Newfound Landing

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014 | FREE IN PRINT, FREE ON-LINE • WWW.NEWFOUNDLANDING.COM | COMPLIMENTARY



Sportsmanship Winners

Story on Page B1

New Hampton family struggles to re-build after devastating fire

BY DONNA RHODES

Drhodes@salmonpress.com

NEW HAMPTON — A fire on Kelly Pond Road in New Hampton last week has left a family of 12 temporarily homeless as they struggle to make repairs to their heavily damaged residence.

At approximately 4 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, homeowner Scott Batchelder, Sr. said his 12-year-old daughter was cooking in the kitchen when she spotted flames coming from a wall beside the chimney. A third party also dialed

9-1-1 when they noticed the fire from outside, and crews from several towns responded to the call.

New Hampton Fire Chief Michael Drake said when his crew arrived on the scene, there was heavy smoke coming from not only the chimney, but from the second floor and a front door entrance to the home.

The family, consisting of five adults and seven children ages two to 20-years old, were able to safely evacuate the building, but Drake said they soon learned there was more than just the fire to deal with.

A beloved, blind cat was trapped inside the bathroom, and Batchelder and his wife Diane had several costly and very necessary medications that were in the kitchen.

"One of the police officers who responded to the call went in to get the cat while I worked on getting all the medicine out of the kitchen," he said.

Both were successful in their mission and the focus then turned to extinguishing the flames.

"There was fire damage in the front of the first and second floors where it spread to two upstairs bedrooms, but the rest of the house sustained a lot of heavy damage due to smoke and heat," Drake said.

Structurally, the residence is still sound, he added, but there is much to do before it can be deemed habitable again.

The cause of the fire was determined to be a crack in a chimney that allowed the flames to ignite timbers in the home.



DONNA RHODES

A fire on Kelly Pond Road in New Hampton left the Batchelder family of 12 homeless, and efforts are now underway to help them make repairs to their residence.

The front rooms of the home, where the wood-

SEE **FIRE,** PAGE A6

'Tis the season... for early deadlines

MEREDITH — With the holiday season in full swing, we have some upcoming changes in our publication schedule that we encourage readers and advertisers to bear in mind.

Due to the fact that our offices, located at 5 Water St. in Meredith, will be closed Thursday, Dec. 25 and Friday, Dec. 26 in observance of Christmas, that week's edition of the Newfound Landing will be arriving on local newsstands a day earlier than usual, on Wednesday, Nov. 24.

SEE **DEADLINES,** PAGE A6

The magic remains at Bristol's Santa's Village

BY THOMAS P. CALDWELL

Contributing writer

BRISTOL — The opportunity to visit the workshop where Santa Claus and his elves prepare the toys and other items they will be delivering for Christmas is as big an attraction today as it was 60 years ago, when Santa's Village first opened at the local community center.

This year, over three days, more than 1,400 visitors, newborns to octogenarians, made their way to the Tapply-Thompson Community Center where they could see elves handling the mail, making crafts, baking, and assisting Santa and Mrs. Claus as they handed out cookies and Christmas tree ornaments.

"We had 543 people on Sunday," said TTCC Director Les Dion, "a record-breaker for a Sunday."

During their wait to get to the top floor with its festively decorated village, children had a chance to write letters to Santa, color and work on crafts of their own, have their faces painted, and watch Christmas movies. Some were lucky enough to get hugs from a Teddy Bear, Frosty the Snowman, and even Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.



TOM CALDWELL

Youngsters visit with the Jolly Old Elf himself at Santa's Village in Bristol this past weekend.

For the children and parents, the main floor had an assortment of gift items from local crafters, ranging from knitted and crocheted clothing to jewelry, photographs, books, and handmade fishing lures. Chocolates and other food items also were available.

In groups of five, visitors were called to mount the stairs to Hedding Hall where Santa and his helpers had set up their workshop. Santa's Post Office, just inside the door, had an elf stamping the letters to Santa that the youngsters brought along. As visitors continued around the village, elves were busy making craft items, collecting slips of paper on which people wrote their guesses as to how many pieces of candy were in a jar, and baking cookies for Mrs. Claus, who handed them out while the guests waited to see Santa himself.

Many of those entering the room took little notice of anything else at first, making straight for the railroad where trains on two levels

SEE **VILLAGE,** PAGE A6

Hill School Board chooses Newfound over rival hosts

Winnisquam, Franklin do not prevail despite support at public hearing

BY THOMAS P. CALDWELL

Contributing Writer

BRISTOL — The Newfound Area School Board, anxious for the revenue it would receive if Hill chose to send its middle and high school students here, amended its tuition calculator to offer a more competitive per-pupil rate. In the end, though, it was not the money but the educational programming and the emotional connections that prompted the Hill School Board to choose Newfound over the other contenders.

In choosing to negotiate a formal tuition agreement with Newfound, Hill essentially will be offering its residents a choice between staying with Franklin, with which it has a long-standing Authorized Regional Enrollment Area (AREA) agreement, or ending that agreement and, instead, sending its students to Newfound at the start of the next academic year. Both Hill and Newfound residents would need to agree with the contract at their respective school district meetings in March for the change to take place.

The Newfound board was worried that Hill would reject a $14,000 per pupil tuition rate, which is approximately what the figure would have been after taking Newfound's total budget and backing out the district's transportation, special education, and other costs that would not apply to Hill.

Hill currently pays $11,191 in tuition for each student attending Franklin Middle School and $9,089 per student at Franklin High.

Benjamin LaRoche of Bristol, a member of the Newfound board's Hill subcommittee, proposed on Dec. 8 that the board approve a revised tuition calculator developed by Business Administrator Michael Limanni that also backed out school board and central office expenses from the calculation. Doing so brings the base tuition amount to $12,294 per student at the middle school and

SEE **HILL,** PAGE A6



COURTESY

District 2 State Sen. Jeanie Forrester made friends in high places at the 60th Annual Santa's Village in Bristol at the Tapply-Thompson Community Center.

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Tilton Winter Farmers' Market returns for a new season

BY DONNA RHODES

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TILTON — When shopping for meals, a gift or just looking for a relaxing way to spend a Saturday, there isn't much that the Tilton Winter Farmers' Market cannot do to satisfy those needs and wants.

From organic vegetables to locally grown fruits, eggs and meats there are a great variety of local vendors signed up again this year to help fill any shopping list. Topping off those lists might also be staples like milk, cheese and yogurt from places such as Huckins Farm in New Hampton or the homemade artisan breads from Sanbornton's Bread Peddler.

The market isn't just about what people can take back to their kitchens, though. There is plenty to sample and enjoy right at the market itself, and this year, there are groupings of café tables for people to enjoy the samples and dishes they'll find at many of the booths.

"This is a place where I'd like to see everyone not only come to sample and buy the products but to challenge the vendors, too," said Market Director Joan O'Connor. "Don't hold back. Ask questions about who they are, about their farm practices. Get to know them as the people who live here amongst you in New Hampshire and grow your foods."

While many vendors from the past two seasons have rejoined the market again for 2014, there are also some newcomers like Fred's Farm in Alexandria who will be bringing salad mixes, carrots, turnips, kale, arugula, onions and other vegetables to their weekly booth.

"We're really thrilled to have a certified organic farm like Fred's come on board. They're a fantastic addition to this year's market," O'Connor said.

Beans and Greens in Gilford also has a wide variety of both fresh and frozen vegetables along with meats and other goods straight from their farm. Besides popular items like their onions, carrots and potatoes, they also will have spinach, swiss chard and other crops they raise. This year Beans and Greens will also be offering their own cider donuts, made fresh right on the premises each Saturday.

Surowiec Farm in Gilford is another name that's familiar to local residents and besides their famed apples, they, too, have a variety of winter crops they will be selling right from their greenhouses.

"New this year from the farm is our own fresh pork, too," said Katie Surowiec.

Some foods at the market come ready to eat, such as cookies and whoopee pies from local bakeries, homemade soups, veggie burgers from The Common Man, delicious baked beans, Mountain pasta and meatballs, baklava and chocolates that are too tempting to pass by.



DONNA RHODES

Ashley Ruseski of Mill Fudge Factory in Bristol is just one of the many smiling faces that will be on hand at the Tilton Winter Farmers' Market each Saturday offering locally produced goods to residents and visitors alike.

But wait. That isn't all. There are preserves and other goodies from Nannie's Canning Pantry in Wentworth, cooking sauces, greenhouse tomatoes from Breezy Valley Farm in Rumney, special meat rubs, guacamole, freshly harvested New Hampshire-grown mushrooms, locally produced coffees, teas, wines and still more.

Even the pets are included with vendors catering to their tastes and needs as well.

Finally, customers can also shop local craftsman like home décor from Carrier Welding of Northfield, soaps and natural lotions and sprays from Cardigan Soapworks in Alexandria, bee's wax candles, homespun yarns, wood craftsmanship and other household items.

"This is our first time here and it's fabulous," said UNH professor Sharon Murphy who recently moved to the Lakes Region. "We wouldn't be here if it wasn't for all the local producers and we want to support them. We hope this market is here forever."

Tilton Winter Farmers' Market will be open each Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. from now until March 28. It is located just off Exit 20 in Tilton, across from AutoServ on Route 3.

For more detailed information on the market and its many vendors, visit www.tiltonwinterfarmersmarket.com.

Annie's hosts local writer Maxwell MacPherson, Jr.

LACONIA — On Saturday, Dec. 20 from 2-4 p.m., Annie's Book Stop, located at 1330 Union Ave. in Laconia, will host local writer Maxwell MacPherson, Jr.

MacPherson has written numerous articles for fly fishing and fly tying magazines. He also writes original song lyrics. A graduate from NY University, he lives with his wife, Darlene, and their cats, Moon and June, in central New Hampshire. He will be signing copies of two books from a trilogy, "A Family Affair: On Love and Animals" and "A Family Affair: Forever Yours." Come by and meet the author, have a special book signed for your avid reader for Christmas and enjoy some holiday cookies.

Book 1: As Alex Samuels grows and learns about his New England locale, he becomes an avid fisherman and fly tier. He is a young man in his middle teens who leads a morally fit life and harbors a passion for wildlife. Bess Walton grows up in Manhattan, and her family travels to NH to find a new life different from her father's corporate life in the big city. The Samuels and Waltons become intertwined as Bess, the New York City girl, and Alex, the country boy, spend more time together. "A Family Affair" begins the adventures of Alex and Bess as their romance blossoms.

Book 2: This book carries on with the next generation of the Samuels family. More animal life stories lead the principal characters, Alex and Bess, living in central New Hampshire, are into fishing, hunting, and other animal observations as the Samuel's grow in their love for each other and their interaction with wildlife. The beauty and simple life in The Granite State are seen in the travels of this young couple to many places in the Belchertown area. Yankee dialogue is used to give the reader a picture of what the New England mentality is like. The reading of "A Family Affair" both captivates and intrigues the reader while teaching young folks about love and animal life.

Join us at Annie's Book Stop on Dec. 20 from 2-4 p.m.!

Comedienne Paula Poundstone brings laughter to Plymouth

PLYMOUTH — At 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 3, The Flying Monkey is excited to welcome comedienne Paula Pounstone to its stage.

Paula Poundstone is an Emmy Award-winning comedian, author and humorist. She is currently a regular panelist on NPR's widely popular weekly news quiz show, "Wait Wait… Don't Tell Me." On stage, she is known for her razor sharp wit and spontaneity with crowds. Tickets start at $29.



COURTESY

At 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 3, The Flying Monkey is excited to welcome comedienne Paula Pounstone to its stage.

It is impossible to attend a Paula Poundstone performance without marveling at her ability to interact spontaneously with audience members in conversations bound to garner riotous laughter. Armed with nothing but a stool, a microphone, and a can of Diet Pepsi, Poundstone's ability to create humor on the spot has become the stuff of legend. Little wonder people leave her shows debating whether the random people she talked to were "plants" — which, of course they never are — and complaining that their cheeks hurt from laughter.

