

Gilford Steamer

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

GILFORD, N.H.

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FREE

Local Halloween events coming this weekend

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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REGION — Halloween celebrations in most communities are coming early with many haunts, parties, and plenty of chances to wear costumes starting this weekend and leading up to Oct. 31.

As Halloween falls on a Thursday this year, several communities will be holding their big Halloween bashes the weekend before with a few more events right on Halloween itself.

The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department will hold the annual Halloween Happening on Friday, Oct. 25, from 5:30-7 p.m. at Gilford Elementary School.



FILE PHOTO

The Not-So-Scary Halloween stroll in Gilford is one of the many Halloween events returning this weekend.

The event will feature games and activities in the gym from 5:30-7 p.m. and Halloween Crafts and Cupcake Decorating from 6-7 p.m. in the cafeteria. Costume judg-

ing will go on through the evening and prizes will be awarded after judging from 6:45-7 p.m.

Kids can also win prizes in the free Monster Mash Raffle.

The Gilford Youth Center will be overrun with ghouls and scares for the annual Haunted Village haunted house. The Haunted Village will run in the GYC gym on Friday, Oct. 25, and Saturday, Oct. 26 from 7-9 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person, and are sold at the door. Cash is preferred but PayPal and Venmo will be accepted.

For more information, visit <https://www.gilfordyouthcenter.com/haunted-village.html>.

The GYC will have something for younger kids as well on Sunday, Oct. 27 at the Not-So-Scary Halloween Stroll.

Kids will go through the Halloween maze in the gym and collect candy from their favorite characters including Mickey, Minnie, Olaf, Elmo, and more.

This year the Halloween Stroll is adding an outdoor festival such as an inflatable slide and house, crafts, games, a scavenger hunt, hot

cider, and more. There will also be a caramel apple creation station, cotton candy, popcorn, and glow balloons among others for sale for a small fee.

Admission for the event is \$10 per child and free for kids under six months. Admission is open for three sessions with the first session already sold out. As of press time spaces were still available for Session 2 at 12:30-1:15 p.m. and Session 3 from 1:30-2:15 p.m.

All proceeds will benefit the Gilford Youth Center.

To sign up for the Not-So-Scary Halloween Stroll, visit <https://www.gilfordyouthcenter.com/halloween-stroll.html>.

Another haunting will pop up at the New Durham Meetinghouse this weekend for The Haunted Trail. The New Durham and Farmington Parks and Rec-

SEE HALLOWEEN, PAGE A12

Candidates meet local voters during Gilford event

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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GILFORD — Attracting more people to medical field, addressing addiction and mental health issues, and legalizing marijuana were some of the topics discussed by candidates for office during an event in Gilford.

The Gilford Community Church hosted the candidate's night on Tuesday, Oct. 15 moderated by Gilford town and school district moderator Sandy McGonagle.

Among the attendants were candidates for state senate District 2 including Republican Sen. Tim Lang who is running for another term against Democrat Carlos Cardona.

The discussion also featured several candidates for Belknap County District 6 including Democrats Kurt Weber, Jonathan Arsenault, Bob McLean, and Lena Nirk and Republican David Nagel. Republican candidates Harry Bean, Russell Dumais, and Glen Aldrich did not attend the event.

When asked about attracting primary care physicians to the state,

a number of candidates said the issue was a part of many overall economic issues.

Nagel, a physician, said the lack of health-care professionals is part of a nationwide crisis. He said with many new doctors graduating with a lot of student loan debt, many might not want to practice in a field and an area that might provide them with less money.

Lang said fewer people are getting into the healthcare fields, including doctors and nurses, and the state has talked about incentives to hopefully bring more students into the medical profession. Some laws have also been changed allowing nurse practitioners to practice with more autonomy and not have to be under the supervision of a doctor.

Cardona said this is an issue that impacts mental health professionals as well and is a major issue in offering more mental health services.

Cardona, Arsenault, and Weber said one way to address this is

SEE CANDIDATES, PAGE A8

PTO spearheads fundraising for new playground at NDS

BY CATHY ALLYN
Contributing Writer

NEW DURHAM — “Keep your eyes on the prize.”

That idiom is more than apt to describe the New Durham School (NDS) Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and its current president, Kaitlyn Hills, regarding the monumental task of raising money for a new playground structure.

The prize was awarded last Friday, when the community came together in droves and erected a structure that will last school children for decades, but a lot of eyes have been on it for a lot of years.

Hills took on the role of president of the PTO in 2019.

“I joined because both of my kids were going to school and the group was looking for people to help out. We fundraise for things not only for the kids, but to also support the staff,” Hills said.

She finds the experience “very satisfying. We have a group of people with huge hearts.”

Hills was aware from the beginning that the playground would be the



CATHY ALLYN

New Durham School Parent Teacher Organization President Kaitlyn Hills (center) has not only worked with the group for the past five years to raise money for a new playground structure; she also showed up last week with a large group of volunteers to install the equipment. The new structure has a capacity of 31 youngsters and includes elements the students advocated for.

main focus for the next few years. The original wooden structure was erected in 1995 at a cost of \$5,000.

Barbara Halla Reed, NDS principal at the time, said she remembered the project well.

“There was lots of parent involvement in fundraising and building,”

Reed said. “We really needed a safe playground and this one was a real gift. It lasted quite some time, which should say something about the parents who played an important role in getting it installed.”

Joanne Walker, a long-time popular Kindergarten teacher, received the

honor of having the playground named after her, once she retired.

Knowing the structure was essentially on its last legs and would soon be nearing its end, the PTO had already begun raising money for its replacement when Hills came onboard.

“We’ve been working on it for five or six years, but the major push to replace the playground really began around the time I started,” she said.

Then Covid hit. “That slowed us down,” Hills said, “but we were always aware that we had a limited time left with the existing structure.”

The PTO has done big and small, traditional and novel fundraisers since then.

“Every year, we do a Spaghetti Supper and Arts Night that brings people in for food and to see what the kids are doing. We’ve sold hanging plants and mums,” she explained.

Included in the list are a Fun Run, catalog fundraisers, and “lots of bake sales.”

SEE PLAYGROUND, PAGE A8

Drew leads Gilford golfers at Division III State Meet

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

ROCHESTER — The Gilford golf team traveled to Rochester Country Club on Thursday, Oct. 17, for the Division III State Meet, finishing in fifth place overall with a total score of 373, just four strokes out of third place.

Brayden Drew led the way for the Golden Eagles, finishing with

a score of 86 for the 18 holes, which placed him in fifth place overall and qualified him for the individual portion of the tournament, which took place on Saturday in Concord.

Ryan Folan just missed the cut for the individual portion, finishing with a score of 91 and Ali Lyman fired a 97 to place as Gilford’s third scorer.

Andy Taylor finished with a score of 99 to round out the scoring for the Golden Eagles. Carson McGreevy finished with a score of 101 and Michael Giovanditto finished with a score of 102 to finish out the field of Gilford golfers.

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



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Brayden Drew led the Gilford golf team at the Division III State Meet.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Ali Lyman putts on the 18th hole at Rochester Country Club last Thursday afternoon.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Ryan Folan just missed the cut to qualify for the individual tournament at last week’s State Meet in Rochester.

New Durham seeking input on possible short term rental regulations

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

NEW DURHAM — The town is considering a number of possible suggestions for short term

rental regulations and is seeking public input on any potential regulations.

On Oct. 16, the town announced on its website

that the planning board considered 21 suggested items as part of a possible ordinance on short term rentals (STR).

“The purpose of the Zoning Ordinance Amendment would be to ensure that operation of the STR is conducted in a manner which encourages appropriate use of natural and municipal resources, promotes the health, safety, and welfare of the community, and protects property values in the neighborhood of the STR property,” read the town’s announcement.

The planning board considered 21 different suggestions or a possible ordinance. The town is now seeking input from residents on whether they support or oppose any of these suggestions and suggest any additional regulations.

The full list can be found at <https://www.newdurhamnh.us/home/news/short-term-rental-suggestions>. People can fill out the survey and email it to the New Durham Land Use Assistant at ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.gov.

The suggested regulations include the possible requirement of a conditional use permit or special exception or whether it would require an annual permit issued by the town’s code enforcement officer.

Another suggestion would be for the permit to expire after a year of issuance and making it not able to be transferred to a new owner.

The suggestions include possibly having an initial permit fee of \$500 and perhaps an annual renewal fee of \$350.

The initial permit would require a number for the state’s Rooms and Meals tax and proof of payment for the annual permit rental.

The suggested regulations include requirements for water and sewer, including relating to maximum occupancy.

The property’s septic system would have to be inspected and show approval by the NH Department of Environmental Services before the short term rental is officially open. The septic system would also have to be pumped annually, and documentation would be

submitted with the yearly application fee showing this was done.

The suggested regulation would require that occupancy be limited to the number of bedrooms plus one based in the size of the property’s approved septic system. For example a two-bedroom building would have a maximum of four people plus one per unit.

A water test would be required with the initial application to show there is potable water on the property.

The code enforcement officer must also inspect the property for safety including the presence of working fire and carbon monoxide detectors, doors and windows, and a posted fire safety escape plan. Fire pits would also have to have a permit form the fire department.

Under another suggestion, the owner of the property must have a responsible person who can be reached 24/7 to be on the site within two hours if they are needed.

Any accessory dwelling units would need to be occupied by the owner and both the primary dwelling and the acces-

sory dwelling cannot be used as short-term rentals.

Renters would be provided with a handbook containing the rental’s address, emergency contacts for the owners or their designated contact person as well as listing of emergency numbers and information on the local hospital. The handbook would also contain transfer station information, beach regulations, and recommendations for best practices.

The suggested regulations also include a minimum rental period of seven nights and a maximum of 13 weeks. The suggestions also include a possible cap on the number of rented units in one area.

Other suggested regulations include no street parking at any time, trash containers that are sealed and animal-proof, and that rental occupants must abide by the town’s noise ordinance.

Failure to comply with all these terms, the issue permit, and all town ordinances as well as state and federal laws would result in fines and penalties.

Injured hiker rescued on Mount Major

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

ALTON — A Virginia man was rescued on Mount Major after sustaining a back injury on the trail.

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, NH Fish and Game received a call around 3:22 p.m. about an injured hiker on Mount Major requiring assistance.

According to a statement from NH Fish and Game, Muhammad Naizi, 31 of Centreville, Va., had reached the summit of Mount Major and was walking back on the Blue Trail. Naizi slipped on the trail and fell, sustaining a back injury. When he was unable to continue walking, he called 911.

Conservation officers with Fish and Game arrived at the scene along with the Alton and Gilman Fire Departments and Lakes Region Search and Rescue.

Rescue crews found Naizi and were able to

move him a short distance when he was then assessed. He was then loaded onto a rescue side-by-side vehicle and brought down to the parking area to the trailhead.

