

Raynes named HRCU’s Director of Marketing

ROCHESTER — HRCU is pleased to announce that Charlie Raynes has been hired as their Director of Marketing. Raynes takes the lead on overseeing the credit union’s marketing efforts company-wide.

Raynes brings a long and diverse marketing background to HRCU, most recently serving as VP Global Marcom for Mersen in Newburyport, Mass. In this role, Raynes led the company’s global digital transformation, directed

the annual Marketing strategy and execution and was responsible for developing the brand identity. Prior to this Raynes held lead Marketing roles at Timberland, Direct Capital and has also worked at several Boston advertising agencies.

“Charlie brings a great deal of marketing experience to HRCU. The growth we have had over the last few years is very exciting. Add to that our expansion to York County, Maine,” said HRCU President & CEO



Charlie Raynes

Brian Hughes. “Building on our marketing efforts has now taken a big step forward and I am very excited to have someone with Charlie’s background and enthusiasm onboard.”

Charlie grew up in Dover and the South Shore of Boston. He moved back to New Hampshire in 2002 and has served as a member of the Rye Conservation Commission and currently lives on the seacoast with his wife and daughter.

HRCU is a state-chartered and federally in-

sured community credit union that has been serving the New Hampshire community since its inception in 1962. With several locations throughout the seacoast, HRCU prides itself on helping its members achieve their financial goals through convenient, technology-driven, services and a compassionate, personalized approach.

Booster Club seeking support from local community

ALTON — The Timberwolves Booster Club was created to promote Prospect Mountain High School athletics programs and to recognize the achievements of the school’s sports teams and individual athletes. Thanks to community involvement, each year they have been able to raise money for the athletic department and provide annual scholarships to graduating scholar athletes.

Since March of 2020, because of the pandemic, the club has been unable to do its usual fundraising activities, including raising money through the concession stand at home basketball games. In June 2020, the club gave out four \$500 scholarships to graduating athletes who demonstrated academic excellence, outstanding sportsmanship, and leadership both on and off the field, track, or

court. Now, club members don’t want the Class of 2021 to miss out on this opportunity.

So, they are turning to the Alton and Barnstead communities in hopes that local residents will support the Booster Club’s mission. The goal is to at least again be able to recognize four graduating seniors who have made everyone proud - not only as athletes - but as members of the PMHS community.

Would you please consider donating? Every amount will help them reach the campaign goal of \$2,000.

You can donate through the GoFundMe page (search for the Timberwolves Booster Club

2021 Scholarship Fund) or go to <https://gofund.me/4e1c8249>.

Or, if online giving is not for you, TD Bank in Alton is accepting donations by cash or check. Please make checks payable to “Timberwolves

Booster Club.”

The Timberwolves Booster Club thanks the community for its support of Prospect Mountain athletes.

Snowmobile rolls on Lake Winnepesaukee

ALTON — On Friday, Feb. 19 at 3:51 p.m., Alton Fire-Rescue, Gilford Fire-Rescue, Alton Police Department and New Hampshire Fish & Game Conservation Officers responded to a snowmobile accident near Echo Point in Alton.

Anthony Silvestri, 49, of Milton was northbound on Alton Bay

when he struck a pile of hard snow in near white-out conditions resulting in the snowmobile rolling end-over-end several times. Silvestri sustained serious injuries and was transported to Portsmouth Hospital for treatment.

New Hampshire Fish and Game reminds riders that frozen bodies of water present many hazards in addition to

thin ice, including pressure ridges, snowbanks, navigational buoys, docks and snow covered rocks. Visibility can be substantially reduced during snowfall, sun glare and nightfall; and it is recommended to reduce speed to substantially minimize these risks.

No further information available at this time.

New Durham Library serves up nutritional eating advice

NEW DURHAM – On the Menu, New Durham Public Library’s virtual healthy eating program, continues serving up great nutritional advice on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for the rest of the month.

Upcoming sessions deal with Diet vs. Lifestyle and Social Connections, Label Reading - Ingredients and Nutritional Content, Protein and the Big Three

- Fat, Salt and Sugar, and Healthy Eating on a Budget for You and the Kids and Surviving Eating Out.

Residents of all communities are invited to attend the free half-hour classes led by Meghan Phillips, who has a strong background in Nutritional Science and Alternative Nutrition.

Informal in nature, the sessions include

recipes, resources, and a question and answer period.

Email the library at newdurhamlibrary@gmail.com for the link or call 859-2201 for more information.

Alton selectmen seek input from Atlantic Broadband customers

ALTON — The Alton Board of Selectmen are seeking input from Alton residents who are current Atlantic Broadband customers. The Selectmen will begin the process of negotiating a new contract with Atlantic Broadband for finalization in 2022 or 2023. Input which is good, bad or indifferent is being sought prior to the negotiations.

All input is welcome. Please submit your input in writing to: Alton Board of Selectmen, Broadband negotiations, PO Box 659, Alton, NH 03809 or email it to selectmen@alton.nh.gov.

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	Brynn Lane	Forest Use	\$90,000	Jeddey RT and John Jeddey	Bryan Peebles
Alton	E. Side Drive	Mixed Use (Forestry & Residential)	\$605,000	Bayview Forest & Development LLC	James and Sharon Angotti
Alton	Walker Twombly Road	N/A	\$350,000	John E. and Cynthia A. Lobdell	Sonya & Adam Henderson Fiscal Trust and Sonya Henderson
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$125,000	Maxwell R. and Eva M. Baker	Stephen J. Fedorchak
Alton	N/A (Lot 1)	N/A	\$77,000	Jones Fiscal Trust and Virginia S. Jones	Robert and Diana S. Stanley
Barnstead	42 Emerson Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$250,000	Steven W. Ainsworth	Stephen J. and Nicole L. Rondeau
Barnstead	154 Narrows Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$312,000	Joseph W. Callahan	Shawn P. Ford
Barnstead	Route 107	N/A	\$520,000	Michael H. and Joanne C. Matthy	Alla Neyshtadt
Barnstead	119 Vail Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$250,000	Michael D. Sweeney and Sharon Trimble	James S. Peters
Barnstead	269 Varney Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$180,000	George M. Canfield, Jr. Estate and Allison Gould	Jason A. Canfield
Barnstead	94 Winwood Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$232,000	Marilyn Dansereau	Jason Martin and Caroline Perrault
Barnstead	N/A (Lot 64)	N/A	\$73,533	Jato RT and John M. Lungo	M8 Properties LLC

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

Alton Parks and Recreation Connection

Movie March- Review Looking for an inside activity to do. Join in the Movie March- Review. Every Monday during the month of March, Alton Parks and Recreation is presenting a movie review topic. Find a movie that relates to the theme, watch it, and let us know your favorite quote by that Thursday. All participants will be entered into a Movie Kit raffle! At the end of each week on Friday, a winning name will be picked for a Movie Kit (Popcorn, Box Office Candy and Popcorn Bucket). To send your quote and be entered into the raffle or for more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or call 875-0109. Below is the schedule for the Movie Topic each week. Click the link next to the topic if you need help finding the perfect movie:

March 8 – Family Friendly Movie https://www.rottentomatoes.com/top/bestofrt/top_100_kids_family_movies/

March 15 – Based on a True Story <https://www.townandcountrymag.com/society/g15907978/best-movies-based-on-true-stories/>

March 22 – Musical https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AFI%27s_Greatest_Movie_Musicals

March 29 – Based on a Book <https://www.bookbub.com/blog/best-movies-based-on-books-all-time>

Local, Guided Snow Shoe Hikes every Friday The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring free Snow Shoe Hikes every Friday in March at 10 a.m., weather permitting. Bring snow shoes to this outdoor experience. Social distancing and COVID protocols will be in place. Individual trail information including directions and trail maps are available at www.alton.nh.gov (Government-Parks and Recreation-Trails and Hiking). For more information and/or to register for the program contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 875-0109. Hikes begin at 10 a.m. from the trail head. March 5- Cotton Hurd Brook, register by March 4; March 12-

Knight's Pond, register by March 11; March 19- Pine Mountain, register by March 18; March 26-Trask Swamp, register by March 25.

