

Conservation projects underway in Alton

ALTON — There are a number of conservation projects occurring in Alton. Belknap County Conservation District and Trout Unlimited, with assistance and support from the Alton Conservation Commission, Camp Brookwoods, and Lakes Region Conservation Trust are involved in planning a stream restoration project that will be implemented in the Summer of 2021. The project is funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and a New Hampshire Moose Plate grant.

The stream is Hurd Brook located in Alton, which empties into Lake Winnepesaukee and stretches 1.7 miles. The project will consist of adding instream large wood structures to Hurd Brook, which will benefit native eastern brook trout populations, and protect water quality by reducing sediment and excess flow of nutrients into Lake Winnepesaukee.

Along with aiding in Hurd Brook Restoration,

The Alton Conservation Commission has a number of other projects. Their mission is to protect and properly use the natural resources in the town, which includes Alton's watershed resources. Not only does Alton Conservation Commission partner with Belknap County Conservation District, but a number of other organizations, such as Belknap Range Conservation Coalition, Forest Society, Lakes Region Conservation Trust, and Halfmoon Lake Association.

Other conservation projects the Conservation Commission are involved with include the Mill Pond mitigation project, a bypass trail near the Mount Major Parking lot, and acquiring 90 acres of Stockbridge Forest in order to protect Coffin Brook tributary. They also regularly work with Land Trusts to identify and protect value tracts of land to conserve. These are just some of the projects that conserve



Hurd Brook in Alton.

precious resources. The conservation projects and involved partnerships create a united front that are crucial in maintaining the natural

resources of Alton.

The Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD) was established on Feb. 14, 1946 by NH RSA to serve as

a non-regulatory implementor of on-the-ground conservation measures and a resource for the leveraging of federal, state, and local funding

to assist landowners and managers in maintaining the Belknap County's land, water, and related natural resources.

Alton Bay ice runway still in operation

ALTON — “You’re cleared to land heading 01, South to North on B-12.”

Those are the typical instructions relayed by air an traffic controller to a pilot landing their plane onto a 3,000-foot ice runway in Alton Bay.

'B-12' is the number given by the FAA identifying the only registered ice runway in the lower 48 States, and this was the main topic addressed by Alton Rotary's Guest Speaker, Paul

La Rochelle at the club's weekly Zoom meeting last Thursday.

He stated, "Originally, back in the 40's, the FAA allowed only sea planes to land in the bay, and then in the '60's-'70's, the State of New Hampshire and FAA approved planes to land on the ice. It's no easy task to land a plane on ice because your only way to brake and slow-down is to feather your prop and use your flaps."

All was well with the

Alton Bay ice runway up to the 2000's when its use seemed to dwindle from lack of interest. Then in 2009, La Rochelle, along with a few volunteers, worked to revive use of the ice runway by convincing the state of New Hampshire and the Department of Transportation (DOT) to allow for helicopter rides from the ice. From there, authorization was granted to allow planes to land again on the ice and La Rochelle was hired by

DOT to oversee and run the operation.

"It's all handled by volunteers and with lots of help from the State," said La Rochelle. "We create (plow) a runway only when the ice is 12 inches thick, put out our sock, markers and set-up a radio contact system to communicate with pilots for landing. The state also is inspecting the area to be sure there's no obstacles such

SEE RUNWAY, PAGE A7

New Durham School announces Trimester I awards

NEW DURHAM — New Durham School is proud to announce the following end of trimester I awards. Pride Awards are given to fourth, fifth and sixth graders who have shown proficiency in their work habits and citizenship. These students demonstrate “The Wildcat Way”: Work Hard, Play Fair, Be Kind, and Be Safe.

Charles Belanger, Annalise Dahl, Charlotte Edwards, Chloe Fontaine, Nicolas Gerade, Morgan Goodspeed, Shaelynn Maynard, Kaden Meattey, Jamison Pelletier, Hayden Rutherford, Mason

Vachon, and Charlotte White are recipients in grade four.

Fifth graders earning the Pride Award include: Leah Anderson, Caleb Croteau, Cole Inman, Abraham Mayfield, Kane Narkun, Kian Nelson, Colby Proctor, Mya LaPlante, Chloe McLain, and Brody Waldron.

In grade six, Brianna Bonner, Brady Call, Caleb Duford-Stevens, Shelby Fontaine, Brody Hanson, Victoria Hicks, Abigail Morin, Collin Pelletier, Gary Dean Porter, Jacob Roy, Ewan

Rutherford and Ava Waldron received their Pride Awards from Principal Kelly Colby-Seavey.

As you may know, one-to-three days each week students who are attending the hybrid model are working remotely. “Remote Rockstars” are students who are showing responsibility for their learning by getting the work completed, attending all Google Meets, showing perseverance, and demonstrating a growth mindset during these at home days.

Kindergarten Remote Rockstars are: Anthony O'Neil, William Creighton, Camden Corso, Camden Hills, Fynn Shields, Garrett Ridlon, Messiah Campbell, Samuel Cardinal, Seren Reed, and Waylon Greymont Weathers.

