

Plans unveiled for Littleton Opera House

ANGEL LARCOM
angel@salmonpress.news

LITTLETON — Architect Dennis Myers presented conceptual design plans for a new cultural arts center at the Opera House at a Dec. 28 public hearing held on-site. While the bulk of renovations would occur on the ground floor level, he said an underutilized area on the main floor would be re-purposed.

Advancement of the historic building's usability was the primary goal of the \$2 million project, said Town Manager Andrew Dorsett. Myers' Manchester-based firm, The Architects, was



COURTESY

(Left) A new marquee and banner sign looms over the Cottage Street entrance at the Opera House. At the same time, a deck overlooks the Ammonoosuc River in this conceptual design for a new cultural arts center.

contracted last summer after the town received \$17,000 in grant funding. The contract expires next month.

A total of \$12,000 in CDBG (Community Development Block Grants) planning funds were secured by the town, as well as funding awarded by the Northern Community Investment Corporation (NCIC) and

OPERA HOUSE, PAGE A17

Franconia officials table restaurant shutdown request

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FRANCONIA — Two weeks after drafting a letter that asked restaurants to stop all dine-in services voluntarily, the Franconia Select Board opted not to move forward with their request.

"We were watching the data and in contact with our health officer, and the data did not look good for our county or our town. At that time, we decided to draft a letter to local eating establishments encouraging them to go to curbside while the community spread level seemed rather high for our county,"

stated Board Chair Jill Brewer.

In mid-December, Grafton County was considered a "red zone" with an average of 25 positive cases for every 100,000 people. By the Dec. 28 board meeting, the numbers had diminished enough for the three-person board to change their minds.

Brewer noted that the draft letter was not a mandate but a request. She said she was comfortable holding off on the request for now but would continue to monitor the transmission rate.

In the interim between the two meetings,

RESTAURANTS, PAGE A12

Alpine Lumberjacks ready to hit the slopes

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

LINCOLN — The Lin-Wood alpine ski team is traditionally a force to be reckoned with in the Division IV State Meet and that should be the case again this year as the Lumberjacks return a solid stable of skiers to the fold under head coach Aaron Loukes.

"We hope to be competitive again this season and improve as the season goes on," said Loukes, who enters his 27th year at the helm of the Lin-Wood alpine ski team. He will be joined in the coaching ranks by assistants Jeff Clermont and Keegan Rice. The team also trains with the middle school team, coached by Marcus Corey and Kim Pinkham.

The good news for the veteran coach is that many of the top skiers from last year's team are back to make



COURTESY

Seniors (l to r) Silas Weeden, Charles Loukes, Jacob Morris and Jillian Clark will be leading the Lin-Wood alpine team this winter.

New ski lodge to increase Bethlehem tax base

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BETHLEHEM — The new Bretton Woods Rosebrook Lodge and gondolas will significantly increase Bethlehem's tax base this year. A portion of the ski resort located within town lines had previously been valued at \$1.4 million.

Commercial tax assessor George Sansoucy of Lancaster estimated that the new facilities increased the ski resort's property value to \$13.7 million. The Bethlehem Select Board hired Sansoucy in July to assess commercial properties in the town.



COURTESY

Recent property additions at Bretton Woods, including the 16,500 square-foot Rosebrook Lodge, are estimated to bring an additional \$12.1 million to Bethlehem's tax base this year.

Construction was completed on the new

Rosebrook Lodge last April, but not before the annual deadline for taxing properties. Sansoucy valued the 16,500 square foot mountaintop facility at \$3.8 million.

The new high-speed

gondolas were assessed at \$1.5 million, but that valuation only included the towers and their foundations. The passenger cabins were omitted as per state regulations.

When equalized for

tax purposes, the total ski resort valuation for Bethlehem came to \$12.1 million. Sansoucy said he anticipated a second evaluation to occur after April 1 for the 2021 tax season.

"This is a complex property built on top of a mountain, and they did a wonderful job. I believe we have put a fair value on this property, and I don't anticipate an ap-

ROSEBROOK, PAGE A12

another run.

The Lumberjack girls finished as the Division IV runners-up last year, with Sydney Pickering finishing in sixth place in the giant slalom and Sienna Mack and Pharra Duguay both finishing in the top 15.

Pickering and Mack are both back for their junior seasons while Duguay is back for her sophomore season. They will be joined by returning senior Jillian Clark and returning junior Britta Robinson. With no newcomers on the team, these five girls will be counted on to do the heavy lifting for the Lumberjack girls as they go head to head with their Division IV rivals.

LUMBERJACKS, PAGE A13

LRH physician receives COVID-19 vaccine

BY TARA GILES
tara@salmonpress.news

LITTLETON — Littleton Regional Healthcare ER Dr. Richard Levitan was one of

several front line healthcare workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine last week. He relayed that it was a simple, uneventful process, but did highlight the importance of the vaccination.

He said there was minimum soreness in his arm.



Dr. Richard Levitan of Littleton Regional Hospital was one of the first healthcare providers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine last week.

He added, “I have seen COVID affect otherwise healthy people my age and younger, causing serious lung injury, and prolonged hospitalization. I don’t want to take that risk,

LEVITAN, PAGE A13



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- Lisbon Public Library (838-6615)

- Haverhill Library Association (989-5578)
- North Haverhill Patten Library (787-2542)
- Woodsville Public Library (747-3483)
- Richardson Memorial Library (823-7001)

- Moosilauke Public Library (No. Woodstock) (745-9971)
- Bath Public Library (747-3372)
- Gale Medical Library @ LRH-Anna Connors Patient & Family Resource Center (444-9564)
- Lincoln Public Library (Carol Riley 745-8159)

Property Transfers

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Bethlehem
Ians Way; \$21,133; Bethlehem Valley Development Corp. to Joshua and Jaclyn Davis

Ians Way; \$29,933; Bethlehem Valley Development Corp. to Joshua and Jaclyn Davis

44 Jefferson St.; \$183,000; Kevin R. and Marilyn L. Baird to Mitra Karimian and Stefan P. Shapiro

76 Jefferson St.; \$100,000; Alison B. Dodd to Stefan and Julianna Thibodeaux

Route 302; \$95,000; Stephen E. and Rhonda L. Hugins to Asher and Malky Berkowitz

Address not available (Lot 9-8); \$425,000; Richard N. and Nancy L. Gould to Michael A. and Tobin M. Finegold

Address not available (Lot 9-6); \$255,000; Richard N. and Nancy L. Gould to John J. and Ann M. DeRaismes

Canaan
10 High St.; \$234,000; Carole B. Cushman RET to Scott L. Hall and Elizabeth A. Sauchelli

Franconia
385 Lafayette Dr.; \$231,000; David P. Ball to Stephen P. and Cynthia E. Roy

Lower Middle Road; \$373,000; Anthony E. Oakman and Mary A. Moloney to Edward M. and Kerriann J. Gilman

Lower Middle Road; \$535,000; W.P. & K.A.H. Cashin Fiscal Trust to FKM Trust and Friedrick K. Moeckel

26 Slalom Circle; \$125,000; Gretchjen Toma and Elizabeth Dirom to Christopher Tufts and Nicholas Fletcher

Wells Road; \$140,000; James W. and Gary H. VanPelt to Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust

Haverhill
Lime Kiln Road; \$390,333; Ronald A. Willoughby IRT to Kenneth R. and Amy E. Kinder

Lincoln
66 Bunker Lane, Unit 2; \$902,533; 49 Main Street LLC to Timmie M. Miller

34 Maple St.; \$400,000; Kastmast Construction LLC to Surong Lin

7 Owl St., Unit 7; \$269,933; Alan M. and Sharon H. Jette to Joseph and Erin M. Finn

48 Penstock Rd., Unit 303; \$271,533; Jason and Alisha Dimatteo to Matthew C. and Alicia M. Emsley

Address not available (Lot 41); \$1,875,000; M. Eric and Beth A. Mollenhauer to Carolyn A. Gaudet RET and Dennis J. Gaudet

Lisbon
146 Highland Ave.; \$178,000; Gregory Cunningham to John F. Vintinner and Debbie L. Marden

Littleton
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22 Winter St.; \$221,000; Lynn D. and Mark T. Morrisey to Mary J. and Carol A. Cooper

Address not available; \$100,000; D.M. Cryans Real Estate to Northern Enterprises LLC

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Robert Carleton and Nicole Chaffant

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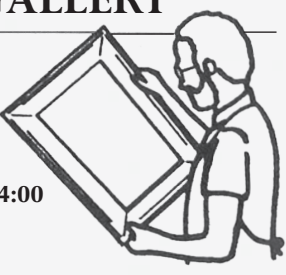
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EDITORIAL

Cheers to 2021

The past year has been challenging, and the months ahead only look slightly different as far as the pandemic is concerned. The rollout of the vaccines does, however, offer some promise in getting our lives back to normal.

