

Gilford Steamer

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024

Prospect boys and girls take fifth at Winnisquam meet

GILFORD, N.H. *Barnstead School Board moving toward special meeting for BES project*

By Erin Plummer
mnews@salmonpress.news

BARNSTEAD – The school district will move forward with the process of having a special school district meeting to expand Barnstead Elementary School after the district was notified it was now eligible for state Building Aid funds for the project.

The Barnstead School Board unanimously approved a motion to petition superior court to hold a special district meeting and approved a draft warrant article for the project during their meeting on April 17.

Last year, the school district proposed an article that would appropriate \$23,398,200 to create an addition to the building that will include a gym, additional classroom space, unified arts programs, and science labs. This article was contingent on the school receiving \$10,210,940 in State Building Aid to cover around 45 percent of the cost and bonding the remaining \$13,187,260. Another article was also passed that would renovate sections of the building for around \$1.8 million in case state aid wasn't received.

In 2023, the state notified the district that it would not be one of the five districts that were receiving intent to fund letters. Focus then went on the smaller project that would renovate the older wings of the school known as A wing, B wing, and the Old Lobby with improvements such as new flooring for a multipurpose room and HVAC improvements. Days before the district meeting, however, the school received notice from the state that it was in fact eligible for funding for the full expansion project.

SEE PROJECT, PAGE A11



Robert Prescott fires the shot put during action on Saturday at Winnisquam.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

TILTON — The Prospect Mountain track boys and girls both finished in fifth place at a meet hosted by Winnisquam on Saturday.

For the girls in the 100 meters, EmmaLynn Weller was 13th in 15.77 seconds, Lexi Johnson was 18th in 16.29 seconds and Hannah Young ran to 23rd in 16.71 seconds. Victoria Cowser was 10th in the 200 meters

in 32.52 seconds, Weller was 14th in 33.31 seconds and Young was 20th in 35.42 seconds.

Alexis Briggs ran to third in the 1,600 meters in 6:33.42, with Whitney Good in fifth place in a time of 6:47.26. Layla Baker ran to second in the 3,200 meters in 14:08.63.

In the 100-meter hurdles, Cowser was fourth in a time of 20.77 seconds while in the 4X400-meter relay, the team of Baker,



The Prospect Mountain 4X400-meter team competes during action on Saturday afternoon.

Alexis Briggs, Madelyn Briggs and Maddie Howlett was third in 5:34.44 and the 4X800-meter team of Good, Baker, Howlett and Alexis Briggs was second in 12:42.07.

Mary Hupper finished in third place in the javelin with a toss of 62 feet.

For the boys in the 100 meters, Parker Wood ran to fourth in 12.01 seconds, Robert Prescott was 31st in 13.75 seconds and Declan McCausland was 39th in 14.57 seconds.

In the 800 meters, Avery Giunta was fourth overall in 2:25.96, Caiden Wainwright was fifth in 2:26.63, Derek Hopkins finished in seventh place in 2:32.78 and Brock Lib-

by was ninth in 2:36.86. Trew Reed was eighth in the 3,200 meters in 14:08.21.

The Prospect 4X100-meter team of Ethan Capsalis, Brendan Francis, Wood and Sergio Duarte was fifth in 49.22 seconds while in the 4X400-meter relay, the team of Capsalis, Duarte, Michael Barnes and McCausland was third in 4:02.61. Prospect's 4X800-meter team of Capsalis, Derek Hopkins, Dawson Meehan and Caleb Bemis was second in 10:07.08.

Wood finished in fifth place in the shot put with a distance of 37 feet, 11.75 inches and Prescott was ninth at 35 feet, 4.75 inches. Ayden Carignan was 27th at 28

feet, 2.5 inches and McCausland was 32nd at 24 feet, 10 inches.

Wood placed ninth in the discus with a toss of 90 feet, five inches, Carignan was 29th at 65 feet, 11 inches and McCausland was 38th at 49 feet, four inches. Prescott finished in 18th place in the javelin at 73 feet, three inches, Carignan was 19th at 71 feet, 10 inches and McCausland was 28th at 57 feet, two inches.

Prospect is scheduled to be in action on Tuesday, April 30, at Gilford at 4 p.m.

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

Last day of Gilford school year is June 14

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD — The last day of school for Gilford students is June 14, and Gilford High School seniors will graduate on June 7.

The Gilford School Board made a decision on the last day of school during their April 1 meeting. Superintendent Kirk Beitler shared the news on the district's Web site the next day.

The school board's decision factored the number of hours students are required to have in school under state law.

Beitler wrote that the New Hampshire Department of Education requires students in grades 1-6 to have at least 945 instructional hours a year; 990 instructional hours is required for students in grades 7-11, and 450 is required for

kindergarten.

After review, the school board approved the calendar to have June 14 as the last day of school for all Gilford schools. Beitler wrote that as of June 14 Gilford students will have had 992 hours in grades K-6 and 1,036 instructional hours for grades 7-11.

The Department of Education allows for high school seniors to

graduate with 30 instructional hours or five days before underclassmen. As a result, the graduation date for Gilford High School has been set for June 7.

End of the year activities have been scheduled for GHS seniors through graduation.

The senior trip will run from May 3-5.

Senior prom is on Friday, May 17.

Senior Awards night will take place on Thursday, June 6, at 6 p.m. in the GHS auditorium.

Graduation will be on Friday, June 7 at 5 p.m. at Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion.

Other schools will share their end of year events on their calendars leading up to the last day of school.

New Durham residents show appreciation for library

BY CATHY ALLYN
Contributing Writer

NEW DURHAM — April started off with National Library Week — that's a time to celebrate libraries and all they do for their communities.

The official recognition may have stopped, but the appreciation the residents have for New Durham Public Library (NDPL) just goes on and on.

"Our whole family loves our town library," patron Chelsea Parent said. "The library offers so much more than books. I always wonder

how one could not enjoy their local library."

Library Director Caitlin Frost stated, "We are central to the community; there is something for everyone, all ages and all interests."

Decades ago, libraries moved beyond simply supplying books to read; not only do they provide materials and information for all human journeys and milestones, transform lives, and strengthen their towns, but they also offer an inclusive and supportive

SEE LIBRARY, PAGE A10



Youngsters enjoyed a special Saturday Storytime following a Stuffed Sleepover at the New Durham Public Library in November. The program is just one of many the library sponsors toward its goal of functioning as a de facto community center.

THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Barnstead	145 Bow Lake Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$405,000	Grace A. Merrill Estate and Shane R. Stewart	Jeff and Suzanne Murdough
Barnstead	1 Georgetown Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$465,000	Barbara J. Kendall	Jacqueline Tolisano
Barnstead	N. Barnstead Road	Residential Open Land	\$465,000	Barbara J. Kendall	Jacqueline Tolisano
Barnstead	N/A	N/A	\$561,333	RF Downing Homes LLC	Samuel Patti
Gilford	Route 11	N/A	\$370,333	Martha Sullivan	Molly Sullivan
Gilford	N/A (Lot 242-37)	N/A	\$475,000	Lakes Region Design Group	Carroll Fiscal Trust and Sean M. Carroll
Gilford	N/A (Lot 9-12)	N/A	\$145,000	Precision Construction Inc.	Bradley & Lisa Jacobs RET
Gilmanton	Currier Hill Road	N/A	\$185,000	John P. and Stephanie L. Polidoro	Patricia Estrada
Gilmanton	8 Joe Jones Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$438,000	William J. and Kathleen D. Miller	Elizabeth D. Ryan and Ian J. Lefave
New Durham	Valley Road	N/A	\$95,000	Eamon J. Cahall	Kevin J. Rouleau

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

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

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

Kingswood announces third quarter honor roll

WOLFEBORO — Kingswood Regional High School is pleased to announce the following students have met the criteria for honor roll for the third marking period ending April 8, 2024. All students who earn a numerical quarter grade of 93 to 100 in all classes will receive Highest Honors recognition. All students who earn a numerical quarter grade of 84 to 92 or higher in all classes will receive Honors recognition. Congratulations to our honor roll students!

Highest Honors
 Grade 12: Dominic Al-
 berto, Kayla Armstrong,
 Caitlyn Carroll, Dani-
 ka Chominski, Brady
 Clarke, William Crane,
 Aiden Cummer, Andrea
 Daggett, Riley Davis,
 Kerri Dureau, Samuel
 Frazier, Christiana Gar-
 dner, Elliott Giessler,
 Alex Henderson, Jay-
 lynn Lizotte, Kallen
 Malone, Emily Matos,
 Joshua Nelson, Keegan
 Quinn, Vanessa Rogers,
 Noah Silva, Noah Sw-
 enson, Anaka Waldron,
 Carrigain Williams,

Landon Young.
 Grade 11: Jennifer
 Baldwin, Samantha Ben-
 nett, Spencer Clark, Ed-
 ward Evans, Katherine
 Haley, Evan Harrington,
 Savannah Hughes, Spen-
 cer Kelly, Samuel Ken-
 ington, Oliver Kolodner,
 Noah Leighton, Liam
 Moore, Emma Pinard,
 Kylie Rapoza, Madison
 Robbins, Sierra Rose,
 Landen Tedesco, Jiner
 Zhuang.

Grade 10: William
 Blake, Liam Brown,
 Savannah Dusseault,
 Nelson Edwards, Isa-
 belle Fournier, Michael
 House, Jordyn Martin-
 eau, Cooper McCourt,
 Dean Richards.

Grade 9: Taylor Al-
 lar, Adelyn Arsenault,
 Lexi Baker, Sienna
 Carr, Kayla Cegielski,
 Jerilyn Cornwell, Tay-
 lor Culverhouse, Kelsie
 Davis, Kilee Davis, Liza
 Demain, Jacob Dubuc,
 Caleb Duford-Stevens,
 Laura Fernandes, Tiana
 Fowler, Avery Gilpat-
 rick, Adelle Harrington,
 Tavin Herget, Anna
 Johnson, Adaline King,
 Caroline Kinzmaier, Ki-
 ernan Kolodner, Payton
 Leclair, Morgan Lewis,
 Cassidy Libby, Caden
 McAllister, Cohen Mc-
 Nevich, Evaline Morri-
 son, Megan Nicol, Maya
 Nolin, Giselle Nunez,
 Alexis Olkkola, Emma
 Ouellette, Peter Pren-
 tice, Ryan Santerre, Aca-
 scia Scott, Aiden Simon,
 Reid Swinerton.

