

Life lessons fuel Newfound student's senior project

BY DONNA RHODES
drhodes@salmonpress.news

BRISTOL — Each year, students in the graduating class at Newfound Regional High School are required to present a Senior Project, focused on their passions and goals in life and compiled of four major components — research, a written description of the project, a product they perceive as being a result from their work, a final formal presentation on what they have done.

For the 2017-18 school year, senior Patrice Stephens-Briggs of Bristol

chose a topic near and dear to her heart: teen pregnancy.

To help overcome what she has seen first hand as a social and economic situation, her project was to teach a freshman health class about contraception and the socio-economic issues that are the result of teen pregnancy.

Stephens-Briggs herself comes from a family that has experienced two generations of teen pregnancy, and while it all had a happy ending, she recognizes the fact that that is not always



Patrice Stephens-Briggs of Bristol recently taught a health class centered on teen pregnancy as her Senior Project at Newfound Regional High School.

Bristol woman may face charges in fire-related animal deaths

BY THOMAS P. CALDWELL
Contributing Writer

BRISTOL — Jennifer “Bobbi” Choate, who grew up in Bristol and recently returned to her family home on Chestnut Street, has been raising German Shepherds for two decades, and has had horses virtually all of her life, but a string of recent tragedies has authorities considering animal cruelty charges against her.

The most recent calamity was an early-morning fire on Dec. 13 that killed 29 dogs sheltered in a small cottage on the property. Three weeks earlier, on Nov. 22, seven dogs had died in a similar fire at the main residence on the property.

Last March, at a kennel she operated in Halifax, Mass., two adult dogs and eight puppies died in an outbreak of parvovirus, leading to the kennel being placed under quarantine for the remainder of the month. While adults can be inoculated against the virus, the shots cannot be given to young puppies.

Choate maintains that she has provided exceptional care for her animals, seeing that they

get proper veterinary care.

“They’re up to date on their shots, they’re well-socialized, micro-chipped, DNA tested, and have their health certificates,” she said in an interview at the property the following day. “I did have one with an injury, and it was treated with antibiotics. It was doing well.”

Police are not so sure, particularly in light of the history of complaints about her boarding of dogs and horses.

Neighbors complained about a year ago about loose horses in the neighborhood, and about a group of noisy rescue dogs. Lieutenant Kris Bean said police had received complaints about two months ago that the animals were not being

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the case.

“There are so many obstacles when a child has a child and winds up as a single parent. My mom is a super hero, though. She worked hard to make sure I had

everything while I was growing up, but I don’t want to see others have to go through that,” said Stephens-Briggs.

Realizing her mom is an exception to the rule, her mission for her Senior Project was to educate others as to how they can avoid that situation.

“Sex education is taught here, but I wanted to see it presented in a more in depth way, ex-

New partnership provides 'scholarship' for drug treatment

BY DONNA RHODES
Drhodes@salmonpress.news

ALEXANDRIA — The Danbury and Alexandria Police Departments have teamed up on a new level in their fight against addiction by offering a 30 day scholarship to anyone who is willing to enter GateHouse Treatment Center in Nashua to overcome their issues with anything from methamphetamines to cocaine, crack, opioids, alcohol or any other addictive substance.

“We welcome hearing from anyone, but we’re really just two small towns trying to figure out what to do about this opioid crisis,” said Alexandria Police Chief Donald Sullivan.



Alexandria Police Chief Donald Sullivan (left) and Danbury Police Chief David Suckling (right) have teamed up with GateHouse Treatment Center’s director, Mark Macaluso (center), to provide a 30-day scholarship for a local resident willing to overcome their addiction problems through GateHouse and their in-house and outpatient care system.

The idea for the scholarship was the result of a happenstance meeting in Danbury when Chief David Suckling pulled over a car for a moving violation. Through a conversation with the driver of that vehicle, the chief discovered the gentleman from Florida had recently founded GateHouse Treatment Center in southern New Hampshire.

“Through David’s talk with that man, we

SEE **SCHOLARSHIP**, PAGE A6

Downtown businesses tout benefits of shopping local for last minute gifts

BY DONNA RHODES
drhodes@salmonpress.news

PLYMOUTH — The pressure may be on to find those last few holiday decorations or gifts, but great products, great deals, a visit from Santa and some “old-tyme” Christmas caroling from the bandstand last weekend proved there is no better place to shop and relax than downtown Plymouth.

Best of all, store owners along Main Street said they will be there for their customers right up until the last minute.

Dressers Unlimited is one great stop where shoppers can find clothing, antiques, and so much more for gifts, home décor or holiday attire.

“A popular item



Eva of Bridgewater concentrated on painting her hand to put the finishing touch on some special ceramic Christmas gifts she made at Kil’n Time in Plymouth.

this year has been our fabulous (hand felted) tree ornaments. They’re so adorable and feature a lot of outdoor activities that people love,” said Carol Dunn of Dressers.

Another popular attraction this year has been their fun stocking stuffers, which include

SEE **LOCAL**, PAGE A6

David B. Bucklin, Jr., 53

DANBURY — David B. Bucklin, Jr., 53, died Monday, Dec. 11, 2017 at his home from complications from a lengthy cardiac history.

He was born in Laconia, the son of David B. Bucklin, Sr. and Joyce (Hill) Bucklin. David lived all of his life in Alexandria and surrounding towns. He graduated from Newfound Memorial High School in 1982. He was recognized as an outstanding three sport athlete excelling in baseball. Over the years, he owned and operated Bucklin Builders. He later would work for Rhude and Sons, and TLC Tree Service.

David was a true outdoorsman. He loved the outdoors and the sport of hunting and fishing with his brittany spaniel, Howser. He truly enjoyed his carpentry work and building homes. His family meant the world to him. He was proud to use his experience and talent for baseball to coach the Newfound Middle and High School baseball teams. In the last few years, he was thrilled to spend time with his two grandsons, whom he adored.

Family members include his mother, Joyce (Hill) Bucklin of Alexandria; a son, Mitchell Bucklin of Ashland; a daughter, Brittney Bucklin of Plymouth; two step-daughters, Ashley Rodolosi of Massachusetts and Heather Start of Franklin; a sister, Pamela (Steen) Gilpatric of Bristol; a brother, Michael (and wife Rhonda) Bucklin of Alexandria; grandsons Joshua and Devin Cluff of Plymouth; nieces and nephews; and his significant other, Sue-Anne Bourbeau of Danbury.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Dec. 30, 2017 from 1-3 p.m. at the Alexandria Town Hall, Washburn Road, Alexandria. All are invited to bring your favorite stories of David and a dish to share. At 2 p.m., there will be an opportunity for all to share a memory.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the David Bucklin Memorial Fund, c/o Franklin Savings Bank, PO Box 339, Bristol, NH 03222. Donations will be used to defray funeral expenses and establish a scholarship in David's name.

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Wed. 12/20 & Thurs. 12/21: 1:00, 4:00 PM
Wed. & Thurs.: 7:00 PM
12/20-12/28: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45 PM

FERDINAND PG
Wed. 12/20 & Thurs. 12/21: 12:00, 2:25, 4:50 PM
Wed. & Thurs.: 7:15 PM
12/20-12/28: 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40 PM

STAR WARS: THE LAST JEDI PG-13
Wed. 12/20 & Thurs. 12/21: 12:15, 3:30 PM
Wed. & Thurs.: 6:45 PM
12/20-12/28: 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00 PM

No Shows after 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve
No Shows before 3:30pm on Christmas Day

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Gracious, my computer seems to have developed a mind of its own today! Here I am at last to share some upcoming events in and around town.

Town

Please note that the Town Offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25 and Monday, Jan. 1, 2018 in observance of the Christmas and New Year Holiday.

Conservation Commission Meeting Wednesday, Dec. 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Another reminder for upcoming filing dates, and meetings, taken from the Town Web site:

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018: Public Hearing on 2018 Annual Budget at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018: First Deliberative Session at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2018 is the last day for voters to petition selectmen to include an article in the town meeting warrant, provided that if a petitioned article proposed a bond governed by RSA 33:8-a, the deadline is the preceding Friday, Jan. 5, 2018. [RSA 39:3; 40:13, II-a(b)]. The petition must have a minimum of 25 signatures from residents that are registered voters in Alexandria.

These meetings are public, and you are encouraged to attend. Best way I know of to know what's happening in Town and for your voice to be heard!

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Alexandria United Methodist Church

Dec. 24, we will have our regular Sunday Service at 9 a.m. and a candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m.

Last Sunday, the AUMC Sunday School

put on a wonderful production of the Christmas Story, led by Margaret Clayman. Bravo and good show everyone! After the service, the children put together special gifts which were passed out by the carolers Sunday evening. Now there was some good fun! Thank you for joining us Alex Harrow, and glad we were able to help with your bucket list of things to do! Alex is visiting relatives here in Alexandria, having travelled from Australia.

I do believe that's all the news for this week! I would like to wish every one of you a very Merry Christmas, and may your New Year be filled with much love, laughter and many blessings! Be safe in your travels and keep kindness in your heart! And for those who celebrate differently.... Happy How you Celebrate!

Danbury

Donna Sprague
huntoonfarm@myfairpoint.net

South Danbury Church

Don't forget about the South Danbury Christian Church's popular Christmas Pageant on Thursday, Dec. 21 (snow date Friday, Dec. 22) at 7 p.m. Come at 6:30 p.m. to get you part and costume for the Paper Bag Pageant. Expect lots of merriment for everyone – young, old, or in-between. There will be music, a visit from Santa and a raffle for a quilt ade by donna Leone and two unlimited Pat's Peak season passes donated by Carol Macuch.

On Sunday, Dec. 24 (yes, Christmas Eve), the South Danbury Christian Church will have its regular worship service at 11 a.m. This will be the fourth Sunday of Advent – and the final purple candle will be lit in the Advent wreath, representing Love, and the central

white candle, for Christ as the light of the world. There will be refreshments and conversation afterward; all are invited, and welcome.

Blazing Star Grange

On Dec. 14, two members of the Blazing Star Grange Morning Stars group helped the Danbury PTO wrapped the gifts for the students' holiday store.

