



THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

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

FREE

## Knights to remember

*Kingswood hockey boys win OT thriller for program's first championship since 1999*

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING  
Sports Editor

MANCHESTER — When Atley Rollins lost his father, Matt, who was a huge supporter of his hockey career through the youth ranks and into high school, during the last school year, his Kingswood teammates were there for him to lean on and talk to and there to pick him up when he needed it most.

On Saturday afternoon at the SNHU Arena in Manchester, the Kingswood junior found a way to pay those teammates back while at the same time, giving his father, who was surely watching, and every other Kingswood sports fan, a moment to cherish.

Rollins finished off a



JOSHUA SPAULDING

The Kingswood boys' hockey team poses with the championship plaque after defeating Berlin-Gorham in overtime on Saturday afternoon.

pass from teammate Myles O'Keefe with 1:09 to go in overtime in the Division III championship game against Berlin-Gorham, lifting Kingswood to its first

hockey championship since 1999 with a 2-1 win.

"We've been through a lot of tough times this year and we keep our heads up and got that goal," Rollins said. "Beautiful pass from Myles, he tossed it right under that guy's stick and I just hoped for the best."

But before the overtime winner, it was probably the most thrilling 30 seconds of hockey anyone has seen as regulation drew to a close.

Berlin's Hudson Goulet scored with 29 seconds to go to break a scoreless tie, seemingly sending Kingswood down to defeat in the title game for the second time in as many years.

But Keller Peacock had other ideas, rifling home a shot from the point with just 12 seconds to go in regulation, sending the game to overtime tied at one.

And after losing in overtime, SEE **HOCKEY**, PAGE **A11**

## End 68 Hours of Hunger merges local chapters

REGION — End 68 Hours of Hunger announces the merger of Alton and Barnstead/Pittsfield. The new name will be End 68 Hours of Hunger Alton/Barnstead/Pittsfield.

Our program is managed solely by volunteers who donate their time up to 10 hours a week, and is supported through money and food donations from our local community. We provide to families, weekly bags of food, consisting of two breakfasts, two lunches and three dinners from Friday to Monday morning.

We are pleased to welcome a new team of Volunteer Program Coordinators to support each location.

Our Alton Volunteer Program Coordinator, Kelly Senter, had this to say: "As a lifelong resident of the Alton community, I'm proud to be able to give back to a community that has helped build and shape me as an adult. They say it takes a village and I have learned throughout the years that our small town is a wonderful village. Being able to help provide food for children is so important to me because I have benefitted from similar programs in the past and know the small relief it provides in a time of need. Being able to volunteer and give back feels like paying it forward."

Leah Whitney, our local baker ("Cookie Bear Baking") is our Barnstead Program Coordinator, and has volunteered for more than two years. She is Barnstead's "sweetheart" in her community. She volunteers specifically for the children such as participating in the Reading across America Program and volunteers for the Senior Lunch program and so much more. And most importantly, she al-

ways has cookies to share!

Angela Eastman is our Volunteer Program Coordinator for Pittsfield. Since 2020, she has held leadership roles in PTO, Elder services and the Food4Kidz Program in the Pittsfield School System.

Eastman believes strongly that "You get back what you give in to this world, and in creating opportunities for children to have everything they need to become their best selves, while building a community where families know they are not alone."

Without these folks in our community, we could not support the families who need us the most. We should celebrate our volunteers daily, especially the ones you do not hear about. The volunteers who, pack the bags weekly, make food bank runs to get us food, deliver the food bags to the family's homes during rain, snow and sleet, the fundraisers, our community partners, local business, churches, schools and families. Without all of you, we could not be successful in taking care of our families. Thank you!

If you know of any families in Alton/Barnstead/Pittsfield needing food help, please have them email [barnsteadnh@end68hoursofhunger.org](mailto:barnsteadnh@end68hoursofhunger.org). There are no income requirements, just sign up. Families can also apply for our services via this link: <https://registration.end68hoursofhunger.org/>.

If you would like to volunteer or donate, please contact Lori Mahar, Volunteer Admin for End 68 Hours of Hunger Alton/Barnstead/Pittsfield. 603-490-5254 or email [barnsteadnh@end68hoursofhunger.org](mailto:barnsteadnh@end68hoursofhunger.org).

Remember: thank your local volunteer.

## Arts Knight returns to Kingswood

WOLFEBORO — Kingswood Regional High School and Middle School will be holding their annual "Arts Knight" evening on Thursday, March 19 from 6-8 p.m. at the Kingswood Arts Center, 21 MacManus Dr.

The evening will feature a concert and art show, and is a collaboration between the KRHS and KRMS music departments and art departments. Hundreds of beautiful pieces of middle and high school

art work will be on display in the lobby, as well as performances from six ensembles from KRMS and KRHS.

"March is Music in Our Schools Month, a time when we can celebrate all of the great things that music education brings to our students," says Robert Burns, director of bands at Kingswood Regional High School. "There are so many good things that come from playing music that it is difficult to know

where to begin. With large ensembles like Concert Band, Concert Chorus and Jazz Band, students are put in an educational setting quite unlike anything else they experience in schools. In an ensemble, students learn collaboration, compassion, empathy, focus, discipline, history, languages, critical thinking, and, yes, musicianship!"

This year's Arts Knight will be the last one for Tresa Livernois, a veteran teacher who has helped

students create fine art and harness their artistic style for almost 40 years. She will retire at the end of the school year, marking the end of an impactful career in Art education.

Alumni of Mrs. Livernois' classes are encouraged to come say hello!

Admission is free, there will be concessions available throughout the evening. Proceeds will help the KRHS Music Department trip to Washington D.C. on May 28.

## Scholarship Foundation accepting applications through April 1

GILFORD — The Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation's application deadline of April 1 for the 2026 - 2027 Academic Year is fast approaching! Applications received after April 1 cannot be accepted.

Graduates of Laconia High School, Gilford High School, and Belmont High School, as well as Winnisquam Regional High School, Prospect Mountain High School and Interlakes High School, along with home schooled and private school students who reside in Belknap County, are eligible to apply. Adult learners that are looking to either continue or further their education and are legal residents of Laconia, Gilford, or Belmont are encouraged to apply.

The Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation acts as a clearinghouse of donor funds, which means only one application is required. Since being es-



COURTESY

Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation's Executive Director, Chris Guilmet provides instruction and answers questions to a group of students from the HUOT Career and Technical Center regarding the LRSF application and process. Reminding them that the application deadline of April 1 is fast approaching.

established in 1956 through last year, 2025, the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation has awarded close to \$11 million to more than 6,270 recipients from more

than 650 donor funds.

In 2025 alone, \$901,275 was awarded to 393 local students (including adult learners) going on to secondary ed-

ucation. The application and instructions can be found on the "Applicants" page of the Foundation's Web site at: [www.lrscholarship.org](http://www.lrscholarship.org).

# Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

## Tinkergarten at B&M Park for ages eight and younger

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Tinkergarten with Miss Kim on Fridays at B&M Park from 10-11 a.m. for children ages eight and younger. Try a class for free on March 27. The eight-week session runs April 10-June 5, \$150, no meeting on May 1. Tinkergarten is an outdoor play experience that is interactive, cooperative and creative- let's play outside and explore what nature has to offer. For more information and to register go to: <https://sites.google.com/view/learn-and-grow-with-miss-kim/home>

## Alton Egg Hunt

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and the Gilman Library are sponsoring a community event for ages 10 and younger on Saturday, April 4 at the Gilman Library. Join the fun as we hunt for colorful plastic eggs hidden throughout the Library, then make a ladybug or butterfly craft to take home. A special guest is also planning to be there for selfies, and family photos so plan to bring your camera. Bring a container to collect your eggs in and arrive at the following times: Ages infant to four years- 9 a.m. start time for Egg Hunt- craft to follow; Ages five to 10- 10 a.m.-start time for Egg Hunt- craft to follow. The event is free to Alton residents. Parking is on Main Street and B&M Park. Please use the rear entrance of the Library to enter for the event.

For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109, [parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov](mailto:parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov).

## Hit the Trail! Hiking programs offered for all levels

Join hiker, Bonnie Dodge, for beginner focused hikes on Fridays starting April 3 or progressive hikes on Wednesdays starting April 15. Hikes start at 10 a.m. at the trail head in Alton and surrounding Towns.

Beginner Friday hikes are a great opportunity for hesitant folks to discover the wonderful world of hiking and learn about the best trails in the area- the program is focused on hikes for beginners. Sign up at [parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov](mailto:parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov) or 603-875-0109 the Wednesday before the hike day.

Progressive Wednesday hikes are for those that are looking for a hiking challenge. The hikes will gradually increase in difficulty each week- making this a great way to be outside and exercise. Sign up at [parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov](mailto:parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov) or 603-875-0109 the Monday before the hike day.

## Guided Meditation

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring Guided Meditation with Karen Kharitonov on Thursday March 19 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Meditation is helpful for reducing

stress and slowing our bodies down to breathe. The program is free, donations accepted to benefit the food pantry. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at [parksrec@alton.nh.gov](mailto:parksrec@alton.nh.gov) or 603-875-0109.

## Alton Town Wide Yard Sale

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its Annual Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 6, 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](mailto:parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov) before May 18 with your Yard Sale address location. When signing up please include your name, phone number and complete physical address. Free Yard Sale maps will be available after May 27.

## USTA spring tennis lessons — adults

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Tennis in the Parks for adults on Wednesdays at the Lib-

erty Tree Park Tennis Courts from May 6-June 10 from 6-7:30 p.m. Registration is \$75, includes instruction with a USTA New England certified instructor. Basic tennis skills will be taught: forehand, backhand, serve, overhand and volley. Register by April 17, class size is limited to seven. Registration forms are available at [www.alton.nh.gov](http://www.alton.nh.gov) or stop by the Parks and Recreation Kiosk at 328 Main St. to sign up. Contact [parksrec@alton.nh.gov](mailto:parksrec@alton.nh.gov) or 603-875-0109 for more information.

## Travel Club- Trip to Scotland, Wales and England — October 2026

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a trip with Collette Tours to Scotland, Wales and England Oct. 25-Nov. 3. There is also an option for a 3-night Paris post tour extension. The trip highlights include Edinburgh Castle; York Minster; Chester; Conwy Castle; Stratford-upon-Avon; Traditional Afternoon Tea; London and much more. Includes airfare, 12 meals,

hotels and transportation to and from Alton. This is a great way to travel solo or with friends. A knowledgeable guide leads the entire trip. An information session will be held March 23 at 11 a.m. at the Gilman Library. RSVP to attend the session at 603-875-0109 or [parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov](mailto:parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov).

