

GHS welcomes new teachers



PHOTOS BY ERIN PLUMMER
New teachers at Gilford High School this year: from left to right: John Allein, Jaedyn Bassett, Chris Soule, Bethany Allen, Ali McEvoy, and Brant O'Hara.

By Erin Plummer
mnews@salmonpress.news
Some new faces will be in the classrooms this year at Gilford High School with seven new teachers getting to know the students and the community.

With a number of retirements at the end of the school year, a number of new teachers have come on board for the 2020-2021 school year. Chris Soule is a new social studies teacher. He came to Gilford after teaching seventh and eighth grade social studies at the Paul School in

Wakefield. Soule said the Gilford community has been "very welcoming" and clearly puts the students as their number one priority. Soule said he was looking forward to teaching high school history with older, more mature students. He said it will



New teacher Sherry Evans.

be a nice opportunity with his background. Ali McEvoy teaches English. She originally taught at Westwood High School in Westwood, Mass. She moved from the Boston area to New Hampshire and said she is really happy to be here. "I'm definitely look-

ing forward to having discussions with the students about current topics that are happening in our world today that relate to literature from the past," McEvoy said. Bethany Allen is the new Ninth Grade Case Manager, coming from Auburn High School in Hudson where she

was a special education teacher. She moved from Manchester to Moultonborough, where she is building a house. She said she wants to support the kids as best as she can. She said she wants to get to know them in person and learn about their lives, SEE **TEACHERS** PAGE A10

Trio of Golden Eagles tee off for new season



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Bradley McIntyre was the top scorer for Gilford in the opening match of the season.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor
FARMINGTON — The Gilford golf team sent three golfers to the first match of the season on Thursday, Sept. 10. Coach Tom Carr's squad kicked off the season at Farmington Country Club for a match hosted by Prospect Mountain. Belmont and

Plymouth were also in attendance. It was Plymouth taking the overall win, as they fired a 182, with the host Timber Wolves finishing with a 223 for second place and Belmont finishing with a 234. With only three golfers, the Golden Eagles didn't record an official score for the match.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Cole Howard putts for the Gilford golf team at Farmington Country Club last week.

Bradley McIntyre led the way for Gilford, finishing with a 62 over the nine holes. Cole Howard was next, finishing with a 63 and Vivian Kennell rounded out the field of Golden Eagles with a score of 66. Gilford was scheduled to host their first match of the season after deadline on Wednesday

and will be on the road on Monday, Sept. 21, at Owl's Nest Resort in Campton for a 4 p.m. match. On Wednesday, Sept. 23, the Golden Eagles will be hosting another match at Pheasant Ridge at 4 p.m. Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.

Gilford voters choose candidates in primary

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news
Voters in Gilford took to the polls on Tuesday with the rest of the state for the primary election. Gilford voters helped choose the Republican and Democrat candidates that will run in the general election in November. On the Republican ballot, Gov. Chris Sununu was the choice of Gilford voters. Sununu received 1,231 votes against 91 for Karen Testerman and 11 Nobody. Don Bolduc won in Gilford for US Senator with 920 votes. Corky Messner received 358 votes, Andy Martin received 23, and Gerard Beloin got 11. For Representative in Congress for the First Congressional District, Matt Mowers was the top pick with 650 votes while Matt Mayberry got 306, Michael Callis got 97, Kevin Rondeau received 54, and Jeff Denaro got 52. Joseph D. Kenney received the most votes in Gilford for District 1 Executive Councilor, receiving 853 over 272 votes for Kim Strathdee. For the four open seats for State Representative in Belknap District 2 Harry H. Bean received 996 votes in Gilford, Glen Aldritch received 908, Norm Silber received 827, Jonathan Mackie received, 518, and Dee Jurius got 501. The rest of the Republicans ran uncontested on their ballot. Harold F. French got 1,054 votes for State Senator in District 7. Bill Wright received 906 for Belknap County Sheriff. Andrew Livernois received 1,082 Gilford votes for County Attorney.

SEE **PRIMARY** PAGE A10

GHS performers bringing "Godspell" to the stage

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news
Theater is back at Gilford High School, with students doing a production of "Godspell" in three different casts with ample social distancing. GHS theater will be doing the classic musical "Godspell" in three different shows with three different casts of

students. "Godspell" tells the parables of St. Matthew in a musical and oftentimes offbeat form. The show marks the return of GHS theater after the pandemic. The school's last musical was "School of Rock" in late 2019. Earlier this year groups of students were working on the one-act

plays "These Shining Lives" and "Snow Angels" for festival, but the pandemic put an end to all of that. Now director Matt Demko is back working with students for a new production with a lot of precautions in mind. GHS will be doing a

