

Gilford, Prospect soccer stars earn All-State nods

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — With the conclusion of the fall soccer season, the New Hampshire soccer coaches have announced their All-State selections and there are a number of local players earning honors.

In Division III, First Team honors went to Belmont goalie Jaxson Embree, Prospect Mountain forward TJ Locke, Gilford midfielder Micah Javalgi and Gilford defender Jared Beale, Second Team was presented to Belmont forward Owen Waldron, Gilford midfielder Aiden Burnham



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Prospect Mountain's TJ Locke earned First Team All-State honors for Division III.

and Belmont defender Brody Ennis and Honorable Mention went to Prospect Mountain goalie Ben Gagnon, White Mountains Regional forward Asier Gonzalez, Berlin forward Dillon Boucher, Prospect Mountain midfielder Shaun McAneney, White Mountains midfielder Jake Silver, Newfound midfielder Landon Sargent, Winnisquam midfielder Colby Blackburn, Belmont midfielder Keegan

Martinez, Inter-Lakes midfielder Cash Frontiero and Gilford defender Brennan Nunez. Also earning First Team honors were forwards Tanner Moulton of Mascoma and Angus Forman of St. Thomas, midfielders Fin Murphy of Hopkinton, Aaron Page of St. Thomas and Brayden Pierce of Mascoma and defenders Noah Aframe and Nate Windhurst of Hopkinton and Brady Livas of St. Thom-

as. Second Team recognition also went to goalie Matt Favreau of Mascoma, forwards Kristof Caulley and Nolan Lindstad of Hopkinton, midfielders Brady Donovan of Kearsarge, Alex Crowe of Hillsboro-Deering and Will Hughes of St. Thomas and defenders Kolton Lefebvre of Hillsboro-Deering, Ben Sawyer of Conant and Marshall Yorke of Mascoma. Also presented with

Honorable Mention were goalie Nevin Marsh of Stevens, forwards Japhari Ramadani of Manchester West, Alex Brown of Somersworth and Mouad Yzzogh of Derryfield, midfielders Sonny Dubuque of Trinity, Kombozi Amozi of Manchester West, Fernando Sandoval of Derryfield and Graham West of Kearsarge and defenders William Sneddon of Somersworth, Matt Goss of Stevens, Andrew Wood of Trinity, Lukas Doescher of Fall Mountain, Spencer Lamirande of Sanborn and Caden Claytor of Raymond.

Scott Zipke of Hopkinton was named the Division III Coach of the Year and Jon Lam of Berlin was named JV Coach of the Year.

In Division IV, Gorham forward Jack Saladino was named the Division III Player of the Year and was joined in First Team honors with forward Eli Vasconcelos of Woodsville, midfielders Isaac Langlois and Connor Lemoine of Gorham and Nick Sturgeon of Moultonborough and defenders Bryce Williams

SEE SOCCER, PAGE A10

Planning trends reflect tight economy

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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GILFORD — The number of single-family homes has gone down as the number of short-term rentals continues to rise.

Planning and Land Use Director John Ayer gave the selectmen an update on his department during the board's meeting on Nov. 13.

"As with every time I come to report to you, some things are up, some things are down, and some things are generally about the same overall from the same per last year," Ayer said.

Ayer said some of the latest statistics mirror the report Welfare Director Tom Carr gave just a few minutes before showing indicating many people are facing economic hardships.

The number of new single-family homes has gone down since last year though the value has seen a small decrease, indicating housing costs might be an issue for many people.

Ayer said last year at this time the town had 38 new single-family homes, a number that has gone down to 28 for this time last year. Ayer also said the value of single-family homes went down around \$600,000, which is around the same as last year though he said that is the average value of one home.

The town has had the same number of commercial permits, though the value of those properties went down by \$4.5 million.

The overall number of permits have gone down around seven percent as well as the fees they collect, though Ayer said these applications are still going strong.

The number of permits for repairs and remodels is up to 55 this

year from 36 the same time last year, though Ayer said different kinds of work are being done this year than last year. Permits for additions are up to 20 this year from 16 last year with an increase in value around \$2 million.

Demolition permits are up 50 percent from last year.

There have been half as many applications for solar panels this year compared to last year. They did see 10 more site plans this year than this time last year

The town has seen many more short-term rental applications, especially in the past six months.

Selectman Kevin Hayes asked if most of the renovations and additions are being done on single family homes or short-term rentals.

"It's been interesting, we see some of each," Ayer said. "Sometimes people are adding an accessory apartment, oftentimes those get used for short term rentals. I'm not sure we've been tracking that or comparing where these things are going and what they're being used for."

Ayer said most of the applications they have seen for single family homes are from short-term rentals. He said many of the short-term rental applications they have been getting are from property specifically being bought for short term rentals where someone purchased the property within the past month or two months.

Anyone who wishes to run a short-term rental in Gilford needs to apply for a special use permit, but Selectman Chan Eddy said he knows there have property owners who still refuse to apply for one. Eddy asked how the town is going to deal

SEE PLANNING, PAGE A10

Survey shares New Durham residents' thoughts on housing and development

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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NEW DURHAM — Residents gave their thoughts on housing and development in town in the results of a townwide housing survey.

Town residents were asked to take part in a survey assessing their experiences and views on housing and development in New Durham. The survey is part of a housing study as part of the town's master plan update. The full results can be found at <https://www.newdurhamnh.us/home/news/new-durham-housing-and-land-use-survey-results-0>.

housing-and-land-use-survey-results-0.

Around 67 percent of those polled live in New Durham year round, while more than 30 percent are part time residents or own a second home in town. Almost 46 percent said they pay less than 30 percent of their income on housing with nearly 38 percent saying they pay 30 to 49 percent of their income on housing. In the past year around 39 percent of residents said their total housing costs have gone up by \$500 or more.

When asked on a spectrum of

0 if "housing should be denser in one place to conserve greenspace throughout the rest of the community" to 10 "Housing should be evenly spread out throughout the community," the average answer was a five on that scale.

On the question whether there is a need for a village center or focal point in the town, 31.5 percent said yes, over 26 percent said possibly, and over 18 percent said they didn't think so.

When asked to rank in order of importance what the town could do to support commer-

SEE SURVEY, PAGE A10

GHS Craft Fair returns Dec. 7

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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GILFORD — On the first Saturday in December Gilford Middle and High Schools will be filled with an array of artisans and a big selection of food during the annual GHS Craft Fair.

On Saturday, Dec. 7, crafters will set up tables throughout GMS and GHS for the annual fair benefitting the GHS senior class.

This year's fair is sold out to vendors, who will offer a variety of creations such as jewelry, woodworking, floral arrangements, fiber work, and many other crafts. The GMS cafeteria will also be filled with different classes and student organizations selling food to raise money. The fair will start at



ERIN PLUMMER

Gilford High School's senior class officers are getting ready for the GHS Craft Fair on Dec. 7. From left to right: Treasurer Ella Kelliher, Vice President Kendal Heyman, Secretary Makenna Clayton, and President Grace Kelly.

9 a.m., and the fair typically has a line outside waiting for the doors to open. The event will continue throughout the morning and afternoon until closing at 3

p.m.

The Craft Fair is the senior class's biggest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds will go to the senior class trip in Maine with rafting and

some other fun activities.

All members of the senior class will be required to sign up for a time slot to volunteer.

"The whole senior class is working, it's everyone," said class Treasurer Ella Kelliher.

Class Secretary Makenna Clayton said students can work on setup or sign up for takedown after the event. They can also volunteer throughout the event including getting food to vendors, helping shoppers, and many other tasks. Students will also be selling coffee, doughnuts, and other items at the front of the high school.

"It's kind of like everyone has their own role depending on what time you're there," said SEE CRAFT FAIR, PAGE A10

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Light Up Night — Dec. 7
The Town of Alton is celebrating “Light Up Night” on Saturday, Dec. 7 in the Alton Village on Main Street. Free events include: 5 p.m.- Tree Lighting at Town Hall sponsored by ABA; 5:15-6:15 p.m.- Meet with Santa and Mrs. Claus inside the Gilman Library, and make a free craft at the Gilman Library (use rear parking lot entrance); 5-6:30 p.m.- Holiday Hayride loading up at Monument Square- sponsored by Alton Home and Lumber; 11 a.m.-7 p.m.- Festival of Trees and Gingerbread House

Decorating Contest at the Gilman Museum sponsored by the ABA; plus more to see and do. Light Up Night Events are free and are open to the public. For more information contact the Alton Parks and Recreation Department at 603-875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

“Light Up Alton” Holiday Decorating Event
The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and the ABA are sponsoring a residential and business decorating event. Do you like decorating outside for the holidays,

and want to share your display and cheer with others? Submit your address and optional photo by contacting parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 by Dec. 9. Maps with decorated locations will be available to the public on Dec. 13. Keep your lights on Dec. 13-27 so the community can enjoy your decorations while they explore the map.