HONORS

Grade 12: Grace Bush-
 man, Curtis Cloos, Jean-
 Claude Cote, Daniel
 Cumberland, Lukas Dar-
 gis, Emerson DeNitto,
 Aaron Desmond, Troy
 Dow, Isabella Duran,
 Lucy Edwards, Benja-
 min Ford, Austin Gibbs,
 Caleb Gibbs, Olivia Grif-
 fin, Mary Anne Haun,
 Damion Hodgdon, Ca-
 leb Houghtaling, Ethan
 Huffman, Joel Ingle,
 Darcie Jackson, Carley
 Johnson, Keegan Kil-
 kelly, Amelia Kilmister,
 David Lehmann, Ha-
 leigh Lindsay, Charlotte
 Ling, Spencer Manches-
 ter, Michael Michaud,
 Cheyanne Morin, Ethan
 Mosher, Sophia Moul-
 ton, Cole Murray, Kiera
 Nason, Megan Ouellette,
 Isabella Pickle, Kolby
 Place, Britynn Roark,
 Morgyn Stevens, Jocy-
 lynn Stys, Brooke Task-
 er, Flavia Tomanek, Ha-
 ven Varney, Katharine
 Viands, Neil Whitcomb,
 Marquis Williams.

Grade 9: Mathew
 Ames, Kyle Beaulieu,
 Sarah Beaulieu, Cody
 Bennett, Andrea Bro-
 phy, Brady Call, Lainey
 Clarke, Zackary Corbett,
 Elliott Crouse, Isabella
 Dickey, Vaeh Dow, Brady
 Downing, Sophia Dupell,
 Ella Eastman, Tucker
 Eaton, William Edwards,
 Matthew Fitzpatrick,
 Shelby Fontaine, Isaac
 Gagnon, Marley Grego-
 ry, Saige Griffin, Roxie
 Hale, Brody Hanson,
 Hayden Herbert, Victo-
 ria Hicks, Dylan Ivester,
 Tucker Ivone, Benjamin
 Jennings, Seamus Kelly,
 Aaron King, Avery Kun-
 zler, Abigail Lemay, Rose
 Lemieux, Ethan Mar-
 coullier, Jocelynn Mayo,
 Nicolas McPhee, Hayden
 Merrow, Aidan Nelson,
 Myles O'Keefe, Kaylee
 Pert, Rebekah Peterson,
 Zachary Pickle, Hannah
 Piper, Dean Porter, Dil-
 lon Quinn, Ava Randall,
 Cadance Reilly, Hayden
 Russell, Colton Sargent,
 Eva Scott, Rhian Scully,
 Jeremy Sellers, Zackary
 Sevigny, Kurtis Sheffer,
 Isabella Six, Katelynn
 Stys, Cameron Tuttle,
 Ava Valles, JayLynne
 Wallace, Peyton Walsh,
 Hayley White, Connor
 Woodbury.

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Alton Town Wide Yard Sale
 The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its Annual Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 1, rain or shine from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. If you would like to participate by having a Yard Sale at your house contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov before May 20 with your Yard Sale address location. When calling please include your name, phone number and complete physical address. Free Yard Sale maps will be available after May 28.

Community Clothing Swap

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is coordinating a free Community Clothing Swap where residents can drop off clothes in good condition to pass along to others. Donated clothes can be dropped off at the Parks and Recreation office- 328 Main St., Monday- Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. before May 20. The Community Clothing Swap will take place at the Pearson Road Community Center on Saturday, June 1 from 8 a.m.-noon. The donated clothes will be displayed and available for people to pick up and reuse. This event is free and is an effort to reduce, reuse and recycle.

USTA Spring Tennis Lessons- Youth

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Tennis Lessons for Grades 1-8 on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Liberty Tree Park Tennis Courts from May 14-May 30. Grades are divided by times: 3:15-4:15 p.m.- Grades 6-8; 4:15-5:15 p.m. - Grades 1&2; 5:15-6:15 p.m.- Grades 3-5. Registration is \$60 for Alton residents and includes a brand new tennis racquet, and instruction with a USTA New England certified instructor. Non-resident fee is \$70. Basic tennis skills will be taught: forehand, backhand, serve, overhead and volley. Register by April 19, class size is limited to seven. Registration forms are available at altonparksandrecreation.com or stop by the Parks and Recreation Kiosk at 328 Main Street to sign up. Contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 for more information.

USTA Spring Tennis Lessons- Adults

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Travel Club- Trip to Iceland in 2025

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a trip to Iceland with highlights of many natural wonders including opportunities to search for the aurora borealis- Northern Lights, thundering waterfalls, plunging fjords, glacial lagoons filled with floating icebergs, volcanic sandy beaches, natural rock formations, and much more. Trip dates are March 23-29, 2025, includes airfare, 11 meals, hotels, and guided transportation through Iceland, including walking, bus and boat tours. This is a great way to travel solo or in a group. An informational session will be held Aug. 27 at 2:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library. RSVP to 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Guided Meditation with Instructor Karen Khari- tonov

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a Guided Meditation Class on Thursdays: April 25 and May 9 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. The program is free, donations are greatly appreciated to support local charities. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Pilates Classes in Alton Bay- Tuesdays and Thurs- days

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Pilates classes at the Alton Bay Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. with certified instructor Donna Lee. All level adults are welcome for a full body, low impact class that will improve muscle tone, flexibility, balance and strength. Pre-registration is \$10 per class or \$15 drop in. Bring a mat and water. For more information/register contact Donna at breathepilates1@yahoo.com or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Slow Flow Yoga with Pamela Mott, 200 YTT Cer- tified

Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 a.m. at the Alton Bay Community Center or choose the on-
line option and practice from home. All levels are welcome and encouraged. Class focus is Sun Saluta-
tion A and B; Hatha Yoga and the 8 Limbs. Pre-reg-
istration is preferred, text 603-393-0595. Cash and
Venmo accepted. Pre-registration and virtual atten-
dance is \$10; Drop in \$15. Classes are ongoing. For
more information, contact Alton Parks and Recre-
ation at 603-875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Weight Training Classes- Mondays and Wednes- days

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Weight Training Classes on Mondays
and Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Gilman
Library for adults of all ages and abilities. Learn
new exercises and build strong muscles and bones,
increase flexibility and develop better balance. Bring
light hand weights, a mat and water. For more in-
formation, contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-
0109. Try a class for free. \$20 per month/session or
\$5 drop in. Class will not be held May 6 & 8.

Camp Constitution Speakers Bureau brings author & filmmaker Vince Ellison to Alton

ALTON — Camp Constitution Speakers Bureau is pleased to announce that it will be hosting author and documentary producer Vince Ellison in New Hampshire on Saturday, May 4. His first event will be held at Charlies Barn Community Center, 29 S. Village Rd., Loudon, at

11 a.m., and the second will be held at the Alton Senior Center, 7 Pierson Rd., Alton, at 7 p.m. Free admission. Donations accepted. RSVPs are recommended.

Vince Everett Ellison was born on a cotton plantation in Haywood County, Tenn. His parents at that time were

sharecroppers. Through hard work and a belief in Jesus Christ, his parents pulled him and his seven siblings out of poverty. His family started the Ellison Family Gospel singing group, where Vince sang and played multiple instruments as a child and young adult. Vince worked for five years as

a Correctional Officer at the Medium/Maximum Kirkland Correctional Institution in Columbia, S.C. Afterward, he worked in the nonprofit arena.

In 2000, Ellison received the Republican Party nomination for the South Carolina 6th Congressional District.

In 2019, he wrote "The Iron Triangle: Inside the Liberal Democrat Plan to Use Race to Divide Christians and America in their Quest for Power and How We Can Defeat Them," which became an Amazon #1 bestseller. He has appeared numerous times on "Hannity," "The Laura Ingraham Show,"

Newsmax, OAN, "The Joe Pags Show," "The Brian Kilmeade Show," "Tucker Carlson," and many other radio and television programs. He is the producer of the documentary "Will You Go to Hell For Me." His latest book is "Crime INC."

Laurel Gingrich presents original research at 2024 HECBC Conference

READING, Pa. — Laurel Gingrich of Gilford is one of 65 Albright College students who presented scholarly work at the 25th annual Berks County Undergraduate Research and Creativity

(HECBC) Conference, April 6.

A graduate of Gilford High School, Gingrich is majoring in Communications: Journalism at Albright and presented a social science poster

titled, "Just a Girl: A Fashion Blog Focused on Engaging Generation Z While Breaking Millennial Stereotypes" at the conference, mentored by Elizabeth Quinn, Assistant Professor of Fashion Merchandising.

Making up the majority of presenters at this year's conference, Albright College undergraduates regularly take on high-level research inside and outside of

classrooms. In addition to many traditional research opportunities, the Albright Creative Research Experience (ACRE), offers Albright students the unique option to conduct research or creative activity in on-one partnership with a faculty mentor.

The 25th anniversary conference was hosted by Albright College this spring, and is sponsored by the Higher Education Council of Berks County: Albright College, Alvernia University, Kutztown University, Penn State Berks and Reading Area Community College.

Named a top national college by U.S. News & World Report, Albright College, Reading, Pa., (founded 1856) is home to engaging faculty who believe that the best academic moments are when students feel inspired and ready to take action. The college's distinctive co-major program enables students to cross or combine different areas of study, without taking longer to graduate. Study alongside undergraduate students, adult learners and graduate students, and ignite your SPARK at Albright College.

Search underway for Interim Principal at Barnstead Elementary School

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmopress.news

BARNSTEAD — The principal of Barnstead Elementary School is resigning effective the end of the school year and the district will hire an interim principal for the next school year.

During their April 17 meeting, the Barnstead School Board approved a resignation letter from Kara Robdau. The board also approved a recom-

mendation by Superintendent Tim Broadrick to hire an interim principal for next school year while a search committee will convene at a later time.

Robdau has served as Barnstead Elementary School's principal for two years, Broadrick said Robdau announced she had been hired to another principal position in Tamworth, and would leave at the end of the

school year.

"These things happen in this business, and she's doing that with our support and congratulations," Broadrick said.

He said this does leave the principal's position open for next year and asked for the board's permission to hire an interim principal for next year. Considering how late it is in the year, Broadrick said this would be a better option

than convening a search process right now.

