THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2021

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EDEE

# Lakes Region Community Developers celebrates \$369,000 grant award

**BELMONT** Board of Directors of the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) is delighted to announce the awarding of more than \$4.7 million in matching grants for 40 projects supporting both historic preservation and land conservation. Projects well distributed among the state's ten counties, including the Gale School in Belmont.

Gov. Chris Sununu has this message for the grant recipients: "Congratulations to all of this year's LCHIP grant award recipients," said Governor Chris Sununu. "These grants help preserve and define the character of our local communities. It's what New Hampshire is all about."

Lakes Region Community Developers received a \$369,000 grant award to support the transformation of the historic Gale School into a community facility that will include a new early learning center operated by the Boys & Girls Club and a new

program center operated by Lakes Region Community Services.

"We are very appreciative of LCHIP's investment in preserving the Gale School and giving this unique building a second life," said Carmen Lorentz, LRCD's Executive Director. "The LCHIP award is critical to bringing the Gale School back to life so it can serve children and families once again."

The Gale School was built in 1894, and was used by the Belmont school district until the mid-1980s. The building has been mostly vacant since then, and years of neglect have taken their toll. The Gale School was named to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places in 2018, and was selected as one of New Hampshire's Seven to Save in 2017.

In July 2020, the building was successfully moved by the local Save Our Gale School Committee (SOGS) to a new location at 60 Concord Street in Belmont Village. LRCD agreed to

partner with SOGS to redevelop the building.

Construction on the Gale School could begin as early as summer 2022 if all funds are secured as planned.

LCHIP funds will support projects in all ten of the state's counties. The natural resource projects awarded funding in this grant round include land to help meet the increased interest in outdoor recreation activities, farmland to supply local food for local people, land with scenic and environmental values and working forests to sustainably transform a highly visible part of the landscape into products needed by the people of the state. The historic resource grants include projects as straightforward as new roofing to as complex as near-total rehabilitation of elaborate buildings. Coincidentally, the oldest and newest buildings receiving grants are both town halls: Salem (1738), now historical society head-

SEE **GRANT**, PAGE A7



Courtesy

The Gale School in Belmont, one of many projects funded through a recent LCHIP grant to Lakes Region Community Developers.

## Slow start comes back to haunt Bear girls

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BRISTOL — The Winnisquam girls' hoop team traveled to Bristol on Tuesday, Dec. 14, and dropped a 58-33 decision to Newfound.

"We dug a big hole for ourselves," said coach Mark Dawalga. "But was proud of the kids' effort all night."

For the second time in as many games, the Bears got in trouble early, as the hosts got out to a 17-3 lead after one quarter and a 30-13 lead at halftime.

Lauren MacDonald led the way for the Bears with 15 points and 10 rebounds and Mackenzie Philippy added 10 points. Dawalga praised the defensive work of Sophia Day.

The Bears will be taking part in the Lakes Region Holiday Tournament in Gilford starting on Monday, Dec. 27, against Kingswood at 2:30 p.m. They play, Tuesday, Dec. 28, also at 2:30 p.m. against either Plymouth or Gilford.

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

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# Franklin Savings Bank employees, company match contribute \$20,600 for Granite United Way

F R A N K L I N
— Franklin Savings
Bank is pleased to announce that its employees pledged over \$10,300
as part of the bank's annual Pacesetter campaign for Granite United
Way. The bank also provided a dollar-for-dollar matching contribution, increasing the total donation to \$20,600.

"I am truly amazed at the amount we are able to raise each year to support Granite United Way and all the great work they do to provide critical services to our communities," commented Ron Magoon, President & CEO. "Our employees generously contributed over \$10,000 this year, enabling us to donate over \$20,600, representing a 58 percent increase from the prior year. I could not be more proud of our organization and the work we do in our communities to support the well-being of individuals, families, businesses and nonprofits."

Funds raised for

Granite United Way (GUW) are used to help communities learn, earn and be healthy. In 2020, 93 organizations in six regions served by GUW received funding from its local funding process and strategic partnerships.

SEE **FRANKLIN**, PAGE A7

## Bulldogs win battle of Merrill Fay Arena squads



Joshua Spauldii

Austin Keenan of Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter-Lakes reaches in to control the puck as Belmont-Gilford's Owen Guerin chases the puck down.

=BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

LACONIA — After playing in front of an empty rink last year, the Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter-Lakes and Belmont-Gilford hockey teams were both excited to get on the ice at the Merrill Fay Arena on Wednesday, Dec. 15, for the opening of the Division III season.

The Bulldogs got out to a 4-0 lead in the opening frame and came through with a 7-1 win over the Lakers to kick off the year.

"We had a crowd, it was nice," said Belmont-Gilford coach Ja-

SEE **BULLDOGS**, PAGE A7

## Raider girls hoping offseason work pays off



RC GREENWOOD

Kaitlyn Bryant grabs the ball during her team's game against Gilford last week.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BELMONT — The Belmont basketball girls put in the work in the offseason and coach Mike Andriski, entering his second year at the helm, is excited to see what they can do in the new season.

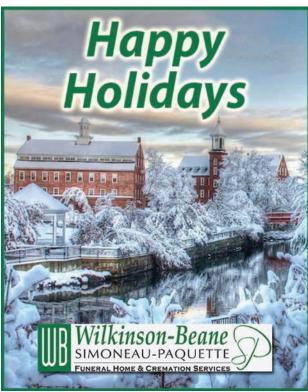
"The kids worked hard to get better over

the summer, as we had eight kids play AAU," Andriski said. "We had 14-15 kids at open gym, which was a pleasant surprise.

"The kids have come in wanting to learn and working hard to get to be able to compete," the Raider coach added. "From the seniors down to the freshmen, I'm re-

ally pleased with the attitude of the kids and how hard they are working."