On Saturday Dec. 16, during the third Saturday Pickup Only Farmers Market, there was a meeting about the upcoming workshops. Don't forget to sign up for the Stampin Up Workshop on Jan. 20 at 9 a.m. The cost is \$7 for three cards. Maria Polizzi from Danbury will lead the class. In Feb, plans are underway for a Thrifty Yankee Rag-Bag which will involve demonstrations and exhibits on a variety of quick, easy and money saving ideas. On March 17, the grange is looking to have a local business meet and greet. Danbury businesses that do not qualify for the farmers market they make, grow or produce what they sell) are invited to participate. Interested persons should call Donna at 768-5579, email blazingstargrange71@gmail.com or use Facebook messenger to contact Blazing Star Grange of Danbury. Please spread the word about this event to Danbury businesses. It will be on a first come, first served basis. Volunteers for these events are needed and welcomed! The next workshop meeting will be following the next farmers market on Saturday, Jan. 6 from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

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Groton

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

Due to the incredible generosity of many we were able to distribute five large Christmas boxes with gifts, warm clothes and food on the

16th and another large box of food. The Town would like to thank those who participated by bringing gifts, making donations, and putting together the boxes, wrapping gifts and then distributing them to the families. We are very thankful for each of you. Thank you to Elizabeth Jespersen for coordinating this effort.

Glenn Hansen has resigned as Director of Public Works. He will be greatly missed. Calls concerning road conditions should be directed to the Town Garage or to the Town Offices if there should be a problem. Town Garage number is: 744-3758 & Town Offices 744-9190 or 744-8849 if there is no answer please leave a message with a call back number.

Meetings and Closures Coming Up

Select Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 2, at the Town House at 7 p.m.

Select Board Work Session Tuesday, Jan. 2 at 5 p.m. at the Town House

The Conservation Commission will be meeting on Thursday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. upstairs in the Town House.

There will be a Citizens Planning Committee Meeting on Dec. 21 at the Town House at 6:30 p.m.

The Planning Board will be meeting at the Town House on Wednesday, Dec. 27 at 7 p.m.

The Select Board Office will be closing early on Dec. 20 from 1:30-2:30 p.m., and will be closed Dec. 26 through 29.

All Town Offices will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 for the Holiday.

Warrant Articles for the March 2018 Town Meeting need to be submitted to the Select Board Office no later than Thursday, Jan. 4.

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Ashland Community Church

Ashland Community Church is located at 55 Main St., on Route 3 in Ashland (across from Shurfine Market). Parking is available next to and behind the church.

Sundays

9 a.m. — Early Worship Service, followed by coffee/fellowship in the church dining room.

9:25 a.m. — KidZone for K-grade six

Special Needs Ministry-high school-adults

11 a.m. — Contemporary Worship Service

11:15 a.m. — KidZone for K-grade 6

11:15 a.m. — Youth Sunday School

“Toddler Zone” is available at both services for infants to age five. Before the contemporary service, please join us for coffee and healthy snacks.

KidZone

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

Axyon Youth Ministry, for grades six through 12

Fridays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Mill #3 (39 Winter St.), just around the corner from the church. This youth ministry will be meeting every week, and is led by our youth and worship pastor, Aaron Stout, along with our volunteer youth leader staff. This youth group ministry is open to youth not only from Ashland, but surrounding towns as well. Spread the word and bring your friends.

Mondays

8 p.m. — Alcoholics Anonymous Group meets in the Church dining room.

It is our desire to help you understand God's incredible grace and love. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Ernie Madden at (office phone number) 968-9463. You can also e-mail him at accernie@hotmail.com or visit the church Web site, ashlandcommunitychurch.com.

We believe that you will love it at Ashland Community Church. We are a friendly, loving and caring

church that studies and shares the word of our dear Lord and Savior. Our vision is to become a church that un-churched people will love to attend. Our mission is to lead people to live and love like Jesus, and to help others do the same.

Real church. Real people. Real simple.

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

Ashland Episcopal (St. Mark's Church)

Last Sunday, the St. Marks Bishop's Committee and the Holy Spirit Vestry voted to call Kelly Sundberg Seaman as the new priest of both congregations. Now our pledges take on significant importance. We must be able to offer Rev. Kelly a suitable compensation package and it would help if everyone participates. We have had retired priests for many years but this is the first full time priest we have had at St. Mark's since almost anyone can remember. She will be living in the immediate area so will be available for many things the part-time retired clergy, who often had to travel many miles, were unable to do. Rev. Kelly will begin her ministry the first of January 2018.

There will be one service only on Christmas Eve and it will be held at 5 p.m. at St. Mark's. The luminaries will be lit to welcome all, the Sanctuary will be decorated, Rev. Randy will offer a short homily and familiar carols will be sung ending with the beautiful singing of Silent Night by candlelight. The children of the Sunday School will be taking part in the service, so kids be sure to be there.

There will be no community breakfast in December. Next breakfast will be Sat. Jan. 27, 8-9 a.m. in Sherrill Hall. Everyone welcome.

Merry Christmas!

Plymouth Episcopal (Church of the Holy Spirit)

It's official! The Church of the Holy Spirit has called Kelly Sundberg Seaman to be our new priest. We are thrilled that she is coming in January. Kelly's appointment is a shared ministry with St. Mark's Episcopal church in Ashland.

Bible Study Book Group

This Thursday, Dec. 21, the Rev. Randy Dales will conclude the study group on the Four Gospels. The group will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Christian Life Center at 263 Highland St., Plymouth, when they will discuss John: Jesus, the Man from Heaven. After listening to a half-hour lecture by Dr. Bart Ehrman, Professor at the University of North Carolina, they will examine the point of view of this gospel. Don't worry if you missed the others, you will still enjoy learning about this gospel.

Christmas Eve Service

The last day of Advent is Sunday, Dec. 24, which is also Christmas Eve. There will be only one Christmas Eve service at 5 p.m. at St. Mark's Church in Ashland.

Time to donate 2018 calendars

Every December the Seamen's Church Institute collects calendars for the coming year for mariners around the world. The Seamen's Church Institute cares for the personal, professional, and spiritual needs of mariners around the world. Founded in 1834 and affiliated with the Episcopal Church, though non-denominational in terms of its trustees, staff and service to mariners, it is the largest, most comprehensive mariners' service agency in North America. Please bring your calendars to services this Sunday and they will be collected and sent to the Institute.

ECW Meeting

On Thursday, Jan. 4, the ECW will meet in Griswold Hall for their

monthly meeting. At this month's meeting we will have a potluck luncheon, followed by a gift exchange Swap. We would love to have our gentlemen friends join us.

Donate to Local Food Bank

Where did we see you hungry, Lord, and feed you?

Local Food banks are always in need of donated canned goods, and CHS has a collection basket at Griswold Hall for you to donate! Think of what one can of soup or fruit a week from each of us could do! You may bring items directly to the Food Bank (located at the Community Closet, across the street from Rite-Aid) on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9-11-or place items in the basket in Griswold Hall, and Kathy Lennox will collect all items and take them to the Food Bank weekly.

Holy Trinity (Roman Catholic)

Campus Ministry

Good luck on final papers, performances, projects, and exams! We'll be keeping you in our prayers. And have a merry Christmas with your families and a safe and happy New Year! Very best wishes if you are graduating, finishing up your final semester on campus before student teaching or interning next semester, or otherwise leaving PSU.

Mass Schedule

Fourth Week of Advent

Saturday, Dec. 23

4 p.m. St. Matthew Church

Sunday, Dec. 24

9:30 a.m. Our Lady of Grace

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Sunday, Dec. 24

4 p.m. St. Matthew Church

5 p.m. St. Agnes Church

6 p.m. Our Lady of Grace Chapel

Christmas Day Monday, Dec. 25

Midnight St. Matthew Church

10:30 a.m. St. Matthew Church

Feast of the Holy Family

Regular Weekend Masses

Saturday, Dec. 30

4 p.m. St. Matthew Church

Sunday, Dec. 31

7:30 a.m. St. Matthew Church

9:30 a.m. Our Lady of Grace

11:30 a.m. St. Matthew Church

Feast of Mary, Mother of God Monday, Jan. 1, 2018

10:30 a.m. St. Matthew Church Campus Ministry

The Day Away program is in need of volunteers. The program is held on Thursdays from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. in Simard Hall below our Lady of Grace Chapel in Bristol. Day Away provides a day of rest for caregivers of a loved one diagnosed with Alzheimers Disease or related Dementia. Please contact the program Director Sandra Coleman, RN at sjrhett@roadrunner.com Phone: 536-6304

Newfound Area Churches Advent Prayer and Luncheon Series Service starts at noon and is followed by a soup/sandwich luncheon. Wednesday, December 13th New Hampton Community Church Wednesday, Dec. 20, Bristol UCC. All are welcome!

Weekly Meetings

Thursday, Dec. 21

Day Away Program, Simard Hall, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Boy Scout Meeting, St. Matthew Hall, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 22

RCIA, St. Matthew Rectory, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 24

No Faith Formation classes

No Confirmation classes

AA meeting Monday - Saturday 11 a.m., St. Matthew Hall

Restoration Church, Plymouth

Greetings from Restoration Church Plymouth, located at 319 Highland St., Plymouth, NH 03264. If you do not have a home church we invite you to come and join our warm and friendly family here at Restoration Church. Please feel free to contact us at hello@restorationchurch.cc.. Our church phone number is still the same, 536-1966. Our schedule has changed to the following:

Sunday:

10:30 a.m. Morning Service

Monday: First and third Monday of the Month

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Helping Hands Food Pantry

Friday: Second Friday of the month

6 p.m. Food, Fun, Fellowship

On Sunday, Nov. 5, we officially launched as Restoration Church Plymouth. More details about this service will be included in the next article. We also started a new series entitled, Stories. We will be continuing this series this week as well. We have our own worship team during our services in our auditorium and then we watch as a Pastor Nate Gagne preaches via video during our service.

Our Mission Statement:

Just One More!

Everyone is welcome to all of our services. The church is handicap accessible on the east entrance.

SEE CHURCHES, PAGE A7



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Invitation for Bids

2007 Ford E450/ TraumaHawk Box

Sealed bids for the provision of the 2007 Ford E450 ambulance with a TraumaHawk box will be accepted until 01/08/2018 in the Gorham New Hampshire Town Office at 20 Park St Gorham NH 03581. At which time they will be opened and publicly read.