Her off-kilter sensibility and impeccable timing made her a perfect fit for NPR's "oddly informative," weekly news quiz program, "Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me," which she joined as a regular panelist seven years ago. Hosted by Peter Segal, the show is broadcast in 50 states and gives Poundstone a chance to match wits with some of today's leading pundits — not to mention interact with some of the people at the forefront of our nation's eyes, such as Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer and former White House Press Secretary the late Tony Snow.

"We love it when Paula comes to Plymouth," says Seth McNally of The Flying Monkey. "The thing that has made her a legend among comics and fans is her ability to be spontaneous with a crowd… it definitely separates her from the pack of comics working today."

Tickets for Paula Poundstone's show are $29, and $39 for premiere seating. For tickets and more information on concerts and the Flying Monkey Performance Center, visit www.flyingmonkeynh.com or call 536-2551.

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Visiting exchange student offers a glimpse into Ukrainian life

BY DONNA RHODES

Drhodes@salmonpress.com

NEW HAMPTON — Third graders at New Hampton Community School were treated to a visit last week from 16-year-old Juliyah Grabenko of Ukraine, who is an exchange student at Newfound Regional High School this year.

Grabenko is staying locally with Barbara Rosendahl and her family, where she is learning about life in the United States. In the meantime, she is also visiting schools and other groups in the area to teach them about her own life in Poltava, Ukraine.

Her visit to the U.S. was made possible through the Future Leader Exchange program she applied to last year. Many students study hard to gain acceptance into the program, Grabenko said, but she simply applied on the spur of the moment one day.

"I had a chemistry test I didn't want to take, so I went and applied for FLEX instead," she laughed. "Six months later, I found out I was a finalist, and I was then accepted for a one year scholarship to come here."

Last Wednesday morning, she told the boys and girls of Shelley Doucette and Deidre Conway's classes that school is much different in Ukraine.

Classes take place six days a week where they are enrolled in anywhere from 14-16 classes. While her school day begins at 8 a.m., she is often not home until 9 p.m., and then has another three hours of homework to do.

Among their lessons are art, civics and foreign language. Grabenko said she has studied English for 10 years, and recently began learning French. She also speaks German and Russian.

"How we learn languages like that is really cool, but it was good to come here because it has helped me to really learn English and the language basics," Grabenko said.

Besides classes, she and her classmates also join clubs to extend their learning experiences. Her favorite hobby is dancing, and her dance club has participated in and won several competitions. She also enjoys her Journalistic Club, where she helps write newspapers and books.

"It's really good because we learn a lot of good information that way," she said.

When not in school, she likes to spend time in the Carpathian Mountains, which she noted look very similar to the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

Grabenko brought along a power point presentation that also showed the students some of her culture and traditions.

Christmas in Ukraine is much different than here in this country, she said. One main difference is that it is celebrated on Jan. 6, and there are no presents involved.

"We have a big dinner on Christmas Eve (Jan. 5) with 12 fasting dishes that have to be on the table. It's just a calm and nice family holiday," said Grabenko.

The next day, children dress in their national costumes and go from house to house where they sing for their neighbors.

"We wish happiness and health and good luck on each house, then we usually get candies, much like you would get on Halloween, except we don't have Halloween in Ukraine," she said.

Another important national celebration is Ivana Kupala, which takes place on July 7. On that day, everyone again dons their national costumes to gather around large bonfires where they sing and dance. Single girls then place flowered crowns they make into a pond and boys race to catch them.

"When they get one, they try to find which girl it belongs to," Grabenko explained. "It used to be believed that they would then be together forever, but we just do it for fun now."

Playing music from her country, Grabenko also gave a dance demonstration to the class before inviting several of the students to join her.

She also taught them some common words such as "Pryvit" (hello), "Buvay" (goodbye) and "Ya tebe lyublyu," which means "I love you."

Students were excit-

SEE **STUDENT,** PAGE A6



DONNA RHODES

Third grade students in New Hampton had fun learning a traditional Ukrainian dance from NRHS exchange student Juliyah Grabenko when she visited their school last week.

State of NH honors Janan Hays with Spirit of NH volunteer service award

NEW HAMPTON — Deb Corr and Dave Reilly, Co Chairmen of the Waukewan and Winona Watershed Protective Association are very pleased to announce that Janan Hays was recently honored by the State of New Hampshire with a Spirit of New Hampshire Volunteer Service award. This annual recognition program is administered by Volunteer NH in collaboration with the Office of the Governor. Spirit of New Hampshire awards honor outstanding contributions to volunteerism in New Hampshire that strengthen communities and improve the lives of citizens of New Hampshire.

Hays was recognized for her exemplary contributions to volunteerism and to the betterment of life in New Hampshire for her work in environmental protection and education and the numerous environmental projects she has undertaken over the past few decades. A sampling of her environmental endeavors includes spearheading, conducting and often funding environmental protection and education projects in cooperation with local and state government and agencies; she began and continues a NHDES VLAP program for Snake River; served on a board where she worked to stop development along Snake River; helped bring a lake host program to Waukewan and continues as a volunteer lake host; developed a weed watcher program with NHDES for Waukewan and conducts annual trainings which she expanded to include other water bodies in the Waukewan/Winona watershed; has been an active LPC volunteer since the mid 1980s.

"It takes tremendous energy and dedication to be an environmental steward of Janan's caliber," according to Ms. Corr.

"Janan has dedicated her life to the often difficult and contentious work of protecting the environment for current and future generations. We consider ourselves very lucky to have her participation in our organization" said Dave Reilly.

Hays is the Vice Chairman of the Waukewan and Winona Watershed Protective Association.

Meredith galleries to co-host Fifth Annual Art Walk

MEREDITH — The Meredith Village Galleries will be holding their Fifth Annual Art Walk on Thursday, Dec. 18 from 5 to 7 p.m.

This year, the galleries are in partnership with The Greater Meredith Program who will be hosting a Christmas Stroll in the Village. Explore and shop in the Village stores and galleries while enjoying refreshments and listening to the Carolers.

The Meredith Village Galleries include Gallery 51 (51 Main St.), the lakes gallery at chi-lin (17 Lake St.), Bleu Waves Gallery (38 Main St., Unit 3) and VynnArt Gallery and Art Supplies (30 Main St.).

Gallery 51 will feature original art of owner Christine Hodecker-George. Gallery 51 also features custom framing and private art instruction.

Share the Holiday Spirit with gifts from International Non-profits at the lakes gallery at chi-lin. Owner, Suzanne Lee also features fine art from several artist's, custom framing and group workshops.

VynnArt Gallery is featuring more than 80 small paintings from the Lakes Region Art Association from 40 members. All original paintings and photographs are eight inches by 10 inches or smaller at affordable prices. VynnArt also features fine art from dozens of local artists and art supplies.

Carole Keller, owner of Bleu Waves Gallery, will be celebrating her grand opening. Bleu Waves features Carole's fine art, commissions and lessons.

For questions or more information on this Holiday event please contact Vynnie Hale at 279-0557.

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Opinion

Guest Commentary

NH Wind Watch stands opposed to Spruce Ridge

Editor's note: *The following guest commentary was submitted for publication by Lori Lerner, President of New Hampshire Wind Watch.*

New Hampshire Wind Watch has announced opposition to the planned Industrial Wind Turbine project, Spruce Ridge, which will be sited within very close proximity of Mount Cardigan, home to The Cardigan Lodge operated by the Appalachian Mountain Club and located on the ridge between the watersheds of the Connecticut River and Merrimack River.

Visitors and hikers from around the world travel to Mount Cardigan because of its panoramic 360-degree views of adjacent rural towns as well as lakes and the White Mountain peaks.

According to reports, Portuguese company Energias de Portugal (EDP) is planning on seeking approval for its Spruce Ridge Industrial Wind Project located in Canaan, Orange, Dorchester, Alexandria and Groton. This industrial wind plant will deforest/destroy miles and miles of Cardigan/Newfound region ridgelines. This project includes 29 500 foot (50-story) turbines and will dominate once scenic vistas with structures which would stand out as gigantic even if they were put up in the middle of NY and/or Chicago. They will be approximately 100 feet taller than the 24 Industrial Wind Turbines at the nearby Groton Wind which can be already seen from Mount Cardigan as well as Newfound Lake and other locations within a 50-mile radius of the Groton wind turbines.

Per NH Wind Watch President Lori Lerner, "Gov. Hassan has stated her interest in protecting our state's natural resources while achieving our 2025 RPS goals. Most everyone in New Hampshire wants a few basic things from our electric supply grid: reasonable costs without seasonal price spikes, a reliable supply of dispatchable energy which can meet demand in all weather conditions and eliminate the very real possibility of rolling blackouts, and lower emissions from reliable renewable energy that can actually replace conventional generation. Wind fails resoundingly on all three of these criteria."

Lerner continues, "For those who believe low capacity wind will deliver lower costs and lower emissions, it's time to lower your expectations. If we want to cut costs and cut emissions, then wind doesn't cut it. Wind will never replace a single conventional generation source anywhere in New England. In fact, since wind requires full time gas backup even when it is on the grid, it's likely the region will actually need more 'operating reserves' (gas) if more wind is added to the grid. As far as any RPS credit for the proposed EDP complex spanning five towns in the Mt. Cardigan/Newfound region, the low capacity non-dispatchable power will likely be sold to other states so we deforest and destroy land spanning five towns for no RPS credit."

As New Hampshire faces unprecedented and unwelcome utility bill increases this winter, combined

SEE **WIND,** PAGE A10



COURTESY

Trimming the tree

Youth participants in CADY's LAUNCH and YAAC Programs put the finishing touches on their tree, entitled "Home Tweet Home" at the Common Man Inn's Festival of Trees event. Stop by the Inn any time between now and January 1st to see all of the trees entered by local non-profits and vote for your favorite! Pictured above are: (front row left to right) Troy Warner, CJ Dodge, Weston Hyde, Nora Doyle, Kelly Wang, Kelsey Wang, Mack Doyle, (Back row left to right) Nakiya Smith, Casey Nowlan, Christian Bixby, Lillianna Zimmer, Hunter Gablinske, Zack Kennedy and Kevin Vuong.

Letters to the Editor

We stand to lose two kinds of "green"

To the Editor:

Industrial wind turbine power plants are nothing more than a symbol, for politicians who want to be seen as "green."

But what's green? Cutting down hundreds of acres of trees and blasting away mountain tops for the purpose of planting concrete foundations for 500-foot white turbines? Maybe - just maybe - these white turbines would blend better in the White Mountains?

The State of New Hampshire knows better: They know wind farms kill and disrupt the New Hampshire environment, displace and redirect New Hampshire waters, threaten New Hampshire wildlife, pose a threat to New Hampshire tourism, don't produce full-time jobs, ruin property values and must be backed up by reliable power at all times.

New Hampshire knows intermittent electricity and CO2 savings associated with wind farms do not justify spreading them across the New Hampshire landscape; they also know none of the electricity produced is destined for New Hampshire.

If wind farms were profitable - every ski resort, college, school and prison in the state would be lining up to collect those revenues. I assure you - they are not.

Remember - New Hampshire produces too much electricity and has been a net exporter of electricity for decades. When your electrical rates skyrocket - you need to understand why and who is demanding it. Massachusetts desires to avoid their dependence on one type of fuel and to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions problem.

They're demanding it…and we're helping pay for it.

Sounds like we'll being seeing less green... on two fronts ... in our pockets and on our mountains.

Ray Cunningham
Bridgewater

Looking for information about New Hampshire

To the Editor:

Ladies and gentlemen, I am a student at Cascade Christian Schools, and I am writing a report on the state of New Hampshire.

We are responsible for gathering as much information as we can about our state. If any of your readers would like to help me by sending any pictures, postcards, used license plates, facts, products, etc. from your state, it would be greatly appreciated!

Thank you very much,
Bella
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CADY Corner

Home Tweet home…

BY LIZ BROCHU
Contributor

Once again the CADY LAUNCH Youth Entrepreneurship Program is participating in the Annual Festival of Trees Decorating Competition hosted by the Common Man Inn. Each year, local non-profit organizations are invited to place a decorated tree inside the Inn. The trees add to the festive holiday spirit at the Inn, and showcase the good works of participating local non-profit organizations as well.