Trivia Night
The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a Free Hot Cocoa Bar and Trivia Night on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at the Pearson Road

Community Center from 6-7:30 p.m. Program is free. Join the game as a team or an individual player. Test your knowledge and compete for the first place prize. Categories include: History; Pop Culture; Entertainment; Art; Science; Sports; Geography; and more. A fun hot cocoa bar and holiday cookies will be provided. Please register at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov by Dec. 13 to guarantee your seat in the game.

Weight Training Classes- Mondays and Wednesdays
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 information, contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109. Try a class for free. \$20 per month/session or \$5 drop in.

Pilates Classes in Alton Bay- Tuesdays and Thursdays
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.

After School Program — Dec. 20
On Early Release days at ACS Alton Parks and Recreation Staff will pick up participants, in grades 1-5, from school and walk together to the Pearson Road Community Center for an afternoon of fun. Dec. 20 theme is “Festive Fun”; activities include: themed games, coloring, crafts, snacks and more. \$5 per child. Pick up time at the Community Center is 3 p.m. Limited space, register today by contacting parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Guided Meditation with Instructor Karen Kharitonov
The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a Guided Meditation Class on Thursdays, Dec. 5 and 19 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Stop in and experience the positive state of meditation. 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.

Dungeons and Dragons
Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a weekly Dungeons and Dragons adventure on Wednesdays at the Alton Bay Community Center from 6-8 p.m. starting Jan. 8, 2025. The program is free for ages 18 and up. Flex your creative muscles with fellow adventurers. Perhaps the group will even battle the dreaded Lake Winnepesaukee Monster itself. Sign up at parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 to secure your game slot. Join in the fun with friends or plan on meeting new people.


Alton Trails- All Star
Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a get outside and hike program. Hike seven local trails, and receive an Alton Trails All Star sticker. All you have to do is take a photo on each trail, and send the photos to parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov. Trails include: Mike Burke Trail; Knight’s Pond; Trask Swamp and Fort Point Woods Conservation Area; Gilman Pond; Mt. Major, Pine Mountain and Cotton-Hurd Brook.

Forge named LEC Coach of the Year

PLYMOUTH — Following a third straight run to the Little East Conference (LEC) Tournament championship match, four members of the Plymouth State University women’s volleyball program and the team’s head coach were honored by the league as its major awards winners and all-conference teams were announced on Tuesday.

Graduate student Nora Ryan (Groton, Conn.) took home the biggest honor, repeating as the LEC Women’s Volleyball Offensive Player of the Year, while also earning a spot on the All-LEC First Team. Senior Makayla Marucci (Newton, Mass.) joined Ryan on the First Team, while graduate student Aynslee King (Anacortes, Wash.) and sophomore Emma Hampton (Durham, N.H.) were Second Team honorees. Additionally, head coach Joan Forge was tabbed Coach of the Year, while King was PSU’s representative on the Sportsmanship Team.

Under Forge’s direction, Plymouth State went 25-4, claimed a fourth LEC regular season title in five years and advanced to a program-record third straight LEC Tournament championship match. The top-seeded Panthers flew past fourth-seeded WestConn in the tournament semifinals, before falling to second-seeded UMass Dartmouth in the title game in a rematch of last year’s finals. Forge claims her third Coach of the Year honor, also winning in the 2019 and 2021 seasons.



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Holiday celebration at New Durham Library

NEW DURHAM — The Friends of the New Durham Public Library will host its Holiday Celebration at the Library on Friday afternoon, Dec. 6 from 3 to 5 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Santa will be there to greet the younger guests.

A program of holiday entertainment will be presented by professional storyteller and musician Steve Blunt. There will be lots of goodies for all

the guests. Everyone in the community is invited to the celebration. It will be a great opportunity to enjoy the holidays.

Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance meets Wednesday

WOLFEBORO — 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.

Christmas Open House

Join us Friday 11/29 & Saturday 11/30 for the First Annual Christmas Open House

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DON'T TEXT AND DRIVE

Golden Eagles, Timber Wolves named to Division III girls' soccer All-State teams

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — There were plenty of local names splashed throughout the recently-released girls' soccer All-State teams.

In Division III, First Team honors went to forward Macy Sawyer of Gilford, midfielders Anna Coapland and Kendal Heyman of Gilford and defender Gracey LeBlanc of Gilford, while Second Team honors were presented to defender Abby Watson of Gilford and Honorable Mention recognition was given to forward Clara Thompson of Gilford, goaltender Madison Carrier of Belmont and midfielders Olivia Noyes and Juliette West of Prospect Mountain, Brooklyn Gagne of Berlin and Olivia Lorenz of White Mountains.

Also earning First Team honors were goalie Genna Bolduc of St. Thomas, forwards Isabella Serzans of Hopkinton and Payton Ferland of Stevens, midfielders Mariella Tsitsonis of Fall Mountain and Kennedy Mark of Hopkinton and defenders Ava Lyder of St. Thomas, Bella Bovell of Stevens and Clara Stewart of Fall Mountain.

Second Team honors were also given to goalie Avery Loew of Hopkinton, forwards Selah Frederick of Fall Mountain, Mallory Baker of St. Thomas and Abigail Gurrette of Campbell, midfielders Charlotte DeTolla of St. Thomas, Mallory Habausz of Trinity, Addison Derosier of Stevens and Carly Grant of Kearsarge and defenders Paige Boudette of Hopkinton, Chloe Larson of Derryfield and Lilli Wilson of Campbell.

Honorable Mention recognition was presented to goalie Gracie Dean of Monadnock, forwards Faith Norton of Stevens, Riley Vitello of Conant, Maia Scanlon of St. Thomas, Amely Collado of Trinity, Sophie Thurlow of Sanborn, Kathryn Thyng of Hillsboro-Deering, Torrence Williams of Newport and Kaylee Geiger of Campbell, midfielders Rachel Dewees of Conant, Amelia LaPlante of Campbell, Maddy Chambers of Stevens, Shaylee Branon of Monadnock, Ashlynn Guay of Campbell, Emma Sloper of Derryfield and Aubrey Thomas of Fall



Macy Sawyer of Gilford was named Division III All-State First Team.



Anna Coapland had a strong season for Gilford and earned First Team All-State honors.



Abby Watson was named Second Team All-State as a defender for Gilford.



Olivia Noyes of Prospect Mountain was named All-State Honorable Mention.



Prospect's Juliette West (12) earned All-State Honorable Mention in her senior season.

Mountain and defenders Alexandria Benson and Madelyn Paolino of Derryfield, Maddy Hawkins and Skyelar Blanchard of Fall Mountain, Taylor Borst of Campbell and Hannah Lesiczka of Sanborn.

Todd Ledoux of Raymond was named Division III Coach of the Year and Steve McManus of Stevens was named JV



Gilford's Gracey LeBlanc was named to the Division III All-State First Team.



Kendal Heyman was named to the Division III All-State First Team for her second season.



Clara Thompson earned All-State Honorable Mention in her freshman campaign at Gilford.

Coach of the Year.

In Division IV, First Team honors were presented to midfielder Ella McPhaul of Profile and defender Ani Griffiths of Profile, Second Team recognition went to goalie Eliza Wag-

staff of Woodsville, forwards Kate Clermont of Lin-Wood and Natalie Brantley of Profile, midfielders Makenna Price of Profile and Makayla Walker of Woodsville and defenders Lily Hodgdon of Profile, Avah Lucas of Littleton and Natalie Therrien of Woodsville and Honorable Mention went to goalie Kiley Clermont of Lin-Wood, forwards Addison Koehler of Profile, Juju Bromley of Littleton, Katie Houston of Woodsville and Aspen Clermont of Groveton, midfielders Ellie Wilcox of Lisbon, Kandrah Savage of Groveton, Hadi Corey and Caroline Hiltz of Lin-Wood and Addison Hadlock of Littleton and defenders Jane Roy of Woodsville, Asha Ivester of Lin-Wood, Kiera Therrien of Littleton and Meredith Barnes of Lisbon.

First Team honors also went to goalie Kate Smith of Concord Christian, forwards Olivia Blackadar of Newmarket, Clare Tuohy of Sunapee and Tatum Smith of Portsmouth Christian, midfielders Makayla Baglio of Concord Christian, Lilli Carlile

SEE ALL-STATE, PAGE A11

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We Will NOT be Undersold

Rediscovering the lost art of handwritten recipes

In an era of digital convenience and instant gratification, some of life's most cherished traditions are quietly slipping away. Among these, the art of handwritten recipes. These are a tangible connection to the flavors of our past, the love of our grandmothers, and the warmth of family gatherings. In a world dominated by cooking apps and online recipe repositories, the simple act of putting pen to paper to share culinary secrets seems almost archaic. Yet, it's precisely this nostalgia and intimacy that make handwritten recipes a lost art worth preserving.

