

Gilford Steamer

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024

GILFORD, N.H.

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FREE

Gilford football doubles up Newport to earn semifinal berth

BY JOE SOUZA
Contributing Writer

GILFORD — In a rematch of the final regular season contest, the Gilford football kids showed they can be an offensive force when they can sustain a ground attack to complement their passing game.

A week after earning home field with a 26-12 win in Newport, the fourth-seeded Golden Eagles established the run early and never looked back in topping number

five Newport 40-20 to earn a spot in the semifinal round.

Gilford, winners of four straight games now, will travel to number one Campbell next Saturday (1 p.m. kickoff).

“Being able to run the ball today was awesome,” said Gilford coach Brandt O’Hara. “We really couldn’t run the ball against them last week. We had to do some other things offensively to beat them.

“In football, you have



JOE SOUZA

Gilford running back Luke Diaz fights through a tackle for a couple of more yards against Newport in the NHIAA Division III football quarterfinal round.

to be able to run the ball especially in the playoffs,” added O’Hara. “We saw some things when we watched the film where we missed some assignments. We worked on making those adjustments in practice. I was proud to see the kids be able to make those adjustments today.”

The Golden Eagles es-

established that early on.

Newport received the opening kick and put together a long, methodical drive into the red zone. The Gilford defense though stifled the Tigers on fourth down and took over possession.

That’s when the Golden Eagles unleashed their running game. On their first offensive play, Noah

Harder broke through a gaping hole for a long gain down to the Newport 35 yard line. A couple of plays later, quarterback Mark Uicker connected with Cooper Perkins on fourth down for a 28-yard touchdown and a 6-0 lead with 1:25 left in the opening quarter.

The Gilford defense gave the ball right back

to the offense as Declan Voivod jumped on a Newport fumble on the 13-yard line with 20 seconds remaining in the first quarter. Two plays later, Harder when from four yards out. The two-point conversion was stuffed, leaving Gilford up 12-0.

Newport responded with a scoring drive to pull within six with 5:26 left in the second quarter, and it appeared to be a battle from there.

Gilford though would take control in the last five minutes, with two special teams plays paving the way.

First, Luke Diaz returned the ensuing kickoff after Newport’s touchdown to the Newport 45. Uicker connected with Ashton Taylor on a pass play to the Newport 22. Moments later, Perkins bulled his way in for a short touchdown run. Harder would add the two-point conversion run for a 20-6 lead with 2:02 on the clock.

Gilford would go with an onside kick on the ensuing kickoff, and Coen

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE A6

Area voters give support to Trump, Ayotte

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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REGION — Local voters gave more of their support to Republican candidates during the General Election.

Voters took to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 5 to make their choices for president, governor, representatives in congress, and other state and federal offices.

Republican Donald Trump was the area’s top pick for President of the United States. Trump and running mate J.D. Vance received 2,751 votes in Gilford, 2,645 in Alton, 1,893 in Barnstead, and 1,167 in New Durham.

Democrat candidate Vice Pres. Kamala Harris and running mate Tim Walz received 2,473 votes in Gilford, 1,553 in Alton, 1,208 in Barnstead, and 746 in New Durham.

Libertarian candidate Chase Oliver with running mate Mike ter Maat received 17 votes in Gilford, 15 in Alton, 16 in Barnstead, and 13 in New Durham.

Green Party candidate Jill Stein and running mate Rudolph Ware received 18 votes in Gilford, 11 in Alton, 11 in Barnstead, and six in New Durham.

For governor, Republican Kelly Ayotte received ore support from local voters. Ayotte received 3,160 votes in Gilford, 2,867 in Alton, 1,998 in Barnstead, and 1,247 in New Durham.

Democrat Joyce Craig received 1,000 votes in Gilford, 1,252 in Alton, 1,041 in Barnstead, and 633 in New Durham.

Libertarian Stephen Villee received 26 votes in Gilford, 68 in Alton, 74 in Barnstead, and 40 in New Durham.

In the race for Representative in Congress for District 1, Gilford narrowly gave more support to Democrat Rep. Chris Pappas while the other towns supported Republican challenger Russell Prescott.

Gilford voters cast 2,594 votes for Pappas, giving jim just three votes over Prescott who received 2,591 votes.

Prescott, however, was the favorite in Alton, Barnstead, and New Durham. He received 2,555 votes in Alton, 1,771 in Barnstead, and 1,094 in New Durham. Pappas received 1,611 votes in Alton, 1,305 in Barnstead, and 806 in New Durham.

In the race for Executive Council District 1, voters in Gilford, Alton, and New Durham, gave their support to Republican Councilor Joseph Kenney. Kenney received 2,99 votes in Gilford, 2,798 in Alton, and 1,208 in New Durham. Democrat Emmett Soldati received 2,002 votes in Gilford, 1,229 in Alton, and 630 in New Durham.

For Executive Council District 4, Barnstead voters gave more support to Republican John Stephen with 1,904 votes while and Democrat Jim O’Connell received 1,087 votes in Barnstead.

For State Senate in District 2, Gilford voters supported Republican Sen. Tim Lang with 3,003 votes while Democrat Carlos Cardona received 1,976 Gilford votes.

For State Senator in District 6, voters in Alton and New Durham cast more votes for Republican Sen. James Gray with Democrat John Ceskavich received 1,223 votes in Alton and 631 in New Durham.

For State Senate in District 17, Barnstead voters cast more ballots for Republican Sen. Howard Pearl with 1,890 votes with Democrat Kelly Roberts receiving 1,124.

State voters approved a constitutional amendment question that states that no one over 70 will hold the office of sheriff in any county and no one over 75 shall serve as a judge of any court. In Gilford proposal received 3,092 yes votes and 1,475 no votes. Alton voters gave it 2,432 yes votes and 1,089 no votes. In Barnstead voters cast 1,575 votes in favor and 1,140 against. New Durham voters cast 1,144 votes in favor and 477 against.

Gilford moving forward on big grant acceptances

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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GILFORD — The town is moving forward with the processes of accepting major two grants, one to help the police dog program and one to help renovate the ice rink.

During their Oct. 23 meeting, the board of selectmen held a public hearing to accept a grant from the Stanton K-9 Foundation for the Gilford Police Department’s K-9 program. Later that meeting they also authorized Town Administrator Scott Dunn to enter into agreements with the state for a Land and Water Conservation Grant to help improve the skating rink.

The selectmen held a public hearing to accept a grant for \$32,000 from the Stanton K-9 Foundation for financial assistance with the Gilford Police Department’s K-9 program.

In September K-9 officer Kai, who had served with Sgt. Curtis Mailoux since 2018, passed away after a battle with cancer. The department is now working with Kai’s successor Hootie, an 11-month-old German shepherd working with Off. Connor Johnson. Hootie is currently receiving

The Gilford PD received a grant from the



PHOTO BY ERIN PLUMMER

Connor Johnson of the Gilford Police Department with his K-9 partner Hootie. The GPD recently received a grant from the Stanton K-9 Foundation to help with expenses for the K-9 program.

Stanton K-9 Foundation, which provides grants for police K-9 programs across New England that will cover basic expenses such as food and equipment, including outfitting a cruiser with a new cage.

No one made any comments during the hearing and the selectmen unanimously approved accepting the grant money.

The selectmen also approved the next steps toward accepting a Land and Water Conservation Grant that will be used for making improvements to the ice rink.

In September of 2023, Dunn said the town was looking at a project for some upgrades and new features at the ice rink that will allow it to be used year-round. The

proposal includes putting in a concrete surface that can be flooded to create the rink and be used for other activities during the year, including striping it for pickleball. The project would also improve the rink’s overall appearance, add LED lighting, and improve the parking. Town officials looked at possible grants that could help pay for the project, including the option of applying for a Land and Water Conservation grant.

After further reviews throughout 2024, the town received notice earlier in October that it had been approved for the grant.

During the Oct. 23 meeting Dunn presented the selectmen with the grant resolution from the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. The selectmen made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing Dunn to enter into contracts or agreements with through the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and execute documents on behalf of the town for the Land and Water Conservation Grant. The motion was approved unanimously.

The selectmen will hold a public hearing at a later time to accept the grant money.

Early deadlines for Thanksgiving

The offices of the Gilford Steamer will be closed Thursday, Nov. 28 in observance of Thanksgiving.

To ensure that our Nov. 28 edition arrives in subscribers’ mail boxes on schedule despite the

holiday, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication that week has been moved up to Thursday, Nov. 21 at 4 p.m. Submissions can be e-mailed to Editor Brendan Berube at bren-

dan@salmonpress.news.

The staff of the Gilford Steamer thanks our readers for their cooperation with this scheduling change, and wishes one and all a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday.

Local voters support Republicans for state and county offices

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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REGION — Local voters gave more of their support to Republican candidates for state representative and Belknap and Strafford County offices

Voters went to their respective polling places for the General Election on Tuesday, Nov. 5. Voters in Gilford, Alton, and Barnstead decided on different Belknap County offices with New Durham helping to decide on offices in Strafford County.

More Gilford voters cast their ballots for the Republican candidates for State Representative in Belknap County District 4. Rep. Harry Bean received 2,818 votes, Rep. Russell Dumais received

2,728 votes, Rep. David Nagel got 2,573 votes, and Glen Aldrich got 2,339 votes. On the Democrat side, Kurt Webber received 2,234 votes, Jonathan Arsenault got 1,606 votes, Bob McLean received 2,222, and Lena got 2,017.

Alton and Barnstead voters also supported the Republican candidates for State Representative in Belknap County District 7. Rep. Barbara Comtois received 2,346 votes in Alton and 1,685 in Barnstead. Rep. Paul Terry got 2,390 votes in Alton and 1,629 in Barnstead. Rep. Peter Varney received 2,479 votes in Alton and 1,680 in Barnstead.

For Democrat candidates, Susan Church Stevens received 1,167

votes in Alton and 1,167 in Barnstead. Ruth Larson got 1,427 votes in Alton and 1,120 in Barnstead. Stephanie Vuolo received 1,172 votes in Alton and 952 in Barnstead.

For State Representative for Strafford County District 3, New Durham voters cast more ballots for Republican Susan DeRoy with 1,199 votes and cast 669 for Democrat Ellen Phillips.

