

Gilford Steamer

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025

GILFORD, N.H.

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FREE

Sawyer wins a pair of races at opening meet

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

EXETER — The Gil-

ford indoor track team picked up a few wins in the opening meet of the

New Web site to be released

ALTON — The Town of Alton is pleased to announce the upcoming launch of its newly redesigned municipal Web site, scheduled to go live before Jan. 15, 2026. The updated site has been built to provide residents, businesses, and visitors with improved access to public information, online services, and town resources.

The new website was developed with a focus on transparency, accessibility, and ease of use. Featuring a modernized design, streamlined navigation, and enhanced mobile compatibility, the platform will make it simpler for community members to stay informed and interact with local government.

Key features of the new Town of Alton Web site include:

- Modern, more mobile-friendly, aligned layout for easy access on phones and tablets
- Improved navigation for locating boards/committees, departments,

forms, minutes, and public notices

- A centralized job board for career and volunteer opportunities
- Enhanced search capabilities
- Updated meeting calendar capabilities with better visibility into events
- New contact forms enabling direct communication with departments
- New and regular feature releases with site versioning

The town encourages residents to explore the new website once it launches and provide feedback to help further refine and improve the digital experience.

The new site will replace the Town's existing website and will be accessible through the existing Town domain: www.alton.nh.gov.

For questions or comments about the new website, please contact the Town of Alton IT Department at doit@alton.nh.gov.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Macy Sawyer ran to the win in the 55 meters and the 300 meters at the opening meet of the season Saturday in Exeter.

season on Saturday, Dec. 13, at Phillips-Exeter Academy.

Macy Sawyer won the 55-meter preliminaries in a time of 7.56 seconds and ran to the win in the finals as well in 7.52 seconds. Pearl Marvel and Zevy Donovan tied for 38th place with matching times of 8.39 seconds.

Sawyer also won the 300 meters in a time of 42.63 seconds with Marvel in eighth place in a time of 45.67 seconds.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

(Left) William Reinhardt runs in the 3,000 meters during Saturday's meet at Phillips Exeter Academy.

Donovan was 22nd in 48.19 seconds and Aguiar was 25th in 48.61 seconds.

Marvel won the long jump at 15 feet, 11.25 inches while in the 1,000 meters, Catherine Fay was 12th overall in a time of 3:47.38. Grace Southworth was seventh overall in the 600 meters in 1:56.57.

In the 55-meter hurdles preliminaries, Aguiar was seventh in 10.14 seconds and Southworth was 13th in 1045 seconds and in the finals, Aguiar ran to seventh in 10.06 seconds. The Gilford 4X400-meter team finished in a time of 4:49.46 for fourth place overall.

For the Gilford boys, William Reinhardt ran to 11th in the 3,000 meters in 29.71 seconds while in the shot put, John Lavalley was 10th at 38 feet, six inches and Gunnar Marvel was 14th at 35 feet, seven inches.

Marvel was also 20th in the 300 meters in a time of 40.39 seconds and in the 55 meters, Marvel was 31st in 7.28 seconds and Lavalley was 57th in 7.62 seconds.

Gilford will return to action on Saturday, Dec. 27, at UNH at 10 a.m.

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

Last Night Wolfeboro presents new events and favorites on Dec. 31

WOLFEBORO — Last Night Wolfeboro's slate of day and evening activities on Dec. 31 includes two new, free, festive events for Lakes Region friends, families and visitors celebrating New Year's Eve.

More than a dozen events and activities are on the Last Night Wolfeboro schedule from 10 a.m. — 6:30 p.m. New for the December 31st community-wide event is Magic by George, featuring the mystical talent of award-winning magician George Saterial. He'll thrill the Last Night Wolfeboro audience at 12:30 p.m. at the Wolfeboro Free Library.

Last Night Wolfeboro's partnership with the First Congregational Church of Wolfeboro, UCC (FCCW) across from Carpenter School on S. Main Street is expanding. New December 31, FCCW's enthusiastic team is presenting Friends & Family Trivia at 6:30 p.m. All ages are welcome for an evening of friendly competition, laughter and free snacks. FCCW spokesperson



Lorraine Connell says families, friends and neighbors can form teams of up to eight or join a team on site.

"Trivia rounds will include topics including music, local fun, fashion and we'll have prizes, too," Ms. Connell states. Friends and Family Trivia pre-registration is welcomed online (wolfeboroucc.breezechms.com/form/53dd3879).

Leading into the new trivia event, FCCW hosts its New Year's Eve buffet supper at the church. Thoughtfully prepared by their team, SEE LAST NIGHT, PAGE A8



BRENDA JORETT — COURTESY

Last Night Wolfeboro presents free, family-friendly events Dec. 31, including magic, ice skating, escape house, games, bingo, two concerts, trivia, buffet supper, plus New Year's Eve fireworks scheduled over Wolfeboro Bay. Updates on Facebook at LastNightWolfeboro.



Holidays make for early deadlines

With Christmas and New Year's Day both falling on Thursday, when our latest edition would ordinarily be arriving in subscribers' mail boxes, the submission deadlines for our Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 editions will also be moved up to ensure that readers have their papers in hand prior to the holiday.

Any press releases or letters to the Editor intended for publication the week of Dec. 25 should be submitted no later than 4 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 18.

The submission deadline for our Jan. 1 edition will be Friday, Dec. 26 at 4 p.m.

Submissions can be sent to the Editor at brendan@salmonpress.news.

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Light Up Night — thank you to all
Alton Parks and Recreation would like to thank everyone who attended the annual Light Up Night. It was great to see so many families at the tree lighting, kids enjoying crafts and music, people riding on the festive hayride, and the smiles of children of all ages meeting Santa and Mrs. Claus. We are thankful to the Alton Business Association,

Community Calendar December 18–25

- Thursday, December 18**
- Alton Budget Committee Meeting 6 p.m., Alton Town Hall. Regular session of the Budget Committee to review municipal budget items.
 - Barnstead Planning Board Meeting 6–8 p.m., Barnstead Town Hall. Monthly meeting of the Planning Board.
 - Gilmanton Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) Meeting 7 p.m., Gilmanton Academy/Town Offices. ZBA hearing.
 - Holiday Singalong Celebration (tentative local listing) 7 p.m., Community Room, New Durham Firehouse. Community holiday song event.
- Tuesday, December 23**
- Barnstead Board of Selectmen Meeting 6–7 p.m., Barnstead Town Hall. Regular selectmen session.
- Wednesday, December 24**
- Gilmanton Transfer Station Closed (All day). Normal service suspension for the holiday.
- Thursday, December 25**
- Christmas Day — Town Offices Closed (observed in many area towns). Holiday closures are typical; verify with individual town offices.

Alton Home and Lumber, the many volunteers, and everyone who helped bring this event to life. Your support and community spirit made the weekend truly special.