Handwritten recipes are more than just a list of ingredients and instructions; they are pieces of culinary history, infused with the personality and heritage of those who penned them. Each smudged, stained, and dog-eared card or piece of paper tells a story, a tale of generations passing down family traditions, the evolution of tastes and preferences, and the love and care that goes into creating a homemade meal.

The act of writing out a recipe by hand is an act of devotion. It's a moment where the cook imparts their wisdom, tips, and variations to the next in line. The penmanship, the flourishes, and the personal notes ("This one's always a hit at family gatherings!") add a layer of character that cannot be replicated by sterile digital text.

One of the most remarkable aspects of handwritten recipes is their adaptability. They are not bound by the limitations of standardized formats and measurements. Instead, they encourage creativity and experimentation. A pinch of this, a handful of that, and a dash of love, these imprecise yet heartfelt instructions allow each generation to put their own spin on the family classics, ensuring that the recipes remain dynamic and relevant.

In an age where convenience often trumps sentimentality, it's easy to overlook the value of preserving handwritten recipes. But as we flip through fading recipe cards and rediscover the treasures hidden in old recipe boxes, we are reminded that these handwritten culinary heirlooms are more than just instructions; they are a link to our past, a source of inspiration, and hold tradition.

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.



COURTESY

Gilford Community Church celebrates holidays with annual tree lighting

Gilford Community Church (GCC) celebrates the beginning of the holiday season with their annual Community Tree Lighting & Service on Sunday, Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. "Each year, we kick off the advent season with our tree lighting service," said GCC Youth Director, Amber McLane. Members of the church and community stand around a beautiful lit tree and sing Christmas carols. Our GCC youth take part in the service, performing holiday songs and readings. "This is a special event that is sure to spark your holiday cheer," she added. The evening concludes with refreshments, including coffee, hot chocolate, cookies, and brownies served downstairs in our Fellowship Hall. Located in Gilford at 19 Potter Hill Rd., the Gilford Community Church (GCC) is an inclusive, open community that welcomes believers and doubters, seekers and skeptics, young and old. Viewable live on Facebook and available on YouTube, Sunday service at GCC takes place at 10 a.m. To learn more, or virtually attend service, visit gilfordcommunitychurch.org.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Attractions

Today, I got a call from the robot, and it offered me a job as a music teacher. I jumped at the chance. Then I found out that it was only for half a day, I hesitated. I usually turn down a half day gig. But I rarely get offered music. So I took it. It would work out as I also had a small handy man job that I had agreed to do today.

My first class was a band. They pretty much worked through their material with me keeping time, providing a visual cue for the down beat. In listening to them, I wondered if bands actually tune up anymore. In these days of electronic tuners, everyone can do it themselves privately. Or do they just let it go. It was in tune the other day wasn't it? There's nothing worse than two horns playing in unison, out of tune. It just makes me cringe.

After they all took off, I grabbed a bass, plugged it in and was just noodling around when the next class arrived. They were totally surprised to see me playing bass. I'm the math guy. Well, not today.

Soon the room was all filled with beginner guitar players, strumming away. I couldn't help them much with their chords, but I could suggest they tune up a little. There was a guitar sitting there next to the teacher's desk with a broken low E string. I found a pack of strings in the desk and proceeded to change it. It wasn't long before I had changed another E and a B string. That teacher should be pleased that I subbed.

Towards the end of my classes, the sub lady came down and asked me if I could stay for the remaining periods as she had a teacher that needed to leave early. So much for my half day. I figured that I would still have enough time to get my other job completed so I said OK.

Very often there are new kids showing up. Add to that, the fact that I'm highly memory challenged, every class has the potential to provide me with some new experience. Knowing this, I noted that there was new tall and slim girl sitting on the stool in the front of the room throughout

the class. Most kids are allowed to choose their seating positions until it becomes a problem, I just took this as normal.

After class, instead of filing out of the room with the rest of the class, she came up to me and introduced herself. She was a college student acting as a student aid. With her clothing and physique, she perfectly integrated into that middle school class. Good Lord, I would have never guessed.

These eyes of ours can be totally distracting sometimes. I had to close mine when I braided my hair. If I watched what I was doing I'd screw it up every time. Seeing with my fingers worked much better. That works a lot of times when fixing things too. If I can't see what I'm doing, my hands need to take over.

How many things do we all do because of what our eyes tell us? Cars, cloths, companions? A very extensive list I would surmise. I once really wanted an orange car I saw in a show room. That was when most cars were white. There was a time of mostly sil-

ver gray colored cars too. Now I find that they're painting them bright rich colors. Why should I even care what color the machine that carries me to work and back is? Why do I prefer olive to blue jeans? Why am I always attracted to...

The marketing world makes total use of our biases. I would sometimes drink orange soda. When I was in Europe, I selected a can of the same brand and it was like, wow, this was different. Better! It was hardly orange colored at all but it tasted more like the real thing. It actually had the real thing in it. I stopped drinking the sugar saturated, imitation food colored stuff when I came back.

After a red die was deemed dangerous, these red colored candy coated chocolate treats disappeared from their packages to the lament of some. There was no difference in taste at all, but people missed, and wanted red ones. They're back.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

An update from Concord

To the Editor:

I wanted to update the people in New Durham on a few issues.

The first is about the Powder Mill Fish Hatchery. The hatchery will have a new EPA Discharge Permit effective Jan. 1 that will drastically reduce the amount of pollution being released from it. Although I was involved in the work to change the permit from an average discharge limit to a maximum limit, the heaving lifting was done by the Alton/New Durham Water Quality Committee. Their work convinced the EPA to change from an average to a maximum discharge limit. This is especially important in the summer months when the river flow rates are low. The hatchery has already instituted various actions to improve the quality of the discharge water and will reduce the number of fish raised so that the new lower limit will be met. Though it will take time for the Merry Meeting River to clean up, the new permit is a big step in the right direction.

The second issue is the status of the dams on the Merry Meeting River. Dams are becoming a major issue all over New Hampshire. There are four dams

on the Merry Meeting River. Three in New Durham (the main dam on the lake, the Jones Dam and the Downing Pond Dam) and one in Alton (the Alton Powe Dam). The state Fish and Game owns all the dams except for the Downing Pond Dam which is owned by New Durham. The Dam Division of the Department of Environmental Services is studying the status of all of four dams. Their work should be done by December or January and a public meeting will be held to present the results. It is not clear what the study will recommend but it will most likely include recommendations for repairs to some or all of the dams.

I also wanted to thank all the New Durham citizens who voted to reelect me, and to remind those who did not that I represent all the citizens of New Durham at the State House.

Should you have questions on this or other state issues, please feel free to contact me at 603-942-8691 or harringt@metrocast.net (please put New Durham resident in the subject block).

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HO-HO-HOLIDAY Gift Guide

Thoughtful gifts for aging parents



Children typically want to treat their parents to something special during the holiday season. Parents do a lot for their children, and when those kids become adults, a desire to express their appreciation for Mom and Dad grows.

According to The Wrap Up: Snappy's 2022 Holiday Gift Report, the majority of Americans (64.2 percent) report they need help when it comes to holiday gifting. They may want to carefully consider a recipient's interests, as the report also discovered more than half of all Americans want a gift that reflects their personal interests and hobbies. When shop-

ping for elderly parents, it may not be as simple as identifying interests, particularly if Mom and Dad are experiencing age-related health issues. Consider these gift ideas that may be ideal for the aging adults in your life.

- **Cozy blanket:** Older adults may have trouble regulating their body temperatures, which can translate to feeling cold a lot of the time. A new blanket or throw for a bed or to cuddle up with in a favorite recliner might be the perfect gift.
- **Family history book:** Budding writers can interview their aging parents and jot down family stories. Those stories and anecdotes can be

compiled into a book and combined with photos to make a family history log, which can be gifted back to the interviewee.

- **Gripping slippers:** Slips and falls can injure aging adults and put them out of commission for quite some time. Sturdy and secure slippers with anti-slip soles are good for getting around the house and making quick trips to take out the trash or get the mail.
- **Robotic vacuum:** Keeping up with the household chores is easier with a robotic vacuum that automatically scours carpets and hard-surface

floors. This eliminates having to wrestle with a cumbersome vacuum.

- **Key finder:** A key finder can help adults find their keys if they are misplaced. Some employ radio frequency, while others utilize Bluetooth technology and can be paired to a smartphone.
- **Magnifying light:** Older parents who like to do puzzles or close-up work like knitting or stitching can benefit from an LED lamp that also has a magnifying glass built right in.
- **E-reader:** Avid readers may enjoy an e-reader because they don't have to find spots to store


even more books in their homes. E-readers can be customized so the print is the right size for the reader's needs. Also, the devices are lightweight and easy to stow in a bag.


