THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2021

COVERING ALTON, BARNSTEAD, & NEW DURHAM - WWW.SALMONPRESS.COM

# Knight boys bounce back from opening loss



CARTER MORRISSEY drives to the basket for a hoop in action against Merrimack Valley.

# ROBERT HOTCHKISS

TYLER SPRINCE looks up the court during action against Merrimack Valley last week.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

WOLFEBORO — The Kingswood boys' hoop team rebounded nicely from its opening night last-second loss, as the Knights came through with a 66-36 win over Merrimack Valley on Monday, Dec. 13.

"We came out with a sense of urgency and wanted to make sure we played a full game," said coach Joe Faragher. "Everyone contributed in one way or another."

Kingswood scored 13 points in the first quarter and 20 in the second to start strong and finished with 19 in the third quarter and 14 in the final frame.

Ethan Arnold had a huge night for the Knights, as he finished with 34 points to lead

the way, including three three-pointers. Henry Saunders and Carter Morrissey each chipped in with eight points. Seven different Knights landed on the scoresheet.

The Knights were scheduled to wrap up the 2021 portion of the regular season schedule after deadline on Monday, Dec. 20, against Plymouth.

The Knights are taking part in the Lakes Region Holiday Hoop Tournament in Gilford starting on Monday, Dec. 27, at 4 p.m. against Winnisquam.

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

# **GWRSD** Superintendent to retire at end of school year

BY ELISSA PAQUETTE Contributing Writer

WOLFEBORO — Governor Wentworth Regional School District Superintendent Kathy Cuddy-Egbert plans to retire on June 30 after more than two decades of working in the district.

In a letter to the school board, Cuddy-Egbert expressed mixed feelings at her planned departure. She commended the board for its careful deliberation of issues at hand, and its willingness to "take into account other viewpoints, deliberate respectfully, and ultimately support the Board's final decision."

"In this era of anger, incivility, and disrespect, you maintain your kindness and integrity, and you are courageous in your decisions to keep our students and staff safe. Most importantly, you have never wavered from keeping the best interest of the students as your priority," said Cuddy-Egbert.

She explained that the "difficulties we have had due to the angry, politically motivated group this past year have nothing to do with my decision. If anything, I have stayed longer than I might have otherwise with the hope I would see the District through this trying time...I will always be available to help in any way I can."

The Board has established a search committee comprised of Chairman Jack Widmer (Tuftonboro), and Board members James Pittman (Effingham), Stefanie King (New Durham), Charlene Seibel (Wolfeboro), Dana Streeter (Ossipee), and Kelly Tivnan (Middleton) to fill the position.

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WOLFEBORO Over the past few weeks, Huggins Hospital has experienced an unprecedented number of patients and extremely high numbers of COVID-19 positive cases. At times, the COVID-19 positive patients constitute more than half the patients in Huggins Hospital's overfilled Medical/Surgical and Intensive Care Units. With beds overfilled throughout New Hampshire and beyond, the situation is creating complications for access to care.

"Since COVID-19 patients often require a longer hospital stay due to the severity of their illness, the typical turnover and ability to get more patients into our inpatient beds has become an hourly struggle for our teams," said Stacey Savage, MSN, RN, Huggins Hospital's Chief Nursing Officer. "Every day, we have many people waiting in our Emergency Department and in our hallways for a bed in our inpatient units or to be transferred to another facility that is experiencing a similar situation to what we have here at Huggins Hospital."

Huggins Hospital continues to report a COVID-19 positivity rate of around 20 percent of those who are tested at the hospital, either through the community-based Drive Up Testing site or through regular patient testing. As of mid-December, Huggins Hospital staff were caring for more COVID-19 patients than ever before.

"COVID-19 patients take extra time and extra care," said Jeremy

at Huggins Hospital Roberge, Huggins Hospital's President and CEO. "Even before caring for the patient, the staff need to take extra time to don the PPE necessary to protect themselves and others. With this extra time required,

**Beds overfilled** 

experience this surge in patients." Huggins Hospital has also had to reschedule some elective procedures and open up physical bed space for **Emergency Department** patients in other areas such as the PACU (post

the typical staffing ra-

tios are not enough. We

sent a request to all our

employees to support

our busiest departments

in whatever way they

can. We have started to

deploy team members

to different areas of the

organization and will

continue to do so as we

anesthesia care unit). "Our Emergency Department is overflowing on any given day," said Savage. "We have staff from other areas

supporting the team in there and helping to move patients out of our hallways and into other units until we can find them a bed within our hospital or elsewhere."

The staff at Huggins Hospital report that they are still seeing non-emergency patients coming to the Emergency Department seeking routine care or testing for COVID-19.

"We can't stress enough that we need people to reach out to their primary care providers for non-emergent services and to access COVID-19 testing through other avenues if they are not experiencing an emergency," said Savage. "Along with the Drive Up Testing site at Huggins Hospital, there are many other locations to access testing. We are here to help and we need everyone's support to keep our Emergency Department access open for those experiencing emergencies."

According to Huggins Hospital officials, the surge in patients is expected to last for a while as the holidays approach and people plan to gather inside. They request that everyone be vaccinated and avoid attending events if you have any symptoms of COVID-19, even mild symptoms such as headache and sore throat. Safety recommendations also include masking, sanitizing and distancing as much as possible. Community members can access COVID-19 vaccines through multiple open, free sites across the state: www.vaccines. nh.gov as well as at Huggins Hospital. Access to testing is available at multiple sites across the state as well: www. covid19.nh.gov/resources/testing-guidance.