In the race for Strafford County District 18, New Durham voters chose between Republican Michael Herrington over Democrat Kimberly McGlinchey. Herrington received 1,211 votes in New Durham with McGlinchey receiving 630.

All Belknap County

Offices ran uncontested with most candidates running as both Republicans and Democrats.

Stephen Hodges will serve another term as County Commissioner in District 3, receiving a total of 4,603 votes in Gilford, 3,750 in Alton, and 2,825 in Barnstead.

Sheriff Bill Wright will return as County Sheriff with 4,589 votes in Gilford, 3,809 in Alton, and 2,860 in Barnstead.

Deputy County Attorney Keith Cormier was elected as Belknap County Attorney. He received a total of 4,596 votes in Gilford, 3,793 in Alton, and 2,846 in Barnstead.

Michael Muzzey will serve another term as County Treasurer. He received a total of 4,589

votes in Gilford, 3,772 in Alton, and 2,835 in Barnstead.

Alan Glassman was elected as Register of Probate, receiving a total of 4,570 votes in Gilford, 3,744 in Alton, and 2,829 in Barnstead.

Republican Laura Lapointe was elected as Register of Deeds with 3,561 votes in Gilford, 3,146 in Alton, and 2,348 in Barnstead.

In Strafford County, Republican Joe Pitre was the favorite in New Durham for County Commissioner with 1,123 votes while Democrat Tim Fontneau received 657.

New Durham voters also favored Republican Scott Tingle for Strafford County Sheriff. Tingle received 1,212 votes while Democrat Kathryn Mone received 614 votes.

For County Treasurer, Republican Al-

thea Dukelow received more votes in New Durham with 1,101 with Democrat Pamela Arnold receiving 673.

For Register of Deeds, Republican Matt Mayberry received more support among New Durham voters versus the incumbent, Democrat Catherine Berube. New Durham voters cast 1,103 votes for Mayberry and 683 votes for Berube.

For Register of Probate, Republican Nancy Sirois received more votes from New Durham voters. She received 1,174 votes in New Durham whereas incumbent Democrat Jan Nedelka received 58.

County Attorney Emily Garod ran uncontested for reelection as both a Republican and Democrat, receiving a total of 1,772 votes in New Durham.

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Learn how to use Libby — the Library Book App

The Friends of Gilman Library and Alton Parks and Recreation are sponsoring an informative session on how to use the Libby App on Thursday, Nov. 21 from 1-2 p.m. in the Agnes Thompson Meeting Room at the Gilman Library. Did you know you can borrow eBooks, audiobooks, magazines and more electronically from your local library for free? Learn how to navigate the Libby App, choose and reserve books, play audiobooks and more. Bring your smart phone, kindle or tablet. For more information contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Free events include: 5 p.m.- Tree Lighting at Town Hall sponsored by ABA; 5:15-6:15 p.m.- Meet with Santa and Mrs. Claus inside the Gilman Library, and make a free craft at the Gilman Library (use rear parking lot entrance); 5-6:30 p.m.- Holiday Hayride loading up at Monument Square- sponsored by Alton Home and Lumber; 11 a.m.-7 p.m.-Festival of Trees and Gingerbread House Decorating Contest at the Gilman Museum sponsored by the ABA; plus more to see and do. Light Up Night Events are free and are open to the public. For more information contact the Alton Parks and Recreation Department at 603-875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

soring a residential and business decorating event. Do you like decorating outside for the holidays, and want to share your display and cheer with others? Submit your address and optional photo by contacting parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 by Dec. 9. Maps with decorated locations will be available to the public on December 13. Keep your lights on Dec. 13-27 so the community can enjoy your decorations while they explore the map.

Weight Training Classes- Mondays and Wednesdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Weight Training Classes on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library for adults of all ages and abilities. Learn new exercises and build strong muscles and bones, increase flexibility and develop better balance. Bring light hand weights, a mat and water. For more information, contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109. Try a class for free. \$20 per month/session or \$5 drop in.

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 Thurs-

days, 9:30-10:30 a.m. with certified instructor Donna Lee. All level adults are welcome for a full body, low impact class that will improve muscle tone, flexibility, balance and strength. Pre-registration is \$10 per class or \$15 drop in. Bring a mat and water. For more information/register contact Donna at breathepilates1@yahoo.com or parksrec@alton.nh.gov. Class not held Nov. 14.

After School Program — Dec. 20

On Early Release days at ACS Alton Parks and Recreation Staff will pick up participants, in grades 1-5, from school and walk together to the Pearson Road Community Center for an afternoon of fun. Dec. 20 theme is “Festive Fun”; activities include: themed games, coloring, crafts, snacks and more. \$5 per child. Pick up time at the Community Center is 3 p.m. Limited space, register today by contacting parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Guided Meditation with Instructor Karen Kharitonov

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a Guided Meditation Class on Thursday, Nov. 21 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Stop in and experience the positive state of meditation. The program is free, donations are greatly appreciated to support local charities. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Alton Trails- All Star

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a get outside and hike program. Hike seven local trails, and receive an Alton Trails All Star sticker. All you have to do is take a photo on each trail, and send the photos to parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov. Trails include: Mike Burke Trail; Knight's Pond; Trask Swamp and Fort Point Woods Conservation Area; Gilman Pond; Mt. Major, Pine Mountain and Cotton-Hurd Brook.

Blessing of your animals & pets at Congregational Church of North Barnstead

BARNSTEAD — Many authors and songwriters have posed the question, “if animals could talk, what would they say?” Most of us agree that they do communicate! They communicate with their barks, yelps, meows, or bleating. Or with their eyes, body language, or perhaps just a morning lick that soothes your soul. As Jesus often commented, “if we only have eyes to see and ears to hear.

With all our fur baby pets or barnyard friends on our mind, we will be offering the Blessing of the Animals at The Congregational Church of North Barnstead on Sunday, Nov. 17, during our worship time at 10 a.m. The Congregation and

community is warmly invited.

During the worship time we will offer

- Hymns and music: Commemorating God's creation, all its creatures (great and small) and our role as stewards.

- The Blessing of your pets or animals: You are welcome to bring your furry, feathered, or scaly friend personally to worship or in picture form, for the time of blessing.

- A time for Sharing: Rev. Jeff Scott will officiate and provide a time of “testimony” for your sharing of amazing stories from the animal or natural world - that reflect a spiritual moment you've experienced and point to our Creator's unmistakable hand.

Cash and Cans prize calendars available now

REGION — Mix 94.1 FM's 38th annual Cash and Cans Money and Food Drive for the Holidays is set for Dec. 8-13. A unique way to raise money is to purchase a Mix Cash and Cans prize calendar. “The calendar is filled with over six thousand dollars in cash and prizes, each prize donated to us by area businesses and individuals. And we appreciate each and every one of them,” said Fred Caruso, founder of the Cash and Cans program in 1987. Winners will be selected daily during December and you can win multiple times.

Calendars are 10 dollars each and available at Prescott's Florist, Vista Foods and All My Life Jewelers in Lacoconia; at Franklin Savings Bank offices in Franklin, Tilton, Gilford, Bristol, and Boscawen; Caleb's Barber Shop, Hanser Auto Body, Tilton Senior Center and Diana's Morning Brew, Downtown Tilton; Park-N-Go Market, Northfield and Grevior Furniture and the Hair Depot in Franklin. You can also e-mail Caruso at fred@mix941fm.com and calendars will be

mailed to you.

Last year, Mix Cash and Cans raised more than \$71,000 in cash and thousands of pounds of non-perishable food items. All donations stay local, benefiting the Twin Rivers Interfaith Food Pantry; St. Vincent DePaul's Food Pantry, The Santa Fund of the Greater Lakes Region; the Tilton/Northfield/Sanbornton (TNS) Christmas Fund; Bread and Roses Soup Kitchen; the Franklin Police Toys for Tots program; Santa's 'Lil Helpers through the Belmont Police Department; Every Child Is Ours; American Legion Post 49's Christmas Baskets; the Meredith Emergency Food Pantry; St. Joseph's Food Pantry in Belmont, the Northfield/Tilton Congregational Church Food Pantry and Got Lunch! Belmont.

Donations are always welcome. Make checks payable to Mix Cash and Cans and mail to PO Box 99, Franklin, NH 03235 or Venmo @mixcashandcans. For more information about the Mix Cash & Cans program, contact Caruso at 603-934-2500 or by e-mail.

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Children's Center honors 50 years with two celebrations

WOLFEBORO — Fifty years ago, a survey given by the American Association of University Women identified an unexplored need in Wolfeboro and the surrounding communities. Working parents, men and women, were looking for day-to-day childcare help and support. They needed a safe place for their children to go while they secured a livelihood for their families. As a result, the Wolfeboro Area Children's Center was born and local families were finally offered the opportunity to have high quality, affordable daycare.

For half a century now, the Center has stood firm in its mission, "to enhance the well-being of families in our community by meeting their needs through comprehensive, affordable, high quality childcare and early education, and to cooperate with other agencies serving the needs of children.

In honor of the Center's 50th anniversary this year, two commemoration events took place this fall. The first event was an open-to-the-public Golden Gala held on the M/S Mount Washington cruise boat the evening of Friday, Sept. 6. Embarkment of the vessel began an hour before its departure at 6 p.m. from Wolfeboro. Amidst the serene beauty of Lake Winnepesaukee, guests enjoyed a dinner reception and drinks, live entertainment by the Carolyn Ramsey Band, and a spectacular sunset during their three-hour excursion.

Preceding the boat gala and while on board the evening of the event, The Children's Center ran a Super Raffle Ticket fundraiser. Raffle tickets were sold at \$100 a ticket with the chance to win a grand prize of \$10,000! Executive Director Teri Ann Cox drew the winning tickets of the Super Raffle Ticket fundraiser aboard the Mount Washington while Event Co-Chairs, Sarah Morgan and Peg Mongiello, announced the winners at the end of the evening's festivities.

For the Center's second event in honor of their 50th anniversary, the Board of Directors and Endowment Trustees hosted a private 50th anniversary dinner on the evening of Tuesday, October 8th to commemorate its decades of commitment to



Event Co-Chair June Connors, Executive Director Teri Ann Cox, and Event Co-Chair Maxine Cadman at the 50th anniversary celebration dinner.

the community through comprehensive childcare services. The event was attended by 80 Center supporters and the goal of raising \$150,000 for 50 years of philanthropy was exceeded.

