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Winnisquam Echo

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026

SERVING TILTON, NORTHFIELD, BELMONT & SANBORNTON, N.H

Franklin Savings Bank donates $2,500 to Northfield Economic Development Corporation

NORTHFIELD — Franklin Savings Bank recently donated $2,500 to Northfield Economic Development Corporation to support the organization's community programming and park improvement initiatives, including funding their Concerts in the Park series and the Fall Family Festival, while also advancing two priority capital projects.

"Local parks offer an important opportunity for community members to connect throughout the year," explains Brian Bozak, President & CEO of Franklin Savings Bank. "We are happy to contribute to the advancement of these local parks, and appreciate the dedication and effort put forth by the Northfield Economic Development Corporation to make it happen."

The Concerts in the Park have become a popular community event series that bring families together throughout the summer to enjoy live music. The Fall Family Festival hosts local vendors, while featuring a classic car show, pumpkin decorating station, a petting zoo and other activities for kids. In addition, this donation will also be used to assist in the construction of ADA-accessible walkways at Pines Park and

SEE **DONATION**, PAGE A1



COURTESY PHOTO

(Left) Shown in Photo: Front Row: Jessica Price, CFO, Franklin Savings Bank; Heather Failla, Member; Stephanie Giovannucci, Parks Vice Chair/Coordinator, NEDC Treasurer/ Secretary; Sheri Sprague, Member; Back Row: Scott Haskins, Parks Chair, NEDC Member; Zach Powers, Member.

Winnisquam Regional School District to host annual holiday dinner Dec. 4

TILTON — The Winnisquam Regional School District will welcome residents of Tilton, Northfield and Sanbornton to its annual Holiday Dinner on Friday, Dec. 4, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Winnisquam Regional High School cafeteria.

The free community dinner is a longstanding district tradition intended to express appreciation to the residents of the three towns for their continued support of local students, educators and the school district as a whole.

Guests will be treated to a traditional holiday meal featuring oven-roasted turkey, potatoes, gravy, farm-fresh squash, stuffing, salad and dinner rolls.

In addition to the meal, the evening will feature activities for children and a photo backdrop where families and friends can capture memories of the holiday gathering.

The annual event provides an opportunity for community members to come together outside the classroom and celebrate the relationship between the district and the towns it serves.

Organizers emphasize that the dinner is an expression of gratitude for the many ways residents support public education, from their investment in local schools to their encouragement of the students and professionals who make up the Winnisquam Regional School District. The event is free, including the meal and activities.

Residents of Tilton, Northfield and Sanbornton are encouraged to attend and enjoy an evening of food, fellowship and holiday cheer.

Murder and mystery await you courtesy of Franklin Opera House

FRANKLIN — Murder, mystery, and mouthwatering desserts await guests at "Murder in Black & White," a Murder Mystery Dessert Fundraiser benefiting the Franklin Opera House, taking place Friday, Nov. 13, and Saturday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Franklin Elks Lodge #1280 in Franklin.

The mystery begins with one intriguing question: Who is after Ann White? And why? As the evening unfolds,

SEE **MYSTERY**, PAGE A11



Belmont soccer boys upset Gilford, earn Final Four berth



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford's Zach Osman slides in to knock the ball away from Belmont's Brody Ennis in action on Saturday afternoon.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Aaryn Durand goes after the ball during his team's upset of Gilford in the Division III quarterfinals on Saturday.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — It was a busy week across the Lakes Region as field hockey playoffs wrapped up and soccer and volleyball playoffs got started.

On Tuesday, the Division II boys' soccer tournament kicked off with Kennett dropping a 3-1 decision on the road at Pembroke Academy.

Also on Tuesday, the Division III girls' soccer tournament got started with a big upset coming in Berlin, where the Gilford girls went on the road and edged past the host Mountaineers by a 4-3 score in a game that was settled in penalty kicks. The Prospect Mountain girls also went on the road, dropping their preliminary round game in Raymond.

The Division II volleyball tournament also kicked off on Tuesday with Gilford shutting out Coe-Bown by a 3-0 score while the Plymouth Bobcats went on the road to Oyster River and dropped a 3-0 decision to the Bobcats.

On Wednesday, the

SEE **SOCCER**, PAGE A11

Franklin Opera House seeks donations for 14thAnnual Festival of Trees

FRANKLIN — The Franklin Opera House is inviting individuals, families, businesses and community organizations to participate in its 14th Annual Festival of Trees, to be held Dec. 4, 5, and 6 at the Franklin Public Library.

This beloved annual holiday event serves as a fundraiser benefiting the general operations of the Franklin Opera House. Community members are encouraged to donate and decorate a variety of display items including artificial Christmas trees, wreaths, gift baskets and other creative holiday-themed displays. Festival attendees can then purchase raffle tickets to win everything on, in, or under those items.

The Festival of Trees provides a unique opportunity for participants to celebrate the season, showcase their creativity, promote their business or organization, and support the arts in the Franklin community.

According to Franklin Opera House representatives, "We welcome donations from anyone who would like to participate. Whether you are an individual, a business, organization, your contributions help make this event a festive and successful fundraiser year after year!"

All donated trees, wreaths, and similar items must be artificial. Donors are encouraged to decorate their displays with any theme or style of their choosing. If you would like to decorate a tree, but do not want to purchase one, Franklin Opera House has a number of trees of various sizes available at its administrative office (321 Central St., Franklin, open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.). Donors' names will be prominently displayed alongside their creations (anonymity is always honored when requested) providing recognition and visibility to the many supporters who make the Festival of Trees possible.

If you are interested in donating, please visit www.FOHNH.org or call the office directly at (603) 934-1901. If you still prefer paper to electronic forms, Franklin Opera House is happy to send you a registration form upon request.

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Safe Haven Ballet brings "The Nutcracker" to the Colonial stage

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present the Safe Haven Ballet's "The Nutcracker" on Sunday, Nov. 29, at 4:30 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale now at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

Safe Haven Ballet is thrilled to bring our spirited, full-length ballet of "The Nutcracker" to The Colonial Theatre of Laconia! This dynamic performance includes all of your favorite characters including a strong-minded Clara to the eccentric Drosselmeyer, the spooky Rats, as well as our beloved Sugarplum Fairy danced by artistic director, Lissa Curtis. In the Land of Sweets you will be introduced to a variation unique to Safe Haven Ballet called The Brave American. Come sing and clap along to this spirited, patriotic piece!

SHB is located in beautiful Portsmouth, New Hampshire and exists to offer free trauma sensitive classes to survivors of sexual/domestic violence and trauma. Many of these brave survivors will be in the production as they help bring the magic of the season to you. We would love your energetic applause!

The original owner of the Colonial Theatre, Benjamin Piscopo, was from Italy, and the theatre featured a fire curtain depicting Venice as seen from the water. In August of 2002, the theatre closed after 87 years of operation. On June 15, 2015, the City of Laconia announced a partnership with the Belknap Economic Development Council (BEDC) to purchase, renovate, and reopen the Colonial. The newly reopened Colonial Theatre has a seating capacity of 750 and plays host to various performances, including music, theatre, comedy, and civic events. Spectacle Management manages the Colonial Theatre and is home to the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative. The Colonial Theatre is located at 609 Main Street, Laconia, NH 03246. www.coloniallaconia.com

Founded in 2012, Spectacle Live offers venue operations, booking, programming, marketing, and production services across New England from offices in Lexington, MA, Lowell, MA, and Laconia, NH. The company partners with over a dozen venues to manage facilities and promote a variety of events, including concerts, comedy, theater, and family entertainment. For more information, contact Pete Lally at plally@spectaclelive.com or 617-531-1257. www.spectaclelive.com

Colonial welcomes musical tribute to ABBA

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present The Concert: A Tribute to ABBA on Wednesday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale on now at 10 a.m. at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

The Concert: A Tribute to Abba continues to be the top ABBA tribute group in the world, dazzling all who see with their fantastic performance while playing the most iconic hits, including "Mamma Mia," "S.O.S," "Money, Money, Money," "Knowing Me, Knowing You," "Waterloo," "Gimme, Gimme, Gimme" and "Dancing Queen."

The Colonial Theatre of Laconia

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Spectacle Live

Spectacle Live's mission is to create connections that make exceptional live experiences happen. Founded in 2012 and headquartered in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, Spectacle Live is a live event and venue management company specializing in performing arts centers across the Northeast. The company partners with municipalities and arts organizations throughout New England to provide comprehensive services, including venue operations, marketing and promotion, booking and talent buying, ticketing, food and beverage management, technical production, and consulting. Spectacle Live currently works with more than a dozen venues across Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, presenting a diverse range of events from concerts and comedy to theater and family entertainment. For more information, visit www.spectaclelive.com or contact Pete Lally atplally@spectaclelive.com or 617-531-1257.

