

# Locally raised turkey receives Thanksgiving pardon

BY DONNA RHODES  
drhodes@salmonpress.news

SANBORNTON — “Joanna the Turkey” of Birch Rise Farm in Sanbornton was the luckiest turkey in New Hampshire this Thanksgiving when she received an official pardon from Gov. Chris Sununu then went off to a new home at Crotched Mt. School in Greenfield.

Kate and Ken Osgood are the owners of Birch Rise Farm, which is a member of the state farm bureau. Kate also serves as the current treasurer of the Belknap County Farm Bureau and said she was both pleased and surprised when she got word that her turkey was selected for a pardon.

“Someone from the



Gov. Chris Sununu brought the Osgood family and their turkey “Joanna” before the Executive Council last week to deliver her pardon for Thanksgiving 2019. The Osgood’s own and operate Birch Rise Farm in Sanbornton. From left to right are the governor, three-year-old Henry, dad Ken, mom Kate, “Joanna,” and their nine-year-old son Hunter.

bureau nominated her and I was so surprised when we got a letter saying she had been chosen,” she said.

“Joanna” is one of a pair of turkeys the family has been raising but was originally named Thelma. Her barnyard buddy’s name is Louise. Birch Rise Farm has some historic significance though that prompted the bird to be renamed before moving down to Crotched Mt. School.

Osgood said the original owner of the property was N.H. Gov. Wentworth’s cousin, John Wentworth, Jr., who purchased the land trust in 1772. He himself was an attorney and with

SEE PARDON, PAGE A9



After an unprecedented tie in Belmont Middle School’s Gobble Wobble, this year’s top turkey call came from fifth grade student Ben Girard, who celebrated with a photo beside the faculty judges’ panel. Runner up was sixth grader Brody Auprey.

## BMS “Gobble Wobble” brings in more than 2,000 pounds in food donations

BY DONNA RHODES  
Drhodes@salmonpress.news

BELMONT — For 26 years, students at Belmont Middle School “Gobble Wobble,” which begins with a collection of nonperishable items for the food pantry at St. Joseph’s Church in Belmont and ends with a lot

of fun.

Assistant Principal Tim Saunders said that for two weeks before the holiday vacation the students are encouraged to bring in any donations for the food pantry that they can. Each homeroom then keeps track of their contributions, which are weighed as part of not only a math challenge, but a high-spirited competition. The class with the highest contribution gets not only recognition for their achievement but are treated to a special end-of-the-day dance in the near future.

This year, on Nov. 26, BMS students first took part in a Run, Walk or “Wobble” challenge on the athletic fields before the main event. At that time each homeroom presented a costumed “turkey” to represent them with their best turkey gobble.

As the Turkey Gobble was ready to kick off last Tuesday afternoon, Saunders told the assembly that the 2019 Gobble Wobble was just as important.

SEE WOBBLE, PAGE A9

## Sanbornton FD tackles propane leak

BY DONNA RHODES  
drhodes@salmonpress.news

SANBORNTON — On Tuesday, Nov. 26, the Sanbornton Fire Department was called to Sanborn Road at 3:36 p.m. for the report of a propane leak and Chief Paul Dexter said that before he even pulled in the driveway he could detect the smell of gas in the air.

The homeowners were having an early Thanksgiving gathering at their home that day and when they moved their vehicle to make room for more of their guests, it sheared off the pressure regulator on their underground propane tank. Dexter said the tank had been filled just a little over a week earlier and estimated that it contained about 700-gallons of fuel at the time.

Due to a lack of water supply in the area, a first alarm call went out for assistance from Lakes Region Mutual Aid to disperse the gas from the property, which sits on a knoll with other residences below.

Crews from New

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## Winnisquam Ag Center joins in Small Business Saturday

BY DONNA RHODES  
drhodes@salmonpress.news

TILTON — Last weekend, students of the Winnisquam Regional Agricultural Center in Tilton joined the statewide Small Business Saturday initiative by placing their wreaths, kissing balls, centerpieces and poinsettias on sale for holiday décor.

Jennifer Solter-Jones is the school’s new Animal and Plant Science instructor who heads the annual program and was pleased to say that the students had already sold most of the wreaths and kissing balls they had on hand before noon

SEE WINNISQUAM AG, PAGE A9



DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS AT HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**Tilton/Northfield**

We'll be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Dec. 31 and closed on New Year's Day.

Library closed for the holiday on the following dates:

Tuesday, Dec. 24  
Wednesday, Dec. 25

Display Case: Novelty Chess Sets by Gene Tap-

HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**Tilton/Northfield**

**Monday, Dec. 9**  
Chess Club, 2-5 p.m.  
After-School Board Game Club, 4 p.m.  
Trustees Meeting, 5 p.m.

**Tuesday, Dec. 10**  
Spanish Club, 10 a.m.  
Tech Tuesday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**Wednesday, Dec. 11**  
Storytime, 10:30 a.m.  
Scrabble at Noon  
Candy Sled Races, 4 p.m.

**Thursday, Dec. 12**  
Fold-a-Gift Box Class, 4 p.m.

**Friday, Dec. 13**  
Sit & Knit, 2 to 5 p.m.

**New Items**  
"Criss Cross" by James Patterson  
"The Confession Club" by Elizabeth Berg  
"Spy: A Novel" by Danielle Steele  
"The Rise of Magicks" by Nora Roberts  
"Twenty-one Truths About Love" by Matthew Dicks

pen

Winter Reading and Hygge Challenge  
Hall Memorial Library's Winter Reading and Hygge Challenge: Dec. 23 – Feb. 29

What is Hygge? Hygge (pronounced hue-guh) is a Danish word used when acknowledging a feeling or moment, as cozy, charming or special.

How do I sign-up? No registration is required. Simply grab a packet that includes your punch card and 3 challenge sheets. One challenge sheet is for hygge, one for reading, and one is a photo-a-day challenge.

How do I complete the challenge?  
Your punch card has 20 snowflakes on it. To complete the Hygge and Reading challenge you

must complete 10 from each checklist. As you complete them you can bring in the checklist and punch card to get it punched. Once you have all 20 punches, turn in your card for a free book and small prize. Write your name on the back and you will be entered to win a raffle prize.

The Photo-A-Day Challenge takes place on Instagram and you get one entry in a separate raffle per photo you take and post with the hashtag #HMLHYGGE. Anyone who completes all 68 days will be entered to win an extra great prize!

**Weekly Adult Programs**

Chess Club - Mondays from 2-5 p.m.  
Spanish Club - Tuesdays from 10-11:30 a.m.  
Sewing Group - Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Tech Tuesdays from 2-4 p.m. - Get help from Jenna with your device.  
Sit and Knit - Friday from 2-5 p.m.

**Weekly Youth Programs**

\*\*\*New After-school Game Club\*\*\* Mondays from 4 to 6 p.m. (Grades 3+)

Wondering what to do after school? Why not join us for games! Play some favorites and try new ones for one-on-one, group, or solo challenges.

**Weekly Children's Programming**

Storytime, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.  
Stories and rhymes followed by a craft for preschool children with a caregiver.  
Dec. 4  
Dec. 11  
Dec. 18  
Dec. 25 \*\*\*No Storytime\*\*\*

Babytime will resume in January 2020!

December Calendar of Events

Monday the 9th at 5 p.m.  
Trustees Meeting - Open to the public

Wednesday the 11th at noon  
Scrabble in the Afternoon - A great way to spend a day... friends and a leisurely game. Adults Only.

Wednesday the 11th at 4 p.m.  
CANDY SLED RACES For Kids and Teens - We provide the candy, you create the sled! The sled that travels the furthest down our race

course takes home the prize. Everyone gets to keep their candy sled.

Thursday the 12th at 2 p.m.  
Fold-a-Gift Box Session- Drop in and learn how to fold a small gift box. Make a box for a small holiday gift or fold a tiny one and turn it into a tree ornament. No registration required. Materials provided or bring your own scrapbook paper.

Monday the 16th at 6 p.m.  
Crime Junkies Book Group - Give Me Your Hand by Megan Abbott - "A psychological thriller from the Edgar-Award winning author of Dare Me will leave you in suspense as a life-changing secret destroys the friendship between Diane and Kit, best friends with shared ambitions and inseparable ways. As Kit rises to the top of her profession, only Diane stands in her way. But Kit knows what Diane has done and it is the worst thing imaginable. Yet she holds her secret. Now, Diane has one on Kit. And it could destroy everything she has worked so hard for. But what about ambition? Maybe it is in the blood ..." (Amazon)

Monday the 16th at 6 p.m.

Monday Bookers - Arrowood by Laura McHugh - "A dark, gripping novel from the author of The Weight of Blood about a mysterious kidnapping and the ways in which our lives are shaped by the stories we create about our pasts. Arrowood is the most ornate and beautiful of the grand historical houses that line the Mississippi River in Southern Iowa, where the days are long and humid and communities are small and closed. It has its own secrets and ghostly presence: It's where Arden's young twin sisters were abducted nearly 20 years ago, never to be seen again. Now Arden has inherited Arrowood, and she returns to her childhood home determined to establish what really happened that traumatic summer. But the house and the surrounding town hold their secrets close - and the truth,

when Arden finds it, is more devastating than she ever could have imagined." (Amazon)

Tuesday the 17th at noon  
Noon Book Group - For our December meeting, we'll discuss poetry favorites.

Wednesday the 18th at 4 p.m.  
Holidays Around the World - Ornament Make-n-Take  
Children are invited to learn about different holiday traditions celebrated around the world and craft traditional ornaments to take home with them.