First Grade Remote Rockstars for the first trimester were: Emily Meattey, Gemma Housel, Layla Rollins, Mia Houle, Mira Cardinal, Miranda Young, Cohen Maynard, and Grant Belanger.

Chase Grady, Natalee Nash, Gabriella Weldon, Mackenzie York, Matthew York, and Liam Morgan are Remote Rockstars in grade two.

SEE AWARDS, PAGE A7



Help at the holidays

Christine Racine, Director of Alton Community Services, places another present under the tree at the Profile Bank on Main Street. She and her elves Jennifer Collins and Amy Best have been hard at work, ensuring the Mrs. Santa program is as successful in the Covid-era as it has been in holidays past. The Alton-Barnstead-New Durham Centennial Rotary Club has boosted that effort by giving \$200 to the program, as well as to the Wish Upon a Star program in New Durham and the Barnstead Food Pantry's toy charity. Racine said all donations are greatly appreciated.

THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	278 Main St.	Multi-Family Residence	\$260,000	Ernest G. Gillan, Sr. Trust	Richard Hurd and Nicholas Bernard
Alton	Powder Mill Road	N/A	\$385,000	Scott and Danielle Bicknell	Harold S. and Maura Shurtleff
Alton	N/A (Lot 32)	N/A	\$12,000	Kelly Sullivan and Mark M. Smith	Thomas F. Sullivan and Debra L. Re-Sullivan
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$350,000	Baron A. Chester and Audrey J. Yang	Michael L. & L.L. Capra RET
Barnstead	78 Old Rochester Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$250,000	Steven Auberlin	David J. Leonard and Hailey L. Beckman
Barnstead	53 Varney Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$232,000	Lawrence R. and Kristin C. Deane	Danielle Salant
Barnstead	N/A	N/A	\$62,000	Janet Wong	JCB LLC
New Durham	42 Tash Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$360,000	Courtenay A. and Jeffrey Phillips	Christian Hernandez and Meghan Phillips

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

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

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

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Longevity

I’m looking down at holes in the knee of my pants. I actually bought these brand-new last winter. I actually got to remove the tags. This was really out of character from my usual used clothing outlets. I wanted a good pair of work pants with a specific waist that would allow for my increased bulk that results from long Johns and other added wintertime layers. I expected that a new pair of pants would last longer than one year.

This goes along

with my expression: Nothing new lasts very long. I don’t care what it is. The higher the tech, the shorter the lifespan it seems. Some of the stuff I get asked to fix is virtually new. It’s a learning experience at first sight. How the heck does this thing work? I have to figure it out. So far, I’m doing OK, but I may soon need a pair of magic X-ray glasses.

Do you remember the ads in the back of magazines advertising such things? Are they still there? What are they hawking these

days? I really don’t know. But what I do know is that the scams continue. I remember getting to try out a pair of glasses that allowed you to look through things that a friend of mine had sent away for. Was I glad that I hadn’t wasted any of my money on such junk.

In a way it’s kind of always been this way. I remember going over to my cousin’s house on Christmas afternoon to help her kids play with all their new toys. Oh my God, so many didn’t make it through the day.

OK, just throw it away. Piles of worthless gifts wrapped with pretty paper and bows piled under the tree. I’d prefer one good one.

Things used to be made to last. Check out an old sewing machine. It may be over a century old but still be in perfect working condition. They used to put oil holes and grease fittings on everything so that if you periodically added lubrication, the thing would just keep going. I was totally surprised when the mechanic told me that my trucks sway bar link that was rattling had a grease fitting. Most vehicles these days hardly have any grease fittings. You’re just supposed to let them wear out. When I buy replacement tie rod ends and ball joints, I want them to have grease fittings.

Most of your bathroom fans have little shaded pole motors in them. The only wearing part in them are the bearings. After years of operation, they slow down and stop working.

All they need is a drop or two of oil. The problem these days is that they have stopped giving you access to adding the oil. They say sealed lifetime bearings. They never say who’s lifetime.

I got a call to help out some folks who owned this real old house. Like two hundred years old. The door to their front hall wouldn’t latch. With winter coming, they asked me if I could fix it. The door was an original old thin door about an inch thick. The latch was all cast iron and upon figuring out how it worked, I determined that a spring had broken. I looked through all my stuff for some spring steel that I could use to make it work again. I came up empty.

Since then, I’ve come across a piece that looks like it may work. It’s sitting on top of my dresser in case I get another call, because what I did, I put a piece of stiff plastic that had suitable springiness into the 1800s door latch and it

worked fine. I told them what I did and said that I couldn’t vouch for the longevity of the repair because plastic always breaks. It’s been a while now since the repair and I haven’t heard back from them, so I guess it’s still working fine.

I do think I’ll have to break down and buy another new pair of pants though. The dilemma is, what to do with the old ones? Knowing that I’m still short on shorts, I could cut these off, but in the summer I’m much slimmer. I could make an attempt at raising my BMI but so far that hasn’t been doable. I could return to my former patching by hand self, but do I have the time? I’ve found that iron on patches are useless. People claim they work, but all of mine have fallen off.