The item is a 2007 Ford E450 ambulance with a TraumaHawk box 170,000 miles. This vehicle can be viewed at the Gorham Fire & EMS building at 347 Main Street, Gorham NH 03581

The bid is to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Bid for 2007 Ford E450". If mailed the envelope should be marked clearly for the Ambulance to protect against the actual bid being opened in error. Any questions regarding the bid must be received in writing by e-mail by 12/29/2018 you can email any questions to jwatkins@gorhamnh.org

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and waive any minor or non-material informalities, if deemed to be its best interests. The vehicle is being "Sold As Is"

Invitation for Bids

1983 American LaFrance Fire Engine

Sealed bids for the provision of the 1983 American LaFrance Fire Engine will be accepted until 01/08/2018 in the Gorham New Hampshire Town Office at 20 Park St Gorham NH 03581. At which time they will be opened and publicly read.

The item is a 1983 American LaFrance Fire Engine with 18,813 miles and 2105 hours on it. This vehicle can be viewed at the Gorham Fire & EMS building at 347 Main Street, Gorham NH 03581

The bid is to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Bid for 1983 American LaFrance". If mailed the envelope should be marked clearly for the Engine to protect against the actual bid being opened in error. Any questions regarding the bid must be received in writing by e-mail by 12/29/2018 you can email any questions to jwatkins@gorhamnh.org

The Town reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and waive any minor or non-material informalities, if deemed to be its best interests. The vehicle is being "Sold As Is"



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Please help us help kids

BY DEB NARO
Executive Director
AND MIKE CONKLIN
CADY Board President

As Communities for Alcohol- and Drug-Free Youth launches this year's annual appeal, we first want to extend our gratitude to our community—our programs and youth are stronger today because of your support in the way of financial and in-kind contributions, partnerships, and volunteerism.

Investing in CADY is an investment in our children and in our community. Use of addictive substances—alcohol and other drugs—during adolescence is a health and safety issue that poses serious risks of harm including interference with brain development. Substance misuse also significantly increases the chances of addiction, with those beginning use before age 15 nearly seven times more likely to develop a substance use disorder than those who delay first use until age 21 or older.

Preventing addiction changes everything. We believe there is hope for every child, even those who come to us from dire circumstances (please visit our Web site to see this year's program spotlight on our restorative justice partnership with Dr. Clarissa Uttley's, Helping Paws Program). As each child learns to build upon their strengths, lives are shaped and new possibilities unfold—the outcomes are healthier, happier children, stronger families, and safe, drug-free communities.

One of CADY's most effective strategies is to build protective factors for our children including community and parent awareness, education and skill-building, and mentoring for our children. By involving our communities and devel-

oping partnerships to provide award-winning, proven youth programs, we can offer every child what they deserve and need—a chance for a better life.

Together, we can protect our children and erase the headlines of addiction and tragic overdose deaths by stopping the problem before it starts. Let's replace these sad stories with successful, resilient youth who have learned to live drug free, who deal effectively with stress and daily challenges, who have the capacity to overcome life's obstacles, and who enjoy the chance to live happy, meaningful lives.

We reach out to our community for donations, in any amount, as this support will provide local youth services that would otherwise not be possible. Your commitment will make the difference between providing vital youth programs or widening the opportunity gap for local kids. Your donation to CADY will be used to fund the high-impact, award-winning youth programs featured on our website. Donations may also be made online at www.cadyinc.org

Passionate people with a clear and common purpose working together to achieve exceptional results—this is CADY. Each year our commitment grows because our kids increasingly need our help. To respond to their needs, we need your help. Thank you for believing in our important work—together we are closing the “opportunity gap” for our children and youth.

As we work to protect our children, we remain grateful for your ongoing support and encouragement. Everyone at CADY wishes you a happy holiday season and new year filled with love, happiness, and good health!

PET of the Week Rhonda



Tall, stately, brindle coated Terrier mix, Rhonda is a dog who has endured may twists and turns on the road to a secure, loving forever home, including a very quick return after being adopted before Thanksgiving!

Dogs need time to blend into a new family setting, rarely is this effected in a few short days. Our adoption counsellors know what dogs need and we take the leap of faith this will be followed.

In Rhonda's case, while she does seem to feel companionable around dogs of similar size, smaller creatures trigger her interest in a less convivial way.



Rhonda arrived via our SAFE HARBOUR program. She's been calling our shelter home since the Sum-

mer.

Well now the weather is cold, snow is in the air, Winter has arrived, and she is still

reeling from the return to us wondering what happened.

Once more into the breach... large dogs yes, no cats and other small creatures (although to truly flourish being the only pet would be the best possible placement). A home where she can finally unpack her suitcase of sorrow and rejection is Rhonda's wish at Christmas-time.

She is a lovely dog, a big girl, still waiting for that committed adoptive home, and one that will manage her foibles appropriately.

We have not given up hope and neither should she!

Thoughts as Christmas nears, and the turkeys make their rounds

NORTH COUNTRY NOTEBOOK

By JOHN HARRIGAN



I'm writing this piece to run on or about Dec. 20, which is almost (sort of) Christmas. Ergo, here are a few thoughts that may or may not have anything at all to do with Christmas.

+++++

Just because of a little thing like three back to back hospitalizations (and in there, somewhere, a new hip), friends and family have ganged up to block me from running my outdoor wood furnace, and thus readers will be spared



JOHN HARRIGAN

One run of blocked fireplace wood never made it through the splitter and into the house, and a snowcapped furnace is sitting out the winter.

from having to read all about it. Again.

But I miss the sight of it through the kitchen window, huffing away, converting a lo-

cal, renewable, sustainable product (wood) into warmth (and hot water) for an aging carcass (mine). Now it sits out there cold and life-

less, its premises not even cleared of snow, a five-gallon-bucket turned over its stack.

As often expressed
SEE NOTEBOOK, PAGE A7

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Free in Print, Free Online. www.newfoundlanding.com

Letters to the Editor

Protecting people and places

To the Editor:

Rep. Vincent Migliore from Grafton District 9 recently hand-delivered letters to the selectmen in his towns, encouraging them to act quickly to explore Rights-Based Ordinances (RBO) which assert local authority to defend against projects that violate the inherent and inalienable right of residents to protect the health, safety and welfare of their community.

Time is extremely short for towns affected by Northern Pass to get organized and place an RBO on the town warrant, but where there is a will, there is a way! When it comes to your quality of life and that of your community, it's never too late to make the effort to enact an RBO. In fact, that is exactly what Plymouth residents are doing. Joining them in educating themselves about community rights are Ashland, Bridgewater and Bristol. The Select Board of Ashland voted unanimously to have an RBO drafted for their consideration at Town Meeting and the Select Boards of Bridgewater and Bristol agreed to host educational workshops for their community residents.

Bristol is holding their Protect People & Places workshop on Saturday, Jan. 6 at 1 p.m. at the Bristol Town Offices (with a possible alternate location of the Old Town Hall if we exceed capacity at the Town Offices). You can find details of these events on the

NH Community Rights Network (NHCRN) Facebook page.

This grassroots Community Rights Movement has inspired an effort to unite state legislators across-the-aisle to recognize Community Rights within our state constitution's Bill of Rights. Rep. Migliore is one of the bi-partisan co-sponsors of the resulting NH Community Rights Amendment, CACR19. His endorsement of this amendment directly supports the towns he is encouraging to explore RBOs, and those dozen that have already done so across the Granite State.

We have the right and a duty to protect the future of our children, our communities, and our natural environments. I am ready and willing to assist any community interested in recognizing, securing, and protecting their right to determine the kinds of futures they envision. Contact me via email at michelle@celdf.org, or by phone at 603-524-2468. Learn more about the NH Community Rights Amendment by visiting www.nhcommunityrights.org. The time is now, and the who is US!

*Michelle Sanborn
Community Organizer, CELDF
Volunteer Coordinator, NHCRN
Alexandria*

Choate

FROM PAGE A1

fed and cared for properly.

Bristol police obtained a search warrant for the property and, accompanied by officers from the Alexandria and Danbury police departments, as well as representatives of the SPCA, the New Hampshire Humane Society, and some volunteers, they went to 90 Chestnut Street and found 26 dogs and three horses on the premises. While the conditions were not ideal, Bean said, they found no major violations, with only one dog requiring minor veterinary care.

Alexandria police also executed a search warrant for property on Burns Hill Road where Choate kept 30 other dogs, but again found no evidence of animal cruelty.

Bean said several followup visits to the Chestnut Street property found “the conditions were not horrible enough to take the dogs,” but the town was concerned about the number of animals on the property, which the town tax map showed to be less than acre in size.

Land Use Manager Christina Goodwin said Choate, also known as Jennifer Harlfinger and Jennifer Harmon, denied that she was operating a kennel, although she had advertised on the website for her Tarawood Kennel in Massachusetts that she was moving the operation to New Hampshire and reportedly was selling dogs here. The department informed her that, if she wanted to operate a kennel, she had to obtain a variance from the Bristol Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Goodwin also informed Choate that property must be at least one acre to keep horses. Choate produced a survey showing the actually was 1.01 acres.

On Nov. 8, the town gave Choate 30 days to remove all but the six dogs she originally had as pets until such time as she had a variance to allow a kennel on the property.

Fires

The first fire, on Nov. 22, broke out in the two-and-a-half story residence on the property. Bean said authorities believe the fire started with a heat lamp that had been knocked over in the breezeway where

two adult dogs and five newborn puppies had been housed. Choate was able to rescue other dogs from the basement of the property, but the house was left uninhabitable, with water and electricity shut off.

Choate took shelter in a hotel that was pet-friendly, so she was able to take a pet German shepherd with her, but she says she boarded the other dogs with a woman who later found she was unable to give them proper care. Choate said she arranged for a friend in Massachusetts to take them and she brought them to Chestnut Street for an overnight stay on Dec. 12, intending to take them the rest of the way to Massachusetts the following day. Instead, a fire broke out in the cottage behind the main house on the 13th, killing three adult dogs and 26 puppies.

Police, executing a search warrant after the fire had been put out, found nine other dogs in a section of the burned-out main house. Bean said they seized the dogs, based on the “continuous events” on the property, and turned the dogs over to the SPCA.