Seniors Savannah Perkins and Courtney Burke and junior Lena Rodrigues will be looked at as leaders for the Raiders this winter. Andriski noted that Burke is a leader for the younger players and will be looked at to pick up the scoring missing from the graduation of Morgan Hall. Perkins and Rodridgues will be looked at for scoring as well and will be asked to handle whatever the opponents throw at the Raiders each night.



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Darci Stone drives toward the net in action against Gilford last week.

Sophomore Darci Stone, juniors Alyssa Edgren and Kim McWhinnie and senior Kaitlyn Bryant will be looked at to play bigger roles for the Belmont girls this year.

"If Stone and Edgren can get adjusted to playing bigger roles early, it will go a long way to how good a team we can be," Andriski said.

The Raider coach said the goal is to take things one game at a time as the team returns to a regular Division III schedule after last year's COVID-altered slate of games. "The goal is to take each day as it comes and get better every day and hopefully be in the mix at the end of the season," Andriski said.

Belmont has a pair of games each with Berlin, Gilford and Prospect Mountain and single games each against Campbell, Winnisquam, Stevens, Mascoma, White Mountains, Laconia, Raymond, St. Thomas, Mascenic, Inter-Lakes, Somersworth

and Newfound.

The first game of the season was slated to be at Berlin on Dec. 10,

but that game was postponed until early January. They also had road games against Gilford and Campbell and home games with Berlin and Winnisquam prior to the holiday break.

The Raiders will be taking part in the Lakes Region Holiday Hoop Tournament in Gilford. They will kick off the tournament on Monday, Dec. 27, at 11:30 a.m. against Newfound.

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

#### **HIGH SCHOOL SLATE**

Monday, Dec. 27
BELMONT

Boys' Hoops vs. Newfound (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 1 Girls' Hoops vs. Newfound (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 11:30 GILFORD

Boys' Hoops vs. Plymouth (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 4 Girls' Hoops vs. Plymouth (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 2:30 WINNISQUAM

Boys' Hoops vs. Kingswood (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 4 Girls' Hoops vs. Kingswood (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 2:30

> Tuesday, Dec. 28 BELMONT

Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD GILFORD

Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD WINNISQUAM

Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD Wrestling at Middlebury, Vt.; 12

> Wednesday, Dec. 29 BELMONT

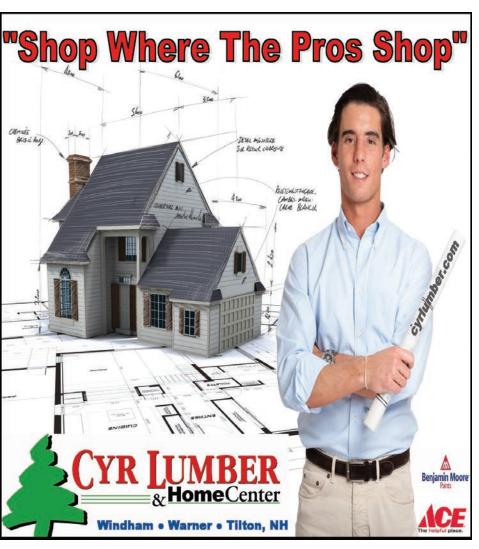
Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD GILFORD

Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD

WINNISQUAM Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD Wrestling at Middlebury, Vt.; 9

All schedules are subject to change.





## Congregational Christian Church of Franklin celebrates \$35,000 grant award

FRANKLIN — The Board of Directors of the Land and Communitv Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) is delighted to announce the awarding of more than \$4.7 million in matching grants for forty projects supporting both historic preservation and land conservation. Projects well distributed among the state's ten counties, including the Congregational-Christian Church of Franklin.

Gov. Chris Sununu has this message for the grant recipients:

"Congratulations to all of this year's LCHIP grant award recipients," said Sununu. "These grants help preserve and define the character of our local communities. It's what New Hampshire is all about."

Congregational-Christian Church of Franklin, a historic church in Franklin, has received a \$35,000 grant award to support the restoration of the steeple and installation of lightning protection.

"We are very thankful

of LCHIP's investment in our historic church" Glenn Morrill, Chairman of the Trustees. "The LCHIP award will enable the church to do critical repairs to the steeple and protect it in the future from lightning strikes. With over 100 years of weathering since the steeple was rebuilt after the fire of 1902, it is time for extensive repairs to the steeple and installation of lightning protection to ensure the future of the building."

LCHIP funds will support projects in all ten of the state's counties. The natural resource projects awarded funding in this grant round include land to help meet the increased interest in outdoor recreation activities, farmland to supply local food for local people, land with scenic and environmental values and working forests to sustainably transform a highly visible part of the landscape into products needed by the people of the state. The historic resource grants include projects as straightforward as new roofing to as complex as near-total rehabilitation of elaborate buildings. Coincidentally, the oldest and newest buildings receiving grants are both town halls: Salem (1738), now historical society headquarters and Wilmot (1906) suffering from flood-induced damage.

LCHIP grant recipients are required to raise a minimum of one dollar for each dollar provided by LCHIP. This year's awards of \$4.7 million will be matched by \$19 million that the project proponents will raise from other public and private sources, infusing a total of twenty-three million dollars into the state's economy in direct project activity.

About Congregational-Christian Church of Franklin

The building was built in 1820 as a meetinghouse, the Church was organized as the Village Church in 1822, then as the Congregational Church & since 1964, the Congregational-Christian Church. As the old-



est church in Franklin, community service has always been central to its mission. Daniel Webster rented pew #23. A belfry window is dedicated to him & a bust of Webster, sculpted by Daniel Chester French graces the front of the church. A Revere bell was brought from Boston by oxen when the steeple was added in 1838. It called people to church & announced citizen deaths. Recast after a fire, it is

still in use today.

For more information about the Congregational-Christian Church of Franklin, visit www. cccfranklinnh.org.

