



Newfound Landing

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Exchange students share their stories at Danbury Elementary

BY DONNA RHODES
drhodes@salmonpress.news

DANBURY — Students of Kristine Sterner’s third and fourth grade class at Danbury Elementary School were recently treated to a visit from international exchange students at Newfound Regional High School who brought a taste of their homelands to the boys and girls.

Arriving in the Newfound Region, courtesy of groups such as CCI Greenheart, WEP USA and Youth for Understanding, Safar-mo of Tajikistan, Suez of Hong Kong, Lisa of Tokyo and Solene of Belgium have been excited to spend a year abroad but have also enjoyed sharing their

own cultures, foods and traditions.

Suez, pronounced “Soo-eez,” is from Hong Kong, a self-governed territory located off the southwest coast of China with a population of more than seven million people. In addition to many tall buildings located in Hong Kong, there are also more than 1,000 skyscrapers towering overhead.

“It’s a small island. Land is limited, so that’s why the buildings are all tall,” she explained.

While people in Hong Kong celebrate Christmas and Halloween, much like the United States, they also celebrate Chinese



Danbury Elementary School’s third and fourth grade students were visited by international exchange students Solene of Belgium and Suez of Hong Kong (standing far left) and Lisa of Tokyo and “Sofie” of Tajikistan (standing far right). Kneeling, far right, is teacher Kristine Sterner.

DONNA RHODES

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COURTESY

New Hampton Garden Club members visit Golden Crest

New Hampton Garden Club members Eleanor Morrison and Phyllis Schofield visited the Golden Crest Assisted Living home in Franklin for a fun time of angel making on Jan. 9. This is a monthly event for the Garden Club which is a member of the New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs. A small group of ladies had a great time constructing these New Year’s angels of crinkle paper with pipe cleaners for halos. Each angel was given a name tag around her neck, signifying a positive attribute for this new year, such as peace, joy, and love. They had fun with these angels and shared a great many laughs. They also made Calm Down jars, with water and special coloring which glistened. This was a very enjoyable time for the garden girls, and they will be back in February for another session of crafts and laughs. Plans are being made at this time for other monthly programs in 2017. The first meeting will be April 4 at Gordon Nash Library in New Hampton.

Tax cap, SRO to be on school district warrant

BY THOMAS P. CALDWELL
Contributing Writer

BRISTOL — Two petitioned articles have been added to the Newfound Area School District warrant, which will be discussed along with the proposed school budget during Friday’s budget hearing.

The first petitioned ar-

ticle seeks to rescind the district’s spending cap which limits the school budget’s tax impact. Under the cap, spending amounts minus revenues can increase the assessment to member towns by no more than two percent.

A second petitioned

article, put forward by Stand Up Newfound, a group working to eliminate substance misuse, seeks to re-institute a school resource officer in the school district. Superintendent Stacy Buckley told the Newfound Area School Board at its Jan. 9 meeting (prior to receipt

of the petition) that she understands the group is seeking \$72,000 to hire a police officer to work in the schools.

The budget hearing is scheduled to take place this Friday at 6:30 p.m. at Newfound Regional High School. After the

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Committee begins review of Bristol budget

Surprise non-public session prompts concern among audience

BY THOMAS P. CALDWELL
Contributing Writer

BRISTOL — The start of deliberations on the proposed 2017 municipal budget got mired in controversy when the Bristol Budget Committee opened its Jan. 3 meeting by going into non-public session. Citing RSA 91-A:3, II (c), Chair William

Cote made the motion, with everyone except Tom Keegan voting in favor of it.

The statute cited in the motion pertains to discussions that might adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the committee. Members of

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Bristol selectmen have an eye toward Town Meeting

BY THOMAS P. CALDWELL
Contributing Writer

BRISTOL — The Bristol Board of Selectmen continued its preparations for town meeting on Jan. 5, approving a contract for the printing of town reports and deciding which warrant articles to forward to the voters for approval.

The board intends to give voters a chance to adopt new standards for the veterans’ exemp-

tion that would broaden the criteria so more veterans could qualify. The current exemption allows only those who were on active duty during specific time periods to claim the partial exemption on property taxes. The New Hampshire Legislature recently passed a bill allowing towns to grant the exemption to those who served, regardless of

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Sights, sounds, and tastes of Spain at the Minot-Sleeper Library

Celebrate the New Year and escape the cold winter days during the presentation “Fiestas in Springtime Spain: Fire, Faith, and Food” held at the Minot-Sleeper Library on Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. University of New Hampshire professor John Chaston will offer his own research and experiences of the festivities. The program will include a narrative and images—as well as video—of some of the varied and remarkable week-long fiestas in springtime Spain. Detailed emphasis will be given regarding the customs, foods, activities, and importance of Las Fallas in Valencia, Holy Week in Granada, and the Festival of Oranges in Melegis. There will be brief mention and images of a few other significant spring holidays, all to inform attendees of additional possibilities for future travels and experiences. “Fiestas in Springtime Spain: Fire, Faith, and Food” at the Minot-Sleeper Library on Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. is open to all, free of charge. Refreshments will be served.



Join us at Keep the Heat On! and experience a Winter Wonderland

PLYMOUTH — The decorating committee for the annual Keep the Heat On (KTHO) fuel assistance fundraiser is planning to welcome guests to a beautiful Winter Wonderland at Plymouth State University's Prospect Hall at 5 p.m. on Jan. 18. Tickets for the event are selling briskly at Chase Street Market, and you'll need to act fast to buy yours, because quantities are very limited!

For those new to the area, KTHO includes a silent auction, raffle, and buffet dinner supplied by our finest area restaurants and their chefs. First held in 2006, KTHO was lucky to bring in over \$10,000 for fuel assistance to local families in the early years, but fundraising has increased to over \$50,000 in each of the past 3 years—and the need has increased each year as well.

New auction items are coming in every day, including a wide

variety of quality goods, services, and experiences! Jewelry, art, pottery, and fine wine are among the treasures that will tempt bidders as they peruse the auction tables. Reiki healing, massage, yoga, fitness classes, and health consultations will be available for the well-ness-minded. We'll have gift certificates for such practical services as car washes, a wheel alignment (hit any potholes yet?), a bike tune-up, and a landscape consultation. Fun and adventure will be up for bid with certificates for fine dining, skiing, golf, ziplining, boat rentals, and sporting events. Escape from the ordinary with a bid on a getaway to Little Squam, Nantucket, or Disney World. The choices are too numerous to list, but we promise there will be something for everyone!

The ticket price is just \$40, a great value for an evening of social-



COURTESY

The decorating committee for the annual Keep the Heat On (KTHO) fuel assistance fundraiser is planning to welcome guests to a beautiful Winter Wonderland at Plymouth State University's Prospect Hall at 5 p.m. on Jan. 18.

izing and fun that raises money for local families in need of home heating fuel assistance. Tables for groups of eight can be arranged by calling Susan Messinger at 707-9684.

The KTHO Committee extends their gratitude to our hosts, Plymouth State University and Sodexo, to all of our fabulous restaurants, and to the individuals and businesses who have joined the fuel assistance effort as sponsors and auction donors. A very special "thank you" to the Plymouth Record Enterprise for helping us to get the word out to

the community!

KTHO is organized and sponsored by the Plymouth Area Democrats, partnered with

the Plymouth Area Community Closet in their continued mission to provide assistance to our neighbors. Keep

the Heat On—and the fuel assistance it helps provide—are entirely non-partisan.

Join NHCS in wishing a fond farewell to Katie Knott-Garon

NEW HAMPTON — The faculty and staff of the New Hampton Community School invite you to attend a retirement gathering for Katie Knott-Garon Friday, Jan. 20 from 2:15-3:30 p.m. in the school's

multi-purpose room, with a small ceremony at 3 p.m.

Help wish Mrs. Knott-Garon good luck in her retirement, and share a story or two. Food and refreshments will be provided.

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Investment Tips for "Millennials"

If you are a "millennial" – a member of the age cohort born anywhere from the early 1980s to the late 1990s – then you're still in the early chapters of your career, so it may be a stretch for you to envision the end of it. But since you do have so many years until you retire, you've got the luxury of putting time on your side as you save and plan for retirement.

Here are some suggestions for making the best use of that time:

- Invest early – and often. Even if you are at the very beginning of your career, make investing a priority. At first, you might only be able to contribute a small amount each month, but something is far better than nothing – and after a year or so, you might be surprised at how much you've actually put away.
- Take advantage of your employer's retirement plan. If your employer offers a 401(k) or similar plan, contribute as much as you can afford. At the least, put in enough to earn your employer's match, if one is offered. Your contributions can lower your taxable income, and your earnings can grow on

a tax-deferred basis.

- Invest more as your earnings increase. As your career advances, and your earnings rise, you'll want to increase your contributions to your 401(k) or similar plan. And if you ever "max out" on your annual 401(k) contributions (the limits change over time), you can probably still contribute to another tax-advantaged retirement plan, such as a traditional or Roth IRA.

Thus far, we've only discussed, in general terms, how much and how often you should invest. But it's obviously just as important to think about the type of investments you own. And at this stage of your life, you need an investment mix that provides you with ample opportunities for growth. Historically, stocks and stock-based vehicles provide greater growth potential than other investments, such as government securities, corporate bonds and certificates of deposit (CDs). Of course, stocks will rise and fall in price, sometimes dramatically. But with decades ahead of you, you do have time to overcome short-term losses. And you

may be able to reduce the effects of market volatility by spreading your dollars among many different stock-based investments, along with a reasonable percentage of bonds and other, more conservative securities.

Here's something else to consider: Many millennials want more from their investments than just good performance – they also want their money to make a difference in the world. This interest in "impact" investing (also known as "socially responsible" investing) has led some of your peers to screen out companies or industries they believe have a negative impact on society in favor of other businesses that are viewed as contributing to a more sustainable world. If this viewpoint resonates with you, then you may want to explore these types of investment opportunities with a financial professional.

But most importantly, keep on investing throughout your life. As a millennial, you've got plenty of the one asset that can never be replaced: time. Use it wisely.



COURTESY

Inn on Newfound celebrates a milestone

The Inn on Newfound Lake, situated on the scenic shores of Pasquaney Bay in Bridgewater, is approaching its 23rd year in operation next month. This photo of the inn depicts what a beautiful place it is for not only dining experiences but weddings, special community events, relaxing weekends or extended vacation stays.

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Tues.-Thurs: 4:00 & 7:00 PM

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Mon.: 12:45, 3:45, & 6:45 PM
Tues.-Thurs: 3:45, & 6:45 PM

SING **PG-13**
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Mon.: 12:30, 3:30 & 6:30 PM
Tues.-Thurs: 3:30 & 6:30 PM

Find us online at BarnZs.com

Newfound Area Churches announce Christian Unity services

REGION — During the week of Jan. 16 through 20, the Newfound Area Churches (NAC) will be holding their annual week-long services for promoting Christian Unity.

Each day there will

be a worship service at noon. After each service a light lunch will be provided. The daily rotation of churches will be as follows: Monday the 16th, Bristol Baptist Church, Tuesday the 17th, New Hampton Community Church, Wednesday the 18th, Our Lady of Grace Chapel, Thursday the 19th, Alexandria United Methodist Church, and Friday the 20th, Union Congregational Church of Hebron.

For more information, please call 744-3885.



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NOTICE ALEXANDRIA RESIDENTS

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Alexandria Town Hall, Tuesday, January 24, 2017, from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. for additions and corrections to the checklist in preparation for the First Deliberative Sessions of the Newfound Area School District on February 4 and the Town of Alexandria on February 11. Change of party will be accepted.