Wednesday the 18th at 4 p.m.  
YaH Book Group - "Sweet" by Emmy Laybourne - "The luxurious celebrity cruise launching the trendy new diet sweetener Solu should be the vacation of a lifetime. But Laurel is starting to regret accepting her friend Viv's invitation. She's already completely embarrassed herself in front of celebrity host Tom Forelli - the hottest guy ever!- and she's too sick to even try the sweetener. And that's before Viv and all the other passengers start acting really strange. When Tom's hosting gig turns into an expose on the shocking side effects of Solu, will he be drawn to save a sexy reality star - or Laurel? Emmy Laybourne, author of the Monument 14 trilogy, takes readers on a dream vacation in Sweet that goes first comically, then tragically, then horrifyingly, wrong!" (Amazon)

Thursday the 19th at 4 p.m.

Star Wars Movie Marathon - "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker" will be released on Friday, Dec. 20. Join us to view Star Wars movies!

Saturday the 21st at 10 a.m.

Shortbread Saturday - Borrow from the short reads display and we will have shortbread cookies to share while supplies last.

Monday the 24th and Tuesday the 25th

The Library is Closed SEE HIGHLIGHTS, PAGE A9

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ECHO STAFF DIRECTORY

**PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER**  
FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
(603) 677-9083  
[frank@salmonpress.news](mailto:frank@salmonpress.news)

**BUSINESS MANAGER**  
RYAN CORNEAU  
(603) 677-9082  
[ryan@salmonpress.news](mailto:ryan@salmonpress.news)

**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**  
JIM DiNICOLA  
(508) 764-4325

**EDITOR**  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
(603) 677-9081  
[brendan@salmonpress.news](mailto:brendan@salmonpress.news)

**DISTRIBUTION MANAGER**  
JIM HINCKLEY  
(603) 279-4516

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
JULIE CLARKE  
(603) 677-9092  
[julie@salmonpress.news](mailto:julie@salmonpress.news)

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<b>FROZEN 2</b> Fri. & Sat.: 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15 PM Sun. - Thurs.: 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00 PM	<b>PG</b>	<b>Join us for the advance screening of JUMANJI: NEXT LEVEL</b> On THURSDAY 12/12 at 4:00PM	

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Twenty Winnisquam FFA members take time out of their fall leadership training to pose for a picture at Camp Brookwoods in Alton.

COURTESY

# Winnisquam FFA members attend Fall Leadership Event

TILTON — An enthusiastic group of high school students representing the Winnisquam FFA Chapter attended the state-wide FFA Fall Leadership Event at Camp Brookwoods in Alton on Nov. 20. Twenty Winnisquam FFA’ers took part in the event along with members from seven other New Hampshire FFA chapters. The annual activity, conducted by the Granite State FFA Officers, was designed to introduce new FFA members to the organization and teach returning members leadership skills such as communication and goal setting. Attendees returned home with improved skills, new friends, and a stronger appreciation for the FFA. The Winnisquam participants are eager to engage in future state-wide FFA events, which include Winter Leadership Camp in January and the 90th Annual Granite State FFA Convention in April. Agricultural education and participation in the FFA is open to all high school students in New Hampshire through Career and Technical Education Centers. Any student attending a high school that does not offer aged/FFA may apply to one of the twelve CTE Centers in New Hampshire that offer the program. The Winnisquam Agricultural Education Center enrolls students from Laconia, Gilford, Interlakes, Belmont, Franklin, Merrimack Valley and Winnisquam Regional High Schools. Winnisquam also offers a middle school FFA chapter.

## PINES HAPPENINGS

Pines Youth Basketball

Registration for Pines Youth Basketball (Grades Kindergarten through 6) has been extended through Friday, Nov. 22, as we still have openings at all levels. This is also to accommodate any sixth graders who want to try out for middle school basketball, Nov. 18 through 20. We have Rec Basketball for children in Grades Kindergarten through Grade 2, and four Traveling Basketball teams, Boys Grades 3-4, Girls Grades 3-4, Boys Grades 5-6, and Girls Grades 5-6. Rec Basketball is \$48.00 for Tilton and Northfield residents, and \$58.00 for non-residents. Traveling Basketball costs \$58.00 per child for Tilton and Northfield residents, \$68.00 per child for non-residents. The Boys’ Grades 3 and 4 team starts practices on Wednesday, Dec. 4. Practices for the other three teams and Rec Basketball will start the week of Nov. 25. There are no practices Nov. 27-Dec. 1. Games for Traveling Basketball will start in mid-December. Parents are responsible for transporting children to games. All teams are capped at 22 participants due to limited gym space. Practices

and home games are at Southwick School. You may sign up at the Pines, or online through our website. We are still in need of volunteer coaches for both boys’ teams and for Grades 5-6 Girls.

Cozy Home Room Sprays Make & Take Class

Join Kara Lunt at the Pines on Monday, Nov. 25, for this new class. She will be showing us how to make room sprays with essential oils. The theme for this class will be Cozy Home. What do you think of when you think of a “cozy home?” Lavender? Orange and cinnamon? Pine or cedar? Come and see what oils Kara brings, and what can be combined to make your home smell cozy. Cost is \$8 per spray bottle, or \$15.00 for two. You pay only for those you make. Class begins at 6:30pm.

Candy Bar Bingo  
Come play Bingo for candy bars at the Pines! Families, join us Tuesday, Nov. 26, from 5:45-8 p.m. Each full size candy bar or bag of candy you bring buys you one Bingo card. Particip-

pants may have a maximum of five cards in play at once. All ages can play, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Concessions, including pizza, will be on sale. Please let us know you’re coming, either via Facebook or by calling the Pines at 286-8653.

Ski and Snowboard Lessons

Sign up at the Pines for Skiing or Snowboarding Lessons at Gunstock Recreation Area this winter. Register now through Friday, December 13. This program is for kids ages 6-19 as of Dec. 31. Participants must register through the Pines first with a \$25.00 registration fee payable to the Pines. Participants will then be given the information and procedure for registering online with Gunstock. The Mid-Week Monday through Friday package is \$169, and includes a Midweek Monday through Friday Season’s Pass, with some blackout dates, and four one-hour lessons with free equipment rental if needed. The Winter Prime

Package is \$299.00 and includes the four lessons with accompanying free rentals as needed, plus a seven day a week unrestricted Season’s Pass with no blackout dates. The lessons will be on Friday nights, Feb. 7 and 14, 2020 and March 6 and 13, but participants may use their passes starting in December when Gunstock opens. Parents are responsible for their children’s transportation to and from Gunstock; parents who are interested in chaperoning must sign up at the Pines and fill out a Gunstock waiver form.

School Vacation Days

The Pines is having a School Vacation Camp Day on Wednesday, Nov. 27, when schools are closed for Thanksgiving travel. We open at 7:00 AM and children must be picked up by 5:30 p.m. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we’ll make Thanksgiving crafts in the morning, focus on what we’re thankful for, and

celebrate with our own Thanksgiving Lunch. We will play outside as much as we can, weather permitting, so children must have warm outside clothing and appropriate shoes for outside play. The cost is \$37 per child, which includes the lunch. Children will need to have their own snacks and drinks for snack time. This program is for children in Kindergarten through fifth grades. Children must be registered in advance by Nov. 25 at 5:30 p.m., online or at the Pines, and payment is due at registration. We will also have Vacation Camp days on December 23, 26, 27, 30, and 31. Daily activities and costs for these days to be announced.

Pines Annual Christmas Breakfast

Join us here at the Pines Community Center on Saturday, Dec. 7, for our Annual Christmas Breakfast. It’s an

SEE PINES, PAGE A7

The National FFA Organization is a youth organization of over 700,000 student members who belong to 8,612 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The FFA’s mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. The National FFA Organization operates under a federal charter granted by the 81st United States Congress and it is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. For more information, visit the National FFA Organization online at [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org), or the Granite State Association of FFA at [www.nhffa.org](http://www.nhffa.org).

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## ARTISTIC ROOTS



## STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

# There is a difference

BY LARRY SCOTT

The city of Cusco was but a small Peruvian town in 1949, but to this 10-year-old lad, the son of missionary parents, it was home. Far from being the tourist mecca it has become today, it was a typical Andean city of some 60,000 residents, with one short, gravel runway, only one Hotel we could recommend, and no restaurants of note. The streets were of stone, and the churches were magnificent, and reminders of the city’s Inca heritage could be seen throughout the city.

Sunday mornings were different from any other I have experienced during my many years in South America. Sometime around 8 a.m., church bells began to ring, calling the faithful, most of whom did not own a clock, to Sunday Morning Mass. Each church had a distinctive set of bells and as the noise reverberated across the city and bounced off the surrounding hills, it was an early-morning wake-up call I will never forget.

Tourists today pay a heavy price to visit the city that, to me, was just home. I ran its streets, played in the ruins of Sacsayhuaman (which overlook the city) and went fishing with my dad for 21” river trout. And home-schooled with my bedraggled mother as my teacher! What a life.

If you ever have the chance, a visit to Cusco will be the highlight of your traveling experiences. There is a difference, however, between enjoying a quick visit to the city or to Machu Picchu and living there. A few days in the mountain air gives you only a glimpse of what this Andean culture is all about. You must go shopping in the open market, try to converse with someone who speaks little but Quechua, or learn how to do business in this foreign setting. A quick visit will never do; you must become a part of the culture.

You may be wondering where I am going with all of this ... so, to the point.

There is a difference in knowing about God and truly knowing Him. We want to spend eternity with God, but we’d be pleased if He’d leave us to our own agenda. We want happiness without holiness, success without self-discipline, sanctification without sacrifice.

