

Winnisquam Echo

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024

FREE

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Children's Auction returns this week

BY ERIN PLUMMER

ernews@salmonpress.com

BELMONT — The Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction returns this week and people across the Lakes Region will have plenty of opportunities to donate and contribute to benefit local kids.

The 43rd annual Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction will return this Tuesday, Dec. 10 and run through Friday, Dec. 13. The auction will take place at Belknap Marketplace in Belmont, and will feature a

variety of community guests.

The auction will be broadcast on Lakes Region Public Access Channel 25 and on Lakes FM. The auction will also be streamed on its website ChildrensAuction.org, on its Facebook page, and at laconiadaily.com.

The auction was founded by DJ Warren Bailey, who broadcast from a van in downtown Laconia. The event has steadily grown over the years to become a huge



FILE PHOTO

The phone banks will open on Tuesday, Dec. 10 for the 43rd annual Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction.

undertaking.

Proceeds from the auction will go to support several nonprofit organizations across the Lakes Region that help children and families. The auction has a Distribution Committee that reviews applications for funding and grants money based on different needs.

Online bidding for big items started on Nov. 29 and will continue throughout the auction.

During the auction

people can bid on the auction's website childrensauction.org as well as by calling 603-527-0999.

Have some holiday fun for Santa & Grinch Family Night on Wednesday, Dec. 11 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Belknap Marketplace. Kids can meet the Grinch and have their photo taken with Santa, build some toys in Santa's Workshop, decorate cookies, get their faces painted, and enjoy holiday stories. The Kiwanis Club will give out

free books to the kids.

Throughout the year teams have worked to raise money as part of the Community Challenge. Last year the Community Challenge raised \$356,456 for the auction.

This year Pub Mania will return to Patrick's Pub and Eatery in Gilford to raise money for the Community Challenge. The 24-hour Barstool Challenge of Pub Mania went on hiatus after the onset of the pandemic but returned as a

12-hour event last year. This year's Pub Mania will run from 11 a.m.-11 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12 with a full schedule of entertainment and activities. For more information on Pub Mania visit <https://www.patrickspub.com/pubmania>.

The auction is seeking donations of nonperishable items to auction off including new items such as household items,

SEE AUCTION, PAGE A9

Winnisquam Regional School District to host Community Dinner

TILTON — The Winnisquam Regional School District cordially invites members of the community to join them for the 15th annual complimentary Holiday Dinner.

This dinner is held each year to thank the community for their support of the district, our children, and the staff.

The meal will feature items such as oven-roasted turkey, farm-fresh potatoes, homemade gravy, farm-fresh squash, stuffing, salad, rolls, and dessert.

Other highlights of the evening will include a visit from Santa, carolers, Holiday Centerpiece sales, letters to Santa, and a beautiful backdrop for family or group photos. The Raven Gael Blaisdell Foundation at Hall Memorial Library will also be there with free children's books. Student work from each school will also be on display.

Thank you to our sponsors who include Coca Cola, Fantini Bakery, Surowiec Farm, PFG, M. Saunders Produce, Alans Restaurant of Boscawen, and Twelve 31 Events.

The event will take place in the Winnisquam Regional High School Cafetorium on Friday, Dec. 6 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Wrong-way driver arrested for DWI

SANBORNTON — A Massachusetts woman faces multiple charges after driving the wrong way on Interstate 93.

Just before 1 a.m. today, Wednesday, Nov. 27, State Police dispatch began receiving reports of a car traveling south in the northbound lanes of I-93. Initial callers reported the car in Ashland. Additional callers reported the vehicle at high speeds in the left lane, headed south.

An officer from the Sanbornton Police Department was able to find and stop the driver. Upon arrival on the scene, Trooper Benjamin Olmstead conducted an investigation and arrested the driver, identified as Grace E. Dionne, 22, of North Chelmsford, Mass., on charges of reckless conduct with a deadly weapon and driving while intoxicated.

Dionne was later released on personal recognition and has been ordered to appear in Franklin District Court at a later date.

Troopers were assisted at the scene by members of the Sanbornton Police Department and Rusty's Towing & Recovery.

Anyone who witnessed the incident or who has additional information is asked to contact Trooper Benjamin Olmstead at (603) 223-4381 or Benjamin.M.Olmstead@dos.nh.gov.

SANBORNTON — The Sanbornton Historical Society is again celebrating in style! Shop and enjoy the ambiance of an Old Time Christmas at the Lane Tavern on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

We'll have our famous Cookie Walk, locally craftspeople and artisans presenting their creations and a raffle for locally made treasures. We'll also offer a light lunch and our gift shop will be open. If you've preordered a wreath, pick up is 9-11 a.m. We'll also have a few wreaths available for sale.

Are you looking for beautiful, unique, locally made artisan gifts for that special someone or maybe even yourself? We have a wonderful variety of special gift items available.

Do you like cookies? You don't want to miss our famous cookie walk. We'll have dozens of festive homemade cookies. Choose your favorites!

Do you like shopping in an Historic Tavern with the smell of mulled



cider in the air? Would you like a light lunch to keep up your strength? Maybe take a chance to win locally made items? Then don't miss our Christmas Fair!

The Lane Tavern is handicapped accessible and located at 520 Sanborn Rd. (Route 132) in the Square of Sanbornton. Free parking is available across the

street. Email the Sanbornton Historical Society at info@LaneTavern.org or call 603 591-5176 for more information.

Funspot gift card promotion to benefit Cash and Cans



COURTESY PHOTO

The Funspot Token Gift Card Fundraiser to benefit Mix 94.1 FM's Cash and Cans fundraiser will take place Dec. 8

REGION — Mix 94.1 FM presents its 38th annual Cash-and-Cans money and food drive for the holidays now through Dec. 13. The fundraiser, started by Mix 94.1 FM's Fred Caruso in 1987, raises food and money for a number of central New Hampshire charitable organizations, from food pantries to soup kitchens to toys-for-tots programs.

Sunday, Dec. 8, it's the annual Funspot Token Gift Card Fundraiser at Funspot, Weirs Beach from noon to 3 p.m. "We're very excited to

have Funspot and the Lawton family involved once again with year's Cash and Cans campaign. They are always there to support so many community events," Caruso said. For a minimum 10-dollar donation to Cash and Cans, you'll receive a 10-dollar Funspot gift card; donate 20 dollars, get a 20 gift card; donate 50, get fifty, and there's no limit. "It really is a win-win for everyone. Funspot gift cards make great gifts and stocking stuffers and your donation benefits Cash and Cans."

During the Cash and Cans campaign, Caruso and morning co-host Amy Bates will be accepting monetary and non-perishable food donations with 100 percent of the proceeds remaining in the central New Hampshire community. "We live in a wonderful area, neighbors helping neighbors, friends helping friends, people helping people they've never even met. That's what Cash-and-Cans is all about," said Caruso.

A complete Cash and Cans broadcast schedule is available at www.mix941fm.com.

Donations can also be made through the mail. Please make checks payable to Mix Cash-and-Cans and mail to Mix 94.1 FM, PO Box 99, Franklin, NH 03235. Or Venmo, @Mix-cashandcans. For more information about the Cash and Cans program e-mail Caruso at fred@mix941fm.com. Mix Cash & Cans is a public service of Mix 94.1 FM, a locally owned and operated Northeast Communications radio station.

MVSB kicks off annual Mitten Tree drive



COURTESY

Members of the Moultonborough Women's Club drop off mittens and hats to the staff at the MVSB Moultonborough Branch last December. The 2024 Mitten Tree Drive runs through Dec. 31.