SEE **GODSPELL** PAGE A10

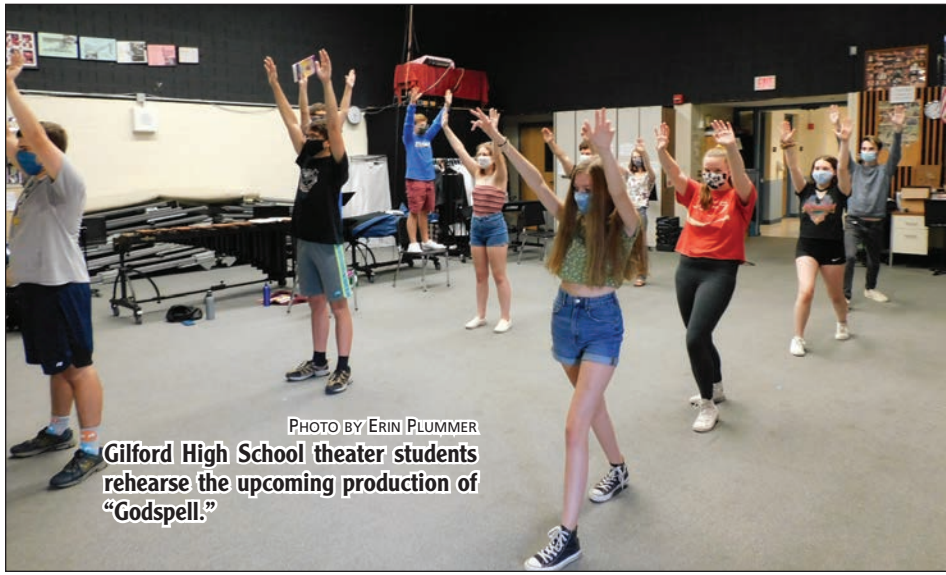


PHOTO BY ERIN PLUMMER
Gilford High School theater students rehearse the upcoming production of "Godspell."

Notes from the Gilford Public Library

BY MARK THOMAS
Library Correspondent

INTERLIBRARY LOAN IS BACK! It's been half a year since the statewide library lending system stopped lending due to the pandemic. Now, enough libraries are operating to allow for sharing. That means that the books available to Gilford Public Library card holders has expanded 100 fold once again!

Some other states have huge library systems that cover greater metropolitan areas or whole districts. Not so much in New Hampshire. Most New Hampshire public libraries, like ours, stand alone as a town organization. Does this mean you are limited to the collection housed in your town library's building? NOPE. New Hampshire libraries get along as well as books on a shelf and we have a network of vans based at the New Hampshire State Library that zip around all week

bringing materials to and from libraries. We call it 'Interlibrary Loan' and it is an asset for you!

Here's how it works: Snoopy wants to read a book and checks the library catalog. Oh no! It doesn't look like the Gilford Public Library has a copy! The story doesn't end there, because Snoopy knows that the Library always wants to help get people the books they need. Snoopy emails (or calls, or texts, or asks at the desk) asking Woodstock the librarian if there is a way to borrow the book. Woodstock takes a look at the library resources and decides whether to buy a copy for the library or to borrow it from another library. Woodstock decides to borrow it from another library, so they look at the NHAIS ILL catalog and find out that 15 NH libraries have copies! After asking to borrow, one of the 15 libraries gladly sends their copy to Gilford Public Library, and Woodstock calls Snoopy

to let him know that the book is ready. Snoopy does a flip in excitement! Sometimes people think that it's too much trouble to borrow from other libraries. It isn't. The state van is coming anyway, and it only takes a couple minutes for the librarians. Next time we don't have what you're looking for, let us see if we can get it!

Classes & Special Events
Sept. 17 – Sept. 24
*Sign up and face masks required

Thursday, Sept. 17
*Advanced Line Dancing, 10-10:30 a.m.
Mother Goose on the Loose (Virtual), 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Join Miss Maria on Facebook Live for an interactive experience with you and your baby with rhymes, songs, movement, and more! Ages two and a half and under.
*Beginner Line Dancing, 11:15 a.m.-12:15

p.m.
*Knit Wits, 1-2 p.m.
*Conversational French, 4-5 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 18
*Bridge, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
If you love Bridge and just can't get enough, join our bi-weekly group. Maximum of 10 People.
*Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Join us for storytime fun here at the library. In order to follow CDC guidelines, spaces will be limited to a 10 person total limit and masks are required to attend. Ages two and a half - 6.

Monday, Sept. 21
STEAM Challenge, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Join us to get hands on knowledge through different weekly STEAM related challenges. Most materials will be available in your home. If you do not have materials available please email library@gilfordlibrary.org and we will provide materials for you. Videos/Instructions will be available every Monday on Facebook Live and on our YouTube channel. Tune in to view the challenge and try it at home!
*Line Dancing, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 22
*Geri Fit, 10-11 a.m.
Stuffed Animal Storytime (Virtual) 10:30-11:30 a.m.
*Cafternoon, 1-2 p.m.
Every month,

Kayleigh will show you how to make a cool craft at home! Sign up, and join Kayleigh to make the craft. All supplies provided. The craft for September is the fall leaf book page banner.

Wednesday, Sept. 23
Check out an Expert, 10 a.m.-noon
*Geri Fit, 10-11 a.m.
*Read With Me, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Early readers often are not confident in their abilities. Studies show that reading to a non-judgemental adult or animals will boost reading confidence. Join Miss Jill for a one-on-one reading experience. Each child will have a reading log and weekly prizes will be earned after each session. Ages three to six, sessions will be 10-15 minutes.
Teen Club, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Afterschool Teen Club. Hangout with friends, play games, and make stuff. This club is whatever you want it to be! fifth-12th grade.
*Read With Me,

3:30-4:30 p.m.
See "Read With Me" above.
Thursday, Sept. 24
*Advanced Line Dancing, 10-10:30 a.m.
Mother Goose on the Loose (Virtual), 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Join Miss Maria on Facebook Live for an interactive experience with you and your baby with rhymes, songs, movement, and more! *ages two and a half and under
*Beginner Line Dancing, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
*Knit Wits, 1-2 p.m.
*French, 4-5 p.m.
Conversational french group. Maximum of 10 people in the group.
*Foreign Movie Night, 6-7 p.m.
This month's movie is "A Bag of Marbles" from France, an unrated movie that runs 110 minutes, and follows the adventure of a Jewish boy and his brother escaping Nazi persecution in occupied France. Sign up required, maximum of eight people.