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Raiders wrap up cross country season in Manchester



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Brodie Henry led the way for the Belmont boys during Saturday's Division III State Meet in Manchester.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Jenna Laramie led the Belmont girls at the Division III State Meet on Saturday in Manchester.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sean Andrews runs on the Derryfield Park course on Saturday during the Division III State Meet.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

MANCHESTER — The Belmont cross country team wrapped up the regular season with a trip to Derryfield Park in Manchester at the Division III State Meet on Saturday.

The Raider girls finished in 11th place overall on the day led by a 47th place finish from Jenna Laramie in a time of 25:37. Lyla McSheffrey finished in 79th overall in a time of 27:31 with Zoe Perlet in 81st overall in 27:35. Violet Smith finished in 87th place with a time of 29:03 and Neala Murphy rounded out the scoring with a time of 29:41 for 92nd place. Allieanna Steele rounded out the field of Raiders with a 102nd place finish in a time of 31:51.

Brodie Henry led the way for the Belmont boys with a 29th place finish in a time of 18:56 with Sean Andrews finishing in a time of 20:21 for 67th place. Daniel Tripp finished in 156th place with a time of 29:23 to round out the field of Raider boys.

JOSHUA SPAULDING

(Right) Lyla McSheffrey runs in the Division III State Meet on Saturday at Derryfield Park in Manchester.

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

Tanger Outlets Tilton invites community to join holiday celebrations

TILTON — 'Tis the season to celebrate! Tanger Outlets Tilton kicks off November with a joyful lineup of events as Tilton's ultimate holiday destination. Guests can stroll through festive décor throughout the center, enjoy merry traditions and shop major savings all season long.

On Saturday, Oct. 31 to Sunday, Nov. 1, Tanger Tilton hosts its annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Market, complete with 90 arts & crafts exhibitors displaying a variety of media for great holiday gifts.

Later this month, Tanger Tilton will host its annual Holiday Festival on Friday, Nov. 13 at 4—6 p.m. where guests can celebrate selfies with Santa, hot cocoa, holiday cheer and more. Located near Levi's, Santa will be available during the Holiday Festival for photos with the family.

Shoppers can also stretch their dollar and capture Black Friday savings every day in November with Tanger Deal Days leading up to Thanksgiving week's traditional doorbuster sales. From Nov. 1—22, guests can access early deals online or through the Tanger app, offering up to 25 percent off top brands like American Eagle, Gap and Under Armour. From the hottest winter styles to beauty must-haves and more, Tanger Tilton has the perfect gift for everyone on the nice list.

More than a retail destination, Tanger Tilton is a gathering place at the heart of the community, bringing people together to celebrate the season, create meaningful memories and enjoy experiences that extend beyond the shopping trip.

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251st Marine Corps Birthday luncheon
Hosted by Cpl Demers Detachment
Marine Corps League
All Marines and family members are invited to a join the Marines Corps League at the Black Bear Grill in Colebrook on Saturday, November 7.
Black Bear Grill 151 Main Street, Colebrook
Cost will be $10.00 per person, payable at the door. We need an accurate headcount, so if you would like to attend, please call Dave Dubey at (603) 723 - 4193. Signup deadline is October 31. Hope to see you there.
12:00 - Social Hour
1:00 PM - Lunch
2:00 PM - Ceremony

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Opinion

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.

A community's investment in places that bring people together

There is something special about a town park. It doesn't have to be elaborate or expensive to become one of the most valuable places in a community. A patch of grass, a few benches, a playground or a place to listen to music can provide something increasingly difficult to find in our busy lives: an opportunity to spend time together without having to spend much money.

That is why Franklin Savings Bank's recent $2,500 donation to the Northfield Economic Development Corporation deserves recognition. The contribution will support community events and improvements to local parks, helping preserve and strengthen the places where neighbors gather and families make memories.

The donation will benefit Northfield's Concerts in the Park series and Fall Family Festival, two programs that offer residents opportunities to enjoy their community outside the routines of work, school and household responsibilities.

Summer concerts provide an easygoing evening of entertainment close to home. The Fall Family Festival, with its local vendors, classic cars, pumpkin decorating, petting zoo and children's activities, offers the kind of experience that can become a family tradition.

These events may seem like small pleasures, but they serve an important purpose. They give residents a reason to come together, introduce newcomers to their neighbors and create a sense of belonging that cannot be measured in dollars.

Equally important are the physical improvements the donation will help advance. Plans for ADA-accessible walkways at Pines Park address something that deserves more attention in every community: the ability of residents of all ages and physical abilities to enjoy public spaces.

A park is not truly welcoming if someone using a wheelchair, a walker or another mobility aid cannot comfortably reach its amenities. Accessibility should never be treated as an optional enhancement. It is an essential part of making public facilities available to the people whose communities support them.

The planned revitalization of the David King Tryon Skate Park at Surrette Park is another worthwhile investment. Skate parks offer young people a place to practice skills, challenge themselves and spend time with friends in an environment designed for their interests.

Not every child gravitates toward organized team sports. Communities benefit when they provide a variety of recreational opportunities, recognizing that different interests deserve consideration.

The skate park also represents something larger than a recreational facility. Maintaining spaces intended for young people sends a message that their interests matter and that they have a place in the community.

Of course, a $2,500 contribution cannot accomplish every improvement Northfield hopes to make. Park projects require planning, ongoing maintenance, additional funding and people willing to see the work through.

But donations such as this one help move worthwhile projects forward. They also demonstrate the value of partnerships between local businesses, municipal officials and community organizations.

Franklin Savings Bank has a long history in this region, and its support of Northfield's parks reflects an understanding that a community's strength depends on more than commercial activity. Healthy towns need places where people can relax, socialize and enjoy their surroundings.

The Northfield Economic Development Corporation and Parks Commission also deserve credit for recognizing that community development is not limited to attracting businesses or improving infrastructure. Quality of life matters, too.

Families considering where to settle notice whether a town offers recreational opportunities. Longtime residents appreciate well-maintained public spaces. Young people benefit from having safe, welcoming places to gather.

These are not extravagant ambitions. They are practical investments in making a town a better place to live.

As Northfield continues working toward improvements at Pines Park and Surrette Park, residents should take an interest in the progress. Supporting community events, respecting public facilities and participating in discussions about future recreational needs are all ways to help ensure these spaces remain valuable for years to come.

The real measure of success will not be the size of a donation or the completion of any single project. It will be found in the families attending concerts, the children enjoying the skate park and the residents who can more easily access a favorite outdoor gathering place.

Those everyday experiences are what make public parks worth investing in.



Courtesy Photo

This past Saturday, Winnisquam Regional High School welcomed members of the Class of 1976 for a tour. Principal Perry and Principal Wujcik met with the group and provided a tour of each school. There have been a lot of changes to the schools in 50 years, and it was so much fun to hear the past graduates talk about some of the wonderful things they experienced in their time in Winnisquam schools. They even shared some of the shenanigans they used to partake in as students. Once a Bear, Always a Bear! Photo courtesy of the school's Facebook page.

The trouble with being right

Kind Hearts, Cold Winters

By CHIPPY

I've reached a point in life where I've come to appreciate a rather uncomfortable truth: Being right isn't nearly as satisfying as it used to be.

Oh, don't misunderstand me. I still enjoy being right. Quite a bit, actually. There's a certain pleasure in knowing that the thing you predicted would happen has happened exactly as you said it would. The trouble is, I've discovered that announcing this fact to the people around you rarely produces the admiration you might expect.

Take my wife, for instance.

We've had our share of disagreements over the years, most of them concerning matters of absolutely no importance whatsoever. The proper way to load a dishwasher. Whether a particular road is actually a shortcut. How much money we saved by buying something we didn't need because it was on sale.

I used to consider these discussions opportunities to demonstrate the soundness of my reasoning. Now I recognize them as opportunities to keep my mouth shut.

That recognition, unfortunately, hasn't always translated into action.

There's something about human nature that makes us want to win an argument, even when there's absolutely nothing worth winning. We dig in our heels, gather our evidence and prepare our closing statements as though we're appearing before the Supreme Court instead of standing in the kitchen discussing where somebody put the good scissors.

And heaven help us if we have proof.

I remember when a disagreement could be settled by somebody saying, "Well, I guess we'll never know." Those were peaceful times. Today, everybody has a little machine in their pocket capable of settling nearly any factual dispute in seconds.

You'd think that would make arguments shorter. Not a chance.

Now we argue about whether the information is accurate, whether the source is trustworthy and whether the person doing the searching asked the question correctly. By the time we've finished, nobody remembers what started the whole business.

I've also noticed that the older I get, the more certain I become about things I probably ought to question.

That's a dangerous combination.

When I was younger, I assumed older people knew what they were talking about because they'd been around longer. Now that I've been around longer myself, I realize experience doesn't necessarily make a person wise. Sometimes it simply gives him a larger collection of opinions he's unwilling to reconsider.

And boy, do some of us have opinions. We have opinions about how people drive, how they dress, how they speak and how much they're willing to pay for a cup of coffee. We have opinions about television, grocery stores, customer service and the proper temperature of a living room.