During the Festival of Trees, which runs from Dec. 8 through Jan. 1, guests, visitors, and the general public are invited to stop in and vote for their favorite trees. A list of participating organizations, tree locations, and ballots are available at the front desk. The winning entries will receive valuable prizes: 1st prize will receive a catered reception for 50; 2nd prize receives a $300 Common Man gift card and 3rd prize will receive a $200 Common Man gift card.

A number of non-profit organizations, including CADY, have been hard at work decorating their trees. This year, the LAUNCH youth have chosen the "Home TWEET Home" theme. Displayed on their tree are tiny birdhouses along with ribbons that feature hand-written prevention messages—"tweets"—created by our youth prevention leaders, the YAACs (Youth Advisory and Advocacy Council).

Through Jan. 1, we are hoping you will visit the Common Man Inn on Main Street in Plymouth to tour the Annual Festival of Trees and vote for your favorite—it just might be our tree!

CADY would like to thank the Common Man Inn for continuing to host this great holiday event – we appreciate all they do to make this such a wonderful community to live in, work, and play!

Newfound Landing

Proudly serving Alexandria, Bridgewater, Bristol, Danbury, Groton, Hebron, Hill, New Hampton and the surrounding communities.

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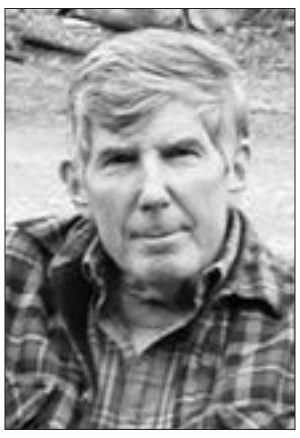
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North Country Notebook



By John Harrigan
Columnist

Thanks to the town plow crew, I've just got to make the road



John Harrigan
The road, plowed and sanded, leading to the turn to home.

When they were little and we were on a truck trip, the kids would sing a little ditty, something like "Our house, in the middle of the street, our house, it just can't be beat, our house, a mortgage we can't meet," and on and on. I just had to put my hands over my ears and rock.

On the way home toward the end of last week, two days after the anticipated Armageddon of a Northeaster had proved, as most often, to be much less than forecasters had predicted, I thought about applying those lyrics in this way:

"My commute
is sure a beaut,
road's plowed
and sanded too,
not just for me
but all of you."

This will be no secret to people who live in rural and small-town America, but there seems to be an assumption among people in urban and suburban America (and Big Media) that every little snowstorm will result in paralysis.

"Did you get stuck?" someone will e-mail me.

"Only trying to get from my barnyard to the road," is my standard reply.

Which means this. If I'm going to get stuck, it's not going to be on South Hill Road, a town road perhaps a soft nine-iron shot from my main barn. It's going to be in my own barnyard, even though, if I have to, I can deploy a fairly big farm tractor with bucket-loader and chains, good for pushing and moving major snow banks later in the winter but not really great for plowing.

During last week's alleged super storm, in which I got around ten inches of heavy moisture laden snow, no big deal (hey, it's winter), the town plow crew rumbled by in the early evening, again in the middle of the night (I think I heard it, in the dimness of sleep), and most certainly just before the school bus made its run, as is always the case.

By the time I'd gone out at 6:30 in the morning and spent a solid hour of shoveling out around doorways and barn doors and the outdoor furnace so neighbor Dennis Boudle could catch everything with his plow, and then gone back out to clean up here and there with a shovel and taken a look at the road, which the town crew had again freshly plowed and sanded, my only concern was whether I'd have time to change clothes and shave before heading downtown to the Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital for my next-to-last physical therapy session (two new knees).

And my thought, as I pulled into the hospital and parked, still a little bit hot and sweaty, was "After all that, who needs PT?" But, of course, I did.

(This column runs in a dozen weekly newspapers covering two-thirds of New Hampshire from Concord to Quebec and parts of northwestern Maine and the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Write to campguyhooligan@gmail.com, or P.O. Box 39, Colebrook, NH 03576.)

Holiday Health and Safety Tips from Mid-State Health Center

BRISTOL & PLYMOUTH

The holidays offer an opportunity to celebrate and share good cheer and best wishes for the New Year. It is also a time that is often busy and sometimes stressful for many of us. This makes it a great time to take care of your health.

Here are some helpful reminders about health and safety during the holidays and the winter months ahead.

1. Wash your hands often. Keeping hands clean is one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Wash your hands with soap and clean running water for at least 20 seconds (the time it takes to sing the "Birthday Song"). If soap and water aren't available, use hand sanitizer.

2. Cover your cough. Help stop the spread of germs that make you and others sick by covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough. Put your used tissue in the waste basket. If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your upper sleeve, not your hands.

3. Stay warm. Cold temperatures can cause serious health issues, especially in infants and older adults. Stay dry and dress warmly in several layers of loose-fitting clothing.

4. Manage stress. Stress can have a negative influence on the overall state of your health and wellbeing. Avoid over-commitment and over-spending. Try to find a balance between work, home, and play. Get support from family and friends. Plan ahead. Keep a relaxed and positive outlook.

5. Be smoke-free. Avoid smoking and breathing other people's smoke. If you smoke, quit today! Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW, or talk to your healthcare provider for help. Being smoke-free would be a great gift.

6. Get check-ups and vaccinations. Exams and screenings can help find problems before they start. They can also help find problems early, when the chances for treatment are better. Vaccinations help prevent diseases and save lives. Schedule a visit with your healthcare provider for a yearly exam. Ask what vaccinations and tests you should get based on your age, travel plans, medical history, and family health history.

7. Eat healthy and be active. Think balance and moderation. You can enjoy all the holidays has have to offer the healthy way. Choose fruit as a festive substitute for candy. Offer to bring a healthy alternative to a holiday party. Avoid food at parties and focus more on good conversations. Avoid consuming alcoholic beverages. Find fun ways to stay active, such as dancing to your favorite holiday music. Be active for at least two and a half hours a week. Help kids and teens be active for at least 1 hour each day.

8. Handle and prepare food safely. As you prepare holiday meals, keep you and your family safe from food-related illness. Wash hands and surfaces often. Avoid cross-contamination by keeping raw meat, poultry, seafood and eggs (including their juices) from prepared food and eating surfaces. Cook foods to the proper temperature. Refrigerate promptly. Follow safety and preparation guidelines for all foods as indicated on the packaging.

9. Prevent Injuries. Injuries from falls often occur around the holidays. Use a step stool to instead of furniture when hanging decorations. Children are at high-risk for injuries. Keep a watchful eye on your kids when they're playing. Keep potentially dangerous toys, food, drinks, household items, choking hazards (like coins and hard candy), and other objects out of a child's reach. Learn how to provide early treatment for children who are choking. Make sure toys are used properly.

10. Prevent fire hazards. Most residential fires occur during the winter months. Keep candles away from children, pets, walkways, trees and curtains. Never leave fireplaces, stoves, or candles unattended. Don't use generators, grills or other gasoline- or charcoal-burning devices inside your home or garage. Install a smoke detector in your home. Test and change the batteries regularly.

Enjoy the season and be safe, healthy and happy through the holidays.

"Each Other" includes all colors

BY ELIZABETH TERP
Contributor

"I just did my job. I did what I was paid to do." These words sent a wave of horror through many of us. Psychologist Martha Stout in her book, "The Sociopath Next Door," best describes their impact.

Stout asks us to "Imagine – if you can- not having a conscience, none at all, no feelings of guilt or remorse no matter what you do, no limiting sense of concern for the well-being of strangers, friends, or even family members…. Now add to this strange fantasy the ability to conceal from other people that your psychological makeup is radically different from theirs."

ABC paid close to $1 million to Darren Wilson for his interview by George Stephanopoulos. William Boardman called the interview "forty-five minutes of fawning deceit and thruthlessness." We learn that an unarmed black student was killed and his killer is rewarded for, "Doing what I was paid to do."

Had a black officer pumped 16 bullets into an unarmed white student, there would have been hell to pay, and no ABC interview. Protesters gave a long litany of similar senseless events: the black father who was shot dead at his front door as he attempted to bring dinner home to his family, the black 12-year-old shot dead because he was seen playing with a toy gun, and on and on.

Freguson, Mo. seems

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Student

FROM PAGE A3

ed to learn how to write their name in Ukraine as well and enjoyed playing a popular game known as "Crocodyl."

When asked if she is homesick for her friends and family, Grabenko smiled and shook her head no. Some of the exchange students she came to America with have told her they miss home, but she visits with her family over the Internet, and has just been too busy enjoying the experience to become homesick.

"The biggest challenge for me, I guess, was the language. It was a bit overwhelming at first to hear everyone speaking English, but I am used to that now," she said. "The other thing I thought would be hard for me to adjust to was the food, but it really wasn't hard."

Grabenko's hometown is comparable in size to the City of Boston, and students wondered how she was adjusting to small town life in New Hampshire. She told them she spends a lot of time visiting with her "Granny," who lives in a rural area so small town life was no surprise.

In June, she will be receiving a certificate of completion for her year at NRHS before she returns to her own school where she will complete her final year of school that she missed while abroad.

Before saying good bye to the students, she encouraged them to spread the word about educational exchange programs where they can either spend a year in another country like she is, or host a student here in the United States.

"You would make a lot of students very happy to come here for a year, and you would have a wonderful experience yourself," she said.

Grabenko's host Barbara Rosendahl is the Foreign Exchange Student Local Coordinator through CCI Greenheart. Those interested in learning more about the program can visit them online at www.cci-exhange.com.



DONNA RHODES

The boys and girls of Shelley Doucette and Deidre Conway's third grade classes in New Hampton posed with 16-year-old exchange student Juliyah Grabenko, who visited them last week to tell them about her life in Poltava, Ukraine.

Hill

FROM PAGE A1

$13,243 per student at the high school.

Jeff Levesque of Groton objected, saying that exempting those costs would be unfair to taxpayers in the Newfound Area School District.

Don Franklin of Hebron, also a member of the Hill subcommittee, countered that the cost of operating the central office would be the same whether or not Hill students were attending. He also pointed out that Hill would not have a voice on the school board.

School Administrative Unit 4 Superintendent Stacy Buckley said Hill would remain a member of SAU 18 and would be paying Franklin for central office support. She said issues with Hill students would be handled by the Hill School Board and Franklin's superintendent.

Limanni said that Hill students participating in the summer program or after-school events would pay for them separately, and Hill would be responsible for its own transportation.

Limanni also noted that any final agreement would incorporate safeguards to ensure that Hill would be paying for any new or unanticipated costs associated with its students attending Newfound.

"This tuition calculator, coming in not much over $13,000, would get our foot in the door with good faith and still let us justify it by asking if we're being fair to our taxpayers," he said.

Levesque said he still objected to leaving off the cost of the superintendent's office, but he said the value of having an agreement that would provide $839,917 in revenue exceeds the $60,000 difference in the tuition calculation.

In the end, the school board voted, 5-1, to direct the Hill subcommittee to enter into negotiations with Hill, using the tuition calculator as presented by Limanni as the basis for a tuition agreement.

Two days later, the Hill board held a public hearing to review the tuition offers. While Newfound's rate was higher than they had anticipated, Franklin's was the real surprise.

Because of an overall decrease in the number of students attending Franklin schools, combined with an increase in the school department's operating budget, next year's tuition to the Franklin Middle School worked out to be $11,564.71, while the high school tuition would be $14,195.90. The total tuition cost for the 65 Hill students amounted to $864,847.32 — the highest of the three districts competing.

Winnisquam came in significantly lower, at $712,918, with tuition rates of $11,953 at the middle school and $10,484 at the high school.

Merrimack Valley, which initially expressed an interest, did not pursue the option.

With the majority of Hill residents being older and on fixed incomes, Winnisquam's offer appeared to be the most likely to win support at the school district meeting, but there were concerns about some of the provisions in the proposal.

"I have to wonder about Winnisquam's tuition rate, long-term," said resident Gerard Desrochers. "I'm concerned that their proposal allows for a rate change after their school district meeting. We'll have developed a budget based on the tuition rate they quoted, and if it goes up, what are we to do?"