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A SALMON PRESS PUBLICATION
STEAMER STAFF DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
(603) 677-9083
frank@salmonpress.news

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
(603) 677-9082
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DINICOLA
(508) 764-4325

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER
JIM HINCKLEY
(603) 279-4516

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
(603) 677-9081
brendan@salmonpress.news

SPORTS EDITOR
JOSH SPAULDING
(603) 941-9155
josh@salmonpress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
(603) 677-9092
julie@salmonpress.news

ADVERTISE WITH US
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Tracy Lewis
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E-MAIL: brendan@salmonpress.news

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS:
E-MAIL: brendan@salmonpress.news

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Donating to Children's Auction a natural fit for Gilford Fire-Rescue



LACONIA— The roughly 30 members of the Gilford Fire-Rescue team have diverse skills. In 2019 alone, the crew responded to about 1,700 calls for help and rescued people who were experiencing a medical event or were lost in the woods on a mountain, in a fire in their home or car, or injured while hunting or boating.

One overarching mission gives the Gilford Fire-Rescue staff members purpose: a desire to be there for the community—on duty and off. So, when Gilford Fire-Rescue and the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction first joined forces in the Auction's infancy, it seemed like a natural fit.

"It's our mission to

support our community," said paramedic Rae Mello-Andrews, who works on-call for Gilford Fire-Rescue alongside her husband, Captain Rick Andrews. "We don't get into this profession for the money. We're here to help people. We see all walks of life firsthand, and we know just how hard hit some families are. Raising money to support the Children's Auction is just a part of what we do and another extension of helping people."

Mello-Andrews got involved with the Auction in the late 1980s to honor a friend and colleague, the late Karen Warfield, who was a secretary at the fire station and was like family to Mello-Andrews; Warfield passed away following a long ill-

ness and complications from surgery. Gilford Fire-Rescue's staff members made a \$250 donation to the Children's Auction in Warfield's name.

"We did it for a couple of years after that, and eventually the Children's Auction organizers asked us if we might want to do a boot drive," Mello-Andrews said, noting the effort has grown over the years. "We followed through, originally by having people collect donations outside Walmart, then at Hannaford Supermarket, Shaw's and Lowe's."

Last year, Gilford Fire-Rescue raised nearly \$6,000 for the Auction. The dozen or so staff members who participate in the boot drive on the Saturday following Thanksgiving, including Gilford Fire-Rescue Chief Steve Carrier, get into the holiday spirit by playing Christmas music, and they don't let bad weather stop them.

"We're out there in all kinds of conditions. Some years we froze, other years it's been beautiful," Mello-Andrews said. "It's a big team effort. It's everybody."

Community members have certainly taken note of those team members who brave the elements to support the Children's Auction. Just

last year, Mello-Andrews said a former colleague who is a nurse, was inspired to bring her teenage son to participate in the boot drive.

"She said it was a really good experience for him to see another side of what the Gilford Fire-Rescue team does," she added. "It left a positive impression on him. Nothing would make us happier than if we are influencing young people in the community to do good, too."

Though the team's community service draws praise, supporting the Children's Auction seems almost as natural as breathing to the Gilford Fire-Rescue staff members.

"We always see people when they're not having their best day," Mello-Andrews said.

"We like helping people, and raising money for the Children's Auction is another way to do that. It's nothing for many of us to give up a family dinner or activity or an afternoon or day off to assist somebody who needs help. It's just what we do."

"The boot drives are a chance for the fire department to share our passion of caring for the community. We get to engage with our neighbors in a really positive

way," said Dom DeCarli, an Auction board member and a lieutenant with the Gilford Fire Department. "Seeing all of the local fire departments jump at the opportunity is not surprising, but it is still impressive. Much like the Auction itself, it's been inspiring to see what a few people who want to give back can accomplish!"

Visit www.ChildrensAuction.com to learn how to sponsor, donate or volunteer.

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 FASSETT'S PHOTOGRAPHY

 Matthew Fasset

 53 Suncook Valley Rd.

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Gilford Parks and Recreation News

BY HERB GREENE
Director

Gilford Parks and Recreation Adult Fall Hiking Program Begins on Tuesday, Sept. 15 The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring some fall hikes for any adults looking for a fun, socially distanced safe activity on Tuesdays this fall. The first two scheduled hikes will be held on September 15th at the Winnisquam Scenic Trail in Belmont and September 22nd at Weeks Woods in Gilford. Participants will gather each morning at 9:15 a.m. in the Gilford Town Hall Lobby before departing for the hike. Participants should bring a mask to wear during check in and for any times when stopped on the trail where we cannot practice social distancing. All interested participants must RSVP at least one day in advance to each trip.

For more information or to RSVP, please call the Parks and Recreation Office at 527-4722.

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A taste of autumn

While there are plenty of topics to discuss this week on the local and national level, we decided to keep things light, and to do our best to foster a sense of unity among our readers.

