



THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022

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

FREE

Extract, boil, eat

Local maple farmers prepare for the sap to flow



Rich Leonard positions a bucket on the maple he traditionally taps first as sap running season gets started and backyard producers gear up for weeks of maple syrup production. Behind him, his sugar house waits expectantly for the wood fires and aromatic steam of the boiling process.

BY CATHY ALLYN

Contributing Writer

NEW DURHAM — Extract. Boil. Eat.

And, oh, the eating is good.

‘Tis the season for what indigenous people figured out long before any Europeans stepped foot on North American soil; once boiled down, the sap of the maple tree turns into an ambrosia of a syrup.

The sap is running, and intrepid farmers are

busy tapping and boiling and bottling.

Wanting a hands-on experience of the joys of maple sugaring, this reporter contacted Rich Leonard, who operates a small sugaring venture from his home, the Miller Farm. The Miller family sugared since the 1920s, although the sap stayed inside the trees for 15 years prior to Leonard's ownership.

Leonard was amenable to taking on a

journeyman for the afternoon, so the workday began with a tractor trip down a steep incline to the sugar house. He gathered the necessary supplies and we were off.

First things first. After tapping what traditionally is always

his first tree, Leonard allowed the journeyman to choose the next. Here's where experience immediately factors in, as the journeyman perused the hundreds of trees surrounding them, and

SEE SYRUP PAGE A9

Governor Wentworth board announces hiring of new Superintendent

WOLFEBORO — The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board is pleased to announce that Dr. Caroline Arakelian has been appointed to the position of Superintendent of Schools beginning July 1.

Dr. Arakelian has served in various roles within public education for over 20 years, including as a teacher, building and district-level administrator, assistant superintendent, and interim superintendent. She received her undergraduate degree in psychology from Johnson State, her Master's in Education from Rivier College, and her Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership from the University of New Hampshire.

Dr. Arakelian comes to the Governor Wentworth Regional School District with experience working with diverse populations across five districts within, SAU 21 at the New Hampshire Seacoast. She also has experience in special education and budget development. She is known for being student-centered, purpose-driven, team-oriented, and hard working.

The School Board is delighted to have found such an outstanding candidate to fill this position. The School Board is confident Dr. Arakelian's work will build upon the excellence in our schools that the Governor Wentworth and Middleton communities have come to expect. All members of the Board look forward to their work with Dr. Arakelian.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BARNSTEAD — The Barnstead Elementary girls' basketball team continued its strong season by winning the Lakes Region Basketball Tournament earlier in February.

The team entered the tournament undefeated on the regular season and dropped its first game of the tournament, only to come back and

win their second game of the tournament. They then came back and won three in a row on Sunday to claim the tournament, closing the tournament out with a win over undefeated Franklin in the title game.

Coach Ryan McKenna noted that the team had back-to-back games to start the day on the Sunday of the tournament and after a short break, came back to play in

School District lifts mask mandate

BY ELISSA PAQUETTE

Contributing Writer

WOLFEBORO — The Governor Wentworth Regional School District voted on February 15 to lift its mask mandate as of March 7, the first day back from school vacation. At that point mask wearing will be optional but required on busses through March 18 or possibly longer, depending on the Center for Disease Control guidelines.

Superintendent Kathy Cuddy-Egbert said cases have dropped dramatically, with schools reporting just one or two cases a day at most. Social distancing of six feet is no longer required.

School Board member Wendi Fenderson noted, "Hospitals are seeing a light at the end of the tunnel," but offered a reminder that the district does have vulnerable students with compromised immune systems." Cuddy-Egbert said the district has K95 masks available for those who would like to wear them.

She also shared some positive news. The district has received a check from the NH Charitable Foundation and Bald Peak Community Fund to support the food program sponsored by the Knights Against Hunger. In addition, the Wood Estate, administered by the Wolfeboro Trustees of the Trust Funds, has well over \$700,000 in hand, partly a consequence of the pandemic related field trip hiatus. The board agreed to commit \$21,000 in scholarships to Kingswood Regional High School students, specifically, eleven \$1,000 scholarships to the class of 2021 and ten \$1,000 scholarships to the class of 2022.

The board set Friday, June 10, for graduation. As last year, it will take place that evening at 6 p.m. June 11 is the rain date, with two times held in reserve: 10 a.m. or 6 p.m. if needed.

March 8 is election day in individual towns for school offices and the school warrant.

Barnstead Elementary girls bring home another tourney title



THE BARNSTEAD Elementary girls' hoop team won the Lakes Region Tournament over the weekend of Feb. 12-13.

COURTESY PHOTO

the finals for their third game of the day.

"We were gassed, but we still ran, we ran better than every team there," said McKenna. "Effort, attitude and body language, we push that all the time."

The team continued its strong play with even more tournaments on the docket, including a tournament in Farmington this past weekend and a state tournament in Bow

coming up at the end of the vacation week.

"We'll see how much hardware we bring home," said McKenna, noting the team has no quit. "We'll keep playing until they shut down the gym."

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

Burnt Timber to conclude BBQ road trip at Barn at Pickering House

WOLFEBORO — On Wednesday, March 30, Burnt Timber Brewing & Tavern will conclude its nearly 6-week BBQ Road Trip with Pavilion Executive Chef Jonathan Hudak for a special four-course dinner at Barn at Pickering House in Wolfeboro. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the first course served at 6:30 p.m. Available for purchase on Tuesday, March 1 at pavilionwolfeboro.com, tickets are \$75 per person.

The menu for the event will feature Tartare of Maine Yellowfin Tuna, Bacon-Wrapped Sad-

Cured Smoked Beef Shortrib, and Banana Cream Pie for dessert. The appetizer and dessert will be paired with a cocktail from Pavilion, while the middle courses will feature beer from Burnt Timber.

According to Burnt Timber Owner Eddie Michno, the opportunity to present "an elegant" dinner in partnership with Chef Hudak is "very exciting." "It's an honor being invited to collaborate with the Pavilion," he said.

Since opening in December 2020, Pavilion has re-

Prior to the final event at Barn at Pickering House, located next door to Pavilion, Burnt Timber will make several stops on its BBQ Road



COURTESY

Pictured from left to right, Burnt Timber Brewing & Tavern's Oliver Harston, Pavilion's Jonathan Hudak and Aleks Chmielewska, and Eddie Michno of Burnt Timber Brewing & Tavern.

with flavors inspired from a different region of the United States each week, upcoming stops include Memphis, Alabama, Kansas

timbertavern.com.

To purchase tickets for the 4-course dinner at Barn at Pickering

(doors open at 5:30 p.m. followed by first course at 6:30 p.m.) visit pavilionwolfeboro.com

ALTON POLICE LOG

The Alton Police Department responded to 122 calls for service during the week of Feb. 20-26, including two arrests.

-1 Male Subject was arrested for Unlawful Possession of Alcohol & Protective Custody of Intoxicated Person.

-1 Male Subject was arrested for Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault.

There were 3 Motor Vehicle accidents.

There was 1 Theft from Hannaford.

There was 1 Suspicious Person/Activity on Shore Road.

Police made 34 Motor Vehicle Stops and handled 6 Motor Vehicle Complaint-Incidents.

There were 77 other calls for services that consisted of the following: 2 Assist Fire Department, 1 Stolen Property, 3 Employment Fingerprinting, 2 Assist Other Agencies, 2 Domestic Complaints, 5 General Assistance, 1 Wanted Person/Fugitive, 5 Alarm Activations, 2 Highway/Roadway Hazard Reports, 1 Sexual Assault, 4 General Information, 1 Harassment, 1 Sex Offender Registration, 1 Criminal Threatening, 1 Civil Standby, 2 Civil Matters, 2 Wellness Checks, 1 Criminal Mischief, 28 Directed Patrols, 1 Medical Assist, 8 Property Checks & 3 Paperwork Services.

City, and Alaska. To House in Wolfeboro on

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NH's own Celtic band comes to Wolfeboro

WOLFEBORO — The WFOM welcomes all on Saturday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. to the Great Hall of Wolfeboro Town Hall to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with The Reel McCoys for a rollicking concert.

The Reel McCoy's are a powerhouse Celtic band with strong Canadian influences. This is a vibrant genre of music that has spread worldwide, growing in popularity in many countries, even those with no connection to the Celtic diaspora. And the members of the Reel McCoy's have performed with some of the best: Natalie MacMaster, Máiréad Nesbitt, Ciaran Nangle.

Only recently formed, the members are each seasoned veterans of the Celtic world and beyond.

