

Gilford Steamer

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

GILFORD, N.H.

Spring storm leads to road closures, power outages



PHOTOS COURTESY BARNSTEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Knocked down trees closed down many roads in Barnstead after a strong storm hit the area.

BY ERIN PLUMMER

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REGION — April opened with a large snowstorm that resulted

in mass power outages and road closures across the area.

A mix of snow and

Gilford library sees increase in circulation

BY ERIN PLUMMER

mnews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD — The Gilford Public Library has been seeing increases in the number of visitors and checkouts with programs running strong.

Library Director Katherine Dormody gave the selectmen an update on the library during the March 27 meeting.

Dormody said more than 6,000 people entered the building between January and February. She said circulation of materials is up eight percent overall from last year and the number of first-time checkouts is up seven percent during the same time frame.

As of late March, 1,443 people had used their library card and have checked out around 20,000 items. The total cost of all these checkouts is around \$345,645, meaning each cardholder has saved around \$250 they would have paid if they purchased these materials.

Dormody said they were looking forward to a busy schedule in April, especially National Library Month coming the second week of April.

The library would be used for many different activities including a fitness program for seniors that was already at capacity, three book clubs, and many

SEE LIBRARY, PAGE A8



PHOTO COURTESY THE GILFORD DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Trees knocked down wires in Gilford and many other communities after an early April storm.

rain fell over Central New Hampshire starting the night of Wednesday, April 3, which switched to wet snow overnight. Snow continued falling all day on April 4 and through the beginning of April 5. Alton Public Works reported the town got over a foot of snow during the storm.

The storm resulted in mass road closures and power outages with

many trees and wires

knocked down over roads. By April 6, Ever-source reported that power had been restored to over 289,000 customers across the state with 2,200 tree, line, and service crews working to restore the last of the power. By the end of the storm, the New Hampshire Electric Co-op said around 40,000 customers across the state were

without power. By Saturday night crews had restored power to all but around 8,400 with efforts continuing.

In Gilford, Public Works crews started cleaning up at 10:15 p.m. on Wednesday and continued through the night.

“Well, this is certainly a messy and frustrating

SEE STORM, PAGE A8

Champs prepared for another run to Division III title game

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

ALTON — Coach James Christie knows that if his team does what it is capable of, there will be another banner hung in the Prospect Mountain gym next to the championship banners from the last two years.

“We’ll see what the season brings, but if we do what we’re capable of, it will end in our favor,” Christie said. “This senior group, they want to finish the right way.”

The Timber Wolf seniors, Gwen Christie, Ella Bernier, Mariah Gates and Eve Roberge, have lost just two games over the course of their high school career, both during their COVID freshmen campaign. Prospect has gone undefeated in winning the Division III championship the last two seasons.

“We only lost one starting senior (Maren Rayno), we’ve basically got everyone back,” said Christie. “We’re going to rely a lot on our seniors. They’ve been there, they’ve played high level games for three years and I expect them to again.”

Bernier returns to the pitching circle again this year with her eyes set on the Prospect Mountain softball strikeout record, which belongs to Brianna Burley. Christie expects that somewhere around the fifth or sixth game his talented senior

will reach the mark.

Christie at second base and Gates at first base return for their senior years to anchor the right side of the infield, while fellow senior Eve Roberge moves from centerfield to third base.

“We’re preparing for small ball other teams might play,” Christie said of the move for Roberge. “We want to have an athlete at third base.”

Junior Alexis Wilson rounds out the infield at shortstop while Olivia Noyes returns behind the plate to do the catching for Bernier.

The outfield will be a bit different, though Tori Christie returns to right field for her junior season. Sophomore Paige Harding will slide into center to replace Roberge while three players are in a battle to earn the left field job, including Abby Fisichelli, Taylor Greenwood and Paityn Glidden. Christie said that he expects Fisichelli’s bat to be in the lineup no matter what, either in left or as a flex hitter.

The good news for the program is that for the first time in a while there will be a true Prospect Mountain JV team, with only a couple of kids needed to swing back and forth.

“We have a good crop of freshmen and some sophomores who have decided to play this year,” Christie said. “We

need the younger players who can come in now and get their reps and learn what it’s about.

“And we’ve got some great six, seventh and eighth graders at Alton and Barnstead too,” the Timber Wolf coach continued. “I don’t expect a drop-off after this senior group graduates.”

Christie said that he expects Gilford, last year’s runners up and St. Thomas to be among the top teams in the division, while Newport has a new pitcher who could make a difference and Raymond is a dark horse in his mind as well.

Prospect is scheduled to play two games each with Berlin, Kearsarge, Belmont, Hillsboro-Deering and Somersworth along with single games with Monadnock, Bishop Brady, Hopkinton, Newfound, Raymond and St. Thomas.

The season was scheduled to kick off after deadline Wednesday vs. Bishop Brady and continue today, April 11, at home against Kearsarge, at Monadnock on Friday, April 12, and at home against Berlin on Monday, April 15.

All games are subject to field conditions and Christie noted that he anticipated that the storm on April 4 likely least the schedule for at least a week, if not more.

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

State aid approved for BES expansion project

BY ERIN PLUMMER

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BARNSTEAD — A project to expand Barnstead Elementary School that was put on hold due to a lack of state funding is being revived after the state announced the project was in fact approved for Building Aid.

Last year the school district proposed an article that would appropriate \$23,398,200 to create an addition to the building that will include a gym, additional classroom space, unified arts programs, and science labs. This article would be contingent on the school receiving \$10,210,940 in State Building Aid to cover around 45 percent of the cost and bonding the remaining \$13,187,260. Another article was also passed that would renovate sections of the building for around \$1.8 million in case state aid wasn’t received.

Both projects went on the warrant last year as voter approval was required for the district to accept state funds for the larger project. School officials, however, said that this possibility might not happen as the state ranked the BES project 10th in priority compared to other projects around the state.

Both articles passed at the 2023 district meeting. Superintendent Tim Broadrick said later that school year that the state notified the district that it would not be receiving a letter to intent to fund the project, failing to meet the contingency set in the warrant article. Focus then went on the smaller project that would renovate the older wings of the school known as A wing, B wing, and the Old Lobby with improvements such as new flooring for a multipurpose room and HVAC improvements.

The district took time over the year to look at what exactly needed to get done and received a guaranteed maximum price from Milestone Construction for the smaller project. The proposed cost came in around \$40,000 less than the original projected cost for the project, as a result the district can borrow less than anticipated. This year, the renovation project was back on the warrant for around \$1.78 million.

Days before the distinct meeting, however, the school received notice from the state that it was in fact eligible for

SEE PROJECT, PAGE A8



COURTESY

Proud artist

This second grader at New Durham School was pleased to see her puppet on display at the recent Art Show. The exhibit of student work ranged from circle silhouettes, based on a Haitian art form, to pottery.

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Alton Town Wide Yard Sale

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its Annual Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 1, rain or shine from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. If you would like to participate by having a Yard Sale at your house contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov before May 20 with your Yard Sale address location. When calling please include your name, phone number and complete physical address. Free Yard Sale maps will be available after May 28.