It's been discouraging; however, to see people behave so unkindly towards one another. Not so much on the local level — here, we are fortunate. But nationally, the temperature has been turned up for far too long. When did it become 'cool' or 'macho' to behave with such hate towards another person, simply because you disagree? Why are so many individuals filled with so much hate that they take it out on complete strangers? We remind everyone, that when it comes to national politics, listen to several news sources, and not a passing meme on social media. Too many uninformed people are acting out, when if they truly were aware of how things work, beyond just a talking point, they may see things a bit more clearly. Again, we have faith that in the months ahead, the climate will become one of which we can all be proud. It's ok and actually a good thing to question and even disagree with others if it's how you feel. It is not OK when decency, lack of respect and kindness falls by the wayside. It is possible to disagree and yet still be kind and helpful to each other. The constant chest puffing on social media and on national news is just, well, sad. You get more bees with honey.

On another note, as we sit and reflect about how much time has been spent apart as a society, we do need to give a nod to solitude. Extroverts across the globe, just want their social lives to be in full swing again. Heck, even introverts do as well. Being social is an important part of our existence. As things move in that direction, we want to remind everyone that there is a benefit to having some much needed alone time. Something we all don't get very often.

Life in normal times can move very swiftly. We're always looking ahead at what needs to be done next, planning, over thinking and stressing about the future. Studies show that when you stop and enjoy some alone time, your brain will rest. Overstimulation can have adverse effects on our well-being. Take time to detach from the internet, television even music.

When we're alone, our parasympathetic nervous system, that relaxes us, is triggered. Alone time relaxes your muscles, lowers your blood pressure and slows your heart rate. Time alone is a great way to prevent burn out. Burnout can cause us to go about our days in an inefficient manner.

Another check mark in the 'pro' column of solitude is that we become more creative. Our minds are free from distractions. Spending time solo can reduce the chance you'll suffer from vital exhaustion which can lead to increased anger and heart trouble.

One analogy that makes sense regarding solitude, is that it gives you time to get a bird's eye view of your life — the bigger picture, instead of feeling stuck in the day to day sometimes mundane activities.

In the New Year ahead, we wish you all health and happiness. As always, take care of each other.



TARA GILES

The summit of Mount Willard in Twin Mountain was filled with sunshine during an afternoon trek last week.

LETTERS

Undisguised apathy

To the Editor:

I was shopping in the Woodsville Walmart on Christmas Eve day and was passed in an aisle by an older woman going the wrong way and not wearing a mask. As she passed, I asked her why she wasn't wearing one. I told her they were handing them out as come in the door. She told me to mind my own business. As I later stood in the checkout line, she passed by me and said, "Merry Christmas." As I turned to say the same, she was glaring at me and giving me the finger.

Since the governor has mandated mask wearing throughout the state, I asked an associate at the door why they let people in without one. She said they can't enforce that mandate in the store no matter what the governor says. She said people "don't want to have their rights infringed." I wonder what they would do if someone tried to walk in without shirt or shoes?

I am gladdened to see 99.9 percent of people shopping who wear masks. It shows they care about other people as well as themselves. But I am appalled at the

number of people who still seem to believe the pandemic and the virus is a hoax. I've lost friends to this "hoax."

I have never seen this level of utter stupidity and carelessness in our country before — believing a baseless political stance over scientifically acknowledged world-wide fact. I fear for all those around these people who might very well get the virus and die because these idiots don't care about their fellow human beings. I served in the Navy during Vietnam and then again for 30 years in the Naval weapons systems industry, my whole life dedicated in service to our country to ensure people continue to enjoy all the rights they are granted in the Constitution. Those rights, if I'm not mistaken, do not include the right to put others' lives in jeopardy because you're a clueless, selfish moron.

What have we become?

Rachael Booth
Landaff

President Trump's accomplishments realized, and recognized!

To the Editor:

While there is still some debate over the legality of the results of the 2020 Election, one thing remains perfectly clear... President Trump achieved many accomplishments during the first 2 years in office, and especially during his first 6 months in office. Let's review a partial list of some of these as of September, 2018:

- * OPERATION WARP SPEED !!...creation of a safe COVID vaccine in record time.
- Almost four million jobs created since election in 2016.
- More Americans employed than ever recorded before in our history.
- Creation of more than 400,000 manufacturing jobs.
- Manufacturing jobs growing at a faster rate in more than 3 decades.
- Economic growth hit 4.2 percent during one quarter.
- New unemployment claims recently hit a 49-year low.
- Median household income has hit highest level ever recorded.
- African-American unemployment has recently achieved the lowest rate ever recorded.
- Asian-American unemployment recently achieved the lowest rate ever recorded.
- Hispanic-American unemployment is at the lowest rate ever recorded.

- Women's unemployment recently reached the lowest rate in 65 years.
- Youth unemployment has recently hit the lowest rate in nearly half a century.
- Lowest unemployment rate ever recorded for Americans without a high school diploma.
- Veterans' unemployment recently reached its lowest rate in nearly 20 years
- * Almost 3.9 million Americans have been lifted off food stamps since 2016.
- The Pledge to America's Workers has resulted in employers committing to train more than 4 million Americans promoting a commitment to Vocational Education.
- Retail sales surged last month, up another 6 percent over last year.
- Signed the biggest package of tax cuts and reforms in history. After tax cuts, over \$300 billion poured back into the US in the first quarter alone.
- Trump tax bill produced lowest top marginal tax rate in more than 80 years for small businesses.
- Record number of regulations eliminated.
- Enacted regulatory relief for community banks and credit unions.

Thank you, President Trump!

Nick De Mayo
Sugar Hill

What has happened to America's work ethic?

To the Editor:

I graduated from college in 2004, and my wife graduated in 2008; we are both student loan debt free. How did we do this?

I started working a paper route at the age of eight, and began saving my money around that same time. I was blessed to have a track and field scholarship, although it was only 2,000 dollars my freshman year,

my savings paid the rest. I worked hard lifting, throwing, and practicing all morning, class all day, practice again in the afternoon, and studying all night. By the time my junior year rolled around, I had a full scholarship. It was because of hard work and proving myself worth in athletics and in the classroom. I never had student loan debt, but my wife graduated with debt. We worked hard and paid her loan off in four years. We could have paid the minimum payments, and would have probably still been paying off the debt today.

Under a Biden administration, the government wants to forgive at least \$50,000 of every individual's student loan debt. So we worked hard, and we will now be penalized for it. Not only was her debt not forgiven, we will be the ones who will be paying off others' debt through our federal income tax for many years to come. This is what socialism/communism looks like — government forcibly taking from one group and giving to another. There used to be consequences to an individual's actions; not anymore. A student could have racked up tens of thousands of dollars in debt while they were playing video games all day and partying all night, and took five and a half years to obtain a liberal arts degree. Now hardworking people who paid for their own education or worked blue collar jobs their whole life will have to foot the bill for everyone.

It is a shame what has happened to the work ethic and sense of responsibility people used to have in this nation.

J.D. Barth
Landaff

LETTERS CONTINUED PAGE A5

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USPS 315-760 Published weekly, periodical, postage paid at Littleton, NH, 03561 and at additional mailing offices. Published every Wednesday • P.O. Box 729 Meredith, NH 03253
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
The Littleton Courier, P.O. Box 729 Meredith, NH 03253



Wednesday Subscription Rates: In-County \$36 per year, \$24 for six months. Out-of-County/Northern New England States: \$60 per year, \$38 for six months. (rates effective 3/1/08)
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By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

There are a few things I'd like to see in 2021. The thing I want to see most is 2020 in the rear-view mirror, and smoother road ahead.

This awful illness loose among us has robbed us of so many things, especially the oldest and most vulnerable. I wish I'd had a chance to talk with more of them before they were gone. One was a World War II vet, 96, my Dad's generation, among the last we'll see.

And this might sound macabre, but one loss I resent most bitterly is the societal glue of calling hours at the funeral home.

This is where we reconnect with school-mates, childhood friends, and long-lost relatives. It is how we mitigate, understand, and absorb the loss of our loved ones. We see it there in the paper, from 2 to 4, from 7 to 9. The funeral is Saturday at 11, and always, almost without fail, there's a get-together in the church hall or a family home afterward. Again, more connections, and hands and hearts to

North Country Notebook

The well-written obituary, and the social side of death

cope. It's bad enough to be missing all the weddings, class reunions, birthdays, retirement parties, and 40th and 50th anniversaries that are the warp and woof of life in communities and countryside. But the visiting hours!---a stab straight to the heart.

+++++

I've been watching too many movies on television. Many are movies I saw when I was a kid, at the actual movies. The price of a ticket was a quarter, and Cob Sutton sold popcorn for a dime.

Some of those movies were just awful---real stinkers, with lousy, stupid scripts. They all had the same formula, especially the cowboy shoot-em-ups. The same thin-stringed piano, I think, appeared in a hundred saloons.

But at least the before-television movies made a pretense of looking real. The sets had enough detail to look like real places. There were enough extras for enough people in town. So what if the horses seemed to run forever without hay or water?

But post-TV---or is it just me---did everything start to look cheap? Gas flames,



JEN KEAZER — COURTESY

A view of the home farm, from the next ridge over. Jenny Keazer took this photo one snow-filled morning a couple of years ago, showing the countryside of East Colebrook, with her family's home farm just about smack-dab in the middle.

coming out of fake campfires. Squeaky-clean saddle ropes. Clean canvas rows of troop tents. No dirt on shirts or Stetsons.