George Whittaker
Suzanne Cheney
Loretta Brouillard



DONNA RHODES

Students from several local schools greatly enjoyed an art project they took part in with Newfound Area School District art teacher Denise Plante-Renaud during the Children's Arts Festival at Plymouth State University last weekend.



DONNA RHODES

As part of the Children's Arts Festival at Plymouth State University last Saturday, area students in grades K-6 were excited to have a tour of Hanaway Theater in Silver Hall where rehearsals for the upcoming community musical "Fiddler on the Roof" were underway.

Children's Arts Festival sets the stage for ETC's "Fiddler on the Roof"

BY DONNA RHODES
dhrhodes@salmonpress.news

PLYMOUTH — The Educational Theatre Collaborative once again invited boys and girls from several local schools to take part in the 23rd Annual Children's Arts Festival at Plymouth State University last Saturday where students in grades K-6

could spend an entire day immersed in all aspects of theater arts.

"This is where experience happens for them," said workshop director Robb Dimmick.

Under the theme "To Life!" five workshops from area professionals allowed students to have experiences in visual arts, music, dance, act-

ing and language arts. Each workshop was named for songs from this year's community-involved performance of the Broadway classic, "Fiddler on the Roof."

The musical is based on Tevye, a Jewish father of five daughters living in Russia in 1905.

Throughout the story Tevye struggles to main-

tain his religious and cultural traditions even as outside influences make their way into his family's life.

Karen McCloud of the Pemi-Baker School District led the students in one session titled, "Now I Have Everything," where they were exposed to fun activities through language arts.

"If I Were a Rich Man," with Chelsea Merritt of PSU, introduced the students to acting skills while "The Bottle Dance" session with Emily Mower, also of PSU, gave them dance experiences.

AJ Coppola, a music teacher from Campton Elementary School, conducted a lively session titled "Tradition," and finally Newfound Area School District art teacher Denise Plante-Renaud had some hands-on creative fun with her art session, "Matchmaker, Matchmaker."

Students in Plante-Renaud's art workshop had the opportunity to make small purses or satchels as seen in the play, then placed special hearts they created inside.

"The show is featured around love and tradition so they got to make purses where they could protect and keep their love safe," Plante-Renaud said. "They were so creative in their approach to this project and it was all wearable art they could personalize."

Carys, a fourth grade student from Holderness, was among the many who enjoyed the experience.

Clutching her purse with a heart tucked inside, she said, "I thought of the play and their style back then when I made mine. I'm in the play as well so this was fun to do."

Fourth grade student Reagan of Holderness also considered the time period of the musical

and opted to use lace and other "old things" in her design.

Heron of Wentworth said she put a pretty heart in her purse to start out with but might later add other things that were special to her, while Quincee of Thornton had already added a drawing of a chicken to her purse.

"Chicken's are kind of my mother's 'thing' and I wanted to personalize mine with something right away," she said.

In other workshops, students continued that focus on "Fiddler on the Roof" by learning songs and even lines from the show.

The boys and girls were also provided with guided backstage tours of the Hanaway Theater at PSU's Silver Hall and peeked in as rehearsals were underway. The favorite part of the entire day for New London student Benjamin however was the dancing and acting workshops where he got a chance to perform himself.

"I really liked that. It was a lot of fun," he said.

Bringing the day to a close was a much-anticipated magic show by Jim Gleich, which Eric of Ashland said he was looking forward to the most.

Public performances of "Fiddler on the Roof" will run Jan. 20-28 at Silver Hall, just off Main Street on the PSU campus. For advance tickets, please contact the box office at 535-ARTS, or visit their Web site, silver.plymouth.edu.

Bristol Historical Society meets Jan. 28

BRISTOL — The Bristol Historical Society will hold its first meeting of 2017 on Jan. 28 at 12:30 p.m. in the Minot Sleeper Library meeting room. A presentation about New Hampshire Native Americans will be led

by local resident Richard LaFlamme.

Mr. LaFlamme was the Cultural/Historical Preservation Manager of the New Hampshire Army National Guard in the Environmental Office from 1994-2007. He wrote the

first integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan for his office and dealt with many areas including Native Americans. This plan dealt with archeological sites on National Guard land. Four sites in the state

are now protected. Mr. LaFlamme is a descendant of the Navajo Tribe and is a member of the Laconia Indian Historical Association. We look forward to this very interesting presentation which is open to the public.

Intrepid paddlers tackle Winnepesaukee River despite cancellation of annual race

BY DONNA RHODES
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NORTHFIELD — The tradition of kayaking the rapids of the Winnepesaukee River between Northfield and Franklin on Jan. 1 was cancelled for 2017 when ice clogged the take-out point at Franklin's Trestle View Park. Despite the unexpected cancellation, however, a few seasoned kayakers took to the roiling waters nonetheless.

Unaware that the Merrimack Paddlers were forced to cancel their annual white water event this year, Andrew Snead of Norfolk, Mass. was at the Cross Mill Road launch site in Northfield early that morning and took the annual plunge. He said his trip down the Winnepesaukee was enjoyable but cautioned that kayakers had to be "on top of their game" when they neared the end.

"When we (five other kayakers) got to the ice shelf at the take out area we just had to paddle as fast as we could to get up on top of it and onto the shore," he reported.

While it was "doable," he said he could understand why safety officials would not want the typical 30-40 kayakers who participate in the annual event to make the trip under such conditions.

Greg Wallace of Somerville, Mass. stopped by the launch site as Snead was packing up his gear and was dismayed to learn the



DONNA RHODES

When First Day Franklin activities were cancelled on New Year's Day due to ice on the river at Trestle View Park, a few seasoned outdoor enthusiasts like Andrew Snead of Norfolk, Mass., still ventured out for a kayak run through the rapids from Northfield to Franklin.

event had been cancelled.

"I've been doing this for 10 years now, so it was disappointing to get here today and find that really no one was here," said Greg Wallace. "I hadn't heard it had been canceled and just showed up like I always do. It's too bad because this is such a great day for being out on the river."

Indeed, the day was spectacular for a winter sports enthusiast such as Wallace. Temperatures, he noted, were near 40 degrees, the riv-

er was flowing well and the sun was shining brightly, but despite his enthusiasm, downriver conditions were not so favorable, he learned.

Wallace hoped to find someone willing to take a run with him to Franklin, but with no one else equipped for the venture, he opted to run the upper end of the river, foregoing the thrill of the rapids.

"I wouldn't do the rapids alone, but at least I know what to expect up there on the upper end this time of year," Wallace said.

Besides Wallace a few others did paddle the quieter waters leading to the dam in Tilton, but participants on that end of the river were even minimal this year.

First Day Franklin normally hosts a warming tent at Trestle Park, filled with warm food, hot beverages and information tables from local outdoor community organizations. This year however people were directed to take part in a variety of activities held at not only the grand opening of the new Outdoor New England store at 367 Central St., but other established businesses in the city. There were also entertaining outdoor activities for at children held at Marceau Park.

As for the kayaking, Snead and others were not totally dismayed that Mother Nature put a crimp in their day.

"That's okay. I'll be back again next year," he said.



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Prescription opioid abuse: A first step to heroin use

BY DEB NARO
Contributor

Prescription opioid pain medications such as OxyContin and Vicodin can have effects similar to heroin when taken in doses or in ways other than prescribed, and are currently among the most commonly abused drugs in the United States. Research now suggests that abuse of these drugs may open the door to heroin addiction.

Nearly half of young people surveyed who inject heroin, reported abusing prescription opioids before starting to use heroin. Once their legal supply of prescription medication runs out, there still is a physical compulsion to use, and if they are unable to access the prescription drug, many turn to heroin. Some individuals reported turning to heroin because it is cheaper and easier to obtain than prescription opioids.

Heroin is an opioid drug that is synthesized from morphine, a naturally occurring substance extracted from the seed pod of the Asian opium poppy plant. Heroin usually appears as a white or brown powder or as a black sticky substance, known as "black tar heroin." Heroin can be injected, inhaled by snorting or sniffing, or smoked. All three routes of administration deliver the drug to the brain very rapidly, which contributes to its health risks and to its high risk for addiction. Addiction is a chronic relapsing disease caused by changes in the brain and characterized by uncontrollable drug seeking no matter the consequences. Heroin abuse is associated with a number of serious health con-

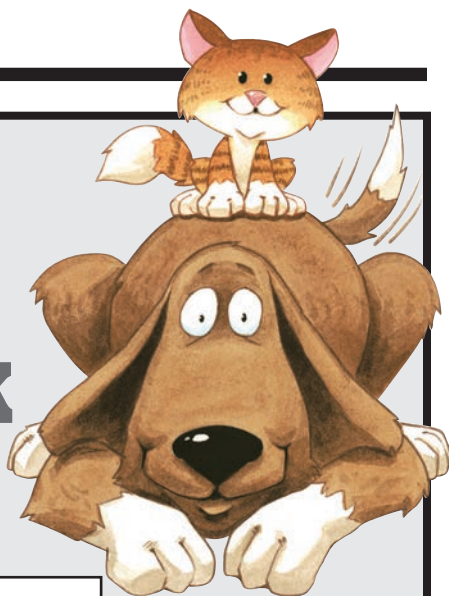
ditions, including fatal overdose, spontaneous abortion, and infectious diseases including Hepatitis and HIV.

In addition to the effects of the drug itself, street heroin often contains toxic contaminants or additives that can cause permanent damage to vital organs and lead to death. This new street heroin, laced with the prescription painkiller fentanyl, is far more potent and is resulting in increased overdose deaths. Within minutes of using this contaminated heroin individuals lose consciousness and die. The grim details of these accidental deaths are captured in what seems to be daily reports by national and statewide media. Small town America is not immune—New Hampshire cities and small towns are also feeling the impact of heroin use.

New Hampshire first responders and lawmakers are paying close attention to this serious opiate crisis as the effects of drug misuse and addiction are rippling through our communities. Preventing drug use before it begins is the most cost effective and responsible way to address the serious problem of addiction. Successful prevention means fewer people will develop substance use disorders and the consequences of substance use—including the costs of health care, treatment, and public safety—will also decrease and lives will be saved.

For more information about prescription drug misuse, or resources for substance use disorders, visit our Web site at www.cadyinc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cadyinc.

PET of the Week Jake



2017 starts off smartly with our first dog of the New Year looking for his permanent forever home, the very handsome, ever so slightly cross-eyed, Australian Cattle dog, Jake.

On the one hand, he is active and a bit of a canine go-getter but on the other, loves to sit in your lap as if he were of much smaller stature and thoroughly enjoys being brushed and groomed. Perhaps that activity appeals to his vanity, knowing that a well-kept, gleaming visage



will undoubtedly help in his quest for a new home. Originally hailing from the warmth of the gulf state of Mississippi, our Jake has adapted well to the northern climes of New Hampshire, and actually seems to enjoy the crisp outdoors here. So, a home with folks who enjoy a good hike in the woods, and one where he can really be part of the human pack is Jake's New Year's Wish.

Check www.nhhu-mane.org for more details.

North Country Notebook



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

Unlike the oft-repeated factoid that people in the Far North have something like 54 different words for snow (they don't), the English that I hear spoken in northern New England has only one other word for it, "money." If we were truly into Las Vegas slang, I suppose we could add "white gold," although that seems an overly dramatic stretch.

Some more snow was falling as I was writing this, on the 5th, and in fact I'd had snow of one sort or another nearly every day since the morning before the Big One of Dec. 29. So I've received well over two feet in one week, much of which has blown off toward Maine, which is not all that far away for wind-driven snow.

Today on my regular

A problem for some, a godsend to others: The white stuff that falls from the sky



JOHN HARRIGAN

As more snow falls, there's enough three-foot wood left to get into (and maybe out of) Mud Season. The covered pile of smaller junk wood from road and fence maintenance has to be kept cleared off until it's gone.