- **Automatic card shuffler:** Parents who are known card sharks around the community can use an automatic card shuffler to make card play even easier.
- **Resistance bands:** Resistance bands are like large rubber bands that exert force to strengthen muscles and improve

flexibility. They can help aging adults stay in shape in a low-impact way.

- **Dining gift cards:** When parents do not want to spend additional time in the kitchen, they may opt to visit a favorite restaurant. A combination of a gift card to a favorite establishment as well as prepaid taxi or ride share service ensures a good meal and a safe ride home.

Although they seem to have everything, aging parents still can benefit from some thoughtful gifts.

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HO-HO-HOLIDAY Gift Guide

5 fun gift exchange ideas



Gift-giving is a significant component of the holiday season. Families can embrace traditional gift-giving, but those who want to add a touch of whimsy to gatherings with loved ones can consider these five creative and fun ways to exchange gifts.

1. Play the plastic wrap game. To exchange small stocking stuffer gifts, compile gift cards, cash, small toys, candy, and even some larger gifts (all participants can chip in and one person shops for the gifts). The designated person in charge begins rolling up the gifts in the plastic, adding one every few rolls. Turning the ball 90 degrees while wrapping helps make a more round, finished gift ball. To play, the person with the ball puts on oven mitts and tries to unwrap as much as they can to access the gifts, while the person to the left is attempting to roll doubles on dice. When doubles are made, that person passes the dice to the left and starts his or her own attempts to get at the gifts in the plastic ball. The game ends when all the gifts are revealed, whether everyone has had a chance to unwrap or not.

2. Plan a white elephant gift exchange. A white elephant exchange is like a secret grab bag. Everyone brings a wrapped gift, and then takes turns choosing a gift based on the number they've been given. When the gift is chosen, the person opens it. The next player can select a fresh gift or steal one of the



presents that's already been opened.

3. Host a make-and-take craft party. With this type of exchange, participants will engage in some form of crafting for the duration of the event, whether it's pottery, painting, epoxy resin pouring, or even knit crafts. At the end of the night everyone can swap their creations with another or keep their own crafts as gifts.

4. Give the gift of a

group outing. Instead of exchanging material gifts, focus on sharing experiences with friends and family. A trip to watch a sports game or a theater performance can be an excellent way to spend time together, and something a person may not be inclined to do on his or her own. Certain venues will offer discounts on group tickets, so everyone can pool their resources.

5. Host a DIY cookie and cocoa exchange. Cookies, cocoa and the holidays are a perfect combination. A gift exchange where participants supply ingredients for these sweet treats, share their favorite recipes and then put together the finished products can make for an entertaining and festive afternoon. Each person can fill a cookie tin with baked cookies to take home and mason jars filled with homemade hot cocoa mix and marshmallows can be an additional gift to enjoy later on a chilly evening.

There are plenty of fun ways to exchange gifts during the holiday season.

How some popular holiday traditions got their start

Will you be baking gingerbread or hanging stockings by the fireplace this holiday season? Perhaps you'll be lighting the menorah or playing a game of dreidl? The holidays are steeped in tradition, some of which are older than celebrants may realize.

Individuals gather during the holidays and participate in various traditions that have withstood the test of time. Most people engage in these traditions or recognize symbols automatically, but it can be interesting to learn how these traditions came to be.

Christmas caroling
The British traditions of wassailing and mumming and the Slavic tradition of koliada were some of the precursors to more modern caroling. People would go door-to-door and recite poetry or sing with the hope of bringing about good fortune or influencing a future harvest, according to Rutgers University. Carolers spread hope and good tidings through song during a time of year when sunlight was limited.

Christmas trees
Pagans once displayed evergreen branches as a reminder that spring would come again, while Romans placed them around temples to honor Saturn, the god of agriculture. Eventually the evergreen was used in conjunction with Christian Christmas celebrations. In the sixteenth century, German Christians put trees inside their homes as symbols of everlasting life.

Santa Claus
Children who celebrate Christmas eagerly await the arrival of a jolly sort who goes by the name of Santa Claus. His origin story stretches back to the third century, when Saint Nicholas became the patron saint of children. Saint Nicholas was a monk in what is modern-day Turkey. It is said that he traveled helping the poor and the sick. History.com says he is believed to have saved three impoverished sisters from slavery by providing them with a dowry so they could be married, and he also provided gifts to children.

Menorah
The menorah is a multi-branched candelabra used in Jewish religious rituals. The menorah is first mentioned in the book of Exodus when the design of the lamp was revealed to Moses by God on Mount Sinai. Many menorahs are seven-branched, but during Chanukah, an eight-branched menorah is used. The Chanukah menorah is modeled after the Tabernacle menorah that corresponds to the eight-day festival. It was used to celebrate the rededication of the Second Temple. The available oil supply was supposed to light the menorah for just one day, but the candles actually burned for eight.

Mistletoe
Kissing under the mistletoe is a holiday season tradition that can lead to some red faces when couples are caught beneath the plant. Norse mythology paved the way for kissing under the mistletoe. Legend has it the gods used mistletoe to resurrect Odin's son, Baldur, from the dead. Baldur's mother, Frigg, the goddess of love, made the plant a symbol of love and vowed to kiss anyone who passed under it. Mistletoe blooms under cold conditions, which is how it became associated with the holiday season.

Yule log
Yule logs were once part of winter solstice celebrations to bring good luck and fortune, but America is where a yule log really caught on as a holiday tradition. In 1966, the WPIX television station in New York City aired a continuous loop of a fireplace burning for three hours with holiday songs playing. It became an annual tradition, says History.com. Some people even serve a cake that looks like a yule log. The Bûche de Noël is a traditional Christmas cake that is especially popular in France.

Holiday traditions continue in full force. Traditions are an endearing component of celebrations and help to unite people from all backgrounds during this special time of year.

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Gilford at 50: Changes after Columbine

Many people see public schools as open and inviting institutions, offering learning, compassion, structure, food, counseling, connections, job training, sports, entertainment, and a host of other opportunities for kids to advance and interact with others. Schools do the best they can to be all of those things; but then, everything changed on April 20, 1999. Two teenagers at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, went on a shooting rampage, resulting in the deaths of thirteen people, with twenty others wounded. And while schools still hope to share all forms of higher learning, some of the former “everyone is welcome here” attitude has quietly slipped away, as school and law enforcement officials around the country have changed many of their former practices regarding safety and access.

The first wave of post-Columbine awareness came to Gilford High School in a couple of different ways. For 25 years, students and visitors had entered the school through the front door, the sports lobby doors, and the auditorium lobby doors, with faculty generally entering through the side doors adjacent to where they park their cars. Working with law enforcement input, a decision was made to funnel all students, parents, visitors, delivery people, mail, and everything else through the front of the school. The door now has two locking systems; there is a “doorbell: on the outside door, and the front desk secretary can see and speak with people, deciding on who she buzzes in. Some of the safety changes came through school budgeting, though most of it appeared in the form of federal grant money. Teachers were provided with identify cards (they must wear them at all times during the school day) originally containing microchips that were used in conjunction with codes typed into numbered keypads. Nowadays, the technology has changed slightly, and the chips are part of proximity fobs. Foot traffic (other than teachers) enters through GHS’s front doors.

Just outside of the front doors are concrete bollards—security barriers that would help to stop or slow any vehicle headed toward the windows. The windows themselves have been covered in 3M Safety and Security film. This



Senior Luc Martin practices setting a door-to-floor NightLock during a drill.

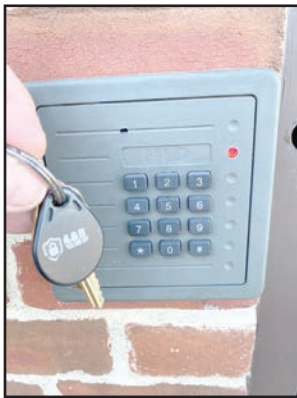
film is nearly bullet-proof; a barrage of bullets can, ultimately, penetrate the film, but to do so takes nearly two minutes of constant impact. What that does: it allows for reaction time from inside of the school.

SRO’s became a regular part of the schools themselves. School Resource Officers work directly in the school setting, with provided office space. The officers get to know students and establish positive relationships. An officer working in the school needs special training, in specialized areas such as adolescent brain development, cyber safety, and violence prevention. SRO’s aren’t in the school simply for safety and law enforcement—they also perform informal mentoring and counseling while increasing general surveillance over the schools.