Some of those opinions are perfectly reasonable. Others, I suspect, are the result of being irritated before breakfast.

I've caught myself explaining how something ought to be done to somebody who knows considerably more about it than I do. That's a humbling experience, particularly when the somebody in question is young enough to make you wonder whether his parents know he's out of the house.

But here's what I've slowly come to understand. Being older doesn't mean you have to surrender your opinions. It means you ought to be a little more selective about when you share them.

There's a difference between having something worth saying and needing to have the last word. I haven't always appreciated that distinction.

Years ago, if somebody challenged something I said, I'd feel obliged to defend it. I'd explain myself once, twice and sometimes a third time, getting a little louder with each explanation, as though volume might somehow improve the quality of my argument.

These days, I'm trying something different. Sometimes, I say, "You might be right."

Those four words are remarkably useful. They don't require you to admit defeat, surrender your dignity or abandon everything you've believed since childhood. They simply acknowledge the possibility that another human being might know something you don't.

It's a radical concept, I realize.

I've even discovered that occasionally the other person actually is right. Not often enough to make a habit of announcing it, mind you, but often enough to keep me reasonably humble.

And when I am right? Well, I've learned that there's a certain quiet satisfaction in knowing it without making a production out of the whole thing.

Of course, I still slip up.

Every now and then, something happens exactly as I predicted, and I can feel those dangerous words rising in my throat.

"I told you so."

I can practically taste them.

Then I look at my wife, remember that I enjoy having a peaceful home, and decide that perhaps this particular victory doesn't require a parade. Besides, after all these years, she already knows when I'm right. At least that's what I tell myself. And if I'm wrong about that, I'd appreciate it if nobody mentioned it.

Winnisquam Echo

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Lake Estate on Winnisquam receives coveted AAA Four Diamond designation

TILTON — The Lake Estate on Winnisquam, a 114-room independent, year-round, $90-plus-million resort and spa masterpiece has been awarded the coveted AAA Four Diamond designation, becoming the newest New Hampshire property to receive the honor just 13 months after the property welcomed its first guests. The recognition places The Lake Estate on Winnisquam among the most distinguished lodgings in New England and marks a rare achievement for a property so early in its life. Representing the most significant luxury real estate investment in New Hampshire's modern history, the resort ushers in a new era of hospitality excellence for the state.



AAA's Four Diamond designation is held by about 7 percent of the nearly 23,000 lodgings in the AAA Diamond Program, and The Lake Estate on Winnisquam is now one of only nine AAA Four Diamond hotels in New Hampshire. Properties are evaluated through unannounced, in-person inspections by AAA's professional inspectors, who assess cleanliness, comfort, cuisine and consistency. Four Diamond hotels are recognized for upscale accommodations, elevated cuisine and attentive, personalized service.

The Lake Estate on Winnisquam, located in the heart of New Hampshire's Lakes Region in the quintessential New England small town of Tilton, and situated on 3,400 feet of natural shoreline with views of the Belknap and Ossipee mountain ranges, opened in late summer 2025. Only 90 minutes from Boston, the resort seamlessly blends understated New England elegance with world-class amenities, state-of-the-art technology and exceptional service.

"Earning AAA Four Diamond recognition in our first 13 months is a testament to a team that has treated every arrival as an opportunity to exceed expectations," said Ed Rocco, General Manager of The Lake Estate on Winnisquam. "From day one, we set out to create a lakeside retreat where gracious, intuitive hospitality is as memorable as the view. This honor belongs to every member of our staff, and it's a promise to our guests that we will keep raising the bar."

AAA Diamond Program hotels and restaurants are re-evaluated annually to ensure they provide the best experience for travelers and diners.

"AAA is pleased to recognize The Lake Estate on Winnisquam with the Four Diamond designation, meaning its unwavering attention to both service and surroundings has placed it into the upper tier of AAA's Diamond Program," said Stacey Barber, AAA Travel Vice President. "To maintain the exceptional standards required for this designation on a daily basis is an outstanding achievement. Four Diamond hotels and restaurants are attentive to guests' needs and consistently deliver memorable travel and dining experiences."

Modeled after a grand private estate and inspired by New Hampshire's Grand Hotels of yesteryear, The Lake Estate on Winnisquam is the crown jewel of New Hampshire's beautiful Lakes Region.

Drawing inspiration from the fresh, natural surroundings, The Lake Estate on Winnisquam offers 114 oversized, designer-decorated guest rooms, 18 of which are suites. More than 70% of the guest rooms and suites feature direct lake views with either private balconies or patios. All accommodations showcase an elevated New England style echoing the serenity of the lake with state-of-the-art technology. All suites feature gas fireplaces. The Lake Estate is an ideal getaway for couples to unwind, reflect and enjoy all that the resort has to offer. 2026-2027 rates range seasonally from $399 to $1,900 (for a 2-bedroom suite in high season) per room, per night based on double occupancy.

The Lake Estate on Winnisquam's 36-acre grounds offer an array of recreational facilities and natural spaces designed for relaxation and recreation.

• Expansive lakefront lawn with infinity pool and hot tubs

• Two groomed private beaches offering guests complimentary paddleboards, kayaks and canoes

• Four pickleball courts and one tennis court

• Apple orchard, meditation garden and three outdoor firepits

• The Point - a pristine lakeside preserve

• Walking/running/snowshoeing trails

• 25 fireplaces throughout the property

• The Granite Theater - a private screening room offering nightly movies with a complimentary concession pantry

• The Fitness Center - offering state-of-the-art equipment

• The Salon - offering blowouts, nails, make-up and bridal services

• Floral Designs by Adele Rose - in-house florist

The Lake Estate on Winnisquam elevates Lakes Region dining with four distinctive venues:

• The Dining Room - Modeled after a formal dining room of a private lake estate, the signature restaurant is an elegant space with panoramic lake and mountain views (seats 96). The cuisine is inspired by the flavors and traditions of New England made with thoughtfully selected ingredients. The menu changes seasonally, tapping into locally sourced offerings. Open daily for Breakfast 7:30am - 10am and Dinner 5pm - 9pm. Reservations are available through Resy.

• The Bar - The Bar revives the glory days of hotel bars with warm wood-paneled walls, plush fabrics and a dramatic 55-ft granite bar and expansive deck. Features craft cocktails and wines, as well as locally inspired fare (seats 77). Open daily for Lunch 11am - 3pm and Dinner 5pm - 9pm.

• The Folly Grille - A seasonal poolside grill featuring lighter fare and an alfresco ambiance. Available to resort guests only (seats 30). Open daily from 11am - 5pm.

• The Wine Cellar - An intimate and private dining room, The Wine Cellar offers seating for up to 16. Available by advance reservation only.

The culinary team also offers seasonal dinner series and special holiday menus throughout the year in addition to managing and facilitating in-room dining, weddings & banquets and private events.

The nourishing freshness and serenity of the lake set the tone and defines the guests' journey at The Lake Estate. The Spa, a luxurious 5,300-plus-square-foot wellness facility, offers nature-inspired treatments using local minerals and botanicals, wellness therapies and curated rituals designed to promote physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Features include eight treatment rooms (two for couples), men's and women's saunas, a luxurious relaxation lounge with apple orchard views, a 1,500-square-foot terrace with year-round heated mineral spa, fire pit and meditation garden. The Spa at The Lake Estate on Winnisquam was named "Best New U.S. Spa 2026" by American Spa magazine, the industry's leading authority on spa and wellness. Open daily from 9am - 5pm to resort guests and as a day spa for local visitors.

The Lake Estate on Winnisquam is New Hampshire's newest premier wedding destination, accommodating everything from intimate elopements to grand celebrations of 220 guests in a storybook New England setting. The centerpiece Estate Ballroom features artisan post-and-beam architecture with panoramic lake and mountain views, while outdoor options include an elegant and grand lakeside platform, The Great Lawn, a private beach, an apple orchard, and The Point lakeside preserve. Full-service amenities include a dedicated in-house floristry, on-site bridal salon, and personalized wedding planning.

For corporate events, 10,000 square feet of flexible meeting space accommodates up to 234 guests across eight rooms, all featuring floor-to-ceiling windows with stunning lake and mountain views. The resort provides customizable corporate events, incentive programs, and executive retreats featuring state-of-the-art audio-visual technology, elegant New England charm, diverse on-site and off-site activities, and creative seasonal menus showcasing local cuisine.

About The Lakes Region

Tourism has been a significant part of New Hampshire's economy since the 1800s. Grand Hotels were built in the late 1800s/early 1900s and were luxurious properties that drew the ultra-rich to New Hampshire's White Mountains region via new railroads that came to the region in the 1850s. The Grand Hotels transformed tourism in New Hampshire at the dawn of the 20th century. Located in the east-central part of the state, south of the White Mountains Region, New Hampshire's Lakes Region features 273 bodies of water and continues evolving as an exclusive year-round destination offering activities across all four seasons.