Thursday 7:10 a.m. guest gig on WTPL, Concord (technically, Bow), host Peter St. James was bantering with co-host Jim Fronk, who admits to being a city slicker. Jim recalled driving through the above-the-

notches territory one winter and seeing not much of anything except lots of trees and here and there a house or two, and wondered, more or less, "What do you do up there, anyway?"

This question always

leaves me stumped for a few seconds, because there is so much to do—at least as much, if not more than, in suburbs and cities, although mercifully devoid of dollar-devouring frills like shopping malls—but I recovered and said "Push snow, throw three-foot pieces of firewood into a big outdoor furnace, and write (I write this column for a dozen or so papers and also write for InDepthNH.org, and occasionally for other publications).

And there are household chores and other duties of course, all of which keep me pretty busy and not all that anxious to go to town, and often I don't, sometimes for several days at a clip. But if I do go downtown or to surrounding towns, there is so much going on that there's often not room on the calendar.

+++++

It makes some people mad when I write the following (and irked readers SEE NOTEBOOK, PAGE A15

Newfound Landing

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Letters to the Editor

Wage study and pay increase were contrary to the will of the voters

To the Editor:

Can someone tell me just how this works?

After reviewing the official minutes from Bristol's 2016 Town Meeting, two things became clear:

First, Article 12: "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to fund the cost of a comprehensive wage and classification study for Town positions."

This Article was soundly defeated by a ballot vote of: YES: 6 No: 137

There was no further amendment and no action to authorize a comprehensive wage and classification study.

Next, Deputy Fire Chief Chris Dolloff presented an amendment to increase the budget bottom line by \$75,203. To fund pay increases. This was defeated on a voice vote.

To sum up, there was no enabling legislation and no appropriation for pay raises approved by the Town voters.

In spite of this, the Select Board, in August, pro-

ceeded to conduct their own "Pay Study" and grant a 15 percent pay increase to town employees.

This is not to disparage any of our town employees, most are dedicated professional people, but who is looking out for the taxpayer and property owner?

When asked, one Selectman stated that he and one of the new selectman were never provided with a copy of the so called "Pay Study" prior to the 3 to 2 vote. To be fair, Selectman Manganiello and Morrison voted against these raises. Selectmen Alpers, Lagueux and Dion voted for it.

This extralegal pay raise and payroll overhead cost the Bristol taxpayers approximately \$90,000 this year and \$364,032 in the 2017 budget year.

Thank you, Select Persons Alpers, Lagueux and Dion!

Hold on, taxpayers, there's more; wait until you see the price tag on the new Regional Police Station!

*Paul Simard
Bristol*

Ernest G. Boissonnault, 63

HILL — Ernest G. Boissonnault, 63, passed at Concord Hospice House on Jan. 8, 2017 after a long courageous fight against cancer.

Ernest, also known as “Big E” was born on June 6, 1953 in Manchester, the son of Ernest G. and Evelyn May (Hill) Boissonnault. Ernie grew up in Londonderry, doing various odd jobs. Ernie later moved to Bristol, then to Hill, where he continued to do various odd jobs, but especially loved working on his motorcycles and hot rods. He was an avid lover of ice racing and dirt racing.

He is survived by his loving wife of sev-



en years, Kathryn; his four children (Lotty Boissonnault of Steuben, Maine, Amber Boissonnault and Ernie’s grandchild Ivory of Springvale, Maine, Chad Turk of Pittsfield, and Rhonda Thibeault of Pittsfield); one brother, Luc Boissonnault, and his wife LeeAnn of Loudon; one sister in law, Margaret Fellows, and her husband Tra-

cy; and six nieces and nephews (Jody, Mandy, Leah, Bethany, Adam and Trevor).

Ernest was predeceased by his parents.

At the request of the family, there will be no calling hours.

The family will be having a celebration of Ernie’s life on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Rumor Mill on South Main Street Bristol.

The Mayhew Funeral Home and Meredith Bay Crematorium are assisting the family with arrangements. To view Ernest’s book of memories, go to www.mayhewfuneralhomes.com.

Towns

Alexandria

Judy Kraemer 744-3532
judy7@metrocast.net

Winter sights

All the trees are bare, the air is still and gray, snow will come again. It is such a pleasure to have large windows to see the field and tracks. Pileated Woodpecker has visited twice so far this year. It seems we have to have snow cover for him to come.

From the town

Selectmen’s Meeting Jan. 3

Meeting minutes from Dec. 20, 2016 were approved.

Items Reviewed and Signed

Timber Tax: Morri-son Map 413-99

Abatement Reply: Krakow Map 403-4

Business

The Selectmen reviewed a letter from the Town of Pittsburgh Selectmen regarding Local Control of Municipal Roads; the Selectmen will be looking into the issue further before making a decision to send a letter of support and possibly consult with communities that sent a petition to the NH Site Evaluation Committee to issue a declaratory ruling stating that only municipalities have the authority to authorize or not authorize the erection, installation or maintenance of poles, structures, cables, etc. on, across or under local maintained highways.

The Selectmen reviewed the NH Department of Revenue’s 2016 sales monitoring results.

The Selectmen are looking for volunteers to serve as commissioners to represent the town to the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

The Selectmen reviewed information provided by Lakes Region Planning Commission regarding “Mapping Alexandria’s Transportation Destinations”; the Selectmen will work on updates to the map.

The Selectmen reviewed a letter from Doug Benton regarding his resignation from the Budget Committee; there was a vote of thank you to Doug Benton for his efforts with the budget committee.

Upcoming meetings

Public hearing on the proposed 2017 budget

When: Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 6:45 p.m.

First Deliberative

Session

When: Saturday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m.

Town voting day (second Deliberative Session)

When: Tuesday, March 14, polls open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Public hearings on building permit ordinance

First hearing being held on Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Second hearing being held on Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

p.m. at the Town House
The Select Board will also have work sessions Monday, Jan. 9 at 6 p.m. and Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 5 p.m.

The Conservation Commission will meet Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Town House.

The Planning Board will have a Public Hearing Wednesday, Jan. 18 from 7 – 8 p.m. at the Town House.

Keep warm and sit back with a cup of hot tea, or coffee, or cocoa.

Hebron

Bob Brooks 744-3597
hebronnnews@live.com

Hebron Area Women's Group

The Hebron Area Women's Group will be meeting on Thursday, Jan. 19 at the Hebron Union Congregational Church, at noon. Our guest speaker is Jane Ramsey, who will share her adventures with the Roads Scholar Program. Refreshments will be provided by Louise Franklin and Sandra Hutchins. Set-up with the help of Barbara Stevens. Please bring some non-perishable food items for the Bristol Food Pantry. All area residents are welcome.

Newfound Area Churches Christian Unity Schedule

During the week of Jan. 16 through 20, the Newfound Area Churches (NAC) will be holding their annual week-long services for promoting Christian Unity. Each day, there will be a worship service at noon. After each service a light lunch will be provided. The daily rotation of churches will be as follows: Monday (the 16th) Bristol Baptist Church, Tuesday (the 17th) New Hampton Community Church, Wednesday (the 18th) Our Lady of Grace Chapel, Thursday (the 19th) Alexandria United Methodist Church, and Friday (the 20th) Union Congregational Church of Hebron. For more information, please call 744-3885.

Churches

Ashland Community Church

Ashland Community Church is located at 55 Main St., on Route 3 in Ashland

(across from Shurfine Market). Parking is available behind the church.

Sundays -

9 a.m. - Traditional Worship Service followed by coffee/fellowship in the church dining room

9:25 a.m. - KidZone for K - grade 6

11 a.m. - Contemporary Worship Service

11:15 a.m. - KidZone for K - grade six.

11:15 a.m. - Youth Sunday School.

"Toddler Zone" is available at both services for infants -age five

Before the contemporary service please join us for coffee and healthy snacks.

Sermon Series

"Making Change"

Do your finances bring you fear or freedom? Whether you're digging out of debt or planning for your future, now is the time to build a foundation that endures. Investing in a brighter tomorrow starts by Making Change today. This four part series covers

Biblical truths about finances, and how to find freedom in a debt-saturated world.

We are hiring musicians to play in a band at the 11a.m. Contemporary Worship Service. We are looking to hire:

Vocals
Guitars
Keyboard
Drums and More

If interested please contact Aaron Stout at 585-478-2443 or email him at aaron-fuzion@gmail.com

Axyon Youth Ministry, for grades six through 12, Friday's 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 new 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.

Small groups/Bible studies

There are numerous small groups that meet during the week.

Different topics, different times, different places. Please contact

Pastor Ernie Madden for more information.

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, (home phone number) 968-7770 or his cell phone at 412-2046. You can also email 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 to 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!

Family Worship Center Ply. Assembly of God

If you do not have a church home, we want you to know that you

will be welcomed to join our warm and friendly family at The Family Worship Center. You can always contact our Pastor Glen Yunghans at 726-0254 or 536-1966.

Thursday, Jan. 12

Thursday, Jan. 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m., you are invited to join us for our Family Night at the Church. We offer Godly ministry for children, youth, and adults with programs for people of all ages: Royal Rangers Club for boys, elementary through high school; Mpack Club for girls, preschool through high school; Youth 4 Truth High School Bible Study. Do come for this great time of fellowship and learning.

Sunday, Jan. 15

Sunday, Jan. 15, please join us at 8:30 a.m. for bagels, coffee and juice; 9 a.m.: Bible Education for all age groups pre-school through Adult Bible Studies. 10 a.m.: Sunday morning service. Children's church during the morning service for ages 3-K, and grades 1-4. 5 p.m: Prayer meeting. “You do not need any experience in order to pray, only faith and trust in Jesus our Lord.” You may put prayer requests in the green box marked “Prayer Requests” on the hall table.

Monday, Jan. 16

Monday, Jan. 16, noon-2 p.m. – the Church's Helping Hands Food Pantry will be held and free clothing will be available.

Saturday, Jan. 28

Saturday, Jan. 28, 10 a.m. Men's brunch at the Church. Please contact Pastor Glen at 726-0254, or Willy Gusha for information for reservations.

Other announcements

Michelle Thayer has a ministry to the residents at Forestview Manor in

SEE CHURCHES, PAGE A15

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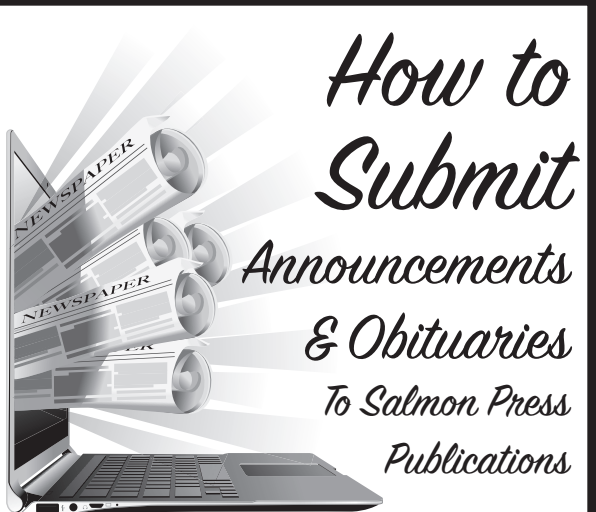
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Wedding, engagement, and anniversary announcements are welcome at:

weddings@salmonpress.com

Photos are also welcome, but must be submitted in jpeg format.

Please contact Executive Editor

Brendan Berube at (603) 279-4516, ext. 111

with any questions regarding the submission process.