The three-hour celebration began with an open house at The Children's Center. All guests were treated to a celebratory glass of champagne while they toured the building. It was a unique opportunity to view firsthand the inner workings of the Center as classrooms displayed evidence of learning and hallways beamed with children's artwork. All guests were then invited to hop on a complimentary trolley ride making their way to the nationally recognized The Barn at The Pickering House Inn where cocktails were served and guests mingled speaking of their relationships with The Center. Event Co-Chairs, Maxine Cadman and June Connors, warmly welcomed everyone to the celebration dinner followed by Byron Martin, master of ceremonies, who invited everyone to be seated for dinner while he introduced the upcoming guest speakers for the evening.

Leading off was the first guest speaker of the event, staff member and preschool room lead teacher, Tiffany Fox. Tiffany spoke about her recent career change that included the move from a more lucrative position within the automotive industry to entering the childcare workforce at The Children's Center where her true passion lied.

Fox told the captive audience, "I've always aspired to work in a capacity that positively impacts the lives of others,

particularly children, which guided my career transition."

Next up was guest speaker, Elizabeth Rice, Chef & Owner at La Boca Restaurant & Market in Wolfeboro. She is also the parent, along with husband Steven, of two elementary-aged daughters who have both attended the Center since they were toddlers. She spoke to how the Center is like a second home to them and how it supports their family as well as their locally owned business.

In reflection, Rice stated, "The Center is a place for enrichment, education, citizenship, and compassionate care. It is not just a center for our community's young people, but it is The Center of the lives of so many families, many like mine, whose kids and businesses thrive because of the support they provide."

Following both powerful speeches was a testimonial, read by Ronn Bronzetti, from Will Tickle who is currently the Chair for the Center's Endowment Trustees board, Partner & Head of Impact Investing at Ballentine Partners, and former enrolled child at The Children's Center. His testimonial spoke of the impact early childhood education has on a child's success, including his own, and how he remains committed to the mission of the Center in transforming the lives of children in our community.

Lastly, an informative presentation and heartfelt talk were given by keynote speaker Teri Ann Cox, Executive Director of The Children's Center.

When describing one of the evening's inspirations, a near-term plan

to turn part of an unused part of the existing playground into a Wetlands Learning Garden, Cox said, "Wetlands provide food and habitat for a variety of aquatic and upland plants, as well as wildlife. In collaboration with Miracle Farms, our dream is now to turn the property's back corner into a Wetlands Learning Garden, complete with responsible landscap-

ing that brings in native moisture-loving plants, a rain garden, boardwalks that support children exploring and learning from the educational signposts that will guide their discovery of nature."

The Children's Center would like to thank and celebrate its countless community supporters and partners for their invaluable and critical help in fulfilling its mission for 50 years and counting. Follow The Children's Center on Facebook and Instagram @thechildrenscenternh. If you have any stories to share from 50 years of The Children's Center, we encourage you to reach out via email at info@thechildrenscenternh.org.

About The Children's Center

The Children's Center has been serving the needs of children from 6 weeks to 12 years old since 1974. Its mission is to enhance the well-being of families in our community by meeting their needs through comprehensive, affordable, high quality childcare

and early education, and to collaborate with other agencies serving the needs of children. They envision an approach to childcare and early education that has the power to transform the lives of children. By working to provide each child and every family with the resources they need to thrive, The Children's Center remains a pillar in the community for past, present, and future generations.

The Children's Center is recognized for program excellence under the Granite Steps For Quality Program. A pioneer in early invention, mainstream special education, and early childhood education vocational partnerships, in 2024 The Children's Center is celebrating five decades of meeting the critical childcare needs of southern Carroll County.

For more information or to learn about The Children's Center, visit the Center's Web site at thechildrenscenternh.org or call the Office at 603-569-1027.

Barbershop Quartet concert Sunday at Unitarian Universalist Society of Laconia



Rick Hochsprung, Lee Daum, Rob Sheridan, and Andy Herrick are set to perform on Sunday, Nov. 17 at 3 p.m.

LACONIA — The Unitarian Universalist Society will host a Barbershop Concert featuring "Feelin' Fine!" a quartet that began several years ago when Rob Sheridan, Rick Hochsprung, Andy Herrick and Lee Daum met at the 2022 New England Harmony Brigade. Sheridan and Daum had been talking about getting a quartet started, and Sheridan mentioned that he had been talking to Hochsprung, who lived in New Hampshire, but had been coming down to the Boston area frequently to visit with his family. Daum had also been talking with Herrick about the same thing. Since they all had attended Harmony Brigades before, they had a shared repertoire based

on the repertoire they had learned for the Brigades.

At their first few rehearsals, they found their voices blended well and they enjoyed each other's company. The quartet started rehearsing again in time to make the Spring 2024 Divisional Competition where they placed very well indeed for a new quartet.

The quartet name came spontaneously after singing an upbeat gospel number called "Feelin' Fine!" which symbolizes so much about what this quartet gets from making music, and what they try to leave behind with each audience they perform for.

Despite their different lives, Hochsprung, Daum, Sheridan, and Herrick share the plea-

sure found in making and sharing close harmony singing. And they all were willing to "do the work" necessary to sing at a very high level of proficiency. They enjoy working together and have seen the results of their work bloom into a great quartet.

The concert begins at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 17. There will be light refreshments served at intermission followed by more songs and an old fashioned sing-along during the second half.

Tickets are \$25. You are encouraged to get your tickets early. Reserve by calling 603-848-2469 or email uusl@my-fairpoint.net to reserve your tickets. The church is located at 172 Pleasant St. in Laconia.



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We Will NOT be Undersold

Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024

The power of local politics: Building strong communities from the ground up

In an age where national politics often takes center stage, it's easy to overlook the importance of local and state government. Yet, these levels of government have the most immediate impact on our daily lives. From the roads we drive on to the quality of our schools and local law enforcement policies, our state and local officials play a huge role in shaping our communities.

One of the greatest dangers in politics is voting based on loyalty over logic. If we vote against our own interests or blindly trust politicians, we're risking the very issues we care about. Accountability is key; even if you supported a candidate, it's essential to pay attention to their actions in office. Politicians are human, and power can sometimes lead to decisions that may not align with the interests of those they represent. Voting for someone is not the end of the process—it's the beginning of our responsibility to stay engaged.

Local and state politics offer real opportunities for grassroots organizing and meaningful change. Working together to make our communities better strengthens the country from the ground up. When we invest time and energy into making our neighborhoods safer, our schools better, and our support networks stronger, we're not just improving our immediate environment; we're creating a stronger, more resilient nation. And kindness should be at the heart of this process. Community building is as much about empathy and understanding as it is about policy.

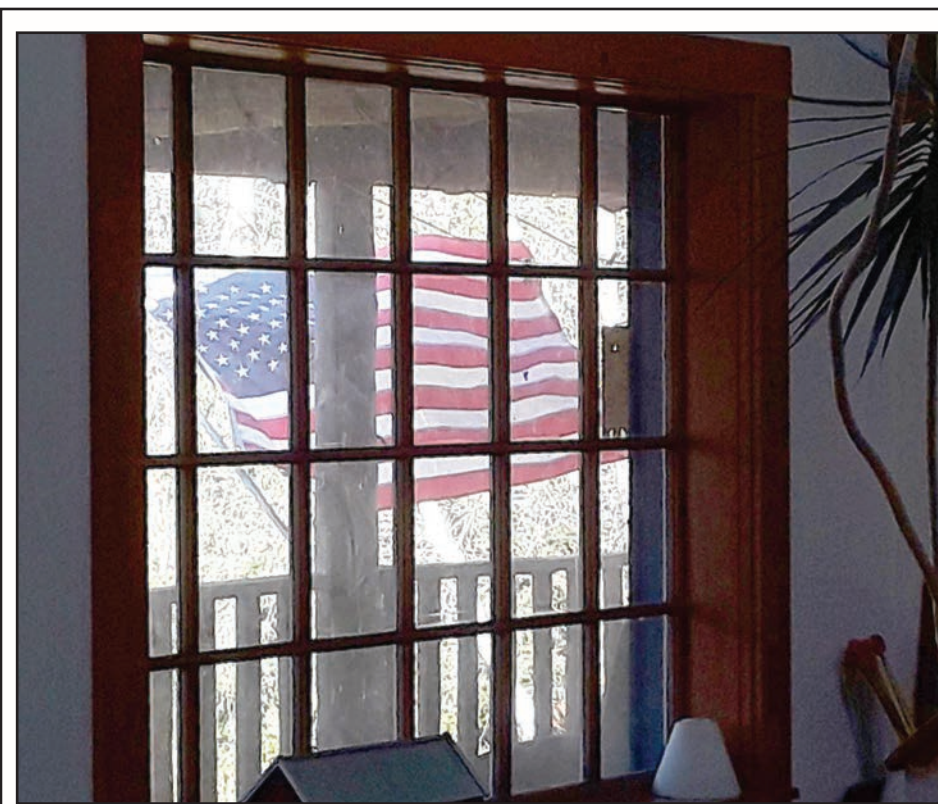
But kindness doesn't mean complacency. It's important to be vigilant and to speak up when policies go astray, even if it's uncomfortable. Sometimes we don't want to criticize the politicians we voted for, but staying silent when we see something wrong is like cutting off our nose to spite our face. If we care about our communities, we must be willing to demand accountability from everyone, regardless of party or personal preferences.

In the end, focusing on local and state politics, holding our leaders accountable, and committing to kindness and grassroots efforts can create the change we want to see. Real change starts with us, with our neighborhoods, and with our willingness to stay involved in the issues that matter. Together, we can make our communities and, ultimately, our country a better place for all.

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.



STUART LEIDERMAN — COURTESY

The star spangled banner does indeed yet wave in this image captured by reader Stuart Leiderman at his home in Barnstead.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Conflicts

It's Monday morning; I'm back in school again. Today, I'm a math and science teacher. That's more in line with my aptitudes. The kids know that, so I actually got asked questions on the algebra equations they were supposed to be solving. Findingslopes and intercepts. I gave them a few pointers on how to make these things easier and once again heard comments wishing that I were their math teacher. I told them that they could always come and ask me questions. It's nice to be appreciated.