Community Clothing Swap

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is coordinating a free Community Clothing Swap where residents can drop off clothes in good condition to pass along to others. Donated clothes can be dropped off at the Parks and Recreation office- 328 Main St., Monday- Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. before May 20. The Community Clothing Swap will take place at the Pearson Road Community Center on Saturday, June 1 from 8 a.m.-noon. The donated clothes will be displayed and available for people to pick up and reuse. This event is free and is an effort to reduce, reuse and recycle.

April Vacation- Boston Aquarium Trip

The Alton and New Durham Parks and Recreation Departments are sponsoring a Trip to the Boston Aquarium on Tuesday, April 23. Alton Students in grades 2-8 are invited to join Alton Parks and Recreation Staff in exploring the wonders of the giant ocean tank, and largest shark and ray touch tank on the East Coast. There is a lot to see at this aquarium. Adults of all ages are invited to join in the fun too, and explore the Aquarium on their own. Bus leaves New Durham Elementary School at 8 a.m. sharp, please arrive by 7:45 a.m. to check in. Bus returns to New Durham Elementary School at 5 p.m. \$26 pp, includes aquarium admission and student supervision. Bring a bag lunch and be ready for a great day. Register at alton.nh.gov by April 12. Contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov for more information.

Adult Basketball
18 years and over-
Thursday nights

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Adult Basketball 18+ pickup games at Alton Central School on Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. now through April 18- stop in and play any time. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109 or parksrec@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, 9:30-10:30 a.m. with certified instructor Donna Lee. All level adults are welcome for a full body, low impact class that will improve muscle tone, flexibility, balance and strength. Pre-registration is \$10 per class or \$15 drop in. Bring a mat and water. For more information/register contact Donna at breathepilates1@yahoo.com or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Slow Flow Yoga with Pamela Mott, 200 YTT Certified

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

Weight Training Classes- Mondays and Wednesdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Weight Training Classes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library for adults of all ages and abilities. Learn new exercises and build strong muscles and bones, increase flexibility and develop better balance. Bring light hand weights, a mat and water. For more information, contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109. Try a class for free. \$20 per month/session or \$5 drop in. Class will not be held April 22 & 24.

Guided Meditation with Instructor Karen Kharitonov

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a Guided Meditation Class on Thursdays: April 11 and 25 and May 9 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Stop in and experience the positive state of meditation. Chairs will be available; bring a pillow/cushion/mat if desired. The program is free, donations are greatly appreciated to support local charities. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

USTA Spring Tennis Lessons- Youth

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Tennis Lessons for Grades 1-8 on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Liberty Tree Park Tennis Courts from May 14-May 30. Grades are divided by times: 3:15-4:15 p.m.- Grades 6-8; 4:15-5:15 p.m.- Grades 1&2; 5:15-6:15 p.m.- Grades 3-5. Registration is \$60 for Alton residents and includes a brand new tennis racket, and instruction with a USTA New England certified instructor. Non-resident fee is \$70. Basic tennis skills will be taught: forehand, backhand, serve, overhand and volley. Register by April 19, class size is limited to seven. Registration forms are available at altonparksandrecreation.com or stop by the Parks and Recreation Kiosk at 328 Main St. to sign up. Contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 for more information.

USTA Spring Tennis Lessons- Adults

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Tennis Lessons for adults on Wednesdays at the Liberty Tree Park Tennis Courts from May 15-June 12 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Registration is \$70 for Alton residents and includes a brand new tennis racket, and instruction with a USTA New England certified instructor. Non-resident fee is \$80. Basic tennis skills will be taught: forehand, backhand, serve, overhand and volley. Register by April 19, class size is limited to seven. Registration forms are available at altonparksandrecreation.com or stop by the Parks and Recreation Kiosk at 328 Main St. to sign up. Contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 for more information.

New Durham Historical Society hosting program on Joseph Libbey Home



NEW DURHAM — The New Durham Historical Society is proud to host the Thursday, April 11 program entitled “Reflections on the Joseph Libbey Home,” featuring NDHS member and current proprietor Sherry Cullimore. By sharing in-depth knowledge about her remarkable home, Cullimore is sure to rouse one’s interest in the history and lore surrounding this enduring homestead.

The Cullimore home is situated on Ridge Road, and has served as a gathering place for Civil War encampments for more than 25 years. The actual age of the home is uncertain. However, it was one of the forty-one existing houses listed in the 1770 “Report of Settlement.” Interestingly, Joseph Libbey appeared that year as head of a family on the list containing “families, houses, improved ground and felled trees in New Durham.”

The program is set to provide an interesting glimpse into a bygone era, and we look forward to seeing you. The program will be held at the New Durham Public Library, located at the corner of Birch Hill Road and Main Street. Beginning at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 11. For additional information, please call President Catherine Orlowicz at (603) 859-4643 or e-mail cathyo@tds.net.

Alton Historical Society meets April 16

ALTON — The speaker for the Alton Historical Society will be Maureen Kalfas, well known Alton Antique Dealer. She will take us on a “Trip Down Memory Lane” with interesting stories about the unique items she has purchased over the years from residents and business owners along Main Street in Alton. The meeting will be held on April 16 at 7 p.m. in the Agnes Thompson Conference Room, on the lower level, rear entrance, of the Gilman Library in Alton.

The Alton Historical Society’s meetings are open to the public. Hope to see you there!



COURTESY

Honoree

Denise Pouliot of Alton, Head Female Speaker of the Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook Abenaki People, was recognized for Women’s History Month by Cultivate NH for her contributions to New Hampshire communities and efforts toward a more just food system. Cultivate is an organization that promotes diversity and equity through events designed to celebrate the rich regional histories of both culture and agriculture. Pouliot serves on state and regional alliances dealing with food security, race, equality, sustainability, and education; works with the NH Collective Collaborative, growing indigenous gardens across the region; and is involved with Farm-a-Q and the New England BIPOC festival. Pictured here, she makes pemmican, an indigenous food, at a local event.

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Gilford looking to switch Web site domain

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD – The town is working on converting its municipal Web domains to a government address with help from a state grant.

Currently the town uses gilfordnh.org for its domain. The town recently received a grant to help convert its

municipal domain to a .gov, signifying a government address. The New Hampshire Department of Information Technology (DoIT) states on its website that any county, town, city, SAU, fire department, and sheriff's department can switch to a .gov domain. DoIT states that there are numerous advantages

to switching to a government domain such as meeting regulatory compliance and access to certain government resources only available to .gov domains among many others.

Town Administrator Scott Dunn gave the selectmen an update on the process during the board's meeting on

March 27.

Dunn said that day he met with two representatives from the Overwatch Foundation, an organization that provides assistance on homeland security defense, including cyber-systems defense. The discussion also included Deputy Fire Chief Brad Ober, who Dunn said has been a big advocate for the switch, as well as representatives from the town's technology provider, Mainstay Technologies.