Cameras have been installed strategically to cover school hallways and stairwells. The feeds from these cameras can be monitored from the SRO office, and the footage is recorded. Similarly, cameras have been installed on school buses. While some community members feel that so many cameras are an abundance of caution, the years since Columbine have taught us: Columbine was not an isolated incident. Sandy Hook Elementary School, Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, and Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas have unfortunately reminded us: school shootings continue to occur. Since 1999, there have been 2,032 school shootings, with the year 2023 registering a record high of 348 incidents.

Fire and Safety drills, along with Emergency drills for school bus riders, have always been a part of school practice.

The “duck-and-cover” drills of the 1950’s — instituted as a shelter in place practice against the possibility of an atomic attack—have gone away, but students in the twenty-first century continue with bus evacuations and they practice ALICE drills inside the buildings. The A in ALICE stands for Alert—becoming aware of a danger, be it through announcements or personal detection; L stands for Lockdown. This part of the drill is actually twofold: students and their teachers clear the halls, moving to the safety of classrooms that are swiftly closing up. The respective students and teachers then barricade their room, though they con-



Keypads with microchipped fobs are now used to access all GHS doors other than the front door.

tinue listening to alerts that might indicate that evacuation is a viable choice. Students have all been taught how to apply Night Locks—floor-to-door security door stoppers that are located inside of every classroom. I stands for Inform: video surveillance, 911 calls, and PA announcements gather and communicate information as quickly as possible, and pass it on. C stands for Counter. If evacuation isn’t viable, then classrooms continue to enhance their barricades and, as a last resort, students and staff locate various items that could potentially serve as weapons of last resort. Students might grab a stapler or a metal water bottle—whatever is close at hand that could be effective if the barricade were ever breached. Finally, E stands for Evacuate—everyone, working together, would hopefully

use the drill’s practiced techniques for safer and more strategic evacuations. School administrators have educated and practiced with students, and there are various contingency plans for gathering afterwards, in the event that such a need arises.

While school fist fights haven’t completely disappeared from the hallways of the schools, school leaders and law enforcement work together to ensure school safety while maintaining a safe haven for learning, and fights have dramatically reduced in numbers over the years. Gilford High School has adopted anti-hazing and anti-violence policies, observes the Guns-Free School Act, teaches anti-bullying and community engagement, and has increased access to mental health services for students. As far as fights go, School Resource Officers employ their special training in school environments, and they serve as a presence/deterrent to issues of violence and potential threats. Students are aware that such behavior could result in a charge of simple assault.

Every substitute teacher who works in our Gilford and Gilman-ton schools goes through a background check and undergoes fingerprinting before working in

the buildings. They also attend classes and workshops for best practices strategies when working with young people. Educators are updated with annual workshops that explain changes in state and school policies and law.

So many safety measures have been added at Gilford High School (as well as the Middle and Elementary schools) since it opened wide its doors in 1974. And while there are occasionally voices who disagree with this abundance of education initiatives, surveillance, expenditure, and caution, there can be no denying: the safety and innocence present fifty years ago is nostalgic at best, considering how the world around us has dramatically changed. Of course, locals like to think “it could never happen here;” and while that positivity feels right for our Gilford and Gilman-ton communities, the practices and the preparedness put present-day students and staff into a confident state of readiness. Twenty-five years after Columbine, the Gilford School District is alert and progressive, and works hand in hand with law enforcement, doing their absolute best to avert, prevent, and teach a stronger, safer way of working with and listening to one another.

NOTES FROM WINDY HOLLOW

The shrinking can goods

BY VIVIAN LEE DION
Contributing Writer

Getting ready for guests and preparing a large dinner can be overwhelming. First of all cleaning the house and making sure that the oven sparkles becomes my first priority. However my company always wants to help in the kitchen. They ask where the serving dishes are while searching the cabinets. I have a small serving dish that I inherited from my mother and that’s very special to me. It’s the one piece of Noritake China I own. Guess I really wanted one piece of the beautiful China and somehow it ended up in my cabinet; oops! There were several numerous serving dishes in mom’s set, I’m sure my sister Helen didn’t miss this one. She lives in Illinois and her husband died in January. Her daughter Judy is handling Helen’s affairs because my sister is no long capable of making decisions due to memory issues. Twenty-two years have passed

since we distributed mom’s estate. Life goes on and the last piece of mom’s beautiful China is here in New Hampshire. There was no squabbling on the distribution of assets and Helen being the oldest daughter inherited mom’s Noritake dinnerware. The family seemed satisfied with the distribution of things. The serving dish is used exclusively for holidays and special gatherings and is earmarked for my niece Judy when the time comes.

Let’s get down to the subject of “shrinking can goods.” Recently, I noticed that the can of green beans for my casserole was different. What’s going on here? The can label describes the weight as only 14.5 ounces. My recipe lists one pound (16 ounces) as the correct weight for the perfect casserole. Thank

goodness I have a second can of green beans and will add the small amount of the mixture to compensate for the missing few ounces. On Jan. 6, 2015, writer Dianne Jacob, mentioned the smaller can sizes in her newsletter. “If you are a recipe blogger, this change is a pain. Your older recipes now need revision.” She continues, “Do canned goods makers have any idea how this affects recipe developers and cooks?” Other items mentioned that are sold in smaller sizes are sweetened condensed milk, evaporated milk, canned beans and vegetables

One reader of Dianne Jacob’s newsletter wrote, “I happened to work at a sugar company when the size of a bag of sugar went from five pounds to four pounds. It was not about conve-

nience instead it was about making it seem like the price wasn’t going up. I pointed out that I had a storage container that was the perfect size for five pounds of sugar and that I would notice that it wasn’t filling up... but as far as I can tell, most people don’t notice and don’t actually pay attention to price/ounce.”

Cake mixes and puddings come in smaller size boxes. Although I recently made some butter-scotch pudding and was happy to learn that the volume appears to be the same. Bakers and cooks pay close attention to volume and price, when making the perfect homemade creation. “Behind every successful baker are a sprinkle of determination and a dash of passion.”

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

A photograph of a newly paved asphalt driveway leading to a two-story house with a grey roof and white trim. The driveway is dark and smooth, contrasting with the green lawn and autumn foliage. In the bottom left corner, there is a circular logo for "Best of 2023 Winner".

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A collection of orange and yellow pumpkins and autumn leaves arranged in the bottom left corner of the advertisement, adding a seasonal touch to the design.

Going out of Town

Unique gifts in the big city at The Holiday Market at Snowport

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

One of the last places you might expect to find a little winter village is right in the middle of Boston. Tucked among the skyscrapers and busy streets in the Seaport is a village of tiny cabins under a web of Christmas lights with crafters from across New England selling their eclectic creations. Even in the big city there is a place here to sit in an Adirondack chair and enjoy some hot food or even an overloaded cup of cocoa. This is the Holiday Market at Snowport: an excellent place to spend some cozy time and buy some hand-crafted gifts that will stay open until just before New Year's.

I first heard of the Holiday Market at Snowport last year, and checked it out right before New Years. It was such a fun place to spend some time, check out some amazing creations, and enjoy one of the most decadent cups



ERIN PLUMMER

The Food and Beverage lounge at the Holiday Market at Snowport, a cozy area in the heart of the city.

of cocoa I have ever had. It truly is a little winter village right in the middle of the big city. The Holiday Market reopened for 2024 just a few weeks ago and will stay open seven days a week until Dec. 29.

Every holiday season, the Seaport district becomes Snowport with an array of events and activities going on from



ERIN PLUMMER

Shoppers stroll through the rows of stands at the Holiday Market at Snowport in Boston's Seaport District.

but its biggest offering is its decadent hot chocolate. Each cup of its cocoa has one of its chocolate truffles. You can order an a la carte cocoa with different toppings to choose from or you can go all out and order one of the filled creations from its Over the Top Hot Chocolate menu. These concoctions are loaded with different toppings and flavors and taste like a dessert in cocoa form. Last year I ordered a s'mores cocoa topped with marshmallows they toast right there, graham crackers, and a chocolate bar. These cost around \$12.50 each but it's worth the splurge. This isn't the type of cocoa you gulp, it's the type you sit with and savor slowly. I remember walking out of the market and enjoying one right by the water on the Harborwalk just a few minutes away, sipping while watching the planes land and takeoff from Logan Airport.

There are other fun activities at the Holiday Market for people of all ages including a craft space for kids and the Mistletoe Arch covered in 50 sprigs of mistletoe.

It's easy to spend a few hours looking over the many different stands at the Holiday Market and easier to spend more time sitting to enjoy some hot food or tasty drinks. It is also a great way to support small businesses and check out some gifts that might be off the beaten path. The Holiday Market at Snowport will be open seven days a week through Dec. 29. For more information including a full list of hours and vendors visit <https://www.bostonseaport.xyz/holidaymarket>.



ERIN PLUMMER

The Mistletoe Arch has 50 sprigs of mistletoe overhead, perfect for some romantic holiday cheer.