MEREDITH — The community is invited to drop off donations of mittens, hats, gloves and scarves during the MVSB (Meredith Village Savings Bank) annual Mitten Tree Drive now through New Year's Eve. All donated items will be distributed to local schools and nonprofits. The Bank will also match each item collected with a \$2 donation to local organizations that work to address childhood food insufficiency.

New, handmade or store-bought cold-weather accessories can be donated at any MVSB branch office. A complete list of offices and hours are available at mvsb.com/locations. "This is our 45th year hosting this beloved tradition, and it has been such an impactful yet

simple way that community members can give back to those in need throughout the winter season," said Stacy Trites, Senior Vice President, Senior Retail Banking Officer. "We are truly grateful for all the support we have received to warm hands and hearts."

The Bank's matching donation will benefit End 68 Hours of Hunger programs serving Alton, Exeter, North Conway, Portsmouth, Rochester and Wolfeboro, along with local Got Lunch! programs serving Gilford, Ashland & Holderness, Inter-Lakes, Laconia and Plymouth.

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

tual savings bank, MVSB has no stockholders but rather operates for the benefit of its customers, employees and community. Since our founding, one thing has always remained true: caring is at the heart of everything we do. By building and nurturing relationships, we believe that we can cultivate a community where we all thrive. It all starts with caring about our customers and neighbors. To learn more, visit any of the local branch offices located in New Hampshire in Alton, Ashland, Center Harbor, Exeter, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, North Conway, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Brandy!
Brandy is the sweetest girl with a whole lot of love to give. Her favorite thing to do is to play and lay with her people, but she won't say no to a romp in the woods either! She'd do best in a home where she's the only animal - she deserves to be the star of the show! Come meet Brandy and you'll want to bring her home with you right then and there!

Meet Baby!
Baby is a lovely lady who would do best in a home where she can get some adventures. She loves to lay in the sun and hang out with her people, but she won't say no to a romp in the woods either! She'd do best in a home where she's the only animal - she deserves to be the star of the show! Come meet Baby and fall for her smile today!

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Around and about Tilton

BY GREGG DEVOLDER

Hello, and welcome back.

Well, last week was my senior moment, and I missed my deadline by a mile; apologies. Given the very quiet week, I thought I would share with you what you missed the week before.

I thought the Zoning Board meeting was going to be an interesting meeting as we waited to go upstairs. But as it turns out, the conversation I couldn't help but overhear downstairs in the town hall was far more interesting. It seems our town's lawyer feels there's potentially a conflict of interest with two members of the board and was meeting with the board to discuss. At least that's what one of our selectmen was discussing with someone down the hall from us. I'm not sure if the other five people waiting there heard the entire conversation, but I would certainly caution against conversations such as this in public areas. And as a friendly reminder, voices do carry.

In the end, no one recused themselves, and the board unanimously agreed to rehear the Wallace Products Corporations Variance request for development of 240 apartments at the 83 Manville Road property. If you recall in the last meeting, one board member recused themselves and the board tied

at two to two. My understanding is a proper decision needs three votes for either side to be official.

The selectmen also met last week, and they received some pretty good news on the Island bridge. Our new Town Administrator, Scott Hillard, was able to find a company that specializes in bridge construction and repair. They work primarily on covered bridges and historic restoration and have a stellar reputation. Though the number wasn't mentioned, the board seemed very pleased with it and the restoration work falls within the guidelines of the grants we've received. The bridge would be removed in two pieces with a large crane, taken to their location, restored and brought back and put in place. Plenty of leg work remains to be done but this is the first bit of positive news I've heard in over three years. Thank you, Scott!

I'm pleased to let you know that many of the downtown businesses will be staying open on Fridays until 7 p.m. through Christmas. It's the perfect time to help support all our local businesses wherever we can.

Finally, the Christmas Parade will be marching through town on Dec. 7 at 4:15 p.m. It will finish at the River Front Park with Santa and fireworks at 6 p.m.

Given the quiet week, I thought I'd provide you with something that may bring a smile to your face or perhaps a reason to stop reading what I write.

The Story
By Gregg DeVolder

Should I start with something clever or a topic so profound

It's not an easy question, when you write about your town

For there aren't a lot of changes and the news is rather slow

I may be better off, if I write about the snow

It always seems to happen, just before I quit

The events unfold before me, for something to submit

The story starts to build, and I know just what to say

Another weekly column, is finally on its way

The farmer up the road, had found his cows were gone

He hopped into his car and drove about the town

He asked old widow Humphry, if she'd seen his cows go by

She shouted out her answer, "I'm afraid I have no pie"

The farmer kept on going and stopped at Paddy's place

The bar was pretty quiet, so he had one just in case

He asked his old friend Paddy, to let the town folk know

And just for all his troubles, he'll have a pint to go

The Farmer left old Paddy's and headed up the hill

It didn't take him long, to reach O'Brien's mill

I'm looking for my cows, the farmer asked of him

He hasn't seen a one, now it's looking rather grim

He heard the train horn blasting, as he got into his car

He headed towards the tracks, it wasn't very far

And there upon the rails, a moose was standing tall

With not a cow in sight, he said a prayer

for all

He got back in his car, and he worked his way to town

Not a person or a cow, was anywhere around

He'd best be getting home and ask his wife to search

He can hear her words already, "you should have gone to church"

He drove up to the barn and noticed all the lights

His wife was inside milking and looking for a fight

"You've been off again to Paddy's and had yourself some fun

Leaving me to do your work, until the day is done!"

Well, that's all I have

for now. Thank you for reading and all your comments! As always, you can email me at: aroundandabouttiltonnh@gmail.com. I can't promise I'll respond to everyone, but I will read them all.

Have a great week!

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DONNA RHODES

In the blink of an eye, roadside decorations in Central New Hampshire went from scarecrows to snowmen after several inches of snow fell on the region Thanksgiving Day.

You are invited to come shop with a purpose on Dec 7 from 10 to 2pm.

There will be jewelry, scarfs, soaps, ornaments, mittens and more. ALL the products have been made by survivors of human trafficking.

Please shop at First Christian Church at 83 North Main Street, Wolfeboro.



Opinion

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a day-time 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.

Finding your holiday spirit

It happens every year: November fades into December, and suddenly, the world expects you to transform into a holiday fanatic overnight. The lights go up, the carols start playing, and every ad you see insists it's "the most wonderful time of the year." But what if you're just not feeling it yet? Or, worse, you're feeling the pressure to feel it?

Here's a little secret: the holiday spirit isn't something you have to force. It sneaks up on you when you least expect it—like when you hear a kid giggling in a Santa hat, or when the smell of cookies baking fills the house. It's in those little moments, not in the perfectly decorated tree or the over-the-top gift list.

So, how do you find it? Start small. Pour yourself a mug of hot cocoa (marshmallows optional but highly recommended) and sit by the window for five minutes. Listen to your favorite holiday song—the silly ones count too. Drive around to check out the lights in your neighborhood. You don't have to deck the halls in a single day; sometimes, just hanging one strand of twinkle lights can do the trick.

And if the holidays feel like more of a chore this year, that's okay too. Give yourself permission to celebrate in your own way. Skip the big party if it stresses you out and invite a few close friends for a movie night instead. Or spend a quiet evening wrapping gifts (even if they're just for yourself). It's about finding joy where you are, not where you think you're supposed to be.

Remember, holiday spirit isn't one-size-fits-all. It's not about how much you spend or how perfectly you decorate; it's about making the season your own. So whether you're going full Buddy the Elf or keeping it low-key, let the magic find you. It always does.