One quick note to share this week is a story of two neighbors, with opposing political signs on their yards, having a thoughtful conversation. Yes, this actually happened. The two neighbors sat side by side in their vehicles and after about 20 minutes of a calm, respectful conversation, learned that they had more in common than they didn't. Sometimes that's all it takes, is an open mind and a mature outlook. This is a story we can appreciate.

Hanging heavily on our hearts, though, is the absence of the yearly fall fairs that take place all around New England. While we understand the circumstances that led to several cancellations, it still doesn't make us miss it any less. With that said, we decided a fun idea would be to have a Fair night at home.

Who says you can't blast Tim McGraw or Garth Brooks in the back yard and have a complete meal of fair food for a night? There are simple games you can set up at home as well, including water balloon pop, pick a duck (all you need is a few rubber ducks and a bucket or pool of water), water coin drop, and the bean bag toss to name a few. Get creative with your prizes depending on who is in attendance.

There are homemade recipes for all of your fair favorites as well. Soft pretzels, fried dough, apple crisp, steak and cheese, corn dogs, nachos with melted cheese whiz, French fries with malted vinegar or ketchup and a bloomin' onion with ranch for the win.

A family fair night is one way to keep the tradition alive. If you want to go a step further, there are plenty of farm stands and pumpkin patches still in operation to get that downhome feel. In addition, a drive to a local farm for kids of all ages to see cows and horses is an easy field trip.

We decided to include recipes for our top three fair food picks.

Fried Dough:
2 cups unbleached flour
1/2 cup nonfat dry milk powder
3 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
4-1/2 teaspoons shortening
2/3 to 3/4 cup water
Oil for deep-fat frying
Butter, honey and lemon juice, optional

Directions
Combine flour, dry milk powder, baking powder and salt; cut in shortening until crumbly. Add water gradually, mixing to form a firm ball. Divide dough; shape into 12 balls. Let stand, covered, for 10 minutes. Roll each ball into a 6-in. circle. With a sharp knife, cut a 1/2-in.-diameter hole in center of each. In a large cast-iron skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Fry dough circles, one at a time, until puffed and golden, about 1 minute on each side. Drain on paper towels; if desired, serve warm with butter, honey and fresh lemon juice.

Caramel apples:
Ingredients
Heavy Cream
Light Corn Syrup
Brown Sugar
Butter:
Salt and Vanilla Extract

First, rinse and dry the apples.
Pull out the apple's stem and insert a caramel apple stick.

For the caramel, cook the first five ingredients on the stove until the candy reaches 235°F (113°C). Reaching 235°F (113°C) should take about 15 – 20 minutes.

Remove caramel from heat, then stir in the vanilla. Allow caramel to cool for a few minutes, then dip your apples. Let the excess caramel drip off, then place on a nonstick surface such as a silicone baking mat lined baking sheet.

Once set, you can wrap the caramel apples in cellophane.

Bloomin' onion:
Combine mayonnaise, sour cream, horseradish, ketchup, paprika, garlic powder and cayenne pepper. Chill this while you prepare the onions.

First, cut the onions. Cut a small flat spot on the none root end of the onion. Then remove any dried or damaged peels. Place the onion flat side down on a cutting board (root side up). Using a sharp knife starting about 1/2 inch from the root make a clean slice downward. Next turn the onion one quarter turn and make another clean slice downward. Follow that with two more quarter turns and two more clean slices downward. You should have four clean slices down on the onion equally spaced apart. Now cut three to four equal spaced cuts downward in each of those four sections. Then turn the onion root side down and gently fan out those sections.

First in a large bowl big enough to hold the onion whisk together the milk and eggs. Then in another large bowl combine the flour, paprika, cumin, oregano, thyme, salt, cayenne pepper, black pepper and garlic powder. Then put one of the cut onions in the flour mixture. Using your hands coat the onion with the flour mixture spreading and separating the onion to make sure that it all gets breaded. Next dunk the onion into the egg mixture. Then back into the flour mixture using your hands to coat the onion.

Use a heavy pan like a dutch oven and heat the oil to 375 degrees. Using a skimmer ladle or tongs slowly place the onion root side up in the hot oil. Fry for about six minutes or until a deep golden brown. Next remove the onion to paper towels to drain.



COURTESY

Miniature bandstand raffled off

Jonathan and Nancy Downing recently donated a one-quarter-scale miniature replica of the Alton Bay bandstand they constructed for last year's Old Home Week parade, with help from Robert and Jason James, to the Bandstand Committee as a fundraiser for the 2020 Water Ski Show. The mini-bandstand was raffled off during the show, and will be floating on the east side of the bay next season. The Downings would like to thank everyone involved for their generous donations toward the fundraising raffle, which brought in more than \$1,200, and for their enthusiasm. Without the community's support, the ski shows and bandstand concerts would not be possible. Donations can be mailed at any time to the Town of Alton, P.O. Box 659, Alton, NH 03809, payable to the Alton Water Bandstand Escrow Account.

FROM OUR READERS

On to the main event

To the Editor:

I would like to thank each and every voter who put their trust in me in the primary Sept. 8, in Gilford and Meredith. I would also like to remind you

all that the real deal is Nov. 3, at the general election. Thanks again for your support.

