

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026

COVERING ALTON, BARNSTEAD, & NEW DURHAM - WWW.SALMONPRESS.COM

Remembering a legend

Jeri Blair, longtime local hoop coach, passes away at 80

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — The local coaching ranks lost a true legend at the end of August, when former Belmont and Prospect Mountain coach Jeri Blair passed away at the age of 80 at his home in Florida.

Blair was a three-sport athlete at Belmont High School and was a member of the school's Hall of Fame before moving on to coach basketball, cross country and softball at Belmont and closed out his coaching career as the girls' basketball coach at Prospect Mountain High School in Alton. He was also inducted into the New Hampshire Coaches Hall of Fame.

Blair, who led the Raid-



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Jeri Blair (with his wife, Barb) is honored by the Prospect Mountain girls' basketball team after he picked up his 400th career win in early 2011. Blair is in the New Hampshire Coaches Hall of Fame for his years of dedicated coaching at both Belmont and Prospect Mountain.

ers to the 2006 Division III girls' basketball championship, earned more than 300 wins during his time at Belmont and then ended up winning his 400th career game as Prospect Mountain's coach in 2011.

At the time of the championship, which came 23 years into his coaching run at Belmont, the longtime

coach was thrilled to finally reach the pinnacle.

"It's the greatest feeling in my whole life — it's something I've been dreaming about for 23 years," Blair said to the Laconia Citizen's Scott Serrano at the time. "The four seniors (Chelsi Coloumbe, Rachel Eades, Lori Kjellander and Drew O'Connor) did so well today. They have been with me for four years and they worked so hard for it and they deserved it. With a minute and a half left I smiled because I figured the Gods were finally looking down on me."

In his 28th year while coaching with Prospect Mountain, he picked up his 400th win on Jan. 7, 2011, when the Timber Wolves defeated Raymond.

"I've been a long time doing it, so it's awful nice to have it arrive," Blair said at the time. "I look back and think where'd they all come from."

SEE BLAIR, PAGE A6

NH LAKES grant supports lake protection in Alton

ALTON — Six New Hampshire communities have completed on-the-ground projects to protect local lakes and ponds made possible through \$400,000 in grants awarded by NH LAKES in partnership with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES).

The projects, funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), tackled a problem that affects lakes across New Hampshire: polluted runoff carrying soil and excess nutrients into the water. These pollutants can degrade water quality and help create conditions that fuel harmful cyanobacteria blooms.

From Lake Winnepesaukee to Country Pond, local organizations, municipalities, residents, and volunteers put the

funding to work in practical ways. Completed projects ranged from stabilizing eroding roads and shorelines to improving stormwater drainage and developing plans to identify and address pollution sources.

"Healthy lakes are essential to New Hampshire's environment, economy, and quality of life," said Andrea LaMoreaux, president of NH LAKES. "These projects show what is possible when communities have the resources to solve problems. By slowing runoff, reducing erosion, and keeping nutrients out of our lakes, these communities are helping keep our lakes clean and healthy for swimming, fishing, boating, wildlife, and future generations."

Harmful cyanobacteria

SEE GRANT, PAGE A11

Alton Garden Club concludes 2026 season Tuesday

ALTON — The Alton Garden Club's final regular meeting of the season is coming up on Tuesday, Oct. 20 with the usual starting time of 1:30 p.m. It's now become a tradition to hold the month's program at a member's barn that's fully decorated for the Halloween season, and this year's theme is Haunted Mansion.

Linda Siracusa, expert florist and Garden Club member, will demonstrate making Thanksgiving Floral Arrangements, lead us through the steps of making our own and, of course, answer any questions that we may have.

If you are interested in joining us for Thanksgiving Floral Arrangements and the Halloween fun, call Peggy McKinney at 603-776-6032 for further information.

Leaf Peeper's Craft Show

Schouler Park

Oct 17-18
Sat 10-5
Sun 10-4

125+ Fabulous Exhibitors!!!

Schouler Park
1 Norcross Circle
Rt. 16 North Conway
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Music by North River

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www.joycescraftshows.com

Golden Eagles rally for big win over Cavaliers

Joshua Spaulding

Addison Stroud tips the ball over the net during Gilford's 3-2 win over Hollis-Brookline last week.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — After winning the first set against Hollis-Brookline on Monday evening, Oct. 5, the Gilford volleyball team found itself in a tough position as the Golden Eagles lost the next two sets and trailed 2-1 as they looked to knock off one of the top teams in Division II volleyball.

Gilford responded to the pressure, winning the fourth set to force a fifth and deciding set and then cruised to a victory in the fifth set for the 3-2 win, 25-10, 19-25, 17-25, 25-20, 15-8.

Gilford jumped out to a 5-1 lead in the opening set behind a block from Sydney Boudreau and a hit from hit from Stella Pickowicz before the visitors got a couple of points in a row. Kate Taylor had a couple of hits for the Golden Eagles and Darby Hughes added two service aces and Gilford opened up the lead, with Rainey Hinds adding a hit to make it 12-4.

Taylor added a pair of service aces and Hinds came through with another hit as Gilford continued to open the lead out to 21-7.

The Cavaliers attempted to battle back, but a big hit from Boudreau helped to close out the 25-10 win for the Golden Eagles.

Hollis-Brookline got the first three points of the second set before Addison Stroud had a hit and a nice tip at the net and Taylor added a hit to tie the set at three. The two teams went back and forth, tied at four, six, seven and eight, with Nataliee Magdziasz coming up with a couple of nice hits. A tip from Boudreau and a service ace from Avery Pickowicz put the Golden Eagles up by an 11-8 score, only to see the Cavaliers bounce back and

SEE VOLLEYBALL, PAGE A11

Gilford Public Library

Classes & Special Events

Oct. 15 – Oct. 22

Thursday, Oct. 15
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.

Work it Out Wom-bats, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Potion Making, 3-4 p.m.

Wish you were a student in Hogwarts? Let us give you a taste of that bewitching magic with potion making!

French, 4pm-5pm

Book Discussion: The Correspondent, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

This month's book is "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans. Led by Rhett; books are available at the front desk.

Friday, Oct. 16
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.

The Wisdom Keeper - Chair Yoga, 10-11 a.m.

Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon

Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Hand & Foot, noon to 2:30 p.m.

Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

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

Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 17
Beginner Line Dancing, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

Drop-In Craft: Decorate Trick-Or-Treat Bags, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Decorate your own Halloween trick-or-treat bags for our Spooky Storywalk!

Monday, Oct. 19
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 9-10 a.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 20
Feel Good Fitness with Dottie, 9-10 a.m.

Senior Sculpt, 10-11 a.m.

Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon

Homeschool Club, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Intermediate Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Building Brain Healthy Habits, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Research shows there are everyday habits you can build today to help protect your memory and thinking in the future – even reducing your risk of cognitive decline and possibly dementia.

Changing one habit has a ripple effect on others. Even small actions add up to big improvements.

Now is the time to build healthy habits. Join us to learn how you can take positive steps to help you live better now and protect your memory and thinking as you get older. Presented by Alzheimer's Association

Wednesday, Oct. 21
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.

Senior Stretch Yoga, 10-11 a.m.

Card Games, 10 a.m. to noon

Check out an Expert, 10 a.m. to noon

Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.

Medical Aid in Dying: What it Is - and What it is Not, 4-5 p.m.

Rebecca Brown is founder and director of the New Hampshire Al-

liance for End-of-Life Options (www.nhend-of-lifeoptions.org). The Alliance is a grassroots effort dedicated to empowering people to make informed end-of-life decisions and advocates for medical aid in dying for New Hampshire. To date, 13 states and the District of Columbia - but not New Hampshire - have passed legislation allowing for medical assistance in dying. These include our neighbors Maine and Vermont. Rebecca will talk about what end-of-life options are available in NH today, what medical aid in dying is - and what it is not, and the legislative progress in New Hampshire. Free and open to all.

Thursday, Oct. 22
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.

Colorful Fall Terrarium: Adult Craft, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Create a little "fall terrarium" using small glass jars, colorful layers of sand as the base, and your favorite fall treasures.

Morphs and Milestones, 3-5 p.m.

Join non-profit Morphs and Milestones' knowledgeable staff while they offer hands-on learning opportunities, like snake handling, to engage and inspire young minds. Changing the stigma one interaction at a time!

French, 4-5 p.m.

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Senior Sculpt,

Defense solid but defending champs fall to Huskies



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford's Daniel Fournier (10) and Bryce Cook (20) combine to make a tackle during Saturday afternoon action against Monadnock.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — For the second week in a row, the Gilford football team was unable to put points on the board and while the Golden Eagle defense was strong, Monadnock left The Meadows with a 16-0 win on Saturday afternoon.

“We were in a tough one last week and didn’t feel we fought as well as we did today,” said coach Brandt O’Hara. “We hung in with a good football team over there, physically I was happy with how we played, but obviously we have to get our offense rolling in a different direction.

“We were kind of beat and battled and bruised on the offense,” he continued. “But no excuses, we were in that game and we had opportunities to

do stuff.”

Monadnock got the first possession of the game but turned it over on downs and Gilford started near midfield but they fumbled at the 13 and Monadnock recovered the ball to get the ball back. Monadnock drove across midfield but fumbled the ball and Lucas Raleigh recovered as the Golden Eagles took over and drove into the second quarter.

However, an interception gave the Huskies the ball back, only to see the Gilford defense force a three and out. The Golden Eagle offense also went three and out and the punt was tipped by the Huskies, giving them good field position and the Huskies got in the end zone with 38 seconds to go in the first half and got the two-point conversion

for the 8-0 lead and that was the score at the half-time break.

The Golden Eagles couldn’t do anything on offense and punted away after three plays and Connor Cameron made a nice tackle on the punt to pin the Huskies. The Gilford defense gave up one big run on the next drive, but the Golden Eagles held tight after that one run and stuffed the Huskies on fourth and four to get the ball back.

