



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2016

GILFORD, N.H. - FREE

Gunstock open for the winter season

BY ERIN PLUMMER

eplummer@salmonpress.com

Slopes are opening up, and some new and returning features await visitors to Gunstock Mountain Resort.

Gunstock officially opened for the winter season on Saturday.

"We're very happy with how the weekend went," said Mike Roth, director of Marketing and Sales.

Heavy rain leading up to the projected opening did create some worry. Roth said by 11 p.m. Friday night it was uncertain if they would be able to open for Saturday. The mountain manager and staff went up and moved some snow around to see what could be done. They put together runs and ramps at the top and bottom of the mountain.

"They were satisfied so we said let's go," Roth said.

Two lifts and three trails were opened up for Saturday.

"The people that were

coming off the hill were very happy and surprised by the quality of the product," Roth said.

Based on business models looking at data from this time in past years, Roth said this year they were on the mark for the number of attendees and a little over that on Sunday. The snow on Monday helped and the 20-degree weather was good for snowmaking. According to the website, three trails and two lifts were open by Monday with four inches of new snow over a 24 hour period.

Roth said there has also been a lot of foot traffic from people coming into the office and picking up passes.

Skiers and boarders had the chance to sample the snow for the Black Friday Rail Jam. Snow was blown into the bowl area and a number of features were brought in to ride on. Around 20 people participated, and Mix 94.1 FM did a remote



Skiers and boarders come down the mountain on Gunstock's opening day.

ERIN PLUMMER

broadcast. Roth said this was a great way for people to spend the day after Thanksgiving.

SEE GUNSTOCK PAGE A10

Candles will line the streets for Gilford's Fifth Annual Candlelight Stroll

The fifth annual Gilford Candlelight Stroll will take place on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 5-7 p.m. Candles will line the streets from the Gilford Library to the Rowe House, the street will be closed to traffic so visitors may stroll and enjoy all the free activities, including a horse and wagon ride.

There will be many chances to enjoy holiday music. The Gilford Community Band will be presenting a program of holiday music from 5-5:30 p.m. at the Church, from 5:30-6 p.m. at the 1834 Meetinghouse the First

Hallelujah Bell Choir will present a program featuring their chimes and from 6-7 p.m., Dan Carter (known professionally as "The Music Man") will be there with his keyboard to sing holiday songs, and Jerry Muphy will be at the Rowe House at 6 p.m. with his guitar inviting those who wish to sing-a-long with him. There will be carolers strolling the streets, thanks to members of the Gilford Elementary and Middle School choruses.

This year, the stroll is dedicated to the memory of Bob Henderson who for many

years was an on call fireman for the Gilford Fire Department. Be sure to visit the Library and see the tribute to him. The children will have the opportunity to make an ornament in the Conference Room and all are invited to join in the line dancing from 6-7 p.m.

The Village Store will be open, stop by the downstairs and meet the owners.

Across the street from the Store, the School Supervisory Union Building will be hosting an art show featuring students' art.

SEE STROLL PAGE A10



ERIN PLUMMER

Adeline and Maura Hughes play the stacking presents game.

GYC transforms itself into 'Santaland'

BY ERIN PLUMMER

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Families could find games, gifts, races, dancing with some special friends, and visits with the man in red all at the Gilford Youth Center for Santaland.

Santaland was a joint effort by the GYC and the Gilford Parks and Recreation Department offering a wide variety of fun activities for people of all ages. Kids could decorate cookies, do crafts, race around Frosty's Racetrack, hang out with Olaf the snowman and Minnie Mouse, take part in many games, ride down a big inflatable slide, and much more. Kids could also meet with Sata Claus himself.

Santaland took place on Friday night and Saturday morning, coinciding with the Gilford

Community Church's Christmas Fair.

GYC director Scott

Hodsdon said this was one of the largest

SEE SANTALAND PAGE A10

GHS craft fair draws big crowds

BY ERIN PLUMMER

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Artistic creations of all varieties were on display the annual Gilford Middle and High School craft fair, benefiting the senior class.

Shoppers perused the tables of more than 50 crafters spread out between the middle school and high school buildings on Saturday morning through afternoon. Shoppers even lined up at the door a few hours before the fair opened.

Senior class advisors Meg Jenkins and



(Left) Judy Stewart-Gagnon sold her mini tree displays and more at the Gilford Middle and High School Holiday Craft Fair.

Margie Cybart said the fair went amazingly well. "The crafters were having a fantastic day," Cybart said.

Cybart said this was probably one of the most successful fairs they have had, saying the weather was good and people have been commenting on how the economy seems better.

Proceeds from ven- SEE CRAFT FAIR PAGE A10

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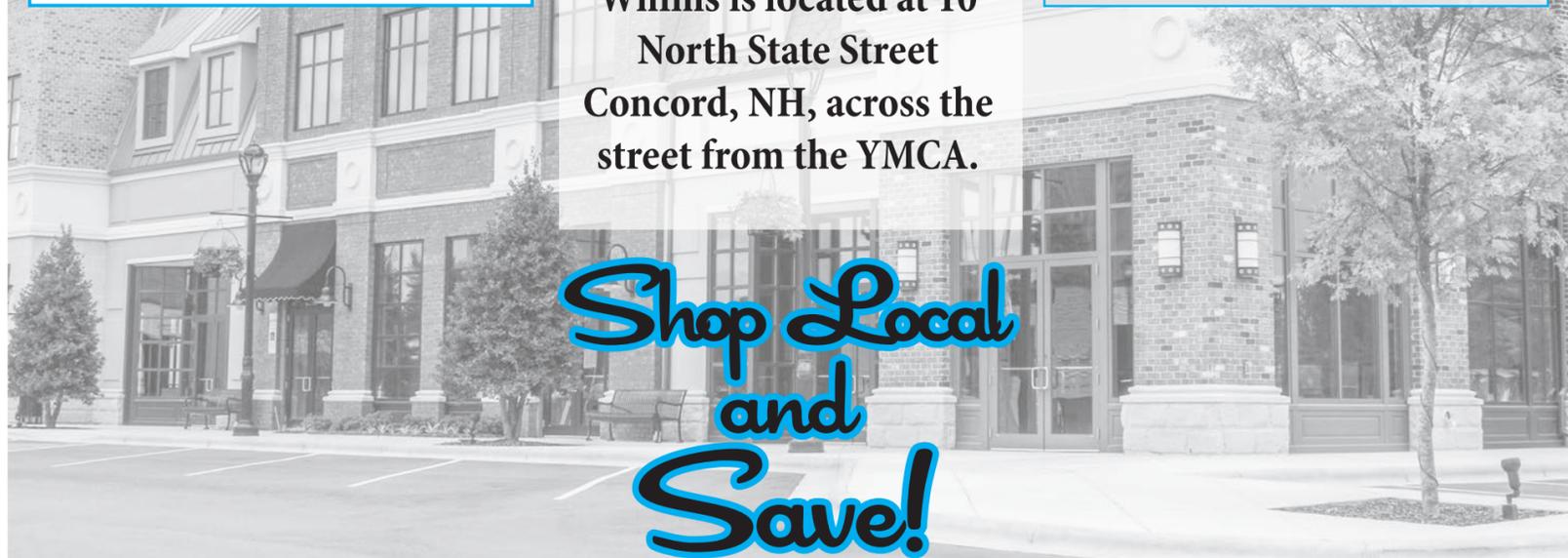


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Notes from the Gilford Public Library

BY MARK THOMAS
Library Correspondent

It's dark at 5, and the air is chilly with a light flurry, but the town residents are prepared. They come out in their ski coats, with scarves and gloves. They come out with their children and put the baby's hat back on for the 14th time. They come out to see each other, to chat, and to celebrate the winter season together. They come out because it's traditional, and they appreciate their collective history. They come out to stroll in the candlelight.

Alright, the melodrama and romanticism is killing me. I'm talking about the Candlelight Stroll, that awesome event that draws Gilford residents together for

a celebration of things they love each year. There is food, music, and plenty to talk about. This year it takes place this Saturday, Dec. 10 from 5-7 p.m., and it is dedicated to Robert Henderson Jr., who is missed. Time to hype it up, so get psyched.

The Gilford Community Band will perform a concert in the Gilford High School Auditorium from 4-4:45 p.m. as a prelude to festivities. Officially, the night begins when the Thompson-Ames Union Meetinghouse and Gilford Community Church bells ring.

There will be lots to see all over town, but I'll be unbiased and start with the Library. Throughout the evening

there will be one-way Heritage Farms horse drawn wagon rides from the Library to the Rowe House, children can make a holiday craft in the meeting room, and there will be light refreshments to share. The Line Dancers will perform in the meeting room from 6-7 p.m. for the public and Gilford Elementary students will sing carols in the meeting room at 5:15 p.m. before caroling all the way to bonfire in the village. Incidentally, there will be a 'huge' bonfire at the village fields maintained by Gilford Fire-Rescue with s'mores for the making.

While making your way to the fields, look forward to carolers and town criers. Be sure to

stop by the Grange, the Union Meeting House, the Rowe House, the SAU Office, the Community Church, and the Library again. Music can be heard all over, including the Gilford Community Church Choir from 5-5:30 p.m. in the Community Church Sanctuary, the First Methodist Church of Gilford and Laconia Hallelujah Chime Choir from 5:30-6 p.m. at the Union Meeting House, followed by Dan Carter on keyboard from 6-7 p.m., and a sing-along with Jerry Murphy from 6-7 p.m. at the Rowe House. Many of the destinations have refreshments, art, and history to be witnessed.

Oh, and it's totally free. Well, between town voters, charitable dona-

tions, and myriad fund raising efforts, it's free to all participants, so no one is turned away because they couldn't afford it. As you visit these sites you will also see a billion volunteers, give or take, generously offered their time and knowledge to share the night, not to mention the open houses in the village. So put on your traditional hat and let's have a good time!

Classes & Special Events Dec. 8 to Dec. 14

Thursday, Dec. 8
Music and Movement, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Songs, instruments, movement, and fun for ages newborn to five with caregiver!
Magic the Gathering Club, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Conversational French, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 9
Social Bridge, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Lapsit Storytime, 10:30-11 a.m.

Songs, lap bounces, rhymes, and playtime for babies. Ages newborn to 18 months with caregiver

Storytime, 11:15-11:45 a.m.

Songs, stories, rhymes, and a craft. For three-to-five-year olds with caregiver. Sign up required.

Knit Wits, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Conversational German, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 12
Mahjong, 12:30-3 p.m.

Holiday Cookie Decorating for Teens, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Show off your decorating talents at our holiday cookie workshop for fifth

grade and up!
Lego Club, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Evening Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 13
Fiber Friends, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Come to Fiber Friends for a chance to work on your fiber crafts! Rug hooking, latch hooking, quilting, needle felting, and any other fiber crafts are welcome to join in!

Preschool Gingerbread Houses, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Preschoolers can decorate gingerbread houses! Sign up required.

Social Bridge, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Preschool Gingerbread Houses, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Alternative time, see above.

Book Bites Cookbook Club, 5-6:30 p.m.

Join us for a cooking demonstration and discussion! Each month the recipes and demonstration will have a different theme. December's theme is Holiday Cooking.

Sign up at the front desk with your library card. Cost is \$5 per person.

Nightly Knitting, 6-8 p.m.

Gilford Clickers Photography Club, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 14
Line Dancing, 9-10:30 a.m.

Check Out an Expert, 10 a.m.-noon

Elementary Gingerbread Houses, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Elementary aged students are invited to sign up for this year's Gingerbread House making!

Local church to host free Christmas meal

For the last decade and a half, the congregation of the First United Methodist Church has been putting on a free meal on Christmas day.

It all started because one family at the church lost a part of their own Christmas tradition. For many years, the Keysar family of Laconia had spent their Christmas afternoon serving dinner at Patrick's Restaurant in Gilford. The Keysars were a small family, and had found that the holiday ended early for them and wanted a way to give something back to the local community and in an effort to extend their own celebration began working the community meal at Patrick's.

After several years, the restaurant was sold and the meal stopped. For a couple of years, Mac and Maude Keysar and their daughter Jessica Alward didn't know what to do with themselves and Christmas didn't feel complete. Having done some catering and a whole lot of church suppers they decided that if their home church would support them they would take



For the last decade and a half, the congregation of the First United Methodist Church has been putting on a free meal on Christmas day.

up the reins of the meal themselves. This year marks nearly two decades of that dinner. Mac and Maude have both passed away now but Alward and her family are keeping the tradition alive.

