

Holiday events planned across the area this month



Alton's Festival of Trees will take place at the Gilman Museum this weekend.

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

REGION — The area is getting festive with many different holiday events going on this weekend and all month long.

The holidays in the area will be kicking off this Saturday with Light Up Night and the Festival of Trees in Alton.

The Alton Business Association will host

the Festival of Trees and Gingerbread House Contest at the Gilman Museum. Individuals, families, businesses, organizations, and more will contribute decorated trees and wreaths to the festival and people of all ages will submit gingerbread houses. The festival takes place on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 3, from 11 a.m.-2

p.m.

Celebrate the holiday with the community during Light Up Night on Saturday, Dec. 2. Hosted by the Alton Parks and Rec Department and the Alton Business Association, the event starts with the town's tree lighting in front of town hall at 5 p.m. Guests can go into town hall for an array of holiday activities from 5-6 p.m. such

as visits with Santa, holiday crafts, and a photo booth. A holiday hayride will run starting at town hall from 5-6:30 p.m.

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department will host Holiday Cookie Decorating on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the Pearson Road Community Center. Kids ages 5 and up can decorate ginger-

SEE EVENTS, PAGE A14

Gilford officials schedule public hearing to accept FEMA funds

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD — The town will hold a public hearing to accept and appropriate unanticipated funds, including federal funds reimbursing the town for expenses related to the major storms from last December.

The selectmen will hold a public hearing at its next meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. to accept unanticipated revenues.

The town has received two payments from NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management following the disaster declaration after severe storms on late December of 2022.

From Dec. 22-25, 2022, the area experienced severe weather including torrential rain, high winds, and freezing temperatures that resulted in road damage. A federal disaster declaration was made on March 15 and municipalities in Belknap, Carroll, Coos, and Grafton Counties were eligible for funds from the Public Assistance Grant program.

Gilford will receive one payment of \$30,657.78 to reimburse for debris removal.

Another payment of \$21,125.50 for labor and equipment that went to emergency protection during the storm. Paperwork showed the town spent \$11,202.38 for almost 285 hours of labor overtime by 17 employees and \$16,694.95 for 28 pieces of equipment for almost 441 hours for a total expenditure of \$28,167.33. According to the notes in the claim, trees and debris had to be pushed aside to clear the roads and pump stations were already in place.

Both these grants are reimbursements of 75 percent federal funding for these projects with the municipalities expected to contribute 25 percent of the costs. Both these reimbursements will be used for road maintenance.

The hearing will also discuss the acceptance of money from its insurance company Primex and for the town's share of NH Highway Block Grant Aid.

The town received a check for \$23,553.52 from Primex for damage sustained by a 2022 Ford Interceptor Police Cruiser after an incident on Nov. 2.

The town will receive \$64,796.41 in its share of NH Highway Block Grant Aid for 2023 out of \$10 million approved by the state to be distributed to the municipalities.

For the hearing notice and more information on the funds being received visit https://www.gilfordnh.org/assets/municipal/1/agendas/public_hearing_notice.appropriation_of_unanticipated_funds.12-6-2023.pdf.

Prospect Mountain Boosters present Sixth Annual Craft and Vendor Fair

ALTON — The bustling holiday season is about to get even more exciting as the Prospect Mountain High School Team 319 Boosters proudly announce the return of their highly anticipated Sixth Annual Craft and Vendor Fair. This festive extravaganza is scheduled to take place on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Prospect Mountain High School in Alton.

Mark your calendars for a day filled with holiday cheer, shopping delights, and family fun! This year's event promises an unparalleled shopping experience with almost 80 booths featuring an array of offerings from both small and larger businesses. Attendees can explore an eclectic mix of decorations, wearables, jewelry, and delectable sweets –

something to suit every taste and preference.

Adding to the merriment, the event will feature the presence of the one-and-only Santa Claus, available for photos that capture the magic of the season.

Moreover, attendees can support the local Cub Scout Pack 53 and Boy Scout Pack 53, as they'll be on-site selling wreaths, hot cider, and delicious donuts, adding a touch of warmth and

SEE FAIR, PAGE A14



Holiday season brings early deadlines



The holiday season is upon us, bringing with it an accelerated press schedule for your local weekly newspaper.

The deadline for next week's edition (Dec. 7), Monday morning at 10 a.m., will mark the conclusion of business as usual for the remainder of the year.

The submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication in the Dec. 14 edition of The Baysider will be Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m.

For the following week (Dec. 21), the submission deadline will be Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 10 a.m.

For publication on Dec. 28, submissions must be received no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 19.

The deadline for our first edition of 2024, Jan. 4, will be Friday, Dec. 22 at 10 a.m.

As always, submissions can be e-mailed to Editor Brendan Berube at brendan@salmonpress.news.

The Baysider thanks our readers for their cooperation with our accelerated schedule, and wishes one and all a safe and happy holiday season.

Golden Eagle, Timber Wolf boys bring home All-State honors

Gilford's Hermann Defregger named Division III JV Coach of the Year

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — Boys' soccer players from around the region were named to All-State teams at the conclusion of the fall season.

In Division III, First Team honors went to Gilford defender Tristan Reinhold, midfielder Andrew McDonough and forward Tanner Keenan. Second Team honorees were Berlin goalie Haden Poulin, defenders Keegan Adams of Winnisquam and Brody Ennis of Belmont, midfielders Owen Waldron of Belmont and Haukur Karlsson of Gilford and forward TJ Locke of Prospect Mountain. Honorable

Mention went to goalies Caleb Giovanditto of Gilford, Ben Gagnon of Belmont and Jaxson Embree of Belmont, defenders Ethan Capsalis of Prospect Mountain, Corey Silver of White Mountains and Jason Sweatt of Berlin, midfielder Micah Javalgi

SEE ALL-STATE, PAGE A14



Andrew McDonough of Gilford was named Division III First Team All-State.

JOSHUA SPAULDING

MVSB complimentary 2024 community calendars now available

MEREDITH — The 2024 MVSB (Meredith Village Savings Bank) annual complimentary community calendars are now available at the Bank's branch offices while supplies last. The calendar features a dozen beautiful photos representing the Lakes Region, White Mountains and Seacoast areas. MVSB opens its annual community calendar photo contest to local amateur and professional photographers each spring and selects the winning calendar photos through a blind review process by MVSB employees. This year's contest saw more than 500 photo entries.

"Because the judging is blind, it is always exciting to discover who the photographers are after the selections are made," said Cindy Hemeon-Plessner, Senior Vice President and Chief

Marketing & Experience Officer. "There were a few names that were familiar to us because they send us their gorgeous work each year, but it's also exciting that we received a large number of new submitters this year. Every so often we will have an employee-submitted photo get selected, and we are thrilled that it happened this round."

Kendra Eldridge, MVSB Universal Banker in Alton, was selected to have her winning photo, titled "Flynn Admiring the Beauty of Lake Winni," featured for the month of April on the calendar.

"We live in such a beautiful area in the Lakes Region and it was fun to share that for the contest," said Eldridge. "The spot I took that photo with my dog is just a short walk from where I live, but offers spectacular views on Lake Win-

nipesaukee. I hope everyone gets a chance to stop in and grab a 2024 calendar before the end of the year."

"Highlighting professional and amateur artists who celebrate the people, environment and general beauty of New Hampshire is one way we can help support our local communities," said Hemeon-Plessner. "The winning photos include spectacular landscapes, precisely-detailed wildlife, delightful domesticated animals, children enjoying the beauty of New Hampshire, interesting interiors and a uniquely beautiful and joyful Christmas tree. We are so grateful to everyone who participated in this year's contest."

Unlike a stock bank, MVSB is a mutual savings bank that operates for the benefit of its depositors, borrowers and surrounding communities. As a result, MVSB has remained steadfast in fostering the economic health and well-being



Kendra Eldridge, MVSB Universal Banker, and her dog Flynn stand at the spot in Alton where she took her winning photo titled "Flynn Admiring the Beauty of Lake Winni." The photo will be featured for the month of April on the 2024 MVSB community calendar.

of the community since it was founded in 1869. For more than 150 years, Meredith Village Savings Bank (MVSB), has been serving the people, businesses, nonprofits and municipalities of New Hampshire. MVSB and its employees are guided by the values of accountability, mutuality, excellence, respect, integrity, teamwork and stewardship. To learn more, visit any of the local branch offices located in Alton, Ashland, Center Harbor, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.



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REGION — In keeping with their long standing tradition, the owners, staff and agents of RE/MAX Innovative Bayside and the Granite Group recently delivered 69 turkeys, more than 1,000 pounds, plus additional donations to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Laconia.

Each year, this worthy organization provides approximately 800 Lakes Region families Thanksgiving dinners that include all the fixings from



turkey to dessert.

"We believe in the power of community and the impact that collective acts of kindness can have on the lives of others", said Travis P. Cole, the company's Managing Broker. "We extend our heartfelt gratitude to every agent and staff member who played a role in making this initiative a success once again."

To donate to St. Vincent de Paul call 603-524-5470.

Carter Mountain Band presents 'Christmas Joy' concert



GILFORD — You are invited to kick

off the Christmas season with Carter Mountain Brass Band's "Christmas Joy!" Sunday, Dec. 3 starting at 3 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Gilford.

Conductor Debi Gibson has chosen a program that features music from the Classical period to the Contemporary, including tradi-

tional Christmas carols. Also included is the ever-popular audience participation sing-along. You will also enjoy projected visuals that accompany the music along with interspersed poems and stories.

Afterward, audience members are invited to enjoy dessert and meet band members. A

\$10 donation (students – free) will be appreciated with proceeds to be split between the Church and the Band.

First United Methodist Church (Hope Ministries) is located at 18 Wesley Way (off Route 11-A, near the 3-11 Bypass.

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Patrick's Pub Mania 2023 prepares to rock the pub again



Performers featured at Pub Mania include Paul Costley, Jodie Cunningham and Eric Grant.

GILFORD — Patrick's Pub Mania, the self-proclaimed World's Greatest Barstool Challenge, will return once again on Thursday Dec. 7, to support the teams of the 2023 Challenge in their fundraising efforts on behalf of the Greater

Lakes Region Children's Auction. After 11 years and more than \$2.3 million raised, Pub Mania went on hiatus in 2020 during the pandemic. Thirty teams of 12, totaling 360 participants, will return this year for a full day of food, fun and fancy.



Brenda Martel of Team Café Déjà vu, a Pub Mania Hall of Fame team, said, "We're so thrilled Pub Mania is back because it provides an opportunity to celebrate our teams' efforts and accomplishments over the past year of fundraising."

One key highlight of the event will be six hours of live music, beginning at 5 p.m. with Mojo Rhythm, a long-time popular trio from the area. Two great local bands will follow, with The Jodie Cunningham Band performing at 7 p.m. and The Eric Grant



Band at 9 p.m. Patrick's has shortened Pub Mania to 12 hours as opposed to the original 24-hour event, with Opening Ceremonies kicking off at 11 a.m. and wrapping up at 11 p.m. All funds raised by each team will pass directly to the Children's Auction for distribution to the community. Proceeds from the auction are used for children's basic needs, including food, clothing and shelter as well as for programs and organizations that work to improve the lives of children. For more information, visit www.patrickspub.com/pubmania or, for the Children's Auction, visit www.childrensauction.org.

MVSB kicks off annual Mitten Tree Drive



MVSB branch office locations are collecting donations of new mittens, hats, gloves and scarves for their annual Mitten Tree drive through New Year's Eve.

MEREDITH — MVSB (Meredith Village Savings Bank) continues its more than four-decade tradition of collecting donations of new mittens, hats, gloves and scarves for their annual Mitten Tree drive through New Year's Eve. All donated items will be distributed to local schools and nonprofits. MVSB will also match each item donation with \$2 to local organizations addressing childhood food insufficiency.

New handmade or store-bought cold-weather accessories can be donated at any MVSB branch location. A complete list of offices and hours are available at mvsb.com/locations.

"The annual Mitten Tree drive is a simple yet impactful way community members can help give back to those in need throughout the winter season," said Stacy Trites, Senior Vice President, Senior Retail Banking Officer. "We are truly grateful to everyone for stepping up each year to warm hands and hearts with their donations – and to the MVSB

employees who ensure the items end up where they are needed most in their communities."

The Bank's matching donations will benefit the following organizations addressing food insufficiency issues for local children:

- End 68 Hours of Hunger Alton
- Got Lunch! Ashland & Holderness
- Gilford Got Lunch
- Got Lunch! Laconia

- End 68 Hours of Hunger Wolfeboro Area
- Got Lunch! Inter-Lakes
- Lakes Region Food Pantry
- Got Lunch! Plymouth
- End 68 Hours of Hunger Portsmouth
- End 68 Hours of Hunger Rochester

MVSB has been serving the essential banking needs of people, businesses, nonprofits and municipalities for more than 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, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.