If the board agreed the position for an interim principal could be advertised as soon as possible. They could aim for May 2 as a closing date for applications, though they could start reviewing and scheduling interviews before the closing date. They could possibly narrow the list to one recommended candidate around May 10. The school board would then choose the interim principal.

The interim principal would be a one-year appointment. During the school year Broadrick said an internal committee could be set up to begin the search process for the next principal.

The board voted unanimously in favor of accepting Robdau's resignation letter. They also agreed by consensus to give Broadrick permission to move forward in the hiring process for an interim principal.

Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Collaborative announces \$7,500 matching campaign

NEW DURHAM — The Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Collaborative (ZBFCOL) is excited to unveil a transformative fundraising initiative. This initiative is set to significantly advance our community and propel the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Project into its next crucial phase.

An anonymous donor has graciously pledged to match donations made to the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Collaborative up to \$7,500 through June 1.

All gifts received between now and June 1, whether \$10 or \$1,000, will be matched dollar-for-dollar, effectively doubling the impact of each donation. Please also consider asking your employer if they offer a matching gift program and if they would match your donation. Donors now have a unique and impactful opportunity to leverage their generosity and directly support the ZBFCOL mission. Meeting this challenge will support funding for contracting the services of a professional architect.

The Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Project is a historic preservation initiative that began with a colonial cape-style house built in 1769. The house is a national landmark and the birthplace of the Free Will Baptist Church. With 2,980 square

feet of meeting space on a three-acre parcel of land, the facility will accommodate 130 individuals and host historical and cultural programs, educational, social, or private and civic events and activities.

Making a donation is simple. Beginning May 1, donations will be accepted by visiting the ZBFCOL website at www.zbfcnh.org, contacting Catherine Orłowicz, President of ZBFCOL, by calling 603-859-4643 for more details or mailing a check to ZBFCOL PO Box 45, New Durham NH, 03855. Every contribution, no matter its size, makes a profound difference.

Barnstead Parks and Rec announces Town-Wide Clean-Up Day & Lunch

BARNSTEAD — We are excited to join forces with our friends at Center Barnstead Christian Church and Congregational Church of North Barnstead for a town-wide clean-up day & lunch Sunday, April 28. Meet us at Barnstead Town Hall parking lot Sunday morning at 9 a.m. for supplies, a brief orientation and to find out what roadsides we will be cleaning.

This is a great time to chip in and help make our town beautiful while also doing something good for the wildlife and the planet. An appreciation lunch will be served after the clean up for those that come out for the morning and help.

Additional information can be found on our Facebook page under Events.



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We Will NOT be Undersold

Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024

There is no “One size fits all”

In a world filled with variety and complexity, it's essential to recognize and appreciate the wide spectrum of human capabilities and nuances. Yet, there are those among us who, due to various factors such as limited education or closed-mindedness, struggle to grasp the richness and depth of human nature. These individuals often cling to traditional beliefs and narrow perspectives, unable or unwilling to acknowledge the scientific discoveries and advancements that shed light on the intricacies of human behavior.

It's time to address the misconception that intelligence is solely determined by academic achievement or adherence to conventional wisdom. In reality, true intelligence encompasses the ability to understand and appreciate the complexity of the human experience, including its many facets and dimensions. This requires an open mind and a willingness to explore new ideas, even if they challenge long-held beliefs or societal norms.

It's important to emphasize that intelligence is not a fixed trait but rather a dynamic and multifaceted quality that can be cultivated and expanded over time. Those with so-called “simple minds” or limited education should not be dismissed or marginalized. Instead, they should be encouraged to broaden their horizons.

Scientific research has revealed countless fascinating insights into human behavior, from the intricacies of our cognitive processes to the complexities of our emotions and social interactions. These discoveries have expanded our understanding of what it means to be human and have challenged many preconceived notions about human nature.

For example, studies in psychology have shown that human behavior is influenced by a multitude of factors, including genetics, environment, and personal experiences. This means that there is no one-size-fits-all explanation for why people think, feel, or act the way they do. Each individual is unique, shaped by a complex interplay of biological, psychological, and social forces.

Furthermore, advances in neuroscience have revealed the remarkable plasticity of the human brain, demonstrating its capacity for growth and change throughout life. This highlights the potential for individuals to learn, adapt, and evolve, regardless of their starting point or background.

In light of these scientific findings, it's clear that a narrow-minded and simplistic view of human nature is not only outdated but also detrimental to our collective progress and understanding. We must look to cultivate a culture of intellectual curiosity.

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

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TO SUBMIT A LETTER

TO THE EDITOR:

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E-MAIL: brendan@salmonpress.news

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COURTESY

First United Methodist church welcomes new members

Hope Ministries of the First United Methodist Church of Gifford and Laconia welcomed six new members into the congregation on April 14. Joining in the celebration were families along with the new members: Beatrice Snow, Janice Spry, John & Tonia Vanderbeck, Michael & Molly Eastman, Molly Notkin, Phil and Yan Li Carter. Each person joining the congregation gave the reasons for joining as they introduced themselves and their children. Laying on of hands by members of the congregation was done as a blessing was given by Rev. Nami Yu. For more information about the church, please contact them by calling (603) 393-4696 or emailing office.nhhope@gmail.com.

Let's talk about That Thing: Community

BY PAMELA MOTT
Alton

Finding community amongst neighbors can feel illusive in a society with disruptions in all levels of system. These disruptions create an isolation of fear and violence. So many different stressful demands without a whole lot of time to wind down.

Engaging in activities outside the home can offer a whole host of stressors. What do I wear? How do I look? Money. Money. Money. Conflict. Ahhhhh! No thanks.

Living a healthy lifestyle begins with taking a peek around the area. Every season has its unique adventure. Consider the exciting challenges of walking the trails while encountering the local horse fly. Memories made. Perhaps enjoying the many lakes and ponds. Seasons are changing.

Despite a hostile climate of big systems, the sea-

sonal changes allow for opportunities of growth and transition. Our hopeful songbird and spring flowers. The first step to a healthy lifestyle may be a coffee drive through.

The narratives of community depend on where you are. From where I am, the locals are pretty amazing. Despite the many challenges facing us all, community brings us all through it. I have a fortunate connection. What I feel is available and it has no cost just the presence in time. Community is everywhere.

Locals are everywhere. Local Park and Recreation programing allows for opportunities to create programs of bonding and fun. Getting together with someone you may not have met before. Coming into community is a factor of wellbeing. In our sense of community there is safety. Coming into spring in New England requires a hearty sense of humor. Sometimes we meet our neighbors and blizzards other times under a solar eclipse.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Totaling

see the sight, and really wanted to get a head start on fly fishing, invited me to go along.

I figured that it would be a bit early for fly fishing, but if he was going to drive, I'd tag along. I had supper and slept at his house last night. Right now, I'm sitting along this minor road, up from a bridge over the river where Earnest is practicing tossing a fly while avoiding getting entangled in the overgrowth. It certainly isn't as easy as it looks on those fishing shows.

People seem to want to congregate. I'm sitting here in my son's car while he's off fishing, typing into my little computer thingy. This car passes by, turns around, and pulls up right behind me. Not getting a good glimpse of the car, my first thought is that it's a cop checking that I'm alright, or maybe even telling me to not park here. But no, it's a person, who quickly took the dog out to do its business and returned to the car. Didn't stop by to say hi.

I didn't hop out to welcome them either. I was busily typing, and seeing as I'm still not tying on shoes, I wore crocs. Really terrible

shoes, but somewhat functional at times. I wasn't terribly inclined to step into the snow bank next to the car on my side, unless maybe having to pee, but I do have a mayonnaise jar for that eventuality.

It's 11:30, four hours till total eclipse. They can talk to the dog and I can write letters till then. Lunch should happen sometime in there. The moon creeping across the sun will probably be observable by two thirty. This is an event similar to watching paint dry. You need some kind of diversion.

Earnest came back a little before noon. He had only lost two flies and didn't catch any fish. We took our supplies down to the landing by the river where we set up the chairs and proceeded fixing lunch, sardines on hardtack. Wonderful backpack fare.

The sun was quite warm all afternoon. I removed my jacket and then my vest. It felt in the sixties. We talked and spent a good few hours together as we awaited the event to start. Right on schedule, the moon was noted encroaching upon the sun's space. Slowly it crept. We watched with our

glasses and pin hole projector. Soon it became noticeably cooler. The sun still looked bright, but the temp was indeed dropping.

By the time the last bit of direct sunlight was extinguished, we could see our breath. My vest and coat had returned, along with my hat. It was pretty cool. The scene was spectacular. The ring around the sun was mostly white, but on the lower left, around seven o'clock, there were orange fire like projections emanating. Solar flares? Stars and planets showed themselves. The world was dark as night at three thirty in the afternoon. Totally awesome.

After a four and a half hour drive, whereupon we saw two accidents, we arrived back at Earnest's house for some food before hopping in bed. Before opening my eyes the next morning, staring into the backs of my eyelids, I saw a negative impression of the sun's corona there. Yes, I did see it.

E.Twaste
Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

NOTES FROM WINDY HOLLOW

Right hand recovery

BY VIVIAN LEE DION

Contributing Writer

Every day, we go through numerous motions in life using our

predominant hand. In my case, it's my right hand. I never gave this much thought because my hand was always there waving hello, shaking hands with friends, preparing meals for my

family, gently stroking my husband's cheek, praying, and typing on the computer keyboard. One soothing activity is petting my little cat. Although I have cut my fingers several times

while slicing potatoes or cutting up butternut squash, luckily, I never have broken a finger or had a major injury. Until six weeks ago! I was regrettably put "out of

SEE NOTES PAGE A5

GOING OUT OF TOWN

Getting the best view of Cape Porpoise



Looking at the Cape Porpoise Pier in Kennebunkport, Maine, over the nearby rocks. It was a much clearer day than the first time I came here.



PHOTOS BY ERIN PLUMMER

The Cape Porpoise Pier is home to a lot of commercial fishing vessels with plenty of equipment to do the job.

BY ERIN PLUMMER
ernews@salmonpress.news

The day after Christmas, I came across a scene in Kennebunkport, Maine, that looked like something themed closer to Halloween than the holly jolly season. After a lovely walk through the village, I drove to Cape Porpoise Pier to find it bathed in thick fog and enshrouded in darkness like a scene out of a horror movie. Four months later I returned to that pier and discovered all that fog was the wrapping on a pretty holiday present. Underneath all that darkness and gloom was a series of islands, a historic lighthouse, some great rock hopping spots, and an area bustling with activity.