## Weight Training classes — Mondays and Wednesdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Weight Training Classes on Mondays and Wednesdays, with AFAA Certified Instructor Kellie Troendle, from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library for adults of all ages and abilities. This program is ongoing. Build strong muscles and bones, increase flexibility and develop better balance. Bring light hand weights, a mat and water. For more information, contact [parksrec@alton.nh.gov](mailto:parksrec@alton.nh.gov) or 603-875-0109. Try a class for free. \$20 per month/session or \$5 drop in.

## Pilates Classes in

## Alton Bay — Tuesdays and Thursdays

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

## Dungeons and Dragons

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

## Gilford police log

GILFORD — The Gilford Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of March 6-15.

Corey M. Nelson, age 27, was arrested on March 7 for operating a motor vehicle not

equipped with an alcohol interlock device.

Michael Ryan Carpenter Nucas, age 42, was arrested on March 9 for Criminal Trespassing. Elizabeth A. Maglio, age 39, was arrested during the same incident in con-

nection with a warrant.

Wesley R. Garvey, age 44, was arrested on March 9 for Aggravated DUI.

Vincent Anthony Scott, Jr., age 42, was arrested on March 13 for Domestic Violence-Sim-

ple Assault resulting in Bodily Injury or Physical Contact.

Devon E. Brochu Reynolds, age 47, was arrested on March 15 for DUI-Impairment and Possession of a Controlled Drug.

## Gilford Public Library

### Top Ten requests (plus two)

1. "Judge Stone" by Viola Davis
2. "The Crossroads" by C.J. Box
3. "More Than Enough" by Anna Quindlen
4. "Heir of Whitestone" by Catherine Coulter
5. "Cross and Sampson" by James Patterson
6. "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi
7. "Mule Boy" by Andrew Krivak
8. "Stolen in Death" by J.D. Robb
9. "Jigsaw" by Jonathan Kellerman
10. "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans
11. "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon
12. "The Storm" by Rachel Hawkins

## Alton Central School to hold Kindergarten screenings April 23 & 24

ALTON — Alton Central School will conduct Kindergarten

screenings for the 2026-27 school year on April 23 and April 24.

Families with children who will turn five years old by Sept. 30, 2026 are encouraged to contact the school to schedule a screening appointment.

Parents and guardians can arrange a date and time by contacting Traci Cameron at [tcameron@sau72.org](mailto:tcameron@sau72.org).

School officials note that families whose children are not currently enrolled in the Alton Central School pre-Kindergarten program will

need to provide several documents at the time of registration. Required paperwork includes a copy of the child's birth certificate, immunization record, most recent physical examination record, and proof of residency.

Kindergarten screenings help school staff prepare for the upcoming academic year and ensure incoming students are ready for the transition into the classroom.

## Alton Rotary Club launches speaker series

ALTON — The Alton Centennial Rotary Club presents a free community education speaker series, "The Diabetes Challenge: Facts, Risks, Real Solutions" with guest speaker Jane Hackett, MA, RDN, LD, Certified Diabetes Care Education Specialist. This program will be

held Monday, March 30 from 7-8 p.m. in the lower level of the Gilman Library, 100 Main St. Seating is limited; please call (603) 569-3745 for reservations.

For more information, contact us at [altoncentrotary@gmail.com](mailto:altoncentrotary@gmail.com) or visit [www.facebook.com/AltonRotaryNh](http://www.facebook.com/AltonRotaryNh).



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CALL 603-279-4516  
TO PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

# Mountain Madness comes to Gunstock April 11-12

GILFORD — The sights and sounds of snowmobile racing will soon return to the Granite State, as officials at X Racing announce their inaugural Snowmobile Mountain Madness event, set for Saturday and Sunday, April 11-12, at the historic Gunstock Mountain Resort.

Four separate tracks will be laid out at Gunstock; one for high-flying Snowcross competition, one with fewer jumps and features for Sunday Funday action; a third for Hillcross, and fourth for Vintage Snow Ovals. It's a weekend full of racing for all ages and ability levels; with a class for every sled.

"We're still working hard to rebuild sanctioned snowmobile racing here in New England," X Racing's Joe

Duncan said. "After warm temps forced the postponement of our event at Wheeler Spring MX in Maine, we still wanted to give Eastern riders a chance to race before the sleds get put away for good.

"Back when the old RMR and ECS circuits were still around, they raced in New Hampshire with good results, as well. We feel like Gunstock Mountain can be an ideal home for us in N.H., and we're looking at having a long-term plan there. New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont are full of snowmobile riders."

The upcoming Mountain Madness event is unique in that offers numerous chances to race for all who attend. With multiple disciplines of racing, on-track time

will increase. This gives racers way more 'bang for their buck,' with more opportunities to race each day. Less cost, more fun, and big smiles.

"We're excited to offer Vintage Snow Ovals to this program," Duncan added. "We'll have Oval classes for modern and Ditchbanger sleds; Snowcross for modern sleds, along with classes for Vintage and Youth in our Sunday Funday races. There will be multiple chances to race for everybody who comes."

X Racing has been working to grow the sport of snowmobile racing through a philosophy of keeping costs down for racers. A Sunday Funday weekend program is not centered around limited production race sleds; but rather is filled with classes

based on regular, everyday sleds. Everybody can compete.

"We've just wrapped up our fourth season of Sunday Funday racing out in Minnesota," Duncan added. "It continues to grow out there with families who own sleds and just want to get out and play. We brought three new venues into the fold this winter. All three drew tons of entries and saw great racing."

Gunstock is a

four-seasons mountain resort that offers year-round fun and adventure with skiing and snowboarding on 227 skiable acres and 49 trails. The Gunstock initiative started in 1935 when members of the Winnepesaukee Ski Club cut some cross-country trails through the Belknap Mountains.

The Belknap Mountains Recreation Area was officially opened on Feb. 28, 1937, when

it hosted the United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association ski jumping event. Growth continued through the next few decades, while 1962 brought significant expansion and a name change to "Gunstock Mountain."

For more information about historic Gunstock Mountain Resort, go to [www.gunstock.com](http://www.gunstock.com). To learn more about X Racing, please go to [www.SundayFundayX.com](http://www.SundayFundayX.com).

## Dillon Miller elected to membership in Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, La. — Dillon Miller of Barnstead was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at Elon University.

Miller is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may

also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann, who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and its territories. Its mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning."

### About Phi Kappa Phi

Founded in 1897, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest and most selective

collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Phi Kappa Phi inducts approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni annually. The Society has chapters on more than 300 select colleges and universities in the United States and its territories. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify. The Society's mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning." For more information, visit [www.PhiKappaPhi.org](http://www.PhiKappaPhi.org).

## Gilford High School presents hilarious comedy "The Play That Goes Wrong"

GILFORD — The stage is set for an evening of non-stop laughter as Gilford High School proudly presents "The Play That Goes Wrong: High School Edition," running March 26-28 at 7 p.m. at the Gilford High School auditorium.

This fast-paced comedy follows the fictional Cornley Drama Society as they attempt to stage a classic murder mystery—only to have absolutely everything go wrong. From collapsing sets and misplaced props to missed cues and over-the-top performances, the production turns into a chaotic (and hilarious) disaster that leaves audiences laughing from start to finish.

Rehearsals have been going extremely well, and the talented student cast has been working hard to master the unique challenges of this incredibly physically demanding and high-energy show. Comedy at this level requires precise timing, commitment, and fearless performances, and the Gilford High School cast has risen to the challenge.

Adding to the spectacle is an ambitious technical production led by Scott Piddington and his tech team, who have created a set filled with surprises. As the show progresses, audiences will witness pieces

of the set break, collapse, fall over, and come apart in spectacular fashion—all carefully designed to enhance the comedic chaos that makes the show so memorable.

The visual storytelling continues with costumes designed by Karen Madon, whose work perfectly captures the quirky personalities and zany nature of the characters. Her designs help bring the offbeat world of the Cornley Drama Society to life, adding another layer of humor and personality to the production.

The cast of 13 students features some of the strongest comedic performers to take the Gilford High School stage. Their commitment, energy, and timing create a whirlwind of physical comedy, exaggerated characters, and unexpected mishaps that keep the audience engaged every second.

Whether it's a door that refuses to cooperate, a prop that shows up at the worst possible moment, or a performance that spirals hilariously out of control, "The Play That Goes Wrong" delivers a theatrical experience that is both wildly entertaining and impressively executed.

Audiences can expect an evening full of laughter, surprises, and memorable moments as this talented company brings the chaos to life.

Purchase tickets online at <https://gilford.ludus.com/200521188>.

Come out and support these talented student performers and technicians as they present one of the most entertaining comedies ever staged. If you enjoy laughter, surprises, and a show where absolutely nothing goes according to plan, this is a production you will not want to miss.

## Alton Senior Center is a great way to stretch your food budget!

Meals are a \$3 donation  
Anyone 55 and up or disabled is eligible  
Eat at the center or take home!  
**603-875-7102**  
Meals on Wheels also available

## Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events March 19 - March 26

**Thursday, March 19**  
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

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

Homeschool Lego Club, 1-2 p.m.

Connect, collaborate, and create with other kids! \*Ages five to 12

Guess the Gaelic, 3-4 p.m.

Think you can guess the pronunciation of these Irish words?

French, 3-4 p.m.

Live Free or Dial, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

This presentation will highlight important moments in telephone history, such as the race to the patent office, the switchboard and party lines, and the undertaker who invented the dial system.

**Friday, March 20**  
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.

Bridge, 10 a.m.-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, March 21**

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

Drop In Craft: Pom Pom Spring Art, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Come create your own beautiful spring pom pom craft!

**Monday, March 23**

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

Baby Storytime, 10-10:30 a.m.

Tai Chi, 10:15-11 a.m.

Mahjong, noon to 3 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 24**

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

Senior Sculpt, 10-11 a.m.

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

Dungeons and Dragons, 3-4:30 p.m.

Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

WACs, WASPs & Rosies: The Women Who Served NH During WWII, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Women played a vital role in the war effort, serving in many different capacities, some of them surprising. Hear about women like Anita Paul from Nashua, who served as a test pilot before becoming a Carmelite nun and Mary

Doyle Keefe, the model for Norman Rockwell's iconic 1943 Rosie the Riveter painting.