Fish and Game is reminding hikers to purchase a Hike Safe Card. Hike Safe Cards are a voluntary card issued by Fish and Game and cardholders are not liable for any costs if they are rescued. Anyone who does not have a Hike Safe Card can get these cards. Proceeds from the sale of the cards goes to the state’s Search and Rescue Fund.

Each card costs \$25 per person or \$35 per family and are good for the calendar year of date and time of purchase through Dec. 31.

For more information on Hike Safe cards and hiking safety, visit <https://www.wildlifenh.gov/get-outside/hiking-safety>.

Gilford Public Library Top Ten requests

1. “Framed” by John Grisham
2. “An Eye for an Eye” by Jeffrey Archer
3. “One Day I’ll Grow Up and Be a Beautiful Woman” by Abi Maxwell
4. “By Any Other Name” by Jodi Picoult
5. “Passions in Death” by J.D. Robb
6. “A Christmas Duet” by Debbie Macomber
7. “The Women” by Kristin Hannah
8. “Tell Me Everything” by Elizabeth Strout
9. “The Frozen River” by Ariel Lawhon
10. “Swan Song” by Elin Hilderbrand

Thursday, Oct. 24

Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
French Club, 4-5 p.m.
Allagash - New England’s Wild River, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

“Allagash-New England’s Wild River”: Narrated by author and humorist Tim Caverly; the show includes music as well as scenic and historic photos from our ‘northern forest.’ Spectators will virtually canoe the world-famous river, discover forgotten logging history and learn about Native American archaeology. Hear first-hand about the lore, legends, and characters that Tim experienced during his 32-years while a Maine Park Ranger.

Friday, Oct. 25

Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Heart ‘n Soul Chair Yoga, 10-11 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon
Hand & Foot, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Oct. 24 – Oct. 31

Advanced Conversational German, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Spooky Storywalk, 4-5 p.m.

Join us for a family-friendly spooky storywalk filled with suspense and candy! Come in your costumes and bring a bag for tasty treats. Located at the Gilford Elementary School.

Saturday, Oct. 26

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

Monday, Oct. 28

Fun and Fitness With Joyce, 9-10 a.m.
Mahjong, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Quick Pickling: Pickles Workshop, 5-6 p.m.

Leave that unwieldy canning pot in the cabinet and join UNH Extension Horticulturalist Sean O’Brien for a hands-on pickling workshop to learn how to make delicious and easy

refrigerator cucumber pickles with no canning required! We’ll go over everything you need to know to safely make quick and easy garlic dill pickles without all the fuss and mess of canning. All ingredients and equipment will be provided for you, and you’ll leave this class with a jar of your very own pickles that will be ready in just a couple of days. Come join the pickling fun! Sign-ups are required. 12 spots available.

Tuesday, Oct. 29

Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Geri Fit, 10-11 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon
Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Healthy Hips, 11-11:30 a.m.

Our hips are one of our most mobile joints. However, if they aren’t taken care of properly can’t often become dysfunctional and stiff. Do you struggle getting

down on the floor? Do you struggle going up or down stairs? Do you have pain in your hips, lower back, foot, or knees? Do you sit a lot during the day? Do you want to learn how to keep your hips healthy for a lifetime? If you answered yes to any of those questions this is the class for you! Can’t wait to see you there. Presented by Dr. Amanda from Awakening Chiropractic.

Intermediate Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 30

Senior Stretch Yoga, 9-10 a.m.
Check out an Expert, 10 a.m.-noon
Card Games 10 a.m.-noon
Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.
T(w)een Boredom Busters, 3-4 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 31

Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Homeschool Club, noon-1:30 p.m.
French Club, 4-5 p.m.

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Head back in time with “Bye Bye Birdie” at Village Players Theater

WOLFEBORO — Maybe you saw the movie or the Broadway musical it was based on. Or maybe not. But somewhere deep in your mind, you know the story of Conrad Birdie, since it is often compared to the story of Elvis Presley.

In the late 1950s, popular rock and roll superstar Conrad Birdie (AJ O’Neil) receives an Army draft notice, devastating his teenage fans nationwide. Despite his doctorate in biochemistry, unsuccessful songwriter Albert Peterson (Village Players newcomer Liam Frager) schemes with his secretary and long-suffering girlfriend Rosie (Olivia Lee) to have Conrad sing a song Albert will write. Rosie convinces Ed Sullivan to have Conrad perform Albert’s song “One Last Kiss” on “The Ed Sullivan Show” and then kiss a randomly chosen high school girl goodbye before joining the Army. After this succeeds, Albert will feel free to marry Rosie, despite his widowed, meddling mother Mae’s (Kristen Sturtevant) long history of interfering with her son’s life.

Conrad’s final performance is set to take place in Ohio, where he will kiss Kim MacAfee (Vivienne Dauphinais),

(Right) The residents of Sweet Apple, Ohio welcome Conrad Birdie to town as the Village Players production of Bye Bye Birdie rehearses for November production.



Conrad Birdie (AJ O’Neil) performs as the young women of Sweet Apple, Ohio swoon in the background during rehearsals for Bye Bye Birdie, coming in November to the Village Players Theater.



who is thrilled, unlike her high school sweetheart, Hugo Peabody (Village Players newcomer Ray Mtimbiri).

Featuring the popular rock music stylings of the 1950s, “Bye Bye Birdie” is set to take the stage at the Village Players Theater in Wolfeboro the first two weekends of November. Filled with a cast featuring both veteran Village Players actors and actresses and a slew of newcomers making their debut on the Glendon Street stage, the show is sure to delight audiences of all ages as they follow the journey of Conrad, Kim and the town of Sweet Apple, Ohio.

“Bye Bye Birdie” is being directed by Kathleen Hill, with assistance from Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler, while Robert Dionne returns to the piano as the show’s musical director.

“Bye Bye Birdie” will be performed on Friday, Nov. 1, Saturday, Nov. 2, Friday, Nov. 8, and Saturday, Nov. 9, all at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 3, and Sunday, Nov. 10, both at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at Black’s Paper and Gifts in downtown Wolfeboro, at village-players.com or at the door (as long as available).

The show is sponsored by Dr. Richard J. Neal, DMD and is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.

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ESSENTIAL local NEWS

Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

Collaboration is key

As election season approaches, voters are faced with critical decisions that go beyond party labels. It's essential to understand the core values of both Republicans and Democrats, and more importantly, to consider how those values align with your own interests and the needs of your community. This election, one of the most important things voters must ask themselves is whether a candidate is willing to work across the aisle—because that's the only way real solutions happen in a democracy.

In times like these, collaboration is key. One of the candidates in this election has shown a willingness to work with people from both parties to solve real problems. That kind of bipartisanship is exactly what we need right now. Our country, and especially local communities, can't afford to be gridlocked by partisan infighting. When elected officials are willing to compromise and work with others, that's when meaningful change can happen.

The other candidate has made it clear that they are more interested in self-serving politics. They've proven time and again that they aren't interested in listening to or working with those across the aisle. This is not what democracy is about. Democracy thrives when ideas are debated and when leaders can come together to create solutions that work for everyone, not just their own base.

It's important to remember that your vote is your voice, and it's crucial to vote in line with your values and interests. Voting against your own interests because of party loyalty or negative campaign tactics can have lasting impacts on your community and country. What truly matters is having representatives who will work for the common good—people who prioritize problem-solving over political grandstanding.

This election, take the time to think critically about the candidates on your ballot. Who is willing to put in the effort to work with those on the other side? Who is willing to compromise for the greater good? The future of our democracy depends on leaders who will work across party lines to create a better future for everyone, not just a select few. Don't let divisive rhetoric or blind partisanship determine your vote—vote for the candidate who will work for you, for your neighbors, and for a stronger, more unified community.



COURTESY

Subject at hand

Doug Hall of the New Hampshire School Funding Fairness Project makes a point regarding inequities for both students and taxpayers at a recent presentation in New Durham. According to the non-profit organization, because the state funds at a much lower level that it actually costs to educate a student, disproportionate local tax rates and resource discrepancies among school districts exist. New Durham-specific handouts were available to answer key questions regarding school funding in New Durham and measures of students in the Governor Wentworth Regional School District, of which New Durham is part.

Letters to the Editor

Is this what we want for leadership?

To the Editor:

From the beginning of the current presidential race, Donald Trump has made, as a key component of his campaign, a series of vicious lies about migrants. By mid-summer, he was over the top with his untruths. At that point he declared: "The greatest invasion in history is taking place right here in our country. They're coming from everywhere. They're coming at levels that we have never seen before...They are coming from prisons. They are coming from jails. They are coming from mental institutions and insane asylums."

Then, in the recent presidential debate, he outdid himself when out of the blue he declared to a national audience: "In Springfield, Ohio, they [Haitian immigrants] are eating the cats. They are eating the pets of the people that live there..."

The Republican governor of Ohio immediately declared the Trump accusation to be "garbage" and the mayor and city administrator announced that nothing of the sort had occurred.

Shortly after Trump's wild pet eating claim, his running mate, J.D. Vance, U.S. Senator from Ohio,

was interviewed about the Trump assertion. Vance's answer was clear and unambiguous: "The American media totally ignored this stuff until Donald Trump and I started talking about cat memes. If I have to create stories so that the American media pays attention to the suffering of the American people, then that's what I'm going to do because you guys are completely letting Kamala Harris coast."

In other words, we don't think you are hitting the Harris-Walz team hard enough, so we are going to lie to make our case.

Previous presidential campaigns have sometimes stretched the truth, but the Trump-Vance campaign is based on lies about immigrants which are clearly designed to foster fear and hate, which they hope will get them elected. The clearest parallel to what they are doing is the Nazi propaganda demonizing Jews and Gypsies in the 1930's. Is this what we want for leadership in our country? Is this what America is about? Let's hope not.

Hunter Taylor
Alton

Trump is a threat to our country

To the Editor:

It's difficult to imagine a worse candidate for president than Donald Trump, a twice-impeached felon who is facing serious criminal charges for election interference and attempting to unlawfully overturn federal and state election results. If elected, he says he will be a dictator on Day 1 and plans to replace thousands of federal employees with his own hand-picked loyalists.

He is a dangerous threat to our democracy and country.

During his chaotic term in the White House, Trump repeatedly abused his presidential powers for personal gain and to hurt his critics. His reckless decisions had some really bad outcomes. Trump's

tariffs cost Americans billions of dollars. His tax plan added \$2 trillion to the national debt. He instigated the longest government shutdown ever.

His executive order to separate migrant children from their parents was cruel and ineffective. His public admiration for ruthless despots like Putin emboldened human rights abusers throughout the world. His withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal destabilized the Middle East. His verbal attacks on China ratcheted up military tensions with a nuclear superpower. His sympathetic comments toward the Proud Boys, a neo-fascist hate group, influenced the expansion of violent right-wing extremist groups.

Hundreds of Republican officials, including

many who served with him in the White House, have publicly raised alarms about Trump's fitness for office. He repeatedly lies about our elections. He attempted to overthrow the 2020 election results and incited the attack on the Capitol. He has nothing but contempt for our Constitution and the rule of law.