About New Hampshire's Land and Community Heritage Investment Program

The New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program is an independent state authority created by the legislature in 2000. LCHIP's legislative mandate is to ensure the perpetual contribution of natural, cultural and historic resources to the economy, environment, and quality of life in New Hampshire. LCHIP does this by providing matching grants to New Hampshire municipalities and non-profits to conserve and preserve the state's most important natural, cultural and

historic resources. The program has provided 530 grants which have helped to conserve close to 300,000 acres of land for food production, water quality, ecological values, timber management and recreation and has supported projects to study and rehabilitate 324 historic structures and sites. Grants have been awarded in all parts of the state and in 179 of New Hampshire's 234 communities. \$54 million of state money have led to a total project value of more than \$312 million. The money for LCHIP grants comes from fees on four kinds of documents recorded at the Registry of Deeds in every county of the state.

For more information about LCHIP, visit LCHIP.org or call (603) 224-4113.

## RE/MAX Bayside gives back this holiday season



REGION — The owners, staff and associates RE/MAX Bayside strongly believe in giving back to our community during the holiday season, and all year long.

"We care so much about families and businesses that support us, and feel that since we are so fortunate, we want to help those less fortunate in any way we can," said Chris Kelly, Broker/ Owner.

For the past 14 consecutive years, the owners, staff and associates of RE/MAX Bayside have been deeply involved in the Toys for Tots program. Our offices are some of the region's busiest drop off locations. It's not too late to drop off

some new, unwrapped toys at either location. We are at the junction of Routes 3 & 104 in Meredith (603-279-0079), and at 604 Main St., across from the Colonial Theatre in downtown Laconia (603-527-8200). Just call ahead for curbside pick-up.

This year, RE/MAX Bayside purchased and donated 50 turkeys to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry and Thrift Store in Laconia. St. Vincent de Paul offers so much to those in need throughout the Lakes Region. This charitable organization distributes hundreds of Thanksgiving baskets to families throughout the area.

RE/MAX Bayside is extremely involved with the Boys & Girls Club of Central New Hampshire. We all look forward to putting together gift bags for some of the many youngsters that are part

of this worthwhile orga-Wonderful Things



especially if they're from Alan F. Soule Jewelers 286-8649 422 W. Main St. ASE Tilton, NH (across from Winnisguam HS)

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nization. This year, company staff and associates took the time to compile gift bags for 21 individual children of all ages.





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# Opinion

A4 Thursday, December 23, 2021 WINNISQUAM ECHO

### **Popular toys** through the years

"Being there for a child is the most noble thing a toy can do." — Woody

Santa is preparing for his big night, which is just three days away. His elves are always busy working in the toy shop, year after year, and have created memorable toys, that always leave children wide eyed every Christmas morning. Some toys that children found under the tree more than 100 years ago are still popular today.

In 1920, just a mere 101 years ago, the hot toy for Christmas was the Raggedy Ann doll, that sold for \$1. Raggedy Ann and her brother Andy were created by a political cartoonist named Johnny Gruelle. In 1921, Lincoln Logs were the hot ticket. Lincoln Logs originally cost 50 cents.

Tinker Toys were first created in 1922, a toy that was a big hit in the 1980's as well. In 1924, the Erector Set was a favorite. In 1925, the classic Teddy bear was a popular, and cost 79 cents.

Crayola Crayons date all the way back to 1926. Crayola means 'chalk and oily' in French. Noted is that the original crayons were created in 1903, and the box contained just eight colors. The Radio Flyer wagon came out in 1927 and cost \$2.99.

Yo-yo's were all the rave in 1928, and cost just five cents. This toy dates back to 500 BC. In 1929, popup books became popular. In 1930 the Mickey Mouse doll hit stores. Mickey was discovered in the cartoon 'Steamboat Willie' that first aired in 1928. During Christmas in 1930, demand was so high for Mickey dolls that crafty mothers ended up creating their

Finger pain and sock monkeys came out in 1931 and 1932, respectively. In 1933, tin Marx wind-up toys were the new thing.

In 1935, it was the Shirley Temple doll that had little girls everywhere smiling on Christmas day. Monopoly first hit stores in 1937, inspiring decades of family meltdowns...excuse us, family fun. Some people still get excited if they land on Baltic Avenue.

The original view master that became popular in the 80's, first came out in 1939.

In 1940, the Red Ryder BB gun cost \$5.00. Everyone loves a good Golden Book and in 1942, they cost just .25. In 1943, green army men became popular. The slinky (who didn't have one?) first appeared under trees in 1945. In 1946, Lionel Trains cost \$30. Tonka trucks came out in 1947. The original Clue board game first appeared in 1949.

In 1951, Colorforms cost 25 cents. Colorforms were the invention of art students who liked to be artistic, sans the high cost of paint. In 1952, Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head hit shelves for just 98 cents. Model cars became popular in 1953. In 1954, Scrabble hit stands and in 1955, Silly Putty could be found in stockings

Play-Dough (can you ever forget that smell?) first came out in 1956. Barbie appeared in 1959. Anyone who could keep two Barbie shoes in one place for more than 24 hours was/is a special kind of person.

In 1960, the Etch A Sketch was created. A great toy if you had the patience for it. In 1961, even though it was winter, children everywhere wanted a Slip n

The Easy Bake Oven first appeared in 1963 for \$15. In 1964, G.I. Joe appeared for \$1.95. Twister appeared in 1966. The Lite-Brite and all its pieces first came out in 1967 for \$10. Hot Wheels came out in 1968 and LEGOs in 1969.

In 1970, Nerf balls were being thrown about in homes everywhere. Weebles were a hoot in 1971. In 1973, Shrinky Dinks were a blast. Stretch Armstrong was popular in 1976 and a year later, in 1977, the Atari hit stores. Skiing is by far the best Atari game invented, and Pitfall.

In 1982, He-Man was a hit, followed by My Little Pony in 1982. In 1983, the infamous Cabbage Patch Doll appeared, complete with all of their bizarre names. Even our Editor had one named 'Merci Rhonda.' The original Nintendo Entertainment System appeared in 1986.