And the way they handle guns is something awful. It makes me want to dive under a table--- pointing shot-guns and six-shooters this way and that, with no care. In a made-for-TV movie, shot just this year, the lead actor was forever sticking his rifle into sand and snow.

Scriptwriters apparently don't know a rifle from a shotgun, or a six-shooter from a flintlock. Producers hire consultants and fact-checkers for history and societal lore, but with firearms,

anything goes.

+++++

John Stylianos, my very first editor, taught me a lot of things I still use, among them to check (and learn to enjoy) the obituaries. Back then, in 1968, I was supposed to check for any hint of malfeasance. Later
NOTEBOOK, PAGE A13

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LETTERS CONTINUED

Electoral victory?

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter two days before the run-off elections for the two Senate seats in Georgia and three days before Congress meets in joint session to count the electoral votes and confirm who won the election. These two events occurring back-to-back will provide a clear picture of the status of our democracy.

On Jan. 5, Georgians will determine who controls the Senate. Will they support the extremely rich incumbents who downplayed COVID-19 publicly while using insider information to enrich themselves in the stock market? Will they return the Republicans who marched in lockstep with McConnell to keep Trump in office, to confirm corrupt or unqualified Trump appointees, and to delay or diminish federal efforts to deal with the pandemic? Or will they support candidates with integrity, a concern for ordinary Georgians, and a belief in science when facing crises related to public health and climate change?

A day later, Congress will decide whether or not to accept the election results. What is normally a ceremonial process has become a critical test of our democracy, because Trump wants Republicans to back

him in a last-ditch effort to throw out the results of the election. He and his lawyers have already lost dozens of court cases seeking to invalidate votes or, even worse, to enable state legislators to ignore the popular vote and appoint a new slate of Trump electors. These cases lost, because they presented no evidence of fraud, procedural errors, or accounting discrepancies to support their claims.

Trump and his supporters continued their litigating, their lying and their bullying long after it was clear that he had lost the election, which is bad enough. However, it is far worse that dozens of Republican representatives and senators are saying that they will not accept the official election results as certified by appropriate officials in multiple states.

By the time you read this letter, we will know who won or who is leading as they count the votes in Georgia. We will be learning the extent to which Trump's arousal of his basest base have resulted in violence in the streets of Washington and elsewhere. And, we will know -- and remember -- which members of Congress actually voted to overthrow democracy.

I hope that Geor-

gians vote for honesty and decency, I hope the demonstrations will be peaceful, and I hope that nearly all Republicans in Congress will have chosen to confirm the electoral votes. And finally, I hope that the vast majority of Americans will now recognize what it is that we've been watching for the last two months -- Trump's desperate, irrational, anti-democratic and ultimately doomed attempt to overthrow a legitimate election so as to remain in power.

Carl D. Martland
Sugar Hill

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Opinion

Learning to legislate during a pandemic

BY SEN. ERIN HENNESSEY

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to change the way we do things that we've long taken for granted, including sending kids to school, going out to eat, even grocery shopping. The Legislature is no different. As we prepare to start the 2021 session, the New Hampshire Senate is changing the way it operates in order to conduct the people's business safely. We return this week for Convening Day, set by the New Hampshire Constitution for the First Wednesday in January. While the House will be holding a Drive-In session, the Senate will be meeting remotely. And on Thursday, Gov. Chris Sununu will take the oath for his third term.

This new way of doing things will continue for the time being. The Senate and all of our committees will meet remotely. We could find a way for five-member committees to meet within social distancing guidelines, but public hearings are for the public. Hearings on high-profile bills sometimes draw hundreds of people. Rather than force people who wish to testify on legislation to cram into a crowded conference room, we will let them watch and testify at public hearings through video conference. We've all gained a lot of experience with this technology of the past nine months, and I'm confident remote hearings and sessions are the best way

to keep the public connected with the Senate's work. Remote hearings bring a new set of logistical and scheduling challenges. All 24 Senators have worked to consolidate the number of bills we are filing this session. By combining several bills into a consolidated package, we will be able to hold one public hearing to address many related issues. It is important to note that this consolidation will in no way short-circuit the legislative process. Issues likely to be controversial have been maintained as stand-alone bills. And every piece of the consolidated bills will be addressed in a public hearing. The Senate may also divide any question to

provide a full and fair debate on each provision before passing them to the House. We will certainly have our disagreements over the next year, but I am glad that the Senate can start the session with bipartisan cooperation in setting up this process. The Senate will quickly take up a package of bills to address the challenges posed by COVID-19. One such change would give towns greater flexibility in holding Town Meeting safely, much as local officials conducted the September and November elections. Over the past year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has given states broad waivers over its school nutrition programs, including the authority to

provide free meals to all New Hampshire families. This flexibility has been crucial in helping schools and community organizations provide millions of meal to New Hampshire students learning remotely. But, it has also meant that families that have had to sign up for Free and Reduced Lunch Programs may not have signed up this year. The Free and Reduced Lunch rolls help set state and federal education funding formulas. If families do not sign up, local school districts could see reduced state and federal aid next year. The New Hampshire Department of Education is working with schools to get families signed up. We will keep an eye on these efforts

throughout the first couple months of 2021. If the Legislature has to step in to make sure schools receive the proper level of education aid, we are ready to do so. This promises to be a legislative session unlike any other. We may have to adapt how we operate, but rest assured that the New Hampshire Senate remains dedicated to doing the people's business. I urge my constituents to contact me if I may be of assistance at erin.hennessey@leg.state.nh.us or by calling 271-4151. Happy New Year! Here's to a safe and prosperous 2021. Sen. Erin Hennessey, R-Littleton, represents Senate District 1.

SUMMIT BY MORRISON AND THE MORRISON ASSISTED LIVING AND SKILLED NURSING CARE 2021 trends in senior living

As we ring out the old and ring in the new in just a few days, it's an opportune time to share a few of the trends we've noted that will influence senior living in 2021 and beyond. Without a doubt, COVID-19 has had a tremendous impact on our lives. A couple of trends, such as telehealth, really took root during the months of mask-wearing and social distanc-

ing, and telehealth seems destined to remain an easy and convenient way to deliver some modes of health care. Some of the trends in health and well-being can make a difference in seniors' quality of life in the coming year include: Staying Connected: Our relationships with friends and family have always been a top priority and that

won't change. As the pandemic has shown, when it's not possible to meet face-to-face we can still stay in touch and see our loved ones via FaceTime, Zoom and Skype. It's not as ideal as in-person meet-ups, but virtual gatherings help answer a basic human need for personal connections. Now that we are accustomed to this method of communication, it will likely remain a part of our lives in certain situations even after social restrictions are lifted as the virus is brought under control. Voice Assistants: More and more seniors are turning to voice assistants like Alexa for assistance with daily tasks. Voice assistants can remind you to take your medication, alert you that it's time to take your cookies out of the oven, dial you into your favorite radio station, give you the current outdoor temperature, and tell


you the capital of Ecuador! Map or GPS?: While many seniors still love reading and using maps (although not refolding them!), where would we be without our vehicle's GPS to quickly help us find the doctor's office in an unfamiliar town or our best friend's new address? Many new vehicles are equipped with sophisticated navigation devices. Still, driving an older model car? The tried-and-true portable GPS units work just fine in directing you where you need to go (at least most of the time!). Wearable Technology: Smart Watches at every price level and with varying features can help your track your fitness level and monitor your health. Some can even send an alert to emergency services and pre-arranged contacts in the event of an incident such as a fall.

Telehealth: Covid-19 has prompted many seniors to schedule doctor visits remotely over video chat. Telehealth visits keep you safely distanced while allowing you to stay on track with scheduled visits and other health concerns. Bonus: with no need to bundle up and drive to your health care provider's office, you can keep your appointments even during tricky winter weather. Alternative Wellness: Seniors are adding holistic practices to their overall healthy lifestyle plans, along with diet, exercise, regular doctor visits, and medication management. Meditation and mindfulness, for example, have many health benefits, such as reducing stress and anxiety and have been shown to have a positive effect on conditions ranging from heart disease and high blood pressure to alleviating chronic pain. Other practices like yoga and tai chi help with balance, strength, and flexibility. Lifelong Learning: Use it or lose it,

say the experts, and seniors are embracing this challenge. Just as physical exercise is critical to maintaining a healthy body, learning a new skill, taking a class and even something as simple as varying your route to the grocery store keep our minds supple and nimble and help ward off cognitive decline. Exercising our minds also helps lessen depression and increases our self-esteem. Whatever trends you choose to embrace, we wish each of you a happy, healthy, and safe New Year! Shannon Lynch is the Executive Director of Summit by Morrison, a senior living community offering independent living, assisted living, memory care, and respite care. The Morrison Communities is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable community that has been providing quality healthcare to residents of New Hampshire's North Country since 1903. For more information, go to www.themorrisoncommunities.org

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Committee to evaluate best use for Eaton property

ANGEL LARCOM
angel@salmonpress.news

LITTLETON — After listening to additional concerns about the Eaton property's future on Dec. 28, the Littleton Select Board decided to form an independent committee for the 103-acre parcel owned by the Town.