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The power of small changes

In a world that often celebrates instant results and quick fixes, the true path to personal growth and self-improvement lies in the steady accumulation of small changes. We live in an age where we're bombarded with information about radical transformations and overnight success stories. However, it's essential to remember that lasting change often comes from the consistent practice of good habits, one small step at a time.

The journey of self-improvement can be daunting. Whether it's striving for better health, financial stability, or personal development, the thought of making significant changes can be overwhelming. But here's the secret: progress is not about massive, dramatic actions. Instead, it's about the cumulative effect of tiny, daily efforts.

Developing good habits requires patience, persistence, and an understanding that meaningful change doesn't happen overnight. Instead, it unfolds gradually.

Small changes are sustainable because they don't disrupt your life drastically. When you start with tiny steps, you're less likely to feel overwhelmed and give up. These changes become integrated into your daily routine, making them easier to maintain over the long term.

Consistency is the backbone of habit formation. By taking small actions every day, you reinforce positive behaviors and build momentum. Over time, these behaviors become second nature, and you don't have to rely on willpower alone.

Large changes can trigger resistance and anxiety. Our brains are wired to resist big, sudden shifts. In contrast, small changes are less threatening, making it easier to overcome the resistance that often accompanies change.

Celebrating small victories along the way boosts motivation and confidence. Each small change achieved is a step forward, reinforcing your commitment to your goals.

Life is unpredictable, and sudden disruptions can derail even the best-laid plans. When your habits are built on small, manageable changes, you can adapt more easily to unexpected challenges without losing sight of your goals.

Identify one habit you want to cultivate and break it down into the smallest possible steps. For example, if you want to exercise regularly, start with just five minutes of activity each day.

Set specific goals: Make your goals clear and measurable. Instead of saying, "I want to get in shape," say, "I will walk for 10 minutes every morning."

Establish a daily routine that includes your new habit. Consistency is easier to maintain when your habit becomes part of your daily life.

Track your progress: Keep a journal or use habit-tracking apps to monitor your daily efforts. Seeing your progress can be motivating and help you stay on track.

Stay accountable: Share your goals with a friend or family member who can offer support and encouragement. Having someone to hold you accountable can be a powerful motivator.

Remember, the journey of self-improvement is not a sprint but a marathon. Embrace the process of making small changes every day, and in time, you'll look back and be amazed at the significant transformation that these incremental efforts have brought to your life. By cultivating good habits one step at a time, you'll not only achieve your goals but also develop the resilience and discipline necessary for a lifetime of positive change.

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.

New Durham School invites community to Thanksgiving dinner

COURTESY
The New Durham School hosted a thanksgiving dinner for all the students and staff. They also invited people and programs that we are thankful for! Some of our veterans, the New Durham Police Department, the New Durham Fire Department, our New Durham Library, our New Durham Recreation Department, New Durham Town Hall Staff, New Durham Board of Selectmen, the New Durham Food Pantry, NDS PTO Officers, the New Durham Town Historians, End of 68 Hours, the New Durham Highway Department, the New Durham Waste Facility Crew, our school substitutes, volunteers, and former staff members, GWRSD Maintenance Staff, GWRSD School Board and Administration, and all of our New Durham School Bus Drivers were invited. We are thankful for you all! I am thankful for our lunch ladies too! Our school lunch ladies cooked and served all day with the help of Mrs. Murray and Ms. Journey Bennett. They served mashed potatoes, turkey, cranberry sauce, etc., you know, Thanksgiving dinner. We had a load of dessert, too. Apple pie, pumpkin pie, chocolate cake, and vanilla cake! Thank you, Mrs. Hills, for handing out some of the dessert. First graders and sixth graders with their kindergarten buddies ate lunch together, then the second graders and third graders, and finally, the fourth graders ate with fifth graders. We had a wonderful time with everyone and the food was amazing! Thank you for all of your effort, New Durham School!



LETTERS FROM EDWIN Forearming

It's Friday. I had car stuff to do, so I didn't work today. Much. I wanted to get two of my vehicles aligned because one hadn't been done since I bought it four years and fifty thousand miles ago, the other was a recent acquisition and I had no idea as to where its wheels pointed in relation to the others. Definitely a good thing to do, since I just put new tires on them both. So I had scheduled for both and got one to my local align-

ment guy at nine.

The new car had red warning flags on every wheel, almost as bad as my last acquisition. Both rear tires were trying to go in different directions explained why the old tires were disappearing so fast. They're all in the green now, and so too for the van, I like it when they're all green. My other one has a rear wheel that can't adjust into spec. without some custom modifications. It's close, so I'll just not

waste bucks putting fancy tires for that one.

Fall is fix things up for the wintertime time. Last week, I was learning how incredibly tight it is to work on my little tractor. While praising the designers of said machine, I discovered that it's fan belt must have been original equipment. It would have been shoelace time again if it were an emergency situation. But it was Saturday afternoon. I zoomed down to my

local auto parts store which had closed at one. Not wanting to go driving all around creation, I headed home to pack up for the day. I'd get the belt next week.

Well, that night, I did some you-tube consulting to verify my prognostication as to what needed to be done to accomplish what I desired. It was pretty straightforward, as I had thought. In their discussion they mentioned

SEE EDWIN PAGE A14

Letters to the Editor

Thank you for supporting your Silverhawks

To the Editor:

The Gilford Silverhawks board members would like to thank all those who made this year's grades 3-8 tackle football season another success.

It all starts with the parents/guardians, who tote the more than 70 players to and from roughly 60 practices and games between late July and early November. The all-volunteer army of coaches then take it from there, dedicating countless hours teaching the

fundamentals needed to ensure player safety and to engender teamwork.

Come game time, volunteers for the scoreboards, concession stand, first down chains, and snacks are invaluable, as are the crowds on hand to cheer on the players.

The operation requires money for equipment, referees, EMTs, etc. That's where our sponsors come in. Special thanks to Adam Bryant Construction, Bigfoot

HVAC, DC Photo, GMI Asphalt, Howard Precision Inc., Irwin Motor Group, Lift Free or Die, NH Ball Bearings, Inc., and On Point Property Solutions for your 2023 sponsorships! We are extremely grateful for your contributions that help keep this Silverhawk train rolling.

Thanks again to all; enjoy the holiday season! <https://www.gilfordsilverhawksfootball.com/>

Fred Butler
Gilford

A well deserved thank you

To the Editor:

I would like to give a public thank you to Capt. Patrick O'Brien of the Alton Fire Department.

Capt. O'Brien took time out of his busy schedule to remove a very tight wedding ring of 58

years off my arthritic finger. His professionalism, expertise and empathy helped to make an emotional situation less stressful. Thanks also to Karen and Cindy and two lovely ladies in the office that offered their moral support. We are fortunate to live in a com-

munity with dedicated firemen and policemen.

Thank you for being here for us even in a non-emergency situation.

Elaine Joseph
Alton

An important update

To the Editor:

I want to give New Durham residents an update on two important issues, the Powder Mill Fish Hatchery and the status of the dams along the Merrymeeting River.

As most know, due to the very hard work of folks from New Durham and Alton, the US EPA issued a new discharge permit for the fish hatchery. This new permit sets a maximum value of pollutants being discharged from the hatchery rather than using an average value ensuring that these remain acceptable during months of low water levels in the river. The last state budget included up to \$4.9 million for improvements to the hatchery to allow it to meet the new permit requirements. After extensive additional engineering studies, NH Fish and Game determined the cost of meeting

the new permit would be much higher than that. It now appears that the hatchery will reduce the amount of fish raised in possible combination with new equipment, to meet the new requirements. The most important thing is that by Jan. 1, 2025, the new permit requirements will be met.

There are three state owned dams along the Merrymeeting River. The first is at the outlet of Merrymeeting Lake and controls the water level in the lake. The state is evaluating issues with the spillway and the results should be issued next year. The Jones Dam had the top couple of level control boards washed out this summer. This resulted in lowering of the water level in the pond. The pond will remain that way until a detailed analysis of the dam is completed by the state. The results should be released in the

second half of next year. A similar analysis is being done on the Alton Power Dam.

Aging dams and who is to pay for needed repairs, is becoming a big issue in New Hampshire. Changes in federal rules and power contracts have resulted in many small hydro power stations at dams being closed so they no longer pay for the maintenance of the dam. I have submitted legislation to establish a study committee to investigate how to deal with the issues associated with dams.

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

Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

Rep. Mike Harrington
Strafford

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NOTES FROM WINDY HOLLOW

Tidying up

BY VIVIAN LEE DION
Contributing Writer

Friends from out of town recently visited for a day. Lunch was planned with an afternoon of playing cards. Usually after lunch Debbie and I would go for a walk to laugh, complain, and talk about things going on in our lives. However, because of drenching rain that didn't happen. We enjoyed ourselves just the same.

Before their arrival, my housekeeping in the family room, kitchen, and bathroom was accomplished but wasn't

done perfectly. I'll always remember playing bridge with four ladies when one explained, "You know what I do when company is coming, and I don't have time to go through all the clutter on my coffee table? I put things in a bag and bring it upstairs." That was good advice because I support that technique whenever "time is of the essence". I must admit my canvas book bag of newspapers, mail and cards was moved upstairs into the sewing nook.

Let's refocus to an-

other "elephant in the room". A couple of weeks ago I began reorganizing my bedroom closet. I don't know what happened because two years ago I arranged clothes by colors. Blouses, slacks, and sweaters were neatly arranged. It worked for quite some time but things got messy. The blouses are mixed in with slacks and the bottom of the closet is nothing but a pile of old pocket books and canvas book bags. I can see spending several afternoons getting things organized. Right now in

the back seat of my car are four blouses neatly ironed and ready to be donated. Additionally, there are slip on shirts and a couple of toys.

Two useful suggestions I noticed from tips in managing clutter on the internet suggests that "Donation is a great way to manage clutter, especially when your items are still in good condition and could benefit someone else. This is especially useful when dealing with clothing, toys or household items you no longer need. Donating can make your

decluttering process more purposeful and rewarding." And I liked this final tip, "A helpful method to avoid accumulating excess clutter is to implement a "one in, one out" rule. Whenever you bring a new item into your home, make it a habit to let go of something else. This practice not only promotes mindfulness but also keeps your living space tidy and organized."

So, this is the course of action that I am on now. Another motivating factor is that in the last six months I've lost

weight. Changing clothing size has helped me make some decisions in donating clothes or throwing them away. I just hope and pray that I don't gain the weight back. Perhaps the old clothes would be out of style anyway if I ever needed them again.

"Out of clutter, find simplicity. From discord, find harmony. In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." – Albert Einstein

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

The strength to overcome obstacles lies within you

We sometimes find ourselves standing at the feet of towering giants and facing impossible battles. The types of battles that make you question everything you thought you knew, making you feel as if you don't have what it takes and that you should give up and die.

What if I told you that this perception, this daunting outlook, is often a mere illusion?

There is a truth that many of us find hard to believe: that deep within you lies everything you need to triumph over your giants.

At an early age, Stephen Wiltshire received an autism diagnosis, a condition that faced significant stigma during his childhood. He was non-verbal until the age of five; few could have imagined his disability would eventually become one of his greatest strengths.

Stephen had a love for drawing; he was passionate about it. It was his way of connecting and communicating. Being autistic, I'm sure nobody thought Stephen had any chance in art.

Soon enough, Stephen had the attention of a teacher who noticed his remarkable talent. His drawings, characterized by their stunning detail

and complexity, were entered into competitions and started winning awards.

As fate would have it, Stephen discovered that he had an eidetic memory that allowed him to draw complex landscapes and cityscapes even after just a glance.

Against all odds, Stephen's perceived disadvantage also came with an advantage that gave him everything he needed to become a world-class artist.

Ludwig van Beethoven, a renowned musical genius, faced an unimaginable challenge as he began to lose his hearing. Many might have thought this marked the end of his illustrious career. Yet, in an astonishing turn of events, this loss became a transformational force in his musical journey.

His compositions got better as he lost his hearing; they soared in depth and expression. Astonishingly, Beethoven's most celebrated works emerged when he was entirely deaf.

This profound loss forced him to listen in a new way, feeling the vibrations of each note. He began to perceive and compose music in a way he never had before.

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This unforeseen challenge became the catalyst that propelled his artistry to unprecedented heights.

What seems like a crippling setback can be precisely what's needed to bring you toward your destiny.