To further support Huggins Hospital, you can visit www.hugginshospital.org/support/ donate.



Huggins Hospital's Maureen Boornazian, RN, cares for a patient with COVID-19 at the hospital.

# Community support helps Kingswood band shine in new uniforms

WOLFEBORO — On the morning of the 2019 Wolfeboro Holiday Parade, Kingswood Regional High School music director Robert Burns and the Marching Band were eagerly anticipating the new uniforms they would be wearing. The 100 brand-new uniforms took seven years of fundraising, costing nearly \$30,000. Mr. Burns and the marching band, of course, would have no

years

Fast forward to the 2021 football and marching season, and the band was in dire need of seamstresses to hem and fit the uniforms for an entirely new band of students (most of the band members who wore them once in 2019 having since graduated). Enter a local sewing group led by Bette Frazier, grandmother to Marching Band drum major Samuel Frazier. Frazier's group mea-

sured and hemmed all of the uniforms for the band in order to help make this year's football and marching season a success for the band. "We are grateful for the incredible skill and dedication of this group," said Mr. Burns, who has directed the music department at Kingswood for 11 years. "The band looks fantastic in these new uniforms, and we could not have had such a great marching season without them. It's a great example of a community of people coming together to make a special experience for our students."





Courtes

Drum majors Samuel Frazier and Charlotte Gauthier lead the KRHS Marching Band at the Wolfeboro Holiday Parade.

# Sophie Wallace named to Elmira College Dean's List

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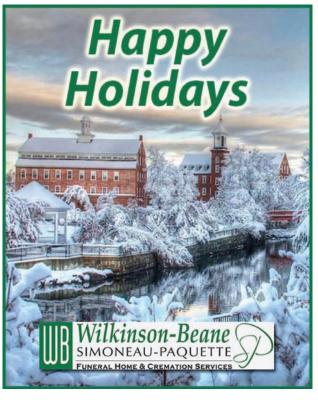
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ELMIRA, N.Y. — Sophie Wallace of Alton ister has been named to the Elmira College Dean's and List for the Fall 2021 grad. Term. Full-time under-

graduate 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 35plus 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 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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COMMERCIAL

**MACHINES** 



# School District receives federal aid to mitigate pandemic fallout

BY ELISSA PAQUETTE
Contributing Writer

WOLFEBORO — The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act better known by its acronym, CARES Act, has been helping the Governor Wentworth Regional School District in a number of ways. Already, the first phase of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER I)

has been granted and allocated.

School Board Chairman Jack Widmer laid out the numbers on Monday evening, Dec. 9. A total of \$539,307 has been committed for software for remote instruction and remote meetings, cleaning supplies, and nursing services badly needed with the onset of the pandemic. \$40,000 of that will apply toward programs to help close

gaps in student achievement created by a school environment continually flexing as the virus has spread.

Widmer explained that the district has been making decisions on expenditures with student safety and well being a top priority, followed by addressing learning loss and improving student achievement, and enhancement of ventilation for health and safety. The

grants are not to be used to reduce property taxes and any unspent money must be returned to the federal government.

ESSER II 2023 Cares Act funding will bring \$2,928,158 over a two-year period. Widmer disclosed that \$2,505,045 is committed, with the remainder, \$423,113.00, to be reallocated toward increasing academic achievement. He said the financial assistance will help the

district recover and increase student academic achievement in a shorter period of time. Without the aid, it would have taken years to catch up.

The money pays for additional reading materials, after school tutoring and transportation, a two year math position, resources for social and emotional support, and a curriculum project manager. The district's teachers will benefit from a

connection with the NH Learning Institute, including consultation and professional development.

ESSER III 2024 American Rescue Plan funding will come into play in 2024. The largest grant, by far, \$6,582,666, it will be upgrading heating, ventilation and cooling systems, expenditures that will save upgrade costs down the road, said Widmer.

# Holiday tournaments swing back into action

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

REGION — Many local teams will be getting the chance to compete over the holiday break, as local basketball and hockey holiday tournaments return to the court and the ice.

New Hampshire's largest holiday basketball tournament, the Mike Lee Holiday Basketball Bash in Farmington, will be featuring a number of local teams. The Littleton girls, the Profile boys, the Inter-Lakes boys and girls and the Kennett boys and girls will all be competing.

The tournament runs from Sunday, Dec. 26, through Thursday, Dec. 30, with champions being crowned in the finals that day at 5:30 p.m. for the girls and 7 p.m. for the boys.

The Inter-Lakes girls will be playing in a pair of round-robin on Sunday, Dec. 26, one against Holy Family at 10 a.m. and another against Littleton at 10:30 a.m. The Lakers continue on Monday, Dec. 27, with the girls against Concord Christian at 9:15 a.m. and the boys against Portsmouth Christian at 10:30 a.m. The Laker boys do not play on the

opening day.

The Littleton girls will be playing in the round-robin halves against Inter-Lakes at 10:30 a.m. and Holy Family at 11 a.m. Littleton continues the next day with a game against Farmington at 7:15 p.m.

The Profile boys will play round-robin halves

against St. Thomas at 11 a.m. and Holy Family at 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 26. They continue the tournament on Monday, Dec. 27, at 11:45 a.m. against Epping.

The Kennett boys and girls will open against Epping on Sunday, Dec. 26, with the boys at 12:30 p.m. and the girls at 1:45 p.m. They get the next day off and return to action on Tuesday, Dec. 28, girls at 2:45 p.m. and boys at 4 p.m.

