

A 120-year tradition continues at New Hampton's Old Home Day

BY DONNA RHODES
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NEW HAMPTON — Residents of New Hampton celebrated their 120th Old Home Day on the grounds of their circa 1789 Town House last Saturday, which was covered with craft and vendor booths, antique cars and plenty of good food from not only the Common Man Restaurants but the town's very own Bean Hole Bean crew.

Old Home Day was the idea of New Hampshire Governor Frank West Rollins, who in 1897 lamented the fact that children were growing up and leaving their hometowns in search of a new and more prosperous life.



Members of the New Hampton Garden Club were one of several vendors who set up booths for the town's Old Home Day last Saturday.

"I wish that in the ear of every son and daughter of New Hampshire, in the summer days, might be heard whispered the persuasive words 'Come back, come back,'" he once wrote.

The economy was improving, and life in small town New Hampshire was beginning to flourish once more so Old Home Day began as an invitation to bring young people back to their hometowns for a few days. It was hoped that they would like the changes they saw, enjoy seeing their family and friends once again and return there to live.

New Hampton's annual celebration got

SEE NH OHD, PAGE A12

Philbrick resigns, but debate continues

BY THOMAS P. CALDWELL
Contributing Writer

BRISTOL — The resignation of embattled high school guidance counselor Shelly Philbrick has not ended the debate over whether someone in a position of trust can maintain that trust while exercising First-Amendment rights to express a controversial personal opinion.

The American Civil Liberties Union-New Hampshire expressed concern on Aug. 10 that seeing people lose their jobs over their testimony in support of a former colleague "may deter public employees from, in their individual capacities, giving testimony in criminal court proceedings."

The organization said, "The sentencing phase of criminal trials routinely utilize[s] character witnesses. Our justice system depends on such in-

dividuals feeling free to testify in court, including on behalf of individuals who have been accused or convicted of crimes. The chilling effect potentially created by these institutions' decisions is deeply damaging to the fair administration of justice."

The criticism was directed at the Newfound Area School District and Plymouth State University. The Newfound Area School Board had accepted Philbrick's resignation in a one-minute public meeting that fol-

SEE PHILBRICK, PAGE A10



COURTESY

The bell tolls again at historic school house

The bell that once summoned students to class at the historic East Hebron Schoolhouse rang out once again this past weekend, as the building became home to the newest satellite office of Tilson PR, a Florida-based public relations firm. The company's founder and President, Tracy Tilson (a seasonal resident of Hebron herself), pictured above, was on hand to welcome visitors to the grand opening celebration, including some former students, and Steve Taylor, Executive Director of the New Hampshire Humanities Council, had the honor of ringing the bell and delivering a brief presentation on the building's history.

Celebrate 120 years of tradition at Old Home Day in Bridgewater

BRIDGEWATER — The Town of Bridgewater will be celebrating their 120th anniversary

ry this year, and members of the Historical Society invite the community to join them

Saturday, Aug. 18, at the historic Town House on Bridgewater Hill Road for the

town's annual Old Home Day celebration. The day's festivities will kick off with cof-

fee at 10 a.m., then at 10:30 a.m., Boy Scout Troop 50 will raise the flag and lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Scouts will also give a brief talk on all their activities over the past year before taking on their task of preparing hamburgers, hot dogs and other foods for the crowd.

There will once again be children's games in the field behind the Town House at 11 a.m., while adults browse the many crafts and homemade baked goods for sale inside.

At noon, everyone present will be called to the Town House porch to pose for the traditional group photo. in the traditional town photo. Copies of all previous Old Home

SEE BRIDGEWATER, PAGE A10

Alexandria Church celebrates history and community at 200th annual fair

BY DONNA RHODES
drhodes@salmonpress.news

ALEXANDRIA — This year marks the 200th year of the Alexandria United Methodist Church, and their annual Church Fair last weekend was a celebration of both church

SEE CHURCH FAIR, PAGE A12



Bristol selectmen: “Build the (retaining) wall”

BY THOMAS P. CALDWELL
Contributing Writer

BRISTOL — It may not solve the drainage problem, but building a retaining wall at Cummings Beach could help to control the erosion, selectmen have decided. They asked engineer Mike Vignale of KV Partners to come up with specifications for a wall on the south end of the beach, including steps that would lead down to the shoreline. Vignale originally was asked to come up with a plan to address the drainage from the parking lot to the culvert’s terminus, but when selectmen walked the beach on July 16, they concluded

ed that his solution would not solve the problem. He conceded that at the Aug. 6 selectmen’s meeting, saying that taking out a section of pavement, as he proposed, “would have no effect on that.” It would help to dissipate the water, he said, but it would not solve the culvert problem, where the pipe was becoming exposed. A wall, on the other hand, would help to stabilize a section of the beach where fluctuating lake levels had caused erosion. A retaining wall also would create a flat area that would be a convenient sunning spot for those lacking

the mobility to get to the shoreline, which is several feet lower at that point. In their discussions, selectmen also talked about adding steps by the retaining wall to make it easier to get to the water. Selectman J.P. Morrison was concerned about the cost, if they were to put in granite steps, and said wooden steps would require more maintenance. Board members present were unanimous in supporting the wall and asked Vignale to come back with the specifications and estimated cost to do the work, including the cost of steps. Selectman Don Milbrand was absent and did not cast a vote, but during the on-site visit, he had expressed support for doing the landscaping work, even if it did not address the original problem with the culvert. Removing the section of pavement, as

Vignale originally proposed, would mean forfeiting a couple of parking spaces, and Morrison opposed doing that unless other parking spaces could be created to replace them. Vignale said that could be accomplished. **Sewer To The Lake** Selectmen gave Town Administrator Nik Coates authorization to sign an agreement for updating plans to extend municipal sewer lines to Newfound Lake if the town is successful in obtaining a United States Department of Agriculture grant that would cover three-fifths of the cost. The grant would provide \$30,000, and the town could use \$20,000 from the sewer department capital reserve fund to do the work, Coates said. Before signing the agreement, Coates said he would have the town’s insurer go

over it to make sure it conforms to Primex requirements. Morrison noted that, by giving Coates the authorization, it would not commit the town to anything if the grant did not come through. “It’s about time we got some sewer to the lake,” Morrison commented. Chair Rick Alpers noted that the town had done the engineering work in 2009, and it just needed to be updated for current pricing. “Underwood Engineering is looking at what was on the shelf, fully designed,” he said. “Once the study is updated, we could move toward planning for town meeting with some sort of funding request for the Phase 1 work.” The first phase of the project would extend the sewer to about 350 customers, while the next phase would reach a more densely

populated section by Newfound Lake, with 800 potential customers. During the public comment portion of the meeting, former selectman Shawn Lagueux offered a cautionary warning, saying the zoning ordinances as currently written would allow rapid development around the lake, once sewer was available, and he suggested pairing any sewer extension with a review of the town’s zoning. It was concern about unbridled development around Newfound Lake in the late 20th century that stalled earlier efforts to extend municipal sewer to the lake. Density requirements are much looser when municipal sewer is available. Bill Dowey, a member of the Bristol Economic Development Committee, said, “It becomes very important

SEE WALL, PAGE A10



COURTESY

Bristol’s Julian Rounds completes basic training

U.S. Air Force Airman Julian C. Rounds graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force. Rounds is the son of Jeanne Tehven of Meredith, and brother of Rebecca Finestone of Uxbridge, Mass., and Beau T. Rounds of Manchester. He is a 2012 graduate of Newfound Regional High School, Bristol.

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Starr King event will foster discussion on racial tolerance

PLYMOUTH — On Saturday, Aug. 25, from 1 to 5 p.m., Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will host a discussion on race relations led by diversity educators Rick Huntley and Carol Pierce. The event is sponsored by Starr King’s Black Lives Matter Task Force. Following a vote of the congregation in May, Starr King will be raising a “Black Lives Matter” banner on its building in October and is presenting a series of public discussions to further community understanding of its decision to raise the banner. Huntley, an African American man from Washington, D.C., and Pierce, a white woman from Laconia, are co-authors (with Rianna Moore) of “Journeys of Race, Color & Culture: From Racial Inequality to Equity & Inclusion.” At the Starr King event, Huntley and Pierce will share typical journeys away from cultur-

COURTESY

Rick Huntley of Washington, D.C., and Carol Pierce of Laconia will lead a workshop focusing on racial tolerance at Starr King UU Fellowship on Saturday, Aug. 25. al dominance and subordination. Attendees will have an opportunity to interact with the authors as well as with other attendees in small groups. This workshop is in

response to the polarizing influence of race relations in our society that makes cross-cultural dialogue difficult. Starr King Fellowship recognized the importance of providing space for such dialogue when it voted earlier this year to install a “Black Lives Matter” banner on its building. Huntley’s and Pierce’s book is based on a continuum graphic that describes the journeys that white people and people of color can take from living with the costs of cultural dominance and subordination, to moving through a transition where people of all races grow in awareness of themselves and understanding of other people’s fears and wishes to be understood, to arrive at a place of equity and inclusion. The discussion will take place in the sanctuary at Starr King Fellowship, 101 Fairgrounds Rd. in Plymouth.

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When opioid pain relievers are prescribed for your child: What you should know

Editor's note: The following column was submitted for publication by the Partnership for Drug-Free Kids.

Used appropriately, medicines can improve our lives. When misused and abused, however, the consequences can be devastating. The overprescribing and misuse of prescription pain relievers has been a major cause of today's epidemic of opioid addiction and overdose deaths. This overview is intended to help you know what questions to ask when a healthcare provider recommends or prescribes a pain reliever for your child, and how to be sure that your child takes the medication as prescribed without misusing the medication or sharing it with others.

What are some common opioid pain relievers?