Travel Club — Trip to Scotland, Wales and England in 2026
Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a trip with Collette Tours to Scotland, Wales and England Oct. 25–Nov. 3, 2026. There is also an option for a three-night Paris post tour extension. The trip highlights include Edinburgh Castle; York Minster; Chester; Conwy Castle; Stratford-upon-Avon; Traditional Afternoon Tea; London and much more. Includes airfare, 12 meals, hotels and transportation to and from Alton. This is a great way to travel solo or with friends. A knowledgeable guide leads the entire trip. An information session will be held March 23, 2026 at 11 a.m. at the Gilman

Library. RSVP to attend the session at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Let’s Play Basketball Free Basketball Program for Grades K-3
Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a free basketball program for grades K-3 led by Erick Bourdeau, PMHS alumni and Kingswood Boys Varsity soccer coach, and a group of awesome volunteers. The free Basketball Program, with an emphasis on learning the fundamentals and having fun, will be held on Sundays at the Alton Central School Gym from January 11–February 22, 2026; 9:00a.m.–10:00a.m. Please carry in your playing sneakers. Free shirts will be provided to participants that register by Dec. 19. Register in person at the Parks and Recreation office or online at www.alton.nh.gov. Contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109 or parks-

rec-asst@alton.nh.gov for more information.

Weight Training classes — Mondays and Wednesdays
The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Weight Training Classes on Mondays and Wednesdays, with AFAA Certified Instructor Kellie Troendle, from 1:30–2:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library for adults of all ages and abilities. This program is ongoing. 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. Class not held Dec. 24 and 31.

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

Dungeons and Dragons
Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a weekly Dungeons and Dragons adventure on Wednesdays at the Alton Bay Community Center from 6–8 p.m. The program is free for ages 18 and up. Sign up at parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 to secure your game slot. Join in the fun with friends or plan on meeting new people.

Gilford police log

GILFORD — The Gilford Police Department reported the following arrests from Dec. 1–14.

A 69-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Dec. 5.

Alicia M. McLean, age 37, was arrested on Dec. 6 for Theft By Deception after Two Prior Thefts and in connection with multiple warrants.

Aiden Maxwell Pennenga, age 23, was arrested on Dec. 7 for driving after revocation or suspension of license (subsequent).

Kyle P. Fugate, age 41, was arrested on Dec. 9 for Conduct After an Accident.

Benjamin Espy Dawson, age 51, was arrested on Dec. 9 for Harassment.

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Odin!



This handsome boy is Odin, a soft-spoken sweetheart looking for a calm, loving home. Quiet and a bit shy at first, he’s the kind of cat who likes to take his time getting comfortable. A cozy hiding spot is his idea of heaven—somewhere he can curl up, feel safe, and peek out when he’s ready for affection. Once he trusts you, though? He melts. His favorite place to be is tucked right into the crook of your elbow, where he can bury himself and feel secure. It’s his way of saying, “You’re my person.” He’s shown gentle curiosity toward other cats and may enjoy a feline friend who’s as kind and patient as he is.

If you’re looking for a tenderhearted companion who will bond deeply and quietly adore you, this sweet boy just might be your perfect match.

Meet Simi!



Simi is the total package — handsome, loyal, and full of energy! This athletic boy loves to run, jump, and show off his playful spirit, so a home that can give him plenty of exercise and adventure is a must. Whether it’s a long walk, a backyard sprint, or a good game of fetch, Simi is always ready to move.

Once his zoomies are out of the way, though, he’s all about snuggles.

True to his velcro-dog nature, Simi loves nothing more than being right by your side, soaking up all the love he can get. When he gets excited, he proudly picks up his favorite toy to show it off — and yes, he insists his harness goes around both him and his toy. Simi would prefer to be the only dog in the home without other pets- he loves to chase and hunt smaller animals for fun.

A man knows what he wants, after all!

Simi always looks dashing in his signature bandana and is ready to steal hearts (and maybe a few squeaky toys) wherever he goes. If you’re looking for a loyal best friend with energy, style, and endless affection, Simi is your guy.



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Gilford Public Library

Classes & Special Events

Dec. 18 – Dec. 25

Thursday, Dec. 18
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Gift Wrapping Station, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Got some last minute wrapping to do but can't keep it a secret at home? Gilford Library has you covered!
Holiday Exercise Social, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Come on by for some holiday cheer with your

exercise buddies from
Geri-Fit, Senior Sculpt,
Yoga and Line Dancing.
Have some laughs, play
holiday trivia and enjoy
light refreshments.

Friday, Dec. 19
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon
Gather and Glow:
A Holiday Chair Yoga
Journey, 10-11 a.m.
Gift Wrapping Sta-
tion, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Hand & Foot, noon to 2:30 p.m.
Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Advanced Conversational German, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Lower Intermediate Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 20
Beginner Line Dancing, 10-11 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 22

Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 9-10 a.m.
Mahjong, noon to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 23
Feel Good Fitness with Dottie, 9-10 a.m.
Senior Sculpt, 10-11 a.m.
Homeschool Group, noon to 1:30 p.m.
Now Showing: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, 3-4:30 p.m.

This month we are showing "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" (2001, rated PG)- a classic magical tale full of whimsy, mystery and adventure follow Harry Potter's beginnings as he makes it out of the cupboard and into the wizarding world!

Intermediate Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Senior Stretch Yo-
gaaah!, 10-11 a.m.
Card Games, 10 a.m.-
noon
Check out an Expert,
10 a.m.-noon
**CLOSING EARLY AT
12:30 p.m. FOR THE
HOLIDAY**

Thursday, Dec. 25
**CLOSED FOR THE
HOLIDAY**



Sherry Gray, right, was named New Durham Volunteer of the Year at the recent Senior Holiday Banquet. Parks and Recreation Director Celeste Chasse, left, said she called on Gray to do "everything" and she "never complained." Chasse also recognized the entire Parks and Recreation Commission for extraordinary service in providing more than 300 events in town this past year.

*Gilford Public
Library Top
12 Requests*

1. "Return of the Spider" by James Patterson
2. "Secret of Secrets" by Dan Brown
3. "The Black Wolf" by Louise Penny
4. "The Widow" by John Grisham
5. "The Seven Rings" by Nora Roberts
6. "The King's Ransom" by Janet Evanovich
7. "My Friends" by Fredrik Backman
8. "The Picasso Heist" by James Patterson
9. "Hamnet" by Maggie O'Farrell
10. "Nobody's Girl" by Virginia Robert Giuffre
11. "The Tin Men" by Nelson Demille
12. "The Proving Ground" by Michael Connelly

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The quiet value of pausing at year's end

The days leading up to Christmas often feel suspended in time. Town offices slow, meeting rooms empty out, and inboxes grow quieter. For some, this lull can feel unproductive. For others, it is a welcome breath after a long year of agendas, deadlines, and obligations.

In small towns like ours, where the calendar is usually filled with board meetings, hearings, school events, and community programs, this pause serves a purpose. It gives residents and local leaders alike a chance to step back and take stock before the next cycle begins. Budgets debated earlier in the fall will soon become spending decisions. Projects discussed in committees will move closer to reality. Policies that seemed abstract months ago will begin to shape daily life.

This quieter stretch is not an absence of civic life. It is part of its rhythm.