**Wednesday, March 25**  
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.

Senior Stretch Yoo-hoo!, 10-11 a.m.

Card Games, 10 a.m.-noon

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

Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.

**Thursday, March 26**  
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

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

Spring into Exercise Social, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Stop by the meeting room to socialize with all your exercise buddies and enjoy some light refreshments.

French, 3-4 p.m.

Flock to It, 3-4 p.m.

The sheep got loose and are running wild!

Get them back into their fold before time runs out.

Book Discussion: The Place of Tides, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

This month's book is "The Place of Tides" by James Rebanks. Led by Betty; books are available at the front desk.



English | English | Anglais | 英語 | Angliká | Yīngyǔ | Chirungu

## Governor Wentworth Continuing Education SPRING 2026 Class Schedule

The Governor Wentworth Continuing Education Program is thrilled to bring you an exciting lineup of classes designed to inspire, educate, and connect our community! Whether you're looking to learn something new, sharpen your skills, or explore a favorite hobby, there's something for everyone this spring. Classes will be held at the Kingswood Regional High School Complex unless otherwise noted. The Spring 2026 schedule is now available on the GWRSD website at [GWRSD.gov](http://GWRSD.gov). You can also find printed flyers at local town offices, libraries, and through our community partners. If you prefer a copy sent directly to you? Email us at [adulteducation@sau49nh.gov](mailto:adulteducation@sau49nh.gov) or call KRHS at 603-569-2055 ext. 1007 for more information. Registration is required for all classes, and many fill quickly—so don't wait! Secure your spot today by registering online or by mail.

### Spring 2026 Course Offerings:

- Home Seller Spring Training
- Intro to Strength Training
- Tying the Crucial Knots
- Drafting and 3D Modeling
- Introductory to Pickleball
- Simple Stress Busters for Stressful Times
- Find Your Joy Through Letter Writing
- Mah Jongg for Beginners
- Lean into Edible Gardening
- Indoor Growing with Microgreens
- Start Your Own Edible Garden Seedlings
- Learn about Culinary Herbs: Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, & Thyme
- Beginners Yoga
- Barre Pilates
- Intro to Tai Chi
- Continuation of Tai Chi
- Dance Fitness
- Balance & Stability
- Pilates Sculpt
- Unwind & Restore
- Gentle Chair Yoga
- Pilates Flow
- Core Yoga
- Group Gym Fitness

[www.gwrdsd.org](http://www.gwrdsd.org)

# Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

## Quiet volunteers strengthen our communities

In communities like Alton and Barnstead, some of the most important work often happens quietly.

There are no headlines when volunteers pack bags of food late in the evening. No applause when someone makes a grocery run on behalf of a family they may never meet. And no spotlight when a car pulls up on a snowy night to drop off a bag of meals meant to help a child get through the weekend.

Yet those quiet acts make a difference that is difficult to measure.

The recent merger of the Alton and Barnstead/Pittsfield chapters of End 68 Hours of Hunger into a single program serving all three communities is a reminder of just how much neighbors can accomplish when they work together.

End 68 Hours of Hunger is built on a simple but powerful mission. The program provides bags of food to families each week so children have meals from Friday afternoon until Monday morning, a time when school meal programs are unavailable. Each bag typically contains the equivalent of two breakfasts, two lunches, and three dinners.

For many families, that support fills a gap that might otherwise go unnoticed.

Programs like this rely almost entirely on volunteers. They pack food, coordinate deliveries, collect donations, organize fundraisers, and manage the countless small details that keep the effort moving week after week. Much of the work happens behind the scenes.

The newly combined program will benefit from that same spirit of service. Volunteer coordinators Kelly Senter in Alton, Leah Whitney in Barnstead, and Angela Eastman in Pittsfield represent the type of community leadership that often goes unrecognized but is vital to the health of small towns.

Senter spoke about giving back to the village that helped shape her life. Whitney is known in her community not only as a baker but also as a regular presence in school and senior programs. Eastman has been involved in school and youth support initiatives for years.

Their stories reflect something deeper than individual volunteerism. They show how small towns rely on neighbors who step forward when they see a need.

It is easy to assume that hunger is a problem that exists somewhere else, somewhere larger and more distant. But the reality is that food insecurity touches communities of every size, including those in the Lakes Region.

Children who benefit from weekend food programs are often classmates, teammates, and neighbors. Their families may be navigating temporary hardships, rising living costs, or unexpected setbacks. For them, a bag of groceries can bring not only meals, but relief.

Perhaps the most powerful part of programs like End 68 Hours of Hunger is the way they bring entire communities together. Local churches collect food. Businesses host fundraisers. Schools identify families who may benefit. Volunteers pack bags and deliver them quietly.

In that way, the effort becomes more than a food program. It becomes a reflection of the values many people still associate with small-town life: looking out for one another.

The merger of these local chapters is a practical step that should help strengthen the program and expand its reach. But it is also a moment worth recognizing the many individuals who have been working quietly for years to make it possible.

Most will never ask for recognition. Many would likely prefer to remain behind the scenes.

Still, their efforts deserve acknowledgement.

In a world where public attention often focuses on large institutions and national debates, it is worth remembering that the strength of a community is often found in the quiet generosity of its volunteers.

Sometimes, the people making the biggest difference are simply the ones packing a bag of groceries on a Thursday night, making sure a child will have something to eat over the weekend.



COURTESY

Voters in New Durham had the opportunity to examine a prototype of the proposed pavilion at the Smith ball fields, where a pad is already in place for it. An eight-year-old who participates in several Parks and Recreation activities constructed the mock-up. Town election results indicated 751 ballots were cast. In the kids' voting, the choice for the shape of next year's dog tags was close, but the heart shape triumphed by two. Red won out for color.

## LETTERS FROM EDWIN

### Tools

I'm sitting in one of those pneumatically adjustable height swivel chairs. All the teachers have them. The kids always want to scoot around the classroom on them as they have casters. I'd be tempted to pull off the casters if I had one. Removing the temptation.

I'd never get one though, they are all doomed to the fate of the chair in which I am sitting. Constantly deflated in the lowest position. Unable to even lift up. In the interim period, they just slowly descend as one sits on it. Nice idea, totally designed to quickly convert to trash.

If this chair didn't have its casters, it would be incredibly low to the floor and need to be raised. Now, its seat is sixteen inches off the floor. I was able to discern that by using an actual yard stick, something that you don't see much of anymore. This room actually had one of those relics of the past, and it was accessible.

Thinking of such things, my father never had a tape measure, he had this folded up, zig zag ruler thing that fit nicely into one of the pockets of his work

overalls. I actually have a couple of them, but always seem to use my tapes. There are times when they actually work better.

There are lots of tools that seem to rarely be used any more. Almost any hand tool that plugs into the wall are pretty much obsolete. AC powered circular saws and power drills are still sometimes needed, but lithium batteries have pretty much taken over everything. There are even battery powered chain saws and lawn mowers. I'm sorry, there ain't nothing like gas.

Thinking back, my father only had slotted screw drivers. That's all you ever needed for wood screws. Then one day, a Phillips head screwdriver showed up on the work bench. They were much better at keeping the screwdriver from slipping out from the screw, but they more easily stripped. That was progress.

Such memories extend to automobiles and how there was so much space and most things were easily accessible for replacement. A case in point, the blower motor on my first car was easily removed with

four screws from within the engine compartment. When the engine started running rough, I could replace the points and condenser with a screwdriver and set the gap with a match book cover if I didn't have a feeler gauge. I have an old tool bag somewhere that still has these nevermore needed parts.

This year, when I started using the heat, the blower in my truck had something intermittently hitting the fan. If I put it on full speed it cleared up but would come back after some road bumps. I had wanted to pull the fan apart, but in order to do so, I needed to take out the dashboard, a task I didn't want to get into. Could I just let it go?

I wondered what it could be? Leaves and that kind of thing were kept out by multiple plastic grates so they would never make it there, besides, whatever it was, sounded more substantial. The only thing I could think of that would have that much mass was a dead rat that had long since dried up. It could have easily crawled up in there. I know that critters infest the vehicles

around my house, leaving acorn husks in piles around the engine compartment.

Now that winter is waning, so has the fan noise. I was hoping that the fan would win the wear it out battle as it seems to have. I would then have to tear apart the dash to replace it. So far, so good.

Every now and then I see pictures of restored cars like my first one. I get nostalgic and wish I still had one, or a number of the other ones I had. They were so wonderfully simple, thinking back on them. I learned to be a back yard mechanic by myself. I look at today's technological monsters and wonder how anyone today could even start to figure them out.

But today, there are videos to watch about almost everything. You no longer skin your knuckles or get all greasy gaining understanding. Gone are the days of figuring things out with your own investigation. We consult the web on everything. Does anyone use road maps any more?

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

## Letters to the Editor

### Terry realized the dangers of an Article V Convention

To the Editor:

I want to express my thanks to State Rep. Paul Terry for voting to table HCR 13 and then voting to keep it on the table, which effectively ends the proposed resolution.

### Letter submission policy

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

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

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# New Hampshire's fifth season

There are four official seasons in the calendar. But anyone who has lived in New Hampshire for more than about five minutes knows that we actually have five.

Winter.  
Spring.  
Summer.  
Fall.  
And then there's mud season.

Mud season doesn't show up on a calendar. It arrives quietly, usually sometime in March, when winter begins losing its grip, but spring hasn't quite gathered the energy to take over.

The snowbanks start shrinking. The sun hangs around a little longer each afternoon. And the ground, which has been frozen solid for months, begins to soften.

That's when things get interesting.

The first sign of mud season is usually the driveway. What looked like a perfectly respectable driveway in February suddenly develops the personality of oatmeal. Tires sink a little deeper. Boots come back into the house looking like they've walked through a chocolate factory.

And heaven help you if you try to walk across the lawn.

Every New Hampshire resident eventually learns the same lesson: March is not the month for nice shoes.

When I was younger, I used to think mud season was something to complain about. You'd hear folks at the diner talking about it every year.

"Road's a mess."  
"Truck's covered in it."

"Lost a boot walking the dog yesterday."

And it's true. If you live on a dirt road, mud season can be a real adventure. The town road crews do their best, but there are limits to what you can do when the frost starts leaving the ground and the whole world turns soft.