Exercise Classes The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is offering free Zoom exercise classes in March for local residents. Connect with us as we help motivate you to move, be active and have fun. Classes are held live through Zoom, computer and internet access is required. Participants must register in advance to receive the class session link. Contact 875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov for more information.

Weight Training- Adults of All Ages- Mon-

days and Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30p.m. Class runs now thru March 31. Pre-register before your first class at parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Yoga for Sports- Mondays, 3-3:45p.m. Join in this class that will offer exercises designed to increase range of motion, build strength and balance, and improve mental resilience that will help on and off the sports scene. Class runs now thru March 29. Pre-register before your first class at parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Ice Skating Rink at Mill Pond Public Ice Skating is available at Mill Pond, across from the Fire Department on Route 140. The rink is maintained

by the Town's Grounds and Maintenance Department, and is flooded by the Fire Department. Rink conditions are

weather dependent so please check the ice rink sign to make sure the rink is open.


Enjoy beef stew to go at FCC Farmington

FARMINGTON — Enjoy the taste of homestyle cooking when you eat a delicious Hearty Beef and Vegetable Stew Meal To-Go prepared by the Women's Fellowship of the First Congregational Church in downtown Farmington. Each meal consists of a 12 ounce serving of Beef Stew with slow simmered beef, in a rich gravy and tender vegetables. Add a side of a homemade roll and cookies and you have a delightful meal to enjoy in the comfort of your home. The cost is only \$10 per meal. Pre-paid orders can be picked up on Saturday, March 13 between noon and 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church located at 400 Main St., Farmington.

Pre-paid orders must be received by Wednesday, March 10. Each meal is only \$10. To place your order, call the church at 839-1007 and provide your name, phone number and the number of meals you would like. You can order on-line at www.farmingtonnhucc.org. Or mail your order with your name and phone, and the number of meals you want and your check to: FCC Women's Fellowship, First Congregational Church, 400 Main St., Farmington, NH 03835. Please make checks payable to FCC Women's Fellowship.

This event is a benefit for the ministries of the First Congregational Church, which provides clothing and household items through Blessed Bargains Thrift Shop and houses the Interfaith Food Pantry.

For more information see the church's Web site: www.farmingtonnhucc.org.



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Colder climes and jasper mines, and chickadees flitting through flakes



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

Thursday was one of those gray days with almost no shadows, and ambient light all around. It was a perfect day for portrait photography, but too cold and windy to expect anyone to sit on the porch.

Initially, you can become disoriented in a world made small by the weather, a world with no shadows. It is suddenly like a world without The Other, but in this case, a friendly other that for the most part just follows you around. Occasionally your shadow makes you look at yourself, and many times in life, probably more than most of us know, it saves your life. It has saved mine, plenty.

Initially, the wind came out of the West, then from the East for a little bit, and then the snow became driven, first sideways and then straight down at the

ground. Those are the vagaries of the winds, the whims at their will, the whirls and twirls of the selkies, what you expect of a life among knobs and nubbles.

It was almost February’s last gasp. Every now and then the sun tried to burn a hole through the low nimbus clouds and swirling snow.

Through it all the chickadees flew, ever busy as usual. Most always when I’m asked about my favorite bird I’ll say “Raven” right away, but I’m easily swayed by the chickadees, out there working away with an eye out for hawks, and every now and then stopping for a chat.

+++++

“Division of labor” is not exactly a trendy phrase in discussions about domestic chores. The Loosey Goosey crowd (which on some issues includes me) tends to view it as too rigid, traditional, and gender-specific.

Still, when archaeologists at a 9,000-year-old burial site in Peru found projectile points and hunter’s tools among preparations for the

Great Beyond, they initially assumed that the deceased was a man. Wrong! Ernk! (Make buzzer-sound here.) Recently developed tests on tooth enamel can determine gender, and this hunter turned out to be a young woman.

This is a reminder of that old saying about the word “assume.” Archaeologists love to discover ancient hearths and charcoal, because fire pits and surrounding areas often reveal rich data on the region’s flora and fauna.

+++++

The Peru dig was one of the features in the March/April issue of Archaeology magazine. It is one of many forums where a lively exchange on the peopling of the Western Hemisphere has been going on among readers and experts for years.

New evidence keeps turning up, which should surprise nobody interested in the topic. The old theories and dates on the last Ice Age (roughly 15,000 years ago) and the exposure of the Bering Strait landbridge constituted one of those nice, neat, tidy little packages that left diminishing room for new

discoveries and data.

Then, to no one’s great surprise, archaeologists on digs from Yukon to Central America to Brazil and down to Terra del Fuego began turning up fire-pits and flaked tools carbon-dated to well beyond 15,000 years.

So the peopling of the Western Hemisphere remains an open book and a fascinating question. Theories from Southeast Asian island-hopping to colonists from the cosmos abound.

+++++

Photos of spear-points and arrowheads from digs in North and South America reminded me about the raw material used to make them (basically, jasper), and the rare outcroppings of volcanic core-rock where it is found.

Right here in New Hampshire, we have one of the longest-used jasper mines ever found, in the form of a mountain of that name in Berlin. Material from a similar site in Maine has turned up in digs in the lower Mississippi valley, more proof that a vibrant network of Native American trade existed for millennia, from sea to shining sea.



JOHN HARRIGAN
As February gives up the ghost, a snow squall walls off the world and leaves you with a couple of familiar old friends waiting for you on the porch, firewood and snow.

+++++

In a paper I’m reading on the past, present, and future of wildlife habitat and the ongoing conservation movement, I found this statement:

“Children are spending less time outdoors.”

And this:

“This general disconnection from the undeveloped environment indicates an uncertain

future for conservation.”

(Source: Daniel Decker, et al, “Governance Principles for Wildlife Conservation in the 21st Century,” Conservation Letters, Wiley Periodicals.)