Over the past year, our towns have wrestled with familiar questions. How do we manage growth without losing character? How do we balance rising costs with the need to maintain services? How do we support schools, roads, and public safety while respecting the limits of household budgets? These are not questions with quick answers, and they do not disappear simply because the calendar turns.

But there is value in pausing before charging ahead.

For volunteers who serve on boards and committees, this week can be a reminder of why they stepped forward in the first place. For residents who attend meetings or follow town issues from a distance, it is a chance to reflect on what feels settled and what still needs attention. And for everyone, it is an opportunity to remember that community progress is rarely dramatic. It is incremental, built through steady participation over time.

In a world that often celebrates constant motion, our towns quietly model something different. They show that slowing down does not mean losing momentum. It can mean gathering strength. Conversations resume in January with clearer priorities. Decisions benefit from perspective gained during the pause.

As the year draws to a close, there is no requirement to solve every problem or plan every improvement. Sometimes, the most responsible thing a community can do is take a moment to breathe, reconnect with neighbors and family, and return ready to engage again.

The new year will arrive soon enough, bringing with it new agendas and familiar debates. When it does, our towns will be better for having taken this brief, intentional pause together.



COURTESY Incoming Interim Town Administrator John Scruton, left, recently met with New Durham department managers for introductions and status briefings. Cecile Chase will be leaving her position after two years as Town Administrator at the end of December.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Contending

That cold feeling is back. It's been coming on for a month or so now. I keep adding more warm cloths to my regular attire, and I'm comfortable for a while, then the temps drop a few more degrees and it's time to up the ante. Or anti as in antifreeze. Only this time it was add one of those quilt lined flannel shirts under my coat. That worked nicely.

But when I came home and took all that external stuff off, the house didn't take up the slack. The stove was going, but it was only 62 in here, and the temps tonight are supposed to get into the teens. The coldest night yet, and we're still burning that cheesy wood. It was free for the taking, and I figured that it would be finished by the end of November. There's still some left in the first pile.

I got the stove started and filled it up with as much as it could take and got the thing roaring. I threw on a pot of potatoes to boil and headed up stairs. In a couple of hours, I remembered to check on things and headed down,

the potatoes were nicely cooked, and the house temp was 65. That's better. When it's cold outside, you need to heat up the chimney which in turn tempers the house into the night.

If it were good wood, the water would have boiled away and I'd have been alerted by the smell of burnt potatoes or a smoke alarm. Or both. I threw a few more pieces of wood in and left the spuds on the counter to cool off. They will make good home fries in the morning.

I looked at the weather report. Besides getting up to a foot of heavy snow tomorrow, on Thursday night it's supposed to get down into the single digits. Perfect timing. It always seems to happen on a full or new moon. Another one of those old wise tales it seems to me. But this time it will hit smack dab, exactly.

The schools have already canceled their classes tomorrow so there is no chance of me working anywhere other than taking care of the snow around my house. Today I did last minute car prep and pulling the

windshield wipers out so they won't be stressed by the heavy snow. I usually forget to do that on the first storm.

I got a call from the mountain today and I'll be working there next Saturday, and then if it stays cold, I may have work the next week. The big question is will there be people coming to ski? If they do, there will be some need for me to be there. It could be a good thing. There certainly haven't been many sick teachers so far this year.

Yesterday was a wet and sloppy day so I didn't mind staying inside. I've been using an old amp that I bought back in the late seventies. It's only sixty watts into one 12-inch speaker, so for bass, it's pretty much a practice amp. One of the reasons I bought it was that it had a sub-woofer output. A couple years ago I picked up a 700-watt twelve inch powered sub-woofer to plug into it and now it moves some air. My amp is still only two small boxes big.

I leave these things in the car, not wanting to haul all my equipment

in and out of the cellar every gig. Last winter, when it was really cold, my amp wouldn't work until it warmed up. After realizing that, I would take it into the cellar and all remained fine. The amp has been working fine ever since. Until last gig. It was acting strange, going in and out most of the night and by the end was quietly distorting like a pedal with a dying battery.

Knowing it's history, and a lot about how these electronic wonders work, I brought it in the house and ordered a full set of electrolytic capacitors for it. It had to be them, probably only one, but instead of troubleshooting which one, I replaced all four. Heck, they've been working for 45 years.

I was quickly reminded why I stopped fixing electronics. I can't see. LASIC fixed my distance vision while destroying my near. I managed.

The amp sounds swell. Again.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

Letter submission policy

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

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

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Letters to the Editor

Thank you for supporting the Barnstead Historical Society

To the Editor:

The Barnstead Historical Society would like to thank all who made its annual Christmas Sale a success.

To the local crafters, raffle donors, the Barnstead Fire Rescue Department, Oscar Foss Memorial Library, and the staff at both The Baysider and Laconia Daily Sun, we couldn't have done it without you. A huge shout out to both Donna Tiede and Rita Kiley for the breakfast sandwiches which were enjoyed by

many. Our gratitude is also extended to both Tiede Farm Smokehouse and The White Buffalo for their continued support of the Historical Society. Finally, we appreciate all who braved a snowy Saturday morning to visit with us.

As we look forward to 2026, we wish you all the happiness of the holiday season!

Denise Adjutant

President

Barnstead Historical Society

Thank you to the community for supporting Festival of Trees

To the Editor:

The Alton Business Association is proud to share that this year's Festival of Trees was a wonderful success, thanks to the incredible support of our community. With generous participation from local businesses, families, and volunteers, we were able to raise \$1,700 for the Mrs. Santa Fund through Alton Community Services (ACS).

The Mrs. Santa Fund is part of ACS's seasonal outreach: families in need with children age 17 and under can sign up to receive holiday assistance.

We extend special thanks to everyone who donated decorated trees, contributed raffle items, volunteered, or attended the event. Your generosity raises critical funds, supports the community, and spreads holiday cheer throughout Alton.

The Alton Business Association is proud to partner with ACS in bringing this tradition to the community and looks forward to celebrating again next year.

Sarah Goodrum

Chairperson

Alton Business Association

Former Belknap County Attorney honored by NH Women’s Bar Association

CONCORD — Former Belknap County attorney Lauren Noether is the 2025 recipient of the New Hampshire Women’s Bar Association Marilla M. Ricker Achievement Award. Named after the first female attorney in New Hampshire, the award is given annually to a woman attorney who has achieved professional excellence and paved the way to success for other women lawyers, or advanced opportunities for women in the legal profession, and/or performed exemplary public service on behalf of women.

Lauren Noether has been an advocate for women and victims of violence throughout her life and career. As a 19-year-old journalism major and co-captain of the women’s track team at the University of Maine, she was a leader and spokesperson in a multi-year effort to overturn a university ban on women athletes, using new state of the art, weightlifting equipment. This incident of discrimination, and the subsequent intensive effort to overturn the ban received national attention as a potential Federal Title IX test case, and had a profound impact on Noether — inspiring her interest in law, justice, and public service.