The Golden Eagles got a first down on a penalty and Cameron Costa recovered a fumble on a bad snap and quarterback Kainan Sainville was injured on the play, bringing Lucas Raleigh under center for the first time in his high school career. The Golden Eagles punted away and the Huskies ate up the rest of the third



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Kainan Sanville looks to make a pass during his team’s game with Monadnock on Saturday afternoon.

quarter with their next drive and carried that drive into the fourth quarter. The Gilford defense held tight and a fake punt attempt came up short and Gilford got the ball back.

Two plays later, a fumble on the snap gave the Huskies the ball back and they eventually carried into the end zone from two yards out with 5:09

to go in the game and the two-point conversion made it 16-0. The Huskies then intercepted Gilford’s third play from scrimmage on the next drive to essentially seal the game and the 16-0 win.

“It’s the old saying, ‘bend don’t break’ and you can only bend so much so you break,” O’Hara said. “And as the game goes on, the boys

get more tired, we have to make sure we’re applying the same pressure.”

The Golden Eagles will be back in action on Friday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. at Stevens in the penultimate game of the regular season.

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

PSU soccer ID clinics set for Nov. 22

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

The half-day clinics are geared toward high school players aged 16-and-up with an interest in playing at the collegiate level. Both clinics are scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 22, with the girls’ clinic running from 9:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., and the boys’ from 2:15 to 5:30 p.m. An optional, joint Admissions tour for both groups is scheduled for 1 to 2 p.m.

The Panther Soccer ID Clinics offer high school players the opportunity to train and play in the Plymouth State environment while gaining insight into the college recruitment process. Participants will also learn what it takes to succeed physically, emotionally, technically, and tactically at the collegiate level. Attendees will receive a PSU soccer tee shirt and post-clinic access to video footage from the two technical/tactical training sessions.

ing sessions.

The clinics are run by head coaches Rob Wright and Sammy Blizzard Bogardus and their staffs and are limited to 28 participants and a maximum of four goalkeepers. The registration fee is \$85,

and a multi-child discount is available.

Registration links, waiver forms, and the camp brochure can be found on the department website at athletics.plymouth.edu/camps.

PSU softball hosting fall and winter clinics

PLYMOUTH — The Plymouth State University softball program will host its annual pitching, hitting and defensive clinics this fall and winter, head coach Mike Bernier announced on Thursday.

The fall pitching clinics are scheduled for Nov. 8, Nov. 15, and Dec. 6 at the Bank of New Hampshire Field House at ALLWell North. Open to players in grades 6-12 of varying ability levels, the sessions will cover proper warm-up drills, pitch grips, and the

mental approach to pitching. Clinics run from 2 to 4 p.m., with on-site registration beginning at 1 p.m. Pitchers should bring a personal catcher. The cost is \$75 per session, with discounted rates available for athletes who register for multiple sessions. Indoor footwear is required.

The hitting and defense clinics will be held Jan. 31, Feb. 14, and Feb. 21 also at the Bank of New Hampshire Field House. Designed for students in grades 6-12, the sessions will focus on

throwing, fielding, hitting, and baserunning, with instruction provided by PSU coaches and players. Clinics run from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., with on-site registration opening at 10:15 a.m. The cost is \$80 per clinic, with discounts available for multiple sessions. Participants should bring gloves, bats, sneakers, and water.

For more information and links to the mandatory online registration and waiver forms, please visit athletics.plymouth.edu/camps.

O’Brien and Reinhardt pace Golden Eagles in Hopkinton

Gilmanton’s Howland-Vlahakis wins varsity boys’ race

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

HOPKINTON — The Gilford cross country team joined athletes from around New Hampshire and surrounding states for the annual Hopkinton Cross Country Festival on Saturday morning at the Hopkinton Fairgrounds.

Alissa O’Brien led the Gilford girls with a time of 23:10 for 159th place overall. Bailey Juurlink-Gagne was 227th overall in 26:39, Kailey Knott

finished in 229th in 26:57, Brooke Baron was 231st in 27:13 and Amanda Schaffnit rounded out the scoring for Gilford with a 232nd place finish in 27:13.

William Reinhardt led the way for the Gilford boys with a 120th place finish in a time of 18:08 with Cooper Plourde in 286th in 22:13 and Ryder Cantara right behind in 287th in 22:21. Griffyn Greene rounded out the field of Golden Eagles

with a 293rd place finish in 22:58.

Gilmanton’s Bocelli Howland-Vlahakis, who runs for Phillips Exeter Academy, won the varsity boys’ race in 14:55.

The Golden Eagles are slated to run today, Oct. 15, at Merrimack Valley High School in the Capital Area Championships.

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

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A legacy measured in lives, not victories

In small towns, some people become part of the community's identity through years of showing up, lending a hand and making a difference in the lives of others. Their contributions become so familiar that it is difficult to imagine the community without them.

Jeri Blair was one of those people.

The longtime basketball coach, barber and familiar face to generations of Lakes Region residents died at the end of August at age 80, leaving behind a legacy that extends far beyond the basketball court or the barber chair.

For those who followed high school sports, Blair's accomplishments were remarkable. A three-sport athlete at Belmont High School, he went on to coach basketball, cross country and softball at his alma mater before finishing his coaching career at Prospect Mountain High School in Alton. His achievements earned him induction into both the Belmont High School Hall of Fame and the New Hampshire Coaches Hall of Fame.

He guided Belmont's girls' basketball team to the 2006 Division III state championship, a triumph that came after 23 years of dedication to the program. Five years later, while coaching at Prospect Mountain, he celebrated his 400th career victory.

Those milestones would be enough to establish an impressive coaching legacy. Yet the most meaningful measure of Blair's influence cannot be found in a record book. It can be found in the words of the young women who played for him.

Former players have recalled a coach who believed in them, challenged them and helped shape their lives long after their playing days ended. Sara Hammond spoke of lessons that reached beyond basketball. Melissa Smock remembered not only a coach but a friend and someone she considered family.

Those reflections speak to something fundamental about high school athletics, particularly in communities such as Alton and Belmont.

The best coaches do far more than teach offensive plays, defensive formations or the importance of conditioning. They help young people discover confidence they did not know they possessed. They teach perseverance when things go wrong, accountability when mistakes are made and the importance of putting teammates ahead of individual recognition.

A championship trophy eventually gathers dust. A lesson learned from a trusted mentor can last a lifetime.

Blair understood that building a successful program required more than showing up for games. He invested time in summer basketball and AAU programs, recognizing that developing young athletes meant making a commitment that extended well beyond the regular season.

That same willingness to invest in relationships defined another important chapter of his life.

For decades, Blair operated a barbershop on Main Street in Alton, where a haircut was often secondary to the conversation.

His shop was the kind of place that has become increasingly rare in modern communities. Customers came for a trim but stayed for the stories, discussions and friendships. A visit might take longer than anticipated because Blair had another tale to tell, another observation to share or another conversation to finish.

There is something particularly meaningful about that kind of local institution. A barbershop can serve as an informal gathering place where neighbors exchange news, debate sports and maintain connections that help hold a town together.

Blair provided that gathering place for generations. His interests also extended to beagle field trials, where he spent more than four decades raising championship dogs, judging competitions and mentoring others alongside a family tradition that included his father and son. Whether coaching athletes, cutting hair or working with fellow dog enthusiasts, a common thread ran through his life: relationships mattered.

On Sunday, Oct. 18, family members, friends, former players and community members will gather at Belmont High School at 2 p.m. to celebrate his life. Attendees are encouraged to wear New England sports apparel or clothing representing their local school teams, a fitting tribute to someone whose love of athletics was matched by his devotion to the people involved.

There will undoubtedly be stories about memorable victories, difficult losses, unforgettable practices and conversations that stretched far longer than expected.

But perhaps the greatest tribute to Jeri Blair will be the number of people who can say their lives were better because he was part of them.

Four hundred victories represent an extraordinary achievement. Helping generations of young people become better versions of themselves represents something greater. That is the legacy worth remembering.



COURTESY PHOTO

These happy fellows are celebrating the season at the Alton Monument Square as part of Scarecrows in the Square through Nov. 1.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Preparations

Now that we're at the end of September. The trees are rushing to be colorful again. Some of them are already almost bare. My paying attention to the road is once again getting distracted by beautiful foliage. The other driving distraction this time of year are wild mushrooms. Attractive women in summer attire have slipped under cover till next spring. Another set from our multitudinous annual cycles.

I have yet to get to all my fall things. There's still plenty of time. I've cleaned the chimney and mowed the back yard and along the road. A list of regular stuff along with what I need to get to precludes those things that I hope I'll be able to address. I rarely get to them all. Here is another criteria adjuster, did I get to it last year? Some things you can skip, like next year I'd like to point the chimney. No longer allowing myself to climb ladders any more will definitely hamper that one's completion.

It's noonish, the battery on my tablet is getting to the point where I can't count on it to compute competently. Any moment it could just

shut down. Sometimes, the word processor doesn't negotiate the low power shut down and I lose whatever I'm writing that hasn't been saved. I have therefore trained myself to CTRL-S often. It used to run a whole day at school but over the years, this capability has greatly diminished. It's now about time for a new battery.

Two other functions have also ceased to function. The headphone output and the camera. I suppose I could spring for new one, but I've only gotten five years out of it. I would hope to get double that. Besides, I'm now on my second keyboard. Seeing as I type so much on it. I picked up another one as a spare. Getting rid of this one now would totally negate that preparation.

The weekend was highly conducive to working outside. Perfect for getting things done around the house. I hardly picked up my computer at all. I decided to concentrate upon the woodshed. The time to start lighting the wood stove is rapidly approaching.

This time of year, the balance between comfortably cool nights and nice

sunny days allows the house to maintain a temperature between 65 and 70. Once the average daily temperature falls below 60, it'll be time to start tapping into the wood that is piled so nicely in the shed.