Today, my shoulder is reminding me that yesterday I was at the range getting myself familiar with the rifle I should be carrying soon. Deer season is rapidly approaching. It would be nice to have some totally organic unadulterated meat in my freezer. Provided I'm lucky enough to get a good sighting, and then I don't screw something up, which is an ever present possibility. Many hunters spend their season doing all the walking and waiting without having any success.

The last time I went hunting, I was probably fourteen. Heading

out into the woods with my godfather before sunrise after having a hunter's breakfast in a steamy cafe jammed full of orange coated gun totters. The ground was coated with a heavy frost that crunched with our every step. I felt that we were transmitting our location to every critter far and wide. That may have been the case, but we came home with a couple of partridge that we cleaned up and had for supper.

About this time in my life, some friends bought electric guitars and formed a band. We would hang out with them when they practiced in one of their houses or cellars. We thought this was totally cool. I can still remember the first time I saw an electric guitar. My friend showed me how to do the little three note Telestar lick, which I could actually do. I was hooked.

That night, when he stood up while wearing the guitar, he was also stepping on the cord. This action ripped apart the front of the guitar and dragged out all kind of wires and electronics with it. What a disaster! I still

make sure that I tie my cords so that this will never happen to me.

It's nice to learn from other people's mistakes. It's certainly better than doing them yourselves. I so do wish that, if at all possible, that I could appropriate other people's lessons learned. Promote a little bit of life efficiency.

One pastime that I have witnessed lately, is watching other people doing dumb things in videos. Why they would post them evades me. I have friends, and students, who love watching them. I quickly get overwhelmed with blatant stupidity and have to walk away. I wonder how many people, after watching such things, go and do similar things themselves. Maybe try it a different way. Improve upon the flawed concept. Oops. A stupid idea is a persistent thing.

I guess it's like hitting control P twenty times after it doesn't print the first time. Don't we all do that? After you put the paper in the printer you get rewarded with 21 copies of that recipe. Or whatever it was, you know what I mean.

I just got my hair

cut. The kids are going to go nuts on me. Every time I had asked them what they thought they'd say no, don't do it. Well, I did. It's been growing for over five years now. It was getting pretty long. I chopped a few inches off a few months ago, but it grew back. This was all sparked by a hair cut that left this long swath of hair from the left side that was supposed to hang over my right ear. Nice concept, but I had requested a cut that would keep my hair out of my eyes. This didn't work out that way.

About that time, one of my house mates had a membership in AARP. While placing the monthly magazine on his mail pile, I found the solution to my hair in the eyes problem. It was the Willie Nelson issue. You can look up the date. It has been growing ever since. I taught myself to braid it. I must have missed braid your own hair class in school. Or maybe it wasn't deemed among the skills required by someone with conflicting chromosomes.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

Thank you for your faith in my service

To the Editor:

Thank you to the voters of Alton and Barnstead for approving my service to you and returning me to Concord for a third term.

It was so good greeting so many of you at our two polling places and receiving many smiles and thumbs up. I only wish I could have been in both locations all day, instead of having to split my time between each one.

I look forward to contributing to an already solid

record of accomplishments as our fellow citizens made decisions on Nov. 5 that will enable Republicans to continue building upon the numerous successes of the past four years.

I wish all of you a blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends, remembering with our donations to groups such as the Salvation Army those who will be alone and/or in need.

Rep. Paul Terry
Alton

I accept my loss with humility and thanks

To the Editor:

Now that the election results are in, I offer my hearty congratulations to my opponents, Rep. Peter Varney, Rep. Paul Terry, and Rep. Barbara Comtois, who won all three seats in the Alton-Barnstead District. Even though the race wasn't quite a cliffhanger, the election was fair, and I accept my loss with humility.

To the residents of Alton and Barnstead who voted for me, I offer my heartiest thanks. To the voters who welcomed me at their doors when I was canvassing, I cannot tell you how much I appreciated your willingness to share your stories and thoughts with me, including those of you who were not going to vote for me. We didn't always talk about the

issues, and some of our conversations were about your dogs, and the swap shop, and bees, and vintage cars, as opposed to topics likely to come before the legislature. Maybe that's why it was so much fun! I had a blast, and I hope some of you enjoyed the connection at least half as much as I did.

It's not in my nature to be silent, so as a member of the loyal opposition, I will continue to weigh in on issues now and then, and to correct our winning representatives on the errors of their ways! Nevertheless, it is my hope that we find common ground now and again, and manage to have civil conversations even when we don't.

Ruth Larson
Alton

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Alton Garden Club travels to Narnia

ALTON — It's the end of Alton Garden Club's season, with the exception of placing wreaths and decorations around town this winter and planning for 2025.

The season went out with a bang at the October meeting, hosted by Michelle Hanley in her beautifully-decorated barn, transformed into "Narnia" from "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." Hanley is also the talented person who created our Web site, alton-gardenclub.com. She continues to update the blog with pictures from our meetings and projects the club does around town.

Our presentation for the meeting was given by past president Joan Blackwood, a retired science teacher who always does wonderful demonstrations. Her topic was "Preserving Fall Colors" and showed the results of many methods, including her preferred wax method for preserving fall leaves. Joan's sister, Jane



Bradbury, showed a black box covered with various leaves she made for her daughter who lives in Australia and misses the fall colors. The Horticulture Moment featured a wonderful plant called "Baptista" or "False Indigo." It's one of the early spring bloomers that has sweet pea-like flowers on long stems. The stems and seed pods turn black in the fall and can be used in floral arrangements. Earlier in our history it

was used by the indigenous people who taught the new settlers how to use it as a blue dye. It also has medicinal properties, and the pods were made into rattles for children.

For those who are interested in learning more about Alton Garden Club, see our website. There's a club application for those who would want to become a member for 2025. All area residents are welcome to attend meetings as guests, too

Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events

Nov. 14 – Nov. 21

Thursday, Nov. 14
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Sensory Sensations, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
French Club, 4-5 p.m.
Canoe to the Polar Sea, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Cross the Arctic Circle on a thousand mile canoe adventure with Gilford guide Ned Therrien, following the Mackenzie River across the Northwest Territories of Canada to the polar sea. Visit remote Indian villages, meet missionaries, and explore this last frontier retracing fur trader Alexander Mackenzie's historic 1789 exploration.

Friday, Nov. 15
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Heart 'n Soul Chair Yoga, 10-11 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon
Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Hand & Foot, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 16

Beginner Line Dancing, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Drop-In Craft: Pumpkin Centerpieces, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Monday, Nov. 18
Fun and Fitness With Joyce, 9-10 a.m.
Baby Storytime, 10-10:30 a.m.

Enjoy songs, rhymes, and movement with other families!

Mahjong, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
Effectively Responding to Dementia Related Behaviors, 5-6 p.m.

This program details common behavior changes that occur as a result of dementia, and how they are a form of communication. Non-medical approaches to behaviors, and recognizing when help is needed, will be reviewed.

Tuesday, Nov. 19
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Geri Fit, 10-11 a.m.
Thrive as we Age, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Successful aging refers to physical, mental and social well-being and is largely determined by the choices we make. Choosing a healthy lifestyle leaves us fit, energetic and at reduced risk for disease. In this workshop, we will learn ways to stay active and involved as we age by exploring the seven dimensions of wellness with GVNA Community Health Educator, Brooke Noonan.

Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon
Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Intermediate Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 20

Senior Stretch Yoga, 9-10 a.m.

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

T(w)een Early Release: Thanksgiving Photobooth, 1-2 p.m.

Hayden's got all the supplies to make your own costumes and decorations for photo-ops with your friends! Make a funny turkey hat, wear a fake mustache and smile!

Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.
Chess Group, 1-3 p.m.
Early Release: Turkey Pops, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Come create a cute turkey using a lollipop.

Thursday, Nov. 21
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Sensory Sensations, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Explore the wonders of our five senses in this interactive playful program!

Home School Club, noon-1:30 p.m.
French Club, 4-5 p.m.

Book Discussion: Demon Copperhead, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Led by Rhetta; books are available at the front desk.

Your Identity: Staying Connected and Protected, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Millions of consumers are victims of identity theft and fraud every year. Since we all spend time cruising the web and shopping on-line, we need to be more vigilant than ever of security breaches. In a few simple steps, we will show you how. Presented by the New Hampshire Department of Justice.

Gilman Library news

Alton's Aubuchon Hardware donates books to Gilman Library

The local Aubuchon Hardware Store, at 7 Main Street, Alton, has donated a large amount of new non-fiction books to the Gilman Library, located at 100 Main St., Alton. There are thirty-one new books added to the adult non-fiction collections. Several duplicates of the non-fictions as well as a few dozen copies of children's drawing instruction and coloring books were given to the Friends of the Gilman Library for fund-raising purposes. Three of our featured titles include "Made with Dad: incredible, challenging, and fun craft projects," by Chris Barnardo, "The Illustrated Encyclopedia of

Country Living," by Abigail Gehring, and "The Ultimate Prepper's Handbook," by Jay Cassell. The other titles cover such topics as bee-keeping, raising chickens, foraging for wild edible plants, healing with herbs, year-round gardening, back-yard maple sugaring, canning, food dehydrating, and cast-iron cooking. You are certain to find something to pique your interest or satisfy your hobby.

Fall Harvest Raffle to Be drawn Friday, Nov. 15 at Gilman Library

The Friends of the Gilman Library raffle tickets are still available at \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. One lucky winner will win a dozen fabulous prizes, including Fall and Thanksgiving kitchen linens and decor, a bottle

of Oyster Bay Rosé, and a \$50 Hannaford Gift Card. If you consider the price of a ticket a small donation to benefit the library, winning the prize would be a bonus.

The Giving Tree is up at Gilman Library

Once again, the Gilman Library is working in conjunction with the Rotary Club, to enable Gift Givers who wish to purchase Christmas gift items for The Compass House, in Laconia. The Compass House serves Belknap County as it supports women and children in transition. Gifters may choose a Gift Tag from the Gilman Library Giving Tree to purchase the specific item and return it in a gift bag, unwrapped, with the Giving Tree Gift Tag attached to the bag.

Community Food Pantry donation drop-off at Gilman Library

The collection bin is located inside the library at the main floor entrance, to the left of the glass doors. Boxed, dried, and canned, non-perishable food items may be dropped off at the library. Your donations will assist local families in need.

Allow the Gilman Library to help you prepare for the holiday season

Whether you need new recipes or cooking tips, craft ideas for your gift projects, or are looking to purchase a treasure to give from the new items in the Friends Corner, let us help you prepare. Consider us your resource center. See you at the library!

