



THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2020

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Standing by the garden members maintain, New Durham Democratic Committee treasurer Lorrie Drake (L) and chairperson Polly Wessel (R) hold a facsimile of the \$500 check the group has donated to the New Durham Food Pantry.

# New Durham Democrats support food pantry

BY CATHY ALLYN  
Contributing Writer

NEW DURHAM — “It’s important to support everyone in our community,” Polly Wessel said, “especially during the pandemic.”

In addition to being a New Durham resident, Wessel serves as chairperson of the New Durham Democratic Committee, a group that has been around since 1980, but which has grown steadily and more prominent in the past few years.

She was referring to a \$500 donation from the Committee, commonly referred to as the New Durham Dems, to the town’s Food Pantry.

“It’s such a worthy organization,” she adds.

This is not the first time the group has provided financial support in New Durham. Although one of its key activities is raising money to support Democratic candidates running for office, members have a long-standing history of giving to non-partisan causes.

“We love our little town, and will continue to support it as much as we can,” member Ellen Phillips said.

The New Durham Dems donated funds to the Parks and Recreation Department for a petting zoo at the 2018 New Durham Day and a bouncy house at that event in 2019.

“We’ll continue that tradition of donating to something for the children on New Durham Day,” Phillips said.

When the Town was looking for volunteers to help with downtown gardens in 2018, the group stepped up to sponsor the plot in front of the police station. Last year, members cleaned up the town ball fields for Earth Day.

“We picked up tons of

trash bags worth,” Wessel noted.

In August of last year, the New Durham Dems held an outdoor fundraising event at the Miller Farm called Peaches and Politics. It featured an entire menu of peach-based food and brought in three presidential candidates to speak and answer questions.

Attendees had the opportunity to share peach pie with Andrew Yang, munch on chicken in peach sauce with Bill de Blasio, and hoist a cup of peach punch with Michael Bennett, along with a host of representatives of other candidates.

The event was a big success and there were hopes of repeating something along those same lines this year, before Covid-19 concerns canceled those thoughts.

“Due to the pandemic, we were planning to try an October event called Pumpkins and Politics,” Wessel said, “but we’ve decided against any in-person event, even outside at the Miller Farm.”

The group is considering several options, including a so-called “click and collect” bake sale, whereby members bake peach-themed or pumpkin goods to sell online with contact-free pick-up.

Wessel said her husband David will be attending training on virtual fundraising, so other ideas may be forthcoming.

Recently, the group has contributed to campaigns for US Senate, US House of Representatives, Executive Councilor District 1, NH Senate District 6, NH Representative District 3, New Durham resident Jeff Allard for State Representative, Strafford County District 3, and will contribute to the gubernatorial Democratic

candidate.

Wessel said she has gotten involved in the community in order to try to “find solutions. When we lived outside of the country, I vowed I would get involved in a local organization when we moved back.”

That’s just what she did, jumping into the New Durham Dems and leading virtual meetings, even when stranded on the other side of the world for months during the pandemic.

“I’m a Democrat because I believe through-out my life the Democratic party has helped regular people,” she said.

Wessel said her parents lived through the Depression and Democrats created Social Security and works programs.

“The party stands for inclusivity, helping people when they need a helping hand, and supporting education,” she said. “A solid public education system helps people and builds a strong middle class.”

She said her own experience bears that out, commenting that “My parents didn’t graduate from high school, but they raised five children on one income and all of us went to college and graduate school.”

Wessel said she believes the reason is because “we had a solid middle-class upbringing and great public schools.”

As a world traveler, Wessel brings a different perspective to state and federal politics.

“I’d traveled through Third World countries before,” she said, “but never lived in one until we were in Guatemala for several years.”

She described the Central American country as “gorgeous,”

SEE DEMS, PAGE A9

# Rotary speaker explores why we keep returning to Alton

ALTON — The simple definition of a magnet is: an object with extraordinary power or ability to attract.

If you’d ask Rotary’s guest speaker, Aimee Terravechia, who addressed the club at their Thursday, July 23 meeting, if her native town of Alton is a ‘magnet’, she’d agree.

On three separate occasions, Terravechia left New Hampshire to find work only to return because “My family’s here, I love Alton, its people, lakes and mountains,” she stated.

Her last out of state job was working for Microsoft which had her traveling to many large US cities. Now back home, she and her husband, Jake Bemis, also an Alton native, started a new business, Catchpenney, 5 Monument Square, Alton. A retail shop selling gifts and home décor items.

Terravechia is both an artist and a writer, a graduate from Southern New Hampshire University and studied graphics and fine arts at NH University of Fine Arts. With her strong background in business, social media and marketing, she’s well qualified to operate and manage her business where her talents and skills allow her to be creative. Among her other involvements, she is also the Media Director for the Alton Business Association (ABA), and for many NPO’s as a volunteer. She’s the mother of two, and lives in Alton with her husband, Jake.

The Alton Centennial Rotary Club is a non-profit, non-religious, Non-political service organization dedicated to saving and improving lives both locally and globally. For information on membership, contact Duane Hammond, 569-3745. E-mail: duane@metro-cast.net. If you’d like to join one of our Rotary meetings via Zoom. Contact Club President, Robert Regan: rbregan211@gmail.com.

# Early closures to be reflected in school tax assessments

ELISSA PAQUETTE  
Contributing Writer

WOLFEBORO — The Governor Wentworth Regional School District has offered assurance in response to a request from the Effingham Board of Selectmen (EBOS) for a reduction in the school tax rate this fall.

The EBOS sent a letter to the select boards of all district towns asking them to join together in asking the district to reduce the tax burden as “the unknowns of the ‘new normal’ and financial insecurity weigh heavily upon all of us.”

Its June 30 letter to the board listed assumed reductions in costs or potentially no costs associated with a number of categories. The reply from the district came soon after and was sent

to all the select boards. Superintendent Kathy Cuddy-Egbert and School Board Chairman Jack Widmer wrote that they shared the EBOS’s sentiment that “these are hard times for many of our community members” and stated that the District will continue the practice of returning all unassigned general fund balance to the taxpayers.

Districts are allowed by state law to retain year-end unassigned general funds of up to 2.5 percent of the current year’s net assessment but the board has never voted to do so. The books closed on June 30 showing an estimated unreserved fund balance of \$2.5 million, an increase over last year’s fund balance of over \$1.2 million dollars. After the August audit, the unre-

served fund balance will be apportioned based on each town’s contribution to the budget. The effect will be seen this fall when the New Hampshire Department of Revenue sets the tax rate.

As for reductions in expenses with the school closure in March several on the EBOS’ list were not reduced. In particular, while there were not expenses for paper, pencils and consumable supplies, remote learning created a need for Chromebooks, Wi-Fi hotspots and software.

The food service program, which is a self-sustaining, federally funded operation which costs the community nothing in tax dollars, provided more than 3,000 meals a week to help families in need of food.



COURTESY

**On the prowl**

Reader Kris Gurney shared this image of a roving bobcat captured recently on a trail camera posted on his property off Old Wolfeboro Road in Alton.



# Lake Winnepesaukee Association announces first Director of Development!

MEREDITH — On behalf of the Board of Directors and Executive Director, Pat Tarpey, the Lake Winnepesaukee Association (LWA), a 501c3 non-profit organization working to protect the water quality and natural resources of Lake Winnepesaukee, is pleased to announce Kate Bishop as the organization's first Director of Development. This comes at a time of growth and capacity building focus for LWA.

Diane Hanley, Board President, stated "We are thrilled to have Kate Bishop join us as Development Director of the Lake Winnepesaukee Association. Kate brings a wealth of experience

growing non-profits, with particular talent in planning, fundraising and fostering partnerships. Her long-standing ties to the Lake Winnepesaukee region also enhance our ability to reach out more effectively to the community to achieve our mission."

Bishop brings more than 25 years-experience in the nonprofit sector with her consulting practice, Community Matters, providing capacity building, fundraising, organizational development, board development services and facilitating strategic plans. She has also served on various Boards throughout the Lakes Region. She is a



Kate Bishop

graduate of Leadership Lakes Region and served as a mentor with NH Center for Nonprofits Hoffman Haas program.

Bishop shared, "I am very excited and proud to be joining the LWA team and making an impact to the continued focus of protecting our

Lake. I feel strongly that the water quality may be the single most aesthetic, economic and environmental benefit to the Lakes Region. It should be the foremost concern to all those who live and recreate on or around Winnepesaukee. Community engagement and collaboration are a central approach to my work with individuals, organizations, professionals and com-

munities at large, with an objective of integrating business solutions through planning and implementation."