Bill Barr, his former attorney general, said, "He will always put his own interests and gratifying his own ego ahead of everything else, including the country's interest."

For Trump, loyalty is a one-way street. You can't trust him. He is toxic for the Republican party and our country.

Linda Terwilliger
Gilford

We are better, and we can do better

To the Editor:

The recent letter of Phil Wittmann was truly uningued, full of wildly inaccurate accusations and completely divorced from reality. His claim that Democrats hate Trump because he "will protect the

traditional way of American life" is certainly bizarre. I cannot speak to Mr. Wittmann's traditions, but mine certainly do not include the kind of conduct Trump bragged about on the "Access Hollywood" tapes. They do not include cheating on serial wives, or raping women in a department store. And they certainly do not include storming the Capitol and committing violence against the law enforcement officers trying to protect the legislators and our democracy.

Mr. Wittmann also seems to view life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as being for the benefit of men and not women. He doesn't concern himself with the lives lost by women being denied reproductive health care as a result of the fall of Roe v. Wade. His view of "preserving the lives of American children" presumably ends once that child is born, or he might consider focusing on the scourge of gun violence that is the sin-

gle leading cause of death to American youth.

With regard to Mr. Wittmann's special concern for "natural born citizens," he may have forgotten that at least 2 of Mr. Trump's wives are excluded from that category. Does his anti-immigrant viewpoint extend to them also?

Finally, it was under President Obama that \$200 million funded Israel's Iron Dome, used today for the safety of Israel. The fact that Vice President Harris shows some compassion for the civilians of Gaza cannot legitimately be twisted into an anti-Israel claim.

The Harris campaign is one of inclusion and kindness, unlike the message of division and hate that Mr. Wittmann's candidate now openly promotes.

We can do better. We are better.

Stephanie Vuolo
Alton Bay

Vote Republican for America

To the Editor:

Well, here we go again. Every two years, a local Democrat tries to unseat one of our three conservative state representatives or our state senator. This time, one of them claims to be for needy children.

Our three representatives, Paul Terry, Peter Varney and Barbara Comtois, have always supported parental rights when it comes to children's education, giving the parents an opportunity to send their children else ware for a good education rather than send them to the public, government run liberal indoctrination centers.

Needy children? The most needy child in the world is the one in its mother's womb. It seems the Democrat candidate considers this needy child fair game for annihilation.

Those allowed to be born are sent to public schools where they are taught that the most vile and perverted lifestyles are "normal," that Communism is "good," that globalism is more important

than national pride and that America is a place to be despised. How many of you want your tax dollars spent on that kind of "education?"

The upcoming election is the most important one of our lifetimes. Our country is at a dangerous crossroad. Take the wrong turn and we can wave goodbye to the America our founders left us. One road brings continued loss of freedom and eventually communism (we're halfway there now), more corruption of our children and the loss of their innocence, and more money spent on endless wars and illegal aliens instead of our own citizens who need help.

Or you can choose to support and uphold our Constitution, our laws and the American traditions we all hold dear.

"Make America Great" is not a dirty phrase. Vote for America on Nov. 5. Vote Republican across the board.

Phil and Chris Wittmann
Alton

We are better when we work together

To the Editor:

I am compelled to respond to Ruth Larson's Letter to the Editor and ad in the Oct. 17 issue of this paper because both contain serious and egregious assertions that are false.

During the current and past terms of service as your Representative in the House, I have enjoyed cor-

dial and collegial working relationships with Democrats, as well as fellow Republicans. When the Speaker asked me to leave the Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee to fill a key vacancy on the Education Committee, news of my departure from the former

SEE LETTER, PAGE A5
LETTERS CONTINUED, PAGE A5

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 FROM EDWIN

These are dangerous times. It's once again peak foliage season, and while driving down the thoroughfares of this beautiful region, I'm too often distracted by beautifully colored trees. It's much worse than getting a cell phone call where I need to quickly grab the phone and sweep the screen. That's a quick reach and swipe followed by a touch to speaker phone. All that can be accomplished while keeping relatively attentive to the act of driving.

Trees on the other hand, stand on the side of the road, dressed like a lady of the night beguiling my attention. A turn your head, will you look at that, kind of moment. Both dangerous situations.

I spent a number of hours traveling these roads as a passenger the other day. A rare occurrence for me. I could gaze at all the attractions around me without any demands other than being co-pilot, interpreting the GPS girls constant exclamations to the driver.

My friend is in a business that he conducts upon his phone. He has everything on speed dial or quick linky things of which I am amazed. He can talk to customers, call in a third phone contact, and then transfer the business, all from the

driver's seat while cruising down the highway. I only had to remind him a couple times to keep on the road. Life is a gamble, isn't it?

The foliage was peaking all throughout the journey, as far as I'm concerned. Occasional spectacular patches posted between much still green. There was already lots of gray naked trees. The oaks will start to change soon, once we get a frost. It's October already and we haven't had one yet. First frost has definitely moved out a couple of weeks. Adding to that, last frost seems to have moved back another couple of weeks, making the growing season much longer. This changing climate is good for those of us who tend gardens.

I listened to an interview with a weather guy the other day who presented a nice historical perspective on all this catastrophic weather we are told is happening all the time. Surprisingly, he said that we are actually experiencing much less bad weather than in the past. In fact, he said that the recent hurricanes we've had weren't close to being as bad as one that happened back in the forties. He also mentioned that the north-east used to get hit with hurricanes every fifty something years. That no longer seems to

be the case. It's nice to get varying perspectives.

I haven't been to Florida in years. What I remember is that nobody has cellars down there because the water table is so high. In other words, the ground is always close to being saturated. My friend said that if you drained your swimming pool that the ground water would float it up out of the ground. Pretty crazy to think about it.

What I do recall is all the skimpily constructed houses and quantity of mobile homes. That made sense seeing as at

any time, a big storm could come and crash all these frugal castles to bits and wash them away. Everyone was gambling that it wouldn't get theirs, at least for a number of years. Actually, the odds are with them. With only a few storms a year across quite a vast area, everybody takes their chances. It's Russian Roulette.

A friend of mine takes immaculate care of everything he owns. You want to get his used truck when he passes it on. Everything needs to be repaired to factory new. But it's twenty years old.

And this is New England. Salt shaker land. Like big dump truck salt shakers. Most vehicles die from corrosion, not mechanical reasons.

There was a time when people were expected to know how to drive in bad weather, when roads would be plowed when the road crew got to them. Without constant communication at their disposal, drivers needed to be prepared for any eventuality. People actually knew enough to stay home and didn't need to be lectured to by the authorities. I found it excit-

ing to go driving in blizzards, but that's another story.

A former governor declared that our roads should be snow free. Ever since, we've been polluting wells, killing roadside plants, and destroying our motor vehicles indiscriminately.

Every spring, I wait to plant my garden till after the last possible frost date. Lately, others plant much earlier. I don't like to gamble.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

Gamble

Notes From Windy Hollow

The school bus driver

BY VIVIAN LEE DION

Contributor

I spent the majority of my public school education in Hudson. My father built a lovely home on land near Route 102; a major highway with a speed limit of 55 miles per hour. The cars would rush by as I walked to the bus stop about a quarter mile away on Page Road and I never thought of the danger. Although several accidents happened at the bus stop corner thankfully none occurred when the group of ten students waited for the bus.

George Fuller Jr. drove the bus and he was always

polite. He welcomed the students saying, "Hello 'in the morning and 'Good Bye' as his precious cargo left the bus at the end of the day. I never spoke with him in any length of conversation, but I can tell you I admired him and felt safe with his driving and skills and gentle personality. I think his nickname was jigger and knew he was an expert driver. Even with all the snow, slush, and terrible driving conditions I was never afraid.

Many students loved the long back seat where seven or eight students sat. It was our little "spe-

cial area" and we talked of week-end adventures, how a particular teacher assigned difficult homework, and what we did on the week-end. Marjorie McManus was my favorite friend and it certainly was nice especially when she protected her younger brothers. I think her brother Billy was a bit of a tease. That's the way pre-teen boys behaved. What they really mean was." I like you." I hated when he called me "squidvivan" because I was just a plain girl, very slim, and certainly didn't look like a squid. I wore pretty dresses with white Peter Pan collars, white socks, and loafers with dimes in the little shoe slot. The dimes were there in case I needed to make a telephone call. Billy's name for me wasn't nice and my faced turned red as I hugged my bundle of books. That was my only reaction. I mentioned it to my mother and she said, "Oh, that's how boys are. Don't pay any attention to him." So I took her advice and believe it or not his teasing stopped.

Now I'm retired and love the country life here in the Lakes Region. My cute little cat named Pumpkin loves our morning walks up and down the street. She chases chipmunks and rolling leaves. On school days, we time our walk so we see the yellow school bus about a half mile away. There are no students on the bus, but I love seeing the yellow bus on its journey to pick them up. It turns around at Country Lane and goes merrily on its way. The children have so much potential and many opportunities

for a successful life. I wonder if one child will work in accounting and become a comptroller like I did. Or perhaps there is a young boy who enjoys being a professional computer instructor teaching students how to operate a computer and program work with Excel spreadsheets. Did he tease a little girl on the yellow school bus and later take her to the prom? Isn't that what life is all about? Growth, change and acceptance. This is the way of the world, and I wish them all the best. Perhaps they remember fondly their daily ride on the school bus. Talking with friends, anticipating the test of the day and remembering the bus driver who said with kindness and compassion "Have a nice day."

I was saddened to learn of George Fuller Jr's passing in September 2023. His obituary stated that, "George and his wife Joyce had two children and adopted his brother Joseph's sister-in-law Margret's four children after their tragic deaths in the Delta Airline crash at Logan in 1973. George was a longtime member of the Hudson Fire Department starting as an Explorer and finally retiring as a Captain from the full-time department. He earned his certification as an EMT and considered helping to deliver a baby at the fire station to be one of the highlights of his career."

I will always remember my school bus driver George A Fuller, Jr., who made me feel important as I got on and off the school bus every day.

Vivian Lee Dion of New Durham is a writer and speaker

Letters to the Editor Continued

Vote Emmett Soldati for Executive Council

To the Editor:

One of the most important votes for state office on Nov. 5 is that of Executive Councilor. New Hampshire is the only state with an Executive Council. Since the founding of the state in 1784, its five elected representatives act as a check and balance on the governor, making sure he or she has the votes of the majority for state contracts (now over \$10,000), commission and board appointments, and judicial nominations. In addition, Councilor assist constituents with

concerns related to state agencies or issues.

It is long overdue for District One to have an Executive Councilor committed to representing all in his district. Joe Kenney has failed us over his six terms. Recently, questioning awarding a DES contract to NH Lakes for their statewide invasive species prevention work. Since 2002, their Lake Host volunteers have inspected some 1.6 million boats and made over 1,500 saves. Clean lakes are a major contributor to our economic

vitality.