The grant doesn't cover transitioning the domain for the police

department and library.

Dunn said right now Police Chief Kris Kelley hasn't expressed too much interest in converting the domain, especially for security considerations. He said he would also have a conversation with Library Director Katherine Dorody on if the library would be interested in switching over as well.

Dunn said three quarters of the town's offices use the current .org address. He said changing over the address for one part of municipal government could work out for the best since it will

provide some lessons on the transition.

Dunn said five different communities in the state received the grant to switch domains and all are being referred to as "guinea pigs" in this process.

Other towns in the state have done this process without a grant.

"As far as this particular way of doing things we are considered guinea pigs," Dunn said.

Dunn said there wasn't yet a specific timeframe for the switchover because different cases have different requirements.

Granite State Matters founder to speak in New Durham

NEW DURHAM — Jeanne Dietsch, speaking at the New Durham Public Library on Monday, April 15, has served in so many capacities, each one more impressive than the last, it is difficult to know how to refer to her.

Among her accomplishments, she has been president of Talmis, Inc.; Director of Educational Market Research for International Data Corporation; co-founder of Kinemation, developing computer games and educational software; president and founder of ActivMedia Research, an e-commerce market research company; co-founder and CEO of Mobile Robots, Inc.; emerging technologies vice-president at Adept Technology; a columnist for IEEE Robotics and Automation

Society; and, among other things, a former New Hampshire state senator.

From robots to zoning boards, from taxes to culture, and with a Master's of Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, she knows her stuff.

A few years ago, Dietsch became aware that nearly half of the 235 candidates endorsed across the nation by the Libertarian PAC Make Liberty Win were in New Hampshire. Following the money, she compiled a report that explains what the PAC means to New Hampshire residents.

The report has been published as "NH: Battleground in the Fight to Dismantle Democracy: a Wake-up Call for Granite Staters and the Nation."

Her presen-

tation will cover the threats to democracy she sees and the actions New Hampshire residents can take to preserve democracy.

Recently, Dietsch launched the Web site Granite State Matters, designed to digest and bring information regarding what's going on at the state level to residents who don't have the time to do it on their own.

Elected as a Democrat, she now identifies herself as an Independent. She has said that Granite State Matters will hopefully open people's eyes as to what is really going on in New Hampshire.

The free presentation begins at 7 p.m. Refreshments, provided by the New Durham Democratic Committee, will be served.

Sketch with Phil at Gilman Library April 13

ALTON — If you know a kid who loves to draw or wants to learn, or you are one, mark your calendars for Saturday, April 13, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., then immediately call Alton's Gilman Library, to get your name on the list to "Sketch with Phil." This is a free program.

You may have caught his performances as The Everywhere Man, at any of several local libraries or senior centers, performing magic tricks, or singing and playing guitar for all ages, from preschoolers up to retirement age. You may have heard his street music or watched him perform in any number of plays in the local small theater groups. Or perhaps you caught his interview with Jane Cormier, Host of Artful Living, on NH Talk Radio. Now Philip Reilly is adding another feather to his cap as he invites children to "Sketch with Phil" in the Gilman Library at 100 Main St., Alton.

Kids of all ages are welcome. Seating is limited to ten for this small group tutorial. Please sign up early. Call 603-875-2550.

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The allure of outer space and eclipses

Humanity's fascination with outer space and celestial events like eclipses stretches back to the dawn of our existence. From ancient civilizations to modern-day space agencies, the allure of the cosmos has captured our imaginations and sparked a colossal sense of wonder and curiosity. But what is it about outer space and eclipses that continues to captivate us?

One of the most undeniable reasons is the utter scale and mystery of the universe. Outer space represents the ultimate frontier; a vast expanse of uncharted territory waiting to be explored. The unfathomable distances between stars and galaxies, the enigmatic nature of black holes, and the possibility of extraterrestrial life all contribute to a sense of awe and intrigue. The exploration of outer space offers us the chance to push the boundaries of our knowledge and understanding, to uncover the secrets of the cosmos, and to answer some of humanity's most weighty questions about our place in the universe.

Eclipses, in particular, hold a special place because they offer a tangible connection to the cosmos. These rare celestial events, where the sun, moon, and Earth align in perfect harmony, produce breathtaking displays of light and shadow that captivate millions of people around the world. Whether it's a solar eclipse, where the moon passes between the sun and Earth, casting a temporary shadow on our planet, or a lunar eclipse, where Earth's shadow falls across the surface of the moon, eclipses remind us of the beauty and grandeur of the universe.

Moreover, eclipses have played a significant role in shaping human history and culture. Ancient civilizations viewed eclipses as omens or portents, often interpreting them as signs from the gods. Today, eclipses continue to inspire awe and wonder, bringing people together to witness these rare cosmic events firsthand. Whether it's through scientific expeditions to observe and study eclipses or community gatherings to marvel at their beauty, eclipses have a way of uniting us in our shared sense of wonder and appreciation for the cosmos.

In addition to their aesthetic appeal, outer space and eclipses also hold immense scientific value. Studying the cosmos allows us to better understand the fundamental laws of nature, from the forces that govern the motion of celestial bodies to the origins of the universe itself. Eclipses provide scientists with unique opportunities to conduct experiments and observations that would be impossible under normal circumstances, offering valuable insights into everything from solar physics to the dynamics of Earth's atmosphere.

Furthermore, our fascination with outer space and eclipses speaks to something deeper within us – a primal instinct to explore, to seek out new frontiers, and to push the boundaries of what is possible.



STUART LEIDERMAN — COURTESY

Reader Stuart Leiderman shared this photo of amaryllis blooming at his home in Barnstead during last week's Nor'Easter.

Let's talk about That Thing

BY PAMELA MOTT
M.S., LCMHC 200YTT, 300YTT
ENROLLED
Alton

Life's demands can feel insurmountable. Almost hilarious, in a gallows humor kind of way. The pressures of the daily grind can be a little much. Frustrations. Incomplete, hypocritical contradiction in the authority messages. The dance of illusion, like smoke of mirrors. All the outside, us versus them. Fear, rage, blame, blah, blah. Our own attachments. Feelings of separation and loneliness. A human without a home. No sense of belonging or to belong. Ahhhhhh! No thanks.

This Wellness series will address those topics that are just below the surface and relate to us all. This series will focus on local experiences, traditions, wisdom and loves. This series will introduce concepts of wellbeing and healthy lifestyles and is associated with a special event: That Thing, scheduled for Aug. 31 in Alton Bay. By locals for locals, in service to community. Let's talk.

This is a series associated with a piolet program for associated nonprofit development benefiting recreational and healthy lifestyle opportunities in our community. It is organ-

ic and grassroot grown. There is no money to follow here. It is all about talking mental health and wellbeing. Isn't that what we want. Our locals are some kind of wonderful. This series is around community, recreation and having a hell of a good time. No money needed. Nothing to buy, only to receive. Weird concept?