COURTESY

The Tilton Senior Center will be hosting a Breakfast with Mr. & Mrs. Claus on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon. Breakfast choices will include scrambled eggs, sausage, hash, baked beans, French toast sticks, mini-pancakes, juice, and coffee. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased at the door. There will be raffle items and a 50/50 raffle. The Tilton Senior Center is located at 11 Grange Rd., Tilton. If you have questions, please call 603-527-8291.



Padre Pio

In the small Italian village of Pietrelcina, on May 25, 1887, Francesco Forgione was born into a humble family of farmers. No one could have predicted that this boy, who would later take the name Padre Pio, would become one of the most enigmatic and revered figures in modern Catholicism.

Padre Pio's journey to the priesthood began early. As a child, he claimed to have mystical experiences, including visions of Jesus and Mary. At 15, he entered the Capuchin Order, and by 23, he was ordained a priest. But it wasn't his sermons or pastoral care that would make him famous—it was the miraculous and inexplicable phenomena that surrounded him.

Perhaps the most famous aspect of Padre Pio's life was his stigmata—wounds resem-

bling those of Christ on the cross. In 1918, while praying, Padre Pio reportedly received these marks, which he bore for 50 years until his death.

The stigmata were examined multiple times by medical professionals, with opinions ranging from supernatural to psychological or physical causes. The Vatican conducted thorough investigations into these claims over decades, reflecting both skepticism and respect.

Ultimately, the Church ruled the stigmata as genuine and beyond natural explanation, contributing to his canonization in 2002.

His mystical gifts didn't stop there. Padre Pio was said to possess the ability to bilocate—appearing in two places at once—and to read souls, revealing private details during confes-

sions that penitents hadn't disclosed.

These accounts, while widely believed by his devotees, are based on anecdotal evidence and lack independent verification, leading skeptics to question their authenticity. Padre Pio humbly attributed all his gifts to God, famously saying, "I only want to be a poor friar who prays."

For all the awe he inspired, skepticism followed him, too. Was the stigmata self-inflicted? Were the stories exaggerated by adoring followers? In the 1920s, the Church temporarily restricted Padre Pio's public ministry, citing concerns about the authenticity of his wounds and the intensity of his following. These questions persist but don't diminish the enduring allure of his legacy.

Of all the mysteries tied to Padre Pio, none

are as dramatic—or as spine-tingling—as the stories from World War II. San Giovanni Rotondo, where Padre Pio lived, was under threat from Allied bombing campaigns.

Intelligence reports indicated German munitions near the town, making it a likely target. But according to eyewitness accounts, strange things happened whenever Allied planes flew near the area. Pilots reported seeing a figure in the sky—a monk with outstretched arms—forcing them to veer off course. Bombs either dropped harmlessly into nearby fields, or missions were abandoned altogether due to unexplained mechanical failures. These stories, while captivating, lack corroboration in wartime records and are primarily based on post-war testimonies.

One American pilot, shaken by what he described as a vision of a monk in the air, visited San Giovanni Rotondo after the war. When he saw Padre Pio, he recognized him immediately as the figure who had appeared before his plane. This account and others like it were popularized by author Frank Rega in "Padre Pio and America." While these stories border on the unbelievable, they come from multiple sources. Even skeptics wonder: How was the town spared when so many others weren't? Could these be tales of coincidence and wartime imagination, or were they miraculous interventions? Stories like these invite both awe and doubt. How much of what we hear is faith-driven embellishment, and how much points to something beyond human understanding?

He once remarked: "In books we seek God; in prayer we find him..." Perhaps it is that unwavering belief in prayer and divine intervention that makes stories of Padre Pio so compelling.

Whether or not Padre Pio truly appeared as a "flying monk" to Allied pilots, the fact remains: his life continues to captivate millions.

As we consider these extraordinary tales, we don't have to decide whether they are fact or fiction. Instead, we can marvel at their ability to inspire and remind us of the mysteries that surround the human experience.

During our time of division and uncertainty, perhaps the most valuable takeaway from Padre Pio's life is his simple yet profound message: "Pray, hope, and don't worry."

Winnisquam Echo

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Comfort Keepers

Seniors and kitchen safety: Tips for the "heart of the home"

BY MARTHA SWATS
Owner/Administrator
Comfort Keepers

A kitchen is often the central gathering place in the home. Family dinners, special occasions and time shared together all happen in the heart of the home.

Making sure the kitchen a safe, happy place is important. On a

daily basis, many of us spend time in our kitchens, and it is easy to forget that the kitchen can be a place where dangerous accidents are not uncommon — especially for seniors.

When it comes to senior adults and kitchen safety, the numbers show where potential issues can occur:

The National Fire

Protection Association reports that three in 10 home fires start in the kitchen, more than any other room in the house.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 76 million cases of foodborne illness occur each year, including 5,000 fatal cases. Older adults, due to a natural decrease in their immune systems, can

succumb to food poisoning more easily and have a harder time fighting it off if they do.

Kitchens are also areas with high fall-risk areas: items stored out of reach, slippery floors, and the likelihood that meals are carried to eat in another room.

The Federal Emergen-
SEE COMFORT, PAGE A5

LRAA names Artists of the Month for November

TILTON — Lakes Region Art Association members have the opportunity to enter a piece of artwork into the Artist of the Month Program at each monthly Member Meeting. Winners display and sell a single work for a month in various public venues throughout the Lakes Region in participating Banks and Libraries or Local Businesses.

November Artists of the Month included, from left to right in the photo above, starting from the back, Sherwood Frazier, Susie French, Sally Hibberd, and Jim Cryan. Front row: Linda Murphy and Gail Brunt.

The winning artists' artwork will be on display in locations in the Lakes Region.

Linda Murphy, this month's First Place winner has the distinct honor of displaying several pieces of her artwork at Annie's Cafe & Catering in Laconia. Warm up with some scrumptious homemade soup and sandwiches and enjoy



the art while you eat! The art pieces for the Honorable Mention artist will be on display through the third week of December in the following locations:

Sally Hibberd - Northway Bank, Tilton
 Sherwood Frazier - Franklin Savings Bank, Gilford

Jim Cryan - Northway Bank, Laconia
 Martha AuCoin (not pictured) - Laconia Library
 Gail Brunt - Gilford

COMFORT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A5
 Agency Management Agency (FEMA) reports that people over the age of 65 have a 2.7 times greater risk of dying in a kitchen fire than the general population.

For those that want to ensure that the kitchen is as safe as possible for their senior loved ones, there are three key areas to consider:

Fire prevention and safety – The primary cause of kitchen fires is unattended food – seniors should never leave the kitchen when food is cooking. Automatic shut-off devices are a great tool to help seniors that have memory issues but like to spend time cooking. Loose clothing, kitchen towels and pot-holders can all catch fire if too close to the stove, so it is good to be mindful about fabric near flames. And, on a regular basis, a qualified electrician should check wiring and outlets to ensure safety compliance – this is a common cause of fires in older homes.

Foodborne illness prevention – Because of the ways our bodies change when we get older, foodborne illness can become a much more serious issue. This can be prevented by properly storing food, checking fridge temperatures often, properly reheating food, cleaning old items out of the fridge and pantry often and checking expiration dates.

Reduce fall risks – When seniors need to reach an item, whether stored too high or too low, it can cause a balance issue that may lead to a fall. Keeping cooking items within reach is critical. Clutter on counters should be removed, bright lights are helpful, and the heaviest objects should be stored at waist level. Water is often a problem in the kitchen – possible issues include spilled water from the sink, leaking refrigerators and pipe leaks. Spilled water can make kitchen floors slippery, so adding mats and checking water sources often is important.