Aron Ralston, an adventurer and mountaineer, lived for the thrill of conquering the great outdoors. His passion for exploring remote canyons and scaling rugged peaks was not just a hobby but a profound expression of his connection with nature. Ralston's adventures showed his profound love for the wilderness, a love that would be tested in ways he probably never imagined.

In April 2003, a routine solo canyoneering trip in Utah became a life-or-death struggle. While navigating a narrow canyon, a dislodged boulder trapped his right arm against the canyon wall. For five agonizing days, Ralston battled the elements, his physical limits, and mounting despair.

With dwindling supplies and no hope of rescue, he faced an unimaginable decision: amputate his trapped arm with a dull pocket-knife to escape. This har-

rowing choice marked a turning point not only in his ordeal but in his entire life.

Ralston was undoubtedly forced to alter his relationship with the outdoors dramatically. What had once been a playground became the scene of his most profound challenge.

Yet, it deepened his respect and appreciation for the wild and led him down a new path.

He penned his mem-

oir, "Between a Rock and a Hard Place," recounting his extraordinary survival and the lessons learned in the canyon.

His story inspired millions, leading to speaking engagements and even a film adaptation, "127 Hours," that brought his tale to a global audience.

In losing a part of himself, Ralston found a deeper purpose and discovered that even with losing his arm, he still had everything he need-

ed to get to the next level of his life.

Each of us has an untapped well of inner strength. More often than not, we possess the tools necessary to navigate life's biggest challenges. Sometimes, the presence of a daunting obstacle reveals the actual depth of our ability. Next time you feel overwhelmed or insufficient, hold onto this truth: within you lies everything you need to overcome and succeed

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Children’s Auction gets underway Dec. 5

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

REGION — A week of fun, bidding, and help for families across the region is coming back this week when the Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction kicks off its 42nd year this coming Tuesday.

The 42nd annual Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction is coming up this week and the auction is seeking items and early bidders going into the big week.

Last year’s auction raised \$625,724 that was distributed to nonprofit organizations across the Lakes Region.

The auction will kick off on Tuesday, Dec. 5, and run until Friday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. each day. Auction headquarters is at the Belknap Marketplace in Belmont and can be seen on Lakes Region Public Access on Breezeline Channel 25, streaming at childrensauction.org and laconiadailysun.com, on the radio at Lakes 101.5 FM, and on social media at facebook.com/childrensauction.

Each day of the auction will feature multiple hosts and special appearances along with the auction action.



FILE PHOTO

The Greater Lakes Region Children’s Auction will get underway on Dec. 5 and run until Dec. 8.

People can make bids on the auction at childrensauction.org or by calling 603-527-0999 during auction hours.

The auction is still seeking items and have multiple collection sites around the Lakes Region until Dec. 1. People can donate new, unwrapped items to the auction. Other donations can include gift certificates, experiences, household items, electronics, tickets, toys, and tools.

“In order to be successful, we need all types of items!” read the Children’s Auction Web site. “We’re looking for new, unused items, big and small. Gifts cards are always a hit with our bidders. Other popular items include electron-

ics, tools, tickets to sporting events, experiences, toys, services. You name it, we need it.”

Belknap Marketplace will have a donation drop-off site on Dec. 2-4 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

All branches of Meredith Village Savings Bank are collection locations. Irwin Marine’s locations in Laconia and Alton Bay will also be collection sites.

Collection locations in Belmont are Baron’s Major Brands, the Belmont Fire Department, and Mattress Firm.

The Tapply Thompson Community Center in Bristol is also a collection location.

In Laconia items will be collected at Body Covers, Irwin Auto-

motive Group’s locations on Bisson Avenue and Union Avenue, The Wellness Complex, and the WORKS.

Donations will be accepted at Grevior Furniture in Franklin.

Collection locations in Gilford are at Gilford Country Store and Gilford Tennis & Fitness Club.

Collection locations in Meredith are at Edward Jones, The Fitness Edge, and Meredith Insurance Agency.

In Tilton, items will be collected at Dox on Winnisquam and The Country Store at the Tanger Outlets.

Pre-bidding for the auction started on Black Friday. Registered bidders can log into the

website and start early bidding on the items valued at \$300 or more, including placing maximum bids. Bidders can also see future boards and bid on future items before they open for bids.

This year also marks the return of Pub Mania at Patrick’s Pub and Eatery in Gilford. This year’s Pub Mania will be an 11-hour event with teams from across the Lakes Region having one representative at the bar during the whole event. There will also be live music, games, food, and more.

In 2020, at the onset of the pandemic, Pub Mania evolved into the It’s for the Kids Community Challenge with teams fundraising

all year. Last year the Community Challenge raised \$304,500 for the Children’s Auction. The Community Challenge is still ongoing and the new Pub Mania will be one of its events.

Many more collections have been going on throughout the month including several fire departments holding Fill the Boot drives. Auction bulbs are also being sold at several locations. For a full list of bulb locations visit <https://www.childrensauction.org/post/purchase-children-s-auction-bulbs-at-various-locations-1>.

The auction will come to a close on Friday, Dec. 8, with the final totals announced.

Money made at the auction will be distributed to several different nonprofit organizations across the Lakes Region that support children and families. Organizations apply for funding and the auction’s Distribution Committee will distribute the funds based on different categories of need.

For more information on the Children’s Auction, visit childrensauction.org.

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Light Up Night — Dec. 2

The Town of Alton is celebrating “Light up Night” on Saturday, Dec. 2 in the Alton Village on Main Street. Free events include: 5 p.m.-Santa arriving by Fire Truck at Town Hall; 5:00p.m.- Tree Lighting with Carolers sponsored by ABA; 5-6 p.m.- Meet with Santa inside Town Hall, Photo Booth for great family photos-bring your camera and get a group picture with our photographer inside Town Hall, Make and Take Free Craft at Town Hall, see Mrs. Claus; 5:00p.m.-6:30p.m.-Holiday Hayride loading up at Monument Square- sponsored by Alton Home and Lumber; 11:00a.m.-7:00p.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, parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Holiday cookie deco-

rating

Ages 5 and up are invited to join Alton Parks and Recreation on Saturday, Dec. 9 at the Pearson Road Community Center from 10-11:30 a.m. for gingerbread cookie ornament decorating with Joan Blackwood. Ornaments can be taken home to decorate the tree or given as a handmade gift. The event is free for Alton residents, and will include festive music and cheer. Pre-register by December 4 to reserve your space at parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Light It Up!- Alton Tri-Town- House Decorating Contest

Let’s make the season bright by bringing holiday spirit to Alton and show our neighboring communities how festive we are. Towns of Alton, New Durham and Farmington will be providing maps of decorated houses for people to drive by and see. If you are interested in decorating your house in Alton this year, send your property address to parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov by Dec. 9,

and you will be included on the Alton Map, and also entered into the contest to win a great prize, each Town will have one grand prize winner. Houses will be illuminated for the season from Dec. 13-26. Winners of all Towns will be announced on Dec. 19. Maps of the three Towns with all the decorations to see will be available Dec. 13. Check out one Town per week or visit all of the decorated houses in one weekend. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Guided Meditation with Instructor Karen Kharitonov

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a new Guided Meditation Class on Thursdays, Dec. 7-28 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Guided Meditation will teach skills to train the body to relax when stressed, find clarity, and gain wisdom in

daily life activities and challenges. Stop in and try a class, and experience the positive state of meditation. Chairs will be available; bring a pillow/cushion/mat if desired. The program is free, donations are greatly appreciated to support local charities. Drop by anytime. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Preschool Playtime-Festive Fun

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring Festive Fun Playtime for Ages 3-5 on Wednesday, Dec. 20 from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Alton Bay Community Center, 58 Mt. Major Highway. Seasonal themed activities include: games, crafts, dancing and music. This event is free for Alton residents. Please RSVP by Dec. 17 to reserve your space and craft kit at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Alton Trails- All Star

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a get outside and hike program now through Feb.

29. Hike six 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; Pine Mountain and Cotton-Hurd Brook.

Slow Flow Yoga with Pamela Mott, 200 YTT Certified

Start your day with a morning Yoga practice with certified instructor Pamela Mott. Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 a.m. at the Alton Bay Community Center or choose the online option and practice from home. All levels are welcome and encouraged. Class focus is Sun Salutation A and B; Hatha Yoga and the 8 Limbs. Pre-registration is preferred, text 603-393-0595. Cash and Venmo accepted. Pre-registration and virtual attendance is \$10; Drop in \$15. Classes are ongoing. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

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.

Saxx Roxx Concert announced

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a free concert on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Prospect Mountain High School auditorium. Snow date is Jan. 20, 2024. Local residents of all ages are invited to attend.

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Gilford kicks off holiday season this weekend



FILE PHOTO

Santa Land is coming back to the Gilford Youth Center this weekend.
BY ERIN PLUMMER

mnews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD — Visits with Santa, cookie decorating, caroling, and so many more holiday events are coming up in

the local area this month.

The Gilford Youth Center and Gilford Parks and Rec will team up to host the annual Santa Land this weekend. Families can enjoy some hol-

iday fun at the GYC on Friday, Dec. 1, from 5-7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m.-noon.

Stations will be set up around the GYC and families play games,

decorate cookies, do arts and crafts, have fun in the bouncy house, and more. There will also be food and a cookie walk for a small cash fee. Kids can also get the chance to hear a holiday story before meeting Santa. Parents are invited to bring their cameras, but the GYC can take a photo and email it as well.

Every Thursday in December teens and tweens can give back to the community at the Gilford Public Library. Teens can come by from 2:45-3:45 p.m. to make food and other items to donate as a service opportunity.

The Gilford Public Library will be having a Holiday Exercise Social where friends from the library's Geri-Fit, Senior Sculpt, and Yoga can join for some socializing and

light refreshments.

The Gilford Candlelight Stroll will be back for another year on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 5-7 p.m. Belknap Mountain Road will be closed from Potter Hill Road to the Imagination Station at Gilford Elementary School. The stroll will feature events throughout the night such as visits with Santa, touring historical buildings, treats, crafts, and much more. Carolers from the Village Nursery School, GES, and GHS and alumni will make the rounds. There will also be performances by the Gilford Community Band and Angela Stewart.

Gingerbread house decorating at the Gilford Public Library is back the week of Dec. 11.

Adults can decorate their own gingerbread

house at the Gilford Public Library on Monday, Dec. 11 from 10-11 a.m. Kids can decorate the next day, Dec. 12, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 3:30-4:30 p.m., and on Wednesday, Dec. 13 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-2:30 p.m. Sign ups are required, call 603-524-6042 to take part.

Come by the GPL on Thursday, Dec. 14, for Season of Giving to make a no-sew blanket for Isaiah 51 Café in Laconia.

The GPL will also be hosting Mrs. Claus Storytime on Tuesday, Dec. 19 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

These are a few of the holiday events in the local area, more will be going on throughout the month.

37th annual Mix Cash and Cans drive schedule set

REGION — 'Making a difference one donation at a time,' Mix 94.1 FM's 37th annual Cash and Cans Money and Food Drive for the holidays is set for Dec. 9-15. All monies and food raised stays local, benefiting several area organizations, including the Franklin Police Toys for Tots Program; the Belmont Police Santa Helpers program; Twin Rivers Food Pantry; Bread & Roses Soup Kitchen; Tilton/Northfield/Sanbornton Christmas Fund; Every Child Is Ours; Greater Lakes Region Santa Fund, Meredith Emer-

gency Food Pantry, the Northfield-Tilton Congregational Church Food Pantry, St. Joseph's Belmont Food Pantry and others. Last year was another record year for donations, with more than \$67,000 in cash and more than 30,000 non-perishable food items raised.

Mix 94.1 FM's Fred Caruso, who started the program in 1987, looks forward to this week every year.

"It's our most wonderful time of the year. We meet so many generous people during Cash and Cans week, from kids giving their piggy bank

money to the business community donating; all we ask is people give what they can. And the best part...it all stays right here in our central New Hampshire Community," Caruso said.

Caruso and morning co-host Amy Bates will broadcast live from more than 20 different locations, accepting your Cash and Cans donations. Here where they'll be, and when they'll be there:

Saturday, Dec. 9: Funspot, Route 3 Weirs Beach. It's the annual token gift card fundraiser. For three hours only,

purchase gift cards from the Mix Morning Team and all proceeds will benefit Cash and Cans, a win-win for everyone.

Monday, Dec. 11: 6-9:30 a.m., George's Diner, Meredith; 10 a.m.-noon, Verizon Wireless, Union Avenue Laconia; 1-4 p.m., Vista Foods, Laconia.