Live Free Home Health Care selected for two industry awards

NEW HAMPTON — Home Care Pulse, a national company dedicated to surveying both clients and employees of Home Health Care providers has awarded Live Free Home Health Care two of their most prestigious awards. The Best of Home Care Provider of

Choice Award is given to home care providers who receive the highest satisfaction scores from their current clients. Scores are tabulated in the same way in the Employer of Choice category. Survey results are formulated at Home Care Pulse by contact-

ing 10 percent of an agency's clients and employees and asking a series of ten open ended questions to determine the clients and employees satisfaction with services supplied and support from their employers. Home Care Pulse is able to obtain 95 to 97 percent comple-

tion rates of surveys each month to provide accurate information to their clients. Detailed reports are forwarded to each client agency monthly. In the months of October through December, 2016, Live Free Home Health Care earned a score of 9.47 out of a possible 10 as a Provider of Choice, and 9.02 out of a possible 10 in the Best Of Home Care Employer of Choice category. "We've always prid-

ed ourselves on the quality care our team provides. To be named both Provider of Choice and Employer of Choice is humbling and keeps our focus where it always has been...doing what's best for our clients and doing what's best for our caregivers. What we do is not work to us... It's an honor," said Executive Director and Co-Administrator Tammy Miller. Live Free Home Health Care oper-

ates in the Lakes Region and Central New Hampshire. We understand the importance of providing dignified and confidential home care to our clients, and the comfort it brings to know that your loved one is cared for like a member of our own family. For more information, contact Live Free Home Health Care at 217-0149, of visit us on the web at: www.live-freehomehealthcare.com.

Genesis Behavioral Health signs agreement to purchase HealthLink building

LACONIA — Genesis Behavioral Health recently signed a purchase and sales agreement with LRGHealthcare to purchase the HealthLink building located at 577 Main St. in Laconia. With the purchase of the property, Genesis Behavioral Health plans to combine the two campuses located at 111 Church St. and 771 North Main St., and two leased administrative office suites on Water and Beacon Street into a singular location in downtown Laconia. "We have been seeking a facility that best meets the needs of our patients, staff and our community for many years," said Maggie Pritchard, Executive Director of Genesis Behavioral Health. "The prospective purchase of this property is an opportunity for Genesis to become more efficient, expand services in Belknap County and contribute to the economic growth and vitality of downtown Laconia."

benefit the region is indicative of its strong community partnerships and illustrates the many ways in which the public benefits from access to mental health treatment. We look forward to having a facility in which patient care and access to care will be enhanced and partnerships between community members, area business, foundations and other stakeholders will allow the organization to more effectively contribute to the health and well-being of our citizens." Genesis Behavioral Health is working with Samyn-D'Elia Architects, P.A. of Ashland, REI Service Corporation of Manchester and Conneston Construction, Inc. of Laconia. The renovation of the facility will provide for a much more energy-efficient operation and create employment opportunities as our project management team is committed to using local vendors to assist the region in its economic development. It is anticipated that

Genesis will assume occupancy of the building a year from now, or sooner, if the project is completed ahead of schedule. In order to fund this multi-million dollar building renovation project, Genesis has planned for a strategic combination of financing to include: bond financing from the NHHEFA, CDFA tax credits, proceeds from the sale or repurposing of the two existing facilities, related energy program financing, grants and a capital campaign. Edward Engler, Mayor of the City of Laconia states, "We are so excited to bring additional employees and new customers to the downtown area and that a significant structure located in the heart of downtown Laconia will receive a major facelift. The city is committed to making our Main Street a vibrant center for commerce and this initiative will contribute significantly to that objective."

Glaucoma: What seniors should know

BY MARTHA SWATS
Owner/Administrator
Comfort Keepers
Glaucoma is a group of diseases that can damage the eye's optic nerve and result in vision loss. It is also the second leading cause of blindness. Glaucoma occurs when the normal fluid pressure inside the eyes slowly rises and up to 40 percent of a person's vision can be lost without them even noticing. However, with early treatment, your eyes can be protected against serious vision loss.

Why Do Some Seniors Develop Glaucoma?
In the front of the eye is the anterior chamber. A clear fluid continuously flows in and out of the chamber, nourishing nearby tissues. The fluid leaves the chamber at the open angle where the cornea and iris meet. When the fluid reaches the angle, it flows through a spongy meshwork that acts like a drain, and leaves the eye. Sometimes, when the fluid reaches the angle, it passes too slowly through the meshwork drain. As the fluid builds up, the pressure inside the eye rises to a level that may damage the optic nerve and vision loss may result.

That's why controlling pressure inside the eye is important. Not every person with increased eye pressure will develop glaucoma. Some people can tolerate higher eye pressure better than others. A comprehensive dilated eye exam can help your eye care professional determine what level of eye pressure is normal for you.

Most Common Types of Glaucoma in Seniors
Open-angle Glaucoma: The most common type of glaucoma, affecting nearly three million Americans,

this form results in a slow, painless loss of peripheral vision. It happens when the eye's drainage canals become clogged over time. Vision damaged this way is like looking through a paper towel tube. Most people have no symptoms and no early warning signs, and may not notice sight loss for many years. This type usually responds well to medication, especially if caught early and treated.

Low-Tension or Normal-Tension Glaucoma: Optic nerve damage and narrowed side vision can occur in people with normal eye pressure. Lowering eye pressure by at least 30 percent through medicines slows this form of disease in some, however, it may worsen in others despite low pressures. A comprehensive medical history is important in identifying potential risk factors, such as low blood pressure. If no risk factors are identified, the treatment options are the same as for open-angle glaucoma.

Angle-Closure Glaucoma: In this type of glaucoma, the fluid at the front of the eye cannot reach the angle and leave the eye, and the angle gets blocked by part of the iris. This results in a sudden increase in eye pressure. Symptoms include severe pain and nausea, redness of the eye, and blurred vision. If you have these symptoms, you need to seek medical emergency treatment immediately. Without treatment, the eye can become blind in as few as one or two days. Usually, prompt laser surgery and medicines can clear the blockage and protect sight.

There are also rare types of glaucoma that can affect seniors. For example, pigmentary glaucoma occurs when pigment from the iris flakes off and blocks the meshwork, slowing fluid particularly threatening to vision over a lifetime. Trauma-related glaucoma can be caused by a serious blow to the eye, chemical burn, or a penetrating injury.

What Seniors Can Do
Presently, there is no cure for glaucoma. However, medication or surgery can help slow or prevent further vision loss. The appropriate treatment depends upon the type of glaucoma a person has. Over time, some drugs may stop working or have negative interactions with other prescriptions. Only a physician can appropriately monitor glaucoma and glaucoma medications. If you are being treated for glaucoma, be sure to take your glaucoma medicine every day.

Studies have shown that the early detection and treatment before there is major vision loss is the best way to control the disease. Make sure to have your eyes regularly examined through dilated pupils by an eye care professional. After the age of 40, get an exam every two to four years, and annually after the age of 55. Full annual exams are recommended for those over age 50 with a family history of glaucoma.

Comfort Keepers® can help. We can help loved ones around the home with assistance in activities of daily living, household tasks, and by encouraging those we serve to eat well and take their medications. Contact your local Comfort Keepers office to discuss the many in-home care services we offer.

About Comfort Keepers
Comfort Keepers is a leader in providing in-home care consisting of such services as companionship, transportation, housekeeping, meal preparation, bathing, mobility assistance, nursing services, and a host of additional items all meant to keep seniors living independently worry free in the comfort of their homes. Comfort Keepers have been serving New Hampshire residents since 2005. Let us help you stay independent. Please call 536-6060 or visit our Web site at www.comfortkeepers.com/plymouthnh for more information.



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THE WINNIPESAUKEE TALKIE

Home sales end on high note, but is the music over?



BY RANDY HILMAN

Fourth Quarter regional home sales closed down nearly 13 percent from the fall quarter but unit sales rose a healthy 9.6 percent for the year to 4,257 single family houses and condominiums sold, figures show. The impressive year-over-year gain capped four straight years of rising home prices as well as sales unit and dollar volume growth in Belknap, Carroll and Grafton counties, giving rise to new forecasts of a possible trend shift in the year ahead.

“In year-over-year comparisons...homes are selling in fewer days and for higher prices,” wrote New Hampshire REALTORS® in its most recent housing report. “Prior to the (presidential) election, trend shift was hard to come by, and unemployment rates have not budged since August 2015.

“Post –election, mortgage rates are up and so are opinions that a trend shift is likely in the near future,” NHR continued.

Accompanying the 9.6 percent annual rise of housing units sold – up 35.5 percent in four years – was an impressive boost in the dollar volume of transacted properties, rising 11.5 percent, year-over-year, to \$1.17 billion, or 49.4 percent greater than the dollar volume transacted in 2012, according to data supplied by the New England Real Estate

Network’s Multiple Listing Service.

Meanwhile, the median home price across the three-county region rose 4.2 percent in 2016 to \$198,000, a 16.5 percent increase from four years ago when the median price stood at \$170,000 according to NEREN figures.

And, statistics show, homes, in addition to selling for increasingly more money, have also been selling faster, 27.5 percent faster last year than the median 91-day pace of sales in 2012.

Statewide, NHR reported a 1.4 percent decline in days on market to 83 days. Home sales, it reported, rose 10.2 percent for the year on sales volume of \$4.7 billion, a year-over-year increase of 12.6 percent. Listings statewide, fell 7.9 percent, continuing the trend of declining inventories and rising prices.

Many real estate market watchers pre-

dict home prices will continue to rise in 2017, perhaps 3-5 percent with the pace of growth slowing toward the end of the year as interest rates climb steadily above 4 percent. Some analysts predict mortgage rates as high as 5 percent by year’s end, a development most believe will negatively impact affordability in the short term, as wages are not expected to grow at a rate commensurate with rising home prices.

Plus, high consumer confidence and sustained shortage of housing inventory will work against the near term reversal of a rising home price trend, experts say, although most agree that home prices will not rise faster than incomes and inflation for very long.

The market tracking real estate firm Redfin has predicted a median home sale price

increase this year of 5.3 percent. The Internet-based consumer real estate portal Zillow is forecasting an increase of 3.2 percent in the median home price and a 6.5 percent rise in home values for 2017.

Home sales in Belknap County rose 16.6 percent in 2016 to 1413 closed units valued at \$401.5 million, up 13.1% from the previous year, according to NEREN. The median home price there rose 2.5 percent to \$205,000.

Carroll County home sales rose 8 percent to 1,367 sold units valued at \$413.6 million, a dollar volume gain of 15.5 percent over 2015, NEREN figure show. The median price of a home in Carroll County rose 3 percent to \$205,000.

In Grafton County, sales rose 5 percent to 1,479 single family homes and condominiums valued at \$351.7 million, up 5.5 percent from the previous year. The median home price rose to \$188,000, an increase of 4.4 percent, according

to NEREN.

So, do you have specific questions pertaining to real estate activity in your neighborhood or community? Contact me if you’re looking for specific information not contained in my report. And, if you’ve been thinking of selling, here’s a tip: You don’t have to overfill a broker’s pocket with your money to get top dollar for your home. You just have to call me first.

Meanwhile, thank you for reading The Winnepesaukee Talkie.

The Winnepesaukee Talkie is a real estate feature column produced by Randy Hilman, an award-winning former business journalist for The Tennessean, a Gannett daily newspaper located in Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Hilman today is an associate broker at Keller Williams Lakes & Mountains Realty, Wolfeboro, NH. He can be reached at 610-8963 or by email at rhilman@randyhilmanhomes.com.