HARRY H. BEAN
GILFORD

Thank you for your support

To the Editor:

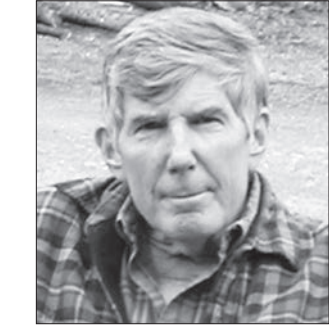
My sincerest thanks to the Republican primary voters in Meredith & Gilford for their having selected me as one of the four candidates for the NH House of Representatives, Belknap County District 2 to face candidates from the other party in the November General Election.

I am humbled by your support and promise that if I am ultimately elected to represent you, I will do my absolute best to fulfill the promises of the principles on which I campaigned.

NORM SILBER
GILFORD

North Country Notebook

You never know who'll be at camp, or working in a hayfield, either



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

The last time I saw Steve Merrill to visit with, he was dressing off a partridge at Whipple Ridge Camp, far off the beaten track in the middle of the Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Tract. Camp-owner Ron Hughes typically was dubbing around with something (a hose) and paying no attention to anyone else.

I bumped into Governor Merrill several times in similar circumstances over the years. In his middle years in state government, Steve hung out at Herb Drake's camp over on the West Branch of Cedar Stream. Herb's camp was a great gathering place featuring, well, you never knew who. House Speaker Gene Chandler was often Herb's co-host. There was always something simmering on a corner of the stove, usually something from the sea. Herb was a fisherman, for most of his life a stern-dragger, meaning that he dragged and hauled in huge nets from the aft end.

Toward the end of his years in state government, Steve hung out more at Ron's camp. But

whether Whipple Ridge or Cedar Stream, it was the same kind of total informality, same kind of direct, down to earth conversation.

The neat thing about these encounters was that I could do the same thing in Concord. If I found myself in the State House for one reason or another, I could hop up the staircase two or three steps at a time (this was back when I could hop stairs) and see how busy Steve was, and more often than not slip into the Corner Office to say hello.

Where in state government, anywhere else in these united states, can you do that kind of thing? Just bop into the Governor's office to say hello? In most states, you'd have to negotiate your way through phalanxes of executive secretaries and high-end security people.

I conducted a brief search for photos of Steve at one camp or another, but knew I wouldn't find any. When I was hobnobbing around various camps, my camera was always where it belonged, in the truck.

Concord officials are mulling a 10-year-old girl's request to keep her chicken-coop closer to a neighbor's property line than city ordinances allow.

Some towns in the

state don't even have zoning laws. Most do, however, and also have laws on dogs and livestock. Many cities have more specialized bodies dealing with everything from pets to honeybees.

Concord has a law about chickens, and it says that chicken houses can be no closer than 30 feet from a neighbor's property line. A proposal now before the Board would reduce the buffer zone to five feet. The Board decided it needs more time to gather information on this, and will reconvene soon.

One nugget of information from all this is that the average person throws away 212 pounds of household food and yard waste per year. Truly, I had no idea. I mean, is this a lot? Probably, if compared with someone in, say, Papua New Guinea. (Fact-checking alert: Palm fronds and coconuts can really weigh up.)

This food-waste business is one reason why I miss having pigs. Plus, pigs are really smart. You can have a one-sided conversation with a pig and feel certain that it's really been listening. They just have this way of cocking their heads, and perking up their ears.

An old saying goes that dogs look up to you, and cats look down on you, but pigs look you straight in the eye. This

is true, as is the fact that pigs will keep a fairly neat house if things in a pigpen are set up properly. As for chickens, in my book they are inherently nasty, but on a per-pound-of-meat basis are excellent garbage-to-meat converters, second only to the turkey.

They also eat ticks.

+++++

The Loon Preservation Committee has done wonderful things over the years to win back New Hampshire's loon population, and invent and adopt strategies to carry its good deeds forward. It has gone from emergency stopgap status to a generational tradition.

The LPC keeps in touch with its members via a nicely done little newsletter, compiled by Caroline Hughes, often with action photos from efforts afield and afloat. A good deal of seasonal work involves making sure signs are up to warn the public about artificial floating nests and the like, and every now and then handling collateral damage from loon territorial combat.

One of the recent newsletters carried the harrowing story of efforts to save a Sunapee loon that had become tangled up in fishing line. The LCP's field-and-float crews get help from Fish and Game in such efforts, and often

NOTEBOOK

(Continued from Page A4)

from shoreline residents who not only spot and report such problems, but also stick around to help out as needed and follow the rescue effort through.

LCP's work is every bit as much, if not more than, a people problem as it is working with loons. With people, there's this never-ending need to get close, rather than enjoy wildlife from a sensible distance. I've seen this first-hand enough to understand what LPC crews contend with.

On one unforgettable occasion I was canoeing around a small lake west of Winnepesaukee when my front-seat paddler pointed at a nesting site sign well up along the shoreline.

No sooner had we altered course to steer clear than we saw a motorboat approaching from the other direction. They had come from too far out to see the signs but had spotted the loons, and were motoring slowly toward shore. We gave them a shout to apprise them of the situation. They quickly backed off and waved their appreci-



Conservation Intern (and Tufts Veterinary Student) Emily Zubieta gets a sign ready to float out onto the water to warn boaters about a loon nest on Lake Winnepesaukee. (Courtesy the bad.)

I've found that the vast majority of people are cooperative and often thankful and helpful once a situation has been explained. The same, I think, is true with hikers and bystanders who wind up helping out with mountain rescues. The good deeds far outweigh

Lots of people out there remember helping get the hay in during their younger years, but some were curious about using a "dead man" bale during unloading. Apparently the trick was not universal.