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

Letters to the Editor

In response to ‘Mr. J’s’ counterpoint

To the Editor:
Thank you for the counterpoint to my letters found in this newspaper Mr. J, also from Barnstead. While I do consider myself tolerant, more a liberal, than to the right wing of the conservative movement. The same right-wing group you may identify with, was on the political side in the 1930’s & ‘40’s, the Nazis party aligned with, and #45 supports, i.e. Charlottesville.
As reported in a 1990 Vanity Fair article, your buddy #45’s ex-wife Ivana stated he keeps a copy of Hitler’s book “Main Kampf” (“My New Order”) in this bedside table, but #45 says he never read it. This is fact; look it up. On being a liberal, yes, it is true I have feelings; however, I also believe in facts to support my liberalism — as a matter of fact, you cannot support liberal causes without facts; here’s one for you.
People of color have tolerated white-man’s injustice in this country for over 400 years; it amazes me (feelings) that it continues, and they have not organized to put an end to it. They may just someday, is that’s what’s got white man so scared. Why #45 was so popular with his

racist views, really that many 74 million voted to keep the people of color down. As I write this the right winged party (GOP) is trying to pass election laws reform to keep people from their right to vote. Check out new laws in Alabama’s state legislature, & other states, with election restriction laws.
While a stated proud tolerant liberal, I would not sink as low as to steal, your beloved signs (I’m afraid of being shot) or yell a profanity, at you while you got gas, or gave you the new MAGA Salute, which I saw given many times, given by presumed like-minded people, to the CNN reporters, who were simply trying to be fair getting the other sides point of view. On that small minded little phrase, #1 not originally from fearless leader; #2, the letters really stand for Mean Americans Gone Astray. That’s the way I read the souls of the right wing under tRUMP, who’d attacked the capital, after #45 expressed the word “fight” 14 times. Plus, people who showed up at polling places with Guns to shoot the people counting the votes, because they wanted to stop the counting, just cause’ it

wasn’t going their way. Armed supporters of #45 In Michigan planning on kid-napping the Governor to kill her. Do I need to do research on this for facts; really?
While you were educating me on the tax reform bought to us by #45, you failed to mention that the actual largest percentage was given to the wealthiest. Seventy percent of the benefit went to the wealthiest 1 percent of tax payers. I never said others did not get a tax break, but I believe I stated that the extra twenty bucks in your paycheck is no comparison to a million dollars a day interest, some of the wealthiest received. Oh, another point — that tax break for those people is not to be rescinded it is permanent. I have stated, and will state again here, I like Republicans; I had one for a parent, and had a Democrat for the other. The Republican Party changed by #45 has become something to be feared. In this country when taking an elected position, you swear to defend the Constitution, not D.J. ‘tRUMP’s’ butt. It is not the republican party that my parent belonged to, trust me on that. The role of a conservative is not to destroy our consti-

tution, I hope! But your buddy tried awfully hard to do so.
I mentioned at the start of this letter that Hitler had a right-winged party. When he was done, 50 million some odd people around the world were dead, at the start very few tried to stop him when they had the chance. Hitler let his will be known in his book which is kept by your fearless leaders’ bedside. President #45 has done as much in his speech, and at his rallies. While you may have missed the stories told of the horrors, he did to undercut the constitution which he swore to defend, because they were not reported on Fox News. Do you really believe he hasn’t read some of Hitler’s book like his other mistruths?
I’ve read the whole Hitler book I do not keep it at my bedside, but the vilest minds seem to think alike. I hope you will recognize that the news you have such faith in maybe false also, the way you believe the news I watch is fake. “The truth will never change, and a lie is never the same told more than once”. How many excus-

es did America get as to why the taxes were not released? Well, I guess they will be now, and I suppose that which does come out is still going to be a Democratic made up lie to make #45 look bad. He needs no help with that. Obama had zero scandals in 8 years.
Joe Biden will most likely make a few mistakes as he tries to fix the most messed up country pasted from one party to the next. His ending a pipeline that has already done damage to the environment, may have cost a thousand jobs, sorry for that, but people need to be able to change, we only have one environment destroy it and what are you left with? Money in the pockets of a few! I know when I lost my engineering job, at age 50 I went back to school to become a nurse, before I was an engineer, I was a technician making parts for computers, before that I was a chef, before that, I work as a slitter operator, cutting paper, I’ve had many careers, and many in between, all could be called good jobs, but I wanted the American dream and when one door was closed I knocked on another.

Pipeline workers can do the same. No guarantee given!
It has never been about me, unlike the me, me, me I’ve heard from the one you seem to think is doing you a favor, only time will tell if Joe does a better job than that other guy who continues to lie about the election, he lost all by himself. Joes Covid-19 bill has money for the states, schools, police reform, job creation, vaccines, medical supplies, \$1,400 for those who qualify & more. The Democrats are not perfect but they do try to help the little guys (\$15 per hour) all I’ve ever seen the Republicans do is give themselves raises, cut taxes, mostly for themselves, and make government smaller. My philosophy on that is simple; big government more eyes to watch the pot and more taxes from more working people; small government less people to split the pot, with fewer eyes on it, when you’re stealing from it, less people working thus less taxes. Last thought only seven real Republicans left in the Senate; oh so sad.
John Q. Henderson
Barnstead

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Letters to the Editor

Vote yes on Articles 10 & 11

To the Editor:

Two articles on the New Durham Town Warrant have to do with the 1772 Meetinghouse, the most historical building we have, and one that has been around since 1770.

Having a pre-Revolutionary War building is a rare and wonderful thing for a community to be able to claim. It's filled with features infused with the voices of our predecessors.

For example, the wainscoting is fastened with wrought iron nails, indicating they date from 1792. Just think of that!

In 1792, Washington won a second term of the presidency; the United States Mint was established; and some local farmers in a tiny settlement in New Hampshire nailed up wide chestnut boards in the most important building in their town.

Those farmers would like you to keep them in mind when you vote on Article 10, calling for

\$5,000 to be put into the Meetinghouse Restoration Capital Reserve Fund (CRF).

These monies are important, as most grants we apply for are matching. Right now we are in the process of working with the NH Preservation Alliance (the Meetinghouse became a Seven to Save resource in 2012 under the Preservation Alliance) to secure a Building Conditions Assessment grant.

The assessment is necessary in order to apply to LCHIP, and as most residents are aware, the Meetinghouse has already received grants from that organization, which is the major funding authority in the state for projects like this. Our application to LCHIP will be in the \$150,000 range. The assessment grants are up to \$4,500, so the \$5,000 would be put to immediate good use.

Article 11 needs clarification. It concerns the \$13,000 grant awarded by LCHIP for the foundation work back in 2018.

The scary language "raise and appropriate" is legalese – the \$13,000 being moved into the CRF merely represents grant money. The situation was complicated because the grant money came into the General Fund and is only now being moved into the correct fund (the Meetinghouse Restoration CRF), by this process on the warrant.

So go ahead and vote yes. It's grant money that simply needs to be in the right place.

And continue to turn out to support the Meetinghouse at all of the fantastic events that are held there: Winter Carnival, New Durham Day, Halloween, and Christmas. We're working hard to provide the Town with a community center and public park, and to preserve New Durham's history.

Thank you.
1772 Meetinghouse Restoration Committee
New Durham

New Durham selectmen limit voters' power to control tax bill

To the Editor:

In 2019, the Town of New Durham voted that in the future, Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) and Expendable Trust Funds (ETF) be listed and voted on individually on the Town Warrant. The vote was 234 to 151 in favor of the change.