One thing I can say, if I do get a new pair, I’ll steer clear of that brand.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

Local students named to President’s List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH — A total of 899 students have been named to the Plymouth State University President’s List for the Fall 2020 semester. To be named to the President’s List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Fall 2020 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester.

Emma Molloy of Barnstead
Abigail Reale of Barnstead
Brennin Loring of New Durham
Brianna Hada of Alton
Taren Brownell of Alton
About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming

our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire

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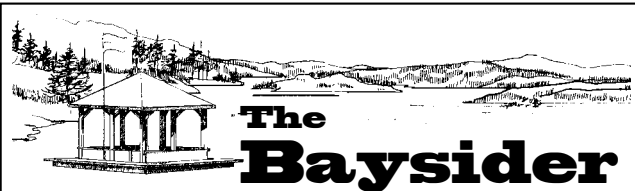
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HE’S HERE!

We are proud to announce that Jerry Mello, who was previously working at Garneau’s Garage, has now joined our team at Bumper To Bumper Auto Repair Inc., here on Rt. 115, Twin Mountain, NH. Jerry has over 43 years of active experience in the automotive field, with his expertise in automotive repair. Come on in and help us give Jerry a warm welcome to our team. Jerry is anxious to be here, and to take care of all your automotive needs. You can call him at 603-846-0000.

Huggins Hospital frontline staff receive COVID-19 vaccine

WOLFEBORO — It was goosebumps, cheers and many happy thumbs-ups as Huggins Hospital's first group of employees had the opportunity to receive the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine on Dec. 15. Huggins Hospital Intensive Care Unit (ICU) nurse Nicole Keirstead, RN, CCRN, was the first employee to receive the vaccine. Keirstead is one of one of the hospital's dedicated staff members who cares for COVID-19 patients at Huggins Hospital. The first employees vaccinated also included physicians, Emergency Department employees, Housekeeping and more.

New Hampshire's hospitals are receiving limited doses of the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine to provide to their employees on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the first round of vaccine delivery, Huggins Hospital received 65 doses of the vaccine – which was not enough to vaccinate all frontline staff members. Huggins Hospital anticipates more shipments to cover all their employees in the near future.

New Hampshire is working to distribute the vaccine in phases, starting with health-care workers in the first phase. This first phase will take time, as supplies are limited. Due to these phases, there is no concrete date for general community distribution. Our local, Huggins Hospital experts are working with national and state experts to plan for vaccinating our community. Huggins Hospital will communicate details regarding community vaccination as soon as they are available.

If you would like to receive information regarding the distribution of the vaccine, you can sign up for Huggins Hospital's communication e-mail list at www.HugginsHospital.org. Community members can sign-up by clicking "Sign Up Today" in the "COVID-19 & Vaccine Information" section of the hospital's Web site homepage or by accessing the page, directly, at www.HugginsHospital.org/COVID-vaccine.



COURTESY
Huggins Hospital Intensive Care Unit (ICU) nurse Nicole Keirstead, RN, CCRN was the first hospital employee to receive the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine to prevent COVID-19.

Happy Holidays at the Kingswood Youth Center



WOLFEBORO — It's been a busy and atypical fall at the Kingswood Youth Center (KYC). Although different this year, the holiday season has presented great opportunities for the KYC to support local teens and their families.

The KYC continued its annual tradition of providing a full Thanksgiving meal for students just before Thanksgiving break. Minor adjustments including distanced dining and two separate meals, one for each school 'learning cohort,' allowed this tradition to continue while ensuring health and safety. Before students sat down to a turkey dinner with fresh vegetables and all of the fixings, everyone shared at least one thing for which they were thankful. This year, many indicated that they were thankful for the opportunity to attend school and the KYC 'in-person.'


The KYC also was able to offer Thanksgiving Care Packages to the families of 32 high school

and middle school students. Packages included a frozen turkey, fresh produce, stuffing, cranberry sauce, treats, and more.

In December, students decorated the Center for the holidays. The Wolfeboro Garden Club contributed a lovely fresh wreath. Students posed for a photo with a decorated tree to be shared virtually with the Wolfeboro Festival of Trees. The Wolfeboro Festival of Trees is long-time supporter of the KYC; proceeds from the 2019 event helped to fund the KYC's recently purchased bus. Holiday-themed games, gift making, gingerbread houses, and a 'holiday lights tour' brought merriness and normalcy to this atypical holiday season.

KYC students were seen off for winter break with gifts provided by local donors, and care packages including groceries and household essentials, and a restaurant meal prepared by Wolfetrap Grill and Rawbar.

Everyone at the KYC would like to wish our community a safe, happy, and healthful New Year. For more information about the KYC's programs, or to support the KYC, please contact 569-5949 or info@thekyc.org.



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The roots of our holiday traditions

Did you ever wonder where the tradition of the Christmas stocking came from, or why traditional Christmas colors are red, green and gold or why Kentucky Fried Chicken in Japan is so busy on Christmas? There are endless myths and fables surrounding the Christmas holiday, but there are even more interesting facts. While researching Christmas, and digging deep, we found a plethora of fun and thought-provoking facts worth sharing with our readers.