Every year the doors of the church open at noon for fellowship, carols and appetizers. At 1 p.m., a complete ham dinner is laid out in the church fellowship hall. It is a holiday feast done right with all the trimmings. Linen table cloths, festive centerpieces and fine foods to fill the belly including homemade pies.

"We have been lucky to have such a great home church with a

super facility that allows us to put on such a bigger dinner," Alward says.

Alward, now married and mom to two boys, is quick to say that it takes a lot of help from the community to put on the meal. "Every year, we get folks from all over the local area that come and help us make this meal possible," she said. "They work in shifts on Christmas Eve to set up and prep food, two shifts on Christmas day, one to serve the meal and one to clean up. I don't know what I would do without these helpers!"

She and her crew fed just over 200 last year

and she anticipates an even bigger turnout this year.

"People come back year after year," she said. "Some come so they won't be lonely on the holiday and others come because they just don't have enough food or money. Times are hard right now."

The Alward family welcomes anyone to come and eat or to work on the supper. Reservations are required so that they can plan enough food for everyone and you can make those reservations or volunteer to help by calling or emailing her by Dec. 20 at 520-4943 or alward@metrocast.net.

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What is behind the call for a "closed" Primary?

Last week, Norman Silber, a Gilford Republican who was recently elected to a seat in the New Hampshire House representing Belknap County District 2 (comprised of the towns of Gilford and Meredith), submitted a letter to the editor for publication in both the Gilford Steamer and The Meredith News outlining several legislative measures he is already planning to pursue.

While we applaud Mr. Silber for jumping into his new position with both proverbial feet, there is one piece of legislation he put forth that troubles us. During a discussion of comprehensive changes he would like to see made to the state's election laws, including a clarification of the difference between the terms 'domicile' and 'residence', the establishment of 30-day residency requirement for those wishing to vote, and the elimination of same-day registration (all of which, he states, would be aimed at preventing college students who are not full-time residents of New Hampshire from unfairly influencing our elections), he also calls for new regulations "closing" our primary elections so that only those persons registered in a particular party can vote in that party's primary."

We can certainly appreciate Mr. Silber's concerns with regard to potential voter fraud, which are shared by many throughout the state, but we are at a complete loss to understand his rationale for wanting to bar Independents from taking part in primary elections. His proposal strikes us as unnecessary and uncalled for, particularly since there were, to our knowledge, no complaints of widespread voter fraud during this year's Primary. There appeared to be no surprise upsets in any of the contested races that would indicate a concerted effort on the part of Independents to skew the results either, so we are left to wonder exactly what problem Mr. Silber intends to rectify with his proposal.

The candidates who throw their hats into the ring during each election cycle in hopes of securing the corner office in Concord or one of New Hampshire's U.S. Senate seats are, at least in theory, campaigning for the opportunity to represent the interests of all New Hampshire citizens, not just those affiliated with whatever political party they have chosen to align themselves with. Why, then, should an entire segment of the state's population be prohibited from helping to decide who among those candidates will ultimately appear on the ballot? Mr. Silber's proposal to bar independent voters from casting ballots in future primaries is excessive and unnecessary. If voters choose not to affiliate themselves with a party, that is their prerogative, and their right. To penalize them for their open-mindedness by restricting participation in the Primary to card-carrying party members only would be to open the door once again to the shadowy back room deal making and foul play that open primary laws were enacted to combat in the first place. It is our hope that Mr. Silber will reconsider this ill-advised proposal and strike it from his agenda before taking his seat in the House early next year.

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We step back and mar-



vel at Kit-Kat's progress in her temporary digs. She must think it's permanent. She runs, she plays, she snuggles, she's the designated greeter when other humans visit... but this isn't her forever home. Behind the scenes both her foster humans and our adoption staff work hard to find that one true person, or family, who surely can say "yes I will"

After all this upheaval Kit-Kat should be the one and only cat. She really will fill up your heart and your home, we promise.

NORTH COUNTRY NOTEBOOK

Mountain lion, catamount, cougar: The same critter, the stuff of stories



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

A recent letter from a once-in-awhile reader got me thinking (again) about mountain lions (cougars), and the stories and reports I've heard over the years. There have been a lot of years—I started newspapering in 1968—and a lot of stories and reports.

Of these I've only written about the very best—sightings that to my admittedly untutored mind seemed just plain beyond dispute. This amounts, by my inexact calculation, to perhaps a dozen stories in print, over all those years.

One of the first came during my second newspaper job, at the New Hampshire Sunday News, in the early 1970s.



COURTESY

This is a cougar from out West. It is not much different from its eastern cousin, which the federal government has, in New England at least, declared extinct.

Not long after I got there, I began writing an outdoor column, and no sooner had I got my ears wet than I got my first report of a mountain lion.

Now, I don't remember many details of that incident, but I wrote it up, and no sooner had the ink dried on the newsprint than I got a call from one of my newfound friends at Fish and Game. It had become plain by then that I was destined to be the "go-to" guy for outdoor-related

story assignments, and so it behooved me to be making acquaintances with people in the department's various divisions. Some of those acquaintances became friends, and are friends to this day.

"You're not going to start out by falling for that cougar stuff, are you?" the caller said, or words to that effect. It was a rocky beginning to a long and rocky road on the subject ever since.

I soon realized—and

time has done nothing but harden the conviction—that the outdoor public's opinion on the presence of mountain lions on New Hampshire's present wildlife scene is divided into two distinct camps.

In one camp are the complete Doubling Thomases and the downright "show me" crowd. They want a carcass, and preferably a cat killed in the road rather than one shot by someone protect-

SEE NOTEBOOK PAGE A11

Thoughts from the Thrift Shop

News from the Gilmanton Community Church Thrift Shop & Food Pantry

The Gilmanton Food Pantry has many individuals and organizations to thank for helping us provide Thanksgiving food baskets to families in need living in the Gilmanton Community.

Thanks to the Daniel Webster Council's Scouting for Food community service project. The Gilmanton Scouts collected over 500 pounds of food which was donated

to the Gilmanton Food Pantry. We at the Food Pantry also extend a thank you to the Gilford High School students who recently conducted a food drive and donated over 207 pounds of food.

Thank you, Maggie Locke Emerson of Locke Associates, for conducting a food drive which resulted in a donation of 70 pounds of food.

Heartfelt thank you and acknowledgment



COURTESY

Maggie Locke Emerson of Locke Associates.

also go to Jane Sisti for a donation of 15 pies and the Gilmanton Gallopers 4-H for their donation of an entire food basket and turkey.

Donations at any time of the year are absolutely needed and are important to the continued ability to provide supplemental food to families in need. However, at this time of year these donations help to provide extra items for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

Thank you, one and

all, for your generosity.

The Gilmanton Thrift Shop is featuring our popular bag sale all during the month of December. Fill a paper grocery shopping bag chuck-a-block full for only \$7. Perfect time to stock up, or freshen up the wardrobe or just to get ready for cold weather.

If there is anyone who did not have the opportunity to donate for Thanksgiving food baskets or gifts for the

SEE THRIFT PAGE A11

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Holiday events scheduled throughout Gilford

By Erin Plummer
 eplummer@salmonpress.com

A candlelight stroll, a night of pub sitting for charity, Christmas story-times, and several workshops to make treats and presents are some of the many activities spreading holiday cheer throughout Gilford.

A number of holiday-themed events will take place in Gilford from this week up until Christmas. The annual Gilford Village Candlelight Stroll returns this Saturday from 5-7 p.m. Belknap Mountain Road will be closed off from the intersection of Potter Hill Road to the Gilford Elementary School playground. Lights will line

the sidewalks and an abundance of holiday activities will be found up and down the road.

There will be carriage rides and caroling done the street. A big bonfire will be set up at the Village Field and kids can meet Santa at the gazebo. The Thompson-Ames Historical Society Buildings will be open during the event. Some special treats can also be found at the library and a number of other locations.

Teams from across the Lakes Region will park on barstools at Patrick's Pub and Eatery for 24 hours during the annual Pub Mania. From 9 a.m. on Thursday to 9 a.m. on Friday, members



Pub Mania will return this Thursday and raise more money for the Children's Auction for the Greater Lakes Region.

of Pub Mania teams will take their shifts at the bar to raise money for the Children's Auction of the Greater Lakes Region.

This year's auction will be held throughout

the week from Tuesday through Saturday at Pheasant Ridge Country Club in Gilford.

People of all ages can learn to make their own gifts and holiday treats at a number of work-

shops and activities.

The Gilford Public library will have a number of workshops and demonstrations for preschoolers through adults.

On Monday, Dec. 12, teens from fifth grade and older can decorate cookies from 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Preschoolers will make gingerbread houses on Tuesday, Dec. 13 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-2:30 p.m. Elementary school kids will make their gingerbread houses on Wednesday, Dec. 14 and Thursday, Dec. 15; both days from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Kids in grades K-4 can make their own gifts during Santa's Workshop. The early release

activity will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 21 from 10 a.m.-noon.

Adults can take part in the Book Bites Cookbook Club on Dec. 13 from 5-6:30 p.m. Book Bites features cooking demonstrations and recipes. The theme for December is holiday cooking. Sign up at the front desk with a library card; the cost is \$5 per person.

Santa's Workshop, sponsored by the Gilford Youth Center and Gilford Parks and Recreation, will also return this week. The program has two sessions for kids ages 3-6 on Friday, Dec. 9 and 16 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. The total program is \$20, parents can register their children at the GYC website www.gilfordyouthcenter.com. Contact GYC director Scott Hodsdon at 524-6978 for more information.

The Gilford Public Library will also have some special storytimes for the holidays.

Author Karel Hayes will bet at the library on Monday, Dec. 20 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. with her new book "Santa's Tatty Old Boots."

Mrs. Claus herself will do a special storytime on Thursday, Dec. 22 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Gilford Parks and Recreation news

BY HERB GREENE

Director
 Gilford Parks and Recreation

Senior Moment-um Programs

Senior Moment-um Holiday Luncheon on Monday, Dec. 12

The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department will be sponsoring a Senior Moment-um program on Monday, Dec. 12. We will be meeting in the Gilford Community Church at 12:00 noon for a Holiday Luncheon of ham with all the fixings! The fourth grade chorus from the Gilford Elementary School will also be joining us to perform holiday music. There is no charge for this program, but space is limited and participants must RSVP no later than Thursday, Dec. 8.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact the Gilford Parks and Rec Department at 527-4722.

Senior Moment-um Breakfast and a Movie - Monday, Dec. 19

The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department will be sponsoring a Senior Moment-um program on Monday, Dec. 19. We will meet at the Community Church, Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast and a movie! We will be watching the holiday comedy "Trapped in Par-

adise," starring Nicolas Cage, Dana Carvey and Jon Lovitz. The movie and coffee are free of charge. We will also have breakfast available for anyone interested at \$2 per person, which will include breakfast sandwiches and hash brown patties. So please join us to watch this holiday classic! Participants are asked to RSVP by Thursday, Dec. 15.

For more information or to RSVP, please call the Parks and Recreation Office at 527-4722.

Bolduc Park Cross Country Ski Program

The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department will be offering four weeks of Cross Country Ski Lessons at Bolduc Park this winter. Lessons begin on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017 and will continue through Jan. 28, 2017 (in the event a day is cancelled because of poor weather, it will be made up the week(s) following Jan. 28). Lessons begin at 10 a.m. and rental skis may be picked up at 9 a.m. at Piche's Ski Shop!

Registration forms are available at the Gilford Parks and Recreation Department, Bolduc Park and Piche's Ski Shop. Please mail, fax or drop off your registrations directly to Piche's Ski Shop.

Cost: \$70 per person includes rental equip-

ment! \$40 per person if you have your own equipment!

If you have any questions, please contact Bob or Pat Bolduc at 524-2068.

Boston Celtics bus trip scheduled for March 15, 2017

The Gilford and Belmont Parks and Recreation Departments are co-sponsoring a bus trip to Boston to see the Celtics take on the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday, March 15. Cost of the trip is \$137 for lower level Loge seats and \$92.00 upper level balcony seats and includes round trip motor coach from Gilford

or Belmont and tickets to the game. Our deluxe motor coach will depart from Gilford High School at 5 p.m. and the Belmont Park & Rideshare (Route 106) at 5:15 p.m. You will have time to visit the pro-shop and get dinner on your own prior to the game. Our seats are in section #19 (Loge) and 329 (Balcony) for the 7:30 p.m. game. Seats are limited; a registration form must be completed accompanied by payment and tickets are non-refundable.