After serving as a VISTA (Volunteer in Service to America) for the Blackfeet Indian tribe in Montana, Noether attended and graduated from Franklin Pierce Law Center (now UNH Law) in 1982

Her work as a prosecutor began at the Laco-



TOM JARVIS — COURTESY

NHWBA President Katherine Hedges (left) presenting the 2025 Marilla M. Ricker Achievement Award to Lauren Noether.

nia Police Department. Her career as a prosecutor spanned more than 30 years, including being the first woman in NH to serve a term as County Attorney. She served in that role for almost 14 years, having been elected by the citizens of Belknap County six times. She left Belknap County to serve as a Senior Assistant Attorney General with the New Hampshire Department of Justice in their Environmental, and Consumer Protection, bureaus. Noether was known as a formidable litigator having personally tried over 175 felony jury trials,

and also as a staunch defender and advocate of the rights of victims, especially women and children.

Noether played a lead role in the effort to establish the Child Advocacy Center of Belknap County which is dedicated to pursuing the truth in child abuse cases and coordinating social services for child victims through community partnerships and collaboration. She was also a founding mother of New Beginnings Without Violence and Abuse, which provides 24/7 supports to victims of domestic and sexual

violence. Both organizations have pioneered efforts to lessen the impact of trauma for women and children, particularly those victimized by criminal acts. She has also served as a foster parent, and tutor for refugee elementary school students.

The award was presented at the NH Women’s Bar Associations 28th annual fall reception in front of 150 attorneys, judges and guests. Former Belknap County Victim Witness Coordinator Barbara Belmont was joined by Cornerstone Family Resources Social

Worker Linda Juranty and NH Women’s Bar Association President Katherine Hedges in presenting the Marilla

M. Ricker Achievement Award to Attorney Noether. In accepting the award, Lauren stated she was deeply honored to receive this recognition. Her remarks emphasized unity and purpose in the profession and in communities.

“We find ourselves in the most polarized times I have ever witnessed,” she said. “Yet the humanity we share outweighs our differences. We have common goals and aspirations at the most basic levels. When we work toward these goals together, we achieve amazing things.”

Noether concluded her remarks by calling on attendees to engage meaningfully in their communities.

“Find a way to contribute to building community and connectedness. Don’t be deterred by seemingly concrete obstacles — they’re all illusions that can be lifted by through relationships and connected,” she said.

Noether resides in Tilton with her husband Ken.

For more information about the NH Women’s Bar Association, go to www.nhwba.org.

Barnstead Parade Congregational Church announces Christmas Eve service

BARNSTEAD — The community is invited to the Christmas Eve Service at the Barnstead Parade Congregational Church, located at 1 Parade Circle.

Our service will begin at 4 p.m. on Dec. 24, with many familiar carols to be sung and music provided by our music director Jon Taber. Christmas stories will be told and the Christ candle to be lit, along with

the singing of “Silent Night” closing out the service.

We look forward welcoming new and old friends to celebrate the birth of our new born King. May the beauty of the season reflect the miracle of Christ’s birth, and may it fill your heart now and in the new year.

Please come and join us and invite your family or friend — we look forward to seeing you.

Toy types to avoid when gifting kids under 5

The holiday season presents plenty of opportunities to spread cheer and bring joy into the lives of others. That's particularly true for parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles of young children. Few things are more enjoyable come the holiday season than watching a youngster's eyes light up upon receiving a sought-after gift.

Well-meaning adults and even older kids anxious to give a younger sibling or cousin a coveted gift must remember to keep safety in mind when shopping for especially young children. Certain toys may pose a threat to children age five and under. As holiday shoppers begin to search for gifts for children in that age group, they might want to avoid the following types of toys.

· Toys with lots of small pieces: Toys with small, detachable pieces can be hazardous to kids age five and under because kids might intentionally or mistakenly put the tiny pieces into their mouths, which increases their risk of choking. Legos are a wildly popular gift come the holiday season, but it's important that shoppers read the package and purchase a Lego set that's age-appropriate. According to a recent report from Consumer Product Safety Commission, 9 percent of toy-related injuries in kids age four and younger occurred while the children were playing with building sets. Though building sets provide a host of benefits, not the least of which is the fun children get from playing with them, it's imperative to purchase age-appropriate sets.

· Toys with electronic component: Toys with electronic components can pose a number of dangers to children five and under. Such products can heat up, potentially causing burns. And wire coverings can fray over time and thus expose children to electrical currents. When shopping for children five and younger, skip toys with an electrical component.

· Motorized gifts: Motorized gifts like scooters, cars and non-traditional bicycles also pose a threat to children five and younger. Motorized gifts may reach speeds that kids cannot safely manage, as youngsters' motor skills are not fully developed by age five.

· Toys with sharp points: Sharp points also pose a threat to children five and younger. Kids can eas-

ily suffer lacerations, eye injuries or other issues that pose a threat to their physical safety when playing with toys with sharp points or edges. Toys with soft, rounded edges and no points are ideal for children age five and under.

· Projectile toys: Toys that shoot projectiles pose a danger to children and anyone who happens to be in the room with youngsters playing with such items. Eye injuries and bruises are two injuries that can occur when children five and under play with projectiles.

The chance to light up a child's eyes with the perfect gift is part of what makes the holiday season such a special time of year. But it's imperative that shoppers find age-appropriate toys for children.

Did you know?

Drunk and drug-impaired driving is illegal in all 50 states and across Canada. Unfortunately, instances of driving under the influence of a substance seem to increase during the holiday season. According to recent data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 29.8 percent of all fatal car accidents between 2018 and 2022 (the most recent for data) involved a drunk driver. Fatal crashes involving drunk driving are about 27 percent more common during holiday periods than other times of the year. Nighttime driving during the month of December tends to be particularly dangerous. Almost half of drivers involved in fatal crashes between

the hours of midnight and 2:59 a.m. were intoxicated, according to data from December 2023. Thirty percent of drivers involved in fatal traffic crashes between the hours of 6 p.m. and 5:59 a.m. were intoxicated. The NHTSA reminds people that impaired driving is deadly. Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and If You Feel Different, You Drive Different - Drive High Get a DUI are NHTSA campaigns instituted during the holiday season that are followed up with increased enforcement by police. Holiday celebrants should always plan for a sober ride home from parties or holiday dinners if they plan to drink or consume other substances that can cause impairment.

Leadership development program connects State Capital with Lakes Region governance

LACONIA — A dynamic, full-day leadership program successfully bridged the gap between state and local government for participants, offering a rare, integrated look at policy, governance, and civic engagement across New Hampshire.

The day began in Concord with a private tour of the NH State House led by Virginia Drew, Director of the Visitors Center. This was followed by a high-level briefing on policy and leadership featuring an exclusive visit with Gov. Kelly Ayotte and insights from Assistant Secretary



of State, Paula Penney. These sessions provided a crucial understanding of state-level policy development and executive leadership.

Following lunch, the program shifted its focus to local governance with a trip to the Lakes Region. The delegation was welcomed to the City of Laconia by Interim Mayor Charlie St. Clair at the Laconia Fire Department. Discussions centered on the future of the city, featuring City Manager Kirk Beattie who addressed Laconia's history, challenges, and vision. Mayor-Elect Mike Bordes provided further insight into the unique challenges and opportunities facing the broader Lakes Region.