But until you experience a relationship with God for yourself, you don’t know what Christianity is all about. God has no grandchildren; you cannot inherit your parents’ faith. This is one discovery you must make for yourself.

Living for God is not a spectator sport. You can’t sit on the sidelines. It is only as you become a part of the action, face the enemy of your soul and overcome the influence of sin, that you find a reason to cheer.

Promises must be put into practice. The theoretical must become experiential. The talk must be sanctioned by your walk. What you claim you must live. To know about Him is one thing; living for Him is something else.

And it is then, and only then, that you find God to be far different from the stern, demanding, autocrat He is sometimes pictured to be. He everything you would expect from a compassionate, understanding, and patient Father.

Much has happened since those early days in Cusco. I have served the Lord for 70 years, and I can tell you from personal experience, He is a good God!

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

Send your letters!

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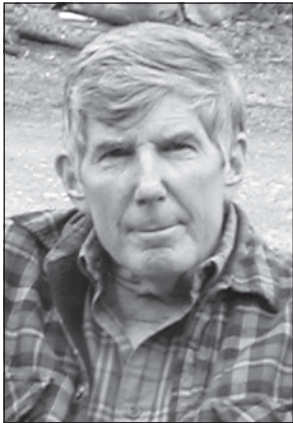
COURTESY

### Visiting with veterans

Maj. Gen. William Enyart (left) paid a visit to the New Hampshire Veterans Home last week while campaigning for Democratic Presidential candidate Joe Biden.

## NORTH COUNTRY NOTEBOOK

*A weasel on snowshoes (really?), and trail signs are worth obeying*



By JOHN HARRIGAN  
COLUMNIST

If this snow continues to stick to the ground, it’ll be one of the earlier beginnings of seasonal snow on record. Getting a snowstorm or two toward the end of November is nothing unusual, but having it stick around for the duration (meaning over the holidays and beyond) is, indeed, unusual.

As this was written, satellite images showed snow blanketing the upper half of the state, roughly from mid-Winnepesaukee up. And there didn’t seem to be any snow-melting weather on the continental satellite images.

This makes winter’s long count--the number of days with snow on the ground--particularly hard on animals that hunt for small creatures like mice, moles, voles and chipmunks. Prey species can burrow under the snow and hide in areas where the snow is a foot deep or even deeper--and there are plenty of places to hide right now in higher and more northern parts of the state.

This makes hunting much harder for foxes, fishers, martens, coyotes, and bobcats, just to name



COURTESY

A short-tail weasel, in its winter (ermine) coat, the analogy of which has spelled demise for many a weasel.



COURTESY

A long-tail weasel in its summer togs, a nice medium brown that can blend in with lots of the landscape. .

a few predators that come to mind, and in doing so almost forgetting the mink and the weasel, which don’t deserve forgetting.

+++++

Weasels and minks are two of the relatively few species that sometimes simply go wild

during a killing, and regress into so-called killing sprees, far beyond their needs. Keepers of chicken coops are well aware of this situation. If I were building a chicken coop today, I would surround it with hardware cloth, a very flexible and easily cut fine-mesh ma-

terial that is not really cloth, but wire.

What triggers a killing spree? Some studies indicate that for a weasel, movement triggers an irrepressible instinct to kill, and certainly a coop full of chickens flapping hysterically would qualify. Another theory is that



# Compass Classical Academy helps send letters to Santa

FRANKLIN – Compass Classical Academy is asking the question this year, “What could be more special than your child receiving a letter from Santa Claus?”

The Franklin area charter school and the Compass Classic Vintage and Thrift Store in downtown Tilton this year will have a special mailbox for letters going to Santa. Boys and girls are being invited to bring their letters to drop it in a special box, which will be located in two locations over the next few weeks.

On Saturday, Dec. 6, Santa’s elves will be bringing the mail-

box to Riverfront Park where children can come see Santa after the Tilton Christmas Parade. There will be hot chocolate and goodies to enjoy while they wait to see Santa and the elves will make sure all the letters get to the North Pole. Santa’s mailbox will then be at the

shop until Wednesday, Dec. 18. Anyone who would like their child to receive a letter back from Santa will needs to provide a legible return address with each letter.

“Come join us and welcome in the most wonderful time of the year,” the school said.

## Sanbornton Building Committee releases survey, announces open houses

SANBORNTON — As a follow-up to the announcement of the formation of the Sanbornton Building Committee, the Committee announces the release of a town-wide survey and two open houses at the Town Offices and Life-Safety Building (police/fire).

The survey seeks resident input on such subjects of space needs, building locations, and finan-

cial outlook, with an option for general feedback. The survey will available online at <https://www.surveylegend.com/s/1u-fa> as well as in hard copy at the Town Offices, Life-Safety Building, Transfer Station and the Library. The survey will be available on Friday, Dec. 6, with input accepted through Jan. 5.

In support of the survey and the general project initiative, the Committee will be holding two open houses to enable residents to have a firsthand look within the Town Offices and Life-Safety Building. The open houses will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 (10 a.m.-noon) and Wednesday, Dec. 11 (6-7:30 p.m.). The tours will allow town residents to see the “behind the scenes” view of the two town buildings. Town em-

ployees and members of the Building Committee will be present to answer questions.

Feedback from these two initiatives will be used by the Committee in its review of town needs and potential solutions. The Committee will be sharing data in the future and will continue to communicate with residents on the information gathered from the study.

## Franklin VNA & Hospice provides many grief support options

FRANKLIN – “Grief is personal, maybe one of the most personal things there is,” says Sharolyn Fortin, Grief Coach at Franklin VNA & Hospice, “That’s why we developed different grief supports.”

Franklin VNA & Hospice currently holding three different grief support meetings, a walk-in grief group each month, individual bereavement sessions every Wednes-

day and now a Tuesday group for those who have lost someone due to substance abuse.

Fortin says, “We recognized the need in our surrounding communities for free grief counselling that will meet people where they are. Some people aren’t ready to be in a group, those people might best benefit from our one-on-one or group meetings. For those who are affected by the substance abuse crisis, our Gone too Soon group includes specific information and help that deals with that very complex issue.”

Certified Master Grief Coach, Sharolyn Fortin, has engaged in training for those special situations. With her continuous training and work Fortin accepts that grief, and the deaths that cause it, are continuing to evolve as we face different societal norms

and challenges.

Franklin VNA & Hospice is also holding a series of holiday-focused grief meetings Mondays through January 13th to address and support the needs of grieving individuals during the winter holidays.

For details see Franklin VNA & Hospice’s Web site, [www.FranklinVNA.org](http://www.FranklinVNA.org), Facebook page, newsletter, or call 934-3454.

Franklin VNA & Hospice is your choice for excellence in Home-care and Hospice.

Choose local. Choose Excellence. Choose Franklin VNA & Hospice.

## NORTHFIELD POLICE LOG

NORTHFIELD — During the time frame of Nov. 25 – Dec. 1, the Northfield Police Department received 288 calls for service some of which include:

11 Motor Vehicle Stops  
16 Assist other Agencies (fire, DCYF, police)  
8 Suspicious Activities  
6 Motor Vehicle Checks  
5 Welfare Checks  
Missing Person,  
Motor Vehicle Complaints,  
Property Checks,  
Parking Violations,  
Reckless Operations,  
Road Hazard,  
Suicide Attempt,  
Scam,  
Medical Emergencies,  
Theft from Building,  
Vandalism,  
Motor Vehicle Lockout,  
Disabled Motor Vehicle,  
General Disturbance,

Civil Matter, Animal Complaints, Medication Disposal Services, Suspicious Person and Activities,

Taken into custody was Stacey Gates 43, of Belmont for Hindering Apprehension, False Report to Law Enforcement, Protective Custody as well as a No Bail Warrant from the Merrimack County Sheriff Office for Violation of Probation.

## TILTON POLICE LOG

TILTON — The Tilton Police Department responded to 744 calls for service and made the following arrests from Nov. 18 to Dec. 1.

Arrested during this time period were Shilo Gray (for Driving After Suspension), Nicole Treadwell (for Breach of Bail), Ronald Coulombe (for Driving After Suspension and a Suspended Registration), Nichole Brackett (in connection with a warrant), Todd Spataro (in connection with a warrant), Timothy Gove (in connection with a warrant), Joseph Guyotte (for Driving

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## NORTHFIELD POLICE LOG

SANBORNTON — The Sanbornton Police Department responded to 47 calls for service and made the following arrests during the two-week period ending Nov. 30.

Michael Thomas Valotta, age 37, of Franklin was arrested on Nov. 22 for Domestic Violence-Assault.

Dexter Cilley, age 57, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 23 for Driving While Intoxicated.

Nicholas M. Daudelin, age 34, of Tilton was arrested on Nov. 27 for Driving After Revocation and Possession of Drugs.

Roger P. Duaine, age 34, of Sanbornton was arrested on Nov. 27 for Domestic Violence-Assault.

The breakdown of the remaining calls was as follows: one alarm, one report or disorderly conduct, two domestic incidents, one report of Driving After Revocation, one house check, one medical/fire call, two motor vehicle accidents, 10 motor vehicle warnings, one report of odometer tampering, one report of illegally passing a school bus, one request for police information, one report of possession of drugs, one report of recovered property, one report of domestic violence/assault, one sex offender registration, seven reports of suspicious vehicles or activity, two thefts, one well being check, one V.I.N. verification, one house check, one report of fraud, two reports of criminal trespassing, two requests to assist another department, one money relay, and one D.W.I.