The first one notes that early images of St. Nicholas depict him as a strict disciplinarian rather than the overweight, jolly man in the red suit we see today.

Way back when, a common Christmas eve tradition was to tell scary ghost stories by the fire.

In 1914, during the First World War, a truce between the United Kingdom and Germany was held. They decorated their shelters for the holiday and exchanged gifts and even played a game of football with each other.

When a child drops a letter in the mail to Santa in America, the mail is sent to Santa Claus, Indiana.

Thanks to the province of Nova Scotia, who since 1918 have been sending the city of Boston an enormous Christmas tree as a thank you for supporting them during the Halifax explosion.

Pope Julius I, Bishop of Rome, proclaimed Dec. 25 as the official day to celebrate the birth of Jesus in A.D. 350.

For the past 40 years, people in Japan have eaten Kentucky Fried Chicken for Christmas dinner, and must make their orders two months in advance.

British illustrator John Callcott Horsley invented the first Christmas card in 1843.

In England from 1649-1660, Puritan Oliver Cromwell outlawed Christmas celebrations and carols.

The first artificial Christmas trees were made in Germany out of dyed goose feathers, (we're still trying to picture this one).

X is the Greek letter "chi," which is an abbreviation for the word "Christ" in Greek hence the abbreviation X-mas being used so often.

Several European countries thought that good and evil spirits were active during the Twelve Days of Christmas. These 'spirits' then became known as Santa's elves.

Have you ever wondered what a 'Yule' log actually is? Us too. It is a large log that is burned during the Twelve Days of Christmas as a symbol of health, fertility, luck and is said to ward off evil spirits.

In Bolivia there is a celebration called the 'Mass of the Rooster' that takes place on Christmas Eve. Some folks bring roosters to the mass to symbolize the thought that a rooster was the first animal to announce the birth of Jesus.

In 2010, the Columbian government hung lights on jungle trees. When the FARC guerrillas sauntered by, the trees lit up and released banners asking the terrorists to lay down their weapons. As a result 331 guerrillas peacefully re-entered into the community.

Here's an interesting one, the 'Bicycle' card company created playing cards during WWII that revealed an escape route for POW's in Germany.

In the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," the verse referring to "true love" is a reference to God. A "partridge in a pear tree" represents Christ and the "two turtledoves" represent the Old and New Testaments.

Did you ever wonder why the colors red, green and gold are affiliated with Christmas? The color green is a symbol of life and rebirth, red symbolizes the blood of Christ and gold is a symbol of light, wealth and royalty.

Christmas trees are grown for roughly 15 years before they are purchased. In Poland spider webs are a common decoration for trees because a spider, according to legend, wove a blanket for baby Jesus.

In 1836, Alabama was the first state in the country to officially recognize Christmas.

Mistletoe is considered sacred to the Druids because it produces fruit and remains green throughout the winter. The Druids never let the plant hit the ground and believed that it was a cure for infertility and warded off evil spirits.

Environmentalist Teddy Roosevelt banned Christmas trees from the White House in 1901. Apples were the first Christmas tree decorations.

Why do we hang stockings by the chimney with care? Apparently, there were three sisters who were too poor to afford a marriage dowry and were bound to end up on the streets. Bishop Saint Nicholas filled their stockings with gold coins, and their lives were forever changed.

We hope you enjoyed these fun Christmas facts and hope that you have a happy holiday season filled with endless laughter and memories to last a lifetime.



Happy Holidays
This night time scene from Black's Gift Shop window sends holiday wishes to one and all.

ELISSA PAQUETTE

STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

No room at the inn

BY LARRY SCOTT

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

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

As a matter of fact, however, it wasn't "holiday time." It would be

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

It is difficult to describe the uniqueness of that evening. Cleaning up the new baby and preparing Him for His first meal, not even Mary and Joseph realized the impact on all humanity that would emanate from this night. Little did Joseph realize that, as he looked at the twinkling eyes of his wife's firstborn, he was looking into the eyes of God.

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

special had taken place. This was one trip to town they would never forget.

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

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

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

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

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

For more thoughts like this, follow me at in-defenseoftruth.net.

Letters to the Editor

Trump haters will regret their choice

To the Editor:
Haters of President Trump and his supporters will be saddened by their ballot choice. Poor losers, and poor winners too. Here's some food for thought for them.
"You cannot extend the mastery of government over the daily life of a people without somewhere making it master of people's souls and thoughts.... Every step

in that direction poisons the very roots of liberalism. It poisons political equality, free speech, free press, and equality of opportunity. It is the road not to more liberty but to less liberty." (President Hoover, 1932)

History apparently repeats itself if we do not learn from it. New Hampshire, and most of the United States, did

not learn based on 2020 presidential returns.

It's hard to believe a state with the motto "Live Free or Die" didn't support President Trump and a nation that fought wars continuously to preserve democracy would support a movement towards more government. As government grows bigger than ever before, "for the people" and "lib-

erty" become a meaningless phrase and word.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to all. Hopefully a Happy New Year too. Even for Trump haters.

Respectfully,

JIM RASCHILLA
ALTON BAY

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By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

My brother Peter and I awoke on Christmas Day reluctant to leave the covers. Frost marked the nails and grommets holding the big sheets of wall-board to the studs, and the windowpanes were full of filigree.