November through December, including tree lightings, appearances by Betty the Yeti, an area for curling, and numerous promotions by Seaport businesses. The Holiday Market as the center of the festivities and the biggest activity. The Market itself is located on Seaport Boulevard a few blocks away from the Moakley Bridge and is about a five-minute walk from Courthouse Station on the MBTA's Silver Line. When arriving at the area, the market is

hard to miss. Visitors can walk in through different entrances during the market's operating hours completely for free. The lefthand entrances lead into the Food and Beverage lounge, a large courtyard lined with food trucks with Adirondack chairs and barrel tables in the center. Here visitors can find an array of food choices including waffles and crepes, pasta served from a cheese wheel, a selection of soups, Mexican specialties, and much

PMHS senior class hosting spaghetti dinner

ALTON — Prospect Mountain High School's Senior class is hosting a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Dec. 6 from 4:30-8 p.m.! The menu will include a starter salad, bread, your choice of spaghetti or lasagna, and an

ice cream sundae dessert. Drinks are included. The three course meal is only \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under. Please come and support the Class of 2025 and enjoy a delicious meal!



COURTESY

Hold the date for holiday family concert on Dec. 7

The annual Joyce Andersen and Harvey Reid holiday concert will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday the 7th at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead. Don't miss this welcome to the Christmas season with these well-known and beloved musicians.

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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.
For more information, please visit abundantharvestnh.org or e-mail ahf@faith.com.

ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER
Sundays throughout the summer 10am & 7pm. 875-6161.

BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON
Alton 9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Ben Ruhl, www.befreechurch.net.

CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Worship Service 10:00am
Bible Study 11:15am
Rte 126 next to Town Hall
Call or Text (603) 269-8831
centerbarnsteaducc.org

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF PRAISE C.O.P. PRAISE GATHERING
Gathering Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m.
The Gilmanston Community Church
1803 N. Route 140, Gilmanston, New Hampshire
ccoppraisegathering@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON
Pastor Jared Cassidy
10am Worship service Sunday
20 Church St Alton
(603) 875-5561
www.ccaalton.com

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC
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603-776-1820
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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
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400 Main Street
Farmington, NH 05835
www.farmingtonuhc.org

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	19 Beaver Dam Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$1,085,000	Judith S. Fleming RET and Gerald S. Fleming	Brian N. and Dianne L. Bartas
Alton	204 Cherry Valley Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$567,000	Alan Roy Sherwood RET	Colleen Slawiak
Alton	176 New Durham Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$240,000	Susan E. Benschnieder	Jason M. Glidden
Alton	890 Rattlesnake Island	Single-Family Residence	\$230,000	Jeffrey D. Williams	Blaine Drew
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$25,000	Charlene L. and Alfred J. Marshall	Riley J. and Adam J. Chase, Jr.
Barnstead	1 Kent Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$356,800	Susan McPhee	Kevin and Nicole McGee
Barnstead	136 Ridge Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$985,000	Shane Forest	Deborah A. Lavery
Barnstead	17 Windsor Way	Single-Family Residence	\$465,000	Nicholas and Amanda Manley	Anthony M. and Kara Figueiredo
Barnstead	N/A	N/A	\$250,000	Mark L. and Lisa S. Trainor	James C. and Heidi A. Duford
Gilford	6 Cumberland Rd., Unit 16	Condominium	\$255,000	William J. and Carolyn J. Forsyth	Christine and Thomas Kinahan
Gilford	2 Farmer Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$362,000	Eileen Giguere and Terri L. Kuroda	Anthony Gentile and Cloe Boucher
Gilford	8 Ox Bow Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$495,000	Gatheral Properties Inc.	Simon and Tamara Basyuk
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$1,600,000	James M. Howard Trust	Kaa LT and Matthew K. Boylan
Gilmanton	N/A	N/A	\$893,400	Argue LT and David Argue	Robert L., Jr and Denise M. Eaton
Gilmanton	N/A	N/A	\$220,000	Brenda L. and Brett A. Currier	Paul T. and Luciann Manning
New Durham	150 Berry Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$430,000	Leo Provost	Richard A. Carr and Kristen I. Nahama

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

Here are recent real estate transactions in Alton and the surrounding areas. These sales summaries are informational only, not a legal record. Names shown are usually the first listed in the deed. Sales might involve additional parties or locations. Prices are usually based on tax stamps and might be inaccurate for public agency sales. Refer to actual public documents before forming opinions or relying on this information. Additional publicly recorded information on these sales, prior sales and data from Department of Revenue Administration forms is available at www.real-data.com 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.

Alton Garden Club looks back on 2024

ALTON — The one advantage of being a gardener, or lover of gardens, is that we know that life is like the perennial flower that has its seasons. At this time of year, we're mulching the grounds, cleaning up the items we don't want to winter over and looking forward to the spring's rebirth and the earth being renewed again.

On Nov. 12, our club had its Annual Meeting, Election of Officers and Holiday Luncheon at the Christian Conference Center at the Bay. We enjoyed a delicious traditional holiday dinner and took the time to socialize and enjoy each other's company. Everyone left the event smiling and already looking forward to next year's Garden Club meetings.

Like our gardens, this past year's activities have been enjoyed, and the knowledge

gained and co-operation of each member having done their jobs have contributed to our success.

We may be quiet, but we're not quite finished. The first Saturday in December will be Light Up Night in downtown Alton. There will be carol singing with the help of the Praise Group of Gilmanton Iron Works Church. Earlier in the day the Festival of Trees will be opened for viewing at the Gilman Museum. Along with the other organizations in town and the various businesses, each group will create its own Christmas tree or decorations to be raffled as a fundraiser for the community. Alton Garden Club's Festival of Trees project for this year is a lovely Christmas wreath and matching garland designed by Joan Blackwood and Jane Brad-



bury. Santa will be at Town Hall waiting to greet the children and perhaps provide a place to get warm if it's a cold night. The Community Church

of Alton will be serving hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. Alton Home and Garden will be offering hayrides around the village and general

merriment will be the order of the night. Alton Garden Club will also be placing wreaths and garlands on town building and on the fencing at Old

Riverside Cemetery soon.

The Program Committee will be busy arranging various programs, covering a range of interesting subjects, all in the name of knowledge and understanding of our living world.

We hope that you've been enriched by our efforts in adding color throughout the summer and might consider joining our team. We'd like to thank Bruce Holmes for his dedication to the club and the town of Alton with his donations of flowers, planted and cared for by Alton Garden Club. You can learn more about our organization by going to our website, Alton-gardenclub.com. The dues are only \$10 for the year, and if you join before the end of January, your name will make it into the yearly membership book.

PETS OF THE WEEK



Meet Brandy!

Brandy is the sweetest girl with a whole lot of love to give. Her favorite thing to do is to play and lay with her people, but she won't say no to a romp in the woods either! She'd do best in a home where she's the only animal - she deserves to be the star of the show! Come meet Brandy and you'll want to bring her home with you right then and there!

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Meet Baby!

Baby is a lovely lady who would do best in a home where she can get some adventures. She loves to lay in the sun and hang out with her people, but she won't say no to a romp in the woods either! She'd do best in a home where she's the only animal - she deserves to be the star of the show! Come meet Baby and fall for her smile today!

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SOCCER

(continued from Page A1)

of Woodsville, Abram Wydra of Gorham and Wyatt Lawton of Profile. Earning Second Team were forwards Logan Poulton of Littleton and Matt Driscoll of Moultonborough, midfielders Ryan Walker and Andre Chumbes of Woodsville, Shiloh Reagey of Littleton and Wyatt Weeden of Lin-Wood and defender Landon Hoyt of Moultonborough while Honorable Mention went to goalie Gavin Marchand-Correia of Moultonborough, forward Caiyu Demaggio of Profile, midfielder Coen Mullins of Profile and defenders Gabe Roy of Woodsville, Sam Reagey and Reece Cook of Littleton, Mason Clark and Andrew Morris of Lin-Wood and Jackson Clough of Profile.

First Team honors also went to goalie Patrick Thompson of Epping, forward Blake Snyder of Epping, midfielder Jackson Pelland of Epping and defender Isaac Kirby of Concord Christian.

Also earning Second Team were goalie Jayden Young of Concord Christian, forward Hunter Thompson of Mascenic and defenders Jackson Weir of Colebrook and Elijah Barthelmess of Mascenic.

Honorable Mention was also presented to



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Jared Beale of Gilford was named to the Division III All-State First Team as a defender.

forwards Ian Thompson of Colebrook, Bennett Money of Portsmouth Christian, Colton Durant of Newmarket and Jacob Parrott of Monadnock, midfielders Lucas Leroux of Mascenic, Jack Kyller of Colebrook, Malik Nasir of Sunapee and Brayden Pelletier of Pittsfield and defenders Owen Clark of Pittsfield and Ronin Winslow of Monadnock.