Tuesday, Dec. 12: 6-8 a.m., Willow Hill Food and Beverage, Franklin; 9-11 a.m., Stafford Oil Laconia; 11 a.m.-1 p.m., HK Powersports, Laconia; 2-5 p.m., Belknap Subaru, Tilton.

Wednesday, Dec. 13: 6-10 a.m. Dunkin' Donuts, West Main Street, Tilton. 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Prescott's Florist, Laconia; 1-3 p.m., Irwin Motors, Laconia; 5-7 p.m., McDonald's Tilton.

Thursday, Dec. 14: 6-10

a.m., Park-N-Go Market, Northfield; 11 a.m.-1 p.m., T-Bones Laconia; 2-4 p.m., Franklin Savings Bank Upper Central Street, Franklin; 4:30-7 p.m., Planet Honda, Tilton.

Friday, Dec. 15: 6-10 a.m., McDonald's Franklin; 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Benson Auto, Franklin; 2:30-5:30 p.m., Grevior Furniture, Franklin.

Donations may also be made by mail. Please make checks payable to Mix Cash and Cans and mail to Mix 94.1 FM, PO Box 99, Franklin, NH 03235 or Venmo @mix-cashandcans. For more information about the Mix Cash and Cans program, visit www.mix-941fm.com or contact Caruso at fred@mix-941fm.com.



COURTESY

Gilman-ton-based artist Stephanie McQuade is pleased to announce the winner of the Giclée Print, "Snowman with Lantern," was Dorrie Raymond of Derry, NH. Stephanie McQuade was happy to present this print to Dorrie recently in Derry. The raffle was held at the Lions Club Art & Craft Fair in Goffstown. Thanks to all those who entered. Visit McQuade's Web site and follow her on social media or view her work at the Lakes Region Art Gallery, Tanger Outlets, Tilton.



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TOWN OF NEW DURHAM ZONING BOARD of ADJUSTMENT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

7:00 PM @ NEW DURHAM TOWN HALL & ZOOM

Eugene J. Dean, Manager

You are hereby notified that a Hybrid Public Hearing will be held by the New Durham Zoning Board on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 7:00 PM for Case #2023-015. The hearing is regarding an application submitted by Varney Engineering, LLC on behalf of Eugene J. Dean, Manager, for property located at Valley Road, Map 257 Lot 001. The applicant is requesting a Variance to **Article IX. Town Center Mixed Use Zoning District. Section C. 1.** Maximum footprint of an individual building or structure: 6,000 feet.

The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review by appointment by calling (603) 859-2091 ext. 2003. You can also contact via email to ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.us

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Edward Jones: Financial Focus

Can you make charitable giving less 'taxing'?

on the well-regarded Charity Navigator website (charitynavigator.org).

Once you've established a gift budget and are comfortable with the groups you choose to support, you might turn your thoughts to another key issue connected with charitable giving: tax benefits. A few years ago, changes in the tax laws resulted in a large increase in the standard deduction, which meant that many taxpayers found it more favorable not to itemize — and lost the ability to take charitable deductions. But if you still do itemize, your charitable gifts or contributions to tax-exempt groups — those that qualify as 501(c)(3) organizations — can generally be deducted, up to 60% of your adjusted gross income, although lower limits may apply, depending on the nature of your gift and the organization to which you're contributing.

Other, more long-term avenues also exist that combine charitable giving

with potential tax benefits. One such possibility is a donor-advised fund, which allows you to make an irrevocable charitable contribution and receive an immediate tax deduction. You can give cash, but if you donate appreciated assets, such as stocks, your tax deduction would be the fair market value of the assets, up to 30% of your adjusted gross income. Plus, you would not incur the capital gains tax that would otherwise be due upon the sale of these assets. Once you establish a donor-advised fund, you have the flexibility to make charitable gifts over time, and you can contribute to the fund as often as you like.

Another possible tax benefit from making charitable contributions could arrive when you start taking required minimum distributions, or RMDs, from some of your retirement accounts, such as your traditional IRA and 401(k). These RMDs

could be sizable — and distributions are counted as taxable income. But by taking what's called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), you can move money from a traditional or Roth IRA to a qualified charitable organization, possibly satisfying your RMD, which then may be excluded from your taxable income. You must start taking RMDs at 73 but you can begin making QCDs of up to \$100,000 per year as early as age 70½. (This amount will be indexed for inflation after 2023.)

Establishing a donor-advised fund and making qualified charitable distributions are significant moves, so you'll need to consult with your tax advisor first. But if they're appropriate for your situation, they may help you expand your ability to support the charitable groups whose work you admire.



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This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC
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Before investing in bonds, you should understand the risks involved, including credit risk and market risk. Bond investments are also subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of bonds can decrease, and the investor can lose principal value if the investment is sold prior to maturity.

OBITUARY

Carolyn H. (Sue) Rollins



Carolyn Rollins, born February 16, 1942 in Seattle, passed away peacefully at home after a prolonged fight with cancer on November 20, 2023. She spent the last months of her long life doing her considerable best to give strength and encouragement to her friends and family.

Sue was educated at The Bush School in Seattle, followed by a year in Australia, and finally at Colorado Rocky Mountain School in Carbondale, Colorado. She earned several nationally recognized financial designations in her third career as an independent financial consultant. Her first two careers, raising her two daughters and running a successful horse boarding, training, transporting operation along with a hay brokerage business, occupied the first half of her life. Following one of her passions – the one for all things equine, she devoted untold hours to teaching riding and horse management to a long line of students through the US Pony Club, guiding a number of riders to the highest levels of the club and be-

coming a nationally recognized horse management judge. She shared her musical talent by going into the elementary school classrooms in Dover during the Christmas season and playing accordion and singing carols with the students. Another interest, pursued with the same inexhaustible passion, was travel, whether across the state or the ocean, making fast friends and strengthening ties with family throughout the US, UK, and France, and renewing ties with family in Switzerland.

The only daughter of Benjamin and Carol Hager, Sue is survived by her husband of 26 years, Gene Young of Alton, NH, her brother and sister-in-law, John and Barbara Hager of Bremerton, Washington and their two sons; her daughters Kirsten Arvenitis (Christopher) of Aurora, Colorado and Sarah Rollins of Frederick Colorado; her five grand children, and numerous cousins across the country.

The family is planning to hold a memorial gathering, at a date to be determined. Rather than flowers or other gifts, the family asks that donations be made to one of her favorite charities, Gerry's Food Pantry in Rochester, which accepts contributions through Share Fund, or St. Jude's Hospital. We've all lost a most kind, generous, and loving friend, wife, and mother.

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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 10 am & 7 pm. 875-6161.

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

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Our services are in person at 504 North Barnstead Road, Center Barnstead, NH and live-streamed on Zoom, Sundays at 10 a.m.
ccnorthbarnstead.com

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC FARMINGTON
Worship Services 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School 10:15 AM
400 Main Street
Farmington, NH 05835
Pastor Tom Gardner 755-4816
www.farmingtonucc.org

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Sun. School 9:30am; Church 10:30am; Evening Service 6pm;
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7pm. Depot St., New Durham;
Pastor James Nason.

PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BARNSTEAD, N.H.
on the Parade in Barnstead
Sunday Morning Worship Service for all ages begin at 9:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting - April through November at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday Evenings.
Pastor Sandy Pierson - 483-2846

ST. KATHARINE DREXEL
40 Hidden Springs Rd., Alton, 875-2548
Father Robert F. Cole, Pastor.
Mass Saturday 4pm;
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am;
Daily Mass Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 8:00am.

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Sunday 9:30, 50 Main St., Pittsfield
Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg
www.ststephenspittsfield.com

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rt. 171 at Ingleton Corner
Sunday services 10:30 a.m. Church 603-539-8058

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF LACONIA
Sunday services and religious education 10:00 a.m.
All are welcome.
172 Pleasant St. Laconia • 524 6488 • usd.org

MAPLE STREET CHURCH
Sunday Service 11am
96 Maple Street, Center Barnstead NH 03225

Bank of New Hampshire's food drive raises more than \$12,000

LACONIA — From Oct. 10 through Nov. 10, each Bank of New Hampshire location participated in their annual Banking on Kindness Funds for Food Drive, which raised \$12,441.96 for 18 New Hampshire food pantries.

Thanks to generous Bank of New Hampshire customers, the bank collected \$7,861.06 in monetary donations. Bank of New Hampshire committed to match donations up to \$250 per office which resulted in a grand total of \$12,441.96 raised.

Each Bank of New Hampshire office was able to support a local food pantry in their community by delivering the funds raised in their office, along with the Bank's match, to that local food pantry during the Thanksgiving week. These monetary donations aid local food pantries in purchasing food to stock their shelves during a time when many people are in need.

"We were able to provide a significant level of monetary donations to our local food pantries because, once again, our customers exceeded expectations with their generous contributions to our Funds for Food Drive," said Chris Logan, President and CEO for Bank of New Hampshire. "I have no doubt that those donations will have a real and positive impact on the lives of residents in our state who are experiencing food insecurity during the holidays."



Bank of New Hampshire employees deliver donations to food pantries across New Hampshire.

Bank of New Hampshire is proud of the impact of our Funds for Food Drive as we aspire to remain an independent mutual financial institution, delivering innovative solutions and exceptional service, while assisting our employees, customers and communities to build brighter futures.

Bank of New Hampshire, founded in 1831 provides deposit, lending and wealth management products and services to families and businesses throughout New Hampshire and southern Maine. With 21 banking offices and assets exceeding \$2 billion, Bank of New Hampshire is the oldest and one of

the largest independent banks in the state. Bank of New Hampshire is a mutual organization, focused on the success of the bank's customers, communities and employees, rather than stockholders. For more information, call 1-800-832-0912 or visit BNH. Bank

RE/MAX Innovative Bayside to collect toys at holiday open house

MEREDITH — RE/MAX Innovative Bayside is proud to once again be deeply involved in the Toys for Tots program and wishes to invite one and all to join them at their Meredith location on Thursday, Nov. 30 from 4 – 6 p.m. for their annual Christmas Open House. Join in the celebration of the season and bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots. Your contribution will help brighten the holidays for children in need throughout our community.



RE/MAX Innovative Bayside offices are some of the some of the region's busiest drop off locations. Donations may be dropped off at the Meredith Office (208

Daniel Webster Highway at the junction of Rts. 3 & 104), or at the Laconia Office (604 Main Street, across from the Colonial Theatre on Rt. 106 in downtown Laconia). For

contactless donations, collections boxes will be outside each office during business hours. Or if you call the office number below upon arrival, we are happy to offer curbside pick-up. Together we can make this holiday season one to remember!

For more information about the Toys for Tots program call RE/MAX Innovative Bayside, Meredith at (603) 279-0079, the Laconia office at (603) 527-8200, or e-mail info@baysidenh.net.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Ralph
Meet Ralph! This goofball is such a sweetheart and brings so much joy to the staff and volunteers here at the facility. He loves meeting new people and is always curious of other dogs. Ralph does have an autoimmune disease that requires treatment by daily medication and will require routine veterinary check ups (Check with your vet! You will find the monthly cost is not high!). During his down time, between eating treats and playing fetch, Ralph loves to cuddle up for nap time and would be a great addition to a home looking for a little extra love.
Recently, members of our Volunteer Program, have been able to give Ralph some extra time out of the shelter! Through these outings we have learned - Ralph loves water and hiking. He enjoys getting to spend time outdoors and making new friends along the way.

Gismo
Meet Gismo! With the softest coat and cutest face, she wants to be the center of all your attention and will provide adorable meows of approval. Submit an application to learn more about this cutie!

NH Humane Society
Over a century of love for those without a voice.
1305 Meredith Center Rd Laconia, NH 03246 • (603) 524-9539

Gilford and Prospect Mountain soccer girls named to All-State teams



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gracey LeBlanc earned First Team All-State honors for the Gilford girls' soccer team.



RC GREENWOOD

Elizabeth Albert was presented First Team All-State honors for the fall season.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — With the end of the fall soccer season, local soccer girls were included in the list of players earning All-State honors from the state's soccer coaches.

In Division III, First Team honors went to Gilford defender Gracey LeBlanc, midfielders Anna Coapland and Millie Caldon and forward Elizabeth Albert and Honorable Mention went to Prospect Mountain goalie Eve Roberge and defender Lani Demers, Inter-Lakes defender Riley Ferrante and forward Elizabeth Downing-Hall, Belmont midfielder Helena Papadopoulos, Berlin midfielder Ava Bartoli and Newfound forward Rylee Barney.