For more information, please contact the Gilford Parks and Recreation Department at 527-4722 or visit their Web site at www.gilfordrec.com.



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Robert Francis Bowen, 83

SALEM — Robert Francis "Bob" Bowen, 83, formerly of Gilford and Venice, Fla., passed away on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016 at the Greystone Farm at Salem.



He was born on May 19, 1933 in Cambridge, Mass., the son of the late William and Mary (Breen) Bowen. Robert served in the US Army during the Korean War, where he was stationed in Darmstadt, Germany. He married the love of his life, Shirley Lowell, on Jan. 23, 1954, while still in the Army. After Robert was honorably discharged, they settled down in Burlington, Mass., where they raised their family before retiring to Governor's Island in Gilford. He had many favorite pastimes, including traveling, boating, antiques, going out dancing with his wife and spending winters with friends in Venice, Fla. Robert attended Northeastern University, Boston University and Harvard University, earning degrees in Mechanical Engineering, Industrial Technology and Business Administration. He worked for Raytheon Company for thirty eight years and worked on various government programs such

as the Hawk and Patriot Missile Systems, Lunar Lander Program and the Microwave Program.

Survivors include his two daughters, Diane Boardman and her husband John of Atkinson and Linda Brady and her partner Butch McCarthy of Nashua; a son, Robert Bowen, Jr. of Hudson; five grandchildren (Christine Gonzales and her husband Edwin, Michael Bowen and his wife Renee, John Boardman, Jr. and his wife Maria, Keith Bowen and his partner, Julie Hammar, and Leah Hartung and her husband Cole); and five great grandchildren, Christina, Isabel, Shane, Samantha and Maisey.

Calling hours were held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016 in the Carriage House of the Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 at the Gilford Community Church, 19 Potter Hill Rd., Gilford. Rev. Michael Graham, Pastor of the Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in Bayside Cemetery, Laconia.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 10 Speen St., Second Floor, Framingham, MA 01701 or to the Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675.

Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, is assisting the family with the arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial, go to www.wilkinsonbeane.com.

Francis R. Clairmont, 72

LACONIA — Francis "Frank" R. Clairmont, 72, of 104 New Salem St., died on Thursday, Dec. 1, 2016 at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.



Frank was born on July 24, 1944 in Laconia, the son of Parnell and Thelma (Skinner) Clairmont. He was a lifelong resident of the Lakes Region. He worked for the Town of Belmont, Water/Sewer Department until his retirement.

Frank was a veteran of the United States Army. He was a member of the American Legion Post #1. Frank was an avid race car fan, liked antique cars, and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Frank is survived by his wife of 34 years, Donna (Bailey) Clairmont; two sons, Roland "Chuck" Clairmont and Jason Clairmont; two daughters, Deana DeSimone and Becky Reposa; nine grandchildren (Britney Bodreau, Tyler Perkins, Alex Clairmont, Amelia Clairmont, Sam Reposa, Molly Reposa, Kyle Clairmont, Kolby Clairmont, and Eliza "Frankie" Clairmont); three great grandchildren; two brothers, Maurice Clairmont and Terry Clairmont; two sisters, Pamela Beattie and Judith Learned; nine nephews and seven nieces.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, Joseph Clairmont; his nephews,

Parnell "Spanky" Clairmont and Cody Ryan; his mother-in-law, Ella Bailey; and his grandmother, Teresa Phillips.

Calling hours will be held on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 from 5 – 8 p.m. at the Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, using the Carriage House entrance.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, Dec. 9, 2016 at 10 a.m. at St. Andre Bessette Church - St. Joseph Church, 30 Church St., Laconia.

Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, is assisting the family with the arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial, go to www.wilkinsonbeane.com.

Joyce F. Robinson, 92

TILTON — Joyce F. Robinson, 92, formerly of West Main Street, Tilton, Lexington Drive, Laconia, and a former resident of Golden Crest, Franklin, for the last two years, died on Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016 at Franklin Regional Hospital.

Joyce was born on July 2, 1924 in Laconia, the daughter of Clifton and Leona (Foss) Waldron. Joyce grew up in Gilford; she lived in Laconia for 29 years and Tilton for 31 years.

Joyce volunteered at Lakes Region General Hospital, and was a member of the Tilton-Northfield Garden Club. Joyce enjoyed playing bridge and most of all spending time with

her children and their families.

Joyce is survived by four sons (Francis "Frank" J. Robinson and his wife, Wendy, of Spotsylvania, Va., Michael J. Robinson and his wife, Candy, of Tilton, Kelley J. Robinson of Belmont and Richard W. Robinson and his wife, Rhonda, of Sanbornton); five daughters (Sarah "Sally" R. Keroack and Don Roper of Laconia, Mary R. Wason and her husband, Earle, of Naples, Fla., Joyce "Fuzzy" R. Atwood of Redding, Calif., Carol R. Hardiman and her husband, Bill,

of Concord and Karen R. Proulx and her husband, Steve, of Franklin); 16 grandchildren; many great grandchildren, nephews and nieces.

In addition to her parents, Joyce was predeceased by her husband, Dr. Francis J. Robinson; a brother, Howard Waldron; and a sister, Winnifred "Minnie" Buzwell.

Memorial Calling Hours will be held on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 from 4 – 7 p.m. at the Beane Conference Center, 35 Blueberry Lane, Laconia.

A Private Family Graveside Service will

be held on Friday, Dec. 9, 2016 at 1 p.m. in Robinson-Dooley Family Cemetery, Gilford.

For those who wish, memorial donations may be made to Lakes Region General Hospital-Volunteer Services, 80 Highland St., Laconia, NH 03246.

Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, is assisting the family with the arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial, go to www.wilkinsonbeane.com.

Joyce Eileen Whitcomb, 83

LACONIA — Joyce Eileen (Tucker) Whit-



comb passed away in the arms of her daughters on Nov. 25, 2016 at the age of 83, at the St. Francis Rehabilitation and Nursing Home in Laconia.

Joyce was born on July 12, 1933 in Lancaster, the daughter of Ada Savage-Tucker and Melvin Tucker. She spent her childhood and school years in Whitefield. She married and moved to Littleton followed by a later move to Laconia for professional advancement.

Joyce had a full personal and professional life. She married her high school sweetheart, Roger Whitcomb, in December of 1949 at her grandparents' farm in Lunenburg, Vt. She and Roger had four children (Diane, Susan, Linda and Wayne). Later, they divorced. Joyce also had two grandchildren, Jennifer Stanley-Cleveland and Steve Avery, and two great grandchildren, Ella Stanley-Cleveland and Penelope Avery.

As a young woman, Joyce was employed at the Littleton Hospital. After continuing her education and graduating from the Northern New England School for Laboratory Technicians under Dr. Christie, she was certified as a Laboratory Technician and obtained employment at the Laconia Hospital. She later attended Plymouth State College. In 1974 she was employed by the Laconia State School as a Scientist I, and was quickly promoted to a Scientist II as the supervisor. Upon closing of the state school, Joyce transferred to the New Hampshire Public Health Laboratory as a Supervisor of the Environmental Microbiology laboratory, retiring in 1995 as a Laboratory Scientist IV.

Joyce enjoyed gardening and birds, and was a member of the Audubon Society. She loved walking and hiking, the Red Hat Society, exercising at the Athletic club in Concord, working around her home, reading, doing cross word puzzles and enjoying her family. She especially enjoyed square dancing with the love of her life

SEE WHITCOMB PAGE A7

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Wendy Elizabeth Wilkens, 73

GILMANTON — Wendy Elizabeth “Svarna” Wilkens died peacefully at her Gilmanton home on Aug. 22, 2016 with her family around her.

Daughter of William B. Wilkens and Laurose (Schulze-Berge) Wilkens MacFadyen, she was born Dec. 9, 1942 in New York, N.Y.

She was predeceased by her parents and her brother, William B. Wilkens, Jr., and is survived by two sisters, Joanne Wilkens and Phyllis Weston of Gilmanton; a brother, John Wilkens; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Wendy graduated from Laconia High School and Sweet Briar College, spending her junior year in Madrid, Spain. After college, she served in the Peace Corps in Thailand for two years where she taught English and developed an interest in Eastern religions and philosophy.

Upon returning home, she earned a Master’s degree from Boston University, and subsequently taught English as a Second Language at Harvard Summer School and the University of San Francisco. Wendy was a founding director of the English Center for International Women at Mills College in Oakland, Calif., where she taught English for several years.

Wendy’s interest moved from education to psychology when she discovered the work of the pioneer hypnotherapist and psychiatrist Milton Erickson. She traveled to Arizona to study with Dr. Erickson, and was certified to practice alchemical hypnotherapy, which she later integrated into her doctoral studies in psychology.

Wendy’s interest in Eastern philosophy developed into a deep spiritual practice that



inspired her family and friends. Seeking to understand the relationship of Eastern philosophy to human psychology, she accompanied Zen Master Seung Sahn on a walking pilgrimage to Buddhist sites in India, and spent time with the philosopher Rajneesh Osho at his International Meditation Center in Pune, India. She subsequently earned a Ph.D. in counseling psychology at the California Institute of Integral Studies integrating her knowledge of Eastern practices into her own clinical therapy work. Wendy was a licensed clinical psychologist maintaining

private practices in both Gilmanton, New Hampshire and Carmel, Calif.

Wendy lived courageously and independently at her much loved home in Gilmanton in spite of progressive ALS, and enjoyed the beautiful views and wildlife that surrounded her. Memorial donations may be made to the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, PO Box 173, Holderness, NH 03245.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016 at the Gilmanton Community Church, located at the corner of Route 107 and Route 140 in Gilmanton.

Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, is assisting the family with the arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial, go to www.wilkinsonbeane.com.

WHITCOMB

(Continued from Page A6)

Rock Drouin. She enjoyed participating in the "Becoming an Outdoor Woman" program.

Joyce was politically involved at the local, state and national level. She served as Elected Counselor (25 years), Elected Delegate (25 years), and Treasurer for 1100 members of the NH State employees Association. She was a member of the American Society of Clinical Pathology, CLT-Health, Education and Welfare and ASCP-American Society of Clinical Pathologists. In addition, she personally met and had political discussions with President Obama, John and Elizabeth Edwards; and had Elizabeth Edwards’ personal cell phone number and they talked about breast cancer. Joyce was politically involved at the local, state and national level and networked with governors, presiden-

tial candidates and others.

Joyce earned many professional awards for her dedication and profession contributions to her employers.

In addition to her other professional successes, Joyce taught at the New Hampshire Technical Institute as a Biology Lab Instructor. She taught at the Thompson School of Applied Science at the University of New Hampshire. She served as a volunteer on the New Hampshire Emergency Nuclear Response Team as a Decontamination Supervisor at Seabrook.

She is survived by her three daughters; a sister, Evelyn Tucker-Silver; a niece, Nancy Kramer; a nephew, Neal Silver; great nieces and nephews, cousins; and her lifelong companion, Rock Drouin.

In addition to her parents, Joyce was pre-

ceded in death by her son Wayne.

There will be no calling hours.

A memorial service for family and close friends was held on Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016 at the Franklin United Methodist Church, 88 Franklin St., Franklin, at 11:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the NH Fish and Game Department for the "Becoming an Outdoors Woman Program," that she loved so much: New Hampshire Wildlife Federation, C/O BOW 54 Portsmouth St., Concord, NH 03301.

Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia, is assisting the family with the arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial, go to www.wilkinsonbeane.com.

Christmas in Wolfeboro
November 26 - December 24

Don't miss Breakfast with Santa
December 10th at the Wolfeboro Inn!
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Gilford Village Candlelight Stroll and community band celebrate the holiday season

The Holiday season is upon us, and Christmas is fast approaching, and so are the Holiday traditions in Gilford. On Saturday, Dec. 10, the Gilford Community Band will partner with the Gilford Village Annual Candlelight Stroll to provide an exciting evening of Holiday activities. The celebration starts with a holiday band concert from 4 until 4:45 p.m. at the Gilford High School Performing Arts Center and continues with

the Candlelight Stroll throughout the village from 5 until 7 p.m. The inclement weather day is Sunday, Dec. 11. Let it snow! Let it snow!(On Monday!) This year the Candlelight Stroll is dedicated to Bob Henderson, a volunteer with the Gilford Fire Department.