As I've written in a previous column, I explored Kennebunkport for the first time the day after Christmas of 2023. It was a warm but cloudy day and the perfect time for getting some energy out after being cooped up all day on Christmas. Kennebunkport was a fun place to walk around with a lot of different shops and some cool architecture. Right as I was ready to move on and do some other exploring, fog rolled in off the water and took over all the seaside views.

I decided to see if I could find any more places along the water and found the Cape Porpoise Pier on my map app. I drove down right as darkness was creeping in and the fog was getting thicker. I arrived at a

wide parking lot in front of the pier and beside the Cape Pier Chowder House. There were no views of the water, lights across the bay, shadows of rocks, or any sign of the lighthouse. It was all thick fog enveloping the pier with a few flood lights on poles providing some lights.

It was kind of a fun, spooky place to hang around for a little while. I walked a little on the pier and it was obvious how this place looked like a set from a horror movie or something out of Stephen King's novels. At the time, I was playing the thriller game "Alan Wake," where a famous author finds himself fighting shadow monsters in the woods the Pacific Northwest as he tries to find his lost wife. The atmosphere was almost right out of the game; it was uncanny. I could just imagine the dramatic violin music when the monsters came out and even noted the coolers on the side of the pier that would store flashlight batteries and ammunition in the game. Even the light on the pole looked like one of the game's safe havens.

I left with some great pictures and a cool experience, but I knew I saw only a small side to this area. I saw some photos and webcams off this pier at other times and the view was a lot nicer and brighter. I knew I needed to come back during clearer weather and experience more of



On a clear day, you can see out to the islands around Cape Porpoise, including getting a look at the historical Goat Island Lighthouse.

this place.

Just this past week, I found myself taking another drive to Maine and I decided on a whim to come by Kennebunkport again. This time it was on a clear April day when sunset was a few hours later than it was my first time visiting. I walked through the village again more to stretch my legs out and stroll among the seaside houses again. Right when I was leaving, I programmed Cape Porpoise into my map app and drove down.

I returned to that wide parking lot and saw a much different scene than last time. I felt like I unwrapped the present I found the last time I came here, and my gift

was wide views of the Maine coast and even a series of islands that were swallowed up last time.

Cape Porpoise Harbor is home to a series of islands. A sign by the water shows photos along with the names of all the islands surrounding the cape. In the distance was the Goat Island Lighthouse, which has stood since 1833 and is currently owned and operated by the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust.

Landmarks around the bay tell some of the history of this area. One stone with a plaque put up by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1921 tells the story of the Battle of Cape Porpoise. On Aug. 6, 1782, a British ship fired on a small group of people that had gathered on Goat Island. The Americans fired back and drove away the British, killing 17 of their soldiers. The group did lose one soldier; Lt. James Burnham.

Another sign pays tribute to Zachary Wells and Prescott Wright, two students who lost their life in those waters in the winter of 2012.

The Cape Porpoise Pier is open to docking by members, but it is

mostly used by commercial fishing vessels. Commercial fishing equipment is all around this area such as fueling stations and lobster traps piled high on one side of the pier. You can clearly smell where fish had been piled up into barrels. Pickup trucks would occasionally pull up right by the pier to load and unload. I haven't really seen too places where commercial fishing takes place so it was an interesting experience.

Right by the pier is the Cape Pier Chowder House, a seasonal seafood restaurant. I looked through the high windows and saw chairs piled up, but also some signs inside that they were getting things ready to open for the season. Sure enough, I looked it up later and found out they opened on April 19, just two days after my visit. I think I might have to stop by sometime and sample the chowder, maybe when it's a bit warmer.

Across from Cape Pier Chowder House is

a small park with a few benches. With the bushes down to twigs this time of year, I was able to locate a little path that led to the rocks. I found this to be a great place for rock hopping and getting some closer views of the water. I am also pretty sure the bushes were beach roses judging by the shape and the thorns. Coming here later this season will probably give me another present of all the pretty leaves and flowers.

I left the pier again, this time happy to see it under prettier conditions. I also know if I come back another time, I will find a lot more natural presents going into the summer season.

Notes

FROM PAGE A4

commission" due do an infection from a scratch made by my little cat Pumpkin.

About 90 percent of people are right handed. According to the internet, "Handedness is observed in the womb. By early in the second trimester, babies show a clear preference for sucking one thumb over the other. So handedness is probably hardwired before birth. Still, most development experts say parents likely won't get a good sense of their child's dominant hand until age two or three. Many kids continue to switch hands for different tasks during early childhood."

Getting back to the cat scratch I must say that I wasn't diligent in tending to the wound. I just cleaned up the small amount of blood with a tissue and put on a bandage. I know now that other precautions should have been made to avoid an infection. I

should have washed the scratch with soap and warm water and then applied an antibiotic ointment. I learned the hard way with three visits to the doctor's office, one ultrasound, and finally to the hospital where I consulted with a wound specialist. The final doctor recommended stabilizing my hand, so he wrapped a metal brace with a soft cushion on my finger. This prevented movement of the hand. He also said to let my family cook meals and that I should remain inactive.

I believe that two prescriptions of antibiotics were paramount in my recovery. Thank the lord for modern medicine because I believe if that wasn't available, I would suffered more from a little scratch on my right hand. You see, there is a disease known as Cat Scratch Fever (don't know if I had it but something close to it). The Cleveland Clinic reports, "That it is an uncommon bacterial infection you can get from

a cat scratch or bite. Fleas infect cats with the bacteria that cause cat scratch disease. Symptoms include rash or bumps on your skin, swollen lymph nodes and fever. Cat scratch disease usually goes away on its own in a few weeks or months."

With only six more tablets, and no fever or fatigue I feel that I am nearly recovered from my six week ordeal. I will stay diligent in making sure my hand is fully functional. I'm sure the medical bills will be significant but I must say thank you to the doctors, nurses and professional medical personnel who were caring and concerned. My cat, Pumpkin, is a good little cat.

"A kitten's purr is a melody of comfort, woven into the fabric of home."

Vivian Lee Dion of New Durham is a writer and speaker.

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Gilford Public Library

Classes & Special Events

April 25 - May 2

Thursday, April 25
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Homeschool Game Club, noon-1:30 p.m.
Mrs. Hayes Art Day: Puppets Play, 3-4 p.m.
Make your own perfect puppet and join in on playing in the puppet house!

French, 4-5 p.m.
Black Bear Happenings in NH, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
You're welcome to join us as a NH Fish and Wildlife Steward shares information about black bears in the state. Learn about the natural history of these intriguing mammals, their habitat needs and ways to avoid potentially costly conflicts.

Friday, April 26
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Chair Yoga, 10-11 a.m.
Embark on a fresh, fun, accommodating wellness journey with

Chair Yoga led by the Lani Voivod, Certified Yoga Teacher, Reiki Master, and Professional Muse. \$5 per class or five classes for \$20. Sign-ups are not necessary.

Hand & Foot, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Advanced Conversational German, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Saturday, April 27
Beginner Line Dancing, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Monday, April 29
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 9-10 a.m.
Happy Healthy Tips and Tricks, 10:30-11 a.m.
Gain some beneficial tips for parents on eating a balanced meal that improves your energy and mood.

Mahjong, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Getting the Garden Ready for Spring, 4-5 p.m.

In this presentation the attendees will learn some best practices for getting their vegetable and flower gardens ready for Spring, ensuring that both plants and planting areas are properly prepared for a bountiful harvest. In addition to covering the vegetable and perennial gardens, attendees will learn best practices on hoe to bring the lawn out of hibernation, how to care for trees and shrubs, dealing with aggressive weeds, the benefits of composting, managing pests and diseases, and tending to tools and supplies. Presented by Ron Trexler.

Palm of the Hand Memoir Writing Workshop, 5-6 p.m.

Author, Michael Czarnecki, will introduce the palm of the hand writing methods.

Tuesday, April 30
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

Dungeons and Dragons Club, 3-4:30 p.m.
Intermediate Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.
Home Buyer Beware, 5-6 p.m.

Learn details that are important to selling in this market. Learn what causes problems in transactions, what happens behind the scenes, and what brings the highest sale price?

Open Reading Stories, 5-6 p.m.

Enjoy listening to the poetry of published author, Michael Czarnecki. You may share your beautiful work as well!

Wednesday, May 1
Senior Stretch Yogaah!, 9-10 a.m.

Card Games, 10 a.m.-noon
Check out an Expert, 10 a.m.-noon
Little Math Whiz, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Let's Talk About Grief, 1-2:30 p.m.

Grief is a taboo topic in our culture, but it's important to talk about

it. Let's break the silence. Let's open the door to a conversation about grief. It's time to break the stigma. Brenda Wentworth, MA, is an ordained Interfaith Minister and Spiritual Care and Bereavement Provider at Lakes Region Visiting Nurse and Hospice. She is also a member of the Interfaith Ministers of New England. Brenda is passionate about helping people find peace at the end of life and providing compassionate care to the bereaved. While spiritual care is often associated with religion, it is really about what brings us comfort, meaning, and strength in life. Brenda helps people of all beliefs and backgrounds connect with their spirituality and find the resources they need to navigate life's challenges which includes the deeply personal journey through grief.

Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.
Chess Group, 1-3 p.m.
T(w)een After-School Club, 3-4 p.m.

Thursday, May 2
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Homeschool Game Club, noon-1:30 p.m.
Pick a Craft, 2-3 p.m.

Did you miss one of our crafts but wish you could still make one? Come and choose one of the crafts from the past year. We will provide all of the materials that you will need. Sign up is required.

T(w)een Crafter School Club, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Hayden's got an assortment of crafts you may have missed out on! Come to the Meeting Room and craft along!

Wonder Wings: Nature Detectives, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Become a nature detective! Explore outdoors to learn more about birds!