Hydrocodone (Zohydro), Hydrocodone + Acetaminophen (Vicodin), Oxycodone (Oxycontin, Roxicodone), Oxycodone + Acetaminophen (Percocet), Codeine, Morphine, Fentanyl, and Tylenol with codeine. There are also non-opioid pain relievers (gabapentin, for example) that also have a potential for misuse and abuse, but much lower than that of opioids.

Why is the Misuse of Prescription Pain Relievers So Dangerous?

Opioid pain relievers are powerful drugs — very similar to heroin in their chemical makeup, and habit-forming by their very nature. This is why the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) strongly recommends against the prescribing of opioids for long-term

treatment of chronic pain. Even for treatment of acute (short term) pain, opioid pain relievers should only be prescribed and taken sparingly. The risk of addiction is particularly concerning when the patient is a teen or young adult because their brains are still developing and therefore, biologically predisposed to experimentation. So, if your teen or young adult is prescribed opioid pain relievers, you or your child's caregiver should control the medication, dispense it only as prescribed and monitor the child closely for signs of misuse or growing dependence.

Why Would a Young Person be Prescribed an Opioid Pain Reliever?

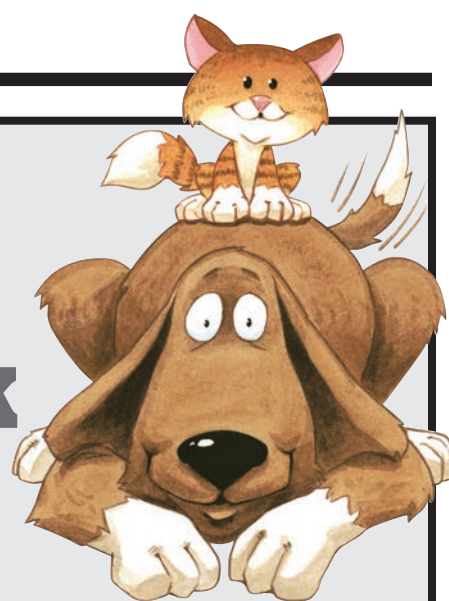
Opioid pain relievers are most often prescribed following surgery or to treat cancer pain, so many young people will not need to be prescribed opioids. But opioids may be prescribed for young people in the event of accidental injury, such as a sports-related injury or a biking accident in which a fracture or even a severe sprain occurs. Another reason for which opioids are often prescribed to young people is oral surgery to remove wisdom teeth. There are other ailments such as sickle cell disease or other pediatric chronic pain conditions for which opioids may be recommended.

What Questions Should You Ask Your Child's Healthcare Provider When an Opioid Pain Reliever is Recommended or Prescribed?

Is a prescription opioid

SEE **CADY**, PAGE A11

PET of the Week Chance



CHANCE: so named by his original shelter, all the way down in South Carolina, this sturdily built canine travelled a very long way for his "second chance". Sadly overlooked, he's been waiting since June 1st for his lasting forever home.

Medium sized brown dog, just about 50lbs – he seems to have faded into the background of the adopting public's consciousness and after this length of time, as the prettier, more obviously purebred, and cute tiny puppies leave the building, he remains, forlorn and lonely.



We know he would be a good dog with some guidance away from the shelter. For some dogs it's just is too loud, too busy, to

reactive for them to cope with the constant stream of visitors, and proximity of other canines.

Ideal home, Chance

is actually afraid of cats! He may be able to enjoy the company of another dog at some point in his life, maybe a local canine playmate. We must be very clear, he has had no experience that has been positive with children and really needs an adults only home.

Please come and visit this sweet two-year-old Shepherd mix today and chat with one of our knowledgeable adoption staff. We really want to make the right match for him.

Shelter is open on Weekends, 11-4 and every day except Mondays and Wednesdays Noon to 5p.m Check www.nhhumane.org

Letters to the Editor

I ask for your continued confidence

To the Editor:

It's been a privilege and honor to serve as one of your three state representatives in Concord this session – my very first in state government. In fact, I'm really not even a full-fledged "freshman" yet, since it's been less than a year, and it's already time to earn re-election.

Proud to say, in spite of my short service to you, I did draft, and co-sponsored a bill with a bi-partisan colleague, Sen. Martha Fuller-Clark (D) of Portsmouth (proof that I went there to get things done, not just fight with the other party!). Also proud to add that it passed both Houses and Gov. Sununu signed HB 1471 on Telemedicine into law on June 18 (see related story).

This law brings the option for those with distant need for follow-up care the ability to access services remotely, particularly important to those living a significant distance from their provider. It forms the basis to study fair compensation to professional providers rather than have rates simply dictated by insurance companies. Most importantly, it reduces costs to the state for those on public benefits by eliminating the need to fund the otherwise highly-costly ambulatory care to transport home-bound patients to their provider when a simple follow-on telemedicine visit via common video cell phone options or other digital means would suffice.

Additionally, during my short time in Concord, I lay claim to being the deciding vote in subcommittee work in the House on Default Budget reform for SB2 towns and school districts (like ours here in Newfound), which resulted in long-overdue change. In fact, the mess Newfound finds itself in could well be prevented by these changes to the law. Look for wider voter choice

when it comes to voting on your budgets at school district and SB2 town meetings across the state.

Finally, in my dual role as one of your representatives in the House and your School Board, I recently introduced Newfound to the Friends Program of Concord, which addresses the double need here to provide children with the option of a foster grandparent and an active role by our elderly after being thoroughly vetted by this program. It is both a paid program for area seniors and a benefit to many students in need throughout our district.

When I made the commitment to serve the public full time in this capacity, it was a commitment no longer encumbered by a need to run a business on a 7x24 basis – I retired. Anything less is unfair to the voters. For optimum results, this requires a focus on your needs and lots of my time. This can be a busy schedule and merits a full time commitment. I would be honored to serve again and continue my tenure at the State House on your behalf and continue demonstrated bi-partisan work for the benefit of our citizens in Alexandria, Ashland, Bridgewater, Bristol and Grafton that comprises District 9 in Grafton County. Please plan to cast one of your votes for State Representative in the all-important Republican Primary Election on Tuesday, September 11th so that I may be nominated to run in November in the General Election. I must be one of the top two vote-getters in September in order to do so. I respectfully ask for your vote to continue my efficacy in your public service.

Sincerely yours,

*Rep. Vincent Paul Migliore
Grafton County District 9
Bridgewater*

A plan for adequate education funding

To the Editor:

As a Democratic primary candidate for State Representative to serve Plymouth, Holderness and Hebron, my top priority is to increase state funding to school districts.

In 2006, the New Hampshire State Supreme Court ruled that it is the responsibility of the State, not school districts, to provide an "adequate" education for public school children in grades kindergarten through 12. The Court told the Legislature to determine the cost of that adequacy and to pay for it.

More than ten years have passed since that ruling, and state aid still provides only 21 percent of what school districts expend, which is on average \$15,000 per student.

This is how the current Adequacy Aid formula determines the cost of an adequate education for school districts. It begins with a base amount of \$3,600 for each student. Then it adds an extra \$1,800 for each low-income student, and an extra \$2,000 for each special education student. For all school districts in the state this comes to \$750 million.

The State also funds charter schools, but it uses a base amount of \$7,000 per student instead

of \$3,600. The higher base amount is difficult to explain given the fact that charters, which are quasi-public schools licensed by the State Board of Education, are exempt from many costly regulations such as hiring only certified teachers, offering specific high school courses, and providing transportation. Charters receive the same \$1,800 for each low-income student, while all services for special education students are paid for by the school district where the student lives, not the charter school.

My Adequacy Aid funding plan uses the \$7,000 base amount for both charters and school districts. This would send an additional \$400 million in aid to districts, and increase the percentage of expenditures covered by the State to 34 percent.

I will be presenting more information about how the State funds school districts and how this impacts your property taxes on Wednesday, Aug. 22 from 6 – 7 p.m. at Pease Public Library in Plymouth.

Please vote for me in the Sept. 11 primary. For more information about what I will do if elected, please visit Fellows4NH.com.

*Sallie Fellows
Holderness*

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If something has to go, it has to be the hornets

Editor's note: Mr. Harrigan is taking an extended hiatus, and was unable to submit a new column in time to meet our press deadline for this week's edition. The following column was originally published Aug. 13, 2015.

I was mowing around the edge of the garden the other day, very slowly on account of ever-emerging rocks and hit the top of a broken grade stake, the kind you pound into the ground to hold up your chicken fence, if you're numb enough to have chickens, when I felt, well, a presence, as if tiny little wings were buffeting the air all about me.

Little wings actually were doing just

NORTH COUNTRY NOTEBOOK
By JOHN HARRIGAN



that, and drawing from bitter experience I ducked and shoved the speed lever to Fast Forward and got out of there, and looked back to see the air full of hornets, better known as ground hornets, the kind that erupt when something has vibrated the ground around their nest, that would be me, and attempt to sting it to death.

This was a hole in the ground in close proximity not only to the garden but also to the bird feeders, where I still put out tidbits like suet for my little and not so little feath-



COURTESY

A hornet, Lamentus Stingulotsubetcha, the kind that nests in the ground and posts guards at the entrance and alerts a host of compatriots to issue forth and try to sting you to death, in a rare hornet-at-rest shot. (Photo courtesy No Mercy for Hornets, a 301 c3b 4xy Buz N Styng, or whatever satisfies the IRS, non-profit.)

ered friends (I know, I know, bears, and no furrowed-brow calls to Audubon or Fish and Game, please), hang the laundry out not

to just make my own totally insignificant yet feel-good contribution to the anti-global-warming effort but also to savor that great freshness when I take them in, tend the garden, and (yup) mow the lawn. Eschew the lawnmower and use goats or sheep, you say? Been there, done that, and even they are not dumb enough to like ground hornets.

