

Winter sports cancelled

SEE REMOTE, PAGE A9



The kitchen staff at Prospect Mountain School proudly poses for a photo after delivering a delicious Thanksgiving lunch to students and staff recently. Photo courtesy of Principal J Fitzpatrick's Twitter feed.

SEE ALL-STATE, PAGE A9



First grade students at Barnstead Elementary School recently bid a fond farewell to fall with a Pumpkin Mania celebration. Photo courtesy of the school's Twitter feed.

Santa's Gift Shoppe now open Saturdays at FCC Farmington

FARMINGTON — Blessed Bargains will be open on Dec. 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. for all your last minute Christmas shopping. There are gift ideas for everyone at deeply reduced prices so you can get your gifts without breaking your bank.

Santa's Gift Shoppe will also be open this coming Saturday, Dec. 19 in the Fellowship Hall of the church, and there are some great bargains to be had. There are beautiful dolls for the

girls in your family and lots of board games for the boys. You will find a lot of children's Christmas books and stocking stuffers all at reduced prices. There are a number of handmade knit items and homemade relishes too. The public is invited to drop in to view the many displays of Christmas items in the Fellowship Hall using the new Community Access Ramp entrance off of Pleasant Street. You can then visit Blessed Bargains located in the

basement of the church with its entrance from the TD Bank parking area. Blessed Bargains is open every Saturday in December, including Dec. 26. So, if Santa did not bring you what you wanted for Christmas come down and take a look on the 26th.

First Congregational Church will also be airing a beautiful Christmas Eve Service, "Comfort and Joy" that you can view on our Facebook page. Enjoy your Christmas Eve safely, in

the comfort of your home while you listen to The Christmas Story as well as your favorite Christmas Carols. You can access all our services through our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/farmingtonnhfirstcongregational/>

The First Congregational Church is located at 400 Main Street in downtown Farmington.

For more information go to their Web site: www.farmingtonnhucc.org.



Alton Parks and Recreation Connection

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

Santa Claus will be making a scheduled stop in Alton Bay on Saturday, Dec. 19 from 2-4 p.m. Santa will be stopping at the new Alton Bay Gazebo, located across the street from the Alton Bay Bandstand, and will be available to say hi and wish people of all ages a Merry Christmas. Covid protocols will be in place including social distancing and barriers. Masks are required. Parking is available along Route 11 in front of the Gazebo, and in Alton Bay. Participants will be able to wait on the sidewalk extending towards Pop's

Clam Shell. Drive by and wave hi, or stop in for a quick visit. For more information please contact the Alton Parks and Recreation Department at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 875-0109.

Alton Rec Esports

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a new program starting in January 2021 for youth eight years and up, and teens called Esports. Age divisions are eight to 13 years and 14+ years. Participants will compete with other players from Alton, and local New Hampshire communities. Beginner

and competitive options are available. The Winter League, lasting six weeks, includes your choice of the following games: Madden21 (Football); FIFA21 (Soccer); NBA2K (Basketball); Super Smash Bros; Rocket League 3v3 or Rocket League 1v1; and Fortnite. Players can register for their own team of one; or they can be on a team of up to three players for 3v3 matches. Registration closes on Jan. 12; \$20 for the Winter season. Games begin the week of Jan. 18. More information and registration is available at

the Alton Rec Esports page at <https://www.ggleagues.com/organization/alton-rec-esports>. Players will need to provide their own hardware, programs and internet connection to participate. For more information, please visit info@ggleagues.com or contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov; 875-0109.

"Light Up Alton" Event

Holiday House Decorating Contest & Business Decorating Contest- Vote Now

To vote for your favor-

ite Holiday Lights Display for the Houses and Businesses please visit the sponsors Facebook Pages to vote. At the Alton Parks and Recreation Department Facebook Page- check out the photo album- Light Up Alton Event and "like" your favorite photo. And visit the Alton Business Association Facebook Page, and like your favorite business lights photo. One vote for Houses/Residents and one vote for Businesses. A big thank you to all of the participants in the Contest!! The Town of Alton looks festive, and

our community appreciates your lights and decorations. We are ending the Year 2020 on a joyous note. Hip hip hooray.

Thank you Alton Garden Club

The Town of Alton would like to thank the Alton Garden Club volunteers for helping make the Town look festive for the holidays. The decorations of wreaths, greenery, bows and more add a warm touch to our community for the season. Thank you Garden Club for all of your hard work.

Alton Bay resident completes intensive research project

WORCESTER, Mass. — Dakota Cross of Alton Bay, a member of the class of 2022 majoring in Aerospace Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), was a member of a student team that recently completed an intense research project titled A Comparative Study on the Offshore Wind Education Systems in Denmark and New England at Denmark Proj-

ect Center.

At WPI, all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology to addresses an important societal need or issue. Nearly 90% of students typically complete a project in collaboration with partners in communities across the country and around the world,

through the university's 50-plus project centers. Students usually travel to the project center for seven-week terms; this fall, however, due to the global coronavirus pandemic, they worked remotely, using video conferencing and other technology to complete their projects. A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, the project-based curriculum offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives-and make a difference before they graduate.

"The WPI project-based curriculum's focus on global studies brings students out of their comfort zones to apply their knowledge to solve real problems for people in communities around the globe," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, interim dean of the WPI Interdisciplinary and Global Studies Division. "Students have the opportunity to learn about a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference; and gain a competitive edge

for any resume, or graduate or professional school application.

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 50 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

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A SALMON PRESS PUBLICATION
BAYSIDER 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
JOSHUA SPAULDING
(603) 941-9155
josh@salmonpress.news

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

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

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Salmon press
Media

This Newspaper is Recyclable

Town Hall returns to appointment only as COVID numbers rise

BY ELISSA PAQUETTE
Contributing Writer

WOLFEBORO — Signs declaring, “COVID IS HERE” now greet incoming travellers to Wolfeboro, and business at the Wolfeboro Town Hall is back to by appointment only after what Town Manager Jim Pineo called, “a near miss” with exposure in November.

He stated at the Dec. 2 selectmen’s meeting, “There is too much work in the pipeline to take chances on exposure with Covid numbers going up.”

Most meetings with town boards are conducted virtually. The few that are hybrid, which offer members an in person option in the Great Hall with masks and social

distancing protocols and a virtual option via WCTV Live Stream and/or You Tube, will continue.

Wolfeboro’s Covid-19 case count has gone up from Nov. 10 (five active, 23 cumulative) to the Dec. 8 count of 17 active, 81 total, according to New Hampshire’s Health and Human Services data. A mid-November spike began with an announcement from Calvary Church Wolfeboro on Nov. 11 that 14 people in the church had confirmed positive for Covid-19 with a few more test results to come.

John Boornazian, MD, Huggins Hospital Chief Medical Officer, when interviewed about recent numbers in Wolfeboro, stated that the number of new cases in Wolfeboro

over the last two weeks is 24 and said, “We know the rate of “cases” of people who test positive. We also know transmission will be greater than what is reported because many people don’t have symptoms, don’t get tested and don’t become a “case.”

He added that Carroll County has had 197 new cases over the past two weeks and “[T]he rate of new cases per 100,000 population in Carroll County over the past 2 weeks is 404.”

