



COURTESY

PMHS National Honor Society inducts new members
Congratulations to the newest members of the Prospect Mountain High School National Honor Society! They were inducted at a ceremony held at the high school on Tuesday, Nov. 10. Pictured: Hannah Capsalis, Aidan Conrad, Christopher Cox, Abigail Giuda, Asa Guldbrandsen, Connor Meehan, Millicent Snow, & Jaren Unzen. Not pictured: Julia Leavitt.

Board rejects motion to reopen schools full time

BY ELISSA PAQUETTE
Contributing Writer

WOLFEBORO — The Governor Wentworth Regional School District (GWRSD) school board rejected a motion by New Durham’s school board member, Julianne Cardinal, on Nov. 9 to reopen the schools full time beginning Jan. 19. The 6 – 3 vote followed a presentation by Superintendent Kathy Cuddy-Egbert on the metrics within the district’s current reopening plan, the reduction in Covid-19 mitigation (social distancing down to three feet), and the staffing and financial repercussions of moving from the hybrid plan to full time with a remote option.

The board’s decision made during the October meeting to remain with the hybrid model through December remains in place.

The primary influence right now, said Cuddy-Egbert on Monday evening, is staffing. Fifteen to 16 staff members are in quarantine. The affected schools (New Durham Elementary and Middleton Elementary) so far have been able to remain open with affected classrooms switching to remote. However, the teachers were too sick to provide instruction for a few days and substitutes are in very short supply.

So far, she explained, the unanticipated costs due to the pandemic

have come to \$638,662. The state did pass along an initial \$539,000 of CARES Act money, but a portion is required to go to private schools, leaving an actual amount received of \$464,998. That leaves the district \$173,000 in the negative.

Even if the state does get a state grant, it still won’t cover the full amount of the current shortfall in addition to additional costs, stated Cuddy-Egbert.

A move to full reopening with a remote option is projected to add an additional \$400,000 for staffing to respond to the need to break classes up and add classes to at least maintain 3 foot social distancing and take care of the expected increase in students engaged in remote learning. The district, already short of bus drivers, would have to repurpose special education bus drivers and contract out for drivers at an anticipated cost of \$85,000. Custodial services to handle double the volume of students, would add an additional 24 hours of service, which would cost around \$46,000.

Hiring additional staff is problematical in itself, considering the district is already advertising for around 30 positions.

Cardinal said her intent in making a motion to move to full opening is to give choice back to parents. In discussion, Wolfeboro board mem-

ber Charlene Seible remarked, “Something of this magnitude should not be left to people who elected us to make tough decisions. I cannot support it.”

Seible also asked who is making the decisions for the staff members. Chairman Jack Widmer said the administration would have to know how many will switch to remote.

“We could have a significant number of teachers (based on an earlier survey) wanting to switch,” he predicted.

And all classrooms would have to be set up for full return during Christmas break.

Effingham member Jim Pittman said he felt the motion was premature, and asked how long would it take to make it happen. Surveys would have to be put together by the next ten days in order to hear parents’ choices and find necessary staff by the proposed Jan. 19 start of full reopening, responded Widmer. “There is a huge element of uncertainty,” commented Pittman.

Dr. Jim Manning, of Brookfield, wondered about liability to the district for Covid-19 transmission considering a reduction to three-foot social distancing, which Widmer reminded the board represented a quadrupling of risk, accord-

SEE BOARD, PAGE A9

Water, water everywhere

LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS START SPRING WATER COMPANY

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

ALTON — A group of young entrepreneurs from the Alton area are looking to make some noise in the water market.

“The idea of plastic bottled water seemed so outdated to us, so we decided to come up with some alternatives,” said Luciano Monzione, who along with Daniel Roberts, Jack St. Sauveur and Ethan Keslar, are the driving force behind Live Free Water. “We knew if we could come up with a unique way to do it, the opportunity is there.”

The unique way the company is approaching it is through selling spring water in aluminum containers, which are much better for recycling purposes.

Back in 2009, Tim

Morgan and Deanna O’Shaughnessy started bottling water on their farm on Old Wolfeboro Road, using Chamberlain Springs, which are on the farm’s property.

“We worked out a deal with them to buy water in bulk from their well,” Monzione said. “We retested the water, and it was all as good as it was 10 years ago.”

Currently, Live Free Water is using a facility in Maine to take care of the bottling of the water, but they are in the process of building a new facility nearby that will make the process even more local than it already is.

Live Free Water is offering the reusable five-gallon spring water containers and dispensers that go with them.

“We offer the ability to reset coolers, we re-

place everything you are using,” Monzione said, noting that the five-gallon containers are made of clear PVC, like ones you currently see in offices.

The other product that is currently being worked out is the aluminum containers, which will look to replace the plastic water bottles that people purchase.

“We will start with 16 ounces and then go from there,” said Monzione. “And we can do seltzer water in the future, too.”

“What sets us apart from the big bottled water brands that dominate the market is our modern approach,” Monzione continued. “Drinking water will always be a desired product, so why not design it for the future?”

SEE WATER, PAGE A9

Football Knights wrap up season with awards night



JACKSON MCCULLOUGH was presented the Tom Lovett Award by coaches (l to r) Phil Estes, Tom McCullough and Paul Landry.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
SPORTS EDITOR

WOLFEBORO — Legendary football coach Vince Lombardi once said, “the measure of who we are is what we do with what we have.”

For Kingswood football coach Paul Landry, it made sense to open the end of season awards ceremony with that quote on Sunday afternoon in the Kingswood Arts Center.

“That (quote) resonates with our season very well,” said the Knight coach. “The kids gave everything they have to this program.

“Our efforts (moving forward) will be in building, building a culture of character,” Landry said. “The back bone is one of communication, dedication and heart.”

Longtime Exeter High School football coach Bill Ball was the keynote speaker. Ball was one of Landry’s high school coaches and Landry also coached with Ball before coming to Kingswood.

Ball noted that he got a chance to come and see the Knights play in the opening week of the season and he said things seem to be in place, as he watched the sideline in addition to watching the game.

“You hustle all the time, play hard and don’t quit,” he said. “That’s what I saw out there.

“Everything has changed, but the game of football is still a tremendous tool,” Ball continued, noting there are plenty of lifelong lessons to be found in the game, including caring about your teammate and your team.

He also relayed a story about his early days as head coach when one of his captains passed away of what turned out to be a heart defect. He said the aftermath taught him about the importance of communication and relationships.

“Coaching is relationships, getting to know people,” he said. “If you have the relationship,

people will do anything you ask.”

The first awards of the night were for the middle school program, with coach Scott Meserve taking the podium and each player was introduced to the socially-distanced audience in the

“It was a great experience this year,” Meserve said. “The kids worked together very well as a team. It was great to see them start to become football players.”

He then presented the middle school Player of the Year awards to Garrett Burke and Rylan Bourdeau.

Landry then went through and introduced each of the high school players, class by class, before getting to the seven seniors, who he shared a little bit about as they were introduced.

“This night is about the seniors,” Landry said. “The seven seniors are quality young men, there’s no quit in any of

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE A9

Curtain to open on historic collaboration

LACONIA — The Belknap Mill and the Colonial Theatre are both unique, historic gathering places located in downtown Laconia which have provided the foundation for Laconia's artistic, cultural, industrial, and educational life. Both buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places; a tremendous commitment has been made to preserve their historical and cultural significance.

The Belknap Mill established Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative in 2020. Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative will utilize both the newly



Bryan and Johanna Halperin

restored and renovated Mill and the Colonial Theatre to deliver high quality theatrical arts programming.

Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative is



named in honor of the Belknap Mill's original, preserved Powerhouse which now serves as a museum. When the Mill was built in 1823, the Winnepesaukee River was diverted under the building into sluiceways and was the source for powering the Mill's manufacturing operations via a water wheel. Later, the system was converted to hydroelectric power. Excess power created by the Mill's Powerhouse provided electricity to downtown Laconia. Therefore, as the Mill's Powerhouse once turned on the lights for Laconia, the Mill's new Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative will bring the lights up on performing arts in the Lakes Region!

Managed by Bryan and Johanna Halperin, Powerhouse will provide

high-quality artistic and educational experiences for local community participants. The Halperins will be building on the programming they began at the Mill in 2019 and plan to provide an annual 'Colonial Series' and 'Mill Series'. The Colonial Series will focus on large scale community theatre plays and musicals with casts of 20 or more. The Mill Series will continue with a series of workshops, play readings, smaller productions and playwrighting festivals. Powerhouse will also seek opportunities to collaborate with other theatre organizations and already have plans in place to work with NCCA at Jean's Playhouse in 2021 and a spring 2021 playwrighting festival with the Community Players of Concord, NH. Powerhouse will also be collaborating with TS Event Productions of Nashua to provide professional quality lighting, sets and sound for its Colonial Series.

Programming will begin this spring online and outdoors.

"While we are as anxious as anyone to get going on both our Colonial and Mill Series events, we realize the uncer-

tainty of the pandemic and understand we are building a performing arts program for the long haul. We will enthusiastically begin in 2021 focusing on building relationships with Spectacle Management and other community partners, creating small scale theatrical opportunities around the Mill, and planning for the day it will be safe to do our first big Colonial production," say the Halperins.