The kitchen can be a joyful place in the home, with intentional action to minimize the risk of accident or illness. Be-

Library ing safe in the kitchen is not just common sense - and revisiting safety tips for the kitchen is never a waste of time.

Comfort Keepers® can help. About one-quarter of Americans over age 65 need help with everyday activities such as eating, cooking, and getting in and out of bed or a chair. Our trained caregivers can help with these and other tasks, while engaging clients in activities that improve quality of life. They can also provide support for physician approved diet and exercise plans, provide transportation to appointments and community events and can assess a home for safety issues and reducing fall hazards. For more information on how we can help, contact Comfort Keepers at 603-536-6060.

About Comfort Keepers

Comfort Keepers is a leader in providing in-home care consisting of such services as companionship, transportation, housekeeping, meal preparation, bathing, mobility assistance, nursing services, and a host

of additional items all meant to keep seniors living independently worry free in the comfort of their homes.

Comfort Keepers have been serving New Hampshire residents since 2005. Let us help you stay independent.

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Children's Auction offers max bidding for this year's event, beginning Black Friday



Mark Maynard of Baron's Major Brands Appliances in Belmont with a GE washer-dryer the business donated to the auction. Registered auction bidders can place a Max Bid on items like this one, valued over \$300. The washer-dryer set is valued at \$1,100.

LACONIA — Bidders who want to be sure they get the item they want—at the price they want—may place a Max Bid on items over a \$300 value in this year's Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction.

The auction will be held this year from Tuesday, Dec. 10 through Friday, Dec. 13, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the Belknap Marketplace in the former CVS location. Early bidding, and the place-

ment of Max Bids, will begin on Black Friday, Nov. 29, at 9 a.m. and extend through Friday, Dec. 13.

Anyone can register as an auction bidder online at ChildrensAuction.org. Registered bidders can then bid early and place a Max Bid on high-value items over \$300. Bids will automatically go up in increments to keep the bidder in the lead, up to the Max limit set.

"We'll let you know if someone outbids you, and you can decide if you want to increase your Max limit," said Executive Director Jennifer Kelley.

Want to donate an item? Visit childrensauction.org/post/collection-box-locations to see all the drop-off locations in the region.

"The organization is still seeking items of

any value for this year's auction," Kelley said. "While many items have been received at this time, there is a need for thousands of items to raise enough money to meet the needs of the community."

Auction leaders will collect new, unused, unwrapped items right up to the week of the auction. Gift cards, electronics, tools, toys, sporting goods and household items all bring the highest bids. Visit ChildrensAuction.org for a list of donation drop-off sites throughout the Lakes Region.

About the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction

Numerous fundraising events in the Lakes Region throughout the year support the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction, including our four-day signature event every December. In the past four decades we have distributed more than \$8 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 ChildrensAuction.org.



Santa Lucia event to be Held at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Franklin

FRANKLIN — Every December the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Franklin hosts a distinctive holiday event, the Santa Lucia Tea.

The festival celebrating Santa Lucia (Saint Lucy) originated in Sweden, where Santa Lucia was the saint of light, who brought the return of longer days to the long Swedish winters.

Before the calendar was changed from the Julian to the Gregorian form in the 1300s, Santa Lucia's feast fell on the Winter Solstice, the longest night of the year. After the calendar reform, it changed to Dec. 13.

On the Saturday closest to Dec. 13, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation celebrates Santa Lucia with lights, candles, festive decorations, "Santa Lucia," "Star Boys and Star Girls," cookies, tea, entertainment, and singing of holiday carols.

This year's Santa Lucia Tea will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House located at 206 Central St. All are welcome to attend this free family holiday event. If you have questions, please call 603-934-2141 and leave a message.

HO-HO-HOLIDAY Gift Guide

Tips to make holiday dinners more affordable

"Eat, drink and be merry" is a familiar refrain come the holiday season. Hosting a holiday dinner is a great way to welcome family and friends and encourage them to embrace the festive nature of the season. However, the high cost of foods and other essentials may have certain holiday hosts rethinking their menus and their guest lists this year.

A 2024 Pew Research Poll showed Americans

worried about the state of the economy cite the price of food and the cost of housing as their foremost concerns. More than 90 percent of Americans say they are "very" or "somewhat" concerned about the cost of food and consumer goods.

Average annual food-at-home prices were 5 percent higher in 2023 than in 2022, according to the USDA Economic Research Service. Inflation has been a key topic

of discussion for much of the last three years. While data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates inflation continues to cool off from all-time highs, consumers are still anxious about how food prices are affecting their bottom lines and their holiday entertaining plans. According to FarmDoc Daily, which offers agriculture-based data analysis, 68 percent of U.S. consumers expected rising food prices

to impact their holiday meals in 2023. Similar concerns may prevail in 2024.

Stretching holiday entertaining dollars comes down to being savvy. With that in mind, hosts can consider these meal modification strategies this holiday season.

- Replace a high-cost protein with a more affordable alternative. Sometimes a holiday meal calls for pulling out all of the stops, and that may mean spending more on a special main dish. Rather than a luxury like beef tenderloin or prime rib roast, consider a less expensive dish, such as a pork tenderloin, roasted chicken or even seafood.
- Add extra side dishes. Incorporate an inexpensive item like rice, beans or an extra vegetable side dish into the meal so that plates can be filled with the less expensive foods and fewer high-cost items.

- Shop the sales. Plan meals around a supermarket circular. While you may have had one holiday dinner idea in mind, once you see what the stores are putting on sale you can stock up on those items and build the dinner around them. If you find a good deal several weeks away from the holidays, buy the items and freeze them until they're needed.

- Buy generic or store brands. Chances are no one will notice if you use generic or store brand

ingredients, which can be considerably cheaper than their brand-name counterparts. Many are even manufactured in the same facilities that produce the name brand stuff.

- Make an affordable drink. Alcohol costs can add up when you try to cater to everyone's tastes and preferences. Make one or two bulk drinks, like a holiday punch or signature cocktail, so you can keep alcohol costs in check.

- Stretch the snacks. Instead of a charcuterie board filled with expensive cheeses and meats, opt for dips and raw vegetables or a low-cost cheese ball made with cream cheese and herbs with crackers. Keep snacks to a minimum; otherwise, guests may fill up and then not have room for dinner.

Holiday hosts can embrace various strategies to save money on family meals this season.

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Castle in the Clouds announces 2025 winter lunch events



MOULTONBOROUGH — Winter Lunch at the Castle will return to Castle in the Clouds in 2025, offering visitors the opportunity to dine at the Carriage House Restaurant while Lucknow Mansion is closed for the season. Beginning Jan. 11 through April 13, three seating times will be available each Saturday and Sunday: 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 1:30 p.m.

Online reservations are required by midnight on the Thursday

before the selected date. Per person charges – \$35 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under – include tax and gratuity and are due at the time of reservation. These cover a prix fixe menu of a starter, entrée and non-alcoholic beverage. Full bar and dessert options are available for additional charges. The menu offerings are updated regularly throughout the winter.

“After experiencing high demand last year, we are pleased to pro-

vide the opportunity for the community to experience Winter Lunch at the Castle in 2025,” said Charles Clark, Executive Director of Castle in the Clouds. “We encourage guests to plan a day – or even a weekend – exploring the Lakes Region Conservation Trust trails and the Castle in the Clouds Conservation Area in the Ossipee Mountains. Winter Lunch at the Castle offers visitors a warm and welcoming respite after cross-country skiing,

snow shoeing or hiking in the beautiful, natural surroundings of the historic Lucknow Estate.”

For more information about Winter Lunch at the Castle, visit www.castleintheclouds.org.