Desrochers expressed dismay at Franklin's increase, however, commenting that "In the entire history of the AREA agreement, I've never seen a 50 percent increase."

He also had concerns about Newfound, stating "Franklin has had a tax cap for years, while Newfound has been under a cap for only two years. They had some severe decisions to make at the start of the year, and were saved because the revenues increased, but that might not happen in the coming year. Their tax cap is not tied to the cost of living, so it could be a big problem."

Others in the audience were more concerned with academic offerings, athletics, and the percentage of students going on to college from the three school districts.

Hopes for some kind of consensus in the audience to help make the school board's decision easier soon faded as speakers chose different schools to support. Many said that, for all its problems, Franklin still provided a good education and that many graduates went on to college and to good careers.

Others supported Newfound for its modern facilities, broad curriculum, and the best test scores of any of the three districts under consideration.

Winnisquam test scores are only marginally behind Newfound's, and the school offers a wider range of classes and more sports than Newfound. While it is more distant than Franklin or Newfound, that additional distance is not much more than a mile.

Many supported Newfound because of geographic proximity and Hill's participation in Bristol's Tapply-Thompson Community Center.

A straw poll of the audience, after several Franklin supporters had already left, showed six supporting Franklin, nine supporting Newfound, and six supporting Winnisquam.

Hill School Board member December Fortin said, "I think there's more potential with Newfound. I don't see that emotional connection with Winnisquam."

That comment set the stage for the board to unanimously support a motion to enter into negotiations with Newfound.

Village

FROM PAGE A1

pulled cars through tunnels and over mountains, with lights ablaze and horns sounding. The engineers were on hand to answer questions and keep young fingers from derailing the railroad cars, but mostly to stand back and watch in amusement as children ran back and forth to peer into the tunnels and count the cars as they passed.

For a reprieve from all the activity, the Snowflake Chapel offered a chance for a quiet moment with a small bench where young ones could sit and look at the baby Jesus in a cradle.

The highlight of all this, of course, was seeing Santa himself who, assisted by Happy the Elf, took notes on Christmas wishes and handed out the 60th anniversary Christmas tree ornament. Visitors also could come away with photos of their visit with Santa and perhaps pose for photos on a bench with Raggedy Ann and Andy.

Before leaving, they could view a magical winter scene that featured Annalee Dolls on a snow-covered ski slope.

Santa's Village has been providing holiday joy since 1955, and many of those attending are third or fourth generation visitors. Parents who came through as children return with their own children to relive the magic they remember from their youths.

Dion said Sunday was a long day for the elves, "but they soldiered through and did a great job. Kudos to Samantha Austin in her first year as Elf Director."

She added that opening night saw Assistant Director Dan MacLean, rather than "Grandma," being "run over by a reindeer." When he was plugging in the lights at the village, a reindeer fell off Santa's house and landed on his back. When Matt Greenwood went to put the reindeer back up, he knocked over the big tree in front of Santa's house.

"This was all as we were getting ready to open, so it added to the excitement and our long list of Santa's Village stories," Dion said.

On a serious note, Dion commented on the many people who made the village possible. "As always, we had incredible volunteers step up and help for the three days," he continued. "It seemed like every time I went to do something, someone had already taken care of it. The community really stepped up in their cookie-baking and Mrs. Claus had plenty of yummy cookies to offer each person. We are just so grateful for the tremendous help for this wonderful annual tradition."

Fire

FROM PAGE A1

stove was located, were built in the 1920s. An addition was constructed in 1967, and the two upstairs bedrooms and a new roof were built in 1973.

"We just had all the wiring in the house redone, installed fire alarms, and the chimney was just cleaned in September," Batchelder said with a shake of his head. "At least we still have water here, though. That's one good thing."

The family received immediate assistance from the Red Cross, which housed them in an Ashland motel, but last weekend he said that voucher would be up as of this past Wednesday, and he wasn't sure where they would go from there.

In the meantime, the family has been doing all they can to make their house livable again just as soon as possible

"We're definitely planning on rebuilding, and hope we can get back in here by [next] Christmas," he said.

He was also very grateful for a local firefighter who has promised to bring in a crew and give all his time in assisting them with that goal.

"Steve's been just unbelievable. We have the workers, now we just need the materials for them to work with," said Batchelder.

The home was uninsured, and that has left him unable to afford the lumber and sheetrock he will need.

"There was a lot of water damage, so we had to tear out all the sheetrock because it'll just get moldy, and I don't want my family living in an unhealthy home," said Batchelder.

Ashland Lumber has opened an account for the family where donations are being accepted at their store to help purchase construction materials.

"They'll put all the donations on a gift card so people will know that it's all going toward rebuilding the house," Batchelder said.

Franklin Savings Bank has also set up an account to assist the family with their needs, which includes clothing and all the Christmas gifts that were lost in the fire. Donations made out to the Batchelder Family Fire Relief Fund can be mailed or dropped off to their location at 350 Lake St. in Bristol.

Secure online donations to help the family are also being accepted at www.gofundme.com/ij6m1g.

Deadlines

FROM PAGE A1

To ensure that the production of our Nov. 24 issue runs smoothly despite this change in our usual schedule, the submission deadline for any press releases, letters to the editor, and obituaries intended for publication that week has also been moved up a full business day, to Monday, Dec. 22 at noon. Any submissions received after noon on the 22nd will be held for publication on Dec. 31.

We will also be operating on an accelerated publication schedule the following week, when the Landing will be hitting the streets on New Year's Eve, Wednesday, Dec. 31. The submission deadline for any press releases, letters to the editor, and obituaries intended for publication on the 31st will be Monday, Dec. 29 at noon.

Submissions are welcome by e-mail at newfound@salmonpress.com, and can also be dropped off in person at our offices.

For information regarding holiday deadlines for display advertising, please contact our Sales Representative, Tracy Lewis, or Sales Assistant Lori Lynch at 444-3927 or courieradv@salmonpress.com.

For information on Classified deadlines, please call 1-877-766-6891 or e-mail jumbo@salmonpress.com.

The staff of the Newfound Landing thanks our readers for their cooperation with these changes in our usual publication schedule, and wishes one and all a very safe and happy holiday season.

PSU's Christine Hoch wins 2014 Sara Jayne Steen Operating Staff Service Award

PLYMOUTH — A dedicated Plymouth State University financial aid counselor who strives to provide superior customer service has been named the recipient of the 2014 Sara Jayne Steen Operating Staff (OS) Service award. Christine Hoch of Plymouth has worked at PSU for more than 10 years. Plymouth State University President Sara Jayne Steen said Hoch has earned a reputation as an outstanding resource in helping students and families navigate the often complex system of higher education funding.

"At PSU, we focus on engaging with students," said Steen. "Christine exemplifies that sense of dedication to students and to excellence."

"I am very honored," Hoch said. "I never thought I did anything special; I like helping people figure out what their options are and how to get where they want to go. I love the customer service part of the job, because it feels really nice to know I've helped a student reach a goal."

The criteria for winning the award include exemplifying the spirit and values of the institution, being dedicated to providing a learning environment that supports development of the mind, body and spirit, being actively active involved in University activities, and being engaged in service to the wider community.

Hoch started at Plymouth State a decade ago as a temporary administrative assistant in the Center for the Environment. Since then, she has committed herself to volunteering for various University, professional and community organizations, including the PSU Operating Staff Fundraising and Scholarship committee, PSU Professional Development Committee, the New Hampshire Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators Conference Planning Committee and at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Plymouth.

PSU's Financial Aid Director, Crystal Gaff, is Christine's supervisor, and supported her nomination for award.

"I am so excited to hear that Christine is being honored by this award as she is dedicated to PSU students and her local community," said Gaff. "She is very deserving of this honor."

Hoch, a Garwood, N.J. native and Rutgers University graduate, lives in Plymouth with her husband, Brendon, and their son, Nathan.

The Sara Jayne Steen Operating Staff Service Award winner was chosen by a five member panel of faculty, staff, community members and students.



COURTESY

PSU President Sara Jayne Steen, left, presents framed photo to Christine Hoch, the 2014 recipient of the Sara Jayne Steen Operating Staff Service Award.

Obituaries

Hilda Lorraine Harris, 92



HEBRON — Hilda Lorraine Harris, 92, of Bliss Lane, died Dec. 13, 2014 at Speare Memorial Hospital, in Plymouth.

Born in Hanover on Jan. 3, 1922, Hilda was the daughter of Watson and Eleanor (Swift) Judd.

Hilda grew up in Stratford, Vt. and attended Stratford, and Thetford, Vt. schools. She resided in the Hill and Alexandra area for many years. She had been a resident of Hebron for the past several years.

Hilda worked as a licensed nursing assistant for many years at several health care facilities, such as Merrimack County Home, in Boscawen and Concord Hospital, in Concord.

Hilda enjoyed baking bread, gardening, crocheting, embroidery, feeding the birds, spending time with her cat, and loved the ocean.

Hilda was predeceased by her husband, Herbert Harris, who died in 1990, and her sons, David, William and James.

Hilda is survived by her children, Marilyn Hosmer of White River, Junction, Vt., Anthony Perkins of Sharon, Vt., Anita Moses of Hill, Sandra Adams and her husband Arnold of E. Topsham, Vt., Diane Puffinburger of Hebron, Kathy Sargent and her husband Stanly of Alexandra; many, many grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren; her brother, Wallace Judd of Hill; sister, Betty Smith of Belmont; numerous nieces and nephews.

A Spring graveside service will be held in the Evergreen Cemetery, in South Strafford, Vt., at the convenience of the family.

The Mayhew Funeral Homes and Crematorium, in Plymouth and Meredith, are assisting the family with their arrangements. To sign Hilda's Book of Memories, go to www.mayhewfuneralhomes.com.

NEWFOUND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCHEDULE WINTER 2014/15

NEWFOUND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Boys Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
12/12	Inter-Lakes	A	4:30
12/16	White Mt.	H	5:00
12/19	Laconia	H	4:30
12/22	Winnisquam	A	4:30
12/ 27,29,30	Gilford Tourney	A	TBA
1/6	Inter-Lakes	H	4:30
1/16	Kearsarge	A	5:00
1/20	Franklin	H	4:30
1/23	Berlin	H	5:00
1/27	Mascoma	A	5:00
1/29	Belmont	A	4:30
2/3	Berlin	A	5:00
2/7	Hillsboro-Deering	H	2:00
2/10	White Mt.	A	5:00
2/13	Stevens	H	4:30
2/16	Prospect Mt.	A	5:00
2/17	Gilford	H	4:30
2/25	Mascoma	H	4:30
2/27	Franklin	A	5:30

Girls Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
12/5	Franklin	H	4:30
12/9	Mascoma	A	5:00
12/12	Inter-Lakes	H	4:30
12/16	White Mt.	A	5:00
12/19	Laconia	A	4:30
12/22	Winnisquam	H	4:30
12/ 27,29,30	Gilford Tourney	A	TBA
1/6	Inter-Lakes	A	4:30
1/16	Kearsarge	H	5:00
1/20	Franklin	A	4:30
1/23	Berlin	A	5:00
1/27	Mascoma	H	5:00
1/29	Belmont	H	4:30
2/3	Berlin	H	5:00
2/6	Hillsboro-Deering	A	5:00
2/10	White Mt.	H	5:00
2/13	Stevens	A	5:30
2/17	Gilford	A	4:30
2/19	Prospect Mt.	H	5:00

Skiing

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
1/9	Ragged	10:00 am
1/15	Bretton Wood	10:00 am
1/22	Gunstock	2:00 pm
1/30	Gunstock	10:00 am
2/4	Sunapee	1:30 pm
2/9	Gunstock (Boys State)	10:00 am
2/10	Gunstock (Girls States)	10:00 am

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Alexandria

Judy Kraemer 744-3532
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Night Visitors

The moon has been spreading a soft glow through clouds these past few nights. After the house lights are off and we are tucked into bed, the cats are fascinated by something outside the the big room windows. The sound of heads bumping into glass is definitely distracting. Like the "Night Before..." I spring from the bed in search of the source of their interest. Alas, nothing is to be seen, not even tracks in the snow. The window sill outside does not get snow on it, so if mice are teasing the cats, there are no tracks. Perhaps it a precursor of others to come at a later date. May you be warm, rested, and joyful in this season. Share it with someone.