So, you put a bale out away from the loaded wagon, about as far as you can easily toss a bale. Then, when throwing, you land the bale on the far edge of the dead-man bale. The thrown bale will tumble off the far edge of the dead man, and roll a good distance toward the piling crew, thus eliminating the



A piglet on the way to being a pig. A pig, the old saw goes, will look you straight in the eye. (Courtesy pinterest.com)

need for an intermediary.

We put this trick to good use unloading big wagon loads of hay at the huge Lyman Forbes barn in East Colebrook, now long gone. A similar situation existed at the Allie Forbes farm. Both were big barns with deep hay-bays going all the way from top to bottom.

Once the load had been backed up onto the high-drive and into the barn, the same three-man

crew that had picked the bales up in the field had to unload it in the barn, and in a hurry, because there were hundreds of bales still on the ground, at risk from sudden rain, and in the North Country you never know.

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

Freshmen arrive at GHS



PHOTOS BY ERIN PLUMMER

Louise Jagusch leads a group of freshmen on a tour through the band room during Freshman Jumpstart.

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

School is back in session at Gilford High School, with 130 freshmen entering a new school in the "new normal."

School started this past week, with the different grades coming in on different days during the week, leading up to all students doing in-person learning being in the building on Monday. The seniors came in on Tuesday, the juniors on Wednesday, the sophomores on Thursday, the freshmen had their own special day on Friday.

Friday was Freshman Jumpstart, where the newest students at GHS got a chance to tour the building, learn more about the school, and meet other students.

GHS Principal Anthony Sperazzo said Freshman Jumpstart is one of the best days of the year. "This provides opportunities for students to connect with their advisors, ask any questions they had over the summer about classes, clubs," Sperazzo said. Freshmen toured the building in small groups led by different educators and did some activities with their classmates, all socially distanced.

This event was a way for students from Gilford and Gilmanston to meet and get to know each other before the full school opened up. Sperazzo said ultimately GHS is one school: it doesn't matter if students come from Gilford or Gilmanston, they are part of one

community. "We want the freshmen to walk out at the end of the day having a strong foundation," Sperazzo said. This year, 130 freshmen entered GHS, which Sperazzo said will be their largest class.

This past Monday all students taking part in the in-person learning program returned to the building. Sperazzo said the school has been working with staff members all summer on an opening plan, which he said has been a collaborative effort. Some provisions have included keeping class sizes smaller to maintain a three- to six-foot distance and finding ways to minimize the number of people in the hallways between classes among many others.

"The students, they are so excited to get back," Sperazzo said. "It's been since mid March that we haven't seen these students, and this is where we need to be." There are 85 GHS students who will be using the option of remote learning. Different teachers will teach the remote learning program, which Sperazzo said will make two separate schools in the building.

GHS is coming back with a new vision called GHS Together with the principles of "Compassion, connection, and perseverance."

"That's going to be our focus," Sperazzo said. "As a staff we created that and we really wanted to embody that." The vision was printed on t-shirts with an image of the Golden Eagle wearing a mask. Assistant Principal Tim Goggin said he was thrilled to be back. "It's nice to get back and be around col-



Leaman Antone talks with a group of freshmen.

leagues and around the students," Goggin said. He said this is indeed

the "new normal" and students really needed to have this opportunity.



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Edward Jones: Financial Focus

Open Enrollment Choices Can Have Big Financial Impact

It's that time of year again, where, if you work for a medium-to-large employer, you've got some decisions to make because it's open enrollment time. Of course, depending on your situation, you may have been working remotely for a while, but, even so, you will likely have the opportunity to review your benefits package and make changes. And you'll want to make the right moves, because your choices can have a big financial impact on your life. So, take a close look at these key areas of your benefits program:

- **Life insurance** – Your employer may offer a group life insurance policy for free, or for a small amount. It's probably worth your while to take this coverage, but it may not be enough for your needs. If you only had this group policy, but your family situation has recently changed through marriage or the addition of a new child, you may well need to add some private insurance.
- **Disability insurance** – In addition to offering group life insurance, your employer may provide short-term disability insurance as an employee benefit. Like group insurance, this disability coverage may not cost you anything, but it may not be adequate – typically, short-term disability only replaces part of your income for three to six months. And while you may never need to miss work for an extended period of time, you never can tell – after all, more than one in four 20-year-olds will become disabled before they retire, according to the U.S. Social Security Administration. You may want to consider purchasing your own long-term disability policy on top of the coverage offered by your employer.
- **Retirement plan** – You can probably make changes to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan at any time, but why not look at it now, when you're reviewing all your benefits? If you can afford to increase your contributions, you probably should, because a 401(k), with its tax advantages and ease of contribution through paycheck deductions, is a great way to save for retirement. At a minimum, put in enough to earn your employer's match. You'll also want to review your 401(k)'s investment mix. Is it still providing you with significant growth potential within the context of your individual risk tolerance? Over time, you may need to make some adjustments, either because an investment is underperforming or because you're getting close to retirement and you need to reduce your risk exposure. In any case, it's a good idea to check up on your 401(k)'s investments at least once a year. Your employee benefits are an important part of your overall financial picture – so do what you can to get the most from them.