About Castle in the Clouds

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

rary comforts to make every visit memorable. Originally called Lucknow, this breathtaking 6,300-acre property was developed in 1913 by Thomas G. Plant, a wealthy shoe manufacturer, to create a luxurious lifestyle with state-of-the-art amenities, beautiful hand-made furnishings, and a large staff to run the estate. These days, visitors come from all around the world to tour the mansion and exhibit gallery, dine in the Carriage House Restaurant or Café in the Clouds, hike miles of hiking and walking trails maintained by partner

organization the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, or enjoy one of our many programs and events. Operated by the Castle Preservation Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Castle in the Clouds is revered as a cultural and educational resource and listed on the National Register of Historic Places with national significance. Castle in the Clouds is also available as a fairytale wedding venue and versatile private event rental. For more information about Castle in the Clouds, visit www.castleintheclouds.org.

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Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra presents holiday concerts with guest vocalists Rachel and Alex Hunton



REGION — The Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra (LRSO) is thrilled to announce its annual holiday concerts, set to light up the season on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. at the Colonial Theatre in Laconia, and Sunday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. at Inter-Lakes Auditorium in Meredith. Featuring cherished holiday music from timeless classics to modern favorites, the concerts promise to be a highlight of the season for all ages. These concerts sell out every year, so we encourage you to buy your tickets early.

The Orchestra will be joined by special guest artists Rachel and Alex Hunton from Laconia's Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative. Rachel, a passionate vocalist and award-winning actress, has delighted New Hampshire audiences in roles such as Maria in *The Sound of Music* and in *Sondheim on Sondheim*. Alex, a music and theatre educator, is known for his work at Pinkerton Academy and with the New Hampshire Master Chorale. Together, the Huntons bring warmth and charisma, adding a unique theatrical touch to LRSO's holiday festivities.

The holiday program includes moving

classics including “O Holy Night,” “Joy to the World,” and “Ave Maria,” alongside popular modern selections “The Christmas Song,” “Winter Wonderland,” “White Christmas,” “The Prayer” (popularized by Celine Dion and Andrea Bocelli), and many others made famous by the likes of Bing Crosby and Amy Grant. This rich mix of traditional and contemporary pieces is designed to evoke the magic of the season, bringing the joy and peace of the holidays to life in music.

Under the baton of LRSO's conductor Ben Greene, these concerts create a memorable experience for all, whether for family gatherings, date nights, or simply for sharing in the spirit of the season. The LRSO's holiday concerts are a beloved tradition, offering audiences a chance to escape into the warmth and wonder of live orchestral holiday music.

Tickets are on sale now and are going fast. Don't miss this opportunity to experience the sounds of the season with the Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra. For tickets and information, please visit www.LRSO.org. Tickets are

\$20-\$30 for adults, and \$10-\$20 for students college-age and under (please no children under age 5). You can also order by phone using the contact numbers listed for each venue on our website.

The Lakes Region

Symphony Orchestra extends its gratitude to its concert sponsors, Fay's Boat Yard and Cupples Car Company. Their unwavering support is an essential part of what makes LRSO, your community orchestra, possible.

LRSO LAKES REGION SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HOLIDAY CONCERTS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7, 2024
Colonial Theatre
Laconia, 7pm

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8, 2024
Inter-Lakes Auditorium
Meredith, 3pm

Inter-Lakes Sold-Out

TICKETS:
WWW.LRSO.ORG

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Stay Safe! Stay Healthy!
Wash your hands!

Happy Holidays!



Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20. The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

2	14		24
	5		22
6		15	22
18	20	30	

5	1	9
7	5	10
8	14	2

Solution

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1492: After exploring Cuba for gold, Christopher Columbus lands on an island he names Hispaniola.

1790: The U.S. Congress moves from New York City to Philadelphia.

2006: NASA reveals photos that suggest liquid water is present on Mars.

Fun FACT:

This popular party decoration was created in 1824 by Michael Faraday during experiments with various gases.

Answer: Balloon

NEW WORD

BASH

a party or social event

Answer: Throw a party

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

H R T W O A R Y A T P

How they say that in...

- English: Surprise
- Spanish: Sorprender
- Italian: Sorprendere
- French: Surprendre
- German: Jmdn eiskalt erwischen

Did You Know?

In 1796, Amelia Simmons invented the cupcake and also wrote the first published American cookbook. Cupcakes have been a staple of many celebrations ever since.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Pinata

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CRYPTO FUN

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Solve the code to discover words related to senior safety. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 4 = I)

- A. 8 10 17 9 5 12
Clue: Caution
- B. 8 9 26 4 22 24 8
Clue: Older adults
- C. 10 11 4 26 11
Clue: Growing older
- D. 19 22 7 4 17 12
Clue: Change or adapt

Answers: A. safety B. seniors C. aging D. modify

SUDOKU

				1	5			
4			8				3	
				9		6		8
		7	6	2			4	
1		4						
		2	5		9			
	5		1	7				
3								9
2						8	5	

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	9	8	4	3	9	1	7	2
8	5	6	1	8	2	5	6	3
7	9	4	2	7	3	2	4	8
1	3	2	5	4	9	7	8	1
6	3	2	5	4	9	7	8	1
1	9	4	3	7	8	2	6	5
5	8	7	6	2	1	9	4	3
7	2	5	4	9	3	6	1	8
4	1	9	8	6	2	5	3	7
8	6	3	7	1	5	4	9	2

ANSWER:

AUCTION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

sporting goods, tools, and toys; experiences; tickets; gift certificates; and more.

Anyone who wants to drop off items can do so at the Belknap Marketplace on Dec. 7-9 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Collection boxes for items opened on Nov 5 and will continue through Dec. 6.

Collections sites include Baron's Major Brands, Mattress Firm, and the Belmont Fire Department in Belmont; the Tappley Thompson

Community Center in Bristol; Children's Dentistry, the Gilford Country Store, and Gilford Tennis & Fitness Club in Gilford; Grevior Furniture in Franklin; Body Covers, the Wellness Complex, and WORKS Lakes Region in Laconia; Edward Jones and Meredith Insurance Agency in Meredith; For Your Eyes Only in Moultonborough; and Dox on Winnisquam and the Country Store at the Tanger Outlets in Tilton.

Collections will also take place at the Franklin Savings Bank locations in Gilford and

Franklin and at all Meredith Village Savings Bank locations in the Lakes Region.

Irwin Automotive Group will also collect at its locations in Laconia including Irwin Automotive on Bisson Avenue and Irwin Automotive and Irwin Chevrolet on Union Avenue.

Irwin Marine will collect items at its locations in Laconia and Alton.

Anyone who wants to donate after the deadlines can come by the Belknap Marketplace during the auction to drop off items.

Matthew T. Howe, 56

TILTON --- Born May 15, 1968, Matthew T. Howe, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at the age of 56, after courageously battling cancer.

Matthew was a kind and selfless individual who never hesitated to help those in need. He found joy in his passions—working on cars, dirt biking, fishing and cherishing the time he spent with his family and friends, especially his close friend Joe. Matt also had a special bond with his wife's family, considering them as his own and holding them close to his heart.

He deeply loved his family and held a special place in his heart for his aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, great nephew, niece and cousins, who brought him immense pride and happiness.



Matthew's sense of humor, generosity and spirit will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife Sharon Spear, mother Alma Howe, and brothers Brian Howe, Jonathan Howe and Nathan Shartar-Howe. He is predeceased by his father George Howe, and brothers Gordon and Kevin Howe.

A Celebration of Matthew's Life will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2024, at 1:00pm, at

the Living Waters United Ministry Church, 440 W Main Street, Tilton, NH 03276. Family and friends are invited to join in honoring his memory.

