally that lasted several months. During this time, the economy also recovered somewhat, but still remains on weak footing.

What can explain this discrepancy between the markets and economic activity? Essentially, economic numbers, such as the unemployment rate and gross domestic product (GDP), reflect what’s happening today, but the markets are always looking toward tomorrow, which means they are anticipating a stronger economic recovery and the results that come with it, such as greater corporate earnings in 2021. No one can say for sure what the future holds, but you can usually know the market’s opinion by its performance.

- Opportunities will always exist for investors. Although the coronavirus seems unprecedented, the equity markets have rebounded from many crises before it. From war to global financial meltdowns, the market has seen it all. But even at the height of these events, when the markets might be most affected, individual segments or industries can do well.

For example, in the current environment, when many people have been forced to work and shop from home, and get their entertainment online, it’s probably not surprising that some parts of the technology sector have seen their economic activity grow, along with their stock prices. Here’s the key point: Investment opportunities always exist, especially in times of market stress – and smart investors will find them and incorporate them into their portfolios in a way that’s appropriate for their goals and risk tolerance.

- Patience and discipline can pay dividends. As mentioned above, the stock market dropped sharply in the weeks immediately following the pandemic, but then gained steadily for months afterward. Investors who tried to “cut losses” and exited the market likely

did so at the wrong time and missed out on the beginning of the upturn. Unfortunately, this is not uncommon – investors who overreact to market declines often find themselves on the investment sidelines just when a new rally begins. Rather than being reactive in this way, you may be better off sticking with a long-term investment strategy, and buying and selling investments only when it makes sense for your situation, such as when you need to diversify your portfolio. For many reasons, it’s unlikely that we’ll see anything exactly like 2020 again. But some of the investment lessons we learned are applicable in every year – so keep them in mind for 2021 and beyond.



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What’s the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A



B



Answers: 1. Extra allspice 2. Pine bough is larger 3. Missing cranberry 4. Extra chocolate block

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1803:** THE UNITED STATES PURCHASES THE LOUISIANA TERRITORY FROM FRANCE FOR \$ 15 MILLION.
- **1860:** SOUTH CAROLINA BECOMES THE FIRST STATE TO ATTEMPT TO SECEDE FROM THE UNION.
- **1989:** THE UNITED STATES INVADES PANAMA.

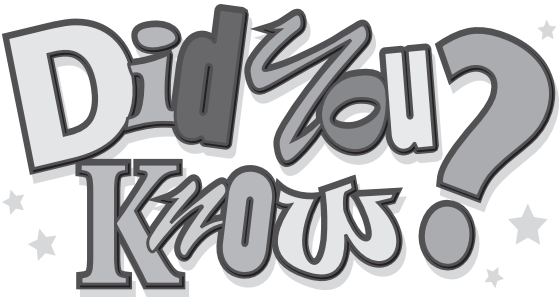


FESTIVE

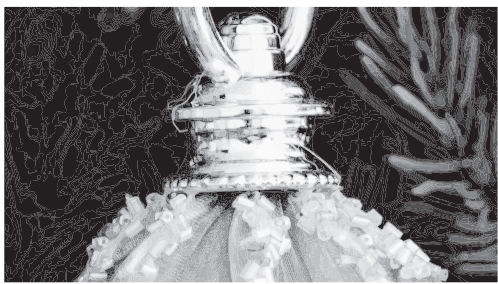
cheerful and jovially celebratory



- ENGLISH:** Wreath
- SPANISH:** Corona de flores
- ITALIAN:** Ghirlanda
- FRENCH:** Couronne
- GERMAN:** Kranz



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ANSWER: CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

CRYPTO FUN



Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to poinsettias. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 11 = O)

A. 16 11 14 11 1 23 19 14

Clue: Vibrant

B. 16 3 1 4 20 17 5 16 20

Clue: December holiday

C. 14 13 15 18 13 20

Clue: Parts of plants

D. 21 13 16 11 1 15 17 4 11 25 20

Clue: Home adornments

Answers: A. colorful B. Christmas C. leaves D. decorations

SUDOKU

			7		8			
		8	5	9		2		
5				1		6	9	
6			2		9	8		
		1						
				8		3		
7					1			6
1		3			5	7		
			8		4			2