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TEACHERS

(Continued from Page A1)

helping them to be successful and independent. Brant O'Hara teaches phys ed, his first ever professional teaching job. A graduate of Plymouth State University, he did his internship at Gilford Middle and High Schools. When school went remote he needed different ways of showing his professors what he accomplished in the classroom. He said he's excited to be teaching in Gilford. "Definitely got my foot in the door and I'm excited to be here," O'Hara said.

He's also coaching football and said he's happy to see everyone face to face and working to meet students' needs. He said he wants to bring in a new flair and come in with. "Just kind of build on a new era of PE," he said. Jaedyn Bassett is a new school counselor and relatively new to the teaching profession. Last year she was covering two teachers on maternity leave at Rochester Middle School. Given the temporary nature of that position, she sought a position at GHS. Bas-

sett said ideally, she wanted to work in the high school level. "I'm really excited to get to know the students and develop these relationships with them," Bassett said. Given how everyone's going through "some really weird times," she said she wants to build positive relationships with the students. John Allwein will be teaching math. He came to Gilford from Excel Academy Charter High School in East Boston, saying he has been looking around for a new op-

portunity. "I think it's so fun to meet new students," Allwein said. "It's really fun, all the students have been so nice. It's been really fun being in person so far." He said he's excited to build new relationships with the students and he's looking forward to teaching in person. Sherry Evans is a new 10th grade case manager, coming from Pittsfield Elementary School where she taught special education for three years. She has family around Gilford and

grandchildren who attend Gilford Elementary School, saying she heard Gilford has an excellent team ethic. She's looking forward to meeting everyone, learning about her students, and helping them. All the new teachers said they love the Gilford community and it has been extremely welcoming. "It seems as though the community is very supportive of one another with the focus on students," Soule said. McEvoy said the students seem to be happy

to be back in the building. "It's just how welcoming the community has been and supportive in this really challenging time," Bassett said. Allwein said he enjoys being in the area. "It's a great community, the whole Lakes Region community is pretty tight," Allwein said. Evans said she loves the community. "Coming here is amazing, everyone has been really helpful and welcoming and kind," Evans said.

PRIMARY

(Continued from Page A1)

Michael G. Muzzey got 1,090 votes for County Treasurer. Judy McGrath received 1,101 votes for Register of Deeds. Alan Glassman got 1,067 for Register of Probate. Harry H. Bean and Norm Silber ran for the two seats as Delegates to the State Convention, Bean receiving 1,038 votes and Silber receiving 918. On the Democrat ticket, Dan Feltes was Gilford's choice for gover-

nor by a narrow margin. Feltes received 389 votes and Andru Volinsky received 328. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen was Gilford Democrats' clear choice for US senator. She received 792 votes while Paul J. Krautmann received 21 votes and Tom Alciere received 10. The rest of the Democratic candidates ran uncontested. Rep. Chris Pappas is running for another term as Representative in Congress for the 1st

District, receiving 803 votes in Gilford. Michael Cryans received 716 Gilford votes for District 1 Executive Councilor. Phillip Spagnulo got 703 votes for state senator in District 7. For State Representative in Belknap District 2, Diane Hanley received 671 votes, Shelley Carita got 654, Natalie Taylor got 651, and Dara McCue received 636. Johanna Davis received 670 votes for Belknap County Register of Deeds. Lynn Thomas received 667 Gilford votes Register of Probate. No Democrats are running for Belknap County Sheriff, County Attorney, or County Treasurer.

GODSPELL

(Continued from Page A1)

production of "Godspell, Jr," which is shorter and geared to a younger audience. Demko said Music Theater International recently allowed "Godspell, Jr" to be done at a high school level. The Junior version is shorter with around 30 minutes of music. Demko said "Godspell" is a versatile show that could have eight to 10 cast members or 100 depending on the vision. This way they could have a show with a small cast kept socially distanced. Additionally the show doesn't require an orchestra, which means no orchestra members crowded in a small space. The proposed production was brought to the administration and school board and Demko said there was strong support. "We didn't want to go a whole year without a show," Demko said. This show also has a lot of relevant themes. "It's kind of an apt show during these times," Demko said.

"One of the songs is 'Day By Day' and that's how we're all doing right now. There will be three different productions with three different groups of students. The first group will be all seniors, who will perform in late September. The second are a mix of different students in different grades. There will also be a third group of students in grades 9-11 who will be doing fall sports and wanted to do the show. Their rehearsals and performance will be later in the season. In total there will be around 30 students participating in the production, all separated by the different casts and shows. "It was the best way to try to include all of the people who wanted to be in the show but do it in a way we could be safe," Demko said. The show will also have some students taking on some big roles. Two students will be doing choreography and two will be doing costume designs. "I really wanted to do

this as a way where they could take leadership and do what they want to do," Demko said. Safety is a top priority during the production from rehearsals to shows. All cast members will wear masks during rehearsals and performances. The shows will go on in the auditorium, and Auditorium Director Scott Piddington is working out the details for social distancing. "Scott has done a nice job designing an auditorium that's socially distanced," Demko said. All tickets will be purchased online and the system for buying tickets will be finalized soon. Demko said they didn't want a system where cash was exchanged, limiting possible exposure. The production has been in rehearsals for around two weeks. Demko said the students have been having a great time so far and everything is coming together well. "The kids are very happy that we're able to do this," Demko said.