In February 2017, on the confirmation of Frank Edelblut as Education Commissioner, Kenney said, "We're going to hold him accountable, we're going to make sure he doesn't get off the track, that he's there for one purpose, to make the public education system the best it can be and also look at other alternative ways to educate our kids. If he succeeds, we all succeed. If he fails, we all fail." Edelblut is destroying public education, which is extremely vital to New

Hampshire's economic prosperity. Kenney is known to turn away when constituents raise such issues with him.

Executive Councilors should be non-partisan. Emmett Soldati will better represent all of us. Soldati will advocate for our public schools, healthcare access, reproductive rights, and work to safeguard our environment. He is committed to improving the lives of all Granite Staters.

Vote Emmett Soldati for Executive Councilor.

Eliza Leadbeater
Gilford

helps make for stronger and more diverse communities.

Further, I find it curious, and somewhat disturbing, too, that Ms. Larson, without any supporting data, charges that EFAs are for "wealthy parents" to send their children to "fancy private schools." An examination of the schools to which EFA utilizing needy parents send their children in fact reveals a broad diversity that encompasses schools, most of which are small, modest and with little to no endowments.

Finally, and most troubling, Ms. Larson is of the opinion that we "should not have to foot the bill" for our needy neighbors and friends who have determined that public schools are not the best fit for their children. I find this attitude as disturbingly antagonistic and a highly divisive attempt to pit us against each other. In contrast, I want to identify and promote the ways we can be brought together with respect and courtesy.

So when you vote on Nov. 5, please join me in recognizing that we are better when he help

LETTER

(continued from Page A4)

committee was met with expressions of sadness by Democrat colleagues with whom I enjoyed the sharing of honest differences, as well as not infrequent agreement on the issues before us.

Regrettably, this has not been the case with Ms. Larson, who has persisted in repeating an inaccurate accusation in her clever "Quiz" that appeared in the aforementioned edition of this paper. Ms. Larson, as a regular contributor to these pages, surely must recall that I corrected her now repeated false claim in two Letters to the Editor to this paper on April 14 and Oct. 27, 2022, stating unequivocally that—and now for the third time — "I voted in favor of CACR 32 because I believed that the voters of New Hampshire ought to have the right to discuss, debate and decide an issue of enormous public significance... For the record and in fact, I am not in favor, nor have I ever been in favor of New Hampshire or any other state(s) seceding from the United States."

Therefore, I am saddened that Ms. Larson, with whom I have enjoyed a number of good and cordial conversations, has chosen to perpetuate a falsehood in an apparent effort to mislead voters and do all of us a disservice.

As to her Oct. 17 letter to the Editor, I appreciate her support for public education. I do, as well, but recognize that public schools are not always the best choice for all children. I have been a strong supporter of school choice and the fairness of assisting needy parents by effectively returning a small portion of their property taxes through New Hampshire's Education Freedom Accounts (EFA) to make it possible for them to choose to homeschool their children, or to send them to a private or charter school. In so doing, we are recognizing that children and their needs are different from one another; that public schools cannot meet the needs of all children; and so, making EFAs available to needy parents actually not only benefits our communities' children, but also

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September Lakes Region HHW collections a success!

REGION — For more than 37 years, the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) has provided residents and property owners in the Lakes Region with opportunities to safely dispose of hazardous products from their household, reducing the likelihood of accidents in their home.

In the last week of September, Tuftonboro and Laconia hosted collections of household hazardous waste (HHW), serving more

than 500 households from all 21 participating communities. Many people liked the late season collections, having finished up most of their summer projects.

A total of seven collection events were held around the region this year – beginning with Franklin in June, Gilford and Meredith in July, Bristol and Moultonborough in August, culminating with Tuftonboro and Laconia in September. Spreading the collec-

tion events out over four months provided more collection dates to choose from than in the past. Also this year, a weekday disposal option (Tuftonboro) was provided – a first for our region. In total, more than 1,460 households from 21 communities brought in materials for disposal this year, keeping that waste out of the water, out of “the ditch at the end of the road”, and safely away from “inquisitive young

hands.” More than 30 tons of HHW were collected and properly disposed of through these events.

A big thank you to the more than 50 local staff and volunteers who helped make this happen, including our local coordinators who got the word out into their communities about all the HHW Collections.

These collections ensure that hazardous materials will not enter our drinking water or

the environment, upon which our local economy is so dependent. The collected hazardous materials included oil-based paints, lawn and garden products, household cleaners, automotive fluids, and pool chemicals. They are being safely reused and disposed of according to Environmental Protection Agency standards.

If you still have some hazardous waste products for disposal, the Lakes Region House-

hold Product Facility (LRHHPF) in Wolfeboro will hold their final collection of the year on Oct. 19. For details, visit <https://www.wolfeboronh.us/lakes-region-household-hazardous-product-facility>.

We encourage residents and homeowners to learn more about hazardous household products and how to reduce their use by visiting our Web site, www.lakesrpc.org/service-shhw.asp.

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Lawton Read receives 2024 Hank Why Volunteer Award

MOULTONBOROUGH — In September, volunteer Lawton Read was presented with the 2024 Hank Why Volunteer Award in recognition of his service to the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM).

"It was a huge surprise given how many volunteers they have and how much people do for the museum," said Read. "I feel honored."

According to NHBM Development Director Wendy Stocker, Read was selected for the award because he is "a great leader." He is also "a lot of fun."

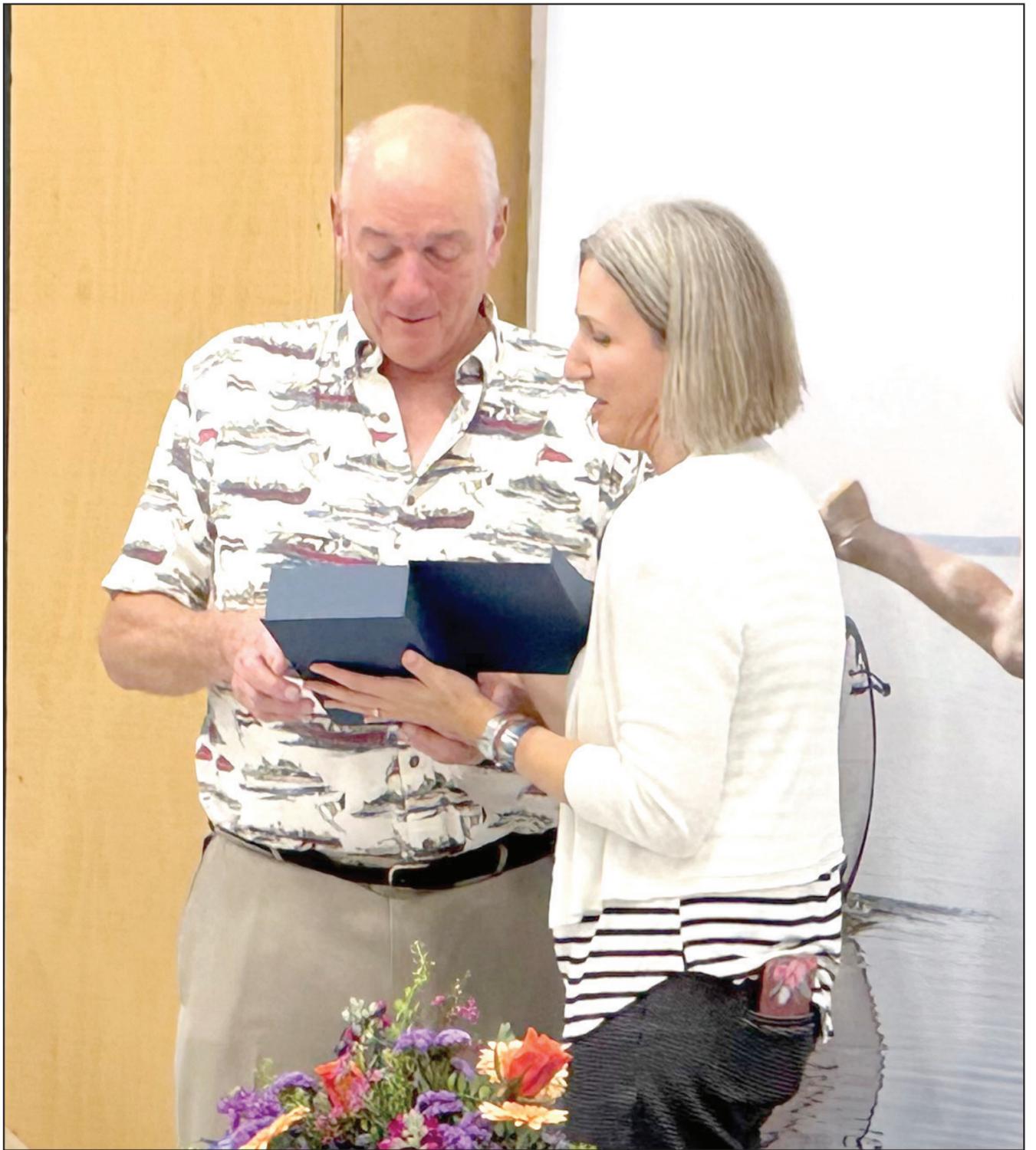
"He brings the team brownies and helps make the experience positive for everyone every week," she added.

When he first visited NHBM, Read said he had no long-term plans to become involved in any capacity.

"It was well over three hours before I got out of there," he laughed. "I read all the stories on the walls. I read everything. So much of it made me smile. So much of it I didn't know, and I really enjoyed it. I became a member right then."

Today, Read is the facilities manager at NHBM's new Moultonborough Campus. Recent projects include leading the 'Kradle Krew,' which designed and built the custom-fit boat cradles that now support most of the larger boats in the collection.

"It's fun to get out and be part of something bigger than I ever will be," he explained. "These boats could rest on cradles that could last over 100 years."



Lawton Read (left), with Martha Cummings, NHBM executive director.

COURTESY

Rebranded as the 'Facade Fun-atics,' he now leads the marina facade project, which will be part of the exhibit, "Mahogany Marvels." The facade is 20 feet tall, necessi-

tating the volunteers use scaffolding to get high enough to work on it. "There's going to be a ship store next to it—that is our next project," he noted.

As to those inter-

ested in volunteering, Read said, "As long as people want to come, there is work to do."

Founded in 1992 by vintage and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM offers dynamic

exhibits and engaging programs and events tailored to people of all ages' diverse boating lifestyles and values. NHBM is sponsored in part by North Water Marine, Goodhue Boat

Company, Kingswood Press and Design Studio, Epoxy Floor New England, Belletetes, and Eastern Propane.

To learn more about NHBM, visit nhbm.org.

Carter Mountain Brass Band to perform at First United Methodist Church

GILFORD — The Carter Mountain Brass Band will be performing at the First United Methodist Church in Gilford on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 3 p.m.

The band is part of the Northern New England Heritage Brass Association, a 501(c)(3) organization, whose goal is to promote the performance and appreciation of brass instrumental music in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and beyond. The Carter Mountain Brass Band performs the rich heritage of brass music from the 16th century to the present day.