This year, for the second time, Selectmen David Swenson, Dot Viesel, and Cecile Chase have refused to honor the will of the voters, and have again decided to create a Warrant grouping CRF's and ETF's together, taking away voters right to choose which ones they wish to support.

On Dec. 28, the selectmen discussed the grouping and made a conscious decision to disregard the public's request. Article 4 consists of six individual CRF's. The voter does not get to pick and choose. It is all or nothing.

Unlike the cable TV industry bundling

is unusual. Eighteen towns surrounding New Durham list their special warrant articles separately: Wolfeboro, Alton, Strafford, Barnstead, Farmington, Middleton, Milton, Brookfield, Effingham, Epsom, Barrington, Wakefield, Gilmanton, Gilford, Lee, Madbury, Rollinsford, and Tuftonboro.

The Baysider newspaper recognized the value of listing special warrant articles individually last year, and wrote in its Jan. 10, 2019 editorial:

"...taxpayers would also be having more of a say in how their tax dollars are being spent, and in our mind, that's never a bad thing. New Durham's town tax rate has increased a lot over the last few years and nobody wants to see it continue to go up. This might be a way to help save a little money here and there. More importantly, as mentioned, this change would give New Durham voters more control over

their money."

I've made no improvements to my home in several years, yet the town government portion of the tax bill increased 16.5 percent over last year's taxes. The annual inflation rate for the United States is 1.4 percent for the 12 months ended January 2021. Fortunately, the school tax portion of the bill decreased 9.75 percent, helping to offset the town's total tax amount.

It's an arrogant move by our BOS that shows they want to limit the voters' power to control their tax bill. The fact that New Durham stands alone among the other towns surrounding it and its Selectmen defying the voters demonstrates just how aloof and costly our selectmen have become.

Vote on Tuesday, March 9, at the Highway Department on Depot Road this year.

David A. Bickford
New Durham

Why change our elections now?

To the Editor:

If you did not attend the Deliberative Sessions #1 and #2 in New Durham via Zoom on Feb. 1 and 4, then you do not know that the election on March 9 is going to be drive-through at the New Durham Transfer Station. At the time, the Voter Guide had not been published either. So, unless you check the town Web site regularly, you do not know what Article 1 means.

Article 1 states: Are you in favor of using the Optional Procedures authorized by the State Legislature for this year's Town Meeting only? What does this mean? We were told at the Deliberative Sessions that this article is asking the voter to approve having the Deliberative Sessions be virtual via Zoom and the Town Meeting (election) be drive-through. This vote would be approv-

ing things retroactively after they have occurred or are occurring.

If the majority votes "No," then the votes for the rest of the warrant articles cannot be counted. The town would then have until September 2021 to hold another Deliberative Session and Election.

The issues here are:

The attendance for the Deliberative Sessions via Zoom was much smaller than in years past and questions were verbally taken in the 1st session, but then had to be written and sent in advance for the Board of Selectmen to consider them in the 2nd session with no debate.

The vote will be suppressed for the election because people will not know to go to the Transfer Station to vote via drive through.

Usually the voter puts his/her ballot into the machine or box. How

will this occur from the voter's car? Will voters be relying on poll workers to put the ballot into the machine/box?

Will poll workers be standing out in the cold all day while people vote?

Why is the format being changed? We had the normal in-person voting at the school on Nov. 3, 2020, and that was a much bigger voter turnout than this Town election will be.

I am very uncomfortable with this entire process because it is designed to suppress the vote. Therefore, I recommend that New Durham voters vote "No" on Article 1 and force the Board of Selectmen to have the Deliberative Session and Election via the normal format of meeting and voting in person at the school.

Janis Anthes
New Durham

Wittmann, Johnson, and the Christens will strengthen Alton

To the Editor:

While local elections in New Hampshire are officially non-partisan, and so do not identify candidates with any political parties, this does not mean that these elections are merely popularity or general competency contests. All candidates running for local offices will have philosophical views and political convictions that will shape and influence how they approach and carry out their duties and responsibilities.

Like those of you who live in Alton too, we care very much about the qualities and convictions that motivate our elected town officials. Therefore, we want you to know how deeply impressed we are with candidates who are running for positions in our town and who have sought our support.

After carefully listening to the beliefs, views and priorities of four fellow townspeople who are running for election—one of whom has a well-established record of service and achievement—we are delighted to endorse the following

candidates and urge that you join us in supporting and casting your votes for them.

Town Selectman Phil Wittmann has been a strong advocate for conservative fiscal principles and policies. He has worked to ensure that we have a responsible and limited, rather than expansive and unaffordable, town budget. He has been open to consider every one and every one's voice. He's not in it for himself, but for all of us.

School Board candidates Rebecca Johnson, Brennan Christen and Emily Christen have impressed us with their passion for the quality of our schools and their commitments to the goal that all of our school-aged children receive educations rooted in the marvelous principles enshrined both in our state and federal constitutions. They want to make sure that our administrators and teachers are dedicated to and equipped for assisting parents in raising children who will grow up to become outstanding practitioners of unbiased, independent and

critical thinking and reasoning skills. Our school board will be enriched significantly by their memberships.

Finally, we are pleased to endorse Brennan Christen for one of the two seats on the Planning Board. Brennan will bring his love for the community, his clear vision and thinking to a body that will have a great influence on how our town handles both present challenges and prepares for the kind of town we want to become.

We urge you to vote on March 9 for Phil Wittmann (Town Selectman), Rebecca Johnson (School Board – three year term), Brennan Christen (School Board – one year term; Planning Board – three year term) and Emily Christen (School Board – one year term). Working together with them going forward will surely strengthen our town and provide a better life for our townspeople.

Rep. Ray Howard, Jr.
Rep. Paul Terry
Rep. Peter Varney
Alton

I offer experience and knowledge to Alton's School Board

To the Editor:

My name is Carol Locke, and I am running for a one-year position on the Alton School Board. I am a full-time resident of Alton and a retired educator. I believe that I would bring both experience and knowledge to the position.

My husband and I have lived in Alton for 33 years. Our children attended Alton Central School when it was a K-12 facility. In turn, they have returned to Alton to raise their own children, and we have grandchildren in both ACS and PMHS. I have been involved in the education of my children and grandchildren throughout the years, creating a PTA when none existed, serving

on committees, and attending School Board Meetings. My focus of activity has shifted and changed over the years, but my involvement has remained steadfast and present.

In addition to being a parent and a grandparent, I am a retired educator, certified as both an English teacher and a principal. The majority of my experience has been at the Gilmanton School where I worked for many years as a Middle School Reading Teacher. I became Assistant Principal in 2006, and Principal in 2008. I remained Principal until my retirement in 2018. I believe my experience as an educator would be a valuable asset to the Alton School Board. In addition to under-

standing our schools as a taxpayer, parent, and grandparent, I understand education from the perspective of both a teacher and an administrator. As Principal, I worked closely with the teachers, paraprofessionals, Facility Manager, administrators, and the Gilmanton School Board to create a fiscally sound budget to present to the Gilmanton Budget Committee. In addition, I became very familiar with contract negotiations, staff evaluations, educational law, and many other facets of running a K-8 building.