Boston Logan International Airport is 90 miles from the resort, Manchester-Boston Regional Airport is 45 miles away and Laconia Municipal Airport is only 10 miles away. The resort also offers three electric vehicle charging stations.

About AAA

For nearly 90 years, AAA's professional inspectors have conducted in-person property evaluations. AAA is the only entity using comprehensive, on-site professional hotel and restaurant evaluations guided by member priorities. AAA's inventory includes more than 28,000 Diamond (Five, Four, Three, and Approved) hotels and restaurants across the United States, Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, and the Caribbean. To browse AAA Diamond hotels and restaurants, visit AAA Trip Canvas. For more information on AAA Diamonds, visit AAA Newsroom/Diamonds.

About The Lake Estate on Winnisquam

The Lake Estate on Winnisquam is a new 114-room modern, independent luxury year-round resort with a 5,300+ sq. ft. world-class spa located in New Hampshire's Lakes Region in Tilton, NH, a scenic 90-minute drive from Boston, MA. The Lake Estate is situated at 725 Laconia Drive in Tilton, NH 03276. For additional information, visit www.thelakeestatenh.com, call 603.202.3600 or e-mail reservations@thelakeestatenh.com / spa@thelakeestatenh.com / groups@thelakeestatenh.com / weddings@thelakeestatenh.com. Instagram - @thelakeestatenh / Facebook - thelakeestatenh / #thelakeestate.

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Volleyball Bears swept out of playoffs by defending champs

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

MEREDITH — In a late season matchup in Meredith, the Winnisquam volleyball team took the defending champion Inter-Lakes squad to give games before the Lakers pulled out the 3-2 win.

So, when the two teams met in the opening round of the Division III playoffs, there was anticipation of something similar.

Instead, the defending champions took control in the first and second sets and held off a late rally in the third set to get the 3-0 win to advance to the Division III quarterfinals.

"We definitely talk about first set mentality all the time and they came out on fire," said first-year Laker coach Jordan St. Cyr. "That was incredible to see.

"We also focused a lot on our blocking technique yesterday, which was incredible helpful in today's game," she continued.

"The first couple of points were long rallies for both teams," said veteran Winnisquam coach Mark Dawalga. "I thought Inter-Lakes played really, really well but I also liked our compete level, we didn't stop playing."

The Lakers cruised to a 25-10 win in the first set and jumped out to a 6-3 lead in the second set and continued to build that lead with Gracie Stephens getting a couple of service aces and Avery Holmes adding a couple of hits at the net. The Bears got a nice diving play from Autumn Sarette and a good tip from Danica Weymouth to stay in the set but Holmes added another hit on the other side of the net to open the lead to 17-6.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Gracie Stephens of Inter-Lakes rises up for a hit as Winnisquam's Josie Myers defends in action last Thursday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Alanna Cruz bumps the ball up for a teammate during playoff action in Meredith last Thursday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Eila Petty pushes the ball over the net during action last Thursday in the Division III playoffs.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Autumn Sarette sets the ball for a teammate during action in the Division III tournament last week.

Evelyn Champagne added a hit for the Lakers and Alyssa Snow followed with a service ace as Inter-Lakes opened up the lead. Holmes also added an ace while Katie Bivolcic added a key point. Winnisquam got a block at the net from Eila Petty and Josie Myers, but Inter-Lakes closed out the 25-12 win for the 2-0 lead.

The Lakers got hits from Stephens and Champagne to open the third set before Weymouth added a hit on the other side of the net. Stephens had a block and Champagne had another hit as Inter-Lakes went up 5-1. Myers and Stephens exchanged hits and Stephens added an ace as the Lakers took an 8-5 lead. Winnisquam battled back with a tip and a hit from Weymouth.

Champagne and Bivolcic came through with hits for the Lakers and Stephens added a hit as the Lakers built up a 17-10 lead. Champagne had a couple of service aces as the lead increased to 20-11 before Winnisquam came to life. Petty had a big block to get things started and after a pair of Stephens aces, Sophie Fair had a couple of hits and Weymouth added a hit as the Bears cut the lead to 24-17. However, the Lakers got the final point to walk off with the 25-17 win and the 3-0 win to advance to the quarterfinals.

"I hope we can continue to have the same energy that we did tonight and just focus on our offense," St. Cyr said of the plans for top-ranked Portsmouth Christian in the quarterfinals. "Our offense has been hot and cold all season and I think if we can lock in on that, we can be a challenge for them.

"There was definitely some confidence in there for sure, being here before, that was playing to our favor tonight," St. Cyr added, touting her team's experience in big games the last few years.

"Super proud of the kids and the season they had, but sometimes you just have to tip your hat to the other team and I thought Inter-Lakes played really well," Dawalga noted. "I am super proud of the effort all season long."

The Lakers went on the road and gave the top-ranked Portsmouth Christian Eagles all they could handle, forcing five sets before the Eagles eventually pulled out the 3-2 win to bring the season to an end for the Lakers.

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

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Sachems bring end to Winnisquam's playoff hopes



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Kane St. Hilaire rises up to get his head on the ball on a throw-in during action against Laconia last Monday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Noah Bassett goes airborne and gets his foot on the ball during a corner kick chance for Winnisquam in last week's play-in game with Laconia.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

TILTON — Finishing as the 16th seed in Division III put the Winnisquam boys' soccer team in a unique position, as the Bears had to play their way into the tournament as one of two play-in games on Monday, Oct. 26.

While 15th seed Raymond hosted 18th seed Berlin, the Bears played host to 17th seed Laconia and for the first half of their game, the two teams were unable to find the back of the net, though Winnisquam's Nolan Abbott had a couple of solid chances in the first half that missed the mark.

Abbott didn't miss the mark early in the second half, as he broke through the defense and snuck the ball around the charging Laconia goalie for the 1-0 lead just 3:08 into the second half. Braeden Perrault had a direct kick go wide of the net and Noah Bassett booted the ball high on a corner kick chance. The Sachem keeper was able to stop another run from Abbott as well.

Bassett had a nice defensive stop, as did Jack McGranaghan while Abbott and Kane St. Hilaire went the other way, getting in close on a Bear throw-in chance. Perrault had another direct kick



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Nolan Abbott chases down the ball during tournament play-in action against Laconia last Monday afternoon.

go over the top of the net and then sent Jon Wright in on a chance as well.

The Sachems were able to tie things up with 22:07 to go in the second half, as they struck an arching shot from the side over the outstretched hands of Jacoby Keith for the tying goal. Keith stopped another Sachem chance and the Laconia defense turned back another Abbott run. The Bears had a corner kick that they couldn't convert and Abbott had another chance go over the top of the net.

Perrault had a direct kick go wide of the net and Kaito Tamaru and Simon Ahlgren both had good defensive stops for the Bears. Laconia had a direct kick chance denied by Keith and then had a pair of corners that missed the mark as they looked for the go-ahead goal.

A penalty kick gave the Sachems the lead they were pushing for with 11:34 to go in the game and Tamaru came back with a header at the other end that was cleared out. The Sachems were awarded another penalty kick with 5:23 to go in the first half and they delivered again to take the 3-1 lead. Perrault had a direct kick chance denied as the Bears pushed back the other direction.

The pressure did pay off as Abbott was able to put another goal in the net in the final minutes but Winnisquam was unable to get the tying goal and the Sachems advanced to face top-ranked Gilford in the opening round of the tournament.

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

Pair of Bears earn Meet of Champions bids



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Cullen Desrochers earned a spot at the Meet of Champions with his performance at the Division III State Meet on Saturday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Eloise Abbott will run at the Meet of Champions after finishing in the top 25 at the Division III State Meet on Saturday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Carter Lloyd runs for Winnisquam during the Division III State Meet on Saturday at Derryfield Park.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Anna Guerra (left) and Penelope McSweeney run in the Division III State Meet on Saturday in Manchester.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

MANCHESTER — The Winnisquam cross country team sent a pair of runners on to the Meet of Champions after competing at the Division III State Meet on Saturday at Derryfield Park in Manchester.

The Bear boys finished 10th overall on the day while the Winnisquam girls ran to 12th place as a team.

Cullen Desrochers led the way for the Winnisquam boys with a 15th place finish in a time of 18:14 to earn a spot at the Meet of Champions. Lazar Arbutina finished in 57th place in 1952 with Ryan Courtney in 62nd place in 20:13 and Owen Bakis in 74th place in 20:38. Lucas Durphey finished out the scoring for the Bears with an 81st place finish in 20:50. Carter Lloyd was 96th overall in 21:33 and Tristan Honeman finished in 101st in 21:38 to finish out the field of Bears.

Sophomore Eloise Abbott also earned a Meet of Champions invitation with her 18th place finish in the girls' race in a time of 22:45. Anna Guerra was 83rd overall in 28:15, Natalie Wolfe placed 95th in 30:16, Penelope McSweeney was 97th in 30:20 and Ariana Maxwell finished out the scoring in 106th place in 35:24. Clara Sancho Yague was 110th overall in a time of 38:20.