Lake Winnepesaukee has been home to Bishop for more than 20 years and she shares the same passion to see our Lake stay clean and safe for all those who enjoy Winnepesaukee's natural beauty. In her free time, she enjoys running, biking,

hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, and boating on Lake Winnepesaukee. Additionally, travel and cooking are added benefits in her life.

Bishop is looking forward to meeting you in the near future and to Keeping Winni Blue! She can be contacted at (505) 231-5428 or kbishop@winnepesaukee.org.

## Alton Parks and Recreation Connection

cial Media page. Please contact the office at 875-0109 if you have any questions.

2020 Alton Bay August Concerts

The August Concerts are tentatively set for 7-9 p.m. on the following dates: Aug. 1- East Bay Jazz; Aug. 6- John Irish (7-8:30p.m.); Aug. 7- The "Thursday Afternoon Band"; Aug. 8- Blacklite Band; Aug. 13- Bittersweet; Aug. 15- John Irish Duo; Aug. 21- The Visitors; Aug. 22- Chippy and the Ya Yas; Aug. 23- Final Approach; (4-6 p.m.); Aug. 28- Chris Bonoli; Aug. 29- Saxx Roxx.

Alton Old Home Week Virtual 5K Race

Alton Parks and Recreation and Meredith Village Savings Bank are co-sponsoring the first ever "Alton Old Home Week Virtual 5K Race."

Official time tracking will begin on Aug. 8 at midnight and stay open until 11 p.m. on Aug. 16. The virtual 5K Race will allow participants to run/walk throughout the week, using a mobile device and the app (RaceJoy). Included in the app will be real-time tracking, progress alerts at mile points for current pace and estimated finish, and other interactive features for participants and spectators. The leader board will be updated daily with all participant's times.

This is a great program to try a race at your own pace; all abilities are welcome. Walkers are invited and encouraged too.

Forms and map available at [www.alton.nh.gov](http://www.alton.nh.gov) or register online at <https://runsSignup.com/Race/NH/Alton/OldHomeWeekVirtual5k>.

## BARC appoints new officers



COURTESY

Pictured above from left to right: Candidates Paul Terry, Peter Varney and Ray Howard.

ALTON — The Barnstead-Alton Republican Committee, also known as BARC, is pleased to announce it has reorganized.

New Co-Chairwomen Priscilla Terry and Beth Varney invite anyone from Alton, Barnstead, Gilmanston and New Durham who is interested in advancing Republican causes and electing Republican candidates to attend the next meeting on August 19, 2020. The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in a new location, the Varney home, located at 129 Main St., Alton.

For more information, please contact Priscilla Terry at [altonrepublicans@gmail.com](mailto:altonrepublicans@gmail.com).

Families in Transition-New Horizons'

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Join us for this virtual 5k fundraiser in support of the FIT-NH Hope House program, which provides emergency short-term housing and case management services to families experiencing homelessness in the Governor Wentworth Regional School District. Your support allows individuals and families to overcome barriers between them and a more permanent home.

Register Today at  
[support.fitnh.org/Hope2020](http://support.fitnh.org/Hope2020)

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Recent Automotive Technologies graduate Jayson Lumbra poses with one of the cars he worked on in the Lakes Region Community College's state-of-the-art shop. Students return to campus August 31st with a hybrid academic schedule in more than 40 programs for people who want to upskill, retool, change professions, or eventually transfer credits for a four-year degree.

LACONIA — Lakes Region Community College reopened its doors last week, taking the first step into the final phase of a carefully crafted reopening plan.

Students, staff and members of the public may schedule appoint-

ments and tours of the hilltop campus, where social distancing and sanitation protocols are in force.

Fall semester classes start Aug. 31 and will run in a hybrid model where students attend social-

classes one week and attend class remotely the next. Students will benefit from onsite instruction and hands-on practice while also benefiting from limited exposure to large groups. The school's faculty have also been working on innovative strategies that allow an easy pivot if trends change and the population is asked to stay at home again in coming months.

Larissa Baia, president of Lakes Region Community College, gave high praise to the Reopening Task Force comprised of administration, faculty and staff. "Based on the success of the well-planned phases 1 and 2 of reopening" where students and staff came on campus on staggered schedules that promoted social distancing and testing of sanitation and traffic flow protocols, she said, "LRCC is prepared to start our fall schedule with new procedures in place."

The full plan can be found at [https://](https://live-lrcc-wordpress.panthemonsite.io/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Fall-Reopening.pdf)

[live-lrcc-wordpress.panthemonsite.io/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Fall-Reopening.pdf](https://live-lrcc-wordpress.panthemonsite.io/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Fall-Reopening.pdf)

Among protocols practiced will be the requirement of face coverings when in public spaces, daily screening for all individuals who enter campus, and shortened class times. Each room on campus has been measured and its maximum occupancy determined in light of guidelines put out by the Centers of Disease Control. In some cases, learning spaces have been reorganized to better support social distancing. The institution's ventilation systems have been assessed and course schedules adjusted to allow healthy air exchange between group meetings. Access to some public spaces, such as computer labs and the Bennett Library, will be limited.

Lakes Region Community College is one of only two New Hampshire community colleges that offers housing, and its two- and three-bedroom apartments will be open in fall, with single, rather than double occupancy in each bedroom. Several apartments will be left vacant to provide quarantine housing if it becomes necessary.

"Our number one priority," says Baia, "is the safety of our students, faculty and staff, and the community of which we are a part. With that in mind, the school is ready to respond to changing conditions. Faculty members have been working through the spring and summer to ensure continuity of instruction no matter how circumstances evolve. No matter what, students can be assured that every effort is being made to retain the personal support and services they've come to expect from Lakes Region Community College."

Classes at Lakes Region Community College

start Monday, Aug. 31, and include certificate and Associate degree programs in the Liberal Arts, Automotive and Marine Technologies, Electrical, Health, Business, Culinary, and Pastry Arts, Nursing, Fire Technologies, Manufacturing, Computer Technology, Hotel/Restaurant Management and the Arts.

Located minutes off Interstate 93 in Laconia, Lakes Region Community College offers more than 40 educational programs, as well as

workforce training for business and industry. Transfer agreements with regional four-year colleges allow students to receive their Associate's degree at an affordable community college, and earn a Bachelor's at a four-year school. Lakes Region Community College offers on campus housing and is part of the Community College System of New Hampshire. To learn more, visit [www.lrcc.edu](http://www.lrcc.edu) or join an online Open House at [www.lrcc.edu/virtual](http://www.lrcc.edu/virtual).



COURTESY

## LRAA announces Artists of the Month

Selected as the best of the best for their artwork and/or photography, members of Lakes Region Art Association and Gallery, (LRAA), proudly display their 'Artists of the Month' winning entries. All will be on public display at a number of local establishments until late August. Front row: Sally Hibberd, Northway Bank, Tilton. Barbara McClintock, Laconia Public Library. Linda Murphy Franklin Savings Bank, Gilford. Back row: Martha AuCoin, Bank of NH, Gilford Village. Phylliss Meinke, Northway Bank, Laconia. Tom Hitchcock, Franklin Savings Bank, Franklin. Sherwood Frazier, Meredith Village Savings Bank. Duane Hammond, Northway Bank, Meredith. For information about joining the Lakes Region Art Association/ Gallery, contact Tom, Thursday- Sunday at: 496-6768 or [tom@hitchcockproductions.com](mailto:tom@hitchcockproductions.com), anytime.

The LRAA/Gallery is located at Tanger Mall Outlets, 120 Laconia Rd., Suite 132, Tilton.

## Legion hosting Car & Bike Show

ALTON — The American Legion Riders/SAL Post 72 will host their Third Annual Car & Bike Show Saturday, Aug. 8 from 4-8 p.m. at the Legion post, 164 Wolfeboro Highway (Route 28), Alton. Registration starts at 3 p.m., with a \$10 donation requested per car or motorcycle.

This year's theme will be "Rockabilly," with trophies awarded in 10 classes: Late Model Muscle Car, Classic Muscle Car, Antique, Hot Rod Traditional, Custom Traditional, Street Rod, Late Model Truck, Classic Truck, Rat Rod, Motorcycle, Best Rockabilly Costume, and Best of Show. There will also be door prizes, food, a 50/50 raffle, and a DJ playing classic tunes. Come join us for all the fun!

All donations go toward community and veterans' charities.