The day concluded with an inspiring Granite State Challenge session led by Donna Kuethe, a board member and program alumna, emphasizing the importance of continued civic participation. The program successfully met its goal of showcasing the interconnectedness of governance, from the historic State House to the practical challenges of municipal leadership, fostering a deeper commitment to civic engagement among attendees.

Holiday Gift & Shopping Guide

Experiential gifts for everyone on your list

Gift exchanges are a hallmark of the holiday season. Individuals spend weeks making lists and shopping for items they believe recipients will appreciate. However, this holiday season shoppers may want to change up their gift-buying strategy to focus less on material

offerings and more on experiences. A recent survey from Get Your Guide found 92 percent of Americans prefer to receive an experience over a physical gift during the holiday season. In addition, Deloitte's 2024 survey of more than 4,000 consumers in the



like a science or art workshop, while movie night gift cards and tickets to family shows also are viable gift options.

Special partners

Experiences can strengthen relationships and intimacy. Possible gift ideas include spa days, cooking classes for two, a weekend travel getaway, or tickets to a theater performance or concert. The Amex Trendex 2024 survey found that 38 percent of people plan to give an experience to a significant other.

Children and families

Families already may be out and about, and parents of young children may appreciate experiences more than additional toys and games that are already filling the house. Annual passes to zoos, museums or aquariums can keep families occupied year-round. Children might

Experiential gifts focus on fun, creating memories and reducing waste. Such gifts also tend to be more economical in the long run. The holidays are often filled with excess, and experiential gifts can put the focus back on joy and spending time together.

Teens and young adults

Teens are big on experiences over material gifts. According to TD Bank's 2024 survey, Gen Z leads the trend in experience-first gifting, with 68 percent preferring experiences. Examples of good experiential gifts for this demographic include escape room experiences, concert tickets, adventure sports like indoor rock climbing, subscription services

United States found that spending on experiences during the holidays is expected to rise by 16 percent year-over-year, reaching an average of \$735.

Experiential gifts place value on memories and emotional connections rather than objects. As people increasingly are drawn to these special moments, here's a look at experiential gifts for everyone on a holiday shopping list.

Parents and grandparents

Experiential gifts for older adults are beneficial because they won't

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Orders MUST be placed ONLINE by Friday, December 19.
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CmanSpecialEvents.myshopify.com

Orders may be picked up on Tuesday, Dec. 23

Prescott Farm announces winter programs

Two new staff members join the team

LACONIA — Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center is pleased to announce the release of its January–April 2026 Program Guide, offering a diverse range of opportunities for people of all ages to learn, explore, and connect with the natural world year-round.

From hands-on workshops like cheesemaking and soap-making to seasonal favorites such as maple tapping, winter birding, and salamander ganders, Prescott Farm’s winter programs invite participants to engage with nature in meaningful ways. Guests can also enjoy guided snowshoe hikes, craft-based classes, and a wide range of outdoor adventures designed to spark curiosity and build community.

In addition to adult programs, Prescott Farm offers year-round educational experiences for preschool, school-aged, and homeschool learners. Registration for Winter & Spring Wild-Quest Camps is also open, providing children with immersive outdoor learning during school breaks.

New staff join the Prescott Farm team

This past summer and fall, Prescott Farm welcomed two new staff members to support its mission and growing programs.

Sophie Acampora joined in July as Communications & Events Director. Moving here from Colorado, she brings experience in nonprofit marketing, youth programming, and community engagement.

Miranda Benson came on board in late October as Volunteer & Administrative Coordinator. A New Hampshire native, she brings valuable expertise in volunteer management and is eager to connect community members with



Prescott Farm’s many volunteer opportunities.

About Prescott Farm Environmental

Education Center
Prescott Farm is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing nature-based

learning experiences for children and adults to cultivate connection to our natural world.



COURTESY
The staff at Oscar Foss Memorial Library offer our biggest congratulations to Cynthia on getting her first library card!





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THE REAL REPORT
RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	63 Alton Shores Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$287,000	Paul E. Flanagan	Sarah Stern and Praveen Singh
Alton	Alton Shores Road	N/A	\$125,000	Dawn Mears	Renewed Homes LLC
Alton	Bay Hill Road	N/A	\$125,000	Wayne Vannostrand	D&M Holmes LLC
Alton	19 Depot St.	Multi-Family Residence	\$800,000	Richard J., Sr. and Arlene M. Fiore	Apex Land Solutions LLC
Alton	Jesus Valley Road	N/A	\$270,000	CNA Holdings Inc.	Carole Foote
Alton	Lake Shore Drive	N/A	\$450,000	Calisi Fiscal Trust and Christopher Calisi	Carol Podmore RET
Alton	356 Mountain Rd.	N/A	\$190,000	Lillian F. O'Brien	Daniel S. Hoadley
Alton	224 Rand Hill Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$560,000	Elizabeth L. and David S. Joyce	Corey and Lauren Arel
Alton	21 Richardson Dr.	Res-Mtl. Bldg.	\$1,995,000	Howard H. and Suzanne K. Barron	Christopher M. Bennett and Cori E. Carbonneau
Alton	58 Rollins Rd.	Res-Mtl. Bldg.	\$2,800,000	MJG LT and Michael Gambino	Christopher M. and Jacqueline A. Ivory
Barnstead	8 Marshall Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$505,000	Kandi L. McCoo	Ryan and Jennifer Dickey
Barnstead	Pitman Road	N/A	\$625,000	Edwin D. Macomber, Jr.	Brian and Mary-Jo Handley
Barnstead	Shackford Corner Road	N/A	\$17,000	Verna L. Foote Estate and Jeffrey Martin	Jeffrey Martin
Barnstead	122 Winwood Dr.	N/A	\$500,000	Ryan M. and Rileigh Innis	Deanna M. Durst
Barnstead	N/A	N/A	\$440,000	Roland E. II and Kathleen L. Connors	Eric Nordberg
Gilford	Annis Circle	N/A	\$365,000	Jayne M. King	T. & Donna French RET
Gilford	109 Chestnut Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$570,000	Adam S. Perro RET	Nicholas Bompastore and Christine M. Artim
Gilford	115 Chestnut Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$590,000	Paul R. and Nicole M. Barry	Yang Lu and Rui Xiao
Gilford	6 Colonial Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$380,000	Eileen R. Lent Trust and David W. Farnham	Six Colonial Drive LLC
Gilford	55 Dockham Shore Rd.	N/A	\$1,645,000	Kara S. Williams LT and Quint D. Williams	Winni RE Holdings LLC
Gilford	30 Farmer Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$430,000	Logan D. and Stephanie L. Masters	Robert and Andrea Weiss
Gilford	293 Gilford Ave.	Multi-Family Residence	\$300,000	Mary Conly Estate and Timothy J. Cooper	Elizabeth M. Spencer
Gilford	32 Lake Shore Park Rd.	Residential-Other	\$269,333	R. & Nancy E. Burnham Fiscal Trust	Sarah N. Starrett
Gilford	16 Red Oak Dr., Unit 16	Condominium	\$278,500	Richard E. Gablaski Estate and Katherine J. Auger	Peter J. Gilsenan RET
Gilford	16 Red Oak Dr., Unit 16	Condominium	\$278,466	Mary A. Gablaski RET and Katherine J. Auger	Peter J. Gilsenan RET
Gilford	Runway 3517 Condo Unit 8B	Condominium	\$185,000	Runway Thirty-Five Seven	John Sannizzaro and Ellen S. McGee
Gilmanton	15 Church St.	Single-Family Residence	\$895,000	Denis J. and Annette C. Pelletier	Sean Perkins
Gilmanton	22 Joe Jones Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$465,000	Ann M. and Gary J. Balsamo	Domenic and Brianna Pietrafesa
Gilmanton	Province Road	N/A	\$115,000	Matthew Healy	Guerrera LT and Mark W. Guerrero
Gilmanton	71 Secord Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$676,000	Jason A. and Cheryl M. Huguen	Sousa Fiscal Trust and Megan J. Sousa
Gilmanton	Stone Road	N/A	\$122,000	Wendy J. Hendryx RET	Jordan and Aimee Cancro
New Durham	276 Birch Hill Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$330,000	Ronald & Gail Brown Trust and Adam Griffith	Lydia and Yannis Petrzak
New Durham	317 Birch Hill Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$455,000	Rujo LLC	Carmenrose Cusick and Sean M. Ryan