Among other things, I stapled down the tarps that keep the snow from blowing in onto all the nice dry firewood. I moved all the other stored stuff out, putting the yard and garden tools away and getting the snow tools out. I cleaned and rearranged everything else to allow access to the wood from the other side of the shed. This allows us to utilize the oldest, driest wood first.

Both days I found myself at a transition point in late afternoon. I think that I have this automatic response to call it a day after three. With not enough time left to start anything large, but it still being warm and light, I chose a couple of small things from my list.

On Saturday I installed a plywood floor onto the old wagon that I use to carry firewood to the house. The metal has been getting more and more bunged up for

years, making for contemplation of sending it off to the metal pile at the dump. I think it now has a couple more good years left in it.

I missed the first fruiting of honey mushrooms this year. Getting to the mushrooms first is key to a good harvest. The bugs had too much of a head start on me. If I wanted to hop in the car and check on a friends front lawn I may have had more success, but around my place, they were all well past consideration.

So on Sunday, I took an alternative tack. I grabbed a lopper and headed off to open up my ski trails. There's a section of woods that I asked my logger to open up to allow more sunlight onto the garden. It's now totally overgrown with little trees. It's amazing how crazy everything grows. There's still some chain saw and tractor work to do, but at least there are now some open trails. Consequently, the mushrooms I saw weren't terribly desirable.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

Do you want a data center in your back yard?

To the Editor:

Does your town want a data center in its back yard? New Durham can help with that.

That's right. New Hampshire State Sen. James Gray (Alton, Farmington, Gilmanton, New Durham, Rochester, and Strafford) was one of four senators who co-sponsored an amendment to a bill that sought to regulate where data centers were placed. SB439, introduced by Sen. Debra Altschiller (thank you, Stratham) sought to allow towns to treat data centers differently than, say, a pizza shop that wants to start a business in your town. Along comes four

Republican legislators, including James Gray, to remove all language that allows towns to say no to data centers, retaining that power for the State. This amended bill passed in the Senate, with all Republicans voting for it. Thankfully, the House Democrats managed to table the bill before the end of the legislative session.

Make no mistake, though, it will be back if Republicans retain control of New Hampshire's legislature. Cecil Abels is challenging James Gray in District 6. Vote accordingly.

Sharon Powers
New Durham

If you care about reproductive health care, it's time for a change

To the Editor:

Recently, Planned Parenthood New Hampshire Action Fund ("PPNHAF") compiled five key votes on reproductive rights bills so members of the public could better un-

derstand where their state representatives stand on reproductive rights and healthcare and abortion access.

Representatives who cast at least three votes and voted with PPNHAF on every vote they participated in scored 100 percent. One hundred sixty-six representatives made the list by voting in support of reproductive rights and health care with few (or no) absences: 164 Democrats and 2 Republicans.

One hundred eighty-five representatives scored 0 percent, voting against reproductive rights and health care every time they cast a vote: 185 Republicans and 0 Democrats. Rep Comtois and Rep. Terry are in this group. Rep. Varney only had one vote cast (of the five scored).

There are so many other pressing issues that Granite Staters care about. But if you also care about reproductive health care, it is clearly time for a change. Be sure to vote for Democrats Mitchell, Dunham, and Copithorne on Nov. 3.

Suzanne Allison
Barnstead

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The fine art of knowing when to leave

There comes a point in a man's life when he begins to appreciate the difference between being invited somewhere and being expected to stay until the furniture is put away.

I have reached that point.

Don't misunderstand me. I enjoy a good gathering. I like seeing old friends, catching up with neighbors and standing around a table of food pretending I'm only going to have one more cracker with cheese.

But somewhere around my 60th birthday, I developed a new appreciation for getting home before the evening news.

My wife, who has considerably more social stamina than I do, finds this amusing. We can be at a perfectly pleasant gathering, surrounded by perfectly pleasant people, and I'll begin checking my watch at approximately the same time the conversation turns to somebody's upcoming kitchen renovation.

It's not that I'm bored. I'm simply aware that my favorite chair is sitting empty at home, and I hate to disappoint it.

The problem, of course, is leaving.

In New Hampshire, leaving someone's house isn't a single action. It's a complicated social ritual that can take longer than the visit itself.

First, you announce

that you should probably get going.

Nobody takes this seriously.

Someone offers another cup of coffee. Somebody else remembers a story they meant to tell you. Before you know it, you're discussing a man from three towns over who once backed a snowmobile through a garage door.

Twenty minutes later, you stand up.

This is considered a significant development, although it doesn't necessarily mean you're any closer to leaving.

You say something like, "Well, we really ought to be heading out."

Your host responds, "No rush."

And there you stand, coat in hand, while an entirely new conversation begins.

Eventually, you make it to the front door.

This is where things become dangerous.

The front door is where people remember the important stuff. Somebody asks how your son is doing. Somebody mentions a mutual acquaintance. Your wife remembers that she wanted to ask about a recipe.

You put your coat on.

Then you take it off because the house is warm and apparently you're going to be there another half-hour.

I've participated in departures that re-

quired three separate handshakes, two hugs, a discussion about the weather and a detailed explanation of which road we planned to take home.

And this is before anybody starts talking in the driveway.

The driveway goodbye is a New England institution.

It can happen in January, with the temperature hovering around 12 degrees, and otherwise sensible adults will stand beside a running automobile discussing whether the town should replace the old bridge.

Meanwhile, the person sitting in the passenger seat is slowly turning into a frozen vegetable.

I've been that person.

I've also been the fellow standing outside the car, enthusiastically continuing a conversation while my wife gives me increasingly meaningful looks through the windshield.

Marriage teaches you many things. One of them is that a woman can communicate the phrase "Get in this car immediately" using nothing but her eyebrows.

After 30 years, I can recognize that expression from 40 feet away.

Still, there's something rather wonderful

KIND HEARTS, COLD WINTERS By CHIPPY

about the way people linger.

We live in a world where everything seems to be measured in minutes. We schedule appointments, rush through errands and complain when a traffic light stays red a few seconds longer than expected.

Yet put a few old friends together on a porch or in somebody's kitchen, and suddenly nobody seems particularly concerned about the clock.

The conversation wanders. Stories get repeated. Someone remembers a person nobody has mentioned in 15 years, and for a few minutes, that person is part of the gathering again.

I've noticed that the best conversations often happen after everybody has officially agreed the evening is over.

The formal visiting is finished. Nobody feels obligated to entertain anybody. People relax, and the talk becomes a little more genuine.

That's when some-

body shares a worry, recalls an old kindness or says something they've been carrying around for a while.

Sometimes, those extra 20 minutes turn out to be the most important part of the evening.

I was reminded of that recently when we visited some friends. We'd had a lovely time, and I'd already begun mentally planning the remainder of my evening.

A comfortable chair. Something mindless on television. Perhaps a bowl of ice cream if I could convince myself it was a reasonable nutritional decision.

We said our good-byes. Then we said them again.

Finally, standing near the door, our host mentioned an old friend we hadn't seen in years. That led to a story about a summer long ago, which led to another memory, and before long all four of us were laughing so hard that nobody could finish a sentence. I forgot about the television. I even forgot about the ice cream.

For a while, we were younger people again, remembering the sorts of things that seem insignificant when they happen but somehow

grow more precious with time.

When we finally made it to the car, my wife looked over at me.

"See?" she said. "Aren't you glad we stayed?"

I had to admit that I was.

Of course, admitting your wife is right is something a married man should do regularly, even if he occasionally requires a little encouragement.

These days, I still appreciate a quiet evening at home. I still believe there's nothing wrong with leaving a party before the last folding chair has been stacked. But I'm trying not to be quite so quick to reach for my coat. Because the older I get, the more I realize that time spent with good people is rarely time wasted.

And someday, when we're remembering the friends we've known and the evenings we've shared, I doubt we'll regret the extra half-hour spent talking in somebody's driveway.

Although I reserve the right to reconsider that philosophy when it's 12 degrees outside. Especially if I'm the one sitting in the passenger seat.

Granite VNA offers Healthy Steps for Older Adults in Wolfeboro

WOLFEBORO — Granite VNA is offering Healthy Steps for Older Adults, a falls prevention workshop to help older adults learn how to protect themselves and live a full and active life, free from the fear of falling.

Balance screenings are Thursday, Oct. 22 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Wolfeboro Senior Programs, Pop Whalen – Stretch Room, 390 Pine Hill Rd. in Wolfeboro.

The workshops are being held on Thursday, Oct. 22 from 1-3 p.m. and Thursday, Oct. 29, 1 to 3 p.m. All registered participants must com-

plete a balance screening and attend both workshops.

To register, call (603) 224-4093 or (800) 924-8620, ext. 85664 or visit www.granitevna.org. Registration is required by October 19 and space is limited. Participants must complete a balance screening and attend both workshops.

This program is offered at no charge.

About Granite VNA

Granite VNA is a not-for-profit licensed and certified home health and hospice care provider. The agency serves

people of all ages in 72 communities across the Greater Capital Region and Central New Hampshire by providing home care, hospice care, pediatrics and maternal child health services, and wellness programming. The agency has offices in Concord, Laconia and Wolfeboro. Formed through the merger of Concord Regional VNA and Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice, Granite VNA has served New Hampshire since 1899. For more information about Granite VNA, visit www.granitevna.org.

Local coach Joan Forge to give book talk

CENTER HARBOR — Legendary Lakes Region coach and current Plymouth State volleyball coach Joan Forge will be discussing and signing her new book, "Forging a Positive Team Culture" at Canoe Restaurant and Tavern, 232 Whittier Highway in Center Harbor on Thursday, Oct 22, at 6 p.m. The event is open to the public.

Timber Wolves run with crowds in Hopkinton

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

HOPKINTON — The Prospect Mountain Timber Wolves were amongst hundreds of runners gathered at the Hopkinton Fairgrounds on Saturday for the annual Hopkinton Cross Country Festival.