I am very interested in serving on the Alton School Board.

Sincerely,

Carol N. Locke
Alton

An unnecessary quagmire

To the Editor:

\$1,460,475! This is the difference between what was actually spent to operate the Town of Alton last year and this year's operating budget request in Article 9. That is a 17.7 percent increase, according to the Jan. 29, 2021 town worksheets.

Also included in Article 9 is the selectmen's Default Budget. What a mess! First, by law, the required state form detailing the default budget was signed by the selectmen and posted. Unbelievably, the "reasons for increases" page was blank. The other pages that were filled out added amounts that cannot be included as stated in the NH Municipal Association bul-

letins.

For future selectmen's reference: [In the words of Confucius], "Do Homework; Look before Signing."

At the Wednesday, Feb. 3 Deliberative Session, the selectboard's attorney promised "we" will review the default budget before submitting it to the printer on Friday. The "we" broke that promise.

At the next board meeting, the newest member of the select board, questioned these miscalculations and believed that they should not be included. He spent time reviewing information and insisted upon having correct information provided to the taxpayer, and to

do it "right". Due to his inexperience, he agreed to the old "let the lawyer look at it" with no timeline — dodge. Three weeks later, there is still no response. If his concerns are finally answered before voting day, and the selectmen's default budget is wrong, will the voters be notified that Article 9 is incorrect before going into the voting booth? Will the ballot be rectified?... No! ...Too late now!

Alton's article 9 choices: Vote "Yes" - with \$1.4 million more than needed or "No" - to an overcalculated default budget. What an unnecessary quagmire!

Robert Loring Carr
Alton



Letters to the Editor

Clearing up the confusion

To the Editor:
There has been some confusion over the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund concerning the Fire Boat and Ladder Truck replacement. We hope this letter helps clarify the facts.
The FD Capital Reserve Fund exists to replace and repair FD Equipment while limiting spikes in the tax rate created by capital expenses. The Board of Selectmen, Department Heads, and the Capital Improvement Committee guide all capital expenses. The Selectmen are the agents to expend out of these accounts, and do so only after a majority vote in a public meeting.
The current Fire Boat is a 1997 Eastern retrofitted with a fire pump. The boat has many mechanical and electrical issues, and isn't designed for emergency response. There have been times when the boat could not respond due to malfunctions. We respond to more than 20 calls for service annually on the water or islands. Responses on the water are high risk/low frequency, meaning they are some of the most dangerous respons-

es. One major problem with the current vessel is, the two places to lay a patient down either interfere with the pilot or cause the patient to get wet. The island residents deserve a capable unit for these responses. The CIP committee has valued the replacement for of \$350,000. There have been requests sent out to manufacturers and the bid process has started. Originally, the full cost of replacement was to come from the Capital Reserve Fund; however, we feel it is fair to fund the boat from both the FD Capital Reserve and the Ambulance Revolving Fund. The boat responds to calls divided equally between fire and medical. Without question, the boat needs replacing, with a purpose built unit, capable of proper patient care and fire suppression.
The 30-plus-year-old Ladder truck that has been out of service for two years also needs proper replacing. The truck has been in CIP for years, without replacement value. Projected replacement was for 2018. Unfortunately, funding did not occur. This year the CIP committee recommended \$180,000 for the Capital Reserve

Fund to stay on track with all funded items. The Selectmen, recognizing that the Ladder truck remained unfunded, added \$250,000 more to this request with \$200,000 coming from the unassigned fund balance. At this rate, the funding will take at least five years. With that said, the Town cannot go another five years without the safety of a Ladder Truck. At the recommendation of the BOS, we searched for a used unit. We found a truck with low miles, low hours, and great maintenance for \$75,000. The truck is a 1999 75-foot ladder and has five to seven good years of service left. It is important to remember that this newly purchased unit is a stopgap until the funding of a new truck, as we are still truly in need of an aerial device capable of more than 100 feet.
The Alton Fire Department thanks the residents of Alton, Board of Selectmen, Budget Committee, and CIP committee for their support.
Respectfully,
Chief James Beaudoin
Alton Fire Department

New Durham's mystery warrant article

To the Editor:
New Durham voters may well be justifiably confused when they come to Warrant Articles 10 and 11 on this year's ballot.
Article 10 is a clear and simple request to put the small sum of \$5000 of tax money into the Meetinghouse Restoration Fund. Putting an amount this small into the Restoration Fund won't really advance the project in any significant way, or bring the completion date a day sooner, but it will at least allow us to "tread water" and not lose more ground to further damage and increased restoration costs. This is critically important, particularly since the town has not put any money towards the Meetinghouse project in the last two years. So please - vote "Yes" on this article.
Article 11 is the mystery article. It is a vague and oddly worded article which speaks about raising the sum of \$13,000 for the Meetinghouse Restoration fund and taking the money from the unreserved fund balance, so that this will not increase taxes. On the face of it, it seems like a second funding request and raises more questions than it answers.

Here is the true explanation for Article 11, and why everyone in town should vote yes! Short version; for the taxpayers - it is Free Money, and it fixes a significant failure on the part of the town administrator and board of selectmen to properly and legally allocate \$13,000 in state grant funds for restoration of the Meetinghouse.
Back in 2012, when I was serving as Chairman of the Meetinghouse Restoration Committee, I started the grant application process for a state LCHIP (Land and Community Heritage Investment Program) grant for help in funding the cost of the foundation repair that was eventually completed in 2018. Strictly because of this volunteer led, multi-year effort, the town was awarded \$13,000 to be applied towards the cost of that 2018 foundation repair.
The problem now is that those grant funds were never credited or applied towards reducing the foundation costs, and the \$13,000 was instead put into the "General Fund" where it could have been spent on anything. This is a misallocation of state funds, and it is a very serious matter. Apparently, this misallocation was not

discovered in either the 2019 or 2020 town audit and only came to light when the Meetinghouse Restoration Committee eventually noticed that the Capital Reserve Fund was "short" by \$13,000. It does make you wonder what else the auditors miss in any given year.
Since state law says that only Town Meeting can put money into a Capital Reserve Fund - we have this very strange Warrant Article 11 as the only means of fixing the problem by finally - two years later - putting the \$13,000 grant money where it always belonged - in the Meetinghouse Capital Reserve Fund. So please - vote yes! on Article 11.
It really is "Free Money," but please also remember that it took hundreds of hours of volunteer effort to get that "free" money. It is a shame that the town administrator and board of selectmen have not accepted responsibility for their failure here and done more to inform the townspeople as to what Article 11 really means.