From the town

The snowstorm of Dec. 9 caused the Select board meeting to be cancelled.

Bristol

Ruth Whittier
ruthwhittier@yahoo.com

Christmas Prayer

BY ALEX D. LOWELL

(Newfound student)

Snow is white what a beautiful sight.
Evergreen trees are bright with the twinkling of Christmas lights.
Gold and silver pretty as can be,
Shining for you our heroes overseas.
Red ribbons on our door.
Beautiful presents galore.
Shimmering star on top of tree,
Shining for you God all mighty.
For it is Christmas please say a prayer, for our loved ones who are over there.
Over there overseas pray for them please.

National Wreaths Across America Day Dec. 13

Justin Fryou, Newfound high school student has been offered a great opportunity to be a part of The Wreaths Across America program and distribute wreaths to The National Veterans Cemetery in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with his Grandfather. Although Justin's family understands the importance of attendance at school, they feel this is a once in a life time opportunity that is very personal for their family. Justin was very honored and eager to participate in this wonderful program that was begun in Arlington, Virginia years ago. The tradition has spread to over 800 locations across America.

Danbury

Donna Sprague
huntoonfarm@myfairpoint.net

It is the week before Christmas, and all through my house are notes to myself and boxes and partially finished items –all left to be finished before Dec. 25.

When my mom and I used to stay up late wrapping presents, baking and cleaning the house on Christmas Eve, my uncle Ernie would tease us that they shouldn't have moved Christmas that year so we would know it was coming. His point was, of course, that knowing when the holiday was should have made us plan to be ready, but I am quite sure that the holidays come faster these days. I remember as a child that it took forever for Christmas day to come. But not any more...I've decided the days need to be longer. Speaking of longer days, wouldn't a little more daylight be nice? Did any of you notice that during the last dreary days of the rain/snow/sleet storm, it was dark by 2 p.m. My great uncle Harry talked about going to bed when it was dark under the table. It was dark at two o'clock in the afternoon-could I really have gone to bed then? Chickens across New England without artificial light would have gone to roost; maybe they know something I don't.

Events of 2015! Put Jan. 3 on your calendar. This is the Danbury Winter Market at the grange hall in the morning from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., and sustainability discussion at 2 p.m. in the afternoon. Both events are a great way to get started on your New Year's Resolution, whether it be buying more local foods, wanting to be more active in the community, helping others, feeding the hungry, reducing waste, planning a garden or meeting your neighbors. Come for breakfast, lunch and to buy your month's groceries from area farms and businesses. Use the holiday money you received to buy warm socks, hats or mittens or to buy that piece of jewelry you have been wanting. Browsers welcomed. Get out of the house and chat with your neighbors at the nicest farmers market in Danbury.

The Grange's sustainability discussion will begin where the Nov. 8 meeting ended, with attendees getting a chance to have more discussion, introduce more topics and to establish a level of interest on introduced topics. The November meeting found that people were interested in a safer local food supply, grouping together to create that supply, forming partnerships for a greater end for food producers and buyers, that recycling and reducing our take from the planet was a good plan. For our discussions, bear in mind that local does not stop at town lines and that community is a region rather than a single town. If you are unable to attend but have an idea or would like to be included on a mailing list of interested persons, call Donna at 768-5579 or email donnaardena@gmail.com.

George Gamble Library

The hours for the Danbury Library will be Wednesdays from 1-6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. In December, there will be Christmas books available for children and adults to help celebrate the season. Looking ahead, there will be puzzles to borrow in January to help pass the snowy days and long winter nights.

Food Pantry hours

The food pantry at the DCC will be open Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-noon and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. Thursday nights, the Friends of the Food Pantry offers a warm meal for $4 donation, to eat there or to take home. There are choices from two entrees weekly and for an added $1 donation, you can get dessert too. They have decided to offer a New Years Dinner on Thursday, Jan. 1 at 4 p.m. Check out the DCC Facebook page for the menu. Reservations requested by Dec. 23 by calling the DCC at 768-3424. Donations from the meal will benefit the food pantry. They are also asking for more volunteers to help with the program. Messages for the food pantry may be left by calling the DCC. Leave a message if no one answers.

DCC Secret Santa Program

At press time, there were more children left to be sponsored than there are sponsors. It might be too late to do the shopping yourself, but donations to help cover the costs of the director going shopping or the costs of wrapping paper would still be appreciated. If you would like to wrap Secret Santa gifts , show up on Dec. 22 at 6 p.m. at the DCC. If the elves don't get them all wrapped, they will be finished on Dec 23rd but call to check to see if the second night is needed. Many hands make light work so the more that show up the 22nd, the better.

Groton

Jo O'Connor 217-9002
grotonnews@yahoo.com

Looking out the window Tuesday, Dec. 9 was to look out at a winter wonderland. Snow falling swiftly over already snow covered lawns and hearing the sounds of a lone State plow moving purposefully along the road. The sights and sounds could only warm the thankful hearts of snow birds (that they weren't here). However, I hoped like others I guess, that there would be cancellations and closing. Because wimpy me would rather not drive In weather like that and on roads that could turn dangerously slippery despite the good work of road crews. Wisely the Select Board meeting was canceled that night. And having checked a few hours ago there is no news to report.

However, when writing about the seniors' Thanksgiving Dinner, I forgot the part the Groton Historical Society had at the meal. A while back, the GHS had announced they were offering for sale a photographic "Scholars and Schools of Groton New Hampshire" 2015 calendar. In the days gone by, students were called scholars. Maybe the term scholar was used to encourage the students to do better in school then they might have thought they could. It's just a thought I don't know of any definitive reason for addressing students from elementary school through high school as scholars. If I do hear of reason(s) I will repeat it (them) in this column.

Back to the GHS 2015 Calendar, there was a table at the dinner manned by Debbie Lindsey a founder with her husband, Steve of the Groton Historical Society back in 1989. Debbie is currently Vice-President of the Society. This year she was awarded the 2014 Historian Award. Nancy Watson new to the Historical Society is currently a Board member as well she too was at the table and so was Board member Roger Daniels, who also is the President of the Rumney Historical Society. The three were there to give the GHS calendar, at no charge, to a member of each Groton Household and to have a calendar included with the dinners that were delivered.

The Groton Historically Society has been diligent, these past 25 years of its existence, at collecting materials, and recording interviews regarding life in Groton in the past, and rescuing artifacts from the early days, and archiving as much information about Groton's past and present as possible, while hosting programs of interest to a variety of people

All in an attempt at Preserving Groton's Past for the Future. For inquires into the Groton Historical Society write to, GHS PO Box 50 Rumney, NH 03266.

Wishing everyone a

SEE **TOWNS,** PAGE A10

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Churches

Bristol United Church of Christ

As the Second Advent candle was lite we offered the following prayer: "[It] … is a time for God's people to reawaken their longings [to] let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, [to turn] division into unity, [turn] hostility to resolution… [and turn] separation into reunion. Amen."

The Women's Fellowship thanks everyone who helped make the annual Christmas Fair a success. In spite of the weather, shoppers were warm and dry inside Fellowship Hall while they browsed through the many holiday items, snacked on some delicious homemade food, and found that perfect holiday gift.

The Newfound Area Churches Advent services are happening Wednesdays at noon with a free luncheon to follow. The last Advent service will be on Dec. 17th, at Bristol United Church of Christ. Please join us. (Note: If school is cancelled, delayed, or released early, the services and luncheons are cancelled.)

Please join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight service, which starts at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 24. Please join us for carols, music, and readings of the season. There is no better time to reconnect with the Church than in this season of Advent and Christmas. Our lines are short and our products and services are guaranteed for "life."

Bristol Community Services (BCS) welcomes your contributions to the food pantry throughout the year. Financial contributions are also accepted. Because the outpouring of support from the community, especially the recent Newfound High School food drive the only items needed at this time are peanut butter and toiletry items such as tooth paste, toilet paper, mouthwash and soaps. If you cannot make it to BCS when they are open Monday, Wednesday or Friday (and now through Christmas they are open on Saturday) you may bring your food donations to the Bristol UCC church during our regular hours 99:00 am to noon). From all the staff at BCS have a happy Christmas season.

The church office hours are 9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. The office will be closed on Christmas Day. Rev. Andrew's drop-in hours are Monday afternoons 4-6 p.m., then Tuesday through Thursday mornings 9 a.m. until noon. If you would like a visit, or if you know of someone who would like a visit from Rev. Andrew, please call the office at 744-8132.

You can find us on Facebook at Bristol UCC. Also, find the church's schedule on our website: bristolucc.org. You can also reach us by calling 744-8132 or email bristolucc@myfairpoint.net. We are located at 15 Church Street, off Route 3-A, just south of Bristol's town square. We have parking around back, are handicapped accessible, seeker-friendly, and have visual and hearing assistance.

Family Worship Center Plymouth Assembly of God

Thursday, Dec. 18, at 6:30 p.m. is family night. We offer Godly Ministry for children, youth, and adults with programs for people of all ages: Royal Rangers Club for boys and Mpact Club for girls, both clubs for preschool through high school, and Adult Bible Seminars. Do come for this great time of fellowship and learning. We come to the Bible together, to learn, and to grow in faith together.

Sunday, Dec. 21: Start the day with us at 8 a.m. with prayer with Pastor Glen Yunghans; 8:30 a.m. - bagels, coffee and juice; 9 a.m. – Sunday School for all age groups pre-school through Adult Bible Studies. Keith Farrell teaches the Adult Bible Class; Tim Corum leads a class especially for young adults from age 27 down to high school seniors during the Sunday School hour. 10 a.m.: Christmas Sunday Service – A special Christmas worship service will be held with Relational Style, Biblical Preaching. Children's Church for ages four to 11 is also held at the same time: nursery age 0–3; "Kids of the King" ages four to seven; "Faith Academy" ages eight to 12. At 6 p.m., prayer meeting with Pastor Glen is held in the Prayer Room, near the east entrance. "Please make a commitment to seek the Lord in one accord with other believers. You do not need any experience in order to pray, only faith and trust in Jesus our Lord and Savior."

Tuesday evening, Dec. 23, 6:30–8 p.m., potluck supper and Bible study will be held at the home of Joyce and Keith Farrell. Contact them at 536-1433 for information. Anyone who would like to go and needs transportation can call Candy Gusha at 254-4651.

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 6-7 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Thursday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day. We pray a blessed, Christ-filled Christmas Day to all. Remember that Christmas Day is the Birthday of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Saturday, Dec. 27, Youth trip to Fun Spot, Laconia, for Middle School/Jr. High through High School. Leave the church at 12:30 p.m., back by 5 p.m. Please eat before you come.

Wednesday, Dec. 31, 6 p.m., New Year's Eve Service.

Monday, Jan. 5, 2015, noon–2 p.m. – the Church's next Helping Hands Food Pantry and Free Clothing will be held. Much help and financial, support is needed.

Anyone desiring Church membership: please contact Pastor Yunghans at 536-1966 or 726-0254.

Our Mission Statement is "Transforming lives through God's Word."

The Royal Rangers are collecting money to go to Maine Yukon this winter. The funds raised will go to Missions and to help pay for boys needing funding to attend. There is a collection barrel in the main hallway in the church where you can put coins and bills. Or checks may be made out to "Family Worship Center," and put "Royal Rangers" on the Memo line.

Judy Fleming and others are conducting a fruitful Prison Ministry at the Grafton County Jail. Judy is collecting aluminum cans to support the cost of ministry supplies such as Bibles and printed literature. A collection barrel is at each church entry. Please continue to support this ministry. Money donations may be made to the church marked "prison ministry."

Prayer requests for the bulletin may be given to Candy Gusha at craftmom03264@yahoo.com.

Please give announcements for the Sunday bulletin to the Church office by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays by e-mailing fwcag@hotmail.com or Pastor Yunghans at gyunghans@hotmail.com, or phone the church at 536-1966 or Pastor Glen at 726-0254. Everyone is welcome at all of our services. The Church is handicapped accessible, east entrance.