MARK ON THE MARKETS



BY MARK PATTERSON

Having reviewed many existing financial plans or insurance policies that may be a part of the plan, there are a few common problems that exist in these plans and maybe in yours. The first is a term life insurance policy that was purchased years ago that is known as “Annual renewable level term.” This term policy starts out being affordable for most but increases in price every year or renewal period. Eventually this becomes very expensive and not viable for most. The biggest problem is that this policy becomes very expensive as we age. If you have had a health issue, it may not be viable to get a policy where the premiums are fixed for a period of time, say 10 or 20 years. For some a more permanent policy may have been a better choice when they were younger and possibly healthier. A combination of term and permanent may be a great strategy for those who need more insurance for the next 20 years or

Outdated planning

so, but still want some coverage for the remainder of their lives. There are many ways to structure the proper life insurance plan, it should be specific to your needs.

The other scenario that I run across often is a plan with no plan for maybe one of the greatest threats to your family’s financial future and legacy. The lack of “Long term care insurance.” I also see many policies that were purchased some time ago that are not adequate for today’s cost of care. Many policies are structured for a two year payout. While the average time to need LTCI is around three years, there are far more healthy people that just become older and need some help in their own homes. That can go on for extended periods of time. I make it a point to structure Long term health insurance for that very common scenario of extended in home care. Traditional LTCI policies are a “use it or lose it” proposition, meaning you pay for it and hope you do not use it, however you do not get your money back if you don’t. I prefer using an “Asset Based” policy that has other features and benefits that can be used in conjunction with an existing LTCI policy. This policy can pay out over an ex-

tended period of time if needed. If it is not used or partially used, the remainder LTC benefit reverts to a death benefit to your beneficiaries. This money can also be borrowed from the policy or just retrieved if you want your money back, less any benefits that you may have used. The opportunity for you to re-visit your plan or lack of plan should be addressed and brought up to date. Have an advisor who is well versed in all aspects of financial planning review your current

plan and policies. Often times, the policies you have can be updated or supplemented to suit your needs going forward.

Structuring steady, sustainable income is a third key ingredient that many portfolios lack. Longevity risk, or outliving your assets is a real threat to a successful retirement income plan.

Mark Patterson is an advisor with MHP Asset Management and can be reached at 447-1979 or Mark@MHP-Asset.com

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Exchange

FROM PAGE A1
New Year in February. Part of that holiday tradition, she said, is to give unmarried boys and girls “Red Pockets,” which are envelopes of money.

“It’s my favorite holiday because I get lots of money,” Suez said with a grin.

She went on to describe transportation on Hong Kong, which is a mass transit system that includes a subway, double decker buses, mini-buses and taxis.

Entertainment is prevalent and karaoke is a common night out for she and her friends.

“You pay \$9 for each person to go into a room where they select a song and sing. It’s really fun,” said Suez.

There is a Hong Kong Disneyland, one of the smallest Disneyland theme parks in the world, but she and her friends prefer trips to Ocean Park, where roller coasters make it appear as if riders are headed right into the sea.

Questions from the class pertained to school and her family life. Suez said her school day is seven and a half hours long, with two morning classes, recess, lunch and three afternoon classes. Many students also take part in sports and she is a high jumper at her school.

Lisa of Tokyo attends a private girls school and had a slide show of a day in her life as well, including photos of sports, arts, entertainment and transportation.

“I take a train to school every day,” she said.

Lisa also schooled the students on the mix of Chinese and Japanese characters used in her daily writing and explained how everything is read right to left and up and down.

She also plays sports, including volleyball, ping-pong and basketball. Lisa is very involved in music and the arts and one year was musical director of a school performance where she also created the costumes.

Danbury students were amazed by her Pokemon trivia and had several questions about the game. They also asked about the weather and seismic activity in Japan. Lisa said she has never been in an earthquake but her school holds regular drills to be prepared in case one should strike the region where she lives.

While Lisa, Suez and Safarmo were dressed in traditional costumes from their homelands, Solene of Belgium arrived in jeans, boots and a top that any American student might wear. She said her country has no traditional costumes and people dress much like teens in the Western world.

There are three languages that are spoken commonly in Belgium, however — French, German and Dutch. In Brussels, the nation’s capital, they also hear a lot of English.

Belgium, she told

the students, is a monarchy with a queen and king, but they have no power over the government. Instead a Prime Minister is elected every four years, much like the United States.

Her slide show included their famed Manneken-Pis statue and photos of Atomium, a huge entertainment and tourist attraction that was designed to look like an atomic model.

Food was a fun topic and Solene told the class that French Fries actually had their origin in Belgium. During World War One American soldiers were enjoying the fries they found in an area where people were speaking French and began calling them French Fries. Over the years, the name stuck.

Belgium is also famous for its waffles and chocolate.

“It’s the best chocolate in the world,” said Solene, who said it is something she misses here in the United States.

Budget

FROM PAGE A1

the public who had to step outside during the discussion expressed dismay that a board with no jurisdiction over any town official or employee would be shutting taxpayers out of a meeting for such a reason.

Les Dion, the selectmen’s alternate representative to the budget committee, joined the session after realizing that the regular representative, J.P. Morrison, was not there.

After reconvening in public session, Vice-Chair Don Milbrand made a motion to seal the minutes of the non-public session, which the committee approved with Keegan and Betsy Schneider abstaining from the vote.

The committee spent some time debating the best approach to take in its budget review. John Sellers made a motion to begin by putting all of the 2016 budget figures into the column for the budget committee’s recommendation, and then

Popular comics like The Smurfs also had their start in Belgium and Tomorrowland is a famed dance music festival, which is enjoyed by thousands every year. And when it comes to sports, soccer is the game of choice.

“There are many differences between the (cultures) in Belgium but when it comes to soccer and our Belgium Red Devils soccer team, we all agree,” she said.

Finally Sofie spoke about her country of Tajikistan. The land is 93-percent mountainous and while she lives in a central city, the mountains to the east of her home are uninhabited and covered with snow year round.

“A lot of tourists go there every year though to go hiking though,” Sofie said.

The country was overcome by war in the 1990’s and she said her parents lost everything they owned during that time. While she was not yet born, her older siblings often had to

to adjust the budget lines as necessary, rather than to fill in the column as they proceed through the budget review. When Dion asked whether that would require someone going through the budget and placing those numbers in the “recommended” column, Cote produced a document in which he already had filled in the column with the 2016 budget numbers, prompting Dion to comment, “Well played!”

Despite proponents’ assertions that it would make the budget review easier, opponents said it would hinder the process and, when the motion came to a vote, it was defeated, 6-7.

Once the board settled into a conventional review pattern, looking at 2016 appropriations, departmental requests, and selectmen’s recommendations, the process became more straightforward.

A budget committee has a right to go line-by-line through a budget to determine the bottom-line appropriation, which helps give direc-



DONNA RHODES

Safarmo (“Sofie”) is an exchange student at Newfound Regional High School who performed a traditional dance from her homeland of Tajikistan during a recent visit with boys and girls at Danbury Elementary School.

stay home alone for as much as 12 days while her parents traveled to get basics such as milk and bread.

“Knowing that, I appreciate everything they give me now,” said Sofie. “Our country got its independence 10 years ago and I really appreciate the fact that I have a home and a family.”

Her country’s government, she added, is not perfect but her par-

tion to the selectmen in overseeing the approved spending. However, selectmen are able to transfer funds between lines as they see fit, as long as they remain within the bottom-line figure as approved at Town Meeting. The exception is for accounts where the budget committee has set a figure of “0” which, if not amended at Town Meeting, prohibits any spending for that purpose.

Voters at town meeting can amend the budget as they see fit, as long as it does not change the budget committee’s bottom-line figure by more than 10 percent. There is an exception to the 10-percent rule when it concerns a bond issue.

This year’s budget committee chose to forego a line-by-line review, instead voting on spending levels by department. While there was some discussion about individual lines in the budget, most of the motions were for each department’s total approval. SEE BUDGET, PAGE A14

ents are thankful every day for their president who tries to prevent any further wars in their land.

Holidays in Tajikistan are big, filled with lots of traditional foods. Navruz, which means New Day, is celebrated in March and includes seven dishes prepared especially for the day.

“We don’t use tables for the meal though. We all sit on the floor to eat then get together to sing a lot of songs and dance,” Sofie explained.

Many branches of the Muslim faith are acknowledged in her city and one religious center is called the Ismaili

Center. Designed by Canadian architecture, it is comprised of five towers that are used for prayers, education, a library and special presentations.

To conclude the visit, Sofie then had everyone gather round as she performed a traditional dance of Tajikistan.

Students said they really enjoyed her dance and were amazed by all they learned from the girls.

“I liked how I could see different people from different countries here today. Sometimes I felt like I was in those countries as I listened to them,” said one fourth grader.

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Town of Hebron
PO Box 188, Hebron, NH 03241
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

In accordance with RSA 32:5, you are hereby notified that there will be a public hearing on the Hebron town budget and warrant articles for fiscal year 2017.

To be held at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at the Hebron Community Hall located at 16 Church Lane.

Copies of the budget and warrant articles may be picked up at the Hebron Select Board Office after January 19, 2017.

Per Hebron Select Board,
Patrick K. Moriarty, Chairman
John W. Dunklee, Vice-Chair
Eleanor D. Lonske, Member

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Newfound Landing Sports

A10

Thursday, January 12, 2017

What's On Tap

There will be plenty of action in the coming week as teams continue along with the 2017 schedule.

At Newfound, the alpine ski team will be at Bretton Woods for a 10 a.m. meet today, Jan. 12, and will be at Mount Sunapee on Thursday, Jan. 19, at 1 p.m.

The Newfound hoop boys will be hosting White Mountains today, Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m. and will be at Mascoma at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17.

The Bear girls' basketball team will be at White Mountains today, Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m. and will be hosting Mascoma at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17.

At Plymouth, the boys' basketball team will be at Lebanon at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 13 and will be at John Stark for a 6:30 p.m. game on Tuesday, Jan. 17.

The Bobcat hoop girls will be hosting Lebanon at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 13, and will be hosting John Stark at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 17.

The Kearsarge-Plymouth hockey team will be hosting Somersworth-Coe-Brown at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. at Proctor Academy and will be at Mo-nadnock at 6:10 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

The Plymouth wrestling team will be at Winnisquam at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 14, and will be hosting Bow at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

The Plymouth Nordic ski team will be at Plainfield on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 2 p.m.

The Bobcat ski jumpers will be hosting a meet on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 6 p.m.



The Newfound girls' hoop team poses for a photo after winning the Lakes Region Holiday Hoop Tournament on Dec. 30.

KATHY SUTHERLAND

Bears remain undefeated with two more wins

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

BRISTOL — After winning the Lakes Region Holiday Hoop Tournament, the Newfound hoop girls got back to the business at hand with two more regular season wins in the first week of 2017.

The Bears were delayed a day in their trip to Newport, but came through with a 62-24 win on Wednesday, Jan. 4.

Newfound came out a little slow on the offensive end of things but was able to keep the game close with solid defense until they changed up the offense to adapt to what Newport was throwing at them.

The Bears trailed 8-3 out of the gate but they finished the first quarter on an 8-0 run to take an 11-8 lead after one. Ashlee Dukette and Amanda Johnston accounted for

all of the team's points in that frame. Newfound got a more balanced look in the second quarter and outscored the Tigers 18-6 to take a 29-14 lead to the halftime break.

The third quarter was all Newfound, as they won the frame by a 17-5 score and then won the fourth quarter 16-5 to finish off the win.

"At times we struggled with their pressure and many times their pressure led to layups for us," coach Karri Peterson noted. "I was happy with the way the girls played and we need to continue that level and keep improving our weaknesses to be the toughest in the end."

Dukette finished with 23 points, 17 rebounds, nine steals, five assists and three blocks and earned her coach's praise.

"Ashlee does a lot of



RC GREENWOOD

Amanda Johnston keeps her focus on the ball during her team's game with Inter-Lakes last week.

the little thighs and is coming right along," Peterson said. "She plays hard and plays a complete game."