The Community Band, under the direction of Lyvie Beyrent, promises to get everyone into the holiday spirit with an eclectic presentation of traditional and

contemporary seasonal music. Selections such as "Jingle Bells", "Oratorio de Noel", "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer", "Frosty the Snowman," "Do You Hear What I Hear," "Shchedryk" and "Jingle Bell Rock" will be sure to kindle that holiday feeling.

Afterwards, the Candlelight Stroll through Gilford Village will provide lots of opportunities for more music, food, and holiday crafts for children. Gilford High

School carolers will be roaming the village, while Bonnie Deutsch and her Line Dancers will be performing at the Public Library from 6 until 7 p.m. The Community Church Chorus will perform at the Community Church Sanctuary from 5 until 5:30 p.m., and will be followed at 5:30 p.m. by the First United Methodist Church and Laconia Hallelujah Chime Choir at the Union Meeting House. At 6 p.m. Dan Carter will be on the keyboard at the Union Meeting House, while Jerry Murphy will be having a singalong at the Rowe House.

Treats and refreshments will be available at the SAU office op-

posite the Gilford Village Store, which will also be having an open house. Plan to drop in at the Grange for some cookies baked in the old fashioned stove. The high school French Club will also be selling baked goods at the Village Field. For that warm feeling, the Gilford Fire-Rescue team will be stoking a bonfire at the field as well as providing that holiday treat, s'mores, for all the youngsters (and adults who are still youngsters at heart). S'mores and a bonfire- what a great combination!

There will be holiday crafts and refreshments for children at the Gilford Public Library. From 5:15 to 5:30 p.m.,

the elementary carolers will walk from the library to the bonfire. For those who would rather ride than walk, Heritage Farms is providing horse-drawn wagon rides between the library and the Rowe House. What a great way to enjoy the Holiday sights and sound of the Village!

Lest we forget, the Guest Of Honor will be at The Village Field. If you don't know who that is, you'll have to go to the field to find out. Hint: he has a white beard, wears a red hat, has a jolly laugh, and may be a little overweight.

Everyone is invited to all of the festivities in celebrating this joyful time of the year!



COURTESY

Gilford Rotary's annual Christmas tree sale starts Dec. 2

The Gilford Rotary Club will launch their 30th season of selling Christmas trees to benefit local charities Dec. 2 – 11. Look for the Gilford Rotary Christmas tree sale at the Gilford 8 Cinemas on Route 11, Gilford. Browse the great selection of fresh cut trees from noon till 7 p.m. Monday- through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. These New Hampshire grown, freshly cut, premium trees include hundreds of 1st quality fraser fir and balsam trees in all shapes and sizes from table top to 12 feet tall. Plus decorative holiday wreaths and bird wreaths. Stop by the Gilford Rotary Traier for free hot chocolate, hot dogs and yummy corn chowder and register to win special raffle items. The 30th annual Gilford Rotary Club Christmas tree sale. Noon till seven Monday-Thursday. And 9 a.m. till 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Now in a new location at the Gilford Cinema 8 Plaza, Route 11, Gilford. Happy Holidays from everyone at Gilford Rotary.

Catch a holiday classic on LRPA this weekend with 1935's "Scrooge"

LACONIA—Join Lakes Region Public Access Television at 10:30 p.m. this Friday and Saturday night (Dec. 9 & 10) for our "LRPA After Dark" presentation of 1935's Christmas classic, "Scrooge," starring Sir Seymour Hicks in the title role.

"Scrooge" is a timeless and sincere telling of the classic Charles Dickens story in which miser Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by the Spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future, and learns the true meaning of the holiday. While not as well known as its MGM's 1938 movie "A Christmas Carol," "Scrooge" holds the distinction

of being the first feature-length sound adaptation of Dickens's story. Its star, Sir Seymour Hicks, was a legendary British actor, playwright and theatre manager. Of all the roles that he held in his illustrious career,

he performed the role of Ebenezer Scrooge over 2,000 times, both on stage and in film. Hick's interpretation of Scrooge deserves to be more widely seen and appreciated by film fans everywhere.

SEE SCROOGE PAGE A11

Clarification

It was recently brought to our attention that our Nov. 17 article on local election results created some confusion as to which candidates won election to seats in the New Hampshire House of Representatives.

The four candidates who were elected to the

Belknap County District 2 representative seats were Republicans Glen Aldrich, Marc Abear, Norm Silber, and Herb Vadney.

Belknap District 2 includes Gilford and Meredith.

Aldrich received 2,316 votes in Gilford and 2,024 in Meredith for a total of 4,340 votes. Abear received 2,159 votes in Gilford and 2,026 in Meredith for a total of 4,185 votes. Silber had 2,096 votes in Gilford and 1,837 in Meredith for a total of 3,933 votes. Vadney received 1,972 votes in Gilford and 2,078 votes in Meredith for a total of 4,050 votes.

The four Democrat candidates were defeated. Democrat Lisa DiMartino received 2,172 in Gilford and 1,631 votes in Meredith, a total of 3,803 votes. Nancy Frost received 1,722 votes in Gilford and 1,418 in Meredith, totaling 3,140. Johan Andersen received 1,511 votes in Gilford and 1,306 in Meredith, a total of 2,817. Dorothy Piquado received 1,494 votes in Gilford and 1,649 votes in Meredith, totaling 3,143.

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Cindy Oxton, from Meredith Village Savings Bank, lives up to similar standards. She goes the extra mile to provide Tom with outstanding personal service, as well as expert advice and prompt, local decision-making. It's no surprise that Tom and Cindy are closely connected!

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COURTESY

Gilford NHS inducts new members

The Gilford Chapter of the National Honor Society inducted twenty-three new members on the evening of Nov. 15 with a traditional candle-lighting ceremony. President, Kassy Weston presided over the Induction as the other officers lit candles representing the Society's four core values: Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. Guest speaker, Mr. Ben Morris, a former GHS student and graduate of Husson University gave a humorous yet poignant speech which reflected on being strong in resolve, character, and personal values. Each new inductee was then introduced and inducted by a current member, receiving their tokens of membership from Principal, Mr. Anthony Sperazzo and Assistant Principal, Mr. Timothy Goggin. It is with pride that we welcome our newest members: Taryn Breton, James Buckley, Kaitlyn Callahan, Ethan Carrier, Connor Craigie, Lauren Dean, Alexa Dembiec, Sarah Fillion, Sandor Gamache, Erin Gately, Madelyn Griffith, Jennifer Hancock, Tyler Hanf, Olivia Harris, David Hart, Mitchell Juneau, Jillian Lachapelle, Kaia Langathianos, Connor Leggett, Callie McGreevy, Daisy Medeiros, Jonathan Nelson, Gabrielle Podmore, Christian Remick, Kaylee Smith, Kiara Smith, Aria Stephan, Olivia Trindade, Kelli Vieten, Ethan Warren, Michael Wernig, Christian Workman, Mark Young, Michele Young.

NH Humane Society to host first Christmas with Fur-Ever Friends

LACONIA — On Saturday, Dec. 17, join the New Hampshire Humane Society at their shelter on Meredith Center Road, Laconia for their First Annual Christmas with Fur-Ever Friends holiday open house, filled with fun activities, music and food. There will be family friendly crafts from 1 – 3 p.m. to create ornaments for our 14-foot Christmas tree. Beginning at 3 p.m., there will be food, music and fun – tree decorating; a blessing of the tree; caroling; a campfire with s'mores and music. Shelter staff and volunteers will be conducting tours of the facility and the shelter will be open late, until 6 p.m., to help you find a new fur-ever friend to bring home for the holidays. Visitors to the animal welfare center are encouraged to bring an item or two from the Society Wish List, or make a donation to support the shelter in person or online at nhhumane.org.

Admission is free to all. Parking will be at the Laconia Christian Academy with a free shuttle service generously donated by the Lakes Region Airport Shuttle. Wreaths will be for sale and Cozy Companions will have a table of hand-crafted animal accessories and beds for purchase.

The New Hampshire Humane Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit whose mission is to find responsible and caring forever homes; provide shelter for the lost, abandoned and unwanted animals; advocate and be the voice for the voiceless. The Society works hard



COURTESY

Director Karen Jordan introduces the Lakes Region Singers' holiday performance.

Lakes Region Singers to lift holiday spirits with two joyous community concerts

GILFORD — Are you having trouble getting into the holiday spirit this year? The Lakes Region Singers will offer plenty of it at their two annual Christmas performances – one on Friday evening, Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m., and another on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 18, at 3 p.m.

“We have an exciting program planned for this season,” said Director Karen Jordan, “featur-

ing some beautiful new pieces as well as many familiar favorites. We'll introduce our brand-new youth bell choir and will again highlight many soloists and instrumentalists from our local communities.” Both concerts will take place at the First United Methodist Church, on Route 11-A SEE SINGERS PAGE A11

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Time for a Year-end Investment Review

With the holiday season upon us, you may well be busier than usual. However, by spending a few minutes reviewing your investment scenario of this past year, you can see where you've been, where you might be going, and what you need to do to keep moving forward toward your long-term financial goals.

So, as you look back at 2016, pay close attention to these elements of your investment picture:

- **Performance** – Reviewing your investment performance over time is important in helping you determine if you're on track to achieve your financial goals. So, in evaluating how your investments did in 2016, ask yourself some key questions: How did your investments do relative to their performance in past years? If there was a big difference, what might have accounted for it? Were your returns relevant to your long-term goals? In other words, if you have already established a return rate you'll need to reach your goals – and you should indeed set such a rate – were your actual returns “on track” to help you make progress toward

your objectives? And, just as importantly, were your return expectations realistic, based on your investment mix and the market environment?

- **Investment mix** – If you are a diligent investor following a well-designed strategy, you probably started out in 2016 with an investment mix that reflects your risk tolerance, time horizon, and short- and long-term goals. But over time, your investment mix can change, even without your having done so on purpose. If you owned a certain percentage of an asset, such as growth stocks, and those stocks appreciated in price substantially, they could take up a larger percentage of your portfolio than you had intended, thereby exposing you to a higher risk level than that with which you are comfortable. So now that the year is coming to a close, examine your investment mix to see if it needs “rebalancing.”

- **Contribution levels** – Are you taking full advantage of your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan? Specifically, if you got a raise this past year, did you

boost your contributions to your plan? The more you invest now, and throughout your working life, the less likely it will be that you have to play “catch up” in the years immediately preceding your retirement.

- **Mistakes** – We all make mistakes in every walk of life – including the way we invest. In looking back over 2016, can you spot some investment mistakes you might have made? Did you temporarily “bail out” on investing immediately after the “Brexit” vote, only to find, a few weeks later, that the markets had soared to record highs? Did you act on impulse and buy a so-called “hot” stock that turned out to be inappropriate for your needs and risk level? While mistakes like these might be costly in the short term, they can ultimately prove invaluable – if you learn from them.

We're just about ready to turn the page on the 2016 calendar. So, as you review your investment decisions for the past year, try to determine what worked, what didn't – and what you can do to improve your results in 2017.



This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. For more information or to sign up for their monthly newsletter, contact **Jacqueline Taylor**, Financial Advisor, at 279-3161 or email Jacki at Jacqueline.Taylor@edwardjones.com. Her office is located at 14 Main Street, Downtown Meredith. For more information, see <http://www.edwardjones.com/> or “like” her on Facebook www.facebook.com/EJAdvisorJacquelineTaylor.

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GUNSTOCK (Continued from Page A1)

The mountain is now getting ready for the holidays. Roth said it is always great to have everything open and ready, from slopes to staff, before the Christmas holiday.

The popular Mountain Coaster will be running again this winter. The Mountain Coaster will be running on weekends and holidays around the same time as the tubing hill is open. Roth said they will see how many people go on it over the winter.

They are now aiming to get the tubing hill open and open the trails for the ski school. They are also putting together the elements for the terrain park, which will have a

variety of new features.

"We're going to do even more than we ever done before in our terrain park," Roth said.

Improvements will also be made on aspects of the ski school after some hard review.

The Web site will also be refreshed with some new information.

For the first time this year Gunstock is also offering Flex Passes. People can buy a pass for \$50 and can buy a lift ticket for 50 percent off the full price rate all season. Roth said this is ideal for people who might come to Gunstock on from time to time, but not enough times to get a season pass.

CRAFT FAIR (Continued from Page A1)

dor fees benefit the senior class and the class had a number of other fundraisers. Class president Johanna Morris and treasurer Hannah Sullivan said the fair was extremely successful for them, especially with so many donations.

Each of the seniors worked different shifts, including helping crafters set up and take down their tables. Cybart said they got a lot of compliments for the seniors' work.