Still, somewhere along the way, I began to see mud season a little differently.

For one thing, it means winter is finally loosening its grip.

By the time March rolls around, most of us have had just about enough of scraping windshields and shoveling snow. Even the most loyal winter lovers start glancing at the calendar and wondering when they'll see grass again.

Mud season is the first hint that change is coming.

You start noticing little things.

The snowbanks along the road shrink a little every day. Water trickles along the edges of the pavement where ice used to sit for weeks. The sun has a different warmth to it, even if the air still carries a bite.

And then one afternoon you hear it.

The sound of running water.

Not the frozen silence of winter, but the lively rush of melting snow finding its way down the hills and into the brooks. Around here, that sound is almost as welcome as birds returning in the spring.

Of course, mud season does come with its own rules.

You keep a pair of old boots by the door. You expect the dog to come home looking like he wrestled a swamp monster. And if you're driving down a back road, you learn to take things a little slower.

There's also a certain humor that comes with it.

My wife will sometimes look out the window at the yard this time of year and say, "Well, it's not exactly pretty yet."

And she's right.

March in New Hampshire is not what the tourism brochures would call picturesque. The snow is patchy. The grass is still asleep. The ground looks like it's been through a long winter—which, of course, it has.

But underneath all that mud is something hopeful.

The earth is waking up again.

Soon enough the mud will dry. The grass will turn green. The lakes will open up. Someone down the road will start working on their boat

again.

And before long we'll all be standing outside

KIND HEARTS,

COLD WINTERS

By CHIPPY

one warm afternoon wondering where winter went. Until

then, we'll pull on the boots, keep the car a little cleaner than the driveway, and remind ourselves that mud season is simply New

Hampshire's way of turning the page.

It might be messy. But it's also the first sign that better weather is on the way.

## Comfort Keepers

### Vision loss

BY MARTHA SWATS  
Owner/Administrator  
Comfort Keepers

Losing your vision can feel a little like the world is closing in on you. For many seniors with vision loss, this feeling is often actualized with a diminished ability to engage in daily activities, such as preparing a meal or using the telephone, that most of us take for granted. Vision loss is a major contributor to disability, the loss of independence, and reduced quality of life, and more than 2.9 million Americans aged 65 or older suffer from vision impairment. While the chance of vision loss increases with age, and there is the misconception that it should be taken as a normal part of aging, it is not any less traumatic for the older individual than it would be for a younger person. It may, in fact, be the most traumatic health problem many seniors face. The psychosocial effects of vision loss in seniors can have detrimental consequences.

Numerous studies have shown that seniors with vision loss experience greater difficulty with daily activities than those who suffer from other chronic conditions. Senior adults with vision loss also report a greater number of chronic conditions, such as diabetes, heart disease, and stroke than those who do not have vision difficulties. This can be attributed to a poorer diet as low-vision seniors are four times more likely to have difficulty preparing meals than their normal-vision counterparts. This may also be directly linked to the fact that low-vision

seniors are less likely to be physically active. (Only 59.6 percent of low-vision seniors report activity compared to 70.2 percent of normal-vision seniors.) This is not surprising when you consider that compared to normal-vision seniors, low-vision seniors are more than three times more likely to find it difficult to get outside and are three times as likely to have difficulties walking.

As a result, visually impaired seniors have noticeably higher levels of depression and anxiety than seniors with other chronic conditions. Because of their visual impairment, they may tend to isolate more and stop engaging in activities that they once enjoyed. Researchers have discovered that it is actually these higher levels of depression and anxiety that contribute to the seniors' difficulty performing everyday tasks more so than their visual disability. As visually impaired seniors become more depressed because of their vision loss, they begin to have more medical problems, creating a vicious cycle where the depression creates a worsening physical state and the worsening physical state increases depression.

The good news is that with support and therapy designed to help visually impaired seniors regain their independence, this cycle can be broken. Doctors can prescribe rehabilitation that will allow seniors to learn to cope with and manage their vision loss so that they can remain active participants in their communities. Family, friends, and caregivers can also help these se-

niors with many activities, such as meal preparation and transportation to events, appointments, and gatherings, so that their isolation is limited and they can carry on with their daily lives. By staying active and social low-vision seniors can reduce their chances of suffering from depression, which then decreases their overall risks of developing additional chronic conditions

About  
Comfort Keepers

Comfort Keepers is a trusted provider of both medical and non-medical in-home care services, dedicated to helping seniors and adults live safely, independently, and with dignity. Our comprehensive services include companionship, transportation, housekeeping, meal preparation, personal care, mobility assistance, private duty nursing, and other support services. We also offer Safety Choice Personal Emergency Response Units, providing an added layer of security and peace of mind for clients and families. Proudly serving New Hampshire residents since 2005, Comfort Keepers is committed to thinking outside the box—exploring innovative solutions to meet the evolving needs of our community. To learn more, call 603-536-6060 or visit [NHomeComfortKeepers.com](http://NHomeComfortKeepers.com).

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# Dubuc backstops Knights back to Division III title game



JOHN-SCOTT SHERBURNE

Kingswood goalie Jake Dubuc was stellar in net for the Knights in the Division III semifinals last week.



JOHN-SCOTT SHERBURNE

Owen Steele looks up the ice for a teammate during semifinal action last week in Plymouth.

BY JOE SOUZA  
Contributing Writer

PLYMOUTH — “Defense wins championships” is a phrase often credited to legendary Alabama football coach Bear Bryant, who guided the Crimson Tide to six titles during his tenure.

A solid defensive effort, backed by junior goalie Jake Dubuc, put Kingswood Regional one win away from

claiming its first state title since winning the Division II crown in 1999. Dubuc turned back 26 shots, including 13 in the third period, helping the third-seeded Knights hold off number two John Stark-Hopkinton-Hillsboro-Deering, 2-1, in the second of two final four contests hosted by Plymouth State University at Hanaway Rink on Wednesday,

March 11.

Dubuc stood tall between the pipes to back a gritty effort by the Knights, who avenged two regular season losses to JS-H-HD. Now Kingswood (16-4) gets a shot to avenge its other two setbacks when it takes on top-seed Berlin-Gorham in the final.

“They played very well tonight, and we had to against them,”



JOHN-SCOTT SHERBURNE

Nate Cloos fires a shot during semifinal action last Wednesday against John Stark-Hopkinton-Hillsboro-Deering at Plymouth State.



COURTESY

The following Kingswood Regional Middle School students received the February Super Knights Award for “Tolerance.” In the first row are Nova Reed and Jacob Lamontagne. In the second row are Cayla Proctor and Nicole Joly. In the third row are Tyler Stys and Nathan Warner. In the fourth row are John Mullen and Danica Wright. In the fifth row are Bentley Lemay and Devan Richards. Congratulations!

Kingswood coach Mike Potenza said after his Knights moved to 16-4 on the season. “There’s a reason why they went 17-1. They are a very good team.

“It is very hard to beat a good team three times in a year,” he added. “Berlin beat us twice and it will be hard for them to beat us a third time.”

Kingswood cashed in a couple of opportunities on the offensive end, getting a late first period goal from senior James Rogers and a second period tally by Ryder Shannon. Dubuc made sure it was enough.

The junior netminder was on from the start but came up huge in the final two frames.

Early in the second period with the Knights on the power-play, John Stark/Hopkinton/Hillsboro’s Kip Hedquist knocked down a pass at the blue line and took off ahead of the Kingswood defense for a breakaway. Dubuc slid to his right to turn aside Hedquist’s backhand bid with 13:30 left in the second, keeping the score knotted at 1-1.

With the Knights up a goal in the third, Dubuc was locked in.

The junior made a beautiful save on Tad Stokes, who was set up in the slot with 13:34 to play. The Knights had a couple of chances on the other end and thought they had extended their lead at the 10:16 mark. After the Knights controlled a face off in the General Hawks end, defenseman Aaron Bartlett sent a shot from the right point that made its way through traffic and off the inside post and out. JS-H-HD quickly cleared it.

Following some up-and-down play, the General Hawks went into desperation mode with just less than six

minutes remaining and really started to crash the net. Dubuc and the Knights were up to the challenge. Among the saves down the stretch, his best was likely on a backhand bid by Finn Travers out of scrum in front with 18.4 seconds left and Potenza called a timeout.

“He’s awesome,” Potenza said about his netminder. “He’s first team All-State and that’s why. The pressure they put on us at the end. I called a timeout for Jake. He was under siege there and we needed to give him a break.”

Dubuc stopped another bid with eight seconds left, controlling the rebound and smothering it as he did all night with General Hawks crashing the goal crease. With eight seconds left, the General Hawks won the faceoff but a wrist shot from the point was blocked and cleared to begin the celebration.

“It’s four years in a row for this group. We’ve been in the semifinals the last four years. We have more playoff experience than they have, and it showed,” pointed out Potenza. “We came out from the beginning and made them play our game. They like to fly up and down the ice and we are a physical team. We were able to get them to play a physical game.”

The Knights though were forced to come back from an early deficit.

After controlling the puck in his own zone, defenseman Ollie Zahn connected with Travers on a long stretch pass near the Kingswood blue line. Knights’ defenseman Nate Cloos got back on Travers, but the sophomore forward was able to control the puck and spin around for a shot that hit Cloos’ leg and

eluded Dubuc to give the General Hawks a 1-0 edge at 9:52 of the first.

Kingswood didn’t seem bothered by the deficit, continuing to play its game and finally cashed in on a power-play opportunity with less than two minutes remaining in the first. After the Knights controlled the faceoff, Rogers moved the puck through two General Hawks to Keller Peacock along the far boards. The senior captain moved it back to Cloos in the middle of the blue line, who dropped it to Rogers who fired a shot that appeared to go off the pad of JS-H-HD goalie Lucas Arlen (nine saves) and just 14 seconds into the man advantage to tie the game at 1-1 with 1:22 on the clock.

Kingswood netted the eventual game-winner at 9:46 of the second frame. Rogers moved across the blue and into the left faceoff circle where he fired a shot.

Arlen turned it aside, but Shannon pounced on the rebound and popped it into the left corner to make it 2-1 Knights. Junior forward Myles O’Keefe also picked up an assist on the play.

“I have a lot of faith in Jake. I’m sure he wants to have that one back, but that first goal deflected off a defenseman,” Potenza said. “That didn’t rattle him at all (or the Knights).”