How much of our stress is Self-created? The racing of the mind and the restless tension. The restless tension is like a badge of honor. How's your neck? Do you tense your jaw? Honor to what? That tricky mind.

The body armors up like a shield. Maybe that

shield of armor locked up your shoulder or hip. Maybe that's why you feel crooked? Somatics. Don't know about you, but I didn't learn about that in school.

Somatics, how the body perceives it's self in time and space. Feeling a felt sense of the moment promotes fosters attachment and safety. Felt sense autonomic regulation. Yes please. That tricky mind is at ease.

In the constant pressure of obligation there is little time for gathering. This series will explore concepts of recreation from a local lens with offerings of information of ideas for community building in love.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Reorganize

daily occurrence for me growing up. I stopped to listen as its echoes bounced back from the hills of the city. The pattern of echoes was still as I remember them. Time goes on, but spaces stay the same.

If you timed it right, you would be able to hop on a train after it had slowed down to pass through the city and get a free ride up town. You needed to grab a freight car because if the guys in the caboose saw you, they would yell at you and try to grab you, so you'd jump off so as to not get in trouble. It's probably still that way, but somewhere I heard that they've done away with cabooses. I don't know for sure, and I ain't going to try and find out.

Looking up from my nice comfy chair here in the narthex, I noticed a number of electronic light dimmers on the wall. That triggered my memory back to the old building that had this large variac in a big gray box with a large steering wheel kind of thing on top. Being a budding technical sort of guy, I thought that it was pretty cool. It had marks to designate levels of dimness for all he lights in the church. If they dimmed them to a certain level for too long, smoke would start coming from the holes in the gray box. Didn't want that. Yep, them good old days.

They used to call it the singing church. We easily had a 40-person choir and another fifteen plus in the kids choir, a real musical director and a professional organist to play the pipe organ. I got my early vocal instruction there, so I learned to sing properly. When I got interested in playing rock and roll music, my band mates said I sounded like a choir boy, so I had to learn to yell and scream like the rest of the unschooled.

It's still a singing church, but the roots of it's songs have become somewhat modified over the years. Back in the '60s, there were always the standard hymns, and the Hallelujah Chorus was a regular yearly piece. These days, the choir is much smaller, and with the influx of many Liberian immigrants, it has become highly influenced by African styles and rhythms. It's now

more attune to southern gospel and negro spirituals. Nothing against the classics, but what a wonderful addition. Hand clapping and hallelujah praise the Lord. Pretty soon, they'll be dancing! Maybe.

After the service, during coffee time, I found myself talking with some of the singers from the choir and was summarily invited to come join them in song. If I were still living in the area, I probably would already be joining them, but living two and a half hours away, I had to gracefully decline.

I hear it said that there's a decline in the number of people of faith. Knowing that "they" so often don't know what they're talking about. Feel that it's just a reorganization.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	230 Alton Mountain Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$750,000	Mark W. and Noreen F. Stewart	Elizabeth Gropman and Rached Kasem
Alton	N/A	N/A	\$325,000	Robert M. and Paul E. Varney	Lee Gardner Trust and Leslie A. Gardner
Barnstead	Winwood Drive	Residential Open Land	\$14,000	A&I RT and Lindsey M. Schneider	Tamra and James Burke
Gilford	191 Glidden Rd.	N/A	\$1,000,000	Stone Brook Hills LLC	Boris and Elizabeth A. Ziser
Gilford	Mountain Drive	N/A	\$648,000	Joie Ford LLC	90 Mountain Drive LLC
Gilford	315 Weirs Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$455,000	Jennifer A. Butt and Mikaela J. Wardrick	Michael J. and Nicole Shruhan
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$210,000	Woods Fiscal Trust and Mari F. Woods	James and Heather Ziolkowski
Gilmanton	25 NH Route 106	Single-Family Residence	\$699,000	Wanda L. and James A. White	David Dunham
Gilmanton	N/A	N/A	\$507,533	Allen D., Jr. and Paulette R. Durfee	Jeffrey A. and Michelle M. Smart

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

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

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

Rotary Club hears about Big Brothers Big Sisters

ALTON — The Alton-Barnstead-New Durham Centennial Rotary Club is hosting a presentation by Tim Kneuer, Senior Corporate Partnerships Manager of Big Brothers Big Sisters of New Hampshire (BBBSNH), at the Alton Community Center at 7 Pearson Rd. in Alton on Thursday, April 11. The public is invited to attend; the presentation will start just prior to 6 p.m.

BBBSNH has been matching mentors and youth in New Hampshire for more than 56 years. Kneuer said the non-profit organization is seeking volunteers as there is a current waiting list of 150 youth. Flexible mentoring options exist.

Come learn how you could be a life-changing influence in a young person's life, or alert BBBSNH to a child in need. There is no fee for families or youth to participate, and all mentoring relationships are actively supported.



COURTESY

Super Knights

The following Kingswood Regional Middle School students received the March Super Knights Award for "Cooperation." In the first row are Hadley Aucoin, Dominic Bilodeau, Silas Marchand, Erolisa Agramonte, and Audrey Reinhard. In the second row are Dreya Juneau, Lily Reeves, Amelia Czarnecki, Jacob Livie, and Eliza Marchand. The following two students received the After School Allstars Award for their dedication to the Skills USA program. In the first picture is Ryder Ouellette; the second picture is Peyton LeClair. Congratulations!



MICHAEL WILFERT - COURTESY PHOTO

One more weekend of "Wit"

The Village Players present one more weekend of Margaret Edson's "Wit," performing Friday, April 12, and Saturday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 14, at 2 p.m. at the Village Players Theater at 51 Glendon St. The cast includes, front row (l to r), Joshua Brown, Jayson Andrews, Phoebe VanScoy-Giessler and Christian Boudman. Back row (l to r), Stefanie Marsh, Ryan Devolve, Delina Bickford, Helen Rautenberg and Michaela Andruzzi. Tickets are available at the door, at village-players.com or at Black's Paper and Gifts.

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PETS OF THE WEEK



Roxie

Meet Roxie! She recently arrived from Texas in search of her forever home. She is an energetic playful pup who has lots of fun going on adventures in the woods. Roxie takes to training very well, and we are working on her manners with her. Roxie loves to play outside, run around, and make new friends. She would do best in a home that goes on adventures and has lots of space to run around and play in the sun. Come get to know Roxie now; she'll steal your heart!



Bug

Meet Bug! Bug recently made the trip from North Carolina in search of his forever home. Bug LOVES chin rubs and will purr instantly once pets start. He is a sweetheart that is eager to find his family.

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Lions announce new plastics event

COURTESY

Weather permitting, the next plastics recycling collection will be held Saturday April 13 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Volunteers from the Green Sanctuary Committee of the Unitarian-Universalist congregation and the Laconia/Gilford Lions Club will be curbside in front of the little white church at 172 Pleasant St. to collect donated clean soft dry plastics. At the same time and place, the Lions and the UU Social Justice Committee are holding the latest food drive to benefit the Community Action Program (CAP) pantry. CAP is in particular need of easy access items and pop top canned goods including canned soups, canned fruit, jams/jellies, cereal, small jars of mayo, and personal care items. Get an early start celebrating Earth Day this month by helping keep plastics out of our landfills. Last month's effort generated 626 pounds of plastics, thanks to all of you!