Clearly, these hornets had to go, as in to Hornet Heaven. So, having ascertained, from a safe distance, the actual hole from which this menace was still issuing, like so many fighter planes taking off from a carrier, I made a bee-line (sorry, couldn't help that) for my nearby shop, which contains everything to fix just about anything, including hay-rakes, wood-splitters, lawnmowers, and yes, ground hornets, this last in the form of one of those kill-the-hornets bombs that sprays a stream of stuff up to 20 feet and, for all I

know, can kill not just hornets but the entire Klingon Evil Empire.

All this may seem overly decisive, action-oriented, thoughtless and, well, sort of final, I am, after all, I admit it, a guy, and clearly I should have taken this to a sensitivity committee or something, but not as bad, I think, as pouring a cup or so of gasoline down the hole at night, when the hornets are fast asleep, and touching it off, which creates some impressive pyrotechnics in addition to the satisfaction of saying a permanent good night, bye-bye and sleep tight to the hornets. There are probably horrendous environmental fallouts to both and/or other methods, but I don't exactly see any Save the Hornets activists rushing to the fore here.

By the way, if anyone reading this has a wasp's nest (a sort of similar yet totally different situation, in the Cause/Effect sense) artfully constructed above, say, a seasonal door, the kind you fling open to enjoy the mid-summer breezes only to be attacked by squadrons of wasps, I recommend the Safe Distance Spray and Run Away approach, not the gasoline, unless you're sick and tired of your house and have moved everything out.

Letters to the Editor

I hope to continue seeking solutions for District 1

To the Editor:

Four years ago, when I was elected as a County Commissioner, several serious problems needed to be addressed. I ran for office pointing to these problems and urging solutions. Shortly after taking office, I became Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners. Tackling these problems has been a team effort with my fellow commissioners, administrators, department heads and dedicated employees working hard, with me, to solve the problems.

First, the Delegation and the previous Commissioners were engaged in a legal war over budget authority, with the legal bills approaching \$100,000.

My fellow Commissioners and I quickly ended all lawsuits and pledged to work with the delegation to resolve issues, without going to court. While the relationship between the Commissioners and some members of the Delegation has often been strained, to date we have been able to resolve issues without litigation.

Second, we inherited a dangerously overcrowded jail in need of major repairs. Although the vast majority of inmates were incarcerated because of drug use, the Corrections Department had no drug program and

a recidivism rate of more than 70 percent. Our county had one of the highest per capita death rates from opioid overdoses in the state. The previous Commissioners were seriously considering a \$42 million facility with significant staffing increases to address the problem.

The Belknap County jail was repaired and updated and a new Community Corrections Center was added for \$7.3 million, approximately \$35 million less than the previous proposal. Currently we are changing lives. Early indications show we are significantly reducing the recidivism rate with the drug treatment program we have implemented.

Third, four years ago our county nursing home was in chaos. There were significant problems with billing, in the nursing home, and the amount of uncollectable bills were growing. The entire county complex, including the nursing home, had a failed roof system.

The change here has been dramatic. We have a new Nursing Home Administrator, morale of staff has been significantly boosted, our bill collection rate is now one of the best in the state and the roof has been replaced. Proof of the turnaround accomplished by the new leadership

in the nursing home came recently when U. S. News and World Report named the Belknap County Nursing Home #5 out of over 70 nursing homes in the State of New Hampshire.

Fourth, we inherited a big employee morale problem. Union employees had gone 4 years without a contract. Non-union employees had received no wage increases during that period. The costly employee health insurance plans, then in effect, were considered "Cadillac Plans" under the Affordable Care Act and thus might have required the county to pay a \$150,000 a year tax.

The Commissioners negotiated new contracts with all four unions. These contracts eliminated the "Cadillac Insurance Plans" and the threat of the tax they could have triggered thereby saving taxpayer money. When the Commissioners presented these contracts to the Delegation for their approval of the cost items, they were met with overwhelming approval, being viewed as fair to both the employees and to the taxpayers of Belknap County.

These issues were my priorities four years ago, when I

sought election as a County Commissioner, and I am very pleased with what we have accomplished. It is significant to note that Belknap County has the smallest budget, the lowest county taxes and the smallest staff of any county in the state.

I am seeking re-election for three major reasons. First, we need to continue to fund the Corrections Center to address the opioid crisis. I believe those efforts are of vital importance to our community. Second, it is clear that we have an eldercare crisis coming, as our population continues to increase in age. The state has allocated most of the financial responsibility to the counties. I am committed to working on strong programs to keep seniors safely in their homes longer, thus reducing the need for more expensive nursing home care. Finally, I will continue my commitment to fiscal responsibility, efficiency and transparency in government. I ask for your vote at the polls in District 1 (Laconia, New Hampton and Sanbornton) on Sept. 11.

David DeVoy
Belknap County Commissioner
Sanbornton

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



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Arthur E. Martel, Jr., 75

DANBURY — Arthur E. Martel, Jr., passed away peacefully on Aug. 6, 2018.

Born in Chester on Aug. 20, 1942, he was the son of the late Arthur E. Martel, Sr. and Mary (Gorton) Martel. He was also predeceased by his brother Alfred and sister Cindy.

He leaves behind his son Stephen and daughter-in-law Erica Martel of Epping; his daughter Stephanie Davis of No. Berwick, Maine; six grandchildren (Christopher, Jonathan, and Tara Martel and Austin, Hunter, and Brandon Davis); several nieces and nephews; as well as his loving partner of 18 years, Claire Tap- ply.

Before retiring, Art was proprietor of Art's Auto Parts and Art's Hardware Store in Epping. He was an avid fisherman, and loved the outdoors.

A graveside service took place on Satur-

day, Aug. 11 at noon at the Riverdale Ceme- tery, North Road, Dan- bury. In lieu of flow- ers, donations may be made in his memory to the Danbury Volun- teer Fire Department and Rescue/EMS, PO Box 149, Danbury, NH 03230 or Newfound Area Nursing Associ- ation, 214 Lake Street, Bristol, NH 03222. Ar- rangements are under the direction of Em- mons Funeral Home of Bristol.

Caroline Eldora Sawyer, 87

PLYMOUTH — Car- oline Eldora (Smith) Sawyer of Plymouth and New Hampton passed away peacefully at her home in Plymouth on Aug. 5, 2018.

Born March 2, 1931 to Helen (Huckins) Smith and Albert Smith of Dana Hill Road, New Hampton, she was the middle child of seven, and lived a full life of caring and generosity towards others.

Growing up on a farm meant long days, full of hard work, but also fun and the camaraderie of her large family. The com- mon-sense self-reli- ance she learned on the farm served her well throughout her life, as there was rarely any- thing she was afraid to tackle, whether it was installing carpeting, helping work on cars, or running a one-horse hay rake. She attended the one-room Dana Hill school through grade 8, and completed high school in Ashland, graduating with the class of 1949.

After high school, she worked for 10 years at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Thompson on the shores of Big Squam lake in Holderness, where she learned to drive both a Jeep and a Cadillac, learned to swim, and in the win- ter, enjoyed racing across the frozen lake on speed-skates.

She was an avid member of the Grange, eventually meeting her future husband Leon- ard at a dance at the West Thornton Grange



hall. Although she demurred on his initial dance request, he wouldn't take no for an answer, and they were married in 1960 and moved to Plymouth. She was a strict Baptist and he a strict Catho- lic but their marriage prospered through mu- tual respect and sup- port.

For many years, she maintained large ve- getable and flower gar- dens in both Plymouth and New Hampton, much to the chagrin of her young sons who were regularly pressed into service for plant- ing, weeding and oth- er labor. Farming was in her blood and she kept livestock during the summers including calves, pigs, chickens and rabbits.

Caroline held mul- tiple offices in the Re- bekahs, often in the role of Chaplain, and The New Hampton Garden Club. She was a member of the Bris- tol Baptist Church, and also active in the Plym- outh United Methodist Church, often baking many dozens of bread rolls to serve at church suppers.

In later years, she was a full-time caregiv-

er to many older folks, offering transporta- tion and in-home care to those in need. She never hesitated to offer anything she could to those who needed as- sistance.

She and Leonard enjoyed many vaca- tions together, and she was especially fond of ocean cruises with destinations including the Caribbean, Alaska, Scotland, and Ireland.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Leonard Saw- yer; her two sons, Ed- ward M. Sawyer and his wife Valerie of Dover and Charles L. Sawyer of New York, N.Y., along with her two grandsons, Griffin C. Sawyer and Theo C. Sawyer of Dover. She is also survived by her sister Cymbeline Tib- betts of New Hampton, and brother Albert Smith III of Tilton. She was predeceased by her parents, her broth- ers Daniel Smith and Nance Smith, and sis- ters Elaine Seaver and Jospehine Moulton.

Special thanks go out to the caregivers of Granite State Indepen- dent Living, Live-Free Home Health, and the Pemi-Baker VNA, who along with her hus- band Leonard, tended to her around the clock in her final months.

A graveside service was held on Monday, Aug. 13, 2018 at 10 a.m. at the Woodstock Cem- etery, Woodstock. Rev. Wayne Toutaint will officiate. Arrange- ments are under the di- rection of Emmons Fu- neral Home of Bristol.

Dorothy Allard Storm, 89



PORT ORANGE, Fla. — Dorothy Allard Strom, 89, of Port Orange, Fla. passed away Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2018.

Dorothy was born in Quincy, Mass., and had lived most of her life in Bristol before moving to Flagler Beach, Fla., and subsequently to Port Orange, Fla. Dorothy en- joyed spending her sum- mers with her family for many years in Bustins Is- land, Maine. She retired as an administrative as- sistant to the principal from Bristol Elementary School in Bristol. Doro- thy was of the Methodist faith.

She was the daugh- ter of the late Joseph Frank and Marjorie Loretta MacComiskey DesRoches, and the

wife of the late Rodney Townsend Allard and George Earl Strom. She was also preceded in death by a son, David Al- lard; a grandson, Daniel Allard; and two brothers, Robert and Dean Des- Roches.