Towns

FROM PAGE A9

pleasant and safe winter.

The Bulletin Board

Select Board Work sessions for December to be held in the Town House at 5 p.m.; December 9, 16, & 30

Tuesday, Dec. 23: No Select Board Meeting

Friday, Dec. 26: Selectmen's Office will be closed all day

Hebron

Bob Brooks 744-3597
hebronnhnews@live.com

Hebron Area Women's Group

The Hebron Area Women's Group will meet at noon Dec. 18 at the Pleasant View B&B in Bristol. Our host, Heidi Milbrand, will furnish the group with various treats. This is our annual "Yankee Swap," so bring a "gift" wrapped to share in the swap.

Also bring canned goods that we will be donating to Bristol Community Services and bring three or four pieces of fresh fruit to be included in a basket for the Bridge House in Plymouth. Any questions? Contact Sue Jackson 744-5035.

Wind

FROM PAGE A4

with the threat of rolling blackouts, Lerner believes it is important to remind citizens and businesses throughout the state that adding more non-dispatchable energy to the grid is virtually useless.

Per Lerner, "This proposed turbine complex will not ever lower our bills, nor will it solve our regional energy supply problems; rather it will compound the energy supply problems and scarcity issues which we face while having a minuscule, if any, impact on emissions relative to dispatchable renewable energy sources that do not require, as wind does, full time gas turbine redundancy."

New Hampshire Wind Watch is a 501(c)3 organization in the Newfound Lake Region of New Hampshire dedicated to providing education and information about Industrial Wind Power Projects in New Hampshire. A number of wind turbines are scheduled to be built along the ridgelines of Canaan, Dorchester, Orange, Alexandria and Groton, which are part of the Newfound and Baker River watersheds. For more information, visit NHWW's website www.nhwindwatch.org or Facebook page www.facebook.com/NHWindWatch, or contact info@NHWindWatch.org.

Colors

FROM PAGE A5

far away, but this kind of treatment happens closer to home. Five years ago, police arrested Harvard Professor Henry Lewis Gates because someone saw him fumbling with the front door lock to his own house in Cambridge.

This holiday season symbolizes our yearning to experience light, often described as an ability to love that overcomes all darkness. Choristers sing about ancient "people who walked in darkness and have seen a great light." We are also a people walking in darkness today. We know we have blind spots and each year at midwinter, we pledge to begin again and do better.

May consciously seeing holiday lights remind and inspire each of us to figure out how we can truly love this earth and each other, so that every person of every color has a fair chance to celebrate life. This is all about keeping each other well.

Elizabeth Terp welcomes your comments at PO Box 547, Campton, NH 03223, e-mail: elizabethterp@yahoo.com, or her Keeping Each Other Well Blog: http://elizabethterp.com.

***Editor's note:** The views expressed by Ms. Terp in her column are her own, and do not reflect the views of Salmon Press Media.*



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Hebron Union Congregational Church

All are welcome to join in our worship services on Sundays at 10 a.m., followed by coffee hour.

Our Annual Christmas Eve Service will be at 8 p.m. This service is always well attended, so come early to get a seat!

Every Thursday, starting Nov. 20 at 9 a.m., we will begin a special Advent Bible Study Series from Adam Hamilton called "Not A Silent Night – Mary Looks Back at Bethlehem." This series will run for five weeks. Even if you missed the first session, you are invited to join us in this special study. Since Christmas and New Year's are on Thursdays this year, the last session of this special bible study will be Thursday, Jan. 8.

We gather once a month to make soup for people in our local communities. Our next soup route will be Jan. 12. While we make soup for others, we also share a meal of soup, salad, bread and dessert. If you would like more information about Soup Route or would like to receive soup from us, please contact our church secretary using the contact information listed below. We will have our annual Turkey Dinner on Feb. 15 at 3 p.m. for all Soupers (those who get soup) and Soupees (those who make soup).

During the Week of Christian Unity, Monday, Jan. 19 through Friday, Jan. 23, the Newfound Area Churches will have a noon service followed by a light lunch at a different church each day. More details will be coming in January.

We are located in the center of historic Hebron village at the intersections of North Shore Road and West Shore Road. Our church secretary's office hours are Tuesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Wednesday and Thursday afternoon 1-3 p.m., and our phone number is 744-5883. Our address is 16 Church Lane, PO Box 67, Hebron, NH 03241. The secretary's email address is staff@hebronchurchnh.org. To find out more about our church, please visit the church Web site at www.hebronchurchnh.org.

Church of the Holy Spirit Episcopal

Readers needed for the final services of 2014!

We're in search of readers for Dec. 28, as well as four readers for Christmas Day. We're also in search of a nursery volunteer (who is Safe Church trained) for Dec. 28.

If you will be in town on either of these days and are willing to volunteer, please contact Melissa at 536-1321. It's that easy!

Thanks for your help!

Find us on the Web at: http://holyspiritplymouth.org. The Church of the Holy Spirit worships every Sunday at 8 and 9:30 a.m. at 170 Main St. The 9:30 service includes music and is followed by coffee and refreshments. Childcare is available at 9:30.

Healing Service

The next Healing Service is on Jan. 7, at 12:30 p.m. in Griswold Hall (263 Highland St.). The service of healing includes prayer, anointing with oil, and Holy Communion.

NAMI-NH Support Group

NAMI support group for those living with or caring for someone with mental illness, first and third Mondays at 7 p.m. in Pease Library.

Blue Christmas Service

Dec. 20, come to the Blue Christmas/ Longest Night service, 4 p.m. at 170 Main St. This is a contemplative Advent worship service designed especially for those who are grieving or find the holiday season difficult. Those who attended last year found it a comforting, reflective experience. Invite your friends!

Christmas at CHS

The Christmas Pageant will take place at the 9:30 a.m. service on Dec. 21, at Holderness School Chapel. On Christmas Eve, the Family Service will take place at 5:30 p.m. (with carols at 5:15 p.m.; note change in time from previous announcement!) and the Festival Service at 10 p.m. (with carols at 9:30 a.m.). Christmas morning at 9 a.m., "Pajama Church," Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion.

Rector's Open House

Save the date for the Fourth Annual Christmastide Rector's Open House, Sunday, Jan. 4, 4-6 p.m. If you don't know the address or how to get there, call the office at 536-1321 or Grace at 996-1490. Come hungry!

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is offered Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m., at the Community Life Center, 263 Highland St.

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Starr King Unitarian Universalism Fellowship is a multigenerational, welcoming congregation where different beliefs come together in common covenant. We work together in our fellowship, our community, and our world to nurture justice, respect, and love.

Sunday, Dec. 21, 9:30 a.m. December's theme: Celebration

Celebrations! Hanukkah, Solstice and Christmas

Rev. Dr. Judith Smith-Valley, Sarah Dan Jones, musical director, Meredith Flynn, DRE worship leaders.

A Multigenerational Celebration, with both the Adult and Children's Choirs singing. Come hear stories of the season and learn the UU Symbols for the Holidays. The children will join the rest of the fellowship for this multigenerational service.

Visitors are invited to attend the service as well as all programs at the church. Nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers. Join us for coffee and conversation following the service.

Adult Education, 11 a.m.: Direct Support Providers around Us

Direct Support Providers in our communities serve many people who need help in order to live to their full potential. Direct Support Provider (DSP) Samantha Courtney, a professional DSP for the last eight years, will tell of her experiences and knowledge about this growing field of work.

Winter Solstice Celebration, 4 – 5:30 p.m.: This service welcomes all, including children.

Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m.: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, lessons and carols

Multigenerational Service with Choir, Music and Carols, plus Stories, Readings and Candles. Visitors are invited to attend the service as well as all programs at the church. The children will join the rest of the fellowship for this multigenerational service.

Social Justice Community Outreach for December - Plymouth Area Community Closet Holiday Baskets, and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's Guest at Your Table program. By celebrating Guest at Your Table in our congregation, we are helping to nurture a spirit of gratitude and "justice, equity and compassion in human relations," our second UU Principle.

Please remember to bring canned or dry packaged food items for our local Community Closet collection basket in the foyer. There is also another collection basket in the foyer for next summer's "GOT LUNCH! PLYMOUTH" program. Peanut butter, and canned tuna or chicken may be placed there.

Ongoing activities

Starr King Men's Group meets every first and third Sunday from 6-8 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Second Sunday Hike –We leave from the SKUUF lower parking lot at noon. All are welcome, including children, who are experienced hikers. As for all hikes, please let Mitch (mitch@newfoundfarm.org) know that you want to go so that he can advise you by e-mail of any changes.

Starr King UU Fellowship is located at 101 Fairgrounds Rd., Plymouth. The phone number is 536-8908. The Web site is www.starrkingfellowship.org where you can access "Newsletters" to read, or print out, any of several past issues; "Podcast" to enjoy listening to sermons you have missed, or just want to hear again; "Events Calendar" to find out what is going on in our Fellowship.

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Seek to Balance "Risk Tolerance" and "Required Risk"

Like everyone else, you have financial goals. To help achieve these goals, you may need to invest — and when you invest, you'll need to take on some risk. But the more you understand this risk, and the better you are at managing it, the greater your potential for staying invested for the long term. To begin with, then, take a look at these terms:

• Risk tolerance — Your risk tolerance is essentially your comfort level with taking risk. For example, if you have a high tolerance for risk, you may be comfortable investing aggressively. Conversely, if you tend to be risk-averse, you might lean more toward more conservative investment vehicles that offer greater protection of principal.

• Required risk — While the term "required risk" may sound odd, it is actually an integral component of your ability to invest successfully. Basically, your required risk is the level of risk necessary to help you achieve your investment goals. The higher the return necessary to reach those goals, the more potential risk you'll need to assume.

As you invest, you'll need to balance these two aspects of risk. For example, what might happen if you have a low risk tolerance, leading you toward "safer," low-growth investments, but your goal is to retire early? For most people, this goal requires them to invest in vehicles that offer significant growth potential, such as stocks. And, as you know, investing in stocks entails risk — specifically, the risk that your stocks will lose value. So in this situation, your risk tolerance — the fact that you are risk-averse — is going to collide with your required risk level, the amount of risk you are going to need to take (by investing in stocks) to achieve your goal of early retirement.

When such a collision occurs, you have two choices. First, you could "stretch" your risk tolerance and accept the need to take on riskier investments in exchange for the growth potential you will require. Your other choice is to stay within your risk tolerance and adjust your ultimate goal — which, in this example, may mean accepting a later retirement date.

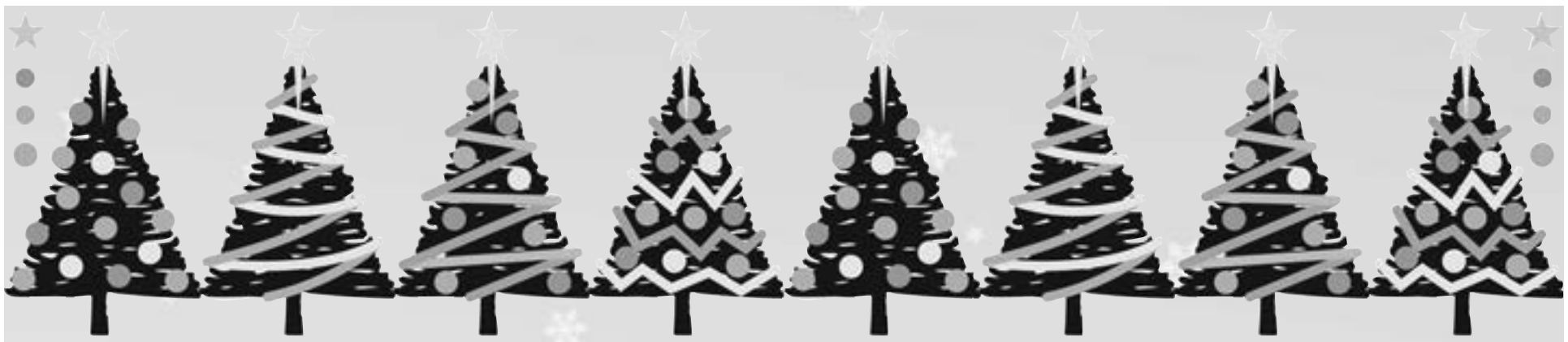
Obviously, this is a personal decision. However, you may have more flexibility than you might have imagined. For instance, you might feel that you should be risk-averse because you have seen so many fluctuations in the financial markets. But if you have many decades to go until you retire, you actually do have time to recover from short-term losses, which means you may be able to reasonably handle more volatility. On the other hand, once you're retired, you won't have as many years to bounce back from market downturns, so you'll have less "risk capacity" than you did when you were younger.