Asked what he would say to those who persist in minimizing the pandemic and claiming that the virus is no worse than a mild case of the flu, Boornazian responded, “Our country’s healthcare system is overwhelmed with patients with COVID-19. Intensive Care Units



ELISSA PAQUETTE

The town of Wolfeboro reminds visitors that Covid-19 is here in the community and not to be ignored.

(ICUs) are full and alternate care sites have been opening to care for the patients with severe and critical disease. One

can see these reports on the news throughout the day. I am at a loss as to why some citizens don’t believe what is all around

them and only hope they will take the necessary steps to protect themselves, their families and their community.”

Rotary to launch Flags for Charity program

ALTON — There are five major patriotic days per year where we celebrate and display our American flag in tribute to what those days represent. They are: Flag Day, Independence Day (4th of July), Constitution Day, Memorial Day, and Veterans Day. It’s also an opportunity to juxtapose our patriotic support for helping to

fund local and national charities.

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

At Alton’s Rotary club weekly Zoom meet-

ing last Thursday, Dec. 10, members heard guest speaker George Mobley, from the Henniker Rotary Club talk about how his club adopted the ‘Flags for Charity’ program. It’s a simple case of selling a buyer on the idea of displaying an American flag on their property, that Rotarians will install, and store after each use, for a yearly

cost of only \$50. The first year Henniker engaged in the program, they sold 205 flags.

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

Parks & Rec announces “Light Up Alton” Holiday House & Business Decorating Contest

ALTON — Alton Parks and Recreation and the Alton Business Association have joined together in an effort to make Alton the brightest holiday season yet! Due to the recent, extended power outage and winter storm we are extending the contest deadlines.

For Residents: The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a Holiday House Decorating Contest. The contest is open to homes within the Alton and Alton Bay zip codes (03809 & 03810).

For an Entry Form and Contest Rules go to www.alton.nh.gov or contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

For businesses/Non-profits: The ABA is

sponsoring the Business Decorating Contest. If you have a storefront business or office building, then rally a team to help string lights and let your festive flare be seen by all (or go Clark Griswold style)! For business entries, email your pictures to the ABA at info@altonbusinessassociation.com or post on the ABA/Alton Parks & Recreation Facebook Event Page, be sure to include your business name.

Please send photos by Dec. 17. Prizes will be awarded to category winners for both residents and businesses! Winners will be announced on Dec. 18.

Categories for prizes are: People’s Choice (Facebook Vote); Most Holiday Spirit; Creative Use of Lights; and Best Main Street Location.

Happy decorating Alton!

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We all share responsibility for protecting the vulnerable

Something we’ve been hearing over the past few months with regard to COVID-19 deaths is the downplaying of elderly victims succumbing to the virus. When we look at the data and have conversations about the infection rate, and the numbers of those who actually pass away as a result, it seems to be dismissed in cases where the person is over the age of 65. “Well, they are old anyway, and in that age bracket” is often overheard.

What an awful world view.
True, when we hear about an older person passing, we can find some sort of solace knowing that they were able to live for a fairly long time and enjoy life as such. However, isn’t the point to try to live as long and healthy as possible? Many of these elderly individuals who have fallen victim to this virus, would still be alive today, had COVID not come into all of our lives.

This outlook is a dangerous viewpoint to have, especially amidst a pandemic. Of course the younger, healthier population is less at risk; however the responsibility falls on all of us to protect the vulnerable, regardless of our odds of contracting a severe case ourselves. We may be fine if we catch it, and may decide not to take precautions, telling ourselves “I’ll be fine.” However, walking around asymptotically may infect someone who might not be OK. As a society of neighbors, co-workers, family and friends, it should always be our job to look out for each other. Despite our differences, we must always put humanity first and take care of one another. Whether that looks like helping someone with a flat tire, pulling someone out of a ditch who’s car slid off the road, helping someone in need with groceries, or taking precautions during a pandemic to keep each other safe, it’s our duty as decent human beings to do the right thing, not for ourselves but for each other.

In overhearing such statements regarding the elderly, we want to remind those that need to hear it, that these long lived lives are just as important as they always have been. Being elderly shouldn’t mean we are automatically dismissed as a member of society. The golden years should be protected as best they can as we all age, and we all will.

Our elderly community are just as valuable now as they were when they were in their twenties. Remember that senior citizens still pay taxes, grocery shop, take care of family members including grandchildren. It is our grandparents that make up the highest number of child care providers, allowing their own children to continue to work, which in turn boosts the economy.

Our elderly population provides friendship and support to everyone around them. In addition, the highest number of volunteers come from the senior citizen population. Again, this in turn helps to contribute to our economy.

It doesn’t seem like any of this hits home for some individuals, until they are affected personally. If you are not close with someone who is elderly, remember that many of us are. It is important to continue to value and protect the most vulnerable among us.

In an attempt to bridge recent political division, we want to remind everyone to look out for each other, despite your differences. What matters in the end is community and how we operate in our own small circles.

We have seen refreshing occurrences of both Republicans and Democrats, locally, who have joined forces to make our communities a better place...individuals who have not lost sight of what really matters in life.

Send us your letters!

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

Send your letters to:

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E-mail us at brendan@salmonpress.news.

We’re looking forward to hearing from you!



NORMA LUNNEY — COURTESY

Winter wonderland

Last weekend’s snowstorm transformed the Cotton Valley Trail into a true winter wonderland.

Letters to the Editor

New Durham’s Light Up Your Night a success

To the Editor:

New Durham witnessed another highly successful community event at the 1772 Meetinghouse Community Center and Park, thanks to the combined efforts of the Town’s Parks and Recreation Department, New Durham Public Library, and stalwart volunteers from the Rec Department, Library, and Meetinghouse Res-

toration Committee.

Light Up Your Night was a unique and breathtakingly spectacular evening of lights and delights. What an incredible range of activities! The public got to watch a Christmas movie on the 1830s horsehair plaster wall, drink hot chocolate by the Christmas tree, roast marshmallows for s’mores, visit with Santa, banter with

Ebenezer Scrooge, wave to Rudolph, and read a Christmas story based in New Durham in 1816 in installments along the trail, complete with Christmas spirits.

The colors of the lights in the snowy woods were magical; light sculptures and inflatable figures made everyone smile. Those of us involved thank you for the great turn-out. Hours and

hours (and hours!) of hard work in the cold and the snow went into the festive evening, and every minute of it was worth it.

Rec Director Celeste Chasse had a great idea and made it a reality, and we’re all so glad she did.

CATHY ALLYN
PUBLIC LIBRARY
DIRECTOR
NEW DURHAM

Does anyone still play by the rules?

To the Editor:

There was a time in New Hampshire when we were all Republicans. It was the party of integrity and respect. Under Trump, it has become the party of lies and hypocrisy.

Trump lost the election by more than seven million votes. Even his personal Attorney General, William Barr, attests that there were

no voter irregularities, no fraud. Yet Trump persists in having his Republican cronies overturn the election results and declare him the winner.

Is this how a democracy is supposed to function? I don’t think so. Hillary actually won the election, defeating Trump by more than three million votes. Did she attempt to have the

Democrats throw out the vote and declare her the winner? No, she and Bill graciously attended the inauguration. And what about Al Gore and Florida’s notorious “hanging chad?” The Bush victory was assured by Florida’s Republican Attorney General, and the war in Iraq ensued. The Republican controlled U.S. Senate and Lindsey Graham prevented Obama’s

Supreme Court nominee from even getting a hearing! Yet Graham and McConnell pushed Trump’s nominee through to a vote before the election.