Surviving are a daugh- ter, Barbara Allard of Ellijay, Ga.; a son, Craig Allard of Kingston; three

grandchildren, Christine Allard, Steven Allard, and Zachary Allard; and nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Bristol, New Hamp- shire. The inurnment will be in Bristol Ceme- tery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memori- als be made in memory of Dorothy Allard Strom to Four Seasons Hospice, 571 South Allen Rd., Flat Rock, NC 28731 or Com- passus Hospice, 583 High- land Crossing, Suite 120, Ellijay, GA 30540.

Ivive Funeral Home, Murphy, North Caroli- na in charge of arrange- ments.

An online guest regis- ter is available at www. iviefuneralhomeinc.com.

Towns

Alexandria

Merry Ruggirello 744-5383
sunshine_eyes51@yahoo.com

My apologies to you fine folks out there for having skipped a week. I had technical difficul- ties for almost a week, and yes, I am chal- lenged with workings of electronics. Guess you could say my ex- pertise lies in bowls, pots, pans and a spoon to stir up good things to eat.

Town

Board of Selectmen meeting Tuesday, Aug. 21 at 6 p.m. in the Mu- nicipal Building.

The Alexandria His- torical Society will be presenting "Research- ing Your Old House" by Andrew Cushing from the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance on Thursday, Aug. 23 at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall. The event is free, open to everyone, and refreshments will be served.

Alexandria UMC

Sunday, Aug. 19, services at 9 a.m. and Communion will be served. The Rev. Vick- ie Wood-Parish will be here to serve Commu- nion as well as filling in for Pastor Faith, who will be away cel- ebrating her husband Ben's 60th birthday. Happy Birthday Ben!

We are collecting non-perishable food and toiletries every Sunday in August. Please put your items in the box in the Giv- ing Chair in the entry to the Sanctuary. We will be replenishing food boxes to have on hand for those in need, and the rest will be go- ing to Community Ser- vices. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Tuesday, Aug. 21, Pastor will be in the of- fice from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

That's a wrap for this week. May your week ahead be filled with all good things, and be safe in your travels!

Danbury

Donna Sprague
huntoonfarm@myfairpoint.net

South Danbury Church

During the summer, Sunday worship at the South Danbury Church is a potluck breakfast

and Table Worship at 8:30 a.m., and everyone is welcome! Even if you don't have anything to bring, come anyway – there is always plenty of food and conversa- tion to share at South Danbury.

Old Home Day

This Sunday, August 19, the South Danbury Church is hosting Dan- bury's Old Home Day celebration from 9:30 a.m. to noon, continu- ing a statewide custom that is now over 100 years old. The yearly observance alternates between the United Church of Danbury and the South Danbury Church.

The program will include a community worship service and the Old Home Day an- nual meeting, includ- ing the traditional presentation of prizes to the youngest, old- est, largest family and first-timer in atten- dance, and to the guest who traveled furthest for the occasion.

Singer-songwriter Keegan Farr will per- form, and there will be a special presenta- tion, "The Nature of Danbury," by Master Naturalist and photog- rapher Alex Monday, followed by a light lunch, with time for conversation, recon- necting, and sharing memories afterward.

Farm Picnic

On Sunday, Aug. 19, Huntoon Farm will host a farm tour and progressive picnic from 1-3 p.m. It's an opportunity to visit the farm, learning about its history and get a meal from foods the farm grows and makes. For more information or to make reserva- tions, call the farm at 768-5579.

Groton

Ruth Millett 603-786-2926
rem1752nh@gmail.com

While summer lin- gers on, don't forget Groton Old Home Day, Aug. 18 from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Everett Ho- bart Memorial Park on Sculptured Rocks Road. Line up for the parade will be at 5 p.m. at the Town Garage. BBQ will begin around 6 p.m. Live music will begin around 6:30 p.m. There will be Raf-

fles, Games and Fun!! Come and join in. The event is sponsored by the Groton Old Home Day Committee.

The work on North Groton Road will con- tinue through Friday, Aug. 17, with culvert, underdrain and ditch- ing work. Road clo- sure will take place 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on those days depending on weather. Please seek alternate routes. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please feel free to contact the Town of Groton at 744- 9190.

At the Select Board meeting on Aug. 7, the bid was opened for the Chevy Impala retired police cruiser. The winning bid went to Heather Straker for \$811.11.

A septic design was approved for Map 1, lot 51 which is off Bailey Hill Road and two dis- posal agreements were signed for Faucher and Simula.

There was discus- sion about the peram- bulation contract that was awarded approxi- mately five years ago and the marking was never completed for the Alexandria/Groton line. Miles Sinclair expressed his concern about the money that was paid to have the project done and asked the Select Board what they intended to do about this. Sara stat- ed that when this was looked into one other time and no payment had been made for the marking of that bound- ary. The Select Board will be discussing this matter at their next work session.

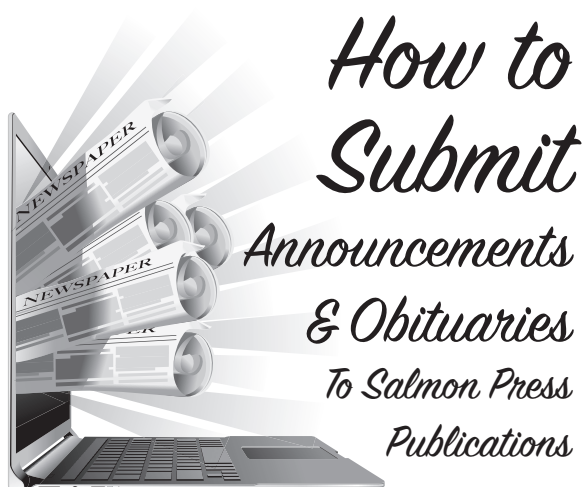
Enjoy some summer reading and check out some books at the He- bron Library. Free library services to Groton residents. The library hours are Mon- days, 4 – 7 p.m., Wednesdays, 1 – 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Scheduled Meetings and Office Closures:

Select Board Work Session –Tuesday, Aug. 21 at 5 p.m. all at the Town House.

Select Board Meet- ings (open to the pub- lic) – Aug. 21, Sept. 4 and 18 at 7 p.m. at the Town House

There will be a Plan- SEE TOWNS, PAGE A11



How to Submit Announcements & Obituaries To Salmon Press Publications

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Obituaries can be sent to: **obituaries@salmonpress.com**

Wedding, engagement, and anniversary announcements are welcome at: **weddings@salmonpress.com**

Photos are also welcome, but must be submitted in jpeg format.

Please contact Executive Editor

Brendan Berube at (603) 279-4516, ext. 111

with any questions regarding the submission process.



Ashland Community Church

Ashland Community Church is located at 55 Main St., on Route 3 in Ashland (across from Shurfine Market). Parking is available next to and behind the church. Pastor Ernie Madden Phone: 968-9464 Email: accernie@hotmail.com Website: ashland-communitychurch.com

Sundays: 9 a.m. - Early Worship Service, followed by coffee and fellowship in the church dining room. 10:30 a.m. - Contemporary Worship Service. Coffee and snacks are available in the back of the sanctuary before the service. Toddler Zone (for infants - five years old) and KidZone (for K-6th grade) are available during the Contemporary Service. Special Needs Class - For teens-adults at the Contemporary Service. Participants meet in the sanctuary for singing, and are dismissed to their class at approximately 10:45 a.m.

Kidzone: Debbie Madden leads the K-sixth grade class. Kids will love the great videos and games that teach age appropriate lessons in a loving atmosphere.

Alcoholics Anonymous Group: Monday's at 8 p.m. in the church dining room.

It is our desire to help you understand God's incredible grace, mercy and love. We believe that you will love Ashland Community Church. We are a friendly, loving, and caring church that studies and shares the word of our dear Lord and Savior. Our Vision is to become a church that unchurched people will love to attend. Our mission is to lead people to live and love like Jesus and to help others to do the same. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Ernie Madden at any of the contact information above.

Real Church, Real People, Real Simple

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, and remember to just come as you are. No perfect people allowed!

Bristol United Church of Christ ("the Church on the Hill")

We are handicapped accessible! Our doors are always open wide to all those seeking to find a safe, but invigorating place for spiritual life, growth, fellowship and service. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here!

Sundays Pastor: Pastor Mike Carrier Intergenerational Service: 9:30 a.m., July & August Coffee Fellowship: Following service Sunday School: Will resume in the Fall. Watch for the date!

Notes Our Summer guest Musician Program began on June 10, and will continue through August. We welcome anyone interested in sharing their gift of music at this time. See our organist for scheduling on any given Sunday. Wheelchair accessibility has now been enhanced by the deletion of half a pew as you enter the Sanctuary, accommodating two to three wheelchairs!

Location: P.O. Box 424, 15 Church St., Bristol, NH 03222 Phone: 744-8132

Office Hours 9 a.m. to noon - Monday through Friday Pastor Mike can be reached through the office at 744-8132; his email, mikecarrier@earthlink.net; or by phone: 960-0196.

Weekly Events Mondays: A.A. Step meeting - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesdays Bone Builders - 9:30 a.m. Senior Crafts: 9:30 a.m. Senior Luncheon - Noon AA Discussion - 8 p.m.

Wednesdays: Morning Reflection continues to be a success, with Don Sorrie leading us in discussing devotions by women from the NIV Bible. Our participants are thoroughly enjoying these sessions, and look through Aug. 29. Coffee provided. Come join us, and bring others for a time in God's word.

Fridays: Bone Builders - 9:30 a.m. Monthly Events: WIC (Women/Infant/Children) Clinic - Second

Monday at 8:30 a.m.

T.E.A. (Time, Encourage, Accept) - for Women Third Tuesday at 4 p.m. Meeting place varies.