In 1995, Beanie Babies took over toy stores everywhere. Some rare Beanie Babies sell for thousands of dollars today. Pokemon cards appeared in 1999. In the early 2000's, it was Bratz dolls, Xbox 360's and Playstations. In 2006, the Nintendo Wii almost seemed futuristic. In 2010, the first iPad appeared, and interestingly enough, in 2021, kids old and young have the new version on their Christmas lists.

that we're all just a bunch of big kids.



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JOSHUA SPAULDING

#### Chasing the puck

Belmont-Gilford's Jaxson Embree and Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter-Lakes' Ryan Bousquet chase down the puck in action last Wednesday.

#### STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

### No room at the inn

BY LARRY SCOTT

There was no room at the Bethlehem Inn that first Christmas eve, not even for a young lady in labor. No one seemed concerned about a pregnant teen-ager looking for a room in which to deliver her first-born. It was party time! Nary a gentleman stepped forward, willing to sacrifice the use of his room for the evening. The young couple, consigned to the dark and drafty stable, would have to fend for themselves.

Not that there was anything wrong with the Inn. These people deserved a break. Living under the jurisdiction of the Roman government was no walk in the park. An evening at the Inn was a welcome change of pace, a chance to share some holiday cheer, an opportunity to forget if only for a few moments, the challenge of living in the real world.

As a matter of fact, however, it wasn't "hol-

iday time." It would be years before this evening would be celebrated. For the majority, it was just another evening and, in the manger below, just another birth. Few of them would ever know that what took place that night was the greatest event in human history.

It is difficult to describe the uniqueness of that evening. Cleaning up the new baby and preparing Him for His first meal, not even Mary and Joseph realized the impact on all humanity that would emanate from this night. As Mary cradled her firstborn. little did she know she was holding deity in her hands.

It is significant that the first ones to learn of the events of that evening were shepherds. These were hard-worksalt-of-the-earth men, despised commoners, too poor and too busy to enjoy an evening at the Inn. But a host of singing angels had already put them

on notice. Something special had taken place; this was one trip to town they would never forget.

They no doubt expected to be welcomed with pomp and ceremony. The heavens had announced the birth of royalty. What they found, however, was lowing cattle, perhaps a donkey or two, and a simple manger scene. For all the hoopla, they were surely surprised to find an apparently normal, newborn baby boy. But looks were deceiving for this precious youngster, although human in the fullest sense of the word, was far from typical. He was God.

Not, I would note, like Adonis, the god of Greek mythology or Baal, the god of the Canaanites. He was no legend or the product of superstitious belief. This One came out of eternity. He had been there when the world was brought into being. He had walked with Adam, talked with Moses, and joined the

three Hebrew children Nebuchadnezzar's fiery furnace. God Himself had joined the human family. Some thirty-three years later, He would take upon Himself the penalty for sin and make possible the promise of eternal life.

For those at the Inn, the party would soon be over. For the shepherds, however, it was the dawning of a new day. Their hum-drum existence had been crowned with new meaning. They were the first to have an encounter with the living Jesus, and they went home "praising God." Fulfillment, they discovered, was not to be found in the Inn; it was to be found in a Person.

And that is the message of Christmas. Happiness ... is a man called Jesus!

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

#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

#### If you disdain science, don't ask for its help

To the Editor:

An acquaintance I'll call Pete was scheduled for heart surgery that was then delayed due to COVID-19

## Send your letters!

Winnisquam Echo P.O. Box 729 Meredith, NH, 03253

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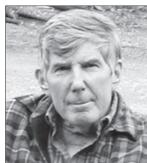
cases taking up his New Hampshire hospital's ICU beds. He received a new date. Did the night-before prep at home, went to his hospital, where staff did additional prep (washing, shaving, blood-draw). Waited five and a half hours. Was not given the surgery, but sent home for another time, as yet unscheduled. No ICU beds would have been open for his post-surgical recovery, due to COVID-19 cases. His distraught wife is furious with anti-vaxxers squelching help for her husband.

Solution — when the unvaccinated, who have disdained science, then show up at our hospitals for help, a thoughtfully-assembled supplies package should be given them for at-home care. To forego vaccination against COVID-19's contagion and get it, then show up for our hospitals' staff's help, ignores the smart, old observation, "You don't change horses in the middle of the stream." They didn't want science's solution, so they shouldn't have science's help. They chose independence (they call it). Let them independently get themselves better. Period.

Sincerely,

Lynn Rudmin Chong Sanbornton North Country Notebook

#### Of Christmas, and traditions, some of them pretty strange



**By JOHN HARRIGAN** 

**COLUMNIST** 

Editor's note: Mr. Harrigan was unable to submit a new North Country Notebook column in time to meet our press deadline for this week's edition. The following column was originally published on Dec. 24, 2016.

Few grownups would be likely to associate Christmas with cruel and unusual punishment, but waking up to a blanket tacked up over the head of the stairwell to block all view of the Christmas tree and its presents would seem to fit. And then there was the Interminable Breakfast.

I don't know where parents learned these unusual holiday practices, but any doubters can ask my siblings,

although their memories are not as sharp as mine.

Neither do I know where the idea of opening two presents on Christmas Eve came from, but I've since learned that this is a wide-spread tradition, so in that, at least, our household was normal.

The two gifts business was preceded by the entire family singing carols around the McPhail upright piano, with our grandmother White at the keys. We were a family of singers and could break into pretty good harmony, our grandmother singing along as she hit the chords with aplomb and lightly tripped the notes between. It was a scene that younger members of the family could be lulled into thinking would last forever. Yet the old McPhail and many of our loved ones are gone, and only the memories live on.

On Christmas morning we tore away at our stockings pinned at the foot of our beds, my brother and I soon bring-

ing ours to our sister Susan's bed to compare loot. At the bottom of each stocking we were sure to find an orange, a humdrum thing today but back then a supreme treat, fresh fruit next to impossible to find during winter.