## BELMONT POLICE LOG

BELMONT — The Belmont Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Nov. 22 to Dec. 2.

A 57-year-old male from Laconia was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Nov. 24.

Maria Vallee, age 36, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 24 for Theft By Deception.

A 22-year-old male from Belmont was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Nov. 24.

Patrick Sanborn, age 34, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 25 for Operating After Suspension.

Dennis P. Greenwood, Jr., age 40, of Franklin was arrested on Nov. 27 in connection with a warrant issued by the Franklin Police Department.

Isaac N. Bourdeau, age 23, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 27 for False Inspection or Registration Sticker.

Ian Monroe-Belcher, age 25, of Salem, Mass. was arrested on Nov. 27 for Conduct After an Accident, Criminal Mischief (Vandalism), Driving After Revocation or Suspension, and making a False Report on an Accident. He was subsequently charged with Driving After Revocation or Suspension.

Michael D. Weaver, age 39, of Center Ossipee was arrested on Nov. 27 in connection with several warrants.

Nicholas A. Ryan, age 25, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 28 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension.

Emma A. Wilcox, age 26, of Franklin was arrested on Nov. 27 in connection with two bench warrants issued by Laconia District Court.

Candee M. Dill, age 32, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 28 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension.

Kendra L. Peters, ae 41, of Belmont was arrested on Nov. 28 in connection with two warrants issued by the Laconia Police Department and Merrimack County Superior Court.

Jessica R. Baker, age 32, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 28 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension.

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Lester E. Simpson, Sr., 69

MEREDITH — Lester E. Simpson Sr., 69, of Meredith, passed away after a brief illness on Nov. 24, 2019, at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston.

He was born on Nov. 20, 1950 at Franklin Hospital, son of the late Roy and Jacqueline (LaBelle) Simpson. Lester was born and raised in Northfield, and eventually settled in Meredith, where he served as plant manager of Remcon North Corporation for nearly 40 years. Lester had recently retired to fulfil his dreams of traveling and finding adventures with his wife. Lester was a jovial man with a fantastic sense of humor, a heart of gold, and a willingness to help anyone in need. Lester adored his family and took pride in their accomplishments. He loved



camping, riding his Harley, and helping people. His glowing smile was contagious, and he will be missed dearly.

In addition to his parents, Lester was predeceased by his brother, Ronald Simpson, son in law Robert Vachon, and brother in law Pierce Smith.

Lester leaves behind his beloved wife of 51 years, Susan (Burbank) Simpson; his son Lester Simpson Jr and his wife

Tina Simpson of Meredith, NH; his daughter Angela (Vachon) Simpson, of New Hampton, NH; his sister, Donna Smith of RiverBend, NC; brother, Robert Simpson and his wife Jean of Northfield, NH; a sister, Janet Simpson of Florida; a brother Richard Simpson and wife Missy Simpson, of NY; six grandchildren, Cora, Lilly, Breanna, and Drake Simpson of Meredith; John Vachon of New Hampton, and Alicia Vachon of Ashland; and 3 great grandchildren, Aden, Abby and Aria Vachon; an uncle, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Mayhew Funeral Home in Meredith is assisting the family with arrangements. A private burial and celebration of life will take place at a later date.

Franklin VNA & Hospice offers tips for healthy skin

FRANKLIN — With the cold weather upon us, wood stoves and furnaces everywhere are working hard to keep us warm and toasty. That dry heat can dehydrate our skin while we’re inside, while winter winds chap it when we’re outside. While dry skin may seem like an annoyance, cracks or breaks in the skin can be an entry point for bacteria and cause serious infections, and skin cracks on our hands and fingers can make it difficult to do the things the things we need to, like sewing, knitting, typing on a computer or cooking.

This winter try a few simple steps to help your skin stay healthy and happy!

First don’t forget hydration! Often overlooked in the colder months, staying hydrated by drinking at least 64 ounces of liquids, helps your skin cells stay plump and strong and makes them more resilient all the harsh forces that we experience in the winter. Remember, it doesn’t have to be water! Your liquids can be anything non-alcoholic, from mulled cider to all those beautiful, and warming, soups and stews!

Next, try to cover up when you’re outside. Wear gloves, a scarf, and other winter gear to help protect fragile skin from the cold. Once back inside, dry off and changes clothes if any became wet.

Consider a humidifier for indoor spaces. This can be as simple as a pot of water on your wood stove, or a fun animal shaped humidifier in your bedroom to add whimsy and humidity at the same time!

Lastly, don’t over-

look moisturizing. Find a good hand and body lotion, and one formulated specially for the tender skin on our face. Lotions with scents aren’t bad, but keep in mind that some scented lotions can be more drying than others, so you might want to go with an unscented one, or one made specially for sensitive skin.

If dry and cracking skin is a more serious problem for you, consider seeing your provider or a dermatologist, in case a specialty cream or lotion is necessary. Winter is full of so many wonderful things, from crackling fires to snowball fights, taking these few steps to protect your skin can help keep it that way.

Franklin VNA & Hospice is your choice for excellence in Homecare and Hospice.

Choose local. Choose Excellence. Choose Franklin VNA & Hospice.

For more information, call Franklin VNA & Hospice at 934-3454 or visit [www.FranklinVNA.org](http://www.FranklinVNA.org).

Independence Financial Advisors welcomes Jaimie Sousa as Vice President

FRANKLIN — Independence Financial Advisors is pleased to announce the addition of Jaimie Sousa, CFP®, as Vice President to its team of advisors.

“We are pleased to have Jaimie on board with us,” said Mike Ventura, President & CEO. “She brings years of experience in financial planning, and is a wonderful addition to our expanding team of advisors.”

Sousa was most recently with The Foundry Financial Group based in Laconia for several years. Prior to that, she spent nine years in the financial services industry where she held roles in marketing, operations, shareholder services, business banking and branch management. In addition, she has a B.S. in business management from Bridgewater State University and received a Certified Financial Planner™ certification in 2016.

When asked what attracted her to this opportunity with IFA, Sousa commented, “I was impressed with IFA’s unique approach to financial planning. They



Jaimie Sousa

believe in educating their clients on a variety of important topics to provide them with the tools and guidance they need to make informed decisions concerning their financial planning.”

Locally, Sousa’s civic involvement includes roles with a few organizations in the Lakes Region. She is Chair, Board of Directors, of the Greater Lakes Re-

gion Children’s Auction; Incorporator, Belknap Economic Development Council; and a founding member and past President of Fusion, a young professional’s network with roots in the Lakes Region.

Sousa will be based out of IFA’s new corporate office located in downtown Franklin and can be reached at 934-8312 or via email at [sousa@ifa-nh.com](mailto:sousa@ifa-nh.com).

Since 1995, Independence Financial Advisors, LLC has assisted clients with developing and managing their wealth management strategies. A wholly-owned subsidiary of Franklin Savings Bank, IFA’s advisory team has over 200 years of combined experience helping individuals, families, businesses and non-profit organizations achieve their investment goals. Through its partnerships with recognized experts in the areas of tax law, estate law, accounting, insurance and investment resources, IFA has a team of highly qualified professionals

to provide guidance and assistance throughout all life stages. Headquartered in Franklin, IFA has offices in Bedford, Boscawen, Bristol, Gilford, Merrimack and Rochester.

To learn more about Independence Financial Advisors, visit [www.ifa-nh.com](http://www.ifa-nh.com) or call 1-800-821-1776.

LRBRA helps Humane Society on dog kennel roof project

LACONIA — When two non-profit organizations work together, good things happen. Such was the case last month, when The Lakes Region Builders & Remodelers Association (LRBRA) and members from the New Hampshire Humane Society (NHHS) collaborated on a dog-kennel roofing project. It also helps when you have members that serve on both association boards!

The roofing project was a top priority for NHHS, as their dogs have to be in their outdoor kennels when their indoor kennels get cleaned each day. Having a roof over the kennels protect the dogs from snow, ice and rain in the winter, and will keep the hot summer sun off them as well.

Craig Butler, of Butler Home Inspections, drew out the plan for the roofing. A materials list was created, and donations were quickly collected from members of LRBRA, Cicero Kass L’Dor V’Dor Charitable Foundation and Ponders Hollow Custom Wood Flooring. Many of the materials were donated, or greatly discounted. It took more than 160 hours for volunteers to build the new roof. There are two other sections of kennels that will get



COURTESY

Ray Boelig, Ponders Hollow Custom Wood Flooring, Jared Mansur, Cyr Lumber, Wayne McBrian, Ben Wilson, Edward Jones, Greg Page, Meredith Village Savings Bank.


their roofs in the spring.

Special thanks go out to Wayne McBrian, NHHS board member, Jared Mansur, LRBRA member, Ben Wilson, LRBRA & NNHS board member, Greg Page, LRBRA board member, Greg Ricardi, a friend from West Boylston, MA, and Ray Boelig, President of LRBRA and NHHS board member.

Lakes Region Builders is a non-profit professional trade association dedicated to providing quality housing opportunities through education, vision and advocacy for the betterment of our communities. As advocates for the building industry, they advance professionalism and promote community in-

volvement.

The New Hampshire Humane Society is a non-profit, 501-C (3) organization that serves 17 communities in and around the Lakes Region, providing essential services to animals and pet owners alike. NHHS is dedicated to finding responsible and caring forever homes and providing shelter for over 1,100 lost, abandoned and unwanted animals each year, while also providing programs and services that promote responsible pet ownership and the human-animal bond. To learn more about NHHS, or make a contribution to support their efforts, visit [nhhumane.org](http://nhhumane.org).