Does anyone play by the rules anymore? Or is it just Republican rules? If so, our “democracy” is in deep trouble!

JOHN GOYETTE
NEW DURHAM

Riots and tax breaks

To the Editor:

The supporters of white supremacy, Neo-Nazi’s, Proud Boys and all other bigoted hate groups, this letter is for you. Along with your women, you wrap yourselves in the American flag or some perverse version of it with the name of a traitor imprinted on it. Your support for a criminal who has done as much damage to the Constitution as has been possible in four short years, then scream at the party who is standing up for said document, as though it were they who are assaulting it. You

show no respect for the flag or the country for which it stands. You believe lies given to you as truth from your coward leader, Bone Spurs, yea right! Yet you still rally behind he and his family as though they were divine. The German people did the same thing with Hitler, and look what that did to the world — 50-plus-million dead. You to me, bring shame to this country, I’ve always believed, that I might not agree with what you say but I would defend your right to say it. Not now; your intent is not to make “America Great

again,” it is to make #45 great; something which he can never be.

The first President #1 and I have a common grandfather; for him it was his father’s father, for me it was many great-grandfathers, that would make George and I first cousins (if we were both alive at the same time). So, when I say to you and your hate, it makes me ashamed, not to be an American, but to be a White man in a country with so many people who blindly follow an elected leader who cannot admit he lost the second term, due to his racist views

among other things, I do not see where he’s done anything that has been good for this country. All of you must be talking about his tax break that has made you all extremely wealthy. So, I guess you want to keep all the money for yourselves, good luck with that. Please get out of the streets with your riots and guns you’re not defending an America I want to live in, 22 generations here and going strong.

John Q. Henderson
Barnstead

ALL WE KNOW IS LOCAL ~ SalmonPress.com



A last-minute list induces rants, and a drunken pachyderm or two



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

Late Christmas gift suggestions

For loyal readers who’ve been waiting with baited breath, here it is, my traditional list of last-minute gift suggestions. This year’s list is shorter on items but longer on words. This is because the usual deranged person who compiles this list is off for a months-long fly-fishing trip to the wildest parts of New Zealand. Sitting in this week is the equally deranged Fenton Hardwick, most recently of Deadwater Stream, formerly Deadwater Flowage, Clarksville.

+++ A folding knife with several dozen accessories. There is a reason for this being first on the list, which is that it has always been first on the list. Perhaps that’s because it’s the best.

Either way, it is obviously a suggestion that has legs.

But really, so many people who camp, hike, hunt, fish, paddle, burn gasoline, cause fights on otherwise peaceable nights, ruin other people’s vacations, or are just plain feckless bums do not have one of those folding knives with

enough blades to do everything but break into the Denver Mint.

Oh sure, some guys make a big point of swagging around with a sheath-knife big enough to harpoon Moby Dick. This is not one of those. It’s just a nifty little knife that is actually good for something around camp, whether it’s just a camp for the night or a real camp. You can even open bottles with it.

Now, there’s a thought—has anyone else out there noticed how some beverages are now coming in bottles that seem deliberately not to be twist-off caps? As in, trendy? Some root beers are like that, and I think it represents a sneak attack by what used to be called Yuppies, posing as hardy outdoor camping types. You watch—any day now, it’ll be Designer Coffee with turbo-props and afterburners in a discreet but oh-so-special pry-off bottle, and then you’ll sure wish you had one of those Swiss Army type thingies, you betcharoo Bub.

+++ Cutoff-proof camera. You can only give this gift to someone who is a bozo, meant in a fond sense, as in “klutz.” To determine whether your Cherished One is a bozo, look at the photographic evidence.

For example, if a Dear Person in your extended family is always cutting people’s heads off in photographs, he is a bozo, and thus an ideal candidate for this very special gift.

The camera comes with a special Bozo Trick Viewfinder, cleverly altered to dupe a klutz into thinking he is cutting Aunt Maude’s and Uncle Fudd’s heads off in a photograph, when he actually isn’t. Their feet, yes, and maybe a little hair, but only, say, a buzz-cut.

+++ Instant fermenting beer. Now you have to bear with me here, because this gift idea takes a little explaining, because it’s all aimed at frustrated headline writers and news-junkies.

See, really big newspapers (yes, they still exist) employ people whose only job is to write headlines. These headlines are supposed to fit the space, yet still tell part of the story. “Man Bites Dog” is a pretty good one. I mean, what more can you say, except why? That’s what most people would probably wonder, the why of it, which is a good reason for buying the paper.

But anyway, many people who write headlines for a living secretly long for an excuse to use “pachyderm” in a headline. So they wait for the story, which happens about every three or four years, in a remote village in India, or Pakistan, or similar nation with the necessary components, in which villagers are fermenting beer in huge vats, for a fertility rite.

There are elephants nearby, usually out there somewhere in the jungle minding their

own business, walking over saplings and such, but the problem is, their trunks contain finely tuned sensory devices way better than our own noses, and they can detect—for miles and miles, apparently—these vats of fermenting beer, the odor of which is wafting through the entire jungle.

The elephants go to the village to investigate, and sample the vats, peacefully enough this first time, although they have a habit of treading on carefully tended crops, so the villagers shoo them out. This is not an easy thing to do with elephants in daylight, never mind in the dark.

Also, it is difficult for the villagers to estimate how much of the fermenting beer the elephants sampled on this first visit, and apparently it was a challenge for the elephants, too, because it turns out to have been way too much; and the elephants, now swaying perceptibly if viewed from a safe distance, say about as far as you can drive a Titleist Pro golf ball on a crispy-clear day from the fifth tee at the Colebrook Country Club, have an increasing urge to return for more beer. So, perhaps trunk-to-tail, they make a beeline, more or less, back to the village, or more precisely, the vats of fermenting beer, but this time they don’t care as much about things in the way, at times in a wild-eyed fashion, which gets reported as “a frenzy,” and there you have it, a headline-writer’s dream:



COURTESY

At this time of year, you have just about knocked yourself silly, so you look for a silly Santa.

Drunken pachyderms frenzied by ritual beer trample jungle village

I’m not making any of this up. It does indeed happen. I’m breaching newsroom protocol by even mentioning it. As Casey Stengel liked to say, you could look it up. (And now, they all ask, who was Casey Stengel?)

+++ Hunting and fishing license. This one’s for real, folks. A combination hunting and fishing license, with garish, costs 58 dollars and 50 cents. If that sounds like a lot of money, think of it this way: you’re likely to spend more than that for dinner for two at a swank restaurant. Even better, divide the price of the license by the number of hours of enjoyment you’ll get.

It’s pretty easy, say, to envision 100 hours of fishing and 50 hours of

hunting. Therefore, you divide \$58 and change by 150 hours of fun and/or total concentration, like focusing your entire being on your nearly invisible #20 tiny little Hornberg floating out there near the shrubbery in the gloaming. To do that, take the sum of the square root of the temperature in your freezer and the temperature outside, and divide by the size of the last fish you caught subtracted from the size you told your best friend the fish was, but you have to stick your tongue out of the left side of your month just so, and can only do this twice on Sunday.

There you have it. Don’t forget the milk and cookies.