Gilford police log

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

Tacio Costa Teodoro, age 25, was arrested on Nov. 1 for operating a motor vehicle after suspension of vehicle registration.

James F. Oliver, age 69, was arrested on Nov. 2 for Driving After Revo-

cation or Suspension of license (subsequent offense).

Wendy Hamill, age 47, was arrested on Nov. 3 for Driving Under the Influence-Impairment, an Open Container violation, and Driving After Revocation or Suspension of license due to DUI.

Gary Allen Fielding, age 71, was arrested on Nov. 4 in connection with

a warrant.

Christopher R. Smith, age 41, was arrested on Nov. 5 for DUI-Impairment.

A 60-year-old male was taken into protective cus-

tody for intoxication on Nov. 6.

Katrina Lee Lavigne, age 34, was arrested on Nov. 6 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of license.

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For more information, please visit abundantharvestnb.org or e-mail ahf@faith.org

ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER
Sundays throughout the summer 10am-6:7pm, 875-6161.

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

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centerbarnstead.org

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF PRAISE C.C.O.P PRAISE GATHERING
The Gathering Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m.
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ccppraisegathering@gmail.com

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SPORTS

Prospect pressure comes up short in semifinal

Timber Wolf boys drop 2-1 decision to Mascoma in Final Four

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BEDFORD — Forget knocking on the door, the Prospect Mountain boys' soccer team was pounding on the door, trying to drive a truck through the door and literally doing anything possible to get through the door in the second half of last Wednesday afternoon's Division III semifinal game against Mascoma at Bedford High School.

However, on the other side of the door, the Royal defense stood strong, pushing with all its might to keep the Timber Wolves off the board and eventually, Mascoma came through with a 2-1 win to advance to the Division III finals.

"We were much better in the second half, made a couple of mistakes in the first half," said coach Cory Halvorsen. "That's what happens in the play-offs."

"This is what the semifinals are all about," he continued. "We got unlucky a couple of times, it just wasn't our night."

The Royals started off with some solid pressure in the zone, with Prospect keeper Ben Gagnon making the saves in the net. Joe Deane had a bid that went wide of the net for the Timber Wolves and TJ Locke was sent a shot wide. The Royals had a couple of corner kick chances, with Gagnon making the stops.

Prospect had its first corner of the game and



Shaun McAneney is sandwiched between two Mascoma Royals during semifinal action last week in Bedford.



Wyatt Bubar pushes the ball down the sideline during the Division III semifinals last Wednesday in Bedford.

Bryce Watson's shot was denied by the Royal keeper. Shaun McAneney also sent a shot on net that was stopped and the Royals came back with another chance. The Royals sent a shot wide of the net and Watson came back with a bid that was denied and Wyatt Bubar sent a shot wide of the net.

Locke just missed connecting with McAneney on a chance and the Royals had a cross go through the box but could not

finish. The Royals had a corner kick chance, with Rylan Clifford making a solid defensive stop and clear while Isaac Casale had a long direct kick chance denied by the Mascoma goalie. Prospect had a corner chance and Charlie Yeaton and Charlie Watson connected on a chance that was stopped.

The Royals got on the board with 23:57 to go in the first half, scoring off a rebound of a long shot and then doubled that



Knyte Neathery sends the ball forward during semifinal action against Mascoma last week.



Bryce Watson settles the ball during semifinal action last Wednesday against Mascoma.

lead just less than a minute and a half later and took the 2-0 lead. Casale had a good clear, Gagnon had another save and Yeaton made a run in that was stopped. The Timber Wolves had a corner kick but could not connect.

Locke and Bubar teamed up on a bid that was stopped and Watson got in close on a chance that was stopped. Locke also sent a shot over the top of the net and Clifford had a good defensive clear at the other end of

the field. Mascoma had a corner kick that Gagnon saved and Locke had another run into the zone.

After another Gagnon save, McAneney and Locke combined on a chance and Kaleb Kennedy had a direct kick cleared. Bubar just missed connecting with Locke and Watson sent a shot wide of the net. Blake Snell chipped in with a solid defensive stop at the other end.

With 30 seconds to go in the half, the Timber

Wolves finally broke through, with Locke putting the ball in on a corner kick with an assist to Watson and the game went to the half with the Timber Wolves trailing the Royals 2-1.

Gagnon made a huge save to start the second half and Watson came back with a direct kick that went over the top of the net. Sergio Duarte and Watson teamed up on a chance while Locke and Bubar also combined for a bid that was denied. Casale sent a direct kick in to Duarte, but they Timber Wolves could not finish.

Prospect had a corner kick chance that was cleared out and Locke had a bid that was denied and Watson got close on the rebound, but the defense cleared the ball. Prospect had another corner chance that Watson sent off the post and after Gagnon made a save at the other end, Deane had a bid denied by the Royal keeper. Gagnon made a couple more saves and Yeaton had a bid denied as well.

Prospect had a pair of corner kicks, with Locke just missing Deane with a crossing pass and Kennedy sending a shot on net that was stopped by the Royal keeper. Mascoma headed a direct kick over the top of the net and Clifford made another solid defensive stop. Duarte and Locke connected on a chance and Locke made a good run along the base line on a corner kick, but they could not convert. Casale sent a shot over the top of the net and Watson had a bid denied by the defense.

The Royals had a cross in front that Gagnon was able to push out of the box. Duarte just missed connecting with Watson on a chance and Bubar sent a shot wide of the net before time ran out on the Timber Wolves' season.

"I am happy with the way we played in the second half, we just couldn't find it," Halvorsen stated. "The future of the program is bright."

"To get to this point from where they've been is exciting, but it's what we wanted to do," he continued. "It's something a team hasn't done in the last 10 years at Prospect."

The Timber Wolves finished at 14-2 on the regular season and earned the third seed in the Division III tournament, knocking off Newfound and Belmont to earn the semifinal berth.

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

FOOTBALL

(continued from Page A1)

Albert jumped on the loose ball around midfield.

After a long touch-down run by Harder was wiped out by a penalty, Uicker connected with Lucas Raleigh to put the Golden Eagle inside the Newport 25. Moments later, Harder broke several tackles enroute to the end zone to give the Golden Eagles a 26-6 lead with 28 seconds remaining in the first half.

Newport came out in the second half and put together a scoring drive to make it 26-12, but the Golden Eagles came back with one of its own with Taylor scoring on a short run. Uicker added the PAT, giving Gilford a 33-12 lead with 24 seconds



Gilford running back Noah Harder looks to make a cut after breaking free in the open field during the Golden Eagles 40-20 win over Newport in the NHIAA Division III football quarterfinal round.

remaining in the third quarter.

The two teams exchanged touchdowns in the fourth quarter for the final.

Now the Golden Ea-

gles will prepare to face top-seeded Campbell, the last team to beat Gilford. "We just need to go in with the 'Why not us?' mindset," O'Hara said.



Gilford back Cooper Perkins breaks through the middle of the line for a big gain against Newport in the NHIAA Division III playoffs.

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SPORTS

Heartbreaking semifinal end for Gilford

Top-seeded Golden Eagle soccer girls fall in Final Four battle

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

BEDFORD — And just like that, a few days earlier than most expected, the dream season came to an abrupt ending for the Gilford soccer girls.

The undefeated, top-seeded Golden Eagles couldn't solve the Stevens defense and the Cardinals were able to slip in a goal in the final seconds of the first half and another in the final minute of the game to take a 2-0 win in the Division III semifinals at Bedford High School on Monday, Nov. 4.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game," said Gilford coach Rob Meyers, noting that the Cardinals had beaten perennial power St. Thomas earlier in the season to make a name for themselves. "I thought we matched up well, but it just didn't pan out tonight.

"That goal (before halftime), that deflated us at halftime," the Golden Eagle coach added. "It was a momentary lapse, that's all it was."

Gilford had an early corner chance and Macy Sawyer had a good run into the zone for the Golden Eagles. The Cardinals came back with a chance that Gilford goalie Aariah Dewar was able to grab and Sawyer made a nice crossing pass to Clara Thompson going the other way. Anna Coapland just missed connecting with Sawyer on a chance and Kendal Heyman sent Thompson in for a chance that was blocked.

Thompson had another shot denied by the Stevens keeper and Addy Harris had a strong defensive stop for the Gilford girls. Dewar was able to grab another Stevens chance and Sawyer had a run denied by the Cardinal defense. Gracey LeBlanc and Ava Wilson had good clears from the defensive zone and the Stevens defense cleared a Sawyer cross and stopped a Lianna Keenan run.

Sawyer sent another shot over the top of the net and Thompson and Sawyer just missed connecting on a chance. LeBlanc had a clear on a Stevens corner chance and Dewar was able to punch away another Stevens chance. Coapland had a run denied by the Stevens defense, which



Anna Coapland pushes the ball up the field during her team's semifinal tilt with Stevens last Monday in Bedford.



Gracey LeBlanc moves the ball during Gilford's semifinal game against Stevens last Monday evening in Bedford.

also stopped a bid from Oliver in to Keenan and a bid from LeBlanc up to Thompson.

Gilford appeared to take the lead when Thompson sent Sawyer in on a breakaway, but the play was ruled offside and the Golden Eagles and Cardinals remained scoreless. LeBlanc had a long direct kick chance and Dewar was able to stop a couple of Stevens bids. Sawyer just missed connecting with Thompson and Oliver and Thompson teamed up on a chance that was cleared. Keenan sent a shot wide of the net and Leah Davignon had a chance stopped by the Stevens defense.

The Cardinals were awarded a corner kick in the final minute and managed to get the ball off before the whistle and it found its way past Dewar with three seconds left on the clock in the first half, giving Stevens the 1-0 lead at the break.

The Cardinals had a chance headed wide early in the second half and Thompson appeared to tie the game moments later but again, the play was ruled offside and play continued. Dewar made a couple of solid saves in the net and Coapland and Sawyer teamed up on a chance

that was saved by the Stevens goalie. LeBlanc had a long direct kick cleared out of the defensive zone by the Cardinals.

Gilford got three corners in a row and had some chances but could not get the ball in the net. Sawyer made a run in that was turned back and Heyman had a bid stopped by the Cardinal goalie. Harris was able to clear out a Stevens cross and Thompson had another bid denied by the goaltender.