An accelerated Request For Proposal for housing development bids issued by town officials in November netted one viable candidate and an outcry from abutters and concerned residents.

In its proposal, the Haverhill, Mass.-based developer outlined only 60 acres for housing. Candor Realty representative Jonathan Bombaci told attendees the bid addressed vital elements of the town's recently revised master plan, specifically housing shortages and the lack of a community forest.

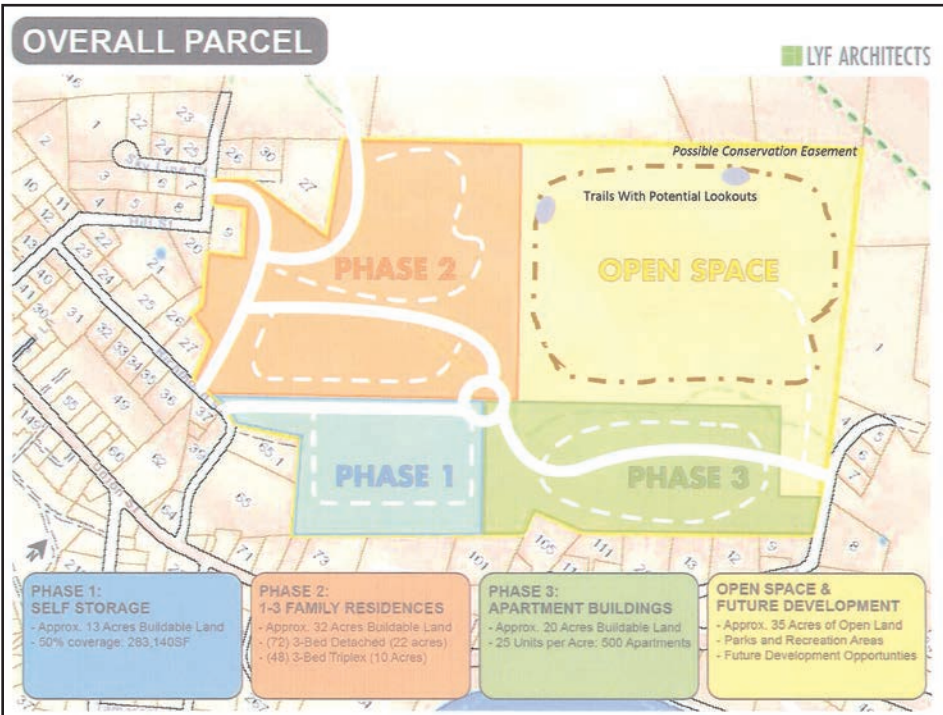
"Our intention is to put something there

that people would want, which is why it was created under the direction of what the master plan specified. The intent was to carve off the larger portion for recreational space along with open space for the public to enjoy, as well as attempting to address the housing shortage that's going on in town," he stated.

While addressing the board, Conservation Commission Chair Tom Alt said the development would accommodate 1,500 residents, yet the town had only seen a population growth of 892 people since 1963. He also noted that a 60-acre development would equal twelve football fields.

"There are different kinds of tax revenue that can come into town. Open land costs next to nothing, but community services have costs. For every dollar of tax revenue you earn, you spend \$1.15 in residential services," stated Alt.

Bombaci stated, "I un-



A three-phase development plan for the Eaton Property garnered pushback and ultimately resulted in the Littleton Select Board's decision to form a committee to evaluate the best use for the parcel.

derstand that the growth hasn't been huge over the last 60 years, but a lot of it is because many of the houses being built aren't full-time residences. I think there's probably a lot more growth going on in the back yard than the numbers show."

"There's a big demand for apartments and there are wait lists. There aren't enough apartments for people to live in, and there aren't enough housing units for the workforce. We always have wait lists for our units and there is a demand in this vicinity for apartment buildings that are safe for families and children. We kept the development acreage low because we didn't want to over pack the area," added the realtor.

Bombaci reassured residents that the potential development would not offer subsidized or low-income housing options. According to the submitted bid, Candor Realty would purchase the Eaton property for \$305,000 and launch a three-phase development that included a luxury condo association, clubhouse, dog park, playground and trails.

Phase I included site work and self-storage units, while Phase II

outlined free-standing residences. Multi-story apartment units would be constructed during the final stage of development. Thirty-five acres would remain untouched at the back corner of the parcel, and the company offered a guarantee to begin construction within 12 months of successful permitting and building approval.

A Littleton resident inquired about drafting a petition that evening to halt the process.

Gendreau stated, "This is a very serious issue. Let's not rush the process. There could be 25 voters that sign a petition in favor of it."

Although the Selectmen must first draft a mission for the Eaton Property committee, board members hoped that a diverse cross-section of the community would step forward, including abutters, local developers and department heads. Select Board Chair Carrie Gendreau encouraged residents to watch the town website for more information and assured attendees they would see no warrant article about the property at the annual town meeting in March.

Farm food safety planning made simple

REGION — Come and learn food safety best management practices for your operation and how to weave these into a comprehensive food safety plan.

UMaine and UNH Cooperative Extension staff are teaming up to provide a three session online workshop series to guide you through the process. For more information and to register, please see <https://bit.ly/3nK6HpN>.

In this series you will learn what elements to include in your plan, the science behind best management practices related to these component pieces of the plan, how to identify potential risks on your farm, how to write standard

operating procedures (SOPs), best practices for cleaning, sanitizing, training your staff, and keeping records. We will end the series with a panel discussion on recalls.

Funding for this workshop and press release was made possible, in part, by the Food and Drug Administration through grant PAR-16-137. The views

expressed in written materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does any mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organization imply endorsement by the United States Government.

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Local News

Franconia weighs options for annual town meeting

ANGEL LARCOM
angel@salmonpress.news

FRANCONIA — Long considered to be the only remaining form of direct democracy in our country, the town meeting brings communities together each year. But as COVID continues to rage, Franconia officials consider alternatives to the traditional event this year.

At the Dec. 28 Select Board meeting, Town Moderator Jim Walker said there were five options. One choice would be to continue the regular gathering at the Lafayette School gymnasium with masks required and the hope that not many voters attended.

Yet another option would utilize multiple classrooms with smaller groups and pumped audio. Walker also mentioned a virtual platform but noted that it would decrease productivity and disenfranchise a portion of the voters.

The state legislature passed HB 1129 last July, which allowed municipalities to provide optional town meeting procedures during COVID-19 state of emergency. The bill provides for a drive-through voting process for warrant articles.

The final option, said Walker, was to postpone the meeting until either it was warm enough to

be held outside or everyone had received a vaccination. He inquired about the volume of warrant articles for 2021 and how that number might affect a decision.

Board Chair Jill Brewer indicated that the group had begun to weigh alternatives for the town meeting but did not yet have a clear idea of how many warrant articles would need to be considered by voters.

She said, "We have very casually kicked around ideas like a drive-through or a drive-in movie style, but we have not formally talked about different ideas."

While state officials recommended that small

towns with voter turnouts of less than 40 people continue with the regular meeting format, Walker said there was no clear guidance for larger communities such as Franconia.

He stated, "If this is a year where you might be able to trim your warrant to maybe five articles, assuming we have no bond or petition articles, and we could have a concise meeting, I think that would open up some options."

However, Walker suggested a postponement until May or June if the warrant article list was lengthy. Town Manager Kim Cowles indicated that the bulk of 2021 articles were for regional non-profits seeking support.

"As I understand it, there's nothing saying that we have to have it [the town meeting] on a Tuesday night, which I know has been a tradition and works well for a lot of people. But even in March, we could have it outside on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, state Brewer," Cowles said.

The Board Chair continued, "Obviously, we want the most people to

attend as possible. But that would allow us to do it more comfortably outdoors in the daylight and not at night. I think it's something worth considering, but I don't have a current favorite option."

Brewer also noted that families with young children found it difficult to attend the traditional Tuesday evening meetings.

She said, "One parent might be able to come, but it's impossible for both parents to come. A lot of votes ended up being really close, and I know some of our residents found it frustrating that it's not a convenient time."

Selectman Eric Meth reiterated the importance of the annual town meeting, stating that Franconia's legislature met the one time of year. He asked if there was a way for residents to weigh in on the options.

While HB 1129 does allow voters to weigh in, Walker noted that it required that all comments received by the Select Board be read aloud for public record.

He said, "You need to notify every voter by mail, and you need to

have two informational sessions before the meeting. It's pretty involved, so there's a lot of effort and work to do it."

Walker said he would inquire about postponement limitations with the New Hampshire Municipal Association to determine if the town meeting could be held on a weekend or during day-time hours.

He added, "The one thing about postponing a meeting is the spending of the town. You can still conduct regular business, but you can't spend on anything new that might be proposed in this year's warrant."

After nearly 20 minutes of discussion, board members indicated a preference for postponement.

Selectman Jeff Blodgett said, "I don't see how we can get around COVID in that big room with hundreds of people."

The Select Board planned to revisit the discussion after Walker had time to consult with the New Hampshire Municipal Association.

Brewer said, "It sounds like a good plan, moving forward."

Make a difference in an abused or neglected child’s life

Attend a North Country-focused virtual info session on Jan. 13 to learn how you can help

REGION — So much has changed in the last year, but what hasn't changed is the impact a CASA volunteer advocate has in the life of a child.