For those who wish, the family suggests that memorial donations may be made in Matthew's name to The Friends of the Dartmouth Cancer Center, One Medical Center Drive, HB 7070, Lebanon, NH 03756.

Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home & Cremation Services/603Cremations.com, 164 Pleasant St., Laconia NH is assisting the family with the arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial go to wilkinsonbeane.com.

Local students named to Dean's List at Palmer College of Chiropractic

DAVENPORT, Iowa — The following students were named to the 2024 summer trimester Dean's List at Palmer College of Chiropractic's Main Campus in Davenport, Iowa.

- Mackenzie French of Sanbornton
- Logan Morrison of Sanbornton

Palmer College of Chiropractic, the first and largest college in the chiropractic profession, has campuses in Davenport, Iowa; San Jose, Calif.; and Port Orange, Fla.

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



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\$534,900 MLS# 5004307 Gilford: 3BR/2BA, 2,229 sf. recently updated ranch with seasonal views of Belknap Mountain, a private primary suite, large dining area, breakfast nook, and more! Close to town beach on Lake Winnepesaukee.	\$525,000 MLS# 5022923 Gilford: Beautifully renovated 2BR/2BA ranch. Walk-out basement and room for expansion. Gas log fireplace in the living room perfect for cozying up on cold days. Town beach and boat launch access on Lake Winnepesaukee.	\$219,000 MLS# 5022996 Laconia: 2BR/2BA, mid-level condo with plenty of rental capabilities. This fully furnished condo has an open concept living area, wood accent walls, sliders leading to your own balcony and more. Call learn about the association amenities.	\$389,000 MLS# 5023185 Gilford: 3BR/2BA desirable Gunstock Acres home with access to private sandy beach on Lake Winnepesaukee with day dock and mooring by availability. Enjoy the wraparound deck, open floor plan and first floor bedroom and bath. Close to Gunstock Mountain and other Lakes Region amenities!
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Full-Time Installers Apprentice

Energysavers Inc., a 48 year old hearth & spa product retailer in the Lakes Region, is looking for a motivated individual that wants to learn the trade of installing hearth products. You must be comfortable working on roofs when necessary and able to work with an installer to move heavy items. Energysavers pays for all educational costs to get and maintain NFI wood, gas and pellet certifications as well as a NH gas fitters license for gas hearth installations and service. Starting pay, \$18-\$20 hour based on experience.

LEARN WHILE YOU EARN!

No prior experience required. Must have a valid driver's license and pass the pre-employment drug screening.

Stop in to fill out an application:

ENERGYSAVERS INC.

163 Daniel Webster Hwy., Meredith NH

HELP WANTED

FRIENDLY & RELIABLE

NIGHT CASHIERS

needed at the Following Location:

Bosco Bell

on Route 28
Barnstead

Please apply in person.

Hiring?
Reach More
Local Applicants
Help Wanted



Loon Mountain Resort

Are you ready for a new career?

We offer a great work environment, unique benefits, and generous discounts. The only thing that would make it better — is you!

Immediate Positions Available:

- Pumps and Compressors Operators
- Snowmakers

Apply Online at www.loonmtn.com/jobs

Benefits include: Medical, Dental, Vision, HSA, FSA, 401k, PTO, Retail and Food & Beverage discounts, Seasonal Passes for the employee and their dependents, OT after 40, and competitive wages.

Equal Opportunity Employer



Loon Mountain Resort

Are you ready for a new career?

We offer a great work environment, unique benefits package, generous discount package. The only thing that would make it better — is you!

Full Time Year Round Position Available

- Heavy Equipment Mechanic (Grooming Machines)

Benefits include: Medical, Dental, Vision, HSA, FSA, 401k, PTO, Competitive Wages, OT after 40, Retail and Food & Beverage discounts, and Seasonal Passes for the employee and their dependents.

For more information or to apply on-line please visit www.loonmtn.com/jobs

Equal Opportunity Employer



ATS Precision specializes in the manufacture/CNC machining of aerospace products, valve components, biotech products, military hydraulics, microwave connectors, medical machining, and welding. We are currently hiring:

MECHANICAL INSPECTOR – This position entails visual and mechanical inspection of machined components to verify customer requirements using various types of inspection equipment and methods. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, first piece, in-process, and final inspection of products; maintain a record of all inspection data; calibration of inspection tools; interaction with team members on technical measurement requirements; reading and interpreting blueprints/drawings; use of various measuring devices including calipers, micrometers, thread gauges, pin gauges, and comparators. Attention to detail and accuracy is a must. Experience is preferred, but we are willing to train the right person. The hours are M-F 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wage depends on experience. High school diploma or equivalent is required for all positions. ATS Precision offers competitive wages, personal/sick time, vacation time, health insurance, education reimbursement and 401k. All applicants must complete ATS' Employment Application. Email resumes and/or application requests to luree@atsprecision.com or stop by to fill out an application. ATS Precision, 87 Route 132N, New Hampton, NH.



PERMANENT PART TIME TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT

The Town of Thornton is seeking candidates for an immediate opening for a permanent part time Transfer Station Attendant for Saturdays with an average of 10 hours per week and potential for more hours when needed. Transfer Station experience is not required. We will train the right candidate and assist in obtaining the necessary NH DES Certifications required for this position. This position is a Labor Grade 6 with an hourly rate of \$20.60 - \$26.37/hr. depending on experience and certifications.

A full job description and application packet is available at the Town of Thornton Town Office and on the town's website at www.townofthornton.org.

This position will remain open until filled.

Please submit applications to:

Town of Thornton
Attn: Desiree L. Mahurin, Town Administrator
16 Merrill Access Road
Thornton, NH 03285

Re: Part Time Transfer Station Attendant Position

Please submit an application by Monday, December 23 but 3:00 pm.

The Town of Thornton is an equal opportunity employer.



HIGHWAY WORKER POSITION 40 HOURS PER WEEK

The Town of Thornton is seeking candidates for one permanent full time Highway Worker position with the Town of Thornton Highway Department.

Applicants should have a valid NH CDL-B license and experience operating heavy equipment.

This is a full-time position with benefits and is a Labor Grade 5 with an hourly pay range of \$20.44 to \$24.42 depending on experience.

A full job description and application is available on the Town of Thornton website at www.townofthornton.org or at Town Hall.

Please submit your completed application to:

Town of Thornton
Attn: Desiree L. Mahurin, Town Administrator
Re: HIGHWAY WORK POSITION
16 Merrill Access Road
Thornton, NH 03285

The deadline to submit an application is Monday, December 23, by 3:00 pm.

The Town of Thornton is an equal opportunity employer.

Hiring?

Reach More

Local Applicants

Email: Tracy@salmonpress.news
Phone: (603) 279-4516

Help Wanted

New Horizons Band announces holiday concert schedule



LACONIA — The New Horizons Band of the Lakes Region will perform a Holiday Concert on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Laconia Catholic School Gymnasium, St. Andre Bessette Parish, Gilford Ave. Laconia. The Band is grateful for the sponsorship of the Laconia Putnam Fund. As with all Putnam performances, there is no admission charge, and all are welcome.

The Band is under the direction of Debbi Gibson, former Music Director in the Laconia School system. Mrs. Gibson is known in the Lakes Region for both her musical performances with many local groups as well as conducting instrumental and vocal artists. The Band was

recently featured on WMUR TV's "Chronicle," as they performed along with the three other New Horizons bands in the State of New Hampshire.

The Band's Holiday Concert schedule includes:

Dec. 10 - Tuesday - Putnam Fund - 6:30 p.m. at the Laconia Catholic Church Gymnasium, St. Andre Bessette, Gilford Ave. Dec. 14 - Saturday - Gilford Church, 2 p.m. Dec. 17 - Tuesday - Taylor Community - 6:30 p.m.