## How to Submit Obituaries & Announcements To Salmon Press Publications

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# Spaulding Youth Center hosts Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon

**N O R T H F I E L D** — Spaulding Youth Center recently hosted their annual Thanksgiving luncheon on campus for all students, campus staff, supporters, community partners and friends.

The Spaulding Youth Center Dining Services department spent two weeks preparing for the event, which included making a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings. The holiday meal was then proudly served with excitement by Spaulding Youth Center students.

This annual Thanksgiving feast is a favorite tradition for those both on and off campus. Its popularity is demonstrated by the sheer number in attendance, which was larger for this luncheon than in recent years. This year, the Thanksgiving dinner accommodated 255 attendees comprised of 86 students and 169 staff members and guests who celebrated in three separate seating opportunities throughout the afternoon. To feed these attendees, the Dining Services department used:

- Six whole turkeys and eight turkey breasts which were sponsored by Atlantic Broadband
- Five 3lb stuffing bags
- Ten 26oz potato bags
- Eight 2.5lb peas & onions bags
- Twelve 4lb squash bags
- Five 7.5oz cranberry sauce cans
- 275 dinner rolls
- 217 pieces of apple, pumpkin and pecan pie

“The Thanksgiving season is one of the favorites here on campus for both our students and staff. This annual event on campus is a special way for stu-



dents, staff and community supporters to spend time together reflecting, celebrating and giving thanks during this wonderful time of year,” said Susan C. Ryan, President & CEO of Spaulding Youth Center. “Our team also enjoys taking the time to recognize the community partners who provide ongoing support of our mission. Their charitable giving and loyalty to our organization is appreciated more than words can say.”

As part of this year’s celebration, Spaulding Youth Center also recognized two community award recipients for their extensive and ongoing support over the years. The 14th Annual You’ve Got a Friend Award was presented to Lakes Region Riding Academy, a dedicated supporter who provides several equine programs to Spaulding students in Gilford. One of these programs, Healing with Horses, provides residential students a therapeutic opportuni-

ty to create emotional bonds with the horses and encourages social skill and confidence development in a positive atmosphere. Another program offers both horseback riding and horsemanship to build vocational skills and self-confidence for

Spaulding children and youth facing behavioral, emotional and physical challenges.

The 12th Annual Arthur H. Nighswander Community Partner Award recipient was presented to Patrick Clark, an active member of the Spaulding

Youth Center Board of Trustees since 2008. Mr. Clark served as treasurer of the board for eight years and has been a devoted supporter of our organization since his appointment. The Arthur H. Nighswander Community Partner Award serves as a

celebration of an individual or organization that has provided significant assistance to Spaulding Youth Center and is named after a former Spaulding board member to honor his longtime support.

In addition to the delicious Thanksgiving feast and celebratory award presentations, Spaulding announced its first-ever participation in AmazonSmile Charity Lists. These Charity Lists enable Amazon shoppers to purchase and donate needed items directly to the campus. Each list includes a variety of items curated to support different areas of the organization, such as the school, residential, gym, music & arts, and EChO. Visit smile.amazon.com and enter ‘Spaulding Youth Center’ as the charity of choice to gain access to these curated Charity Lists. No matter how big or small, your purchase will make a difference in the lives of the children and youth we serve.

## PINES

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE A3*

all you can eat country breakfast of pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausages, toast, juice and hot beverages. We serve from 7:30 to 10 a.m., and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be here from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4.50 for children ages three through twelve. The total cost for an entire family (immediate family) will not exceed \$30. \$1 of every adult ticket sold will be donated to MIX 94.1’s Cash-n-Cans program;

Fred Caruso will be broadcasting live from the Pines.

**Closed**  
The Pines Community Center is closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28 and 29, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

**Meetings and Other Programs at the Pines**  
Cub Scout Pack #842 Den and Pack Meetings, Mondays, 6 to 8 p.m.  
Tilton-Northfield Recreation Council, 2nd Monday, 6 p.m. (or Tuesday when there is a Monday holiday)

**Women’s Fitness,** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

**Zumba with Akiesha,** Tuesdays, 5:15 to 6 p.m.  
**Stretch & De-Stress** with Kelly Molloy, Tuesdays, 7 to 8 p.m.

**Tilton Northfield Little League Executive Com.,** 2nd Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.

**Winni Whinnies 4-H Club,** second and fourth Wednesdays, 6:15 to 8:30 p.m.

**Winnisquam Regional Babe Ruth Softball Com,** 2nd Wednesday, 7-8 p.m. (no meeting in December)

**Cub Scout Pack #842 Com.,** 6 to 8 p.m., one Wednesday a month, as scheduled

**Franklin Visiting Nurses Association Blood Pressure Clinic,** 3rd Thursday, 11 a.m. to noon

**Senior Lunch,** Thursdays, serving at 11:30 a.m.

**Zumba Gold** with Akiesha, Thursdays, 5:15 to 6 p.m.

**Webster Lake Fishing Derby Com.,** Thursdays, 6 to 7 p.m., as scheduled  
**Soda Brook Co-op,** 3rd Thursday, 6 to 8 p.m.



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**Edward Jones: Financial Focus**

**Invest in Your Family and Community**

Why do you invest? For many people, here’s the answer: “I invest because I want to enjoy a comfortable retirement.” And that’s certainly a great reason, because all of us should regularly put money away for when we’re retired. But you can also benefit by investing in your family and your community.

Let’s start with your family members, particularly the younger ones. How can you invest in their future? One of the best ways is to help send them to college. A college degree is still a pretty good investment: The average lifetime earnings of a college graduate are nearly \$1 million higher than those of someone with a high school degree, according to a study by the U.S. Census Bureau.

To help your children or grandchildren pay for any college, university,

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vocational school or other postsecondary education, you may want to open a 529 savings plan. With this account, withdrawals are federally tax free, as long as the money is used for qualified higher education expenses, including those from trade and vocational schools. (However, if you withdraw some of the earnings on your account, and you don’t use the money for qualified expenses, it will be taxable and can also incur a 10% federal tax penalty.) Plus, you retain control of the funds until it’s time for them to be used for school, so if your original beneficiary chooses not to pursue some type of higher education, you can name a different eligible beneficiary.

Another way to invest in your family is to help your adult children avoid feeling obligated to provide financial assistance to you. For example, if you

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ever required some type of long-term care, such as an extended stay in a nursing home, could you afford it? The average cost for a private room in a nursing home is more than \$100,000 per year, according to a study by Genworth, an insurance company. And Medicare typically pays very few of these expenses. So, to avoid burdening your adult children – while also preserving your own financial independence – you may want to consider some type of long-term care insurance. A financial advisor can help you determine what coverage may be appropriate.

Moving beyond your family, you may want to invest in the social fabric of your community by contributing to local charitable, civic, educational or cultural groups. Of course, now that we’re in the holiday season, it’s the perfect time for such gifts. Furthermore,

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your gift will be more appreciated than in years past because one of the chief incentives for charitable giving – a tax deduction – was lost for many people due to tax law changes, which raised the standard deduction so significantly that far fewer people chose to itemize deductions. However, you might still be able to gain some tax benefits from your charitable gifts.

To name one possibility, you could donate financial assets, such as stocks that have risen in value, freeing you of potential capital gains taxes. In any case, contact your tax advisor if you’re considering sizable charitable gifts.

Saving for your retirement will always be important. But don’t forget about investing in your family and your community – because these investments can provide satisfying returns.

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## PET OF THE WEEK



## CONNOR

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NOTEBOOK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A6

in the case of larger prey too big to drag to a hiding place, weasels may plan to revisit the kill.

As a boy barely old enough to snowshoe, I had the unforgettable experience of three short-tail weasels following me along a stone wall, close by and parallel to my course. I watched them over my shoulder for a while, then stopped. To my amazement, the weasels made straight for me, and proceeded to boil around my feet and snowshoes, playfully writhing around like so many snakes. I was too stunned to react to this, but eventually said "Hey! What the!" and they tunneled away into and out of the snow, off to who knew where.

This is not an uncommon thing with weasels, which are uncommonly curious and bold. They are easily made friends with and even tamed to a degree. When I was living with the Shatneys at their fishing and hunting camps at Clarksville Pond, a weasel set up camp right in (or under) the main cabin. It would run along on the floor

joists supporting the second floor, right above the main table, and take hand-proffered tidbits from amused guests.

There's an old saying that's actually true: "If you have a weasel, you don't have mice." Thus, many a weasel-turned-ermine has given many a hidebound camp-dweller a thrill.

Early snow that seems to mean business triggers what I call (to myself only, to avoid thrashings) the Seasonal Whine, as in "This damned snow. I already hate it," or something similar containing the symbiotic terms, "Snow," and "Hate." Challenged with this, I try to get away with just giving them such a look. It hardly ever works.

If caught in the above situation, do not, under any circumstances, say something like "Well, I just love snow, it's like a big quilt pulled over the land..." or they will form a mob and get you.

+++++

For some people, early snow, even major snow that might melt in a day or two, triggers another reaction-- the urge to jump onto a snowmobile and hit the trails. Bare hayfields and pas-

tures trigger the same urge with ATVers in the spring.

The problem is that the snowmobile trails aren't ready. Many clubs (often at the behest of landowners) don't open their trails until just before Christmas. And many clubs try to stick with the same date from year to year, so that people can count on it.

Riders and other trail-users, I think, sometimes take trail signs for granted. But think of the time involved in getting them out and up. And there are the not-so-minor details, like knowing the where and when of logging jobs.