Check with the church office for exact place and time.

Women's Fellowship - Next meeting - Thursday, Sept. 13 In early July, several members met to discuss working on smaller, inexpensive crafts to be exhibited at the annual Christmas Bazaar. They met later in July and had a productive session working on these crafts. The next planned meeting is Aug. 20, 11:30 a.m. at the church. All are welcome to bring your craft and join the fun!

Watch for our Bake Sale to be held as part of the Bristol Olde Home Day celebration on Saturday, August 25th! Anyone wishing to donate baked goods for our table can contact Bonnie Biondi at 934-4137. With your help, we hope to look forward to another successful event! See you there!

Ongoing: Bristol Community Services is in need of many items...in particular: peanut butter, baked beans, spaghetti sauce, instant potatoes, instant oatmeal, jelly, soups, rice, cereal and canned vegetables. Please help if you can!

Events Hot off the press! Our new menu for our monthly church suppers is out! Leading off on Sept. 8, a roast turkey dinner is always a favorite! Following on Oct. 6, will be a delicious roast pork dinner, and Nov. 10 boasts another favorite, our famous pot roast! Stay tuned for more to follow!

Adults \$9. Children \$4. Serving 5:30 to 7 p.m. Take Out Available: 744-8132 Our Ice Cream Nights for this season are held on Wednesdays, at 7:30 p.m. So far, we have visited Shackett's on West Shore Road, Newfound Grocery on Route 3A in Bridgewater, and The Big Catch on Shore Rd. in Bristol. Rain does not seem to dampen anyone's spirits, as our turnout is still good! Great fun, no matter the weather!

Something new! Christian Ed. And the Music Committe is hoping to form a Ukulele Band! Plans are being formulated. Watch for details!

B.U.C.C. cooperates with other churches and community organizations to serve the needs

of all people who live near us. Our reach extends around the world through our work with other members of the United Church of Christ!

Restoration Church, Plymouth (Assemblies of God)

Greetings from Restoration Church Plymouth, located at 319 Highland Street, Plymouth, NH 03264. If you do not have a home church we invite you to come and join our warm and friendly family here at Restoration Church. Please feel free to contact us at hello@restorationchurch.cc.. Our church phone number is still the same, 536-1966. Our schedule has changed to the following: Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Morning Service Monday: First and third Monday of the Month Noon-2 p.m. Helping Hands Food Pantry Friday: Second Friday of the month 6 p.m. Food, Fun, Fellowship On Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017, we officially launched as Restoration Church Plymouth. More details about this service will be included in the next article. We also started a new series entitled, Stories. We will be continuing this series this week as well. We have our own worship team during our services in our auditorium and then we watch as a Pastor Nate Gagne preaches via video during our service.

Our Mission Statement: Just One More! Everyone is welcome to all of our services. The church is handicapped accessible on the east entrance.

Star King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 101 Fair-

ground Rd., Plymouth, is a multigenerational, welcoming congregation where different beliefs come together in common covenant. We work together in our fellowship, our community, and our world to nurture justice, respect, and love.

Sunday, Aug. 19 - 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Plymouth State University Roundtable Plymouth State has started to unveil its new curriculum based around integrated clusters by wiping out departments and schools in favor of allowing students to cross disciplines. It is the first university in America to do so. What are the implications for the local community? In this panel, you will learn the touchpoints with PSU. Visit our Web site www.starrkingfellowship.org 536-8908

On Saturday, Aug. 25, the Black Lives Matter Task Force will be hosting a workshop at the Fellowship. Rick Huntley of Washington, D.C. and Carol Pierce of Laconia will present their book Journeys of Race, Color & Culture: From Racial Inequality to Equity & Inclusion. Rick, an African American man, and Carol, a White woman, will share typical journeys away from cultural dominance and subordination from their experience in creating the book with colleagues who represented differing races, gender, and sexual orientation. Those attending the training session will interact with the authors as they speak, as well as in small groups. The workshop will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. with a refreshment break half way through. (Finger foods will be appreciated!)

Yard Sale Sept. 8. The Fellowship will be taking part in Plymouth's town wide yard sale on Sept. 8. This is a major fundraiser for the Fellowship. It

is also a great opportunity for everyone to downsize, recycle, and work together in community. You may drop off items in whenever the building is open

Are you interested in joining a Soul Matters Group this year? If so, we'd like to know what times of the week you would be able to attend. Please visit here to participate in the poll. https://doodle.com/poll/g8v4tk-pngu7dqp87. The new schedule will then be created from there to accommodate as many as possible. Sign-up sheets will be available at the first services both on-line and at the Fellowship. The September packet is already available and can be downloaded from the Soul Matters page on our website. http://starrkingfellowship.org/soul-matters/. It's titled "Vision: The practice of intentional imagination."

"Scrabble on Tuesdays" Come join us for a new way to have fun and keep our brains cranking! Scrabble with dictionaries and without timers. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall Tuesdays from 2:30 to 5 p.m.!

Help Wanted Nursery Position - Nursery care provider Sunday mornings, 9 - 11 a.m. for infants and children up to four years of age. Sept. 2, 2018 through June 16, 2019. Flexibility and availability for special occasion, such as congregational meetings and events. Qualifications needed: Experience in early childhood education. CPR certification for infants and children, and satisfactory completion of background check. If interesting in applying, contact Jane Clay, Director of Religious Education -dre@starrkingfellowship.org.

The Next Meeting of the Wise Women in Training is to be held on Wednesday, Aug. 22 from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

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Investigation of Native remains at Livermore Falls continues

HOLDERNESS — They are back again, a state archaeological team looking for more Native remains at Livermore Falls on the Pemigewasset River. Under a program called SCRAP, for State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program, early pottery bowl fragments, a partial arrowhead or spear point, plus numerous quartzite flakes from making such tools have been recovered. Also a stone scraper, most likely used for preparing an animal skins. This phase of the



They are back again, a state archaeological team looking for more Native remains at Livermore Falls on the Pemigewasset River.

investigation ended in July after four weeks on site. Under the eye of archaeologist David Trubey of the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, volunteers dug one-meter-by-one-meter test pits down through various layers, or horizons, of soil in search of what implements were left behind by early inhabitants thousands of years ago. Various riparian land "shelves" just above the Pemigewasset along its east side have yielded evidence of where these

Natives searched for food - mostly salmon, alewives and shad - during annual fish runs. Most of the catch was dried and stored for the long winter's survival ahead after drying the fish on racks the remains of which may be evidenced by a series of heat-cracked cobble stones recovered indicating the use of fire for quicker drying. Also being unearthed at the same time nearby are the much more recent remains of what once was "The Hollow," a

SEE REMAINS, PAGE A11

SLA to host Squam Lake island excursion

HOLDERNESS — Join the Squam Lakes Association (SLA) from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 17 for an island adventure! As part of the SLA Adventure Ecology Program series, Lakes Region Conservation Corps (LRCC) AmeriCorps member, Becca, will host a program that takes participants out for a fun day at both Moon and Bow-



Join the Squam Lakes Association (SLA) from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 17 for an island adventure!

man Islands. Participants will enjoy a boat ride to the islands, followed by a leisurely hike to some of the campsites, natural areas and beaches found on the islands. Information will be provided about the work the LRCC AmeriCorps members are doing in the Squam Lakes Watershed, how SLA's low-impact composting system works and where to catch the best sunset. All ages are welcome to this participate in this program. Please bring wind resistant layers, comfortable walking shoes and a lunch. This

SEE SLA, PAGE A11



COURTESY

Interlakes Summer Theatre, Professional Musical Theatre in the Lakes Region, presents Disney's "Newsies," Aug. 15-19, Tuesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m., with matinees Wednesday and Thursday at 2 p.m. and Sunday at 5 p.m. For tickets, call 707-6035 or buy online at interlakestheatre.com.

Squam Lakes Natural Science Center to host bone marrow donor drive

HOLDERNESS — Squam Lakes Natural Science Center was heartbroken to learn that one of its long-time volunteers, a retired science educator, was diagnosed with a form of blood cancer. This individual is currently undergoing several medical procedures and treatments to battle the disease, but there is something she needs that is not yet available to her: a bone marrow transplant. Seventy percent of patients in need of a marrow transplant do not have a fully matched

donor in their family, according to Be The Match®, a national marrow donor program and the facilitators of the do-

SEE MARROW DRIVE, PAGE A11

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Edward Jones: Financial Focus

Financial Tips for Alzheimer's Caregivers

If you are, or will be, a caregiver for elderly parents or another close family member living with Alzheimer's disease, you may experience some emotional stress – but you also need to be aware of the financial issues involved and what actions you can take to help address them.

You will find few “off the rack” solutions for dealing with the financial challenges associated with Alzheimer's. For one thing, family situations can vary greatly, both in terms of the financial resources available and

in the availability and capabilities of potential caregivers. Furthermore, depending on the stage of the disease, people living with Alzheimer's may have a range of cognitive abilities, which will affect the level of care needed.

Here are some general suggestions that may be useful to you in your role as caregiver:

Consult with family members and close friends. It's extremely hard to be a solo caregiver. By consulting with other family members or close friends, you may find that some of

them have the time and ability to help.

Consider obtaining durable power of attorney. If you possess a durable power of attorney for finances, you can make financial decisions for the person with Alzheimer's when he or she is no longer able. With this authority, you can help the individual living with the disease – and your entire family – avoid court actions that can take away control of financial affairs. And on a short-term basis, having durable power of attorney can help you take additional steps if needed. You'll find it much easier

to acquire durable power of attorney when the individual living with Alzheimer's is still in the early stage of the disease and can willingly and knowingly grant you this authority.

Gather all necessary documents. You'll be in a better position to help the individual living with Alzheimer's if you have all the important financial documents – bank statements, insurance policies, wills, Social Security payment information, deeds, etc. – in one place.