Gorham's Dave Backler was named the Division IV Coach of the Year and Armand Comtois of Monadnock was named JV Coach of the Year.

In Division II, Plymouth deefnder Luke Legacy earned Second Team honors while Plymouth goalie Thomas Daigneault, Kennett defender Jack Heysler and Kingswood defender Brady Moulton both earned Honorable Mention.

Earning First Team in Division II were goaltender Jack Bourque of Campbell, forwards Avery Wilson of Milford, Luke Delia of Campbell and Torin Saunders of Oyster River, midfielders Otto Bourne of Lebanon, Max Scopal of Oyster River, Logan Barka of Campbell and Vincent Arsenov of Milford and defenders Corey Handwork of Oyster River, Dominic Calandrella of Lebanon, Joonas Mangum of Milford and Ryan Dolder of Bow.

Joining Legacy in earning Second Team honors were goalie Steven Phillips of Coe-Brown, forwards Luke Hartshorn of Bow, Calvin Jaques of Souhegan and Joey Olivera of Merrimack Valley, midfielders Garrett Rousseau of ConVal, Colin Magnuszewski of Hollis-Brookline, Carsyn Perkins of Merrimack Valley and Keenan

regional planning conference and spoke to different vendors who can assist the town with that. While different short-term rental companies

will not provide their own of lists of rentals in Gilford, these companies can procure that list and the town can act accordingly.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford midfielder Micah Javalgi capped his Gilford soccer career by earning First Team All-State honors.

Hubbard of Bow and defenders Titus Billings of Lebanon, Amadu Diallo of Pembroke and Eli Wormwald of Merrimack Valley.

Also earning Honor-

able Mention were goalie Darian Bachelder of Milford, forward Ethan Anderson of Bow, midfielders Miles Saunders of Lebanon, Kyle Wilk of Laconia, Wilson Kim of

Oyster River, Max Cail of ConVal, Evan Bernasconi of Souhegan, Cameron Fuchs of Bow and Jack Larose of Campbell and defenders Bruce LaPierre of Coe-Brown, Ethan Bellino of Campbell, Tiegian Barb of Milford, Kaeden Truong of Pelham, Rio Calle of John Stark and Ryan Close of ConVal.

Akan Ekanem of Oyster River was named the Division II Coach of the Year while Matt Hauntsman of Milford was named JV Coach of the Year.

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

SURVEY

(continued from Page A1)

cial development, most respondents indicated that offering property tax incentives was the top priority followed by allowing for denser development and installing municipal water and sewer.

The survey has a list of different types of features and asked respondents to rank them by wanting to see more of to wanting to see less. Around 51 percent of respondents said they wanted to see safer place to walk and bike that don't share a road. Almost 51 percent said they wanted to see more restaurants whether they are local or national. More than 47 percent said they wanted more protected land that allows for passive recreation. Around 53 percent

of respondents said they wanted to see less self storage entities and more than 51 percent wanted to see fewer major retailers or department stores.

When asked about different types of housing the town needs, over 35 percent said there is a greater need for accessory dwelling units and over 30 percent said there is a need for smaller homes. More than 62 percent said there was no need for townhomes and row homes and almost 61 percent said there was no need for lakefront housing.

On some of the biggest impacts on housing in town, almost 77 percent said the cost of construction was a high impact with almost 69 percent saying property taxes and interest rates.

When asked what options would be more fea-

sible if the town pursued greater oversight on short-term rentals, more than 56 percent said it would be regulating the maximum number of guests allowed on a property with more than 40 percent saying they would want to see a rental registry vetted with the town on an annual or biannual basis.

When asked about the biggest advantages and disadvantages of short-term rentals on the town, most had neutral responses to all the questions. More people overall said the impacts on septic capacity and noise were overall negatives. Few responded with any overall "very positive" or "somewhat positive" scores. Nearly 11 percent each rated supplemental income and tourism as "very positive."

CRAFT FAIR

(continued from Page A1)

class President Grace Kelly.

Kelly said this year the seniors will be selling wooden Christmas trees made by two students and decorated by members of the class. There are also miniature versions given to the class by another student volunteer.

Every year the seniors sell meatball subs. Co-organizer Meg Jenkins said this year they are also adding macaroni and cheese and vegetable rice soup.

Jenkins said the vendor slots for this year's fair are all sold out.

"It's slammed: every inch of wall space, rooms everything's full," said class co-advisor Audra Warren. "It's the most we've ever had with a waitlist of like 40."

While the event is a major fundraiser for the seniors, other classes and different student organizations will sell food to fundraise for their own activities.

After going through the years of working at the fair in different ways, the coming senior class gets ready to take the reins on this event.

"I feel like we definitely have a huge leadership role in this," said class Vice President Kendal Heyman. "Other years we had small tables with our classes, now its much more demanding."

She said it is great seeing the entire class show up and work together.

"I think senior year that's what happens: everyone kind of steps in and builds bonds with each other," Kelly said.



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December events at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

BARNSTEAD — Good to Know Info: We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month until 3 p.m. (Dec. 12). We will also be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 25, for Christmas, and the following Tuesday, Dec. 31, and Wednesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's. Last but not least, there will be a special Storytime with Santa on Dec. 18!

Do you like animals? Especially cute ones? Well, look no further. "Pets of OFML" calendars will be available at the library the first week of December for the low, low price of \$14! You can buy one for yourself, but they would also make a great gift for your pet loving friends and family (first come, first served)! Extra bonus: Proceeds from our calendar sales go to fund library programs.

New! Home School Group: Join us Fridays from 10:30 a.m.-noon for a mix of stories, simple science/learning activities, and a creative art/craft activity that all go along with a theme for the week. The activities are geared towards kids ages 4 and up, and younger siblings are welcome to come along. There will be an event posted ahead of time on our Facebook group for each weekly meet-up, so you'll always know what to expect and if you need to bring anything.

Music and Movement Storytime, a.k.a. Littles Love to Learn! Join us on Tuesdays at 10:30 for an interactive storytime filled with stories, songs, and loads of sensory play designed specifically for toddlers.

Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. is Children's Storytime. Yes, you heard that right. Every Wednesday! Visit us at the library for stories, crafts, and singing. Then experience the cozy ambience in the children's area, which has all sorts of neat things to do. Make new friends. Set up playdates. Check out books,

movies, and games, play with the trains, Legos, and puppets. Come for the learning, stay for the fun!

Start your week off with Yoga Monday! Gentle Hatha-Flow runs from 10:15-11:40 a.m., Senior/Beginner/Chair Yoga is noon-1 p.m., 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.

Between now and Dec. 15, the library will serve as a drop-off site for holiday cards and donations for the Veterans Home. Donations include personal care items, such as: Toothpaste, Mouthwash, Shampoo, Lotion, Shaving Cream, Aftershave, Body Wash, Combs, Tissues, and Deodorant, and entertainment items, like: Word Searches, Crossword Puzzles, Jigsaw Puzzles, and Sudoku.

Our Meet and Read Book Club (ages 18 and up) takes place on the first Wednesday of the month (Dec. 4, from 6-7:30 p.m.), in the library's Meeting Room. This month's book will be "Yellowface" by R.F. Kuang. Next month's book will be "The Art Forger" by Barbara Shapiro. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend! Please Note: Due to the holiday, there will be a temporary change of dates for January's meeting to Wednesday, Jan. 8.

Want to frost cookies like a pro? Thursday, Dec. 5, from 4-5:30 p.m., join Leah Whitney from Cookie Bear Baking LLC for a festive and fun hands-on workshop where you'll learn the art of decorating holiday-themed cookies! We'll start with the basics of frosting and then dive into decorating your own cookies with festive designs. Whether you're a newbie or a cookie decorating expert, you'll leave with skills and cookies that look (and taste) amazing! This is a popular one, folks, so registration is required.

Tuesday, Dec. 10, from 5-7 p.m., we are hosting a Holiday Card-Making Workshop! 'Tis the season for getting crafty. Get into the festive spirit and unleash your creativity by crafting your own unique holiday cards to share with your loved ones. We'll provide all the supplies—paper, embellishments, stamps, and more!

On Friday, Dec. 13, from 5-7 p.m., Oscar's Elves are in the house! We are here to help with all of your holiday wrapping needs. We will have wrapping paper, tags, bags, and ribbon for all of your presents. Bring in your gifts to have them wrapped while you check out what the library has to offer. The wrapping (and rapping) is free, but you're more than welcome to give a donation to the library to be used to fund future programming (and maybe singing lessons).

Join the Senior Social Club, a program designed to provide 65 and older adults with fun and engaging activities that foster community and relationship building. Each session will focus on different activities, including arts and crafts, storytelling, and technology workshops. The club will meet the third Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m. (Dec. 17). Light refreshments will be served.