But then we would rush to the stairs only to find the way blocked by a blanket. "Not 'til we're ready," Mom or Dad would shout from below as they rushed around for last-minute gifts they'd somehow kept hidden.

And then, permission granted, downstairs we'd rush, to give the tree and gifts a quick scan before the final, inevitable show-stopping command "Not until we've had breakfast."

Relatives in Bethlehem and Lisbon and over in Andover and Jonesport, Maine, were scandalized at this inhumane treatment, thinking, perhaps, that our parents were scarring us for life.

This behavior must be an inherited trait, because with my own



JOHN HARRIGAN

THIS PHOTO has run before, but it seemed a fitting way to say "Merry Christmas, from our house

kids I did the same, only different. While the rest of the household was still asleep or up tearing away at stockings, I was up early and in the kitchen, preparing the basic elements of breakfast and leaving the eggs for last. At what I figured was a reasonable hour, say 8, I selected what was and still is my favorite

wake-'em-up variety of Christmas music, Mannheim Steamroller, which I always called "Manhattan Steamroller," and turned it up full blast.

"Not until we've had breakfast," I'd yell when I herd the stampede coming down the stairs. But at least I spared them the blanket.

This column runs in weekly newspapers covering two-thirds of New Hampshire from Concord to Lower Quebec and parts of western Maine and northeastern Vermont. Write to campguyhooligan@gmail. com or Box 39, Colebrook, NH 03576.

## Holiday tournaments swing back into action

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

REGION — Many local teams will be getting the chance to compete over the holiday break, as local basketball and hockey holiday tournaments return to the court and the ice.

New Hampshire's largest holiday basketball tournament, the Mike Lee Holiday Basketball Bash in Farmington, will be featuring a number of local teams. The Littleton girls, the Profile boys, the Inter-Lakes boys and girls and the Kennett boys and girls will all be competing.

The tournament runs from Sunday, Dec. 26, through Thursday, Dec. 30, with champions being crowned in the finals that day at 5:30 p.m. for the girls and 7 p.m. for the boys.

The Inter-Lakes girls will be playing in a pair of round-robin on Sunday, Dec. 26, one against Holy Family at 10 a.m. another against Littleton at 10:30 a.m. The Lakers continue on Monday, Dec. 27, with the girls against Concord Christian at 9:15 a.m. and the boys against Portsmouth Christian at 10:30 a.m. The Laker boys do not play on the opening day.

The Littleton girls will be playing in the round-robin halves against Inter-Lakes at 10:30 a.m. and Holy Family at 11 a.m. Littleton continues the next day with a game against Farmington at 7:15 p.m.

The Profile boys will play round-robin halves against St. Thomas at 11 a.m. and Holy Family at 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 26. They continue the tournament on Monday, Dec. 27, at 11:45 a.m. against

The Kennett boys and girls will open against Epping on Sunday, Dec. 26, with the boys at 12:30 p.m. and the girls at 1:45 p.m. They get the next day off and return to action on Tuesday, Dec. 28, girls at 2:45 p.m. and boys at 4 p.m.

Just up the road in Gilford, the Lakes Region Holiday Hoop Tournament swings into action on Monday, Dec. 27 and Prospect Mountain, Belmont, Newfound, King-Winnisquam, Plymouth and Gilford will all be sending their boys and girls.

In the high school gym on the first day, the Prospect girls play Laconia at 11:30 a.m. and the Prospect boys follow against the Sachems at 1 p.m. Plymouth and Gilford will square off in the other two games in the high school gym with the girls at 2:30 p.m. and the boys at 4 p.m. In the middle school gym, Belmont and Newfound take the court, with the girls at 11:30 a.m. and the boys at 1 p.m. They are followed by Winnisquam and Kingswood, with the girls at 2:30 p.m. and the boys at 4 p.m.

Action continues the next day with games at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

for the girls and 1 and 4 p.m. for the boys, with consolation games in the middle school and semifinal games in the high school.

The tournament finals are Wednesday. Dec. 29, with the girls at 4:30 p.m. and the boys following at 6 p.m.

The Lin-Wood hoop programs are hosting a holiday jamboree this year. While there will not be a champion crowned, AD Matt Manning noted it is a chance to get teams extra games. The Gorham boys and girls, Moultonborough boys and girls, Lisbon boys and girls, Lin-Wood boys and girls, Littleton boys and Woodsville boys will all be competing.

Action starts Wednesday, Dec. 29, with the Gorham and Littleton boys at 10 a.m., Gorham and Moultonborough girls at 11:15 a.m., Moultonborough Lisbon boys at 12:30 p.m., Lisbon and Lin-Wood girls at 1:45 p.m. and Lin-Wood and Woodsville boys at 3 p.m.

On Thursday, Dec. 30, the Littleton and Woodsville boys will play at 10 a.m., Moultonborough and Gorham boys play at 11:15 a.m., Lin-Wood and Gorham girls tip off at 12:30 p.m., Lisbon and Moultonborough play at 1:45 p.m. and Lin-Wood and Lisbon boys play at 3 p.m.

Kennett hockey will once again be hosting

the Peter Hall Christmas Tournament at the Ham Arena in Conway. Kennett, Kingswood and Berlin-Gorham will be the local teams compet-On Sunday, Dec. 26,

Kennett takes on Somer-4 p.m. and Kingswood plays Berlin-Gorham at 6 p.m.

On Monday, Dec. 27, Kingswood takes Dover at 10 a.m., Berlin-Gorham will

Dover at 3 p.m. and Kennett will take on John Stark-Hopkinton at 5 p.m.

The tournament concludes on Tuesday, Dec. 28, with the consolation game at 3 p.m., third place game at 4:45 p.m. and championship game at 6:30 p.m.