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

STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

A way forward ... through the shadows of defeat

BY LARRY SCOTT

On the evening following his defeat to Bill Clinton in a bid for a second term as President of the United States, George H. W. Bush agonized. He “needed a way forward through the shadows of defeat. It is to his credit that he returned to a few core truths that had always guided him.

“Be strong,” he told himself in his living room musings, “be kind, be generous of spirit, be understanding, let people know how grateful you are, don’t get even, comfort the ones I’ve hurt and let down, say your prayers and ask for God’s understanding and strength, finish with a smile and with some gusto, do what’s right and finish strong.” With that, the forty-first president of the United States retired for the night.”

So begins author Jon Meacham in *Destiny and Power* (page xvii) as he opens the story of one of America’s great men. His musings that eve-

ning marked the end of a remarkable political career. From the heights of power to heart-rending defeat on Nov. 3, 1992, George H. W. Bush would live to see his reputation rise as America came to appreciate the impact of this one man on the history of these United States. His death, on November 20, 2018, at the age of 94, uncovered accounts of his life that were truly impressive.

In a now widely reported 2009 letter to Sam Palmisano, then CEO of IBM, George Bush wrote,

“I cannot single out the one greatest challenge in my life. I have had a lot of challenges and my advice to young people might be as follows.

Don’t get down when your life takes a bad turn. Out of adversity comes challenge and often success; Don’t blame others for your setbacks; when things go well, always give credit to others; Don’t talk all

the time. Listen to your friends and mentors and learn from them; Don’t brag about yourself. Let others point out your virtues, your strong points; Give someone else a hand. When a friend is hurting, show that friend that you care; Nobody likes an overbearing big shot; As you succeed, be kind to people. Thank those who help you along the way; Don’t be afraid to shed a tear when your heart is

broken because a friend is hurting, and, Say your prayers!”

I can think of few better directives coming from a man who practiced what he preached. George H. W. Bush found a way forward, and despite his setbacks, he left the world a better place.

As I face the new year,

I am reminded of a statement Jesus made during the tumultuous times in which He lived. “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” The future may be uncertain and the Pandemic unresolved

but I hope to use the stay-at-home demands of these days to grant me time for research, growth, and discovery, that 2021 might be the best year of my life!

For more thoughts like these, please follow me by subscribing to in-defenseoftruth.net.

ALTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

INVITATION TO BID ON A BOILER REPLACEMENT

The Alton School district invites interested vendors to submit bids for a boiler replacement to be installed at the Alton Central School, 41 School Street, Alton, NH 03809.

Bid specifications can be obtained by calling or emailing the SAU 72 Office at 603-875-7890 or dbrown@sau72.org or by visiting the website at <https://www.myacs.org/Page/1931>

A pre-bid meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, 3:00 pm at Alton Central School, 41 School Street, Alton, NH. Attendance at this pre-bid meeting is **Mandatory** in order to submit a bid.

Bids must be submitted no later than 1:00 pm, Wednesday, January, 6, 2021 in a sealed envelope marked “Boiler Replacement Bid”.

Attendance for the bid opening at 1:00 pm on January 6, 2021, is optional but only available virtually by joining: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84551718422?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84551718422?pwd=bFk1OWM0R2V4S2xjZmcxdmVtWTdWUT09)
[pwd=bFk1OWM0R2V4S2xjZmcxdmVtWTdWUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84551718422?pwd=bFk1OWM0R2V4S2xjZmcxdmVtWTdWUT09)
Meeting ID: 845 5171 8422
Passcode: 124763



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LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Lights Out

After checking the weather report today, I figured that it would go something like this. Let me fill you all in. You see, last week I pretty much finalized getting my house all set for winter. I got the snow blower ready, stapled the tarps over the sides of the woodshed, put the lawn mowers away, took the snow scoops and shovels and placed them in their winter positions. The only thing I can think of left to do is removing the battery from the ATV. When the kids show up here, they'll want to use it so then I'll get them to do it when their done.

It's the first real snowstorm of the season, and it's a good one. Pos-

sibly fourteen inches and judging by the temperatures, it would be heavy wet stuff. And it has been. I went out late afternoon and did a round of scooping and cleared paths through about seven inches. Now about four hours later there's almost that much again, and it's not supposed to slow down for another four hours. I'm sure people all over are loving it as much as me.

With the snow being so heavy and all, I just knew that the power would go out. That's just standard procedure around here. It went out right after it got dark, so I got out the oil lamps. There are three here in the living room where I'm sitting in my recliner next to the wood stove with my little computery thing typing this letter.

While I was out scooping, I lit the sauna. I wanted to start the sauna season out in a storm so I could go out and cool off with the help of the fresh snow. After the power went out, I lit a couple of lanterns in the shed so if power doesn't come back by then, I can sauna by lamp light. I added wood and checked the temperature. It was up to around ninety. It'll take still another loading to get it up to temp.

It's easy to tell the power's out, I have a light on my box, but I just have to walk to the front of the house and listen for the sound of the neighborhood power generators. If power doesn't come back by morning, I'll start up mine. The refrigerator and freezer won't un-cool overnight as long as people don't open them. Until then, I'll enjoy the peaceful world without sixty cycle hum or generator roar.

I just came back from loading the stove, it was up to one thirty. Looking out the front window I realized that my neighbors Christmas lights are even on during a power outage. Sometimes it's just nice to be unpredictable.

My life right now is totally regular. Every

week replays the same patterns of food, exercise, meetings etc. Any variations come from what I do for work, which is totally random. So this is a major change of normal. Kind of like wearing masks. I try to picture myself half a century younger and checking out the beautiful opposite sex and not being able to see their faces. It's almost like being Muslim. I grew up at a time when the young women were exposing more and more of themselves. As far as I was concerned that was a good thing. Wasn't it?

It's been around three hours and still power hasn't returned. This could be a long one, but a phone call revealed that not terribly far from here has only two inches, so I'll assume that it's a local problem and will get resolved soon. In the meantime, I went out and jumped into the sauna and two things were unusual. I usually shut the stove down about a half hour before going in, but with time being short, I thought that I would just tough out the intense heat. And second, there are usually lights on.

I entered with my little lantern and when I looked over at the stove, it's top, under the rocks, was glowing red hot. I'd never seen that before. It was certainly intense for a number of minutes. I kept myself as distanced as possible from the stove and it soon calmed down. Before long, I was standing barefoot in the snowstorm melting snow flakes in the wind.

The house was totally quiet except for the dueling ticktocks from the clocks at opposing sides of the house. I got myself ready for bed by the light of the last lantern. Like in ages past, placing it on the windowsill above my bed, I blew it out, producing total pitch darkness. No little lighty things anywhere. That was a real lights out.

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Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

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INVITATION TO BID

BARNSTEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Standby Generator Project

The Barnstead School District is seeking bids for the purchase and installation of a Standby Generator on its property located at 91 Maple Street, Ctr. Barnstead. Bid specifications may be picked up at Barnstead Elementary School or the SAU 86 office located at 1 Suncook Valley Road, Barnstead, NH 03218 or obtained by calling 435-1510. There will be a site review on Wednesday, December 23rd at 1:00 PM at the school, 91 Maple Street, Center Barnstead. All bidders MUST attend the site review or make other arrangements with Heidi Duford, Business Administrator in order to be considered a qualified bidder. Sealed bids may be mailed to PO Box 250, Center Barnstead, NH 03225 to Heidi Duford, Business Administrator, and plainly marked "Standby Generator Project" and will also be accepted at the SAU #86 office, 1 Suncook Valley Road, Barnstead no later than 3:00 PM on December 30, 2020 at which time bids will be publicly opened. The bid will be awarded at the School Board meeting on January 26, 2021. Work is scheduled to begin on or about February 1, 2021 and all work is to be completed no later than May 1, 2021.