Firefighters had found the remains of a heat lamp in the cottage and police believe that was the of the second fire, as it had been the first, but Choate said she thought it was just a poor electrical system in the old cottage.

While town officials see the presence of dogs on the property as a violation of the order to remove them, Choate said, “I have not disregarded the town’s order. It was an emergency situation. They were only here for the night.”

Police were looking into “the totality of the circumstances” to determine whether to charge Choate with animal neglect or cruelty.

That includes her history of problems with Tarawood Kennel in Halifax, Mass.

Choate, then going by the name of Jennifer Harmon, obtained

permission to open the kennel in July 2010. The Halifax Zoning Board of Appeals allowed Choate to keep 15 adult dogs and have two litters of puppies per year per breed (she was breeding both German shepherds and Pomeranians). In response to a neighbor’s concerns about noise from barking dogs, the board also ordered her to install soundproofing.

Choate also operated Harmon Stables on the property and her neighbor, Scott Clawson, also had stables. According to press reports at the time, after the ZBA allowed the kennel, Clawson erected a berm along the property line, using manure, stumps, and dirt. After a half-buried tree fell on Choate’s kennel, the Massachusetts Board of Health ordered Clawson to remove the berm or to hire a civil engineer to ensure the berm was stable.

In February 2012, the ZBA granted Choate’s request to increase the number of adult dogs to 23, and to increase the number of litters to three per breed. In 2013, the ZBA granted her request for 50 adults and 26 litters. She later filed an application for 100 adults and unlimited litters, but she withdrew that request.

In 2016, Clawson filed a lawsuit against both the Halifax Zoning Board of Appeals and Choate alleging that, between mid-2010 and 2016, the zoning board had approved those changes in the permit without notifying parties of interest about the hearings.

Choate launched a GoFundMe campaign, seeking \$10,000 to cover the legal costs associated with the lawsuit. The campaign failed, raising only \$600 from her supporters.

On Sept. 27, 2016, in response to those complaints, the Halifax Board of Selectmen ordered Choate to reduce the number of adult dogs at Tarawood to 25 and to have no more than 12 litters per year.

It was about that time that the first complaints came from Bristol residents about dogs on Chestnut Street.

What next?

As police contemplate what charges, if any, to file, Choate says, “I don’t understand how I can have this kind of loss, and then they take the

other dogs from me for no reason.”

She denies reports that characterize her operation as a “puppy mill” — “You need to visit one to see what it’s like. These are well-socialized, cared-for dogs,” she said.

“There are so many misconceptions, and people jumping to con-

clusions,” she said. “My life’s been devoted to them; this is what I do. I don’t understand how they could take dogs that are obviously well-cared-for.”

No charges had been filed as of press time, and Choate said, “Integrity’s got me this far, and it will take me where I need to go.”

Senior Project

FROM PAGE A1

kind of hurt at the same time,” Stephens-Briggs said. “I’ve heard the misconceptions all my life. ‘You’re from a teen mom, you won’t succeed,’ and ‘You’ll end up as a pregnant teen, too.’ I’m here to say that I will be the first in two generations of my family not to be a pregnant teen, and I will be graduating college and breaking down all those statistics.”

The lesson plan she developed for her health project included all of that and more- the economic hardships, social misconceptions and ways to prevent teen pregnancy. At the same time, she included the fact that all is not lost if someone ever finds themselves in that situation.

A friend of hers recently became a teen mom, Stephens-Briggs said, and her mother has been instrumental in guiding her in ways she can still succeed in life.

“She’s been incredible in helping her. My mom is the reason I chose this for my project and she’s been there for my friend because she

understands,” said Stephens-Briggs.

During her one-day only classroom lesson, she not only discussed the problems of teen pregnancy, she included all the ways it can be prevented.

After detailed explanations about several forms of birth control, she created a hands-on activity for her class where students were challenged to match contraception facts with a list of birth control choices.

“My whole product was my lesson in the classroom. I hope it influenced that group of people as I tried to emphasize ways you could avoid teen pregnancy,” Stephens-Briggs said. “Hopefully, they took it seriously and took away something from all I presented.”

Extended Learning Opportunities Director Amy Yaegal and Principal Paul Hoiriis said they were very proud of Stephens-Briggs for all the work and heartfelt enthusiasm she put into her project.

“Patrice has really come into her own and it was great to see what she presented to

the class that day. She was a natural in what she did,” said Hoiriis, who observed her in the classroom.


Stephens-Briggs current goal is not to be a teacher however, but said she does want to do something that will have an impact on children’s lives.

“I’m really, really close with my mom so I’m looking at perhaps going to Plymouth State where I can still be at home. They have a great program on social work there and I’m thinking that’s something I would love to do in the future,” she said.

As she works toward graduation day from NRHS, though, Stephens-Briggs will now move to the final phase of her Senior Project when she will discuss all she did and all she learned in the process of putting together her health lesson. Among those who will be listening in on that presentation will be schoolteachers, guidance councilors, administrators, peers and one very important person.

“I want my mom there that day. I want her to know I did all of this for her,” she said.

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Edward Jones: Financial Focus

Are You a Snowbird? Protect Your Finances While You’re Gone

Winter is (just about) officially here – but you may soon be leaving it behind if you’re a snowbird. When you go, though, you’ll want to keep your financial situation from getting caught out in the cold.

These are a few suggestions you may want to consider:

Protect your home. If you’re like many people, your home is your biggest investment, so you’ll want to protect it while you’re away. You’re probably already familiar with the steps you should take, such as informing your neighbors that you’ll be gone, stopping your

newspapers, forwarding your mail, using a timer to turn lights on and off, and so on. And these days, with smart phones and advanced security systems, you can look in on your home whenever you like.

Notify your bank. Recognizing the prevalence of identity theft, the fraud departments of many banks are getting more aggressive in spotting and denying unusual charges. Consequently, you’ll want to give your bank your temporary address and contact information before you leave. By doing so, you can reduce the risk of your account be-

ing frozen temporarily if your financial institution can’t reach you with questions about charges from an unexpected location. You might also find it useful to open a bank account at your snowbird site.

Gather your tax forms. If you’re gone most of the winter, you may bump up against the tax-filing deadline, which, in 2018, is April 17. So, to allow yourself enough time to prepare your taxes, or to have them prepared by a professional, gather your tax information before you leave. Make sure you’ve got all your investment-related forms, such as your 1099-INT (for in-

terest income) and your 1099-DIV (for taxable capital gains and dividends).

Track your investments. You can probably track the progress of your investments online, and it’s a good idea to do so, just as you would at your permanent residence. Even if you’re only gone a couple of months, you may need to make some investment moves, such as “maxing out” on your IRA, so stay on top of your accounts and contact your investment professional, as needed. As always, though, don’t overreact to sudden market swings – ideally, you’ve got long-term strategies in place that can

serve your needs in most investment environments. In any case, it also wouldn’t hurt to notify your financial professional that you’ll be away for a while, even if you typically only see him or her a couple of times a year.

Arrange for bill payments. If you handle most of your bills online or through auto-pay, you won’t have to worry about missing a payment while you’re gone. Still, if you take care of some bills the old-fashioned way, with checks, envelopes and stamps, you may want to give your-

self some sort of reminder of when these payments are due.

Be careful on social media. To be on the safe side, you may not want to trumpet your extended time away from home on Facebook or other social media platforms. It’s sad but true that identity thieves watch for information like this.

In all likelihood, you’ll enjoy being a snowbird – and by making the above moves, you’ll have less financial baggage to deal with when you take off.

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



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Member SIPC

Local

FROM PAGE A1

some unique Worker Tool Pens that any hand-crafter is sure to enjoy.

“It’s been busy this year. The snow has brought in a lot of the ski crowd and that’s always fun,” said Dunn. “We offer free gift wrapping and that brings a lot of men in, too.”

Next door at Kil’n Time, last minute projects were being finished up on Sunday by youngsters like Eva of Bridgewater, who was adding personal touches to ceramic gifts she made for her family.

“We’ve been busy with people who have come in to make holiday gifts, but we’re also a great place for people looking for something fun to do over vacation,” the staff of Kil’n Time said.

Like other downtown businesses, Artistic Roots staff members said they, too, have enjoyed a great holiday shopping season. Their one of a kind store offers jewelry, note cards, wood products, artwork, pottery and the dozens of other incredible gift items all made by local artisans.

Just up the street, Off the Hanger, “New Hampshire’s trendiest resale boutique,” also has plenty of deals on holiday attire and accessories while Sunflower Shop has plenty of beautiful jewelry, watches and other gift ideas.

For the active, outdoors-minded folks there is plenty more to find at Rand’s Hardware, Treads Footwear and Plymouth Ski and Sports. And if there’s a pop culture fan



DONNA RHODES

While shopping in downtown Plymouth last Sunday, Bob and Jill White of Meredith were happy to see Santa at Chase Street Market.

in the family, SHIELD Comics and Games has the solution to what they would like to find under the tree on Christmas morning.

Chase Market is another stop where shoppers will find a variety of gift baskets, tree ornaments and lots of great foods for holiday meals and hosting.

Still stumped? The Flying Monkey has tickets available for numerous upcoming events, from classic movies to comedy nights and concerts with well-known artists.

And when it’s time to sit back for a bit to look over the shopping list, there are plenty of places to choose from along Main Street. Among the many selections are Café Monte Alto with their tempting home-brewed coffees and hot drinks, Biederman’s Deli and Pub’s delicious sandwiches and cold drinks, or the more exotic foods offered by Thai Smiles and Hong Kong Gardens. Burgers, hot soups, seafood, ice cream and other great foods can also be found at M&M Scoops, Lucky Dogs, Six Burner Bistro and other eateries along the street. Better

yet, they each also offer gift cards that make wonderful stocking stuffers and gifts.

“There’s really no place better to shop than here in Plymouth,” said Maryann Barnsley of M&M Scoops. “There is literally something for everyone and you’re supporting local business at the same time.”

One local mom brought her young daughter along with her last Sunday to wander in and out of all the Main Street businesses as they searched for a few more family gifts.

“We love shopping downtown. We can park nearby, have something to eat while we’re here, and my daughter can go even play on the common for a while. It’s really nice,” she said.