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



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Jones: Financial What are your financial resolutions for 2022?

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

• Prepare for the unexpected. If you haven't already created an emergency fund, now may be a good time to start. Ideally, you'd like to have three to six months' worth of living expenses in this fund, with the money kept in a low-risk, liquid account. (If you're retired, you may want your emergency fund to contain up to a year's worth of living expenses.) Once you've got this fund established, you may be able to avoid dipping into long-term investments to pay for short-term needs, such as costly home or auto repairs or large medical bills.

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

• Reduce your debt load. The less debt you carry, the more money you'll have available to support your life-

style today and save and invest for

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

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

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

These aren't the only financial reso lutions you can make - but following them may help you develop positive habits that can help you face the future with confidence



Jacqueline Taylor 3 Mill Street PO Box 176 Meredith NH 03253 603-279-3161 Fax 866-532-8685

lutions, too? Here are a few ideas to consider:

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

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## Jackson Musgrave's time at LRCC planted a seed that grew into budding business empire



LACONIA — Growing up in Bedford, Jackson, the second-eldest of five boys in the Musgrave family, was unsure of his next steps after high school. He spent the months following graduation working a series of odd jobs with a moving company, officiating youth hockey games and selling Christmas trees. Little did he know, the latter experience planted a seed that would ultimately grow into his own arboreal empire.

Though he enjoyed his time selling Christmas trees, he initially did not think much of it and later that spring decided to explore a potential career as a firefighter. He enrolled in the Fire Protection program at Lakes Region Community College (LRCC) in Laconia. Around this same ily was preparing to embark on a trip for their annual family reunion, this time hosted by relatives who resided on a Christmas tree farm. It was here that Jackson housing. had an epiphany which would radically change his future goals and aspi-

"A light bulb went off in my head at the family reunion," said Jackson. "I had liked selling trees, but it was that moment that I realized, 'Holy cow, I have a family member that is a wholesale Christmas tree farmer and grows hundreds of thousands of trees!""

When he returned to LRCC the following semester, he had a plan in mind. LRCC didn't have established student apartments yet. Instead, they had an agreement

the road from the college on Main Street, on one of the busiest intersections in the Lakes Region. The third floor of the hotel was reserved for student

"I thought, hey, we could probably Christmas trees here - I have an idea of how to sell them and I have an uncle that grows them," he continued.

That entrepreneurial spirit led Jackson to meet with the hotel's management to discuss his proposed business idea of selling trees in a corner of the hotel parking lot. Understanding the challenges of starting a new business, the two parties negotiated an agreement: the hotel wouldn't charge him for using the space until he recouped his initial investment, after which

he would pay them a percentage of all profits. With a team of fellow LRCC students, whom Jackson counts as some of his best friends to this day, he spent the holiday mas trees and learning as he went how to refine his budding enterprise.

"We really engaged the community – people loved the idea of local students in business together." said Jackson, "but that first year wasn't profitable. We didn't order the right trees for the market because Laconia is really more of a city; people would be buying a tree for an apartment and really wanted something smaller than the seven or eight-footers that I had ordered."

Where others might have written off the ex-

perience as a fun experiment, Jackson was motivated. Though he had started off in LRCC's Fire Protection program, he enrolled in business courses to learn more and improve his strategy for the next season. The following year he leveraged referrals from past customers, placed flyers around town and ran a Facebook advertising campaign. That second year was much more successful, and they actually sold out of inventory twice. Although their retail business was stable, Jackson wanted to go bigger and embark upon forming a wholesale operation of his own. When he began looking for land to start his own Christmas tree farm, he stumbled upon a property in the northern Maine town of Van Buren and could hardly believe what he had found.

"When I saw the priceper-acre, I thought it had to be too good to be true!" said Jackson. "When I went up to check it out, the asking price made much more sense. The trees on the land were planted in 2000 and after the recession of 2008 it had largely been abandoned and was really overgrown."

While most of the trees on the property were 20-25 feet tall, they were healthy and dropping a lot of cones, reseason selling Christ- sulting in tens of thousands of saplings and growing smaller trees in between. He could see the potential and decided to purchase the land and start down his own path in the family tree business.

> As the owner of MMB Trees, Jackson balances day-to-day management of his sprawling tree farm with the interstate logistics of quickly getting those trees to market. Today, MMB Trees is a wholesale, retailer, and grower of farm-fresh Christmas trees and wreaths

"Most people start from scratch and go

years before making a profit – I'm sort of doing it backwards by reclaiming the overgrown land."

Jackson has expanded his empire, which coincidentally is helping bring him back to his roots. For the past three seasons, he has partnered with a farmer in Bedford to provide wholesale customers in New York and Massachusetts with a convenient pickup location, saving them 500 miles of transportation. In addition to the wholesale lot, Jackson acquired a long-running retail tree stand in Nashua, where he typically sells more than 800 trees each sea-

Jackson's passion and enthusiasm make it abundantly clear that he loves what he's doing. He credits his time at LRCC as both an incubator for his budding business as well as a support system that helped him grow himself:

"I knew I had a passion for Christmas trees and wanted to continue growing the business. My professors helped me tailor my education back to the business and connect the concepts I learned in the classroom to what I was doing on the lot. LRCC not only provided me with a foundation for continuous learning and the tools to bring my dream to reality, but I also found an incredible community of professors who believed in me and friendships I maintain to this day - many of them even come up to visit and help me at harvest!"

During the holiday season and the busiest time of the year for Christmas tree sales, MMB Trees is harvesting and delivering 14,000 wholesale orders all over the East Coast from Canada to Florida. Today, MMB Trees can be found throughout the state at many retail locations including Whole Foods and are sold through local Boy Scouts troops.



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#### **BULLDOGS**

continued from PAGE A1 son Parent. "The kids were pumped to get the fans back in here, especially the students cheering them like that. That's what high school hockey is about."

"I could not wait for the puck to drop," said first-year LWI head coach Dave Wheaton. "There was almost no season."