The Halperins are no strangers to the Lakes Region theatre scene. After moving to the Lakes Region and co-founding The Winnepesaukee Playhouse in 2004, the Halperins moved on after 2014 and have since been working to build the theatre program of the Inter-Lakes School District. They've also produced, performed and directed shows at various other NH theatres including The Hatbox, The Little Church Theatre of Holderness, Community Players of Concord and NCCA at Jean's Playhouse. Bryan was also the Executive Director of the New Hampshire Theatre Awards for three years and has directed its annual Awards show at the Capitol Center for the Arts for the past five years.

"Being nomadic theatre producers for the past six years has been a great way to expand our horizons, meet new people, and learn to adapt our work to different venues. But there is no substitute for having our own theatre home. We hope the relationships we've created with other theatre companies and practitioners from all over the state will join with our existing ties to the Lakes Region theatre community to help us create a 'Powerhouse' theatrical organization," says Bryan.

Belknap Mill Executive Director Karen Prior stated that "Bryan and Johanna joined the Belknap Mill over a year ago as our Theatrical Artists-in-Residents and delivered programming that included several well received play readings and a play writing workshop. The addition of Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative is a natural evolution of the Mill's commitment to its mission of celebrating the Lakes Region's cultural heritage through the arts, education and civic engagement. The Board and staff of the Belknap Mill look forward to playing a significant role in Laconia's future as a destination for the arts and culture."

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Belknap Landscape offers nationally recognized apprenticeships

GILFORD — It seems a perfect storm is brewing in the workforce of the Lakes Region. As the cost of attending college rises, the shortage of skilled labor persists, and New Hampshire is challenged with retaining or attracting young residents, a renewed focus on workforce development has been growing in our area. Now, there is another option for young workers to learn and grow into a career.

Last week, Belknap Landscape Company of Gilford celebrated National Apprenticeship Week with their first apprentice, Garrett Peaslee. A 2019 graduate of Gilford High School, Peaslee is the first participant in the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) apprenticeship program

in New Hampshire. He began the 2-year program in April, is gaining on-hands training at Belknap Landscape and classroom course instruction through online classes provided by Colorado State University.

“The program helps you to gain general knowledge on all the topics within the trade. From weed whacking, to reading blueprints and setting grades. I have been surprised to see how many layers there are to this industry.” Says Peaslee

This apprenticeship in landscaping joins dozens of other apprenticeship programs offered to New Hampshire residents. For several years high school graduates have had their choice from HVAC, culinary, hospitality, healthcare and construction

apprenticeships just to name a few, but landscaping apprenticeships did not exist in the state. This year Belknap Landscape joined the NALP program to fill this void.

“Our industry requires a diverse set of skills, and we needed to find a way to fill some complex roles” said Jeff Sirles who manages recruiting for Belknap Landscape. “We have always tried to support education and training in the area, so this program was a great fit.”

Apprenticeship programs have an important effect of our local workforce. They provide young adults an option of continued education and professional development outside of the traditional university system, allowing them to live locally. While most apprenticeship pro-



Garrett Peaslee

grams do require classroom learning, often these costs are covered by the employer, and the ability to gain real-world experience while also being paid for their work makes continued educa-

tion obtainable for virtually anyone. Finally, they help develop local workers, providing our local businesses with the skilled employees we need to continue to prosper.

For more information on Apprenticeships in New Hampshire visit apprenticeshipnh.com or to learn more about landscaping apprenticeships email jsirles@belknaplandscape.com.

RE/MAX Bayside/Weeks Commercial welcomes Kathryn (Kat) Johnson as new associate



LACONIA — Kathryn Johnson has joined RE/MAX Bayside/Weeks Commercial Division as the newest member of this growing dynamic

sales team.

Johnson said, “Growing up in New Hampshire, I always knew this was where I wanted to live and work and raise a family. After attending college at the University of New Hampshire, where I received a degree in Psychology and a Master’s degree in Education, my husband and I settled in Gilford. We, along with our two children, enjoy many of the activities the lakes and mountains offer us year-round. After working as a teacher for many years, I stayed home while our children

were young. Now that our children are a little older, I have decided to pursue my passion for helping others realize their real estate dreams. As a lifelong resident of the Lakes Region, my familiarity and love for this area will give both buyers and sellers the confidence that I can assist them with their specific real estate goals.”

She has chosen to affiliate herself with one of the most experienced and knowledgeable teams of commercial agents in the Lakes Region.

Johnson noted, “As

a REALTOR with RE/MAX Bayside’s Weeks Commercial Division, I am provided the training and support by an unsurpassed team of

professionals.”

Johnson can be reached at 387-8888, at katpjohnson4@gmail.com or simply stop by RE/MAX Bayside at 604

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We Will NOT be Undersold

A story of inspiration for a sunny morning

Twenty-one-year-old Chris Nikic of Maitland, Fla. made history last Saturday when he became the first person in history with Down Syndrome to complete a full distance Ironman triathlon. Watching the video of Nikic crossing the finish line in Panama City, Fla., did not leave this writer with dry eyes. This was good news, in an otherwise chaotic news cycle.

As most people know, a full Ironman consists of a 2.4 mile swim, a 112 mile bike ride and a 26.2 mile run. The race, has a time cap of 17 hours. Nikic completed the race in 16:46:09.

Nikic had a few setbacks throughout the race, including two falls from his bike.

Special Olympics Florida President and CEO Sherry Wheelock released a statement. In it she said, “He’s become a hero to athletes, fans, and people across Florida and around the world. He’s an inspiration to all of us.”

Nikic is no stranger to triathlons and has been training since he was a teenager. Looking ahead he will strive to qualify for the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games.

In an Instagram post, Nikic wrote “Goal set and achieved. Time to set a new and bigger goal for 2021. Whatever it is, the strategy is the same. One percent better every day. Yes, I did the work, but I had angels helping me. God surrounded me with angels. Best part of all. New family and friends. All about awareness and inclusion. Awareness for Down Syndrome and Special Olympics. Inclusion for all of us with all of you.”

His proud father, Nik Nikic, released his own statement: “To Chris, this race was more than just a finish line and celebration of victory. Ironman has served as his platform to become one step closer to his goal of living a life of inclusion, normalcy, and leadership. It’s about being an example to other kids and families that face similar barriers, proving no dream or goal is too high,” he said.

Nikic completed the 2.4 mile swim (along with his coach Dan Grieb) in just under two hours. Just prior to getting on his bike to attack the 112 miles, he was bitten by fire ants. He forged ahead and finished the bike portion in 8:12:37. He then went on to finish the 26.2 mile run in 6:18:48.

Nikic’s father says that the mantra is to improve one percent each day. His coach, Grieb said in a statement, “I’m no longer surprised by what Chris can accomplish because I recognize who Chris is; a human being that has goals and dreams just like everyone else. He wants to make the path easier for those just like him and can follow his lead.”

He is now a Guinness World Record holder.

This is a story of inspiration, hope and positivity, and now, more than ever, the world needs more of it.

Letters to the Editor

An open letter to our state reps and senators

To the Editor:

Congratulations on your re-election. The election results show that a clear majority of our citizens trust you to lead our state through a difficult time, to restore our economy and reopen our schools while protecting public health and ensuring our hospitals are not overwhelmed. This will be no easy chore.

I’d like to point out that while we were all distracted by the election, the coronavirus continued to take stronger hold and exact a deeper toll throughout the country. In the last week, there’s has been a 29.1 percent increase in covid-19 cases, an 18.5 percent increase in hospitalizations, and a 20.9 percent increase in deaths in the United States. Here in New Hampshire, cases are up 27% and hospitalizations are up 34 percent - with no end in sight.

The election is now over – and your positions as our leaders have been re-established. I implore you to sponsor action to protect and preserve the health and welfare of your constituents. The vaccine seems to be coming soon ... but in the meantime, please take action to ensure we’ll all still be alive and well when it does. For the love of God, please promote a state-wide mask requirement, begin a program of contact tracing, improve access to rapid testing, establish guidelines for self-isolation, limit public gatherings, and provide schools and businesses the resources needed to re-open safely. These measures have been proven to work in other countries and states. They’ll work here, too.

DAVE WESSEL
NEW DURHAM



Super Knights

The following Kingswood Regional Middle School students received Super Knights Awards for the month of October for Respect. In the top row is: 1) Brady Moulton; 2) Skyler O'Hear; 3) Parker Aucoin; 4) Kaitlyn Cooper. In the bottom row is: 1) Noah Leighton; 2) Kayden Tyler; 3) Hayden Eastman; 4) Thomas Benker. Missing from the picture is Sam Crowder and Addison Lawlor.

COURTESY

Letters to the Editor

A reason to be proud

To the Editor:

Thank you to everyone who cast a ballot in our election last week. The weather was a little on the chilly side, but no precipitation.

I am proud to be part of a town who takes time

to vote (over 2,200 in-person voters), as so many in other countries do not have that privilege. As always, the best way to reach me is by phone, 776-8989. Email is also an option (barbara.com-tois@leg.state.nh.us) but

please put BARNSTEAD in the subject line to differentiate you from all the other emails received. It is not unusual to receive over 50 emails on a single piece of legislation.