+++++

The past several years have been a learning curve for ATV clubs, as they worked with state Department of Transportation crews and state and local police to get major highway crossings precisely where everyone wanted them, the major factor being safety. This has been going on all over the state, at least where ATV'ers are organized, which they've been doing, fast.

Line of sight is everything here, which is a difficulty when faced with

the likes of Route 145, the so-called "back way" between Colebrook and Pittsburg. Hint: Places to pass (legally) are scarcer than hens' teeth.

This time of year represents a sea-change for ATV and snowmobile clubs, complicated by the fact that ATVs are not "automatically" allowed on some snowmobile trails, despite what so much of the downstate public thinks. This is because some landowners are fine with snowmobiles but want nothing to do with ATVs, due to land damage and irresponsible riding habits.

Suffice to say that the snowmobile clubs have to put up often completely new and updated signs, hundreds of them for highway crossings alone. But then there are signs at all trail junctions, and bridges, and let's not forget trail hazards. ("Steep Downhill" is one you see from time to time, or maybe "Watch for Groomer," and then there's my very favorite, "Stay in Trail.")

+++++

ATVs, or all-terrain vehicles, get plenty of advertising in print media and on TV. Many of the ads--to the consternation

of local clubs and trail patrols--show ATV riders soaring over sand dunes (think "your local gravel pit"), and roaring through wetlands, which inevitably get referred to as "swamps." Hardly does anyone ever see ATVing's quieter, gentler side.

But I see them, retired couples going by, racks packed front and back, a sure sign that they're here on vacation and contributing to the economy.

But hold that judgment: It might just be, a veteran Conservation Officer once reminded me, that the ATVer is indeed from away, and is in fact staying for a weekend or a week, at his place or a rented one, and is simply leaving his gear and duffle back at camp.

+++++

One problem with all forms of motorized recreation, but particularly ATVs, is that no dealer likes telling a customer about to sign on the dotted line that he might have problems finding places to ride. And a litany of arrests and court cases has shown us that the customer otherwise might not have a clue about privately owned land or landowners'

rights.

Landowners often view snowmobiles and ATVs in totally different light. For one thing, the ATV season is twice as long as the snowmobiling season. Second, snowmobile clubs have spent decades forging good relationships with landowners and ironing out problems, while many ATV clubs have barely begun. Third comes that inherent factor about ATVs: They are just plain more intrusive and harder on the land.

And ATVs simply sound a lot louder, perhaps because there's no snow to muffle the noise. And it doesn't help that so many ATV riders can't help gunning their idling engines.

Finally, if the small percentage of scofflaws and yahoos causing most of the problems for ATVers and snowmobilers alike could just obey the signs, and show some basic manners on the trail, the lion's share of problems would disappear.

(Please address mail, including phone numbers for questions, to campguyhooligan@gmail.com or 386 South Hill Road, Colebrook, NH 03576.)



For the second straight season, the Winnisquam Bears football team went undefeated and captured a Division 4 state championship

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# Winnisquam School District announces Holiday Dinner

TILTON — The administration, faculty, staff, and students of the Winnisquam Regional School District would like to announce their 10th Annual Dinner for the Community! The event will be held on Friday, Dec. 13 from 5 until 7 p.m. in the High School Cafetorium. This dinner is held each year to thank the community we serve for supporting the children of WRSD, our professionals, and the district as a whole. Please join the WRSD family with your family and enjoy this complimentary dinner. The meal will feature items

such as oven-roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, farm fresh squash, stuffing, mac and cheese and assorted desserts. This evening has been made possible by generous donations from Surowiec Farm, M. Saunders Produce, Performance Food Group, Coca-Cola, Fantini Bakery, and the Tilton/Northfield Rotary. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to these community partners! Thank you - look forward to celebrating with you and your family on Dec. 13!

## HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2 for the Christmas Holiday

- Thursday the 26th at 6 p.m.
- Cozy Corner Chat - Stop in for a cozy corner time with Sarah P. and browse from a display of her favorites. Borrow an item from her display and a cup of cocoa is on us! And since today's Photo-A-Day Challenge theme is cozy, you can snap and post your photo on Instagram here with us!
- Tuesday the 31st from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Patron Apprecia-

## PARDON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

his cousin's support went on to become involved in state politics as well. Among those distinctions were his role as a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1778 and 1779, and two additional years in the newly formed N.H. State Senate. "His mother's name was Joanna so they wanted to change Thelma's name to honor her," said Osgood. "The turkeys they pardon are then donated to Crotched Mt. School for the kids to take care of and that was all fine with us." With Joanna in tow, the whole family, Kate, Ken and sons Hunter and Henry, traveled to the state capitol building on Nov. 25 where Gov. Sununu brought them before the Executive Council to deliver his pardon. The application for pardon was an actual form from the Attorney General's office, humorously completed with details pleading Joanna's case for a pardon. She stated she was still

single, had been "farm schooled," but did have a bit of a criminal record. "I could have stolen feed from my fellow turkeys. I may have also flown the coop a few times and blocked the flow of traffic," the document read. Asked to explain why she had committed her crimes, Joanna said she was just a hungry bird and needed to spread her wings. She pled not guilty in October but was ultimately sentenced to become dinner this year. In her statement on why she felt she was worthy of a pardon, Joanna said, "So that I can provide entertainment and educational opportunities with Brook the Turkey to the students at Crotched Mt. School." Kate said the whole experience was a lot of fun for her family and they were honored that "Joanna" was selected as this year's pardoned turkey. "We'll probably take a trip down to Crotched Mt. School sometime soon just to see how she's making out in her new home," she said.



# Brake for Moose

*It could save your life.*

## WINNISQUAM AG

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 that day.

"We wanted to get more people through the door to see what the students are doing and Small Business Day seemed like a great time to do that. We've had a great response," she said. Hill resident Brenda Dupuis was one of the many people who dropped by to purchase holiday trimmings and left with her arms laden with wreaths. "I came all the way down here because I needed to buy wreaths and wanted to give

my money to the kids here. I love what they do," she said. Student Jocelyn Roche assisted Dupuis with her purchases and said that while all the wreaths in stock were currently sold out as a result of the sale, there is plenty of holiday greenery that students will have available between now and Christmas. The Ag Center at WRHS, serving not only Winnisquam Regional School District but students from several local school districts, is still taking orders for kissing balls and the decorative ev-

ergreen centerpieces they make each year. They also have plenty of beautiful red, white, pink and variegated poinsettias for sale in their greenhouse. Also new to their stock this year are attractive Frosty Ferns. Frosty Ferns are a unique but festive looking smaller plant that can be maintained year-round and, unlike poinsettias, are pet-friendly, Solter-Jones said. The Ag Center students are continuing their sales from now until Dec. 18. Anyone interested in purchasing one of their kissing balls or holiday

centerpieces can pick up an order form at the center or contact them at 286-4531, ext. 1400, to place their order. The handmade centerpieces are \$20 a piece and Kissing Balls are \$25 each. Permitting time for students to handcraft the items, all orders must be received at least four days in advance of designated pick-up however. Pick-up dates are set for Dec. 10, 13, 17 and 20. Poinsettias and Frosty Ferns are available any day by simply dropping by the Ag Center during school hours.

## WOBBLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

ant in 2019 as it was in 1995, when former math teacher and running coach John Goegel got it all started. To accentuate his point, Saunders introduced Father Marc Dion of St. Joseph Catholic church, whose food pantry is the annual Gobble Wobble benefactor. "Through this event each year, you allow people to eat and stretch their dollars for medicine and other things they need," Dion said. His church, he told students, currently helps 10 or more struggling families in the local community by providing them with food each month but those numbers often rise as the holidays and cold weather draw near. "Your ministry in

helping the poor is invaluable," he said. Before the event Dion added that contributions from the middle school each year also allow the church to have more money in their coffers to assist people in other ways. "This is a huge support and we're very grateful to the kids and their parents," said Dion. Saunders then began "releasing" the turkey representatives from their "holding pen" and students from home-rooms at each grade level proudly flapped, squawked, and trotted their way into the gym. One by one, they were then brought forward to present their best turkey call while a team of judges listened in. Judges this year, se-

lected through what Saunders laughingly described as a "complicated and intricate metric system," were teachers Josie Taylor, Sarah Nute, Stephanie Stevens and Cindy Reid. Supervising their decision-making process was art teacher, Dr. Jaylene Bengtson. Creativity for the turkey costumes varied from class to class, some with elaborate outfits, some made from bits of construction paper and cardboard. A few turkeys were accompanied by security guards to keep them safe over the Thanksgiving holiday, while one was an apparent "free-range" turkey, spinning his way across the floor as he approached the competition line-up. For the first time in

memory, this year's judges were tied in their decision at the end of all the gobbling. Sixth grade entry Brody Auprey and fifth grader Ben Girard were brought back for a "Gobble-Off" and while both were outstanding in their presentation, the final votes went to Girard as this year's best turkey gobbler. The winning home-room for 2019-2020 was sixth grade teacher Karin Hensel's class where students contributed 425-lbs. of canned and dried goods to the St. Joseph's Food Pantry. Overall, the students of Belmont Middle School donated an amazing 2,087.5 pounds of food this year, bringing their total to nearly 100,000 pounds of food they have donated since 1994.