George Gale
New Durham

Demand your constitutional right to proper representation

To the Editor:
Every 10 years, following the federal census, the New Hampshire Legislature is required to redraw the lines of all New Hampshire political districts based upon the new population numbers. The New Hampshire Constitution (Part 2, Article 11) requires that at least one State Representative will exclusively represent any town with 3,290 or more citizens, and that the redistricting process be fair, nonpartisan, and transparent to the general public.
Unfortunately, in 2011, a few people, working behind closed doors, redrew the political district maps. This process

was not transparent, and at public hearings, no maps were presented for public input. This resulted in many towns with more than 3,290 citizens not being given their Constitutionally mandated, exclusive New Hampshire Representative.
My hometown of Gilmanston is among those towns deprived of their exclusive Representative. We currently have three seats in the House of Representatives all of which are shared with other towns.
If you are a citizen of Gilmanston, on March 9, please vote for Warrant Article 18. Article 18 is a demand by the citizens of Gilmanston to the New Hampshire General


A story of veterans helping veterans

ALTON — On Feb. 16, the Alton American Legion received a call from a 55 year old, male, homeless veteran. The veteran was just released from a treatment center for alcoholism, and had nowhere to go. He found his way to help from a patrol person from the Tuftonboro Police Department.
For two hours, this patrol person assisted him to find a place to go, calling organizations and homeless shelters. What seemed like no help was in sight, and knowing he was a Veteran, she suggested he call the local American legions. It was around

8:30 or 9 p.m. when they called the American Legion Post 72 in Alton. The bar manager answered the phone. There was only a small group of members there celebrating a birthday. Sine one of our members was an executive board member, the manager asked what we could do. The group went into action! Within one hour, a hotel was secured and paid for. Our Veteran had a warm place to sleep that night. The Police Chief in Tuftonboro, gave authority for the patrol person to drive to Laconia to get him there. The group of members reached out to fellow

members who provide support for our Veterans and within 24 hours, our Veteran was picked up the next morning and was enrolled in a support program and had "permanent" temporary housing.
It took a team of dedicated people, police officers, fellow Veterans, relatives of Veterans and people who care. This is an example of why we are members of the American Legion! This is what they do! Please consider supporting your local legion. All monies donated go to Veterans and their families.

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Knights battle to tie in regular season finale



BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
 KINGSWOOD’S Riley Smith tries to knock Belmont-Gilford’s Owen Guerin off his line during action on Saturday night.
 JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

 WOLFEBORO — As you head to the playoffs, ideally, a team wants to be playing good hockey and have a few solid games under its belt in the final week of the regular season.

 The Kingswood and Belmont-Gilford hockey teams got one of those games under their belts on Saturday night at the Pop Whalen Arena in Wolfeboro, as the two teams played to an overtime 3-3 tie in the final game of the regular season.

 “That was a fun game,” said Belmont-Gilford coach Jason Parent. “We tried to play some different guys in different places to see what we could muster up.”

 “Those were two of

our best periods of hockey,” said Kingswood coach Mike Potenza, referring to the second and third periods. “I think in the overtime we had some kids that were gassed.”

 Things got off to a good start for the Bulldogs, as they were able to put a lot of pressure in the offensive zone. Rory Doris and Aidan McKenzie had early chances for the visitors, but Kingswood keeper Oleg Sheahan held his ground.

 Belmont-Gilford got a power play chance less than three minutes gone in the game and despite some good penalty killing from Josh Paraskos of Kingswood, they were able to get on the board less than a minute into

the man advantage, as Bradley McIntire scored from the lost on an assist from Owen Guerin for the 1-0 lead.

 Brady Logan had a chance denied by Sheahan and McIntire and Guerin continued to pressure, with Sheahan holding tight in the Kingswood net.

 With 7:14 to go, Belmont-Gilford upped the lead to 2-0 on a top-shelf snipe from Jackson Collins, with Geena Cookinham and Logan getting the assists. Kingswood got a good look from Ethan Mosher, but B-G keeper Colin McGreevy was able to make the save in the net. Nick Potenza also had a shot go wide of the net for the Knights, while Guerin sent a shot on net that

Sheahan stopped.

 Belmont-Gilford went on the power play with 5:35 to go and Cody Emerson and Bailey Savage combined for a good clear for the Knights while Logan, Cookinham and Guerin all had chances that just missed the mark. Potenza had a good clear and Cam Kean did a nice job on the penalty kill to kill off the advantage.

 Case Rogers made a nice defensive stop for Kingswood on a bid from Dylan Flannery and McKenzie was able to send a shot on net that Sheahan turned away, sending the game to the first intermission with a 2-0 Belmont-Gilford lead.

 Kingswood came out of the gate firing in the second period, with Potenza and Shaw Swinerton getting chances that McGreevy stopped. Guerin came back with a chance that Sheahan stopped and Emerson had a chance that McGreevy turned away.

 With 12:24 to go in the period, Potenza sent a shot on net that tipped past McGreevy for the first goal of the game for the Knights. Emerson got the assist on the tally to make it 2-1.

 The Bulldogs went on the power play with 10:45 to go and Logan and McIntire had good chances denied while Kean had a nice clear for the Knights. Brendan Folan had a shot deflected and Guerin had a shot

topped by Sheahan. Potenza had a shorthanded bid and Swinerton and Savage teamed up on a chance for the Knights that McGreevy stopped and the penalty was killed off.

 Kingswood continued to pressure, with Cam DeVito, Riley Smith, Swinerton, Emerson, Mosher and Savage all getting chances in the offensive zone, but McGreevy was up to the challenge, turning away all of the Knight chances. Guerin came back with a chance for the Bulldogs but Sheahan held his ground in the Kingswood net.

 DeVito had another chance that was stopped and Kean had a nice centering pass that just missed in front of the net. Mosher also had a centering pass that missed and Emerson had a shot that McGreevy stopped, sending the game to the third with the Bulldogs up 2-1.

 Kingswood again came out strong in the third, with Potenza, Emerson, Swinerton, Savage and Smith all getting chances, but again, McGreevy held his ground in the Bulldog net. Andrew Rowley had a shot for the Bulldogs that went wide of the net.

 Kingswood went on the power play with 9:15 to go in the game and less than 30 seconds later, the game was tied, as Potenza fired home a goal from the circle for the second goal of the game for the Knights.

 The Knights went on the power play again with 6:53 to go and this time needed just five seconds to get the power play goal, with Potenza sending a shot on net that McGreevy stopped, but Kean was right there to put the rebound into a wide open net for the 3-2 Kingswood lead.

 DeVito and Potenza had chances for the Knights that were denied and the Bulldogs were able to pull even again, this time on a goal from Guerin with 3:42 to go in the game. The Knights came back with chances from Kean and Savage as well as bids from Potenza and Swinerton that were denied. Rowley and Zoltan Stefan had late chances for the visitors but regulation came to a close with the teams tied at three.

 DeVito, Rogers, Kean and Potenza had some early chances for Kingswood in the start of overtime and Guerin and Logan Moulton answered with chances

for the Bulldogs. Kingswood went on the power play with 4:48 to go in overtime but could not convert, as the visitors killed off the penalty. Stefan had a shot blocked by Paraskos and Logan had a chance stopped by Sheahan to close out the 3-3 tie.

 “Today we probably only played one and a half periods of decent hockey,” said Parent. “Going into the playoffs, we have to play three periods.

 “But we saw a lot of things in the last four games,” the Bulldog coach continued. “I think we have a good plan going into the playoffs and hopefully we can have a deep run.”

 The Bulldogs drew Merrill Fay Arena-mates Laconia-Winnisquam-Inter-Lakes in the opening round, which was scheduled to take place at the Laconia facility after deadline Wednesday.