If you have any is-

sues or questions, please reach out. I am here to serve you.

Sincerely,

REP. BARBARA COM-
TOIS
BARNSTEAD

Time to move on

all citizens of this great country, he has gone out of his way to belittle good people on both sides of his misdeeds, sowing doubt in our cherished institutions and corrupting them to his own advantage. While I can't understand why anyone would continue to support such a criminal, a leader who stole children from their parents arms putting babies and toddlers in cages for nothing more than political optic's, feeding his base red meat. This, all about the boarder wall, just to mention one crime from a very large list that continues to grow.

The fight #45 is en-

gaged in is related to the election is basically to stay out of jail. Only he and a few others know what his taxes will show, crimes that will either land him in jail or a stiff fine once put before a judge. However, those who support him can't seem to see, the con-artist has got quite a lot of people fooled. Four years ago many good people were upset with the results of the election. They did not understand how it happened, but they weren't calling it stolen although be it, it was. As stated by a Republican Senate Intelligence Committee after a two plus year investigation, that, yes there was

Russian collusion. I believe it would be best for this country to move on, to say in 2016 a mistake was made, and in 2020 it was corrected. There are good and bad people on both sides of the aisle. Get over 2020 election let's move on and help the people in this country who need it. Anyone can point fingers, a few can point their finger to a better future. Let's follow those who want growth in spirit and morality one who will not lie every time they open their mouth; our wallets will be fine in time.

JOHN HENDERSON
BARNSTEAD

We can breathe again

been a long four years of “Tweets,” lies and false innuendos.

We owe Joe Biden a debt for stepping forward at a time of this country's great distress. Trump leaves him a big mess to clean up. For a country that is supposedly “turning the corner” on COVID 19 we are now experiencing more

than 150,000 new cases each day.

Meanwhile, Mr. Trump and his personal attorney Rudy G. are flailing away, grasping at straws and pretending they won an election that they lost by more than 5 million votes. Meanwhile Trump and Vice President Pence have all but disbanded their

Coronavirus task force at a time when it's most needed by the American people. When, when we ask will Americans realize that Trump doesn't give a hoot about us? Instead, he cares only about Donald Trump!

JOHN GOYETTE
NEW DURHAM

Don't take America away from us

ey and did not expect the government to take care of me. My yearly income is 3.7 percent less than what Senators and Representatives receive (\$174,000). They are entitled to their full salaries for the rest of their lives and a medical plan superior to what you and I have to contend with, even if they

only serve one term.

It is my perspective that once ensconced in Washington, they forget who put them in office. It is my fervent hope that the incoming elected officials in Washington will work together for the American people and stop fighting with each other, voting party lines and following

the directions of their puppet handlers and lobbyists.

While he did not get my vote, I will support the 46th President and want him to succeed for all of us. Please don't take America away from us.

ROSEMARY SULLIVAN
ALTON

“The Wreck of the Hesperus” translates to “Hoorah’s nest”



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

It blew a gale Sunday, a phrase used by seafarers who wished it would do something else. Like us, the phrase followed the rivers on up.

“No good going out,” Rudy would say, a full hundred miles from the ocean, waving at whitecaps on Clarksville Pond, darkish water, a loose boat on the other side. “It’s blowing a gale.”

To me, a high wind is a good excuse to stay indoors. Not much good comes from a high wind, except something simmering on the stove all day. Better to scoot the chair toward the fire and reach for a good book.

Wind is the only kind of weather I do not like. Maybe it’s because it’s hard to hear much in a

high wind, unless the sound is coming from the same direction. Even then you hear it for only an instant before the wind snatches it away. “What was that sound?” you think, and then you chase it downwind, to oblivion.

+++++

Our grandfather White had roots in Jonesport, Maine, where his ancestors were saltwater farmers just a generation removed from the sea. Freshwater streams flowed through their meadows. My grandfather told stories about sea trout, creatures I’ve never seen.

My mother Esther White and I went to a family reunion down there once, away down East, where I remember a couple of cousins who looked like me, or maybe I looked like them. This was back in the Seventies, which makes me sound older than dirt. “Poor lugs,” I thought, looking at my cousins, using an old dock-worker’s term. They had close-set, beady eyes.

My grandfather had a lot of those old terms

in his head. “Lowery” was one he used, and it was in common use up until the turn of the last century, meaning a low and dull overcast, or what pilots (the flying kind) would call a very low ceiling, low and grey and somehow almost threatening, although to admit that would be to admit fright, which you never did.

Still, there was that time when Rudy and Joan had to go somewhere and left Jeannette and Kathleen and me with the Hurlberts, who had been around since the first stumps were pulled, and a lightning storm came up, and old Mrs. Hurlbert made us kneel by the bed, upon which was the Bible.

The Bible, of course, was open to a significant passage, the significance of which I’ve totally forgotten. Perhaps I was more focused on the crashing thunder that threatened to bring the entire house down around our pointed little heads.

Oddly enough, I did not grow up fearing the weather whatsoever, and to this day, the first

peal of thunder will send me galloping for the porch.

+++++

If my sister Susan happened to run by with hair asunder, our grandmother would say “Susan! Your hair looks like the wreck of the Hesperus!” and I remember thinking, “In a few years nobody’s going to know what that means,” and then of course I looked it up.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s poem, published in 1840, drew on an infamous winter storm that wrecked more than 20 ships off the New England coast. It was the age of sail, in this case sails in tatters, all askew, like my hapless sister’s hair.

Longfellow kept a diary, as did most people of letters in that time, and he was bounced in and out of bed on the night “Hesperus” came to his head. And it did not come in lines, he said, but in stanzas.

+++++

At the big Down East family reunion, a



COURTESY

This woodcut engraving is often used to depict the schooner “Hesperus” in the full teeth of a gale. (Courtesy wordhistories.net)

good part of the throng suddenly broke off and headed for vehicles, obviously bound for somewhere worth going, so my mother and I followed. The parade went to Beal’s Island, where a distant cousin thrice married and twice removed or something like that, as people were always saying, was building a boat.

Now, I’d helped Rudy build rowboats with nothing but plans in his head, but nothing had prepared me for this. My cousin was building

a boat, all right--putting down the framework for a 40-footer.

He was over about twenty feet in front of the bow, huddled with various aunts and uncles and nieces and nephews, squinting at a plumb-line--for all I knew, allowing for windage. “That’s all he’s using,” someone said.

(Please address mail, with phone numbers in case of questions, to campguyhooligan@gmail.com or 386 South Hill Rd., Colebrook, NH 03576.)

LETTERS FROM EDWIN Friends

I just got a head start on tomorrows list, which is good. You see, I have four crates of apples in the cellar that needed sorting. A couple friends of mine own old apple orchards and every fall they invite me to pick all I want. Seeing as I love apples, especially Cortlands, I take advantage as best I can. Once we have a couple of frosts, I head off with ladder and crates to see what I can find. Some years are spectacular, others, no so much. These are totally organic orchards that haven’t been tended to in years, but the trees don’t know that. I’m in a race with the deer for drops.

So I got home tonight with a couple of options on my list. An old friend I worked for today gave me a tip! She knows that I love to eat but not so much cook, so she gave me a container of beef stew that she made. Instant supper! I enjoyed every bite.

I do love to eat. Even my own cooking. All too often, I will be enjoying the food so much that I’m disappointed when my stomach tells me I’ve had enough. Life’s simple pleasure.

After doing the dishes, I was so exhausted that I had to sit down and rest for a while. When I arose from the chair, it was too late to address my original options, so I went down the cellar to take my boots

off. Awaiting me there was the bulk food order I had just picked up at another friend’s house that needed to get put away. With that accomplished, I had to walk past the crates of apples to remove my boots.

I couldn’t go past them again. I went through each crate and sorted out apples that were partially bad for cutting up and making apple sauce, and ones that would be thrown out to the deer. This will be a regular activity throughout the winter. Last year was a good year, I had non-store bought apples till February.

The next day I worked off my list while adding an equal amount of new items as the day progressed. I got a call from another friend questioning me about remaining apples and if I’d like to help pick up some and make cider. I said that I thought that there should be plenty left for cider. Later in the day I headed over to the orchard where we all picked a kart load of ratty rotten apples. The rottener the apples, the sweeter the cider.

By the time we were starting to grind, the sun was setting in red and purple splendor out beyond the orchard. As soon as the sun went down, the temperature dropped rapidly, making me wish that I had brought a hat. We just kept on grinding and

squeezing and all toll, after about three and a half hours, we were each heading home with a gallon of fresh made, unpasteurized, unadulterated, apple squeezings, better known as cider. Couldn’t get any better.

When I got home, I threw the jug in the refrigerator. Being chilled to the bone, I threw another afghan on my bed and got ready to jump in. Before I knew it, I could hear the redundant oldies from my clock radio. It was morning. I had to fight with my desire to stay beneath my nice warm pile of bedding to set my steps toward the cold bathroom for a shower.

This here warm spell, traditionally referred to as Indian Summer, is supposed to be coming to an end this weekend. It’s continued a good number of days this year. I’ve found myself wearing t-shirts and considering shorts. It’s been quite nice.