Get professional help. You may want to consult with

an attorney, who can advise you on establishing appropriate arrangements, such as a living trust, which provides instructions about the estate of the person for whom you're providing care and names a trustee to hold title to property and funds for the beneficiaries. You also might want to meet with a financial advisor, who can help identify potential resources and money-saving services. And a tax professional may be able to help you find tax deductions connected to your role as caregiver.

Finally, use your experience as a caregiver to

reminder yourself of the importance of planning for your own needs. For example, a financial professional can suggest ways of preparing for the potentially huge costs of long-term care, such as those arising from an extended stay in a nursing home.

Caring for an individual living with Alzheimer's has its challenges. But by taking the appropriate steps, you can reduce uncertainties – and possibly give yourself and your family members a greater sense of security and control.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. For more information or to sign up for their monthly newsletter, contact your local Financial Advisor.



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Member SIPC

Philbrick

FROM PAGE A1

lowed a one-hour non-public session on Aug. 7. Plymouth State University had decided not to rehire Dr. Nancy Strapko, an adjunct teaching lecturer, and required counselor education professors Michael Fischler and Gary Goodnough to complete additional Title IX training before returning to the classroom.

Philbrick has been under fire for her testimony in support of convicted pedophile Kristie Torbick, a former colleague in the Newfound Area School District who was working as a guidance counselor in the Exeter School District when she got romantically involved with a 14-year-old freshman at the school. After Torbick pleaded guilty to four counts of felonious sexual assault, Philbrick was among those arguing for leniency in her sentencing, saying, “to incarcerate Mrs. Torbick as part of any plea bargain would be a sad injustice to her own three children, one of which is only 3 years of age.”

Erin Camire of Bristol sent a letter to School Administrative Unit 4 Superintendent Stacy Buckley, asking her to schedule a special meeting to give residents a chance to discuss the situation created by Philbrick’s comments.

“Many parents are concerned, as I feel they should be, with her requests for leniency for a self confessed and convicted child molester,” Camire wrote. “I have already instructed my stepson on what to do if he should be in a position that he must speak to Ms. Philbrick. I will re-

move him from school that day and bring him to a third party counselor before he is to sit with her. ... I am not saying that, because of her comments, that she will also do such heinous acts, but her judgment is not to be trusted.”

The question of judgment also arose at Plymouth State University, especially when Strapko told the court, “Kristie takes full responsibility for her actions with her ‘victim,’” Strapko said. “I put this in [quotes] because I am aware that her ‘victim’ was truly the pursuer in this case.”

The university called those comments “legally wrong and morally reprehensible.”

Devon Chaffee, executive director of the state chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, said, “The ACLU-NH denounces sexual assault of any kind. Such actions against a minor are particularly egregious. The public is not served, however, by silencing the free speech of citizens speaking in their private capacity. As a society, we can and must support victims of sexual assault and steadfastly uphold the rights of citizens to participate in the criminal justice process.”

Gilles Bissonnette, ACLU-NH’s legal director, said, “The actions of Plymouth State University and Newfound Regional School District [sic] present serious free speech concerns, and these institutions may have violated New Hampshire law. New Hampshire provides even broader free speech protections to public employees than the protections that exist under the First Amendment. As

RSA 98-E:1 states, ‘a person employed as a public employee in any capacity shall have a full right to publicly discuss and give opinions as an individual on all matters concerning any government entity and its policies.’ These protections exist out of a fear that public employers may do exactly what was done here — namely, terminate employees for unpopular speech done in an individual capacity concerning the government, unrelated to the employee’s work.

“These actions against free speech are especially problematic with respect to former Plymouth State University lecturer and

clinical mental health counselor Dr. Nancy Strapko, who was terminated, and a Newfound Regional High School guidance counselor, who was forced to resign.”

The university did not “terminate” Strapko; rather, it did not renew her contract and said it would not hire her in any other capacity.

Whether Philbrick “was forced to resign” is unknown, as it is a personnel matter that is not subject to the Right-To-Know law, and the school board sealed the minutes of the nonpublic session for 50 years before accepting Philbrick’s resignation. The deci-

Bridgewater

FROM PAGE A1

Day photos will be on display inside the Town House for people to enjoy as well.

Immediately following the photo, Bridgewater’s famed Bean Hole Lunch will begin. Besides the beans, that will be simmered underground overnight then dug up in time for lunch on Saturday, the Historical Society will also have “all the fixin’s” to go along with the complimentary

luncheon.

Events beginning at 1:30 p.m. will include a presentation on Huckins Farm. Stanley and Nina Huckins built a home and barns on the corner of Bridgewater Hill and River Road many years ago where they raised their seven children and, now in their 80’s, continue to operate the farm today. A history of their agricultural lifestyle will be delivered by members of their family.

Jane Sawyer and

sion was unanimous with exception of New Hampton board member Christine Davol, who did not attend the special meeting that had been called to deal with the single issue.

While both Newfound and the university said they had not granted permission for their staff members to testify on Torbick’s behalf, that was not the case in the Bedford School District, which still is in upheaval after Superintendent Chip McGee resigned for having approved of his staff’s request to support Torbick. Residents have been asking for action against the staff members who took part in the sen-

tencing testimony.

Buckley said in a letter to Newfound parents last month, “I was not notified that [Philbrick] would be testifying, nor did I grant approval for her to testify. Ms. Philbrick acted on her own, not as a representative or with authorization of the school district. That being said, Ms. Philbrick has the right to speak on this matter as a member of the public.”

After learning of the ACLU criticism, Buckley said, “The Newfound Area School District did not take action against Shelly Philbrick; the School Board accepted her resignation.”

Friend will also give an interesting talk titled “1816: The Year Without a Summer.” The eruption of Krakatoa that fateful year resulted in temperatures that dipped below freezing, frost and some occasional snow, crop failures and many hardships for residents. However, it also brought people in Bridgewater and other communities together as they struggled to survive.

After a break for dinner, everyone is in-

vited back to the Town Hall at 8 p.m. for a fun evening of square dancing to the music of Don Elders & Crew.

While many communities skipped Old Home Day celebrations during the time of World Wars I & II, Bridgewater Old Home Day is one of the few who never missed a year. The Bridgewater Historical Society is pleased to keep that tradition alive and hope many will come out to join them for the day.

Wall

FROM PAGE A2

ant to us at the EDC that we have this water and sewer in place.”

Coates explained that participants in a meeting the previous week had agreed that municipal sewer access was one of the most important things that major employers look for when considering where to build and locate.

Fireworks, Fiber, and Fuel

While everyone agreed that the town’s Fourth of July events went very well, the exception was the fireworks display, which was late in starting and had several fireworks fail while the crowd was there, only to be sent skyward after most people had

left.

It was the third year in a row that American Thunder had failed to fully deliver on its contract with the town, and selectmen discussed what it would take to end their ongoing contract.

Morrison pointed out that next year’s celebration will be part of the town’s bicentennial celebration, and said they should not risk having another failed showing.

Selectman Les Dion noted that no one from the company had apologized for the botched show this year and suggested it might be time to seek a more reliable company.

Board members decided to ask American Thunder representatives in to discuss their future with the town.

Selectmen formally accepted a \$137,369 grant from the Northern Border Regional Commission that covers the cost of extending fiber optic cable for three miles to provide high-speed internet and “backhaul” for cellular and wireless needs for businesses, residents, and munic-

ipal offices. The system would tie into the lines already in place to serve the Newfound Area School District, with another tie-in possible with a fiber optic line from Franklin.

Reviewing oil and propane bids from Ryemes, the current supplier, and Dead River Company, the selectmen agreed to switch to Dead River, based on its lower rates.

Public comment

While Barbara Greenwood reported on the number of positive comments she was hearing from people about the town’s potential purchase of the former Newfound Professional Building to serve as town offices, Paul Simard complained about the process.

Simard said that, while the price is good, he would not be surprised to see the cost exceed \$1 million by the time all the renovations are done. He said the selectmen never told the public that they would be trying to purchase the building and complained that residents have never seen a “real report” on what the space needs for town offices are.

In fact, when officials tabled a warrant article at town meeting that sought to build a new town hall and renovate the police department, they explained that LRG-

Healthcare had put the building up for sale and that they needed time to look into its suitable and affordability for the town.

In proposing the original town hall plans, and through several public meetings, the space needs committee had cited the square footage and storage requirements to serve the town for the next 25 years.

Simard said, “I don’t want us to see we have a good price on this building and the next thing we know, we’re well over \$2 million. ... The need is not the town office; the need is the police department.”

He added, “[Former selectman] Mike Bannan commented in the ‘90s, if we build it, they will fill it. I guarantee in 10 years it will be filled with people looking busy on their computer screens.”

Alpers, interpreting the remarks to mean that Simard was objecting to the closed-door negotiations with LRGHealthcare to agree on a purchase price, interrupted and said it was like any real estate transaction. When Simard tried to correct Alpers, the chair cut him off and moved on to the next person.

John Sellers picked up the argument. “Negotiations are private, but is there a problem with sharing that we’re potentially buying that building?”

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CADY

FROM PAGE A4

oid necessary to treat my child's pain? Might an over-the-counter pain reliever such as acetaminophen (e.g.,

Tylenol), in combination with a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug be just as effective? For chronic pain, can we explore alternative treatments such as physical therapy,

acupuncture, biofeedback or massage? How many pills are being prescribed, and over how long a period? Is it necessary to prescribe this quantity of pills? What are the risks of

misuse? Should my child be screened to determine his/her risk of substance use disorder before this medication is prescribed? If not, why not? Common risk factors include co-occurring mental health disorders such as depression or ADHD, as well as a family history of addiction or a recent trauma such as a death in the family or a divorce.

What Should You Do if an Opioid Pain Reliever Has Been Prescribed for Your Child?