In any case, by balancing your risk tolerance and your required risk level — and by understanding your risk capacity — you can be better prepared to take the emotion out of investing. When investors let their emotions get the better of them, they can make mistakes such as chasing "hot" stocks or selling quality investments due to temporary price drops. By having a clear sense of what risk really entails, however, you may be able to avoid costly detours — and stick with your long-term investment strategy.



This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. For more information or to sign up for their monthly newsletter, contact **Jacqueline Taylor**, Financial Advisor, at **279-3161** or email Jacki at Jacqueline.Taylor@edwardjones.com. Her office is located at 14 Main Street, Downtown Meredith. For more information, see http://www.edwardjones.com/ or "like" her on Facebookwww.facebook.com/EJAdvisorJacquelineTaylor.





Season's Greetings

from these local businesses and all of us at Salmon Press

Gingerbread Goodness

BY TRESA ERICKSON

As fall turns to winter and cooler temperatures set in, the scent of ginger, molasses and honey begins to fill the air. Ovens everywhere are bursting with gingerbread goodness. Some are making gingerbread cake, some, gingerbread houses, and some, gingerbread cookies. If you plan to bake some gingerbread cookies this season, here are some tips to ensure you get some good batches.

There are hundreds of gingerbread cookie recipes available. You might even have a favorite or two. Either way, if you are planning to cut the dough into shapes, you will want to chill it. Mix up the dough and then place it in the refrigerator for a few hours. The dough will firm up, making it much easier to work with.

Even when chilled, gingerbread dough can be sticky. To prevent the dough from sticking to everything, lightly coat the cookie cutters with cooking spray. Then dust the cookie cutters, rolling pin and countertops with flour or powdered sugar and repeat as necessary. For rather large or delicate shapes, you may want to use parchment paper. Just cut the parchment paper to size, set it on top of the cookie sheet, roll out the dough on the parchment paper, cut out the shapes, remove the excess dough and slide the cookie sheet into the oven to bake. It s that simple.



For most people, the fun in making gingerbread cookies comes in the decorating of them. The key to great decorating is to use cool cookies. The heat from warm cookies will melt icing and cause it to slide off. Wait until the cookies are completely cool before icing them. Then, add any decorative candies before the icing sets. To keep your freshly decorated cookies intact, give the icing ample time to set.

Making gingerbread cookies takes time. Don t rush home from work and expect to have a plate of beautifully decorated gingerbread cookies done in an hour. It won t happen, even with store-bought dough. Prepare to put in the time, follow the tips above and you will get the results you hope for.

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Season's Greetings

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Pop Up Wintertime Fun

(NAPS)—Often defined as a time of quiet hibernation, winter is, in fact, one of the busiest times of the year. Consider the numerous celebratory occasions that begin with the harvest and continue on through the holidays and beyond, not to mention all the fun and frosty get-togethers prompted by skiing, skating and sledding.

Keep popcorn on hand and you're only minutes away from a satisfying and healthful treat. When friends drop in or as you make your way through neighborhood parties, pop up some wintertime fun by making these simple and delicious popcorn treats.

The following recipes vary a basic method: melt chocolate, drizzle over popcorn and mix in flavorings or sprinkles. You can easily adapt these for any number of occasions—substitute holiday sprinkles with colors of your favorite Super Bowl team, red for Valentine's Day, green for St. Patrick's Day and so on. You'll love having this quick "go-to" in your recipe file.

Easy, Elegant Holiday Popcorn
Yield: 8 cups

Ingredients:
8 cups popped popcorn
2 ounces white chocolate, melted
2 ounces dark chocolate, melted
Red and green holiday sprinkles

Directions:
1. Place popcorn on a large baking sheet. Set aside.
2. Drizzle popcorn with melted white chocolate and melted dark chocolate.
3. Scatter sprinkles over top. Let stand until chocolate is set.
4. Break into clusters if needed. Store in an airtight container for up to 2 weeks.

White Chocolate Peppermint Popcorn Bark
Yield: 1 pound

Ingredients:
5 cups popped popcorn
12 ounces white chocolate, melted
1 cup crushed hard candy peppermints

Directions:
1. Cover a baking pan with foil or wax paper; set aside.
2. Place popcorn in a large bowl; set aside.
3. Melt chocolate in a double boiler OR according to package directions.
4. Stir in crushed peppermints after chocolate is melted.
5. Pour chocolate mixture over popcorn mixture and stir to coat.
6. Spread onto prepared pan; allow to cool completely.
7. When chocolate is set, break into chunks for serving.
8. tore in an airtight container at room temperature.



Red and green sprinkles, chocolate and popcorn make a happy winter treat.

Variation: Cranberries & Almond Bark

Omit candy peppermints. Mix 1/2 cup dried sweetened cranberries and 1/2 cup sliced almonds with the popcorn. Pour chocolate over the mixture after it is melted.

With these, you can create gourmet gifts for friends and neighbors, and munchable snacks for the whole family. You'll find more creative wintertime recipes at www.popcorn.org.



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Newfound Landing
Sports

Section B
Thursday,
December 18, 2014

Bears roll past Royals, Lakers

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BRISTOL — Big second quarters helped the Newfound girls' basketball team to a couple more wins on the season last week.

The Bears were slated to travel to Mascoma on Tuesday, Dec. 9, but Mother Nature brought in some rough weather that forced the game to be postponed. The game was rescheduled to the following night, but was moved to Bristol, with the game between the two teams later in the season moved to Canaan.

After the Bears got out to a 16-7 lead after one quarter, the Bears outscored their opponents 11-5 to go up 27-12 at the halftime break. Newfound led 34-19 after the third quarter and put things away in the fourth quarter, giving the Bears the 60-37 win.

"The girls are playing hard and moving up and down the court quickly," coach Karri Peterson said. "The press in the fourth turned the speed of the game up in the fourth after a slow third quarter."

The Royals played man-to-man defense and Karissa Bony exposed that early in the game, getting eight points in the first quarter. She finished with 19 points, 11 rebounds and five steals on the night to lead the charge for the Bears. Sami Cote finished with 11 points, while Savanna Bony added 10 points and Kaitlyn French came back with nine points.

The Bears played host to Inter-Lakes on Friday, Dec. 12, and again used a strong second quarter to get to a 61-33 win.

Newfound led 14-7 after one quarter but outscored the Lakers 23-9 in the second to go up 37-16 at the halftime break. Newfound was up 48-26 after three quarters before closing out the win, allowing Inter-Lakes just seven points in the fourth quarter.

The Bears actually started out down 6-0, but they then went on a 14-0 run after turning up the speed of the game.

"We are finding the up-tempo game to benefit our team," Peterson said. "It is fast paced and the young girls are getting better each game.

"As long as we keep developing, we will not have as many turnovers as we get our bodies under control," the veteran coach continued.

Karissa Bony again led the charge for the Bears, as she put in 22 points, grabbed 14 rebounds and added eight steals and four assists. Bridget Lavin finished with 13 points and Amanda Johnston chipped in with nine points and seven rebounds and Savanna Bony had eight points.

The Bears are slated to be in action at Laconia on Friday, Dec. 19, for a 6 p.m. game and will wrap up the 2014 portion of the regular season with a home game against Winnisquam on Monday, Dec. 22, with a 6 p.m. start time.

Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 569-3126 or sportsgsn@salmonpress.com

What's On Tap

With the holidays coming along, the 2014 portion of the regular season wraps up for the local high school teams heading to the breaks.

At Newfound, the hoop boys will be playing host to Laconia on Friday, Dec. 19, at 6 p.m. and will be at Winnisquam at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 22.

The Newfound hoop girls will be at Laconia at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19, and will be hosting Winnisquam at 6 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 22.

At Plymouth, the boys' basketball team has its lone game of 2014 on Friday, Dec. 19, playing a doubleheader with the girls' team at Merrimack Valley. The boys play at 5 p.m. and the girls play at 6:30 p.m.

The Plymouth wrestling team will be at Hollis-Brookline on Saturday, Dec. 20, for an invitational.

Early deadlines ahead next two weeks

WOLFEBORO — With the holidays ahead, our papers will be coming out a day early each of the next two weeks. Our Wednesday papers will be out on Tuesday, Dec. 23, and Tuesday, Dec. 30, while our Thursday papers will be out on Wednesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 31.

Our office will be closing at noon on both Wednesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 31, and will be closed all day on Thursday, Dec. 25, Friday, Dec. 26 and Thursday, Jan. 1.

The sports deadlines that normally fall on Mondays will now fall on Friday, Dec. 19, and Wednesday, Dec. 24.



COURTESY PHOTO

Sportsmanship winners

Newfound was ranked the top team by the other Division III coaches to have the best overall sportsmanship from players, coaches, spectators and home climate of any school in Division III. In addition, Newfound finished second in the entire state of 57 schools, only to Division I Dover and that was by less than .003. Pictured are Newfound football captains (l to r) John Maviki, Noah Fogg and Jared Dearborn and coach Andrew Szendre.

Newfound honoring 1995 champs on Feb. 7

BRISTOL — Newfound Regional High School will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the 1995 Class M boys' basketball champions on Saturday, Feb. 7. The boys' basketball team will be hosting Hillsboro-Deering with the JV game starting at 2 p.m.

Members of the 1995 team include coaches Dan Peters, Howard Deuso and Gary Barney. Players were Eric Pescinski, Toby Knowlton, Wally Laws, Mike Bruno, Peter Bascom, Ken Mackay, Ethan Holmes, Matt Bose, Kevin Stevens, Mike Peabody and Ken Dearborn.

To help with the success of this event, Newfound Regional High School Athletic Director Peter Cofran needs help from team members. If any of the players are interested and willing to help organize, please contact Cofran at 744-6006, ext. 119 or pcofran@sau.4org.







Bears stumble in season opener in Meredith

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

MEREDITH — The Newfound hoop boys couldn't get the offense going quite enough in Meredith on Saturday, Dec. 12.

The result was a 76-46 loss to Inter-Lakes.

Inter-Lakes came out with strong defense, which caused numerous turnovers.

Ben Learned hit the first hoop of the game, but the hosts then went on a 9-0 run to take the lead. A Caleb Merrill three-pointer cut the deficit to 15-10 with just more than a minute to go in the first quarter, but the Lakers got a three of their own to go up 18-10.

The Lakers built the lead up in the second quarter, taking a 34-19 lead to the break and upped that lead to 41-21 early in the third quarter.

Newfound bounced back, with Remmi Ellis hitting a pair of free throws and a three-pointer to cut the lead to 13 late in the third quarter.

However, Inter-Lakes went on a 20-2 run and outscored Newfound 27-11 in the third quarter to stretch the lead to 61-30 at the end of the third quarter.

Ellis led the way for the Bears with 20 points, including a perfect seven-for-seven showing from the free throw line. Ryan Towne added eight points for the Bears.

Newfound will be in action on Friday, Dec. 19, at home against Laconia at 6 p.m. and will be at Winnisquam on Monday, Dec. 22, also at 6 p.m.

Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 569-3126 or sportsgsn@salmonpress.com



STEPHEN GREENWOOD
Cam Colby drives toward the basket in opening night action at Inter-Lakes.

Trap tournament returns on New Year's Day

HOLDERNESS — Mark your calendar for Jan. 1. Pemi Fish and Game Club is continuing the tradition with the New Year's Day trap tournament at the Pemi trap range off Beede Road in Holderness.