You will hear some familiar (and not so familiar) holiday themed selections. There will be opportunity to sing along with the Band and to join in the festive atmosphere. Mrs. Gibson

has often stated that "Music is medicine." It is medicinal for the performers, the listeners, and those just singing along. Red and green will prevail!

The New Horizons Band members include a cross section of local and regional musicians, many of whom have re-discovered their love of performing after years of working and raising families. Many played in their high school bands and have returned to play again, often after decades away from their instruments. The band rehearses Tuesday evenings at the Music Clinic, we encourage anyone with a desire to play to come and join in. Dust off those instruments! Contact us at 603-528-6672.

Vintage Vocal Quartet brings Big Band era to The Loft at Hermit Woods



MEREDITH — Hermit Woods Winery & Eatery is delighted to welcome the Vintage Vocal Quartet for a night of lively, nostalgic harmony on Saturday, Dec. 14. This talented ensemble transports audiences to the golden age of big band music, singing and swinging while playing piano, guitar, bass, and trumpet. Experience the thrill of vintage vocal jazz in Hermit Woods Winery's cozy Loft Listening Room, an ideal venue for up-close musical immersion.

Inspired by legends like Glenn Miller's Modernaires, the Andrews Sisters, and Nat King Cole, the Vintage Vocal Quartet re-creates the big band sound with tight vocal harmonies and expert musicianship. Led by Taylor O'Donnell (piano and lead vocals), David Thorne Scott (bass and alto vocals), Adam Gaultille (trumpet and tenor vocals), and Paul Pampinella (guitar and baritone vocals), each member brings extensive performance experience and passion for swing-era music to the stage. Together, they craft a captivating performance filled with timeless classics and heartfelt renditions. The Loft at Hermit Woods Winery offers a unique listening room atmosphere where artists and audiences connect deeply in an intimate setting. Guests are encouraged to enjoy a complimentary wine tasting from 5:30 to 6 p.m. and settle in with dinner before the show. When the performance begins, silence is observed to enhance the experience, allowing the music to take center stage in a way that larger venues simply cannot provide.

Tickets are available now for this memorable night of music. Refunds are offered up to five days before the event. For tickets and additional information, please visit www.hermitwoods.com/music or call 603-253-7968.

About Hermit Woods Winery & Eatery Hermit Woods Winery & Eatery in Meredith combines exceptional wine, food, and music experiences. With a commitment to local talent and intimate performances, the Loft Listening Room Series offers guests an up-close encounter with some of New England's finest artists.

Join us on Dec. 14 to step back in time with the Vintage Vocal Quartet and celebrate the holiday season in true swing style.

Moultonborough Zoning Board of Adjustment Public Notice – Public Hearings

The Moultonborough ZBA will meet on **Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 7:00 PM** to hold a public hearing on the following applications:

Variances from Zoning Articles 3.2.1.3, 3.2.2.4 & 4.3.2 for Scot O'Brien Sr for a parcel located at 166 Wentworth Shores Rd (Tax Map 147 Lot 31). The applicant proposes the construction of a 30'x40' structure to replace one of the dwellings on the property.

Variances from Zoning Articles 6.3.1, 6.6.2 and 6.4.1 for GMR Holdings of NH, LLC, for a parcel located at Governor Wentworth Hwy (Tax Map 150, lots 5 & 6) for the construction of a wireless service facility with a 120 ft monopole tower.

The Hearings will be held at the Moultonborough Town Hall located at 6 Holland St.

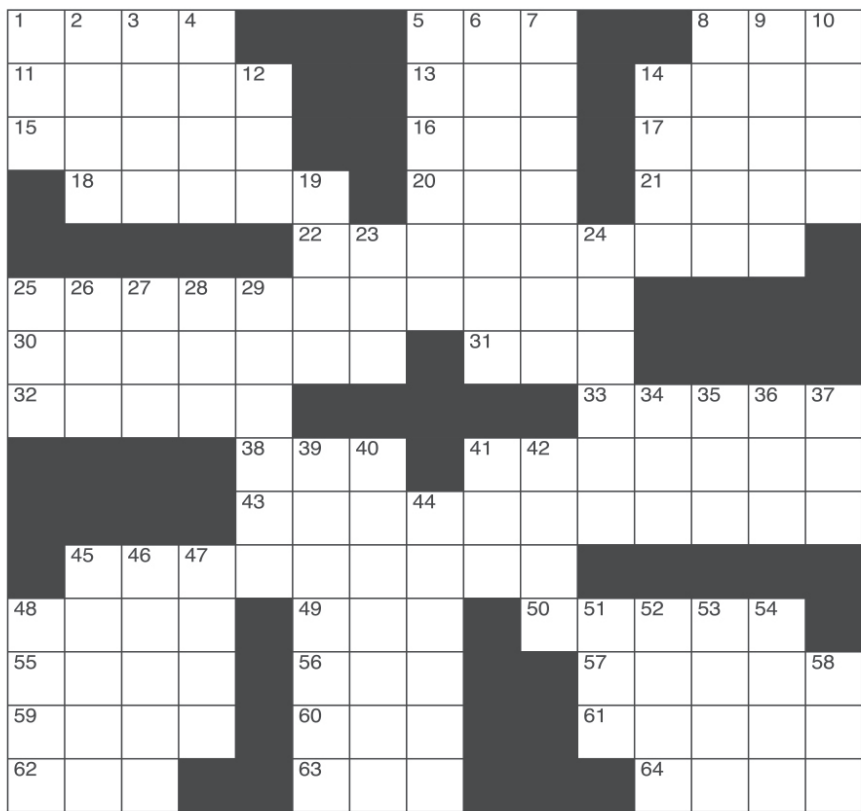
A complete copy of the application and supporting materials are available for the public to review at Town Hall in the Land Use Department and may be viewed during regular business hours, Mon. - Fri. 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Robert H. Stephens, Chairperson

Winnisquam Regional School District

The WRSD School Board has a vacancy it seeks to fill from the town of Tilton until the March, 2025 annual meeting of the School District. Registered voters from the town of Tilton who are interested in applying for this position may submit a letter stating their intentions by December 20th to:

Chairperson
Winnisquam Regional School Board
433 West Main Street,
Tilton, NH 03276