Joe DeLaet (accordion, piano) is an award-winning international performer, composer, and session pianist. Stepping outside the world of Celtic music, he has toured with Bon Jovi, Carly Si-

mon, Joan Osborne, and Mighty Sam McClain, and many others

Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki has been fiddling on the national scene since the age of twelve, when he was part of New Hampshire's delegation to the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. He was named a Master Artist by the N.H. Traditional Arts Council in 2013. He composed and produced the N.H. Chronicle theme song and a music video for the show with his group, the Jordan TW Trio. Both the song and video were nominated for New England Emmy awards. The NH Humanities Council included his program "Songs of Emigration: Storytelling through Traditional Irish Music" in their offerings in 2016. Tirrell-Wysocki plays with the maritime band Great Bay Sailor.

When not on the road, he teaches fiddle at the Concord Community Music School and Strings and Things Music in Concord and co-hosts the Irish Night every Thurs-

day at the Stone Church Meeting House in Newmarket.

Guitarist Matt Jensen has been performing professionally with bands of varying styles for almost 20 years. Noted for his cross-genre versatility in both rhythm and lead roles, he has appeared on some of live music's biggest stages, collaborating with many of New England's most popular bands and sharing the stage with names such as Willie Nelson, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Zac Brown, Lee Brice, Charlie Daniels and more.

The Wolfeboro Friends of Music asks that all attendees over 11 years of age for whom vaccination is available be vaccinated against COVID. Masks should be worn properly at all times; social distancing is required.

Adult tickets are \$25 and are available at Avery Insurance, Black's Paper & Gift Store, online at www.wfriends-of-music.org or at the door. High school students with ID will be admitted



free of charge and younger children accompanied by an adult ticket purchaser will be admitted

free of charge. For more information, visit www.wfriends-of-music.org or call 603-569-2151.

THE READING ROOM AT GILMAN LIBRARY

MARCH IS OUR MONTH

Gilman Library has once again been selected by our Alton Hannaford store leadership as the benefiting non-profit in the Community Bag Program! You can give to the Gilman Library by picking up a \$2.50 reusable Community Bag

at the Alton Hannaford located at 80 Wolfeboro Hwy, during the entire month of March. We will receive a \$1 donation for every bag sold during that time. The Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag Program makes it easy for shoppers to support their community and environment by

buying durable, reusable shopping bags. A portion of each Community Bag purchase goes to a local non-profit, and for the entire month of March, the Gilman Library is a beneficiary of this wonderful program. Holly Brown, Gilman Library Director, says "We are so pleased to once again

be chosen as the beneficiary of this wonderful program. Thank you, Hannaford and thank you to our community members, for your support." For more information on the program, go to gilmanlibrary.org/hannaford-bags.

WHIMSY CORNER

"The Everywhere

Man" will be at performing in the "Whimsy Corner" of the Margaret E.

Kayser Children's Room,

on alternate Wednesday

mornings at 10:30 a.m. The singer and

guitarist will be providing

entertainment for the preschool age group,

their parents and caregivers,

as well as older children and adults.

You do not have to be a preschooler to enjoy his performance. He will be alternating the Wednesday

morning time slot with

Granny Apple's Story

Time. Please join us every

Wednesday for both

of these wonderful volunteers.

Call the library at

785-2550 or check our on-

line calendar and library

website at gilmanlibrary.org, for the schedule.

NEW BOOKS

Our newest additions

to the collections these

past few weeks include

"The Billionaire Mur-

ders" by Kevin Dono-

van. This is a true-crime

story with the subtitle

"the mysterious deaths

of Barry and Honey

Sherman." We have the

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

ALTON FLASH-LIGHT EGG HUNT

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a nighttime Flashlight Egg Hunt for ages 14 and under on Friday, April 15 at B&M Park on Depot Street. Glow with us as we search for hidden eggs and prizes in the park. Event includes: Egg Hunt, activities, Easter Bunny and fun! Rain location will be at the Pearson Road Community Center same date and times. Please bring a flashlight and container to collect your eggs in and arrive at the following times: Ages infant-three years- 7 p.m.; Ages 4-7 7:30p.m.; Ages 8-10 8 p.m. and Ages 11-14 8:30 p.m. The event is free to Alton residents. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109, parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Marvel Movie March

It's Marvel Movie March! Every Monday and Friday through the Alton Parks and Recreation Department Facebook Page from March 4-28, vote between two Marvel Movies in a Marvel Movie bracket challenge. Fun questions will be asked each week, and at the end of the month Alton's favorite Marvel Movie will be decided! If you like Marvel Movies you'll want to check this out. For more information contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Alton Town Wide Yard Sale

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its Annual Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 4, rain or shine from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. If you would like to participate by having a

Yard Sale at your house contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 603-875-0109 or parks-rec-asst@alton.nh.gov before May 9, with your Yard Sale address location. When calling please include your name, phone number and complete physical address. Free Yard Sale maps will be available after May 23.

Free Weight Training and Yoga Zoom Classes

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is offering free Zoom exercise classes for local residents. Spring session starts April 4 and runs through June 29. Classes are held live through Zoom, computer and internet access is required. Participants will need to 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.

Local, Guided Snow Shoe Hikes on Fridays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring free Snow Shoe Hikes on Fridays in March at 10 a.m., weather permitting. Bring snow shoes to this outdoor experience. Individual trail information

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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 603-875-0109. Hikes begin at 10 a.m. from the trail head. March 11- Fort Point-Trask Swamp, register by March 8; March 18- Pine Mountain, register by March 14.

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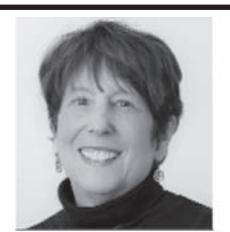
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We Will NOT be Undersold

Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

THE BAYSIDER, THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022

We stand with Ukraine

The news in Ukraine over the past week has been horrific. To date, 352 people have been reported dead, including 14 children. Vladimir Putin has initiated a deadly, unprovoked attack on a free nation. Instead of choosing diplomacy, he chose violence. And the fact that even longtime Putin allies such as Hungarian President János Áder have condemned Russia's actions makes it clear that there is no reasonable case to be made for this invasion, despite the debunked false flag claims Putin's administration has attempted to make of widespread abuse toward separatists on the part of the Ukrainian military.

In Ukraine, all men between the ages of 18 and 60 have been pressed into military service in defense of the country and banned from leaving. The conscriptions may ultimately not have been necessary, however, as the majority of those men have stated that they want to stay and fight off the Russians. Our eyes have welled up with a mixture of sadness and admiration at news footage of men saying what may be a last goodbye to loved ones at the borders of Belarus and Poland before returning to take up arms in the name of a free and democratic Ukraine. The men and women of Ukraine have redefined the word bravery, and we are heartened to see that the world has overwhelmingly thrown its support behind their struggle. Even New Hampshire's own Governor, Chris Sununu, took a small but symbolic stand with the Ukrainian people by issuing an executive order last week demanding that Russian products be removed from the shelves at all state operated liquor and wine outlets.

Russia is suffering severe signs of economic consequences, as well it should. Banks and credit card companies dealing with Russia have gone into lockdown mode. Poland, Sweden and the Czech Republic are refusing to play Russia for a spot in the 2022 World Cup.

As of Monday morning, Putin put nuclear forces on high alert, escalating tensions. Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelensky, has agreed to talks with Moscow, despite reservations that the proposed talks are merely a sham on the part of Putin's administration designed to give off the appearance that he is still pursuing a diplomatic solution. The fighting, however, has not stopped. NATO forces are surrounding Ukraine in border countries, and Moscow has to date, failed to win full control of Ukraine's airspace.

As for Zelensky, many Ukrainians are admitting they did not vote for him, however his bravery has now changed their mind.

The entire world is standing with Ukraine, and while the camaraderie is touching, it doesn't take away from the devastation taking place. Families separated. Buildings bombed. Young children hiding in basement bunkers, with no food or water and in cold temperatures, all in the name of one man's greed and desire to see the Soviet empire he once served reborn.

Our hearts are with the people of Ukraine while they continue to bravely battle evil.



COURTESY

District 1 Executive Councilor Joe Kenney of Wakefield held his annual snowmobile tour and meeting at Johnson's Restaurant in New Durham. In the past, Councilor Kenney has brought the tour and meeting to the Colebrook/Pittsburg, Shelburne/Berlin and Laconia/Plymouth areas. Kenney states "it's a great opportunity to visit the trail system with NH Fish and Game, NH State Parks and Recreation, local snowmobile clubs, NH Forest and Lands and other local and state officials who support the snowmobile industry in New Hampshire. The industry would not exist without the support of the local private landowners, towns and volunteers." The breakfast meeting was sponsored by Johnson's Restaurant.