Along the way, the pair even ran into Santa as he relaxed at Chase Market while keeping an eye out for boys and girls he hadn’t yet heard from.

“The kids this year have been very well-behaved though and I’m glad to see that,” he reported.

Most stores will be open right through Christmas Eve, and said they invite everyone to



DONNA RHODES

(Left) Shoppers in downtown Plymouth last Sunday were treated to the sounds of Christmas carols from members of St. Matthew (Holy Trinity) Catholic Church.

stop downtown to discover why shopping local is such a fun and rewarding experience.

Scholarship

FROM PAGE A1

teamed up and met with Mark (Macaluso), who runs GateHouse,” said Sullivan.

Macaluso said Gatehouse is a part of the solution, not the problem with addiction. They are set up to provide partial hospitalization treatment, intensive outpatient care, standard outpatient care and a sober living environment for all who sign up for their program.

“We are a gradual step-down program that provides care and housing for our clients,” Macaluso said. “The first 30 days can be pretty tough but we’re there to provide all the support that people need.”

After further conversations with Macaluso both police officers were impressed with the GateHouse facility and Macaluso was equally impressed by their care and concern. He ended their discussions by offering an addiction treatment scholarship to anyone of their choosing.

Suckling and Sullivan said this is a great opportunity for someone local struggling with an addiction who feels they can’t afford the necessary treatment.

“Mark is the real deal. He’s caring, compassionate and willing to help people who need it,” said Sullivan.

Macaluso also believes that better communications between addicts and Law Enforcement could be another positive response to the problem and both chiefs agree with his sentiments.

“Recently, (Chief Suckling) went down to Gatehouse. He met with the people there to get their take on what Law Enforcement did, didn’t do or could do better in dealing with this issue,” Sullivan said. “I hope to get down there myself in the very near future to have conversations like that, too. This is really a learning opportunity for us and I think it’s a step in the right direction when dealing with addictions.”

Macaluso said GateHouse is excited to join in this unique partnership with law enforcement in Danbury and Alexandria, and he has enjoyed working with the two police chiefs.

“I think they are very progressive thinkers in this matter and that we have the same goals in mind,” Macaluso said. “We’re willing to help people who are willing

to get help and this scholarship we’re offering through Danbury and Alexandria will help someone who’s never had a shot at getting sober before.”

The plan the three have developed is 30 days worth of treatment for someone who has decided the time has come to better their lives before it takes an even greater turn for the worse.

“Given the incredible generosity of this gift, we are looking for someone who is at a point where they are serious about recovery,” said Sullivan.

That means it needs to be someone who has decided to step up and ask for help on their own, not someone looking to escape further punishment through the criminal justice system.

“We’re looking for someone who just realizes it’s time to seek treatment and knows we’re here to help,” Sullivan said.

Anyone aware of a family member, friend or loved one interested in taking part in this free 30-day treatment opportunity is encouraged to contact the Alexandria Police Department at 744-6651 or by private message through their Facebook page.



2018 Pemi-Baker Beekeepers’ Assn.

Beginner Bee School Info:

Dates - Saturdays only from January 27 through February 24, 2018

Times - 9am to 2pm

American Legion, Post 15, 39 Main Street, Ashland, NH

Cost - \$60/pp (one additional family member \$15 extra)

Register - <http://www.pemibakerba.org/>

TOWN OF GROTON

The Town of Groton NH seeks a Full-Time Public Works Director to manage their Highway Department, currently composed of 2 part time equipment operators. The Public Works Director will report directly to a 3-member Select Board. Responsibilities include but are not limited to planning, scheduling, directing, organizing and managing all activities and functions of the Highway Department, including summer and winter maintenance of streets and highways in accordance with goals set forth by the Select Board and consistent with funding allocated in the approved budget. A more detailed list of responsibilities is available by contacting the Select Board office at 603-744-9190.

Qualifications required are applicants must be 18 years or older, must possess a CDL Class B driver’s license, three to five years’ experience in operation and maintenance of roads and highway department equipment. Candidates must successfully complete a background check and reference checks. Supervisory experience preferred. Benefits package offered. Please submit your application/resume to Groton Select Board at 754 North Groton Road, Groton, NH 03241. Applications/resumes must be received by end of business on Thursday, January 11, 2018 to be considered. Resumes will not be accepted by fax or e-mail. Serious inquiries only. Position open until filled.

THE TOWN OF BRISTOL is accepting applications for the position of Minute Taker.

Requirements include attendance at the meetings and providing minutes to the committees in a timely fashion. It is expected the applicant is familiar with taking meeting minutes, knows how to use Microsoft Word, can complete the minutes within the statutory deadline of NH RSA 91-A, knows how to use Microsoft Outlook for email, and knows how to use the Internet.

The committees the Minute Taker will cover are Conservation Commission, Economic Development Committee, and Budget Committee.

Interested candidates should send their resume, three references, and wage requirements to Town Administrator Nik Coates at townadmin@townofbristolnh.org.

EOE/ADA.



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Walmart, Speare, and other donors make the season bright for Meals on Wheels recipients

PLYMOUTH — This holiday season, more than 100 area seniors who regularly receive home-delivered meals are receiving something extra. For many years, including this year, Speare Memorial Hospital employees have provided a generous variety of gifts for each home-delivered meals recipient. This year, thanks to a generous donation by Plymouth Walmart, those seniors will also be receiving colorful tins of holiday popcorn.

Home-delivered Meals Coordinator, Lisa Minickiello at the Plymouth Regional Senior Center, regularly sends meals to seniors in Ashland, Campton, Ellsworth, Holderness, Plymouth, Rumney, Thornton, Warren, Waterville Valley and Wentworth. The Newfound Area Senior Center serves Bristol, Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton. All of the



Home-delivered Meal driver Terry Fifield of Plymouth delivers a popcorn tin to Brenda Woodward.

home-delivered meal recipients, in all of the above listed towns have received a gift and a holiday popcorn tin this year based on these wonderful donations.

The Plymouth Regional Senior Center

and Newfound Area Senior Center are part of the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council. Both of these Centers provide meals, transportation services and a variety of educational and social services to seniors.

Newfound Area Senior Center is open for a congregate luncheon on Tuesdays and the Plymouth Senior Cen-

ter is open for congregate luncheon Monday through Thursday; brunch on Friday. For more informa-

tion about any services that Grafton County Senior Citizens Council may offer, please contact 536-1204.

Second graders welcome Garden Club members at New Hampton Community School

NEW HAMPTON — Mrs. Deirdre Conway, second grade teacher at New Hampton Community School, welcomed four members of the New Hampton Garden Club to their classroom on Dec. 13. Theo Denoncour read the book, “The Saved Seed,” by Brenda Moore to the students, which was about growing pumpkins.

After enjoying the reading, they discussed planting seeds and how they get water and nourishment to make them grow. Mrs. Denoncour asked them

if any had tried roasting pumpkin seeds and eating them. Some students had done this with their family and told of how they were salted and eaten. Mrs. Denoncour had brought a pumpkin, which was cut open so they could see the seeds inside. They each got a handful to wash and put aside to dry, which will later be planted.

Other gardeners present to help were Linda Dowal, Shawna Martinez and Phyllis Schofield. The club recently held their

last meeting of the year with a luncheon of homemade soups, breads, crackers and cheese. They all went home with smiles on their faces with a gift from the Yankee swap. It was a festive and fun time. The following months will be spent planning programs for 2018, printing the yearbook and finishing up the scrapbook, which will be submitted to the New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs for judging with submissions from other clubs.

Notebook

FROM PAGE A4

by many people who burn wood, I like the idea of my dollars staying home, to revolve around the economy several times before lodging in someone’s account.

But for this winter, I’m just going to have to burn oil, and forego climbing up onto my frozen-solid tractor, and going out there in a snowstorm and clamoring up, monkeylike, onto a frozen, snow-en-crusted log pile, hooking onto two or three tree-length logs, dragging them up to the furnace, dropping them and cutting them into three-foot pieces, and then, twice a day, throwing them in.

Damn.

+++++

Longtime friend (forty-plus years) Jeff Fair lives an hour or so north of Anchorage, Alaska, and I’m always trading news with him on the latest outrageous Earth-trashing proposals.

Somewhere, one night a few weeks ago, I caught a snippet of a story I couldn’t quite take seriously, some scheme to run Bullet Trains under the Bering Strait, to link Siberia with the far northwestern tip of North America.

This has to be just too crazy to be true, I told Jeff.

“It’s true,” he said.

Let’s remember here that the last time I looked, anyway, there were not exactly hundreds of thousands of people waiting to find a way to get across the Bering Strait, which is not exactly your balmy Bosphorus, at least nowhere near the kind of traffic there was 15,000 years ago, when the polar caps had melted down into a few ice-cubes and it was all high and dry.

And here, I thought

New Hampshire, with the likes of Northern Pass, had the corner on madcap schemes.

+++++

In tearing apart and inspecting various tax proposals--an honorable pursuit--Big Media (and public radio and TV) have been fond of referring to alleged benefits to “investors” and “corporations” with a barely disguised curl of the lip.

The vast majority of businesses and corporations in this country are not the epitome of Big Bad Corporate America but instead are small companies, many of them so-called “Mom and Pops,” something like 84 percent.

They are the hope-for-profit companies that pay local taxes, contribute to every worthy cause that comes through the front door, and give your kids and mine their first jobs.

From this corner, a “Yay.”

+++++

When is someone going to check up on these outfits touting back and knee braces as “free from Medicare, at no cost to you” for a gullible public? Sometimes their hucksters even claim to be responding to phone calls, when of course no such phone call was ever made.

Come to think of it, and in that same vein, who’s checking up on these ancestral research companies that claim they’re able to trace your genetics back to Mary Antoinette or Attila the Hun?

Suddenly, we all can supposedly trace our roots back to the dawn of creation, or at least back to when a Girl Named Sue emerged from the Great Rift and strolled around on the African savannah. Or maybe, for all I know, to King Tut or Genghis

Khan.

I wonder, if scrapes from the inside of your cheek are sent around to three or four different outfits claiming to be doing all of this incredible genetic research, they all get you back to coming from the same English nobility or noble Native American, or conversely have you dragging your ancestral knuckles (and your club) along the frozen edge of the last Ice Age.