Level: Advanced

Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

2	3	1	4	7	8	5	6	9
1	4	3	2	5	7	8	9	6
7	8	2	9	3	1	4	5	6
9	6	3	7	8	1	5	2	4
4	2	9	1	8	7	3	6	5
8	5	1	4	6	3	9	2	7
6	3	7	2	5	9	8	4	1
5	7	4	3	1	2	6	9	8
3	1	8	5	9	6	2	7	4

ANSWER:



# Local winery harvests the sun across the seasons



MEREDITH — The switch has been flipped on a new solar array in Meredith, NH. Brentwood-based ReVision Energy has built a 16-kilowatt solar project on the roof of Hermit Woods Winery & Deli on Main Street. The 50-panel array is expected to produce over 18,000 kilowatt-hours of clean renewable energy every year, offsetting more than 19,000 pounds of carbon.

Hermit Woods Winery & Deli prioritizes sustainability and community. They work closely with local farmers to find the best, preferably organic, fruit in every season. They craft wine with a variety of mostly organic fruit, from apples and blueberries to kiwi, berries, and peaches. Hermit Woods also has a Deli where you can get delicious farm-to-table cuisine

seven days a week.

“From the day we founded Hermit Woods, we have not simply measured our success by how our business is doing financially, but by how we treat our employees, serve our community, and protect our planet,” said Bob Manley, Co-Founder. “Working with ReVision Energy has been both educational and inspirational. With their help, we have significantly reduced our environmental footprint.”

The 50 solar panels have been mounted on the roof of their winery located on Main Street in Meredith.

“We are so pleased with how the panels look on our roof. We have taken a lot of time to ensure our building looks good and fits in with the historic Meredith town center. ReVision did a won-

derful job ensuring that the roof looks good and does not take away from the aesthetic,” said Bob.

The array has been installed by ReVision Energy, a local employee-owned solar company, and is projected to generate 18,530 kWh of clean electricity annually – enough to offset 19,500 pounds of CO2 emissions. This is equivalent to planting 217 trees!

ReVision Energy and Hermit Woods Winery are available for interviews and comments.

About Hermit Woods

Founded in 2011, Hermit Woods is a small boutique winery producing fruit wine, meads, and ciders. Our wines and ciders are local (as much as possible), vegan (except the honey wines), gluten-free, raw, and made from non-certified

but mostly organic fruit. We always use the whole fruit and gentle hand processing. Our wines, meads, and ciders are styled after classic dry European grape wines. Hermit Woods sees over 8,000 visitors in their tasting room every year, and its wines are available throughout New Hampshire and direct to consumers in 37 states.

Hermit Woods Winery and Deli is located at 72 Main St. in Meredith. The winery is open seven days a week year-round. They are offering wine flights (a self-guided tasting experience) during the pandemic. Their traditional tours and tastings will resume by appointment just as soon as they can make them available safely. Visit them at [www.hermitwoods.com](http://www.hermitwoods.com) to learn more.

About ReVision Energy

ReVision Energy is a local, employee-owned solar company on a mission to transition northern New England from fossil fuels to solar energy combined with battery storage, heat pumps, LED lighting, and electric vehicle charging. As a Certified B Corporation, ReVision is part of a global movement using business as a force for good to solve social

and environmental issues. ReVision Energy is the region’s most experienced solar company and is ranked #1 Rooftop Installer in New England by Solar Power World Magazine. ReVision Energy has also been named “Business of the Year” by Business NH magazine and a “Best for the World” company by B Labs. Learn more at [revisionenergy.com](http://revisionenergy.com).



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# Concord Hospital to acquire LRGHealthcare assets

LACONIA — LRGHealthcare has announced that Concord Hospital is the sole bidder to acquire the assets of Lakes Region General Hospital, Franklin Regional Hospital and the Hospitals’ ambulatory sites. Following the initial announcement of LRGHealthcare’s Chapter 11 bankruptcy and Concord Hospital’s proposed asset acquisition in October, other interested parties had the opportunity to submit bids to purchase some or all of LRGHealthcare’s assets.

“While LRGHealthcare received significant interest from other parties, no other party submitted a bid by the deadline,” said Kevin W.