"They have worked extremely hard," Jenkins said.

Many different crafters donated items for the raffle benefiting the senior class, including large items with a lot of work put into them.

Other classes and organizations from the middle school and high school sold food in the cafeteria food court and around the building.

There was also a lot of generosity from the shoppers too. Cybart said someone lost a license and another person found their number and called them to tell them. Another person lost their shopping bag. After an announcement was made someone else brought the missing bag to the front.

"This Christmas spirit is awesome," Cybart said.

Nanci Sabino of Meredith sold hand painted ornaments. She will add other elements on such as Santa hats, snowman features, and other de-

tails with a construction adhesive.

"I experimented with a lot of things before I found it," Sabino said.

She retired four years ago and now spends her time traveling with her husband and painting. She works on the ornaments for a few months out of the year.

"It makes me happy to do this," Sabino said.

The GHS fair is the only one she really does and she has been coming for around seven years. Sabino said she loves how busy it is the whole day. She also said she has made some good friends there too.

Beth Roy of Boscawen makes handmade bags from cloth purses to totes made from grain sacks for her company BGR Design. Her most popular item is the grain bags she has been making for the past couple years.

"I raised a lot of turkeys one year and found out turkeys eat a lot, it got very expensive," Roy said.

She took the leftover grain sacks and made them into bags to sell along with her other bags. This year alone she has sold 120 of the grain bags.

Roy has done other craft fairs, mostly in the Concord area. This was Roy's first year at the GHS fair, signing up after hearing friends' recommendations. She was on the waiting list to get in, but then got the call asking if she was

SANTALAND

(Continued from Page A1)

crowds the event has had.

"Thanks to the many wonderful volunteers we have more ability to accumulate these large numbers," Hodsdon said.

He said everyone seemed to be in a good mood and Santa and his helpers were great.

Hodsdon said they offered a wide array of activities from active to sit down.

"It keeps kids busy; it keeps kids out of lines waiting," Hodsdon said.

Parks and Recreation Director Herb Greene said the evening was busy.

"I think every year, we get slightly bigger numbers," Greene said.



Kids have fun in Olaf's Dance Party at Santaland.

"It certainly keeps us busy."

Greene said this is a great collaboration between the GYC and

ERIN PLUMMER

crowds gather in the GHS gym to look over the selections during the Gilford Middle and High School Holiday Craft Fair.



ERIN PLUMMER

Crowds gather in the GHS gym to look over the selections during the Gilford Middle and High School Holiday Craft Fair.



ERIN PLUMMER

Beth Roy with her assortment of handmade bags.



ERIN PLUMMER

Nanci Sabino puts some personalized details on an ornament.

still interested in taking part this year.

She said everyone was having fun and the weather was good, plus she said the students did a good job.

Judy Stewart-Gagnon of South Sutton makes an assortment of holiday displays, wreaths, potpourri, and other woody creations for her company Forest Findings. She will make an assortment of "little forests" using bottle-brush trees in various containers.

"I search all year long for antique containers," Stewart-Gagnon said.

She also makes

wreaths with artificial greens and weatherproof berries so they can be displayed indoors or outdoors as well as an assortment of potpourri.

She has been doing this on her own for over 20 years and goes to a number of fairs.

Stewart-Gagnon said this fair is one of her favorites. She said it has "really nice people" and brings in a good crowd and good, high quality crafts.

"You always sell better when it's a good quality show and this is top notch," Stewart-Gagnon said.



ERIN PLUMMER

National Honor Society members Jamie Buckley and Danielle Clairemont help sell raffle tickets at Santaland.



ERIN PLUMMER

Claire and Tricia Tousignant make some reindeer food.

Parks and Rec.

"I think it's just a fun community event," Greene said. "There's games and activities for a wide variety of ages. The kids seem to like the offerings, which is good."

The event got help from a number of volunteers from many local organizations.

Gilford High School students Jamie Buckley and Danielle Clairemont, members of the school's National Honor Society, helped sell raffle tickets.

Clairemont said she works with Hodsdon on a regular basis.

"I help him out whenever he needs it," Clairemont said.

Buckley said he has been working with Santaland since he started attending the Gilford Community Church in middle school.

"It's just a nice way to give back," Buckley said.

Both of them said they knew each other's favorite parts of the event.

"She likes the cute kids," Buckley said of Clairemont.

"He likes the cookies," Clairemont said of Buckley.

This was the first time Claire Tousignant and her mom Tricia took part in Santaland.

"I think it's great," said Tricia Tousignant. "What's better than free fun for families?"

This was the second Santaland for members of the Hughes family.

"I like that they have something for all different ages," said Ginny Hughes.

Maura Hughes, 13, said she especially liked how this is family friendly.

"You can meet Santa and dance with Olaf," said 6-year-old Adeline Hughes of her favorite parts of Santaland.

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STROLL (Continued from Page A1)

They will be serving refreshments.

The Gilford Historical Society will have its three museum buildings open. Also across from the Village Store is the 1857 Grange Building, stop in and have a freshly baked cookie in what was the Grange Kitchen. While there, visit the "Home-

stead Room", depicting what a one room home might have looked like when the town was first being settled. In the "Store" there will be a new exhibit relating to boating history on Lake Winnepesaukee; while there be sure to notice the "Owl Tree" that will be wish-

SEE STROLL PAGE A11

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STROLL

(Continued from Page A10)

ing you a Hooting Happy Holiday.

Continue down Belknap Mountain Road and you are invited to stop in at the 1838 Meetinghouse and warm up, it was originally a church. Listen to the bell chimes playing from 5:30-6 p.m., and Dan Carter singing and playing his keyboard from 6-7 p.m. You may want to look carefully at the Tree which is decorated with many "cookie" decorations and get ideas if you want to decorate your own special family tree with real cookies.

The third building the Society has open is the 1838 Rowe House, it is at the end, or beginning of the Stroll, depending on which end of the town you start from. Come in and warm up with a cup of hot mulled cider. There is a special exhibit, "Fashions of Yesteryear" to view. At 6 p.m., Jerry Murphy will come with his guitar and you may listen or you may choose to sing along with him.

Because many peo-

ple were disappointed that they were not able to ride the wagon, this year it will be a one way ride so more people will have the opportunity to enjoy the experience. You may choose to park and ride one way and then walk back to your car and enjoy all the activities along the way, or vice versa.

Santa will be at the bonfire at the Village Field, come and roast marshmallows and make s'mores with our firefighters.

Many homes along the way will have special treats.

There is free parking at the Library, Community Church/Youth Center, and at the Elementary School.

Come and enjoy the beauty of the season, walk the candlelit streets, take a horse and wagon ride, listen to holiday music, enjoy treats along the way, visit the Library and the three historical buildings that capture the essence of our earlier days.

SCROOGE

(Continued from Page A8)

So grab your popcorn and meet us after dark for this wonderful holiday treat.

Be sure to join us for holiday movies the remaining Friday and Saturday nights in December as we celebrate the season, LRPA-style!

Dec. 16 & 17: "A Christmas Without

Snow" (1980)
Dec. 23 & 24: "Christmas Holiday" (1944)

And on Christmas Day, we'll be supplementing our regular Sunday programming with a day of family-friendly holiday movies, shows and cartoons starting at 5 a.m.!

You can't find tele-

THRIFT

adopt-a-child program, it is not too late. The Pantry will be assembling Christmas food baskets for families in need and if you wish to participate in gift giving for children, you may contact Bethany Lavin at 267-1934 or Katie McEntee at the Gilman Elementary School at 364-5681. Please leave

a call back number. As well, if you are or become aware of, anyone living in Gilman who needs a helping hand, please contact Bethany or Katie so we may reach out to them.

With grateful appreciation from the Gilman Food Pantry & Thrift Shop volunteers, Happy Holidays and

God Bless!

Gilman Food Pantry & Thrift Shop is an outreach program of the Gilman Community Church. Visit us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/GilmanCommunityChurch

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NOTEBOOK

(Continued from Page A4)

ing livestock. And even this might not satisfy them completely.

And in the other camp are the people who've spent a whole lot of time in woods and field, in high country and swamps, in territory built up and isolated, who hold up a finger and say "Well, wait a minute--what about this?" And they proceed to come forth with something totally unexplained.

The doubters and unbelievers all say pretty much the same thing. If mountain lions have regained a tenuous hold in this state after near-extinction, why indeed hasn't one been killed in the road? Why

have no good, clear, verifiable photographs, films or videos been brought to light? Why no tracks or other qualified sign?

And the believers reply that there are explanations for all of the questions, and there are in fact videos and photos, and it is the precisely the cougar's nocturnal nature and cat-like quickness that have made it so unlikely to be caught by camera or traffic.

All I know is that after all these years, and all this time of hearing it all, from both sides and everyone in between, I'm still left with several sighting reports I con-

sider absolutely unsailable, and one theory I think can easily be put to the sword.

One of the reports I wrote about in the late '70s came from a Colebrook woman and a neighboring farmer who mowed her pastures and fields. He had just finished the field in front of her house, and the two of them were enjoying iced tea on the porch, when a cougar came out of the woods and proceeded to "mouse" for what, they separately told me, seemed a good ten minutes.

And then there was the first story I ran in the Coös County Democrat shortly after I bought the paper in 1978. It came from a matronly librarian in Stark, who on her way to work stopped just in time to spare an adult mountain lion and two juveniles crossing the road.

In both instances the animal was described perfectly. In both cases those concerned promptly looked it up in reference books. And there is not any other animal out there of that size and color with an extremely long, rope-like tail.

And finally, the sword to the myth of "es-

caped pets."

Twice during my career, in print reaching tens of thousands of readers, I've appealed to anyone ever knowing about a captive pet cougar, or even hearing about one, to let me know, and I'd even stipulate anonymity. And I've received not one reply.

On top of that, who could keep such a thing a secret? Surely family members would know, and the neighbors, and quite quickly, the chief of police, and right behind (or maybe ahead) the game warden (sorry--fish cop. No, sorry--conservation officer).

And despite the onus of adding another 300,000 people during my brief time on the planet, New Hampshire is still a very small state.

(This column runs in weekly newspapers covering two-thirds of New Hampshire from Concord to Lower Quebec and parts of western Maine and northeastern Vermont. Letters must include the writer's telephone numbers and town. Write to campguyhooligan@gmail.com or Box 39, Colebrook, NH 03576.)

SINGERS

(Continued from Page A9)

in Gilford, and will include performances by the Youth Chorus as well as the Adult Chorus. A suggested donation of \$8 per person or \$15 per family will be taken at the door to help cover expenses. There will be free homemade refreshments available for the public at each intermission.

The adult chorus program offers dynamic new arrangements of well-known pieces such as "Deck the Hall" and "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire," along with a medley of popular tunes like "Winter Wonderland," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year." Their performance also includes challenging treatments of "Angels from the Realms of Glory," "Herself a Rose," and "Carols of the Night." The youth chorus will take center stage with lively versions of "Sparklejollytwinklejingle" from "Elf the Musical," and "Duermete," a Spanish lullaby. The youths will join the adults for "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day," and for the grand finale, "Joyful,

All Ye Nations, Rise!"

Along with the new youth bell choir, directed by Vickie Parrish, several numbers will feature strings, flute, organ, brass, percussion, or four-hand piano accompaniments, as well as the adult bell choir. Phil Breton on piano will continue to accompany the adult chorus, while Kelly Cleveland will once again accompany the youth chorus and sing with the adult chorus.

Directed for the past six years by Karen Jordan of Laconia, the Lakes Region Singers have been entertaining this area with winter and spring concerts since 1992. The chorale now has nearly 40 dedicated community singers from Laconia, Belmont, Gilford, and Gilman.

"It makes us so happy to lift your spirits with our music every year," said Jordan. "We hope you and your friends can join us on December 16th or 18th for this joyous holiday celebration!" For more information, call the director at 524-0835 or 998-8545, or email her at kpj@jordanassociatesinc.com.

vision like this it anywhere but LRPA TV, MetroCast Channel 25. Not a subscriber? Then log onto Live Stream through our website (www.lrpa.org) where you can catch all the fun.