French Club, 4-5 p.m.
Thirteen Days in October: The Untold Story

of the Cuban Missile, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

At the height of the Cold War, two things saved humanity: the strategic wisdom of John F. Kennedy and the U2 aerial spy program. Based on declassified intelligence and interviews with the pilots, Michael Tougias and co-author Casey Sherman's book *Above & Beyond: John F. Kennedy and America's Most Dangerous Cold War Spy Mission* grounds this

conversation about presidential decision-making, nuclear containment, intelligence-gathering, and public information. It's a timely topic given today's concerns about the United States, North Korea and Iran. Tougias gives special emphasis to the U-2 pilots who flew unarmed over Cuba to secure photographic proof that the Soviets were installing nuclear missiles on the Island.

May events at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

BARNSTEAD — Good to Know Info: We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month (May 9) until 3 p.m. Also, we are already starting to plan for our summer reading program, and boy, do we have some fun events coming your way!

Children's Storytime: Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.: Here at the library! There will be singing and storytelling and crafting galore! You can even dance if you want to. Join us here at the library for a fun way to make new friends. There's lots to see and do here, for kids and adults, so stop by and discover what we're all about!

Start your week off with Yoga Monday! Gentle Hatha-Flow runs from 10:15-11:40 a.m., Senior/Beginner/Chair Yoga is 12:00-1:00, and Intermediate Hatha-Flow lasts from 5:30-6:50 p.m. Classes are by donation (suggested \$8). All are welcome and encouraged to attend, regardless of ability to donate.

Our Meet and Read Book Club (ages 18 and up) takes place on the first Wednesday of the month (May 1, from 6-7:30 p.m.), in the library's Meeting Room. This month's book will be "A Passage to India" by E.M. Forster. Next month's book will be "The Feather Thief" by Kirk W. Johnson. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

On Saturday, May 4, from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., we will be hosting a Spring Swap Meet. Got stuff? Need stuff? Let's swap! For each item you drop off (April 30 to May 3), you get tickets to use as "currency" to "buy" some cool stuff. No items to swap? You can still join in. Buy tickets on swap day and dive into the treasure hunt. Bonus: You'll be helping fund more awesome library programs with your purchases. May the fourth be with you!

This month Family Crafternoon will be featuring a Take-and-Make craft. Stop by the library any time from Tuesday, May 14 to Saturday, May 18, during our open hours, and grab an art kit. Paint your favorite book cover or redesign the cover of your favorite book. Then share your finished art with us by emailing a photo to our staff email, sending it via messaging to our FB page, or bringing it to the library for everyone to see. It's time to use your creative magic to make your favorite read come alive!

NEW! The OFML Sewcial Club will meet the third (May 15) and fourth (May 22) Wednesday of the month from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Guests can bring any sewing or quilting project they are working on (along with their sewing machines and supplies) to the library to socialize and share tips while they sew.

The Gala Event of the Season is returning! After last year's huge success, the PMHS National Art Honor Society is back with another fabulous art exhibit. Student artwork will be on display in the library's meeting room from Wednesday evening (May 15) to Friday evening (May 17). Then, on Friday (May 17), from 6-7:30 p.m., OFML will be hosting an Evening of Art. Enjoy a variety of art displays, meet the artists in person, and partake of delicious refreshments. Books, stickers, and postcard-sized prints of the showcased artwork will be available for a donation, and the event proceeds will support the National Art Honor Society. So come prepared to be awed by our local students' immense talents while you fill up on tasty hors d'oeuvres. Feel free to dress up!

NEW! Toddler Music and Movement Storytime on Tuesday, May 21, at 10:30 a.m. Join us for an interactive storytime filled with stories, songs, and loads of sensory play specifically designed for toddlers.

It's a Wednesday Watercolor Workshop! On May 22, from 4-5:30 p.m., dive into the colorful world of watercolor painting with our beginner-friendly workshop. Whether you're a budding artist or looking to explore a new hobby, this workshop is perfect for anyone interested in learning the fundamental techniques of watercolor painting. All supplies will be provided. For ages 10 and up. Pre-registration is required.

Trivia Night is happening on Friday, May 31, from 5-6:30 p.m., but fair warning: You may strain your brain while trying to answer our trivia questions! Join us in the meeting room with a team or go solo, and be ready to use your wits to battle it out and win a prize. Light refreshments provided (to help with any brain strain).

Writers Forum will be going on a hiatus until September. Check back with us then for details on dates and times!

For events that require registration, please contact us at 269-3900 or ofmlstaff@gmail.com to reserve your spot!

Gilford Public Library Top Ten Requests

1. "The Women" by Kristin Hannah
2. "The #1 Lawyer" by James Patterson
3. "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" By James McBride
4. "Toxic Prey" by John Sandford
5. "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon
6. "Extinction" by Douglas J. Preston
7. "Demon Copperhead" by Barbara Kingsolver
8. "She's Not Sorry" by Mary Kubica
9. "The Edge" by David Baldacci
10. "The Anxious Generation" by Jonathan Haidt

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Friends of the Gilman Library holding "Warm Up to Books" raffle

ALTON — The Friends of the Gilman Library will be holding a "Warm up to Books" Spring Raffle, to be drawn in late May. The "Warm up to Books" Basket contains Assorted books, a book light, bookmarks, a notebook, pens and pencils, a shawl, a cup and saucer, tea, and many more items in a beautiful basket.

The raffle tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. Think of this as an easy way to make a small donation to benefit the Gilman Library, and if you win a lovely prize, that is a bonus!

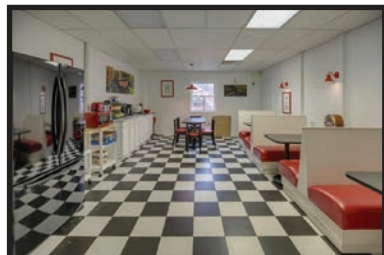
Look for more Friends Raffles throughout the Spring and Summer. The Friends will also be participating in the Town Wide Yard Sale on June 1. Visit the friends page on the Gilman Library Web site at <https://gilmanlibrary.org/friends-1>.

Please consider joining the Friends of the Gilman Library. They meet in the Friends Corner of the library on the first Thursday of the month at 3:15 p.m. The non-profit organization is a group of volunteers who work together to support library programs and projects and supplement materials and supplies not covered by the library budget. They maintain the Friends Corner in the library where gently used books and DVDs and new and hand-made crafts and seasonal décor are sold to raise funds for their endeavors.

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Zechariah Boodey Farmstead “Italian Benefit Dinner” returns



Tatiana and Gino Michelizza, owners of Top of the Ridge Farm B&B, created the recipe for the lasagna that will be served at this weekend's Italian benefit dinner for the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead.

NEW DURHAM — The Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Committee and the board members of the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Collaborative (ZBFCOL) invite the community to an authentic classic

“Italian Lasagna Dinner” on Saturday, April 27, beginning at 4 p.m. at the Community Room located behind the New Durham Fire Station on Main Street, as a fundraiser.

We are so pleased to announce that the menu will offer sumptuous classic Italian meat lasagna prepared from an old family recipe by Tatiana and Gino Michelizza, owners of Top of the Ridge Farm B&B. A Caesar salad, bread, beverage, and dessert are included in the price of a ticket. Committee member Sherry Cullimore will prepare meatless lasagna for those who prefer this version. Dinner will be served until 6:00 p.m. or while supplies

last. To-go boxes will be available. Suggested donations will be posted at the door.

We are incredibly grateful to announce that an anonymous donor has pledged to match donations made to the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Collaborative up to \$7,500 through June 1. This means that every donation, whether it's \$10 or \$1,000, will be matched dollar-for-dollar, effectively doubling the impact of your generosity.

Donors, you have a unique and impactful opportunity to leverage your generosity and directly support our mission. Your contribution will play a significant role in funding the ser-

vices of a professional architect, a crucial step in our project's progress.

The Committee and Collaborative members look forward to sharing the progress achieved for this project.

If you cannot join us for the dinner, donating is simple. Beginning May 1, donations will be accepted by visiting the ZBFCOL Web site at www.zbfcnh.org, contacting Catherine Orłowicz, President of ZBFCOL, by calling 603-859-4643 for more details or mailing a check to ZBFCOL PO Box 45, New Durham NH, 03855. Every contribution, no matter its size, makes a profound difference.

LRTC Precision Manufacturing gold medalists advance to national competition

BY ELISSA PAQUETTE
Contributing Writer

WOLFEBORO — Precision Manufacturing students enrolled in programs offered at the Lakes Region Technology Center (LRTC) in

the Kingswood Regional High School complex spent weeks preparing for the state Skills USA competitions. Four students stood out this year, winning gold medals, thus earning the right

to move on to compete on the national level in Atlanta, Georgia, June 24–29.

Spencer Clark, Spencer Manchester, and Corey Chapman competed in CNC (Comput-

er Numerical Control) machining competitions emerging with their gold medals, respectively in 3 Axis Milling, 2 Axis Lathe, and CNC Technician. Wyatt Brown won gold in the Welding Sculptor competition.

Each of the students worked under the tute-

lage of Bob Roakes from TurboCAM to learn current industry standards in conjunction with the NH-Career Technical Education Standards. “We are grateful for the work being done in collaboration with our industry partners,” comments LRTC Precision

Machining teacher Scott Meserve, adding, “With these students winning Gold Medals, they will be going up against the best of the best. At our Lakes Region Technology Center, we couldn't be more proud.”

Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance meets Wednesday

WOLFEBORO — The Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance, the 501(c)(3) organization that builds and maintains mountain bike and multi-use trails, encourages everyone that uses the trails to attend its monthly public meetings at the Wolfeboro Library on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Come be a part of this exciting community organization.

For more information, visit WolfeboroSingletrack.org.

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Gilford lacrosse girls sweep opening two weeks

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — It was a successful first week of the season for the Gilford girls' lacrosse team, as the Golden Eagles outscored a pair of opponents by a 37-5 difference in picking up a pair of victories.

The week started with a home game against Concord Christian, with Gilford getting the 18-0 win. Camryn Coutts had four goals and Addy Normandin and Abby Watson each had three goals and Calia Blackey and Lianna Keenan each added two goals.

Olivia Keenan had two goals, five assists and 10 draw controls and Celia Plourde and Aubrey Vliet each scored a goal and Lilly Winward earned the shutout in goal for the Golden Eagles.

To close the week, the Golden Eagles traveled to Litchfield and picked up a 19-5 win over Campbell.

Normandin led the offense with five goals, Olivia Keenan had three goals and 10 draw controls, Leah Davignon picked up three goals and Coutts added two goals. Addi Har-

ris, Avery Hennig, Lianna Keenan, Watson, Plourde and Vliet each had a goal.