Just up the road in Gilford, the Lakes Region Holiday Hoop Tournament swings into action on Monday, Dec. 27 and Prospect Mountain, Belmont, Newfound, Kingswood, Winnisquam, Plymouth and Gilford will all be send-

ing their boys and girls. In the high school gym on the first day, the Prospect girls play Laconia at 11:30 a.m. and the Prospect boys follow against the Sachems at 1 p.m. Plymouth and Gilford will square off in the other two games in the high school gym with the girls at 2:30 p.m. and the boys at 4 p.m. In the middle school gym, Belmont and Newfound take the court, with the girls at 11:30 a.m. and the boys at 1 p.m. They are followed by Winnisquam and Kingswood, with the girls at 2:30 p.m.

and the boys at 4 p.m.

Action continues the next day with games at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. for the girls and 1 and 4 p.m. for the boys, with consolation games in the middle school and semifinal games in the high school.

The tournament finals are Wednesday, Dec. 29, with the girls at 4:30 p.m. and the boys following at 6 p.m.

The Lin-Wood hoop programs are hosting a holiday jamboree this year. While there will not be a champion crowned, AD Matt Manning noted it is a chance to get teams extra games. The Gorham boys and girls, Moultonborough boys and girls, Lisbon boys and girls, Lin-Wood boys and girls, Littleton boys and Woodsville boys will all be competing.

Action starts on Wednesday, Dec. 29, with the Gorham and Littleton boys at 10 a.m., Gorham and Moulton-borough girls at 11:15 a.m., Moultonborough and Lisbon boys at 12:30 p.m., Lisbon and Lin-Wood girls at 1:45 p.m. and Lin-Wood and Woodsville boys at 3 p.m.

On Thursday, Dec. 30, the Littleton and Woodsville boys will play at 10 a.m., Moultonborough and Gorham boys play at 11:15 a.m., Lin-Wood and Gorham girls tip off at 12:30 p.m., Lisbon and Moultonborough girls play at 1:45 p.m. and Lin-Wood and Lisbon boys play at 3 p.m.

Kennett hockey will once again be hosting the Peter Hall Christmas Tournament at the Ham Arena in Conway. Kennett, Kingswood and Berlin-Gorham will be the local teams competing

On Sunday, Dec. 26, Kennett takes on Somersworth-Coe-Brown at 4 p.m. and Kingswood plays Berlin-Gorham at 6 p.m.

On Monday, Dec. 27, Kingswood takes on Dover at 10 a.m., Berlin-Gorham will play Dover at 3 p.m. and Kennett will take on John Stark-Hopkinton at 5

The tournament concludes on Tuesday, Dec. 28, with the consolation game at 3 p.m., third place game at 4:45 p.m. and championship game at 6:30 p.m.

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

# Christmas Eve candlelight service in North Barnstead

BARNSTEAD — What better way to welcome Christmas than gathered with neighbors at a beautiful country church for carols and a reading of the Christmas stary?

You and your family, both old and young, are invited to join us at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead for our traditional candlelight Christmas Eve service at 7 p.m. For everyone's health and safety, please wear your mask. We will have extra masks on hand.

Directions: From Route 28, take Peacham Rd. to the end. Turn right up and go a short way to 508 North Barnstead Rd.

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# Opinion

# **Popular toys** through the years

"Being there for a child is the most noble thing a toy can do." — Woody

Santa is preparing for his big night, which is just three days away. His elves are always busy working in the toy shop, year after year, and have created memorable toys, that always leave children wide eyed every Christmas morning. Some toys that children found under the tree more than 100 years ago are still popular today.

In 1920, just a mere 101 years ago, the hot toy for Christmas was the Raggedy Ann doll, that sold for \$1. Raggedy Ann and her brother Andy were created by a political cartoonist named Johnny Gruelle. In 1921, Lincoln Logs were the hot ticket. Lincoln Logs originally cost 50 cents.

Tinker Toys were first created in 1922, a toy that was a big hit in the 1980's as well. In 1924, the Erector Set was a favorite. In 1925, the classic Teddy bear was a popular, and cost 79 cents.

Crayola Crayons date all the way back to 1926. Crayola means 'chalk and oily' in French. Noted is that the original crayons were created in 1903, and the box contained just eight colors. The Radio Flyer wagon came out in 1927 and cost \$2.99.

Yo-yo's were all the rave in 1928, and cost just five cents. This toy dates back to 500 BC. In 1929, pop-up books became popular. In 1930 the Mickey Mouse doll hit stores. Mickey was discovered in the cartoon 'Steamboat Willie' that first aired in 1928. During Christmas in 1930, demand was so high for Mickey dolls that crafty mothers ended up creating

Finger pain and sock monkeys came out in 1931 and 1932, respectively. In 1933, tin Marx wind-up toys were the new thing.

In 1935, it was the Shirley Temple doll that had little girls everywhere smiling on Christmas day. Monopoly first hit stores in 1937, inspiring decades of family meltdowns...excuse us, family fun. Some people still get excited if they land on Baltic Avenue.

The original view master that became popular in the 80's, first came out in 1939.

In 1940, the Red Ryder BB gun cost \$5.00. Everyone loves a good Golden Book and in 1942, they cost just .25. In 1943, green army men became popular. The slinky (who didn't have one?) first appeared under trees in 1945. In 1946, Lionel Trains cost \$30. Tonka trucks came out in 1947. The original Clue board game first appeared in 1949.