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## The darker the night, the brighter the stars

When we look up into the night sky, many of us are overcome with awe and wonder. It really does put into perspective just how small we are, as cliché as that sounds. Looking up, we have to wonder why all of humanity can't simply realize that what we are experiencing in life can happen just as well without violence and greed taking place all over the world, but alas here we are. A download of the app 'Star Chart' led us down a rabbit hole into astrology, with the focus being on the currently visible comet, Neowise. As a point of fact, Neowise was named after NASA's Near Earth Object Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer.

First, a comet for those that don't know exactly what it is, is described often as a 'dirty snowball'. There are billions of them in our solar system, however it's a rare occurrence when one passes by the Earth, close enough to see it. A comet is an icy, small solar system body that warms when passing the sun. When this happens, it begins to release gases. This produces a visible atmosphere and sometimes includes a tail. Neowise, became closest to the Earth on July 22, just 64 million miles away. According to NASA, once it's gone, the comet will not be visible to the Earth for another 6,800 years.

The comet was discovered by astronomers in March, when it was noticed 160 million miles from Earth. The comet is a three-mile-wide chunk of ice and dust, apparently on a 6,000-year loop around the solar system. Many astronomers are relaying that it is the most impressive looking comet since Hale-Bopp, that appeared in 1997. That comet, is on a 2,500 year loop.

It was expected that Neowise would be visible until earlier this week; however, it may linger. When looking up to try to see the comet, look for the tail that has been described as 12 moons side by side. It is most visible at 10 p.m. according to the experts and binoculars will help for certain. The comet is located northwest, below the bottom left corner of the Big Dipper.

Perhaps the best discovery is to retrieve the benefits of stargazing. Since the beginning of time, mankind has gazed up at the stars. Before science revealed what exactly was going on, yet still unknown, the night sky offered those who looked upon it a sense of calm, and a chance to de-stress. In our current climate, stargazing could be just one more way to reduce anxiety. To note, the telescope was invented in 1608. It has been proven, that soaking up the night sky, and staring at thousands of stars can help clear the mind.

Our ancestors once thought the moon was a God. Early art proves that man was just as intrigued by outer space as we are today. As we all know, mythology was born from space with the most famous gods being Chandra, Artemis, Thoth and Apollo. Thoth has been attributed to the invention of the 365-day calendar and was known as a 'wise counselor who solved disputes.' The Hindus said that an eclipse was the result of Rahu the snake, who swallowed the orbs, causing them to go dark. A full moon was used to explain those who acted out in insanity.

Astrology is always fun if you believe in it. This pseudoscience goes back to the second millennium BCE, and was used to predict information based on the movement of what was going on in the solar system.

The most famous astronomer, Galileo Galilei (born in 1564), once said, "It vexes me when they would constrain science by the authority of the Scriptures, and yet do not consider themselves bound to answer reason and experiment."

Another one to remember, courtesy of author Richelle E. Goodrich, is "Sometimes while gazing at the night's sky, I imagine stars looking down making wishes on the brightest of us."



COURTESY

### Back on the field

The Laconia Lacrosse Club 8U & 10U Girls teams are excited to be practicing after a three-month delay, and look forward to scrimmages in early August. Boys and girls in grades 1-8 from Laconia, Belmont, Gilmanton, Sanbornton, Tilton, Northfield, and Meredith are welcome to join the club - contact Laconia Lacrosse Club at [www.laclax.uslaxteams.com](http://www.laclax.uslaxteams.com).

## Letters to the Editor

### What is being done to keep us safe during Bike Week?

To the Editor:

Motorcycle Week is coming to the Lakes Region. Thousands of bikers from all around the country will descend on Laconia. What precautions are being taken?

This national event normally happens in June. This year, because of COVID-19, it was postponed until the week of Aug. 22 -30. Organizers

were hopeful that by August, the virus would be under control.

Gov. Sununu and his scientific team have done a good job. Each day, the number of new cases in New Hampshire is low compared to hot spots in the United States. But bikers will be coming to our Granite State from places where the virus is raging and virtually

out of control, e.g. Florida, Texas and California. Will they wear masks? What about "social distancing?"

In previous years, we have seen how Lake Street at the Weirs is jammed with humanity. What about safety in our region's towns and villages? Typically, hundreds of bikers fan out to Meredith, Holderness, Cen-

ter Harbor, Wolfeboro, Alton and New Durham. We have all witnessed how large gatherings on beaches and lakes have fueled the pandemic to a point where it is out of control. Bike Week will also coincide with school openings. What steps will our leaders take to keep us safe?

JOHN GOYETTE  
NEW DURHAM

### Campaigning for hope and unity

To the Editor:

I am running for state representative as the Democratic candidate from Alton, Barnstead, and Gilmanton (Belknap District 8).

These are difficult times for many in our state and our nation. News on the national front is chaotic and disheartening, and many among us are suffering from repercussions of Covid-19, with the end not yet in sight. We also face enormous challenges from the toxic political climate promoted by the Trump administration, setting one group against another and encouraging the most divisive elements of our society. We seem to have lost sight of the wise counsel of Patrick Henry in the early days of our republic: "United we stand; divided we fall."

Nevertheless, I see cause for optimism: the

way in which our area communities have come together and rallied around local businesses and food banks, with people offering to help others with their shopping and errands, and others standing up for justice for all, including marginalized groups among us. The true spirit of community is alive and well in the Lakes Region.

Some of you may have seen people with signs on some Saturdays at the Alton circle, participating in a "Visibility for Love Not Hate." I participate in these events, usually holding a sign that reads "Love Not Hate." It has been truly uplifting to see passing motorists wave or honk or give a thumbs up, and I believe that a lot of people are tired of the divisiveness and want to see us come together.

Nevertheless, a couple of weeks ago a truck stopped and the driver began shouting, demanding to know where we came from (all local) and who was paying us (no one). He referred to himself as a red-blooded patriotic American, and I responded that we were also. He then attacked Black Lives Matter, which I also support. Afterwards, I wrote to him, confident that if he thought about our message a little more, he might even consider joining us in the future at these non-partisan events aimed at spreading a message of kindness and inclusion. I hope to hear from him and anyone else interested in having a civil discussion about this or any other issue.

My campaign is one of hope and unity, and I welcome input from all voters, of any or no party. My vision for our

community is for all of us working together to make it a place where young people want to stay, and where young families want to settle. This will provide our community with the workforce necessary to support the vibrant economy we need. Let's use our natural resources wisely, protecting them for future generations, and support our public schools, as the backbone of our democracy. We are all neighbors, and we are stronger when we work together.

I want to hear from you and earn your support. To learn more about my candidacy, visit my website [RuthLarson4NHRep.com](http://RuthLarson4NHRep.com) and my Facebook page @ [RuthLarsonNH](https://www.facebook.com/RuthLarsonNH).

RUTH LARSON  
ALTON

### Politics and police should not mix

To the Editor:

The large pink Women for Trump bus, which is apparently traveling through the area, arrived in Barnstead the end of last week. Lara Trump and other members of the Trump Campaign, accompanied by members of the Secret Service, Homeland Security, and New Hampshire State Police, held a Trump rally at the Barnstead Police Department. Apparently, the police and certain members of the community were expecting them, but the

visit caught the vast majority of residents by surprise. Streets were closed off for a period of time, Republican political signs were placed on private lawns, and from photographs posted on the Barnstead Police Facebook page, most if not all of the police were in attendance, all decked out in their official uniforms. And, since it was a weekday afternoon, I assume that at least some of the officers were on duty.

Although the police ostensibly characterized

the visit as a thank you to law enforcement for their service, it is clear from the photographs and messages posted on Facebook that the event was nothing but a highly partisan political rally. One of almost 40 photographs posted is of at least 45 people (including the Barnstead police), 13 of whom are holding Trump/Pence or Women for Trump signs.

The police Web site states that, due to Covid-19, their lobby will remain closed and they "are taking every

precaution to protect the public and (their) employees from becoming infected." Apparently, an exception was made for hosting a Trump political event. Every photograph displays egregious disregard for public safety. The site mentions that visitors were given a tour of the facilities, but there is not a mask in sight. People are standing together, often touching or hugging, with no regard for social distancing. People close to the Trump family, including the Secret Ser-

vice, have tested positive for the virus. Most of these guests came from out of state. What assurance do we have that they are not spreading the virus throughout our region?

Many Barnstead residents, and residents of neighboring towns, are outraged by this blatant politicized event. The majority of over 400 comments posted to date on the police Facebook page express condemnation of both the partisan display and the total disregard for public health guide-

lines.

The police are paid to serve all taxpayers in their town, not just those of one political persuasion. This is especially important in today's divided world. This conduct by the Barnstead Police was highly inappropriate. Under the circumstances, how can residents who disagree with their politics feel confident that the police will be there to serve and protect them?