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Solid core of returning runners for Gilford XC

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — With a good chunk of returning runners back in the fold for another season, the Gilford cross country team is poised to have some solid results in a strong Division III field. "The girls' team is aiming for top five to eight at the Division III Meet," said head coach Kathy Aldridge. "The boys' team is aiming for top eight to 10 at the Division III Meet. "Both teams hope to run several individuals at the Meet of Champions as well as at the New England Championships," she added. Vanessa Genakos was the girls' team's top runner last year as a sophomore, finishing in the top 35 at the Division III championships and she returns for another season, along with classmate Catherine Stowe and sisters Tessa and Bethany Tanner. Bethany Tanner is the senior captain for the Golden Eagles. Senior Alaina Osborne also returns to help the Golden Eagles in their quest to put in a solid finish at Derryfield Park at the end of the year. New to the team and expected to help out are Maddie Burlough, Sydney Eastman, Riley Stephan and Lydia Stephan. The story of last year for the Golden Eagles was the emergence of freshman Patrick Gandini as one of the top runners in the state. He finished second at the Division III championships, went on to place 10th at the Meet of Champions and was 28th overall at the New England Championships, second among New Hampshire runners and the first freshman to cross the line. He returns for his sophomore season and will be joined by fellow returning runners Mitchell Townsend, Harry LaFlamme, Jordan Witham and Dane DeHart. Carter Forest and Alden Townsend are new additions to the team for 2020. There is also an addition to the coaching staff at Gilford, as former Golden Eagle star Ryan LaFrance has joined on as an assistant coach. After his stellar career running track and cross country at Gilford, LaFrance went on to American International College and was a member of the track and cross country teams during his four years there. The Golden Eagles are scheduled to host four races during the season, the first on Sept. 25, the second on Oct. 2, the third on Oct. 9 and the fourth on Oct. 16. The team is also slated to run at Belmont on Sept. 29 and Oct. 6, at Laconia on Oct. 13 and at Moultonborough on Oct. 23. All races are scheduled to start at 4 p.m. As always, all schedules are subject to change.



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Simple ways to improve a kitchen pantry

People have been spending more time at home in 2020 than in years past, and certain projects around the house have become a priority. One home improvement idea that serves the double benefit of creating organization and making cooking at home more efficient is to reimagine the kitchen pantry.

A pantry is a room or closet where food, beverages and linens or dishes are stored. Pantries can be highly useful spaces that provide ancillary storage in kitchens. Many modern homes are equipped with pantries, but older homes may require some modification to create more useful pantries. Whether starting from scratch or modifying an existing pantry, these tips can help projects go more smoothly.

- Maximize vertical storage. Utilizing vertical areas can help increase storage capacity. Build in extra nooks by investing in undershelf storage baskets.





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These baskets can instantly create designated areas for different types of ingredients. Homeowners also can look for ways to use the inside of cabinet doors or add extra shelves on walls or in eaves.

- Consider your needs. Figure out which items you would like to store in the pantry and then shop for corresponding storage systems. For example, storage solutions may feature wine bottle racks, baskets for potatoes and other produce, shelving for small appliances, and even pull out racks for baking pans or cutting boards.
- Use clear storage. Put ingredients in clear, airtight containers of similar dimensions so that you can easily find items you need. Transfer bulky items, like cereals and baking supplies, to storage containers for uniformity.
- Store bulk items elsewhere. Bulk shopping can be cost-efficient, but bulk items can quickly eat up real estate in the pantry. Designate another area for non-perishable bulk products, like paper goods or canned items, such as in a garage or utility room.
- Pull out drawers are convenient. Pull-out drawers can reduce the need to seek and reach for items. These drawers conveniently roll out so items in the back can be accessed without disturbing foods in the front. Drawers can be custom built for any pantry space.
- Make it accessible. Think about who will be taking items from the pantry. Put children's snacks on the bottom pantry shelf where they can reach them, and then organize other shelves for adults in the home.

A pantry remodel can add valuable storage space and make one of the busiest rooms in the house operate more efficiently.



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Easy ways to clean up leaves



Autumn is marked by colorful foliage and plummeting temperatures. Once those leaves reach peak color, they fall from the branches and collect on lawns, necessitating cleanup projects. For homeowners with big yards, such a project can be tiring and time-consuming. However, there are ways to make leaf cleanup easier.

One of the easiest ways to clean up leaves is to reach for a lawn mower rather than a rake. The mower will cut leaves down to smaller sizes, creating an effective mulch that can add nutrients back into the lawn. Davey, a lawn and landscape solutions service, says that

mowed leaves also can be collected in a mower bag and added to garden beds or compost piles.

For those who prefer manual raking, select a rake with tines that will not skewer the leaves in the process. Big rakes also can make faster work of gathering leaves into piles.

The home improvement resource The Family Handyman advocates for the use of a lawn sweeper. This is a manual device that has a rotating sweeping brush that gathers up lawn debris and leaves into an attached hopper bag. Like mowed leaves, the bag can be emptied into a compost pile or distributed where needed.

Raking leaves onto a

large tarp is another option. Once it's full, the tarp can be taken to the curb where many towns will collect the leaves seasonally. Otherwise, the tarp can be used as a funnel to put leaves into a gardening bag or another appropriate receptacle.

Leaf blowers remain a fast option for cleaning up yards, but they require electricity or gas and can be noisy. Still, they are a popular choice for large landscapes or when quick work needs to be made of leaf clean-up.

Leaves will fall in autumn, but luckily homeowners have various methods at their disposal to tame the mess.

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