In 1951, Colorforms cost 25 cents. Colorforms were the invention of art students who liked to be artistic, sans the high cost of paint. In 1952, Mr. and Mrs. Potato Head hit shelves for just 98 cents. Model cars became popular in 1953. In 1954, Scrabble hit stands and in 1955, Silly Putty could be found in stockings everywhere.

Play-Dough (can you ever forget that smell?) first came out in 1956. Barbie appeared in 1959. Anyone who could keep two Barbie shoes in one place for more than 24 hours was/is a special kind of person.

In 1960, the Etch A Sketch was created. A great toy if you had the patience for it. In 1961, even though it was winter, children everywhere wanted a Slip n Slide.

The Easy Bake Oven first appeared in 1963 for \$15. In 1964, G.I. Joe appeared for \$1.95. Twister appeared in 1966. The Lite-Brite and all its pieces first came out in 1967 for \$10. Hot Wheels came out in 1968 and LEGOs in 1969.

In 1970, Nerf balls were being thrown about in homes everywhere. Weebles were a hoot in 1971. In 1973, Shrinky Dinks were a blast. Stretch Armstrong was popular in 1976 and a year later, in 1977, the Atari hit stores. Skiing is by far the best Atari game invented, and Pitfall.

In 1982, He-Man was a hit, followed by My Little Pony in 1982. In 1983, the infamous Cabbage Patch Doll appeared, complete with all of their bizarre names. Even our Editor had one named 'Merci Rhonda.' The original Nintendo Entertainment System appeared in 1986.

In 1995, Beanie Babies took over toy stores everywhere. Some rare Beanie Babies sell for thousands of dollars today. Pokemon cards appeared in 1999. In the early 2000's, it was Bratz dolls, Xbox 360's and Playstations. In 2006, the Nintendo Wii almost seemed futuristic. In 2010, the first iPad appeared, and interestingly enough, in 2021, kids old and young have the new version on their Christmas lists.

We hope you all remember this holiday season, that we're all just a bunch of big kids.



PHOTO BY ERIN PLUMMER

# Making some snowy magic

The snow guns at Gunstock were putting a wintery carpet over the mountain a week before the ski season opened.

# LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Falling re were no checked up the next day.

It was a Monday, a real nice day. The job for the day had gone so well that I had plenty of time to get to some small jobs on my list. I was planning to sweep a roof and clean its gutters before heading to another place and paint some trim. All nice out in the warm sunshine kind of

I got to the house and set up my ladder on the deck for an easy climb onto the roof and took up my extension cords, dropping the end over the side by the outlet. So back down off the roof I went to plug in the cord and bring up my tools. I noticed that the ladder was separating the corner of the rain gutter, so I moved the ladder to the right, between two braces. Much better.

As I headed back up the ladder, at about the third or forth rung, the ladder started sliding down. I went with it. Wham! Down onto the deck. The doctors asked me if I passed out. I really didn't know. I didn't even know that I had hit my head till later when I got up off my bed and saw the blood stain on the towel I had put there

in case. There were no witnesses so all I know is that I got right up. It could have happened.

Quickly assessing that there was nothing broken and that I had just basically had a collision with an immovable object, I picked up the ladder and headed back up onto the roof and threw off my cords, then proceeded to pick Like I thought. up all my stuff and load At that point, I thought to myself that I should just do the roof while I was here, but decided I should really just go home and take it easy.

One of the consequences of the accident was that I was now seeing double. Pretty weird stuff. I saw perfectly with each eye, they just no longer lined up properly. I took turns using either eye. I figured that everything would be alright. My eyes would get better, or they wouldn't. I could get an eye patch?

I just so happened to get a call from my doctor's office regarding a future appointment and mentioned my fall to the nurse who insisted that I needed to go get an MRI of my head and then come in to get I now had entered myself into the system and got hooked up to the conveyor belt of care. The MRI came out fine, no internal bleeding. The doctor asked me lots of questions and made me an appointment with an eye guy who feels that I have a typical head injury that should heal itself.

After the word with a friend who told me that the pain on the third day would be the worst, then things would start to get better. Well not in my case, the fourth and fifth day are definitely worse than the third. Now I know why they were so adamant that I get all the doctoring done by the third day. Getting vertical from laying down is a definitely painful experience, and it doesn't help that I need to get up a couple times a night as I am keeping myself well hydrated. Tonight, I'm considering sleeping in my recliner.

Here's an observation I had that I never heard mentioned. After this trauma, my experience was that my lower digestive system

took some time off too. I didn't have to worry about laying cable for four days. This morning bright and early I returned the hot chili I had for lunch on Wednesday back to the environment, and then another sitting took place later in the morning dealing with things I'd ingested since then. Things are getting back to normal.

Sitting here in it back into the truck. got out, I was talking my recliner with a heating pad on high, I've expounded upon the basic situation behind why I haven't been out and about these past few days. The pains are still with me, and the vision is still messed up, but I'm noticing slight improvements so therefore I'm confidently hopeful that progress will continue. I actually was able to complete writing you this letter. Something I wasn't sure that I would be able to accomplish.