Barnstead School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Tim Guyer of Alton named Presidential Scholar at Clarkson University

POTSDAM, N.Y. — Tim S Guyer of Alton, a junior majoring in software engineering, was named a Presidential Scholar for the fall 2020 semester at Clarkson University.

Presidential Scholars must achieve a minimum 3.80 grade-point average and carry at least 14 credit hours.

As a private, national research university, Clarkson is a leader in technological education and sustainable economic development through teaching, scholarship, research and innovation. We ignite personal connections across academic fields and industries to create the entrepreneurial mindset, knowledge and intellectual curiosity needed to innovate world-relevant solutions and cultivate the leaders of tomorrow. With its main campus located in Potsdam, N.Y., and additional graduate program and research facilities in the New York Capital Region, Beacon, N.Y., and New York City, Clarkson educates 4,300 students across 95 rigorous programs of study in engineering, business, the arts, education, sciences and health professions. Our alumni earn salaries that are among the top 2.5% in the nation and realize accelerated career growth. One in five already leads as a CEO, senior executive or owner of a company.



ALTON POLICE LOG



ALTON — The Alton Police Department responded to 162 calls for service during the week of Nov. 29-Dec. 5, including five arrests.

-2 Male Subjects were arrested on Warrants.

-1 Male Subject was arrested for Disorderly Conduct & Criminal Threatening.

-1 Male Subject was arrested on a Bench Warrant, Criminal Trespass & Possession of Controlled/Narcotic

Drugs.

-1 Male Subject was arrested for Domestic Violence Simple Assault & Criminal Threatening.

There were 12 Motor Vehicle Accidents.

There were 6 Suspicious Person/Activity Reports on Wolfeboro Highway, Dudley Road, Old Wolfeboro Road, Swan Lake Trail, Larry Drive & Lily Pond Road. Police made 12 Motor

Vehicle Stops and handled 7 Motor Vehicle Complaint-Incidents.

There were 125 other calls for services that consisted of the following: 1 Public Hazard, 1 Assist Fire Department, 1 Employment Fingerprinting, 3 Assist Other Agencies, 1 Pistol Permit Application, 4 Animal Complaints, 1 Juvenile Incident, 2 Miscellaneous, 4 Wanted Person/Fugitives, 1 Missing Adult, 3 Alarm Acti-

vations, 1 Lost/Found Property, 12 Highway/Roadway Hazards, 1 Simple Assault, 2 Sexual Assaults, 1 General Information, 1 Trespass, 2 Sex Offender Registrations, 3 Civil Matters, 1 Wellness Check, 1 Disabled Motor Vehicle, 61 Directed Patrols, 2 Motor Vehicle Lockouts, 2 Medical Assists, 11 Property Checks & 2 Paperwork Services.

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	NH Route 140	N/A	\$90,000	Kempton RET and Beverly A. Kempton	Seh Investments LLC
Alton	Suncook Valley Road	N/A	\$78,000	William F. and Dale W. Publicover	Trevor S. Ricard
Alton	Tibbetts Road	N/A	\$30,000	Kempton RET and Beverly A. Kempton	Samuel J. and Esther S. Hollo
Barnstead	24 Ridge Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$299,000	Harry and Heather Pike	Kenneth J. and Kimberly A. Spizuoco
Barnstead	131 Rogers Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$200,000	TKH Property Holdings LLC	Nicholas E. Bioren
Barnstead	N/A (Lot 26)	N/A	\$31,000	Scott and Anne Davis	Marilyn Danseneau and Anthony Somma
New Durham	8 Powder Mill Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$269,000	John E. Lupo RET	Cherylann and Larry D. Pierce

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

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

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

Children's Auction raises more than \$430,000



COURTESY PHOTO

Zack Derby and Jamie Sousa announce the final number for this year's Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction.

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

REGION — In a year of great need with a lot of logistical challenges, the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction went off without a hitch and brought in more than \$430,000 for kids across the Lakes Region with a lot of volunteer efforts.

The 39th Annual Children's Auction started on Dec. 9, and ended on Dec. 11 with the announcement that \$430,907 had been raised for charities around the region that help out kids and families.

Because of the pandemic, the auction looked a lot different this year. Everything was broadcast virtually with people in different locations. Members of the community also contributed their own videos. A system set up to process donations and provide contactless distribution of items.

"It took a lot of preparation to make things a lot different than we have in years past," said Children's Auction chair Jamie Sousa.

This year's auction took place at Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion, which allowed for ample social distancing. Sousa said they took up three buildings at the pavilion for production, items, and cashing. People collecting their items could get them delivered right to their back seats.

"We had a lot of improvements to our technology to be able to accommodate drive through pickup and things like that," Sousa said.

R.J. Harding was especially invaluable as their "resident tech geek" helping out with their programming and technology.

Usually, the auction has around 130 volunteers, this year they had to reduce those numbers to around 30 to keep people safe. Sousa said peo-

ple were taking two or three jobs at a time.

"It just goes to show how invested everybody is in the auction and what it stands for," Sousa said.

With the preparation, she said the auction itself went smoothly. She said they learned a lot of things they will use for auctions in the future.

There was an abundance of donors and bidders this year, including many taking part for the first time.

"We had a ton of items," Sousa said. "I thought we were going to be struggling to get items in, but people just really showed up. People knew there was a real need this year. We also had a bunch of new bidders as well. People are just interested in helping out if they can."

The "It's For the Kids Community Challenge" also made a big contribution this year. The socially distanced alternative to Pub Mania brought in \$249,490. Sousa said considering that so many teams do events like parties, bingo, and gift card galas, it was amazing what they did when they couldn't do these types of events.

"The fact that they were able to pull off the numbers they did in a year where people couldn't get together is astounding," Sousa said. "The bar has kind of been reset for the Community Challenge, I think it was inspiring."

The Children's Auction ended on Thursday, Sousa and co-host Zack Derby announced that the final total was \$430,907.

Sousa said she had no expectations for the numbers this year, but she was happy to see that total.

"There are a lot of children and families and people who run nonprofits who are very, very excited to see this number along with us," Sousa said during the

broadcast. "We cannot thank you, everyone involved whether it's bidding, donating an item, being a sponsor. Everyone involved thank you so much for making this happen especially this year that has been so difficult for so many. We're going to be able to provide so much for the children in the Lakes Region all thanks to you."

Derby gave emotional thanks to all those who were part of this.

"With everything going on this year whatever we raised each and every year for the Children's auction, it's amazing so thank you," Derby said.

Children's Auction founder Warren Bailey made a virtual appearance during the finale, recognizing everyone's efforts in such a difficult year.

"Many years, we've gone through all sorts of different obstacles to get the auction to work each and every year. This has been the biggest challenge of all and congratulations to everyone involved this year to make it happen," Bailey said. "No matter what the total's going to be, it's money that's going right back into the Lakes Region and fulfilling the mission that we started some 39 years ago."