With my trees being thinned, the sun rise has become more visible as it progressively moves to the right each morning. I’ve considered setting up some kind of “Stonehenge” type arraignment that will allow me to watch as it gets closer and closer to the winter solstice when I can dance around and celebrate that spring is coming. We need more reasons to celebrate don’t we?

I know that that is the holiday season and all, but it has already begun. I look out into the former wilderness to see the lights of the north pole across my road. The stores are hawking their wares every way possible. I wish I could give everybody a present, but what? Everybody in know already have so much stuff that finding something they might use is difficult. And the trash it all produces is distressing.

So I wish you all

hope for the future, and if I could, I would give you faith in the Lord for the peace that it provides is priceless.

E.Twaste
Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

NOTICE VEHICLE SALE

The Town of Barnstead is selling a
Used 1985 Chevy 2500
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Vehicle can be seen at the
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by calling 269-4121
to make an appointment.

Send offers to: Selectmen’s Office,
108 South Barnstead Road, Ctr. Barnstead, NH 03225
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NOTICE TO ALTON RESIDENTS SCHOOL BOARD VACANCY

Due to a recent resignation, the Alton School Board is seeking letters of interest from Alton residents who would like to be considered to fill a vacancy on the school board until the next election in March 2021. Membership responsibilities include:

- Attending monthly Alton School District Board meeting
- Attending monthly Prospect Mountain High School Board meeting
- Representing the Alton School District on sub-committees such as Budget (requires several meetings November – January) and Buildings and Grounds.
- Representing Prospect Mountain High School on sub-committees such as Policies and Finance.

Interest parties should submit a letter of interest no later than Tuesday, November 24, 2020, to Pamela Stiles, Superintendent of Schools, Alton School District, SAU 72, 252 Suncook Valley Road, Alton, NH 03809. The School Board will address the vacancy at their meeting on December 14, 2020.



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Seven Bobcats make their collegiate commitments official



AT BREWSTER ACADEMY'S National Signing Day ceremony, seven student-athletes signed their college letters of intent, including three lacrosse players (from left with their coach, Jason Ouellet): Brady Hoff will go to UMass, Braeden Pratt will head to St. John's University, (coach Ouellet), and Henry Blake will be playing for The Ohio State University.

WOLFEBORO — Across the country, Wednesday, Nov. 11, was the opening of National Signing Day for this year's graduating class of high school student-athletes signing letters of intent to their chosen colleges and universities. At Brewster Academy, seven student-athletes signed letters of intent as part of a ceremony in the school's Smith Athletic and Wellness Center. Brewster celebrated four basketball players and three lacrosse athletes who all committed to Division I colleges. Director of Athletics Matt Lawlor opened the ceremony praising the students for their accomplishments. "This is a special group who have achieved a milestone in both their academic and athletic careers," he said. "However, knowing this group, they are going to continue to impress this year and at the next level. All of them are excellent student-athletes, but excellent citizens as well. I am proud to have the chance to work with them."

For the first time in six years, Brewster has a Division I girls' basketball player, as newcomer

Tatiana Popa (Parkersburg, W.V.) signed her letter of intent to play at the University of Nebraska next year. Popa, a 6'5" post player, has the ability to score inside as well as from the perimeter and led Parkersburg to a state semi-final appearance last year. Second-year head coach Rebecca Brooks is excited to have her in the program for this season. "Tatiana has a lot of tools at both ends of the floor, and we are looking forward to getting her involved this season." Popa chose Nebraska over Pepperdine, San Jose State and Texas Tech.

On the boys' side, Brewster recognized 6'7" swingman John Camden (Norristown, Pa.) who will sign this week with the University of Memphis. Camden, who has range well beyond the three-point arc, is home rehabbing an injury and chose Memphis over Indiana, Florida, Miami and Penn State. Coach Jason Smith is excited about his return to campus in January. "John is an elite shooter who can space the floor for us this year. We are looking to see what he can do once he is healthy."

Devin Carter (Miami, Fla.) is the reigning 7A Player of the Year from the state of Florida and an explosive 6'4" combo guard who is likely to do the bulk of the ball handling for the Bobcats this year. He had a slew of offers from Georgia, Georgia Tech, Virginia Commonwealth and East Carolina, but chose to take his game to the Southeastern Conference and will suit up for the University of South Carolina next winter. "Devin is a great athlete and will be a big part of what we do at both ends of the floor," noted Smith. "He can play on or off the ball, which will open things up for us during the season."

The last player from coach Smith's program to sign today was Shane Dezione (Tobyhanna, Pa.). Dezione ranked as one of the top 100 players in the country and is considered to be in the top 20 at his position. Dezione stands 6'2", is incredibly athletic, and spent last year at Huntington Prep in West Virginia (Huntington Prep is considered, like Brewster, an elite basketball program.) Dezione entertained offers from Arizona State, Arkansas, Clemson, and Wake Forest, but chose to sign with the University of Arizona.

Along with the basketball signing success, Brewster boasts a strong lacrosse program that had three students sign letters of intent. Post-graduate Braeden



ON NOV. 11, Brewster prep basketball team senior Shane Dezione joined six other student-athletes at Brewster for a National Signing Day ceremony on campus. Ranked one of the top 100 players in the country, Dezione entertained offers from Arizona State, Arkansas, Clemson and Wake Forest, but chose to sign with the University of Arizona.



MARTA CARRENO - COURTESY PHOTOS
BREWSTER ACADEMY senior and girls' varsity basketball player Tatiana Popa signed her letter of intent to play at the University of Nebraska next year at Brewster's National Signing Day ceremony Nov. 11. Popa chose Nebraska over Pepperdine, San Jose State, and Texas Tech, and is the first Division I girls' basketball player at Brewster in six years.

Pratt (Beverly, Mass.) was a two-sport standout at Beverly High School (football, lacrosse), and chose to continue his lacrosse playing career at St. John's University. Pratt will be a defenseman for the Red Storm. "Braeden is an incredibly hard worker," noted head coach Jason Ouellet. "His work ethic, toughness and athleticism will put him in a position to play immediately at the next level."

Henry Blake (Ross, Calif.) arrived at Brewster for his sophomore year and has had an impressive prep career as a goalie. Blake had offers from multiple lacrosse powerhouses such as Rutgers, UMass-Amherst, Providence and the University of Utah,

but he chose to head to the Big-10 Conference and will play next year for The Ohio State University. "We are all very excited for Henry," said Ouellet. "He is a great athlete and does tons of things well in net for us. Looking forward to having him for one more year and excited for his future."

And the last signer of the day has been at Brewster since his freshman year and has been a two-sport standout for the Bobcats. Brady Hoff (Ipswich, Mass.) has been an integral part of the Bobcat hockey and lacrosse programs during his time in Wolfboro. Hoff, who had chances to play either sport at the next level, chose to go the lacrosse route and signed his letter of intent with the University of Massachusetts. "Brady is a true two-way lacrosse player," noted Ouellet. "He is very athletic and tough, and we are going to rely on him a ton this year—I know he can make an impact at the next level."

To learn more about Brewster and its mission to prepare diverse think-

ers for lives of purpose, visit www.brewsteracademy.org.

RE/MAX By The Lake hosts local food drive

ALTON — RE/MAX By The Lake in Alton is hosting a RE/STOCK with RE/MAX community food drive to collect donations on behalf of their local food shelf.

Canned food, non-perishable items, cleaning supplies and toiletries can be dropped off at RE/MAX By The Lake:

Address: 141 Main St., Alton, NH, 03809

Starting: Monday Nov. 9 through Wednesday, Nov. 25

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday by Appointment, please call 875-4900.

The food collected during the drive will be donated to Alton Food Pantry to support individuals and families in Alton and the surrounding areas. RE/MAX By The Lake's Broker/Owner says it is an important time to Restock local food shelves.

"It is important to help sustain our communities," says Don. "Households throughout our neighborhoods experience food insecurities all year long and rely on their local food banks for support. We want to bring our communities together to help restock the shelves, and help those in need, in time for Thanksgiving."

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Playhouse production streaming over Thanksgiving weekend

MEREDITH — While many theatregoers were happy to return to live theatre when the Winnepesaukee Playhouse presented a small, socially distanced season in early fall, others were not yet ready. The Playhouse heard from many theatre fans who were intrigued by the local setting of the Playhouse's October production, "No Wake" by Erica Berman, but not ready to sit in an auditorium with others. In response, just prior to the show's closing, the Playhouse hired a local filmmaker and filmed a special performance of the play which anyone across the country (and world) can view over Thanksgiving weekend.

The decks of two neighboring houses in Moultonborough is the setting of this new play which, over the course of a summer, illustrates a burgeoning friendship between a cynical local teenager and an irascible snowbird with a pen-

chant for screaming at the jetskiers who disrupt his treasured loons. As the two unlikely friends navigate a generational divide, they learn that life experiences transcend age. In scenes both humorous and poignant, bonds form over loneliness and loss as both reveal secrets that impact their lives.

The play is directed by Samantha Tella, who previously helmed hit Playhouse productions of "The Graduate" and "Boeing Boeing." To add even more local flavor to the production, the cast consists of local professional actors Teghan Marie Kelly and Ray Dudley. Meredith native Teghan was last seen at the Playhouse in "Beauty and the Beast" and "Mamma Mia!" A Gilmanton resident, Ray has won New Hampshire Theatre Awards for his work at the Playhouse including roles in "Of Mice and Men," "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," and



"The Graduate."