Letters to the Editor

New Durham Articles 14 & 15 explained

To the Editor:

ARTICLE 14: By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the town of New Durham, NH to see if the town will increase the Veterans Tax Credit from \$500 to \$750 to include future amendments to the RSA 72:28. The Optional all veterans' tax credit, upon adoption by city or town pursuant to RSA 72:27-a shall be an amount for \$500 up to \$750. The optional tax credit for all veterans shall replace the standard tax credit in its entirety and shall not be in addition thereto. Submitted by Petition Majority Vote Required Estimated 2022 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.071 per \$1,000 assessed valuation. Heartfelt appreciation to all of New Durham veterans for your service to our country. Your dedication and commitment to the ideals of our democracy are much appreciated. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to ensuring the liberties our country so deeply valued are protected. Your sacrifices have not gone unnoticed as for many years New Durham has offered property tax credits for military veterans. Under the current Town tax regulations Veterans owners of property receive \$500 Tax Credit for that property. This petitioned Warrant Article would raise that Tax Credit from \$500 to \$750 thereby reducing the property tax bill by \$750 for each property owned by a veteran. There are currently 170 properties in New Durham receiving Veter-

ans Tax Credit which is a total of \$85,000 that other New Durham taxpayers must make up in their tax bills thereby increasing their property tax amount to offset this New Durham property tax revenue loss. This Warrant Article would increase that \$85,000 by another \$42,500 for a total of \$127,500. Tax rate impact of the current Veterans Tax Credit = \$0.141 per \$1,000 valuation. Additional tax rate impact should this Warrant Article pass = \$0.071 per \$1,000 valuation. Total Tax rate impact should this Warrant Article pass = \$0.212 per \$1,000 valuation. This means that for a \$300,000 valued house / property the owner would have a higher tax bill by \$63.60.

A "Yes" vote would increase the Veteran's Tax Credit from the current \$500 to a higher amount of \$750. This would increase the amount of property taxes that other New Durham taxpayers must pay to make up for that lost property tax revenue to a total of \$0.212 per \$1,000 valuation.

A "No" vote maintains the current Veteran's Tax Credit New Durham offers and does not further increase the property taxes paid by other New Durham taxpayers.

ARTICLE 15: By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the town of New Durham, NH to see if the town will increase the Veterans Service-Connected Totally Disability Tax Credit from \$1,400 to \$4,000 to include future amendments to the RSA 72:35.

The optional tax credit for service-connected totally disability, upon adoption by a city or town pursuant to RSA 72:27-a shall be an amount from \$701 up to \$4,000. The optional tax credit for service-connected total disability shall replace the standard tax credit in its entirety and shall not be in addition thereto. Submitted by Petition Majority Vote Required Estimated 2022 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.026 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

If you are a Veteran with a military defined disability you have our respect and gratitude. Those who serve enter military service knowing disability can happen but often live the rest of their lives with the knowledge and satisfaction of having served.

God bless and keep our Veterans. Your sacrifices have not gone unnoticed as for many years New Durham has offered significant additional property tax credits for military defined disabled veterans. Under the current Town tax regulations Veterans with total disability as defined by the military who are owners of property receive \$1,400 Tax Credit for that property.

This petitioned Warrant Article would raise that Tax Credit from \$1,400 to \$4,000 thereby reducing their property tax bill by \$4,000 for each property owned by a veteran with military defined total disability.

There are currently 6 properties in New Durham receiving Total Disability Veterans Tax Credit which is total of \$8,400 that other New Durham taxpayers must

make up in their tax bills thereby increasing their property tax amount to offset this New Durham property tax revenue loss.

This Warrant Article would increase that \$8,400 by another \$15,600 for a total of \$24,000. Tax rate impact of the current Veterans Tax Credit = \$0.014 per \$1,000 valuation. Additional tax rate impact should this Warrant Article pass = \$0.026 per \$1,000 valuation. Total Tax rate impact should this Warrant Article pass = \$0.040 per \$1,000 valuation.

This means that for a \$300,000 valued house / property the property owner would have a higher tax bill by \$12.00.

A "Yes" vote would increase the Total Disability Veteran's Tax Credit from the current \$1,400 to a higher amount of \$4,000. This would increase the amount of property taxes that other New Durham taxpayers must pay to make up for that lost property tax revenue to a total of \$0.040 per \$1,000 valuation. Should additional militarily defined total disability veterans acquire property in New Durham this tax impact would increase for non-veteran New Durham property tax payers.

A "No" vote maintains the current Veteran's Tax Credit New Durham offers and does not further increase the property taxes paid by other New Durham taxpayers.

Wendi F. Zimmermann
New Durham

I will bring a rational approach to planning Alton's future growth

To the Editor:

for the community.

Through The Baysider, I would like to introduce myself and indicate taking a decision to run for a Planning Board seat in the upcoming Town of Alton elections.

Having been a property owner in Alton for almost 20 years and now a full time resident, I believe I can provide leadership to help drive well planned and managed growth

aging through a Minor Sub-Division with the Planning Board 15 years earlier. I have knowledge of the Town's regulations and can help provide a balanced perspective having "sat on the other side" at Planning Board Meetings.

As a conservatively minded individual, I look forward to bringing a knowledgeable and rational approach to successfully sustaining planned growth

for our community. I look forward to supporting the Town of Alton in this capacity and thank everyone in advance for their support.

Please come out and vote at the Town of Alton elections in early March!

Sincerely,
Douglas S. Brown
Alton Bay

The Baysider

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STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

A jailhouse conversion

By Larry Scott

It was Sunday evening, Aug. 12, 1973, and Chuck Colson was in Boston en route to the home of Tom Phillips, President of Raytheon, and a good friend.

Chuck, caught up in the throes of the Watergate scandal, needed just such a friend. On the screened-in porch over a tall glass of iced tea, Tom got straight to the point. "Tell me, Chuck, are you doing okay?"

Not excited about discussing his own rapidly

collapsing world, Chuck said, "I'm not doing too badly, I guess. ... But I'd rather talk about you, Tom. You've changed and I'd like to know what happened."

"The success came, all right but something was missing," Tom responded. "I felt a terrible emptiness." "I don't understand it," Colson interrupted. "I knew you in those days. You were a straight arrow ... everything in fact going your way" (from Colson, "Born Again," p. 109).

"All that may be true, Chuck, but my life wasn't complete. ... I

began to read the Scriptures, looking for answers. Something made me realize I needed a personal relationship with God. ... One night I was in New York on business and noticed that Billy Graham was having a Crusade in Madison Square Garden. ... What Graham said that night put it all into place for me. ... I saw what was missing, the personal relationship with Jesus Christ. ... So I did it – that very night at the crusade. ... I asked Christ to come into my life and I could feel His presence with me, His

peace within me."

"Then I went out for a walk alone on the streets of New York. I never liked New York before, but this night it was beautiful. I walked for blocks and blocks, I guess. Everything seemed different to me. It was raining softly, and the city lights created a golden glow. Something had happened to me, and I knew it" (Ibid, p. 110).

Tom Phillips had hit a nerve that evening, and Chuck knew it. On his way home, tears streaming down his face, he pulled to the side of the road and prayed, "God,

I don't know how to find You, but I'm going to try! I'm not much the way I am now, but somehow I want to give myself to you." And on the following Friday, Aug. 17, 1973, Colson did just that. "Lord Jesus, I believe You. I accept You. Please come into my life. I commit it to You" ("Born Again," p. 130). And the rest, as they say, is history.

That discovery, however, is one only you can make. Like it or not, you cannot ignore life's most important question. "What will you do with Jesus Christ?"

For more thoughts like these, follow me at indefenseoftruth.net.

Letters to the Editor

Harm done by Swenson

To the Editor:

This is the harm that has been done to New Durham these past five years under the tenure of Select Board Chairman David Swenson. We have lost 90 percent of our employees. For example, the Town Hall has lost each position at least one time and we are on our third Town Clerk this past year. Due to this turnover, we have young, inexperienced employees who are working hard to learn their jobs with little to no support from Chairman Swenson. Swenson is threatening the job of our experienced and loyal Fire Chief Varney by not re-appointing him since last March. By doing this, Chairman Swenson has sent the rest of the town employees a message that he could fire them at any time. This results in the employees fearing

for their jobs daily. This produces a hostile working environment.