Whatever heat there was crept up the back stairway, a house-length away from the living room grate above the coal furnace. There was an old wood stove in the kitchen,

but it wouldn't hold a fire overnight.

I have heard many a story from farm kids about the lack of any heat in the bedrooms. Sometimes a grate in the floor was just not enough to make a difference. In many old houses there was no central heat at all, just stoves. The kids made a dash from stove to bed and quilts, and kept their wool socks on.

+++++

Right now I am thinking of the people who are in real trouble in this country, and there are a lot of them. Sometimes it's not enough to wish you could help.

I'm thinking about our grandmother White, playing the piano as we all gathered around and

sang carols, like something out of a Norman Rockwell painting, but this was real and it happened, and I was there.

It's not easy to take the cold, especially when you're wet. I really hate that--cold and wet--have felt it too many times in my life to ever want to feel it again. There are too many people in this country who are wet and cold and can't get out of it. Under much of anything, either. You want to reach a handout, but how?

I'm remembering the carolers who went from neighborhood to neighborhood, all over town, palatial places and shacks, on both sides of the tracks. Kids played with kids, no matter what their parents did. "Class" was a word we never

heard until later, most often from the media.

I'm thinking about cutting, dragging, tagging, bagging, and loading Christmas trees, having to pile them just so to make the load, the snow and the dark, the numbing cold of it, and wishing that I'd never see another Christmas tree, until I did.

And I'm remembering how Dad, Pete, and I, with the addition of one neighboring kid (Don Brabble), formed a brass quartet and went around town playing carols--again, the Norman Rockwell thing, for real.

Small towns can cope with the homeless and hungry, and do, with no fanfare. Bigger places with far more people

can't, and don't. How do we fix something that big, and that broken?

There is a yawning and widening gulf between Urban-Suburban America and the small towns and countryside. How do we deal with this fundamental divide?

I'm thinking about that old World War II crowd, and what a get-things-done bunch they were. How they went off to war and saw the world at its worst, and came home eager to make things the best. How they worked hard, and partied hard, and got so much done, all before the numbing influence of TV. What would they think of the state we're in? And what would they do to fix it?

And so I'm thinking

about our parents, and how lucky we were to have them, and for them to have us. We will never know the things they did or the sacrifices they made. It's this thing called love.

And that's a good place to end this little trip through questions of the day and Christmases past, with a note about love, and to say for this Christmas of 2020,

"Merry Christmas to all, and to all, a good night."

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

NOTES FROM WINDY HOLLOW

The winter solstice

BY VIVIAN LEE DION
Contributing Writer

Lately, snowy weather and the winter solstice have been on my mind. Plus, a catchy phrase from an Anne Perry's mystery novel; The Christmas Guest prompted me to do some research. Imagine, one line from a novel grabbing my attention enough to write about it. Regretfully, I didn't write down the novel's page number and after an hour of searching, I finally found it: "As the days get longer the

weather gets stronger." According to the Journey North Web site, "Solstice refers to the two times each year when the sun's strongest rays are furthest from the equator (north of it during our summer solstice and south during the winter). For the northern hemisphere, summer solstice occurs around June 21st; we have the maximum number of daylight hours at that time. Winter solstice is around December 21st when we have the fewest daylight

hours." This year, the winter solstice was on that exact date. This is the shortest day of the year. But what is happening? Journey North continues, "During the winter, the Northern Hemisphere leans away from the sun, there are fewer daylight hours, and the sun hits us at an angle; this makes it appear lower in the sky. There is less heating because the angled sun's rays are "spread out" rather than direct. (Shadows are longer be-

cause of the lower angle of the sun.)" One reporter on a Michigan television station responded to a viewer who asked, "Why isn't Dec. 21 our coldest day." The response was interesting, "In most years, late January or early February are the coldest here in Michigan. While the energy from the sun starts increasing again on Dec. 22, the momentum of cold air that has been expanding in Canada continues getting colder. It's the same principle as why 4

p.m. in the afternoon is usually the hottest hour in summer versus noon when sun is strongest. Another good example is when you turn your heat on in your home. It may be five to 10 minutes after your furnace kicks on for your home to begin to warm." "As the days get longer the weather gets stronger" is true because the northern end of the earth's axis is pointed away from the sun and cold Canadian air follows. Lewis Carroll, writer of children's

fiction, notably Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, was observant when he wrote, "I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields, that it kisses them so gently? And then it covers them up snug, you know, with a white quilt; and perhaps it says, 'Go to sleep darlings, till the summer comes again.'"

Vivian Lee Dion of New Durham is a writer and speaker and can be reached at windyhollow@metrocast.net.

Alton Parks and Recreation Connection

Alton Rec Esports

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

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

season. Games begin the week of January 18. More information and registration is available at the Alton Rec Esports page at <https://www.ggleagues.com/organization/alton-rec-esports>. Players will need to provide their own hardware, programs and internet connection to participate. For more information, please visit info@ggleagues.com or contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov; 875-0109.