Thanks for reading and keep those notes and letters coming.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@ gmail.com

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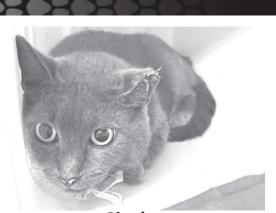
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Meet Gannon! This big doofus loves to play, go for walks and eat treats. He's an inexperienced fella who needs an experienced owner to help him lean his manners! Gannon isn't a big fan of other dogs or cats, so he's seeking to be the only pet in his new home. Because Gannon is inexperienced with petting and handling, and he's still learning to share his things, he will do best in a home without children. Gannon is currently being treated for a skin condition that may or may not resolve with his current treatment plan. His adopters should speak to their veterinarian, and be prepared for the possibility than Gannon will need to take medication or be on a perscription diet for the rest of his life. If you are looking for a mature dog who needs help earning what love is really all about, then ask us about Gannon!



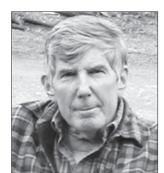
Cinder

Cinder here, and I have got some stories for you! My background is not like most, making it even harder for you to say no to adopting me. I am quiet around new people, but enjoy petting sessions. I would prefer a quiet home, one where I can warm up at my own pace and be the snuggle bug everyone here at the shelter knows I can be.



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# Of Christmas, and traditions, some of them pretty strange



**By John Harrigan** 

**COLUMNIST** 

Editor's note: Mr. Harrigan was unable to submit a new North Country Notebook column in time to meet our press deadline for this week's edition. The following column was originally published on Dec. 24, 2016.

Few grownups would be likely to associate Christmas with cruel and unusual punishment, but waking up to a blanket tacked up over the head of the stairwell to block all view of the Christmas tree and its presents would seem to fit. And then there was the Interminable Breakfast.

I don't know where parents learned these unusual holiday practices, but any doubters can ask my siblings, although their memories are not as sharp as

Neither do I know where the idea of opening two presents on Christmas Eve came from, but I've since learned that this is a wide-spread tradition, so in that, at least, our household was normal.

The two gifts business was preceded by the entire family singing carols around the McPhail upright piano, with our grandmother White at the keys. We were a family of singers and could break into pretty good harmony, our grandmother singing along as she hit the chords with aplomb and lightly tripped the notes between. It was a scene that younger members of the family could be lulled into thinking would last forever. Yet the old McPhail and many of our loved ones are gone, and only the memories live on.

On Christmas morning we tore away at our stockings pinned at the foot of our beds, my brother and I soon bringing ours to our sister Susan's bed to compare loot. At the bottom of each stocking we were sure to find an orange, a humdrum thing today but back then a supreme treat, fresh fruit next to impossible to find during winter.

But then we would rush to the stairs only to find the way blocked by a blanket. "Not 'til we're ready," Mom or Dad would shout from below as they rushed around for last-minute gifts they'd somehow kept hidden.

And then, permission granted, downstairs we'd rush, to give the tree and gifts a quick scan before the final, inevitable show-stopping command "Not until we've had breakfast."

Relatives in Bethlehem and Lisbon and over in Andover and Jonesport, Maine, were scandalized at this inhumane treatment, thinking, perhaps, that our parents were scarring us for life.

This behavior must be an inherited trait, because with my own kids I did the same, only

THIS PHOTO has run before, but it seemed a fitting way to say "Merry Christmas, from our house to yours."

different. While the rest of the household was still asleep or up tearing away at stockings, I was up early and in the kitchen, preparing the basic elements of breakfast and leaving the eggs for last. At what I figured was a reasonable hour, say 8, I selected what was and still is my favorite wake-'em-up vari-

ety of Christmas music, Mannheim Steamroller, which I always called "Manhattan Steamroller," and turned it up full blast.

"Not until we've had breakfast," I'd yell when I herd the stampede coming down the stairs. But at least I spared them the blanket.

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

# **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. As Mary cradled her firstborn, little did she know she was holding deity in her hands.

It is significant that the first ones to learn of the events of that evening were shepherds. These were hard-worksalt-of-the-earth men, despised commoners, too poor and too busy to enjoy an evening at the Inn. But a host of singing angels had already 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 Nebuchadnezzar's fiery furnace. God Himself had joined the human family. Some thirty-three years later, He

would take upon Himself the penalty for sin and make possible the promise of eternal life.

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 indefenseoftruth.net.

# Celebrate the "Hope of Christmas" at Center Barnstead Christian Church

BARNSTEAD — Hope, a simple word and yet filled with meaning. Hope is powerful. It is an important aspect of every person's life. Everyone places hope in something. What do you put your hope in? Relationships? Family? Your Career? Your health? Your wealth?

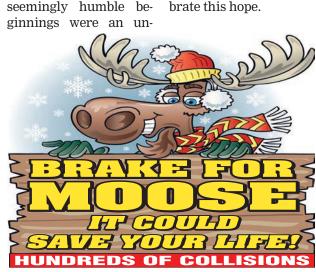
These arenas of hope can bring great fulfillment and joy in life. However, they can also bring great pain and hopelessness. A broken relationship. The death of a loved one. The loss of a job. A cancer diagnosis. A bad financial investment. These things can all bring a sense of hopelessness.