JANE WESTLAKE  
BARNSTEAD



# NOTES FROM WINDY HOLLOW

## Twice as nice

BY VIVIAN LEE DION

The lazy days of summer are upon us and nature is putting on quite a show with vibrant flowers and the bountiful harvests of fruits and vegetables. I've had quite a month with flowers, and am satisfied with the ones I take care of at Alton Bay. First, I wish to acknowledge the generosity of Sunflower Gardens for donating their flowers to the Alton area. Members of the Alton Garden Club assume with pride their duties of planting and watering these tender young flowers. Numerous members with "green thumbs" volunteer their time throughout the summer months. It's

through the coordinated efforts and working together that produces a welcoming attraction for visitors and hometown folks alike. The flowers donated by Sunflower Gardens bring a smile to all who walk or drive by and see their colorful blossoms. I must admit, I didn't realize how heavy a watering can filled with water can be. It's a good thing Ray helps me bring a couple cans to the barrel diagonally across the street from Shibley's Ice Cream Drive-In. At first, I was disappointed with the shy, slanted, wooden barrel, but now that flowers are flourishing, and overflowing on the outside of the barrel, I'm happy. The slanted bar-

rel helps to fully display the delicate, pink and white petunias. A couple weeks later, I shopped at Sunflower Gardens for three additional six-packs of flowers to fill in bare garden spaces at my home. I walked around the greenhouses with helpful suggestions from the garden technician and selected three items. We chatted a bit about the weather, and how everyone is buying flowers this year. It must be because of the Covid-19 virus, because gardeners want to get outside and enjoy nature and the fresh air after being cooped up for several months. I signed for my purchases and was on my way. The next day,

I checked my bank statement, and noticed an incorrect amount was logged for the purchase of my marigolds and two additional plants. I must have been distracted talking instead of paying attention to amount on the sales slip when I signed my name. I felt completely stupid. I called Bruce at Sunflower Gardens and explained the whole story. I said, "I'm embarrassed for signing the sales slip without paying close attention." Bruce listened, and replied, "I've done the same thing myself, and can see how that can happen. Come back tomorrow, and I'll get this straightened out for you." It was corrected in a blink of an eye.



Now, that's compassion and goodwill at its finest; Bruce's kindness in donating a large quantity of flowers to brighten Alton Bay and surrounding area, plus having patience in helping a customer with a refund on the signed sales slip. Thank you, Bruce. You certainly are twice as nice, and I'll think

of you when I care for the flowers. As Audrey Hepburn once said, "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."

Vivian Lee Dion of New Durham is a writer and speaker and can be reached at windyhollow@metrocast.net.

## Letters from Edwin

### Bee Sense

This afternoon, when I was out priming some pieces of wood, the sky started to darken considerably. The sound of spirits bowling in the clouds was evident. As I was cleaning up, there started a fine mist settling in from above. It looked like the weather soothsayers were going to be right on. Soon there was a nice rain falling so I decided to take myself a rain delay. I hooked up the front porch hammock and hopped in. What a nice unexpected pleasure. Listening to the steady drumming of the rain drops punctuated by lightning hits, I fell asleep to the music. An hour later I woke up, it was still raining but I could see blue sky in the distance and knew that it would be ending

soon. I went into the kitchen for a drink and paused to gaze out back. There, crawling up onto the railing was a bumble bee who must have been hit point blank with a large rain drop. He was soaked. Obviously, he wasn't having one of his better days. He proceeded to wipe himself all over with his feet, trying to rid himself of all the wetness. Flapping his wings now and again to help in the drying. It wasn't long before he took to the sky, searching out more flowers to gather pollen, as he obviously lost any that he may have had in the shower. We could all take a lesson from this little guy. I know so many people who continually gripe and complain about this and that

when they really ought to just wipe themselves off and jump back into the game. Behind my house stand a number of hollyhocks. They are perennial flowers that can grow to over seven feet tall. Flowers line their stem and continually bloom for about a month. They attract lots of pollinators and humming birds love them. Some came from the house I grew up in, a neighbor up the street had some different colors that I took some seeds from and there are a couple more that I haven't a clue where they came from. There are deep red ones, pink ones and white ones. Walking out on the back deck where they're growing, it's interesting to watch the bumble bees as they work col-

lecting pollen. They're usually very quick as they hop from flower to flower. So I was surprised to see one just setting there with its head and body crammed down into the back of the flower. I looked close to check for signs of life and I thought I saw it move slightly, but it kept pretty much still. Very odd. After checking on the garden I returned and it was still there. I moved a petal of the flower for a better look and the bee raised one of its legs to check what happened to it. Obviously, it wasn't dead. Then looking real close, it looked like it might have been sucking up nectar with a long straw. I wondered how he deserved "nectar time" when all his other friends kept working.

I usually buy red clover seeds from the grain store to plant after I dig my potatoes to rotate the crops. So my yard has developed large patches of red clover. When left unmowed, they grow, flower and then go to seed. Noting all these clover seeds just sitting there, I wondered how I might gather them. I've found an alternative use for a blueberry rake. I slip the tines under the heads of the clover and snip them off with some grass shears. It works swell. So this morning I was collecting clover seeds when I heard a soft hum.

I looked over to a patch of white clover, and there was a honey bee. One. He stayed right where he was so I went and surveyed all the other white clover patches in the yard and there were no other honey bees. I returned to the spot and he was still there, fairly close to where he had been. I saw one bee last year too, and it was on the white clover. Could this be the same one? I hope he spreads the word to his coworkers. E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

## Alton resident graduates from BU

BOSTON, Mass.—Boston University awarded academic degrees to 6,927 students in May 2020. Among the graduates was Lauren Abbott, who received a Master of Arts in Teaching in Science Education. Founded in 1839, Boston University is an internationally recognized institution of higher education and research. Consisting of 16 schools and colleges, BU offers students more than 250 programs of study in science and engineering, social science and hu-

manities, health science, the arts, and other professional disciplines, along with a number of multi-disciplinary centers and institutes integral to the University's research and teaching

mission. With more than 33,000 students, BU is the fourth-largest private university in the country and a member of the American Association of Universities (AAU), a nonprofit association of

62 of North America's leading research-intensive institutions.

## NOTICE

The Town of Alton is accepting multiple bids for the Highway Department. Please visit the Town's website at [www.alton.nh.gov](http://www.alton.nh.gov) for more details.

### Town of New Durham Supervisors of Checklist Aug 7 10-12 am

New Durham Town Hall walk up window or come to front door updates of registered voters, new registrations, applications for absentee ballots

Sherry Cullimore  
Pat Grant  
Mary Poston



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### PET OF THE WEEK

### JOAN

Meet sweet Joan! Joan came all the way from Lubbock, Texas to find her forever family. She is a 2 year old boxer mix ready for adventure. Joan is currently learning quite a bit at our shelter. She is food motivated and willing to train! Currently Joan knows sit, down, is learning leash skills such as 'with me' aka heel, and loose leash walking. Joan would do best in an active adult only home as the only animal. If prospective adopters have another dog, we are happy to try them, however Joan has been a little over the top with her doggy friends. No cats for this sweetheart!



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STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

Attitude is everything

BY LARRY SCOTT

Viktor Frankl, born in 1905, an Austrian neurologist and psychiatrist with an M.D. and Ph.D. from the University of Vienna, was taken by the Germans in October of 1944 to Auschwitz, transferred to the Kaufering Camp and, for the next five months, he writes, “I was not employed as a psychiatrist in camp, or even as a doctor, except for the last few weeks. ... Most of the time I was digging and laying tracks for railway lines (“Man’s Search for Meaning,” p. 7).

Commenting on the impact camp life had on a man’s outlook on life, he writes,

“Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms – to choose one’s attitude. ... In the final analysis it becomes clear that the sort of person the prisoner became was the result of an inner decision, and not the result of camp influences alone. ... If there is a meaning in life at all, then there must be a meaning in suffering. Suffering is an ineradicable part of life, even as fate and death. Without

suffering and death human life cannot be complete” (pages 66, 67).

Christians, too, have discovered that life has a way of surprising us with catastrophic days and nightmarish nights. Even to those, and it seems, especially to those, who are trying to live a godly life, things happen that pull us to a stop and demand that we determine what our living is all about. I recall the conversation I had with a pastor friend who had just returned from the hospital, trying to comfort one of his parishioners. The man

had foolishly tried to restart a coal-fired furnace by dousing the embers with a cup of gasoline. It flamed and as he jerked back, he splashed some of the gasoline on his daughter standing nearby, burning her badly. How does a man recover from something like that?