Abbott and Desrochers both earned the chance to extend their season at the Meet of Champions, which will take place on Saturday, Nov. 7, at the Hopkinton State Fairgrounds with the girls running at 2:30 p.m. and the boys at 3:10 p.m.

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

Dumais, Genakos both get wins in the pool for PSU

PLYMOUTH — Junior Kyle Dumais (Belmont) and senior Marco D'Addona (Torrington, Conn.) each won three individual events, but Regis College edged Plymouth State University, 106-102, in a men's swimming and diving dual meet at the PSU Natatorium on Friday evening.

Dumais won the 50-yard freestyle, 50-yard breaststroke and 100-yard breaststroke, while D'Addona captured the 100-yard freestyle, 200-yard freestyle and 50-yard butterfly to lead the Panthers.

Junior Karson Genakos (Gilford) also won an event, taking first in 1-meter diving (six dives) and second in 1-meter voluntary. Junior Alex Giguere (New London) placed second in all three of his events: the 100-yard butterfly, 100-yard individual medley and 500-yard freestyle. Classmate Riley Lyons (Methuen, Mass.) added a second-place finish in the 50-yard backstroke.

The quartet of D'Addona, Dumais, Giguere and Genakos also combined to win the 200-yard medley relay.

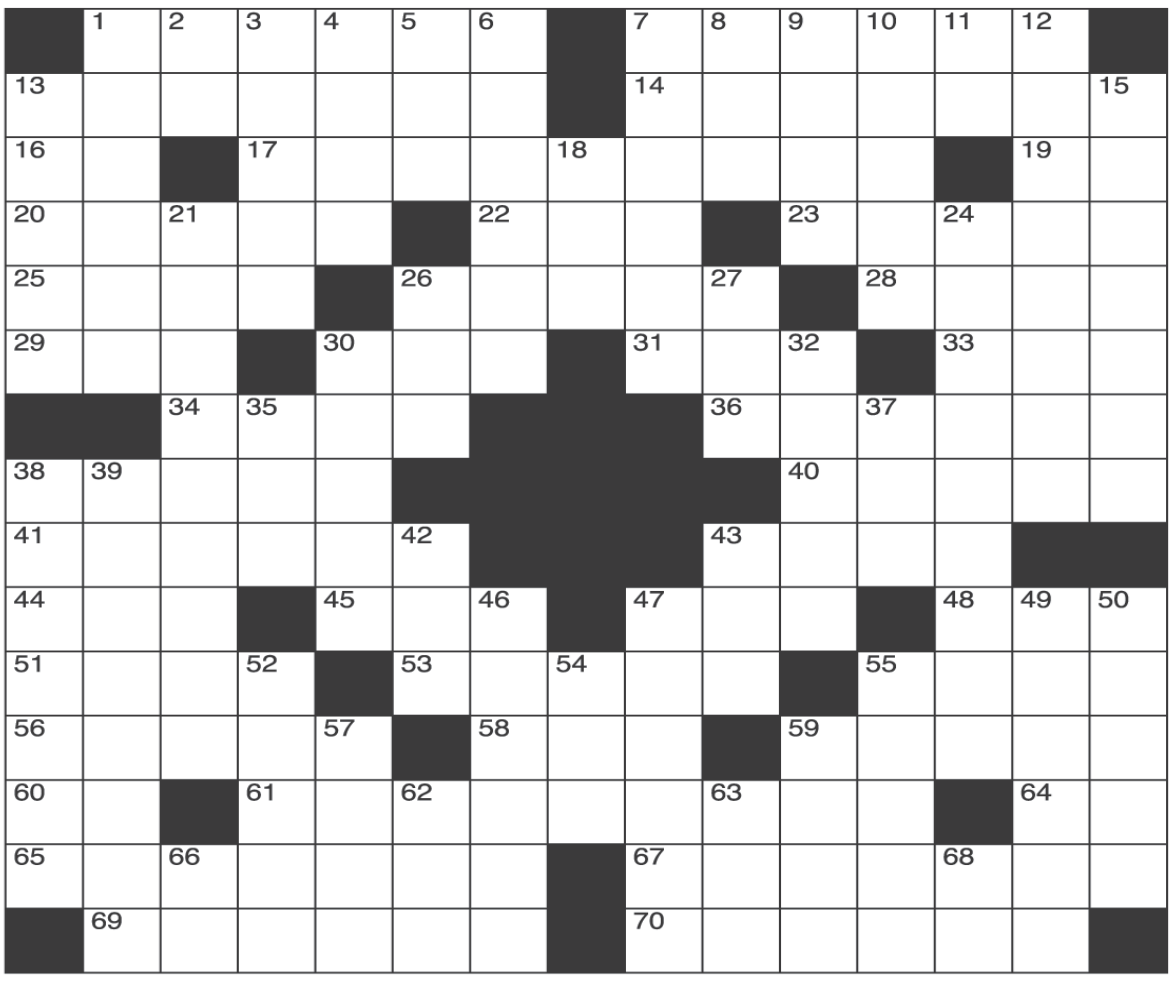
The meet served as PSU's Morgan's Message event, part of an initiative aimed at eliminating the stigma surrounding mental health within the student-athlete community.

Plymouth State travels to Gordon College for a dual meet on Nov. 7 at 1 p.m.









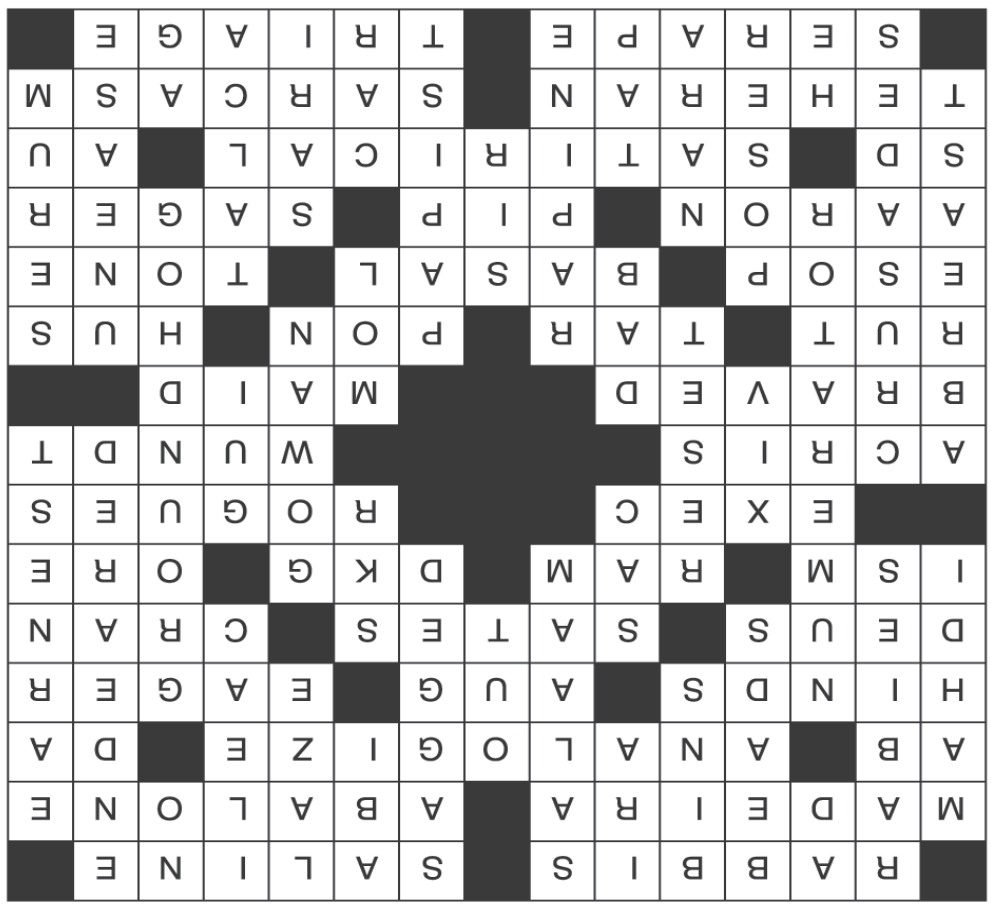
CLUES ACROSS

1. Spiritual leaders
7. Containing salt
13. Fortified wine
14. Edible mollusk
16. Blood type
17. Make a comparison
19. Government lawyer
20. "Game of Thrones" actor Ciaran
22. 8th month of the year (abbr.)
23. Very willing
25. __ ex machina
26. Satisfies
28. New Zealand mountain
29. A doctrine
30. Popular Dodge truck model
31. Dekagram
33. Naturally occurring solid material
34. Company higher-up
36. Villains
38. Cricket frog genus
40. Influential early psychologist
41. Endured
43. Servant
44. You can get stuck in one
45. __ and feather
47. Passive optical network
48. French ballet dynasty
51. Employee stock ownership plan
53. Forming a bottom layer
55. Sound
56. Yankees slugger Judge
58. Dickens character
59. Beloved late sportscaster Craig
60. "The Mount Rushmore State"
61. Sarcastic and critical
64. Atomic #79
65. Longtime Atlanta Braves pitcher
67. Humor
69. Shawl
70. Preliminary assessment of patients