2020 Light Up Alton Event Winners Announced

Thank you to all of the entries for the House Decorating Contest, the displays brought cheer to Alton for the holidays. The category winners are: People's Choice Award: David and Amber Buonopane; Creative Use of Lights Award: Nathan and Cin-

dy Alden; Most Holiday Spirit Award: Mains Family; The Spirit of the Holidays Award: Ray and Lisa Fortin. Winners will receive a Gift Certificate to a local business of their choice from the Alton Parks and Recreation Department, Town of Alton. Thank you again to all of the participants that decorated their homes this year.

Thank you Alton Garden Club

The Town of Alton would like to thank the Alton Garden Club volunteers for helping make the Town look festive for the holidays. Thank you Garden Club for your generous contributions.



Meeting Notice

Town of New Durham, NH

FY 2021 Budget Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the New Durham Budget Committee pursuant to RSA 32:5 I & V; RSA 40:13 II (a) (c) will hold a Public Hearing at

7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2021

On the proposed 2021 Fiscal Year Town Budget (January 1 through December 31, 2021) Virtually via Zoom:

In accordance with Governor's Executive Order #12, pursuant to RSA 91-A: 2 Attendees log into: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83974798962?pwd=VC9CTnVwMjJ4SXkvbEdNK1E0MkcZz09>. Meeting ID: 839 7479 8962 Passcode: 247851

Or via telephone number: 1-646-558-8656 Meeting ID: 839 7479 8962 Passcode: 247851

Technical difficulties contact Town Administrator Scott Kinmond at skinmond@newdurhamnh.us or by phone at 603-556-1516.

Note: Town of New Durham offers no security assurances to those connecting via PC to a third party software and hardware not configured or controlled by our IT Service provider.

In the event of technical difficult or network outages necessitating the cancellation of the planned hearing, or if a second hearing is required it will be held on **Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** using the same ZOOM Virtual Platform/Links/telephone numbers/Meeting ID and Password.

New Durham Supervisors of Checklist

Jan 8, 2021 10 AM

Town Hall

update voters registrations

opening position available as Supervisor

Supervisors:
Sherry Culimore
Pat Grant
Mary Poston



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email: matfassett@gmail.com

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service 10:30 a.m. Greater Wakefield Resource Center,
254 Main St., Union.
Pastors Daniel and Sherrie Williams, 473-8914.
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BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON
Alton 9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High
School. Pastor Sam Huggard, www.befreechurch.net.

**CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN
CHURCH**
Worship Service 10:00am
Bible Study 11:15am
Rte. 126 next to Town Hall
Call or Text (603) 269-8831
centerbarnsteaducc.org
Pastor Brian Gower.

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON
Prayer Meeting 9:00 am
Rev. Dr. Samuel J. Hall, 875-5561.
Day service 8:30am Alton Bay Gazette, Alton, NH
10 am Worship Service
20 Church Street, Alton
Our services are live streamed on YouTube
Sundays at 10 am
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www.farmingtonucc.org

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Sophie Wallace named to Elmira College Dean's List

ELMIRA, N.Y. — Sophie Wallace of Alton has been named to the Elmira College Dean's List for the Fall 2020 Term. Full-time undergraduate students registered for at least 12 computable credit hours and earning a term grade point average of 3.6 or higher at the end of Term I or Term II are placed on the Dean's List at the College.

Founded in 1855, Elmira College is a private, residential, liberal arts

college offering 30-plus majors, an honors program, 17 academic honor societies, and 20 Division III varsity teams. Located in the Southern Finger Lakes Region of New York, Elmira's undergraduate and graduate student population hails from more than 20 states and nine countries. Elmira is a Phi Beta Kappa College and has been ranked a top college, nationally, for student internships. The Col-

lege is also home to the Center for Mark Twain Studies, one of four historically significant Twain heritage sites in the U.S., which attracts Twain scholars and educators from around the world for research on the famous literary icon. Proud of its history and tradition, the College is committed to the ideals of community service, and intellectual and individual growth.

Founded in 1855, Elmira College is a private, residential, liberal arts college offering 25-plus majors, an honors program, 17 academic societies, and 18 Division III varsity teams. Located in the Southern Finger Lakes Region of New

York, Elmira's undergraduate and graduate student population hails from more than 20 states and nine countries. Elmira is a Phi Beta Kappa College and has been ranked a top college, nationally, for student internships. The College is also home to the Center for Mark Twain Studies, one of four historically significant Twain heritage sites in the U.S., which attracts Twain scholars and educators from around the world for research on the famous literary icon. Proud of its history and tradition, the College is committed to the ideals of community service, and intellectual and individual growth.

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Drinking too much can negatively impact every aspect of your life, from your health to your job to your personal relationships with family members, partners and friends. April is Alcohol Awareness Month, an observance dedicated to raising awareness of the dangers of alcohol abuse. If you or someone you know has a problem with alcohol, help is available. Seek advice from a doctor or contact an alcohol treatment facility, and take the first step toward control and recovery.