Life is tough! Suffering is inevitable but what we do with it, that is what will define us. When I have failed, when I have made a foolish mistake, when life has turned into a nightmare, my attitude — in self-pity and bitterness

or in acceptance and a determination to regain my stability — will influence whether it leads to my downfall or whether I come through unselfish, forgiving, and more mature. The strength of character, the means of identifying with others who hurt, the maturity resulting from patience and self-discipline, are all such that none of us would ever truly grow up but for times of enormous stress.

I will grant that one need not be a Christian to mature through the catastrophes of life. But, as stated by the Apostle

Paul, “I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Although I have found my faith is no cop-out from the crises of life, I am pleased to tell you from personal experience, Christianity works!

For more thoughts like these, follow me at [indefenseoftruth.net](http://indefenseoftruth.net).

Pub Mania takes new form

It’s For the Kids Community Challenge debuts this year

BY ERIN PLUMMER

mnews@salmonpress.news

REGION — Having a 24-hour event in a packed bar can’t happen under the current circumstances, but the organizers of Pub Mania are putting together a new event that goes beyond the walls of Patrick’s Pub and Eatery with the hope it will bring in more teams and more money.

This year’s Pub Mania will become It’s For the Kids Community Challenge, a remote event focusing on all the different teams raising as much as they can. This year’s event will go beyond the format of having one person per team at a bar stool for 24 hours, allowing for more people to participate and potentially more opportunities to raise money for the Children’s Auction.

Patrick’s Pub and Eatery Co-owner and Pub Mania co-founder Allen Beetle said as the pandemic set in it became obvious this year’s Pub Mania couldn’t continue as usual.

“It’s just weird how the events of the pandemic unfolded at first,” Beetle said. “As a business owner, you’re like, ‘Oh my God we’re closed the day before St. Patrick’s Day,’ maybe by May, maybe by June you just don’t know.”

He said as infections continued and it became clear a vaccine would probably not be avail-

able until well into 2021, it became more obvious that they wouldn’t be ready to have a packed bar for Pub Mania by December. Last year, they raised more than \$355,000 and Beetle said those organizations need money even more now.

It’s For the Kids will continue to rely on the fundraising each team does throughout the year, only this year aiming to expand the options.

Beetle said Pub Mania has been known as the “24-hour barstool challenge,” though 90 percent of the fundraising has been done during the year. Different teams will do their own fundraisers from a week before the event to throughout the year including yard sales, bake sales, music or comedy nights, golf tournaments, calling customers and vendors and asking for donations, and many others.

Beetle said the community challenge will expand the fundraising options for Pub Mania.

Fundraising for Pub Mania goes through the GiveGab online fundraising platform and those involved with Pub Mania learn how to use it. Money raised for this year’s event will continue to go through that program and new possibilities with the new event. Beetle said the organizers will work with teams and members to come up with new ideas



COURTESY PHOTO

Allen and Jennifer Beetle with the rest of the Pub Mania team captains present a check during the finale of the 2019 Children’s Auction. This year’s Pub Mania will become the It’s For the Kids Community Challenge.

to raise money. They also work with the teams on how to deposit any offline donations into the Pub Mania account at any Meredith Village Savings Bank Branch.

Beetle said they have tried to make Pub Mania a fun event for everyone involved and they are continuing that aim this year.

It’s For the Kids Community Challenge will culminate with a special closing event on Dec. 10 in downtown Laconia, which is aimed at being a safe event for everyone no matter what the situation is with the virus.

Last year the average Pub Mania team raised \$7,500, this year teams have a goal of raising at least \$2,500. This goal can include each team

contributing one auction item to the Children’s Auction.

So far, he said it looks like they have almost all of the original teams on board. The goal is for 60 teams to be part of this.

Tony Felch, the captain for the Cafe Deja Vu team and a board member for the Children’s Auction, said Beetle contacted him in June about the new concept.

“I think it’s going to be a good concept,” Felch said. “It’s going to take a bit to get people used to it. I think it’s going to work out in the long run. We can definitely have more teams and hopefully raise more money.”

He said the goal is always to raise \$1 more than the previous year and he hopes they can

come close to the goals they’ve had in the past.

The Cafe Deja Vu team has been working already to raise money, including doing some raffles and brainstorming some more ideas. He said fundraising has been difficult with the pandemic and he said he knew other teams were working with the circumstances.

Children’s Auction chair Jamie Sousa said she loves the concept of the community challenge. She said Allen and Jennifer Beetle and the rest of the Pub Mania team agreed with her that given the increased need this year’s auction has to go on somehow.

“I think it’s awesome it goes to show how much the community is

invested in Pub Mania and the Children’s Auction,” Sousa said. “When Allen first approached me with the idea I knew the teams would get behind him.”

Sousa said she knew Pub Mania was never a 24-hour event, now this new event has the opportunity to go even further.

“I am thrilled but not surprised because the teams have always been in it for the right reasons,” Sousa said. “I honestly can’t wait to see who else jumps on board. I think it’s a great opportunity to extend beyond the Laconia, Gilford area where it has been most concentrated.”

Church Service

SCHEDULE

**10 am Worship Service**  
**Community Church of Alton**  
**20 Church Street, Alton**

**ABUNDANT HARVEST FAMILY CHURCH**  
Sunday School for children up to age 12, service 10:30 a.m. Greater Wakefield Resource Center, 254 Main St., Union.  
Pastors Daniel and Sherrie Williams, 473-8914.  
For more information, please visit [abundantharvestnh.org](http://abundantharvestnh.org) or e-mail [ahf@faith.com](mailto:ahf@faith.com).

**ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER**  
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**BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON**  
Alton 9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Sam Huggard, [www.befreechurch.net](http://www.befreechurch.net).

**CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Morning Service 10:00 am.  
Adult and Teen Bible Study 11:15 am.  
Sunday School for all ages 10:00 am.  
Rte. 126 next to Yarn Hall.  
Pastor Brian Grover, 269-8831.

**COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON**  
Prayer Meeting 9:00 am  
Rev. Dr. Samuel J. Halla, 875-5561.  
Bay service 8:30 am Alton Bay Gazebo, Alton, NH  
Abridged service 10:00 am at 20 Church St. Alton, NH  
Our services are live streamed on YouTube  
Sundays at 10 am  
[www.ccaalton.com](http://www.ccaalton.com)

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Pastor Kent Schneider 755-4816  
[www.farmingtonucc.org](http://www.farmingtonucc.org)

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# Results are in for Ben Baldwin Fishing Derby

**WOLFEBORO** — Many families participated in this year’s Ben Baldwin Fishing Derby, hosted by the Wentworth Watershed Association. Due to a weekend of rain, the catch-and-release derby was extended throughout the weekend of July 11. The derby was open to Association members and their guests. To follow social distancing guidelines, the derby was held virtually. Participants were asked to take a timestamped picture of their fish alongside of a ruler so that its length could be read. Longest fish entries were submitted via the Association’s Facebook page.

The Association encouraged all participants to be prepared, stay safe, demonstrate good fishing ethics and to take care of the fish and their habitat. In honor of Ben Baldwin’s

dream to become a Fish & Game Officer, a special award, The Conscientious Fisher Award was given to the participant who demonstrated these ethics.

Participants were asked to submit a short video of themselves explaining what they do to stay safe and keep the fish and the environment healthy. This year, several outstanding fishers submitted entries to be considered for the award to honor Ben’s memory- including Jenny Baldwin, Charlie Chick, Henry O’Blenes, Liam Murray, and last year’s recipient, Grace Koch. Winner of the 2020 Conscientious Fisher Award goes to seven-year-old, Liam Murray. Liam will receive a gift certificate to Winnepesaukee Dive to freshen up his fishing supplies. Congratulations to all the participants that demonstrated their safe-



**Pictured is three-year-old Emmett Battles, who caught his first fish this year, a 4.5 inch sunfish.**

ty and environmental ethics!

Three youngsters caught their first fish this summer in the

derby! They are three-year-old Emmett Battles with a 4.5-inch sunfish, Oliver Heimiller, age 4, with a 6.5 inch sunfish,

Lukas Heimiller, age 4, with a 4.5 inch sunfish although his 6 inch one jumped back into the lake while being photographed on a ruler.