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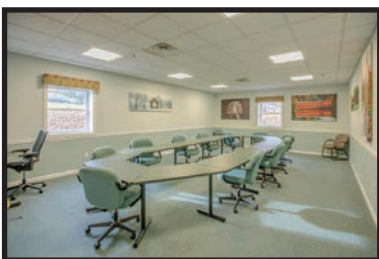
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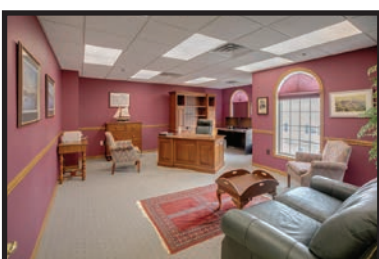
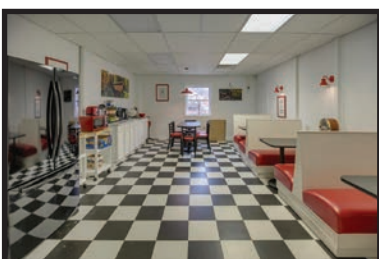
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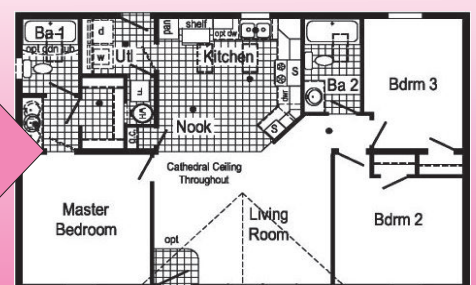
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GILFORD POLICE LOG

GILFORD — The Gilford Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of April 1-7.

Aaron S. Chase, age 45, of Belmont was arrested on April 1 for Violation of a Protective Order.

David Charles Duprey II, age 37, of Belmont was arrested on April 3 for Violation of a Protective Order.

A juvenile, age 16, was arrested on April 5 for Negligent Driving.

Crystal M. Ellison, age 43, of Laconia was arrested on April 6 for Theft By Unauthorized Taking after Two Prior Convictions.

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OBITUARY

Joseph A. Beals, 70



by his father George Beals Sr., mother Barbara (O'Leary) Beals and sister Dorothy (Beals) Colella.

Joe will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Joe was known for his hard work, dedication, and passion for helping others. He was Jack of all trades and had a smile or wave for everyone he passed by. He enjoyed tinkering with cars, scuba diving, boating, and attending the drag races. He was always there to offer anyone guidance, support and encouragement, no matter the challenges they faced. We will always carry the memories of you in our hearts.

Joe's life will be celebrated at a later date for all who knew him.

Cremation care by Peaslee Funeral Home. To express condolences, www.peasleefuneralhome.com

New Durham, NH - It is with profound sadness that the family of Joseph A. Beals of New Durham, NH formerly of Wrentham MA, announce his unexpected passing on March 31, 2024, at the age of 70. He was a wonderful and loving husband, father, grandfather, and uncle. He leaves behind his wife Lee Ann (Brady) Beals, daughters Jaime (Beals) Henthorne and Cheryl Beals, grandchildren Noah Henthorne and Samantha Henthorne and Brother George Beals Jr. Preceded in death

STORM

(continued from Page A1)

ing storm with countless trees down, hung up in wires or completely uprooted, making it hard or sometimes impossible to access the routes for plowing," read a Facebook post from the Gilford Public Works Department. "If it looks like your road has not been plowed, chances are there is a tree down somewhere preventing us from getting there."

Many trees couldn't be removed until the power companies said there were no live wire issues. By Thursday power was out through much of town.

After 22 hours of cleaning, Public Works crews went home around 8 p.m. on Thursday for a break with plans to come back at 3 a.m. Three members of Public Works Staff were kept available for emergencies.

The generator at the Public Works building went down on Thursday, taking out power and

phone service. Power was restored to Public Works and the Solid Waste Facility by Friday night.

Due to downed lines, trees, and the snow conditions many roads in town were impassable and Public Works asked people to avoid traveling. Some major roads that were blocked for a time including a section of Cherry Valley Road and Intervale Road.

The town opened a warming shelter in the town hall lobby, that was also serving as the Emergency Operations Center.

Emergency and business lines in Gilford went down for a day, but were restored by Friday.

In Alton, the Public Works Department's Facebook page reported that crews had been out for around 26 hours before going home for a break before going back out at 4 a.m. By the time crews went out they were down to three trucks to clear roads, though warm pavement conditions worked to their advantage. Downed

trees, wires, and limbs made clearing roads difficult for Public Works crews with some roads down to one lane.

The Alton Fire Department helped Public Works through the process. Alton Fire updated residents on what roads were closed and opening on its Facebook page.

By the end of the storm, Public Works reported that around 95 percent of the town was without power, including the Transfer Station and other town facilities.

The Pearson Community Center was opened as a warming shelter for residents.

The Barnstead Police Department reported that first responders were out all night during the storm handling emergency calls.

The storm blocked access to many roads, including by fallen trees and powerlines. The Barnstead Public Works Department worked to get the roads open and utilities were working on restoring power.

The Barnstead Fire Department advised res-

idents of treacherous road conditions and visibility that was down to zero. They also reported the center of town was without power by the middle of the storm.

By Saturday, April 6, the New Durham Fire Department reported that crews from the NH Electric Cooperative were working on downed powerlines on Merry Meeting Road. The Barnstead Fire Department posted that power companies were working to get roads open first

All Gilford, Prospect Mountain, and Governor Wentworth schools were closed on Thursday and Friday because of the storm and ensuing power and road conditions.

Town buildings and facilities in all four towns also closed during the storm, including local libraries. By Saturday, facilities such as several local libraries had power, but didn't have Internet or phone service.

Send all obituary notices to Salmon Press, by e-mail to obituaries@salmonpress.news Deadline is Monday at noon

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LIBRARY

(continued from Page A1)

meetings.

The library has partnered with many different community organizations that has enhanced offerings in the library, such as Belknap County 4-H, the Belknap County Conservation District, the Gilford schools, Gilford

Got Lunch, the Granite VNA, UNH Cooperative Extension, and others.

"The amount of people participating in our programming is at an all time high," Dormody said.

Maintenance work has also continued on the library building. A generator is now in service, and some landscaping will be done around

it. The second well pump on the geothermal system had to be serviced, the first was done the year before. They also installed a panic button.

Library collections were being moved around to add more to in-demand areas.

The library switched servers for its email system to Google from Piper Webs. The library

was able to receive pricing for nonprofit organizations for this switch through the Friends of the Library. They will continue to offer the Web site through Piper Webs because they have been able to operate the site through that company at no cost.