Bailey recalled the first year's auction broadcasting out of the back of a van in downtown Laconia in the cold. Someone asked what they were doing; after he explained, the man said, "How can I help?"

"From them that very first person till now in 2020 the theme has always been you explain what we're doing, the money's staying here locally, and everyone says, 'Okay, how can I help?' and it just takes my breath away," Bailey said. "It's a wonderful thing."

Barnstead Farmers' Market seeking vendors for 2021

BARNSTEAD — Vendors are invited to apply to the Barnstead Farmers Market for the 2021 Farmers Market season. Applications are available at www.barnsteadfarmersmarket.club.

If you are interested in Full season and you are a new vendor, we are offering the New Vendor Special again this year of \$100. That is a savings of \$50. Limited space is available, so call today to reserve. This year, we are seeking, vegetables, meats, gluten free, coffee, prepared foods, baked goods and unique items! The Barnstead Farmer's Co-op is seeking farms who cannot make Saturday markets but want to participate! This option will give those farms an opportunity to sell their products through the market! Our market is located at 96 Maple St., Center Barnstead.

Coming soon: The Barnstead Farmer's Market Store!

For more info please call or email: Lori at 269-2329/info@barnsteadfarmersmarket.club or visit our Web site: www.barnsteadfarmersmarket.club.

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To keep our families as safe as possible this Christmas, all Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be live-streamed as well as celebrated in the church with very limited, distanced seating for those who have not traveled out of state and who are not symptomatic. Masks are required. To see a live-streamed Mass, visit stkdxel.org. Limited seating requests also on the web site.

Christmas Eve Masses at 4 and 7 p.m.

Christmas Day Masses at 10:30 a.m.

Communion will be distributed at the church doors for thirty minutes after each Mass.

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Community Challenge raises almost \$250,000 for Children’s Auction

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

REGION — While they couldn’t gather in one bar for 24 hours this year, the Pub Maniacs still came out in force to raise nearly \$250,000 for the Children’s Auction in the first ever “It’s For the Kids Community Challenge.” This successful new endeavor will become how Pub Mania will continue in future years.

This year, Pub Mania became “It’s for the Kids Community Challenge,” where the teams raised money all year for the Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction. The event was no longer confined to the walls of Patrick’s Pub and Eatery, which allowed 13 more teams to participate.

When the Children’s Auction drew to a close on Thursday, Allan and Jennifer Beetle from Patrick’s unveiled a check for \$249,460.

Allan Beetle said overall, the challenge was a big success and everyone seemed “really pleased” with the results. He said the amount raised was a huge victory as they didn’t know if they could break \$200,000.

“We had a really strong finish the last day,



COURTESY PHOTO

Allan and Jennifer Beetle, with co-chairs Holly Ruggieri and Anna Terry, unveil the total raised by the “It’s For the Kids Community Challenge.” the money kept coming in,” Beetle said. “We almost did \$250,000.”

During a usual Pub Mania year, teams will still raise money throughout the year before the big event. This idea was carried over to the new Community Challenge, though the pandemic was still a significant factor.

Beetle said the current situation affected teams differently and some teams were impacted harder than others. Most of the Pub Mania teams will have yearly

fundraising events they do, though this year many of those couldn’t happen because of the pandemic. A number of activities could be done in a safe way. He said a number of teams also raised a lot of money the last week of the event by connecting with friends and family members over social media.

“The teams, they ran with it; that’s how we got the 250,” Beetle said. “It’s all about the kids, and there’s going to be more need this year than previous years.”

He said a lot of people still missed that human connection at Pub Mania and everyone being together. They are planning some activities for when the pandemic subsides.

“I think universally everyone would love to be together,” Beetle said. “We have some events once social distancing rules relax, we have some really fun events to try to allow the teams to be together and network and have some fun together.”

The challenge official-

ly ended on Thursday with a finale over Zoom. The final numbers were unveiled during the end of the auction’s broadcast.

“I feel really proud to be part of the grp of people that can make this kind of impact in our community,” Beetle said.

With the changes this year, Pub Mania will be taking a new form. The 24-hour barstool challenge will be retired, and the focus will continue to be on fundraising

throughout the year.

“I think this is the time to transition to an event now that we can actually grow beyond 31 teams and 31 barstools,” Beetle said.

Beetle said the role of event chair will now be rotated each year, though he and his wife Jennifer will still be on the committee. Holly Ruggieri, the Team Captain of Ladies of the Lake, will be the new Pub Mania chair for the next event.

“She’s just a pretty amazing woman who’s really capable to lead this committee and these teams in 2021,” Beetle said.

With the success of this first Community Challenge, hopes are high it will only grow from here.

“The first year we did Pub Mania in ‘09 we raised \$47,000,” Beetle said. “Eleven years later, we’ve accumulated over \$2.3 million. If this new event, the Community Challenge, has raised \$250,000 in its first year what’s the possibility in the next 10 years? It’s kind of exciting what we might be able to do for the community and the kids.”

LRAA hosting Introduction to Drawing class



TILTON — Artist Acacia Rogers will be teaching a six-week fine art drawing course! It will be held in the LRAA Gallery, 120 Laconia Rd. (Tanger Outlets), Suite 132, Tilton, beginning Tuesday, Jan. 12, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Dates are as follows: Jan. 12, 19, and 26 and Feb. 2, 9, and 16.

This six-week begin-

ner-friendly class will cover in detail the principals and techniques of drawing what you see accurately with depth and realism. Including the use of various media and practices to draw both from life and photography. Covering various subjects from still life to anatomy, Acacia will teach the impor-

tance of drawing skills, how to hold your drawing tool, how to use different materials, proportion and shading, and much more, with plenty of one-on-one guidance and group critique.

This course will be a great compliment to any painting education, an excellent refresher for an intermediate artist, or a perfect start for a beginner! Join her in January to take your drawing to the next level and learn what you can really do! Students will bring

their own supplies. A supply list can be found at AcaciaRogers.wix.com/FineArt under the “Workshops” tab.

Acacia Rogers is a passionate self-taught fine artist, and has been her entire life, over 10 years of which have been dedicated to various painting mediums. Her inspiration mostly comes from nature and the beauty of the natural world, with a particular affinity for wildlife. Her first memories of artistic inspiration as a

child stem largely from Disney movies and their whimsical, fluid, and creative animation style. Particularly the work of Aaron Blaise stood out to her, who worked on beloved classics such as “The Lion King,” “Mulan,” “Brother Bear,” and “Aladdin.”

She later added portraiture, still life, and landscape to her repertoire, slowly and painstakingly building up her skill through practice and research to learn the ins and outs of paint-

ing, as she loves everything about the process of painting. She is now a full-time painter and painting instructor, and has worked alongside many accomplished artists from a colorful array of backgrounds. She currently shows her work in the LRAA gallery in Tilton.

To learn more or sign up, e-mail AcaciaRogersArt@gmail.com or visit AcaciaRogers.wix.com/FineArt.

Bank of New Hampshire promotes Dona Murray to Senior Vice President – Investment Officer



Dona Murray
LACONIA — Bank of New Hampshire is proud to announce that Dona Murray has been promoted to Senior Vice

President – Investment Officer.