In the varsity race for the boys, Jacob Wood led the Timber Wolves with a 242nd place finish in 20:07 while Raymond Sullivan finished in 278th place in 21:33. Brent Bemis was 285th overall in 21:57, Dawson Meehan placed 294th in 23:29 and Shea Everett rounded out the

scoring in 297th place in 24:15. Trew Reed was 299th in 24:36 and Braedon McKeen was 300th in 24:50 to round out the field of Timber Wolf boys.

Lyndi White was the lone Prospect girl in the varsity race, finishing with a 196th place finish in 24:19.

Parker Harrison ran in the JV boys' race and finished in 316th place overall in a time of 27:17.

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

Gilford police log

GILFORD — The Gilford Police Department reported the following arrests from Sept. 25 to Oct. 6.

Timothy G. Boudreau, age 45, was arrested on Sept. 25 for operating a motor vehicle after Suspension of Vehicle Registration and Driving After Revocation or Suspension of license.

A 19-year-old male was taken into custody on Sept. 25 for Criminal Mischief. Two females, ages 21 and 22, were taken into protective custody for intoxication during the same incident.

Two 20-year-olds were taken into protective custody for intoxication on Sept. 25.

A 47-year-old male and 45-year-old female were taken into protective custody for intoxication on Sept. 25.

Four adult males were taken into custody in connection with a brawl on Sept. 25.

A 21-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Sept. 25.

A 47-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Sept. 25.

A 34-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Sept. 25.

Gavin Tyler Marlowe, age 22, was arrested on Sept. 25 for DUI-Impairment.

Christopher D. Truett, age 38, was arrested on

Sept. 26 in connection with a warrant.

A 36-year-old male and 34-year-old female were taken into protective custody for intoxication on Sept. 26.

A 48-year-old female and 46-year-old male were taken into protective custody during a domestic disturbance on Sept. 26.

A 54-year-old male and 55-year-old female were taken into protective custody during a domestic disturbance on Sept. 26.

J.L. Lavoie III, age 44, was arrested on Sept. 26 for Endangering the Welfare of a Child.

Jordan Morrill Scnelles, age 21, was arrested on Sept. 26 for DUI-Impairment.

Jeffrey P. Dedeian, age 49, was arrested on Sept. 26 for DUI-Impairment.

A 53-year-old male was taken into protective custody following reports of a Suspicious Person on Sept. 27.

Gavin Blake Lewis, age 21, was arrested on Oct. 3 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of license (subsequent) and Contempt.

Noah L. Potter, age 22, was arrested on Oct. 4 for Domestic Violence-Simple Assault resulting in Bodily Injury or Physical Contact.

Starr A. Wilson, age 52, was arrested on Oct. 5 for operating a vehicle after Suspension of Vehicle Registration and Driving After Revocation or Suspension of license.

Joshua A. Tassie, age 43, was arrested on Oct. 6 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of License.

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Bidding opens for FCCW Spirit of Giving online auction

Community invited to bid online and preview donated items in person

WOLFEBORO — Bidding is now open for First Congregational Church Wolfeboro, UCC’s (FCCW) second annual Spirit of Giving Online Auction, following a generous response during the church’s recent donation drop-off days. The online auction runs through Saturday, Oct. 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Curated by Robert Orfant of Orfantiques and hosted on Auction-Ninja, the auction will feature an eclectic collection of donated items, including antiques, artwork, jewelry, vintage collectibles, home décor and other distinctive finds. Proceeds support FCCW’s mission and ministries, including serving neighbors throughout the Greater Wolfeboro community.

The public is invited to a Preview Day on Thursday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at FCCW, 115 South Main St., to see auction items in person and get help registering and bidding online.

“We’re so grateful to

COURTESY PHOTO

(Right) A sampling of the artwork, antiques, collectibles and other finds featured in this year’s FCCW Spirit of Giving Online Auction.



COURTESY PHOTO

The following Kingswood Regional Middle School students received the September After School Allstars award. In the first picture is Summer Creighton for leadership and dedication in Soccer. In the second picture is Brooke White for leadership and dedication in Volleyball. In the third picture is Mikey Sevigny for leadership and dedication in Soccer.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Jeri Blair congratulates Sydney Robertson after Prospect Mountain won the Gilford Holiday Tournament in 2010.

BLAIR

(continued from Page A1)

“It’s well worth doing the summer programs and the AAU programs, it’s a nice accomplishment,” he said. “I’ve coached a lot of kids and had a lot of good ones, that’s what got me to where I am.”

A few of Blair’s former players also weighed in on his impact on their lives.

“Coach Blair dedicated so much of his life to the game and to the young people he coached,” said Sara Hammond. “The lessons he taught us went far beyond basketball. His impact on generations of players is a legacy that will live on for years to come.”

“Jeri was my saving grace,” said Chantelle Moynihan Rector. “Without him I’d still be a mess.”

“He was never just a coach—he was someone who believed in me, challenged me, and helped shape the person I am today,” said Melissa Smock. “The lessons he taught me went far beyond basketball, and the memories we made will stay with me forever. I was lucky to have him as my coach, but even luckier to call him

a friend and a part of my family. I love and miss him dearly.”

In addition to being a coach, Blair was a barber who built lasting friendships with generations of customers and families during his time in Laconia and Alton. He opened his first barber shop in Laconia in 1964 before moving to Alton 10 years later, setting up on Main Street. He noted that the Laconia business was too busy and he had always wanted a “local” barbershop, which is exactly what he found in Alton. His barbershop became a place to not only get a haircut, but a place to come and talk about the goings-on around town and around the world. Though most customers always said it would take them a long time to actually get their hair cut, since Blair would involve in a story and stop cutting as he told his tale.

Blair officially hung up the clippers in the fall of 2020 as the pandemic was still part of the world. However, for more than six years he and his wife, Barb, had been spending their winters in Florida, re-

turning home in the spring to open the barbershop and welcome customers back to the chair.

“It’s been a great ride,” Blair said at the time of his retirement as he sat among the men who he called friends and clients, who were all stopping in to bid him adieu. “I’ve enjoyed it very much.”

Blair was also involved heavily in beagle field trials for more than 40 years. Along with his father and his son, he raised championship beagles and served as an AKC and CKC judge throughout the northeast and mentored future judges.

A celebration of his life will take place on Sunday, Oct. 18, at Belmont High School. The celebration will begin at 2 p.m. and anyone in attendance is welcome to share memories of Jeri with an open mic. Those planning on attending should come dressed to celebrate Jeri’s love of New England sports or their local school’s team attire.

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

everyone who contributed items to this year’s auction,” said Krista Marschner, Administrative Director of FCCW. “Now comes the fun part — seeing these wonderful donations find new homes while helping support the many ways FCCW serves our neighbors and welcomes the wider community.”

Bidding is open to all and registration is free. The full auction

catalog, with photos and descriptions, will be available beginning Oct. 7 at wolfeboroucc.org/auction. Questions may be sent to auction@wolfeboroucc.org.

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Thursday, Oct. 15 GILFORD Cross Country at Merrimack Valley; 4 WINNISQUAM Cross Country at Merrimack Valley; 4	Monday, Oct. 19 WINNISQUAM Volleyball vs. Prospect Mountain; 6
Friday, Oct. 16 BELMONT Boys’ Soccer vs. Inter-Lakes; 3:30 Girls’ Soccer at Inter-Lakes; 4 Volleyball at Concord Christian; 6:15 GILFORD Boys’ Soccer vs. White Mountains; 3:30 Field Hockey vs. Monadnock; 4 Football at Campbell; 7 Girls’ Soccer at White Mountains; 4 Volleyball at Kingswood; 6 WINNISQUAM Boys’ Soccer vs. Conant; 4 Volleyball vs. Franklin; 6:15	Tuesday, Oct. 20 BELMONT Boys’ Soccer vs. Winnisquam; 3:30 Girls’ Soccer at Campbell; 4 GILFORD Boys’ Soccer at Stevens; 4 Girls’ Soccer vs. Stevens; 4 WINNISQUAM Boys’ Soccer at Belmont; 3:30
	Wednesday, Oct. 21 BELMONT Volleyball vs. Moultonborough; 6:15
	All schedules are subject to change.

Maxwell Stephan of Gilford graduates from Clarkson University

POTSDAM, N.Y. — Maxwell Stephan of Gilford received a master of science degree in mechanical engineering from Clarkson University on May 9, 2026.

Clarkson University is a proven leader in technological education, research, innovation and sustainable economic development. With its main campus in Potsdam, N.Y., and additional graduate program and research facilities in the Capital Region and Hudson Valley, Clarkson faculty have a direct impact on more than 7,800 students annually through nationally recognized undergraduate and graduate STEM designated degrees in engineering, business, science and health professions; executive education, industry-relevant credentials and K-12 STEM programs. Alumni earn salaries among the top 2% in the nation: one in five already leads in the c-suite. To learn more, go to www.clarkson.edu.

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Offense clicks as Golden Eagles roll past Bears



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford's Grace Southworth looks to get the ball past Winnisquam goaltender Olivia Power in action last Wednesday in Tilton.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

TILTON — Sometimes when David takes on Goliath, Goliath wins. Such was the case on Wednesday, Oct. 7, when the powerful Gilford field hockey team took care of business against host Winnisquam and returned home with the 14-0 win.

Gilford's Catherine Fay had an early defensive stop before the Golden Eagles went on the attack, with Gracie Makely and Kaylin Liesner making solid defensive stops for the Bears on runs from Grace Southworth and Abi Lyman while Riley Coutts also had a strong centering pass for the Golden Eagles.

Gilford struck with 11 minutes to go in the first half, as Coutts found the back of the net for the 1-0 lead. Southworth had a shot wide of the net and Mylie Keith sent a nice ball up the field for the Bears.