Peterson also praised Johnston's work dominating the middle of the floor, as she had 15 points, 17 rebounds, seven steals, three assists and a block.

"Ashlee and Amanda are a nice 1-2 punch inside and outside together," Peterson said.

The veteran coach noted that Grace Schilling and Alexis Vantil subbed in and out for each other and combined played the entire 32 minutes, putting up a combined 15 points, 11 rebounds and four steals.

"They have different strengths, so they complement each other well when one subs in for the other."

The Bears finished the week with a home game against Inter-Lakes on Friday, Jan. 6, getting a 64-37 win over the Lakers.

Newfound came out strong but was unable to finish early on but again relied on Johnston and Dukette to carry the load in the first quarter, as they combined for all 15 of the team's points as the Bears led 15-8 after one.

The Bears struggled to finish again in the second quarter but got numerous free throws in the frame and four people put points on the board as the hosts took a 31-18 lead to the break.

Newfound came out of the gate strong in the third, scoring 20 points

in the frame to take a 51-29 lead at the break and then won the fourth quarter by a 14-8 score.

Dukette was strong again, putting in 39 points, 14 rebounds, nine steals, six blocks and three assists. Johnston played her way through foul trouble for another strong game, with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Vantil proved her worth from the free throw line, sinking 10 of 10 and finishing with 14 points, 10 rebounds and three steals. Savanna Bony added nine points.

The Bears will be taking on White Mountains today, Jan. 12, in Whitefield at 6 p.m. and will be hosting Mascoma on Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 6:30 p.m.

Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 569-3126 or sportsgsn@salmonpress.com.

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Bears rally to force overtime but fall to Sachems

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BRISTOL — Down 22-7 in the second quarter, the Newfound boys' hoop team, still looking for its first win of the season, could've easily packed it in.

But the Bears fought back. They clawed and scratched and with less than a second left on the clock, tied the game and forced overtime.

While Laconia came away with a 54-46 win in overtime, coach Tom Bourdeau saw plenty of positives in his team's play on Thursday, Jan. 5.

"I just told the kids, we brought it back up," said Bourdeau, referring to the fact that he thought the team had taken steps backwards in its last few games. "I am very pleased with the effort of all these guys."

"They just kept playing," the first-year Bear coach said. "Before, they may have just packed it up."

The Bears were able to keep things close through the first quarter, as a Devon Kraemer-Roberts hoop got them on the board first, only to see Laconia come back with two free throws and a hoop to take the 4-2 lead. AJ Muse drilled a three-pointer to put Newfound up by a point



JOSHUA SPAULDING

AJ Muse puts up a shot during his team's overtime game with Laconia last week.

but the Sachems got the final point of the quarter and took a 6-5 lead after the first eight minutes.

Laconia came through with the first eight points of the second quarter, including a three-pointer and a three-point play for a 14-5 lead. A pair of Mason Dalphonse free throws got Newfound on the board, but the Sachems came back with two three-pointers and two free throws to up

the lead to the aforementioned 22-7.

Newfound didn't go away, as Colby Miles, Muse and Ben Morrill drilled consecutive three-pointers to cut the lead to 22-16. The Sachems did get a hoop and a free throw to take a 25-16 lead to the half-time break.

The visitors hit the first hoop and two free throws out of the gate in the second half, giving them a 29-16 lead



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Mason Dalphonse drives to the basket in action on Jan. 5 against Laconia.

before Jarrod Fairbank sank a three-pointer for the Bears to cut the lead to 10 again. Laconia hit another hoop to push the lead to 12. A Muse free throw got Newfound another point but the Sachems hit the next two baskets and the Bears had the 35-20 lead, extending the advantage to 15 for the second time.

Fairbank hit two free throws and Muse drilled a three-pointer at the buzzer to cut the lead to 35-25 at the end of the third quarter.

Dalphonse hit a free throw to start the scoring in the fourth quarter and Muse followed with a three to cut the lead to six with less than two minutes gone in the fourth quarter. Laconia answered with a free throw to put the lead at seven.

Muse hit another hoop for Newfound with 4:30 to go to cut the lead to five at 36-31 before the

Sachems hit a hoop for two more points. Dalphonse hit a free throw and Laconia answered with a hoop for a 40-32 lead.

The Sachems didn't score again in regulation, as Dalphonse started an 8-0 run with a free throw. Muse drilled another three-pointer with 2:55 to go and then 15 seconds later, Fairbank finished off his own steal to cut the lead to two. Kraemer-Roberts hit a free throw with 2:04 to go to cut the deficit to 40-39.

The Bears had chances to tie the game and take the lead with free throws in the final minute, but missed three shots. Kraemer-Roberts was able to hit one free throw with half a second to go to tie the game at 40 and send the game to overtime.

The Sachems converted a three-point play to start the scoring in the overtime frame be-

fore Kraemer-Roberts hit a pair from the charity stripe to cut the lead to 43-42. The Sachems drilled a three-pointer to push the lead to four before Dalphonse hit a free throw to cut the lead to three.

Laconia hit a hoop to push the lead to five and Fairbank sank a hoop with 1:25 to go in the overtime frame to bring Newfound to within 48-45. However, Laconia hit two free throws to push the lead to five and after a Miles free throw, hit four more free throws to seal the win at 54-46.

"Although it's still a loss, I can see a light at the end of the tunnel," Bourdeau said. "If they keep playing like this, we'll get one or two."

The Newfound coach noted that missed free throws late in the game were costly and he's hopeful that the Bears can begin to convert those throws.

Muse finished with 18 points to lead the way for the Bears, while Fairbank added nine points.

Newfound will be hosting White Mountains today, Jan. 12, and will be at Mascoma on Tuesday, Jan. 17, at Mascoma, both at 6:30 p.m.

NRHS 5-11-9-15-6-46
LHS 6-19-10-5-14-54

Newfound 46

Morrill 1-0-3, Muse 6-1-18, Miles 1-1-4, Dalphonse 0-6-6, Fairbank 3-2-9, Kraemer-Roberts 1-4-6, Totals 12-14-46

Laconia 54

Drouin 1-5-7, Ellis 3-3-10, Gaspa 3-2-10, Muzzey 2-0-4, Piva 2-1-5, Steele 2-3-7, P. Minor 1-0-3, McCrea 2-2-6, J. Minor 1-0-2, Totals 17-16-54

Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 569-3126 or sportsgsn@salmonpress.com.

Two huge thumbs up for the new Plymouth track facility

I've been covering indoor track for a few years now and it's not always the easiest sport to cover.

First and foremost, the meets are not in the local area, so there is always traveling involved. They are also on weekends, which can be a positive and a negative. Saturday meets often conflict with hockey games or Nordic races. Sunday meets are always a bit easier since there's not much else going on for games on Sunday.

However, one of the other issues of the meets is that they are held in the crowded UNH Field House. While it is not a horrible place, it is a tough place to go to cover a meet in because everyone is crowded into the small space, it's usually fairly dark in parts of the track and it's tough on photography, particularly for someone with my limited skills.

I always like covering the State Meet since it is held at Dartmouth College. While it is a long drive and it is almost always on Super Bowl Sunday, the Leveone Fieldhouse at Dartmouth is much bigger, brighter and easier to maneuver around.

This past weekend, I got my first look at the new ALLWell North Center at Plymouth State University and came away incredibly impressed and wishing my indoor teams would compete there every week.

I had heard good things about the facility and after taking a few minutes to find the correct road into the new building, I was pleasantly surprised to find

SPORTING CHANCE



By JOSHUA SPAULDING

parking underneath the structure. The quick trip inside on the cold morning was appreciated and once inside I was even more pleasantly surprised at the facility.

Climbing up the stairs behind a huge crowd of high school students, I came into an expansive lobby with windows looking out over the other buildings in the athletic complex, including the field house and the ice arena. The doors opened up into a huge track facility that was bigger and brighter than any place I've covered indoor track before.

After talking to some of the Plymouth State coaches and athletes who were in attendance helping out with the meet, I got a true sense of the place as much more than just a track.

While the track is the centerpiece, in the infield are four indoor tennis courts, with nets that can be installed easily and dividers that come down from the ceiling to separate the courts. The track facility also divides in half with a curtain that comes down from the ceiling, allowing two different groups to use the facility at the same time. The shot put net also comes down from the ceiling and there are two batting cages for baseball and softball suspended from the ceiling at one end of the track. There is also a ropes course that is available to use at one end of the facil-

ity and I was told by the PSU coach that the previous weekend the ropes course was being used on one side and a wrestling match was held on the other side.

The long jump pit is imbedded in the floor with covers to go over it so the entire floor surface can be used.

While I didn't see the entire facility, I came away impressed, just as I was upon my first events at the ALLWell Center South, which is the hockey arena and welcome center across the street. Plymouth State has done well by its students and it's great to see the high school kids getting to use such an incredible facility.

The only thing that might have brought a complaint or two was the lack of bleachers on one side of the track, which made viewing the sprints and hurdles a bit tough for parents and spectators.

But aside from that minor issue, the ALLWell North facility has my blessing as a regular host for indoor track meets. The more the better.

Finally, have a great day Paul and Pam Harvey.

Joshua Spaulding is the Sports Editor for the Granite State News, Carroll County Independent, Meredith News, Gifford Steamer, Winisquam Echo, Plymouth Record-Enterprise, Littleton Courier, Newfound Landing, Coos County Democrat, Berlin Reporter and The Bay-sider. He can be reached at sportsgsn@salmonpress.com, at 569-3126, or PO Box 250, Wolfeboro Falls, NH 03896.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Let's go Bears

The Newfound spirit team performs at halftime of the Newfound boys' basketball team's home game with Laconia last week.

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Wolfeboro, NH

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•Experience with practices of non-profit administration including budgeting, financial planning, modeling and forecasting.
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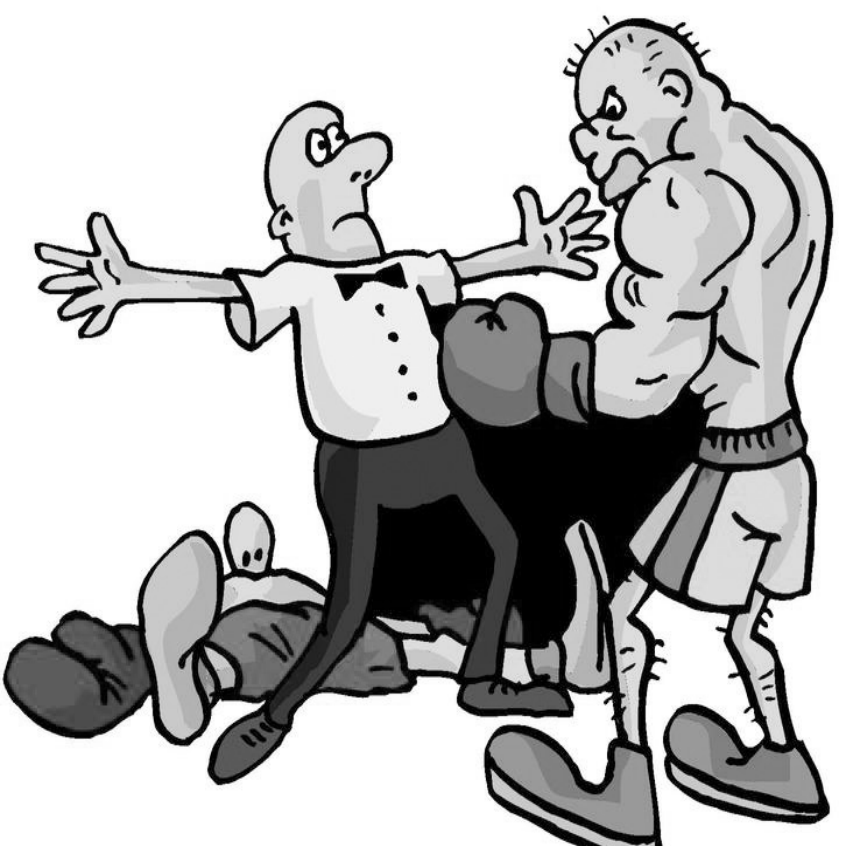
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Approximate start date February 1, 2017 to the end of the school year.
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The Executive Director (ED) is the key management leader of Tin Mountain and is thus responsible for overseeing the administration, fund raising, technical programs and strategic plan of the organization. The ED reports to the Board of Trustees to fulfill the organization's mission. The ED oversees about 10 employees who are involved in outreach, fund raising, environmental programs, research and teaching.