The next week brought three more games and three more wins for the Golden Eagles girls.

The week started against Trinity and finished with an 18-4 win. Watson had four goals and three draw controls, Blackey had four goals, Normandin had three goals, Olivia Keenan had three goals, three assists and 10 draw controls, Davignon had two goals and two draw controls, Avery Hennig had a

goal and Lianna Keenan had a goal and four assists.

On Wednesday, the Golden Eagles took on Hopkinton and coach Jennifer Watson was thrilled with the 13-5 win.

“Going into this game we knew that it was going to be challenging and that we had to bring our ‘A’ game,” Watson said. “We walked away with a 13-5 win and this can be attributed to many factors.

“Our defense played great, effectively shutting down Hopkinton’s key players,” she con-

tinued. “Our mids made adjustments on the circle that resulted in numerous draw controls. They came together as a team and we are very proud of what they accomplished.”

In that game Olivia Keenan had seven goals, two assists and 10 draw controls, Watson had three goals and one draw control, Normandin and Hennig each had a goal and Davignon had a goal and an assist.

Gilford closed out the week with a 19-2 win over Bishop Brady, with Blackey leading the offense with five goals.

Coutts had three goals, Olivia Keenan had three goals and three assists, Watson had two goals and two assists, Harris and Hennig each had a goal and an assist and Josie Arrighi, Vliet and Chloe Romprey each had a goal.

The Golden Eagles were off for the school break and return to action on Monday, April 29, at St. Thomas and will be hosting Coe-Brown on Wednesday, May 1, both at 4 p.m.

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

Shute, Sawyer earn wins at Winnisquam

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

TILTON — The Gilford track team competed in a meet hosted by Winnisquam on Saturday, April 20, with the girls in ninth place and the boys finishing in 11th place.

For the girls in the 800

meters, Maddie Burlock ran to second place in a time of 2:43.77, while in the 100 meters, Emily Aguiar finished in fifth place in a time of 14.67 seconds.

Abby Shute won the pole vault with a height of six feet, six inches and cleared four feet, four

inches in the high jump to finish in third place.

For the Gilford boys in the 800 meters, Gunnar Marvel was first in 2:13.04 and Carter Forest finished in second place in a time of 2:17.86.

Jaimen Sawyer won the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 50.19 sec-

onds while in the long jump, Brody Testa finished in seventh place with a distance of 15 feet, one inch. Wren Reinholz was 32nd in the 100 meters in 13.81 seconds, while in the 1,600 meters, Forest was eighth in 4:55.4 and Marvel was ninth in 5:04.24. Ian Lof-

blad was 20th in the shot put with a toss of 29 feet, 11.75 inches while Sawyer was eighth in the discus at 91 feet, two inches, Marvel was 13th at 85 feet, two inches and Lofblad was 20th at 77 feet.

Testa was 10th in the 200 meters in 27.17 seconds and Reinholz was

22nd in 28.49 seconds.

Gilford is scheduled to compete on Saturday, April 27, at Coe-Brown and will be hosting a meet on Tuesday, April 30, at 4 p.m.

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

Gilford baseball notches two wins

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — The Gilford baseball team won two games last week, hitting the road to Hopkinton and Berlin.

On Wednesday, April 17, the Golden Eagles knocked off Hopkinton by a 7-2 score, breaking open a scoreless game after three innings, scoring two times in the top of the fourth and twice more in the top of the fifth. After the Hawks scored twice in the bottom of the sixth, Gilford added three more in the top of the seventh to seal the win.

Gavin Clark got the win on the hill for Gilford, going all seven innings, giving up just three hits and striking out four.

Clark also led the way

at the plate with two hits and also scored a run and drove in a run. Andrew McDonough had a hit and scored a run, Caleb Giovanditto had a hit and scored two runs, Brendan Folan had a hit, Ryan Folan had a hit and drove in a run.

The next day, the Golden Eagles traveled north to Berlin and returned with a 19-0 win over the Mountaineers.

Drew Smith got the start on the hill for Gilford, going three innings and giving up two hits while striking out five. Ryan Folan went the final two innings, giving up one hit and striking out three.

At the plate, Ryan Folan had a triple and two singles, scoring three times and driving in one run, Will Wallace had

a triple and a double, drove in four runs and scored two runs, Smith had three hits, drove in two runs and scored three times, Giovanditto had two hits, drove in two runs and scored twice, McDonough had two hits, scored four

times and drove in one, Brendan Folan had a hit, drove in a run and scored a run, Brett Skoog had a double and drove in two runs, Deacon Adams had a hit, scored a run and drove in a run, Tanner Keenan had a hit and scored a run, Clark had a

hit, drove in a run and scored a run and Mikey Giovanditto had a hit and scored a run.

Gilford is scheduled to return to action on Monday, April 29, at Somersworth and Wednesday, May 1, at home against White Mountains.

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

Golden Eagle softball picks up a pair of victories

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — The Gilford softball team bounced back from its opening loss with a pair of wins in the second week of the season, beating Conant by a 9-1 score and Berlin by a 22-3 score.

The Golden Eagles played host to Conant on Monday, April 15, and picked up their first win of the season. Gilford got three runs in the first inning and two more in the second inning before adding one in the fourth, two in the fifth and one in the sixth for the 9-1 final score.

Belle Dow was dominant in the pitcher’s circle, striking out 14 over seven innings and giving up just one run and no hits.

Offensively, Kendal Heyman and Rainey Hinds each drilled homers in the win for Gilford. Heyman added a base hit, drove in two runs and scored once

while Hinds had the solo homer, scoring a run and driving in a run. Dow added two hits and drove in one run, Millie Caldon had a hit, drove in a run and scored three times, Maddie McKenna had a hit and scored a run and Sadie Lydick had a hit, scored a run and drove in a run.

Dow had another great day on Thursday, April 18, as the Golden Eagles traveled north to Berlin and picked up the 22-3 win.

In the circle, down went five innings, giving up just five hits and striking out 13 and at the plate she ripped two homers and a double, driving in six runs and scoring two. Caldon also blasted a homer and a double amongst her three hits, driving in five runs and scoring four runs. Lydick had a triple and a single, drove in two runs and scored two more, McKenna had three hits, drove in two runs and scoring four

runs, Hinds had a pair of hits, drove in a run and scored twice, Mia Macaione had three hits, scored two runs and drove in another run, Kate Taylor had a hit, drove in three runs and scored twice and Elise Bartley had a hit, scored twice and drove in two runs.

After taking vacation week off, the Gold-

en Eagles will be back at it on Monday, April 29, at Somersworth and Wednesday, May 1, at home against White Mountains, both with 4 p.m. scheduled starts.

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

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Saturday, April 27	Wednesday, May 1
GILFORD Track at Coe-Brown; 9 WINNISQUAM Track at Coe-Brown; 9	BELMONT Baseball at Inter-Lakes; 4 GILFORD Baseball vs. White Mountains; 4
Monday, April 29 BELMONT Baseball at Berlin; 4 Softball at Berlin; 4 GILFORD Baseball at Somersworth; 4 Boys' Lacrosse vs. Stevens; 4 Boys' Tennis vs. Moultonborough; 4 Girls' Lacrosse at St. Thomas; 4 Girls' Tennis at Plymouth; 4	Boys' Lacrosse at Coe-Brown; 4 Girls' Lacrosse vs. Coe-Brown; 4 Girls' Tennis at Kearsarge; 4 Softball vs. White Mountains; 4 WINNISQUAM Baseball vs. Mascoma; 4 Softball vs. Mascoma; 4
Tuesday, April 30 BELMONT Baseball vs. Gilford; 4 Softball vs. Gilford; 4 Track at Inter-Lakes; 4 GILFORD Baseball at Belmont; 4 Boys' Tennis at Sanborn; 4 Softball at Belmont; 4 Track Home Meet; 4	Thursday, May 2 BELMONT Baseball at Newfound; 4 Softball at Newfound; 4 GILFORD Baseball vs. Monadnock; 4 Boys' Lacrosse at Laconia; 4 Boys' Tennis at Littleton; 4 Girls' Lacrosse vs. Laconia; 4 Girls' Tennis vs. St. Thomas; 4 Softball vs. Monadnock; 4

All schedules are subject to change.

LEGAL NOTICE
CCVD Annual Meeting
4/27/2024 9:00am
CCVD Garage

Church Service SCHEDULE

ABUNDANT HARVEST FAMILY CHURCH
Sunday School for children up to age 12, service 10:30 a.m. Greater Wakefield Resource Center, 254 Main St., Union.
Pastors Daniel and Sherrie Williams, 473-8914
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BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON
Alton 9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Ben Raub, www.befreechurch.net.

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Bible Study 11:15am
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1803 NH Route 140, Gilmanston Ironworks, NH
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Prospect boys win one of three leading up to vacation

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

ALTON — The Prospect Mountain tennis boys won one of three matches in the week heading into school vacation.

The week started with a trip to Dover to take on St. Thomas, with the Timber Wolves dropping the 9-0 decision to the Saints.

Brett McKeown fell 8-0 at number one, Shaun McAneney lost 8-0 at number two, Antoine Grenier lost 8-2 at number three, Rylan Clifford lost by an 8-1 score at number four, Wyatt Varney fell 8-2 at number five and Kaleb Kennedy dropped an 8-2 decision at number six.

In doubles play, McKeown and Grenier lost 8-0

in the top spot, McAneney and Clifford dropped an 8-3 decision at number two and Varney and Wyatt Bubar lost 8-5 in the third spot.

The Timber Wolves hosted Inter-Lakes on Tuesday, April 16, and took a 7-2 win.

McKeown lost 8-2 at number one, Grenier got an 8-2 win in the second spot, Cameron Morrill

finished with an 8-0 win at number three, Clifford won 8-1 at number four and Varney got the 8-0 win in the fifth spot. Noah Gagnon got a default win in the sixth spot.

In doubles play, McKeown and Morrill fell by an 8-4 score in the top spot, Grenier and Clifford won 8-2 at number two and Varney and Gagnon got the default win at number three doubles.

The Timber Wolves finished out the week with a 6-0 loss to the defending champions from Kearsarge.

McKeown fell 8-0 at number one, Grenier dropped an 8-0 decision at number two and Morrill fell by the same score in the third spot. Clifford lost 8-1 at number four,

Varney lost 8-1 in the fifth spot and Gagnon lost 8-0 at number six.