LWI originally was not going to field a team due to low numbers, but the kids rallied to get enough players together and were able to field a team and Wheaton, who was an assistant coach the last few years, jumped on board to lead the team.

The Bulldogs jumped out to a 1-0 lead just more than one minute into the game, as Evan Guerin sent a nice feed to Dylan Flannery, who potted the goal and took the 1-0 lead.

Ryan Bousquet and Austin Keenan came back with bids for the Lakers but couldn't convert while Nathan Gerbig fired a shot on net for the Bulldogs that LWI keeper Evan Rollins stopped. Ethan Bickford had a shot deflected for the Lakers and Owen Guerin had a run into the zone that was stopped by Bousquet.

Brendan Folan had a shot for B-G that Rollins stopped and the rebound bounced out in front and amidst the scrum, Rollins was able to get to the puck. Bousquet came back with a bid at the other end that went wide and Owen Guerin had a shot stopped by Rollins. Nate Holmes had a good defensive play for the Lakers and Patrick Goodwin had a good clear from in front of h

tenet.

Aidan McKenzie had a shot for the Bulldogs that Rollins stopped and Jaxson Embree got in close for a bid that was also stopped.

With 6:51 to go in the first period, Owen Guerin ripped a shot top shelf from the side and in for the 2-0 lead. Embree and McKenzie got the assists.

Less than 30 seconds Owen Guerin scored again, this time putting a shot on net that slipped away from Rollins and into the net for the 3-0 lead. Evan Guerin came back with a bid that was denied and had another ring off the crossbar. Brendan Goodwin had a bid for LWI that B-G keeper Carson McGreevy stopped and Owen Guerin sent a shot over the net.

LWI went on the power play with 4:14 to go and Gerbig had a good clear for the Bulldogs. Bousquet connected with John-Paul Harriman for a bid in close. The Bulldogs took another penalty with 2:26 to go, giving the Lakers 13 seconds of five-onthree power play.

However, it was the Bulldogs who scored shorthanded, as Evan Guerin got in alone and buried the puck for the 4-0 lead. Owen Guerin had a shot that was stopped and Folan had a couple of chances that were denied. Embree also sent a shot on net that Rollins stopped.

LWI took a penalty with 1:06 to go, making in four-on-four for 40 seconds and the period closed out with the Bulldogs on the power play and up by a 4-0 score.

B-G had some good chances on the power play early, with Owen Guerin, Cole Bertholet and McKenzie get-

ting chances that Rollins stopped, killing off the penalty. McKenzie had another bid and Bousquet came back with a shot at the other end that went high. Bertholet and Owen Guerin continued the offensive attack for the Bulldogs that Rollins stopped.

With 10:37 to go in the second, Bickford got the Lakers on the board, as he broke in and buried the shot to make it 4-1. After Reid Vaillancourt sent a shot wide for the Lakers and Evan Guerin had a bid stopped by Rollins, the Bulldogs answered, as Embree scored on a rebound, poking the puck in the net. Aiden Stafford and Colin Logan got the assists.

Owen Guerin, Folan and Embree continued to attack for the Bulldogs and Rollins held strong. The Lakers got a run from Brody Rollins, but Adam Ribeiro made a nice defensive stop. Belmont-Gilford went on the power play with 4:39 to go and Owen Guerin had the only shot on net, which was stopped by Evan Rollins as the penalty was killed off. B-G went on the power play again with 55 seconds to go and the period ended with the Bulldogs up 5-1.

Bousquet and Patrick Goodwin did a nice job killing off the power play to open the third period and the Lakers went on the power play with 3:05 gone in the period. B-G had some good shorthanded chances, including a bid by Owen Guerin that slid right through the crease behind Evan Rollins.

Gerbig got on the board with 6:38 to go in the game, as he went top shelf for the 6-1 lead on an assist from Logan. B-G got a power play less than a minutes later and Keenan had a good shorthanded bid that went wide. Embree had a bid stopped by Evan Rollins and Flannery had a shot stopped as the power play was killed off.

With 2:18 to go in the game, Embree scored on assists from Folan and Ribeiro to round out the 7-1 final score.

"They played pretty well, we got some young guys lots of ice time, which is important," Parent said, noting the Bulldogs were down 10 players. "We knew if we could get out and get ahead, we could get into the game plan we had, which was playing possession hockey and staying out of the box.

"I'm very proud of the way they played," the Bulldog coach added.

"We were going up against one of the best teams in the state," said Wheaton. "There's a big learning curve, which is good for us.

"That tells us what we need to learn," he added, noting that the Lakers do watch the Bulldog practices and can see

what direction they need to be moving.

"They're a great group of kids, it's fun to be a part of," he said of his squad. "I was all in on this, it's something I definitely wanted to do."

Both teams wrapped up the 2021 portion of the season after deadline on Wednesday, Dec. 22 and will return to action in the new year.

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

#### **GRANT**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

quarters and Wilmot (1906) suffering from flood-induced water damage.

LCHIP grant recipients are required to raise a minimum of one dollar for each dollar provided by LCHIP. This year's awards of \$4.7 million will be matched by \$19 million that the project proponents will raise from other public and private sources, infusing a total of twenty-three million dollars into the state's economy in direct project activity.

About Lakes Region Community Developers

Lakes Region Community Developers (LRCD) is a non-profit organization whose mission is "to create opportunities for the Lakes Region to thrive by building healthy homes, creating vibrant community assets, and engaging residents."

housing to 366 families throughout the Lakes Region of New Hampshire so they can live in safe, affordable, energy efficient homes that provide a healthy foundation for success in work, school, and community.

For more information about the Lakes Region Community Developers or visit www.lrcommunitydevelopers.org.