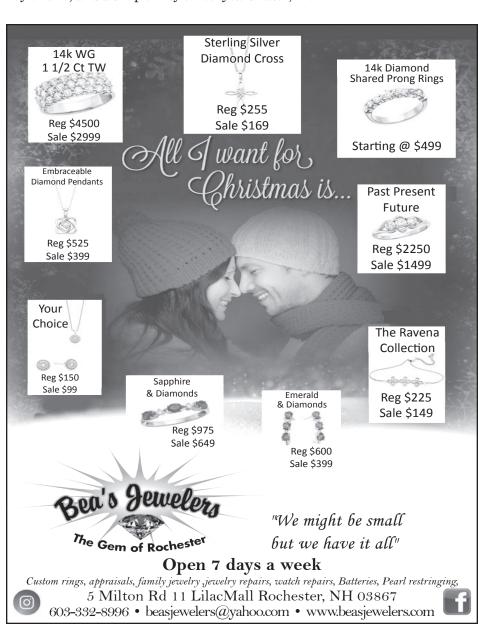
The reality is that most of what we put our hope in is temporal and not guaranteed. After all, when we use the word hope we most often use it in the context of a desire or a wish. We hope that our favorite sports team is victorious. We hope that a pandemic would end and life could go back to normal. A child hopes for a specific gift to be under the tree on Christmas morning.

Have you considered that there is another kind of hope? This hope is not a desire or a wish. It is something that has not yet happened but it is a certainty that it is going to happen. This is the hope of Christmas. This is hope you can count on. Hope that lasts regardless of what life may throw at you.

People all over the world are familiar with the Christmas Story. The beautiful and amazing story that surrounds the birth of Jesus. A baby born and laid in a manger in the small town of Bethlehem. His seemingly humble be-

likely origin to the hope that he would bring to the world through his death, burial, and resurrection. A hope that transcends the physical world and brings people into a right relationship with God. This hope is offered as a precious gift to all people for all time. Regardless of where you have placed your hope, reflect and consider receiving the gift of hope that is celebrated this time of year, the hope of Christmas. You are invited for a Christmas Eve service at Center Barnstead Christian Church on Friday, Dec. 24 from 6-7 p.m. to cele-





# THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address
Alton	20 Back Bay Path
Alton	7 Bender Lane
Alton	15 Bender Lane
Alton	Clay Point Road
Alton	26 Cynthia Dr.
Alton	36 Pipers Point La
Alton	Range Road
Alton	340 Sleepers Island
Alton	N/A
Barnstead	20 Emerson Dr.
Barnstead	49 Emerson Dr.
Barnstead	18 Enfield Lane
Barnstead	20 Lincoln Lane
Barnstead	5 Rangeway Rd.
New Durhan	1171 Old Bay Rd.

Type	Price
Single-Family Residence	\$259,000
Mobile Home	\$191,000
Single-Family Residence	\$191,000
N/A`\$574,933	Joseph M.
Single-Family Residence	\$165,000
Single-Family Residence	\$4,010,000
Residential Developed La	nd \$55,00
Single-Family Residence	\$550,000
N/A	\$35,000
Single-Family Residence	\$262,000
N/A	\$245,200
Single-Family Residence	\$259,933
Single-Family Residence	\$310,000
Single-Family Residence	\$305,000
Single-Family Residence	\$485,533

Seller Joan H. Westbrook Nicholas T. Carey Nicholas T. Carey . Petrucci and Joyce M. Greenlaw Dorene and Ron Charles Phillip J. and Michelle Cioffi OLloyd and Christina Perrigo Paula J. Dallaire William J. and Sharon M. Wotikiewicz

William and Deborah Templeton Matthew and Brittany Maltais Andrew A. Allen Keith A. Chamberlain Bruce M. and Patircia A. Metcalfe Metcalfe Fiscal Trust and Michael P. Metcalfe Tammie L. Luther James and Christine Marsh Joshua R. Gould Peter H. Lee and Sia Herr Christopher B. and Louann Stanton Samuel W. Collins Judith Fielders Paul J. Sonberg William J. Poisson and Margaret Hogan-Poisson Paul W. and Joan S. Guimond Peter F. and Emma A. Scala D.W. & Joan G. Swenson RET usually the first listed in the deed. Sales might involve or 669-3822. Copyright 2011. Real Data Corp. In the col-

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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

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BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON Alton-9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mount School. Pastor Ben Ruhl, www.befreechurch.net.

# CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN

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

# CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF PRAISE C.C.O.P PRAISE GATHERING

Gathering Saturday evenings at 6-7 p.m. The Gilmanton Community Church 497 Province Road, Gilmanton, NH

### ccoppraisegathering@gmail.com COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON

Prayer Meeting 9:00 am Rev. Dr. Samuel J. Hollo. 875-5561. Rec. D. Summer, 1000. 6(3-5)01. Bay service 8:30am Alton Bay Gazebo, Alton , NH 10 am Worship Service 20 Church Street, Alton Our services are live streamed on YouTube Sundays at 10 am

Sunday School and Worship Services Rev. Rebecca Werner Maccini 603-776-1820

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# CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC

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James Grieco

James Grieco

# Alton Rotary Club changes to Thursday dinner meetings

ALTON — Beginning Thursday, Jan. 6, the Alton, Barnstead, New Durham Centennial Rotary Club will be holding their weekly dinner meetings, 5:30 -7 p.m. at the same location where they've been meeting for breakfast: Alton Community Center, 7 Pearson Rd., Alton.

"We've made the change for a number of good reasons," said Rotary club President Richard Leonard. "Some of which include, especially during the winter months, driving in the early AM after a night of snow is too dangerous and it's much safer after plowing and sanding is done. Also, members who have children find it too difficult to get their kids off to school and then rush to attend a Rotary meeting.