"No Wake" will be available for streaming beginning at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 26 and ending at midnight on

Sunday, Nov. 29. A \$20 admission (plus a small online fee) allows patrons to view the production as many times as they'd like in a 48 hour

period via their computer, phone, iPad, or other device with an internet connection. For more information, or to purchase an admission, vis-

it www.winnepesaukee-playhouse.org.

Farmington Congregational Church welcomes Jonny and Merrill Peiffer

FARMINGTON — The First Congregational Church, UCC in downtown Farmington is planning a special

Thanksgiving worship service for Sunday, Nov. 22 at 10 a.m.

Brass musicians will

be joined by popular singer Merrill Peiffer who will perform "The Lord's Prayer" and other selections. She will

be accompanied by her brother, Jonny Peiffer on piano who is the church's keyboard player. The church is open

to the public. People are asked to wear face masks and use hand sanitizing stations and maintain social distance while in the historic church.

The service is seen on www.facebook.com/farmingtonnhfirstcongregational.

Art Association launches Toys for Tots collection

SHERWOOD FRAZER — COURTESY

The weekend of Nov. 11 was the launch date for the beginning of the Lakes Region Art Association's 2020 holiday season 'Toys for Tots' Collection Program. The collection box is located in the LRAA Gallery, Tanger Outlet Mall, Tilton, suite 132. Hours are Thursday-Sunday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Early donations already began Saturday, Nov. 7, and LRAA member artist Audrey Rougeot, pictured here, was there to accept the first of many expected contributions of unwrapped only toys. The collection program concludes Dec. 20.



Jonny and Merrill Peiffer



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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	40 Bay Hill Rd.	Mobile Home	\$125,000	John T. Lee RET	Homer Fiscal Trust and John E. Homer
Alton	1303 Mount Major Highway	Single-Family Residence	\$285,000	Loren J. O'Neil	Sean K. and Annalyn B. Cunningham
Alton	1787 Mount Major Highway	Single-Family Residence	\$125,000	Betty A. Frohock RET and Susan L. Merfeld	Patricia L. O'Leary
Alton	424 Old Wolfeboro Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$125,000	Janet L. Benedetto	David A. and Ashley J. Benedetto
Alton	Pine Street	N/A	\$160,000	David N. and Sandra G. Swain	Carrie J. Ames-Richardson
Alton	Powder Mill Road	Forest Use	\$65,000	Joseph A. and Michele A. Heath	Derek Parrillo
Alton	11 Stonewall Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$220,000	Patricia L. Dilberto	Jennifer Hooker
Alton	Suncook Valley Road	N/A	\$41,466	292 Beacon Street Trust and Alan J. Spera	Christine and Joseph Perella
Alton	Suncook Valley Road	N/A	\$41,466	L.L. & Pamela M. Alberto RET and Anita Russo	Christine and Joseph Perella
Alton	183 Sunset Shore Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$357,000	Richard J. and Mary L. Sully	Keith F. and Susanna D. Payzant
Alton	N/A (Lot 23)	N/A	\$493,533	Carl A. and Donna L. Backman	Christopher M. and Jennifer L. Lang
Barnstead	40 Bay Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$265,000	Joseph M. and Allison Wichert	Michael Marchitelli
Barnstead	56 Crest Ridge Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$125,000	Steven Hess and Karen E. Reynolds	Side By Side Enterprises
Barnstead	33 Dow Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$272,000	Brad S. and Louann L. Ashley	Glenn and Valerie Ivey
Barnstead	165 Georgetown Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$315,000	Rosemarie Caruso Fiscal Trust and Marilyn Geary	Rosemarie Caruso Fiscal Trust and Marilyn Geary
Barnstead	13 N. Shore Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$255,000	Michael E. and Christine A. Joly	Denise G. Bolduc Trust
Barnstead	Route 107	N/A	\$732,000	Tristan and Kristina A. Wihbey	Daniel F. and Nancy K. Thornell
Barnstead	65 S. Barnstead Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$150,000	Avarden Investments LLC	Silver Star Realty LLC
Barnstead	Sampson Drive	N/A	\$200,000	Gerald P. Violette	Cory M. and Ashley Pratt
Barnstead	7 Sampson Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$245,000	Ashley M. and Cory M. Pratt	Patrick J. and Cali A. Egan
New Durham	160 Merrymeeting Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$225,000	Ronald A. Bjark and Liudmila A. Bjork	James D. Blauveit
New Durham	Ridge Road	N/A	\$65,000	Joseph A. Fitzpatrick and Catherine J. Leavy	Leo and Allison Provost

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

Here are recent real estate transactions in Alton and the surrounding areas. These sales summaries are informational only, not a legal record. Names shown are usually the first listed in the deed. Sales might involve

additional parties or locations. Prices are usually based on tax stamps and might be inaccurate for public agency sales. Refer to actual public documents before forming opinions or relying on this information. Additional publicly recorded information on these sales, prior sales and data from Department of Revenue Administration forms is available at www.real-data.com

or 669-3822. Copyright 2011. Real Data Corp. In the column "Type": land= land only; L/B= land and building; MH= mobile home; and COND=condominium. Transactions provided by The Warren Group, Boston Ma., publishers of The Registry Review and Bankers and Tradesman newspapers, Phone: 1-800-356-8805. Website: www.thewarrendgroup.com

Comfort Keepers

Loneliness and isolation can affect senior health

BY MARTHA SWATS
Owner/Administrator
Comfort Keepers

For seniors, maintaining social connections and staying in touch with loved ones not only improves quality of life, it improves health. Socially isolated seniors have a 59% greater risk of mental and physical decline than those who do not experience social isolation, and socialization has been shown to slow Alzheimer's and Dementia patient's decline.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 11 million, or 28 percent of people who are aged 65 and older, now live alone and almost half of women over 75 live alone. By taking intentional steps to reduce isolation and reduce lack of contact, overall wellbeing is also improved.

So, how can seniors foster connection and reduce loneliness?

Social Media – Facebook, Instagram and other social media sites can help seniors stay connected to friends and family across the country. And, many social media platforms have built in chat functions, games and other features that foster connection.

Togetherness Activities – For older adults, planning activities reduces lack of contact. This can be in-person, when possible, or through video chat and

phone calls. Virtual or in-person activities can include good conversation, cooking and eating together, reading together, playing games, scrapbooking, or listening to music. And, studies show that planning and looking forward to an event can have mental health benefits too!

Online Interaction – Seniors may enjoy virtual meetups, online worship services, Facebook trivia night, virtual communities focused on hobbies, and other online activities can help people connect to others in their community without leaving home. For those that are able to go out, sharing hobbies and activities with others can bring joy and connection.

Virtual Volunteers – For seniors looking for a sense of purpose, there are opportunities to volunteer to help others from the comfort of home. This can include building Easter baskets for children's charities, sewing quilts for shelters, writing cards for military service members overseas and other activities that allow people to do good works in their free time.

Isolation and loneliness can be signs that a senior lacks the support and tools needed to live a healthy, independent life. However, with planning and deliberate action, fostering positive relationships and con-

nections can be incredibly rewarding for everyone involved.

Comfort Keepers® Can Help

For seniors that need companionship or help fighting loneliness, Comfort Keepers caregivers can help with encouragement, support and assistance with daily living. And, caregivers can encourage overall health

through meal planning, grocery shopping, meal preparation and activities. Our custom care plans focus on physical and mental health and wellness activities. Our goal is to see that clients have the means to find the joy and happiness in each day, regardless of age or acuity.

To learn more about our in-home care ser-

vices, contact your local Comfort Keepers location today.

About Comfort Keepers
Comfort Keepers is a leader in providing in-home care consisting of such services as companionship, transportation, housekeeping, meal preparation, bathing, mobility assistance, nursing services, and a host

of additional items, all meant to keep seniors living independently worry free in the comfort of their homes. Comfort Keepers have been serving New Hampshire residents since 2005. Let us help you stay independent. Please call 536-6060 or visit our Web site at nhcomfortkeepers.com for more information.

MARK ON THE MARKETS

Have enough?



BY MARK PATTERSON

Almost 100 percent of new clients that walk into my office to discuss their retirement plan have two beliefs that are consistent. First, they believe that they do not have enough money to retire, and second is that they believe the amount of money that would allow for a comfortable retirement is predetermined by the "experts"

on the radio, TV or magazines, and that number is more than have accumulated. Another common perception is that the tax rate will be lower once the client reaches retirement age. This may be true, or it may not be true. There is no way to know tax policy and rates in the future.

Some clients want to work well beyond traditional retirement years; however, some clients want to retire early by today's standards.

Instead of focusing on total assets needed to retire let us back into what income you will need to sustain the lifestyle that you want. We must also account for the fact that the money that you are saving for retirement now will not be included in your retirement budget. The key is to convert your retirement assets into income producing

vehicles that are sustainable, steady but have the potential to grow.

It sounds like a tall order, and it is. This plan depends on the amount of income that we must derive from the client's assets. We must also look at Social Security benefits that typically play a big part in the client's retirement income. Congress has done away with some previous filing strategies, but it still makes sense to look at varying scenarios regarding when you the client starts receiving benefits.