The successful candidate must have the necessary education and experience to work with the staff and Board of Trustees to enhance Tin Mountain's success with donor foundations. The writing of grants, written and oral communications and the ability to manage the annual budget are critical requirements.

Professional qualifications:

- College degrees in an applicable science; Ph.D. preferable.
- Business/Management degrees, Ed.D., MBA may be acceptable.
- Eight or more years nonprofit senior management experience.
- Proven success in nonprofit fund raising and donor relations.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Budget management skills; strong organizational abilities.
- Demonstrated ability to oversee and collaborate with staff.
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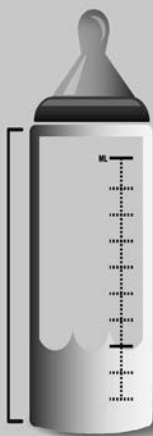
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Tin Mountain Conservation Center,
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BOS

FROM PAGE A1
when they did so.

Other proposed warrant articles will address changes in the solid waste ordinance; decide on whether to take out a loan for new dewatering equipment at the wastewater treatment plant, estimated at \$375,000; continue with engineering for the Central Street water-sewer-drainage project; a \$25,000 contingency fund; a \$40,000 police cruiser; \$25,000 for new radio units; and equipment replacement in the fire department.

Fire Chief Ben LaRoché told selectmen that, after reviewing his budget, he would rather see the department take on a five-year, \$10,000-per-year replacement plan for structural firefighting equipment than to have a warrant article seeking \$20,000 all at once and still leaving the department with lots of outdated equipment.

Other potential warrant articles include adding a generator for the new communications tower being erected on Hemp Hill Road, with the money coming from a Homeland Security grant; acceptance of a potential \$330,000 grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to continue with the Pemigewasset River Trail project; a \$540,000 expenditure for highway work on Merrimack, Spring, North Main, and Union streets, if the town receives a state grant that would cover 80 percent of the cost; purchase of a one-ton highway truck, which would be paid out of capital reserve funds (alternately just putting money away in capital reserve); and funding accrued wages for town employees.

Selectmen deferred a decision on a potential article that would fund an expanded fireworks show in July, wanting to review bids for the pyrotechnics.

Selectmen heard staff updates from the town clerk and highway superintendent.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Raymah Simpson said it appears that municipal elections will have to return to the recently renovated Old Town Hall on Summer Street. Elections in recent years have taken place at Marion Hall on West Shore Road, but the Holy Trinity Catho-

lic Parish, which owns the building, has decided against continuing the offer, and the town has not been able to find an alternate location.

While long-time residents have called for a return to the Old Town Hall for years, those moving to town more recently have complained about the on-street parking and sloping sidewalks along Summer Street and praised the level parking and easy access at the Marion Center.

Simpson said there may be no choice but to return to the Old Town Hall, but she said she was also looking at the possibility of using the Masonic Cardigan Lodge, if that should become available.

Highway Superintendent Mark Bucklin reported that the plowing of Central Square has been going well since the town adopted a new ordinance allowing the police department to tow vehicles that remain parked there during snowstorms.

He also advocated entering into a three-year paving contract while petroleum prices are low. The town has received quotes from GMI Asphalt Corporation and Bryant Paving.

Providing an update on the solid waste transfer station, Bucklin said there is enough fill on the site to accommodate a new drop-off facility, but further testing is needed to ensure enough compaction of the soil. Design work will continue this year with the goal of presenting a plan to voters in 2018. The town hopes to fund much of the work through refunds from the Concord Solid Waste Cooperative.

Selectmen also discussed doing a complete revaluation over the next five years. Bristol just completed an assessment review and adjusted property values accordingly, but selectmen now want to do a more comprehensive revaluation, known as a “measuring list” that more accurately would reflect the market value of properties.

At the end of the meeting, Selectman Paul Manganiello discussed an NH1 article that said the Federal Bureau of Investigation had rated Bristol as the 11th most dangerous place to live in New Hampshire. The report was based on in-

formation gathered and compiled by Safewise, a home security company. The report used the number of reported violent crimes, including aggravated assault, murder, rape, and robbery, along with property crimes — burglary, arson, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft — as reported to the FBI, and calculated the likelihood of such crimes occurring per 1,000 people in each city or town.

Resident Paul Simard had contacted the town to express his outrage that Bristol police had not done a better job at protecting the town.

Manganiello said he was looking into the report, suggesting that the figures might come from reported crimes, whether they turned out to be justified or not, or that changes in the reporting methods when the town purchased new computer systems might have skewed the numbers. He questioned whether all police chiefs are using the same criteria in compiling statistics.

Members of the Bristol Budget Committee also had received Simard’s email, and some members questioned how appropriate it was. Others pointed out that any citizen has a right to express an opinion.

Selectmen agreed that the report was disturbing and said they are interested in finding out how legitimate the findings are.

SRO

FROM PAGE A1
hearing, the budget committee will formalize its recommendations, and then pass the budget on to the school board for its recommendations on the budget and other warrant articles.

The effort to end the tax cap arose from concerns about neglected building maintenance efforts as well as the impact of spending over which the district has no control, such as health insurance, which may force reductions in class offerings if the spending is to remain within the cap.

This year, the superintendent was proposing a budget that is \$1,743,130 higher than the tax cap allows. Some interpret the cap as forcing a reduction in spending, while others see it as limiting the growth in spending by the district.

Past efforts to rescind the tax cap have failed, but with the administrative team having squeezed as much savings as it could in fuel and electricity contracts, as well as staff adjustments, there is very little leeway in the budget to address school priorities. School Board Chair Jeff Levesque of Groton has commented that the tax cap is having a deeper effect on education in the coming year because retirement costs and health insurance premiums have risen and cost items in the negotiated teachers’ contract, if

approved by the voters, will add \$248,042 to labor costs. Overall, he said, the net amount for direct student spending will be a quarter of a million dollars less next year than the current-year budget provides.

Similarly mixed feelings have surrounded the school resource officer position. Originally funded by a grant, the school resource officer position briefly received funding in a split between the school district and the Town of Bristol. Many people saw advantages in having an officer in the schools, believing a police presence has a calming effect and allows students to develop a rapport with law enforcement. Others said having an officer in the schools is equivalent to a militant action that promotes the wrong values.

In the end, budget constraints ended Newfound’s SRO experiment, but with substance misuse having become a major concern around the state and the nation, and there no longer being a Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education (DARE) program in the schools, Stand Up Newfound is looking to bring an SRO back.

The school board is taking no position on either of the petitioned articles, but by law it is required to hold public hearings in each of the towns to allow discussion on the tax cap article. The board approved a schedule of meetings

between Feb. 13 and 24, taking place at schools in the towns that have them, and prior to selectmen’s meetings in the other towns.

In other action at its Jan. 9 meeting, the school board approved a school calendar for next year, hired a new special education teacher and a Title I math teacher to complete this school year, approved an overnight field trip for the athletic leadership conference, and agreed to a list of surplus equipment for sale or disposal.

Early in the meeting, Vincent Paul Migliore complained about the meeting minutes from last month failing to include his reminder about RSA 659:44-a, which prohibits public employees from “electioneering” or attempting to influence a vote. Other members of the school board also cited problems with the minutes, which the superintendent edits for length, and Levesque suggested going back to the video recordings to make sure that the minutes accurately reflect what takes place in the meetings.

Migliore reminded the board that the district had purchased two audio recorders to serve as backups to ensure the integrity of the minutes, and he suggested they resume using them because of several instances in which the video recordings lost the audio or were otherwise compromised.

Budget

FROM PAGE A9

priation.

Kevin MacCaffrie said he would be proposing figures that would limit total spending increases to 2.5 percent, making exceptions for certain items that might have to be paid. He said he based his figure on inflation and the cost of living.

“I feel that’s a fair budget,” he said, “something the town can afford, based on projected revenues. ... If we get more revenue, the taxpayers will pay less.”

Sellers attempted to amend the town administrator’s salary, saying a 12 percent increase for someone hired a year ago was excessive. He wanted to reduce the wage from \$83,991 to \$75,000. That led to a general discussion about the new wage scale that had gone into effect the first week of December.

Acting on a directive of the voters at last year’s town meeting, the selectmen implemented the new wage scale, based on a 2007 study that had never been fully adopted. Because the new wage levels covered only one month in 2016,

the full impact of the increase falls in the 2017 budget.

“I’m not attacking anyone,” Sellers said in reference to his motion. “The overall payroll is now up \$292,000, or \$364,000 when you include water and sewer.”

David Carr

agreed, saying such a wage-and-benefit increase over 2016 is “quite a lot of money for a little town.”

Schneider, a former selectman who had advocated spending money instead on a new wage study, went further, saying, “I don’t believe this wage study was very well looked into.” However, she said, now that the new wage scale has been implemented, “I don’t feel comfortable taking money away from an individual after the selectmen have agreed to that.”

As an aside, Schneider questioned why the selectmen had zeroed out the line for budget committee training, saying she felt it was important for new members to receive an orientation session on budget work. Dion agreed that the \$300 should be restored.

Keegan amended the town administrator’s

salary to the original amount requested by the selectmen, and his motion passed, 7-4-2. The total executive budget, based on a motion by MacCaffrie, passed, 11-2-0, at \$271,362. It later was amended to \$216,390 to take into account an amended 2016 budget column that the committee said it had received that evening. It was unclear why there were competing versions of a 2016 budget approved last March.

The committee set election expenses at \$93,492; financial administration at \$195,000; and property reappraisal at \$108,417.

When it came to legal expenses, the committee tabled its discussion to seek clarification on projected costs.

Personnel administration, planning and zoning, and tax map sections passed as presented, but the committee reduced the request for general government buildings from \$85,350 to \$80,350, eliminating the \$5,000 the space needs committee had requested to allow it to continue evaluating the needs of the town. Cote noted that the voters at town meeting had established the committee to serve one year, ending with a recommendation on the town hall and police station in December.

“They’ve done their job,” he said.

“They can continue with the committee as a great volunteer organization,” MacCaffrie said, “and if they need coffee, I’m sure someone would donate it.”

Upon a recommendation from the trustees of cemeteries, that budget was reduced from \$10,000 to \$6,500. A new town employee will be maintaining the outlying cemeteries, and Homeland Cemetery has built up funds so it can operate on \$5,500.

The insurance line remained as recommended at \$48,400.

The appropriation for regional associations was reduced from the \$11,909 requested to \$10,909, with the understanding that the Newfound Lake Region Association, which was asking for an increase from \$1,500 to \$4,000, would receive \$3,000 from Bristol — double what the town has been providing.

Although Police Chief Michael Lewis encouraged the committee to stay beyond three hours to discuss his department’s budget, Keegan suggested that, with the hour approaching 9:30 p.m., members would not be able to do justice to the discussion, so the budget review was continued to the following week.

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Churches

FROM PAGE A5

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Our Mission Statement is “Transforming lives through God’s Word.”