About Lakes Region Public Access Television (LRPA)

Lakes Region Public Access Television (LRPA) is a nonprofit, noncommercial public access TV station and community media center located on the Laconia High School campus in Laconia. LRPA cablecasts locally on MetroCast channels 24 (education), 25 (information and entertainment) and 26 (government) to nearly 12,000 viewers in our member municipalities of Belmont, Gilford, Laconia,

Meredith and Northwood, and around the world via LiveStream at www.lrpa.org. Programming is produced by and for the people of the greater Lakes Region. LRPA's mission is to empower our community members to produce content that:

- fosters free speech and the open exchange of ideas,
- encourages artistic and creative expression,
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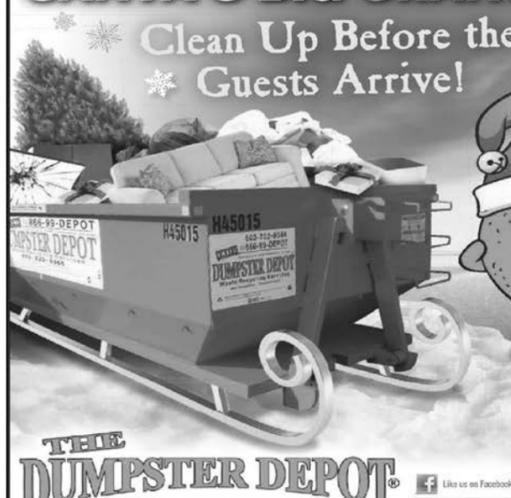
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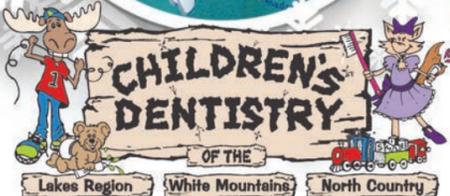
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Defending champs flush with new faces

BY JEFF LAJOIE

jlajoie@salmonpress.com

GILFORD – It was a season to remember for the Gilford High School girls' basketball team. The Golden Eagles posted their second consecutive undefeated regular season, and this time they powered through to snag the 2015-16 NHIAA Division III state championship with a win over Laconia in the finals at Southern New Hampshire University.

It was a perfect 22-0 final record for the senior-laden Eagles, which haven't lost a regular season game since the 2013-14 season. The core from that outstanding run has moved on however, as Gilford lost eight players to graduation including the bulk of the rotation from the state title team. Veteran head coach Rick Forge has his work cut out for him, basically retooling the lineup knowing that the state title makes for a big target on the program's backs.

"It's never easy to follow a team like last year," admitted Forge. "It's human nature for

people to make comparisons but I think these kids are realistic enough to know we aren't going to hold them responsible for last year. Nor do I look at it in terms of, 'Okay, we have to keep this streak going.' We don't approach it that way at all."

The Eagles opened their 2016-17 season last week against White Mountains, and the regular season slate continues this week with games against Newfound and Belmont.

Who's out: Where to start.

Leading the charge from last year's senior class was point guard Cassidy Bartlett, a First Team All-State selection and four-year starter at the position. Bartlett was a constant in the Eagle lineup since bursting onto the scene as a freshman, and she'll be sorely missed guiding the GHS offense.

"You don't replace somebody like a Cassidy Bartlett. You don't replace her," Forge explained. "She was a kid that comes along only



JEFF LAJOIE

Senior Stevie Orton will be the centerpiece of the Gilford offense this winter, as the versatile Orton is the lone returning starter back from last year's undefeated state championship team.

once in a great while. She just had an awful lot of skills. These kids coming up, they'll certainly aspire to be as good as Cassidy but it's going to take a long time to develop those skills. Cassidy played the point basically from her freshman year on. Most of these kids are coming

in as juniors with zero experience at the varsity level and there's a learning curve there. It looks pretty steep now but they'll adapt."

Frontcourt starters Jordan Dean and Maddie Harris also graduated, taking with them big scoring averages and rebounding skills. Add in



JEFF LAJOIE

Senior Kaitlyn Van Bennekum will draw the start for the Eagles at power forward this winter, and she'll be counted on to bring a veteran presence to the lineup.

key rotation players like Mariah Nelson and Julia Harris, along with classmates Shannon Mercer, Jess Ladd and Emily Theberge, and there are sizable holes that need to be plugged this winter.

"You're painting a whole different picture; it's a blank canvas," said Forge of this year's challenge. "It's nice as a coach... these kids are very competitive as far as wanting to play and they know every position is up for grabs. Because of that, they work hard and know if they

take a play off, someone might get a jump on their spot. This year's team, they know the program, they know the expectations."

But a huge loss in the backcourt, in addition to Bartlett, comes in the form of junior shooting guard Brooke Beaudet. One of the team's top offensive weapons the past two years, as well as the top outside threat, Beaudet will miss the entire season while rehabbing an ACL tear suffered last spring. She also missed

SEE HOOPS, PAGE B3

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Dean impresses in freshman season at St. Michael's College

BY JEFF LAJOIE

jlajoie@salmonpress.com

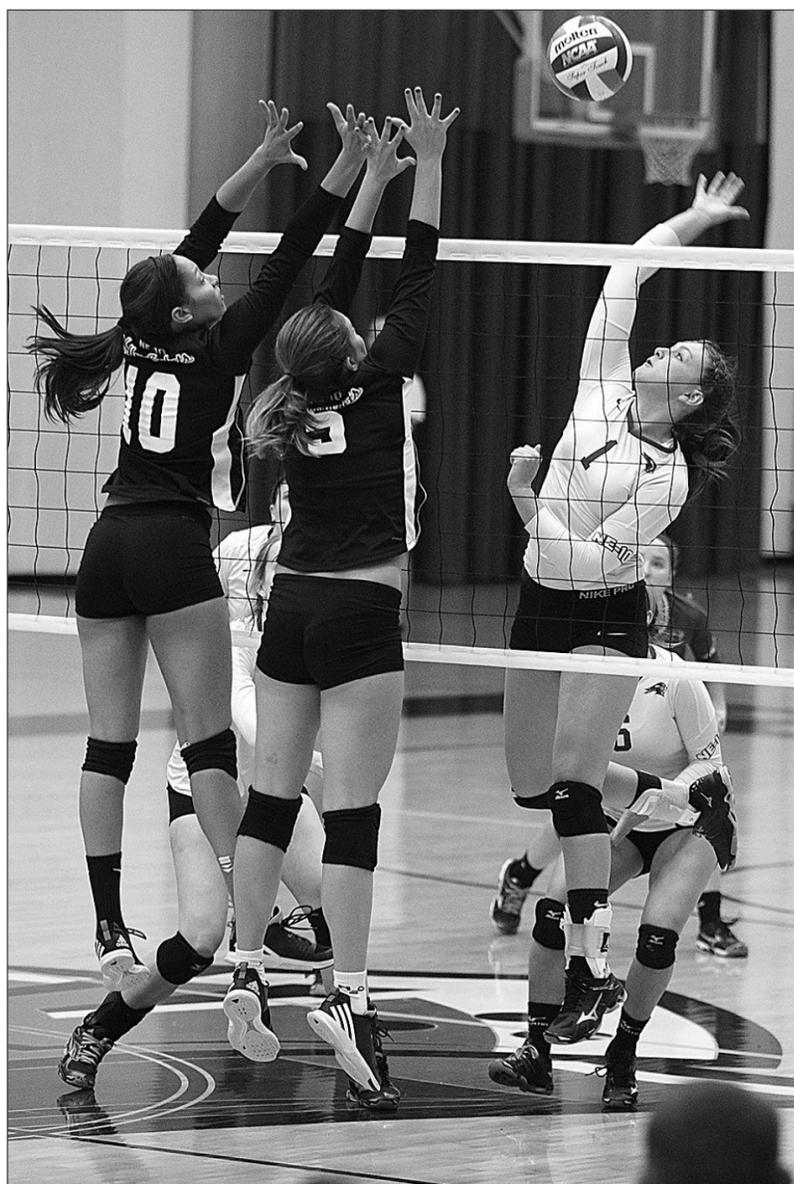
COLCHESTER, Vt. – Rehabbing an injury during the spring and summer, Jordan Dean wasn't quite sure what her fall season would hold. The Gilford native and former Gilford High School three-sport standout was hopeful she'd be ready for the volleyball season at St. Michael's College, but with limited mobility and action leading up to the fall months, she didn't know how quickly she'd acclimate herself to the collegiate game.

As it turned out, almost immediately.

The freshman outside hitter made a decisive impact for the Purple Knights this fall, finishing third on the team in kills while appearing in 18 matches. With the injury behind her, Dean missed only the season opener against Stonehill before stepping in as a key contributor.

"When I was cleared to play again right before I left for school, I was nervous because I wasn't able to prepare for the season during the summer," admitted Dean. "However, coming to a new gym and a different atmosphere made finally returning to the game such an incredible feeling. I was beyond excited. It felt great to be back on the court doing what I love."

While St. Mike's opened the season 2-1 with wins over Dominican (N.Y.) and Felician (N.J.) in the Stonehill



COURTESY/ST. MICHAEL'S ATHLETICS

Gilford native and St. Michael's College freshman outside hitter Jordan Dean had a breakout rookie season for the Purple Knights, where she was third on the team with 112 kills.

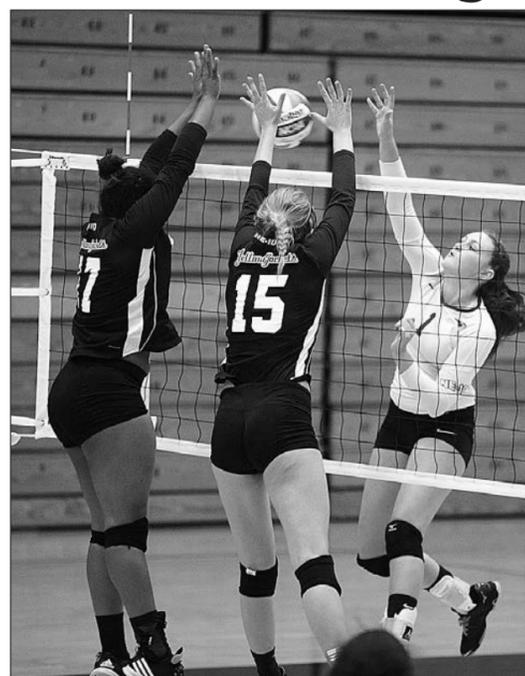
Skyhawks Invitational, the rest of the 2016 campaign didn't quite go according to plan for the team. The Knights dropped 15 of their next 16 matches to close out the year, posting a 3-16 final record (1-13 in the

Northeast-10 Conference). Dean's total of 112 kills in 18 matches (59 sets) was third on the roster, and she added 77 digs, seven blocks and three aces in her rookie season.

Dean explained, "However, I feel their game only made mine stronger. I came to a team full of energetic and motivated girls as well as two coaches who were equally, if not more, ready than we were."

Dean reached double digit kills in four matches this season, with a season-high 16 kills coming in a 3-1 loss to Pace on Nov. 5. She added 12 kills against Saint Rose (Nov. 12), and 10 each against Assumption (Oct. 15) and Bentley (Sept. 25).

"Physically, I can say it was a big transition from being one of the tallest girls on the court (in high school) to competing against girls six inches taller than me who can put the ball inside the ten foot line,"



COURTESY/ST. MICHAEL'S ATHLETICS

After rehabbing an injury in the offseason, Gilford's Jordan Dean was able to make an immediate impact for St. Michael's College, appearing in 18 of the team's 19 matches this fall.

Dean explained, "However, I feel their game only made mine stronger. I came to a team full of energetic and motivated girls as well as two coaches who were equally, if not more, ready than we were."

Dean reached double digit kills in four matches this season, with a season-high 16 kills coming in a 3-1 loss to Pace on Nov. 5. She added 12 kills against Saint Rose (Nov. 12), and 10 each against Assumption (Oct. 15) and Bentley (Sept. 25).

"In my first season, I was fortunate enough to play as an outside hitter the whole season, and I'm grateful to have been able to step on the court immediately because I understand that

doesn't always happen," she offered. "Overall, my first season was definitely a success, as I got to make a group of friends who I'll always be close with, and play the sport I love."

The Knights played three teams from New Hampshire on the season. Dean & Co. beat SNHU on Oct. 11, 3-1, while dropping matches against St. Anselm (3-1, Oct. 18) and Franklin Pierce (3-0, Nov. 1). She posted a season-high 18 digs in the loss to St. A's.

Dean, who led the GHS volleyball team to an undefeated state championship her senior season, wore No. 1 for St. Michael's, where she's majoring in biochemistry.