With 8:41 to go in the first quarter, Fay ripped a shot to the back of the net from the top of the circle for the 2-0 lead and with 7:03 to go, Fay sent the ball into the circle and Southworth tipped it past Winnisquam goalie Olivia Power for the 3-0 lead. Southworth made another run that was stopped by Addison Todt for the Bears and Fay sent another ball in to Coutts that went wide of the net. Emma Legro sent a couple of balls wide of the net for Gilford and Makely had a good clear for the Bears.

Gilford upped the lead to 4-0 with 3:01 to go in the first, as Southworth put home a rebound of a Power save. Keith had a long ball through the circle for the Bears and Makely made a good defensive stop on Coutts and Power stopped a Southworth shot. Todt

had a clear late and Gilford had the 4-0 lead after one quarter.

Adi Baron had a good run to start the second for Gilford with Makely making the defensive stop and Keith sent a good ball up to Brooke Gammon, with Susanna Tilley making a solid defensive stop. Layla Gloddy had a nice defensive stop for Winnisquam and Power stopped a shot from Southworth.

Gilford upped the lead to 5-0 on a corner with Kiera Walker ripping a shot past Power for the 5-0 lead with 12:27 to go. Walker and Ady Lemien had shots denied by Power and Keith had a nice clear. Gammon just missed connecting with Iris Vieira on a bid that Addi Hodsdon cleared for Gilford while Keith also had a good defensive chance. Lemien and Coutts connected on a bid that went wide and Walker sent a ball wide on a corner chance. Power turned away a bid from Lyman and Gilford had another corner, with Tilley sending the ball in to Southworth, who's bid went wide.

Power denied a Coutts chance and Fay made a run that was stopped by Keith's defense while Vieira went the other way with a bid that Tilley turned away. Gilford upped the lead to 6-0 with 2:42 to go, as Coutts had a bid denied by Power and Baron was there to put the ball in the net for the 6-0 lead.

The Golden Eagles made it 7-0 just before halftime with a shot from Lyman that was tipped into the net by Coutts for the 7-0 halftime lead.

Gilford scored just 30 seconds into the second half, with Southworth finishing off a feed from Coutts for the 8-0 lead.

Coutts made another run that Gloddy stopped and Gloddy had another good clear while Vieira made a run the other way that was stopped by Gilford goalie Addalyn Montminy. Winnisquam had a corner chance that Vieira sent wide of the net and Baron had a shot denied by Power.

Gilford upped the lead to 9-0 with 9:45 to go with Coutts scoring the ninth goal of the game. Gloddy had another defensive stop and Power handled a bid from Baron before Gilford scored its 10th goal with 7:40 to go, as Tilley sent a nice ball in to Coutts who finished it off. Baron and Coutts had chances denied by Power and Liesner had a good defensive stop.

Southworth scored with 6:21 to go to make it 11-0 and Coutts sent another shot wide of the net. Gammon sent a nice ball up to Vieira and Southworth came back with a shot that Power stopped. Baron and Southworth got in close for a bid that Power handled and Gloddy made a solid stop on a Lemien run. Gilford had a corner chance, with Lyman's shot denied by Power and Baron's chance at the rebound was also stopped.

With 1:40 to go in the third quarter, Legro scored for the 12-0 lead and with 50 seconds to go, Coutts sent a nice ball in to Baron, who found Legro for her second goal and the 13-0 lead after three. The Golden Eagles added one more goal in the fourth for the 14-0 final score.

Gilford wraps up the regular season on Friday, Oct. 16, at home against Monadnock at 4 p.m. while the Bears wrapped up their season after deadline.

The Division III tournament starts on Thursday,



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford's Abi Lyman moves the ball up the field during her team's game with Winnisquam last week.

Oct. 22, at the home of the higher seed. *Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.*

Save the date for Festival of Trees Gala

WOLFEBORO — Mark your calendars for the Festival of Trees Gala on Dec. 3 at the Wright Museum!

This special evening is a wonderful opportunity to experience the magic of the holiday

season, admire beautifully decorated Christmas trees, and support the organizations selected as this year's beneficiaries.

Tickets will be available beginning the first week of November on the

Festival of Trees Web site.

We hope you will plan to join us for an unforgettable evening while supporting our local beneficiaries and the community. We look forward to celebrating with you!



COURTESY PHOTO

The following Kingswood Middle School students received the September Super Knights for "Responsibility." In the first row are Kamdyn Ferguson, Gemma Housel, Olyvia Vanderhoff, Colin Brown, and Brycen Bailey. In the second row are Ava Paquette, Lincoln Bilodeau, Rodrigo Lozada, Naomi Clark, and Cohen Maynard. Congratulations!

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Lakes Region VNA invites community to “Come Together” for We Care Benefit Concert

MEREDITH — For more than a century, Lakes Region Visiting Nurse Association (LRVNA) has provided care and support to individuals and families throughout New Hampshire’s Lakes Region.

On Oct. 24, the community will have an opportunity to come together in support of that work — with a little help from the music of The Beatles.

LRVNA will be the beneficiary of the We Care Benefit Concert featuring Studio Two, one of the country’s premier Beatles tribute bands, on Saturday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m.

at Inter-Lakes Community Auditorium, 1 Laker Lane in Meredith. Local food trucks will also be available before the performance, giving concertgoers an opportunity to make a full evening of the event.

Studio Two recreates the energy and excitement

ment of The Beatles’ early years, performing songs from the pre-Sgt. Pepper era. Formed in Milford, New Hampshire, and featuring graduates of Berklee College of Music, the band brings some of the most recognizable music of a generation to the stage.

The concert is presented by the We Care Initiative of Temple B’nai Israel, and proceeds will support LRVNA’s work providing home healthcare, support and wellness services to people throughout the Lakes Region.

While homecare and hospice remain at the heart of LRVNA’s mission, the organization has continued to expand its services in response to the changing needs of the community.

One example is LRVNA’s Advanced Illness Management (AIM) program, which provides specialized medical and

emotional support to people living with serious illnesses. Working alongside patients’ existing healthcare providers, the program helps manage complex symptoms, improve quality of life and ensure that care reflects each individual’s goals and preferences.

In addition to supporting individuals with serious illnesses, LRVNA also serves families during some of life’s earliest and most important stages. Its Maternal and Infant Care Program brings specialized nursing care directly to pregnant individuals, new parents, infants and children with complex healthcare needs. Services range from prenatal and postpartum nursing visits and newborn assessments to premature infant follow-up, pediatric nursing care, caregiver education and complex care management.

Beyond its clinical programs, LRVNA recognizes that health and well-being extend beyond medical care alone. The organization provides counseling, resource navigation, emotional support and spiritual care through its social workers and chaplains. Through its Community Wellness Services, LRVNA further extends its impact by offering grief support, blood pressure clinics, seasonal flu vaccination clinics, exercise programs and other initiatives that promote healthy aging and community well-being.

This commitment to meeting people where they are also includes those who have served our country. LRVNA is recognized as a Level 3 We Honor Veterans partner, reflecting the organization’s dedication to providing informed, compassionate care that honors the unique experiences and needs of veterans and their families.

“The Lakes Region has supported LRVNA and our mission for generations, and the We Care Benefit Concert is a wonderful example of that relationship,” said Jim Harnett, finance director of Lakes Region Visiting Nurse Association. “Every ticket purchased and every sponsor who supports this event helps us continue meeting people

where they are — often right in their own homes — with the care, resources and support they need. We’re incredibly grateful to the We Care Initiative and everyone who will come together with us on Oct. 24.”

“This featured show will bring the Lakes Region community together for an enjoyable, top-notch Beatles musical experience that also raises vital funds for LRVNA, which does really important work here in our local community,” said Stu Needleman, committee chair of the We Care Initiative.

Tickets are \$40 and are available online and at select retail locations throughout the Lakes Region. Those unable to attend can also purchase tickets to be donated to LRVNA employees and volunteers.

For tickets and additional information, visit tbinh.org/we-care-concerts.

shire’s Lakes Region. Today, LRVNA provides homecare, hospice care, rehabilitation therapy, Advanced Illness Management, Maternal and Infant Care, private duty services, grief support and a growing range of community wellness programs designed to help people live with greater health, independence, comfort and dignity.

LRVNA also provides year-round opportunities for Lakes Region residents to connect with health and wellness resources in their own communities. Fourteen seasonal flu clinics are scheduled in and around the Lakes Region over the coming months, along with community wellness initiatives throughout the year. Visit lrвна.org and follow LRVNA on social media for current programs, clinics and events.

About the We Care Initiative

Since 2013, the We Care Initiative of Temple B’nai Israel has provided Lakes Region nonprofit organizations with a ready-made fundraising platform built around professionally produced entertainment events. To date, We Care has helped raise more than \$460,000 for Lakes Region nonprofit organizations.

About Lakes Region Visiting Nurse Association

For more than 100 years, Lakes Region Visiting Nurse Association has provided high-quality, patient-centered healthcare and support services to individuals and families throughout New Hamp-

Bat Out of Helloween brings celebration of Meat Loaf and Rocky Horror to the Colonial

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present Bat Out of Helloween: Celebrating Meat Loaf and Rocky Horror on Friday, Oct. 23, at 8 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale now at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

Bat Out of Helloween is more than a concert - it is a powerful live experience that brings to life the music of Meat Loaf, Rocky Horror and other spooky hits. The show features alumni of Meat Loaf’s official band, Neverland Express fronted by Andrew Polec.

Andrew Polec originated the role of Strat in Bat Out of Hell: The Musical in London’s West End and across international productions earning critical acclaim for his ability to capture the intensity of Jim Steinman’s writing. His performance uniquely bridges the theatrical origins of the material with the raw power of a live rock concert, delivering a frontman presence that is both electrifying and deeply authentic.

“The only band endorsed by me and Jim Steinman,” Meat Loaf said of this tribute to his musical legacy.

“Do not miss this! This is the closest you could possibly get... This is not a tribute band, but Meat’s incredible, actual band and this band rocks!” raves Sir Brian May of Queen.

“Andrew is phenomenal, the definitive embodiment of the rock-and-roll spirit,” says Jim Steinman.