Safeguard medication at home (i.e., don't just leave it in the medicine cabinet where anyone can access it). Dispose of unused medication at a local "take-back" event or police department where there is a permanent "Take Back" box available 24/7. Anonymous takeback boxes are located at the following local police departments, Plymouth PD; Bristol PD and Lincoln PD. As an alternative where neither of these

options exist, mix the medication with coffee grounds or other unpleasant garbage and throw it out. As mentioned above, always supervise the dispensing of the medication, counting the pills in the bottle to be sure they are being taken as prescribed. Clearly document when the prescription was filled and when a refill will be needed and be suspicious of any missing medication. Communicate with your child about the risks of misuse and be very clear that the medication is not to be shared with others. Communicate regularly with your child about the level of pain he/she is feeling, making sure the pain is diminishing with time and staying alert for any signs that your child is growing dependent on the medication.

What Signs of Misuse or Dependence Should a Parent Be Alert For?

Signs of misuse can include drowsiness, nausea, constipation, slowed breathing and

slurred speech. You should be concerned if your child is asking for pain medication more frequently than prescribed, or if he/she is insistent on refilling the prescription. If necessary, the prescriber should be consulted to determine if pain is persisting beyond its expected term. Signs of withdrawal, which would occur if a child has become dependent on an opioid and then stops taking it, include anxiety, irritability, loss of appetite, craving for the drug, runny nose, sweating, vomiting and diarrhea. If you are concerned that your child may be dependent on pain medication, consult the prescriber.

If you or someone you know struggle with addiction or substance use, please call the NH Statewide Addiction Crisis Line at 1-844-711-4357 for help. Prevention, treatment, and recovery information can also be accessed on the CADY website at cady-inc.org.

Watch for Part II: Frequently Asked Questions About Opioids in next week's edition.

Towns

FROM PAGE A6

ning Board Meeting Wednesday, Aug. 29 – 7 p.m. at the Town House The Town Clerk/Tax Collector office will be closed on Aug. 20, but will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 23. The Town Clerk/Tax Collec-

tor regular hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday from 3 to 6 p.m. If you have a specific hardship, please call the office, 744-8849.

Total of all taxes due to the Town as of Aug. 13 are \$169,143.88. We do have a Tax Kiosk on

the Town Web Site so you may find out your tax balance only and if you would like to pay your taxes online use the Red Button on the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's page. If you should have any trouble with the online payment system, please call the Town Clerk at 744-8849.

Remains

FROM PAGE A9

small industrial mill village with everything from as many as three working mills, employee housing, a general store and school house swept away by repeated flooding. Old nails, pieces of broken tea-cups, hardware, rusted tools and so much more date this industrial area from the mid-19th

century into the early 20th. There are locals around who actually lived and worked there.

Natives were there much, much earlier, during what academics refer to as the Woodland Period, possibly before; 2,500 years ago to the time European colonists arrived in New Holderness in the mid-1700s. Lab tests and carbon dating will

help nail down a more accurate time-line for the Native artifacts recovered. The King's surveyor, laying out the grid that became New Holderness between 1751-56 noted the presence of cornfields high above the falls on the Holderness side indicating recent Native presence. But no observations below along the river.

SLA

FROM PAGE A9

is a great opportunity to explore these beauti-

ful areas that are only accessible by boat.

For more information, or to sign up for this Adventure Ecolo-

gy Program, visit the SLA Web site (squamakes.org) or contact the SLA directly (968-7336). Every week these

free programs are open to the public and cover a variety of nature and conservation related topics.

Williams

FROM PAGE A9

others who share the same interest in music. The challenge and joy of singing in a group may be just the lift one needs at the end of a long week. Singing is a wonderful release and opportunity to express one's thoughts and feelings.

Music has always been important to the Plymouth Congregational United Church (PCUCC) Plymouth. In addition to the church choir providing Sunday and seasonal choral support, the church ministry arranges community musical and art events to the congregation and the people of Plymouth and its environs.

This fall the Plymouth Congregational church welcomes David Williams as its new Director of Music.

At Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, Williams developed a passion for sacred choral music and went on to study choral conducting at Jacksonville University in Florida. In September 1991, he was assistant conductor to Dr. Hubert Bird at Keene State College, Keene. During the winter of 1992, he prepared and conducted two performances of the orchestral works of Aaron Copland, including two performances of Copland's opera, "The Tender Land." At the conclusion of this position he founded the Monadnock Youth Or-

chestra and served as music director of the First Congregational Church in Swanzey and was guest conductor of the Keene Pops Choir.

In 1998, he was appointed music director at Eastport United Methodist in Annapolis, Md. During his nine years as director, he created the Eastport Handel Messiah Festival and the Eastport Fine Arts Series. From 2002 to 2006, he served as Chief of Staff and Legislative Aide to Delegate Karen Montgomery in the Maryland General Assembly.

Williams moved to the Boston area in 2006 to be closer to Cape Cod. He assumed the position of music direc-

tor, from 2010 to 2016, of the Hanover Chorus, a 28-voice community chorus in Hanover, Mass., performing the requiems of Mozart, Faure and Rutter as well as programs of French, British and American repertoires and the annual Christmas programs.

The 25-member choir of the PCUCC, under the direction of David Williams, will resume rehearsal Thursday, Aug. 30, at 7 p.m. New singers are welcomed to join the choir. Moreover, scholarships are available for young adults and Plymouth State University students interested in singing with the church choir. Give it a try!

Marrow Drive

FROM PAGE A9

nor drive that will take place at the Science Center on Thursday, Aug. 16. The drive may or may not result in a match for the Science Center's volunteer, but it could result in one or more matches for other individuals suffering from similar blood diseases. Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., visitors can join the registry by having their cheeks swabbed and by filling out their information on the online registration form right at the Welcome Center. Tissue samples will be processed in a lab in approximately five weeks and then added to the search process for every patient in need. Those who register will remain on the list until they are 61 years of age, unless they request to be removed prior to that age.

Individuals between the ages of 18 and 44,

who are committed to donating to any patient in need, and who align with the health guidelines are eligible to register to the Be The Match® marrow donor registry. For those who cannot physically visit the Science Center on Aug. 16, registration is available online at Join.BeTheMatch.org.

By donating bone marrow to a patient in need, any donor could literally save a life. Transplants are almost entirely painless and require no invasive procedures. To learn more about saving the lives of blood cancer patients, visit BeTheMatch.org. The Aug. 16 donor drive is dedicated to the devoted Science Center volunteer who has helped to bring children and families nearer to nature for years. Without its volunteers, the Science Center would be unable to spread the value of the natural world to eager minds every season.

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BOB MARLEY - Fri, Sept 7 New England's King of Comedy

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NH OHD

FROM PAGE A1

underway with opening ceremonies at the flagpole at 10:30 a.m., followed by live music from Gerry Grimo and the East Bay Jazz.

With the New Hampton Farmers' Market held on the ground of the Town House each Saturday, many people were also able to enjoy shopping for locally sourced foods and crafts.

Miss Catherine's Threads gave demonstrations on spinning and offered her beautiful yarns and hand-crafted woolen items for sale while nearby the New Hampton Garden Club sold plants and other garden items. The Historical Society's museum was open for all to explore and there was a fundraising raffle as well.

Just before noon, excitement filled the air as preparations got underway to dig up the delicious beans that had been simmering overnight.

On Friday morning, nearly a dozen residents got to work bright and early to make the beans. Under the direction of "Queen Bean" Sherry Boynton, fires were lit, coals piled up and two kettles of beans and secret ingredients were eventually lowered into the fire pits and covered for the night.

"This is great — it's keeping an old tradition alive," said Alan Smith as he helped with the preparations.

While a lot of work went into preparing the free bean lunch, everyone on the crew agreed that the results made it all worthwhile. They were also pleased to have 12-year-old Ben Smith helping out for the second year in a row, saying, "We're teaching the next generation how to do this."

After lunch people gathered to hear a special presentation by Jeff Warner, titled "Banjos, Bones and Ballads," which was made possible through a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council. In the evening hours all were then invited back to



When the bean hole beans were lifted from the ground last Saturday morning, Sherry Boynton checked to make sure they were ready to serve the crowd at New Hampton's annual Old Home Day celebration.

Church Fair

FROM PAGE A1

and community.

The expansive lawn in front of the church this year was lined with a near record number of vendors offering locally crafted items, plants and home goods of all kinds. Included in the one-day marketplace they created was a popular White Elephant Booth where everything from kitchen items and tools to toys, antiques and furniture was for sale.

Alexandria's municipal fire department invited children and adults to look over their equipment and learn more about what it's like to be a fire fighter or EMT. Stationed beside the fire department displays, the Alexandria Police Department allowed children the opportunity to climb up onto the front seat of their cruiser to learn about their job. They also had an educational booth set up where people were asked to try on "Drunk Goggles" that simulate what it actually feels like to be drunk or impaired. Wearing the goggles, people then attempted to complete some simple tasks like catching a ball or stacking Legos.

"Oh, wow, I couldn't do that. It makes me dizzy just looking through those," one man commented.

Bake sales, a silent auction and plenty of great barbecue food was also a part of the day, along with live music by Pastor Faith Greene's husband and son, Ben and Daniel, and performances by Tom Larson



Four-year-old Sean was full of smiles when he got to feed Lillie the goat at the Alexandria Church Fair's petting zoo last Saturday.



As Alexandria United Methodist Church celebrates their 200th anniversary this year, Ben and Daniel Greene entertained the crowd at last Saturday's annual Alexandria Church Fair.

later in the day.

Across the street from the church was a book sale at Haynes Library, and in the field behind the library and town hall boys and girls enjoyed some real country fun. A Petting Zoo and pony rides from Patten Brook Farm were just a few of the attractions. When children weren't feeding friendly goats and don-

keys or sitting tall in the saddle for a ride around the fair, there was a crafts table, popcorn and lemonade available from Cub Scout Pack 59 and some fun outdoor games the scouts set up for the day.