Carter Mountain has dedicated this year's concert season to the memory of their first conductor and resident arranger John Beyrent, a founding member of the group, educator, and trumpeter extraordinaire. All program selections have been arranged, transcribed, and/or specifically



adapted for the Carter Mountain Brass Band by John.

From his 131 arrangements for the band, music director Debbi Gibson has chosen a well-rounded pro-

gram of classical, folk, liturgical, and popular music, with a toe-tapping march for good measure.

A reception with refreshments immediately following the concert

will give the audience an opportunity to meet the band members as well as indulge in light fare.

The concert is free, but a donation of \$8 is appreciated and will be

collected at the door. The band will be donating all proceeds of the concert to the church as a 'Thank You' for allowing them to use the building for rehearsal space.

The church is located at 18 Wesley Way (off Route 11A, near the Route 3/11 bypass exit for Gilford).

For more information, call the church at 603-524-3289.

Annual Taylor Community indoor yard sale and craft fair Nov. 9

LACONIA — Start your holiday shopping early at the Taylor Community Indoor Yard Sale and Craft Fair! Volunteers at Taylor Community are

busy gathering items donated by the residents, organizing and pricing them for the event to be held on Saturday, Nov. 9, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the

Woodside Building, located at 435 Union Ave. in Laconia.

In addition to these gently used items of all kinds, local crafters will be there selling

their creations. You'll find seasonal and holiday decorations, quilted pieces, photography, baked goods, jewelry, jams and jellies, and handmade greeting

cards, to name a few.

Proceeds from the Indoor Yard Sale, crafter table rentals, the bake sale and the jewelry table are donated to the Greater Lakes

Region Children's Auction and the TC Sunshine Fund.

Come early for the best selection, find a special treasure, and support a good cause!

PLAYGROUND

(continued from Page A1)
At first the goal was just to raise as much money as possible.

"We knew prices would continue to rise so we just worked on getting money until we reached the final point," she added.

That happened this past spring.

NDS Principal Kelly Colby-Seavey noted, "The structure had been repaired multiple times. Most recently, the tube slide cracked and had duct tape at the top of a seam."

"The company that maintained the equipment told the school it could no longer be refurbished," Hills said. "We knew it had to be replaced this year."

"It took the school and the PTO years and multiple fundraisers to raise the funds," Colby-Seavey said. "Having such a great volunteer group helped to defray the cost."

With approximately \$30,000 in hand, the PTO began looking within that price range. Several different companies came in with proposals.

"The company that gave us the best price, including installment, has a representative who lives in Farmington, so that was a big plus," Hills said.

Culling features down to three different designs, the PTO held a meeting to share the options. There had already been input on what was needed — from the kids themselves.

"We knew they wanted a twirly slide," Hills said, "and something that allowed for climbing. All three of the designs had those features."

Based on feedback from that meeting, which also included children who attended with their parents, the PTO had their playground.

The new structure is not wooden this time, rather it features more metal.

"It's got traditional things such as monkey bars, but it is all new construction," Hills said. "A climbing dome is separate from the main structure."

And, of course, it has a twirly slide.

"The kids are happy,"



CATHY ALLYN

Volunteers of all ages showed up to help install the new playground structure at New Durham School. It has been a long-awaited feature of the school day, and it is anticipated that at least some of the volunteers seen here will make good use of it, she added.

Colby-Seavey has kept the young students up to date on the playground's progress. They had all seen the design and the

old structure was removed last month.

"It served us well," she said. "It was beloved and the last day that it was available to students,

each group had their pictures taken with it."

The kids' sentimentality makes sense; they have played on it since pre-school, which accounts for the vast majority of their lives.

But they are enthusiastic about having something new and different.

"They watched the community build from the windows," Hills said, "making it extra exciting knowing that their families helped build it."

Two contractors from the equipment company were on site to aid the installation, but the majority of the grunt work was accomplished by volunteers.

"Three weeks ago, we put out an appeal for volunteers and supplies," Hills said. "The response blew me away. The number of people who attended is amazing and many of them do not have kids in school. People brought

tractors, post hole diggers, and someone donated a ton of concrete."

Volunteers also brought food, drinks, and snacks.

"They fed us, as well as worked. What a great feeling that people will pitch in," she added.

The equipment was delivered and organized last Thursday, so things would be ready to go when volunteers arrived on Friday morning. About six hours later, 806 square feet of pure, unadulterated fun was standing.

"They finished the install in record time," Colby-Seavey said.

The insurance company will inspect it this week, and once cleared, the playground will be open for business.

Hills called Autumn Gaska, who serves as treasurer of the PTO, "instrumental" in getting the job done.

"She is always willing and has great ideas," Hills said.

For her part, Gaska said she was "excited for this playground to be finally coming to reality, since as a community we have been working towards it for years."

She is anticipating opening day.

"I can't wait to watch the kids enjoy the product of their efforts through the hard work we did to raise the money for this structure," Gaska said.

Both she and Hills could not say enough about the volunteers who have helped throughout the process.

Hills said a wave of new people are getting involved.

"A group of young parents are picking up the torch; they will be the new group. It's exciting to see the work will continue, even as the parents 'age out,'" she said.

CANDIDATES

(continued from Page A1)

to address the housing crisis to allow more people to afford to live in the area.

Cardona said Laconia was discussing creating more workforce housing and he suggested that more housing be open for healthcare professionals. Both also said Lakes Region Community College is a big resource for the community and could bring more students into the medical profession.

"We need to invest more in making sure we're helping to guide our students and giving kids a reason to look into those fields," Arsenault said.

Candidates were asked what the bigger issue was in the state between gun violence and substance abuse, most candidates said substance abuse was the bigger threat. Nagel has spent decades writing about opioid prescribing standards to manage pain and avoid addiction including writing books on pain medications and working with the governor and council on substance abuse. He said so many more resources should be put toward managing this issue.

Several candidate said gun violence and sub-



COURTESY

Candidates talk about the issues facing the local area during a candidate event in Gifford. From left to right: Bob McLean, Democrat candidate for representative; Lena Nirk, Democrat candidate for state representative; moderator Sandy McGonagle; David Nagel, Republican candidate for state representative; Tim Lang, Republican candidate for state senator; Carlos Cardona, Democrat candidate for state senate; Jonathan Arsenault, Democrat candidate for state representative; and Kurt Weber, Democrat candidate for state representative.

stance abuse had some similar root causes, such as mental health issues.

Lang said he has supported programs that gives more opportunities for people to receive treatment for addiction and mental health issues.

Cardona said even though gun violence isn't as prevalent in New Hampshire, students and educators are still dealing with the potential threat of violence in the schools which he said will have mental health impacts for years to come.

Cardona also said he has many loved ones who have battled with addiction, and he will put in a lot of work to deal with this if elected.

Arsenault also said he has seen the impacts of substance abuse, which has run rampant in the local area. He said a way to prevent this is providing diversions for youth to keep them from doing drugs, such as providing

after school activities.

"I think gun violence and drug abuse are symptoms and they're symptoms of a bigger threat which has already been discussed: mental health," Weber said.

Weber said he has seen the issues of addiction and mental health firsthand working with veterans. He said there needs to be better mental healthcare.

McLean said he attended a meeting in Laconia of the Mayor's Taskforce on Homeless Issues with several people in Laconia who have been unhoused. He said he heard that a lot of unhoused people tend to get into drugs after they lose their homes and said having resources for the homeless can prevent substance abuse.

Lang said many clinicians are retiring from the mental health field and also said there should be incentives for people to enter this field.

Cardona echoed Lang's statement on bringing more people into the field, also saying that expanded housing can bring more clinicians to the area.

Nirk also said the issues of housing and addiction overlap. She said recovery is not an easy

process and being in a position of housing and job insecurity can possibly threaten someone's recovery.

"The more we can address some of the livability issues and being able to live and work in the community in an affordable way we would see an improvement in the opioid problem," Nirk said.

When asked about what outside agencies and county departments they valued the most, Nagel, Weber, and Nirk supported the restorative justice program.

Nirk said incarcerated people with substance abuse issues could start their treatment while in jail to help reduce recidivism.

Several candidates also voiced support Belknap County Nursing Home.

Cardona said residents of the nursing home tend to be forgotten by a lot of people.

"When it comes to funding, we forget that these residents are there and they deserve dignity and they deserve services," Cardona said.

Arsenault said supporting the nursing home goes back to the issue of attracting doctors and nurses. He said he wanted to make sure the

staff at the nursing home was being paid as well as they could be.

Weber said the issues facing the nursing home are ones of great needs with limited resources and they have to look at sources of revenue to provide services. McLean said he did not want to see the nursing home or the county jail privatized.

"I would like to look at what the other counties around the state do for their budget and how they pay for their services compared to what they do for each county," McLean said. "The amount of tax dollars residents of Belknap County pay for county services is really a small amount of tax dollars, I think it should be looked at."

Many of the candidates also voiced support for legalizing marijuana.

Lang said helped write the bill that would legalize marijuana though it failed in the House. He said he supported it if it was heavily regulated, including stiff penalties for public consumption.

Lang said he did not support legalization for revenue, though Cardona and Weber both said marijuana could be a major source of revenue for the state.

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Fundraising underway to support furnishing of Bay Street Apartments

LACONIA — Lakes Region Community Developers (LRCD) and Lakes Region Mental Health Center (LRMHC) have joined forces to raise funds to furnish the new Bay Street Apartments in Laconia. The building is currently under construction with an anticipated completion in spring 2025 and will offer 12 efficiency units of housing for people of very low income who are experiencing or are at-risk of homelessness. MVS (Meredith Village Savings Bank) is proud to support this project with a \$3,400 sponsorship that will furnish one of the new units.

Carmen Lorentz, LRCD Executive Director, said they are still working toward their \$45,000 goal.

“We are seeking individual and business donors to help us fully furnish the building, which will help set up the tenants for success,” said Lorentz. “There are different sponsorship levels that will ultimately provide items such as beds, loveseats, coffee tables, TVs and more. We are committed to helping address the housing concerns in the Lakes Region, and this project is one more step in the right direction.”

“LRCD believes that everyone deserves a safe place to call home, regardless of their situation,” said Lori Borrin, MVS Vice President and Mortgage Loan Officer NMLS# 165814 and LRCD Board of Directors Treasurer. “We hope everyone takes a few moments to learn more about this vital project and support in any way they can.”

LRCD is a nonprofit developer that has



From left, Carmen Lorentz, Lakes Region Community Developers Executive Director, and Lori Borrin, MVS VP Mortgage Loan Officer NMLS# 165814 and LRCD Board of Directors Treasurer, stand at the site of the Bay Street Apartments in Laconia, which is currently under construction and set to open in spring 2025.

built affordable housing in the Lakes Region for more than 30 years. LRMHC has provided community mental health services for more than 60 years.

Donations can be made at a variety of levels. Go to lrcommunitydevelopers.org to learn more and to support the project.