The Timber Wolves return to action on Monday, April 29, for a rematch against Kearsarge and will be hosting Monadnock on Wednesday, May 1.

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

Golden Eagle tennis boys get their first win

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — The Gilford tennis boys continued to take strides, picking up the first win of the season last week.

The week began with a home match with Pro-

file on Monday, April 15, dropping an 8-1 decision to the Patriots. Alden Townsend won his number one singles match by an 8-2 score to pick up the win for the Golden Eagles and Townsend and Dalton Houle played

a strong game at number one doubles, eventually losing in the tiebreaker, 9-8 (7-4).

On Wednesday, April 17, the Golden Eagles hosted Inter-Lakes and picked up their first win of the season by a 7-2

score. Townsend won 8-1 at number one, Houle won 8-5 at number two, Dominic Soucy won 8-6 at number three and Dustin Gerry got an 8-2 win in the fourth spot.

The Golden Eagles closed out the week

with a 7-2 loss at Moultonborough on Friday. Townsend got an 8-1 win at number one singles and he and Houle teamed up for an 8-6 win at number one doubles. Houle lost a close one at number two, 9-8 (7-0 in the tiebreaker), Soucy lost 8-6 in a close match at number three and Soucy and Cohen Krupnik lost 8-6 in the second doubles spot.

“The team has worked hard and continues to improve every week,”

said veteran coach Terry Wilson.

The Golden Eagles were off for vacation week and return to action on Monday, April 29, at home against Moultonborough, at Sanborn on Tuesday, April 30, and at Littleton on Thursday, May 2, all with 4 p.m. scheduled starts.

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

Shorthanded Timber Wolves fall on the road in Meredith

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

MEREDITH — The shorthanded Prospect Mountain tennis girls dropped a 6-3 decision to host Inter-Lakes on Wednesday, April 17, in Meredith.

With just five girls available for the game, the Timber Wolves sur-

rendered forfeit losses at number six singles and number three doubles.

Erin Rawnsley got the 8-3 win at the top of the lineup and Mercedes Laflamme won 8-5 in the fourth spot. At number two, Laney Henry dropped an 8-3 decision, Madison Miller fell 8-1 at number three and Lex-

ie Booker fell by an 8-1 score in the fifth spot.

Rawnsley and Miller snared an 8-4 win at number one doubles while Henry and Booker fell by an 8-2 score in the second spot.

The Timber Wolves are scheduled to be at St. Thomas on Tuesday, April 30, at 4 p.m. and at

home against Sanborn on Thursday, May 2, at 4 p.m.

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

Belmont student organizing benefit 5K on May 4

BELMONT — Belmont High School student Aspen Fillebrown is organizing the Child Abuse Awareness 5K Run and Walk, set for May 4 at Belmont High School.

Registration for the 5K run will start at 7:30 a.m. and the race will start at 8 a.m. while registration for the walk will start at 8:30 a.m. and the walkers will start at 9 a.m. The fee for adults is 15 dollars and the fee for students is 10 dollars.

Those interested in registering in advance can contact Fillebrown at aspenfillebrown5K@gmail.com or Venmo a [fillebrown0727](https://www.venmo.com/aspennfillebrown0727). Cash and checks for the registration fee will be accepted for those registering on the day of the 5K.

All funds raised will go toward the Children's Advocacy Center of Laconia.

SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Shaker Regional School District will hold a public hearing relative to withdrawal from the Buildings and Grounds Expendable Trust Fund on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Belmont Elementary School Library.

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Thursday, April 25

KENNETT
Baseball at Kingswood; 11
Softball at Kingswood; 11

KINGSWOOD
Baseball vs. Kennett; 11
Softball vs. Kennett; 11

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Baseball at Monadnock; 4
Softball at Monadnock; 4

Friday, April 26

KENNETT
Boys' Lacrosse at Hanover; 4

KINGSWOOD
Baseball vs. John Stark; 3

Saturday, April 27

KENNETT
Track at Coe-Brown; 9

Monday, April 29

KENNETT
Baseball vs. Plymouth; 4

Boys' Tennis at Windham; 4

Girls' Lacrosse at Spaulding; 4

Girls' Tennis vs. Windham; 4

Softball vs. Plymouth; 4

KINGSWOOD
Baseball vs. Merrimack Valley; 4

Girls' Lacrosse at Merrimack Valley; 4

Softball vs. Merrimack Valley; 4

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Baseball vs. Inter-Lakes; 4:30

Boys' Tennis vs. Kearsarge; 4

Tuesday, April 30

KENNETT
Boys' Lacrosse vs. Pembroke; 4

Boys' Tennis vs. Kingswood; 4

Girls' Tennis at Kingswood; 4

Track Home Meet; 4

KINGSWOOD
Boys' Lacrosse vs. Hillsboro-Deering; 4

Boys' Tennis at Kennett; 4

Girls' Tennis vs. Kennett; 4

Track at Kennett; 4

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Girls' Tennis at St. Thomas; 4

Track at Gilford; 4

Wednesday, May 1

KENNETT
Baseball at Oyster River; 4

Girls' Lacrosse vs. Timberlane; 4

Softball at Oyster River; 4

KINGSWOOD
Baseball vs. Pembroke; 4

Girls' Lacrosse vs. Manchester Central; 5:30

Softball vs. Pembroke; 4

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Baseball at Berlin; 4

Boys' Tennis vs. Monadnock; 4

Softball at Berlin; 4

Thursday, May 2

KENNETT
Boys' Tennis vs. Goffstown; 4

Girls' Tennis at Goffstown; 4

KINGSWOOD
Boys' Tennis vs. Coe-Brown; 4

Girls' Lacrosse vs. Winnacunnet; 5:30

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Boys' Tennis at Monadnock; 4

Girls' Tennis vs. Sanborn; 4

All schedules are subject to change.

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

7:00 PM @ NEW DURHAM TOWN HALL

You are hereby notified that a hybrid Public Hearing will be held in person and over Zoom by the New Durham Planning Board on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 7:00 pm. The hearing is regarding a Conditional Use Permit within the Residential, Agricultural, Recreational Zoning District and the Steep Slopes Conservation District submitted by Anthony Jones of Jones & Beach Engineers, Inc. on behalf of Robert Keene for property at Map 205, Lot 047, at 91 Mountain Drive, New Durham, NH. The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review during normal business hours. If you have any questions on Zoom meeting, please contact the Land Use Assistant at ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.us or the Planning Board.

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PETS OF THE WEEK



Roxie

Meet Roxie! She recently arrived from Texas in search of her forever home. She is an energetic playful pup who has lots of fun going on adventures in the woods. Roxie takes to training very well, and we are working on her manners with her. Roxie loves to play outside, run around, and make new friends. She would do best in a home that goes on adventures and has lots of space to run around and play in the sun. Come get to know Roxie now; she'll steal your heart!



Sokka

Meet Sokka! Sokka recently arrived from North Carolina in search of his forever home. He is incredibly affectionate and will roll around when he greets his human friends for attention. Sokka will provide lots of love to his future family. He may do best as the only cat in his next home.

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LIBRARY

(continued from Page A1)

community.

The range of people who use NDPL runs from babies to seniors.

Following a library card sign-up drive, Frost can boast, “Our youngest patron is four weeks old.”

Once a place where silence ruled, libraries have foregone the dreaded “Shhh!” NDPL is filled with the sound of happy youngsters, especially on Wednesday mornings.

“We have two Storytimes,” Frost said, “with an average of forty-five kiddoes between them.”

Pre-schoolers meet at 10 a.m. and babies and toddlers have their fun at 10:30 a.m.

Library Assistant Michelle Pyrich leads the sessions. She said she focuses on opportunities to move, sing, and read aloud when planning her programs.

“Often, we will read a story or learn a rhyme that centers around the season or holiday, and sometimes I’m inspired by a particular book I want to share. My hope is to share books with children, build language through stories and songs, and facilitate play,” Pyrich said.

Adding the Babies and Toddlers group this past winter proved to be a popular idea.

Pyrich said it has grown amazingly quickly, noting “I’m enjoying getting to know so many new children and watching them develop and interact with their new friends. It’s also been exciting to watch new relationships blossom among their parents as

they form new networks of support and friendship.”

Young parents can often feel adrift and having a positive place for both child and adult is a boon.

“My daughter enjoys Storytime every week,” one mother said, “and I cherish the other moms that I’ve met here.”

Pyrich said, “It’s also exciting when parents share with me about their children singing our songs or pretending to lead Storytimes at home.”

It’s nice to get positive feedback from parents, but Pyrich is also able to enjoy some direct responses from the kids.

“I love all of the hugs, especially from my pre-school friends,” she said.

She said she thinks NDPL is so popular with its patrons because “they appreciate how small and intimate the library is. It’s a wonderful, safe place to bring your children to play. We have an open space, lots of toys, friends, and, of course, lots of books.”

There is no specific age cut-off regarding the two Storytimes; parents can come to the session that fits their child the best.

Other programming operates regularly, too. Youngsters eight and older can participate in Makerspace every other month. The programs are announced on the library’s website at newdurhamlibrary.org, its Facebook page at New Durham Public Library and flyers.

Monthly book clubs for adults cover literary fiction, mysteries, and, since September, historical fiction.



Residents of all ages were invited to post the reasons they love New Durham Public Library. National Library Week held earlier this month provided a great opportunity for patrons to think about the ways libraries serve their communities.

Frost said the new genre has proved “very popular.”

A book club for home-schooled children aged seven and up is just one of several offerings for homeschoolers.

“We have a home school hang-out,” Frost said, which is just exactly what the name implies. “On Friday mornings once a month, home-schooled families can come and hang out with each other, and the library provides an activity.”

Activities range from painting to candy sushi to Pokemon.

“It’s well taken advantage of,” Frost said.

The library also provides curriculum materials for homeschooling families looking for support.

“I’m trying to be a one-stop shop for that community,” Frost said.

Two programs for adults are coming up on the history of Lake Winnepesaukee and gar-

scope, a CD player, and STEM activity sets,” Frost said.

Frost said just recently “itty bitty kits” for the youngest patrons have been added to this Library of Things.

“They don’t stay on the shelf,” she added.

Residents feel strongly about the need for a library and often elect to serve in different capacities.