The content of many 401(k), 403B, IRA or really any other qualified plans typically consist of mutual funds that have been used for accumulation of assets. These funds, in my opinion are not efficient means of deriving income once retired.

A common yet dated strategy has been to take 4% of your assets for income. Many years ago, when you could get a CD with a 5% return, that might have been viable. In today's world, CD rates are substantially

lower, so to get your 4% you must place your assets at market or credit risk.

There are ways to mitigate these risks using investment-grade quality corporate bonds and possibly an "A" rated fixed indexed annuity with good income riders to provide a sustainable, steady income. Once you have met your income goals, we are able to invest the rest of the assets for growth. Because we have the income portion set, we are not overly concerned with market or sequence of returns risk that would put your income in danger.

It can be very beneficial to plan sooner than later. The first step in this process is to figure out a realistic budget and income needs come retirement. A good financial planner that has expertise in planning for retirement income and asset management is a great place to start.

Mark Patterson is an advisor with MHP asset management and can be reached at 447-1979 or Mark@MHP-asset.com.

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1:1 Behavioral Assistants – 6 ½ hrs/day

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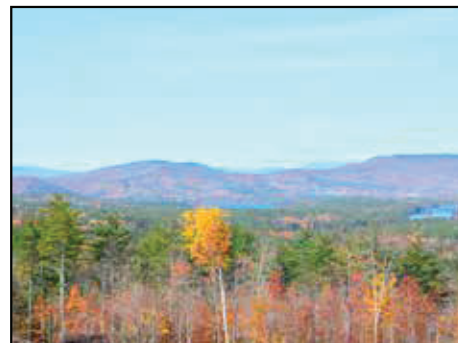
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(The Fair Housing Act of 1968 at 42 U.S.C., 3604(c))

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You may also call The New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights at 603-271-2767 or write

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Delve into “The File on Thelma Jordan” with LRPA

LACONIA — Join Lakes Region Public Access Television at 10:30 p.m. this Friday and Saturday night (Nov. 20 and 21) for our LRPA After Dark presentation of 1950’s film noir crime drama “The File on Thelma Jordan,” starring Barbara Stanwyck and Wendell Corey.

Assistant District Attorney Cleve Marshall (Corey) is having marriage problems, which aren’t helped by the fact that he’s gone on a drunken bender and missed his anniversary celebration with his wife. Enter into his office the seductive and mysterious Thelma Jordan (Stanwyck), to whom Cleve feels an immediate attraction. She’s there to report an attempted burglary at the house of her elderly Aunt Vera. Cleve can’t get Thelma out of his mind, and the two

begin an affair. Meanwhile, Thelma has also been seeing Tony Laredo, a thug and a thief. Of course, she lies to Cleve about their relationship. Sometime later, Aunt Vera is shot by an intruder. Thelma calls Cleve to the house to help, all the while casting suspicion on Tony. Cleve gets assigned to the case. The evidence points to Thelma, and Cleve does everything he can to defend her, putting his reputation on the line. Although the odds are stacked against Thelma, Cleve chooses to believe her – but in the shadowy world of film noir, is anything ever the way it seems?

Barbara Stanwyck made her share of notable films noir in her long and illustrious career, including two that are infamous – Double Indemnity and The

Strange Love of Martha Ivers (which LRPA plays every now and then), – so it’s an interesting footnote that “The File on Thelma Jordan” is a relatively obscure film. It was well received by critics in its day, with Variety noting that it “... unfolds as an interesting, femme-slanted melodrama, told with a lot of restrained excitement.” It features very strong performances from both Stanwyck and Corey, the latter of whom was usually relegated to supporting character roles. “The File on Thelma Jordan” was supposed to have been directed by Otto Preminger, and Stanwyck was excited to work with him. It turned out that Preminger’s schedule could not accommodate this film, and so it was taken over by the German émigré director Robert Siodmak. Legend has it that Stanwyck did

not enjoy working with Siodmak, but the results of this stylish noir with great cinematography and a wonderful supporting cast speak for themselves. Grab your popcorn and meet us after dark for a twisted tale of tense noir.

And mark your calendars: we’re only weeks away from the annual Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction, presented by Hannaford Supermarkets, Tuesday, Dec. 8 – Friday, Dec. 11. This year we’re broadcasting from the Bank of New Pavilion. Join LRPA for minute-by-minute coverage all week long, locally on Channel 25, on Atlantic Broadband Channel 12 and streamed in HD on the Laconia Daily Sun Web site (laconiadailysun.com)! Or listen in with our fantastic radio partners 104.9 FM The

Hawk and Lakes FM 101.5 FM! high and bid often – it’s for the kids!

You can’t find television like this it anywhere but LRPA TV, Atlantic Broadband Channel 25. Not a subscriber? Then watch us online at live.lrpa.org to catch all the fun.

About Lakes Region Public Access Television (LRPA) Lakes Region Public Access Television (LRPA) is a nonprofit, non-commercial public access TV station and community media center located on the Laconia High School campus in Laconia, NH. LRPA cablecasts locally on Atlantic Broadband Channel 24 (educational programming and public bulletin board), Channel 25 (information and entertainment) and Channel 26 (govern-

ment meetings) to more than 12,000 homes in our member communities of Belmont, Gilford, Laconia, Meredith and Northwood. Programming is produced by and for the people of the greater Lakes Region. LRPA’s mission is to empower our community members to produce content that fosters free speech and the open exchange of ideas, encourages artistic and creative expression, promotes a well-informed public through governmental transparency, and unites our communities through the power of media and technology. LRPA’s slogan: Community empowered by media. Visit us on the Web at www.lrpa.org.

Local field hockey players earn All-State nods

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

REGION — The New Hampshire Field Hockey Coaches Association recently announced the All-State teams for the recently concluded season.

The season was certainly an unusual one, with all teams playing a regionalized schedule due to COVID-19 and the NHIAA opening the tournament to every team. A random draw for playoff seeding saw undefeated teams playing on the road in early round games and there were some forfeits due to COVID along the way. In the end, among local teams, Kennett had the strongest finish, as the Eagles won the Division II championship and Berlin advanced to the Division III championship, but had to forfeit their game due to the school district’s COVID restrictions, leaving the Mountaineers as the Division III runner-up.

For Division II All State, Kennett’s Maddie Stewart and Ella Chandler, Kingswood’s Abby Kelley and Allie Drew and Plymouth’s Holly

Hoyt all earned First Team honors.

Division II Second Team honors went to Kathryn Hawkes of Kennett, Alexis Booth of Kingswood and Gwen Merrifield and Emma Webster of Plymouth.

Also earning First Team honors in Division II were Alexandra Larabee of Bow, Charlotte Rohlf and Kira Geddes of Derryfield, Grace Murphy and Makayla Strickulis of Goffstown, Katie Blaisdell and Natalie Chapman of Hanover, Delaney Weimer of Hollis-Brookline, Sydney Pelletier and Jackie O’Donnell of John Stark, Sydney Gonyea and Amalia Hickey of Lebanon, Reilly Swislosky of Merrimack Valley, Erin Jasper and Allison Demmons of Milford, Ashley Harvey of Oyster River, Madi Robito and Gwen Dallinger of Pelham, Mia Edwards and Charlotte Marston of Portsmouth, Marianna D’Amelio and Emma Crowe of Sanborn and Cari Mastergeorge and Catie Summers of Division II runner-up Souhegan.

Blaisdell was named

Division II Offensive Player of the Year and Mastergeorge was named Defensive Player of the Year.

Also earning Second Team honors for Division II were Madeline Michaelis and Amelia Coe of Bow, Abbey Carr of Derryfield, Maggie Hansen of Goffstown, Mia Edmonds of Hanover, AnnMarie Tremblay and Alyssa Hill of Hollis-Brookline, Gracie Bolduc of John Stark, Molly Smith of Lebanon, Caitlyn Fortier and Taylor Bailey of Merrimack Valley, Nora Breton of Milford, Annika Kell and Alice Judge of Oyster River, Sydney Nutter of Pelham, Janelle Gagnon of Pembroke, Alexis Dumont of Portsmouth, Elinor Cotter of Sanborn and Miya Chorney of Souhegan.

Locals earning Division III First Team honors included Kenna Balderrama and Mickailey Walsh of Berlin, Taryn Fountain and Laurel Gingrich of Gilford, Mackenzie Allaire and Emily Tholl of Littleton, Haley Dukette and Tiffany Doan of Newfound,

Jennifer Fowler of White Mountains and Madison House and Alexis Poole of Winnisquam.

Division III Second Team honors went to Becca Pouliot of Berlin, Maddie Guest of Gilford, Alexi Hastings of Littleton, Mackenzie Bohlmann of Newfound, Kennedy Overhoff and Olivia Baker of White Mountains and Kaitlyn Carey of Winnisquam.