Each year, hundreds of children come to the attention of New Hampshire's courts as the victims of abuse or neglect and they need someone to speak up for their best interests.

CASA, or Court Appointed Special Advocates, of New Hampshire, provides highly trained volunteers who step into that role, ensuring that when a judge is making decisions about a child's future, there is someone there to speak to what is happening in the child's life and make recommendations about what is best for the child alone.

For more than 30 years, this work has happened through in-person meetings with a child and the important people in their lives. It's meant attending court hearings and standing up before a judge to speak about the child. But when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, that all changed.

CASA volunteers have continued their advocacy through online chat like FaceTime and Zoom, texting, and visiting through socially distanced measures when weather permits. For months, they have attended court hearings telephonically or through WebEx.

CASA volunteer advocates have been the certainty in uncertain times for the children we serve.

CASA continues to recruit, screen and train new volunteers virtually with monthly live information sessions, interviews and training. CASA's training team took the 40-hour in-person training and created an engaging and interactive training using Zoom and Google Classroom.

In addition to allowing CASA to continue training new volunteers despite the inability to be together in a classroom setting, virtual training has made it possible for people who need more flexibility with the initial time commitment to learn and prepare for the role, to complete the training from the comfort of their own home,

without having to travel to and from class.

Between virtual training launch in May and the end of the final 2020 class in December, CASA trained more than 100 new volunteer advocates. But the need persists, particularly in the North Country. And there remains the possibility that when children return to school fulltime statewide, abuse and neglect that may have gone unseen for many months will create a surge of new cases.

You can make a difference in a child's life in the New Year. Beginning in January, a new schedule of virtual trainings is set to begin. New virtual info sessions will be held three times a month beginning on Jan. 6. There will be an info session specifically focused on the needs in the North Country on Jan. 13.

For more information, visit www.casanh.org. Sign up to attend an info session, apply to become a volunteer or make a donation to sustain this work.

Make 2021 the year you help change a child's story.

Littleton police log

Rodney Parr, 56, of Albuquerque, N.M. was arrested on Meadow Street on Nov. 28 for driving after license revocation or suspension.

Kayla Collins, 30, of Littleton was arrested on West Main Street on Nov. 29 for outstanding bench warrants.

John Demers, 29, of Lancaster was arrested by the New Hampshire State Police on Nov. 29 on an outstanding warrant for criminal mischief.

Sean Kennedy, 47, of Manchester was arrested by the New Hampshire State Police on Nov. 30 for an outstanding warrant for simple assault with physical contact or bodily injury and criminal threatening.

Makalya Walker, 20, of Dalton was arrested by the Essex County Sheriff's Department on Nov. 30 on an outstanding warrant for possession of more than five grams of a fentanyl class control drug. Collins also faces charges for six counts for sale of controlled drugs, possession of more than five ounces of methamphetamine, more than five ounces of cocaine, less than one gram of heroin crack, acts prohibited with controlled drugs and felon in possession of a dangerous weapon.

Zachary Cole, 28, of Littleton was arrested on Industrial Park Road on Dec. 5 for misuse of license plates and operating a vehicle without a valid driver's license.

Michael Johnson, 25,

of Sanbornton was arrested on I-93 on Dec. 6 for outstanding bench warrants.

Lucille Mullin, 58, of Littleton was taken into protective custody on Joe Lahout Lane on Dec. 3 for an alcohol-related incident.

Timothy Fenoff, 46, of Gilman, Vt. was arrested on Monroe Road for contempt.

A 16-year-old male juvenile from Littleton was arrested on Grove Street on Dec. 9 for felony sexual contact with a victim younger than 13 and three counts of aggravated felony sexual assault of a victim under the age of 13.

Heather Martin, 29, of Lincoln was arrested on West Main Street on Dec. 10 for contempt of court.

Under investigation: theft by unauthorized taking of an amount between \$0 and \$1,000. The incident occurred on Old Whitefield Road on Nov. 21. No arrest made.

Under investigation: stalking on Saint Johnsbury Road on Nov. 28. No arrest made.

Under investigation: criminal mischief on North Skinny Ridge Road. The incident occurred between Nov. 28 and Nov. 29. No arrest made.

Under investigation: theft of lost or mislaid items valued between \$0 and \$1,000. The incident occurred on Cottage Street on Nov. 29. No arrest made.

Under investigation: theft by unauthorized taking of an amount between \$0 and \$1,000. The incident occurred on Union Street between Dec. 1 and Dec. 2. No arrest made.

Under investigation: conduct after an accident on Meadow Street on Dec. 3. No arrest made.

Under investigation: sexual assault and contact on Saint Johnsbury Road on Dec. 4. No arrest made.

Under investigation: willful concealment on Meadow Street on Dec. 5. No arrest made.

Under investigation: reckless conduct and domestic violence on Union Street on Dec. 6. No arrest made.

Under investigation: disobeying an officer, resisting arrest or detention, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, failure to obey stop and yield signs, failure to use directional signals, misuse of license plates and operation of an unregistered vehicle. The incident occurred on I-93 on Dec. 6. No arrest made.

Under investigation: theft by shoplifting on Cottage Street on Dec. 7. No arrest made.

Under investigation: willful concealment on Bethlehem Road on Dec. 8. No arrest made.

Under investigation: false report on West Main Street. The incident occurred between Dec. 10 and Dec. 11. No arrest made.

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Littleton Regional Healthcare welcomes new Oncology Coordinator

LITTLETON — Littleton Regional Healthcare is pleased to announce Littleton native Kaitlyn (Considine) Red Elk has joined the Oncology, Hematology, and Infusion Center at LRH as the new Oncology/Infusion Coordinator. Kaitlyn joins LRH with several years of Oncology experience.

Red Elk was born and raised in Littleton and attended Littleton High School. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from St. Anselm College. Her nursing career began in 2010 when she joined the staff at nearby Cottage Hospital in Woodsville. She then moved to Manchester, and worked at Catholic Medical Center. From there, she became a traveling nurse, working in hospitals throughout California. Kaitlyn's background includes working in high-pressure Emergency Departments, serving bedside on intermediate floors, and playing an integral role in developing an Oncology Intensive Care Unit, one of the first of its kind.

Red Elk's experience includes the Critical Care Training Program at Stanford Hospital, where she worked in a 33-bed Level 1 Trauma, Transplant, Neuro, and Medical/Oncology ICU. When the ICU ultimately made the decision to divide into five individual ICUs, she accepted the role as Medical/Oncology ICU Educator. As Oncology ICUs are



COURTESY

Kaitlyn Red Elk

still a relatively new concept, Kaitlyn was able to pave the way for others throughout

the country. She specializes in oncological emergencies in bone marrow transplants and advanced Leukemia patients.

Returning to Littleton with her children to be closer to family and her aging parents, Kaitlyn looks forward to being part of the community once again and is eager to serve the patients of LRH.

Kimberly Force, Clinical Director of Inpatient Services at LRH, noted, "Kaitlyn's extensive background and commitment to patient care makes her an invaluable addition. Her clinical skills, combined with her leadership, will ensure the continued success of the program."

To learn more about the Oncology, Hematology, or Infusion services at LRH, please contact the Oncology, Hematology, and Infusion Center at 444-9376.

Petition submitted for Dalton landfill opposition

ANGEL LARCOM
angel@salmonpress.news

LITTLETON — Littleton resident Pat Kellogg submitted a petition to the Select Board on Dec. 28 calling for the opposition of a proposed landfill development near Forest Lake. The request came on the heels of a Sept decision by town officials to support landfill expansion in Bethlehem.

As drafted, the petition warrant article stated, "Whereas the people of the Town of Littleton, over the past decades, have made a substantial investment in our community's health and sustainability, including recognizing and supporting the economic importance of the Ammonoosuc River which runs right through our center.

"Therefore, the Town of Littleton resolves that the new landfill proposed to be located in neighboring Dalton is not compatible with our vision of the protection of the Ammonoosuc River and its watershed, our shared groundwater, our shared roadways, our regional environment or the businesses that we depend on for our economic future. We the voters of the Town of Littleton hereby resolve to oppose the NH Department of

Environmental Services approval of any application for a noted commercial landfill to be built in the North Country."

Board Chair Carrie Gendreau said, "I know that we can only have so many commitments, but maybe we should put together another group. Trash isn't going to go away, and I think we have to come up with something that is more sustainable."

Littleton resident Bruce Hadlock noted that community members could not vote on issues in neighboring towns. Kellogg countered that the proposed Dalton landfill would significantly impact Littleton and its Riverwalk area.

Dalton resident Jon Swan, an outspoken landfill opponent, informed the Select Board that Whitefield residents voted last year for the town to submit a letter of opposition against a second landfill on the Ammonoosuc River.

He said, "I think that's the heart of the matter here because the Bethlehem landfill will be closing, whether it's sooner or later."

Swan continued, "The purpose of this committee should be to examine the alternatives for the town of Littleton, relative to what happens to your waste. You already have an existing transfer station. All you have to do is point the trucks going to Bethlehem to Mount Carberry in Success."