CLUES DOWN

1. Animal disease
2. Commercial
3. Craft supplies
4. Containers
5. A way to save for your golden years
6. Common Arabic greeting
7. Bulged downward
8. Acquired brain injury
9. Lay about
10. Intestinal
11. Not yes
12. In a way, pleased
13. Messianic figure in Islam
15. Resulting from intense conviction
18. Not in
21. Number above the line in a fraction
24. Lawn pest
26. Pouch
27. Ancient language (abbr.)
30. Start anew
32. Wild flower
35. Fourteen
37. Graphical user interface
38. Facing the same way
39. Campaigns
42. Touch lightly
43. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
46. Violent seizure of property
47. One who supports the Pope
49. Malaise
50. Body fluid
52. Inauthentic person
54. Title of respect
55. Moth genus
57. Central Japan city
59. Silk garment
62. Draw from
63. Automobile
66. A male
68. Powerful government lawyer

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Red Cross: Blood and platelet donors needed now

CONCORD — The American Red Cross urges people to leave a lasting impact by giving blood or platelets now. Donors of all blood types, especially those with type O blood, are needed to keep the blood supply steady ahead of the holiday rush.

As we lean into fall activities, keeping blood and platelet donation appointments on the books is crucial to ensuring hospitals have the tools they need to care for patients this fall. In thanks, all who come to give Oct. 19-Nov. 22, 2026, will get up to $20 in Gift Cards - that's a $10 Amazon Gift Card by email and 500 bonus points, which can be redeemed for a $10 e-gift card through Blood Donor Rewards! Visit RedCrossBlood.org/Maze for details.

Get into the spirit of saving lives. Visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or use the Red Cross Blood Donor App to schedule a donation appointment.

Empower your health

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. To help empower and educate our blood donors, in November, successful donations will once again get free A1C testing, commonly used to screen for prediabetes and diabetes. (One result per calendar year; do not fast before donating.) For additional information, see RedCrossBlood.org/Maze.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Oct. 21 - Nov. 14:

Belknap
Gilford

Nov. 5: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Laconia Municipal Airport, 65 Aviation Dr.

Nov. 12: 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 18 Wesley Way

Meredith

Oct. 26: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Church Landing at Mill Falls, 281 Daniel Webster Highway

New Hampton

Nov. 2: 1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Jacobson Arena-Lobby, 37 Husky Dr.

Tilton

Oct. 29: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., NUCAR AutoMall of Tilton, 40 East Main St.

Nov. 7: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tanger Outlet, 120 Laconia Rd.

Carroll
Conway

Nov. 6: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Conway NH American Legion Post #46, 47 Tasker Hill Rd.

Nov. 10: 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Conway Humane Society, 223 E Main St.

Sandwich

Nov. 14: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Sandwich Central School, 28 Squam Lake Rd.

Wolfeboro

Nov. 4: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., The Wolfeboro Inn, 90 N Main Street

Grafton
Bristol

Nov. 13: noon to p.m., Newfound Regional High School-Bristol, 150 Newfound Rd.

Lincoln

Oct. 30: 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., St Joseph Church, 25 Church St.

Littleton

Nov. 2: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Littleton Hospital, 580 St Johnsbury Rd.

How to donate blood

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or follow us on social media.



2027 MVSB Community Calendars now available

MEREDITH — MVSB (Meredith Village Savings Bank) is pleased to announce that its complimentary 2027 Community Calendars are now available at all branch locations while supplies last.

Featuring scenic images from across New Hampshire's Lakes Region, Mount Washington Valley, White Mountains and Seacoast areas, the annual calendar showcases the winning photographs selected through MVSB's Community Photo Contest. Wall and tent-style calendars are available free of charge to community members at MVSB offices in Alton, Ashland, Center Harbor, Exeter, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, North Conway, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester and Wolfeboro.

"Each year's calendar celebrates the beauty, character and traditions of the communities we serve," said Cindy Hemeon-Plessner, MVSB Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing & Experience Officer. "The photographs featured in the 2027 edition reflect the remarkable talent of local photographers while capturing many of the landscapes, wildlife and moments that make New Hampshire such a special place to call home. We invite everyone to stop by a branch and pick up a calendar before they run out."



Courtesy Photo

Complimentary 2027 MVSB Community Calendars are available at all branches while supplies last. MVSB team member Jaron Jenkins displays "Sandwich Fair Ferris Wheel," his winning photograph featured for October.

The 2027 Community Calendar features photographs by:

- Andrew Drummond, Sunrise on Mount Adams (January)
- Kelly Norcross, Deer Couple in the Snow (February)
- Robert Kozlow, Maple Sugaring in NH (March)
- Kelly Danner, Keeper of the Flame (April)
- Jason Kennedy, Bemis Brook Falls in Spring (May)
- Kathy Diamontopoulos, Buried Treasures (June)
- Sophia Lupo, Dock Life at Dusk (July)
- David LaBar, Bear with "Do Not Pet the Fluffy Dogs" Sign (August)
- John Gisis, Wolfeboro Bay (September)
- Jaron Jenkins, Sandwich Fair Ferris Wheel (October)
- Erin Rojek, Screech Owl (November)
- Susan Francesco, A Loved One Visits (December)

MVSB has produced its annual Community Calendar for many years as a way to celebrate the regions it serves and highlight the work of local photographers. The Bank accepts submissions to its Community Photo Contest each spring, with selected images featured in the calendar, on its website and through social media channels. Information about the contest and featured calendar photos can be found at mvsb.com/annual-community-photo-contest.

MVSB has been serving the essential banking needs of people, businesses, nonprofits and municipalities for over 150 years. As a mutual savings bank, MVSB has no stockholders but rather operates for the benefit of its customers, employees and community. Since our founding, one thing has always remained true: caring is at the heart of everything we do. By building and nurturing relationships, we believe that we can cultivate a community where we all thrive. It all starts with caring about our customers and neighbors. To learn more, visit any of the local branch offices located in New Hampshire in Alton, Ashland, Center Harbor, Exeter, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, North Conway, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.

Sara Evans coming to the Colonial stage Dec. 3

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present Sara Evans on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale now at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

Multi-platinum entertainer Sara Evans is at the top of her game. As the fifth most-played female artist at country radio in nearly the last two decades — her five No. 1 singles include "No Place That Far," "Suds In The Bucket, "A Real Fine Place To Start," "Born to Fly," and "A Little Bit Stronger". Several of those #1's spent 2 weeks in the top spot and were certified platinum by the R.I.A.A. Overall, she's had 15 songs chart in the top 20.

Sara continues to thrill audiences around the world playing over 70 shows each year. Sara's "stunning, country voice" (Rolling Stone) has earned her the prestigious Academy of Country Music Top Female vocalist accolade as well as numerous American Music Awards, Billboard Music Awards, Country Music Association, CMT and Grammy Awards nominations. In addition, the CMA awarded Video of the Year honors for her hit chart-topping single, "Born to Fly" from her double-platinum album of the same name. Evans' discography also includes the multi-platinum selling studio albums Real Fine Place and Restless as well as the gold-certified projects Stronger and No Place That Far. Evans is also a proud member of the Grand Ole Opry.

The original owner of The Colonial, Benjamin Piscopo, was from Italy, and the theatre featured a fire curtain depicting Venice as seen from the water. In August of 2002, the theatre closed after 87 years of operation. On June 15, 2015, the City of Laconia announced a partnership with the Belknap Economic Development Council (BEDC) to purchase, renovate, and reopen the Colonial. The newly reopened Colonial Theatre has a seating capacity of 750 and plays host to various performances, including music, theatre, comedy, and civic events. Spectacle Management manages the Colonial Theatre and is home to the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative. The Colonial Theatre is located at 609 Main St., Laconia, NH 03246. www.coloniallaconia.com

Spectacle Live's mission is to create connections that make exceptional live experiences happen. Founded in 2012 and headquartered in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, Spectacle Live is a live event and venue management company specializing in performing arts centers across the Northeast. The company partners with municipalities and arts organizations throughout New England to provide comprehensive services, including venue operations, marketing and promotion, booking and talent buying, ticketing, food and beverage management, technical production, and consulting. Spectacle Live currently works with more than a dozen venues across Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, presenting a diverse range of events from concerts and comedy to theater and family entertainment. For more information, visit www.spectaclelive.com or contact Pete Lally atplally@spectaclelive.com or 617-531-1257.

Lotus Land brings the music of Rush to the Colonial stage

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present Lotus Land on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2027, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale now at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

With an unparalleled performance, The American Rush Tribute Lotus Land brings the force of live Rush to life on stage. Enjoyed by die-hard Rush fans, musicians, and casual music listeners alike, the Lotus Land experience has been heralded as the ultimate celebration of RUSH's musical craftsmanship and spirited performances.