Murray joined the Bank of New Hampshire Wealth Management Team ten years ago, bringing valuable experience and skills to the bank. Now, with more than 30 years of experience in the financial and investment services industry, she continues to provide essential expertise to the Wealth Management Team and bank as a whole. She graduated with Cum Laude honors from Occidental College with

a double major in Economics. Prior to joining Bank of New Hampshire, Murray spent more than 15 years with Wellington Management Company in Boston as a Vice President and provided investment counsel to private trusts. She is a graduate of Leadership Lakes Region and serves as a Director on their Board.

In 2017, Muray received Bank of New Hampshire’s Quality Service Professional of the Year Award. That same year she received United Way’s Employee Campaign Coordinator of the Year Award. She is an active volunteer throughout the community.

Bank of New Hampshire, founded in 1831, provides deposit, lending and wealth management products and services to families and businesses throughout New Hampshire and southern Maine. With 23 banking offices throughout New Hampshire and assets of nearly \$2 billion, Bank of New Hampshire is the oldest and one of the largest independent banks in the state. Bank of New Hampshire is a mutual organization, focused on the success of the bank’s customers, communities and employees, rather than stockholders. For more information, call 1-800-832-0912 or visit www.BankNH.com.

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Local businesses receive funding from MVSB via Jobs for New England recovery grants

MEREDITH — Meredith Village Savings Bank (MVSB) is proud to be able to award grant funding to ten local businesses in conjunction with the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston's (FHLBank Boston) 2020 Jobs for New England Recovery Grant Program. A member institution of the FHLBank Boston, MVSB applied to the program and was selected to give \$100,000 in grant funding to support small businesses and nonprofit organizations that have experienced significant losses because of COVID-19. Daniel Osetek, Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer, championed the program for MVSB by completing the application to the FHLBank Boston and working with the Bank's marketing, compliance management and information technology department to quickly develop a complete but user friendly application for local businesses. He also chaired the multi-department committee who carefully reviewed and vetted the applications to ensure that they were able to provide funding that would best serve the needs of our local community.

Osetek maintains an office in the Bank's Moultonborough office and has worked with businesses throughout the Mount Washington Valley and Lakes Regions. He has seen firsthand the challenges created in 2020 and has been compelled to do all he could to help.

"I am grateful to be working for an organization like MVSB which is stable and has been very supportive of em-

ployees during this unprecedented economic and health crisis," noted Osetek. "Many MVSB employees have given so much of their time and creativity to ensure better outcomes in our community. This program continues that intent."

Winners of grants through MVSB include: Back Bay Salon; Capelli Hair & Body; Corporate Images; Event Builders; Haughey, Philpot & Laurent; Lakes Region Tourism Association; the Law Office of Paul M. Monziona; Peter Woodman Design Group; the Preserve at Chocorua and Salon Alibrio.

The FHLBank of Boston is a bank for banks, credit unions, community development financial institutions, and insurance companies. Cooperatively owned by more than 440 New England financial institutions, the Bank provides reliable access to wholesale credit for these members and other qualified borrowers. Since 2016, Jobs for New England has offered FHLBank Boston members below market-rate financing for small business loans that create and preserve jobs, expand woman, minority- and veteran-owned businesses and stimulate the economy in New England communities. The Jobs for New England Recovery Grant Program provides members with access to grants that support small businesses and nonprofit organizations experiencing significant loss because of COVID-19.

In addition to the Jobs for New England Recovery Grant Program, MVSB has been

proactively working to support their customers throughout the pandemic. Nearly 200 local homeowners were given hardship forbearances on their mortgages, as were over 250 community businesses. In addition, the commercial lending team worked many nights and weekends to ensure that local businesses and nonprofits would have access to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funding available through the US Small Business Association. Through the PPP, MVSB shepherded over \$51M dollars to 650 businesses in our region.

Other changes were made to make banking easier and safer for their customers, such as intense and dedicated attention to the recommended standards for in-lobby banking and a significant upgrade to online and mobile banking coupled with extended hours to answer customer questions. Significant financial and volunteer support has been given to local nonprofits, and scholarships were offered to local high school students.

In addition, MVSB offers extensive educational materials on their website and social media for all community members, not just customers. This includes information on COVID19-related and other fraud trends that customers can watch out for, as well as excellent expert information to help people with spending management, budgeting and saving.

"Many of the businesses, nonprofits and households of our local community have been

adversely affected by COVID19. As a mutual bank without stockholders, we can focus on committing available resources to the people and businesses in our communities instead of Wall Street, which has been an advantage in the pandemic. We are pleased to be able to provide an additional avenue of financial support for our small local businesses that have been hurt by the pandemic," said John Swedberg, Senior Vice President and Senior Commercial Lender. "It's our pleasure to offer any assistance we can to alleviate the intense pressure felt by businesses. We're also very grateful to the FHLBank Boston for offering this very timely opportunity."

Together with their member institutions, the Federal Home Loan Bank System represents the largest collective source of home mortgage and community credit in the U.S. The System en-

sures that members provide stable, on-demand, low-cost funding to their communities through home mortgages and lending for small business as well as rural, agricultural and economic development. Federal Home Loan Banks were established by the Federal Home Loan Bank Act in 1932. The 11 Federal Home Loan Banks are located throughout the country in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Dallas, Des Moines, Indianapolis, New York, Pittsburgh, San Francisco and Topeka. The FHLBank Boston provides highly reliable wholesale funding, liquidity and a competitive return on investment to member institutions. Their strength ensures the economic health and well-being of our local communities. The FHLBank Boston is cooperatively owned by more than 440 New England financial institutions, including Meredith Village Savings Bank.

Unlike a stock bank, MVSB is a mutual savings bank that operates for the benefit of their depositors, borrowers and surrounding communities. As a result, MVSB has remained steadfast in fostering the economic health and well-being of the community since being founded in 1869. For over 150 years, Meredith Village Savings Bank (MVSB), has been serving the people, businesses, non-profits and municipalities of the Lakes and Seacoast regions of NH. MVSB and their employees are guided by the values of accountability, mutual-ity, excellence, respect, integrity, teamwork and stewardship. To learn more, visit any of the local branch offices located in Alton, Ashland, Center Harbor, Gilford, Laconia, Meredith, Moultonborough, Plymouth, Portsmouth or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.

Lakes Region Food Pantry grateful for community's support

MOULTONBOROUGH — Lakes Region Food Pantry wants to thank everyone for your generosity and support, making it possible for us to continue our mission of feeding families one bag at a time.

The hardship experienced by so many due to the COVID-19 pandemic makes your giving even more significant. Throughout the year, and particularly during the holidays, when need is so greatly felt, donations have supported programs for lakes region residents that provide monthly food vouchers enabling clients to purchase healthy, fresh foods, weekly food assistance, turkeys and grocery gift cards at Thanksgiving, Christmas gifts for children and grocery gift cards through the Moultonborough Public Library Santa Fund, cooking classes in partnership with UNH and Center Harbor Congregational Church, summer lunch program and back-to-school sneaker program for students, scholarship program for graduating lakes region high school students and adult learners pursuing higher education.

LRFP and Thrift Shop is located at 977 Whittier Highway, Moultonborough; phone number: 476-5400. Please visit us Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. or find out more on Facebook: Lakes Region Food Pantry & Thrift Shop or at lakesregionfoodpantry.org.

The family of Lakes Region Food Pantry wishes you all a wonderful holiday season and a healthy, happy new year.