+++++

I now have my own personal wild turkey, an aging hen who’s taken up residence under the old swing set from which my backyard bird-feeders swing.

Something is wrong with this old bird, and unlike a disabled sheep, which goes to great lengths to remain unnoticed, she does not try to hide in the flock.

Perhaps this is because she can no longer keep up with the pace of this revolving gang of marauders, whose members march around in a great circle all week long, around and around from my neighbors’ places to mine, pecking and scraping and scratching away for a living. Eventually, something will get her, some participant in the food chain that dares to come close enough to the house and barns. I’m betting on a coyote (or two).

But I cannot and would not interfere in this little drama that almost certainly will end in death, and how could I anyway?

(This column is syndicated in papers covering two-thirds of New Hampshire and parts of Maine and Vermont. Letters, including town and telephone numbers in case of questions, should be addressed to campguyhooligan@gmail.com or Box 39, Colebrook, NH 03576.)

Churches

FROM PAGE A3

Star King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 101 Fairground Rd., Plymouth, is a multigenerational, welcoming congregation where different beliefs come together in common covenant. We work together in our fellowship, our community, and our world to nurture justice, respect, and love.

Sunday, Dec. 24

Nursery and Religious Education – 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Contact: Jane Clay, DRE

Service 9:30 – 10: 30 a.m. – Simple Gifts

Rev. Dr. Linda Barnes, Worship Leader
Sarah Dan Jones, Music Director and Choir

We’ll gather for this all-generations service to appreciate and share the simple gifts of this Christmas season. Join us for stories, fun, and singing

Christmas Eve Service – 5 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Linda

Barnes, Worship Leader

Sarah Dan Hones, Music Director and Choir

Our candlelight Christmas Eve service will invite the spirit of Christmas, which is love, into the room as we sing, listen, and wonder at the story of one birth, and every birth.

Visit our Web site

www.starrkingfellowship.org
536-8908

Child Dedication is often an element of the Christmas Eve service at 5 p.m. As a part of this celebration, the community commits to support and honor your precious children and be part of their faith development. If you are interested in this celebration or know of someone in our church community who might be, please speak with Jane Clay, Acting DRE or Reverend Linda Barnes.

Introducing Smooth Sundays! Join us after the service today to learn more about the new team approach to orchestrating Sunday morning tasks around the Service.

An all-generations candle light service will be held on Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. Please join us for a beautiful evening of song, story and child dedications. If you’re able, please bring a plate of cookies to share for after the service.

We are pleased to inform you that, for the full month of December, every time a “Fight Hunger Bag” is purchased at the Hannaford Supermarket in Plymouth, a portion of the proceeds will be donated to Got Lunch Plymouth, the program feeding kids in need during summer vacation which has been well supported by folks at Starr King Fellowship. You may also purchase a Fight Hunger Bag here at Starr King after services throughout the month.

The Activities Committee encourages you to participate in the abundance of interesting events happening in the area. Breakfast Club, Second Sunday Hike, Dinner and a Show, and more. Please visit the Events Page on our Web site: www.starrkingfellowship.org. for dates and times.



Season's Greetings!

from these local businesses and all of us at Salmon Press
Holiday cookies the whole family will love

Many people enjoy baking come the holiday season, and perhaps no dish is more synonymous with holiday baking than cookies. Children leave cookies out for Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, while adults may indulge and enjoy an extra cookie or two at family gatherings or holiday office parties.

Cookies come in all shapes and sizes, so bakers have an array

of options at their disposal when planning their holiday menus. Chocolate chip cookies may be among the most popular types of cookies, and bakers who want to capitalize on that popularity while giving loved ones something a little different may want to try the following recipe for "Double Chocolate Chip Cookies" from Maxine Clark's "Chocolate: Deliciously Indulgent Reci-



pes for Chocolate Lovers" (Ryland, Peters & Small).

Double Chocolate Chip Cookies
Makes about 12 large

cookies
5 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened
5 tablespoons granulated sugar
5 tablespoons light

brown sugar, sifted
1 large egg, beaten
12 teaspoon pure vanilla essence or chocolate extract (see note)
1 cup plus 2 tablespoons self-rising flour
3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa
1/4 teaspoon salt
23 cup (or more) dark and white (or milk) chocolate chips (or roughly chopped chocolate)

A heavy, nonstick baking sheet

Preheat the oven to 350 F.

Using an electric mixer, cream the butter and sugars together until pale and fluffy. Beat in the egg and vanilla essence.

Sift the flour with the cocoa and salt in a small bowl. Fold into the egg mixture with the chocolate chips.

Place 4 heaping tablespoonsfuls of the mixture on the prepared baking sheet, spacing them well apart. Press down and spread out to about 1/4-inch thick with the back of a wet spoon or with dampened fingers (you may like to scatter some more chocolate chips over the top). Bake for 10 to 12 minutes. Let cool on the baking sheet for 1 minute, then transfer to a wire rack. When cool, store in an airtight container. Repeat with the remaining mixture.

Note: Chocolate extract is a fat-free flavoring ingredient made from a blend of roasted cacao beans, water and alcohol.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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&
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What's On Tap

The local high school sports teams continue with a full slate of action heading toward the holiday break.

At Newfound, the girls' basketball team will be hosting Inter-Lakes on Friday, Dec. 15, at 6:30 p.m. and will be at Franklin for a 7 p.m. game on Tuesday, Dec. 19.

The Newfound boys' basketball team will be at Inter-Lakes for a 6 p.m. game on Friday, Dec. 15, and will be hosting Raymond at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 21.

The Newfound alpine team is slated to open the season at Bretton Woods on Thursday, Dec. 21, at 10 a.m.

At Plymouth, the girls' basketball team will be hosting Windham on Friday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m., will be hosting Kearsarge at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 18, and will be hosting Bow at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 21.

The Plymouth hoop boys will be at Windham at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 15, and will be at Kearsarge at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 20.

The Kearsarge-Plymouth hockey team will be opening the season at Moultonborough-Inter-Lakes at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16, and will be hosting Con-Val-Conant at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 20, at Proctor Academy.

The Plymouth ski jumping team is scheduled to open the season at Proctor Academy on Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 6 p.m., conditions permitting.

The Plymouth wrestlers will be at Hollis-Brookline on Saturday, Dec. 16, starting at 8:30 a.m.

Strong three quarters push Bears past Lakers

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

BRISTOL — Thanks to Mother Nature, the Newfound hoop girls had just one game last week, traveling to Meredith to take on Inter-Lakes on Friday night.

The Bears got off to a good start and despite some mistakes, picked up a 54-42 win over the Lakers, their third win of the young season.

The Bears had a 17-11 lead after one quarter of play, with Jasmine Peterson leading the charge in the frame with eight points, including two three-pointers. Madi Dalphonse also added a three in the frame, while Savanna Bony put in four points in the first eight minutes.

Newfound didn't let up in the second quarter, as they continued to push the ball and outscored the Lakers 16-11 in the frame for a 34-22 lead at halftime. Ashlee Dukette had a good second quarter, scoring 11 of the team's 16 points.

While the offense was clicking all night, the defense really came together in the third quarter, as the Bears held Inter-Lakes to just two points in the frame and scored 12 of their own for a 46-24 lead heading to the final quarter.

Dukette picked up her fourth foul late in the third quarter and

coach Karri Peterson put her on the bench for the rest of the frame but on the first play of the fourth quarter, she picked up her fifth foul, putting her on the bench for the rest of the game. Newfound had a 27-point lead at the time but the Lakers began to chip away at the inexperienced Bears without their big playmaker.

Newfound had three freshmen (Peterson, Tiffany Doan and Mackenzie Bohlmann) on the court in the fourth quarter along with Dalphonse, a junior with only a few games of extensive varsity experience and Bony, the savvy veteran.

"I really looked to Bony and Peterson to try and take over and control the game," the Bear coach said. "But it's tough when the inexperience of others' understanding of the game hinders the game plan.

"We have not practiced a stall offense, but we can run our offenses continuously if they will allow it and understand the concept," Peterson stated.

The Bears were outscored 18-8 in the quarter, with Peterson putting in six of those eight points.

Peterson led the way for the Bears with 20 points, four steals and four assists, while Dukette added 18 points,



RC GREENWOOD

Jasmine Peterson puts up a shot during her team's battle with Inter-Lakes on Friday night.

12 rebounds and four steals in three quarters and Bony had 11 points, four steals and four assists.

The veteran Bear coach praised the defensive work of Doan and Bohlmann in the contest.

The other game scheduled for last week, at Winnisquam on Tuesday, was postponed until today, Dec. 21, at 6 p.m. in Tilton. It is the final game of the 2017 portion of the regular season.

Newfound will open

the Lakes Region Holiday Hoop Tournament in Gilford on Dec. 27, at 2:30 p.m. against Kingswood.

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

Winnisquam boys battle past Newfound

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

BRISTOL — The Newfound hoop boys had to wait an extra day for their home opener, as Tuesday's snowstorm pushed the game scheduled with Winnisquam back a day.

The blue and white Bears had the upper hand early on, though the green and white Bears made a run in the middle of the second quarter to cut the lead to just four, but the visitors finished the half on an 8-2 run to make it 30-20 at the half and finished off a 57-40 win.

"We got killed on the boards, as Winnisquam had a huge advantage on the offensive rebounds," said coach Tom Bourdeau. "Combine the rebounds with Newfound having 13 more turnovers, this allowed Winnisquam to have 28 ore field goal attempts than us.

"Not a good recipe for success," Bourdeau added.

Winnisquam pulled down 38 rebounds to Newfound's 25 and had an 18-2 advantage on the offensive board.

The Bears got 10 points from Spencer Lacasse to lead the way, with Mason Dalphonse and James Shokal each putting in nine points and Mike Doan added eight, along with eight



RC GREENWOOD

Mason Dalphonse powers toward the basket in action against Winnisquam last week.

rebounds.

A tough first half doomed the Bears in action against Inter-Lakes on Friday, Dec. 15, as the Lakers outscored Newfound 44-9 in the first 16 minutes and took the 66-31 win in Meredith.

Bourdeau noted that the two teams played even basketball in the second half but by that point it was too late. Newfound managed just one point in the

first quarter, trailing 22-1 after one.