Warning Signs of Alcohol Abuse

- Drinking alone when you feel angry or sad
- Waking up with headaches or hangovers after drinking
- Inability to remember what you did while drinking
- Trouble getting to work on time due to drinking
- Inability to control your impulse to drink

If you or someone you know needs professional help for alcohol abuse or addiction, please call 1-800-NCA-CALL (622-2255) or visit ncadd.org for more information.

PET OF THE WEEK

JOAN

Meet sweet Joan! Joan came all the way from Lubbock, Texas to find her forever family. She is a 2 year old boxer mix ready for adventure. Joan is currently learning quite a bit at our shelter. She is food motivated and willing to train! Currently Joan knows sit, down, is learning leash skills such as 'with me' aka heel, and loose leash walking. Joan would do best in an active adult only home as the only animal. If prospective adopters have another dog, we are happy to try them, however Joan has been a little over the top with her doggy friends. No cats for this sweetheart!



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NBT's "Nutcracker" wins ballet award

WOLFEBORO — Northeastern Ballet Theatre (NBT) is excited to announce that their pas de deux from our 2019 "The Nutcracker," featuring Naomi Sawyer and Assaf Benchetrit, won first place at the virtual "Nutcracker" competition held by Universal Ballet

Competition! This one-of-a-kind event allowed individual dancers and studios to upload performances and compete for a chance to be a part of the first ever Virtual Nutcracker Performance. All of the winning performances of each category will be pieced

together to form one continuous recital of the beloved Nutcracker. The competition was judged by industry leading artists. Criteria was based on choreography, technique and performance quality of each piece.

You can view all of the winners on Saturday, Dec. 19 at 1 p.m. on their

Web site, <https://www.universalballetcompetition.com/virtual-competition-schedule/>. We are thrilled and want to send our warmest congratulations to Naomi and Assaf, our always spectacular couple!

If you didn't get the chance to see Northeastern Ballet Theatre's "The Nutcracker" last year or would like to see it again, we are offering it online through NBT at Home, along with The Legend of Sleepy Hollow and The Wizard, two Edra Toth original ballets from 2019. For more information about NBT at Home, please visit <https://nbtathome.com>.

For more information regarding Northeastern Ballet Theatre's classical ballet classes for all ages, three through adult, and all abilities, beginner through professional, please visit www.northeasternballet.org.

AWARDS

(continued from Page A1)

Third Grade Remote Rockstars are: Kenley Legge, Zoey Givetz, Landon Call, Parker Chase, Aleah Favorite, Lon Berry, Dylan Roy, and McKayla Campbell

Earning the "Remote Rockstar" status in fourth grade are Shaelynn Maynard, Charlotte Edwards, and Morgan Goodspeed.

Fifth grade "Remote Rockstars" include: Caleb Croteau, Chloe McLain, Brody Waldron, Leah Anderson, Kane Narkun, Colby Proctor, Mya LaPlante, and Cole Inman.

Finally, there were 44 students in preschool through grade 6 with perfect attendance for trimester I. Carlee Adams, Brielle Bassett, Charlie Belanger, Grant Belanger, Rhana Booth, Brady Call, Landon Call, Samuel Cardinal, Lily Chase, Parker Chase, Camden Corso, Summer Creighton, Billy Creighton, Annalise Dahl, Brody Davis, Charlotte Edwards, Aleah Favorite, Mila Favorite, Conner Flanagan, Solara Fowler, Tiana Fowler, Ben Gagne, Brianna Gammon, Zopheya Givetz, Ava Hernandez, Victoria Hicks, Gemma Housel, Kenley Legge, Harper Lord

Cohen Maynard, Sawyer McHatten, Kane Narkun, Kian Nelson, Cayla Proctor, Colby Proctor, Hayden Rutherford, Mason Vachon, Ava Waldron, Brody Waldron, Waylon Greymont Weathers, Gabriella Weldon, Madelyn Weldon, Samantha White, Mackenzie York, and Matthew York.



RUNWAY

(continued from Page A1)

as trees, towers, etc. to interfere with planes taking off or landing. And we never operate the ice runway during storms."

"We usually open around the first week in January and, depending on ice conditions, will cease operations around

mid to late March," he added.

Because of Covid-19, this year all pilots and their passengers upon landing will be issued a bracelet they must wear to identify and prevent them from leaving the immediate area. The public will also not be allowed to mingle with the pilots or get near

the planes, but instead watch from a designated distance. Hope is the ice runway will get a lot of use in 2021 and match or exceed the numbers of landings and take offs of 600-plus, as has happened in the past. Alton Selectman, member of the ZBA, and owner of La Rochelle Construction, Paul La Rochelle,

was introduced as Guest Speaker to members of the Alton Centennial Rotary by club President, Bob Regan.

For information on joining Rotary, or to volunteer as a guest speaker, contact Rotarian Duane Hammond, 569-3745.