According to Swan, Dalton shifted to the municipal Mount Carberry landfill last June which saved the town more than \$1,000 in tipping fees within six months. Although Carberry's Phase III expansion permit has not yet been approved by the NH DES (Department of Environmental Services), Swan argued that plenty of capacity remained. There was no reason why the landfill couldn't accommodate additional North Country trash, he added.

Conservation Commission Chair Tom Alt noted that a portion of the proposed Dalton landfill fell within Littleton town lines. He also indicated that the committee intended to submit a letter of opposition to the NH DES regarding wetland permits.

"Even if it costs a little to send a truck up to Success, what will it cost if you have hundreds of trucks with stinking garbage on a tourist-impacted Main Street? How do you put a value on that?" stated Alt.

"I know it's difficult

to keep up with all of these issues going on, but I can't stress enough the importance of getting out of the chair, going out to the area and looking at what's happening. Without doing that, any decision being made is incomplete," added the commissioner.

Voters can expect to see the warrant article on the ballot in March, but it is unlikely that a new landfill commission would be formed until after the vote.

Board member Chad Stearns said, "Voting results may well change any mission statement created now. it may be prudent to wait until after the town meeting."

Hennessey appointed to foundation board

CONCORD — The New Hampshire Children's Health Foundation has appointed New Hampshire State Senator Erin Hennessey (R) of Littleton to its board of directors. Hennessey is a three-term state representative who was elected to the District 1 senate seat in November.

The New Hampshire Children's Health Foundation is a leading funder for children's health in the state. It distributes \$800,000 or more each year to community health centers, health policy organizations and community-based organizations to improve children's health.

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Local News

Littleton Chamber looks to the future

ANGEL LARCOM
angel@salmonpress.news

LITTLETON — Last month, the Littleton Area Chamber of Commerce showcased a new partnership aimed to expand workforce development in the region. Chamber President Bill Jolly said it was one of several initiatives that would help rebuild the organization in the upcoming year.

In an unprecedented move, the local non-profit joined forces with five other North Country Chambers to increase collaborative tourism marketing and develop employee recruitment programs. Other partners include the Franconia and Twin Mountain/Bretton Woods Chambers, Ski NH and the White Mountains Attractions Association.

Jolly said the initiative was driven by

funding. The group received \$295,000 in Chamber of Commerce Partnership Assistance funding from Governor Sununu's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR).

"It was the only way that the Chambers could access funds that were being dispersed by the State," noted Jolly.

He added that it was unlawful for Chambers to access CARES Act money because they were classified in the same category as lobbying groups by the IRS.

"There was no way around it, and the state didn't know what to do to help the chambers. Our projected revenues were gone. I appreciate that state officials saw value in the chambers, but how would the chambers function without cash? We learned that

many chambers faced the same problems we did," noted Jolly.

The six groups began meeting last fall to develop a roster of programming to meet the State's criteria. Jolly said the collaborative PPE program would be most valuable to the Littleton area.

The Chamber collaborative designed their PPE program to financially support member businesses with ongoing expenses for signage, security, trash and toxic waste, masks and sanitation wipes resulting from the pandemic. The group also launched a promotional campaign called Granite State Safe to educate visitors about traveling in the White Mountains.

The multi-chamber effort also launched an initiative called the White Mountains 100 Mile Challenge to encourage the explo-

ration of local businesses through a 100-item scavenger hunt. The program ran from mid-Oct until Dec. 6.

The third initiative was a workforce recruitment website called Work in the White Mountains. The online database provides job seekers with employment opportunities for each of the six North Country Chamber regions. The new resource also coordinates with multiple state and regional job portals and provides lodging information for new hires.

The workforce recruitment program is ongoing.

Jolly said, "Local businesses can advertise on the portal and access people that might not have otherwise applied for open positions. At the end of the day when we look back on it, it may be the most valuable

piece."

Jolly's focus as Chamber President is to rebuild the organization's Board of Directors.

He said, "We don't have very diverse representation from an industry standpoint on the board, and I think that's a weakness because it takes away our ability as a collective to understand what the business community at large needs."

The Chamber President also stated that he would like to see a return of such annual events as the Littleton Arts Festival and have the event locations broaden out from the downtown area.

"Our events unraveled a little bit before COVID. I'm looking forward to re-raveling them and getting to a point where we have more robust and inclusive events," he stated.

Jolly continued, "Everything here is socioeconomic, and I think the social element needs more attention. The economy of Littleton can only become more robust if the social side of the community is served. The only way for us to do that is to go back to the events that used to happen. We can't make that happen all at once, but we can start to get on that trajectory."

The board hopes to host its annual gala in February, providing that the number of positive COVID cases declines and the vaccination rate accelerates. It would also mark the organization's 100th anniversary.

Job seekers interested in regional employment opportunities can access the collaborative Web site directly by visiting www.workinthewhitmountains.com.

TAKE A BREAK

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16

17 18 21

19 20 26 27 28

22 23 24 25 26 27 28

29 30 31 32 33

34 35 36 37

38 39 40

41 42 43 44

45 46 49 50 51 52

53 54 55 56

57 58

59 60 61

60. 2,000 lbs.
61. Helps escape
- DOWN**
- 1. Currency exchange charge
 - 2. River in Tuscany
 - 3. Breakfast dish
 - 4. Defunct European currency
 - 5. Upper class young woman
 - 6. Part of a purse
 - 7. Self-contained units
 - 8. Boxing's GOAT
 - 9. Legislators
 - 10. Flightless birds
 - 11. U. of Miami's mascot is one
 - 12. Floating ice
 - 13. Low, marshy land
 - 16. Seldom
 - 18. Lyric poems
 - 22. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)
 - 23. Full extent of something
 - 24. ___ Claus
 - 25. Naturally occurring solid material
 - 27. Acquired brain injury behavior science (abbr.)
 - 28. Thirteen
 - 29. Partner to cheese
 - 30. Member of a Semitic people
 - 31. One thousandth of an inch
 - 33. Former CIA
 - 35. Most lemony
 - 36. Engage in
 - 37. Small Eurasian deer
 - 39. Provisions
 - 42. All humans have them
 - 43. Swiss river
 - 44. Storage term (abbr.)
 - 46. Famed Broadway lyricist Sammy
 - 47. Dutch colonist
 - 48. Full-grown pike fish
 - 49. Egyptian sun god
 - 50. Flute
 - 51. Flew off!
 - 52. Scottish tax
 - 53. Young women's association
 - 54. Populous Brazilian city
 - 55. Malaysian Isthmus
 - 56. Pointed end of a pen

- ACROSS**
- 1. Partner to "oohed"
 - 6. Relaxing places
 - 10. Humorous monologue
 - 14. Simple elegance
 - 15. Bearable
 - 17. Disobedience
 - 19. Express delight
 - 20. Gov't attorneys
 - 21. Wake up
 - 22. A type of band
 - 23. Remain as is
 - 24. Turfs
 - 26. Battle-ax
 - 29. Volcanic crater
 - 31. The mother of Jesus
 - 32. One's life history
 - 34. "Rule, Britannia" composer
 - 35. Doubles
 - 37. Jacob __, American journalist
 - 38. House pet
 - 39. S. African river
 - 40. Broad sashes
 - 41. Establish as a foundation
 - 43. KGB double agent Aldrich __
 - 45. Part of a book
 - 46. Taxi
 - 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
 - 49. Train group (abbr.)
 - 50. Frames per second
 - 53. Have surgery
 - 57. Formal withdrawal from a federation
 - 58. Guitarist sounds
 - 59. Greek war god

PUZZLING WORD SEARCH

H K C N Z B U U W B G B G M W D H W C B
C C I H B K M K Y T I U N E G N I O S R
A W R G L K E O J I R H I P M V N E O S
I S A A O I R R Y G S M L Z Z U P U L U
V K U D E M S O W T F D Z S N I U L U D
I I O F L S G E I D O S Z E P T K C T O
R S B H O G D M Z H B K U R U I M H I K
T U S N I I U R T A N S P B T A Z O O U
E E L I K L B E O S M Y R O M E M D N D
B F B O A S M J N W E L B M A R C S G E
F N Y T R Y D S E C N E R E F F I D T H
S B I B I L R P L T C J C Z P V T N F S
G N M A R G O T P Y R C H T U S E V V I
G G C N W P W S J V C J M E G O M Y S B L
C B S R U V S D Y Z A V S M Y S T G J P
L K R L V O S R D S M Y S O I H S L A M
J S A A H V O A Y G U I J B F T I F L O
Y R P B I V R O F U S N Y E S R S T P C
A I J A B N C B S R E K C E H C L A L C
I S C T H R F B V Y S K C Y V J S K P A

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

PUZZLING WORD SEARCH

ACCOMPLISHED, AMUSES, BOARD, BRAIN, CHECKERS, CHESS, CLUE, CROSSWORD, CRYPTOGRAM, DIFFERENCES, ENJOYMENT, INGENUITY, MAZES, MEMORY, METHOD, PASTIME, POPULAR, PUZZLING, SCRAMBLE, SOLUTION, STIMULATING, SUDOKU, TRIVIA, WORD SEARCH

This Week's Answers

1. Partner to "oohed"
6. Relaxing places
10. Humorous monologue
14. Simple elegance
15. Bearable
17. Disobedience
19. Express delight
20. Gov't attorneys
21. Wake up
22. A type of band
23. Remain as is
24. Turfs
26. Battle-ax
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59. Greek war god



Lin-Wood boys return experienced group to court

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

LINCOLN — Last year, the Lin-Wood boys' basketball team made significant strides over the course of the season, going from an 0-4 start to a 9-9 finish. Second-year head coach Matt Manning is anticipating that the team continues where it left off to kick off the new season.