John Michaud, an avid reader, always saw the library as “a great source of entertainment.”

He decided to take his involvement one step further and ran for the Library Trustees.

“I’m honored to serve as a library trustee because our library is an important and valuable resource for all ages,” he said. “I appreciate the staff for the personal attention, care, and service they provide selecting books they know I will enjoy, and for their dedication to promoting literacy, as it strengthens our community.”

The library’s fund-raising arm, the Friends of the New Durham Public Library, works to further the facility’s connection to the community. Just one of the many services it provides is sponsoring museum passes that offer free admission or steep discounts to venues in the area.

Frost said, “The Friends just decided to expand the number of passes and add more to fit the desires of the whole community.”

Currently, NDPL offers a pass to the Wright Museum and shares the following with Farmington: Strawberry Banke, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, Libby Museum, Portland Maine Children’s Museum, McAuliffe Shepard Discovery Center, NH Farm Museum, Aviation Museum, Bedrock Gardens, NH Children’s Museum, and the Seacoast Science Center.

Friends’ President Christine Hudon said, “I joined the Friends to help the children of New Durham enjoy the love of reading. Libraries are very important so everyone has availability to books.”

And not just any books; there’s a real personal touch at NDPL. “We go above and beyond getting the person exactly what they want,” Frost said.

A voracious reader herself, she said, “I make it a priority to read a wide selection of books, and to keep up with new

books that come out. As I go through the list, I keep patrons in mind, thinking about who would really like a certain book.”

Many people rely on librarians to recommend what they should read next.

“We love when people ask for book recommendations, and when they suggest titles for the library to acquire,” Frost said.

The feedback is positive. Frost said, “Families say we always have books for them and their kids, and that we’re always willing to help find material.”

Donna Swett has been involved with NDPL since 1989 when she moved to town; first as a patron, then a volunteer. She has been active in the Friends group, and was eventually hired as a library aide, after which she became Children’s Librarian.

After years away in other employment, she is back as part-time staff, assisting with interlibrary loan, facilitating the Story Trail at the Meetinghouse, and “re-connecting with folks I haven’t seen in years.”

Swett said, “I think the most important thing is how the library has accommodated the ever changing and unique interests and needs of our community. New Durham has changed a lot, especially in recent years, and the town has been fortunate to have had amazingly talented and dedicated library directors and staff with specialized knowledge, skill and vision.”

She noted expansion of library services in exciting ways, and then added what is core to NDPL: “This library feels like being home.”

Frost said a patron recently summed up the feeling well.

A newcomer to town, Janine Feducia stated, “It wasn’t until we started going to the library that we felt like we were really part of a community. The library gives my girls a safe place to play and make new friends. The librarians are so nice, helpful, and informative. We love the events and activities and couldn’t be happier to call New Durham home.”

NDPL plays an important role.

“I want to make the library atmosphere feel like the central hub of our community,” Frost explained. “We know what’s going on in town and we’re here to help, not just to provide you with what you want to read next.”

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PROJECT

(continued from Page A1)

the letters were issued, several of those projects failed to materialized or would not be able to accept funding in the 2025 fiscal year.

The top project on that list was a new building for Rundlett Middle School in Concord. The Concord School District notified the state that it would not be ready to take that money for the 2025 fiscal year and would likely be ready in 2026. Broadrick said they were told that as the state was working down that list most of the projects were not going to be taking the funding. A few had their warrant articles fail and a few were abandoned, in some cases they received funding from other sources such as donations.

Broadrick said he received a call from Amy Clark, administrator of the School Safety and Fiscal Management Bureau of the NH Department of Education, that they were going to receive that intent to fund letter.

Broadrick said Barnstead's per capita income also went down a little from when the application was first made, meaning the district was in more need and was now eligible for more funding. The project was initially eligible for 45 percent funding, now they were eligible for 55 percent.

Broadrick said the money has to be spent in the 2025 fiscal year, meaning the district now has 13 months to commit to the work on the project. In the next 13 months the project has to get underway including doing a special district meeting, getting a bond, figuring out construction management, doing procurement, signing contracts, and other tasks. Her said they have a list of around 17 different tasks that need to be completed to get state aid on a tight timeline.

Broadrick also proposed reconvening the Space Needs Committee to look further at this and a meeting is being scheduled. A new project scope and a will need to be determined with a revised cost. The approved warrant article for \$1,758,000 for the expansion will factor into it as well as what is being done with preschool space.

Some other considerations could be made in the process. Broadrick said one thing that could be examined is putting in a generator. The week before that meeting, power went out at BES for an hour. He said the emergency lights lasted that long and they were able to keep water pressure. Broadrick said he was close to asking the fire department to have a tanker truck come add more pressure to the water system, especially to keep the sprinkler system sustainable in case of a fire. He said if the school had a generator these considerations wouldn't have to be made.

"There's just work I think the space needs committee will want to do and bring some recommendations back to the school board engage in some public communications, so that's the other part," Broadrick said.

Broadrick said the committee could hold some other public information sessions and facilitate public discussions before the special district meeting.

Broadrick also recommended that the board pursue a special district meeting to vote on this project. Broadrick worked with the district's



PHOTO BY ERIN PLUMMER

The Barnstead School Board will move forward with the process of having a special school district meeting to expand Barnstead Elementary School after the district was notified it was now eligible for state Building Aid funds for the project.

attorney to create a draft warrant article for a special district meeting. The memo, which appears in the minutes of the meeting, show a dollar amount in that draft article. Broadrick said, however, that amount is only a placeholder and the real amount will be put in when everything is ready.

The district would have to petition superior court to have the special meeting and Broadrick asked for a motion form the board to move that forward.

Broadrick said if all the 17 different steps are met to move this forward, the best case scenario would be to have a special district meeting in late June.

Broadrick said the community has been really supportive through this whole process.

"There were a lot of people at this year's district meeting and they showed a wonderful ability to understand what the heck was going on and wrap their heads around it," Broadrick said.

He said he wants to keep the optimism that there will continue to be support and this project will move forward.

If everything goes well, Broadrick said they could have the money by the next fiscal year and be talking about having

a groundbreaking ceremony in June of 2025.

Broadrick also recognized the work of the Space Needs Committee, which has members who have been working on this project for decades.

The board voted unanimously in favor of approving the draft warrant article and petitioning superior court for a special district meeting.

"This just feels like the culmination of something that was meant to be," said board Chair Lyla Duncan. "Just the more money, the higher percentage, the feeling of the town; it just feels good."

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Wavemakers support David's House with one-hour swim fundraiser



COURTESY PHOTO

The Wavemakers swim club presented a check to Don Dutton of David's House thanks to their fundraising efforts.

REGION — The TWC Wavemakers, the local club swim team, presented a \$1,500 check to David's House at their annual end-of-season banquet. David's House provides a home-away-from-home and support for families with children receiving treatment

through Dartmouth Health Children's. The swimmers raised the money during their annual one-hour swim. Swimmers have the challenge to see how far they can swim during the one hour. Twenty-five swimmers, ages six to 14, got donors to pledge an

amount for each length swam. In one hour, the 25 swimmers swam 2,632 pool lengths, or nearly 38 miles. The team has two seasons including a main winter season and a summer season, which begins in May. The swimmers and families

recently celebrated a successful season with an award ceremony and banquet. Don Dutton, executive director from David's House, came to the banquet, spoke, and accepted the donation. Since Jan. 20, 1986, more than 16,000 families from 42 states, two

US territories, and 30 countries have called David's House their home-away-from-home. Countless others have used the house on a day-guest basis, for a shower, a nap, a meal, or any other service they provide apart from an overnight room. They provide so

much more than a bed to sleep in, a kitchen to eat in, and quiet areas to find respite in — they are a safe, peaceful environment filled with compassionate staff, and foster connections among families that can result in lifelong friendships and support networks.

PMHS FBLA knocks state competitions out of the park

BY SAM MCGRATH
Prospect Mountain FBLA

ALTON — It's the time of year again for the Future Business Leaders of America organization where many of the members compete in state-wide competitive events. The biggest part of the year for FBLA is the Leadership Conferences, both the State Leadership Conference (SLC) and the National Leadership Conference (NLC). SLC is an event where different FBLA Chapters from around the state meet and discuss the year, elect new officers, compete in events, and get recognized for their work throughout the year. NLC is similar, but instead of students from around the state, students from around the world come together to network and compete.



COURTESY

Prospect Mountain FBLA holding their awards after the ceremony.

This year, on April 2 & 3, PMHS FBLA sent nine

of their members to compete in different events.

There is a large list of events to compete in,

with some being presentations, some being tests, and some being projects. Prospect's FBLA has spent the last few months preparing and practicing for their competitions. For students competing in individual events, many rounds of practicing with other members and Ms. Jennifer Cove the PMHS FBLA Advisor, was done before competing. For students in group events, meetings were set and collaborative work allowed them to prepare their presentations.

After SLC comes NLC, which is for FBLA chapters not only around the country, but around the whole world. To qualify for NLC, either you have to place in the top 4 in your event, or your chapter needs to be recognized as a gold seal chapter. To be considered a gold seal chapter you need to collect enough points by doing various

tasks to help the community throughout the year. Most of the chapters who manage to achieve national gold champion status have upwards of 100 members, but thanks to the hard work of many of their members, PMHS FBLA, with only 20 members, was able to be a gold champion chapter.

Not only did we get the gold seal, but many of our members placed in the top 3 in their events. Despite the fact that we were one of the smallest chapters in attendance, we had worked hard to practice our competitions and everyone who went, put in their best effort. Out of the 9 members who went, Katie Healy won first place in Public Speaking, Avery Guinta won first place in Impromptu Speaking, Trew Reed won first place in Introduction to FBLA, Ava Pelletier won second place in Introduction to

Public Speaking, and Sam McGrath won second place in Public Service Announcement. It is impressive to get in the top three out of everyone in the state, but even the people who didn't win are still eligible to go to nationals thanks to achieving gold champion status.

Our next step is fundraising for nationals and other events, which we've been working hard for. We are holding a few fundraisers, including a mattress fundraiser on May 11, and a "Star Wars" themed movie night on May 5. We're also planning for next year's Alton Home & Garden Show, which will be entirely run by BOB 319 and FBLA. Keep an eye out for more articles about the upcoming fundraisers and events that FBLA is hosting coming soon!

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