 “We have our own locker room there, we’re comfortable there, we practice there,” Parent said. “And I think we’re familiar with a lot of their players too.”

 “Oleg played much better today, that’s a spot I don’t really worry about,” said Potenza. “Cam Kean is a pretty valuable defenseman, but you see the way he forechecks.” The Knight coach moved the sophomore up to the front line the last few games and he has produced.

 “And Josh (Paraskos) has turned into a good penalty killer for us,” said the Knight coach. “He’s doing what we ask him to do.”

 Potenza noted that while the regular season games technically don’t count, as every team makes the playoffs, he wants to see positive results on the scoreboard.

 “I’m just glad they’re playing this way now, going into the playoffs,” Potenza said.

 The Knights drew Somersworth-Coe-Brown in the opening round of the tournament and were scheduled to travel to Rochester after deadline on Wednesday.

 For Belmont-Gilford, if they win the opener, they will play at Kennett on Saturday, March 6, at 4 p.m. If the Knights win their opener, they will play at St. Thomas on Saturday, March 6.

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



Nick Potenza skates around a Belmont-Gilford defender in action on Saturday night at Pop Whalen Arena.

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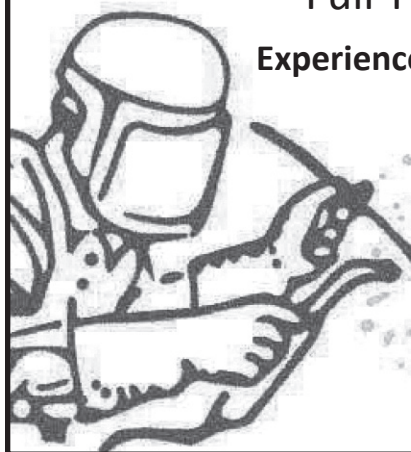
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Kelly tallies twice in regular season finale in Berlin



ABBY KELLY moves the puck along the boards against Berlin-Gorham on Saturday.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BERLIN — The Kingswood girls’ hockey team made the trek north to take on the state’s northernmost girls’ hockey squad on Saturday, with the Berlin-Gorham Mountaineers coming out with a 9-2 win on their home ice at the Notre Dame Arena in Berlin.

“We did have some opportunities today,” said Kingswood coach Peter Kelly. “And we did put the puck in the net a few times.”

It didn’t take long for the Berlin-Gorham girls long to get on the board, as the hosts put back a rebound of an Alexis Booth save just 12 seconds in to take the 1-0 lead.

Booth did come back with a nice save on another chance from the

Mountaineers while the Knights came down with some pressure in the zone but could not get any shots on net. The Mountaineers sent another shot wide of the net and Abby Kelly and Sarah Paraskos were able to make defensive stops for the Knights.

The Mountaineers were able to put a second goal in the net with just more than five minutes gone and after Booth made a save on another chance, the hosts scored on a rebound just more than a minute after the second goal to make it 3-0.

Then, less than 30 seconds later, another rebound got poked into the net for the 4-0 lead with 8:19 to go in the first period. Hailey Kelly had a centering pass for the Knights that missed the mark in front of the net.

Kingswood got a power play chance with 6:38 to go in the first period and Abby Kelly had a couple of good chances, with Erin Meyer also getting in close and just 16 seconds into the power play, Abby Kelly got Kingswood on the board with assists to Meyer and Hailey Kelly.

Booth came back with another save in the Kingswood net and Haley Brooks had a nice clear of a rebound in front of the net. With 3:21 to go in the period, the Mountaineers scored off a nice pass in front of the net to increase the lead to 5-1. Booth made a late save and the first period ended with the Mountaineers finishing with a 5-1 lead.

Paraskos had a nice clear in front of the net for the Knights and Berlin-Gorham sent a shot



SARAH PARASKOS skates the puck between a pair of Berlin-Gorham defenders on Saturday.

off the post on another chance. Abby Kelly got a look in the zone but was turned away and Meyer had a nice clear from in front of the net.

With 10:30 to go in the period, the Knights cut the lead to 5-2 as Abby Kelly scored an unassisted goal, her second tally of the game.

The Mountaineers didn’t waste too much time adding to their lead, as they scored just more than two minutes later to make it 6-2. Kingswood took a penalty with eight minutes to go and Abby Kelley, Lexi Eldridge and Brooks all had good clears to help Booth kill off the penalty.

The hosts scored three times in the final five minutes of the period to put the game out of reach. Berlin-Gorham scored with 4:37 to go and then added another

with 4:11 to go for the 8-2 lead before putting the final goal in with 2:17 to go. Kingswood had a late chance but could not convert and the period ended with the Mountaineers up 9-2.

Hailey Kelly had a couple of early chances in the third period but could not get the puck in the net while Booth was able to make a couple of solid saves for the Knights. Berlin-Gorham sent a few shots wide of the net as well.

Abby Kelley sent a shot over the top of the net and then just missed connecting in front with a nice centering pass. Booth made a late save to close out the game with the Mountaineers taking the 9-2 win.

“Berlin was able to rotate some players that may not see the ice,” Kelly said. “So, that allowed

us to rotate through and get less experienced players some good ice time.

“We’ve definitely seen so much improvement over the entire season,” the Knight coach added.

The Knights were slated to open the NHIAA tournament after deadline Tuesday at Dover against Oyster River-Portsmouth. If the Knights were able to pull off the upset, they would play either St. Thomas-Winnacunnet-Dover or Exeter on Friday, March 5.

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

CANDIDATES

(continued from Page A1)

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Gunnar 269-3616

ALTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Kindergarten Registration for 2021-2022

Attention all Parents/Guardians of Incoming Kindergarteners:

Alton Central School will be holding their Virtual Kindergarten Screening, via video conferencing, on Friday April 23, 2021, between 12:00PM to 3:00PM. The child must be present for the conference and must be 5 years of age by September 30, 2021. Please have the following required documents available to send electronically:

- Your child’s birth certificate
- Immunization records
- Proof of residency (tax bill, recent utility bill, etc.)
- Picture of your driver’s license
- Last physical of your child

Please contact Sonya Kelly, by April 16th, at 603-875-9302 to set up an appointment.

instruction, Hills commented that the Covid-19 numbers are “trending in the right direction” for further opening of the schools. King agreed that it is best for students to be in school, but noted that “there are vulnerable populations in our district”, and the school board is responsible for safety - “A balance is desired.” She noted that the elementary schools had a lower rate of transmission than secondary schools.

Johnson said he thought the board did an excellent job given what they have to deal with.

“Sununu’s thrust, I think is correct,” he added, speaking of the Governor’s goal of further opening of schools. He pointed out that the vaccination projections are encouraging.

A question came up about the overall decline in school population, presently ameliorated by the tuition arrangement for Middle and High Schoolers from Middleton, and the effects of that on the budget.

“The decline affects the budget,” said King, because of the reductions in state aid. She hoped that all the elementary schools can manage to be kept open.

Hills pointed out that the decline is spread out across all the grades, so schools can’t easily

make reductions.

Johnson remarked, “Short term, the student to teacher ratio is a benefit,” but if the student population declines, the board needs to decide if outlays remain the same.