About The Colonial Theatre of Laconia

The original owner, Benjamin Piscopo, was from Italy, and the theatre featured a fire curtain depicting Venice as seen from the water. In August of 2002, the theatre closed after 87 years of operation.

On June 15, 2015, the City of Laconia announced a partnership with the Belknap Economic Development Council (BEDC) to purchase, renovate, and reopen the Colonial. The newly reopened Colonial Theatre has a seating capacity of 750 and plays host to various performances, including music, theatre, comedy, and civic events. Spectacle Management manages the Colonial Theatre and is home to the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative. The Colonial Theatre is located at 609 Main Street, Laconia, NH 03246. www.coloniallaconia.com

About Spectacle Live

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



COURTESY PHOTO

The Runaway Pumpkin WOW Trail fundraiser returns to Laconia on Oct. 24! Participants who register by Oct. 10 will receive a long-sleeved technical shirt sponsored by MVSB. The annual race and community event helps raise funds to support the maintenance and continued improvement of the WOW Trail. Go to www.wowtrail.org/runawaypumpkin to learn more and to register. Pictured, from left, are Jennifer Beetle, Runaway Pumpkin Event Director; Susan Dagostino, MVSB Branch & Business Development Officer; Jamie Poire, Runaway Pumpkin Race Director; and Samantha LeClair, MVSB Business Development Officer.

Church Service SCHEDULE

ABUNDANT HARVEST FAMILY CHURCH
Sunday School for children up to age 12, service 10:30 a.m. Greater Wakefield Resource Center, 254 Main St., Union.
Pastors Daniel and Sherrie Williams, 473-8914.
For more information, please visit abundantharvestnh.org or e-mail ahfc@faith.com.

ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER
Sundays throughout the summer 10am & 7pm 875-6161.

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

CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Worship Service 10:00am
Bible Study 11:15am
Rte 126 next to Town Hall
Call or Text (603) 269-8831
centerbarnsteadcc.org

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF PRAISE C.C.O.P
PRaise GATHERING
Every Saturday @ 5:30pm at the Iron Works church, 1802 NH Route 140, Gilmanton Ironworks, NH
ccopp@praisegathering@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON
Pastor Jared Cassidy
10am Worship service Sunday
20 Church St. Alton
(603) 875-5561
www.ccoaalton.com

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC
Heather Ivone Milliken
603-776-1820
Our services are in person at 504 North Barnstead Road, Center Barnstead, NH and live-streamed on Zoom. Sundays at 10 a.m.
ccnorthbarnstead.com

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
Worship Services: 10:00 AM
400 Main Street
Farmington, NH 03835
www.farmingtonnhucc.org
Sunday School at 10:15 AM September - June.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEW DURHAM NH
Sun. School 9:30am Church 10:30am Evening Service 6pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7pm. Depot St., New Durham;
Pastor Ryan Blackard

JOY CHURCH
55 Barnstead Road
Pittsfield, NH 03263
Sunday Celebration 9:30 am
Prayer Night - 1st Wed of every month 6:30 pm
Pastors Mike & Kathy Mavity
joychurchnh.com

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

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Sunday 9:30, 50 Main St., Pittsfield
Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg
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Rt. 171 at Tuftonboro Corner.
Sunday services 10:30 a.m. Church 603-539-8058

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November events at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

BARNSTEAD — Good to Know Info: Voting is Tuesday, Nov. 3, at BES. We are closed for Veteran’s Day on Wednesday, Nov. 11. We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month until 3 p.m. (Nov. 12). We are also closed Thursday, Nov. 26, and Friday, Nov. 27, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Home School Group: Run by group members, it takes place at the library meeting room on Fridays from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Involves a mix of stories, simple science/learning activities, and a creative art/craft activity that all go along with a theme for the week. The activities are geared towards kids ages 4 and up, and younger siblings are welcome to come along. There will be an event posted ahead of time on the group’s Facebook page (Barnstead NH Library Homeschool Group) for each weekly meet-up, so you’ll always know what to expect and if you need to bring anything.

Music and Movement Storytime, a.k.a. *Little’s Love to Learn!* Join us on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for an interactive storytime filled with group singing, dancing, imaginative play, crafts, and stories, all designed specifically for babies and toddlers.

Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. is *Children’s Storytime*. Visit us at the library for stories, crafts, and singing. Then experience the cozy ambience in the children’s area, which has all sorts of neat things to do. Make new friends. Set up playdates. Check out books, movies, and games, play with the trains, Legos, and puppets. Come for the learning, stay for the fun!

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

Playing a musical instrument alone at home is fun, but it’s more fun to make music with others. Adult musicians of all ability levels are invited to join our small group. We meet in Barnstead’s library meeting room from 6 to 8 p.m. every first (Nov. 3) and third Tuesday (Nov. 17) of the month, and play acoustic (non-amplified) instruments like guitars and ukuleles. Other instruments that might round out our sound would include the harmonica, fiddle, mandolin, etc. (Unfortunately, horns and oth-

er instruments that can’t be played softly would overpower our softer sounding instruments.) We play various kinds of songs including folk, country, Irish, rock, and more. Sessions are very informal, and the goals are to meet people, share skills, and have fun. Check the calendar on the library website to confirm dates. Please join us!

Our Read the Room Book Club (ages 18 and older) takes place on the first Wednesday of the month (Nov. 4), from 6-7:30 p.m. This month’s book will be “The Genius Bat” by Yossi Yoav. Next month’s book will be “A Psalm for the Wild-Built” by Becky Chambers. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

Calling all Mahjong fans - come join us at the library! Players meet the first (Nov. 5) and third (Nov. 19) Thursdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. No registration or expertise required. Please note that we play the Chinese version, not the American one.

Come join us at the library for a “Blueprint for Bedtime” presentation on Thursday, Nov. 5, at 12:30 p.m. Sleep is essential to your physical and emotional well-being. Granite VNA Community Health Educator, Brooke Noonan, will talk about how much sleep we really need, provide ideas for getting a quality night’s sleep, and suggest strategies for speaking with your healthcare provider about difficulty sleeping. Registration is required.

New! We are starting a Chess Club! Join us at the library every second (Nov. 12) and fourth Thursday (we will not have Chess Club on this day due to Thanksgiving) of the month at 6 p.m. No registration required—this is a drop-in program hosted in the adult fiction area. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Please bring your own board if you have one, or use one of ours!

Join us on Thursday, Nov. 12, from 6-8 p.m. for Teen Holiday Card Making. Spread a little holiday cheer! Come make your own festive holiday cards for friends and family. We’ll provide all the supplies you need to get creative—you just bring your imagination and take your finished cards home to share!

Hey, everyone! We are hosting a “Handmade Harvest” craft fair on Saturday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Come browse locally made art, crafts, gifts, and creative goods throughout the library and find some

unique gifts for the holidays. The Friends of the Library will be operating Oscars Elves gift wrapping service in the library meeting room during the craft fair, as well. Vendors, be sure to email or call the library to reserve a spot if you’re interested in participating.

We are hosting a Tea-Time Storytime on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 10:30 a.m.! Children and their grown-ups are invited to dress up as their favorite storybook characters and join us for a delightfully good time. Enjoy a special storytime tea with a guest reader, along with crafts, activities, and treats! We hope to see you there!

***NEW!** Introducing Young Readers Book and Art Club! Held the third Wednesday of each month at 3 p.m. (Nov. 18), this program is designed for children in Kindergarten through Grade 5. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss their favorite books and enjoy crafts or art activities. Light refreshments will be provided.

On Thursday, Nov. 19 (temporary day change: we typically meet the last Thursday of the month, but that’s Thanksgiving this month!), from 6:30-8 p.m., join us for Books & Banter. Read what you want, then come talk about it! Books & Banter is an 18+ book club with no assigned reading. Discuss whatever you’ve been enjoying lately, whether it’s new, old, borrowed, or rediscovered. Share what stood out, hear what others are reading, and find your next great recommendation in good company.

Our “Let’s Write a Novel!” writing group is looking for fresh faces (16+) to join our “Hero’s Journey” experience. This structured group will help take your MG, YA, NA, or Adult story idea from concept to can-do! This class runs 6-7:30 p.m., typically on the last Friday of the month, but will meet early this month due to the holiday (Nov. 20). No writing experience necessary.

On Saturday, Nov. 21, from noon to 2 p.m., join your neighbors at Barnstead Elementary School for a free, traditional Thanksgiving meal as we come together to celebrate the community of Barnstead. This spe-

cial event also provides information about local programs and resources, along with door prizes and activities! To make this event a true community gathering, we kindly ask that if you are able, to sign up to bring at least one of the items on the list. Note: If you are contributing to the meal, please have food delivered between 9:30-10:30 a.m. so that we can serve the meal promptly at noon. Please be sure to label your crockpot or dish (including lids) with your name. This year, we’re adding something special: a community photo display to celebrate the many ways we’ve grown together as a community. If you have captured photos of memorable community moments

from this past year, please send them to mel-lodale53@gmail.com by Nov. 9 so we can include them in the display. And for our generous local business owners, if you’d like to contribute a monetary donation or provide door prize items to help support the feast, please contact Melissa McKeen at melcmcke@gmail.com. For the latest information on joining, contributing, and to RSVP, or if you are in need of transportation, you can phone or email the library. There is also a QR code on fliers around town. We look forward to celebrating with you and are grateful that you are a part of our community. See you there!

***NEW!** Join us on

Thursday, Dec. 3, at 6 p.m., for the first meeting of Booked for Investigation: A True Crime Book Club (18+). Each month, we’ll explore a fascinating true crime book, listen to a related podcast, examine the known evidence, and discuss theories and unanswered questions. Our first book is “The Five: The Untold Lives of the Women Killed by Jack the Ripper” by Hallie Rubenhold. Copies can be picked up now at the library. Curious minds and armchair detectives are all welcome—come ready to read the book and follow the clues!