Jackie Lynch, age five, caught a nice six inch sunfish; Willow Ouhrabka, age five, caught a catfish 12 inches long; seven year old Henny O’Blenes landed a nice six inch sunfish; 10 year old Rachel Lynch a five inch sunfish; 10 year old Charlie Chick a 6.5 inch pumpkin seed; 11 year old Saylee O’Blenes caught a 4.5 inch Pumpkin head, 11 year old Savo Ftorek a 13 inch smallmouth bass and a very nice 18.5 inch largemouth bass!

13 year old Max Goodling an eight inch sunfish; 13 year old Jenny Baldwin a 7.5 inch sunfish; 14 year old Dylan Feeks a very nice 16.5 inch largemouth bass; Matthew Arbor a very nice 18 inch largemouth

bass, and 16 year old Gavin Ouhrabka, a 12 inch small mouth bass.

In the 18 and over category Katie Baldwin caught a 9 inch small mouth bass; Jeff Jones caught an impressively long largemouth bass, and Rich Storming landed a very nice 22 inch largemouth bass.

Winners in 17 & Under:

Save Ftorek-18.5 inch largemouth bass  
Willow Ouhrabka-12 inch catfish  
Max Goodling- 8 inch sunfish  
Gavin Ouhrabka- 12 inch small mouth bass

Winners in 18 & Over:

Rich Storming- 22 inch largemouth bass  
Katie Baldwin- 9 inch smallmouth bass

## Children’s Auction facing crucial year for need

**BY ERIN PLUMMER**  
mnews@salmonpress.news

**REGION** — Preparations are underway for the annual Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction with organizers discussing how to make the event safe given the pandemic.

The Children’s Auction will run from Dec. 8-12 with organizers extensively discussing options for this year. With the extra need given the economic circumstances and the increased demand on local services organizers have agreed the Children’s Auction is especially needed this year.

Children’s Auction chair Jamie Sousa said when the pandemic hit they were immediately concerned about organizations like the Got Lunch programs, which were extending their services through the school year.

“We’ve just been trying to provide as much support to those organizations that are getting hit hard as a result,” Sousa said, adding that they always look at this from the perspective of the children. “This is not something we can possibly cancel.”

Sousa said this has been an opportunity to look at what can be done from a different perspective while accounting for safety and social distancing.

The Children’s Auction has been scheduled for Dec. 8-12, and Sousa said the organizers have been having a lot of discussions about this year’s event. She said they have been meeting multiple times a week and working out details and options.

“It’s so impressive; it’s this huge scale business that operates for

one week a year,” Sousa said.

She said they are trying to figure out how to do the event with fewer people and making this as safe for the volunteers and the public as possible

“We can’t assume that things will be significantly different than they are now,” Sousa said. “We just want to keep everybody safe.”

She said Allen and Jennifer Beetle and the rest of the Pub Mania team have agreed that the auction must go on this year given the circumstances. Pub Mania will become the It’s For the Kids Community Challenge this year. Different teams will do individual fundraising efforts culminating with a closing event on Dec. 10.

## Oscar Foss Memorial Library has Story Spoons!



**BARNSTEAD** — The Oscar Foss Memorial Library has added several sets of Story Spoons to our collection that are available for curbside pickup!

Story Spoons are wooden spoons illustrated with characters from story books that encourage interaction and imaginative play during story time. We currently have 5 sets available for checkout for the following titles: “Alphonse, There’s Mud on the Ceil-

ing!” by Daisy Hirst, “Pete at the Beach” by James Dean, “The Very Impatient Caterpillar” by Ross Burach, “I Love My New Toy (Elephant and Piggie)” by Mo Willems, and “If You Take a Mouse to School” by Laura Numeroff.

If you’d like to request a set of Story Spoons with your curbside pickup order, just enter the book title and “Story Spoons” into your request at oscarfoss.org. You can also place an

order by calling 269-3900. Sets will be quarantined and sanitized before being returned to circulation.

The Oscar Foss Memorial Library is currently open for curbside pickup or by appointment only. For more information on our COVID phased reopening plan, visit our website at oscarfoss.org.

There’s always something happening at the library!

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# Send sketch, get a patent: If only I’d heeded advice



By JOHN HARRIGAN  
COLUMNIST

When I first began working at Beecher Falls factory, where Ethan Allen furniture was made, the Machine Floor foreman assigned me to help move freight, where many new workers began. Thus, I started working for Freddie Stewart, who’d been at the factory forever.

Like most people working at the factory, I’d done all kinds of work before—shoveled roofs and driveways, worked on a farm, bagged groceries, baled boats, cleaned cabins. But at the factory, I punched a clock.

Two-wheeled carts (with dolly wheels front and back) would come up from the Rough Mill loaded with stock, and one of Freddie’s jobs was to watch for those carts, look at their job tickets, and park them as close to their next destination as possible. Cartloads of rough stock would be shaped and sanded by specialized machines before going on to assembly and finishing.

Eventually, I’d end up on fill-in duty, which meant taking the places of workers sick or on vacation. To me this was a great gig, because I got to learn just about every machine on the floor, especially ones that re-

quired two people—one to feed the machine, and another to take away.

Because most everyone was on piecework—meaning your pay depends on how many pieces above a certain rate you can handle—a fill-in man had to be a fast learner, especially when someone else’s paycheck was involved. Learning not just handling so many pieces at a set rate, but beating it, depends on placement of feet, good timing, quickness of mind and eye, and economy of movement.

This, not so incidentally, was my introduction to two men who remain favorites from my time at the factory, Gordon Riley and Franklin Bordeaux. Gordon ran a three-drum sander, and helped me learn how to move arms and feet. Franklin, who was totally at home in the woods and loved to hunt and fish, was definitely on my wave-length. He ran a double-end tenoner, and taught me tricks of the trade—especially planning your day’s order of jobs, crucial for efficiency in tearing up or down—and how to make best use of a break.

My other job was the slot and bore station, making the slot where a bed-rail goes into the bedpost, and inserting the pins it slips onto. Co-workers told me it was among the most miserable setups on the floor. “You can’t beat the rates,” someone said.

I’m not the first person to think “can’t” is not in his vocabulary, so I vowed to beat the rates. It took some practice, and patience (lots

of that), but eventually I began doing exactly that. My paycheck grew accordingly.

One stubborn problem was the cannonball bedpost. It was the biggest bed we made. The bedpost was so big that I had to flip it to finish the slot, and I could barely make the rate.

And then I had an idea that grew from a dull lightbulb to a glimmer. If I could gain some space on a protective hood on the slot-cutting machine, I could eliminate having to turn the entire bedpost around. It would be a game-changer, for sure.

So that night I sketched the new part, and after several drafts made a detailed drawing, and checked the dimensions in the morning. Then I went looking for Billy Allen, the Machine Floor’s all-around problem-solver and fabricator, a mechanical genius. “I was going to give you this sketch,” I began. “Give me that sketch,” said Billy.

The next day, I had the part before quitting-time, and the next time I did cannonball bedposts I could almost double the rate. That was more than half a century ago. In my one visit since, I didn’t get to see if my part was still in use.

+++++

The next year found me working about 150 miles to the south, at the Lorden Lumber Company in Milford. Now and then the company sent a recruiter to the North Country, offering pay-scales hard to resist.

I was a general



COURTESY

**Beecher Falls Factory, a division of Ethan Allen Furniture, provided more than 400 jobs at its peak; a minimal crew works there now. (Courtesy archipedia.org)**

yard-hand for a while, learning the ropes, and eventually was placed alongside Vern, the softwood grader in the planing mill. Vern looked over lumber coming out of the planer and gave each piece a grade, one of the most important and demanding jobs in the mill. My job was doubling up the pieces for removal and piling, and using the swing-saw to cut off deformed ends and improve a piece’s grade.

The planer was a Volkswagen-sized machine with four cutting heads that shaved rough lumber into the smooth-sided boards and two-by somethings (4, 6, 8, 10, and 12, all called “dimension”) that lumber-buyers everywhere expect today.

The noise was incredible. The cutting heads made a high-pitched whine that would go right through your head. This was in a time before today’s great concern about ear protection. All we had were rubber plugs.

Charlie Long ran the

planing mill, and had the most responsible job on that side of Route 101-A. The head sawyer on the green-chain across the road had the other.

Charlie looked hard for telltale signs of stuff lurking inside the rough lumber—barbed wire, nails, arrowheads, copper-jacketed bullets—but once in a while a hazardous piece would get by him, and some of the planing blades would get nicked, and as soon as Vern or I saw the result (a ridge along a surface or side) we hit the light switch, the signal for Charlie to shut down.