Due to Chairman Swenson's disrespect, we have had a high turnover of consultants, attorneys, IT support people and accountants. He looks for weak people to be Selectmen and through intimidation and making them think that he knows what he is talking about, they vote his way. For example, when I was a Selectman for New Durham, he verbally questioned my ability and when that did not work, he physically assaulted me and that certainly did not work. I then realized that he is not that smart, and his ideas result in bad outcomes.

Selectman Swenson does not respect the residents of New Durham. On three different occasions, the residents voted for warrant arti-

cles that he has ignored:

1) to not buy a scale for the transfer station, 2) to separate Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) and Expendable Trust Funds to be voted for on individual warrant articles, and 3) to not fund the Boodey Farmstead Project.

For these reasons and the improper spending of our tax dollars and COVID monies, the town, the residents and the employees are being harmed. Chairman Swenson's poor leadership is the cause of this. With this chaos and our tax rate increasing, it is time to vote for new leadership. Vote to replace Swenson by voting for Rudy Rosiello, Selectman. Replace "go along" Ron Uyeno with Marc DeCoff, Selectman. Please remember to vote on March 8.

Gregory Anthes

New Durham

Write in candidate for New Durham Budget Committee

To the Editor:

I would like to compliment the Town of New Durham's Budget Committee for the great work they've done in developing the proposed 2022 Operating Budget. Those of us who vote on March 8 should all appreciate the dedicated effort and thoughtful deliberations our Budget Committee members put in to crafting the proposed budget and the related warrant items.

I was honored to serve as the town's Planning Board representative on that committee in 2019, so I got a feel for the importance of this relatively quiet, but critically

important, committee.

Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustments. Prior to moving here in 2017, I served as a Town Council Member and Mayor in a small North Carolina town, where I earned a reputation for supporting responsible, controlled growth of the town's budget.

I'd like to help the Town of New Durham Budget Committee do the same thing. So again, I'll ask my New Durham neighbors to write in "David Wessel" for Budget Committee.

As for my qualifications: I am a retired U.S. diplomat and former government contracting officer responsible for oversight of a \$15 million budget in Rome. Here in New Durham, I have served on both the

David Wessel
New Durham

Best experience for Alton selectmen

To the Editor:

I am supporting Paul LaRochelle and Ken Roberts for Alton Selectmen. Paul and Ken have the best experience to manage the Town's affairs. Both men are non-political and have in-depth experience in how the Town works. I have direct experience with Paul on the Master

Plan Committee. He has demonstrated a pragmatic approach to planning for the changes that Alton will be facing, and his detailed knowledge of the town and its history has been very helpful.

Ken was our Highway Department manager for many years and did an excellent job managing that department. Ken did an excellent job

Russ Wilder
Alton Bay

Asking for your vote

To the Editor:

I have served as part of the volunteer Fire Departments of Kittery Point, Maine; Alton; and now currently New Durham.

I look forward to helping the town improve the needed infrastructure. I will do my best to balance the taxes spent for the needs of the town. I look forward to serving you, the taxpayer, and asking for your vote on March 8.

I started a machine shop in 2004 and moved

Marc DeCoff
New Durham

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Letters to the Editor

Town Meeting should be the final word on decision making

To the Editor:

Live Free or Die, a unique motto, reflects our democratic aspirations by a republican form of government.

Town Meeting is coming to your town. This direct-democratic opportunity has been happening since Colonial times before the American Revolution. Access to this kind of local self-governance has continued to date. Some towns have elected the SB2 alternative to traditional town meeting because of the growth of their municipalities. The SB2 form of local government requires two meetings: the first is the deliberative session discussion of warrant articles where amendments are considered, and the second day is voting day when the votes on the warrant articles are taken. Traditional town meeting is a one-day session for the deliberation of the articles where amendments can be made to the war-

rant articles followed by a call to vote by the moderator for each article on the warrant.

When a resident participates in this honorable right, they are expressing their civic duty as well as recognizing their elected town officers who pledge to uphold the NH State Constitution and the laws of the State. Ideally, we expect our municipal elections to protect the health, safety and welfare of the communities they serve through local democracy by the consent of the governed.

Town Meeting votes express the importance of direct-democratic decision-making to pass ordinance warrant articles that govern our municipalities. It must be recognized that all warrant articles are held to the scrutiny of Dillon's Rule, the General Court powers of pre-emption to override any and all local votes that do not please the State.

One for the roads

To the Editor:

The town of Alton has over 94 miles of public roads. While there are a variety of types, all share one common trait: the need for continual maintenance and, on a longer term, reconstruction. New Hampshire winters are nothing less than brutal on roads, and deferred reconstruction invariably results in more extensive and more expensive work at a future time.

Each year, the town votes on a Warrant article to fund road reconstruction. For the past 10 years, the amount appropriated has been level at \$950,000, with the exception of 2019, when nothing was approved. This amount has always been less than adequate, and the predictable result has

been a gradual deterioration in road conditions as needed reconstruction is either only partially completed or deferred entirely. Our highway department has done well with the funding provided, but the shortfall compared to actual need is very real and has increased with each passing year.

The 2022 budget includes a Warrant article entitled "Highway Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund," which, for the first time in a decade, proposes an increase in funding for this most critical need. The amount requested is \$1,165,994. This is certainly a sizable sum, but it will be partially offset by a state Highway Block Grant of close to \$190,000, resulting in the actual cost to Alton taxpayers of about \$975,000.

Our Public Works director, in conjunction with the Board of Selectman, has a detailed plan addressing which roads are to be reconstructed.

Please vote on Tuesday, March 8, and vote "yes" on Warrant Article 19. You can vote in person at the St. Katharine Drexel Church on Route 28 between 6 a.m. and 8 p.m., or by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots can be picked up at the Town Hall or requested by mail. A sample ballot and details on absentee voting can be viewed on the Alton town website. Voting is quick and easy, and your support for good roads in our town is very much needed.

Richard Shea
Alton

To the Editor:

Town Meeting is a pure form of a quorum of the body politic, by a municipality making laws from the bottom up and can be the healthiest redress to our Representative body of the General Court. The representatives of the General Court need to be informed by their local constituency. Instead of being subordinate to Dillon's Rule, town meeting initiatives should be the final decision-making authority in the doctrine of checks and balances of the three offices of the General Court. This is the fundamental foundation of a republican form of government. Our democracy will not stand up to what we have been educated to believe unless the principles are understood and actualized.

Find out more by visiting, www.nhcommunityrights.org.

Douglas Darrell
Center Barnstead

Fraud failsafe

ment to the dark side with a criminal's label. I look at the success of an administration, not by what laws get passed, but how the people are, doing and right now I see how the race issue has been inflamed over the last four years, along with the economy.

Inflation is hurting all of this country, and I truly wish the greedy corporate people causing it from the right side of the aisle, would get over the fifteen dollar an hour minimum wage, among other things, like dictating what we do with our bodies, stop keeping the low hanging fruit, low hanging. When poor people are doing well, then rest of us can't be too far behind. The very wealthy will always find a way, but mostly they do it the way it is being done in the Ukraine region of the world today the 24th of February, by Putin, who has proven himself to be the war criminal, I've always thought of him. Hostile take overs, corrupt use of labor, steal, oppress, murder, cheat, lie and fraud, that's just some of the ways most of the wealthily get rich. Similar to what will soon be proven #45 (see CNN) did with his business affairs and while in office. I would be amiss if I did not include these

President Joe Biden is being attacked at every crack in the road, and yes, every single one of them are put there by the people who do not want America to move forward with a Joe Biden Label on it. Seems like they only want move-

other ways to wealth, hard work, a good education, honesty and integrity, truth in all things, which I believe Joe Biden has more of than that, ex loser guy. This is not to say, the President, is perfect because I think he needs to be a hell of a lot stronger than he has been. But I must support the President I believe he has America's best interests at heart, and I worry while we are all looking at the shiny babbles the Russian war in Ukraine going on now, are we forgetting what Putin and #45 are trying to do in this country with our elections coming up in the fall. Putin's end game is to topple the Untied Stated, and he's found the perfect Patsy in #45 to help him and you know #45 thinks he'll be running the show. Soon, after 2024 he will be ruling his part of the New World Order.

So, think about it. I really will pay attention to the November ballot ('22) and make sure no supporters of the #45 game plan get my vote. I prefer to lead not to be led. Voting in this country is under our greatest threat, from one of our own political parties and the Russians under Putin.