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

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Trick or Treat Hours

The Town of Alton Trick or Treat hours are Saturday, Oct. 31 from 5-7 p.m. Plan to stop at the Gilman Museum on Main Street between 4:30-6 p.m. for the free Monster Mash Costume Runway- there will be treats and a chance to walk through the Halloween lights. Great photo opportunity for your entire group.

Halloween Pet Costume Contest

Submit a photo of your pet (or a pet with your family/friends) now through Oct. 25 and be entered into the Alton Pet Costume Contest. Categories include cutest costume, scariest costume and most creative. Winners will be announced on Halloween. Submitted photos will be posted on the Alton Parks and Recreation Facebook page. Submit photos to parks-rec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Guided Meditation

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring Guided Meditation with Karen Kharitonov on Thursdays, Oct. 15 & 29 and Nov. 12 & 19 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Please arrive by 6:25 p.m. The program is free, donations accepted to benefit the food pantry. For more informa-

tion contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parks-rec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Line Dancing Lessons

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring Line Dancing Lessons with Cindee on Thursdays at the Alton Bay Community Center at 58 Mt. Major Highway. Lessons start on Nov. 5. Absolute Beginners are 1:30-2:30 p.m. and Beginners are 2:45-3:45 p.m. Adults of all ages are welcome, \$10 for the November and December session. Must be pre-registered to attend- contact Alton Parks and Recreation for a registration form/payment- 603-875-0109 or parks-rec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Pilates classes in Alton Bay — Tuesdays and Thursdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Pilates classes at the Alton Bay Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m. with certified instructor Donna Lee. Classes are ongoing. All level adults are welcome for a full body, low impact class that will improve muscle tone, flexibility, balance and strength. \$10 per class, cash or Venmo. Bring a mat, water and hand weights. For more information/register contact Donna at breathepilates1@yahoo.com or parksrec@alton.nh.gov. Please note that

class will not be held October 12-22.

Weight Training classes — Mondays and Wednesdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Weight Training Classes on Mondays and Wednesdays, with AFAA Certified Instructor Kellie Troendle, from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library for adults of all ages and abilities. Build strong muscles and bones, increase flexibility and develop better balance. Bring light hand weights, a mat and water. For more information, contact parks-rec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109. \$20 per month, register on site.

Reiki Gathering

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a Reiki Gathering with Reiki Master Teacher, Carol Wallace at the Gilman Library on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Join us for a relaxed Reiki meetup to refresh the basics of Reiki One and Reiki Two. Share experiences, ask questions and reconnect with Reiki energy and each other. The free gathering is geared toward Reiki practitioners with at least Reiki One training. Please RSVP to 603-875-0109 or parkrec@alton.nh.gov by Nov. 24 to reserve your seat.

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	30 Alton Shores	N/A	\$515,000	Renewed Homes LLC	Angela Lavrich
Alton	26 Gedney Ct.	Single-Family Residence	\$470,000	Heather and Martin Schlieter	Lee and Kara D. Covey
Alton	104 Hopewell Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$5,000,000	Laurie A. Latchaw 1995 RET	David & Dee A. Swanson Fiscal Trust
Alton	19 Linwood Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$595,000	Charles J. and Margaret A. Barnett	Heather and Martin Schlieter
Alton	214 Prospect Mountain Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$510,000	Corbett LT and David J. Corbett	Amy P. and Elizabeth C. Lord
Alton	Riverlake Street	N/A	\$1,175,000	Precision Crafted Homes LLC	Allen L. and Cynthia Huberdeau
Alton	Walker Twombly Road	N/A	\$535,000	S. & Adam Henderson Fiscal Trust	Stephen I. Depalma and Kelly Ann Dyer-Rawlings
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$750,000	Beth A. and Theodore O. Doehner	Stanley Fiscal Trust Of 2005 and Heather B. Stanley
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$300,000	David Thayer	Angela C. Stevens RET
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$1,400,000	Rebecca A. Whitcher Trust	Erik Travers
Barnstead	1457 Suncook Valley Rd.	Res.-Mtl. Bldg.	\$550,000	Joseph and Samantha Povilaitis	Benjamin S. Robbins and Tomasina Gray
Barnstead	21 White Oak Rd.	N/A	\$500,000	Tyler and Kara Vick	Erik G. and Michaela J. Mortimer
Gilford	8 Bacon Dr.	Residential Developed Land	\$219,000	Jason B. and Stevie A. Larrere	Emily Drake
Gilford	261 Dockham Shore Rd.	N/A	\$595,000	Justin J. and Lillian S. Craig	Gary Paul, Jr. and Beth Ann Ingham
Gilford	288 Hounsell Ave., Unit 10	Condominium	\$488,933	Mkon LLC	Wright Fiscal Trust and Bruce A. Wright
Gilford	34 Mulberry Hill Rd.	N/A	\$350,000	Cynthia Theriault	Fitzroy Letts
Gilford	Sagamore Road	N/A	\$250,000	Dorothy Jan Elkin	Apex Homes LLC
Gilford	23 Shore Rd.	Residential Developed Land	\$125,000	Kathryn Read	Christine R. Barker RET
Gilford	71 Varney Point Rd.	Mixed Use (Commercial/Other)	\$560,000	Cheryl Ware and Melanie Lynn Ransom	Fay's Boat Yard Inc.
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$190,000	Picarello Fiscal Trust and Anthony R. Picarello	Rita F. Naughton RET
New Durham	Jenkins Road	N/A	\$120,000	Vaughn D. Glidden	Bruce Tardiff
New Durham	N/A (Lot 13)	N/A	\$250,000	Robert S. Kowalski, Jr.	Paul F. Kowalski

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

Here are recent real estate transactions in Alton and the surrounding areas. These sales summaries are informational only, not a legal record. Names shown are usually the first listed in the deed. Sales might involve additional parties or locations. Prices are usually based on tax stamps and might be inaccurate for public agency sales. Refer to actual public documents before forming opinions or relying on this information. Additional publicly recorded information on these sales, prior sales and data from Department of Revenue Administration forms is available at www.real-data.com or 669-3822. Copyright 2011. Real Data Corp. In the column "Type": land= land only; L/B= land and building; MH= mobile home; and COND=condominium. Transactions provided by The Warren Group, Boston Ma., publishers of The Registry Review and Bankers and Tradesman newspapers, Phone: 1-800-356-8805. Website: www.thewarrengroup.com



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MLS# 5112936

Moultonborough: Set on 5.59 private acres, this 1-bedroom, 1-bath year-round cabin offers 588 sf. of cozy living space. Potential for subdivision or expansion. Striking mountain views possible with clearing.

\$422,000
MLS# 5112953

Tuftsboro: Nestled on a wooded 0.38-acre corner lot in Hidden Valley, this 2-bedroom, 1-bath chalet features an open living layout anchored by a stone fireplace, an upstairs loft, and a wide front deck.

\$675,000
MLS# 5106129

Meredith: This 3-bedroom, 3-bath Colonial offers 2,671 sf. of finished space, complete with deeded access to Pickerel Pond. Highlights include a finished lower level, an 8-person outdoor sauna, and an insulated 2-car garage.

\$2,695,000
MLS# 5108171

Meredith: Featuring 184' of exclusively owned frontage on Lake Winnisquam, this 4-bedroom, 3-bath contemporary post-and-beam home boasts soaring timber ceilings, a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace, a primary suite, a walkout lower-level in-law suite, a sandy beach, and a private dock with a covered boat lift.

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Castle in the Clouds celebrates successful summer season, 20 years of Castle Preservation Society

MOULTONBOROUGH — Castle in the Clouds is celebrating another successful summer as they prepare to conclude their 2026 season on Oct. 25. Throughout the summer season, more than 40,000 visitors participated in more than 200 events and programs, including tours, guided hikes, theatrical performances, as well as classes and workshops led by local experts.

As the 2026 season marks the 20th anniversary of the Castle Preservation Society (CPS), Castle in the Clouds included special events and a gallery exhibit to recall the history of the National Historic Landmark Lucknow Estate. Hosted in collaboration with Foxx Run Farm in Ossipee, the Petting Zoo Weekend commemorated this milestone anniversary by paying homage to the original petting zoo featured on the estate when Richard Robie first opened to



the public in 1959. The gallery exhibit, “From Private Estate to Public Treasure: Lucknow after Thomas and Olive Plant,” features stories, photographs, and memorabilia of the various owners of the Lucknow Estate, including the Robie family, before CPS assumed re-

sponsibility for managing the estate.

The 2026 season provided a unique opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of CPS over the past 20 years and plan for the future of Castle in the Clouds. To continue the mission of preserving and sharing the buildings

and landscape of the Lucknow Estate, CPS added two new members to their leadership team, Joseph Raboin as Director of Buildings & Grounds and Kate Armenio as Director of Business Operations. Both these roles are essential to providing the unforgettable experience that Castle in the Clouds promises to visitors.

“Our staff and volunteers worked tirelessly this year to create a landmark season for the Castle and our visitors,” said Charles Clark, Executive Director of Castle in the Clouds. “Between our popular programs and events that are requested every year and the new events we organized to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Castle Preservation Society, we achieved our goal of delivering an unforgettable experience for everyone who visits onsite and on-

line. As our new strategic planning continues, we are relying on the outstanding feedback we continue to receive from visitors, supporters and partners to ensure that Castle in the Clouds continues to be a must-stop destination in the Lakes Region.”

Although the 2026 season officially concludes at the end of the day on Oct. 24, Castle in the Clouds will continue to offer programs and events through the end of the year. Current calendar entries include Castle Trivia Night, crafting workshops, holiday-themed programs, and the beloved Christmas at the Castle, which also features the exclusive Preview Party and Twilight Tours again this year. For more information about Castle in the Clouds and their upcoming events, visit castleintheclouds.org.