## PROPANE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Hampton, Franklin, Tilton-Northfield, Belmont and Gilmanton arrived to set up a tanker relay from the pond beside the Sanbornton Town Office. They then helped Sanbornton spray the area and monitor each of the homes and property in the vicinity. Dexter said continuous monitoring showed there wasn't any real threat to

nearby residences and no evacuations became necessary. "Luckily, we were able to get a (water) line on it right away and disperse the gas," he said. The only difficulty was accessing the site because of all the cars in the homeowner's driveway that day. Firefighters were able to remove them all safely however so their engines and tankers could handle the

situation. A team of technicians from Irving Heating Oil and Propane were called to the scene to temporarily secure the leak. They then burned off any gas remaining in the tank so a new regulator could eventually be set in place once the tank was emptied. The fire chief said technicians also brought in spare propane tanks to keep the home heated until the repairs could be made.

As a rule, Dexter said he prefers underground propane tanks because nine out of 10 times they are safer than a tank sitting exposed on a piece of property. His only recommendation is that people clearly mark off the area where the valves rise above the ground. "This was really just an accident though and thankfully the homeowners are insured," Dexter said.



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# Lakes Region Community Developers to host November Chamber Mixer

LACONIA — Lakes Region Community Developers will host their November Chamber Mixer at their new location at 193 Court Street in Laconia. The event is open to all community members and is a great opportunity to meet the team that develops healthy homes in the Lakes Region. Mixers are a great opportunity to grow your business relationships, make new connections and learn about the mission of a local business.

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Friday & Saturday 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.



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COURTESY  
Board members at Lakes Region Community Developers celebrated with a ribbon cutting at their recent board meeting including Dana Nute, Resilient Buildings Groups; Geoff Ruggles, Northway Bank; Ashley Davis, Four Seasons Sotheby's International Realty; Aaron Bassett, NantOmics; Corey Hoyt, Mainstay Technologies; Chris Dickinson, Northway Bank; Carmen Lorentz, Lakes Region Community Developers Executive Director; Lori Borrin, Meredith Village Savings Bank; Frances Strayer, Plymouth State University; Benjamin Wilson, Edward Jones.

14 Chamber Mixer at their new location at 193 Court Street in Laconia. Enjoy light refreshments from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Tour the office and meet the team that develops healthy homes in the Lakes Region. Mixers are a great opportunity to grow your business relationships, make new connections and learn about the mission of a local business.

Lakes Region Community Developers recently celebrated the opening of the completion of the renovation of their new office with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

“Our new building will provide LRCD staff and volunteers with more functional space in which to work, and it will enable us to provide new programming that is needed in the community,” said LRCD Executive Director, Carmen Lorentz. “It was exciting to redevelop a vacant building into a vibrant hub of activity that contributes to downtown revitalization in Laconia.”

Lakes Region Community Developers helps the Lakes Region thrive by developing healthy homes, creating vibrant community assets and engaging residents. Founded in 1988 as the Laconia Area Community Land Trust, LRCD has developed 365 healthy and affordable rental homes in Ashland, Gilford, Laconia, Meredith, Tilton, and Wolfeboro. In 2017, LRCD expanded its mission to include new types of real estate development and new programming that empowers residents to effect positive change in their communities. For more information, visit [lrcommunitydevelopers.org](http://lrcommunitydevelopers.org).

Lakes Region Chamber is a private, non-profit organization striving to create and promote a more engaged community and thriving economy for the businesses in the Lakes Region. For more information about the Lakes Region Chamber along with a community calendar of events, go to [LakesRegionChamber.org](http://LakesRegionChamber.org) or contact Joanne Haight, Membership Manager at 524-5531.

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## SPORTS



BOB MARTIN

Gabby Isabelle was named first team All-State this season.



BOB MARTIN

Chloe Colarusso was named second team All-State as a setter this year.

## Trio of Bears earn volleyball All-State honors

BY BOB MARTIN

Bob@Salmonpress.news

TILTON – The Winnisquam volleyball team had another strong season this fall and much of the success revolved around three players named to the All-State team.

Senior outside hitter Gabby Isabelle finished out what was an outstanding four-year career for the Bears and was named first team All-State for the second consecutive year. She had a great all-around season, dominating offensively with her powerful spike kills and digging balls left and right. She had 209 kills to lead the team and also had 137 digs. Isabelle reached both the 500-kill and 500-dig plateau this season.

Senior Chloe Colarusso had a breakout season in her first year as a setter, and was named second team All-State. She tallied 411 assists to go with 92 digs and 42 aces.

“When I found out I made the All-State team I was over the moon with joy,” said Colarusso. “I couldn’t believe that out of the whole division, full of amazingly talented girls, I was chosen to be a member on the team.”

Colarusso said the



BOB MARTIN

Olivia Dill was an All-State honorable mention in her senior season.

senior night game versus Moultonborough was the most memorable match, as it was the last regular season game she would play with her volleyball family. She said this past season was a bit of a roller coaster ride, as the team had ups and downs, but they knew if they worked together and had fun they could accomplish anything. She said this was a great year as there

was no drama between players, and they all had fun playing alongside one another.

She said she will miss everything that goes with volleyball at Winnisquam, including team feeds, spirit days, homecoming and more. This season, she said, was one she will always remember.

“It was everything

I could have asked for my last season at Winnisquam,” said Colarusso.

Fellow senior Olivia Dill has bounced around from different positions on the court and always seems to find ways to succeed. Formerly an All-State setter, this season, as a defensive specialist, she was named honor-

able mention.

“She switched to defense this year instead of setting because it was best for the team,” said coach Mike Liver-  
nois. “Great captain.”

Dill had 136 digs and 19 aces at the service line. She agreed with Colarusso, saying the most memorable game of the season was the senior game as it was

the last regular season and an emotional ride. She said this season was interesting, as she made the position change, lost six seniors and was a captain on a team with a lot of new faces.

“As a player, I ended up having to change my position in order to have the strongest lineup we could,” said Dill. “I was learning along the way, just like the underclassmen. For a team that was supposed to spend their season rebuilding, we definitely exceeded expectations. We ended up 14-2, and the number two seed. Although our playoff run was short, one game didn’t define how hard we worked all season.”

Dill said she is thankful for her career at Winnisquam, which included back-to-back state titles. She said she will miss her coaches and best friends she has made throughout the past four years.

“Most of all I’ll miss the late night home games with stands packed full of towel waving fans, playing the sport I love with my Winnisquam volleyball family,” said Dill.

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# Strong core returns for Belmont hoop girls

BY BOB MARTIN  
Bob@Salmonpress.news

**BELMONT** – The Belmont girls' basketball team is coming off a solid 11-9 season where the team lost in the quarterfinals to Conant, and despite losing one of the school's all-time scorers to graduation, the Red Raiders bring

back a strong core for the winter season. “Losing six seniors from last year team, one being 1,000-point scorer Julianna Estremera, patience is going to be the key,” said coach Mark Dawalga. “When you lose six seniors, four being starters, I know it may take a little time

to get everyone adjusted into their new roles. We will lean on returners junior Molly Sottak and junior Morgan Hall early on as they have the most varsity experience on the team, as we try to get everyone else up to speed.” The Red Raiders started off struggling last season with a 2-5 record, but the Belmont squad was resilient and bounced back by going 9-4 the rest of the way. The team used seven dif-

ferent starting lineups as it found its identity. The Red Raiders battled the whole way and Dawalga hopes the team can build off of this to put together a successful season. The team returns Hall and Sottak, as well as junior Emma Roberts, sophomore Alexis Donovan and sophomore Savannah Perkins. Top newcomers include senior Hannah Leclair, junior Becca Fleming, sophomore Courtney Burke and freshmen

Lena Rodrigues, Abby Gilbert and Alyssa Edgren. “The kids are really excited to take on their new expanded roles,” said Dawalga. “We will be young but the energy early on has been terrific.” The Red Raiders open the season against Conant at home, in a rematch from last season's quarterfinals on Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. Belmont has a tough schedule before the holiday break, facing tough teams like

Gilford, Newfound, Prospect Mountain and defending champion Monadnock. “Our schedule is a tough one, with four of our first five games on the road and against teams being in the top tier of Division 3,” said Dawalga. “It really is going to be a challenge as we work to gain experience together, but I really do believe in this group and know that the kids are really are excited to get the season started.”

## Glover hoping to breathe new life into Winnisquam girls' hoop team

BY BOB MARTIN  
Bob@Salmonpress.news

**TILTON** – The Winnisquam girls' basketball team has struggled in recent years, and has been under the direction of four different coaches in as many years. This year is the first year at the helm for coach Angelo Glover and he hopes to help the program turn things around.

“I'm really excited and looking forward to it,” Glover said. Glover is known in the Winnisquam athletic community, notably as the football team's defensive coordinator. Last season the Bears had an 0-18 record and the team can only go up. Glover said his hope for the season is to get the Winnisquam squad to play together as a team, commit to what he teaches and help the players better understand the game. He said he simply wants the players to buy into what he and his coaching staff will have to offer. “I'd like to say we are definitely in a rebuilding phase this year,” said Glover. “As the new head coach I plan to bring girls' basketball back to life here at Winnisquam.” One player to watch is Meghan Cote, who has been a mainstay in

the program that has provided much of the scoring charge over the past four years. She is closing in on the 1,000-point plateau and Glover is excited to see what the senior guard can do this year. “Meghan Cote is a player that this team is fortunate to have,” said Glover. “She's an incredible player to watch.” Glover also sees sophomore guard Cheyenne Cooper doing big things this year. Sophomore center Emma Griffin, he said, is one of the hardest working players he has coached in any sport, and he said her frame and athleticism will be a big help for the team. He also said freshman guard Mackenzie Philippy has good knowledge of the game and a strong skill set that should make her a big part of the team. When looking at the schedule, Glover said he is excited to show the division that this team has more talent than they have shown in past years. “I truly don't think last year showed the true caliber of this team,” said Glover. The Bears kick off the season at home against Franklin High School at 7 p.m. on Dec. 6.