Respectfully,
John Q. Henderson
Barnstead

Petition to hand-count ballots was an insult to our election workers

To the Editor:

A group of citizens recently got together in Alton to petition to include a Warrant article that would require all ballots to be hand counted, and that would prohibit the use of machine counting. Fortunately, the sane folk of Alton, from all political viewpoints, soundly defeated the ridiculous measure when it was considered at the Deliberative Session. In fact, an amendment was proposed that specifically allowed machine counting of ballots, and that amendment passed by unanimous vote.

Although some of the signers of the petition may not have known what they were signing, the primary proponents of the measure, led by the ringleader, Rep. Raymond Howard, should be ashamed of themselves. The proposal was a slap in the face to all the hard-working and dedicated election officials who

have kept our Alton elections fair and accurate for many years. Having been an election official myself in Alton, I have witnessed the many hours spent by our Town Clerk and assistants, our Town Moderator, our Supervisors of the Checklist, and the many volunteers who have served as ballot clerks and greeters. The Warrant Article, if passed in its original form, would have turned 15-18 hour days into 30-45 hour days for those election workers. Every single ballot measure, whether a candidate election or a Warrant Article, would have had to be painstakingly counted and recorded by hand. Anyone familiar with what happens in a recount would know that this proposal would turn each of these ballot measures into the equivalent of a recount, which is a very labor-intensive and time-consuming procedure. Did the proponents think to ask our election officials if they thought this was a good idea? Obviously not.

Another signer of this crackpot Warrant article was Phil Wittmann, former select board member and recently the subject of a recount when he lost reelection. As he knows firsthand, experience the efforts required in a recount, his total lack of respect for the integrity and time of our election officials should be reason enough for the voters to look elsewhere, when choosing select board members in March.

Perhaps these politicians were simply caught up in the Free Stater extremist ideology and simply never stopped to think about the meaning of what they were doing. Perhaps in the case of Paul Terry, he simply didn't know better, as a relatively new transplant to Alton.

What this proposed Warrant article said was that the petition signers did not believe the results of our Alton elections. It should be noted that among the petition signers were all three of our elected state representatives (meaning, in addition to Ray Howard, Rep. Peter Varney and Rep. Paul Terry) and their wives. Let's think about this for a moment: the three men elected in the 2020 election ques-

tion the accuracy of our election? Are any of the three offering to give up their seat on the basis of election fraud or irregularity? The hypocrisy is mind-boggling.

It was very heartening to see the voters of Alton see through the folly of Warrant Article 52. In its amended form, the voters can now safely vote Yes to it on March 8. And come November, let's remember what our elected representatives were attempting to push in our town. Let's vote them out.

Ruth Larson
Alton



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Church Service Schedule

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Sunday School for children up to age 12, service 10:30 a.m. Greater Wakefield Resource Center, 254 Main St., Union. Pastors Daniel and Sherrie Williams, 473-8914. For more information, please visit abundantharvestb.org or e-mail abf@fifth.org

ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER
Sundays throughout the summer 10 a.m. & 7 p.m.; Tues-Thurs 7 a.m., 875-6161.

BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON
Alton 9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Ben Rubl, www.befreecommunity.org.

CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:15 a.m. Rte 126 next to Town Hall. Call or Text (603) 269-8831. centerbarnsteadcc.org

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 ccoppraisegather@gmail.com

COMMON CHURCH OF ALTON
Prayer Meeting 9:00 a.m. Rev. Dr. Samuel J. Hollis, 875-5561. Bay service 8:30 a.m. Alton Bay Gazebo, Alton, NH 10 a.m. Worship Service 20 Church Street, Alton. Our services are live streamed on YouTube Sundays at 10 a.m. www.ccoc.org

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC
Sunday School and Worship Services Rev. Rebecca Werner Macinni 603-776-1820. Our services are in person at 504 North Barnstead Road, Center Barnstead, NH and live-streamed on Zoom, Sundays at 10 a.m. northbarnstead.org

Letters to the Editor

Please consider me for school board

To the Editor:

My name is Jason English, and I am running for Alton's School Board. My motivation comes from doing what's right for my children, their educational needs and we, the taxpaying citizens. My family moved to Alton from Durango, Colo. in February of 2017 after some lifechanging events occurred. We had almost lost a son in an auto accident in 2015, and now we are supporting a loved one battling cancer. We chose Alton because it has always been a place where we have lots of family that we could tap into for the love and support.

I have disagreed with a lot of the Covid protocols being forced on our teachers and students, especially once the Governor lifted the emergency orders. I have done so with facts, data and even a medical doctor. We shouldn't be forcing kids to learn in plexiglass stalls and masks on their faces just to have access to their right to receiving an education. Supporting and empowering the lie that children are at risk of death from this virus is irresponsible, fictional and detrimental to kids' mental welfare and academic success. Using the metrics to help us decide on whether these policies are successful or

not should paint a clear picture on the success of this experimental teaching practice.

Proficiency scores are down in every category as much as 15 percent in the last two years, with math recording at 33 percent in 2021. Mental health is through the roof where it takes four to six months to see a professional. Surgeon General warns adolescent suicides have gone up 47 percent. New Hampshire has had almost 80,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 among children 19 years of age and younger, with one death in two years of recording data. To find the data, search www.covid19.nh.gov/dashboard/case-summary. All stated above has far exceeded death, pain and suffering more than covid categorically.

It's important to express my gratitude for the teachers, staff and the nurses for all the extra that they have had to do in order to do their job. There has been a lot of extra work, stress and patience with all that is going on. Without a work force like that, what I am sharing would be far worse. Our teachers want nothing more than to provide academic excellence, so let's give them their classrooms back for good!

What to expect from

me?

I will always respect the personal rights of one's body. Parents know what's best for their children.

No more Covid protocols forced on teachers and children.

Volunteers allowed access into our schools again to help support our school workforce.

Expand teachings of New Hampshire state history and civics. Teachings on the NH state constitution and its importance to its citizenry. I would like to see more vocational programs become available.

Partnering up with the Alton PD and NH fish and game to create age-appropriate gun safety education courses. The Second Amendment is every American's right, and kids should be taught safety; Constitutional propose as well as its means to hunt food. Awareness on handling discovered firearms could save lives.

Maintaining a balanced budget with the taxpayers' pockets in mind.

Please go vote for Jason English for school board, and consider a write in candidate, Dalton Flannery, for school board with your second vote!

Jason English

Alton

Deshaises is the right choice for GWRSD board

To the Editor:

This year's Governor Wentworth Regional School District (GWRSD) election is an especially important one. That is why I am asking for your support in electing Brodie Deshaises to the at-large seat on the board.

As the district moves beyond the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and welcomes a new superintendent, it is important to have leaders that are willing to look past the tensions the past few years have brought, remember what makes GWRSD a great school district, and seek continual improvement as we educate our most valuable resource – the youth of our communities.

I have known Brodie both personally and professionally for some time. Brodie was the student representative to the school board in 2016-2017, when I served as the representative from Wolfeboro. While not a voting member, Brodie brought forward the student viewpoint. He contributed, listened, and understood even as a high school senior that there are often varying viewpoints on a situation that must be taken into consideration in making decisions.

The role of a school

board member is to ensure policies and procedures are in place that provide exceptional learning for the students of the GWRSD, that we have hired highly qualified staff to execute initiatives, and to provide fiscal guidance. This requires an open mind, asking the right questions of the right people, and listening to all input in order to make sound decisions. School board members are not meant to be a rubber stamp for the administration, but neither is it their role to micromanage. I am confident Brodie understands the distinction.

GWRSD school board members are held to a code of ethics (<https://www.gwrsd.org/school-board-member-ethics.html>). They must represent the entire district without favor to any particular segment and understand they act only as one member of a team. I know Brodie will abide by these ethics.

As a member of the GWRSD school board for more than 10 years, there were times board members disagreed but the strong history of working together for the benefit of the students and the taxpayers of the district always prevailed. Brodie will carry on this tradition of putting the

district's students and taxpayers ahead of personal or special interest groups.

Like all local elections, the school board is a non-partisan race. I have no doubt Brodie will be able to separate his role as a state representative from the duties of a school board member. He has worked across the aisle in Concord to support legislation for the benefit of New Hampshire residents. I firmly believe the opportunity to serve on the school board will provide him additional insight on the importance of local control.

Brodie makes it a point to seek input from others, while making independent decisions for the general good. He is accessible, informative, and dedicated. He cares deeply about the Governor Wentworth Regional School District and is the best choice for the at-large seat.

Please vote on election day, Tuesday, March 8. Support the warrant put forth by the school board and vote for Brodie Deshaises as at-large member.