Stevens had a couple of corner kick chances, with one going wide and the other headed out by LeBlanc. Wilson had a good clear and LeBlanc sent a long shot on net that the Cardinal defender stopped. Heyman had a bid denied and Keenan made a nice run through the defense but could not find the back of the net.

LeBlanc ripped a direct shot into the box that was headed off the cross bar and the Car-



Addy Harris gets to the ball despite the foot of a Stevens attacker getting in the way in semifinal action last week.



Clara Thompson keeps her eye on the ball during semifinal action last week against Stevens.

dinal defense cleared the ball. Coapland had a cross cleared away and LeBlanc had a bid denied by the Stevens defense. Heyman and LeBlanc both had chances denied by the Stevens goalie.

The Cardinals sealed the win with a goal in the final 30 seconds of the game, sending them on to the finals.

"We had such a good season, I hate to see it end," said Meyers. "You can't win them all and we were definitely outplayed tonight."

"It's a tough ending," Meyers said, crediting the senior leadership for making it to three Final Fours in a row to close out their year, including a championship two years ago.

Gilford finished the regular season at 15-0-1 to earn the top seed in Division III and defeated Mascoma and Trinity to advance to the semifinal round.

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

PSU softball announces winter clinics

PLYMOUTH — Plymouth State University softball coach Mike Bernier announced the dates for the program's winter hitting and defense clinics on Friday.

The clinics will be held Feb. 2 and 16, and March 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Bank of New Hampshire Field House at ALLWell North.

Plymouth State coaches and players will run attendees through a series of drills and games, covering throwing, fielding, hitting and baserun-

ning. The clinics are open to students in sixth through 12th grades. Individuals can register at the link below for \$80 per session, with discounted rates for athletes attending multiple sessions (\$140 for two sessions, \$200 for all three sessions). Attendees should bring gloves, bats, sneakers, and water.

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

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WWW.LRSO.ORG

Prescott Farm welcomes new Camp & School-Age Programs Director, Assistant Executive Director

LACONIA — Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center is pleased to announce exciting new additions to our team this fall. We are thrilled to welcome Phoebe Hartvigsen (she/her) as our new Camp & School-Age Programs Director. In addition, Chris Wellens has taken on the role of Assistant Executive Director, bringing expanded leadership to our organization.

Phoebe Hartvigsen joins us with a wealth of experience and a passion for connecting people with nature. Originally from a small town in western New York, she grew up as an avid animal lover. She earned a B.S. in Biology from SUNY Geneseo, and has since worked as an educator at various nature centers across the country. Her mission is to help people of all ages and backgrounds have positive, meaningful

experiences in the outdoors and with wildlife.

"We're thrilled to welcome Phoebe to Prescott Farm," said Jude Hamel, Executive Director at Prescott Farm. "Her strong background in biology and environmental education, along with her lifelong passion for supporting connections with the natural world, makes her a fantastic addition to our team."

In addition, Prescott Farm is pleased to announce Chris Wellens' new role as Assistant Executive Director. Previously, Wellens served as our Camp & School-Age Programs Director, bringing extensive experience in environmental education and program leadership. Originally from Wisconsin, Wellens grew up exploring the woods and eagerly anticipated family camping trips. He earned a B.A. in International Studies



Phoebe Hartvigsen
from Northern Michigan University and has worked in various roles at camps and environmental centers throughout New England since moving to the region in 2011. His experience spans positions such as pro-

gram instructor, wilderness trip leader, environmental educator, nature director, farm camp director, director of education, and resident camp director. In his personal life, Chris is an avid gardener, beekeeper, food preserver, traveler, hiker, and cross-country skier.

Prescott Farm is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to environmental education and preservation. For over twenty years, we have been a destination for people of all ages to explore and learn about New Hampshire's wildlife,

ecology, and natural and cultural history through hands-on programs and service learning opportunities in the beautiful Lakes Region. Open daily year-round, our center features more than three miles of woodland, pond, and field trails, heritage gardens, a Natural Playscape, and is home to Fledglings Nature-Based Preschool and WildQuest camps.

For more information on Prescott Farm, our programs, and ways to support our mission, please visit www.prescottfarm.org.

NHBM to participate in Museum Store Sunday



MOULTONBOROUGH — On Sunday, Dec. 1, from noon to 4 p.m., the Museum Store at New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) will participate in Museum Store Sunday. Founded by the Museum Store Association, Museum Store Sunday is a global initiative to encourage public support of museum stores during Black Friday weekend.

"We're inviting people to do their holiday shopping with us this year," said NHBM Program Director Anne Lennon. "We have great books, games, maps, posters, bags,

lake-themed mugs, sweatshirts, stocking stuffers, and toys—anything a boat lover would love."

Noting she will also host a craft area where kids can make a free Christmas ornament, Lennon expressed excitement about the opportunity for people to visit NHBM's Museum Store in Moultonborough during their off-season.

"This is our first year participating, and we hope this will become a yearly event for us," she added.

The Museum Store at NHBM will be open on Sunday, Dec. 1 from

noon to 4 p.m. and is accessible online year-round. To learn more about NHBM or visit their virtual museum store, visit nhbm.org.

Founded in 1992 by vintage and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM offers dynamic exhibits, engaging programs, and events tailored to people of all ages' diverse boating lifestyles and values. NHBM is sponsored in part by North Water Marine, Goodhue Boat Company, Kingswood Press and Design Studio, Epoxy Floor New England, Belletetes, and Eastern Propane.

The Playhouse's funniest fundraiser is back!



The team from Lakes Region Community Services was the 2018 winner of ImprovOlympics, raising over \$500 for the nonprofit organization.

MEREDITH — The Winnepesaukee Playhouse is bringing back its popular fundraising event, ImprovOlympics! This one night only special event is an evening of improvisational comedy to benefit not only the Playhouse but four other area nonprofits as well. Teams from 603 United, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention New Hampshire, Interlakes Community Caregivers, and Queerlective will compete in the style of the tv show "Who's Line is it Anyway?" to win laughs and votes. Audience members will have the opportunity to vote with their wallet (cash or check) for their favorite nonprofit, and

100 percent of proceeds from the voting will go directly to the participating nonprofits.

The four nonprofit organizations participating this year have varied, but important, missions. 603 United is based in Belmont and provides social inclusion activities for adults 18 and older with and without an intellectual disability. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention New Hampshire is a voluntary health organization dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide. Interlakes Community Caregivers supports clients by providing rides free of charge to adult residents of Meredith, Center Harbor,

Moultonborough, and Sandwich, including local and long distance rides for medical appointments, grocery shopping, prescriptions, and other personal errands. Queerlective creates a more inclusive world for the Queer, BIPOC and other marginalized communities through art.

The event will take place on Saturday, Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse in Meredith. It will be hosted by the Playhouse's Director of Education and Community Engagement, Cory Lawson. Admission is \$10 and tickets are available online at www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org or over the phone at (603) 279-0333.

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Rocky is a 3 month old male who recently arrived from Texas in search of a forever home. More information coming soon!

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Barnstead	N/A	N/A	\$315,000	Joseph and Charlene Mazerall	Jeffrey and Crystal Morin
Barnstead	N/A	N/A	\$305,000	Ronald K. Patten, Jr. and Rebekah Mallory	Kevin and Theresa Nugent
Gilford	Woodland Ave.	N/A	\$272,200	Norman Vallee	January Captial LLC
Gilmanton	1762 NH Route 140	Single-Family Residence	\$320,000	Louis and Jennifer Loutrel	Chad Greenwood and S. Farricy-Greenwood
Gilmanton	N/A	N/A	\$125,000	Benjamin A. Corriveau	Cory A. and Kylie E. Rogers

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

Gilford Library sees increase in visitors and circulation

BY ERIN PLUMMER
ernews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD — Circulation and the number of visitors continue to rise at the Gilford Public Library and the library has undergone some repairs and improvements.

Library Director Katherine Dormody gave the selectmen an update on the library during the board's meeting on Oct. 23.

Dormody said physical and digital circulation combined was up about three percent from that same time the year before. Digital circulation specifically was up eight percent from the year before and accounts for around 20 percent of circulation so far in 2024.

By that meeting, around 67,119 people had come through the library's door so far in 2024, an increase of 1,746 people from the year before during the same time period.

The library celebrated Library Card Signup Month in September, which resulted in 70 new people signing up for library cards.

"Usually in September it's a little down, we get most of our new patrons in the summer," Dormody said.

Board chair Gus Benavides asked if there has been any time that numbers were down at the library, not including the onset of the pandemic in 2020.

"COVID took the floor out," Dormody said. "It's been going up, up, up since COVID, that kind of reset the bar."

The library had its first series of fall programs for preschoolers and was in a two-week period of Halloween activities. She said a few programs were cut back because of staffing shortages, but there were still plenty of activities.

Several renovation and repair projects have been going on at the library.

A flood damaged several materials in the Children's Room and Dormody said they are close to replacing all of those materials.

The makeover project on the Teen Room is done including improvements such as new flooring, a bench, and new paint. Dormody said maintenance should be easier in that room with the new flooring, especially for programs involving food.

Plans for the library's new heating system went out to bid and were due later in November.

The library's phone service switch was complete, and the phone servers are now entirely on the Cloud.

Just that day the library received a contribution of a new granite bench donated by the family of Jack Lacombe



FILE PHOTO

The Gilford Public Library has been experiencing an increase in visitors and circulation over the past year.

The library is applying for a grant to make the downstairs door ac-

cessible for people with disabilities.

Repairs are coming

for the outside amphitheater on the downstairs level. Dormody said it

is showing some signs of deterioration and the original company that put it in, Northeast Precast Design, donated new tops and completed some repairs at patching for free.

Preparations are underway for the 2024 Candlelight Stroll, but the committee is seeking some new volunteers. Dormody said most of the volunteers are continuing through this year, but most of the volunteers are getting older. They are looking for some new younger volunteers to help take these duties on.

Benavides and selectman Chan Eddy said the town was fortunate to have places such as

the library and the solid waste facility that are places for townspeople to congregate and talk about positively.

"You guys are doing a marvelous job," Benavides said. "You reach out to so many different parts of our community, its not just for young kids or just students or just the elderly. I mean you're trying get out to every single segment of society so great job to you and to the library trustees."

Eddy said he has enjoyed coming to the library on a regular basis over the years.