Also earning First Team honors were goalie Genna Bolduc of St. Thomas, forwards Ally Duval of Hopkinton, Juliana Grella of St. Thomas and Ava Houde of Trinity, midfielders Elizabeth Holmes of Hopkinton and Kate Burrus of St. Thomas and forwards Keegan St. Cyr of Hopkinton and Maddie Kar-

sonovich of St. Thomas.

Second Team recognition also went to goalie Kayla Sission of Trinity, defenders Bella Skoglund of Trinity, Maddie Lavarnway of Stevens, Oceanna Palmer of Raymond and Lili Wilson of Campbell, midfielders Elizabeth Flynn of St. Thomas, Carly Grant of Kearsarge, Andrea Fernandez of Mascoma and Mariella Tsitsonis of Fall Mountain and forwards Katherine Brown of Hopkinton and Madly Minckler and Payton Ferland of Stevens.

Honorable Mention also went to goalie Gracie Dean of Monadnock, defenders Katie Nguyen of Derryfield, Reese Lacombe of Kearsarge, Navaeh LeBlanc of Stevens and Skylar Blanchard of Fall Mountain, midfielders Addie Bosworth of Trinity, Addison Derosier of Stevens, Abby Stewart and Chloe Larson of Derryfield, Abby Guerrette of Campbell and Caitlyne Bobsein of Sanborn and forwards Emily Seiler of Mascoma, MacKenzie Goldstein of Trinity, Aubrey Thomas and Selah Fred-



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Millie Caldon was named to the Division III All-State First Team.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Eve Roberge of Prospect Mountain earned All-State Honorable Mention.

rick of Fall Mountain, Lydia Tremblay of Bishop Brady, Riley Vitello of Conant and Amelia LaPlante of Campbell.

George Tsitsonis of Fall Mountain was named Division III Coach of the Year while Peighton Ahlberg, also of Fall Mountain, was named JV Coach of the Year.

In Division IV, First Team was presented to Littleton defender Kaitlyn Ilacqua, Profile defender Maddie Koehler and forward Ella McPhaul and Lin-Wood midfielder Abishai Corey. Second Team honors went to Lin-Wood goalie Destiny Ciarleglio, defenders Natalie Therrien of Woodsville, Taylor Weir of Profile, Avah Lucas of Littleton and Asha Ivestor of Lin-Wood and midfielders Lauryn Corrigan of Littleton and Makayla Walker of Woodsville, while Honorable Mention went to goalie Taytum Adams of Littleton, defenders Mylee Kenison of Groveton, Meredith Barnes of Lisbon and Sadey Sherkanowski of Moultonborough, midfielders Dory Roy of Woodsville and Makalyn Kenison of Groveton and forwards Juju Bromley of Littleton, Evie Burger of Profile and Kate Vasconce-

los of Woodsville.

Also earning First Team honors were goalie Adeline Nardolillo of Hinsdale, defenders Emma Walcowiak and Morgan Boucher of Newmarket, midfielders Makayla Baglio of Concord Christian, AJ Mulligan of Newmarket and Tatiana Stockbower of Portsmouth Christian and forwards Oliva Blackadar of Newmarket and Clare Tuohy of Sunapee.

Second Team honors were also presented to midfielders Lilli Carlile of Concord Christian and Brookelyn Pagach of Hinsdale and forwards Jaela Stockbower of Portsmouth Christian, Jillian Long of Newmarket and Ella Baker of Concord Christian.

Also earning Honorable Mention were goalie Ella Walsh of Portsmouth Christian, defenders Addie Clark of Pittsfield, Annabelle Shumway of Epping and Shakella Miller of Somersworth, midfielders Mairead Moore of Newmarket, Lexi Santamaria of Colebrook and Mable Johnson of Pittsfield and forwards Tatum Smith of Portsmouth Christian, Sophie Bourque of Sunapee and Arlyn Dorman of Pittsburg-Canaan.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Anna Coapland earned First Team All-State honors for Division III.



JOHN-SCOTT SHERBURNE — COURTESY

Lani Demers of Prospect Mountain was named All-State Honorable Mention.

Littleton's Joe Hertel was named the Division IV Coach of the Year, while Alyssa Krause of Sunapee was named the JV Coach of the Year.

In Division II, Second Team honors went to Kingswood forward Kylie Rapoza, while Honorable Mention went to Kingswood defenders Norah Pelletier and Rowan Donovan-Laviolette and goaltender Heidi Roiter and Kennett midfielder Lydia Wiggins and forward Aida Wheat.

First Team honors went to goalie Lexi Boudreau of John Stark, defenders Alyvia Blad of Coe-Brown, Tasha MacNeil of Con-Val, Cali Gray of Merrimack Valley and Keely Giordano of Milford, midfielders Sidney Roberge of Bow, Lauren Holt of Hollis-Brookline, Juliana Palhof of Merrimack Valley and Alina St. George of Milford and forwards Ashley Walsh of Pelham, Bailey Gatchell of Pembroke and Mckenna Maguire of Hollis-Brookline.

Joining Rapoza in earning Second Team honors was goalie Laila Al Shawafi of Pembroke,

defenders Ellie Snoko of Hollis-Brookline, Makenzie LaFlamme of Laconia, Abbey Foote of Bow and Mackenzie Hawkins of Pembroke, midfielders Lindsey Jones of Pembroke, Sydney Deshane of Lebanon, Marleigh Kreick of Hollis-Brookline and Lexi Insana of Bow and forwards Somer Loto of Coe-Brown and Cara VanDyke of Bow.

Also earning Honorable Mention were goalie Hannah Verville of Merrimack Valley, defenders Makayla Pellerin of John Stark and Lyla Kimball of Souhegan, midfielders Maggie Escabi and Abbey Franke of Coe-Brown, Melody Couturier of John Stark, Hailey Lloyd and Lulu Maguire of Milford and Greta Zeng of Oyster River and forwards Bella Lapierre of Coe-Brown, Reagan Lamothe of John Stark, Sierra Mercier of Merrimack Valley and Jocelyn Downing of Keene.

Josh Hills of Coe-Brown was named the Division III Coach of the Year and Zoe Page of Con-Val was named JV Coach of the Year.

Kick off the holiday season at NHMS Gift of Lights

LOUDON — The family tradition of driving through 2.5 miles of dazzling Christmas light displays at New Hampshire Motor Speedway (NHMS) continues this year with Gift of Lights presented by Ambetter and Wellcare. The 13th annual event will spread 39 nights of holiday cheer while fundraising for the local community now through New Year's Eve, Sunday, Dec. 31.

This year, the drive-thru light show will feature 3.5 million lights, a 150-foot RGB Tunnel of Lights, arches, toys, numerous scenes including the popular 12 Days of Christmas and much more. Crews will spend more than 650 work hours to set up more than 520 displays and 80 different scenes. Featured attractions will also include the fan-favorite 130-foot-long infield entrance and exit tunnels with more than 25,000 lights and the opportunity to roast marshmallows and toast s'mores over open fire pits. On Sunday, Dec. 10, fans can get some exercise while enjoying the light show by foot with the Yule Light Up The

Night 2.1-mile fun run or walk starting at 4:30 p.m.

"We love to witness the speedway transforming into a magical winter wonderland for families to enjoy," said New Hampshire Motor Speedway Executive Vice President and General Manager David McGrath. "Everyone is in the holiday spirit of giving, and we're thrilled that once again, Gift of Lights presented by Ambetter and Wellcare will provide many opportunities for attendees to give back to their community."

Helping the community is a major part of what makes Gift of Lights presented by Ambetter and Wellcare so special, as the event benefits the New Hampshire Chapter of Speedway Children's Charities (SCCNH) to support children in need throughout New England. A portion of proceeds from event admissions, s'mores kit purchases and fun run/walk race registrations will benefit SCCNH. As the official charity of the speedway, SCCNH has raised \$411,392 from Gift of Lights since 2011. The chapter has donated \$2.1 million to deserving re-

gional charities supporting more than 957,000 children throughout New England since 2009.

Attendees who bring three or more non-perishable food items for the Loudon Food Pantry on any weeknight that Gift of Lights presented by Ambetter and Wellcare is open will receive \$5 off single-vehicle admission purchased at the Main Entrance. Over the past decade, food and monetary donations at Gift of Lights have generated more than 102,000 pounds of food totaling nearly 96,000 meals for families in need during the holiday and winter months.

New this year, Winterland, the company that operates Gift of Lights, will provide \$5 discount coupons to local schools and then donate \$1 per car that redeems their school's code. The school with the most cars attended once the event ends, will win an additional \$1,000.

Fans in the holiday spirit can also save on admission at the Main Entrance by participating in theme nights. Attendees can save \$5 per car at the gate on Christ-

mas Sweater Night (Dec. 6). Discounts are available only for drive-up admissions and not on advance online purchases.

Gift of Lights presented by Ambetter and Well-

care opens at 4:30 p.m. nightly, depending on the weather. All traffic must enter through NHMS's South Entrance. Admission is available for purchase online at NHMS.

Local soccer players named to New Hampshire Twin State team

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — The rosters for the New Hampshire team for the Twin State Lions Cup coming next year has been announced, with numerous local high school seniors being named to the teams. New Hampshire's top seniors take on their counterparts from Vermont in the annual game.

For the boys' team, Dom Alberto and Noah Silva of Kingswood and Tanner Keenan and Andrew McDonough of Gilford all were named to the team.

They were joined by Aaron Barrieau and Colby Smith of Bow, Ben Basoli of Merrimack, Luke Belisle of Stevens, Colby Boissy of Hopkinton, Nicholas Brill and Bennett Hewitt of Lebanon, Kevin Brooks of Windham, Gavin Diaz and El-

liot Texiera of Bedford, Dylan Drunsic of Exeter, Rayaam Hameed of Bishop Guertin, Ryder Hayes and Zach Tracy of Hanover, Sean Kelly and Zakary Smith of Pinkerton, Martin Lubunga of Central, Bryce Molnar of Winnacunnet and Santiago Somorrostro of Nashua South.

The team will be coached by Rob Grabbill of Hanover, Jeremy Zalanis of Nashua North, Rob Johnstone of Lebanon, Josh Smith of Bow, Jason Hill of Newfound and Kerry McDermott of Epping.

For the girls, Kennett's Aida Wheat, Kingswood's Heidi Roiter, Gilford's Millie Caldon and Littleton's Lauryn Corrigan were named to the team.

They will be joined by Tasha MacNeil of Con-Val, Leah Morrier

and Sophia Sayers of Timberlane, Elma Stitkovac of Manchester Memorial, Somer Loto of Coe-Brown, Melody Couturier of John Stark, Alia St. George and Keely Giordano of Milford, Bridget McGough of Goffstown, Sydney DeShane of Lebanon, Whitney Vaillant of Concord, Sidney Roberge of Bow, Lana Morris and Kyleigh Morris of Bedford, Sophia Nadeau of Exeter, Kiran Park of Hanover, Lily Carreiro of Salem and Martha Lord of Bishop Guertin.

The team will be coached by Jeff Baumann of Timberlane, Joe Hertel of Littleton and Josh Hills of Coe-Brown.

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

“Too Hot for Santa” takes the stage at the Belknap Mill Dec. 2 & 3!



COURTESY
Heather Hunt Bullimore, pictured here in the original production at age 10, will reprise her role in Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative’s revival of “Too Hot For Santa” this weekend at the Belknap Mill.

LACONIA — Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative finishes its 2023 Mill Series with a concert staging of the musical “Too Hot for Santa” by Bryan Halperin and David Polansky. Billed

as the original climate change musical for kids, “Too Hot for Santa” is designed to introduce children to this important global issue in a fun way that empowers them to get involved in the

solutions.

The North Pole is melting! Hopey, a little elf child who isn’t a very good toymaker but is a whiz at science, mobilizes the North Pole and the kids of the world to do their part to help save the Earth and Christmas! With appearances by Rudolph, Frosty, Santa and more holiday favorites, the cast will have your family thinking green this holiday season.

“Too Hot for Santa” was originally produced by the Winnepesaukee Playhouse Youth Division

In 2007, with a cast of 20 kids from eight to 12 and two adults. It was later remounted with Inter-Lakes Middle School in 2014. Halperin originally wrote the book to teach his own kids about climate change and motivate them to help make a better world. He enlisted longtime collaborator Polansky to write the catchy songs. Both productions were big hits with families.

What’s new about this production is that it will be performed by adults for the first time, with Halperin enlisting talented Powerhouse performers to bring the characters to life. Halperin himself will be participating “on stage” in his first Powerhouse role as the Narrator.