MVS has been serving the essential banking needs of people, businesses, nonprofits and municipalities for more than 150 years. As a mutual

savings bank, MVS 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, Ex-

eter, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, Plymouth, Ports-

mouth, Rochester or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.

Parents' Support Series returns to ACS

ALTON — The Alton Central School PTSA is bringing back the popular six-week parenting series that was started in 1994 by Molly Connelly. This will include a piece of education as well as conversation; please bring your questions and concerns to be discussed by all. This series begins on Wednesday, November 6th and will run from

6:30-7:30 p.m.

Each week we will have a different topic of conversation. The topics of discussion will be as follows:

- Nov. 6: Discipline
- Nov. 13: Managing social media and setting limits
- Nov. 20: Anxiety in children and parents
- Dec. 4: Dealing with tantrums

Dec. 11: Stress management

Dec. 18: Healthy family communication

The first week will be an online session with the potential of future meetings being in person. If you have any questions about this series or would like to receive the link, please send an email to Laurie Ekberg, lekberg@sau72.org.



From left, Carmen Lorentz, Lakes Region Community Developers Executive Director, and Lori Borrin, MVS VP Mortgage Loan Officer NMLS# 165814 and LRCD Board of Directors Treasurer, stand at the site of the Bay Street Apartments in Laconia, which is currently under construction and set to open in spring 2025.

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Local family business celebrating 50th anniversary

LACONIA — The Lakes Region Chamber proudly announces Laconia Pet Center will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Friday, Oct. 18 & Saturday, Oct. 19. Laconia Pet Center is located at 1343 Union Ave. in Laconia.

Established in 1974, Laconia Pet Center has been a staple in the community, providing high-quality pet products, services, and education to pet owners for half a century. As a family-owned and operated business,

Laconia Pet Center is now led by the second generation - siblings, Bethany and Brett. It has always been committed to providing personalized attention to its customers and all of their pets. Over the years, the business has expanded its offerings to include a DIY Dog Wash, and a wide selection of fish tanks, pet food and accessories.

"Our 50th anniversary is a testament to our dedication to our customers and their pets," said Bethany, co-owner of Laconia Pet Center. "We are grateful for the support of our community as well as all of the team members we have with us both past and present. Without them and the community we would not be where we are now. We look forward to being in the Lakes Region community for many more years."

To celebrate this milestone there will be opportunities to enter their giveaways that include a complete 65 gallon fish tank, a years worth of cat food courtesy of Grandma Mae's Country Naturals, a year's worth of dog food courtesy of

Red Barn, a Blackstone Grill, Coleman Cooler, and a multitude of gift baskets with assorted items! Goody bags valued at more than \$40 to the first 50 customers who spend \$25 on Friday, Oct. 18! Don't fret if you miss this on Friday. You'll have another chance on Saturday, Oct. 19, 1-6 p.m. for the same exciting offer! As an added surprise there will be random LPC Gift cards within the bags (one per family). You could get \$100!

Laconia Pet Center is proud to have been a part of the Laconia community for so many years and looks forward to continuing to provide exceptional service to pet owners for many years to come. Whether you're a new pet owner or a seasoned pro, Laconia Pet Center is your one-stop-shop for all your pet needs.

The Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce supports local businesses like Laconia Pet Center in more than 30 towns/cities. For more information, visit LakesRegion-Chamber.org including the largest local on-line Business Directory and Community Calendar of Events.

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Church Service SCHEDULE

<p>ABUNDANT HARVEST FAMILY CHURCH Sunday School for children up to age 12, service 10:30 a.m. Greater Wakefield Resource Center, 254 Main St., Union. Pastors Daniel and Sherrie Williams, 473-8914. For more information, please visit abundantharvestnh.org or e-mail ahf@faith.com.</p>	<p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FARMINGTON Worship Services: 10:00 AM Sunday School: 10:15 AM Sept. To June 400 Main Street Farmington, NH 03835 www.farmingtonnhucc.org</p>
<p>ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER Sundays throughout the summer 10am & 7pm; 875-6161.</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEW DURHAM NH Sun. School 9:30am; Church 10:30am; Evening Service 6pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting 7pm; Depot St., New Durham; Pastor Ryan Blackford</p>
<p>BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON Alton-9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Ben Ruhl, www.befreechurch.net.</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH Worship Service 10:00am Bible Study 11:15am Rte 126 next to Town Hall Call or Text (603)269-8831 centerbarnsteadcc.org</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF PRAISE C.C.O.P PRAISE GATHERING Gathering Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. The Gilmanton Community Church 1863 NH Route 146, Gilmanton Ironworks, NH ccoppnraisegathering@gmail.com</p>	<p>ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Sunday 9:30, 50 Main St., Pittsfield Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg www.ststephenspittsfield.com</p>
<p>COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON Pastor Jared Cassidy 10am Worship service Sunday 20 Church St Alton (603) 875-5561 www.ccoalton.com</p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rt. 171 at Tuftonboro Corner. Sunday services 10:30 am. Church 603-539-8058</p>
<p>CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC Sunday School and Worship Services Rev. Kate Kennedy 603-776-1820 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</p>	<p>UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF LACONIA Sunday services and religious education 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. 172 Pleasant St. Laconia • 524 6488 • uus.org</p>
	<p>MAPLE STREET CHURCH Sunday Service 11am 96 Maple Street, Center Barnstead NH 03225</p>

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SPORTS

Two more shutouts for Golden Eagle soccer girls

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — The Gilford girls' soccer team went to the final week of the regular season with an unblemished record, picking up two more wins in the penultimate week.

The Golden Eagles hosted Prospect Mountain on Tuesday, Oct. 15, and came home with a 3-0 win over their neighbors to the south.

"This was one of the better games we played this year," said coach Rob Meyers. "Prospect has played two good games against us and made us work for our opportunities."

"The girls really moved the ball quickly to the open player tonight, which really spread the field," Meyers added.

Gilford had the majority of the possession in a well-played first half but the two teams went to the break with no score on the board. The Golden Eagles were able to get three goals in the second half to secure the win.

Macy Sawyer had two goals and Clara Thompson had a goal and an assist to lead the offense. Kendal Heyman and Lianna Keenan each chipped in with an assist and Ariaah Dewar had four saves in the Gilford net.

The Golden Eagles closed out the week with a Friday afternoon home game against Inter-Lakes and took the 7-1 win.

"We controlled the ball well, moved it around to spread the field but we were a little slow today doing the right things, just not at our normal



The Gilford girls' soccer seniors pose for a photo with their breast cancer awareness jerseys. Left to right, Ariaah Dewar, Lianna Keenan, Makenna Clayton, Leah Davignon, Addi Harris, Gracey Leblanc, Kendal Heyman and Anna Coapland.

COURTESY

speed," Meyers stated. "We got a little sloppy on the corner and allowed a goal, only the third scored against us this year, but it is something we will need to tighten up before the tournament."

Gilford put five balls in the back of the net in the first half and the Lakers scored once, making it a 5-1 game at the break before the Golden Eagles added two more in the second half.

Gracey Leblanc had three goals out of the backfield, while Sawyer had two goals and three assists, Thompson had two goals and

an assist and Leah Davignon and Anna Coapland each had an assist.

Gilford wrapped

up the regular season after deadline on Tuesday against St. Thomas. The Division III tournament is

scheduled to kick off on Tuesday, Oct. 29, at the home of the higher seed.

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

Gilford girls fourth in final tuneup before Division III State Meet

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

PENACOOK — Against teams from around the Concord area, including the Division I Tide and private school St. Paul's School, the Gilford girls' cross country team finished in fourth place overall at the Capital Area Championships on Thursday, Oct. 17, at Merrimack Valley Regional High

School. Maria Tilley led the way for the Golden Eagle girls with a time of 20:01 for fifth place overall, with Georgia Eckhardt in 12th place in a time of 21:01. Alana Sawyer finished in 18th in 21:23 and Tess Eckardt placed 36th in a time of 23:38. Kaitlyn O'Brien finished out the scoring for the Golden Eagle girls with a 37th place

finish in 23:41. Athena Booth was 38th in 23:41 and Abigail Taylor finished in 65th place in a time of 27:20. The Gilford boys were led by Gunnar Marvel with a 25th place finish overall in 19:10, with Ian Lofblad placing 44th in a time of 20:15 and Mark Warren in 46th place with a time of 20:18. Jin Su Kim rounded out the field of Golden Eagles with a time of 21:51 for 65th place.

In the JV race, which combined the boys and the girls, Emilia Burlock was 56th in 26:44,

Brooke Baron was 58th in 26:41, Morgan Eastman placed 60th in 27:22, Mallory Daley was 70th in 29:44 and Adelyn Beck was 71st in the same time.

The Golden Eagles will be competing in the Division III State Meet on Saturday, Oct. 26, at Derryfield Park in Manchester. The girls will race at 1 p.m. and the boys follow at 1:40 p.m.

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

Perry, Rawnsley represent PMHS at Division IV State Meet

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

KEENE — A pair of Prospect Mountain Timber Wolves represented the school at the Division IV State Meet on Thursday, Oct. 17, at Keene Country Club.

Mikey Perry was the top Timber Wolf golfer, finishing with a score of 95 for 33rd place overall and Joseph Rawnsley was

36th overall with a score of 96.

Mascenic won the state championship, led by an impressive four-under-par performance from Josiah Hakala. Gorham was second and White Mountains finished in third place.

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

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Thursday, Oct. 24
BELMONT

Boys' Soccer at White Mountains; 3:30
Girls' Soccer vs. White Mountains; 3:30

Friday, Oct. 25
GILFORD

Boys' Soccer vs. Fall Mountain; 4
Volleyball at Hanover; 6:15

WINNISQUAM

Boys' Soccer at Somersworth; 4
Volleyball at Souhegan; 6

Saturday, Oct. 26
GILFORD

Football vs. Stevens; 2

All schedules are subject to change.

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Friday, Oct. 25
KENNETT

Boys' Soccer at John Stark; 4
Football at Trinity; 7
Girls' Soccer vs. John Stark; 4

KINGSWOOD

Football vs. St. Thomas; 7

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN

Boys' Soccer vs. St. Thomas; 4
Girls' Soccer at St. Thomas; 4
Volleyball vs. John Stark; 6:45

All schedules are subject to change.

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November events at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

BARNSTEAD — Good to Know Info: Voting is Tuesday, Nov. 5. For Veteran's Day, the library will be closed Saturday, Nov. 9. We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month until 3 p.m. (Nov. 14). We are also closed Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29, for Thanksgiving.

From Nov. 1-9, vote on our Facebook page for your favorite Pets of OFML! The winners will be featured in our 2025 calendar (and their owners will receive a free copy). Calendars will be available for purchase in late November, just in time for the holidays!

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

meet-up, so you'll always know what to expect and if you need to bring anything.

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

Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. is Children's Storytime. You heard that right! Every Wednesday! Come to the library for stories, crafts, and singing, stay for the friendly ambience and fun things to do. Make new friends. Set up playdates. Check out books, movies, and games.