Merry Ruggirello, a longtime member of the fair committee, said it is an event she and the church community look

forward to each year.

"My family, the Phillips', have attended church here for 168 years. I've been a member all my life, too, and have a lot of great memories of growing up here in the church," she said. "This year's fair was a huge success and it was a great opportunity for people to rub elbows with long time friends."

At the end of the day, everyone was invited to take part in a spaghetti dinner at the Alexandria Town Hall. The event helped raise funds for the Friends of Newfound Football organization. Money raised by the group supports the athletes and helps maintain the playing field at Newfound Regional High School.

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Section **B**
Thursday,
Thursday, August 16, 2018

Ford among Newfound Hall of Fame 2018 class

BRISTOL — Tom Ford graduated from Newfound Memorial High School in 1976. He knew he wanted to be a trainer from his early days in high school and actually became a member of the National Association of Athletic Trainers in 1973 while still in high school, after attending a CRAMER Athletic Training workshop. He worked with the athletic director, Al Blakeley, as a trainer, until graduation.

He graduated from Ball State University in 1981 with a degree in physical education and health, with a minor in athletic training. He got a job as an athletic trainer in Tucson, Ariz. in 1981 and remained dedicated to the profession of athletic training until his 2017 retirement.

"T" was the Head Athletic Trainer/Director of Sports Medicine at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich. from January 1988 to 2017.

He has been the athletic trainer at nu-



COURTESY PHOTO

Tom Ford will be inducted into the Newfound Hall of Fame in September.

merous NCAA tournaments in six different sports. He was the US Soccer Olympic Development team athletic trainer in Germany, Austria and Italy in

1991, as well as at Bela Karolyi's Olympic Gymnastic Center in 1986.

Ford has been the recipient of many professional awards. In 2012,

he received the Michigan Athletic Trainers Society Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award.

In addition to Ford, others being inducted include Dan Harvey '60, Mo Day '73. Dani

(Roy) MacDonald, Nancy Mills and Tim Mahurin

The Athletic Hall of Fame ceremonies on Saturday, Sept. 29, will include a reception from 2 to 3 p.m., in the NRHS cafeteria, with

the induction in the auditorium starting at 3 p.m. Reservations are \$25 per person and can be made by contacting Athletic Director Peter Cofran at 744-6006, ext. 1507 or at pcofrana@sau4.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Run Your Buns Off race will take place on Sept. 1.

Run Your Buns Off on Sept. 1

BRISTOL — When is the last time you ran your buns off? Well, this Labor Day weekend you can. Come and see what the locals and vacationers have been talking about for the last eight years.

On Saturday, Sept. 1, at 9 a.m., runners and walkers will leave from Basic Ingredients Bakery located on Route 3A in Bristol to "run their buns off" for a 4.2-mile professionally timed run/walk. The reward for your hard work is a homemade sticky bun waiting for you at the finish line. Runners who pre-register by Aug. 17 will receive a quality wicking shirt and the Basic Ingredients bakery and gift shop items are for sale throughout the day. The cost is \$22 per runner/walker, until the day of race when the price is \$25.

Individual runners, walkers and teams of all ages are encouraged to participate; the race is also pet-friendly. The top three male and female runners, as well as the fastest

team, will be awarded prizes and everyone has a chance to win at the huge raffle filled with goodies, including 100 gallons of heating oil from Dead River or a fire pit, donated by local businesses and beyond.

Hosted by the Newfound Area Charitable Fund, the Run Your Buns Off race committee is excited to announce the three charitable organizations, selected through an application process by the NACF board, as this year's beneficiaries:

The Newfound Lakes Region Association (NLRA) who will be utilizing funds received to assist in building a welcoming and informational kiosk with the town of Bristol at the Mill Stream Park. This will serve to inform thousands of residents and visitors about recreational opportunities in the watershed and best practices for environmental stewardship.

Slim-Baker Foundation for Outdoor Education who will be hiring a professional trail consultant to lead a series of all-day trail construction courses for the purpose of cutting and building the new hiking/snowshoeing trail that was mapped in 2016. Courses will teach best practices for trail-building to groups of teenagers and youths.

Mayhew Program who will receive one or two scholarship(s) for Newfound region boys to attend summer camp and school year mentoring program, depending on

this year's total proceeds,


"This year we are honored and excited to be able to assist not one, not two, but three of our region's deserving non-profits with the good work they are doing for our region, our residents and the environment" says Garlyn Manganiello, NACF vice-president and co-founder of the race.


"The NACF board is dedicated to assisting local charitable groups and causes that promote wellness, fitness and health education, and activities in the Newfound region," says Audrey Goudie, NACF president. Each year, we have selected one or more local charities, which exemplify these goals as the race's beneficiary. Since the first Run Your Buns Off road race in 2010, we have given back almost \$60,000 to worthy causes and programs in our community and that continues to make us very proud."

Why not do your part to help support three great local causes all the while indulging in a delicious treat, having fun with family and friends and getting yourself some exercise on Labor Day weekend? You can register for the Run Your Buns Off 4.2-miler online today at www.lightboxreg.com/buns2018 or stop by Basic Ingredients bakery to register in person.

For more information on becoming a sponsor or for registration questions, please e-mail runyourbunsoff@gmail.com.

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Sportsmen's Association hosting open house, pig roast

GILFORD — The entire Lakes Region is invited to an open house as the Belknap County Sportsmen's Association celebrates the completion of the purchase of the land that the clubhouse has sat on for 30 years. The BCSA completed the purchase of the land from the city of Laconia and the Laconia Airport Authority during 2017. The purchase was made possible by the donations made to the tax-deductible Belknap County Sportsmen's Charitable Fund, which so far has raised more than \$110,000 toward their goal of \$250,000.

Members and the Lakes Region Community at large are all invited to this celebration on Aug. 18. They will have information tables staffed from 12 to 1 p.m. explaining the programs and events that have been carried on since the club's beginning in 1931, programs such as kids' fishing derby, hunter safety course, Becoming An Outdoors Women, hiking the Belknap Range, Barry Camp in Berlin, to name a few. Walk the 3D target archery range and see the rifle and pistol range. Tour the clubhouse itself, which is available for rent, seats more than 120 for weddings, reunions, and family gatherings and is equipped with a full kitchen.

If you have an interest in joining the club a table will be set up to take applications and do range orientation that day so you can immediately get your range card.

If you are already a member and want to be more involved with the club by serving on a committee, talk to any of the directors. They can always use additional help.

They will have a 50/50 raffle and apparel for sale.

At 1 p.m. they will be serving lunch which will be a pig roast and include cornbread, baked beans, corn on the cob, coleslaw, dessert, water and soft drinks. Tickets can be obtained from Kathy at 267-6947.

Wishing the best to a Red Sox Nation icon

My recent situation doesn't allow me to watch a lot of Red Sox games. Between covering events, theater rehearsals and working my other job, I am rarely home in the evenings for longer than an hour or so to watch the games.

I am a huge fan and listen to all the games on the radio when I'm in my car, at the theater, in the office or cleaning at Brewster. That's a habit that will never stop.

It was on the radio on Tuesday afternoon when I heard the news about the New England television icon and his continued battle with cancer.

Dale Arnold, who I will commend as the

SPORTING CHANCE

By JOSHUA SPAULDING

best sports talk radio host in Boston, announced on his show just after NESN put out word that Jerry Remy would be out of the broadcast booth as he battles cancer again. Jerry was first diagnosed with lung cancer a decade ago and has battled the disease on and off since then, returning to the booth each time.

I am a huge Jerry Remy fan and am saddened to hear of the return of his cancer, but I have no doubt that his stubborn New England roots will continue to help him battle the disease and that at some point, we will hear his incredibly amazing New England accent on the NESN airwaves again.

Over the many years I've been watching Red Sox games, I have come to appreciate Jerry's sense of humor and his great banter with his play-by-play partner. His work with Don Orsillo remains some of the best stuff of recent years, but Dave O'Brien's skills as a play-by-play guy have certainly kept the broadcasts interesting and fun the last two years. However, what I always appreciate about Jerry the most was his analysis and this is never more obvious to me than when he's not there and we have to listen to someone else on the broadcast. Or even worse, it's a national game and we have to listen to the inane babblings of Alex Rodriguez, Jess Mendoza or Joe Buck.

Jerry always seemed to have a great insight into the game, one that was honed by his years of playing and also by the ton of work that he puts into his job. Dale Arnold told the story on the radio about arriving to the park in Detroit early one day expecting to be the first one there and Jerry was already there preparing for that night's broadcast. He knows his stuff and he works hard to keep up on everything that the game throws at him.

Dennis Eckersley, who is a normal fill-in for Jerry, provides great entertainment in a broadcast, but his analysis is often lacking. I find him a suitable fill-in, but I miss the details that Jerry can usually provide a viewer. Now don't get me wrong, I'll take Eck any day over Steve Lyons, the other NESN guy who has filled in on the recent trip to Toronto. And I'll take Eck any day over the national guys.

Truthfully, the best combination may be the three-man booth with Eck, O'Brien and Jerry, with great play-by-play, solid analysis and entertainment all in one package.

I wish Jerry nothing but the best in his recovery from this disease and I am hopeful that he continues to beat it back. Now, let's see if the Sox can win the title for him.

Finally, have a great day Chip Pasquariello.

Joshua Spaulding is the Sports Editor for the Granite State News, Carroll County Independent, Meredith News, Gilford Steamer, Winnisquam Echo, Plymouth Record-Enterprise, Littleton Courier, Newfound Landing, Coos County Democrat, Berlin Reporter and The Baysider. He can be reached at josh@salmonpress.news at 279-4516, or PO Box 729, Meredith, NH 03253.


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