According to Halperin, “What makes this production special is that there are four members of the original 2007 cast reprising their original roles, and several other now adults who we used to direct when they were children in the Lakes Region. Seeing them grow up and become wonderful adults, and getting to continue to produce theatre with them is one of the best parts of Powerhouse.”

The cast will be led by Heather Hunt Bullimore as Hopey, a role she originated as a 10 year old.

Says Bullimore, who is expecting twin girls of her own in February, “

‘Too Hot For Santa’ was the show that gave me the ‘theatre bug’. Sharing a message of climate action with young people, in a format that they can not only understand but enjoy and embrace, is important work. But Too Hot For Santa is more than an educational tool - it’s a fun and cheer-filled holiday show for all ages! I can’t wait to share this gem of a show with a new generation.”

Other original cast members include Sharleigh Thomson as Elvira, Megan Reid as General Dasher, and Kayla Ryan as Lulu. They will be joined by Nikolai Fernandez, Ro Gavin, John Masse, Jillian Spring, Jake Stone, Olivia Martinson, Jordan Formicelli, Prezley Adair, Kate Flower, Katie Duncan, Tess Hodges, Lauren Shelby Douglas, Nora McBurnett, Hannah McCauley, Emily Aber, Meg King, and Kelly Bennett.

Admission is free for the performances, but

donations will be gratefully accepted. Audience members can also take home a children’s book version of the story, written by Halperin and illustrated by Emily Marsh.

Performances will be Saturday, Sept. 2 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. on the Third Floor of the Belknap Mill. Reservations are recommended and can be completed at <https://www.powerhousenh.org/toohotforsanta>. The show is part of Powerhouse’s 2023 Mill Series which is sponsored by the Taylor Community.

Too Hot for Santa is sponsored by Boothby Therapy Services and Rogue Space Systems. Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative is the resident theatre company of the Colonial Theatre. Its 2023 season is sponsored by The Home Beautiful and Lavalley/Middleton Building Supply. For more information on all the Powerhouse programs, check out powerhousenh.org.

Gilford Community Church celebrates the holidays

GILFORD — The holidays are busy for Gilford Community Church (GCC), which hosts events throughout December, beginning with its Annual Christmas Fair on Friday, Dec. 1 from 4 to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

At the fair, shoppers can expect to find everything from cookware and glasses to tools and Christmas greens and wreaths.

“There will also be some baked goods and, of course, some jewelry,” said Steven Melbourne, chair of the Christmas Fair. “We also have some linens and toys. It is so much fun to look for bargain items.”

On Sunday, Dec. 3, 6 to 7:30 p.m., GCC will host its Annual Tree Lighting Service, which will include singing of carols followed by a brief service led by their youth. After the service, cookies and hot chocolate

will be served in GCC’s fellowship hall.

On Saturday, Dec. 9, 5 to 7 p.m., GCC will participate in the town of Gilford’s Annual Candlelight Stroll.

“We will have a tent with a few outdoor carnival games and small prizes during the stroll,” said GCC Youth Director Amber McLane.

On Sunday, Dec. 17 at 10 a.m., children of the congregation will perform GCC’s annual Christmas Pageant.

According to GCC Pastor Michael Graham, the holidays serve as a reminder as to why these days are celebrated.

“Thanksgiving nudg-



es us to live a more grateful life while Christmas reminds us that even in life’s darkest seasons there are flickers of light,” he said. “Our various holiday events allow us space to con-

nect with others outside of a Sunday morning in many differing, meaningful ways.”

GCC is an inclusive, open community that welcomes believers and

doubters, seekers and skeptics, young and old. To learn more about GCC, or virtually attend service, visit gilfordcommunitychurch.org.

GILFORD POLICE LOG

GILFORD — The Gilford Police Department reported the following arrests from Nov. 2-19.

Staci S. French, age 35, of Gilford was arrested on Nov. 2 for Violation of a Domestic Violence Order, DUI-Impairment, multiple counts of Breach of Bail.

David Wilbur Shaw, Jr., age 55, of Meredith was arrested on Nov. 7 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension.

Justin A. Gasper, age 33, of Gilford was arrested on Nov. 3 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension.

Andrew Thomas Giovagnoli, age 33, of Gilford was arrested on Nov. 5 for DUI-Impairment.

Leon G. Laroche, Jr., age 54, of Belmont was arrested on Nov. 8 for operating a motor vehicle with an Unofficial Inspection or Registration Decal and Possession of a Controlled Drug.

Christopher G. Davis, age 51, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 11 in connection with multiple bench warrants.

Brenda Marie Hansen, age 54, of Belmont was arrested on Nov. 12 for Aggravated DUI. A 57-year-old male from Belmont was taken into protective custody for intoxication during the same incident.

Randy W.J. Nadeau III, age 41, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 15 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of Driver’s License and Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

Qiyana Smith, age 38, of Roxbury, Mass. was arrested on Nov. 15 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension.

Jessica M. Gelinas, age 44, of Gilford was arrested on Nov. 16 for Criminal Trespassing.

Emily M. Streb, age 40, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 16 for DUI-Impairment.

Paulina Leigh Ridgeway, age 42, of Laconia was arrested on Nov. 16 for operating a motor vehicle with an Unofficial Inspection or Registration Decal.

A juvenile, age 15, was arrested on Nov. 17 for Possession and/or Use of Tobacco Products by a Minor.

A 42-year-old male from Gilford was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Nov. 18.

A 59-year-old male from Gilford was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Nov. 19.



COURTESY

A cut above

A hobby started during the pandemic has turned into a family woodworking business at the Colson home. They were one of many area craftsmen and vendors at the recent New Durham Recreation Department’s Craft Fair held at New Durham School. In addition to picking up Christmas gifts, shoppers could pick up lunch and support the sixth grade’s efforts to raise money for its trip to Ecology School at the same time.

Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance meets Wednesday

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



THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	Avery Hill Road	N/A	\$120,000	Jason and Brianna Makso	Jennifer Flohr
Alton	26 Lamper Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$100,000	Harland A. Lamper RET and Virginia Caverly	Richard J. and Arlene M. Fiore
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$250,000	Community Church of Alton	Michael M. Miner
Alton	N/A (Lot 6-6)	N/A	\$560,000	Joseph A., Sr. and Janet M. Boccelli	Marianne E. and Stephen M. Stepanian
Barnstead	17 Brookfield Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$405,000	Bruce and Natalie Rosendahl	E.G. Anthony
Barnstead	Damsite Road	N/A	\$230,000	Emily K. Close	Barnstead Bouquet LLC
Barnstead	Narrows Road	Residential Open Land	\$30,000	William D. Sinclair	Michelle Bridger LLC
Barnstead	New Road	Residential Open Land	\$152,500	Jackson L. Casey	Timothy D. and Jessica St. Germain
Barnstead	Old Range Road	N/A	\$380,000	Lisa J. Gagnon	John K. Wrobleski
New Durham	20 Franconia Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$350,000	Justin R. Glidden	Nicholas M. Sandrie

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

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

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

WORK Lakes Region now open!

LACONIA — Jodie Gallant, Founder of WORK Lakes Region, and Owner and Business Strategist/Coach of JMG Business Strategies is proud to announce WORK Lakes Region is now open at 51 Elm St., in the Lakeport region of Laconia. While memberships and space reservations have been available for booking since early October, WORK officially opened its doors Monday, Oct. 23.

WORK Lakes Region is located in Lakeport at 51 Elm St. on the Railroad Ave side, in the newest Paugus Properties Development to enhance Lakeport and the Greater Laconia – Lakes Region community.

Gallant comments, "It's been a long road to get here, but we are thrilled to have finally opened our doors to busi-

ness owners, leaders, remote professionals, and more who are looking for a great spot to focus on their work and find community connection."

With the modern professional in mind, WORK has been carefully designed to work when you need it, providing ultimate flexibility to how and when you want to work. While there will be the friendly faces of WORK Lakes Region staff on site, the system is completely On Demand. This means that as soon as you select your membership option or specific day(s) you want to work, you'll receive an email conveniently providing access details, wi-fi passwords and more. With no guesswork and no strict schedule, you get to choose when it's time to go to WORK.

Gallant is proud to bring the most advanced coworking solution to the Lakes Region. With a love of leadership, small business, and collaboration, Gallant wanted to be sure to remove any roadblocks and create a solid pathway to a high vibe work environment for the community and its visitors.

WORK Lakes Region is a membership based coworking space offering full and part time memberships with opportunities for 1-3 person private, longer use offices, hot/flex desks and offices, dedicated desks, and several meeting and event spaces to choose from for groups of three to 100. WORK Lakes Region is a community-based solution with exclusive amenities for members like unlimited high-speed internet,

mail solutions, Google My Business - Official Address allocations, community connection events and more.

Additional programming for leadership, business and personal development will also be added by Business Coach and Brand Strategist Jodie Gallant and her team at JMG Business Strategies.

All are invited to experience a taste of what WORK Lakes Region has to offer at WORK Free Fridays, now available every Friday through the end of the year. Visit WORKLakesRegion.com or download the WORK Lakes Region App (App Store (iOS) and Play Store (Android)) for more information.



COURTESY

WORK Lakes Region Founder, Jodie Gallant inside main area of WORK Lakes Region located at 51 Elm St. (Railroad Ave. side) in Laconia's Lakeport area.

New Horizons Band to perform free holiday concert

LACONIA — The New Horizons Band of the Lakes Region will perform its season opening Holiday Concert on Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Laconia Middle School. The Band is grateful for the sponsorship of the Laconia Putnam Fund. As with all Putnam performances, there is no admission charge, and all are welcome.

The Band is under the direction of Debbi Gibson, former Music Director in the Laconia School system. Mrs Gibson is



known in the Lakes Region for both her musical performances with many local groups as

well as directing both instrumental as well as vocal artists. The Band was recently featured

on WMUR TV's "Chronicle," as they performed along with the three other New Horizons bands

in the State of New Hampshire.

The concert will consist of familiar (and not so familiar) holiday themed selections. There will be opportunity to sing along with the Band and to join in the festive atmosphere. Mrs. Gibson has often stated that "Music is medicine." It is medicinal for the performers, the listeners, and those just singing along.

The New Horizons Band members are made up of a cross section of local and regional mu-

sicians, many of whom have re-discovered their love of performing after years of working and raising families. Many of the members played in their high school bands and have returned to play again, often after decades away from their instruments. The band does rehearse on Tuesday evenings at the Music Clinic, we encourage anyone with a desire to play to come and join in. Contact us at 603-528-6672.

100-voice Pemi Choral Society presents December concerts



REGION — The 100-voice Pemigewasset Choral Society (Pemi Choral) shines a light upon the holiday season with a repertoire of songs that celebrate the Light Beyond Darkness that we each seek during this darkest part of winter. The three-concert series will be performed at Gilford Community Church on Dec. 7, Moultonborough Community Auditorium on Dec. 8, and at Silver Center for the Performing Arts, Plymouth, on Dec. 10. Admission to all con-

certs is by donation at the door.

The concerts will include several pieces that celebrate the special significance of light during the darkness of winter, such as "Light of a Clear Blue Morning" arranged by Craig Hella Johnson, "True Light" by Keith Hampton, "Oh Watch the Stars" by Moira Smiley, "Stars I Shall Find" by Victor Johnson, as well as many other pieces and holiday selections.

"The winter solstice, when daylight starts

becoming longer, is sometimes referred to as the rebirth of light," says Pemi Choral Music Director Will Gunn. "I chose musical pieces that also celebrate light, and should be uplifting as we approach the solstice and the holiday season."

Will Gunn was named the 2023 Choral Director of the year by the NHACDA (NH American Choral Directors Association). Collaborative pianist Laura Belanger accompanies the chorus.

Celebrating its 50th

year, Pemi Choral continues to grow in membership and in attracting enthusiastic audiences. We are 100 voices with one goal—to spread the joy of choral music! The chorus will perform a specially commissioned piece in honor of its 50th season at its Spring 2024 concert series. Detailed information can be found on our website at pemichoral.org.

The Pemi Chorus is a regional community chorus based in Plymouth, NH, with a wide-ranging musical repertoire.