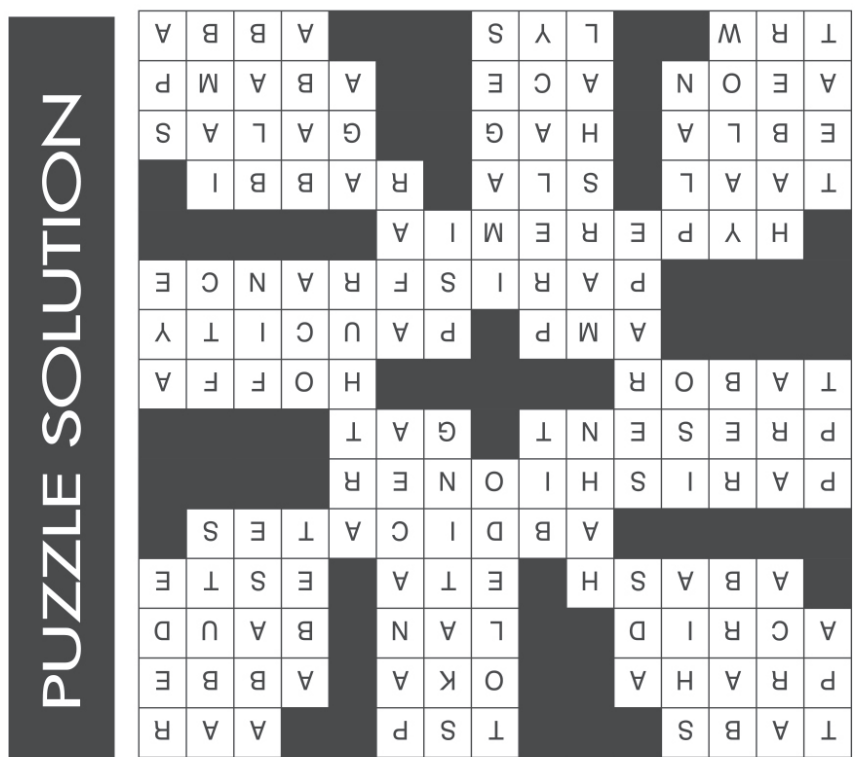


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Bar bills
- 5. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- 8. Swiss river
- 11. Czech Republic capital
- 13. "Officially known as"
- 14. A French abbot
- 15. Having a strong sharp smell or taste
- 16. Local area network
- 17. Data transmission speed measure
- 18. Embarrass
- 20. When you hope to get there
- 21. This (Spanish)
- 22. Gives up
- 25. Churchgoer
- 30. Current
- 31. Slang for gun
- 32. Small drum
- 33. Vanished union bigwig
- 38. Rocker's tool of the trade
- 41. Dearth
- 43. 2024 Olympics host
- 45. Excess blood in the vessels
- 48. Afrikaans
- 49. Agreement between provider and customer
- 50. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 55. Ancient Syrian city
- 56. Witch
- 57. Celebrations
- 59. Long period of time
- 60. A team's best pitcher
- 61. Current unit
- 62. One-time aerospace company
- 63. French/Belgian river
- 64. Swedish rock group

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 2. Genus of clams
- 3. Remark
- 4. Actor LaBeouf
- 5. Ohio town
- 6. Olympic sport
- 7. Cure
- 8. Behave in a way that belittles
- 9. Shares a boundary with
- 10. Give advice
- 12. Promotional materials
- 14. Assist or encourage, usually in some wrongdoing
- 19. "Agatha All Along" actress Kathryn
- 23. Small piece
- 24. King of Camelot
- 25. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
- 26. Small Milky Way constellation
- 27. One who challenges authority (abbr.)
- 28. Equal (prefix)
- 29. Shawl
- 34. S. American wood sorrel relative
- 35. The end
- 36. Supervises interstate commerce
- 37. Yes vote
- 39. Officer of high rank
- 40. Church office
- 41. Tire pressure measurement
- 42. From a distance
- 44. Photographs
- 45. Industrial process
- 46. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
- 47. Map out
- 48. Mammary gland part of female mammal
- 51. Honorable title (Turkish)
- 52. Spongelike cake leavened with yeast
- 53. Speak incessantly
- 54. Poetry term
- 58. Relaxing space



PUZZLE SOLUTION

Snowsports world comes to Waterville Valley

Top athletes from around the world train on High Country venue



COURTESY — WATERVERILLE VALLEY RESORT



Mikaela Shiffrin tears through the course on the High Country venue at Waterville Valley.

The High Country venue allows for training for many different disciplines in skiing and snowboarding.

BY DAN EGAN
Contributing Writer

WATERVERILLE VALLEY — Waterville Valley Resort once again finds itself back in the center of the Snowsports Universe. In the last few weeks of November when most of the ski areas in New England

were struggling to get open, Waterville Valley was playing host to ski and snowboarding teams from around the world. The resort has been committed over the last several seasons to opening High Country on the summit of Mount Tecumseh for moguls,

snowboarding, Big Air and ski racers.

“This is the thing that makes us stand out, no other training facility has all these mixed together. Seeing all sides of the sport working together to make this a reality is what it’s all about,” stated General

Manager Tim Smith.

Teams have come from Canada, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Switzerland, Finland, and Australia. The US Ski and Snowboard teams have also been there including the boardercross, ski cross, freestyle, para, and alpine squads. It has been a who’s who of World Cup Stars around the Waterville Valley and none bigger than USA’s Mikaela Shiffrin, fresh off the 99th win of her career in Gurgl, Austria.

“She is the GOAT and to have a part in her story is truly special and a great honor,” exclaimed Smith.

There is no other training center in New England or anywhere in America dedicated to having all disciplines of snowsports training side by side in one defined location, especially for early season training.

David Lorrey, Director of Recruitment and longtime coach for Waterville Valley Academy commented, “The positive feedback from the athletes and coaches made me realize how valuable the training site on High Country is. We have low temps at elevation for snowmaking, fast turnaround with the T-bar lift, the slope is a perfect pitch, there is a warming hut nearby, and the whole site is isolated from the public. That is what makes this a one of kind location.”

And it just wasn’t competitors flocking to Waterville Valley Resort, manufacturers such as Prinoth, the leading company that makes grooming machines brought in their newest model, the Bison X along with legendary opera-

tor, jump designer and builder Charles Beckinsale from Austria. He is highly sought after and travels the world with the biggest freestyle athletes and brands in the industry. Beckinsale constructed the Big Air jump on High Country standing more than 65 feet in height.

Corey Potter, the cameraman for the Prinoth promotional video explained, “It’s amazing to see so much snow up here and all the different activities, world class racers, a snowboard cross, moguls and this monster 65-foot jump in the middle of it all. I’ve never seen anything like it.”

Waterville Valley Resort is rooted in world class athletes and its founder, Olympian Tom Corcoran, created a resort with this in mind. Not only is Waterville Valley the birthplace of freestyle skiing, holding the first contest in 1969, but it has also hosted 11 World Cup ski races and has long been recognized on the world stage as a hot bed for coaching, athletes and events. The resort also paved the path for both moguls and snowboarding to become Olympic disciplines.

Rob Dresser, head mogul coach at Waterville Valley Academy, explains, “For the student athletes, it’s important to be able to go to class then get on the slope and then sleep in their own bed is amazing. It allows us to focus on school, training and fitness. The early opening has led to being able to develop skills and work on fundamentals.”

The mogul skiers, like most of the students, travel the globe for early season training and competitions, they were recently in Hintertux, Austria for the start of the FIS season.

Dresser sums up the

training experience, “When we leave here for glacier in Europe, in late October it’s sunny, warm and leaves are on the trees. Then we get back and Waterville in November and its straight to snow for training. Our student athletes don’t miss a beat.”

Lorrey expands on that idea, “I have coached thousands of athletes from seven-year-olds up to FIS athletes. To see Waterville create this venue and commit to elevating it to a world class level and then watching Mikaela, the greatest skier who ever walked the planet, slice that hill like she did, it shows a ski coach like me what is possible and creates new goals.”

It is a long history of creating and hosting world class athletes, training and hosting event that sees no end in sight with the world returning to Waterville Valley for the World Cup Moguls Jan. 24 and 25. Held on the historic Lower Bobby’s Run, the event will feature men’s and women’s moguls as well as men’s and women’s duals. New this season will feature an event village at the base of the run for spectators.

Smith is proud of the resort’s commitment to world class training and event. He explains, “When our ownership purchased the resort in 2010, they made it clear that they wanted to carry the legacy forward. It’s in our DNA, and this creates lasting memories. One of those may be early season training next to Mikaela or fore-running the moguls at the World Cup. The magical moments that are created by having these world class athletes here at our resort are truly things families will talk about for generations.”

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As seen from the air, the Waterville Valley Resort High Country venue provided training for world class athletes.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!!

Email Us @

news@salmonpress.news