Medeiros caps outstanding career at Norwich

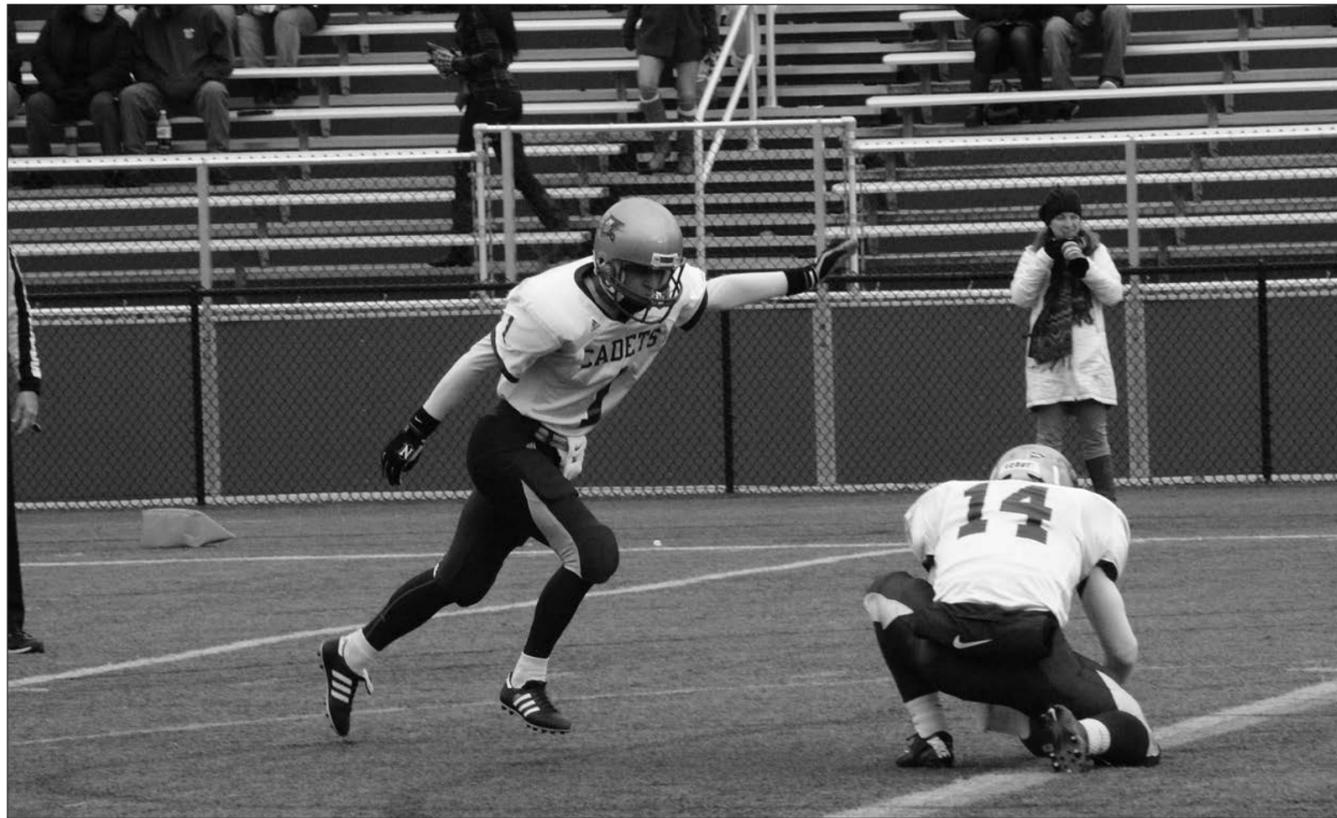
BY JEFF LAJOIE

jlajoie@salmonpress.com

NORTHFIELD, Vt. – For the second year in a row, Gilford native Wesley Medeiros took home the top kicking honor in the Eastern Collegiate Football Conference.

Medeiros was named the ECFC Special Teams Player of the Year for the second straight season, closing out his outstanding career at Norwich University in fine fashion this fall. The senior kicker set the program's all-time record with 37 field goals made, trailing the active nationwide leader in field goals made by just one. He scored 42 points off of seven field goals and 21 point-after attempts, beginning the season with 19 straight conversions dating back to last season.

Medeiros also averaged nearly 55 yards per kickoff (54.9 yds/avg) while finishing his ca-



COURTESY/NORWICH ATHLETICS

Gilford native Wesley Medeiros was named the ECFC Special Teams Player of the Year after closing his four-year starting career with Norwich University with the second-most points in program history.

reer with 9,768 punting yards. Across 42 career games, Medeiros was 37-for-55 (67 percent) on field goals while making a program-record 100 point-after attempts, a 96 percent clip (.962). His 211 career points scored ranks him second all-time in program history.

Medeiros, who attended Charlotte Christian

School (N.C.) prior to Norwich, had his best game of the 2016 season in a 22-13 win over Becker College on Oct. 8. In that tilt, he converted three of his four field goal attempts with a long of 36 yards, and also added an extra point for 10 points total. He drilled both of his field goal attempts in a 27-6 win over

Gallaudet on Oct. 22.

Medeiros hit a career-high 12 field goals during his junior season and converted 11 more his sophomore season. The four-year starter was an accurate option for a Cadet team that went 5-5 overall this season with wins over Becker, Gallaudet, Anna Maria, Maritime (N.Y.)

and Castleton. Norwich opened the year 0-4 before ripping off wins in five of its last six games to get back to the .500 mark. Medeiros and the senior class was honored before winning the Maple Sap Bucket Rivalry Game over Castleton in the finale, 35-27, on Nov. 12.



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Amy Annis Tournament slated for Jan. 7

GILFORD – The annual Amy Annis Volleyball Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 7, starting at 11 a.m. and will take place in both the Gilford Middle School and High School gymnasiums.

This fundraising event is a fun recreational co-ed volleyball tournament for high school age students through adults. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society as well as the Amy Annis Scholarship

Fund. This scholarship is given annually to a graduating senior.

The entry fee is \$100. There is a 16-team limit and will be on a first registered basis. Sixteen teams will be playing on four courts and each

team will be guaranteed three matches in pool play and one match in the tournament round. To register a team or find out more information, please contact Joan Forge at forge@world-path.net.

Zakorchemny records career-high in goals for UNE field hockey

BY JEFF LAJOIE
jlajoie@salmonpress.com

BIDDEFORD, Maine – For the third year in a row, Gilford's Becky Zakorchemny and her University of New England field hockey team stood atop the Commonwealth Coast Conference this fall.

The junior forward helped the Nor'Easters to a third consecutive CCC title last month, earning an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament in the process. It was the program's fourth career conference title, with the three in a row coinciding with Zakorchemny's tenure at UNE.

The Nor'Easters, which finished No. 19 in the Division III rankings, finished 20-4 overall on the season. In the CCC semifinals, they pounded Salve Regina, 7-1, and added a dominating 7-0 shutout of Western New England in the finals to capture the crown.

In the opening round of the NCAA tournament, UNE blasted the University of Maine-Farmington, 5-0, in a home game on the blue turf in Biddeford. Zakorchemny scored the team's second goal of the game, tipping in a shot in the 18th minute to extend the squad's lead to 2-0. The team saw its season come to a close with a 2-0 loss to No. 3 Tufts in the NCAA second round. Tufts ultimately reached the National Championship game, falling to

champion Messiah, 1-0, in the finals.

On the season, Zakorchemny, who wears No. 4 for UNE, scored seven goals and added an assist for 15 total points. The junior posted 39 shots, 27 of them on goal, and scored two goals in a win over Nichols College on Oct. 28. She also scored in tilts with Maine-Farmington, Roger Williams (two separate games), Gordon, and Husson.

The seven goals were a career-high, topping her total of six goals from her sophomore campaign. She now has 14 career goals and two assists in 55 games as a Nor'Easter.

The UNE roster has a decidedly New Hampshire flare, with team sharpshooters Nicole Matarozzo (Kingswood) and Vonde Saunders



COURTESY/UNE ATHLETICS

Gilford's Becky Zakorchemny scored a career-high seven goals this season for the University of New England field hockey team, which won its third consecutive Commonwealth Coast Conference title with a 20-4 overall record.

(Kennett) leading the team in scoring with a combined 101 points. Zakorchemny, a 2014 graduate of Gilford High School, studies medical biology at UNE.

Belknap County Sportsmen's Charitable Fund embarks on capital campaign

LACONIA — The Belknap County Sportsmen's Charitable Fund has announced that it is embarking on a capital campaign with the goal of raising \$250,000 by the end of 2017.

Ralph Scribner, who serves as President of the Belknap County Sportsmen's Charitable Fund and the Belknap County Sportsmen's Association, stated, "the Association has been in existence for over 85 years and has support-

ed the community providing opportunities for people, young and old, to experience the outdoors as well as educate them in environmental land conservation programs and the strict adherence to the fish and game laws and regulations of the state of New Hampshire. The association's board of directors learned that many of the association's activities would qualify for 501(c)(3) tax exempt status if they were performed by

another organization and a group of directors formed the Belknap County Sportsmen's Charitable Fund with the intention of providing a vehicle for donors to make tax exempt contributions to support these important activities."

As recently reported, the fund and the association have entered into an agreement with the Laconia Airport Au-

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- Wednesday, December 14**
HOCKEY
Belmont-Gilford at Berlin, 6 p.m.
- Friday, December 16**
BOYS BASKETBALL
Gilford at Stevens, 7 p.m.

thority and the city of Laconia under which the fund will purchase the land that the association has leased for the last 30 years. Monies raised through the fund's capital campaign will be used for the purchase of the land and to perform needed maintenance and improvements to the property. Once the sale is completed and improvements are made, the fund will lease the property to the association and the pay-

ments received from the association will serve as an endowment that is used to support the fund's ongoing outdoor related charitable activities.

For more information, contact Herbie Ainsworth at 267-6185 or hainsworth1@myfairpoint.net.

To donate, make checks payable to Belknap County Sportsmen's Charitable Fund, P.O. Box 214, Laconia, NH 03246.

HOOPS

(Continued from Page B1)

the fall volleyball season.

Who's in: There are 11 new players on the varsity roster this winter, including a sizable junior class that has had considerable success at the JV level the past two years. Junior guards Taryn Breton, Lauren Dean, Olivia Harris, Emily Bell, Emily Smith and Sarah Fillion, along with junior forward Olivia Trindade make up a large class hungry for its crack at contributing at the varsity level.

"It's a challenge but we have kids coming in who are looking forward to getting out there," said Forge. "They're realistic in that they know they have to establish a whole different look as a team. They can't ride on the coattails of last year. They're going to have to find their own identity as a team. As a coach, I have no clue how they'll look but they've gotten better every day. The work ethic is very, very good and they're doing everything we've asked them to do."

Sophomores Lexi Boisvert (forward), Hannah Perkins (center), Karly Sanborn (forward) and Laurel Normandin (forward) are all in the mix as well, looking to add an infusion of youth to the roster.

Who to watch: There isn't much in the way of returning contributors, though the list begins with senior forward

Stevie Orton – the lone starter back from last year's title team. The versatile Orton, who hasn't lost a regular season game since her freshman year, can do just about everything on the floor, and despite suffering an injury during volleyball, she's back close to 100 percent. The senior could see time at center and forward, and even in the backcourt if necessary.

"The offense is going to be geared around (Orton)," Forge explained. "She's our only returning rotation player with a lot of varsity experience and she can play anywhere. She's talented enough that she could even play the point if we needed her to do that."

The only other returning varsity player is fellow senior Kaitlyn Van Bennekum, who will get the nod at the power forward spot this winter. Van Bennekum and Orton give the Eagles good size in the paint, with the former undoubtedly seeing an increased role.

"She'll be a starter and see lots of minutes this year," said Forge of Van Bennekum. "She works hard. She's one of those players who you can depend upon. She does lots of good things on the court for you and has very good fundamentals."

Projection: Sustaining the success of the past two years is a tall order for the inexperi-

enced Eagles, though there is a lot to like about this year's team. With a star player in Orton set to carry things, there are several options for Gilford to turn to in filling in the rest of the lineup and rotation. Still, don't expect the same high-flying style of play as last year's team provided.

"It isn't like you're trying to fill in and keep the same things going that you had last year," began Forge. "It's a completely new team. Last year we were blessed with lots of speed and an awful lot of talent. Offensively we could just go out and win games because we could outscore teams. This year it's gonna be tough early on because we're trying to figure out who is going to pick up the offensive slack. That's an awful lot of points to try and make up."

Who will play where and for how long is a question that will likely take into January to figure out, though Forge expects the group to continue and improve over the course of the marathon season.