Like most who ran such machines, Charlie kept a shoebox containing items he had hit over the years. Invariably these incidents forced him to shut down while he got the gouged knives out and slid freshly sharpened blades in. Each time he had to shut down, the planing mill lost two hours of production time while the rest of us on down the line went out to do yard work.

I thought about this

as the weeks and months went by, and conjured. If a rig like a long neon light could X-ray each piece of rough lumber, and mark problem pieces with a splotch of paint, I thought, Charlie could be warned in time to pull the piece out of the line before it went through the planer.

I had just figured this out when I quit, in early 1968, for a job at a daily newspaper in Nashua. And, of course, promptly forgot about it. I was a darkroom and photo-engraving trainee. There was a lot to learn.

Decades later, on a lumber mill tour, I had a chance to talk with a planing mill operator, and I mentioned the X-ray idea. “Oh, they came out with those in the ‘80s,” he said. “They’ve been around for years.”

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

## MARK ON THE MARKETS Assets or income



BY MARK PATTERSON

Lately, it seems as though many new clients that I meet with have the same worries. That worry is that they do not have enough money to retire when they want, and that their lifestyle will entail quite a bit less than what they have now. Eating cat food and living in a tar-paper shack are some of the more colorful descriptions of their feared re-

tirement lifestyle.

Most people believe that they need millions of dollars in retirement, and that could be true if you were a high earner that lived above their means, but for the average person, getting by on a bit less is obtainable. I have heard clients say that they had always heard they need 1.2 million or some other arbitrary number and this is in part a scare tactic brought on by the financial media and investment or mutual fund companies.

There is so much more to determining what kind of assets we need to gather during our working years or the accumulation phase of our lives. The distribution of those assets happens when we determine that we can retire in part or completely.

The first step is to cal-

culate a reasonable budget that includes things that we enjoy but often “forget” to include. For instance, a new client added \$200 per month for wine. She likes nice wines and that what they cost. She was being realistic with an item that carries a real expense but many of us would not list that as a budgeted item because we may think it is frivolous.

During our working years or accumulation years, we save or invest. But during these distribution years we no longer need to add this deferred or invest-

ed money to our budget, now we will start to distribute this money as income in retirement.

Sustainability of these assets for our lifetime must be considered, so let us mitigate market risk and maximize income with a quality fixed income portfolio or even consider a fixed indexed annuity, with guaranteed income for a portion of this income.

We must look at Social Security and determine a strategy of when to take this entitlement. Many are paying for health insurance that should see a large reduc-

tion in premium when they go onto Medicare

So, when we calculate a realistic honest budget and determine money that will be saved or reduced income needs due to not accumulating assets any longer, we can craft what our sustainable retirement income will be. Once this income is determined, then we are able to determine how much of the remaining assets stay in a “growth” mode that will typically carry some market risk.

My objective is to provide a sustainable adequate income, manage

remaining assets that can still grow but do not affect my client’s lifestyle if the markets implode like 2008 or more recently with the Covid virus. Provide a death benefit or legacy if needed and provide some form of long-term care if needed.

The first step is to sit down and discuss with a good planner and get the ball rolling, it is really never too soon.

Mark Patterson is a planner and asset manager with MHP Asset Management. Mark can be reached at 447-1979 or Mark@mhp-asset.com.

## Sydni Hanson named to Dean’s List at Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Sydni Hanson of New Durham excelled during the Spring 2020 semester, achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 to earn a spot on the Dean’s List.

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012 and 2016). Our campus is a

leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreational and professional opportunities. We offer small classes and personal attention, with the resources, technology and facilities of a large university. Students can choose from more than 165 undergraduate program options and 175 graduate program options in the liberal arts

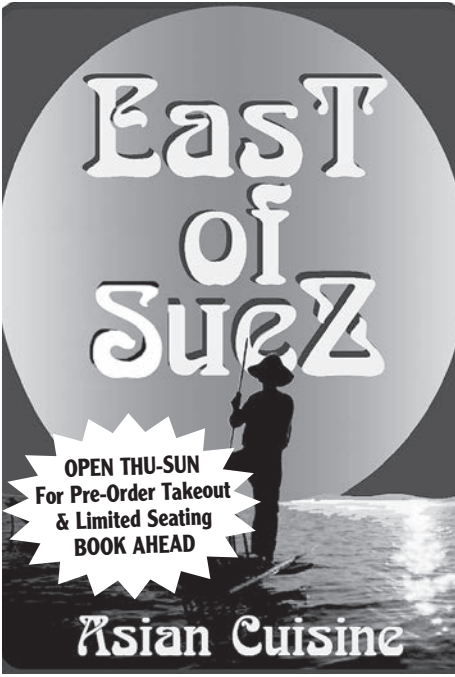
and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing

and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Hofstra University is a dynamic community of 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers.



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# THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	72 Abednego Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$240,000	Carol A. Tuck	Elysia and John Sleeper
Alton	39 Minge Cove Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$330,000	Stephen A. and Eva M. Hurst	Daniel Christians
Barnstead	19 Dustin Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$251,000	William S. and Mary B. Slattery	Michael Cafalo and Helen Aubrey
Barnstead	313 Pitman Rd.	N/A	\$330,200	RF Downing Homes LLC	Dale K. and Lori J. Munroe
Barnstead	9 Wentworth Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$165,000	Richard J. Piscatello	William Corson and Fran Green-Corson
Barnstead	10 Wentworth Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$230,000	Robin T. Fortin	Keith W. McCarthy and Leslie Marsh
Barnstead	145 Winwood Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$239,933	Myron H. and Cathleen M. Stevens	Kingsley U. Esochaghi and Beth Bean
Barnstead	N/A (Lot 1)	N/A	\$165,000	Ewart C. and Joanne T. Balcom	Lionel Reed
Barnstead	N/A (Lot 328)	N/A	\$120,000	Normand A. and Catherine A. Boucher	Mark and Heather Boyle
Barnstead	N/A (Lot 3)	N/A	\$50,000	Scott A. Gagne Estate and Kelly Chace	Jacques P. and Rebecca S. Lemieux
New Durham	4 Jenkins Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$365,000	Robert P. and Catherine A. Gould	Sonya R. and Mark A. Taylor
New Durham	3118 S. Shore Rd.	N/A	\$470,000	Wessling Fiscal Trust and Kim W. Martino	Lauren L. Danaher
New Durham	N/A	N/A	\$60,000	Raymond Brunelle Estate and Charles F. Dunn	Roger and Sherry Duprey

## ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

Here are recent real estate transactions in Alton and the surrounding areas. These sales summaries are informational only, not a legal record. Names shown are usually the first listed in the deed. Sales might involve

additional parties or locations. Prices are usually based on tax stamps and might be inaccurate for public agency sales. Refer to actual public documents before forming opinions or relying on this information. Additional publicly recorded information on these sales, prior sales and data from Department of Revenue Administration forms is available at [www.real-data.com](http://www.real-data.com)

or 669-3822. Copyright 2011. Real Data Corp. In the column "Type": land= land only; L/B= land and building; MH= mobile home; and COND=condominium. Transactions provided by The Warren Group, Boston Ma., publishers of The Registry Review and Bankers and Tradesman newspapers, Phone: 1-800-356-8805. Website: [www.thewarrengroup.com](http://www.thewarrengroup.com)

## “What do I do with Household Hazardous Waste?”

REGION — While stuck at home these past months, many of us have been cleaning out – under the sink, the basement, the backyard shed, the garage. That’s a good thing. But some of the items that you will find there should not go in with the household trash or down the drain,

### DEMS

(continued from Page A1)

populated by “kind, warm, and incredibly hard-working people.”

Most Guatemalans earn less than \$250 per month.

“There is a horrifying contrast between the tiny number of people who are rich and everyone else. Twelve families basically own everything in the country and everyone else is poor,” Wessel explained.

that can lead to contamination and failing septic systems. Well if not in the trash or down the drain, where should this stuff go?

This Saturday, Aug. 1, residents and residential taxpayers in the 19 participating Lakes Region communities may bring up to 10 gallons or 50 pounds of Household Hazardous Waste

Wessel has worked with federal agencies and is “happy they do what they do. I want them to continue because I’ve lived in countries where those things don’t happen.”

She cited pollution controls as an example.

“The air is so bad, you can’t walk down the street in Guatemala City,” she said. “I wouldn’t eat a salad in Guatemala. Here, in general, our food supply is

(HHW) to any one of the four collection sites throughout the region.

HHW will be collected at the Newfound Regional High School in Bristol (150 Newfound Rd.), the Public Works Garage in Laconia (27 Bisson Ave.), the Town Highway Garage in Moultonborough (68 Hwy Garage Rd.), and the Effingham Elementary School (6 Partridge Cove Rd.).

safe. Government is all about keeping us safe, and I’m in favor of that. Regardless of income level, we need to be safe and a good government keeps us that way.”