ALL-STATE

(continued from Page A1)

sha of Campbell and Sal Aubin of Bishop Brady, midfielders Quinn Booth of Trinity, George Hoffman of Monadnock and Tim Flanders of Kearsarge and forward Noah Mertzic of Conant.

In Division IV, First Team went to goalies Josh Finkle of Littleton and Liam Cairns of Gorham, defender Landon Bromley of Littleton, midfielders Max Ritter of Profile, Ryan Mason of Moultonborough, Nathan Superchi of Lisbon, Silas Weeden of Lin-

Wood and Chris Corliss of Groveton and forward Corey Bemis of Woodsville.

Second Team honors went to goalies Ethan Larsen of Moultonborough and Kris Boris of Lin-Wood, defenders Gabe Jacobs of Profile and Ethan Houston of Woodsville, midfielder Teagan Leclerc of Gorham and forwards Parker Paradise of Littleton, Will Lopus of Lisbon and Matt St. Cyr of Groveton.

Honorable Mention went to goalies Kilian McKim of Profile and Shayne Holmes of

Groveton, midfielders Austin Marquis of Littleton and Asher Donati of Lin-Wood and forwards Cam Tenney-Burt of Woodsville, Gavin Mahoney of Moultonborough and Dylan Colby of Lisbon.

First Team honors also went to defenders Josh Heino of Sunapee, Jah Gordon of Pittsfield, Caleb Mason of Pittsburg-Canaan, Gavin Callow of Newport, Hayden Russell of Newmarket, Levi Campbell of Concord Christian and Carson Rancourt of Colebrook, midfielders

Parker Reed of Sunapee and Jesse MacGlashan of Pittsfield and forwards Sean Brennan of Wilton-Lyndeborough, Riley Chase of Portsmouth Christian, Daniel Watts of Franklin and Mike Picard of Epping.

Also earning Second Team spots were goalie Drew Croteau of Franklin, defenders Sam Crisp of Portsmouth Christian, Colby Rodrigue of Pittsburg-Canaan and Jacob Loving of Epping, midfielders Colton Godwin of Newport, Mitchell Tilton of Newmarket and Joshua Coulombe of

Concord Christian and forwards Troy Brennan of Wilton-Lyndeborough, Jackson Cooney of Sunapee, Parker Clark of Pittsfield and Maddox Godzyk of Colebrook.

Honorable Mention also went to keepers Conner Hickey of Portsmouth Christian, Decota Maura-Giddis of Pittsfield, Laned Phillips of Pittsburg-Canaan, David Hutchinson of Newport and Ben Milbury of Epping, defenders

Andrew Claus of Sunapee and Asher Graves of Franklin, midfielders Sam Townsend of Wilton-Lyndeborough, Tyler Napeltano of Newmarket and Jacob de Ramon of Colebrook and forward Ethan Young of Concord Christian.

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

REMOTE

(continued from Page A1)

members concerned about consistency and the desire to keep students in school as long as possible.

The decision to cancel all winter sports passed 7-1 with regret. There was discussion about whether some outdoor

sports could continue, but in the end, it was an all or nothing proposal. Eldridge commented that the board made a decision to stay open a week longer, yet was immediately cancelling sports implying that was inconsistent. However, member at large Wendi Fenderson noted that

mitigation is working in school, it is not working in sports situations.

It has been argued that some students would still participate on various teams outside of the district's programs and therefore the school should offer programs to counteract that, but in Widmer's view, that is a

reality the school board has to deal with; parents can make their own decisions. The board has a responsibility to the school community.

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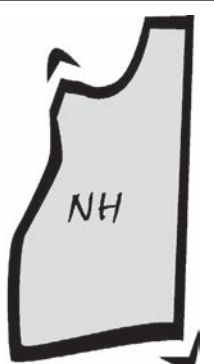
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BOSTITCH



Pneumatic 28° Framing Nailer Kit

Use for framing, sheathing, siding, trusses, bridging, wood to masonry, engineered lumber. Fencing and exterior decks. (2106276) (F28WW)

\$51⁹⁹

Makita



120 volt Corded Finishing Sander

Bare Tool. Weighs only 2.5 lbs. and is engineered with a 2 AMP motor that delivers 14,000 OPM for fast and smooth finishing sanding. (20408)(B04556K)

\$9⁹⁹

\$10⁹⁹

Nordic Poly Snow Shovel

18" wide blade,
51" handle with D
grip. (7200546)

Nordic Poly Snow Pusher

21" wide blade, 56"
handle with D grip.
(7200553)



\$2⁹⁹

**CLC
WORK GEAR**



Leather Hammer Holder

Superior quality hammer holder made of top grain leather with a riveted, cradle-style steel loop. (2382885)



\$19⁷⁹

SL Series 47" 1-Light LED Shop Light

The SL Shop Light provides uniform light distribution ideal for workshops, garages, attics and utility rooms. (3003438)

\$9⁹⁹

WELLS LAMONT



Men's Leather Palm Gloves

Reinforced patch palm. Leather finger and thumb tips, plus leather knuckle strap, for extra protection. Medium (7314560) Large (7314578) X-Large (7314586)

\$194⁹⁹

SENCO



FinishPro Pneumatic 15 Ga. Non-Marring 34° Nailer Kit

The FinishPro 42XP has established itself as the marquee tool for professional finish carpenters. (2103414)(PRO42XP)

\$39⁹⁹

STANLEY



Folding Sawhorses Pair

The Stanley portable folding sawhorse secures your sawing surface and is collapsible for easy transporting and storage. (2320133)

\$99⁹⁹

BOSTITCH



Smart Point Pneumatic 18 Ga. Brad Nailer Kit

Kit includes: nailer, 1/4" air fitting, sample brad nails, carrying case and extra no-mar tips. (2613776)(BTFP12233)

\$44⁹⁹

BOSTITCH



Pneumatic Mini Impact Nailer Kit

Drives most common bulk finish, framing and timber nails. Drives nails into confined areas. (2614436)(PN50)

\$98⁹⁹

BOSTITCH



Pneumatic 18 Ga. Narrow Crown Stapler Kit

7/32" Crown width. Depend on this finish stapler kit for efficiency and convenience. (2122398)(SX1838K)

\$99⁰⁰

Makita



7-1/4" Corded Circular Saw

Powerful 15 amp motor and a high power-to-weight ratio. Ideal for a range of framing and cutting applications. (2333664)(5007F)



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Thank You!



RE/MAX By The Lake Would like to extend a BIG THANK YOU! To ALL that contributed to our local Food Drive, **RESTOCK** with **RE/MAX**. Our Goal was to collect 500 non-perishable food items, along with cleaning supplies and toiletries. We collected **643 ITEMS!** Chris Racine, Director of the Alton Community Services Food Pantry, commented that this was the most anyone has ever donated. We could not have done this without the help of EVERYONE!

Wishing you All a Happy, Healthy and Safe Holiday Season.



Please join us for
**Christmas Services at
The Community Church of Alton**
20 Church St., Alton, NH 03809
603-875-5561

Sunday, December 20th 10:00am
How To Experience God’s Blessings

Thursday, December 24th 6:00pm
How To Experience God’s Peace

Sunday, December 27th 10:00am
How To Experience God’s Gift of Eternal Life

All services will be live on You Tube
Air filtration system is in place for your safety; please socially distance and wear a mask.

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