"I expect that we will start where we left off, able to compete with any team that we are matched up against," Manning said. "The players have a better understanding of our strategic priorities and this should translate to a more effective and efficient style of play."

"We are entering our second year together as a unit and have an improved grasp of our strengths and weaknesses," the Lumberjack coach added.

Lin-Wood will be returning four starters to the lineup, including senior captain Max Leblanc, junior John Perry and sophomores Cam Clermont and Jake Avery. Leblanc, Avery and Clermont are proven scorers and their skill sets allow them to play



COURTESY

The Lin-Wood boys' basketball team will kick off the new season on Jan. 12.

both inside and outside. Perry is a strong defender who puts a lot of pressure on the offense of the opposing team.

Junior Muizz Awan and sophomore Cam Manning are battling for the fifth starting spot for the Lumberjacks. Manning sees the floor really well and is able to facilitate the offense efficiently while Awan gives the team great size and length and will make an impact on both ends

of the floor.

Seniors Blake Tower and AJ Vecchione will provide the Lumberjacks with good energy off the bench in the new season.

The Lumberjacks finished last year with a two-point loss to Portsmouth Christian in the first round of the playoffs and Manning expects that this year will bring some more success.

Of course, the year is going to be much different for a lot of reasons.

The team members wear masks, sanitize their hands more often and generally control

what they can control. "We talk about the responsibility we have to one another, to our

school and to our community to not take unnecessary risks that could jeopardize our ability to learn in person, practice and play, Manning said. "Outside of that, we are moving forward and embracing all challenges as they come our way."

The Lumberjacks will play three games each with Profile and Lisbon, two games each with Woodsville and Groveton and single games against Gorham and Pittsburg-Canaan.

The season is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, Jan. 12, with a trip to Woodsville for a 5:30 p.m. game.

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

Roy takes helm for Profile hoop boys

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BETHLEHEM — With a new coach at the helm, the Profile boys' basketball team will be looking to take steps in a positive direction as the new year kicks off.

"(We) will be looking to move in a new direction focusing on developing purpose, pride and passion throughout the program at all levels," said first-year head coach Mitchell Roy. "We will not be focused on record and more so worried about playing a good, unselfish brand of basketball with the expectation to be playing our best when it matters most later in the season."

The Patriots missed out on the playoffs last year with just three wins on the season, but with the open tournament this year, there's a chance to make a playoff run if the team is playing well at the end of the season.

While Roy is new on the bench, the team didn't lose any seniors to graduation, so he has some familiar faces to count on to help lead the way.

Senior guard Quintin Paradise will be asked to take on a leadership role and Roy notes he will also continue to improve his play-making ability both on and off the ball. Junior Colin Cote also returns to the fold on the front line and is expected to play an important role and provide excellent defensive versatility, along with senior forward John Ledoux, who returns to the team after missing last season due to injury.

Junior guard Myles Mackinnon will be asked to step into a bigger role this year and Roy notes he will bring tremendous hustle and effort as he adjusts to that role.

The Patriots will also be relying heavily on the freshman duo of Josh Ro-

bie and Alex Leslie in the backcourt. Roy points out that they will log serious minutes and continue to grow and build their confidence as the season rolls along.

Like teams did this fall, the Patriots will be playing a regionalized schedule against teams from around the North Country. The schedule includes three games with Lin-Wood as well as a pair of games each against Woodsville, Littleton and Pittsburg-Canaan as well as a single game each against Lisbon and Division III White Mountains Regional.

The season officially kicks off for the Patriots on Tuesday, Jan. 19, as they play host to Woodsville with a 5:30 p.m. scheduled start time.

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

Co-champion Crusader boys look to return to the top

Littleton returns senior-heavy squad in new season

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

LITTLETON — Last season ended one game short of the ultimate goal for the Littleton boys' basketball team.

It wasn't because the Crusaders were dealt a loss in the semifinal, but rather it was a relatively new virus called COVID-19 that cut the season short before the Division IV finals could be played. The undefeated Crusaders were named co-champions of the division and they return to the court for a new season, dealing with a pandemic that is still causing issues, but ready to defend that title.

The Crusaders lost four players to graduation but return a very senior-laden squad to the court this season while adding a few new faces to the mix as well.

"I do have some angry seniors from how last season ended," said veteran coach Trevor Howard, who enters his 24th year at the helm of the Crusaders. "It will be a challenge to get through this season, but for the kids' sake, I hope we do."

Littleton will return nine seniors to the hardwood this year, including point guard Parker Paradise, guard Landon Bromley, forward Josh Finkle, forward Stephen Lucas, forward Jason Hamilton, guard Cole

Hadlock, guard Austin Marquis, forward Spenser Stevens and forward Jean Carlos. Additionally, junior guard Grady Millen and junior forward Mike Hampson are also back for the Crusaders in the new season.

Howard noted that Finkle should be one of the top big men in Division IV, while Paradise should be a top point guard in the division and Bromley will likely be one of the best all-around players in the division.

The Crusaders will also add some new faces to the mix in senior guard Kyle Huynh, junior guard Jeff Santos, freshman guard Dre Atkins and freshman forward Kayden Hoskins.

Howard points out that getting consistent scoring will be a big key for the Crusaders as the season goes along.

"If we can score consistently, we could be good," he said. "Beginning of the season, we will rely heavily on our defense."

"Our goals have not changed," he added.

The Crusaders will feature a schedule of teams almost exclusively from north of the notches. Littleton will play two games each with Colebrook, Profile and Berlin and single games each with White Mountains Regional, Gorham, Woodsville, Pittsburg-Canaan, Lisbon

and Groveton.

The Crusaders will officially open the season with a home game against Division III White Mountains Regional on Friday, Jan. 15, at 6 p.m.

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

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The Rest of the Story

LEVITAN

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2)

even if it's small. Also, I love to travel—especially international—and do not expect to be able to do that without vaccination.”

He went on to offer confidence in the vaccine.

“Worldwide, thousands of healthcare workers have been

hospitalized and many have died. Unfortunately, we are going to keep seeing it (though less frequently) even after the “pandemic” ends, because many people won't get vaccinated. Health care workers get vaccinated against hepatitis B because of exposure to blood, we get vac-

nated yearly against influenza as we are repeatedly exposed,” said Levitan.

Lastly, he noted, “Covid is an occupational hazard that won't be eliminated completely even though cases will fall off dramatically. I am hopeful this will happen by April.”

NOTEBOOK

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE A5)

in life, I simply was drawn to interesting and well-written obituaries.

Many funeral home directors, or undertakers as they were called in the not-so-distant past, help families write obituaries. Often, however, a family member takes it on, with siblings, cousins and grandchildren hovering over every word. Many obituaries are exceptionally

well-written, obviously conceived with much love, and make good reading.

In this week's paper was the obituary of Wayne A. Holden, Jr., whom I'd know all my life. When I last saw him, many years ago, he and his wife Joyce were living in Twin Mountain, where he ran the fish hatchery. I took a picture of them there on the lawn, with the sign “Tax Preparer”---Wayne's extra

job, and in his way, his mission.

His obit said that he enjoyed fishing, “but most of all riding around on old dirt and back country roads”---a man after my own heart, on both counts.

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

LUMBERJACKS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1)

On the boys' side of things, the Lumberjacks were also the Division IV runners-up and return defending slalom champion Jacob Morris along with top-five finisher Dylan Modzelewski. Plus, the team also welcomes back Charles Loukes, who was at Waterville Academy last year.

Morris and Loukes are both competing in their senior seasons for the Crusaders, while Modzelewski returns for his sophomore campaign. Also returning to the team are senior Silas Weed and juniors Andrew Wilson and Ethan Wargo.

Lin-Wood's boys will also be bolstered by the addition of sophomore Kohen Supple and freshman Asher Donati.

While the Lumberjacks are sure to be a force again, there are

a lot of things that will be done this year on the slopes. The skiers are required to wear masks and the starting orders, which are traditionally done by rotating through the teams, will now be have each school's racers compete as a large group. Additionally, the field for racers at each race is capped at 80 competitors.

“We are staying out on the hill as much as possible and maintaining a positive attitude,” Loukes said. “Everyone is doing the best they can to have a season.”

The veteran coach also extended the team's thanks to the Kanc Recreation Ski Area and Loon Mountain, both of which provide the Lumberjacks with the chance to have excellent training opportunities throughout the season. The Lumberjacks

will have two home meets this season, competing in the annual David Dovholuk Memorial Kanc Classic on Thursday, Jan. 28, at 5 p.m. at the Kanc Recreation Ski Area and then competing at Loon Mountain on Monday, Feb. 1, at 10 a.m.