Also earning First Team honors for Division III were Ashlyn Toupin and Halle Laremie of Bishop Brady, Elizabeth Gonyea of Conant, Jada LaPierre and Emma LaPierre of

Franklin, Kate Bouchard of Hopkinton, Kate Cochran and Abby Nadeau of Kearsarge, Lydia Tucker of Laconia, Allison Adams of Mascenic, Paige Jette and Natalie Poitras of Mascoma, Carly Bernard of Monadnock, Eliza Bates and Kelsey Wheeler of Newport, Brianna Frisbee and Julia Turksy of Stevens and Olivia Kimball of St. Thomas.

Bates and Toupin were named Division III Co-Players of the Year while Patty Deschaine of Stevens was named Division III Coach of the Year.

Second Team hon-

ors in Division III also went to Libbey Hicks of Bishop Brady, Chelsea Dupuis and Bella Hayes of Conant, Elizabeth Guillotte and Jasmyn Long of Franklin, Caroline Barrett and Julia Baer of Hopkinton, Sophia Guzciewicz of Mascoma, Isabelle Sutton and Mackenzie Hopkins of Monadnock, Maddie Miller of Newport, Gabriella Savo of Stevens and Sara Anderson and Brooke Chandler of St. Thomas.

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

David Cronin promoted to Executive VP, Chief Human Resources Officer at NH Mutual Bancorp



David Cronin

REGION — New Hampshire Mutual Bancorp (NHMB) has announced that David Cronin has been promoted to Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer for the organization. NHMB is a shared service organization that provides essential services to three 150-year-old mutual community banks in New Hampshire - Savings Bank of Walpole, Merrimack County Savings Bank (the Merrimack) and Meredith Village Savings Bank (MVSb) - as well as their sister organization NHTrust, a full-service trust and investment management firm. The services provided by NHMB to their sister companies include human resources, finance, information technology, compliance management, facilities management, risk management, operations and marketing. In his role, Cronin, provides leadership for NHMB’s human resources, benefits, payroll, recruiting and corporate culture.

“David’s extensive background in human resources has benefited the company well during this period of intensive

growth and challenges,” said Gregg Tewksbury, President and CEO of NHMB. “He’s worked tirelessly to align compensation and benefit plans as our company brought banks together and recently added to our financial services affiliate though an acquisition. David’s focus on our talent and workplace culture benefits all of us as he advocates for employee well-being in everything he does.”

Cronin joined Meredith Village Savings Bank in 2008 as Vice President and Human Resources Officer. In 2009, he was promoted to Senior Vice President and Human Resources Officer and again promoted in 2014 as Human Resources Director for New Hampshire Mutual Bancorp.

Cronin is active in

his local church and community, and lives in Madison with his family.

New Hampshire Mutual Bancorp, a shared services organization, was formed in 2013 when two New Hampshire-based community banks, Meredith Village Savings Bank and Merrimack County Savings Bank, formally affiliated – the first relationship of its kind in the state. This strategic partnership has positioned the banks to leverage each other’s strengths as they work together to advance a shared vision of maintaining and enhancing community banking standards and values. MillRiver Wealth Management joined as a third affiliate in 2015, combining the financial advisory divisions of MVSb and the Merrimack. Savings Bank of Walpole joined NHMB in 2018. In 2020, MillRiver Wealth Management affiliated with the New Hampshire Trust Company and Savings Bank of Walpole Wealth Management to become NHTrust. NHMB combined assets total more than \$2.8 billion. For more information, visit nhmutual.com.

Alton Parks and Recreation Connection

“Light Up Alton” Event
Holiday House Decorating Contest
& Business Decorating Contest

All Alton residents are invited and encouraged to participate in making Alton the brightest place to be this Holiday season. Let’s bring the small town New England charm alive with lights, bows and holiday decorations.

For Residents: The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a Holiday House Decorating Contest. The contest is open to homes within the Alton and Alton Bay zip codes (03809 & 03810). For an Entry Form and Contest Rules go to www.alton.nh.gov or contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

FOR BUSINESSES/Nonprofits: The ABA is sponsoring the Business Decorating Contest. For Business Entries, email your pictures to the ABA info@altonbusinessassociation.com or post on the ABA/Alton Parks & Recreation Facebook Event Page, be sure to include your business name!

Judging will take place Dec. 9-10. Prizes will be awarded to category winners for both Residents and Businesses! Winners will be announced on December 11, 2020. Categories for prizes are: People’s Choice (Facebook Vote); Most Holiday Spirit; Creative Use of Lights; and Best Main Street Location. Happy decorating Alton and THANK YOU for joining us in bringing festive cheer to our community.

Holiday Gift Guide

Tips for successfully gifting teens

Giving gifts during the holiday season may be rewarding, but certain people on your shopping list may leave you scratching your head wondering what to buy. Teenagers often fall into that confusing category. As trends and interests change at a moment's notice, adults may not know what to get the teenagers on their list. These suggestions can set you on the right course.

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Common Man Restaurants: 11 a.m.–4 p.m.
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Foster's Boiler Room: 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m. (603) 536-2764.



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Meal Enhancements for Four: Mac 'n Cheese 29.95 • Glazed Ham 29.95
Green Bean Casserole 19.95 • Sweet Potato Casserole 19.95
House-made Pies: Apple 14.95 • Pecan 19.95 • Pumpkin 14.95

Orders must be placed by Friday, November 20
by calling the location where you plan to pick up your order.
C-Man Lincoln (603) 745-DINE, C-Man Ashland (603) 968-7030,
C-Man Windham (603) 898-0088, C-Man Concord (603) 228-DINE,
C-Man Merrimack (603) 429-DINE, C-Man Claremont (603) 542-6171,
Foster's Boiler Room (603) 536-2764, Lago (603) 279-2253,
Camp (603) 279-3003, Lakehouse (603) 279-5221,
Italian Farmhouse (603) 536-4536, Diners:Tilt'n (603) 286-2204,
Airport (603) 623-5040, The 104 (603) 744-0120
Orders may be picked up on Wednesday, November 25.



Gadgets
Teens like staying abreast of the latest technology, and what better way to do so than with hot-off-the-assembly-line products? Moderns teens use multiple mobile devices — from tablets to smartphones to notebook computers — so an outlet multiplier with surge protection could be the way to go. A charging caddy that keeps all of their devices organized and within reach while replenishing the batteries can make for another go-to gift.

While shopping for gadgets, think about investing in Bluetooth-enabled earbuds or over-the-ear headphones. This way teens can enjoy their favorite streaming music stations or binge Netflix series without disturbing others.

Gym equipment
Adolescents are conscious of their personal health and body image. To foster positive experiences, gift givers can encourage healthy physical activity. A gym membership or personal fitness equipment can help teens get on track with a weekly regimen.

Luggage/travel gear
A thirst for exploration may inspire teens to travel the country or the world. A high-quality piece of luggage can be a building block for teens' travel gear. Other travel items to consider are RFID blocker ID and credit card holders, money toward a passport or an overnight toiletries bag.

Gaming
Many teens immerse themselves in gameplay, whether solo or online multiplayer. Games can be enjoyed while using various consoles, computers and even smartphones. Find out which platform teens are using and then purchase gift cards, points or e-codes so that they can get new games or enjoy in-app purchases and upgrades.

School funding
Some gifts can focus on the future, including teens' education. Consider donating to or opening up an account to help fund college costs. Different plans have different annual contribution limits and tax deferments, so it's a good idea to speak with a financial professional to figure out which avenue is right for you and your gift recipient.

Find the time to shop for holiday gifts

The holiday season is a busy time of year. So many activities are packed into a relatively short period of time, and it is easy to become a tad overwhelmed by it all. Once Black Friday arrives on November 27 (or Thanksgiving evening for those who can't wait until Friday), holiday shoppers have less than a month to get all of their shopping done.

Planning, decorating, entertaining, and socializing takes time away from shopping. To find the time to get everything done — especially shopping — consider these time management tips and tricks.

- Shop during off-peak hours. The busiest times of the day for holiday shopping will be lunch hour during a business day and right before or after supper time. Wading through crowds can be time-consuming. Try to shop when the stores are more sparsely populated so you can get in and out faster.
- Shop local. Think about patronizing small, independent retailers. Not only will you enjoy customized, exemplary customer service, but the stores probably will not be able to fit as many customers as large chains. That means you can browse more readily and shop faster and more safely.
- Schedule online shopping blocks. Pepper your calendar with blocks of time devoted to online shopping. This way you can handle it without distraction and easily check people off of your list.
- Delegate some tasks. Pool your resources with friends or family members and divide up your shopping lists. Each person can be in charge of a different category of shopping. For example, if you are in charge of gaming gifts, buy all of these and then distribute them to whoever needed them. Delegating saves time and lets shoppers avoid rushing from store to store.
- Take a day off. While it may not be ideal to use vacation time for holiday shopping, sometimes it can be an effective way to check off a good portion of your list. Start in the early morning when the children are at school and visit as many stores as possible. Stow away those gifts until you have the opportunity to wrap them. Make the day off a little more special by treating yourself to a solo lunch or a midday meal with a friend.

The holiday season is one of the busiest times of the year. Finding the time to finish shopping and complete other tasks is challenging, but possible.



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STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

My message to America

By Larry Scott

What does a conservative evangelical have to say to America at a time like this? With a nation as divided as in the days of the Civil War, what can a Christian say to our current state of mind that will resonate, be helpful, and address the issues we now must confront?