# Hebron resident to inducted into IHSA Hall of Fame

**FAIRFIELD, Conn.** — The leadership of the Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association (IHSA) announced the first inductees for the IHSA Hall of Fame. Hall of Fame and candidates include people, horses and teams. Criteria for selection includes outstanding competitive achievement, exceptional contributions to the IHSA, success or significant impact in equestrian sport or the equestrian industry and any other honors. An induction ceremony will be held during the IHSA board meeting on Saturday, Jan. 4, in Orlando, Fla. “We are so proud to announce this first group of inductees into the IHSA Hall of Fame,” said Peter Cashman, interim IHSA executive director. “We honor these legendary leaders for the impact they've had on collegiate and mainstream equestrian sports and for the good of the industry.” Among the inductees is Sally Batton, from Canton, Ohio (now a Hebron resident), who coached and taught at Centenary University before accepting the position as head coach of



COURTESY PHOTO  
Sally Batton of Hebron is part of the first IHSA Hall of Fame class.

the Dartmouth College equestrian team. Batton coached the Dartmouth team for 29 seasons and has coached at the collegiate level for 35 years. She led the Dartmouth equestrian team to five Ivy League titles, in 1997, 2007, 2010, 2014 and 2016. Batton also sent numerous Dartmouth riders to IHSA National Championships. She served on the IHSA board of directors from 1984-2017, first

as a Regional President, then chair of several committees and served as IHSA National Steward from 2001-2017. In 2008, Batton was named the American Riding Instructors Association (ARIA) Instructor of the Year and is an ARIA certified Level III hunter seat trainer and a United States Hunter Jumper Association certified trainer. Batton was awarded the IHSA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013. She retired in 2019 and plans to continue teaching and working with the Athletic Equestrian League she founded in 2010. Other inductees include Robert E. “Bob” Cacchione, John H. “Jack” Fritz, Cindy Ford, Elizabeth “Beezie” Madden, Cindy Moorehead, J.T. Tallon and Clifford, a horse from the Cornell equestrian team. The Intercollegiate

Horse Shows Association (IHSA) welcomes men and women of all riding levels and offers individual and team competition in hunter seat equitation, Western horsemanship and reining at more than 400 member colleges and universities. Membership in IHSA means that college students can participate in horse shows regardless of their experience or financial status. Students compete at eight levels from beginner through advanced with suitable, provided horses, eliminating the expense of horse ownership. Founded in 1967 by Cacchione, it is the oldest and largest intercollegiate equestrian organization with 10,000 members in 47 states and Canada. IHSA college and university team participation is represented through a variety of programs including varsity athletics, academic departments and club sports. IHSA offers valuable hands-on experience and professional development in multiple facets of the equine industry. Many IHSA teams participate in service projects, giving back to their communities. Through the IHSA, students enhance their college experience and develop the tools that help build successful careers. For more information, go to IHSAinc.com or contact media@IHSAinc.com. Anyone interested in a clinic with Batton can e-mail sabatton@gmail.com. Visit athleticquestrian.com or athleticquestrianclinics.com for more information.

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# Bulldogs hope to battle for state title

BY BOB MARTIN

Bob@Salmonpress.news

BELMONT/GILFORD – The Belmont/Gilford hockey team is gearing up for the winter season and coach Jason Parent is hoping the Bulldogs can battle for a state title after losing in the semifinals three years in a row.

Last season the Bulldogs went 14-6 and lost in the semifinals to the Monadnock/Fall Mountain Huskies by a score of 3-2.

It was a great year for goalie Colin McGreevy, who had a pair of shutouts, a .900 save percentage, 2.34 goals against average and 369 total saves. He returns for his junior season and should be a difference maker in net.

Senior forward Hayden Parent is coming off an All-State season where he had nine goals and 28 assists. His 37 points were fourth in Division 3. Parent is on the brink of being only the fifth player in team history to reach 100 points in his career.

Griffin Tondreau returns for his sophomore season after an impressive freshman campaign where he tallied 15 goals and five assists.

The Bulldogs lost All-State senior defenseman Troy Gallagher to graduation, but coach Parent was happy to report the return of Nate Shirley to the defensive unit.

“The return of Nate Shirley will be a big boost to the defense this winter,” said coach Parent. “Nate will also help in putting the puck in the net and setting up the power play.”

The Bulldogs will also benefit from the experience of seniors Joey Blake, Will Robarge and Cam Jarvi who were all big parts of last year's squad.

The Bulldogs start preseason play at the Merrill Fay Arena with a scrimmage against Somersworth on Dec. 11, and then play Spaulding in Rochester for another



BOB MARTIN

The Belmont/Gilford hockey team is getting ready for the 2019-2020 season.

BOB MARTIN

(Right) Hayden Parent is closing in on 100 points over four years with the Bulldogs.

scrimmage on Dec. 13. On Dec. 14 Belmont/Gilford plays in the Kennett Jamboree.

The regular season kicks off on Dec. 18 against the always tough Berlin squad at Merrill Fay Arena, and coach Parent is looking forward to the matchup. He is also looking forward to games against John Stark and the regular season meetings with Kennett.

“Year in and year out these teams have been our biggest competition and we have had many quality games with them,” said Parent.


Parent said this year's Bulldog squad has a great blend of older and younger players, which he feels will lead to “a very sound and disciplined hockey team.”

“Hard work and team bonding will lead to great things for this team in the 2019-2020 season,” said Parent.

The first game of the season against Berlin is at 5 p.m. on Dec. 18 at the Merrill Fay Arena in Laconia.




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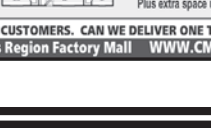
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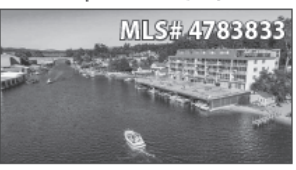

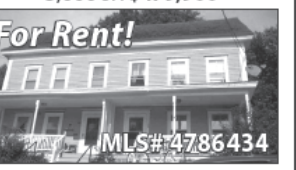
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**Groveton High School Principal**

The Northumberland School District is seeking an innovative, experienced educational leader and collaborator to serve as the principal of Groveton High School. The successful candidate will be skilled in dealing effectively with staff, students, and the public, and will have demonstrated thorough knowledge of curriculum and instruction including competency education, technology, special education, differentiated instruction, and knowledge of educational philosophy at all grade levels, programming, scheduling, and budgeting.

Additional strengths will include the ability to establish a vision, be reflective, manage and evaluate staff, and to conduct on-going program evaluation. Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, are essential.

The Groveton High School houses grades 6-12 with approximately 208 students and 40 employees. The school enjoys strong community and board support. The school is partnered with the New Hampshire Partners in Education and is recognized as a Blue Ribbon and Gold Circle school. The town of Northumberland is located in the beautiful Great North Woods and is within two hours of Montreal, Portland, Burlington, and Concord. Outdoor recreational activities are readily available in the area, including skiing, snowmobiling, hiking, hunting, and fishing. Northumberland is also connected to a strong ATV trail system.

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**GHS Principal Search Committee**  
SAU #58  
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## A look at the rivals

*Newfound girls return three starters to the court*

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING  
Sports Editor

BRISTOL — The Newfound hoop girls will return three of the starters from last year's team, which gives second-year head coach Kammi Williams reason to feel good about this winter's version of the Bears.

"We are returning three starters from last year, which I see as being the stability of our team," Williams said. "We obviously will be missing the scoring and rebounding of (graduated) Ashlee Dukette, but we hope to have a more balanced attack this season."

The Bears will be returning last year's second leading scorer in sophomore Paulina Huckins, last year's third leading scorer in junior Bailey Fairbank and the team's defensive specialist, junior Tiffany Doan from the starting lineup from last year.

Additionally, there are a couple of other girls returning to the varsity squad with some experience under their belts.

Senior Leah Bunnell and junior Mackenzie Bohlmann have both been part of the varsity squad for multiple years and they will be counted on to split time at the forward position. Bunnell is a shooting specialist while Bohlmann adds to the high/low offense. Junior Haley Dukette also brings some shooting skill to the court as she looks to take the next step for the team.

Williams will also be looking to a couple of newcomers to help fill out the roster. Freshmen Malina

Bohlmann, Matti Douville and Molly McKellar are all incredibly athletic and aggressive according to their coach. Now they just have to get used to the varsity system.

"They just need to learn the system," Williams said, noting that McKellar will work as a backup to Huckins while Malina Bohlmann and Douville will both be in the backcourt helping out Fairbank in the backcourt.

Williams is hopeful that her team will be playing its best basketball when the regular season starts winding down and the playoffs are on the radar.

"I anticipate we will start a little slow this season as we develop," she said. "But basketball is a long season and honestly, it matters how we play in January and February, not December."

"We're hoping to play in the post-season, host a first round game and see how we do from there," Williams added.

The Bears will play two games each with White Mountains, Berlin, Franklin and Inter-Lakes plus one game each with Monadnock, Belmont, Winnisquam, Fall Mountain, Prospect Mountain, St. Thomas, Mascoma, Newport, Gilford and Somersworth.

The season will kick off for the Bears with a game on Friday, Dec. 6, as they host defending champion Monadnock at 6:30 p.m. The Bears will be at White Mountains on Tuesday, Dec. 10, also at 6:30 p.m.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or [josh@salmonpress.news](mailto:josh@salmonpress.news).

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