Donovan, LRGHealthcare President and Chief Executive Officer. “We have always felt that Concord Hospital is a natural fit to ensure the continued provision of excellent care in the Lakes and Three Rivers Region, and we are excited about this step forward.”

LRGHealthcare has filed a motion to cancel the bankruptcy auction, currently scheduled for Dec. 16. LRGHealthcare plans to move forward with a Sale Hearing, where a Final Order will be issued by the court. Once the parties are granted a Final Order, they can begin the process of seeking approval from regulatory agencies, including the New

Hampshire Attorney General’s office and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

“We are encouraged by the prospect of preserving access to local, high-quality health care for years to come. As we continue to move forward with the necessary approvals, nothing changes for LRGHealthcare employees or patients. There is still more work to be done to finalize Concord Hospital’s acquisition, but we are moving forward in the right direction,” said Donovan.

LRGHealthcare and Concord Hospital expect to complete this process in 2021.

About LRGHealthcare

LRGHealthcare is a not-for-profit healthcare charitable trust representing Lakes Region General Hospital, Franklin Regional Hospital, and affiliated medical providers. LRGHealthcare’s mission is to provide quality, compassionate care and to strengthen the well-being of our community.

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Fun

FROM PAGE A1

“National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation”), “Over Inflated,” “Tech Free,” “Reason For the Season,” “Sponsor’s

Award,” and two “Honorable Mention” awards. The winner for “Traditional Decorations” was the house at 8 Wild Acres Road. The “Griswold Award” went to 296

Edgewater Drive. The house at 11 Murray Hill Road was awarded for “Tech Free.” “Reason for the Season” went to 106 Saltmarsh Road. “Sponsor’s Award” went to 700 Cherry Valley Road. Honorable mentions went to 36 Labonte Farm

Rd. and 173 Intervale Rd. Winners will receive a gift card to a local restaurant, a special sign on their lawns, and bragging rights. The map and photos are still available on the Parks and Recreation Facebook page. Parks and Rec also offered virtual craft ac-

tivities along with an art contest for kids. Different patterns for a number of holiday crafts are still available on the Parks and Rec website <https://www.gilfordrec.com/parks-recreation> including a wreath, snowman popsicle sticks, holiday tree in popsicle sticks, a

candy cane, and a coloring page. Parks and Rec also hosted an art contest for kids up to fourth grade. Kids could do their own one-page artwork or enter their completed coloring page. The winners were scheduled to be announced on Dec. 21.

Basketball

FROM PAGE A1

per student. The Lakes Region Elite Winter Season runs in January. The Globetrotters for students in PreK-2 will start on Jan. 2, 2021 and run each Saturday from 9-10:30 a.m. through Feb. 6. Students will play in two different groups based on grade level: preschool and kindergarten and grades 1 and 2. “This program is designed to introduce the game of basketball to children, focusing on fundamental skills including dribbling, passing, shooting, footwork, defense, and game play,” the Web site read. “Each session will offer various stations for your child to

learn the game in a fun and safe environment.” The Globetrotters Winter Season is also \$60 for each participant for the season. Each program adheres to COVID-19 guidelines including prescreening, mandatory masks, COVID-19 waivers, and players with COVID-19 symptoms or those who have been in close contact with someone tested positive should not attend. Different programs will have their own different rules, visit the website for more information on each one. For more information on these programs and applications, visit the Gilford Youth Center Web site at [gilfordyouthcenter.com](http://gilfordyouthcenter.com).

Library

FROM PAGE A1

home. For adults, join fellow book lovers on Zoom on Jan. 21 for the monthly Book Discussion. This month’s book is “Olive, Again” by Elizabeth Strout. Arielle Master-


son will lead the discussion on Zoom from 1-2 p.m. Copies of the book are available at the front desk. The Check Out an Expert program is available over the phone every Wednesday. Library patrons can sign up for 20-minute time slots ev-

ery Wednesday from 10 a.m.-noon to talk over the phone with an expert whether it’s on computers, telescopes, audiobooks, or others. Sign up by calling the library with a library card and setting a time. Sessions are a maximum of 20 minutes if someone is

waiting. The Friends of the Library will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 19 from 4-6 p.m. Details on location coming soon. For more information on the library’s programs and services, visit [gilfordlibrary.org](http://gilfordlibrary.org).