Members come from more than 25 communities throughout the Lakes Region, Central New Hampshire, and the White Mountains. The chorus boasts a diverse range of ages from high school students to age 80. They perform concerts in December and May, and welcome new members at the beginning of each semester. For more information, please visit pemichoral.org, find us on Facebook and Instagram, or email us at pemichoralsociety@gmail.com

Dust off your instruments and join the New Horizons Band

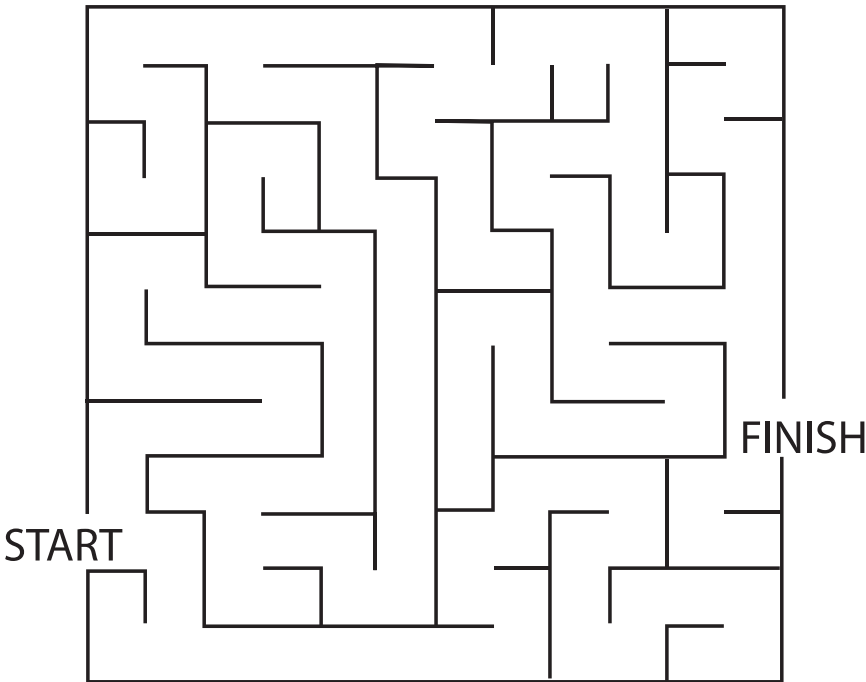
BELMONT — New Horizons Music Organization of the Lakes Region invites you to dust off your instrument and join us. The band is for adults aged 30 and older who have always wanted to play an instrument in a band but never had the time nor opportunity to do so. Players who have played in their past are welcome.

Rehearsals are held Tuesday evenings from 7-9 p.m. at the Music Clinic, located at 197 Daniel Webster Highway (Route 3, across from the China Garden Restaurant), in Belmont.



Maze Craze

Can you find your way through the maze?



THIS DAY IN...



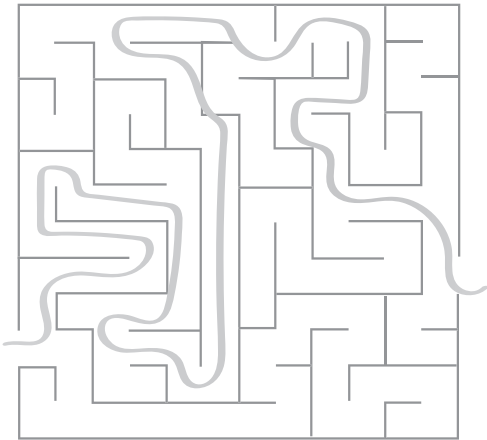
HISTORY

- **1814:** "THE TIMES" OF LONDON BECOMES THE FIRST NEWSPAPER TO BE PRINTED ON A STEAM-POWERED PRINTING PRESS.
- **1919:** LADY ASTOR BECOMES THE FIRST WOMAN TO SIT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.
- **1991:** SOUTH OSSETIA DECLARES INDEPENDENCE FROM GEORGIA.



EVEN THOUGH "BLACK FRIDAY" TENDS TO BE THE BUSIEST SHOPPING DAY OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON, THIS DAY ALSO ATTRACTS CROWDS OF SHOPPERS.

CHRISTMAS
ANSWER: THE LAST SATURDAY BEFORE



DEBIT

amount owed or removed from an account

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Purchase
- SPANISH:** Comprar
- ITALIAN:** Comprare
- FRENCH:** Acheter
- GERMAN:** Etwas kaufen



CUSTOMERS WHO WANT TO AVOID THE CROWDS ON BLACK FRIDAY CAN SHOP LOCALLY ON SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SALE SIGN

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to technology.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 25 = C)

A. 25 14 15 4 26 7 17 2

Clue: Machine that performs operations

B. 16 17 1 24 25 17

Clue: Gadget

C. 7 17 25 5

Clue: Abbreviation for electronic devices

D. 25 14 15 15 26 22 24 25 12 7 17

Clue: Exchange information or ideas

Answers: A. computer B. device C. tech D. communicate

SUDOKU

6	2	4						
		7			9	4	2	8
		3	8					5
				5	7		8	6
				1				
	1	2	5				6	
8	7		4			2	9	

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1	9	1	2	6	3	4	5	8
4	6	3	8	7	5	2	1	9
7	5	2	8	1	9	3	6	4
6	8	1	7	3	4	9	2	5
2	3	7	4	6	9	8	1	5
5	8	1	6	9	3	2	4	7
3	2	4	5	7	1	6	9	8
8	2	4	1	6	9	3	5	7
9	1	3	8	7	4	2	6	5

ANSWER:

New Hampshire Boat Museum board welcomes Anthony Bo

WOLFEBORO — Serving as project manager for the new facility into which New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) will expand next year in Moultonborough, Anthony Bo recently joined the non-profit's board of trustees.

"The museum is in an amazing period of growth, and I saw a need on the board for my skill set," noted Bo, whose background is in commercial construction and property maintenance and management.

Expressing enthusiasm for Bo's expanded role at NHBM, Executive Director Martha Cummings said she looks forward to leveraging his expertise to advance the museum's mission.

"Our Board is a source of strength for the museum, offering not just governance and insight, but practical everyday guidance and assistance with events and programming," she said. "I'm thrilled to have Anthony literally on board with us."

Previous to his current



Anthony Bo

venture, Yellow Dog New Hampshire, Bo lived and worked outside of Boston, managing both construction and management aspects of a firm that owned one million square feet of

commercial real estate.

"I'm excited for people to see more of our collection and access the museum and its expanded programming in new ways," he said. "With this kind of building, it will allow us to do so much more and increase our revenue and sustainability."

Founded in 1992 by antique and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM is committed to inspire people of all ages with an enduring connection, stewardship, and appreciation of New Hampshire's freshwater boating heritage through compelling exhibits, experiences, and educational programs.

NHBM is sponsored in part by Goodhue Boat Company, Eastern Propane & Oil, Stark Creative, KW Lakes and Mountains, Taylor Community, Belletetes, and North Water Marine. To learn more about NHBM or its expansion into Moultonborough, visit nhbm.org.

Gilford Rotary to host drive-thru dinner for seniors



Gilford Seniors enjoy turkey dinners at the Rev Ray Wixson Memorial Holiday Christmas Dinner.

COURTESY

GILFORD — The 38th annual Ray Wixson Memorial Holiday Dinner for Seniors will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 5 at Gilford Community Church, 19 Potter Hill Rd., Gilford. This event is put on every year by the members of the Gilford Rotary Club to thank the seniors of Gilford for their many contributions to Gilford over the years.

This year's dinner will again be a drive thru/curbside pickup affair with meals available from 5 to 6:30 p.m. These will be traditional turkey dinners with stuffing and all the "fixings" in a carry home tray.

Gilford residents aged 62 and older are

welcome to sign up for this delicious and free holiday meal, so please make sure to register today. Please leave a message with your name and phone number for Gilford Rotarian Sandy McGonagle at 524-31-34 to reserve your meal.

Gilford Rotary is an organization of business and professional men and women who have accepted the ideal of service as a basis for attaining fulfillment in their business, personal, and professional lives, and by serving their community. Gilford Rotary meets Fridays at 7 a.m. at the Gilford Community Church Fellowship Hall, Potter Hill Road, Gilford.

Christmas family concert at Congregational Church of North Barnstead Dec. 9

BARNSTEAD — It's getting cold and there is frost on the pumpkins, so it must be about time for Maine music luminaries Joyce Andersen & Harvey Reid to share their Christmas music around our towns. They have been making music professionally for their entire lives; both toured extensively across the country and abroad, earning a long list of awards and recognition for their distinctive and deeply-rooted Americana music.

Do you enjoy Christmas music? Join us at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead (504 North Barnstead Rd.) on Dec. 9 at 4 p.m. The suggested donation is \$15 or \$25 for the family.

This will mark the 23rd consecutive year that they have presented their unique Christmas show. Drawing on their long experience playing folk, country, bluegrass, blues, Celtic and even some classical music, they ride their musical sleigh effortlessly across genres, and centuries from banjos to blues to Beethoven, from elves to Elvis, from wise men and camels to Willie Nelson and reindeer.



COURTESY

Lions in the kitchen

The Laconia-Gilford Lions Club donated \$5,000 to the Laconia Senior Center kitchen fund to help the Center improve and upgrade its kitchen facilities. "Our Club was glad to be able to be a part of this effort which involves two key concerns of ours: helping seniors and addressing food insecurity issues" explained Club member Lori Chandler. "We would like to invite other service clubs and similar organizations to participate as well." Pictured, from left: Lion Bill Chandler, Lion Matt Soza, Heather Joubert (Resource Manager), Heather O'Brien (Operations Wellness Manager), and Suzanne Demers (Director of Elder Services).

Hiring?

Reach More

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Help
Wanted

EVENTS

(continued from Page A1)

bread cookie ornaments they can take home. RSVP by Monday, Dec. 4 to take part and slots are already limited. Contact Alton Parks and Rec at alronparksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or call 603-875-0109.

Preschool kids can have some holiday fun at the Alton Parks and Rec Department's Preschool Play - Festive Fun on Wednesday, Dec. 20 from 10-11:30 a.m. Kids ages 3-5 can come to the Alton Bay Community Center for crafts, music, and games. RSVP by

FAIR

(continued from Page A1)

tradition to the occasion.

For those feeling lucky, there will be an enticing raffle table offering fantastic prizes. Additionally, the PMHS Class of 2024 will provide the convenience of child care for a small fee, ensuring that parents can indulge in the festivities worry-free.

“We are thrilled to bring back the Craft and Vendor Fair for the sixth consecutive year,” said Michelle Kelley, Secretary of the PMHS Team 319 Boosters. “It’s an event that not only offers fantastic shopping opportunities but also fosters a sense of community spirit and support for our local talents and organizations.”

This event is open to all members of the com-

EDWIN

(continued from Page A4)

that it was a half inch belt. So all I needed to do was get a half inch belt that matched my old belts circumference. The next day I stopped in one of those tractor dollar stores and picked me up a belt.

Looking at the weather predictions, Friday was expected to be a good day, and seeing as I was already going to spend my morning with the alignment guy, the afternoon would then be tractor time.

They said that it would be hard to fit the half inch belt between the engine and the PTO shaft. It certainly was, but I managed it. With the belt around the pulleys, it was pretty obvious that I would never get this belt around the last pulley. There just wasn’t enough play.

I didn’t waste any time and hopped into the car and zipped off to the car place, they supplied me with a three eights belt of the same length. This belt would slip farther down into the vee pulleys providing me that extra play.

Once home again, it was getting duskish. I quickly got the wrong belt removed and putting the correct one in was a breeze. With everything tightened up, it started up and all was well once again. I let it run for a

Sunday, Dec. 17 to reserve a spot by emailing parks-rec-asst@alton.nh.gov or calling 603-875-0109.

Several events will be going on throughout the month of December.

The Parks and Recreation Departments of three towns are hosting a holiday lights contest. Light it Up! Multi-Town Decorating Contest Is hosted by the Alton, New Durham, and Farmington Parks and Recreation Departments and residents in all three communities can sign up by Dec. 9 to have their home included on

munity. So, gather your friends and family, join us, and immerse yourself in a day filled with joy, holiday shopping, and endless fun.

For more information or inquiries, please contact Michelle Kelley at MKelley@pmhschool.com.

About Prospect Mountain High School Team 319 Boosters

The PMHS Team 319 Boosters is a dedicated group of individuals committed to supporting and enhancing the high school experience for students at Prospect Mountain High School through various initiatives and events. The Craft and Vendor Fair is one of their annual highlights, showcasing local businesses and fostering community engagement.

while to charge the battery while making sure the other repairs were satisfactory, then put all my tools away. There went Friday.

Thursday afternoon I went to a range with some friends and shot some holes in pie plates. I hadn’t been to a range since I was probably fourteen. It’s cool to have a nice safe place to practice and hone your skills. I usually just go out back in my woods. I’d go again.

While I was cleaning up after supper, a house mate came down to inform me that someone had shot up some people in the city. He said that they got him after he got a few people. I haven’t checked the news yet. I wanted to get all my repair tales logged in before I got sidetracked and ran off in a completely different direction.