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

Here are recent real estate transactions in Alton and the surrounding areas. These sales summaries are informational only, not a legal record. Names shown are usually the first listed in the deed. Sales might involve additional parties or locations. Prices are usually based on tax stamps and might be inaccurate for public agency sales. Refer to actual public documents before forming opinions or relying on this information. Additional publicly recorded information on these sales, prior sales and data from Department of Revenue Administration forms is available at www.real-data.com or 669-3822. Copyright 2011. Real Data Corp. In the column "Type": land= land only; L/B= land and building; MH= mobile home; and COND=condominium. 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



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SPORTS

Prospect boys fall to Newfound in season opener

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

ALTON — The visiting Newfound basketball boys came through with a great second quarter and pulled away from the host Prospect Mountain Timber Wolves in the season opener on Friday, Dec. 12, 69-36.

The Timber Wolves got the first two basket of the game from Colby Hall for the 4-0 lead before Daniel Sherkanowski drilled a three-pointer for the Bears Vinnie Tilton connected on a free throw for Prospect Mountain before the Bears went on a 10-0 run. Connor Hemingway started the run with a hoop, Nate Arnold drilled a three-pointer and Hemingway hit a hoop and converted a three-point play as Newfound took the 13-5 lead.

Heath Dunne finished off a steal for the Timber Wolves to get them back on the board before Jayden Belyea answered for the Bears. Dunne drilled a three-pointer for Prospect before the Bears got the final two baskets of the quarter. Ryan Hennessey put back a rebound and Ryder Sargent drilled a three-pointer to give Newfound the 20-10 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Newfound scored the first 16 points of the second quarter to open the game up. Hemingway opened the quarter with a free throw before Sherkanowski finished off a steal and Belyea hit two hoops in a row and a free throw for the 28-10 lead.

Hemingway hit another



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Newfound's Jayden Belyea drives to the hoop against the defense of Prospect Mountain's Colby Whitehouse in action on Friday in Alton.

basket and Arnold drilled a three-pointer before Belyea finished out the run with a three-point play and the 36-10 lead for the Bears. Hall hit a free throw to get the Timber Wolves their first point of the quarter with 1:20 to go. Arnold followed with a three-pointer and after Hall hit another hoop, Miles Barney connected on a pair of free throws for the Bears. Colby Whitehouse finished the first half for the Timber Wolves with a hoop and Newfound's lead was 41-15 at the halftime break.

Hall got the second half started with a hoop for the

Timber Wolves and after Hemingway connected at the other end, Whitehouse hit for Prospect Mountain. Hemingway drilled a pair of hoops and Hennessey connected on a free throw to push the lead to 49-19 before a three-pointer from Dunne got the Timber Wolves back on the board.

Tilton put back a rebound for the hosts and Belyea an-



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Bryce Lounsbury drives toward the hoop in action against Newfound on Friday night.

swered at the other end with a hoop. Dunne drilled another three-pointer but Sargent got the final two baskets of the third quarter and Newfound took the 55-27 lead to the final eight minutes.

Barney hit a free throw to start the fourth quarter and after Whitehouse hit a hoop, Caiden Herbert hit from the line for the Bears. Whitehouse then connected

on back-to-back baskets for the Timber Wolves.

Herbert hit a three-pointer and then converted a three-point play to push the lead to 63-33 and Belyea added a hoop to the Newfound side of the scoreboard. Aiden Taylor drained a bucket for Prospect and after Hemingway hit a hoop for the Bears, Bryce Lounsbury added a free throw for the Timber

Wolves. Hemingway then hit two free throws to round out the scoring and seal the 69-36 win for the Bears.

Hemingway finished with 20 points to lead the way for the Bears while Belyea added 14 points. Dunne led the way for the Timber Wolves with 11 points and Whitehouse added 10 points.

The Timber Wolves will be back in action on Friday, Dec. 19, at Winnisquam at 7 p.m., wrapping up the 2025 portion of the regular season.

Newfound is slated to be in action on Friday, Dec. 19, at White Mountains at 6 p.m., also wrapping up the 2025 portion of the regular season.

**NRHS 20-21-14-14-69
PMHS 10-5-12-9-36**

Newfound 69

Belyea 6-2-14, Hemingway 8-4-20, Barney 0-3-3, Sargent 3-0-7, Sherkanowski 2-0-5, Hennessey 2-0-4, Herbert 2-2-7, Arnold 3-0-9, Totals 26-11-69

Prospect Mountain 36

Dunne 4-0-11, Whitehouse 5-0-10, Taylor 1-0-2, Tilton 1-1-3, Lounsbury 0-1-1, Hall 4-1-9, Totals 15-3-36

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

Golden Eagle girls fall in season opening overtime battle

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — The Division III girls' basketball season kicked off on Friday, Dec. 12, in Gilford as the Golden Eagles welcomed White Mountains Regional to town. The two teams needed a little extra time to come to a conclusion, with the visiting Spartans picking up the 49-48 win.

The Golden Eagles got out to a 9-6 lead after one quarter before the Spartans came back and took the 19-18 lead at the halftime break. White Mountains extended the lead to 33-28 after three quarters before Gilford fought back and outscored the Spartans 14-9 in the fourth quarter to tie the game at 42 at the end of regulation.

The Spartans then outscored the Eagles 7-6 in the

extra time to walk off with the overtime victory.

Harper Rowe led the way for the Spartan girls with 12 points and Kaya Nkwen-Tamo added 10 points in the win. The Golden Eagles got 10 points apiece from Skye Maltais and Taylor Marsh.

Gilford is slated to be in action on Friday, Dec. 19, at Stevens at 7 p.m. and will be hosting Conant at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 23.

White Mountains is scheduled to be in action today, Dec. 17, at home against Newfound and on Friday, Dec. 19, at Newfound, both at 6 p.m. and will be at Stevens for a 5:30 p.m. game on Monday, Dec. 22.