PROJECT

(continued from Page A1)

funding for the full expansion project.

Broadrick said the state legislature approved around \$50 million in building aid for the 2025 and 2026 fiscal years and the Department of Education sent out five letters of intent for funding. The highest ranked project was the construction of a new building for Rundlett Middle School in Concord. Broadrick said the Concord School District, however, recently notified the DoE that it would not be able to accept the funds for the project in the 2025 fiscal year. A number of other projects on the priority list were also withdrawn or canceled for reasons including warrant articles that failed with voters.

Broadrick said days before the district meeting when voters were going to decide on the smaller project the district did receive a letter of intent from the state to fund the project. While the project was originally eligible for 45 percent funding, it was now eligible for 55 percent.

While the news was happy, school officials were left in the position of having to explain the new situation in the simplest terms possible at

the district meeting.

"This left us in a little bit of a quandary," Broadrick said.

School officials explained the situation to voters and Broadrick said voters seemed to understand the new circumstances and approved the article.

"The community of Barnstead has been incredibly supportive of finding a fiscally conservative, cost-effective way of meeting the deferred expansion and maintenance needs," Broadrick said.

The district will likely have to schedule a special meeting for voter to approve the revised expansion project. Broadrick said they hope the Space Needs Committee will reconvene to discuss the project and the district is talking with attorneys and engineers about moving forward. The next step will be for the school board to approve moving forward with the project.

"I think in the end there's an opportunity here, I don't want to say it's a done deal," Broadrick said, saying they will still have to overcome some hurdles. "A lot of us who have been involved in this a long time are feeling optimistic we can do the work that needs to be done."

Broadrick said voters will ultimately have the final say on any project.

BES was built around 1956. Broadrick said the current building contains 60 percent of the capacity for a K-8 school building. In addition to a capacity crunch, Broadrick said a lot of maintenance has been deferred over the years.

"The town's been incredibly supportive, it's not as if the citizens of Barnstead haven't wanted to do something with the building," he said.

Broadrick said until recently voters were still paying for the bond from when Prospect Mountain High School was built, which took the priority for taxpayer money.

The renovation project that voters approved this year is still scheduled to get underway this summer. Work will be done on the HVAC system using around \$700,000 in funds from Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds (ESSER), which have been approved for improving air quality in response to the pandemic. The single pane window that have been in the A and B wing that have been there since the building was built will be replaced with modern double pane, aluminum framed windows.

This project will be one area removed from the scope of work for the expansion.

Last year voters for the town and the school district approved the sale of a piece of town owned land to the school district. That land contains a church building

that is now being used for the preschool program.

Since preschool isn't mandatory in New Hampshire, Broadrick said the state funding couldn't cover a space for preschoolers and the district would be entirely responsible for that amount. Now that the school has already established a classroom space for preschool, that is one more area that will not be included in the scope of the expansion project.

The Barnstead School Board will meet on April 17 to discuss how to move forward and possibly vote on going ahead. The district will likely have to go through a superior court process and a noticing process to schedule a special meeting. Broadrick said any action will need to be taken soon to utilize the funds.

"With a little bit of luck and the wind on our back hopefully it means in the next 24 months we will have the frame of an addition built," Broadrick said.

Broadrick said a space needs committee has existed for the school in some form since the 1990s and he wants to honor the decades of work people have put into this.

"I think the citizens, the friends, and neighbors that serve on the Space Needs Committee have gained a lot of credibility to the community by sticking with the plan," Broadrick said. "I think that's a factor in why the meeting has been so supportive."

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 abundantharvest.org or e-mail ahbf@faith.com.

ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER

Sundays throughout the summer 10am & 7pm; 875-6161.

BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON

Alton 9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Ben Rubin, 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

Gathering Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. The Gilmanton Community Church 1803 NH Route 140, Gilmanton Ironworks, NH ccoppraisegathering@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON

Pastor Jared Cassidy 10am Worship service Sunday 20 Church St Alton (603) 875-5561 www.ccoalton.com

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC

Sunday School and Worship Services Rec. Kate Kennedy (603) 776-1820 Our services are in person at 504 North Barnstead Road, Center Barnstead, NH and live-streamed on Zoom. Sundays at 10 a.m. ccnorthbarnstead.com

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC FARMINGTON

Worship Services 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 10:15 A.M. 400 Main Street Farmington, NH 03835 Pastor Tom Gardner 755-4816 www.farmingtonuucc.org

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Sun. School 9:30am; Church 10:30am; Evening Service 6pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting 7pm. Depot St., New Durham; Pastor Ryan Blackard

PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BARNSTEAD, N.H.

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Adult mental health First Aid training offered in Laconia April 20

LACONIA — The Adult Mental Health First Aid Course is set to be offered at The Congregational Church (UCC) in Laconia. UCC is partnering with Satori Communications Group to offer Adult Mental Health First Aid to members of the church and the public (Must be 18 years or older). The course will be held on Saturday, April 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the "Church Hall" (large room under the church).

Instructors Pamela Joyal and Abi Fannion will be teaching people how to recognize and respond to someone who may be experiencing a mental health event or substance use issue and how to apply the ALGEE action plan. Deadline to sign up is Friday, April 12.

Upon completion of

the course, participants receive a three-year certification as a Mental Health First Aider through the National Council of Wellbeing. The cost is \$120 per person. All materials are included. Spots are limited! To sign up, email pamela@satoricomgroup.com your phone number and best email to reach you. For more information on Mental Health First Aid go to www.satoricongroup.com.

If participants bring a non-parishable food item for the UCC Little Free Food Pantry, they will receive \$5 off the cost of the class! Payment due at the time of class. Checks are to be made out to Satori Communications Group. #BeTheDifference #mentalhealthmatters #mhfa

Cat Faulker to entertain at Barnstead Senior Luncheon

BARNSTEAD — Come enjoy a potluck luncheon with great music on Tuesday, April 16 at the Parade Fire station. Bring friends and those who support you or come on your own. Either way, come and make new friends. Lunch starts at 11:30 a.m., and at 12:30 p.m., entertainer Cat Faulker will be singing from the American Songbook. Her lovely voice and heartfelt deliv-

ery remind audiences of their love for the music of Gershwin, Ellington, Berlin and all of the classic American Songbook tunesmiths.

Faulker brings alive the beautiful melodies and sophisticated lyrics that are part of our musical heritage. We hope you'll come, bring a dish to share and enjoy the company.

salmonpress.com

Sara Custance promoted to AVP Commercial Loan Portfolio Manager



Sara Custance

MEREDITH — MVSb (Meredith Village Savings Bank) is proud to announce the promotion of Sara Custance to Assistant Vice President, Commercial Loan Portfolio Manager. In this role, Custance manages a portfolio of business lending relationships for the Bank and supports the underwriting and financial analysis of new commercial loans.

"Sara has been a valuable member of the commercial lending team for nearly a decade as a credit analyst and portfolio manager," said Robert Davis, Senior Vice President, Commercial Lending Team Leader. "Her knowledge and experience have enhanced our relationship-focused business lending approach and I am thrilled to recognize her contributions and talent with this well-deserved promotion."