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# D2 football All-State announced

**BY JOSHUA SPAULDING**  
Sports Editor

REGION — The Division II football All-State teams for the northern cluster were announced last week and the list was populated with local athletes from Kennett, Kingswood, Plymouth and Gilford-Belmont.

After his team finished as the Division II runner-up following a loss to Souhegan in the championship game, Plymouth coach Chris Sanborn was named Coach of the Year while Plymouth senior running back and defensive back Cole Johnston was named Player of the Year.

First Team Offense went to quarterback Cody Bannon, running

back Joe D’Ambruoso, tight end Trevan Sanborn, linemen Eddie Camp and Tyler Stokowski and kicker Will Fogarty of Plymouth, quarterback Parker Coleman, running back Tanner Bennett, slot Cole Salyards, wide receiver Kyle Perry and linemen Braden Santucio of Kennett and wide receiver Curtis Nelson and linemen Cooper Brown of Gilford-Belmont. Also on the list was lineman Jake Currier of Merrimack Valley.

First Team Defense went to linemen Bobby Graustein and Evan Koroski, linebacker Gaven Gagne and defensive back Isaiah Scharnowski of Kennett,

linemen Trent Sargent and Sean Griffiths, linebackers Ian Tryder and Calvin Swanson and defensive back Charlie Co-meau of Plymouth, lineman Blake Descoteaux of Gilford-Belmont and linebacker Jackson McCullough of Kingswood. Also earning honors was defensive back Travis Knouse of Merrimack Valley.

Honorable Mention went to defensive lineman Malik Reese of Gilford-Belmont and linebacker Jeff Hollins of Merrimack Valley.

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

# Wolves sweep Seacoast Spartans

LACONIA — The New England Wolves EHL Junior Hockey team swept the weekend of Dec. 12-13, going 2-0 against in-state rivals the Seacoast Spartans. The games were played at Merrill Fay Arena in Laconia.

Both games started off slow for the Wolves, as they trailed each affair by two goals. The Wolves came roaring back in each contest, however, as they won the games by scores of 6-3 and 4-3.

In Saturday’s contest, the Wolves scored four

goals in the third period, highlighted by LJ Newell’s stellar play in nets and captain Donnie Feldman’s three assists. On Sunday, Kyle Penton played great in net, and Nick Bosch, Richie Colarusso and Kevin Bite played great defense in front of him. Ricards Jelenskis recorded a hat trick (three goals) including the game winner in overtime to seal the victory.

The Wolves JR program held a Toy Drive to benefit Boston Children’s Hospital over the weekend and would like

to thank all who donated at each of the Wolves games, Saturday vs. Seacoast (EHL), Saturday vs. Cyclones (EHLP) and Sunday vs Seacoast (EHL).

“It’s great pair of wins on home ice. The community came out, masked up, and support the team and the Toy Drive. Thanks,” said GM Andrew Trimble.

The Wolves will be taking a few weeks off at the holidays. For more info, visit [www.ne-wolveshockey.com](http://www.ne-wolveshockey.com).

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# Advice To The Players presents “Twelfth Night”

SANDWICH — Advice To The Players, Sandwich’s own Shakespeare company, is proud to close their 2020 season with their annual production of “Twelfth Night,” Dec. 12, 18 & 19 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom. The links to the performances will be available on ATTP’s Web site, advice-to-the-players.org. And as with their summer season, instead of charging admission for online performances, ATTP is encouraging donations through their Bard’s Birthday Campaign, which can also be accessed on their website. Donations through this campaign will benefit the talented artists working to make the show a virtual success. This will be ATTP’s first fully online production, which has inspired some wonderful innovations. Moving online for this

show created new casting opportunities for the company and actors from all over the country will be featured in the performance—in addition to a couple of familiar faces. In addition, ATTP is proud to announce the production will be directed by Raphael Massie, Artistic Associate at Oregon Shakespeare Festival. ATTP is excited that this year’s cast of “Twelfth Night” is taking the show’s gender bent madness to a new level and introducing an all female cast! The six-person show features actors playing multiple roles and exploring new ways to define these characters. This show will not be one to miss—Gaia Miranda Posner returns this year in a new track as with several new faces working with ATTP for the first