Sincerely,

Stacy K. Trites
Wolfeboro

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Invested

About 20 years ago now, I was given a nice fleece vest with the new name of the company I was working for embroidered on the front. A few years later, when I started teaching Nordic at the mountain I received another one with their name on it. Likewise, when I was teaching at a private school, yet another one was given to my collection. I think they're wonderful. I still wear them today.

This fleece material was first invented back in 1979 and was an environmental yahoo because it could be manufactured from recycled plastic milk jugs. Once the patent ran out, the proliferation of this stuff went wild. And it's wonderful stuff. Water resistant and warm. A modern day wool substi-

tute. Another nail in the coffins of sheep farmers everywhere.

Each vest has a special purpose. The school one I wear when I sub. There are school things in its pockets and education pins on its lapels along with my ID tags. I just throw it on, and I have what I need for class. It's easy. I like easy.

The corporate one has become an added layer of warmth for my handy man duties. It's a nice set of easy to access pockets within which to carry screws, nuts and small parts. I'm forever finding wire nuts hidden there.

The mountain one hangs around the house as its pockets have ceased to remain secure, they weren't made from the fleece. It hangs on a

chair in my bedroom for when I need an additional layer.

Each one has a number of zippers to close pockets and the vest itself. I really like zippers. I have a pair of button fly jeans that I snagged off the shelf of a used clothing store that were in perfect shape and my size. What a find! I found out why that was so when I first wore them. I prefer zippers.

Zippers were first patented in 1851 as a way to easily secure tall boots. Ever since, they've been improving on the design and as far as I can say, they work wonderful. Usually. I'll bet every boy has had some issue with a fly somewhere in his past.

This year as vest season ensued, I found

that the zippers no longer dependably closed. I had to be very careful zipping them or they may not close properly.

I was considering that these old articles of clothing were finally coming to the end of their useful life. That to me is tragic as material wise, they were all still in great shape. This fleece stuff sure lasts a long time. But if they could no longer be closed, they may need to be discarded.

I know this woman who is a wizard on a sewing machine. I considered calling her to find out about getting the zippers replaced, or maybe even have snaps installed. She can do it all.

I also know of a used clothing store where I can fill a shopping bag for two bucks.

I could go there and I'm sure that I could find a nice selection of replacements.

Growing up in the sixties, I have been infused with this psychic dispensation to recycle at all costs and try to never throw anything away. It's a sickness. This generation has been infused with the belief that the planet is going to burn up any day. My getting burned up fear was from atom bombs as we practiced lining up against the walls in the cellar of the school during A bomb drills.

Why do they always try to scare everybody? There's lots of bad stuff going on out there but does it need to be exaggerated so? The big threat is always death, one of life's unavoidable

inevitabilities. If you have faith in the Lord, that will be a great day.

I looked at my zippers and how they worked. It had to be because the slidey thing wasn't squeezing the closey things close enough anymore. It could be from wear or metal fatigue, but if I could correct this defect, my zippers could be brought back to life. Upon further examination, I decided to try using a pair of vice grips to delicately deform the slidey things. I am here to testify to the resurrection of both interlocking tooth and spiral zippers. My vests live on.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	355 Muchado Hill Rd.	Residential Open Land	\$285,000	Lot 9-4, Muchado Heights Road	Deven Williams and Michelle E. Griffin
Alton	Parandes Drive	N/A	\$13,533	Town of Alton	Brian R. Beihl and Jeanmarie White
Alton	N/A (Lot 177)	N/A	\$32,533	Wallace A. MacNeil	Patrick D. Norton
Barnstead	Garland Road	Residential Open Land	\$90,000	Tyler G. Fortier	Andrew Warburton
Barnstead	112 Winwood Dr.	N/A	\$375,000	Madilynn Dansereau and Anthony Somma	Ryan M. Innis and Rileigh Champagne

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

Burke skis at alpine Meet of Champions

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

FRANCONIA — The best high school alpine skiers from around the state descended on the Mittersill section of Cannon Mountain on Thursday, Feb. 24, for the annual Meet of Champions. The annual meet brings together the top 10 finishers from each of the divisions at their respective state championships held the previous week.

The day kicked off with the giant slalom and Plymouth's Dylan Welch led the charge, finishing in first place with a time of 1:19.75 for the two laps.

Profile's Troy Boisennault was second in 1:21.88 and teammate Dino Bissonneault finished in fifth place in a time of 1:23.31. Fellow Patriot skier Jack Price finished in 10th place in a time of 1:25.79.

Belmont's Mitchell Berry finished in 11th

place in 1:25.87 and Adam Bell of Profile finished in 13th place in 1:26.32. Kennett's Joey Nichipor finished in 14th place in 1:27.79 and Coen Mullins of Profile finished in 1:28.5 for 15th place.

Quinlan Dickey of Kingswood finished in 18th place in a time of 1:28.75, Carter Tasker of Kennett was 23rd in 1:30.18, Thomas Fortner of Littleton skied to 26th place in 1:30.79, Nathan Lorrey of Plymouth raced to 30th place in 1:33.48 and Andrew Wilson of Lin-Wood finished in 31st place in a time of 1:33.75 to round out the field of locals finishing both runs.

Welch again dominated the field in the afternoon slalom, finishing in 1:11.58 for the overall win.

Price was third overall in a time of 1:16.42 and Berry skied to fourth place with his time of 1:17.18. Mullins

was seventh overall with a time of 1:17.85 and Bell skied to 11th with a time of 1:19.55.

Dino Boisennault finished in 15th place in a time of 1:20.44, Gilford's Cole Howard skied to 17th place overall in 1:22.47 and Wilson was 19th in a time of 1:23.24. Tasker finished in 21st place in a time of 1:23.29, Nichipor was 25th overall in 1:26.1, Fortner was 29th in 1:27.37 and Lorrey finished in 1:29.83 for 30th place.

In the morning giant slalom for the girls, Kennett's Ashley Garside took home the win with a time of 1:25.06.

Makenna Price of Profile finished in second place in a time of 1:26.78 and teammate Sophie Bell was fifth overall in 1:27.56. Allie Hussey of Kennett finished in seventh place in 1:28.33 and Elaina DeMaggio of Profile finished in eighth place with a time of 1:29.84.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

PROSPECT'S REESE BURKE powers through the giant slalom at the Meet of Champions last week.

Ella Stephenson of Profile skied to 19th place in 1:34.06, Liza Graustein of Kennett finished in 22nd place in 1:36.05, Livi White of Profile finished in 26th place in 1:37.97 and Plymouth's Halle Kozak finished in 28th place in 1:38.74. Ella Weiser of Plymouth finished 30th

in a time of 1:39.58, Makenna Mack of Lin-Wood was 33rd in 1:40.64, Gilford's Shealagh Brown finished in 38th place in 1:41.21 and Prospect Mountain's Reese Burke finished in 42nd place overall in a time of 1:43.39.

Plymouth's Aura Weiser finished as the winner in the afternoon slalom, finishing in 1:18.32, just ahead of Bell, who put up a time of 1:18.61 for second place.

Price was fourth overall in 1:24.27 and Hussey skied to sixth place in a time of 1:27.04. Garside

raced to eighth place with her time of 1:27.99.

Mack was 17th overall with a time of 1:33.44, Ella Weiser was 26th overall in 1:38.65, DeMaggio was 28th overall in 1:38.93, Kozak was 30th with a time of 1:39.2 and Stephenson was 32nd in 1:39.91. White was 36th overall in a time of 1:40.86 and Brown finished in 1:44.12 for 39th place.

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

March events at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

enchanting good time!

portion where you can begin your own project, Irish ancestry or not! Please RSVP via phone at 269-3900 or e-mail rebecca@oscarfoss.org.

the month. This month we will be meeting Friday, March 25, at 6 p.m. Feel free to join us!

Saturday, March 12, is Dudes & Donuts Day at the library! Kids, bring your favorite grown-up "dude" to the library for storytime and donuts. Grandfathers, brothers, dads, uncles, and friends—all are welcome! We'll be starting at 11 a.m. Do-not forget!

Are you ready for spring? On Thursday, March 24, at 6:30 p.m., the library is hosting a Pollinator Garden event. Come to the library to get free seeds for your garden and watch a presentation on doing gardening in a way that encourages and supports pollinators. There will even be garden-themed door prizes!