"I have been fortunate to work in many different roles within the Bank in my 18 years here and every opportunity has allowed me to learn and grow as a banker," said Custance. "I am proud to work for an organization

that promotes integrity, fosters teamwork and prides itself on supporting the community and our local businesses. I look forward to many more years of growing with MVSb."

Since joining MVSb, Sara has served as a teller, retail supervisor, credit analyst and most recently as Commercial Portfolio Manager. She is also a 2019 graduate of Leadership Lakes Region.

MVSb has been serving the essential banking needs of people, businesses, nonprofits and municipalities for more than 150 years. As a mutual savings bank, MVSb has no stockholders but rather operates

for the benefit of its customers, employees and community. Since our founding, one thing has always remained true: caring is at the heart of everything we do. By building and nurturing relationships, we believe that we can cultivate a community where we all thrive. It all starts with caring about our customers and neighbors. To learn more, visit any of the local branch offices located in New Hampshire in Alton, Ashland, Center Harbor, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.

Justin Maynard named to Champlain College Trustees' List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Justin Maynard of Alton was named to the Champlain College Trustees' List for the Fall 2023 semester.

Students on the Trustees' List have achieved a 4.0 grade point average for two or more consecutive semesters.

Making the Trustees' List is a tremendous achievement. Many of the high achievers balance their career-focused classes with jobs, internships, clubs, and volunteering. We congratulate them on this great accomplishment and honor.

Founded in 1878, Champlain College is a small, not-for-profit, private college in Burlington, Vermont, with additional campuses in Montreal, Canada, and Dublin, Ireland. Champlain offers a traditional undergraduate experi-

ence from its beautiful campus overlooking Lake Champlain and more than 90 residential undergraduate and on-line undergraduate and graduate degree programs and certificates. Champlain's distinctive career-driven approach to higher education embodies the notion that true learning occurs when information and experience come together to create knowledge. Champlain ranks in multiple categories of U.S. News and World Report's "Best Colleges;" is included in The Princeton Review's 2024 list of "The Best 389 Colleges;" was named a 2023-2024 College of Distinction for Education, Business and Career Development; and was awarded one of America's Best Colleges by Money for combining quality and affordability. www.champlain.edu

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Golden Eagles fall to Spartans in tennis season opener



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Dustin Gerry picked up a win for the Gilford tennis boys in the season's first match last week.



Alden Townsend returns a shot during his team's opening match last Tuesday afternoon.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

GILFORD — The Gilford tennis boys were able to get in their season opening match before Mother Nature dumped more snow on the area, welcoming White Mountains to town on Tuesday, April 2.

The Spartans left town with an 8-1 win over the Golden Eagles, who featured largely players who were making their first varsity appearances on the court.

The first match off the court was at number two singles, where Dalton Houle dropped

an 8-3 decision. Alden Townsend played at number one and fell 8-1 in the second match off the court while Dominic Soucy lost 8-5 at number three.

The lone win for Gilford came at number four, where Dustin Gerry fought through a tiebreaker and got a 9-8 (7-2 in the tiebreaker) win. Cohen Krupnik fell 9-7 at number five in a long battle and Aidan Hooper lost 8-0 in the sixth spot.

In doubles play, Townsend and Houle fell 8-1 in the top spot, Soucy and Gerry lost by an 8-1

score at number two and Hooper and Xavier Morrison dropped an 8-2 decision at number three.

Court conditions permitting, Gilford is scheduled to be at Moultonborough today, April 11, and at home against Prospect Mountain on Friday, April 12, Profile on Monday, April 15, and Inter-Lakes on Wednesday, April 17.

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

Timber Wolves get win in season-opening match

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

ALTON — The Prospect Mountain girls' tennis team kicked off the new season with a home match on Monday, April 1, beating the snowstorm and picking up an 8-1 win over Inter-Lakes.

"At least we got one in," said coach Hollie Kelley, who picked up her first win as the Timber Wolf coach.

Erin Rawnsley battled through a tough battle at number one and finished with an 8-6 win, while Aijah Thoroughgood got an 8-2 win in the second spot, Natalia Smith won 8-3 in the third spot and Shannon Kelley won 8-1 in the fourth spot. Laney Henry got an 8-2 win in the fifth spot while Maddie Miller, in only her third time on a tennis court, showed some strong serves but dropped an 8-1 decision in the sixth spot.

In doubles play, Rawnsley and Kelley got an 8-3 win in the top spot, Smith and Henry won by an 8-4 score at number two and Smith and Miller picked up the

8-2 win in the third spot to secure the 8-1 win for the Timber Wolves.

Prospect is scheduled to be at home against St. Thomas today, April 11, will be hosting Gilford on Friday, April 12, and will have a rematch with Inter-Lakes in Meredith on Wednesday, April 17, all weather and court conditions permitting.

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



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Pieces in place for solid run for Gilford baseball

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — The potential is there for the Gilford baseball team as the Golden Eagles look to improve on a 7-9 record from a year ago.

“The offense is popping with potential with speed and power up and down the lineup,” said third-year head coach Mike Giovanditto. “It is

going to take a total team effort for Gilford to take the next step, but the pieces are in place for a deep run.”

The Golden Eagles bring back 11 players with varsity experience, led by seniors Gavin Clark, Caleb Giovanditto, Will Wallace, Brendan Folan and Tanner Keenan. Clark will be working at third base

and will be a key piece of the pitching mix, Folan will play in the outfield, Giovanditto returns behind the plate, Wallace will play at first base and also be in the pitching mix and Keenan will play shortstop and spend time on the mound.

Sophomores Ryan Folan and Drew Smith will also be keys in the pitching rotation as they join

the varsity team for the first time and join Clark and Keenan to form a nice mix of finesse and power.

Coach Giovanditto noted that he sees what could be a difference for this year’s Gilford baseball team.

“Team chemistry is the missing link Gilford is searching for and if they find it, it could

mean they’ll be in the mix atop Division III,” Giovanditto said.

The Golden Eagles will feature a season that includes two games each with Belmont, Hopkinton, Monadnock, Winisquam, Inter-Lakes and defending champion White Mountains Regional along with single games with Campbell, Somersworth, New-

found and Berlin.

The season was scheduled to begin after deadline at Campbell on April 10, and continues at Belmont on Friday, April 12, and at Hopkinton on Wednesday, April 17.

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

Registration now open for 48th Annual Great Smith River Canoe and Kayak Race

WOLFEBORO — The excitement is building as the 48th Annual Great Smith River Canoe and Kayak Race is scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 18 at Albee Beach in

Wolfeboro. Hosted by the Wolfeboro Lions Club, this beloved event promises thrilling competition and outdoor fun for participants and spectators alike.