“We’ve never really started strong over the years. We kind of build as the game goes. All of our guys have been here in big games. They just pick it up as we play.”

The second frame was evenly played with both teams firing five shots on goal. The General Hawks had a 9-3 edge in the first, and 13-2 in the third to outshoot Kingswood 27-10 in the contest.

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I have been practicing law since 1985, after graduating from Vermont Law School. Before starting my legal career, I earned a Master’s Degree in counseling from SUNY, Plattsburgh, and completed my undergraduate studies in education at Temple University in Philadelphia. Before entering the legal field, I worked as an inner-city high school teacher and ran a cactus business, selling plants as a street vendor in downtown Philadelphia. My legal career began in Saranac Lake and Lake Placid, New York, where I practiced law until 2002. In that year, I passed the New Hampshire Bar and relocated to New Hampshire to continue my practice. I am an active member of the New Hampshire Bar Association. Over the years, I have served as President of the Grafton County Bar Association and as Chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section. I also served on the New Hampshire Bar Association Board of Governors for 2 terms. Currently, I am a member of the New Hampshire Bar Legislative Committee and a Fellow of the New Hampshire Bar Foundation.

I also hosted a weekly radio show called “Family Law Talk Radio,” which featured professionals with expertise in various related subjects. In recent years, I have focused my practice on Estate Planning and administration. This includes drafting wills and trusts, as well as probate and trust administration.

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# Songwriter Round-Up show lineup set for March 26

MEREDITH — The partnership between Katie Dobbins Music (Gilford) and Hermit Woods Winery & Eatery (Meredith) which has brought the monthly music series Songwriter Round-Up to the Lakes Region is set to deliver another great show at the end of this month. Held in the region's premier listening room, The Loft located on the second floor of the Winery, this series has been giving audience members a chance to experience the original music of talented singer-songwriters from the New England area and beyond. At each show three artists share their songs and stories in a unique in-the-round style performance. Held on the last Thursday of each month, this intimate series features two different songwriters each month alongside host performer Katie Dobbins.

The series presents area residents and visitors an opportunity to experience the show "magic" that each new lineup creates. Winery co-founder and owner Bob Manley is thrilled to have his establishment be home to the monthly Songwriter Round-Up Series.

Remarking on the success of the series, Manley reaffirms the valued partnership the Winery has developed with Katie Dobbins Music, expressing, "Working alongside Katie Dobbins and her Songwriter Round-Up Series has been an absolute delight. Katie brings an engaging presence to the stage, effortlessly connecting with our audiences and showcasing incredible talent with each performance."

The next Songwriter Round-Up show takes place on Thursday, March 26, featuring the Lakes Region's own Katie Dobbins, a singer-songwriter who delivers heart-felt lyrics with beautiful vocal tones wrapped in guitar and piano melodies; Carrie Welling, a singer-songwriter based in Nashville with honest lyrics delivered by her bold, sultry vocals and supported by Americana pop melodies; and Olivia Conway, a young aspiring country singer and songwriter from New Hampshire with a passion for music and connecting to audiences through her songs. All of these artists bring their own unique life-lyrics, melodies, and styles to the stage. This will be an evening of great original music and dynamic entertainment that you won't want to miss. Learn more about each of these artists on the Hermit Woods Winery website.

A complimentary wine tasting will begin at 5:30 p.m., the Loft opens at 6 p.m. for seating & dinner orders, and music starts



at 7 p.m. Patrons can further enhance their evening by selecting from a menu of tasty items available from onsite Chef Eric Huckins. Tickets can be purchased in advance at hermitwoodswinery.com/the-loft or in-person at the Winery.



The following Kingswood Regional Middle School students received the After School Allstars Award for Excellence and Leadership in Basketball. In the first picture is Cayla Proctor, in the second picture is Mason Ferguson. Congratulations!



A fisherman took advantage of the unseasonably warm temperatures this past week to try his luck in the Merrymeeting River at the Jones Field Recreation Area in Alton.

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## OBITUARY

### Joyce Elaine Rogers, 77

Joyce Elaine (Cole) Rogers, 77 passed away peacefully on March 1, 2026 with her loving husband Gene by her side. Joyce was born on November 1, 1948 to Archie and Pauline Cole. Joyce grew up in Piermont, NH and graduated from Orford High School in 1966.

Joyce married Eugene (Gene) Rogers, US Air Force in 1968. They moved to Smyrna, TN before returning to NH in 1969 residing in Alton, where they would build a wonderful life for the next 56 years.

Joyce graduated from nursing school in 1982 and worked at the Belk-



nap County Nursing home until 2005. Joyce enjoyed the balance of retirement, traveling the country, gardening, cooking/baking and enjoying life with her family and friends.

She is survived by her devoted husband Gene Rogers, Son Matthew (Mick) Rogers, Daugh-

ter Tammy Rogers-McGriff (Matthew McGriff), Grandchildren Jackson and Sadie Rogers and Brother Tim Cole (Elaine). She truly was the most beautiful, smart wonderful, selfless person you would ever meet.

Memorial service will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2026, 10:00 am at Alton Community Church, 20 Church Street in Alton, NH. Interment to follow at New Riverside Cemetery, 124 Suncook Valley Road in Alton, NH. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Alzheimer's Association would be appreciated.

May love and peace be with you!

## Just Duet returns to the Colonial Theatre!



COURTESY

Contestants for last year's (2025) Just Duet get together for a group photo.

LACONIA — Fifteen talented duos will be taking to the Colonial Theatre stage on Saturday, March 21, at 7 p.m. to raise money for Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative programming and the Colonial Theatre Advancement Fund. Powerhouse, the resident theatre company of the Colonial and Spectacle Live, the management company of the Colonial, team up to produce this popular American Idol-style Broadway musical singing competition.

This year's competition features the most teams ever - 15 duos who perform with Powerhouse and on stages all around the state. Each duo performs an uptempo and ballad musical theatre song, one number in each act. Competitors include Lauren Shelby Douglas and Nora McBurnett, Katie Duncan and Tess Hodges, Anna Cook and Louie Laurendeau, Kaitlyn Cooper and Lily Allard, Garrison Barron and Chris Catalan, Deidre Cullen and Samantha Paquette, Deidre Arcand and Emma Molloy, Connor Butt and Aidan Lamont, Eric and Kelsey Berthiaume, Robby Sturtevant and Majed Almustaifa, Emilee Thomson and Jeremy Dingman, Sharleigh Thomson and Nikolai Fernandez, Connor Forbes and Meredith Carver, Lindsey Packer and Julie Hirshan Hart, Rachel Hunton and Heather Bullimore.

This year's twist is called Super Team Edition, where two teams can team up for a quartet that counts for both teams, and the competition portion of the show will end with a dynam-

ic quartet from the new musical "Suffs!" Other musicals represented include Disney favorites from "The Lion King," "Beauty and the Beast," and "Frozen," Mel Brooks' "The Producers" and "Young Frankenstein," "Hamilton," "The Great Gatsby," "Hairspray," "Beetlejuice," "Into the Woods" and many more.

Three-time champions Joel and Laura Iwaskiewicz are hosting the event this year, ensuring a new champion will be crowned through a combination of judges' scores and audience "votes" - every dollar donated online in advance or at the event counts as one point for the team earning the dollar! Jim Rogato will once again be on hand as the event announcer. And Powerhouse's Broadway show choir, The Power Chords, will entertain the audience while votes are being tallied after the second act.

The 2026 judges are Laconia City Council member Eric Hoffman, Jared Guilmett - Chair of the Colonial Theatre Advisory Board and partner at Misiaszek Turpin pllc, Katherine Switala Elmhurst - Acting Executive Director of the Belknap Mill, and Heather Bishop - radio personality from Lakes FM 101.5.

Prizes are donated by many local businesses - check the Powerhouse website for the generous donors as well as all the information on the event and how to buy tickets which are available on the Colonial Theatre's website, coloniallaconia.com, and through powerhouse.org/justduet. For those who can't attend but would like to support the fundraiser by voting for your favorite duos using the links provided online Please only use the links on the Colonial or Powerhouse websites for tickets so you aren't overcharged by third-party sites.

Says Powerhouse Producer Bryan Halp-

erin, "This will be our biggest Just Duet ever! If you are a fan of Broadway musicals we hope you'll enjoy this abundance of musical talent on the Colonial Stage and help us raise some money for a good cause."

For all the details on Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, auditions, and other events in the 2026 season, check out powerhouse.org or email info@powerhouse.org. There are still opportunities available for businesses to sponsor events in the 2026 season.

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 St., Laconia, NH 03246. www.coloniallaconia.com

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

## Escape winter's chill with new exhibit at Lakes Region Art Association Gallery

TILTON — Tired of the endless gray skies, snow, and sub-freezing temps that define February in the Lakes Region? The Lakes Region Art Association (LRAA) has the perfect antidote: "Art in the Garden - Carved & Cultivated," a vibrant group exhibition bursting with the colors, textures, and life of gardens and nature's beauty. Featuring original works from talented local artists, the show runs Feb. 19 through March 15 at the Lakes Region Art Gallery in Tanger Outlets, 120 La-

conia Rd., Suite 300, Tilton.

This uplifting collection transports visitors from winter's grip straight into lush, sculpted gardens—think carved elegance, blooming abundance, textured landscapes, and serene organic forms brought to life through pastels, watercolors, mixed media, and more. It's an early glimpse of spring's promise, right when New Hampshire needs it most, celebrating the creative spirit of our community and the enduring allure of culti-

vated beauty.

A lively Opening Reception welcomes everyone on Friday, Feb. 20, from 4 to 6 p.m. Meet the artists, sip and mingle, enjoy light refreshments, and soak in the garden-fresh inspiration in a warm, friendly setting.

Adding extra fun to the evening, a Reverse Paint and Sip - "Forest Stillness" runs concurrently from 5 to 7 p.m. in the gallery. No experience required—guided instruction helps you create your own tranquil forest scene while you unwind (supplies included; \$40 per person; register ahead via the gallery Web site).

The Lakes Region Art Gallery continues its long tradition (rooted in the 1940s as the Laconia Art Association) as a welcoming hub for local creativity, with rotating shows of original art in diverse media. Open Thursdays through Sundays—check lakesregionartgallery.org for current hours and details.

For more info on the paint-and-sip registration, contact the Lakes Region Art Association Gallery at (603) 998-0029 or visit www.lakesregionartgallery.org.