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TOWN OF NEW DURHAM ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021
7:00 PM @ NEW DURHAM TOWN HALL
Scott and Ellen Arrigoni

You are hereby notified that a virtual Zoom Public Hearing will be held by the New Durham Zoning Board on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm case # 2021-001. The hearing is regarding an application submitted by Varney Engineering LLC. on behalf of Scott and Ellen Arrigoni for property located on North Shore Road Map 109 Lot 060. The applicant is requesting a variance to Article V Section B.1. Dimensional Requirements for Town of New Durham, the following dimensional requirements shall apply to land within the Town of New Durham. 1. Except as noted below, all lots shall have frontage on a Class V or better road meeting the requirements for road frontage of this ordinance. Any subdivision approval of such a lot or lots must pass a percolation test and have state approval for a septic facility prior to a building permit to be issued. The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review during normal business hours. If you have any questions on Zoom application please contact Brian Cauler at ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.us or the Zoning Board.

The property is located North Shore Road, Map 109 Lot 060.

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021
7:00 PM @ NEW DURHAM TOWN HALL
Kenneth Lance

You are hereby notified that a virtual Zoom Public Hearing will be held by the New Durham Zoning Board on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:00 pm case #2021-002. The hearing is regarding an application submitted by Varney Engineering LLC. on behalf of Kenneth Lance for property located at 213 Middleton Road Map 246 Lot 003. The applicant is requesting a Special Exception to Article VII Section A. 1: Special Exceptions. Dimensional Requirements for Town of New Durham. Uses Permitted by Special Exception. He is also requesting a variance to Article VII Section B.3.b: Special Exceptions. Dimensional Requirements for Town of New Durham. General Requirements for Commercial or Industrial Uses Permitted by Special Exception. Sufficient acreage shall be included to allow the following setbacks: Side and rear setbacks shall be not less than fifty (50) feet from a building or parking lot to the lot line. The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review during normal business hours by appointment. If you have any questions on Zoom application please contact Brian Cauler at ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.us or the Zoning Board.

The property is located 213 Middleton Road, Map 246 Lot 003.

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To be considered, applicants must possess a High School diploma or equivalent, as well as a Master Electrician license, which must be maintained. Applicants must also have a minimum of 10 years proven experience with industrial electrical, electronic, PLC, CNC, mechanical and hydraulic systems and maintenance.


This position requires a quality conscious candidate who is detail oriented, has good manual dexterity and flexibility, and a solid work history. This position requires successful completion of a pre-hire drug screen as well as a COVID test.

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Landscape & Excavation Company located in Tuftonboro is looking for year round employee's. Must have plowing experience and be willing to work nights and weekends during the plowing season. Experience running equipment helpful. CDL license a plus. Smoking not permitted in equipment or on job sites. Looking for someone with a positive attitude and a willingness to work. Please call the office to set up an interview at 603-569-4545 or email mtnsidelandscape@roadrunner.com

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In 1999, Maxfield Real Estate established the "We Care" Program to celebrate our 45th anniversary. Through this program, we contributed a percentage of our commissions to local charities. Over the past 21 years we have donated more than \$1,235,057 to non-profit organizations that benefit the Lakes Region area. This year, the "46" agents in our Wolfeboro, Center Harbor and Alton offices were pleased to donate \$108,035 to over 350 different charities, including: Alton Food Pantry, Alton Senior Center, Boys & Girls Club of the Lakes Region, Castle Preservation Society, Child Advocacy of Carroll County, End 68 Hours of Hunger, Great Waters Music Festival, Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction, Interlakes Community Caregivers, Kingswood Youth Center, Lakes Region Humane Society, Life Ministries Food Pantry, NH Audubon Society, Wolfeboro Police K9 Unit.

The following Maxfield agents shared in the "We Care" Program

Jen Azzara	Michael Erwin	Susan Maus	Clem Regan
Betty Ann Bickford	Donna Faucette	Chip Maxfield	Zannah Richards
Robert Buchanan	Jake Froehlich	Jen McCullough	Rick Schwartz
Carol Bush	JoAnn Fuller	Lisa Merrill	Candy Sharp
Lynne Butler	Karen Hasselman	Joy Messineo	Terry Small
Pam Cariello	Kim Johnson	Peggy Naughton	Shawn Snyder
Maureen Clifford	Jeannie Lacey	Jon Parker	Anne Stanford
Carol Cloutier	Lisa LaFreniere	Randy Parker	Amy Stanley
David Countway	Ashlee Maimes	Steve Patriquin	Tony Triolo
Bronwen Donnelly	Ed Marudzinski	Fred Perry	Donna VanGunten
Amy Elfine	Kristina Maus	Jep Possee	Becky Whitcher
			Denise Williams

Happy New Year From Everyone at **Maxfield Real Estate / Island Real Estate**



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Alton: 108 Main Street • 603-875-3128

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**DEADLINE IS FRIDAY AT 3PM
FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK**

NO ADS CAN BE ACCEPTED ON MONDAYS

THANK YOU!

To place your classified line ad, please call our TOLL FREE number: 1-877-766-6891

GOVERNOR WENTWORTH REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The filing period for vacancies for school officer positions will commence January 20, 2021 until 4:00 p.m. on January 29, 2021.

The following positions are open for filing:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FROM NEW DURHAM.....3 YEAR TERM
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FROM TUFTONBORO.....3 YEAR TERM
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Local students named to University of Vermont Dean's List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

Anna Deroche of Alton Bay
Madeline Souza of Wolfeboro
About UVM

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