New! The Tight-Knit Knitting and Crocheting Circle is here. Knitters and crocheters come together to work on your projects, discuss any technical difficulties you're having, and support one another. The group typically meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:30 in the library meeting room, but with Christmas this month, the date has been rescheduled to Tuesday, Dec. 17.

The OFML Sewcial Club meets the 3rd Wednesday (Dec. 18) of the month from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Guests can bring any sewing or quilting project they are work-

ing on (along with their sewing machines and supplies) to the library to socialize and share tips while they sew.

Family Crafternoon is a family-focused event that happens every third Friday of the month (Dec. 20). Join us for a special time of 1 p.m. (due to early release at BES) as we make a holiday treat and watch a movie. Materials will be provided and light refreshments served.

On Friday, Dec. 20, from 6:30-8 p.m., join us for Books & Banter! This lively book club is open to everyone and invites you to share and explore a wide range of genres—everything from non-fiction to horror to romantasy! Feel free to come ready to discuss up to three books you've recently read, giving a brief synopsis to spark conversation. It's a fantastic way to discover new titles and engage with fellow book lovers. Whether you're a seasoned reader or just looking to explore new genres, there's a place for you here. Don't miss out on the fun—come share your thoughts, learn about new books, and enjoy a cozy evening of discussion. We can't wait to see you!

Let's Write a Novel! Join us in the library's meeting room for a series of structured classes on the how-to's of writing a book. Note: We typically meet from 6-7:30 p.m. on the last Friday of the month, but due to the holiday, we will meet on Friday, Dec. 20, instead. Budding writers, 16 and older, ignite your passion for storytelling, discover how to build your hero's journey, and take your novel from concept to can-do! This structured course includes sessions on creating: Chapter Cheat Sheets, Character Cards, and a Tracking the Timeline graph. We welcome all genres from Fantasy to Action Adventure to Romance, focusing on a target audience of Middle School and above.

On Friday, Dec. 27,

from 3-5 p.m., we are having a Teen/Tween Friendship Bracelets & Bead Animals Crafting event! Join us for a cozy afternoon of friendship bracelet making and bead animal crafting while we watch the classic holiday movie, "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas." Whether you're a bracelet pro or

a crafting newbie, come hang out with friends, create something awesome, and enjoy some holiday cheer!

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

Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events

Nov. 28 – Dec. 5

Thursday, Nov. 28 CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING	sions, 3-4:30 p.m. Intermediate Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 29 CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING	Wednesday, Dec. 4 Senior Stretch Yo- gaaah!, 9-10 a.m. Card Games, 10 a.m.- noon Check out an Expert, 10 a.m.-noon Naturally Plant Based, 10:30-11:30 a.m. A plant-based lifestyle doesn't come with a set of rules. But there are certain rules of thumb when it comes to bal- anced nutrition. Calci- um, Iron, Vitamin B12, and Protein are key nu- trients that can be lack- ing without the proper foods. Additionally, highly processed meat alternatives can have a false "health halo" ef- fect. Join a Hannaford Dietitian and learn which foods are natural- ly plant-based and natu- rally nutritious.
Saturday, Nov. 30 Beginner Line Danc- ing, 10:30-11:30 a.m.	Paint Group, 1-3 p.m. Chess Group, 1-3 p.m. T(w)een Boredom Busters, 3-4 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 2 Fun and Fitness With Joyce, 9-10 a.m. Baby Storytime, 10- 10:30 a.m. Cybersecurity Aware- ness, 11 a.m.-noon The NH Municipal Cyber Defense Program, led by The Atom Group in collaboration with US Homeland Security and the NH Department of Information Tech- nology, is designed to protect New Hampshire communities from cyber threats and fraud. This grant-funded initiative aims to bolster the cyber defense capabilities of municipalities, helping to create a safer, more re- silient digital infrastruc- ture across the state.	Thursday, Dec. 5 Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m. Sensory Sensations, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Explore the wonders of our five senses in this interactive playful pro- gram! Home School Club, noon-1:30 p.m. French Club, 4-5 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 3 Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m. Geri Fit, 10-11 a.m. Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m. T(w)een RPG Ses-	

Gilford Public Library Top Ten requests

1. "The Grey Wolf" by Louise Penny
2. "In Too Deep" by Lee Child
3. "Framed" by John Grisham
4. "How to Read a Book" by Monica Wood
5. "An Eye for an Eye" by Jeffrey Archer
6. "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon
7. "Swan Song" by Elin Hilderbrand
8. "Counting Miracles" by Nicholas Sparks
9. "On The Hunt" by Iris Johansen
10. "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" By James McBride

GENERAL SERVICES

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ALL-STATE

(continued from Page A3)

of Concord Christian and AJ Mulligan of Newmarket and defenders Jillian Long of Newmarket, Sophia Workman of Portsmouth Christian and Anna Filippov of Sunapee.

Also earning Second Team recognition were forward Emma Smith of Concord Christian, midfielders Jaela Stockbower of Portsmouth Christian and Amelia Raab of Newmarket and defender Emma Crumb of Newmarket.

Honorable Mention was also presented to goalie Lila Perry of Colebrook, forwards Made-lyn Sullivan of Epping and Mia Cahill of Mount Royal, midfielders Olive Jennings of Sunapee, Hannah Pincince of Somersworth and Mabel Johnson of Pittsfield and defenders Lindsey Eldridge of Colebrook, Paige Robinson of Pittsburg-Canaan and Addison Waters of Epping.

Andrew Dawson of Newmarket was named

the Division IV Coach of the Year.

In Division II, Kingswood's Kylie Rapoza earned First Team honors at midfield, teammate Madison Eaton earned Second Team honors on defense, teammate Rowan Donovan-Laviolette earned Honorable Mention in the midfield and Kennett's Haylee Burke earned Honorable Mention at forward. Rapoza was also named to the New Hampshire Lions Cup Team.

Joining Rapoza in earning First Team honors were goalie Lexi Boudreau of John Stark, forwards McKenna Maguire of Hollis-Brookline, Bailey Gatchell of Pembroke and Bella Lapierre of Coe-Brown, midfielders Allie Burgess of ConVal, Lexi Insana of Bow and Jillian Ferguson of Souhegan and defenders Abby Foote of Bow, Ellie Snoke ad Kiera King of Hollis-Brookline and Parker Keeler of Oyster River.

Also securing Second Team recognition was

goalie Laila Al Shawafi of Pembroke, forwards Luciana Battaglia of Keene, Madison Lamoth of John Stark and Rosalie DeSantis of Hollis-Brookline, midfielders Marleigh Kreick of Hollis-Brookline, Maggie Escabi and Jennifer Noni of Coe-Brown and Corinne Palhof of Merrimack Valley and defenders Abby Rodenhiser of ConVal, Chloe Caron of John Stark and Jada Lucas of Merrimack Valley.

Honorable Mention also went to forward Cara VanDyke of Bow, midfielders Lexy Boudreau of Pelham, Zofia Rosenfield of Souhegan, Molly Reardon of Hollis-Brookline, Brooke Walker of Lebanon, Alyska Alcocer of Oyster River, Lindsey Jones of Pembroke, Kinsley Matis of Milford and Avery Pellerin of John Stark and defenders Kayla Amyot of Pembroke, Amanda Thomas of Coe-Brown, Ellie Andrews of Merrimack Valley, Gils Davis of Pembroke, Jocelyn Shaw of Milford

and Charlotte Laroche of Bow.

Jay Vogt of Bow was named Division II Coach of the Year and Jess Allison of Bow was named JV Coach of the Year.

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

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Wolfeboro Friends of Music presents ‘Seamus Egan’s Good Winter: A Celtic Christmas’

WOLFEBORO — It’s hard to think of an artist in traditional Irish music more influential than Seamus Egan. From his beginnings as a teen prodigy, to his founding of Irish American powerhouse band “Solas,” hailed by The Boston Globe as “the finest Celtic ensemble this country has ever produced”, Seamus Egan has inspired multiple generations of musicians and helped re-define the sound of traditional Irish music today and more importantly- to tell its stories.

What season is more about stories than the season of Christmas! Tradition, ritual, and collective memory, all come together in “Seamus Egan’s Good Winter: A Celtic Christmas” performed with his amazing Irish band: The Seamus Egan Project Saturday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Wolfeboro.

Songs of the season, original songs, traditional and original music, poetry and spoken word seamlessly weaving together to create an intimate story full of joy, humor, and reverie. Combining fiddle, flute, whistle, guitar, ban-



jo, piano and piano accordion with vocals to raise the rafters in celebration, A Celtic Christmas’ is sure to brighten the darkest midnight. We invite you to “push the old year against the wall and welcome in the new” and celebrate the holiday season.

This is the fourth of nine concert performances comprising the current season running through May, 89 years of artistic excellence in service to New Hampshire’s Lakes Region!

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