With the true set up and sound of the Canadian power trio, Lotus Land delivers the thrill that people expect when they see RUSH in concert. Their performances have wowed sold-out houses in premiere concert venues and their fan base continues to grow nationally and internationally.

The Colonial Theatre of Laconia

The original owner, Benjamin Piscopo, was from Italy, and the theatre featured a fire curtain depicting Venice as seen from the water. In August of 2002, the theatre closed after 87 years of operation. On June 15, 2015, the City of Laconia announced a partnership with the Belknap Economic Development Council (BEDC) to purchase, renovate, and reopen the Colonial. The newly reopened Colonial Theatre has a seating capacity of 750 and plays host to various performances, including music, theatre, comedy, and civic events. Spectacle Management manages the Colonial Theatre and is home to the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative. The Colonial Theatre is located at 609 Main St., Laconia, NH 03246. www.coloniallaconia.com

Spectacle Live

Spectacle Live's mission is to create connections that make exceptional live experiences happen. Founded in 2012 and headquartered in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, Spectacle Live is a live event and venue management company specializing in performing arts centers across the Northeast. The company partners with municipalities and arts organizations throughout New England to provide comprehensive services, including venue operations, marketing and promotion, booking and talent buying, ticketing, food and beverage management, technical production, and consulting. Spectacle Live currently works with more than a dozen venues across Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, presenting a diverse range of events from concerts and comedy to theater and family entertainment. For more information, visit www.spectaclelive.com or contact Pete Lally atplally@spectaclelive.com or 617-531-1257.

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603 United hosting Winter Craft Fair and Festival of Trees

BELMONT — 603 United is holding their Annual Winter Craft Fair and Festival of Trees Dec. 5 & 6. This family fun event will take place in the Belknap Marketplace Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Step into a Winter Wonderland of twinkling lights, beautifully decorated trees, and handmade treasures. There's something for everyone in the family, from browsing unique crafts and gifts to enjoying festive sights and smells that will make the season sparkle.

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There will be live music from the 603 Pickers and The Moulton Band on Sunday to help bring in the Holiday Spirit.

603 United is still taking applications for Vendors, Sponsors and Decorated Trees to be raffled. For more information, visit www.603united.org.



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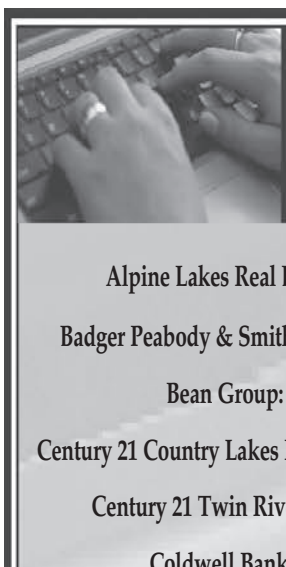


Ellsworth: Set on 4.92 acres with mountain views, this 2-bedroom, 2-bath home offers 1,716 sf. of main-level living with an 2-car garage and an unfinished 1,716-sf walkout basement rough-plumbed for a 3rd bath and kitchenette.



Laconia: Featuring 2,376 sq. ft. of finished space, this 2-bedroom, 2.5-bath tri-level townhouse offers water views across three levels, a wood-burning fireplace, and a finished walkout lower level. Outdoor spaces include newly painted wraparound decks, private beach access, and deeded boat slip in a protected cove.

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Dan Sylvester to be inducted into NHIAA Hall of Fame

CONCORD — The 26th annual NHIAA Hall of Fame Induction will be held on Sunday, Nov. 15, at the Grappone Conference Center Courtyard by Marriott in Concord beginning with a reception at 11:30 a.m. The Class of 2026 includes seven individuals who have distinguished themselves serving high school athletics. Among those chosen are Littleton's Bruce Mason under the "official" category and longtime Franklin coach, administrator and official Dan Sylvester.

Under the category of "Official," the NHIAA is pleased to welcome Bruce L. Mason into the Hall of Fame Class of 2026. For nearly four decades, Mason has been a respected and dedicated presence in New Hampshire high school athletics. A 1984 graduate of Littleton High School and a 1988 graduate of the University of Southern Maine, Mason turned an early interest in officiating into a lifetime of service to student-athletes, schools and fellow officials.

Mason began umpiring Little League and Babe Ruth baseball before pursuing officiating more seriously during college. His career spanned 38 years as a baseball umpire and 36 years as a basketball official, establishing him as a longtime contributor to interscholastic athletics.

His impact extended well beyond officiating games. Mason devoted considerable time to mentoring and developing officials. He served for many years as Apprenticeship Director in basketball, four years as president of Basketball Board 118, as its vice president, and as a member of the State Board 32 Executive Committee. Through these leadership positions, he strengthened officiating programs and encouraged new officials to become involved.

Mason earned prestigious assignments throughout his career, including the New Hampshire–Vermont Alhambra basketball game, numerous state tournament contests, and several state championship games. His dedication and contributions were recognized in 2025 when he received the Jon Clark Officials Award.

Perhaps the most meaningful measure of Mason's career is the relationships he developed with student-athletes. Following treatment for cancer, Mason returned to officiating and experienced an unforgettable tribute when players from both teams at a local high school game emerged wearing "Masonstrong" warm-up shirts. The gesture demonstrated the profound influence he had on the young people whose games he officiated.

His impact was further demonstrated when a scholarship recipient credited Mason's perseverance through extensive cancer surgery and his return to the basketball court within a year as inspiration for pursuing a career in healthcare and becoming a doctor. This reinforced Mason's belief that an official's influence extends far beyond the final score.

Throughout his career, Mason has viewed athletics as an opportunity to teach leadership, teamwork, responsibility, perseverance, and sportsmanship. His commitment helped preserve the integrity of competition while creating a positive environment for student-athletes to grow.

Mason's decades of officiating, leadership, mentorship, and lasting influence exemplify the ideals of interscholastic athletics. His legacy is defined not simply by the games he officiated, but by the lives he touched and his example of resilience, dedication and service.

The NHIAA is proud to welcome Dan "Sly" Allen Sylvester into the Hall of Fame in the "Contributor" category. For more than four decades, Sylvester has distinguished himself as an athlete, coach, athletic administrator, official, and mentor. His lifelong dedication to Franklin High School and New Hampshire interscholastic athletics has positively impacted generations of student-athletes.

A 1983 Franklin High School graduate, Sylvester excelled in football, basketball, and baseball. He scored his 1,000th basketball point during the 1983 Class I semifinals and established school single-game scoring records of 40 points in 1982 and 41 in 1983. As a baseball pitcher, he compiled a remarkable 17-0 regular season record from 1981 through 1983, earned selection to the inaugural New Hampshire Twin State Baseball Team, and pitched in the 1983 Class I state championship. He continued his baseball career at Plymouth State, serving as team captain during his junior and senior seasons.

Returning to Franklin, Sylvester established himself as a successful coach and educator. As varsity girls' basketball coach from 1992 to 1997, he compiled a 63-47 record, guided five consecutive playoff appearances, and led the 1993 team to a Class M runner-up finish. He was recognized as runner-up Coach of the Year and also coached middle school baseball and junior varsity boys' basketball.

Sylvester's greatest contributions came through athletic administration. He served as Franklin High School's Athletic Director in 2002-03 and again from 2014 until his retirement in 2026. His outstanding leadership earned him NHADA Division III Athletic Director of the Year honors in 2018 and Division IV Athletic Director of the Year recognition in 2024 and 2025. He also received the prestigious Clyde Meyerhoefer/NHADA Athletic Director Award in 2016.

Beyond Franklin, Sylvester served on numerous NHIAA and NHADA committees, coordinated divisional scheduling, and mentored fellow athletic directors. A certified basketball official since 2012, he also earned Registered, Certified, and Certified Master Athletic Administrator credentials.

Throughout his career, Sylvester championed athletics as an extension of the classroom, emphasizing character, teamwork, leadership, sportsmanship, and academic achievement. He helped restore Franklin High School's gymnasium and maintained athletic opportunities despite the challenges facing a smaller school community. Under his leadership, Franklin earned consecutive NHIAA Division IV Sportsmanship Championship Banners in 2022-23 and 2023-24.

From exceptional student-athlete to respected statewide leader, Sylvester has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to education-based athletics. His integrity, dedication, and lasting contributions to Franklin High School and the NHIAA make him a deserving member of the NHIAA Hall of Fame Class of 2026.

The other inductees include Bill Thurlow of Newport, Bill Reeves of Oyster River, Maren Petropulos of Souhegan, Bill Newcomb of Londonderry and Larry Carle of Newport.

MYSTERY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

guests will follow clues, interrogate suspects, and uncover secrets in a thrilling interactive mystery where appearances can be deceiving, and everyone has something to hide. Until the killer is caught, everyone is a suspect.