Additionally, Lin-Wood is scheduled to race at Wildcat and King Pine once each and twice at Bretton Woods. The boys' state championships will be at Crotched Mountain and the girls' championship race will be at Sunapee, both in the second week of February.

The season kicks off with a giant slalom race at Wildcat on Friday, Jan. 15, at 10 a.m.

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



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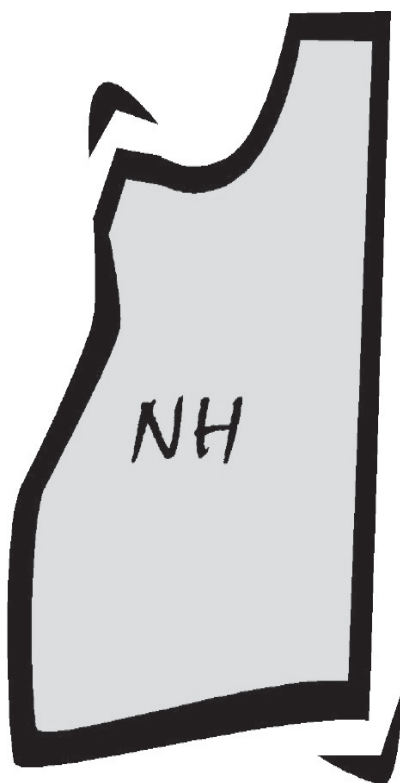
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Sports

Patriot girls a young bunch this season

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BETHLEHEM — Fourth-year head coach Brad Weekes has a pretty young group of girls on the Profile girls' basketball team this season and he's excited to see what they can accomplish in a year that is certainly going to be different than any other.

"Our goals and expectations are to grow from last year," Weekes said. "We were young last year and still young again this year."

"We started making improvements

towards the end of the year," he added. "Based off the first couple practices, the younger girls are learning fast."

The Patriot coach noted that the playoff format will benefit the young squad this year, as the NHIAA has set an open tournament, allowing all teams to qualify.

"I'm hoping we can get a good draw and advance far in the playoffs," Weekes noted.

Profile will be relying heavily on four returning players, two who are only freshmen.

Zoe Liva returns for her senior season and will play at guard and forward, while freshmen Mya Brown and Maddie Koehler are also returning to the fold to play at both guard and forward. Sophomore Alyiah Laleme will be back in the backcourt for the Patriots.

Additionally, Weekes will be looking at a few newcomers to help put the ball in the basket. Freshmen Morgan Presby and Dana Sekelsky, eighth graders Kyah Knight and Jaslene Fogarty and seventh graders Addison Koehler and Bailey Verret will all be looked at to contribute in their first sea-

son on the team.

Weekes notes that this year has been different already but the girls are adjusting as well as they can and are excited to get a season going.

"Obviously due to the current circumstances, everyone has to have a mask on," Weekes said. "We have to sanitize the basketballs before and after practices and there are some other precautions we need to take."

"The girls have been great with all of it," the Patriot coach said. "We have been trying to make the practices as normal as possible with the current precautions."

Weekes pointed out that the coaches give the girls more water breaks with the masks, which he knows can get uncomfortable. That being said, he sees good things.

"I think we're all just happy to be here and able to play basketball this season," Weekes said.

Coach Weekes will be joined on the bench by assistant coaches Reed Weekes, Olivia Cunningham and Bob Burrill.

The Patriots will play three games against Lin-Wood, two games each with Woodsville, Littleton and Pittsburg-Canaan and one game each with Lisbon and White Mountains Regional.

The season is scheduled to kick off on Tuesday, Jan. 19, at home against Woods-

ville at 4 p.m.

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

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Tuesday, Jan. 12	Boys' Hoops vs.
LIN-WOOD	Lin-Wood; 5:30
Boys' Hoops at	Girls' Hoops vs.
Woodsville; 5:30	Lin-Wood; 4
Girls' Hoops at	
Woodsville; 4	All schedules are
WOODSVILLE	subject to change

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NOTICE
TO THE VOTERS OF THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL DISTRICTS: BETHLEHEM, LAFAYETTE, LANDAFF, LISBON, PROFILE
ABSENTEE VOTING AS PROVIDED UNDER RSA 671:21

Any voter who expects to be absent from the place where he/she is qualified to vote on the day of an annual election of officers, or who by reason of physical disability is unable to vote in person, must apply in writing for an absentee ballot using either the printed form prepared by your school district clerk or a written statement declaring absentee ballot be mailed to you.No application shall be issued after 5:00 p.m. on the day immediately prior to election. No absentee ballot shall be accepted by the clerk after 5:00 p.m. on the day immediately prior to election.

NOTICE
TO THE VOTERS OF
LANDAFF SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Landaff School District operates under the nonpartisan ballot system for the election of school officials: a Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, for terms of one year; and one School Board Member for a term of three years.

The School District Clerk will prepare the ballots and all candidates for office shall file their declarations of candidacy or petitions of nomination with the School District Clerk between the dates of January 20, and January 29, 2021.

Please be aware the election of School District Officials for 2021 will take place at the **Landaff Town Meeting**, Tuesday, March 9, 2021.

Blanks for candidates will be furnished by the School District Clerk, Jennifer L. Cartwright, Landaff; or White Mountains School Administrative Unit #35, 262 Cottage Street, Suite 301, Littleton, New Hampshire.

Jennifer L. Cartwright, Clerk
Landaff School District

LEGAL PROBATE NOTICE
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
2nd Circuit - Probate
Division - Haverhill
12/11/2020 thru 12/22/2020

APPOINTMENT OF FIDUCIARIES

Notice is hereby given that the following fiduciaries have been duly appointed by the Judge of Probate for Grafton County. All persons having claims against these decedents are requested to exhibit them for adjustment and all indebted to make payment.

Poole, Peter Andrews, late of Sugar Hill, NH. Alice B. Poole, 451 Birches Rd, Sugar Hill, NH 03586. #315-2020-ET-00572

Riker, JR, George E, late of Landaff, NH. Ronald Riker, 689 Cornwallis Dr, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054. Jeffrey F Dodge, Resident Agent, 84 Butson Rd, Landaff, NH 03585. #315-2020-ET-00457


Dated: 12/23/2020

NOTICE
TO THE VOTERS OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #35 SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF BETHLEHEM, LAFAYETTE, LANDAFF, LISBON AND PROFILE
"DEADLINE FOR PETITIONS OF SPECIAL ARTICLES FOR THE WARRANT"

In accordance with RSA 197:6 upon the written application of twenty-five or more voters of the school district, you may present to the School Board a petition of a special article which will be inserted in the school district warrant. The deadlines for these petitions are as follows:

Bethlehem: February 8, 2021
Lafayette: February 8, 2021
Landaff: February 5, 2021
Lisbon: February 8, 2021
Profile: February 8, 2021


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The Rest of the Story



COURTESY
Architectural plans for a two million dollar cultural arts center in the Littleton Opera House were presented to taxpayers at a public hearing on Dec. 28.

OPERA HOUSE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1)

the USDA's Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training (CFTAT) grant program. The funds were used to complete preliminary engineering and architectural analysis.

The architect developed cost estimates for the required improvements, including both interior and exterior elements. Myers presented conceptual images and budget details during the 30-minute presentation.

Myers said, "We took a look at the whole building because there is a lot of other cultural events and programming here. We wanted to be able to support it with our Cottage Street plan and help enhance the use for the rest of the building."

The space is currently wide open with support columns and exposed infrastructure piping. Myers met with the Cultural Arts Commission numerous times to develop an operational plan that included a broadcast studio and multi-use room, as well as a commercial kitchen and green room.

The architectural firm also designed a large flex space with a bar and lounge area to host various performances and gatherings. Potential art gallery exhibitions were also considered with wall and lighting design, said Myers.

While the flex space would comfortably house 75 attendees for performances and 45 to 50 for meetings, the whole level could easily support 150 people, said Myers. He also stated that the local North County Community Radio station



COURTESY
A floor plan presented to Littleton voters on Dec. 28 outlined multiple-use spaces in the proposed cultural arts center in the Littleton Opera House.

indicated an interest in broadcasting and recording live events at the venue.

The architect anticipated that the kitchen area could become a USDA-approved commercial kitchen, should market viability testing justify the cost.

He said, "There's been a lot of interest in providing a community kitchen that would support farmers market participants and help them grow their business and be able to market their products."

While the total base cost came to an approximate \$1.7 million, Myers said the budget was broken into multiple components. If all of the potential elements were constructed, the project would come to \$2.4 million. He reminded attendees that it was a preliminary budget that didn't factor in design refinements or engineering fees to develop construction documents.

The architecture firm is currently negotiating with a New Hampshire Historic Preservation officer on existing internal and external easements that could affect the deck, marquee and banner sign.

Littleton resident Bruce Hadlock asked

about funding sources for the cultural arts center.

Dorsett said, "Our method is to take seed money from taxpayers and leverage it three-to-one or four-to-one to get the funding."

NCIC Economic Development Director Katelyn Robinson

indicated that her organization would assist town officials in identifying funding streams from lo-

cal, state and federal sources, as well as private donors.

She said, "There are millions of dollars out

there for these types of projects, but it doesn't happen overnight. We will not see these renovations tomorrow."

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