Registration will open at 10 am and continue until 12:45 pm, with the race commencing at 1:15 p.m. The four-mile race includes a quarter mile of class 2 white water rapids and two portages. New this year participants can register online at <https://form.jotform.com/240255158509053>. Paper registrations are available at the Wolfeboro Chamber of Commerce office at 32 Central Ave., Wolfeboro, or by calling 603-569-4697. Follow us on Facebook for more information.

The first 50 participants to register will receive a complimentary race t-shirt, adding an

extra incentive to secure a spot early. The registration fee is \$30 per paddler.

The event is made possible through the generous support of sponsors, including Richard J. Neal, Jr. DMD, Makers Mill, Lakes Region Ridge Line Builders, DeVlyder Farm, Twin Ash Carpentry and Building, John & Nancy Askew, Goodhue Boat Company, Nolan’s Brick Oven Bistro, Trenta, The Cottages of Wolfeboro, Leone, McDonnell & Roberts, Dr. Diane Guerriere, Butternuts Good Dishes, Wentworth Watershed Association, Okie Dokie Cabins, Molly and Jolly Trolley, O Bistro/Inn on Main, and

Kingswood Press & Design Studio.

“We are grateful for the continued support of our sponsors, whose contributions help make this event possible year after year,” said Roger Murray, Race Director of the Great Smith River Canoe and Kayak Race. “Their commitment to our community and this long-standing event is truly commendable.”

Participants and spectators can look forward to a fun race with friendly competition, and beautiful scenery, all while supporting the Wolfeboro Lions Club Charities.

For more information about the 48th Annual Great Smith River Canoe and Kayak Race, please call Roger Murray, Race Director at 603-569-4697.

About the Wolfeboro Lions Club

The Wolfeboro Lions Club is a community-focused organization dedicated to serving the people of the Wolfeboro area. Through various initiatives and events, the club donates to local charities and non-profit groups, as well as funding Lions scholarship programs, and assists those in need of glasses and hearing aids. Lions meet the needs of local communities and the world every day because they share a core belief - to serve their community. The Great Smith River Canoe and Kayak Race is one of the club’s signature events, bringing together paddlers of all skill levels for a day of fun and fundraising.

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Thursday, April 11
GILFORD
Boys’ Tennis at Moultonborough; 4

Friday, April 12
BELMONT
Baseball vs. Gilford; 4
Softball vs. Gilford; 4
Track Home Meet; 4

GILFORD
Baseball at Belmont; 4
Boys’ Lacrosse vs. Campbell; 4
Boys’ Tennis vs. Prospect Mountain; 4
Girls’ Lacrosse at Campbell; 4
Girls’ Tennis at Prospect Mountain; 4
Softball at Belmont; 4

Saturday, April 13
GILFORD
Track at Newfound; 4
WINNISQUAM
Track at Newfound; 10

Monday, April 15
BELMONT
Baseball at Somersworth; 4
Softball at Somersworth; 4

GILFORD
Boys’ Lacrosse at Trinity; 4
Boys’ Tennis vs. Profile; 4
Girls’ Lacrosse vs. Trinity; 4
Softball vs. Conant; 4
WINNISQUAM

Baseball at Kearsarge; 4
Softball at Kearsarge; 4

Tuesday, April 16
BELMONT
Baseball vs. White Mountains; 4
Softball vs. White Mountains; 4
Track at Inter-Lakes; 4

GILFORD
Girls’ Tennis vs. Profile; 4
Track at Inter-Lakes; 4

WINNISQUAM
Track at Kearsarge; 3:30

Wednesday, April 17
GILFORD
Baseball at Hopkinton; 4
Boys’ Lacrosse vs. Hopkinton; 4
Boys’ Tennis vs. Inter-Lakes; 4
Girls’ Lacrosse at Hopkinton; 4
Softball at Hopkinton; 4

WINNISQUAM
Baseball vs. Raymond; 4
Softball vs. Raymond; 4

Thursday, April 18
GILFORD
Boys’ Tennis at Monadnock; 4
WINNISQUAM
Baseball at White Mountains; 4
Softball at White Mountains; 4
All schedules are subject to change.

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Thursday, April 11
KINGSWOOD
Girls’ Lacrosse vs. John Stark; 5:30

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Baseball vs. Kearsarge; 4
Girls’ Tennis vs. St. Thomas; 4
Softball vs. Kearsarge; 4

Friday, April 12
KENNETT
Baseball at St. Thomas; 4
Boys’ Tennis at Windham; 4
Girls’ Tennis vs. Windham; 4
Softball at Campbell; 4

KINGSWOOD
Baseball at Pelham; 4
Boys’ Lacrosse at Goffstown; 7
Boys’ Tennis vs. Hollis-Brookline; 4
Girls’ Tennis at Hollis-Brookline; 4
Softball at Pelham; 4

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Baseball at Monadnock; 4
Boys’ Tennis at Gilford; 4
Girls’ Tennis vs. Gilford; 4
Softball at Monadnock; 4

Saturday, April 13
KENNETT
Track at Newfound; 10
PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Track at Newfound; 10

Monday, April 15
KENNETT
Baseball vs. Laconia; 4
Boys’ Lacrosse vs. Derryfield; 4
Boys’ Tennis at Oyster River; 4
Softball vs. Laconia; 4

KINGSWOOD
Baseball at Plymouth; 4
Softball at Plymouth; 4
PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Baseball vs. Berlin; 4
Boys’ Tennis at St. Thomas; 4
Softball vs. Berlin; 4

Tuesday, April 16
KENNETT
Girls’ Lacrosse vs. Oyster River; 4:30
Track at Coe-Brown; 4

KINGSWOOD
Boys’ Lacrosse vs. Oyster River; 5:30
Boys’ Tennis at Portsmouth; 4:15
Girls’ Lacrosse at Manchester Memorial; 4:30
Girls’ Tennis vs. Portsmouth; 4
Track at Manchester West; 4
PROSPECT MOUNTAIN

Track at Inter-Lakes; 4
Wednesday, April 17
KENNETT
Baseball at Berlin; 4
Boys’ Lacrosse at Plymouth; 4
Softball at Berlin; 4

KINGSWOOD
Baseball at Laconia; 4
Softball at Laconia; 4

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
Baseball vs. Inter-Lakes; 4
Boys’ Tennis at Kearsarge; 4
Girls’ Tennis at Inter-Lakes; 4

Thursday, April 18
KENNETT
Boys’ Tennis at Milford; 4
Girls’ Lacrosse at Hanover; 4
Girls’ Tennis vs. Milford; 4

KINGSWOOD
Boys’ Tennis at Lebanon; 4
Girls’ Tennis vs. Keene; 4

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF ALTON

The Town of Alton, Cemetery Trustees for the New Riverside Cemetery desires to locate a next of kin, family member, or descendant of Henry B. Boyle, who passed away September 12, 1988, and is buried at the New Riverside Cemetery, located on Suncook Valley Rd, Alton, NH. We are asking any next of kin, family member, or descendant of Henry B. Boyle to contact the Alton Public Works Department at 603-875-6808, or at highway@Alton.nh.gov.
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