## Church Service SCHEDULE

<p><b>ABUNDANT HARVEST FAMILY CHURCH</b> 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. Formore information, please visit abundantharvestnh.org or e-mail ahfc@faith.com.</p>	<p>Pastor Ryan Blackard</p>
<p><b>ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER</b> Sundays through the summer 10am &amp; 7pm; 875-6161.</p>	<p><b>JOY CHURCH</b> 55 Barnstead Road Pittsfield, NH 03263 Sunday Celebration 9:30 am Prayer Night- 1st Wed of every month 6:30 pm Pastors Mike &amp; Kathy Mavity joychurchnh.com</p>
<p><b>BEEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON</b> Alton-9:30a.m.Sun.MeetingatProspectMountainHigh School. Pastor Ben Ruhl, www.befreechurch.net.</p>	<p><b>PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BARNSTEAD, N.H.</b> on the Parade in Barnstead Sunday Morning Worship Service for all ages begins at 9:00a.m. Prayer Meeting-April through November at 7:00p.m. on Wednesdays. Pastor Sandy Pierson - 483-2846</p>
<p><b>CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> Worship Service 10:00am Bible Study 11:15am Rte 126 next to Town Hall Call or Text (603) 269-8831 centerbarnsteadcc.org</p>	<p><b>ST. KATHARINE DREXEL</b> 40 Hidden Springs Rd., Alton, 875-2548. Father Robert F. Cole, Pastor. Mass Saturday 4pm; Sunday 8:30 &amp; 10:30am; Daily Mass Mon., Tues, Wed., Fri. 8:00am.</p>
<p><b>CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF PRAISE C.C.O.P. PRAISE GATHERING</b> Every Saturday @ 5:30pm at the Iron Works Church, 1802 NH Route 140, Gilmanton Ironworks, NH ccopraisegathering@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH</b> Sunday 9:30, 50 Main St., Pittsfield Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg www.ststephenspittsfield.com</p>
<p><b>COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON</b> Pastor Jared Cassidy 10am Worship service Sunday 20 Church St Alton (603) 875-5561 www.ccoalton.com</p>	<p><b>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b> Rt. 171 at Tuftonboro Corner. Sunday services 10:30 am. Church 603-539-8058</p>
<p><b>CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC</b> Sunday School and Worship Services Rev. Kate Kennedy 603-776-1820 Ourservicesareinpersonat504NorthBarnsteadRoad, Center Barnstead, NH and live-streamed on Zoom, Sundays at 10 a.m. ccnorthbarnstead.com</p>	<p><b>UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF LACONIA</b> Sunday services and religious education 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. 172 Pleasant St. Laconia • 524 6488 • uusl.org</p>
<p><b>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FARMINGTON</b> Worship Services: 10:00 AM 400 Main Street Farmington, NH 03835 www.farmingtonnhucc.org</p>	<p><b>MAPLE STREET CHURCH</b> Sunday Service 11am 96 Maple Street, Center Barnstead NH 03225</p>
<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEW DURHAM NH</b> Sun.School9:30am; Church 10:30am; Evening Service 6pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting 7pm. Depot St., New Durham;</p>	

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# Greater Lakes Region Children's Fund awards \$765,035 to 76 area nonprofits at annual Distribution Event



LACONIA — The Greater Lakes Region Children's Fund recently distributed \$765,035 in grant funds to 76 area nonprofit organizations at a gathering at the Laconia Country Club.

Nonprofit leaders accepted their checks during the event and celebrated the largest allocation, to the most organizations, in the Children's Fund's 44-year history.

Grants received will be used by the organizations to fund wide-ranging programs that support local children and families in need in the areas of abuse mitigation, child and after-school programming, clothing, emergency needs, family support and education, food insufficiency, health needs, holiday, housing, literacy, mentoring, recreation and camp, and substance abuse mitigation.

"We are so proud to be able to support these amazing organizations that work tirelessly all year round to support the most vulnerable among us," said the fund's Executive Director Jennifer Kelley. "We are grateful for the work you do and so thrilled to be able to help you make a difference."

The Children's Fund raised \$883,023 in 2025, and its Board of Directors approved a funding budget of \$765,035, which represented a 15 percent increase over 2024 grants. Eighty-two applicants requested \$1,014,000.

After making the

grants, \$117,988 remained in the Children's Fund's budget to cover operating costs and a reserve for emergency expenses.

Six applicants were denied funding because they either were not eligible, withdrew or their mission was not aligned with the Children's Fund.

The Children's Fund's Distribution Committee worked tirelessly from October 2025 through March to review the grant applications and evaluate the health of each organization and its past use of funding to ensure that every dollar the fund grants has impact.

Board Chair Doug Morrisette is pleased with the process the organization uses to determine grant eligibility.

"Our process is thorough, transparent and trusted," Morrisette said. "We are confident that funds we raise and distribute significantly work to improve the lives of local children and their families by ensuring their basic needs are met, and they have opportunities to thrive."

Distribution Committee Chair Larry Poliquin said, "The committee is charged with problem-solving, analysis, empathy and community awareness, so we can assure all who donate, bid and volunteer that the funding is being spent wisely."

For a list of organizations that received funding, visit [ChildrensFundNH.org/whereourmoneygoes](http://ChildrensFundNH.org/whereourmoneygoes).

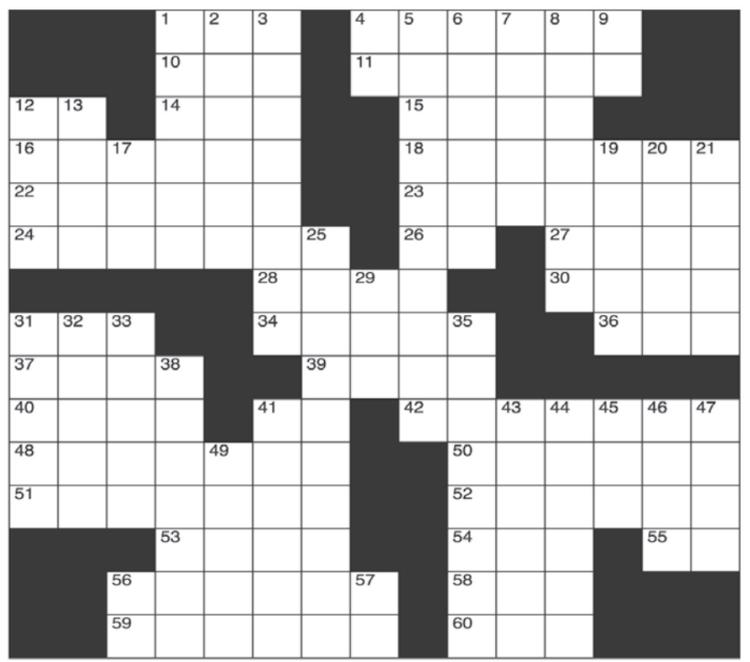
The next round of grant applications will be due by Oct. 15. To apply for funding or learn more, visit [ChildrensFundNH.org/apply-for-funding](http://ChildrensFundNH.org/apply-for-funding).

In the past 44 years, the Children's Fund has distributed over \$10 million to nonprofit organizations in the community.

For more information, visit [ChildrensFundNH.org](http://ChildrensFundNH.org).

### About the Greater Lakes Region Children's Fund

Numerous fundraising events in the Lakes Region throughout the year support the Greater Lakes Region Children's Fund, including the Children's Auction, our four-day signature event every December; Pub Mania; Christmas in July; and the Sweepstakes Social. In the past four decades we have distributed more than \$10 million to over 80 nonprofits that serve low-income families and children in the Lakes Region, all through volunteer efforts, community donations and corporate sponsorship. The Auction falls under the umbrella of the Greater Lakes Region Charitable Fund for Children, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that helps local community organizations that serve children and families in need. For more information about the Auction, the nonprofits it supports and how you can help, visit [ChildrensFundNH.org](http://ChildrensFundNH.org).

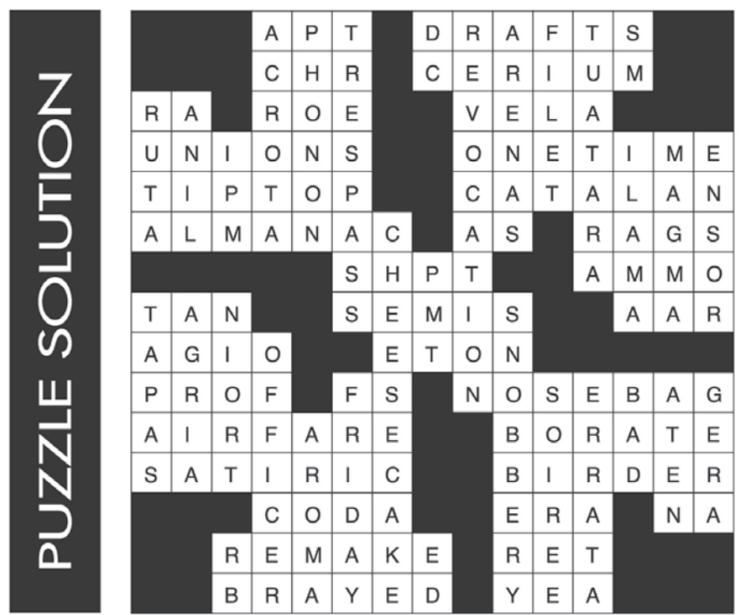


### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Inclined to do
- 4. Sketches
- 10. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
- 11. Atomic #58
- 12. Dorm official
- 14. Small Eurasian deer
- 15. Southern constellation
- 16. Workers' groups
- 18. Former
- 22. Excellent
- 23. Romance language related to Spanish
- 24. Reference
- 26. Equally
- 27. Dirty towels
- 28. A cargo (abbr.)
- 30. Ammunition
- 31. You get one in summer
- 34. Slang for trucks with trailers
- 36. Swiss river
- 37. Exchange rate
- 39. British School
- 40. College teacher
- 41. Foreign Service
- 42. Horse gear
- 48. Cost to fly
- 50. A salt or ester of boric acid
- 51. Mocking
- 52. One who bird-watches
- 53. Concluding passage
- 54. A major division of geological time
- 55. Sodium
- 56. A way to produce
- 58. Soak
- 59. Laughed loudly and harshly
- 60. Affirmative

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Moth species phalonia \_\_\_
- 2. Quantum of energy
- 3. Break the law
- 4. Location of White House
- 5. Official cancellation of a decision
- 6. Where rockers work
- 7. Cut of beef: \_\_\_ mignon
- 8. Nocturnal burrowing reptile
- 9. Atomic #62
- 12. Genus of evergreen shrubs
- 13. Flowering plant of the legume family
- 17. Inches per minute (abbr.)
- 19. Tropical fruit
- 20. Hot fluid beneath the earth's crust
- 21. James \_\_, painter
- 25. Popular dessert
- 29. Payment (abbr.)
- 31. Cuisine style
- 32. Genus of true flies
- 33. City in western France
- 35. Arrogance
- 38. One holding a position of command
- 41. Weekday
- 43. An evening party
- 44. Print errors
- 45. Not good
- 46. Egyptian Sun god
- 47. East German town
- 49. Olfactory property
- 56. Atomic #37
- 57. "Pollock" actor Harris

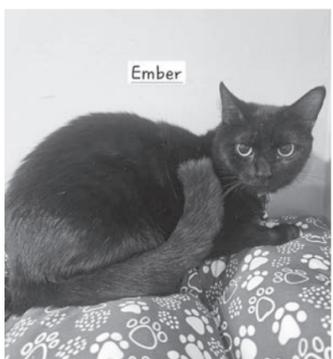


### PETS OF THE WEEK

## Meet Ember!

Ember is a sleek all-black beauty with glowing orange eyes that seem to shine in the dark. She carries herself with a quiet, calm presence and prefers to observe the world before jumping in.