About Castle in the Clouds

As the premier historical museum in the beautiful Lakes Region of New Hampshire, Castle in the Clouds provides each visitor with a look into the past while providing contemporary comforts to make every visit memorable. Originally called Lucknow, this breathtaking 6,300-acre property was developed in 1913 by Thomas G. Plant, a wealthy shoe manufacturer, to create a luxurious lifestyle with state-of-the-art amenities, beautiful hand-made furnishings, and a large staff to run the estate. These days, visitors come from all around the world to tour the mansion and exhibit gallery, dine in the Carriage House Restaurant or Café in the Clouds, hike miles of hiking and walking trails maintained by partner organization the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, or enjoy one of our many programs and events. Operated by the Castle Preservation Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2026, Castle in the Clouds is revered as a cultural and educational resource and listed on the National Register of Historic Places with national significance. Castle in the Clouds is also available as a fairytale wedding venue and versatile private event rental. For more information about Castle in the Clouds, visit castleintheclouds.org.

GRANT

(continued from Page A1)

ria blooms are an increasing concern in New Hampshire. Some blooms can produce toxins that make people and pets sick. Blooms can result in public health advisories warning people, and their pets, to avoid contact with the water and can affect drinking water, property values, tourism, and local economies. One factor that can fuel these blooms is nutrient pollution carried into lakes through stormwater runoff and eroded soil.

As part of this \$400,000 investment across the state, road improvements near Mill Pond in Alton were completed to reduce stormwater runoff and erosion. Because Mill Pond drains

into Lake Winnepesaukee, the benefits extend downstream to New Hampshire’s largest lake.

The projects that received funding look different from lake to lake, but they share a simple idea: it is easier, and often less costly, to keep pollution out of a lake than to deal with the damage after it gets there. By investing in practical solutions on roads, shorelines, boat ramps, and properties throughout a watershed, communities can make their lakes more resilient for the future.

To see the difference these projects made, including before-and-after photos, visit nhlakes.org/nh-lakes-awards-grants-to-protect-our-waters.

NH LAKES is grateful to the local organizations, municipalities, volunteers, and community members who helped complete the projects, as well as NHDES for its partnership and support through ARPA funding. Visit nhlakes.org/nh-lakes-awards-grants-to-protect-our-waters to learn more about these projects and to see before and after photos.

Established in 1992, NH LAKES is a publicly-supported nonprofit organization, working in collaboration with individuals and partners statewide to restore and preserve the health of New Hampshire’s 1,000 lakes. Learn more at nhlakes.org, email info@nhlakes.org, or call 603-226-0299.

DOBBINS

(continued from Page A1)

go in front by a 13-11 tally.

Boudreau had a nice tip and a block at the net to pull Gilford even but again the visitors rallied and went up by a 17-14 score. Gilford fought to get back in it, with Taylor and Magdziasz coming up with nice hits, but the Cavaliers were able to close out the 25-19 win to tie things at one.

The second set saw Gilford go up 3-1 behind a block from Hughes only to have the visitors battle back and go up 4-3. Stella Pickowicz had a nice tip at the net and Boudreau and Taylor combined for a block to put Gilford back in front. Tied at seven, the Cavaliers ran off five points in a row to go up 12-7 before Gilford got back on the board but the visitors pushed the lead to 14-9.

A block from Boudreau got the Golden Eagles back on track and Stella Pickowicz added a hit as Gilford attempted to stay in the match. The Cavaliers opened the lead to 22-14 before strong play from the Pickowicz twins and a hit from Hughes kept the Golden Eagles alive. However, the visitors closed out the 25-17 win to take a 2-1 lead.

Facing a long bus ride back to Hollis, the Cavaliers were hoping to close things out in the fourth set, but Gilford had different ideas. Hinds started things off with a pair of aces and Boudreau added a hit as the

two teams went back and forth. H-B went up 10-5 before Gilford got back in it with an ace from Hughes and a great diving play from Taylor, cutting the lead to 11-9.

Hollis-Brookline opened the lead back up to 15-9 before Hinds stepped back to the service line and led the Golden Eagles on a run that included five aces and put Gilford on top by a 17-16 score. Boudreau added a hit and Stella Pickowicz had an ace as Gilford went up 20-17. Hollis-Brookline closed the gap to 20-19 and 21-20, but a great diving play from Stella Pickowicz and a hit from Hinds closed out the 25-20 win for the Golden Eagles, forcing a fifth set.

Hinds got Gilford off to

a 3-0 lead in the fifth set with a pair of service aces and Stella Pickowicz kept upping the lead when she added a hit and two service aces of her own to push the Golden Eagle lead to 8-1. Hughes had a big block and Hinds added another hit as Gilford went up 12-5 and 14-8 and a Hinds service ace brought the match to a close with a 15-8 win and a 3-2 victory for the Golden Eagles.

The Golden Eagles are slated to finish up the regular season on Friday, Oct. 16, with a 6 p.m. match at Kingswood in Wolfeboro.

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

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LEGALS

Public Hearing Notice Updated Regional Master Plan Lakes Region Planning Commission

In accordance with NH RSA 36:47: III, the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) has prepared a 2026 update to the Regional Master Plan for the Lakes Region of New Hampshire and is holding a public comment period from October 16, 2026, to November 16, 2026.

Following the public comment period, LRPC will hold a public hearing to review comments, solicit final public feedback, and consider adoption of the newly updated 2026 Regional Master Plan update. The public hearing has been scheduled for November 16, 2026, at 6:00 PM at the Gilford Public Library, 31 Potter Hill Road, Gilford, NH.

The 2026 Regional Master Plan update may be viewed on the LRPC website: <https://lakesrpc.nh.gov>. Hard copies are available for review at the LRPC office located at 103 Main Street, Meredith, NH.

Written comments may be submitted until midnight on November 16, 2026, by email execadmin@lakesrpc.nh.gov or postmarked via US mail to LRPC, 103 Main Street, Suite #3, Meredith, NH 03253.

Second half touchdowns not enough as Prospect falls to Mascoma

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

ALTON — In their final game under the home lights, the Prospect Mountain football boys were able to score a couple of touchdowns later, but the Mascoma Royals used their early lead to run to a 43-16 win on Saturday night.

Mascoma got the ball to start and needed just five plays to cover more than 80 yards, going in from 15 yards out with 9:09 to go in the first quarter and converted the two-point conversion for the 8-0 lead. Prospect went three and out on their ensuing drive and the Royals needed just one play to go 59 yards and converted the two-point conversion for the 16-0 lead with 8:16 to go in the first quarter.

Prospect was able to move the ball on a carry from quarterback Blake Pappaceno, a screen to Luciano Pecorino and a pass to Gabe Cole to pick up a first down. After a couple of incomplete passes, the Timber Wolves were forced to punt away and the Royals returned the punt 70 yards for the touchdown and booted the extra point for the 23-0



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gabe Cole turns up the field with the ball after making a catch in the second half of his team's game with Mascoma on Saturday.

lead with 5:28 to go in the first quarter.

Prospect put together a solid drive with a shovel pass to Charlie Chandler, runs from Cole and Pappaceno and passes to Pecorino and Cole but a sack on fourth down gave the Royals the ball back.

Mascoma ran out the clock on the first quarter and the 23-0 lead and on the second play of the second quarter, the Royals got in the end zone from eight yards out. They missed the extra point but still had the

29-0 lead with 30 seconds gone in the second quarter. Prospect then fumbled the ball on their next drive and Mascoma needed just two plays to get to the end zone on a 32-yard run with 10:05 to go in the first half and the extra point made it 36-0.

Prospect Mountain turned the ball over on downs on their next drive but good defense from Chandler and Pecorino helped stall the Mascoma drive and Cole came up with an interception to give Prospect another chance be-



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Anthony Quirk looks for running room during action on Saturday night against Mascoma.

fore the half. However, the Timber Wolves could not generate any offense and the game went to halftime with Mascoma up 36-0.

Prospect opened the second half with a solid drive behind a couple of runs from Cole and Pappaceno ran in from eight yards out with 8:38 to go in the third quarter. Pappaceno then ran in on the two-point conversion and Prospect cut the lead to 36-8.

The Royals ran out the rest of the third quarter clock with their next drive and ran into the end zone as time ran

out and took the 43-8 lead to the final 12 minutes.

Prospect was able to move the ball on the first drive of the fourth quarter, with Cole and Pappaceno running the ball down inside the 15 before Cole ran into the end zone from 11 yards out and Pappaceno converted the two-point conversion to make it 43-16 with 6:45 to go. The Royals then ran out the clock with their next drive and sealed the win.

Prospect Mountain is slated to host undefeated Newport on Saturday, Oct. 17, at 1 p.m.

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



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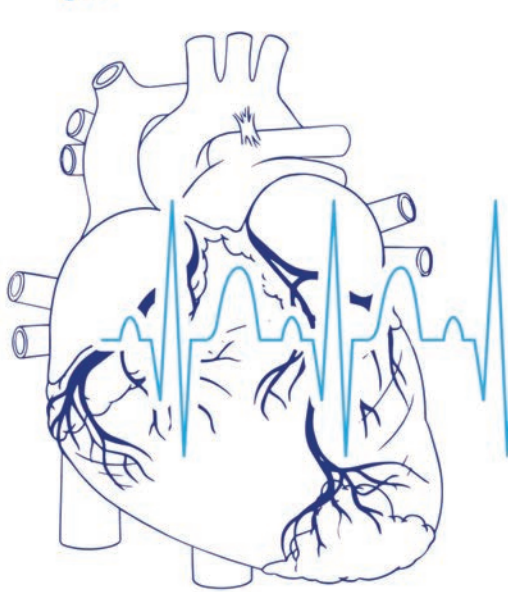
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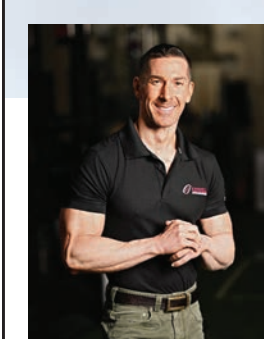




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