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For more information about LCHIP, visit LCHIP.org or call (603) 224-4113

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**KAINKLIIN**CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

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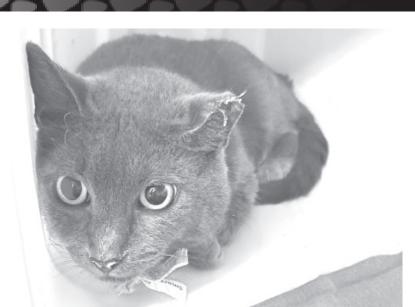
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Energysavers Inc, a 46 year old hearth & spa product retailer in the Lakes Region, is looking for a motivated individual that wants to learn the trade of installing hearth products. You must be comfortable working on roofs when necessary and able to work with an installer to move heavy items. Energysavers pays for all educational costs to get and maintain NFI wood, gas and pellet certifications as well as a NH gas fitters license for gas hearth installations and service. LEARN WHILE YOU EARN!

No prior experience required. Must have a valid driver's license and pass the pre-employment drug screening. Stop in to fill out an application:

**Energysavers Inc,** 163 Daniel Webster Hwy, Meredith NH

#### FRAMERS AND LABORERS WANTED FOR INDOOR WORK

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

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

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



#### **VARNEY-SMITH Lumber Company, Inc.**

#### **CDL TRUCK DRIVER/** YARD MAN

Duties to include:

- Local deliveries of lumber-building materials.
- Loading-off loading incoming and outgoing
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- Overtime pay

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

## North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency

Come Join Our Team! We are currently looking for the following talent!

#### RN Case Manager Full Time-Plymouth, NH

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#### PHYSICAL THERAPIST

(Full Time with Benefits) Mon. - Fri. 8:00am to 4:30 pm

#### **COTA**

(Full Time with Benefits) Mon. – Fri. 8:00am to 4:30 pm

LNA (Full Time with Benefits)

#### Mon. - Fri. 8:00am to 4:30 pm For more information, please contact

Linda Elliott, Human Resources at lelliott@nchhha.org Apply online at Indeed.com

> North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency is on Equal Opportunity Employer

#### **TOWN HOUSE APARTMENTS** Precision Lumber Inc. \* 2 & 3 BEDROOMS NORTHERN VIEW APARTMENTS

W. Stewartstown, NH Heat, Hot water and Electric Included

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SHAKER REGIONAL

The Shaker Regional School Board is seeking a secretary to take minutes at board meetings. The board averages 2 meetings per month, usually on luesdays, with meetings typically starting at 6 pm. This position pays \$16.56 per hour, for time spent at the meetings and transcribing the minutes. Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest, resume and 3 letters of reference to Debbie Thompson, Business Administrator; SAU 80; 58 School Street; Belmont, NH 03220.







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to request us to email an application Precision Lumber Inc.

576 BUFFALO ROAD, WENTWORTH NH 03282 WWW.LUMBERNH.COM

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## Last-minute holiday shopping tips

Some people thrive by doing all of their tasks early. Others seem to do their best work when faced with a time crunch. The methods individuals use to manage their time at work and play may extend to the ways they approach holiday shopping as well.

There's no right or wrong way to handle holiday shopping tasks, though Christmas Eve crowds at malls and throughout shopping districts suggest that there's more late comers than there are early birds. The following tips can help those who typically wait until the last minute to check names off their lists.

- Utilize free shipping services. Shoppers who shop for gifts online at the last minute run the risk of gifts not arriving on time. Many online retailers charge a premium for expedited shipping. Try to stick to shopping at online retailers that offer free shipping even in the eleventh hour.
- Create a budget. When rushing around from store to store, it may be easy to spend more than you want to. Make a list of how much you want to spend on each person, and stick to that limit for each person. Move on to the next store if you didn't find what you need in your price range.
- Establish a time limit. Stores have strategies in place to keep shoppers in their establishments longer, hoping you'll make impulse buys. These tricks include scenting the air with inviting aromas, putting necessities at the rear of the store, failing to display the time, and putting discounted items by the registers or door to attract shoppers. Set an alarm on your watch or phone for each store so you get what you need and get out on time.
- Subdivide bulk gifts. Think about purchasing bulk gifts like gift baskets from wholesale clubs and then breaking them down into individual gifts. This way you can gift several people on one purchase and save time in the process.
- Choose one-size-fits-all gifts. Think about a gift that can be purchased for multiple people so you can save time shopping for individualized gifts for everyone. For example, print a personalized photo calendar for several members of your family. You also can purchase multiple subscriptions or memberships to zoos or magazines for people on your list. Streamlining gifting in this way may save money as well as time.
- Choose in-store pickup. Rather than scouring various aisles, you can shop a retailer's website and then pick up items in the store. You'll save on potential shipping fees but still benefit by avoiding crowds.

Some people wait until the last minute to do their holiday shopping. A few tricks of the procrastinator's trade can make last-minute shopping go smoothly.

# Caitlin Dumont of Northfield recognized by Physical Therapy National Pro Bono

 $NORTH\,HAVEN, Conn.\,-\,Caitlin\,Dumont\,of\,\,Northfield\,has\,been\,recognized\,as\,a\,member\,of\,\,the\,Physical\,\,Therapy\,Pro\,Bono\,\,National\,\,Honor\,\,Society.$ 

Founded in 2014, the Physical Therapy Pro Bono Honor Society recognizes outstanding physical therapy students who provide pro bono service as a part of their education.

The doctoral students recognized by the society were required to maintain a 3.4 grade point average and volunteer three consecutive semesters at the EQUIP Rehabilitation Clinic. The clinic is a student led and empowered pro bono clinic that provides physical therapy service to the greater New Haven area through direct treatment, telemedicine services, health and wellness exercise classes and health screenings.

About Quinnipiac University

Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational, nonsectarian institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 9,715 students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Computing and Engineering, Education, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac is recognized by U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review's "The Best 387 Colleges." For more information, please visit qu.edu. Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook and follow Quinnipiac on Twitter @QuinnipiacU.



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