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

On Saturday, Nov. 2, at 11 a.m., we are hosting a Children's Tea Party! Kids, this is the perfect excuse for you to dress up and enjoy a lovely time with other littles. Just bring your awesome self and we'll provide the rest! Space is limited, so please call or email the library to sign up.

Our Meet and Read Book Club (ages 18 and up) takes place on the first Wednesday of the month (Nov. 6, from 6-7:30 p.m.), in the library's Meeting Room. This month's book will be "Outlawed" by Anna North. Next month's book will be "Yellowface" by R.F. Kuang. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

It's a Holiday Wreath Workshop! On Thursday, Nov. 7, at 6 p.m., get into the festive spirit by creating a wreath. We'll provide all the materials and step-by-step guidance to create a stunning wreath to adorn your home. Additionally, there will be a bow-making demonstration for you to add

the final touch!

On Friday, Nov. 8, from 2-3:30 p.m., we are having a Teen/Tween Cookie Decorating Party! Come learn different frosting techniques from Leah Whitney of Cookie Bear Baking LLC during our fall-themed cookie decorating event. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a beginner, this is a great opportunity to get creative and make some tasty treats. Don't miss out—bring your friends and get ready to decorate! Registration is required.

Family Crafternoon is a family-focused event that happens every third Friday of the month (Nov. 15) from 4-6 p.m. Join us as we make a craft and watch a movie. Materials will be provided and light refreshments served.

New! Join the Senior Social Club, a program designed to provide 65 and over adults with fun and engaging activities that foster community and relationship building. Each session will focus on different activities, including

arts and crafts, storytelling, and technology workshops. The club will meet the third Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m. (Nov. 19). Light refreshments will be served.

New! The Tight-Knit Knitting and Crocheting Circle is here. Knitters and crocheters come together to work on your projects, discuss any technical difficulties you're having, and support one another. The group typically meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6-7:30 p.m. in the library meeting room, but with Thanksgiving this month, the date has been rescheduled to Tuesday, Nov. 19.

The OFML Sewcial Club meets the 3rd Wednesday (Nov. 20) of the month from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Guests can bring any sewing or quilting project they are working on (along with their sewing machines and supplies) to the library to socialize and share tips while they sew.

Our Holiday Craft Workshop is back! From Thursday, Nov. 14 to Thursday, Nov. 21, feel free to share/donate your clean crafting supplies to the library. From Thursday, Nov. 21 to Saturday, Nov. 23, all are welcome to stop by the meeting room to use free arts and craft supplies for making holiday gifts.

On Friday, Nov. 22, from 6:30-8 p.m., join us for Books & Banter! This lively book club is open to everyone and invites you to share and explore a

wide range of genres—everything from non-fiction to horror to romantasy! Feel free to come ready to discuss up to three books you've recently read, giving a brief synopsis to spark conversation. It's a fantastic way to discover new titles and engage with fellow book lovers. Whether you're a seasoned reader or just looking to explore new genres, there's a place for you here. Don't miss out on the fun—come share your thoughts, learn about new books, and enjoy a cozy evening of discussion. We can't wait to see you!

Let's Write a Novel! Join us in the library's meeting room for a series of structured classes on the how-to's of writing a book. NOTE: We typically meet from 6-7:30 p.m. on the last Friday of the month, but due to the holiday, we will meet on Friday, Nov. 22, instead. Budding writers, 16 and older, ignite your passion for storytelling, discover how to build your hero's journey, and take your novel from concept to can-do! This structured course includes sessions on creating: Chapter Cheat Sheets, Character Cards, and a Tracking the Timeline graph. We welcome all genres from Fantasy to Action Adventure to Romance, focusing on a target audience of Middle School and above. Let's do this!

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

HALLOWEEN

(continued from Page A1) reation Departments have teamed up to present this spooky event on Thursday, Oct. 24, through Saturday, Oct. 26.

Thursday's haunt will run from 5:30-7 p.m. with no actors with the full event with actors running on Friday and Saturday from 5-7:30 p.m. There will be a special run on Saturday from 5-5:30 p.m.

with no scares. In Barnstead, the parking lot by Barnstead Elementary School will be turned into a display of ghoulishly decorated trunks at the annual Trunk-of-Treat from 4-6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26. Participants will arrive in costume and display their decorated trunks for visitors.

There will also be a movie from 6-8 p.m. at BES with the film to be

decided by a People's Choice vote on Facebook.

Gilford families can go trick-or-treating on Oct. 31 from 5-8 p.m. Belknap Mountain Road will be closed from Potter Hill Road to Gilford Elementary School.

Trick-or-treating in Alton is on Oct. 31 from 5-7 p.m.

Alton's Parks and Recreation Department will hold the annual

Monster Mash Costume Runway on Halloween night from 4:30-6 p.m. at the Gilman Museum. Families can enjoy a fun night with treats and music as well as pics of their costumes.

Barnstead will hold their trick-or-treating on Oct. 31 from 5-7 p.m.

New Durham is hosting its own Trunk-or-Treat on Oct. 31 from 5-7:30 p.m. in the town hall parking lot.

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	106 Stockbridge Corner Rd.	N/A	\$550,000	Bethal Builders LLC	William D. Hunt
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$444,000	Nicholas D. Fabrizio	Mark and Kati Bartholomew
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$950,000	Scott and Susan Spence	Kevin H. Goyette and Christina M. McCann
Barnstead	4 Gerrys Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$242,533	French Fiscal Trust and Susan French	Bernard and Geraldine M. Defelice
Barnstead	10 Marshall Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$387,000	Robert E., Jr. and Stephanie L. Laflamme	William Meub
Barnstead	N/A	N/A	\$285,000	Timothy D. Crossman	Kevin Fitzherbert and Mary Moore
Gilford	Morrill Street	N/A	\$160,000	Nicholas E. Tamposi	Jeffrey A. and Barbara D. Deluca
Gilford	9 Sargents Pl., Lot 80	Mobile Home	\$90,533	Maureen S. Burke	Lynne Lemme
Gilmanton	Ridgewood Drive	N/A	\$650,000	Nancy L. Howell and Barbara L. Cafferty	J.N. & Joyce A. Cioffi RET
Gilmanton	10 Robinswood Way, Unit C	Condominium	\$200,000	Hannah Clark	Mary B. England
Gilmanton	Route 107	N/A	\$700,000	Amelia Baxter-Stoltzfus and Lillis Meeh	Dragon Fiscal Trust and Dawn R. Dragon
New Durham	261 Birch Hill Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$310,000	Alton Rollinsford LLC	Nicholas G. Mann
New Durham	64 Birch Hill Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$560,000	Anne L. Phipps 2017 Trust and Kevin M. Meuse	Jeremy Kiefer
New Durham	314A Kings Highway	Single-Family Residence	\$87,400	Lee G. Brooks	Todd A. Loomis and Denise M. O'Grady
New Durham	314B Kings Highway	Single-Family Residence	\$142,600	Lee G. and Susan A. Brooks	Todd A. Loomis and Denise M. O'Grady

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Trick or Treat Hours

The Town of Alton Trick or Treat hours are Thursday, Oct. 31 from 5-7 p.m. Plan to stop at the Gilman Museum on Main Street between 4:30-6 p.m. for the Monster Mash Costume Runway. Great photo opportunity at our spook-tacular place.

Paint pottery with Art Escape

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a paint your own pottery program on Wednesday, Nov. 6 from 6-8 p.m. at the Pearson Road Community Center with the Art Escape Ceramic Studio. Choose to paint a plate, mug or bowl; add it to your dinnerware collection or gift it to a loved one. Bring friends and family. We will send your masterpiece to the kiln, and have it ready to pick up at Alton Parks and Recreation on Nov. 15. \$25, register by October 30. Registration forms available at www.alton.nh.gov. Contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 for more information.

Line dancing lessons

Line dancing lessons with Jane are held on Thursdays now through Oct. 31: 1-1:30 p.m. for beginners, and 1:40-3 p.m. for experienced dancers at the Alton Bay Community Center. Adults of all ages and abilities are welcome, \$10/season. Register on site.

Learn how to use Libby- the Library Book App

The Friends of Gilman Library and Alton Parks and Recreation are sponsoring an informative session on how to use the Libby App on Thursday, Nov. 21 from 1-2 p.m. in the Agnes Thompson Meeting Room at the Gilman Library. Did you know you can borrow eBooks, audiobooks, magazines and more electronically from your local library for free? Learn how to navigate the Libby App, choose and reserve books, play audiobooks and more. Bring your smart phone, kindle or tablet. For more information contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Weight training classes- Mondays and Wednesdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Weight Training Classes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

at the Gilman Library for adults of all ages and abilities. Learn new exercises and build strong muscles and bones, increase flexibility and develop better balance. Bring light hand weights, a mat and water. For more information, contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109. Try a class for free. \$20 per month/session or \$5 drop in.

Pilates classes in Alton Bay- Tuesdays and Thursdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Pilates classes at the Alton Bay Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. with

certified instructor Donna Lee. All level adults are welcome for a full body, low impact class that will improve muscle tone, flexibility, balance and strength. Pre-registration is \$10 per class or \$15 drop in. Bring a mat and water. For more information/register contact Donna at breathepilates1@yahoo.com or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Guided Meditation with instructor Karen Kharitonov

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a Guided Meditation Class on Thursdays: Oct. 24, Nov. 7 and Nov. 21 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at

the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Stop in and experience the positive state of meditation. The program is free, donations are greatly appreciated to support local charities. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Alton Trails- All Star

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a get outside and hike program. Hike seven local trails, and receive an Alton Trails All Star sticker. All you have to do is take a photo on each trail, and send the photos to parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov. Trails in-

clude: Mike Burke Trail; Knight's Pond; Trask Swamp and Fort Point Woods Conservation Area; Gilman Pond; Mt. Major, Pine Mountain and Cotton-Hurd Brook.

After School program- Nov. 8

On Early Release days at ACS Alton Parks and Recreation Staff will pick up participants, in grades 1-5, from school and walk together to the Pearson Road Community Center for an afternoon of fun. November 8 theme is "It's Fall Y'all"; activities include: themed games, coloring, crafts, snacks and more. \$5 per child. Future date is Dec. 20. Pick up time at the Community Center

is 3:00pm. Limited space, register today by contacting parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Hit the Trail!- Hiking Program

Join hiker, Bonnie Dodge, for beginner hikes on Fridays at 10 a.m. This is a great opportunity for hesitant folks to discover the wonderful world of hiking. Bring water, comfortable walking shoes, and a snack. Hikes are held Fridays: Oct. 25- Gilman Pond, and Nov. 1- Pine Mountain. Register by the Wednesday before the hike at parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109. Program is free.



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Laconia: 3BR/1BA move-in single-family home in a great location! Recently updated with attention to detail with brand-new floors, carpets, interior paint, and renovated kitchen. Enjoy access to water activities with on three lakes!

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MLS# 5018409

Epsom: 2BR/1BA year-round waterfront cottage on Deer Meadow Pond, with breathtaking views this peaceful sanctuary is just 15 minutes from Concord. Updated flooring adds a modern touch making it move-in ready!