Dalphonse led the way for the Bears with 13 points while James Shokal finished with 12 points, all on three-pointers. Tyler Boulanger led the way on the boards with six rebounds.

Newfound will be back in action today, Dec. 21, at home against Raymond at 6:30 p.m. and will then take part in the Lakes

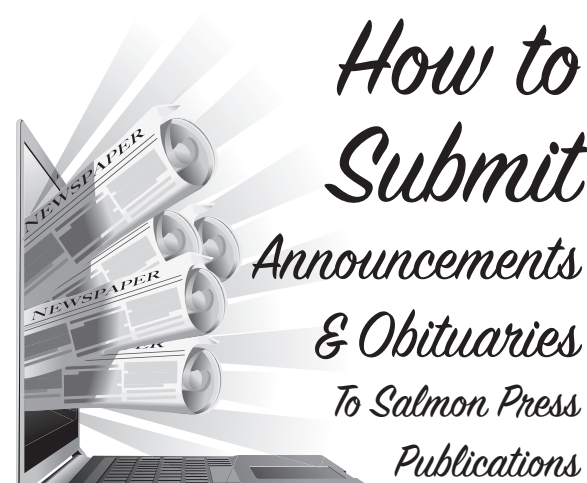
Region Holiday Hoop Tournament in Gilford starting on Dec. 27, when they take on Kingswood at 4 p.m. The tournament continues on Dec. 28, with another 4 p.m. game for the Bears.

The team returns to regular season action on Jan. 5 in Laconia.

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

Newfound searching for spring coaches

BRISTOL — Newfound Regional High School is looking for a varsity softball coach and a JV baseball coach for the 2018 season. Please send letter of interest, resume, two letters of recommendation and names and phone numbers of two other references. Please send to Supt. Stacy Buckley, SAU4, 20 North Main St., Bristol, NH.



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Please contact Executive Editor

Brendan Berube at (603) 279-4516, ext. 111 with any questions regarding the submission process.

Strong numbers hit the slopes for Newfound

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BRISTOL — The Newfound Regional High School alpine ski team is ready to kick off the season with a solid core of athletes ready to hit the slopes. “This is the largest team we have had in some time and we look forward to the competition and improvement that will accompany our practices this year,” noted coach Jonathan Young. “We are excited to begin our competition at Bretton Woods.” On the girls’ side of things, Victoria Roman and Shanley Camara are both starting their fourth season on the team and Young notes that good things are expected from the senior leaders.

The team is also returning a pair of sophomores in Sophia Pettit and Stephanie Norton and they are also welcoming Dakota Goguen back to the team after a year out of the district. The team also has a pair of newcomers in Hannah Owen and Amy Combs on the roster this winter. The Bear boys are led by senior Trevor Robie in his fourth year and junior Reid Wilkins in his third year. Young expects good things from both of them. “Both of these racers improved their times significantly last year and may make a run for the state meet this year,” Young stated. Ethan Pruett returned to the team last year as a junior after a year away and is back for his senior season, while junior Cian Connor also will return to the team in January as he continues to battle back from an injury. Returning sophomores are Tuan Nguyen and Brandon Marcoux both showed improvement last year and Young is pleased to see them back and performing well. The Newfound roster is rounded out by

freshmen Matt Karcheck, Jacob Blouin and Owen Henry along with newcomers Gabe Bauer, Jacob Pfister and Jason Liang, who comes to the team all the way from China. The team will race at Gunstock on three different days, including the annual Winnepesaukee Alpine Race on Feb. 2. They will also race at Sunapee three times, including the Division III State Meets, which are set for Feb. 12. The Bears are slated to open the new season today, Dec. 21, at Bretton Woods at 10 a.m.

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



Victoria Roman is one of two senior girls leading the way for the Newfound alpine team.

JEFF LAJOIE

Locals earn soccer All-State honors

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — With the soccer season wrapping up, local players have been honored for their work with All-State honors. For Division II boys, Plymouth striker Lucas Johnstone earned Second Team honors, while teammate Danny Carey earned Honorable Mention at midfield. Kennett defender Mackenzie Murphy and KIngwood defender Nick Duntley both earned Honorable Mention as well. For goalies, First Team honors went to Tyler Smith of Pembroke, Second Team honors went to Chase Patterson of John Stark and Honorable Mention went to Zach Leichtman of Oyster River and Bradon Degroot of Milford. On defense, First Team honors went to Brian Sheahan of Windham, Nate Moore of Oyster River and Justin Smith of Pembroke. Second Team honors went to Lawson Murphy of John Stark, Bo Underhill of Keasarge and Ryan Hickey of Souhegan. Honorable Mention went to Benjamin

Guertin of Bow, Cameron Magani of Lebanon, Nick Sanderson of Coe-Brown, Oliver Allen of Portsmouth and Dhan Mapchhan of West. In midfield, First Team honors went to Christopher Gallier of Bow, Jake Reynolds of John Stark and Owen Johnstone of Lebanon, while Second Team honors went to Mike Fortin of Goffstown, Jake Morgan of Windham and Jonathan Brackett of Hollis-Brookline. Cameron Woodman of Merrimack Valley, Jacob Hopfenspringer of Souhegan and Ryan Lancaster of St. Thomas earned Honorable Mention. At striker, Kyle Cociardi of Windham, Max Eisasser of Bow and Luke Sandmann of Lebanon earned First Team, Micah Black of Con-Val and Nick Mason earned Second Team and Evan Caswell of John Stark, Brad Underhill of Keasarge and Dillon Arant of Merrimack Valley earned Honorable Mention. Damon Smith of Pembroke was First Team for utility and Ethan Frenette of Trinity was Second Team.

Ken Fuller of Merrimack Valley was named Coach of the Year, Trevor Carigan of Windham was the JV Coach of the Year and Jeff Cousineau of Derryfield was given the Preston Eames Award. For Division II girls, three local girls earned Honorable Mention. Emily Boyd of Plymouth and Sydni Hanson of KIngwood earned honors at defenders and Sophia Killeen of Kennett earned honors at midfield. For goalies, First Team went to Sally Rainey of Lebanon, Second Team went to Lilly Bachelder of Souhegan and Honorable Mention went to Oliva Gomes of Windham and Maggie Rasumussen of Sanborn. For defenders, Emma Gagne of Bow, Mindy Wu of Hanover and Meg Blanchette of John Stark all earned First Team, while Second Team went to Frankie Getman of Portsmouth, Taylor Burnham of Bow and Nathalie Larson of Souhegan. Honorable Mention went to Hannah Jaworksi of Tirnity, Alexis MacConnell of Kearsarge, Meghan Wood of Milford and Sarah Birch of Hollis-Brookline.

Among midfielders, Cara Easter of John Stark, Cate Wagner of Hanover and Lauren Goyette of Bow all earned First Team, Syd Ludes of Portsmouth, Amanda Marshall of Bow and Kiley St. Francis of Coe-Brown all earned Second Team and Honorable Mention went to Christa Vordenburg of Souhegan, Bryn Kable of Hanover, Kaylyn Storozuk of Kearsarge and Alana N'Tapolis of West. For strikers, Ginger Provost of Portsmouth, Lilly Proulx of Goffstown and Carly Craft of Hanover all earned First Team, Xiana Twombly of Oyster River, Madi Paul of Bow and Devan McClain of Oyster River were Second Team and Emma Gray of Milford, Kaliana Palhof of Merrimack Valley, Kayleigh Marshall of Bow, Madison Burke of Pelham, Nicole Bell of Con-Val and Annie Metz of St. Thomas. Grace Angulas of Souhegan was First Team utility and Kayla

Paquin of Pembroke was Second Team. Jay Vogt of Bow was DII Coach of the Year and JV Coach of the Year is David Martinez of Trinity. In Division III, two local boys earned Honorable Mention. Cian Connor of Newfound earned honors at midfield and Tucker Kierstead of Prospect Mountain earned honors at defense. At goalie, First Team went to Ethan Warren of Gilford, Second Team went to Jimmy Dalesio of Somersworth and Honorable Mention went to Hunter Fauteux of Berlin and Thomas Ferguson of Hillsboro-Deering. Defense First Team went to Sean Gannon of Campbell, Connor Leggett of Gilford and Caleb Burke of Belmont, Second Team went Jared Walker of Fall Mountain and Emir Islamovic and Trent Henrich of Derryfield and Honorable Mention went to Chandler Zullo of Stevens, Micah Howard of Masconic, Killian Dowd of Mascoma and Christian Shepard of Franklin. First Team midfield honors went to Max Rossignol of Hopkinton, Nate Kelsey of Derryfield and Tyler Hanf of Gilford, Second Team went to River Mathieu of Belmont, Colin Plante of Brady and Zach Ennis of Belmont and Drew Grenier of Stevens, Ryan Smith of Conant, Thomas Turpin of Laconia and Sam Call of White Mountains all earned Honorable Mention. Gerry Donahue of Hopkinton, Jeff Pratt of Derryfield and Justin Furlong of Campbell all earned First Team striker, Andrew Dubreuil of Derryfield, Nate Sottak of Belmont and Adam Donnelly of Gilford earned Second Team and Isaac Jasinski of Monadnock, Hunter Hinxman of Winnisquam, Steven Walker of Fall Mountain, Ian Messina of Sanborn and Ian Daly of Inter-Lakes all earned Honorable Mention. For utility, Oliver Simon of Derryfield was First Team and Nick Brazeau of Raymond was Second Team. Coach of the Year honors went to Mike Fo-

ley of Belmont and JV Coach of the Year is Bill Brace of Belmont. Among girls in Division III, Prospect Mountain had three honorees. Ali Brown earned Second Team for defense, while Meagan Minaya earned Honorable Mention at midfield and Mackenzie Burke earned Honorable Mention at goaltender. First Team honors for goalies went to Jaida Mitchell of Raymond, Second Team went to Allie Stroddart of Fall Mountain and Honorable Mention went to Julia Shepard of Derryfield and Anna Pysz of Newport. For defense, Caitlin Ball of Hopkinton, Madison Parrot of Fall Mountain and Kate Stoncius of Campbell earned First Team, Zoe Utton of Fall Mountain and Madeline Parisi of Hillsboro-Deering earned Second Team and Chloe Sottak of Belmont, Grace Feigl of Derryfield, Alexis Aiken of Stevens, Rebecca Leberman of Inter-Lakes and Briana Connolly of Somersworth all earned Honorable Mention. Anna Harmon of Raymond, Taylor Signor of Hopkinton and Olivia Crainich of Bishop Brady earned First Team for midfield, Hannah Coasta of Raymond and Ali Monty and Zoey Luopa of Fall Mountain earned Second Team and Kallie Polgrean of Derryfield, Kelsey Belisle of Stevens, Jillian Patria of Conant, Kiara Law-As of Berlin and Taryn Breton of Gilford earned Honorable Mention. At striker, Danni DesRuisseaux of Bishop Brady, Grace Clark of Hopkinton and Julianna Estremera of Belmont all earned First Team, Izabella Warren of Hillsboro-Deering, Karleigh Schiltz of Campbell and Jordan Banish of Conant earned Second Team and Honorable Mention went to Audrey Puksta of Stevens, Rebecca Howe of Laconia, Skylar Tenny of Conant and Halle Bertolami of Monadnock. First Team utility went to Erin Douglas of Campbell and Second Team went to Kaitlyn Nelson of White Mountains.