It’s tragic, very often when a nut case goes off on a killing spree, there have been warning signs that somehow got ignored. They’re probably trying to “be nice,” but maybe it would be better to ere on the “just trying to be safe” side. Very often, bad intentions get thwarted by good people who are armed and trained. We need more of those kinds of people. E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

the map. Houses will be illuminated from Dec. 13-25 and people can see the homes in the map. A grand prize winner will be chosen from each town with the winners announced on Dec. 19. Visit the event Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/events/177064802145345/?ref=newsfeed for more

ALL-STATE

(continued from Page A1)

of Gilford and forwards Josh Blouin of Newfound and Owen Brown of Inter-Lakes.

Also earning First Team honors were goalie Colby Boissy of Hopkinton, forwards Brett Biron of Campbell, Emmanuel Hodgson of Conant and Mike Pantano of Hopkinton, midfielders Owen Wuelenweber of Hopkinton, Davin Selby of Kearsarge and Luke Belisle of Stevens and forwards Luke Delia of Campbell and Owen Simas of St. Thomas.

Second Team honors also went to defenders Ryan Whiting of St. Thomas and Elliot Asbury of Kearsarge, midfielders Alex Kirby of Campbell and Benjamin Sawyer of Conant and forwards Tanner Moulton of Mascoma and Avery Condon of Hopkinton.

Honorable Mention was also presented to goalie Aidan Parrott of Fall Mountain, defenders Graham West of Kearsarge, Evan Doyon of Raymond, Logan Miller of Hillsboro-Deering, John Small of Derryfield, Seamus McIntyre of Bishop Brady and Gavin Lombara of Monadnock, midfielders Brayen Pierce of Mascoma, JJ Jordan of Derryfield and Jack LaRose and Nathan Roche of Campbell and forwards Thomas Harvey of Conant and Myles Rozen of Derryfield.

Newfound coach Jason Hill was named the Division III Coach of the Year and Gilford’s Hermann Defregger was named the JV Coach of the Year.

In Division IV, First Team honors went to defenders Kaden Brantley of Profile and Connor Houston of Woodsville, midfielders JP Perez of Littleton and Ben Taylor of Woodsville and forward Coby Youngman of Woodsville, while Second Team honors went to defenders Bryce Williams of Woodsville and Michael Cote of Gorham, midfielders Riley Plante of Profile, Grady Hadlock of Littleton and Isaac Langlois of Gorham and forwards Brendan Saladino and Jack Saladino of Gorham while Honorable Mention was presented to goalie Ethan Kimball of Woodsville, defenders Cam Cook of Littleton, Cam Pake of Gorham and Max Ringlestein of Moultonborough, midfielders Abraham Backler of Gorham, Ryan Walker of Woodsville, Kaden Cloutier of Groveton and Wyatt Weeden of Lin-Wood and forwards Nick Sturgeon of Moultonborough and Alex Wilcox of Lisbon.

Also earning First Team honors were goalie Patrick Thompson of Epping, defenders Dylan Dulong of Epping and

information.

The ABA is also hosting Alton’s Passport to Christmas. People can get a passport and visit participating shops and restaurants between Nov. 24 and Dec. 24 and spend more than \$5 to get it stamped. Once the passport is filled people can email a photo to info@altonbusinessassociation.com to be entered into a contest.



Gilford's Tristan Reinhold was named Division III First Team All-State for the fall season.



Tanner Keenan of Gilford was named Division III First Team All-State.



TJ Locke of Prospect Mountain was named to Second Team All-State for Division III.

Mike Seymour of Sunapee, midfielders Rolan Sanderson and Zachary Syvertson of Concord Christian and forwards Jacob Twombly of Epping and Sam Kress of Sunapee.

Second Team honors were presented to goalie Jayden Young of Concord Christian, defenders Lucas Leroux of Mascenic and Jackie Prompardit of Newmarket, midfielder Isaac Kohl of Portsmouth Christian and forward Kolten Dowse of Colebrook.

Also earning Honorable Mention were goalie Ben Jacob of Wilton-Lyndeborough, defenders Patrick Gillis of Holly Family and Elijah Barthelmess of Mascenic, midfielders Matt Napolitano of Newmarket and Brayden Pelletier of Pittsfield and forwards Hunter Thompson of Mascenic, Harry Krug of Wilton-Lyndeborough and Alex Brown of Somersworth.

Kerry McDermott of Epping was named Division IV Coach of the Year, while Woodsville’s Paige Lloyd was named JV Coach of the Year.

In Division II, First

tered into a contest.

The New Durham Parks and Recreation Department is seeking donations to make the holidays brighter for people in need. New Durham Parks and rec recently undertook a sponsorship initiative to make the holidays special for people thanks to donations. Parks and rec is seeking donations

such as store and gas station gift cards, toys, craft kits, and others. Contact New Durham Parks and Recreation at 603-859-2091 or ndrec@newdurhamnh.us for more information.

These are just a few of the events going on over the holidays, including at area libraries. Watch this paper for more information soon.

wards Camden Tucker of Oyster River, Avery Wilson of Milford and Garret Rousseau of Con-Val.

Also earning Honorable Mention were goalies Aaron Barrieau of Bow and Trevor Simonds of Merrimack Valley, defenders James McKane of Coe-Brown, Aiden McClusky of Con-Val, JohnPaul Torger-son of Hollis-Brookline, Jason Mahoney of Sanborn and Adyn Davis of Souhegan, midfielders Evan Pearson of Trinity, Elias Berrigan of Bow, Ethan Sinclair of John Stark, John Constantine and Parker Cheyne of Hollis-Brookline, Mason Dutile of Laconia and Sotir Agalliu of Manchester West and forwards Ben Dufoe of Hollis-Brookline and Jack Drouin of Pelham.

Josh Smith of Bow was named the Division II Coach of the Year and Zach Stephenson of Merrimack Valley was named JV Coach of the Year.

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

**For Advertising Information
Call 603-279-4516
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Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction announces boot drives

LACONIA — The Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction has announced its boot drive collections, sponsored by local fire departments. All proceeds support the Children's Auction and thus, local children and families in need.

Collections will take place as follows:

Friday, Nov. 24, in Belmont, at Belknap Marketplace, 96 Daniel Webster Highway, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and in Laconia at the intersection of Main and Pleasant streets, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Saturday, Nov. 25, in Bristol, at the intersection of Lake and Pleasant streets, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and in Gilford, at Hannaford, Walmart, Lowes and Shaw's, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 26, in Tilton, at the Tanger Outlets at 120 Laconia Road, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This year's auction will be held from Dec. 5-8, and early access bidding starts Nov. 24. The event will be live streamed daily from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on LRPA TV Channel 25, laconiadailysun.com, and childrensauction.org.

For more informa-

tion, to donate or volunteer, visit childrensauction.org or call 603-527-0999.

About the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction

Numerous fundraising events in the Lakes Region throughout the year support the Greater Lakes Region Children's

Auction, including our four-day signature event every December. In the past four decades we have distributed more than \$8 million to over 80 nonprofits that serve low-income families and children in the Lakes Region, all through volunteer efforts, community donations and corporate sponsorship. The Auction falls under the umbrella of the Greater Lakes Region Charitable Fund for Children, a

501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that helps local community organizations that serve children and families in need. For

more information about the Auction, the nonprofits it supports and how you can help, visit ChildrensAuction.org.

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\$2,300,000
MLS# 4978277
Gilford: 3BR/2.5BA waterfront home on Lake Winnepesaukee with a 70' dock that fits 4 boats, lots of protection in the cove, and stunning westerly views from the many windows throughout.

\$595,000
MLS# 4978375
Moultonborough: 3BR/2BA cape in Suissevale on Lake Winnepesaukee featuring vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, and a new kitchen redone in August 2023. Snowblower and generator included at no additional value.

\$549,900
MLS# 4948099
Meredith: 5BR/3BA ranch with an attached 3 car garage within walking distance to downtown, the public docks/boat ramp on Lake Winnepesaukee, restaurants and more. The roof is less than two years old.

\$1,099,900
MLS# 4944051
Laconia: 4BR/5BA, 4,892 sf. luxury home in the gated community of Long Bay on Lake Winnepesaukee. With ample living space and a fantastic layout, this property is perfect for those who love entertaining guests. The gourmet kitchen is a chef's dream!

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Map 254 Lot 019
0.43 acres
Assessed Value- \$47,370

TERMS of SALE: Deposit of \$5000 in cash or certified check required to bid. All buyers must be present to bid. **10% Buyers Premium** due at closing. The highest bidder required to execute a Purchase and Sale agreement and close in 20 days. Other terms may be announced at the sale. Bidders are responsible for determining the status of the property being offered. The property shall be sold "as is", "where is". The auctioneer does not warrant the condition of any feature described above. Additional terms and info can be found on the website:

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Leadership group studies region's history

REGION — The non-profit group, Leadership Lakes Region, recently spent a Program Day learning more about the history and culture of specific Lakes Region locations.

Helping Program Coordinator Jennifer McLean plan the entire day were Jaron Jenkins from the previous leadership class, Jill Desruisseaux from this year's class and Tara Shore, President of the Laconia Historical and Museum Society.

The day began at the Wolfeboro Inn, where the management provided a continental breakfast for the class of 26 professionals. The overall sponsoring organization for the entire day was Make-A-Wish New Hampshire. Leadership graduate, now board member and CEO of Make-A-Wish NH Julie Baron, then engaged the group in a discussion about the work of her organization granting wishes to seriously ill children throughout New Hampshire.

"Being part of the communities we serve is so important to Make-A-Wish New Hampshire," Baron told the class.

She added, "It's our honor to work with leaders in the Lakes Region as together we strive to

make those communities stronger and provide that all-powerful hope for the future through our work."

Dyane Barbour of the Wolfeboro Inn followed Ms. Baron with the rich history of the Inn through the years. Then it was off to see the nooks and crannies of Wolfeboro itself in a tour led by Kathy Eaton, owner of Molly the Trolley. Ms. Eaton regaled the group with interesting historical anecdotes as they cruised aboard Molly.

The group then boarded their own vehicles for the short trip to the Belknap Mill in Laconia; designated the Official Meeting House of New Hampshire. Associate Director of The Mill Jill Desruisseaux, a member of the Leadership Lakes Class of 2024, provided an official welcome and shared the Mill's historical impact on the region. A catered lunch followed before Tara Shore, President of the Laconia Historical & Museum Society, gave the group their afternoon assignment: a historical scavenger hunt through Laconia and Lakeport. Each of the six teams from the class began their searches which required photographic confirmation

via cell phones back to Ms. Shore and her judges; proof that the team had "found" the historical item described in the instructions.

Leadership Lakes' Coordinator, Jennifer McLean, one of the judges, stated that "Tara's unique idea to combine little known historical facts about the City of Laconia with a fun activity such as the scavenger hunt provided an invaluable bonding experience for the group."

The day was capped off with a visit to the Lakeport Freight Museum where Ms. Shore explained specific artifacts and the history of various items on display. The Class was unanimous in their awe and appreciation for this valuable community resource; the Freight Museum. Don Morrissey, Board President for Leadership Lakes Region, thanked



COURTESY Julie Baron, CEO of Make-A-Wish NH (third right) chatting with Leadership Class members (l-r) Christy Painchaud, Joe Collie, Michelle Melius and Shelby Swanson.

Make-a-Wish NH for sponsoring the History & Culture Day, the Wolfeboro Inn and Belknap Mill for hosting the visits, Jennifer McLean and her Planning group to ensure a fun-filled, educational day for all. Anyone interested in learning more about Leadership Lakes Region and/or sponsoring a future Program Day is encouraged to visit the Web site: www.leadershiplakesregion.org.

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COURTESY Petal Pushers Farm Garden Center open for holiday season

Petal Pushers Farm Garden Center, located at 2635 Parade Rd. (Route 106) between Laconia and Meredith, re-opened for the holiday season on Friday, Nov. 24. Co-owner Patty Gianunzio explains, "It's been many years since we have opened at this time of the year, but with many customers requesting that we do, it simply made sense." Store hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The store will close on Dec. 23 for a long winter's nap, and to prepare for its opening in spring, 2024. For more information, info@petalpushersfarm.com.

Alton Dance Academy to hold winter show Dec. 8

ALTON — The Alton Dance Academy will host their winter show, "Tinsel and Tutus," at Prospect Mountain High School Friday, Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

This is a showcase of talent with not only group pieces, but student choreography as well. This talent will be on display in the auditorium, with a portion of the proceeds going to the PMHS class of 2026! Come out and support the arts, Alton Dance Academy and the class of '26! Ticketing information can be found at www.altondanceacademy.com.



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