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

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BRISTOL — The Prospect Mountain hoop girls kicked off the season with a solid 60-19 win over Newfound on the road in Bristol on Friday, Dec. 12.

Prospect used the defensive pressure to take control early on, holding the

PSU soccer ID clinics slated for March 8

PLYMOUTH — The Plymouth State University men's and women's soccer programs have released the details of the sixth annual spring Panther Soccer ID Clinic.

The half-day clinics are geared toward high school players aged 16-and-up with an interest in playing at the collegiate level. Both clinics are scheduled for Sunday, March 8, with the boys' clinic running from 9:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., and the girls' from 2:15 to 5:30 p.m. An optional, joint admissions tour for both groups is scheduled for 1 to 2 p.m.

The Panther Soccer ID

Bears to just three points in the first quarter and taking the 17-3 lead at the end of one. Prospect Mountain led by 20 points at the half-time break and extended the lead to 35 points at the end of the third quarter.

Newcomer Kourtney Kaplan was all over the stat sheet in her first game

for the Timber Wolves, scoring 21 points, grabbing three rebounds, dishing out three assists, swiping six steals and adding two blocks. Ava Foster, Leah Gard and Maddy Howlett each scored nine points for the Timber Wolves while Delaney Drolet finished with eight points.

The Timber Wolves will be back in action on Friday, Dec. 19, at home against Winnisquam, at 6 p.m. to close out the 2025 portion of the regular season.

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

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Friday, Dec. 19

KENNETT

Alpine Skiing at King Pine; 10
Boys' Hoops at Oyster River; 6:30
Girls' Hoops vs. Oyster River; 6
Unified Hoops vs. Plymouth; 12

KINGSWOOD

Alpine Skiing at King Pine; 10
Boys' Hoops vs. Milford; 6:30
Girls' Hoops at Milford; 6:30
PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Boys' Hoops at Winnisquam; 7
Girls' Hoops vs. Winnisquam; 6
Saturday, Dec. 20
KENNETT

Girls' Hockey vs. North Country Union (Notre Dame); 4

KINGSWOOD

Boys' Hockey vs. Laconia; 7:10
Wrestling at Winnisquam; 9
PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Wrestling at Winnisquam; 9

Sunday, Dec. 21

KENNETT

Indoor Track at USM; 11

KINGSWOOD

Indoor Track at UNH; 10
Monday, Dec. 22
KENNETT

Girls' Hockey at St. Thomas; 6:30
KINGSWOOD-PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Girls' Hockey vs. Hanover; 7:10

All schedules are subject to change.

Melvin Village Community Church

Hiring: Church Life Coordinator (Part-Time)

Melvin Village Community Church (MVCC) is seeking a Church Life Coordinator (CLC) to support and strengthen the mission and ministry of our vibrant, Christ-centered congregation in Melvin Village, NH. The position complements the pastor's focus on preaching and pastoral care by nurturing congregational life, spiritual growth, and community outreach. The CLC will work collaboratively with the pastor, staff, and lay leadership to foster a warm, engaged, and spiritually enriching church community. This is a salaried position (25 hours/week) with an annual salary of \$30,000-\$35,000, based on experience.

Key Duties: Lead/organize adult Bible studies, oversee youth Christian education, plan fellowship events and support congregational care, assist with outreach activities and community events, help with newsletters, communication, and staff support, as well as preach bi-monthly and assist in worship services.

Requirements: We seek a committed Christian who loves God's Word and affirms the MVCC Statement of Faith. The ideal candidate will speak comfortably before groups and enjoys working with people of all ages, has a passion for helping others grow in their faith and in community, brings creativity and fresh ideas for spiritual and congregational growth, and is willing to deepen their understanding of Scripture and the life of the church. Ordination is not required.

To Apply: Please go to www.mvccnh.org/apply



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Energysavers Inc, a 50 year old hearth & spa product retailer in the Lakes Region, is looking for a motivated individual that wants to learn the trade of installing hearth products. You must be comfortable working on roofs when necessary and able to work with an installer to move heavy items. Energysavers pays for all educational costs to get and maintain NFI wood, gas and pellet certifications as well as a NH gas fitters license for gas hearth installations and service. Starting pay, \$18-\$20 hour based on experience.

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SPORTS

Prospect wrestlers compete in pair of meets



Medalists for the Prospect Mountain JV wrestlers this weekend included (l to r), Ben Harrington, Bradan Berkins, Brody Koralski, Aidyn McGranaghan, Colt Trombley and Anto Maguire.

ALTON — The junior varsity wrestlers of Prospect Mountain High School traveled to Concord on Saturday, Dec. 13, for the Nick Zeras



The Prospect Mountain middle school wrestlers hit the mat in Amherst over the weekend.

Great Waters Summer Concerts announces 30th Anniversary season

WOLFEBORO — Great Waters Summer Concerts announces its 2026 Summer Season, celebrating 30 years of presenting world-class live music to the Lakes Region and beyond. This anniversary year features a diverse lineup across genres, offering music for all ages. From Broadway and rock ‘n roll to classical, country, a cappella, and pop tributes, Great Waters provides something for everyone. Tickets go on sale in January 2026, including lawn seats, season tickets, and Cloud Club packages.

The Concerts in the Clouds series, held under the acoustic tent at Castle in the Clouds in Moultonborough, opens Saturday, July 11, with Arrival from Sweden – The Music of ABBA, a renowned ABBA tribute band. The series continues on Friday, July 17, with Neil Berg’s Peace, Love, and Rock & Roll, a high-energy tribute to the music of the 1960s.

On Saturday, Aug. 1, Blank Space: The Unofficial Taylor Swift Tribute offers a family-friendly recreation of Taylor’s Eras Tour. Enjoy an evening of music

and celebration with friends and family.

The series continues with Rhinestone Cowgirls on Aug. 15, a powerhouse celebration of classic and contemporary country music, and closes on Aug. 29 with One Night of Queen, featuring Gary Mullen & The Works in a thrilling tribute to Freddie Mercury and Queen.

The Concerts in Town series in Wolfeboro opens Thursday, July 24, with the return of the Grammy-winning a cappella ensemble Chanticleer. They are recognized for their Renaissance music interpretations and a broad repertoire including jazz, gospel, and contemporary classical music.

On Aug. 8, Broadway performer Mandy Gonzalez takes the stage. Ms. Gonzalez originated the role of Nina in In the Heights and currently stars in Hamilton. The Concerts in Town series concludes Aug. 20 with Gentlemen’s Quartet, known for their fusion of classical and popular music. Their arrangements of works by Beethoven, John Legend, and others are performed by David Shenton

(piano/violin), Peter Sachon (cello/mandocello), Matt Scharfglass (guitar/bass), and Ben Saporito (drums). Returning artist David Shenton will be joined by his wife, Erin, whose vocal talent will enhance the evening.

To celebrate three decades of Great Waters, the 30th Anniversary Gala will open the 2026 season on Thursday, July 9, at the Grayson Student Center at Brewster Academy. The evening will feature up-

lifting entertainment and emerging talent. Additional details will be announced soon.