time, including MaConnia Chesser, Savannah Irish, Betzabeth Castro, and Katie Mixon. For those who heard or saw this summer’s performance of “Noir Hamlet,” Julia de Avilez Rocha returns to perform again, while she is in New Hampshire working as a Teaching Artist on ATTP’s Fall Festival of Shakespeare education program! The six actors will spread holiday mirth while they Zoom through this Shakespearean comedy! Advice To The Players is a unique company of theater professionals, enthusiastic community members and energetic teens that have been performing Shakespeare and offering workshops in the Lakes and White Mountains Regions of New Hampshire since 1999. Based in Sandwich, ATTP has spent the

last 21 years bringing award-winning productions of William Shake-

speare’s richly passionate plays to life while introducing new genera-

tions to live theatre.



The cast of “Twelfth Night” — MaConnia Chesser, Julia de Avilez Rocha, Katie Mixon, Savannah Irish, Gaia Miranda Posner, Betzabeth Castro.

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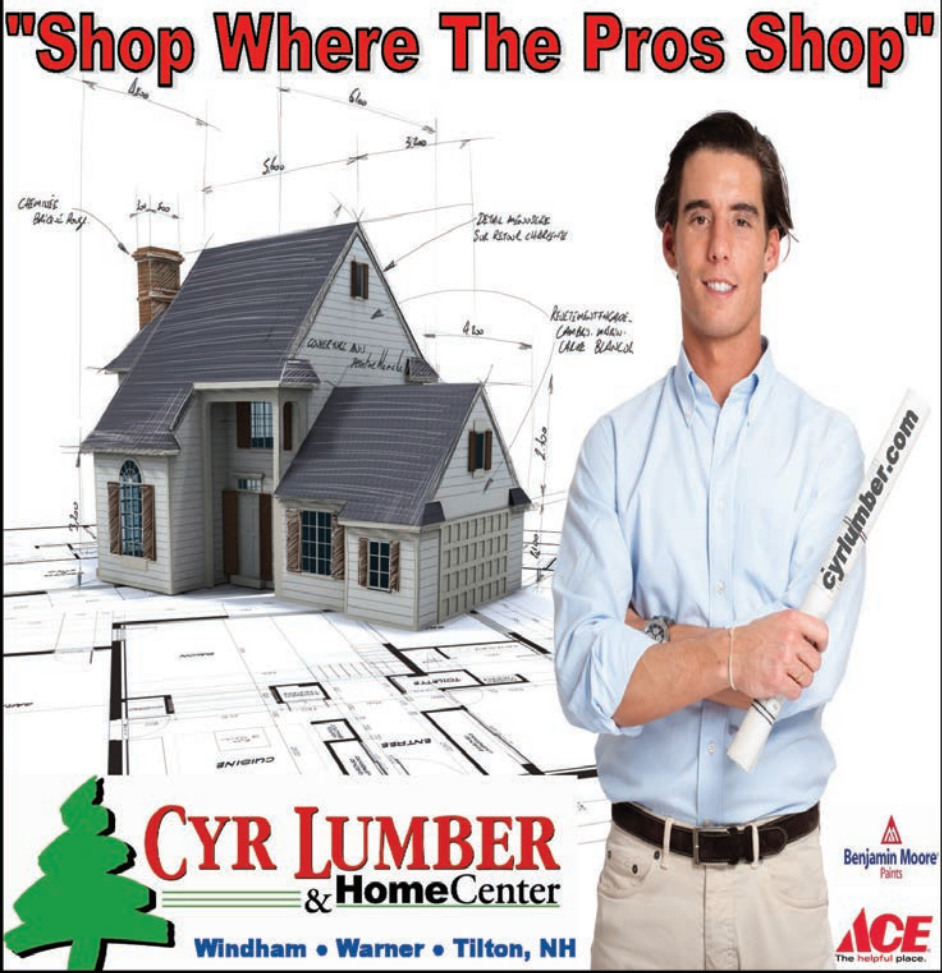
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