Combining suspense, comedy, audience participation, and decadent desserts, "Murder in Black & White" promises an unforgettable night of entertainment while supporting the community. The Franklin Opera House serves as the pillar of arts and culture in Franklin, offering live performances, educational programming, community events, and entertainment throughout the year. Fundraising events such as "Murder in Black & White" help ensure continuing affordable entertainment to serve Franklin and surrounding communities for generations to come.

Desserts for this event are made by Lady Liberty Confections in Franklin. Choose a classic whoopie pie, GF whoopie pie or a black & white parfait for your dessert when you purchase your ticket. Light snacks are provided for each table, and a cash bar will be available throughout the evening. Advance Tickets only – no tickets at the door- can be purchased at www.FOHNH.org.

DONATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

the revitalization of the David King Tryon Skate Park at Surrette Park.

"On behalf of the Northfield Parks Commission and the Northfield Economic Development Corporation, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Franklin Savings Bank for their generous $2,500 donation! This contribution will help us continue revitalizing our community parks, enhancing recreational opportunities, and bringing families and neighbors together through community events. We are incredibly grateful for Franklin Savings Bank's commitment to investing in our community and helping make Northfield an even better place to live, play, and gather," comments Stephanie Giovannucci, Northfield's Town Administrator.

Established in 1869, Franklin Savings Bank is an independent, mutually-owned community bank, offering an array of commercial lending, personal banking and investment services. The Bank also offers investment and financial planning services through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Independence Financial Advisors. A recognized leader in providing the latest in financial services technology, Franklin Savings Bank remains committed to serving the needs of businesses, families and the communities it serves, through a dedicated team of employees, a diverse line of financial products and services, and continued investment in emerging technology. Visit www.fsbnh.bank to learn more or follow the bank on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube.

SOCCER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Division II girls' soccer tournament kicked off with Kennett recording a 3-0 win over Souhegan. Summer Laine scored the first goal on a shot from 20 yards out in the eighth minute and then was awarded a penalty kick in the 20th minute and scored a second goal. Letty Zipf finished the scoring with two minutes to go in the first half off an assist from Laine for the 3-0 final score.

The Prospect Mountain soccer boys also kicked off the Division III tournament on Wednesday, hosting Berlin and picking up a 2-0 win over the Mountaineers. The Belmont soccer boys went on the road to Fall Mountain and came away with a 1-0 win on an Evan Martinez goal. The top-ranked Gilford boys also picked up a first-round win, edging past rival Laconia in overtime by a 2-1 score.

On Thursday, the Division III volleyball team kicked off with Prospect Mountain going on the road to St. Thomas and dropping a 3-0 decision to the Saints. The Gilford volleyball team also continued its postseason run with a trip to Hanover, where the Golden Eagles got the 3-1 win to advance to the semifinals.

Friday was another busy day, with the Gilford soccer girls dropping a 1-0 decision on the road at Pelham in the Division III quarterfinals.

The tournament action continued on Saturday with the Gilford boys hosting rival Belmont in the Division III quarterfinals. Nico Smith scored in the final five minutes of play to lift the Raiders past the Golden Eagles and into the Division III semifinals.

Also in the Division III quarterfinals on Saturday, the Prospect Mountain soccer boys battled past Newfound by a 3-0 score to earn their spot in the semifinals.

In the Division II girls' soccer semifinals on Saturday, the Kennett girls took Bow to overtime before the Falcons came away with a 1-0 win to bring Kennett's season to a close.

The Division III boys' soccer semifinals took place after deadline on Wednesday in Bedford and the finals are set for Saturday, Nov. 7, at 3 p.m. at Bedford High School.

The Division II volleyball semifinals were also set for after deadline Saturday in Derry and the finals are set for Saturday, Nov. 7, at Pinkerton Academy in Derry at noon.

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

HELP WANTED

SHAKER REGIONAL COACHING VACANCIES for 2026-2027

Shaker Regional School District is seeking coaches for the 2026-2027 season for following athletic teams:

Middle School Boys Team 2 Basketball
Middle School Girls Team 1 Basketball
Middle School Girls Team 2 Basketball
Middle School 5/6 Boys Basketball
Middle School 5/6 Girls Basketball
High School Boys Lacrosse

Interested individuals should contact Cayman Belyea, Athletic Director, by phone at 603-267-6525 ext. 1362 or email at cbelyea@sau80.org. Successful completion, with satisfactory results, of a post-offer, pre-employment criminal background check, including fingerprints, is required. Shaker Regional School District serves the communities of Belmont and Canterbury, New Hampshire and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Raiders open playoffs with sweep of Newfound

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BELMONT — The Belmont and Newfound volleyball teams stepped on the court in Belmont on Thursday for the opening round of the Division III tournament with a quarterfinal trip to Mascenic on the line.

The Bears put up a fight in the second and third games but the Raiders took the 3-0 win to advance to the Division III quarterfinals.

Sophia Manseau got Newfound on the board first with a hit to start the second half but Belmont answered with a tip from Miranda Daley and a hit from Molly O'Connell. O'Connell had another hit, Sadie Sturgeon had a service ace, Rowan Sottak made a solid return and Cora Takantjas had a hit as the Raiders pushed the lead to 10-1. Manseau got the Bears back on the board with a hit and Ari Plummer had a pair of aces for the Bears. Rochelle St. Germain followed with a hit for the Bears as they cut the lead to 13-5 but Belmont answered with a couple more points.

Lauren Chabot had a hit for the Bears and Bailee Burke added a service ace before Belmont got hits from Emily Anstey and Sturgeon and an ace from Anstey to go up by a 18-9 score. Manseau added a hit for Newfound but Lillian Sheehan came through with a service ace on the other side of the net. Manseau added a block before Turgeon had a hit and an ace to up the lead to 22-13 and O'Connell added a hit. Chabot kept the Bears alive but the Raiders closed out the 25-14 win with Anstey and O'Connell combining for the final point.

Sheehan had a point at the net and a service ace to open the second set before Manseau answered with a hit for the Bears. Plummer added an ace to give Newfound the 4-3 lead but a hit from O'Connell pulled Belmont even. Gabby Murphy had a pair of service aces for the hosts and O'Connell added a couple of hits sandwiched around a hit from Chabot on the other side.

St. Germain had a hit for Newfound and then added a service ace while Burke also had a hit. Sheehan found a nice spot for the Raiders and Turgeon added a hit to give the Raiders a 12-10 lead. Sheehan had a service ace and Murphy followed with a hit as Belmont upped the lead to 17-11. Newfound got a hit from Chabot and an ace from Coretta Egan to cut into the lead and Plummer also added a service ace for the Bears. Sottak answered with an ace for Belmont and Manseau had a hit for the Bears. St. Germain got a block at the net but Murphy finished strong for Belmont, getting a pair of service aces for the 25-21 win and the 2-0 lead.

Sheehan had a pair of aces to open the third set for Belmont and Daley added a hit before Newfound came back with a Manseau hit and an ace from Egan. Manseau and Sturgeon exchanged hits and O'Connell had a pair of hits for the Raiders as the teams went back and forth. Lyla Foley had an ace for Belmont and O'Connell had a hit to give the Raiders the 8-7 lead.

Newfound battled back with a pair of aces from Burke and hits from Chabot and Val Angelosanto and took a 13-11 lead. Sturgeon added a hit for Belmont but a tip from Chabot kept the Bears in front. However, Belmont clawed their way back and eventually came through with the 26-24 win to advance to the Division III quarterfinals.

In the quarterfinals on Saturday afternoon in New Ipswich, the Raiders dropped a 3-0 decision to Mascenic to bring their season to a close.

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



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Belmont's Miranda Daley goes up for a hit as Newfound's Ari Plummer defends in playoff action last Thursday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sadie Sturgeon goes up for a hit during Belmont's playoff win over Newfound last week.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Lillian Sheehan sets the ball up for a teammate during action against Newfound last Thursday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING
Molly O'Connell goes up to power the ball over the net during playoff action against Newfound last week.

Sanbornton Library hosting workshop on "Opting Out of AI"

SANBORNTON — Geneva Sambor, a Digital Learning Specialist Educator, will lead a workshop on "Opting Out of AI: Taking Control of Unwanted AI" at the Sanbornton Public Library on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 6 p.m.

Sambor is a local New Hampshire Educator who is passionate about teaching digital literacy, privacy and safety. This interactive program will focus on reclaiming digital choice in the world of Artificial Intelligence with practical settings, research, and device know-how. People of all levels of technological comfortability are welcome. You are encouraged to bring your own device, a phone, tablet or laptop to follow along.

The Sanbornton Public Library is located at 27 Meetinghouse Hill Rd. The program will be held in the second floor Woodman Room. The library accessibility includes an automatic door and an elevator lift. This program is free and open to the public, light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact the Sanbornton Public Library at (603) 286-8288 or splnhcirc@gmail.com Website: splnh.com.



COURTESY PHOTO
Geneva Sambor