Tickets for all Great Waters performances go on sale this January, 2026, and are available at www.greatwaters.org or by calling 603-569-7710. Great Waters Summer Concerts is a nonprofit organization dedicated to presenting diverse musical performances to residents and visitors of New Hampshire’s Lakes Region.

JV Rumble. It was the first time for many of the wrestlers to attend a tournament and compete in live wrestling against an opponent. Prospect had six wrestlers earn medals. Colt Trombley walked away with several wins and a third place finish. Anto Maguire and Aidyn McGranaghan earned their first wins of the season, both earning a third place finish.

The middle school

team also had a successful day, attending the Amherst Mat Madness at Souhegan High School. Most wrestlers had four matches for the day, which provided excellent mat time. Assistant coach Steve McGranaghan was impressed with the technique of the new young wrestlers.

Both the JV and middle school teams head to Winnisquam this coming weekend.

Knightwolves welcome Plymouth to the fold
Hockey girls pick up win in first game of the season

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

WOLFEBORO — The Kingswood-Prospect Mountain girls’ hockey team welcomes in players from Plymouth this season as well as a new coach as the Knightwolves, now Kingswood-Prospect Mountain-Plymouth, take to the ice for another year.

“Our main goals for this season are building a positive team culture, developing as athletes and as a team, improving physical and mental toughness and learning to play the game,” said new head coach John Duplinsky. “I want to push these girls to be the best they can be this season.”

“I expect them all to get stronger and faster as individuals and work together as a team as they progress through the season,” the Knightwolf coach said. “It has been great to see the returning players welcoming in the new players to the team and developing some chemistry in the first few practices. The girls have been working hard every day we’re together in the

weight room or at the rink.”

The Knightwolves will be led by captains Cassidy Libby, Jenna Sykes and Avery Gilpatrick. Sykes returns to her captain role as a senior and her focus is on building a successful team and her leadership will be important for success as the new players get up to speed. Joining her on defense, Gilpatrick continues to impress with her solid defensive play, good decision making and vision. Libby will work up front and continues to impress with her intensity, leadership and focus on and off the ice.

Emma Ouellette will also be a key offensive piece of the puzzle, as she uses her quick reflexes on the faceoff dot and her good decision making make her a valuable asset to the team.

The Knightwolves will also be welcoming five ninth graders to this year’s team, including three from Plymouth, Sloane McCarthy, Jillian Rubbe and Kylie Vodvarka.

“I have high expectations for this group of new players,” Duplinsky said.

“They are all eager to continue learning the game and I am looking forward to seeing how they perform and progress this season.”

The Knightwolves play two games each with Bishop Guertin, Pinkerton and St. Thomas and single games with Hanover, Concord, Manchester Central, Bedford, Lebanon, Bishop Brady, Oyster River, Berlin-Gorham, Exeter, Keene, Salem and Souhegan.

The Knightwolves opened the season with a 12-2 win over Bishop Guertin on Saturday, Dec. 13.

“I was glad to see them successfully implementing our game plan, skills and systems we have been working on in practice,” Duplinsky said. “We still have a lot to work on but this was a great way to start the season as a team.”

Ouellette and Libby scored two goals each early in the first period, putting the Knightwolves up 4-0 right away. After a Bishop Guertin timeout, the hosts fought hard for the rest of the period, but the Kingswood-Prospect-Plymouth

defense was able to keep them outside and limit the shots. Aliyah Arsenaault made some timely saves to prevent Bishop Guertin from building momentum.

In the second and third period, the Knightwolves made good decisions with the puck and found passing lanes to maintain puck control and extend the lead.

Ouellette and Libby led the team in scoring with great support from the defensive core of Sykes, Gilpatrick and Adelle Harrington, who generated scoring opportunities by setting up the play from the defensive side.

All three Plymouth girls got on the scoresheet, with McCarthy and Rubbe each scoring their first high school goals and Vodvarka picked up an assist.

The Knightwolves will be in action on Monday, Dec. 22, at home against Hanover at 7:10 p.m.

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

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

- Friday, Dec. 19**
BELMONT
Boys’ Hoops at Campbell; 6
Girls’ Hoops vs. Campbell; 6
- GILFORD**
Boys’ Hoops vs. Stevens; 6
Girls’ Hoops at Stevens; 7
Swimming at Salem; 4
Unified Hoops at Inter-Lakes; 3:30
- WINNISQUAM**
Boys’ Hoops vs. Prospect Mountain; 7
Girls’ Hoops at Prospect Mountain; 6
- Saturday, Dec. 20**
BELMONT-GILFORD
Hockey at Monadnock; 5
- WINNISQUAM**
Hockey at Kingswood; 7:10
Wrestling vs. Kingswood, Exeter; 10
- Sunday, Dec. 21**
BELMONT
Indoor Track at UNH; 10
- WINNISQUAM**
Indoor Track at UNH; 2:30
- Monday, Dec. 22**
BELMONT
Boys’ Hoops vs. Campbell; 6
Girls’ Hoops at Campbell; 6
- BELMONT-GILFORD**
Hockey vs. Dover; 5
Volleyball vs. Campbell; 5:45
- WINNISQUAM**
Boys’ Hoops vs. Hopkinton; 7
Girls’ Hoops at Hopkinton; 5:30
- Tuesday, Dec. 23**
GILFORD
Boys’ Hoops at Conant; 6
Girls’ Hoops vs. Conant; 6:30

All schedules are subject to change.

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COURTESY

Everyone had fun at the Breakfast with Santa event over the weekend at New Durham School, especially Santa, who reported that this year the top item requested was a hover board. There were some puppy and make-up requests, too, and since Santa seemed exceptionally jolly, one father tried his luck and asked for an excavator. Proceeds went to the sixth grade fund.

Masons hosting monthly breakfast Sunday

ALTON — Ho, Ho, Ho! It's that most wonderful time of the year, and guess what? The Masons of Winnipisaukee Lodge in Alton will hold their monthly Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, Dec. 21, starting at 7:30 a.m., open to the public, at the Lodge on Route 28, a quarter mile south of the

Alton Circle. With fruit, biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, omelets, bacon and sausage, home fries, beans, pancakes, French toast, coffee and juice being served, it is a perfect time for family and friends to sit down and enjoy an all you can eat breakfast buffet. The

cost is now \$15. The Masons serve breakfast between 7:30 and 10:30 a.m. (New Hours) They hope to see you there (always on the 3rd Sunday of the month). For more information about the breakfasts or Winnipisaukee Lodge, please contact David Snyder at 603-717-1713.

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Buffalo-Niagara Region ~ May 17-21

Scenic Iceland Signature Tour ~ June 8-19

Alaska Land & Small Ship Cruise Signature Tour ~ July 8-23

Tanglewood & the Berkshires ~ July 12-13

Saratoga Springs ~ July 21-23

Quebec's "Lakes & Lavender" ~ July 26-27

Newfoundland Signature Tour ~ August 7-22

Autumn in the Poconos ~ October 5-8

Martha's Vineyard Getaway ~ October 18-20

A Williamsburg Christmas ~ December 3-8

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