Of the two sisters, Ember is the more chilled-out one. She moves at her own pace, taking everything in with steady confidence. You'll often find her in cozy, dimly lit spots, keeping watch and minding her very important business.



We're still getting to know Ember, as she tends to keep a little mystery about her — but that just makes earning her trust all the more special. She would thrive in a patient home that appreciates a calm, shadowy companion with mesmerizing eyes and a gentle spirit.

If you're drawn to quiet elegance and midnight magic, Ember may just be your perfect girl.



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# THE REAL REPORT

## RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	9 Downing Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$400,000	F. & Sally Brown RET	Lisa M. Brown
Barnstead	51 Nutter Circle	Single-Family Residence	\$218,533	Margaret M. and Leroy T. Lent	Laura Lane Properties Inc.
Barnstead	572 S. Barnstead Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$500,000	Elliott G. Gruner and Jane E. Thomas	Kathleen Matte
Barnstead	N/A (Lot 101)	N/A	\$227,000	Thomas E. Parker Estate and Linda Sarette	Miller Realty LLC
Gilford	28 Balsam Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$380,000	William J. Hanley	Alexandria Botana and Aaron Gagnon
Gilford	Country Club Road	N/A	\$2,500,000	McGinley Realty Corp.	CN Brown Company
Gilford	771 Gilford Ave.	Single-Family Residence	\$999,000	Christy M. Lottinger	F.J. Barrows & K.N. Ferguson and Fred J. Barrows
Gilford	131 Lake St.	N/A	\$170,000	Christina Marie Benoit	Lisa Marie Roebuck
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$785,533	Gary A. Kiedaisch RET	Robert J. and Alyson J. Wygonski
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$205,000	Marguerite C. Gilet LT	John R. Flynn Trust
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$195,000	Edward and Tammy Rimm	Yann and Eirka Etienvre

### 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](http://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](http://www.thewarrengroup.com)

# Gilford Youth Center to host Spring Craft Fair March 28

GILFORD — The Gilford Youth Center will host the Lakes Region Spring Craft Fair on Saturday, March 28, offering residents a chance to

shop locally made goods while supporting youth programming in the community.

The event is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at

the Gilford Youth Center, located at 19 Potter Hill Rd. Organizers say the fair will feature more than 50 vendors offering a wide variety of hand-

made items and crafts.

Food and refreshments will also be available for purchase during the event.

Proceeds from the craft

fair will benefit the Gilford Youth Center, which provides programs, activities and a safe gathering place for local youth throughout the year.

Community members are invited to stop by, browse vendor tables and support both local artisans and youth programming in Gilford.



# REAL ESTATE

**Equal Housing Opportunity**

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

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

This paper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed, that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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

The Commission at 163 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301

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Spacious 3BR/3BTH home featuring 1 level living, a wrap-around farmer's porch, 1.03 acres, a 2-car attached garage, plus a finished walk-out basement. Includes deeded access to Lake Winnepesaukee!  
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<p><b>\$599,900</b></p>  <p><b>MLS# 5078440</b></p> <p>Laconia: Built in 2018, this 3BR/2BA detached condo offers a main-level primary suite, a three-season porch with seasonal lake views, and an oversized walk-out basement. Located minutes from Weirs Beach.</p>	<p><b>\$165,000</b></p>  <p><b>MLS# 5078667</b></p> <p>Gilmanston: Located in the Smith Meeting House Historic District, this level 1-acre lot is bordered by classic stone walls and comes ready to build with approved plans and permits. It offers a serene rural setting near local amenities.</p>	<p><b>\$399,900</b></p>  <p><b>MLS# 5078441</b></p> <p>Laconia: This 2BR/2BA home features an attached garage, a direct-entry breezeway, and beautifully landscaped grounds with a private fire pit and BBQ area. Located within walking distance of Opechee Park beaches.</p>	<p><b>\$499,900</b></p>  <p><b>MLS# 5078380</b></p> <p>Laconia: This year-round detached condo on Lake Winnepesaukee features a 28' U-shaped dock, a jet ski lift, and a private lakeside deck with an outdoor kitchen. The interior is fully updated with granite countertops and black stainless appliances, plus approval is in place for a second-story expansion.</p>
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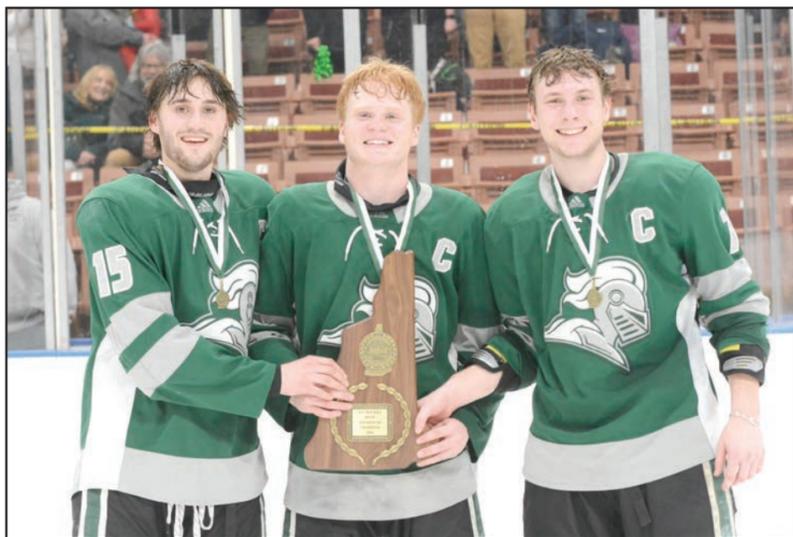
\* Statistics obtained from PrimeMLS since 1997 for all real estate firms reporting sales in the entire state of NH during that time.





JOSHUA SPAULDING

Kingswood goalie Jake Dubuc makes a save during action in the Division III championship game on Saturday in Manchester.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Kingswood captains Ryder Shannon, Nate Cloos and Keller Peacock pose with the Division III championship plaque in Manchester on Saturday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Aaron Bartlett controls the puck behind the net in action against Berlin-Gorham in the Division III title game.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Nate Cloos tries to push the puck past a Berlin-Gorham defender in action on Saturday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Ryder Shannon is all smiles as he celebrates Kingswood's Division III championship on Saturday afternoon.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

James Rogers skates the puck into the zone during championship game action in Manchester on Saturday.

**HOCKEY**  
(continued from Page A1)

time in last year's title game, the Knights were not to be denied this year, with Rollins igniting the celebration on the SNHU Arena ice. The championship was Kingswood's first for any boys' team since the lacrosse boys won the 1999 championship just a few months after the hockey boys won the title.

"It was a lot of the same kind of feeling on the bench (as last year), 29 seconds left and they scored, last year it was 37," said Kingswood coach Mike Potenza. "But then Keller fired one in and you could just see the air come out of them when that puck went in."

"I think they thought they had us put away when they scored," the Knight mentor added.

"We ran into the player of the tournament (Kingswood goalie Jake Dubuc)," said Berlin-Gorham coach Mike Poulin. "The whole Kingswood team, they were in this position last year and they came out on the wrong end of it and sometimes you have to lose before you can win."

"They had a great team last year and didn't win and this year they came back and had some success," the veteran coach continued. "Jake Dubuc, he is a great goalie."

Both goaltenders were tested in regulation before finally letting in a goal, with Dubuc seeing the most action early on and counterpart Grant Williams seeing a ton of rubber in the third period and overtime.

Dillon Boucher tested Dubuc right out of the gate and the Knight netminder answered. Hudson Goulet sent a shot wide for the Mountaineers before Nate Cloos came back with a couple of bids that Williams stopped. Eli Bledsoe and Goulet both had shots go wide of the net and Cloos and Goulet also both had shots denied, as did Berlin-Gorham's Tyler Warner.

James Rogers had a chance denied by Williams, as did Owen Steele while Boyd Poulin sent a shot high for the Mountaineers. Ryan Lemoine was denied by Dubuc and Poulin made a nice defensive stop on a chance from O'Keefe. Rogers and Boucher had shots denied at opposite ends and Brody Croteau also got in

close for the Mountaineers. Berlin-Gorham's Evan Hill and Bledsoe turned in a good defensive stop on a Cloos bid and Bledsoe came back with a chance all alone on net that Dubuc denied. Jordan Bledsoe sent the puck through the crease and Poulin had a chance stopped by Dubuc.

Berlin-Gorham went on the power play with 1:11 to go in the first period and Eli Bledsoe had a shot denied by Dubuc and the period came to a close with no score on the board.

A good defensive stop for Peacock on Poulin helped kill off the penalty to start the second period and Goulet sent a shot wide of the net. Dubuc stopped a Poulin chance and another from Hill while Aaron Bartlett had a bid go wide at the other end of the ice. Eli Bledsoe sent the puck through the crease and Hill had a chance stoned by Dubuc.