The Writers Forum, an informal group dedicated to talking about writing, books, publishing, and more, will be held the last Friday of

Hey peeps! OFML's Annual Peep Diorama contest is back! Enter your most creative Peeps diorama based on a book between March 22 and 31. Entries should be roughly the size of a shoebox, characters should be made from Peeps, limit one entry per person or family/team. Be sure to put your age (or "adult") and name on your entry. Dioramas will be on display here at the library the first week of April for viewing and voting purposes, and prizes will be awarded on April 15!

ALTON — The local Alton Hannaford has chosen Gilman Library to be the March recipient of the Hannaford Helps Reusable Community Bag Program. For the month of March 2022, Gilman Library will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Community Bag at the Hannaford store located at 80 Wolfeboro Highway, Alton. Shoppers can support the Gilman Library and the environment, by purchasing Hannaford's reusable shopping bags

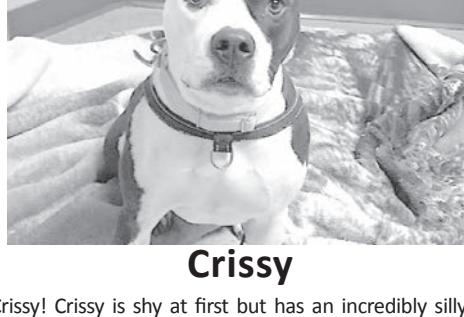
All monies received from this fund-raising event goes to support the mission of the Gilman Library. The purpose of the Gilman Library is to enrich the quality of life through nurturing the joy of reading and lifelong learning by addressing the informational, educational, and recreational needs of the community.

When you buy a bag, be sure to practice standard safety protocols. Wash your reusable bags before and after use, and if possible, bag your own groceries at check out when using a reusable bag. Thank you for your support and thank you, Hannaford!

Special Olympics dip March 12 in Alton Bay

ALTON — Support the Special Olympics and take a dip on March 12 to support the Prospect Mountain team. Meet your friends at 10 a.m. and test the waters at the Mt. Washington boat dock in Alton Bay. Not a fan of the frigid waters but still want to contribute? Help spread the word or consider making a donation. The PMHS team that raises the most money will receive a pizza party with the school's unified athletes. The PMHS dip page is located at <https://fundraising.soh.org/fundraisers/prospectmountainhighschool> for those wishing to donate.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Crissy

Meet Crissy! Crissy is shy at first but has an incredibly silly and fun personality when she warms up. Her favorite activities are doing "zoomies" in the yard, spending time with staff, and playing training games. She already knows, sit, down, paw and is making great progress with loose leash walking. Crissy can be an anxious girl, but she is making great progress on learning new calm behaviors and checking in with people for reassurance. Crissy wants to be your one and only furry friend, and is looking for a home without dogs or cats. Because of her anxiety Crissy isn't a good fit for a home with children. If you have a quiet household, and want to continue to help this girl build trust, please consider applying for Miss Crissy!



Rascal & Rebel - BONDED PAIR!

This brother and sister duo are looking for the perfect home together! They came to the shelter very scared and nervous of people. To best distress and learn how to accept love and attention, they have been living in a foster home for the past couple months. With their foster we have learned they would do best in a home together forever and they really bring out the best in each other.

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ABA Member Highlight: Synergistic Bodywork

ALTON — Every month, the Alton Business Association sit down with one of our amazing ABA members to get to know them a little better! For February, we spoke with Barbara McKenney, Owner of Synergistic Bodywork. We ask each member the same questions, providing an opportunity for our members to highlight the important work that they do in our communities. If you're an ABA Member and would like to be considered for future Monthly Member Highlights, please reach out to us via email at info@altonbusinessassociation.com.

Business Name: Synergistic Bodywork

Tell us about your business: Synergistic Bodywork focuses on massage and bodywork. It is not your average massage. Most clients describe a treatment as a little bit of physical therapy, some comforting spa features, mixed in with a thorough massage. Most clients come in looking for focus work on injuries to help with their discomfort. Once they are on the road to comfort they tend to stay and maintain their healthy feeling and body. We also offer lymphatic drainage massage which can help with surgery recovery, swelling and immunity support. I do also offer relaxation treatments as well. Cupping and custom essential oil blends/muscle rubs and CBD treatments are available for upgrades. Offering office and mobile (in home appointments) services.

Tell us about yourself: I grew up in Alton. I was very active in sports and physical activities. I played volleyball and track throughout school. I enjoy scuba diving, hiking and just about any physical activity when not at work. My dogs are

my sidekicks and go just about everywhere with me. I love music and one of the things about having my own office is that I let the clients pick what they want to listen to during their treatments so on any given day I listen to relaxation music, followed by, Jimmy Buffet, metal and or country.

How did your business get started: I played hard and as a result had a lot of physical therapy, chiropractic and massage along the way. As life became more stressful and I had not listened to the old saying "You will pay for that later," I found the importance in regular massage. I always said I never wanted to leave Alton. My previous career took me away from home for 17 years. When I knew I wanted to come home and find a new career that allowed for a healthier life style I was drawn to massage. I am a bit of a nerd and knew I need something with a mental challenge and something I would always be learning with. Massage fits that bill. No two treatments, even on the same person, are the same and their are endless techniques to learn and incorporate.

What has your relationship with the ABA done for your business: I learned about the ABA late last summer and the first even I joined was the Harvest Happening. I love that there is an organization around town that is supporting local businesses and is also affordable enough for even small businesses to benefit. The event was awesome. They did a great job marketing and it was great to see the town all come out.

What do you value most about our community: I love the small town feel that Alton still has. In Alton I can't go to the grocery store or

go for a walk without people stopping to say hi and catch up. Neighbors help neighbors. My office is in Wolfeboro as that is where space was available when I wanted to open. I do offer mobile massage as well and many Alton clients take advantage of this option.

What business accomplishment are you most proud of: I took a huge leap of faith leaving a successful career and going back to school. I was told in school it would take a solid three or four years to build a sustainable business and that I might be better off starting at a chain spa and working part time at my own. July 1 will be one year, the Alton community has rallied behind and made my dream business of being able to help people, have a good career with a good life work balance come true. I am thankful for that support in such short time.

What does the future hold for your business: I eventually would like to move and expand. I would like to have more services to offer as well as have other therapists and professionals join my team.

What is one piece of advice you wish you had as a new business owner?: Be ready for the grind. A good business does not just happen.

How can people who want to learn more about your business get in touch: Because I am quite often in session a text message is easiest and I can respond in between sessions without making noise in the office. I love voicemails and emails but most times I cannot respond as quickly. My business number is 603-387-1877. Email is synergisticbodyworknh@gmail.com.

SYRUP

(continued from Page A1)

chose a nice hefty one.

"That's an oak," Leonard pointed out.

In her defense, she's darn good at identifying trees by their leaves, but leaves are in short supply in February, which can make it difficult to determine a sugar maple.

Relying on Leonard's memory and years of experience, we set off for the next tree.

Here's how it goes. Depending on the weather for the past couple of months, you don't necessarily just walk right over to it. Getting there is half the fun; after several ice storms on top of lots of the white stuff, breaking through the snow and clambering up hills dragging the buckets and equipment can burn off enough calories to easily offset a pint of maple syrup poured over that morning's pancakes.

Now that we've zeroed in on our maple, we need to pick where we'll tap. Here's what the journeyman learned: for the health of the tree, find a spot not too close to older tappings. A sneaky older tapping may lurk under some bark, so choose a spot and clear away the outer bark to double check.

If everything looks good, drill in about an inch and a quarter; you don't want to go much farther because it can take more effort for the tree to heal.

Check the wood debris from the drilling; it should be white.

Wait for it. Some clear sap, sparkling in the sunlight, should start to drip or run in just a few moments.

Insert the tap with the hammer. Leonard can hear when it's inserted just the right distance. Journeymen, after a few tries, can feel more resistance. That's the spot. Hang the bucket on the tap and snap a cover on.

Done. Oh, wait. "Repeat that about 124 times," Leonard instructed.

This is why it's good for syrup producers to have helpers and other labor saving devices like cordless drills, vacuum pumps, plastic tubing, and steam-aways that accelerate evaporation to boost processing rates. Some producers even forego the wood fire and opt for oil fuel furnaces.

Overall, maple sugaring is a long, long process, and even with technology, it's still labor intensive.

The four to six week period known as sap running usually starts around the middle of February and can last until mid April, depending on the temperatures and weather.

"Cold nights and warm days make the sap flow the best," Leonard said.

All sorts of circum-

stances things figure into production. Highest yield occurs after a cold winter and high snowfall. Once the trees begin to bud, the product quality declines. Timing counts, too; tap too early and you wind up with less syrup volume. Windy days slow the flow of maple sap.