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Cody Bannon scored the lone goal for Kearsarge-Plymouth in the season opener Saturday.



Carter McLean moves the puck into the zone in action against MAIL on Saturday in Laconia.

Third period sinks Cats in opener

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

LACONIA — The opening game of the season saw some positive things for the Kearsarge-Plymouth hockey team, but the scoreboard favored the host Moultonborough-Inter-Lakes Renegades when the final horn sounded on Saturday, Dec. 16.

“It was a lot of what we were hoping for,” said coach Dave McKenney. “The game was played well.

“We wanted to create scoring opportunities and we did that,” McKenney continued. “We wanted to settle on the defensive end and we did that.”

The Cats had some chances out of the gate, after defender Josh Johnston helped to clear a Renegade chance in the zone. Tony Velez went end to end for a chance that was denied by the MAIL keeper and Nathan St. Pierre came through with a shot that was also stopped. Alex Nangle had a couple of good scoring bids but was denied and a centering pass from Brecken Bates just missed connecting with St. Pierre.

The hosts were able to get on the board first with 10:51 to go in the

first period, beating keeper Sam Johnson for the first goal of the game.

Johnson came back and made a big save on a breakaway a few moments later and the Cats went on the power play shortly thereafter.

On the power play, Velez had a couple of good scoring chances denied and Johnston also had a bid denied by the Renegade goaltender.

The Cats got another power play late in the first period and got some more good chances, with St. Pierre having a shot saved and then Johnston’s shot was also stopped. St. Pierre got to the rebound but his bid was denied. Velez also had a chance that went wide of the net and the penalty was killed off, closing out the first period with the hosts up 1-0.

Johnson made a good save out of the gate in the second period and K-P came back with chances at the other end, with Carter McLean and St. Pierre both having bids denied while Johnston sent a shot wide of the net. The Cats took a penalty with 11:47 to go in the period and Johnson was stellar during the penalty kill, turning away four separate bids as the Renegades made their bid to double the

lead.

Velez came out of the penalty kill with a good bid that was denied and then Johnson made another save on a MI scoring chance.

With 6:31 to go, the Cats took another penalty and Johnston came up with a nice clear. St. Pierre had a shorthanded scoring bid thanks to good hustle in the offensive zone and the Cats killed off the penalty.

Johnson continued to make his presence felt in the net, turning away a number of bids, while Johnston, Garrett Sprenger and St. Pierre all had scoring bids.

With 25 seconds to go in the period, the Cats were able to tie the game. Nangle sent a shot on net that was denied by the Renegade keeper. The rebound went to Sprenger, who sent the puck in front to Cody Bannon, who fired it top shelf for his first varsity goal, tying the score at one.

The Cats took a penalty in the final seconds of the period and that carried over in the third period. The hosts had a couple of good chances late, but a good clear from Sprenger helped to kill off the penalty.

However, just 2:01 into the frame, the hosts

were able to break the tie on a shot from the side to make it 2-1.

St. Pierre and Sprenger had chances and Nangle also got a look in the zone but could not convert. Velez found Sprenger on another bid that just missed connecting.

With 6:42 to go, the Renegades were able to fire in a shot from almost the red line that slipped through Johnson to make it 3-1. Just more than a minute later, the Cats went on the power play and Velez had the best chances, also finding Sprenger for a chance, but the Cats were denied and the penalty was killed off.

With 2:47 to go in the game, MI added another tally for a 4-1 lead and then with 1:49 to go, they added a power play goal on a rebound for a 5-1 lead and that score held up, despite some good looks from Bannon in the final minutes.

“Sometimes in hockey, you don’t get the bounces,” McKenney stated. “We knew it was going to be up and down.

“I love this kind of hockey,” the Cat coach continued. “But you can’t win a game scoring just one goal.”

McKenney also

praised the work of Johnson in the net, despite the five goals.

“It was because of Sam that we were in that game,” he stated. “We had a lot of good opportunities, but they were able to capitalize in the third period.”

The Cat coach also praised the work of Bannon, Johnston and Velez. The Cats wrapped

up the 2017 portion of the regular season after deadline Wednesday and will return to action on Jan. 3 when they host John Stark-Hopkinton at Proctor Academy at 6:30 p.m.

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

Register for indoor flag football now

TILTON — Registration is now open for Lakes Region Flag Football League’s fourth season of winter indoor flag football at the Tilton Sports Center beginning in January.

There are co-ed age divisions for ages 8-10 and 11-14, player’s age as of Jan. 1, 2018.

Commitment is only one day a week, Saturday afternoons beginning Jan. 13 and running until Saturday, March 31. Season schedule is posted at lrffl.com.

Games for the 8-10 division will be played at either 11 a.m., 12 p.m.

or 1 p.m.; the 11-14 division will play at either 2, 3 or 4 p.m.

Season will start with a combine, one week of practice, six weeks of regular season games (with a break for February vacation) and ending with playoff and Super Bowl games.

This will be an official NFL Flag season; registration fee is \$125 for a 12-week season. Fee will include an NFL Flag jersey, NFL Flag flag belt and field rental fees. Money is not due until after Jan. 1. Register online today at lrffl.com.

Ice fishing seminar is Jan. 10 in Concord

CONCORD — Mark your calendars and plan some new adventures for the upcoming ice fishing season. New Hampshire Fish and Game is hosting a free ice fishing seminar on Wednesday, Jan. 10, at the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, 11 Hazen Drive in Concord. The talk begins at 7 p.m.

The featured present-

er will be New Hampshire fishing guide Tim Moore. In his talk, Moore will explain the tools and techniques he uses to catch white perch and lake trout through the ice. You’ll get the latest insights on equipment and gear, where to find these fish, and strategies for angling success. Both experienced ice anglers and those new to the sport are welcome.

“Step up your ice-fishing action this winter by learning how to target these exciting fish,” said Moore. “Whether you prefer jigging or tip-up fishing, this seminar will have something for you.”

Moore is a full-time New Hampshire fishing guide and outdoor writ-

er, as well as a state and world record holder. He has fished the waters of New Hampshire for more than 30 years. He conducts fishing seminars from Maine to Minnesota and guides hundreds of ice anglers each year from around the world in search of lake trout and white perch.

Soccer

FROM PAGE A12

Coach of the Year honors went to Mark Dawalga of Belmont and Troy Corriveau of

Prospect Mountain was named JV Coach of the Year.

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



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Clinics will be held in the Laconia High School gym. All girls and boys in grades one through four will take the floor from 6 to 7 p.m. Boys in grades five through eight will be from 7 to 8 p.m. Some equipment will be available to borrow, but all players need mouth guards to participate.

Contact laconialacrosseclub@gmail.com for questions or equipment needs.

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The ups and downs of the second jobs

For much of the time I've had this job, I've had a second job on the side, not counting my radio reports that I file for WASR each day.

When I first started doing this job full-time back in January of 2003, I transitioned from full-time to part-time at Mountain View Nursing Home in Ossipee. I had worked in the kitchen for a few years on a full-time basis while writing on a part-time basis, but when the opportunity to use my English de-

SPORTING CHANCE

By JOSHUA SPAULDING



gree in a full-time position became available, I took it and my boss at Mountain View allowed me to transition to a part-time position. I worked every other weekend and Thursdays and then I'd fill in whenever I could for other people as time allowed.

After I finished up there, I started work-

ing at Pronto Market, which was located in the same plaza as our former office in Wolfboro. Paul and Louise Labbe hired me to help cook breakfast and lunch and do the other convenience store jobs, including running register and stocking coolers. Most of my hours came in the mornings there and I would work Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings until I had to go to games in the afternoon and often times I'd work a few nights

as well and a weekend day or two. Some weeks I came close to 30 hours at just that job alone.

However, when Pronto closed, I decided that I wanted to try to get by on just the one job and I was able to do that for quite a while, but as we all know, all good things must come to an end and with my government-run health insurance set to go up by \$180 a month next year and the daily trip to the office going from 22 miles roundtrip to

70+, meaning more wear and tear on my car and more gas, I decided a few months ago that I needed to cut back on a few things (mostly traveling to Survivor events, unfortunately) and see if I could find another job.

I looked around for something that might fit my schedule and as luck would have it, in the Granite State News classifieds section I found a listing for someone to work four nights a week for the cleaning company that used to clean our Wolfboro office. I knew the owners to be really nice people who seemed like they'd be good to work for.

They called me back a few days after I had left a message and explained that the job was at Brewster and I would be cleaning the kitchen and dining room four nights a week, a job that takes about four hours each time. They did point out that it only included cleaning floors, as there is no cleaning of equipment or tables involved.

So, on Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, after my games are over or af-

ter I've made deadlines, you can find me in Brewster's dining hall and kitchen. The earliest I'm allowed to start is 9 p.m. and I do my best to get in there at that time so I can get out early. Sometimes that plan works, but you know what they say about best laid plans.

The good thing about it, that is much like my full-time job, I can put in headphones and tune out the world. During a busy season of Survivor podcasts, this has been great in helping me finish the numerous podcasts each week.

Finally, have a great day Kelly Pollini and Merry Christmas to all my readers.

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

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