She feels positive about her involvement in New Durham.

“We’d love to have even more participants,” Wessel said, indicating it is not necessary to attend meetings. “People can be added to the email list to stay up to date on

Note that the Bristol site is in a new location and the Effingham site was established to better serve the residents in the eastern part of our region.

The collections will run from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. The participating communities for the 2020 collection consist of: Alexandria, Andover, Belmont, Bristol, Cen-

minutes and work on just a particular project that interests them.”

She said more information is available by emailing [newdurhamdems@gmail.com](mailto:newdurhamdems@gmail.com).

Lorrie Drake, who serves as treasurer, said the group is putting into practice her beliefs that “we should all try to make the world a better place, and change starts

ter Harbor, Effingham, Franklin, Freedom, Gilford, Gilmanton, Hebron, Hill, Holderness, Laconia, Moultonborough, New Hampton, Sanbornton, Sandwich, and Tuftonboro.

As a reminder: acrylic/latex paint and alkaline batteries are not considered HHW and will not be accepted on the collection days.

at home. Helping our neighbors put food on the table, and beautifying the town by picking up litter and maintaining a town garden are some simple ways to show that we care about New Durham and the people who live here.”

These products can go in with the household trash (dry out the paint before disposal).

To read the most recent collection updates, get a list of products that are accepted, and see FAQs, visit the LRPC HHW website [www.lakesrpc.org/services-hw.aspx](http://www.lakesrpc.org/services-hw.aspx) or call 279-5334 or 279-5341. Find us on Facebook and Instagram (@lakesrpc).

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In this time of distancing and isolation, the community of Saint Katharine Drexel is keeping you connected at church, on the radio, and on line. Visit us on Route 28 between Alton and Wolfeboro, [stkdxel.org](http://stkdxel.org), or 875-2548 for schedules and prayer cards.



SAINT KATHARINE DREXEL



STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

When God intervened

BY LARRY SCOTT

As my father stepped from his second-floor office one morning in 1949, he could scarcely believe what he was seeing on the floor twelve feet below. Lying face down, bleeding from the left ear, and unconscious, he saw what was left of me following a fall that came perilously close to ending my life.

The stairway that led to the ground floor of our home, you see, was sided by a winding, smooth banister that no self-re-

specting 10-year-old could ignore. The trick was to slide down the banister and reach the first floor in record time. This time I missed!

How I survived, I do not know but, surprisingly, my injuries were minimal. Except for a broken bone in my shoulder and reduced hearing in that left ear, I recovered completely within just a few months.

And now ... the rest of the story.

My parents were missionaries in the city of

Cusco, Peru, and a week or so later my father received a letter from a lady in the United States whom he did not know. "Could it be," she wrote, "that you had a particularly bad day on Wednesday. As I was working around my home I felt a special burden to pray for you. I stopped what I was doing, prayed for you and your family until the "burden" lifted and I write to let you know about my experience and to ask how you and your family are doing." My father wrote back – and never heard

from her again – that that was the day his family was in desperate need of divine intervention.

I realize that to the skeptic the event has no merit. Grant the point ... but my Bible paints a surprisingly different picture from what you might think. There is a personal God ... and at times His love and care come through in rather spectacular fashion. Were we special? Not at all. But God does not care about any of us because of who we are; He is available to each of us because He is God.

You have perhaps gathered, if you followed Strategies for Living for long, that when I write of tough times and sleepless nights, I know what I am writing about. Through the years I have had to live through some of life's most difficult experiences and were it not for the watchful care of a loving Heavenly Father, I can't imagine where I would be today. There have been times, I must admit, when it seemed God had gone AWOL and left me to dangle in the wind. I have, more than once, asked myself,

"Where was God when the lights went out." But He was there, standing in the shadows, and eventually I have been able to look back and marvel at how God has intervened in my life.

I trust it is a discovery that you, too, have made. If not, I can assure you that He is everything you could ever want in a caring and benevolent Father. God is a "gentleman," however, and He will come into your life only by invitation.

For more thoughts like these, follow me at [indefenseoftruth.net](http://indefenseoftruth.net).

Belknap Mill welcomes back Martin and Kelly

LACONIA — The Belknap Mill is excited to welcome back Martin and Kelly to the 2020 Arts in the Park Concert Series Friday, July 31 at 6 p.m. in Rotary Park.

The Incredibly talented duo of Jilly Martin and Ryan Brooks Kelly have become the next must-see act from New England to Nashville.

Martin and Kelly are standouts in today's cross-over country music scene, and their songs bridge the boundary between traditional and new country. They've made their mark with highly acclaimed original music and are winning over audiences each and every time they perform. Jilly and Ryan's compelling song-writing, dynamic vocal harmonies and stunning musicianship have them poised for a breakthrough in the music industry.

The Arts in the Park Summer Concert Series is generously sponsored by Laconia Putnam Fund, 104.9 the Hawk, and 101.5 Lakes FM.

Gilman Library Summer Reading Program extended

ALTON — The Gilman Library is pleased to announce that our Summer Reading Program has been extended until Aug. 15. It is not too late to join in on the fun, participate in the contests, and maybe even when some prizes.

If you have not already done so, please register now to participate. Our virtual program theme is 2020 Imagine Your Story, sponsored in part, by the New Hampshire State Library. We are utilizing the virtual reading platform, READsquared, developed specifically for public libraries nationwide. You can still register through our website or by downloading the ReadSquared app available for mobile devices.

The 2020 Imagine Your Story program,

open for all ages is managed by our Children's Librarian, Leann LaPlante. The four programs are designed to encourage life-long reading. The Pre-K program is designed for kids ages four and under, the Children's program is for kids age five to 12, the Teen program is for youth, age 13 to 17, and the Adult program is for age 18 and older. Once you've earned enough points you'll receive a completion certificate you can print and share.

1. Access READsquared at <http://gilmanlibrary.readsquared.com>.
2. Or get the app available for both Apple and Google Play.
3. For every minute of reading, you earn 1 point.
4. Mini-games are

awarded throughout the program.

5. For every 100 points, earn a chance toward the raffle prize.
6. For every 300 points, earn a take-home craft.
7. Earn 5 points for answering the weekly riddle.
8. Patrons need to be a library cardholder for the program.
9. There are additional activities within the program, appropriate for each age.
10. The program includes a suggested Reading List for each participant.

There are two ways to earn additional points. You may earn 20 points by submitting an entry on our library blog: Alton Community Blog: History in the Making. Visit our Web site, [gilmanlibrary.org](http://gilmanlibrary.org), for

more details. You may also earn 20 points for every time you attend our live-streaming Virtual Story Time with Miss Leann. Every time you attend, you will be given a new code to enter at our READsquared website. Each code earns 20 points. Sign-up by email to: [storytimewithmissleann@gilmanlibrary.org](mailto:storytimewithmissleann@gilmanlibrary.org). You will be provided log-in information. This is a virtual program. You will need to download Zoom to your device. Join us on your phone, tablet, or computer. Download the Zoom app, follow the link to log in by entering the meeting ID number and password, and enter the Gilman Library Zoom Room. It is not too late to join the fun!

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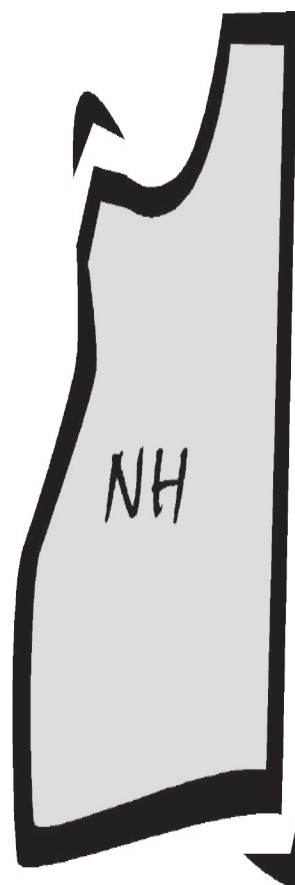
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COURTESY

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COURTESY

## Drawing out the story

Participants in the New Durham Public Library's summer reading program illustrated ceiling tiles with their stories from their time at home since March. Staff members report that all of the illustrations for the Pandemic Panels were positive in nature, representing activities made possible by the pandemic (such as learning a new sport or spending more time with pets) or simply showing what the kids love doing, if a global pandemic is swirling around them or not.

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