Start time is 9 a.m. Plan on arriving early to register, shooting commences at 9 a.m.

The format, subject to change, is a 100-bird event as follows: one round of standard 16-yard trap, one round of wobble trap and one round of doubles trap.

First place award for high score is $100. Shooters will be "bracketed" according to their scores, giving all a chance at winning additional cash prizes.

They plan on having coffee and hot chocolate available at the field. All are welcome to contribute snacks and food if they would like, such as a bowl or crockpot of your favorite chili or chowder.

As this is the first 2015 event for the club, reminder that memberships are due for the upcoming 2015 season. Membership is not required for this shoot.

If anybody wants to come that is not going to shoot but is willing to score is more than welcome!

Contact George Hollingsworth at 344-6931, Andrew Engler at 217-7278 or 744-9026.

The trap range road will not be maintained (plowed) following the New Year's Day shoot. Members are welcome to enter the range to launch their own birds between 8 a.m. and dusk, the usual daily range fee applies. The Thursday and Sunday trap events will resume in the spring after mud season.

Bobcat boys short on varsity experience

Seven seniors to lead the way for coach Mike Sullivan's hoop boys

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

PLYMOUTH — The Plymouth boys' basketball team lost a lot of minutes to last year's graduation.

But coach Mike Sullivan notes that a good crop of juniors played some extended JV minutes last year and he expects them to be ready for the varsity minutes as seniors this year.

"We do have seniors back, but they're somewhat inexperienced as far as playing time," Sullivan said. "But now is there time and they're excited to go.

"Last year, the juniors played a lot of JV in preparation for this year," the Bobcat coach continued. "I'm excited for the seniors."

Sullivan noted that many of the seniors on the team played a fall sport, so they enter the winter ready to roll and ready to prove anyone wrong who might overlook the Bobcats due to their graduation losses.

The Bobcats will be led by senior captains Mike Buhrman, Christian Babin and Justin Robinson, with all three looking to make their mark on the program in their final year.

Additionally, there are four other seniors who will be vying for playing time in Jim Wieliczko, Steven Southard, Jake Scheinman and Derek Preble.

"It's time for those guys to step up and be the leaders," Sullivan said of his seniors.

Additionally, Sullivan will be carrying two juniors and two sophomores on the roster for a total of 11 players.

Junior Connor Nolan is back for another season and Sullivan expects good things from him. Parker Olivier moves up from the JV and will also be looking for minutes as a junior.

The team's two sophomores are Chad Merrill and Matt Rossner and they will be fighting for time as well.

Sullivan notes that the team will not be changing a lot, but they might be doing a little more up-tempo style, something he's a fan of.

"We'll stick to what we're good at, that's defense," Sullivan said. "We're not going to use as much man-to-man, but we'll pressure a little and try to get out in transition and score."

He noted he hasn't always had the team to play an up-tempo game, but he sees this group as fairly even across the board, meaning he can move people in and out easily, which is helpful in a fast-paced game.

"We're going to play a lot of guys this year, so that helps with the up-tempo," Sullivan stated.

He noted the team will continue to go inside-out, looking for the big guys to get some points, but also for the guards to get some outside shots as well.

With the steady improvement over the last few years, the Bobcats have continued to grow and finish with better records each year, culminating at 13-5 last year. This year's group hopes to continue that momentum.

"They don't want to have any drop-off in the program, which has gotten better every year," Sullivan said. "They want to keep it going. That's really important for them."

Sullivan will once again be looking to Scott Miller as his JV coach and Mike Boyle as the freshman coach, while also welcoming Ben Cronin as an assistant for the varsity and JV programs.

The Bobcats have just one game prior to the holidays and will then get some time to look things over.

"The schedule, I like it," Sullivan said. "It's a chance to get us some time on the court."

He expects Merrimack Valley to be a good challenge in the opener and a good chance to see what the Bobcats have.

The team opens at 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 19, in Penacook.

The schedule includes two games each with the aforementioned Merrimack Valley, John Stark, Hanover, Coe-Brown and traditional rivals Kennett and Kingswood, as well as single games with Laconia, Souhegan, Manchester West, Lebanon, Goffstown and Bishop Brady.

Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 569-3126 or sportsgsn@salmonpress.com

Coaches sought at Newfound

BRISTOL — Newfound Regional High School is looking for varsity and JV softball coaches, a spirit coach and a track assistant coach. Interested individuals should send a letter of intent, resume and names and phone numbers of three references to Peter Cofran, Athletic Director at pcofran@sau4.org.

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Bobcats dominate Cougars in season opener

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

PLYMOUTH — Mother Nature delayed the start of the season by one day, but she was unable to slow down the Plymouth wrestling team on Wednesday, Dec. 10.

The Bobcats played host to Kearsarge in the season opener and took care of business, getting a 63-18 win over the Cougars, who still earned the respect of Bobcat coach Randy Cleary.

"Overall, I thought Kearsarge was pretty scrappy," Cleary said. "They've got a good feeder program. You could tell they had some kids that have wrestled before."

The Bobcats were able to fill every weight class in the opening match and took five forfeit wins along the way.

The match kicked off at 170 pounds, where Amani Mwingira won by pin to give the Bobcats a quick 6-0 lead. Dylan Cooper at 182 and Cody Bixby-Campbell at 195 both earned forfeit wins to make it 18-0 after just one complete match.

Aaron Evans was up next for the Bobcats, wrestling at 220 pounds and he took care of business with a pin for a 24-0 lead. Donald Hunter then earned a forfeit win as heavyweight to advance the lead to 30-0.

Returning to the bottom of the weight class, freshman Joe Collette took the mat for his first varsity match at 106 pounds. He fought hard, but was pinned to get Kearsarge on the board at 30-6. Fellow freshman Jonah Patterson snagged a forfeit win at 113 for a 36-6 lead for Plymouth.

Freshman Dylan Davis-Lamson, wrestling at 120 pounds, was pinned, giving Kearsarge its next points to make it 36-12.

The lone match that was not decided by a pin or a forfeit came at 126 pounds, where Plymouth's Greg Waterbury worked out a 10-7 win over his Kearsarge opponent for a 39-12 advantage for Plymouth.

Adam Hughes won by pin at 132 pounds to push the lead to 45-12 and a forfeit win for Chris Comeau at 138 pounds made it 51-12. Sam Slaughter was pinned at 145 pounds to give Kearsarge six more points, cutting the lead to 51-18.

The final two matches took all of 38 seconds combined, with David Waterbury earning a pin at 152 pounds in just 21 seconds and Tom Hamel earning a pin at 160 pounds in just 17 seconds, making the final 63-18 tally.

The Bobcats also welcomed new program Mascoma to town for some exhibition matches, in which Cleary was able to get some of his other players some action.

Mascoma is coached by former Bobcat wrestler Ricky Simula and Cleary welcomed the chance to get his kids some mat time and help out a former Bobcat.

"They're going to be good," Cleary said. "He has some good tough kids and Ricky's a good coach."

In exhibition action, Plymouth won eight of the 10 decisions.

Nolan Farina won by pin at 126, followed by a pin from Alex Hamel at 138. Austin Appleby was pinned at 145 pounds, but Luke Merluzzi came back with a pin at 152 pounds. Thias Silvia won a 9-1 decision at 158 pounds and Kim MacDonald won a 7-1 decision at 170 pounds. Garrett Macedonia won by pin at 182 pounds while Jared Benoit dropped a 6-0 decision at 195 pounds. Nate Comeau won by pin at 220 pounds and Hunter earned a pin in the heavyweight battle.

"They've been working hard and deserve some recognition," Cleary said of the (mostly) JV lineup that faced off with Mascoma.

"It was good to get it going, it was good to be at home and it was good to have some exhibition matches against a former member of my team," Cleary said.

On Saturday, Plymouth finished third at the Con-Val Invitational.

"It was a good showing, we were in first for most of the day," Cleary said.

Plymouth was second going into the consolation finals and finals and Winnisquam was able to get by them to take second place behind Bedford.

Plymouth had six finalists, with Greg Waterbury finishing second at 126 pounds, Hughes finishing second at 132 pounds, Chris Comeau

SEE **BOBCATS,** PAGE B5

Another year older can mean many things

SPORTING CHANCE



By JOSHUA SPAULDING

Saturday was my birthday. As I've noted here on occasion or two over the last 12 years, I don't really like to celebrate my birthday.

This one was a bit tough as well, as I officially enter the final years of my 30s, which is a little scary in many ways.

Looking back, as I entered the last year of my 20s just 10 short years ago, not much has changed. I am still working the same job, though over the course of the last 10 years I've added a number of papers to the list. I am still living in the same apartment, but since that time it has been renovated, thanks to a random drive-by shooting. I am still typing this column in the same office, though it has a few new things on the walls. And I am technically, at least for the next week or two, driving the same vehicle I purchased in December 2004.

In many ways, that is kind of scary, the fact that almost nothing has changed in 10 years. Granted, in that time, I've had the chance to go to the Olympics, which was the trip of a lifetime. In that time I also started watching Survivor and since then, I've even had the chance to take part in a number of great Survivor events in Los Angeles and New York City and been to Survivor auditions in Connecticut.

I try not to think about my birthday and if I had my way, there would be very little to mark the day, but Saturday also happened to be the annual Village Players Christmas party. And I had a sneaking suspicion that my birthday wouldn't get passed by amidst that ceremony.

And I wasn't wrong, as there was a cake at the end of the night (some of which is still on our office counter as I write this), but I also realized that I wasn't as worked up about celebrating my birthday as I might have otherwise been.

Over the last few years, I've truly enjoyed being part of the Village Players, whether it was playing in the pit band for Mame back in 2009, the very first time I was involved in a show, or building sets for Caught in the Net and taking a nail from a nail gun off the head, or writing up press releases for Undeclared History and Unnecessary Farce or donning a red shirt, shorts and socks and a blue wig to play Thing 2 in Seussical.

I realized, one of the things that has changed in my life for the better over the course of my 30s is my involvement with such a unique and interesting group of people who accept me for the unusual person that I can be. It was college friend John Savage who roped me in to Mame five years ago, but it's all the other people I've met along the way that have kept me coming back.

While it's disappointing that not much in my life has changed in 10 years, I am definitely happy about this change. Besides my family, there probably wasn't a group of people I would have rather spent my birthday with.

Now, let's see if I can get a change of some sort before next December. They say age is just a number, but I am not looking forward to 40.

Finally, have a great day Ken and Deb Jones.

Joshua Spaulding is the Sports Editor for the Granite State News, Carroll County Independent, Meredith News, Gilford Steamer, Winnisquam Echo, Plymouth Record-Enterprise, Littleton Courier, Newfound Landing and The Baysider. He can be reached at sportsgsn@salmonpress.com, at 569-3126, or PO Box 250, Wolfeboro Falls, NH 03896.

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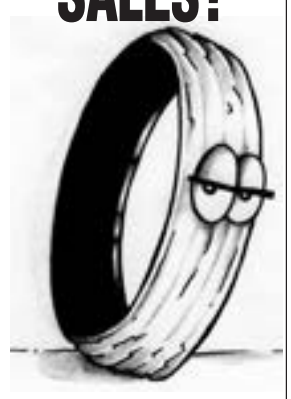
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Bobcats

FROM PAGE B3

finishing second at 138 pounds, David Waterbury taking second at 152 pounds and Hamel taking second at 160 pounds. Nate Comeau won at 220, but didn't score points because he wasn't the team's scorer at the weight class. Evans suffered an injury and had to withdraw from his final match and finished fourth.

The Bobcats will compete in the NorEaster Tournament at Hollis-Brookline on Saturday, Dec. 20, and will return to action after Christmas for holiday tournament action in Noble, Maine on Dec. 29 and 30.

Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 569-3126 or sportsgsn@salmonpress.com

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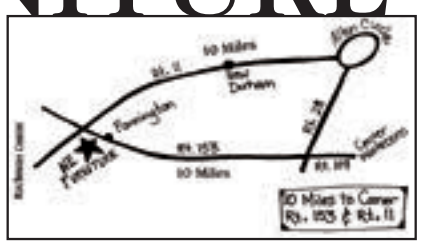
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