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"Another reason, it'll be better for attracting guest speakers who live too far enough away from Alton that they'd prefer not to come because of the distance and time of the day. The same logic applies to attracting possible new Rotary members who are still working, it'll be easier for them to meet at the close of the day for dinner, than to attend a breakfast meeting while on their way to work," concluded Leonard.

Although the club is changing to a dinner meeting, food will not be served until the Covid-19 all clear is

given. Rotary is a non-profit, non-religious and non-political worldwide service organization dedicated to improving and saving lives both locally and globally. Any adult, male or female, is invited to attend a Rotary meeting to hear, see and learn what important work the club is engaged in to help those in need. If interested in becoming an Alton Centennial Rotarian, dues are waived for the first six months.

information, contact Membership Chairs: Aimee Terravechia, 1-603-630-0526, or Duane Hammond,



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# Alton Parks and Recreation Connection

Free weight training and yoga Zoom classes

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is offering free Zoom exercise classes for local residents. Classes are held live through Zoom, computer and internet access is required. Participants must register in advance to receive the class session link.

Weight Training- Adults of All Ages- Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Weight bearing exercises to build strong bones and muscles.

Yoga for Fitness- Adults of All Ages- Fridays from 1-2 p.m. Yoga postures designed to strengthen, tone and increase balance and flexibility.

Contact 603-875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov to sign up. Classes start Jan. 3.





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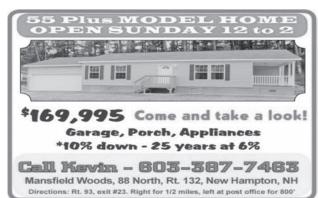
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# Alpine Knights eager to get out on snow

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

WOLFEBORO — The lack of snow has kept the Kingswood alpine team from officially getting training runs in, but veteran coach Kris Niiler has her kids doing the dryland training and getting ready for the new

"We've done running, jumping and ab exercises, but we haven't done any skiing yet," Niiler said. "It's hard to tell what I have, we had such an abbreviated season last year, it's so hard coming off of that to know."

that Niiler does return a number of kids with varsity experience who should be able to put up points at the meets.

The lone senior on the girls' side is Kylie Lewis, who will serve as the team captains, while the boys' captains will be seniors Robbie Hotchkiss and Lou Arinello. Hotchkiss is once again working toward Skimeister honors, meaning he skis with both the Nordic and the alpine teams. Camden Colson also returns to the Knights for his senior season.

> Juniors for the

The good news is Knight boys include Joseph Ames, Matt Burch, Owen Kelly and Cameron Yates while juniors on the girls' team include Abby Fournier, Abbie Heald, Lauren MacPhee, Hadley Larson and Natalie Marcoullier.

> Blake Sandlin is the lone sophomore on the bovs' team, while Isabella Pickle, Brityn Roark and Carrigain Williams are the girls' team sophomores.

Sierra Rose and Marina Roy for the girls and Quinlan Dickey for the boys will be moving up from the junior high

team to race in their freshman campaigns.

"Our ninth graders skied in middle school and they all did well in middle school," said Niiler "But you never know how it's going to translate to the high school level."

Despite the warm weather, the Knights' home mountain of King Pine is working toward opening and Niiler expected that the first race of the season, the traditional pre-Christmas race with Kennett, would be able to go off as expected after deadline

on Wednesday, Dec. 22.

"It's always fun to iust get out there and see where people are at," the veteran coach stated. "We have some really enthusiastic kids. That part is good and we'll go from there."

The Knights will have three races at King Pine and three races at Cran-

more as well as one at Gunstock during the regular season. The Division II championships are set for Cranmore in mid-February.

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

# **HIGH SCHOOL SLATE**

Sunday, Dec. 26

KENNETT Boys' Hoops vs. Epping Holiday (Farmington Tourney); 12:30

Girls' Hoops vs. Epping (Farmington Holiday Tourney); 1:45

Hockey vs. Somersworth-Coe-Brown (Holiday Tourney); 4 **KINGSWOOD** 

Boys' Hockey vs. Berlin-Gorham (Kennett Holiday Tourney); 6

Monday, Dec. 27 KENNETT

Hockey John Stark-Hopkinton (Holiday Tourney); 5 KINGSWOOD

(Kennett Holiday Tourney); 10 Boys' Hoops vs. Winnis-

Boys' Hockey vs. Dover

quam (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 4 Girls' Hoops vs. Winnisquam (Gilford Holiday

Tourney); 2:30 PROSPECT MOUNTAIN Boys' Hoops vs. Laconia (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 1

Girls' Hoops vs. Laconia (Gilford Holiday Tourney); 11:30

Tuesday, Dec. 28 KENNETT

Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Farmington Holiday Tourney); 4 Girls' Hoops vs. TBD

Holiday (Farmington Tourney); 2:45 Hockey vs. TBD (Holiday Tourney); TBD

KINGSWOOD Boys' Hockey vs. TBD (Kennett Holiday Tourney); TBD

Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD

Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); PROSPECT MOUNTAIN

Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gil-

ford Holiday Tourney); TBD

Wednesday, Dec. 29 KENNETT

Boys' Hoops at Farmington Holiday Tourney;

Girls' Hoops at Farmington Holiday Tourney;

TBD KINGSWOOD

Boys' Hockey vs. Goffstown: 7 Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gil-

ford Holiday Tourney); TBD Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney);

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN Boys' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney);

Girls' Hoops vs. TBD (Gilford Holiday Tourney); TBD

Thursday, Dec. 30 KENNETT

Boys' Hoops at Farmington Holiday Tourney;

Girls' Hoops at Farmington Holiday Tourney; TBD

All schedules are subject to



# **SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# **PART-TIME SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARY**

The Shaker Regional School Board is seeking a secretary to take minutes at board meetings. The board averages 2 meetings per month, usually on Tuesdays, with meetings typically starting at 6 pm. This position pays \$16.56 per hour, for time spent at the meetings and transcribing the minutes. Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest, resume and 3 letters of reference to Debbie Thompson, Business Administrator; SAU 80; 58 School Street; Belmont, NH 03220.