"It's always fun even just stopping by to see what's going on," Eddy said.

43rd Annual Children's Auction to be held Dec. 10-13 at Belknap Marketplace

BELMONT — The 43rd annual Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction, presented by Hannaford Supermarkets, will be held this year from Tuesday, Dec. 10 to Friday, Dec. 13 at the Belknap Marketplace in Belmont.

The auction occurs live at the marketplace and airs daily from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. A variety of items will be up for bid each day, and friends and neighbors from throughout the community will appear on the set. Watch the event on Lakes Region Public Access television viewers can tune into Channel 25. The auction will also stream live at ChildrensAuction.org, on The Laconia Daily Sun's website at laconiadailysun.com and on Facebook.com/ChildrensAuction. Listen to the auction each day with Zack Derby and friends at Lakes 101.5 FM.

On Friday, Dec. 13, auction volunteers will come together to announce the total funds raised for children and families in need.

Jennifer Kelley, executive director of the auction, is thrilled to have the event at the Belknap Marketplace.

"We are grateful to everyone at the marketplace for welcoming our hundreds of auction volunteers into their space," she said. "The auction is such a valuable community event. Business leaders throughout the Lakes Region continue to show their generosity as we raise funds to financially support local children and families in need."

George Vernet, owner of Vernet Properties,



which oversees the marketplace, said, "It is an honor to be associated with such an outstanding organization as the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction. It provides so much to the Lakes Region community. The Belknap Marketplace looks forward to hosting this event that financially supports local children and families in need."

The auction will host its second annual family night on Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Have your picture taken with Santa, meet the Grinch, build a toy in Santa's workshop, decorate holiday cookies, face paint, sing along with the Snow Family and hear holiday stories; children will get a free book courtesy of the local Kiwanis Club.

The auction still needs donations of new, unused, non-perishable items, big and small. Gift cards are always a hit with bidders. Other popular items include electronics, tools, tickets to sporting events, toys and services.

Convenient item collection sites are now open throughout the region. Visit ChildrensAuction.org for details. And on Nov. 29 and 30, visit the collection site at the Belknap Market-

place and drop your items off between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Also donate items on Dec. 7-9, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Belknap Marketplace.

Bid online at ChildrensAuction.org or over the phone during auction week at (603) 527-0999. Pre-bidding begins Friday, Nov. 29 online on items with a retail value of \$300 or more. Anyone can bid on these featured items as well as place a max bid on any item.

Sponsorship opportunities exist at every level. Email Jenn@ChildrensAuction.org or call (603) 527-0999 for more information on how your business can make a difference in the lives of children.

Follow the auction on Facebook at Facebook.com/ChildrensAuction; Instagram at Instagram.com/childrensauction603/; and LinkedIn at LinkedIn.com/company/greater-lakes-region-childrens-auction/.

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Chris Kelly receives Norman Marsh Award at Belknap EDC Annual Meeting

LACONIA — Belknap EDC hosted its 2024 Annual Meeting Oct. 24 at Lakes Region Community College (LRCC). It was an evening of celebration as Belknap EDC reviewed its successes while looking ahead toward continuing to support Belknap County's businesses and communities. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of Belknap EDC's Norman Marsh Award to outgoing Belknap EDC Board Member, Chris Kelly of RE/MAX Innovative Bayside who retires from the Board at the end of this year.

The Norman Marsh Award recognizes an individual for outstanding leadership and advocacy that strengthens the Belknap County community and its economy. This award is given in memory of the late Norman Marsh, a local businessman and long-time Belknap County Commissioner who worked tirelessly for the benefit of the region and was instrumental in supporting Belknap EDC in its early years.

The decision to honor Chris Kelly with this award was made unanimously by Chris's fellow



Norman Marsh Award Recipient, Chris Kelly with Belknap EDC Executive Director, Justin Slattery (Left) and Chair of the Belknap EDC Board, Allison Ambrose (right).

members of the Belknap EDC Board and Executive Director, Justin Slattery.

Chris has been a leader for Belknap EDC, serving as Board Chair and Vice Chair, as well as a key leader in the effort to bring many of Belknap EDC's recent projects and initiatives to fruition. He also serves his community in many ways including in his hometown of Meredith as a member of the Greater Meredith Program.

"Chris is a committed partner to Belknap EDC and the Greater Lakes Region," says Belknap EDC Board Chair, Allison Ambrose. "His positive attitude and team-based approach have resulted in countless successes for our region."

All attendees were treated to a cocktail hour with delicious appetizers and bar service by Bernini Pizzeria & Wine Bar,

followed by the annual meeting program hosted by Belknap EDC Chair of the Board, Allison Ambrose of Wescott Law and Belknap EDC Executive Director, Justin Slattery. Patrick Cate, President of LRCC and Belknap EDC Board Member, was the meeting's guest speaker who shared exciting updates about the college.

"It was great to see so many reconnecting with colleagues, making new connections, and simply enjoying a nice evening with the Belknap EDC team," says Slattery.

The event was sponsored by Meredith Village Savings Bank (gold sponsor), Bank of New Hampshire, Franklin Savings Bank, Cross Insurance, Northway Bank, and Wescott Law.

For details on Belknap EDC's accomplishments over the last year, visit belknapedc.org to view the Annual Report.

ABA Monthly Member Highlight: Gifts of Grace Jewelry Shoppe

ALTON — Every month, the Alton Business Association sits down with one of our amazing ABA members to get to know them a little better! We ask each member the same questions, providing an opportunity for our members to highlight the important work that they do in our communities. If you're an ABA Member and would like to be considered for future Monthly Member Highlights, please reach out to us via email at info@altonbusinessassociation.com.

Q: Tell us about your business?

A: Gifts of Grace Jewelry Shoppe specializes in Sterling Silver jewelry. We also carry some 10k and 14k items, plus gifts and greeting cards from DaySpring and DEMDACO°. Don't let the size of the store fool you, we carry approximately 1,000 items to choose from. We also offer ear-piercing, watch battery service, and jewelry repair service.

Q: Tell us about yourself?

A: I am a Pastor's Wife and mother of two grown and married children. I love people! I love spending time with friends and family. I also enjoy baking pies from scratch.

Q: How did your business get started?

A: When my children were young I wanted to stay home from work, so I decided to start selling jewelry at craft fairs and home parties. I did this from 2003-2019. After my children graduated from high school I had so

much jewelry that it was hard to pack it all up for parties, so I decided to open up my store here in Alton.

Q: What has your relationship with the Alton Business Association done for you or your business?

A: Alton Business Association has been able to help get my store known to the community during their special events.

Q: What do you value most about this community?

A: The kindness of all my customers.

Q: Why did you want to open your business in this community?

A: I thought it was a good location on the main road, and I loved being on the way to the lake.

Q: What business accomplishment are you most proud of?

A: Honestly, I am just so thankful for my customers.

Q: What does the future hold for you and your business?

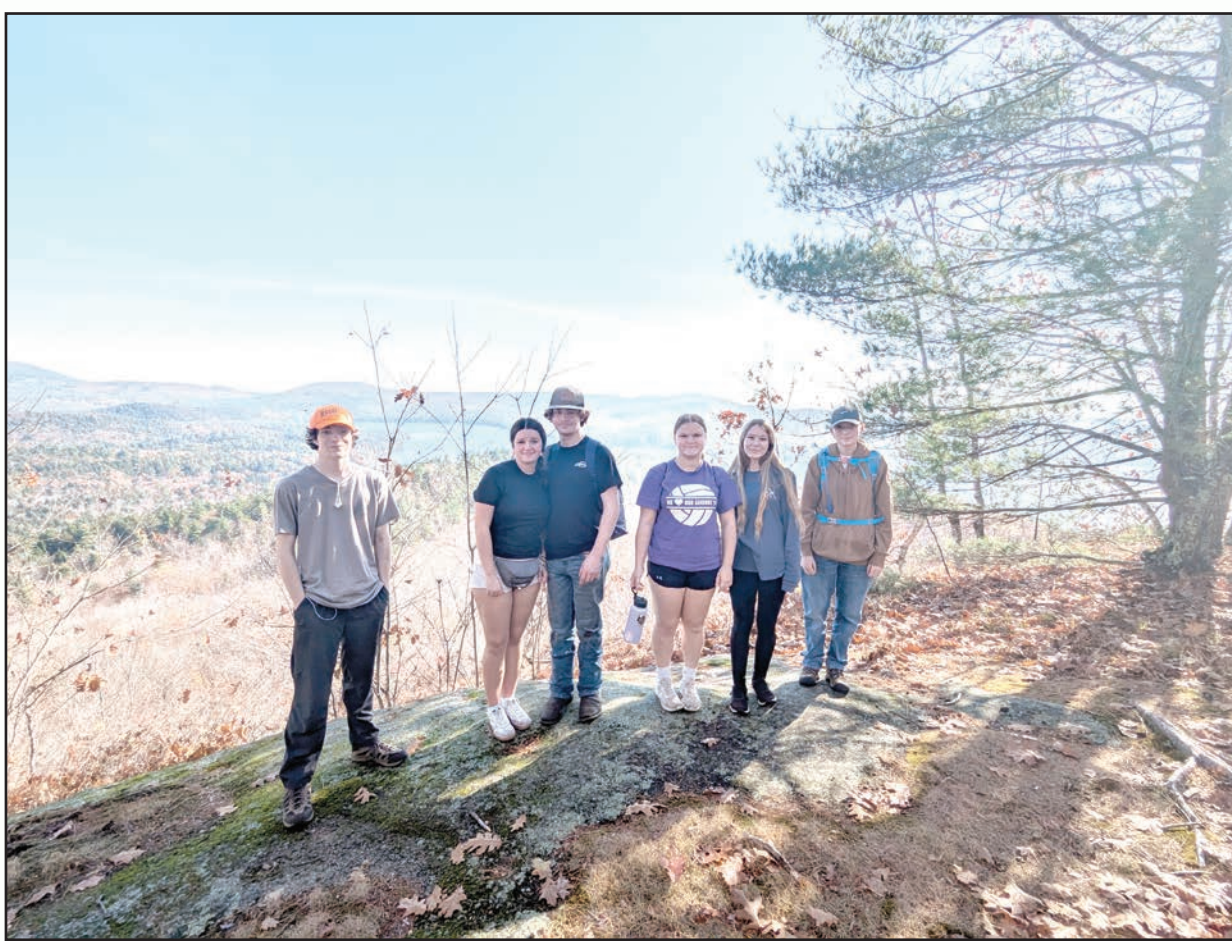
A: Only God knows :) I take things day by day and year by year.