"It's going to take us six or seven games to really develop a flow and figure out roles on the team," he said. "It's kind of up for grabs for who is playing what position, but that'll sort itself out once we're playing games and seeing how it all unfolds."

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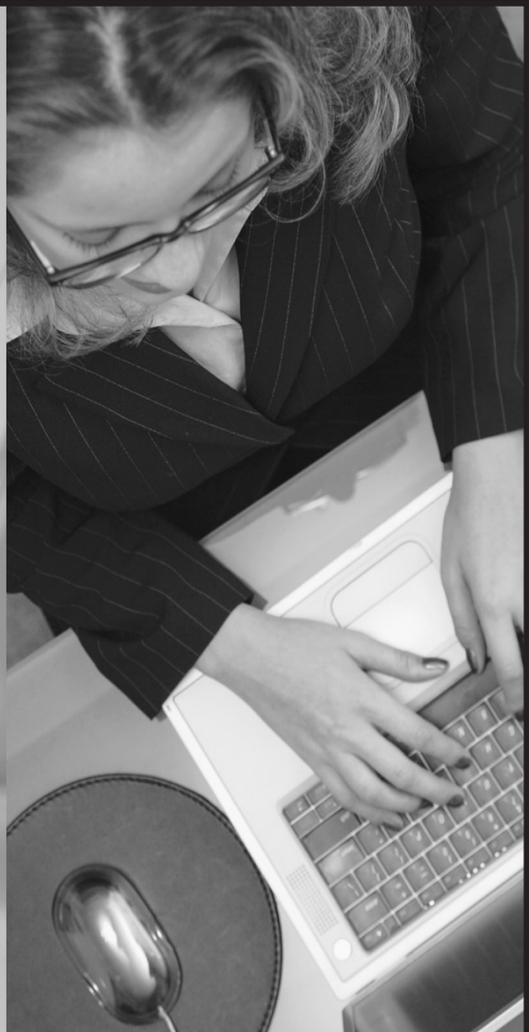
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Laconia Office
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(603) 528-0088

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Alexandria: Beautiful secluded home with 2 ponds. This 3-bedroom home has a relaxing living room with beautiful views of and around the property. Enjoy an updated kitchen, a formal dining room & gorgeous wood floors. Situated on 2.3 acres and includes an enormous 6-bay garage.
\$196,500 MLS# 4493824



Weirs Beach/Laconia: Beautifully updated 2-bedroom cottage located in the waterfront association of Holiday Bay condominiums on Lake Winnepesaukee. Great rental history and in-ground pool, day docking and private beach. Condo can be used year round but seasonal water.
\$99,900 MLS# 4407090



Madison: Great combination of location and privacy. 46 gently sloping acres with SW exposure and a 1.5 acre cleared site with potential for southerly views. Rural location, yet close to town beach on Silver Lake, Mt. Chocorua and the shopping, entertainment, attractions and services of the Mt. Washington Valley.
\$98,500 MLS#4418119



Meredith: Cute bungalow with a seasonal guest cottage, only 1/2 mile from Lake Waukegan. The adorable property needs some love but with an acre of land and a great location it has potential! Newer drilled well, town septic, wood stove hookup, screened porch and other charming features.
\$100,000 MLS#4609256



Moultonborough: This 3-bedroom craftsman home is just minutes to town beach on Lake Winnepesaukee. Hardwood floors, cathedral ceilings, 3 baths, 1.16 acres and 2,753 sqft. Second floor in-law apartment. Beautiful farmer's porch and abuts Shannon Brook. Home also has its own generator.
\$349,900 MLS# 4492167

AUCTION

Restaurant f/k/a William Tell
Alton, New Hampshire



Wednesday, December 14th at 11:00 a.m.

1602 MT. MAJOR HIGHWAY (Route 11) is the location of the former William Tell and more recently the Woodlands Tavern. This 2.2± acre property is improved by a 5,196± sq.ft. restaurant which includes an owner's apartment. There is a bar/lounge area and seating for approximately 80 guests. It is reported that upgrades were made to the building in 2013 and 2014. Zoning: Lakeshore Residential. Tax Map 63, Block 13. Assessed Value: \$339,200.

INSPECTION: Tuesday, December 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and one hour prior to the auction.

TERMS: Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) dollar deposit in cash, certified check, bank check or other form of payment acceptable to Mortgagee at time and place of sale. Balance due at closing within forty-five (45) days of sale. Subject to all terms of mortgagee's notice of sale. Merra & Kanakis, P.C. file#19945. 159 Main Street, Nashua, NH - (603) 886-5055.

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\$11,500,000 (4478406) Call 569-3128



OVER 4,000SF custom built 4BR, 6BA Moultonborough home has dark hardwood flooring & natural stone & granite throughout. Master en suite offers custom built walk in closet, and large stone shower with private deck!
\$1,895,000 (448940) Call 253-9360



EXCELLENT private, contemporary home in Wolfeboro with spectacular 180° mountain & lake views, cathedral ceilings, grand stone fireplace, complete privacy, over 15 acres, minutes to downtown.
\$975,000 (4311561) Call 569-3128



STUNNING views of Lake Winnepesaukee in Laconia from this highly desirable 4 bedroom Meredith Bay home! This contemporary style home offers views from every room. Close to all Lakes Region activities.
\$799,900 (4603851) Call 253-9360

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Featured PROPERTIES



HOLDERNESS // New home with Classic appeal! Beautiful, large, freshly renovated 3 bedroom home located in the heart of the Squam watershed. Great Location - Squam Lake, White Oak Pond & the SLA all are neighbors.
\$249,900 (4490249) Call 253-9360



ALTON // Welcome home to a most unusual property. Spacious and bright, 3+ levels of open concept living, stone fireplace with cathedral ceiling. Outside waterfall and a fire pit for entertaining.
\$339,900 (4515442) Call 875-3128



ALTON // Nicely maintained Cape on 2.48 acres in a quiet neighborhood. New kitchen cabinets with granite counter tops, first floor large master bedroom. 2 full baths, detached garage.
\$269,000 (4508724) Call 875-3128



MEREDITH // Great opportunity for investment or owner occupied. Two family duplex downtown. 3,034 sqft, 2 Bedroom and 3 Bedroom units, private porches, laundry hook ups, ample off street parking & yard.
\$249,900 (4487552) Call 253-9360



NEW DURHAM // 1775 Antique Cape & 2-story barn on a 2.7-acre country lot. Authentic post & beam, with pine floors & brick fireplaces. View the yard and woods from the screen porch & sunny kitchen!
\$184,500 (4609609) Call 875-3128



MOULTONBOROUGH // Ideal location on corner of Whittier Highway and Redding Lane. Fantastic visibility, high traffic count, next to established convenience store. Zoned Commercial "A". Great opportunity for developers.
\$149,000 (4469380) Call 253-9360



ALTON // Totally renovated school house has been lovingly restored with new septic, roof, furnace and paint inside and out. Nice, bright home with rural setting.
\$136,900 (4510039) Call 875-3128

LAND and ACREAGE

GILMANTON // 7 Acre lot with a 3-acre cleared view and logging road access.
\$139,000 (4507717) Call 875-3128

MEREDITH // A beautiful building lot. 11.85 acres, house site cleared, private driveway off road, close to downtown, lakes, shopping, hiking and skiing.
\$109,900 (4507071) Call 253-9360

NEW DURHAM // Nice wooded 4.99 acre building lot. Not far from town. Close to Merrymeeting Lake and all Lakes Region amenities.
\$45,000 (4474770) Call 875-3128

WAKEFIELD // 3.5 acre wooded lot. Ideal location for the home of your dreams. Close to lake, beach, and village. 4 bedroom septic and survey available.
\$40,000 (4504128) Call 253-9360

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WOLFEBORO: NEW PRICE! A nature lover's dream on Willey Brook! There's a 3BR main house, 2BR guest house, four-car garage and deck on 35 wooded acres. Homes feature all high end finishes with smart home technology in the main house too!
CENTER STREET \$997,500



WOLFEBORO: Get exactly what you want! Quality new construction with 2 stories, full walk-out and 3 car attached garage. Currently configured with 4BR/5BA and 5,500 sq ft of living space, perfect southern exposure, 220' of w/d, dock and more!
SEWALL ROAD \$4,350,000



WOLFEBORO: It's all here! Views, great outdoor spaces, dock and boathouse with recreation area above too! Fabulous home features hardwood, granite, fireplaces and room to spread out. The one car attached garage plus oversized one car detached will hold all of the toys.
WYANOKE GATE LANE \$1,675,000



WOLFEBORO: First floor condo in historic Libby Lodge offers 2BR and charming touches of wood floors & fireplace. Enjoy the deck, one car, detached garage space with storage above and shared Mirror Lake waterfront with dock.
NORTH MAIN STREET \$300,000



WOLFEBORO: What an opportunity! A 3BR main house, 2 unit apt building, and two seasonal cottages. Offering frontage on Goodwin's Basin and Crescent Lake with a sandy beach, dock and easy access to town from the Bridge Falls walking path.
CENTER STREET \$500,000

LAND

TUFTONBORO
All your dreams can come true with 20 acres of land and over 590' of Basin lakefront. Just waiting for the perfect home!
Basin Drive.....\$349,000

MOULTONBOROUGH
Wonderful building lot with filtered, seasonal views. Gently sloping, mostly cleared and ready for your plans!
Spring Hill Road.....\$325,000

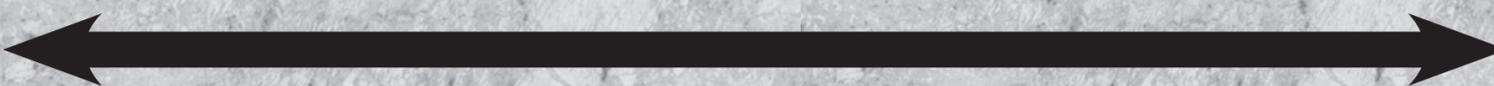
WOLFEBORO
2 lots, both gently sloping and wooded in a nice residential community near the beach and public boat launch on Winnepesaukee.
Finch Street63 acres \$55,900......58 acres \$57,000



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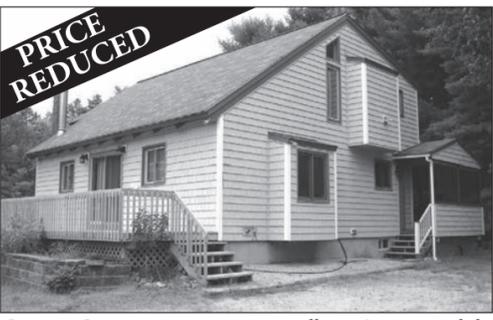
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Check out Wolfeboro Bay at: www.wolfecam.com

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Contemporary



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ANSWER: THOMAS NAST

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DESPITE BEING FROSTY COLD, SNOW CAN SERVE AS AN INSULATOR. SOME ANIMALS USE SNOW CAVES TO KEEP WARM.



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

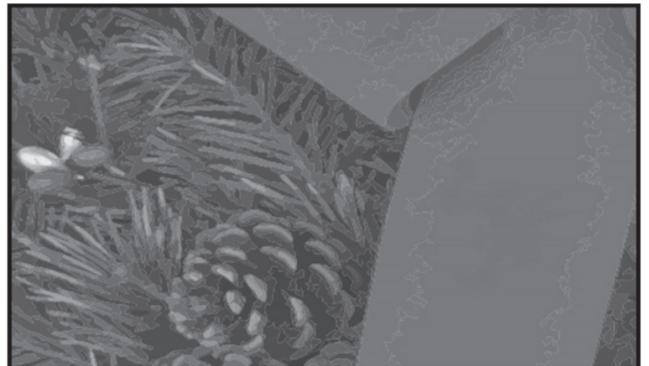
- **1844:** MARK TWAIN'S "HUCKLEBERRY FINN" IS PUBLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME.
- **1901:** THE FIRST NOBLE PRIZES ARE AWARDED IN STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN.
- **2004:** A UNITED STATES PASSENGER JET LANDS IN VIETNAM. IT IS THE FIRST ONE TO DO SO SINCE THE VIETNAM WAS ENDED.

New word

HUSTLE

move hurriedly

GET THE PICTURE?



CAN YOU GUESS WHAT THE BIGGER PICTURE IS?

ANSWER: CHRISTMAS WREATH

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Merry
- SPANISH:** Alegre
- ITALIAN:** Allegro
- FRENCH:** Joyeux
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