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Moultonborough: 4BR/1BA Chalet in Balmoral is a perfect getaway with boating, sugar-sand beaches and relaxation on Lake Winnepesaukee. Spacious enough to invite your friends and family for gatherings with a cozy wood stove and a huge deck for year round entertaining.

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* Statistics obtained from NEREN for the past 26 years since 1997 for all real estate firms reporting sales in the entire state of NH during that time.

Equal Housing Opportunity

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to The Federal Fair Housing Law which makes it illegal to make, print, or published any notice, statement, or advertisement, with respect to the sale, or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

(The Fair Housing Act of 1968 at 42 U.S.C. 3604(c))

This paper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed, that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll free at 1-800-669-9777

For The Washington DC area, please call HUD at 275-9200. The toll free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275. You may also call The New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights at 603-271-2767 or write The Commission at 163 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301

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NEW HAMPTON Great Price!

Quintessential 19th Century Colonial in beautiful New Hampton Village. Featuring 3BR/2BTHs, eat-in kitchen, open living/dining, HW floors, a large barn for storage, plus a private backyard. Great potential in this location! **\$399,000** (4999606)

MEREDITH: Great Location!

This 3BR/2BTH home on .60 acres abuts Swazey Park and is close to town beach & boat launch on Lake Waukewan. Featuring an open concept layout, a detached 2-car garage, and new heating system. **\$465,000** (5010800)



Get ready for fall with the Gilman Library

ALTON — It is not too late to get in on the Summer-Sunset Shawl Raffle at the Gilman Library. The drawing will be held on Oct. 31. You could be the winner. The shimmering shades of a late-summer sunset are lovingly hand-crafted into a cozy wrap, perfect for snuggling in with a good read. The professional quality is beautiful enough to give as a gift. It is accompanied by a 1,000 piece jigsaw puzzle, picturesque “Castle Reflections,” and John Grisham’s “The Exchange,” his sequel to “The Firm.”

The Friends of the Gilman Library are offering a huge prize as their Fall Harvest Time Raffle, to be drawn on Nov. 15. This raffle offers seasonal fall décor, such as plump cloth pumpkins, a turkey wreath, and a pumpkin blessing sign. It also includes

a Fall centerpiece, tablecloth, kitchen towels, pot holders, a mitt, and disposable holiday serving dishes. One winner will receive all of this and more, including a \$50 Hannaford gift card and a bottle of Oyster Bay Rosé.

The Friends of the Library Raffles tickets sell for \$1 each or you can buy six tickets for a discount at only \$5. All proceeds directly benefit the Gilman Library, to support projects and programs, and augment the budget. We say “Think of it as a small donation and if you win, it is a bonus.”

The Gilman Library continues to offer a collection bin for your donations of non-perishable food items for the Alton Food Pantry. Boxed, Dried, and Canned goods may be placed in the bin inside on the main floor. Your donations will

assist local families in need.

Kristin Hannah’s “The Women,” continues at the top of our Most Popular Books List, followed by John Sandford’s Toxic Prey and James Patterson’s “Unsolved.” The most popular series titles currently include the “Housemaid Series” by Freida McFadden.

You can learn more about our newest books from our online catalog at gilmanlibrary.org, or schedule yourself a slice of time

to browse at 100 Main St., Alton, before the “busy-ness” of the upcoming holidays takes hold. We would love to help you prepare with cookbooks and craft books or to unwind with a stockpile of CDs and DVDs. Make your reading lists and requests to relax with during downtime in the next season.

Come on into the Gilman Library at 100 Main St., Alton, and find your next favorite. See you at the library!

HELP WANTED

FRIENDLY & RELIABLE NIGHT CASHIERS needed at the Following Location:
Bosco Bell on Route 28 Barnstead
Please apply in person.

SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2024-2025 BASKETBALL COACH POSITIONS

Shaker Regional School District is seeking Basketball coaches for the 2024-2025 season for the following teams:

- 5/6 Boys Basketball (BMS)
- 5/6 Girls Basketball (BMS)
- 7/8 Girls Basketball (BMS)
- Boys JV Basketball (BHS)

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

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LEGALS

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Wednesday, November 6, 2024
7:00 PM at NEW DURHAM COMMUNITY ROOM

Jeffrey Hertel

You are, hereby, notified that a hybrid Public Hearing will be held in person and over Zoom by the New Durham Planning Board on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm in the New Durham Community Room. The hearing is regarding the Subdivision of a Lot into a three-lot subdivision submitted by Jeffrey Hertel within the Residential, Agricultural, Recreational Zoning District for property at Map 270, Lot 017, Meaderboro (off Berry Road), New Durham, NH. The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review during normal business hours. If you have any questions on Zoom meeting, please contact the Land Use Assistant at ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.gov or the Planning Board.

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL SAU #301

INVITATION TO BID November 7, 2024

MANDATORY SITE VISIT October 29, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

BIDS FOR: Replacement of Parking Lot and Walkway Pole Lights
DUE DATE: 2:00 PM on Thursday, November 7, 2024

Bids for Parking Lot and Walkway Pole Lights Replacement will be accepted until 2:00 PM on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at the Business Office, SAU 301, Prospect Mountain High School, 242 Suncook Valley Road, Alton, NH, 03809, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid specifications can be obtained from Heidi Duford, Business Administrator at hduford@pmsau.org or 603.875.3800x2158. Questions can be answered by calling or emailing the Facilities Supervisor, James LeClair, at 603.875.3800x2031 or jleclair@pmschool.com.

Bids will be accepted only if sealed and clearly marked:

BIDS FOR: Replacement of Parking Lot and Walkway Pole Lights
DUE DATE: 2:00 PM on Thursday, November 7, 2024

The School Board reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, to accept any informality in a bid or to accept a bid in which it deems to be in the best interest of the school district.

Advertise.
Inspire. Sell.

2024 Christmas at the Castle events scheduled

MOULTONBOROUGH — Castle in the Clouds is pleased to announce its 2024 Christmas at the Castle events with the theme, “Home for the Holidays.”

A special Preview Party will be held on Friday, Nov. 22 from 4 to 7 p.m. Christmas at the Castle has been extended to a third weekend this year and will take place Saturdays and Sundays: Nov. 23 & 24, Nov. 30-Dec. 1 and Dec. 7-8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

The Preview Party will provide participants with a first look at Lucknow Mansion illuminated in lights and fully decorated for Christmas. It includes a guided tour, live music, complimentary hors d’oeuvres and drinks and access to the Artisan Fair featuring local vendors and organizations.

In addition to tours



of Lucknow Mansion and Artisan Fair admission, each Christmas at the Castle, Home for the Holidays weekend event will offer holiday crafts, photos with Santa, com-

plimentary hot cocoa and cookies and lunch service at the Carriage House Restaurant.

“Christmas at the Castle is our way of ushering in the magic and wonder of the holi-

day season by welcoming the community to share in the beauty of Castle in the Clouds,” said Charles Clark, Executive Director of Castle in the Clouds. “It’s also an opportune

time to complete some holiday shopping while supporting local businesses at our Artisan Fair.”

Event tickets are now on sale and can be used for any weekend day. To learn more, visit www.castleintheclouds.org/event/christmas-at-the-castle.

About Castle in the Clouds

As the premier historical museum in the beautiful Lakes Region of New Hampshire, Castle in the Clouds provides each visitor with a look into the past while pro-

viding contemporary comforts to make every visit memorable. Originally called Lucknow, this breathtaking 6,300-acre property was developed in 1913 by Thomas G. Plant, a wealthy shoe manufacturer, to create a luxurious lifestyle with state-of-the-art amenities, beautiful handmade furnishings, and a large staff to run the estate. These days, visitors come from all around the world to tour the mansion and exhibit gallery, dine in the Carriage House Restaurant or Café in the Clouds, hike miles of hiking and walking trails maintained by partner organization the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, or enjoy one of our many programs and events. Operated by the Castle Preservation Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Castle in the Clouds is revered as a cultural and educational resource and listed on the National Register of Historic Places with national significance. Castle in the Clouds is also available as a fairytale wedding venue and versatile private event rental. For more information about Castle in the Clouds, visit www.castleintheclouds.org.

Songwriter Series features Brian Walker, Steve Rondo



MEREDITH — The partnership between Katie Dobbins Music (Gilford) and Hermit Woods Winery & Eatery (Meredith) which has brought the monthly music series Songwriter Round-Up to the Lakes Region is set to deliver another great show at the end of this month.

Held in the region’s premier listening room, The Loft, located on the second floor of the Winery, this series has been giving audience members a chance to experience the original music of talented singer-songwriters from the New England area and beyond. At each show three artists share their songs and stories in a unique in-the-round style performance. This intimate series features two different songwriters alongside host performer Katie Dobbins on the last Wednesday of every month.

The series has been steadily gaining in popularity with many sold-out shows and a growing number of area residents attending as many shows as possible to experience the show “magic” that each new lineup creates. Winery co-founder and owner Bob Manley is thrilled to have his establishment be home to the monthly Songwriter Round-Up Series.

Remarking on the success of the series, Manley reaffirms the valued partnership the Winery

has developed with Katie Dobbins Music, expressing, “Working alongside Katie Dobbins and her Songwriter Round-Up Series has been an absolute delight. Katie brings an engaging presence to the stage, effortlessly connecting with our audiences and showcasing incredible talent with each performance.”

Dobbins, who previously hosted this series in the Boston area, is grateful to be able to bring it to her New Hampshire community.

Reflecting on the Songwriter Round-Up Series at Hermit Woods Winery, she says “Bob Manley and his fellow co-owners, along with the Winery staff, have been so supportive in the creation and delivery of this songwriter series.”

Dobbins adds, “I’ve met and shared this stage with so many talented artists through these shows and the reception and support from the Lakes Regions community has been amazing and rewarding for all of us. Though I perform throughout New England, this monthly series in my home community is something really special to me.”

The next Songwriter Round-Up show takes place on Wednesday, Oct. 30, featuring New Hampshire artist Katie Dobbins who blends folk and pop into a genre of her own, pop singer-songwriter Bri-

an Walker from East Kingston, and Steve Rondo, an indie-rock artist from Boston. All of these artists bring their own unique life-lyrics, melodies, and styles to the stage. This promises to be an evening of great original music and dynamic entertainment that you won’t want to miss. Learn more about each of these artists on the Hermit Woods Winery Web site.

A complimentary wine tasting will begin at 5:30 p.m., Loft seating opens at 6 p.m., and music starts at 7 p.m. Patrons can further enhance their evening by selecting from a menu of tasty items available from Chef Kaylon Sweet of Sweet Mercy’s kitchen. Tickets can be purchased in advance at hermitwoodswinery.com/the-loft or in-person at the Winery.

Annual Ski & Snowboard Sale

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2024
Shopping, 3 pm to 8 pm
Consignment Drop Off, 3 pm to 7 pm

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2
Shopping, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

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