How does that flow work, anyway? Maple sap runs out of any holes or scrapes in the tree bark this time of year as a result of the frozen sap thawing and building up pressure in the tree. This pressure is what forces the sap out of the tap holes.

Maple sap is about 98 percent water and two percent sugar, and that's why it takes about 40-45 gallons of sap to make just one gallon of the good stuff. Finished maple syrup is 33 percent water and 67 percent sugar.

With a low glycemic index that has a lower impact on blood glucose levels, syrup is a healthy alternative to table sugar or raw honey.

The delicious stuff also contains hefty amounts of manganese and zinc.

Maple syrup has two grades that refer to the taste and color of the sap, which can vary throughout each season. Early season sap is lighter in color and subtle in flavor. Syrup from later in the season is darker in color with a more robust flavor.

It's for that delectable taste, be it robust or subtle, that for generations, country families labored for weeks lugging heavy pails full of sap, hauling wood, and tending fires to boil the stuff down.

Grace Gelinas knows all about hard physical work to get those precious drops of syrup. She started tapping trees on her property in 1979 with 10 buckets, two roasting pans, and a homemade fire pit. A hole in the ground served as a refrigeration area where she kept the sap until she could boil it.

"Every day I would gather the buckets after work and on the weekends I would boil it down," Gelinas said.

The "finishing" part of the process she handled on her barbecue grill.

"I put it on the side burner with aluminum foil around it," she adds.

She strained the end product through cheesecloth and bottled it in canning jars.

"It didn't make much," she said. "It was just for us and our kids."

Then someone offered her a homemade stainless steel device with more surface area for a faster boil, a spigot, and an underneath firebox.

It was a vast improvement for Gelinas. But the real game changer happened later.

Thirteen years ago,

the family built their current house behind their old home, and her husband Mike gave her a choice.

"He asked me what I wanted, new furniture or a sugar house," she said. Guess what she opted for.

"I didn't want furniture because I could get that anywhere, but the idea of a sugar house absolutely delighted me. I'd been doing it the other way outside for years, so to do it inside made me ecstatic," she said.

Just like that, Grandma Grace's Sugar House came into being.

"The sugar house had to be close to the house, so I didn't have to do a lot of lugging up the hill," Gelinas said.

Her husband sited the building 200 feet from their house, and utilizing a tractor made short shrift of the lugging problem.

"Mike got involved and put up more buckets," Gelinas said. "He got excited about doing it. We bought an old evaporator, then he went out and started tubing."

She said the landscape works well for that "because it all runs downhill to a central location."

The enterprise has grown, now including a pump and 310 taps, and a kitchen in the sugar house.

"We drive the tractor down and pump the sap into a tank and then pump it into our sugar house. The work has become easier," she said.

The process to achieve the finished product is complicated, but basically Gelinas boils down the sap, filters it, moves it to a finishing pan to boil again, and then filters it a second time through another pan before the syrup goes into plastic jugs.

Two local stores carry her syrup and lots of people simply come to her house to buy some. She created a Grandma Grace's Sugar House Facebook page for quick reference on availability.

Gelinas said she usually produces 80 gallons a season, but that last year was poor. She is finding she needs more sap to yield a gallon of syrup.

"The consistency is changing," she said.

Grandma Grace's also lost some trees to maple bore and ash bore.

"It's not just the weather against you," she said. "You also have little insects, and squirrels that chew the lines."

Tree maintenance is another project for her husband.

"If anyone doing this expects a profit, that's not going to happen," she said.

Both she and Leonard produce maple syrup essentially as a hobby, but they are dedicated to this satisfying link to nature.

"Some people knit," Gelinas said. "But sugaring is my passion."

University of Maine announces fall 2021 Dean's List

Dean's List

ORONO, Maine — The University of Maine recognized 3,102 students for achieving Dean's List honors in the fall 2021 semester, including Dominic Soucy of Alton.

Of the students who made the Dean's List, 2,025 are from Maine, 1,009 are from 39 other states and 68 are from 25 countries other than the U.S.

To be eligible for the Full-time Dean's List, a student must have completed 12 or more calculable credits in the semester and have earned a 3.50 or higher semester GPA. Students who have part-time status during both the fall and spring semesters of a given academic year are eligible for Part-time Dean's List. They must have completed 12 or more calculable credits over both terms and have earned a combined GPA in those terms of 3.50 or higher.

Gilman Library welcomes The Everywhere Man

"The Everywhere Man" will be at performing at the Gilman Library on alternate Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m., beginning on March 9. The singer and guitarist from Center Barnstead, will be providing entertainment for the preschool age group, their parents and caregivers, as well as older children and adults. He will be alternating the Wednesday



COURTESY
morning time slot with Granny Apple's Story Time. Also known as Philip Reilly, the 22-year-old performing artist moved to Center Barnstead last year. He enjoys music, art, movies, and theater, and will be performing in "Something's Rotten" on the Colonial Theater stage in Laconia, in May. The Everywhere Man performs a wide variety of children's songs from The Wiggles to Kermit the Frog, as well as folk music, country music, and rock and roll that appeals to all ages. You do not have to be a preschooler to enjoy his performance. Please join us at the Gilman Library at 100 Main St.

All sorts of circum-

BARNSTEAD ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

Saturday, March 19, 2022

9:00 A.M.

Barnstead Elementary School

Gymnasium

Boston Bruins Alumni skating Sunday at Pop Whalen Arena

WOLFEBORO — The Boston Bruins Alumni Association is helping the local Kingswood hockey programs raise funds. Friends of Kingswood Hockey are pleased to announce that the Boston Bruins Alumni will be taking on a team of local players in a hockey game to benefit the Kingswood hockey programs. The game is Sunday, March 6, at 12 p.m. at the Pop Whalen Arena in Wolfeboro. It is through the support, generosity and interest of the public and the sponsors that organizers have been able to schedule this game hosted by The Back Bay Youth Hockey Association. The public is invited to come and enjoy the Bruins legends skating on the ice at Pop Whalen Arena and the Friends of Kingswood hockey express their gratitude to all who help support the cause. Tickets are available at the door for \$20. Food and beverages will be served and there will be a chuck-a-puck contest and a 50/50 raffle.

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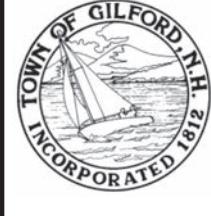
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Help Wanted

Town of Gilford

**Parks and Recreation
Lifeguard Staff**

The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department is currently accepting applications for seasonal Lifeguards (American Red Cross Waterfront Lifeguard Certification Required, WSI preferred, but not mandatory) (pay range \$11.75-\$14.00) for summer employment at the Gilford Town Beach. The beach is open mid-June through the end of August. Call the Gilford Parks and Recreation Dept. at 527-4722 for an application. Applications will be accepted until all vacancies have been filled by qualified candidates. EOE

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

HELP WANTED



Help Wanted Town of Gilford Fill-Time Recreation Specialist

The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department is accepting applications for the position of Recreation Specialist. This is a year-round, full-time position with excellent benefits. The pay rate starts at \$18.75 p/h DOQE. Position requires some evening and weekend work. A copy of the job description is available upon request.

The Recreation Specialist is responsible for assisting with the administration, supervision, and coordination of all Town recreation facilities, programs, and activities as may be assigned by the Director of Parks & Recreation. This also includes assisting in the development of policies, goals and objectives; with oversight responsibilities for budget administration, project management, and routine maintenance. Supervises all waterfront programs and beach activities. Provides consultation on new and existing recreation programs. Qualified applicant should be energetic, have a positive attitude and a good working knowledge of athletics, recreational activities and facilities. The successful candidate will be required to pass a criminal background check.

Minimum Qualifications include one to two years of experience in recreation, including supervisory, administrative, and youth programming. Must possess Lifeguard, CPR for the Professional Rescuer, First Aid and WSI Certifications or ability to obtain within (6) months. Possession of a valid driver's license required. OR equivalent combination of education and experience which demonstrates possession of the required knowledge, skills and abilities.

Please send resume and cover letter to Gilford Parks and Recreation, 47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, NH 03249, or call 527-4722 for an application. Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled. EOE.



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COURTESY

Road warrior

New Durham Highway Supervisor David Bennett finished up an 11-year tenure in the highway department on Feb. 25. A familiar figure along the roads, Bennett said he has "loved" working for the department. "This town has been great, I love it, but it needs to understand the current economic situation on its employees," he said. Co-workers and residents say they are sorry to see him leave.




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