# Swinerton hat trick leads Knights past **Spaulding**

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — The Kingswood boys' hockey team bounced back from a tough opening night loss in Dover, picking up a 6-3 win over Spaulding on Wednesday night in Rochester.

Shaw Swinerton led the way for the Knights, potting three goals while Will Danais, Cody Emerson and Cam Kean each added a goal.

The Knights are scheduled to take part in the Peter Hall Christmas Tournament hosted by Kennett High School at Ham Arena in Conway. The Knights will open the tournament on Sunday, Dec. 26, at 6 p.m. against Berlin-Gorham and will take on Dover on Monday, Dec. 27, at 10 a.m. The final day of the tournament will have the Knights playing at either 3 p.m., 4:45 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. The Knights return to regular season action on Wednesday, Dec. 29, at home against Goffstown at 7 p.m.

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

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# Knight hoop girls looking to find their footing

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

WOLFEBORO Heading into the season, Kingswood girls' hoop coach Marty Garabedian thought that the defensive side of things would be the most difficult thing for the Knights to tackle this year.

But a couple games into the season, it's been the offense that has struggled, as the Knights have not been able to put the ball in the basket

two games of the season.

"We've been struggling the first couple games, we can't get the ball in the hoop," Garabedian said. "I thought we'd do OK scoring and thought defense would have been hard, but right now it's the offense that's struggling.

"But we're going to try and get better every practice," the Knight coach added.

The Knights only

consistently in the first have a few returning players on this year's squad, as out of the six core varsity players, four didn't play last year amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

> "They lost almost two years of organized ball," Garabedian said. "But we've just got to keep at it."

> In the preseason, the team played scrimmages at Kennett's jamboree and the team did well on the offensive side of things but once the season got going, the ball just doesn't seem to want to fall.

The Knights will be led by senior captains Megan Davey and Kyleigh Bonneau. Juniors Kamdyn Hobbs, Sarah Hyde and Sadie Erwin and sophomore Carley Johnson and Andrea Daggett round out the upperclassmen, with the rest of the roster made up of freshman.

"They're very good kids, even after a hard loss, they're still their joyous selves in practice," Garabedian said. "I applaud them for keeping their heads up."

The Knight coach that over the past few years, it's always taken the team half of the season to really get going and with a compact schedule that includes three games a week for most of the season, there is less time to practice.

"With the compact schedule, there's not a lot of practice time," Garabedian said. "But we're all in the same boat.

"We've got to compete, we've got to perform and we've got to execute," he added.

The Knights are back to a normal Division II schedule, with two games each against Plymouth and Bishop Brady and single games against Souhegan, Merrimack Valley, Coe-Brown, Laconia, Lebanon, Kennett, Sanborn, Manchester West, Timberlane, Hanover, John Stark, Oyster River, Pembroke and Bow.

The Knights played games against Souhegan, Merrimack Valley, Coe-Brown and Laconia in the first eight days of the season and were at Plymouth after deadline Monday.

Kingswood will be taking part in the Lakes Region Holiday Hoop Tournament in Gilford starting Dec. 27. Kingswood will take on Winnisquam at 2:30 p.m. in the middle school gym. They play again on Tuesday, Dec. 28, at 2:30 p.m. against either Plymouth or Gilford.

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



KAMDYN HOBBS fires off a shot in action against Coe-Brown



ANDREA DAGGETT works under the hoop in action last week against Coe-Brown.





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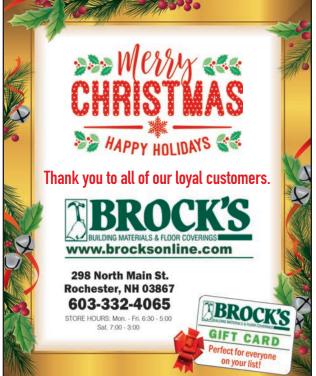














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# "Impermanence: Landscapes by Betty Flournoy Brown" on display at MVSB



WOLFEBORO — Landscapes by Betty Flournoy Brown will be exhibited at Meredith Village Savings Bank, 66 North Main St., Wolfeboro. Sponsored by The Governor Wentworth Arts Council, the exhibit runs from Dec. 4 through

While painting on location in New England, Flournoy Brown focuses on the impermanence of the natural world, our connection to it and climate change.

Committed to the arts since childhood, Flournoy Brown studied at the University of South Florida, the Museum School of Fine Arts in Boston, and the Art Institute of New Hampshire. Exhibits in New Hampshire include Museum of the White Mountains in Plymouth, Rochester Museum of Art, MET Gallery in North Conway, Vynn Art Gallery in Meredith, and Dryup Art Gallery in Plymouth. In Massachusetts, she exhibited at the Kathryn Schultz Gallery in Cambridge and the Addison Gallery in Orleans. She was also a featured guest on the "Inside Out" NH Public Radio, discussing landscape painting.

More information can be found atbettybrownfineart.com,governorwentworthartscouncil.org, mwvarts.org and wcanh.org.



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