To those cheering the outcome of our recent election, I would encourage caution. America has gone progressive, and this election only formalizes the fact. But hold steady, America. The dream is always more exciting than re-

ality, and a new administration in Washington is not going to solve our problems or bring us greater prosperity, and it certainly won't change the social and moral rebellion that has overtaken our nation.

And don't misunderstand. I do not begrudge Mr. Biden and his followers for wanting a chance to lead these United States. But let's be clear: Mr. Biden did not win this election, Mr. Trump lost it. And he did so not on policy, but on style. A significant number of Americans voted not in favor of a new administration but in protest against an outspoken,

self-confident President who alienated many of those who once supported him. No president in American history has been as hated and vilified as has been Mr. Trump, and that despite the fact much of what he did for America was to our benefit.

My distress is not in the turn away from the conservative direction America took the last four years. My concern is that it reflects not just a difference in political philosophy. You may not see it unless you look closely but there are moral overtones to a number of social trends that have now become

an accepted part of the American lifestyle. They have, I fear, been precipitated by our society's further alienation from God and the principles given us in His word.

Each generation, beginning with the moral rebellion of the mid-1960s, has drifted a bit further toward a pragmatic, secular, humanist agenda. A generation of Americans now leads our country who have no place for God in their lives, have never read a Bible, and give little thought to their eternal well-being. The mantra of what I have termed the Me Generation is, "Eat, live and be happy;

do your own thing, for tomorrow we die." And the outcome has been devastating. When a society reaches the point where the life of the unborn can be terminated on the very day of their birth, we have reached depths of degradation by which everything else pales.

So how, then, should a conservative Christian respond to the course America has determined to take? Hold steady, don't panic, be kind. And by all means, take a stand, let your voice be heard, but do so respectfully. If our fears materialize, America will soon need us for sound advice

and responsible leadership.

How all of this will evolve is not apparent at this time, but history has proven that when a nation turns away from God, there is hell to pay. The Pandemic has shown how easy it is for something as innocuous as a virus to bring a nation to its knees. In these difficult times, we again turn to Jesus Christ. "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in me." America ... there can be no other way!

For more thoughts like these, follow me at indefenseoftruth.net.

Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction announces new Super Bidder option

LACONIA — The Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction (GLRCA) has created a new benefit for potential bidders for this year's upcoming auction, scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 8 through Friday, Dec. 11. Anyone looking to increase their support of the auction—or to have an edge on bidding—can now become a Super Bidder.

For a donation of

Huggins Hospital drive thru flu shot clinic continues to grow

WOLFEBORO – More than 780 people received the flu vaccine during the Huggins Hospital Drive Thru Flu Shot Clinics in mid-October. The number of participants has nearly tripled since the inaugural Drive Thru in 2016.

The goal of the event is to help the community stay healthy during flu season by removing barriers to getting the flu vaccine. The vaccine was free to everyone regardless of their ability to pay or their insurance situation. Participants commented about the convenience and efficiency of the event.

"So many grateful participants shared their positive feedback about receiving the flu shot in an efficient, barrier-free manner that by design aided those with mobility, financial, and other logistical challenges," said Kimberlee Daley, RN, Vice President of Physician and Diagnostic Services. "This meant a lot to the people we helped, and it was rewarding to hear that many we served were receiving the flu vaccine for the first time in their lives."

The clinic supports the hospital's mission to empower the fulfillment of life through better health and each year it has empowered more people by better preparing them for flu season.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, getting a flu vaccine is more important than ever this year to protect yourself, your family and your community from flu. A flu vaccine this season can also help reduce the burden on our health-care systems responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and save medical resources for care of COVID-19 patients.

\$100, Super Bidders will be granted a look at the items on the auction boards as soon as they are available. Super bidders can: bid on items before they are open to the public; submit bids with incremental increases up to the bidders pre-chosen maximum; see how many bidders are also bidding on the item that they are interested in; enjoy VIP check-out and pick-up service; and be proud to support the children of the Lakes Region during an especially challenging year.

Interested community members can become a Super Bidder at bids.childrensauction.com.

"In past years, community members have mentioned that they would love to be able to

have tools available so that they could spend less time babysitting the auction for the items that they most wanted to bid on," said GLRCA chairperson Jaimie Sousa. "It will also give people an opportunity to donate directly to the auction to assist children in need while getting some great benefits."

"I was thrilled to become a Super Bidder," added Cindy Hemon-Plessner, GLRCA board secretary and first official Super Bidder. "It was easy to sign up. I was able to support impressive local nonprofits, and now, I'll be able to bid while I'm cooking dinner, in a meeting or going for a walk. I'm excited for the opportunity to be able to automatically bid often!"

Because of the threat of COVID-19, this year's auction will be held virtually from the Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion. Auction leaders will not accept donations during the event to ensure there is time to properly sanitize and photograph every item in a manner in which volunteers can social distance.

While many items have been received at this time, there is a need for thousands of items to raise enough money to meet the needs of the community.

Visit www.childrensauction.com for drop-off locations. Volunteers will also collect items on Friday, Nov. 27 and Saturday, Nov. 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bank of New Hampshire

Pavilion. At all drop-off sites, donors must bring a completed form, available at <https://bit.ly/32ahYHb>.

Gift cards can be ordered online for donation to the auction; mail gift card donations to GLRCA, 383 South Main St., Laconia, NH 03246.

Only a small group of volunteers, radio and TV personnel will be welcomed on the auction set during the event.

About the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction

The Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction is a charitable event held every December in central New Hampshire. Countless volunteers and donors have turned the Auction and its many fundraising events, including, It's

for the Kids Community Challenge (formerly PubMania), into a major annual campaign. In the 39 years that the community has come together for the Auction, more than \$6 million has been raised for local charities, all through volunteer efforts, community donations and corporate sponsorship. The Greater Lakes Region Charitable Fund for Children is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that helps community organizations in the Central New Hampshire region. For more information about the Auction, the nonprofits it supports and how you can help, visit ChildrensAuction.com.



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Sara Lauze promoted to Senior Vice President, Operations Officer for NH Mutual Bancorp



Sara Lauze

MEREDITH — Sara Lauze has been promoted to Senior Vice President, Operations Officer for New Hampshire Mutual Bancorp (NHMB). In this role, Lauze will provide leadership of loan operations, deposit operations, collections, and digital banking services for Savings Bank of Walpole, Merrimack County Savings Bank and Meredith Village Savings Bank.

“Sara’s experience and expertise have been essential in the success of many of our major company-wide projects – most recently upgrading our online banking system for our banks,” noted Angela Strozewski, Executive Vice President and Senior Operations Officer. “Sara has a wonderful ability to meet the needs of our customers as well as her colleagues at the Banks. She is very well regarded by her staff and her peers and I am confident she will continue to excel.”

Lauze joined the Merrimack in 2005 as an ATM Deposit Services

Assistant. She has held several positions in operations and information technology services. Lauze has held several roles in operations with increasing responsibilities – she was promoted to Operations Supervisor in 2014, to Digital Banking Officer in 2015, Assistant Vice President in 2016, and Vice President in 2018.

Lauze is a graduate of New Hampshire Technical Institute and the New England School for Financial Studies. She also earned her Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) status in 2012 from the Project Management Institute. New Hampshire Mu-

tual Bancorp, a mutual holding company, was formed in 2013 when two New Hampshire-based community banks, Meredith Village Savings Bank and Merrimack County Savings Bank, formally affiliated – the first relationship of its kind in New Hampshire. This strategic partnership has positioned the Banks to leverage each other’s strengths as they work together to advance a shared vision of maintaining and enhancing their community banking standards and values. MillRiver Wealth Management joined as a third subsidiary of NHMB in 2015, combining the financial advisory divisions of MVSB and The Merrimack Savings Bank of Walpole joined NHMB in 2018. In 2020, MillRiver Wealth Management affiliated with The New Hampshire Trust Company to become NHTrust. NHMB combined assets total more than \$2.8 billion. For more information, visit nhmutual.com.

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Locke-Holzschuh

MENASHA, Wisc. — Jenica Locke and Tyler Holzschuh were married the magical evening of Oct. 31, 2020 at the Holzschuh family farm in Menasha, Wisc. Sherri Locke, mother of the bride, officiated.

The bride is the daughter of John and Sherri Locke of Center Barnstead. The groom is the son of Chris and Kim Holzschuh of Menasha, Wisc.

The bride, groom, and immediate family traveled by the light of the Halloween blue moon down the lane on the family farm to an enchanting alcove of trees by hayride which was beautifully decorated with lights and festive decorations for the wedding ceremony.

The bride was striking in her white wedding gown, black cape, witch hat, her grandmother’s diamond necklace, great, great grandmother’s watch, her mother’s blue sparkling anklet, and cowgirl boots. She carried a silk fall bouquet set off by a scary Audrey II plant created by neighbor and dear family friend Britni Lamontagne.

The groom and his groomsmen wore plaid shirts, jeans, cowboy boots and duck feather bow ties, created by Megan Holzschuh, the groom’s loving sister.

An intimate wedding reception followed at Jim and Linda’s Lakeview Supper Club on the shores of Lake Winnebago.

The newly married couple looks forward to love, laughter, and happily ever after in their new home in Menasha, Wisc.



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