Goulet had a bid stopped by Dubuc and Boucher pounced on the rebound, which the Kingswood goalie also stopped. Hill, Croteau and Ben Poulin all had chances for the Mountaineers that Dubuc handled.

Berlin-Gorham went on the power play with 6:37 to go and Bartlett had a nice clear to start things for the Knights. Boucher got in close on a bid that Dubuc stopped and Hill made a good defensive stop on a shorthanded bid from Cloos. Boyd Poulin made some nice moves to get a pass to Goulet, but Dubuc stopped his chance and Ryker Booth had a good clear to help kill off the penalty.

Boucher and Eli Bledsoe combined on a chance that was stopped by Dubuc and Hill had a chance stopped as well. Reid Swinerton came back with a chance for Kingswood that Williams handled and Bartlett had a nice defensive stop. After Eli Bledsoe had another chance stopped by Dubuc, Ryder Shannon had a pair of chances denied by Williams and Cloos made a good defensive stop on a Croteau chance. Cody Bennett sent a shot go wide and another denied by Dubuc. Boyd Poulin's chance was stopped by the Knight goalie, as were chances from Goulet and Boucher. Cloos had a chance denied by Williams.

Rogers got in close for a chance to start the third and Swinerton got to the

bound, with Williams stopping both chances. Kingswood got the power play chance with 13:48 to go and Boyd Poulin and Boucher both had solid penalty kills and Williams handled a chance. Jordan Bledsoe had a good clear and Williams handled another chance from Shannon while a Bartlett bid went high. Bartlett had possibly the best chance for the Knights as the power play ended, with Williams making a save right on his doorstep.

After Jordan Bledsoe was stopped by Dubuc and Bennett and Cloos were both denied by Williams, Berlin-Gorham got a power play chance with 9:15 to go. Boyd Poulin had a shot go wide before a Mountaineer penalty put the teams even at four a side for 1:38. O'Keefe had a couple of chances denied by Williams and another Boyd Poulin shot went wide before both of the penalties were killed off.

Boyd Poulin just missed connecting with Jordan Bledsoe coming out of the penalty box while Rogers came the other way with a chance that was went wide. Boucher got in close and Hill made a good defensive play on a Cloos chance. Both Jordan Bledsoe and Hill sent shots wide while Bennett had a nice block for the Knights. Ben Poulin's chance was stopped by Dubuc and Croteau's chance was blocked.

With 29 seconds to go in the game, the Berlin-Gorham side of the arena erupted when the Berlin captains combined for the go-ahead goal, with Goulet getting the tally on assists from Boucher and Boyd Poulin.

Peacock then brought the Kingswood fans to their feet when he ripped home a shot on an assist from Cloos with just 12 seconds to go and the game went to overtime tied at one.

Williams stopped a Peacock chance and Dubuc stopped bids from Goulet and Boucher. Cloos had a couple of chances denied and Jordan Bledsoe had a shot go wide and another denied by Dubuc. Boyd Poulin's chance was stopped by the Knight goalie, as were chances from Goulet and Boucher. Cloos had a chance denied by Williams.

Berlin-Gorham went on

the power play with 10:38 to go in the game with Bartlett turning in a strong penalty kill while O'Keefe had a shorthanded bid. Hill and Croteau had chances stopped by Dubuc and Cloos had a block while Swinerton had a shorthanded shot denied by Williams before the power play was over.

Boucher and Rogers exchanged chances and Booth had a good defensive stop. O'Keefe also had a bid denied and Cloos and Rogers added chances as well. Jordan Bledsoe got in close for the Mountaineers and Peacock had a pair of chances stopped by Williams.

But then O'Keefe found Rollins with a slick pass in front and the Knights fired their equipment in the air in celebration of the program's first title in more than 25 years.

"These kids did not give up and it paid off for them," said Potenza. "We came in after the third with all the momentum."

"Definitely a better feeling than last year and it's going to be a much more fun bus ride home," the Knight coach said. "We weren't very sharp in the second period and we had to focus on the task at hand and try to get past that."

The Knight coach also praised the work of his goaltender, who turned in his second straight season-defining performance.

"Since he was a freshman, big games like that he's played like that, he's unbelievable, he's the reason we were even here today," Potenza said of his goalie, while also crediting

Rollins with getting a different goal than he's used to seeing. "Atley's our net-front guy, he's not known for his hands, he called for the puck, Myles slid it through, he made a move on someone and put it in the net, that's not the goals he's scored all year, all his are dirty ones in front of the net, banging in rebounds."

He also praised the green line of Bennett, Steele and Booth, who he called the team's strongest line in the title game.

"We've got three lines we can roll with anyone," Potenza said, pointing out his entire team has been to at least the Final Four every single season. "There's not a single kid in the locker room who doesn't know anything but the semifinals."

"At the end of the day you have to have the will, the extra grit and the drive to get to the front of the net," Poulin said. "I feel like we had good shots, but they gave us shots from the perimeter and a good goalie like Jake is not going to let those in."

"We went over what we were going to do (during a timeout after scoring the go-ahead goal) and we didn't execute," the Mountaineer coach continued. "Two games in a row we didn't

execute at the last minute of the game and this one cost us."

Poulin also spoke highly of his goalie.

"I don't want to take anything away from Grant Williams, he played a heck of a game," the Mountaineer coach said.

"We have nine seniors and they all played a role in the game," Poulin noted, pointing to the success the group had over the last few years. "I've coached this group since they were mites and I'm going to miss all these kids. They've had a great career (20-0 in 2024, finals in 2023, semis last year), they have nothing to hold their heads down about, they can be proud they had a great career at Berlin or Gorham High School."

The Knights capped off their night with an escort into town from the Wolfeboro Fire-Rescue Department and the Wolfeboro Police Department, ending at the Pop Whalen Arena.

And they will go down in Kingswood history as the boys who broke through after 27 years.

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

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# Four local hoop boys earn All-State honors

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING  
Sports Editor

REGION — The New Hampshire Basketball Coaches Organization has announced the All-State recipients for the recently concluded high school basketball season and local boys were included on the lists.

In Division III, Evan Martinez of Belmont and Mark Uicker of Gilford earned First Team honors, Brody Ennis of Belmont, Kasen Smith of White Mountains and Owen Hawkins of Gilford earned Second Team honors and Honorable Mention went to Colby Whitehouse of Prospect Mountain, Jayden Belyea of Newfound, Henry Sleeper of Gilford, Wyatt Carroll of Belmont and Jackson Downs of Inter-Lakes.

Also earning First Team honors were Player of the Year Bryce Ballou of Mascoma, Eli Whipple of Kearsarge, Owen Wilkerson of Stevens and Ben Normand of Hopkinton.

Also named to Second Team were Grant Baker of St. Thomas, Jackson Westover of Hopkinton and Brayden Pierce of Mascoma.

Honorable Mention was also presented to Fall Mountain's Zach Hearne, Derryfield's Nate Boudreau and Sammy Fazelot, Campbell's Jayden Medina, Monadnock's Sumner Hill-Goodell, Stevens' Tyson DiPaola, Hopkinton's Kristof Cauley, Raymond's Jacobi Cumberbatch, Keersarge's Bragen Kinzer and Ryan Allard of St. Thomas.

Ennis was named All-Defensive team along with Baker, Hopkinton's Kyle Buelte, Mascoma's Colin Myers and Oliver Stone of St. Thomas.

Mitchell Roy of Derryfield was named Coach of the Year and Richie Perez of Winnisquam was named Sub Varsity Coach of the Year.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford's Mark Uicker earned First Team All-State for Division III for his senior season.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Henry Sleeper of Gilford was named All-State Honorable Mention for Division III.

In Division IV, Profile's Daryion Faustin and Littleton's Sam Reagey earned First Team honors while Woodsville's Ryan Walker and Groveton's Hunter Parks and Ashton Kenison earned Second Team. Honorable Mention was awarded to Brodie Bacon of



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Owen Hawkins was named Second Team All-State for Division III for the champion Gilford Golden Eagles.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Prospect Mountain's Colby Whitehouse was named Division III All-State Honorable Mention.

Moultonborough, Connor Roy and Marcus Hampson of Littleton, Miles Constantine of Profile and Max Grondin of Gorham.

First Team honors also went to Player of the year Enzo Yonkeu of Holy Family, Cai Summers of Portsmouth Christian, Connor Dixon of Hinsdale and Blake Snyder of Epping.

Also earning Second Team honors were Luke Farland of Concord Christian, Keltin Moulton of Farmington and Nick Minutelli of Newmarket.

Honorable Mention was also presented to Daemon Jaimes of Pittsburg-Canaan, Adrian Huff of Nute, Zealand Marquis of Portsmouth Christian, Chris Colon of Hinsdale, Nathan Holmes of Franklin, Matt Napoletano of Newmarket, Chuck Phillips of Mascenic, Cooper Weir of Colebrook, Lucas Watson of Farmington and Braiden Elliot of Pittsfield.

Faustin and Littleton's Whalen Lemire earned

Coach of the Year.

In Division II, Kingwood's Brady Moulton earned First Team honors and Plymouth's Turner Oldenburg earned Honorable Mention.

Joining Moulton in earning First Team honors were Player of Year Alton Williams of Hollis-Brookline, Max Houde of Manchester West, Roy Lucas of Hanover, Andrew Fitzgerald of Pembroke and Brady Hegan of Pelham.

Earning Second Team honors were Weston Hickman of Souhegan, Jesse Cavallo of Sanborn, Grant Hayes of Coe-Brown, Peyton Larrabee of Bow, Ethan Dukette of Merrimack Valley and Luke Estell of Pelham.

Joining Oldenburg in earning Honorable Mention were Wyatt Daigle of Hanover, Dylan Kelley and James Arthur of Hollis-Brookline, Ryan Casey of Bishop Brady, Brady O'Connor of Pelham, Owen Jacques and Will Jernigan of Oyster River, Brendan O'Keefe of Bow, Amara Freeman of Manchester West, Max Call of ConVal, Miles Saunders of Lebanon, Brady Smith of Merrimack Valley and Javien Sinclair and Colin Dube of Pembroke.

Sinclair, Kelley and Daigle were joined by Connor Eno of Bow, Brayden Mariano of Manchester West and Osinachi Nwabueze of Pelham in earning All-Defensive Team honors.

Ryan Kelley of Hollis-Brookline was named the Division II Coach of the Year and Lindsay Poulin of Laconia was named Division II Sub Varsity Coach of the Year.

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