Please give announcements for the Sunday bulletin to the Church office by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays by e-mailing fwcag@hotmail.com or Pastor Yunghans at gyunghans@hotmail.com, or phone the church at 536-1966 or Pastor Glen at 726-0254. Everyone is welcome at all of our services. The Church is handicapped accessible, east entrance. Note the Church’s new Web site: www.assemblyofgodplymouthnh.org.

Holy Trinity (Roman Catholic)

Online giving

If you are interested in becoming an online

giver, please go to our Web site, holytrinityparishnh.org, and look under online giving. Any information you need to get started will be available to you right there.

Wills and bequests have been very helpful to Holy Trinity Parish over the years, and we hope they will continue to assist the parish in its good work in the present and in the future.

Catholic Daughters Cabin Fever Supper and Raffle

The Catholic Daughters will be holding their annual Cabin Fever Supper after the 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Jan. 28 in St. Matthew Hall. At that time, they will also be raffling off a homemade quilt. Raffle tickets will be available before and after Masses for the next couple of weekends.

The Lakes Region area councils of Knights of Columbus are getting together to sponsor a 24 hour day of adoration, fasting and prayer for the intention that our nation return to a cul-

ture of respecting all life from conception to natural death. Adoration will be held at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Tilton from Thursday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. to Friday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. If you can commit to an hour or more of adoration, please call Bill Driscoll at 528-6109.

Newfound Area Churches Prayer Services for Christian Unity

All services start at noon, followed by a light lunch. Monday, Jan. 16, Bristol Baptist Church; Tuesday, Jan. 17, New Hampton Community; Wednesday, Jan. 18, Our Lady of Grace Chapel; Thursday, Jan. 19, Alexandria/Bristol UCC; Friday, Jan. 20, Hebron Congregational

All are welcome!

No matter what your personal history, age, background, race...no matter what your present status in the Catholic Church...no matter what your current family or marital situation...no matter what your own

self image is, you are invited, welcomed, accepted and loved here at Holy Trinity Parish.

Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday, Jan. 24 Simard Hall 1-6 p.m. Register online at www.redcross.org

Tax letters

Tax letters will be available by request at the beginning of the new year. Please email Chris at holytrinitybristol@gmail.com or call 744-2700 to receive by email.

Weekly Meetings

Thursdays

Day Away, Simard Hall, 9 a.m.

Cub Scout Meeting, St. Matthew Hall, 6 – 7 p.m.

Bear Meeting, St. Matthew Meeting Room, 5 – 6 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 8

Knights of Columbus Breakfast, St. Matthew Hall, 7 a.m.

Faith Formation: Ashland/Plymouth: 9:15 - 10:45 a.m., St. Agnes Hall

Bristol:

Confirmation:

Bristol: 9:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Marian Center

Plymouth: 10:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (including Mass)

Boy Scout Meeting, St. Matthew Hall, 5 - 7:30 p.m.

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

Star King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 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.

“May I know the circle of love into which I was born.

May my life make the circle wider and wider,

Starting with my family and these friends, starting today.”

Betsy Darr

Sunday, Jan. 15, 9:30 a.m. Black Lives Matter: Worth and Dignity in an Unjust World

How can we as a predominantly white denomination in a predominantly white community ever hope to make a difference for people of color? Of course! Let us start where we are. Join us as we explore allyship and

our own prophetic voice.

Children and Youth Religious Education, Meredith Flynn, DRE

Yoga Day! The kids will begin downstairs this morning at 9:30 and take part in a morning of yoga, fun, and relaxation led by Darlene Nadeau. Darlene teaches yoga in Plymouth. All ages are welcome. Parents are invited as well if they would like to take part with their children.

Middle school: Neighboring Faiths- Our middle school youth will be visiting the Holy Spirit Episcopal Church in Plymouth this morning.

High school: Youth Group- Our high school youth meet the second and fourth Sundays of the month from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room upstairs.

Social Justice Community Outreach This month’s outreach is to help our Youth Group prepare financially for their expensive trip to Nicaragua in February. They have been working for well over a year doing fund raising for this amazing trip. The January Outreach collection will go a long way to make this happen and the group is grateful to the Fellowship for their constant support.

Canned or dry packaged food items may be placed in the box in the foyer for our local Community Closet collection. Also, items such as small jars of peanut butter, jelly, and canned tuna or chicken can be deposited in the box for the “GOT LUNCH! PLYMOUTH” program.

Ongoing activities

Choir meets on most Thursday evenings, 7-8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Lay Pastoral Care Under the guidance of the Rev. Linda Barnes, the Lay Pastoral Care Associates are here for you. When you have a pastoral care need or know of a need in our Starr King family, please contact Rev. Linda.

See Activities committee on the Web site at www.starrkingfellowship.org, where you can access the up to date calendar of events.

1st Friday morning Breakfast Group will meet at the PSU dining hall at 8:30 a.m. for a ca-

sual gathering of SKUUF members and friends for good food and discussion followed by an occasional discovery outing. Parking has been arranged through PSU security in Commuter Lot #301. Contact Deedie at cdkriebel@gmail.com for more info and, if needed, a parking permit to place in the front window of your car during these mornings only.

Second Sunday Hike Depart SKUUF rear lot at 11:30 a.m. Refreshments and dinner following the hike if interested. Contact Mitch at mitch@newfoundfarm.org to register and receive updates. Rain cancels.

Wise Women in Training is a women’s group to discuss issues related to women. Each meeting will have a theme that will be facilitated by a volunteer member of the group. Check the SKUUF activity calendar for topics of an upcoming session or email Betty Ann to be placed on mailing list. Contact Betty Ann Trought at batrought@gmail.com or just come and meet with this welcoming group. Wise Women regularly meets every second and fourth Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. The New Year begins with meetings on Jan. 11 and 25.

Starr King Men’s Group will meet 6-8 p.m., on the third Sunday only in classroom #3 downstairs. This is not a closed group so any interested male can attend. Feel free to drop in.

Gentle Yoga meets in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays from 5-6 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:30-9:30 a.m. For information, contact Darlene Nadeau at 493-1478.

Bridge players meet on Thursdays in the Fellowship Room from 12:30-3:30 p.m., except between the holidays.

Starr King UU Fellowship is located at 101 Fairgrounds Rd., Plymouth. The phone number is 536-8908. The Web site is www.starrkingfellowship.org, where you can access “Newsletters” to read, or print out, any of several past issues; “Podcast” to enjoy listening to sermons you have missed, or just want to hear again; “Events Calendar” to find out what is going on in our Fellowship.

CHIEF OF POLICE Fulltime (Part-time Potential) Thornton, NH

Town of Thornton, NH, is seeking a progressive, community oriented Police Chief to lead a department of 5 FT officers and 1 FT admin assistant. Although this position has traditionally been a fulltime “working chief” position, the Town is willing to explore the possibility of this position being part-time with an emphasis on management and administration. Operating budget for this department serving 2,500 residents, is approximately \$600K. Thornton is located in the White Mountain/ Waterville Valley Region, just minutes from the Lakes Region of NH. The area hosts tourists year round for the many outdoor seasonal attractions. With easy access to Interstate 93, Thornton is just 45 minutes to Concord and 1 hour to Manchester. Town is governed by 5 member Board of Selectmen, with an appointed Town Administrator. College Degree, ten years of police experience, 5 years command experience, and NH certification preferred, or equivalent combination of education and experience. Fulltime salary range to \$70K. Part-time wages negotiable. Excellent benefits. EOE. Resume and Cover letter, in confidence, in pdf file to: recruitment@mrigov.com For additional information see: www.mrigov.com/career.html **Deadline: January 23, 2017 at 8 AM EST**

Notebook

FROM PAGE A4

ers sometimes reply), but I fail to understand why so many institutions, organizations and factions of government services, schools in particular, are so quick to hit the panic button whenever word of an impending fact of life in this part of the country (a winter storm) comes over the media. No sooner does this occur than the crawl-line on the bottom of the TV screen is filled with delays and outright cancellations.

A thought on all this occurred one morning last week when I had to drive home from a meeting in Concord and the day’s forecast called for rain, freezing rain, and then for some upcountry regions (that would be me, when I got there), snow.

I was thinking, as I watched the tube that morning, and then when the meeting was over began the drive home, straight through the weather: Have people totally forgotten those wonderful outfits known as state and town road crews?

They do an excellent job of getting ahead of such weather by laying down salt and sand, and getting after the aftermath by clearing roads big and small. Even had I not been driving a big four-wheel-drive truck with studded snow tires, I’d have headed for home in good faith that the roads would be as clear and safe (if I drove sensibly) as possible.

I have nothing but good things to say for the crews who maintain, load, and drive these big rigs and are out there at

all hours of the day and night, doing the work that so many of us take for granted. And they have to put up with a given percentage of irresponsible, inconsiderate, unappreciative and outright dangerous drivers to boot.

+++++

People in more built-up areas who have to drive considerable distances to work or school each day, and hold the word “commute” high on their mental list of daily challenges, see winter weather as a major problem, and I can’t blame them. If I were in their situation, I would too.

But whenever I have the chance I note that for the bulk of the state’s landmass---the rural, small-town, farm and forest community---snow can be the major driver of the winter economy.

Last winter, which was virtually snowless, was a disaster for snowmobiling and not so very great for ski areas. These industries create jobs and income for tens of thousands directly and indirectly, bringing a huge infusion of recreational money from heavily populated regions in the south to cash-strapped communities in the mountains and above the notches.

Snowmobile clubs, which depend on membership fees, donations, special events and license-generated state funds to maintain and groom New Hampshire’s thousands of miles of snowmobile trails, were particularly had hit last winter. Thus the headline in Colebrook’s News and Sentinel, “New

Loan Program to Assist Coõs Snowmobile Clubs in Times of Need,” was a welcome sight on January 4th’s front page. The Coõs Economic Development Association has established a low-interest loan program to help clubs cover unexpected budget shortages from maintenance required annually despite fickle weather.

At this stage, only halfway through, the state already has had more snow than during all of last winter.

For a growing segment of society to the south, the work week now consists of four ten-hour days, which means that people can get on the road right after work on Thursday. This has created what amounts to a winter’s worth of unending three-day weekends. Don’t believe it? Take a look at I-93 on a Thursday night.

This is a facet of the wintertime economy that hasn’t been written about or discussed much in the state’s media---the huge effect of the shorter work-week and so many three-day weekends---and points up the positive side of that white stuff falling from the sky.

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

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Tuesday, February 21st at 11:00 a.m.

1152 US ROUTE 3 is a .26± acre property with a two bedroom, one bath home which totals 1,835± sq.ft. Assessed Value: \$79,000. Tax Map 21, Lot 5, Sub-Lot 5.

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Lakes Region United taking spring soccer registrations

REGION — Lakes Region United Soccer Club (LRU) is currently registering players for the Spring 2017 season. LRU offers competitive soccer opportunities for boys and girls in the Lakes Region who love the game and want to improve their skills. LRU is in its ninth season with more than 120 players from a variety of local towns, including Laco-

nica, Gilford, Belmont, Gilmanton, Meredith, Alton, Moultonborough, Sanbornton, Canterbury and New Hampton.

Athletes 10 to 19 years old play travel soccer within the New Hampshire Soccer League, while athletes six to nine years old develop skills locally in LRU's Early Development Program. The Early Development Program offers local practices and small-sided, intra-squad games



COURTESY PHOTO
LAKES REGION United Soccer Club's Early Development Program.

that emphasize strong soccer fundamentals. LRU is a non-profit organization that keeps costs reasonable by relying on parents who were former soccer players to coach the teams, and by benefiting from the generosity of local towns, which provide field

time for practices and games. Registration for the Spring 2017 season will be \$100 (\$75 for the Early Development Program). Players interested in playing with LRU this spring must register on LRUsoccer.com by Jan. 15th.



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