Q: What is one piece of advice you wish you had as a new business member?

A: Always treat your customers with kindness.

Q: How can people who want to learn more about you or your business get in touch with you?

A: Please follow me and like my Facebook page. You can find me at www.facebook.com/sterlingsilverbygrace.



PMHS students enjoying a day in the woods

Students from Prospect Mountain PACK advisory program enjoyed a day outside in nature with a hike to the top of Mt. Molly in New Durham taking advantage of the wonderful spring weather overlooking Merrymeeting Lake. The students also visited the New Durham Fish hatchery seeing the plentiful trout in the breeding tanks, and took a short hike to Gilman pond in East Alton. This adventure was great exercise, educational and allowed the kids to enjoy our beautiful communities on a warm autumn day.

SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PAYROLL & BENEFITS COORDINATOR

Shaker Regional School District is seeking a Payroll & Benefits Coordinator. This position routinely handles highly sensitive and/or confidential information and will have extensive contact with internal staff members and outside agencies. Prior experience in a school district central office is preferred.

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Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra welcomes guest vocalists for holiday concerts

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 con-



certs 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 five). You can also order by phone using the contact numbers listed for each venue on our Web site.

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.

Masons hosting monthly breakfast buffet Sunday

ALTON — On Sunday, Nov. 17, the Masons of Winnepesaukee Lodge in Alton will hold their monthly Breakfast Buffet starting at 7:30 a.m., open to the public, at the Lodge on Route 28, a quarter mile south of the Alton Circle.

With fruit, biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, omelets, bacon and sausage, home fries, beans, pancakes, French toast, coffee and juice being served, it is a perfect time for family and friends to sit down and enjoy an all you can eat breakfast buffet. Cost is \$12. The Masons serve breakfast between 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. They hope to see you there (always on the third Sunday of the month). For more information about the breakfasts or Winnepesaukee Lodge, please contact Dave Cumming at 603-767-2057.



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LEGALS

PUBLIC HEARING
ALTON SCHOOL DISTRICT – SAU #72
ALTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Alton School Board will hold a Public Hearing Pursuant to RSA 35:1

Date: Thursday, November 21, 2024
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: Alton Central School - Middle School Library
Purpose: To withdraw funds from the Special Education Capital Reserve Fund established in March 14, 1987. The school board was approved as agents to expend from said fund March 12, 2002.
• Special Education expenditures totaling \$131,292.84

Meeting link: <https://youtube.com/live/hRAXZkyuZYY?feature=share>

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Take flight with “Mary Poppins” at Kingswood



COURTESY

The cast and crew of Kingswood Theater’s “Mary Poppins,” performing Nov. 22 at 7 p.m., Nov. 23 at 2 & 7 p.m., and Nov. 24 at 2 p.m. Tickets at kingswoodtheater.org.

WOLFEBORO — Kingswood Theater presents Disney’s and Cameron McIntosh’s “Mary Poppins” on Friday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m.; Saturday the 23rd at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Kingswood Arts Center, in Wolfeboro. Kingswood will be facilitating an opportunity for audience members to step onto stage and get their photo with Mary and Bert after both Matinee performances. Tickets are on sale now at kingswoodtheater.org, and at the door before the performances.

“Poppins” music and lyrics were written by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman (the Sherman Brothers) with additional music and lyrics by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe, and a book by Julian Fellowes. The musical is based on the similarly titled Mary Poppins children’s books

by P. L. Travers and the 1964 Disney film, and is a fusion of various elements from the two, including songs from the film.

Bert (Kristin Cooper), a man of many professions, introduces the audience to Cherry Tree Lane in Edwardian London. Number 17 is where the Banks family lives: George (Kurtis Sheffer) and Winifred Banks (Bella Dickey), their two naughty children Jane (Laura Fernandes) and Michael (Gabriel Giessler), their cook/maid, Mrs. Brill (Sara Fernandes) and their house boy, Robertson Ay (Eddie Ring). Things are not going well for Jane and Michael. They are out of control and, as the show starts, their latest nanny, Katie Nanna (Miley Bentley), storms out. The children decide to write the advertisement for a new nanny, but

George, having a very different idea of what constitutes the perfect nanny, tears up the piece of paper and throws it in the fireplace. Within moments, Mary Poppins (Kaitlyn Cooper) arrives, restored advertisement in hand, and takes charge of the Banks children, having every confidence in her own qualifications and merits.

Many elements and songs from the film are featured in this production including “Spoonful of Sugar,” “Supercalifragalistic,” “Jolly Holiday” and “Step in Time,” along with new songs from the Broadway production, including “Anything Can Happen” and “Playing the Game.”

Production on “Poppins” began in late August in the Kingswood Arts Center. This combined KRHS and KRMS effort involves teams of students constructing

props, costumes, and sets; as well as designing lighting, sound and video projection. The cast is

composed of 27 High and Middle School students, accompanied by a pit orchestra of almost twenty

musicians. All told, it’s a collaboration of more than 80 artists.

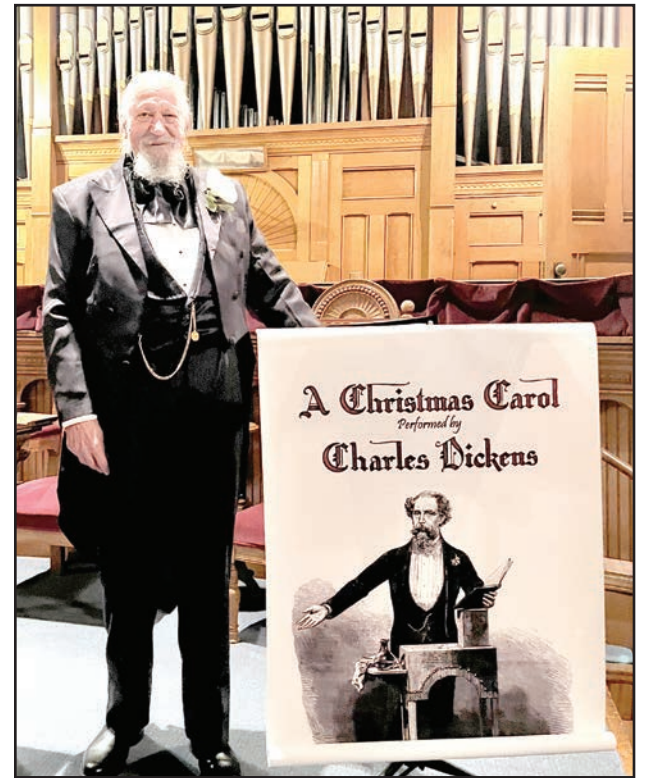
Laconia Historical & Museum Society presents reading of “A Christmas Carol”

LACONIA — On Dec. 27, 1853, Charles Dickens held his first public reading of “A Christmas Carol,” embarking on a notable tour in the U.S. His performances conveyed a powerful message of compassion and hope, enhancing the story’s legacy and impact.

The Laconia Historical & Museum Society, in partnership with the United Baptist Church of Lakeport, invites you to immerse yourself in the joyful spirit of the holiday season with a special reading performance of this cherished Christmas classic. Based on Dickens’s original reading text, this unique rendition offers a captivating glimpse into the magic experienced in the 19th century.

The event will be held at the beautiful United Baptist Church sanctuary on Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. It promises to be an unforgettable experience that inspires and uplifts!

The presenter, Cedric Flower, began his acting career at Laconia High School in 1955. He served in the U.S. Navy and earned a degree in theater and history from the University of New Hampshire. While teaching at Portsmouth Senior High School, he founded “Theater by the Sea.” He con-



COURTESY

Drawing from Charles Dickens’s original text, presenter Cedric Flower will lead the audience through an immersive storytelling experience of the beloved classic holiday tale, “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens. Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person. Visit laconiahistory.com for more information.

tinued to act and teach throughout New England until retiring at 70. Today he resides in Laconia with his wife and continues to act.

Tickets are available for \$15 per person, and can be purchased through the LHMS website at laconiahistory.com. For those wishing to pay by check, please make it payable to LHMS and mail it to PO Box 1126, Laconia, NH 03246

by Wednesday, Dec. 3.

Members of the Laconia Historical & Museum Society and congregants of the United Baptist Church of Lakeport receive a discounted rate of \$12. Don’t miss this opportunity to be part of a cherished holiday tradition that will warm your heart!

For more information, visit laconiahistory.com or follow LHMS on Facebook and Instagram.

Audubon announces program on Hornbills

MOULTONBOROUGH — On Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Loon Center in Moultonborough, the Lakes Region Chapter of the New Hampshire Audubon Society will present a program on “Hornbills: A unique Old-World Family of Birds,” presented by Dana and Bob Fox.

Hornbills are an Old-World family of birds which first evolved in Africa over 60 million years ago, and then one species radiated to Asia. Today, half of the 64 species in the world live in Africa, including two land-loving species, and half in Asia, where new species have evolved as far east as the Solomon Islands.

As their name suggests, they have massive bills which are integrally attached to their skulls, and some have an additional special horny crown-like protrusion called a casque above



their bills. In 1758 Linnaeus bestowed the name Buceros on the family, Latin for “having ox’s horns.”

Another unique feature about most members of this family involves their nesting behavior. Females of almost all species make unique nests in tree cavities using their bills to wall themselves in with a plaster made of mud, droppings, chewed wood and bark and other detritus. They leave only a slit narrow enough to deter predators but sufficiently wide for the male

to present food from the outside.

The tree hornbills have become very important distributors of tropical fruit seeds.

Come hear Dana and Bob’s tales of seeing these marvelous birds and see stunning pictures taken by Tim Layman, an intrepid, talented photographer.

The Foxes, of North Andover, Mass. and Center Tuftonboro, have traveled extensively in over 50 countries worldwide, seeing or hearing over 6000 species of birds. They have collaborated with numerous birding organizations, museums, and publications.

The Loon Center is located on Lee’s Mill Road; follow the signs on Blake Road from Route 25 near the Moultonborough Central School, or from Route 109, turn on to Lee Road and turn left on Lee’s Mill Road.

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