Another questioner asked about declining rates of students going on to college. In answer, Johnson commented that there are many choices for students, including vocational schools, taking a year off first, and said the figures are not alarming. For him, it would be alarming if students didn’t fulfill their desires. Hills said first the district needs to identify why they are coming down, and follow the progress of students after graduation to see if they are able to become productive members of society.

With the recession and the pandemic, commented King, students are more reluctant to take risks.

“Every student needs to have a plan,” she said. “We want to give them the academic foundation they need,” she said, adding, “I believe our district has a lot to do in increasing academic rigor.”

In closing, going back to the question of whether a trend of fewer students going on to college after graduation is of concern, Johnson stressed the importance of providing the opportunity for students to learn a skill and learn to be critical thinkers in order to prepare for the next steps in education, whether that is going on to college or working a trade or some other direction. If it is important to students’ pursuits and cost effective, that would

be the most important thing to analyze in his view.

Hills said he has a view from within the school and said he believes it is important to be fair to students and taxpayers, assure transparency, and as a school board member he would look forward to being able to apply his experience in developing policy.

King stated that she would be “so honored” to serve her community as its school board representative and promised to commit herself to work collaboratively with all of the other board members, listen to all stakeholders, ground decisions in data and informed by education research, and work “as a tireless advocate” for the social, emotional, and mental health and the academic success of all students in the district.

Road Postings for the Town of Alton

Per order of the selectmen, there is a **6 Ton Weight Limit on all roads** in the Town of Alton until further notice.

This is strictly enforced

PUBLIC NOTICE

New Durham Supervisors will post updated voter checklist March 5, 2021 with town election on Tuesday March 9, 2021

Supervisors: Pat Grant, Mary Poston, Maureen Knepp

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SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COACHING POSITIONS

Shaker Regional School District has the following Coaching Positions available for the 2020-2021 School Year:

Middle School Boys Baseball High School Track (2 positions available)

Past playing and/or coaching experience preferred. Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to Cayman Belyea, Athletic Director, at cbelyea@sau80.org, or mail to Belmont High School, 255 Seavey Road, Belmont, NH 03220. Successful completion, with satisfactory results, of a post-offer, pre-employment physical and criminal background check, including fingerprinting, is required.

SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER COACH

Shaker Regional School District has an opening for a Girls Varsity Soccer Coach for the 2021-2022 School Year. Past playing and/or coaching experience preferred.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to Cayman Belyea, Athletic Director, at cbelyea@sau80.org, or mail to Belmont High School, 255 Seavey Road, Belmont, NH 03220. Successful completion, with satisfactory results, of a post-offer, pre-employment physical and criminal background check, including fingerprinting, is required.

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Pre-employment drug and alcohol screen and physical required. Subject to periodic random drug and alcohol screening. This position offers a complete benefit package and a competitive wage (commensurate with experience). Professional training opportunities are available for those wishing to have a career with the Barnstead Highway Department.

Applications are available at the Selectmen's Office, and on the Town's website at: www.Barnstead.org. and must be submitted by the close of business March 16, 2021 to:

Board of Selectmen "Highway Dept. Position",
 P.O. Box 11, Ctr. Barnstead, NH 03225
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Ucvh-hr@ucvh.org
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Gathering Time returns...virtually

WOLFEBORO — The folk-rock trio 'Gathering Time,' based on Long Island, N.Y. appears in virtual concert at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 20, opening the Wolfeboro Friends of Music spring segment of their 85th concert season. They wowed us in 2018 when they were here last now

Simply email info@wfriendsofmusic.org to request the link to the special YouTube chan-

nel. The link will be released the afternoon prior to concert time and sent to your email address. Access to this WFOM virtual concert is free of charge.

Stuart Markus, Hillary Foxsong, and Terry McKeveny have played Wolfeboro in two prior years, putting us on a first name basis! Their vocal blend with two acoustic guitars, bass, and percussion, their compatible

repartee and fresh sound in the spirit of the 60's will be just right for our intimate at-home gatherings. Stuart, Hillary and Terry together "re-present" the songs of the great folk pioneers such as The Byrds; Peter, Paul and Mary; Crosby Stills & Nash; and the Weavers. Essential to the Trio's profile, is their singular success in composing new lyrics and music conceived by songwriter

Hillary and, separately, Terry who also serves as guitar arranger for the group.

Gathering Time went public in 2007 with their first recording, a holiday classic, "Light One Candle" by Peter Yarrow, which was popularly spun on New York and Israel radio stations. The trio had formed by serendipity when dedicated individual folk singers could mix and match their voices at outdoor folk-festivals and classic car rallies around Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y., inspired by the presence of singers like Billy Joel and Glen Roethel. However, it was the eclectic musical backgrounds of our artists that primed them to discover their combined talent.

Stuart Markus, a fixture on Long Island's folk and acoustic scene since the mid-1990s, actually grew up in Rochester, N.Y., where he studied at the Eastman School of Music. Now Stuart is a leading organizer of folk music affairs on the Island, notably the annual Harry Chapin tribute concerts and he currently serves on the board of the Folk Music Society of Huntington, bringing the many local folk scenes into contact and cooperation. A lover of history and all things maritime, Stuart is also half of the sea chantey duo The Roy-

al Yard. Besides five albums with Gathering Time, four of which made the top five on the Folk Alliance International Folk DJ Chart, Markus has recorded two solo CDs: 2004's "View From the Side of the Road" and 2007's "Welcome to Sunny Nassau," the 1996 EP "Not the Only One Who Feels This Way," and "Songs in the Key of Sea" (2002) with Strike the Bell.

Hillary Foxsong grew up with a professional singer grandmother and musical mother, her earliest memories are of singing along with the first Peter, Paul & Mary album as a toddler. Her singing ability, she says, is a gift from her grandmother, who coached her for years. She is also one-third of the trio Folk Goddesses, and her songs have been recorded by both groups. Hillary is a gifted photographer and dedicated bird watcher, while not in her home studio with her husband, recording engineer Ted Stoforos, who does most of the recording and mixing for Gathering Time.

A professional musician since the age of 18, Gerry McKeveny is recognized as one of the top guitarists on the Long Island folk circuits running the gamut from tuxedo-clad club dates to national finger-style guitar competitions. It was during an unexpected lull in his active ca-



reer that the call came to audition for Gathering Time to replace a departing original member. As a songwriter, he is responsible for a full third of the group's original material, and is the primary guitar arranger for the group. Besides three albums with Gathering Time, McKeveny has two albums of solo finger style guitar, "Healing Season" (2002) and "Tuesday at Tom's" (2016) as well as "High Road" (1997) with fellow Long Islander Joe Caggiano. A dedicated guitar teacher with a roster of dedicated students, Gerry is also a member of the rock cover band The Fugitives.

In past seasons, WFOM has depended on ticket sales, advertisers, sponsors and donors to sustain itself. This year WFOM has granted our last year's advertisers and sponsors a full additional year's credit at no additional cost to them. WFOM would be immensely appreciative if any music lover/supporter would consider going to our Web site (wfriendsofmusic.org) and making a donation or mailing a donation to WFOM, PO Box 2056, Wolfeboro, NH 03894.



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