

The Baysider

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026

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

FREE

New Lions Club forming in Alton

Informational meeting tonight

ALTON — Residents of Alton and surrounding areas who are looking for a way to give back to their community are invited to an informational meeting for a new Lions Club on

Thursday, March 26, at 7 p.m. at Sweet Caroline, 28 Homestead Place, Alton.

The meeting will provide information about the Lions Club, one of the world's largest service or-

ganizations, and how you can get involved. Membership is open to anyone who wants to make a difference, volunteer their time, and contribute to meaningful projects in the Alton area. No extensive time com-

mitment is required — just a desire to help and have fun while doing it.

Whether you're interested in local community service, supporting charitable initiatives, or connecting with others who care about

making a positive impact, the Alton Lions Club offers a welcoming environment to get involved.

Come learn more about what it means to "be a Lion" and how you can help improve your com-

munity.

For more information, email algoldstein@comcast.net.

For more information about the Lions Club and local service opportunities, visit www.lionsclubs.org.

Snowmobile Mountain Madness comes to Gunstock in April

GILFORD — As the skiing and riding season at Gunstock Mountain Resort ends in early April, the mountain's slopes will be anything but quiet. Snowmobile Mountain Madness, an X Games-style experience produced by X Racing, is set to take over Gunstock's trails on Saturday, April 11, and Sunday, April 12. Racers and spectators alike will find this high-octane, community-oriented race series the perfect way to wrap up the sledding season, attracting folks from New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and beyond.

Snowmobile Mountain Madness will feature non-stop action across four racing disciplines including SnowCross, HillCross, DitchBanger (vintage sleds), and Sunday Funday Kidz racing. The Hillcross is set to take place the morning of Saturday, April 11, as riders charge up Gunstock's slopes on a course packed with jumps, banks, and rollers. Saturday afternoon and Sunday will feature the remaining disciplines, with a different course for each. SnowCross displays high-flying feats and racing on a track of challenging terrain, while the courses for vintage sled racing and the Sunday Funday Kidz

race will offer more pared back tracks.

"We're thrilled to be welcoming folks from the snowmobiling community to the mountain," shared Robert Drake, President and General Manager at Gunstock. "This may be an inaugural event for us, but our intent is for Mountain Madness to become an annual fixture in Gunstock's spring events calendar. Joe and his team have been involved in the X Games for more than 25 years and will put on an amazing show for our community during the "off-season" in the Lakes Region."

Gates are scheduled to open at 10:30 a.m. with an admission fee of \$25 for the day or \$40 for a weekend pass. Ages 12 and under are free. Racing is scheduled to kick off at 11 a.m. Gunstock's Barrel Bar & Grille restaurant will be open, offering a selection of hamburgers, hot dogs, and other grilled favorites as well as a beer garden. Attendees are asked to refrain from bringing any outside food or beverages.

To learn more about Gunstock Mountain Resort, Snowmobile Mountain Madness or to register to participate, visit gunstock.com.



The Alton Centennial Rotary Club was honored to welcome Matthew Coffey, Manager of Hannaford Alton, at our Members Meeting this past Monday, March 16. Building relationships like this strengthens the mission of Rotary and deepens our impact across Alton, New Durham, and Barnstead. We're excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to working together in service to our community. Pictured, left to right: Matthew Coffey, Manager, Hannaford; June McLaughlin, Director; Russell Lunt, District Assistant Governor, Rotary District 7870; Duane Hammond, President; Gino Michelizza, Director; Carol Diveny, President-Elect. Not pictured Rich Leonard, Past President.

Alton Fire-Rescue tackles garage blaze

ALTON — On Wednesday March 18 at 3:43 p.m., the Alton Fire Department was dispatched to the area of Old Wolfeboro Road near Route 28 for a reported building fire. A large amount of smoke that could be seen from Mt. Major Highway followed by a first report from the Alton Police Department of heavy smoke and fire from a large three-bay detached garage, a second alarm was requested.

At the time of this incident, Alton Fire Rescue had been previously dispatched to two other medical calls in town.

First arriving fire companies found heavy fire conditions throughout the building and immediately went to defensive fire operations. At the time of the fire, it was confirmed that there were no people or animals inside the building.

Crews were able to bring the incident under

control within an hour, and remained on scene overhauling and extinguishing hotspots until being cleared at approximately 6:15 p.m.

There were no reported injuries during this incident.

Alton Fire Department would like to thank our mutual aid partners and their support. Agencies on Scene: Alton Police Department, Alton Department of Public Works, Belmont Fire, Laconia Fire, Gilford Fire, Gilmanton

Fire, New Durham Fire, Farmington Fire, Rochester Fire, Wolfeboro Fire, Tuftonboro Fire, Pittsfield Fire NH Electric COOP and Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid. Strafford Fire Department provided station coverage.

This incident remains under investigation, and anyone with information is asked to contact Alton Fire Chief James Reinert or Deputy Chief Evan Turcotte at 603-875-0222.

Timber Wolves, Golden Eagles named to All-State hoop teams

Gilford's Scott Currier, Celeste Best earn Division III coaching honors

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

REGION — Girls' basketball players from around the region were named to the New Hampshire Basketball Coaches Organization All-State Teams, which were announced at the conclusion of the season.

In Division III, First Team honors went to Prospect Mountain's Kourtney Kaplan, Winnisquam's Caidyn Carter and Berlin's Caitlin Kelley while Second Team honors went to Addison Hodsdon of Gilford, Harper Rowe of White Mountains and Ava



JOSHUA SPAULDING (Right) Prospect Mountain's Kourtney Kaplan earned First Team All-State honors for Division III.

Foster of Prospect Mountain. Honorable Mention was presented to Bailey Perkins and Payton Ellis of Belmont, Riley Anderson of Inter-Lakes, Taylor Marsh and Skye Maltais of Gilford, McKenna Kelley of Berlin and Olivia Lorenz of White Mountains Regional.

Also earning First Team honors were Player of the Year Emma Toriello of St. Thomas, Sophia Grillone of Fall Mountain and Marlee Carroll-Clough of Monadnock.

Second Team was also presented to Meadow-Miah Mitchell of Raymond, Lexi Korbet of Hopkinton and Jenna Fillion of Fall Mountain.

SEE HOOPS, PAGE A6

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Gilman Museum — Open House

The Town of Alton is sponsoring an Open House at the Gilman Museum, located at 123 Main St., on Wednesday, April 1 from 5-7 p.m. Take a self-guided tour of the Gilman Museum, and see antiques collected by the Gilman family. The museum collection features furniture, toys, dinnerware, and other fine displays. For more information, contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Alton Egg Hunt

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and the Gilman Library are sponsoring a community event for ages 10 years old and younger on Saturday, April 4 at the Gilman Library. Join the fun as we hunt for colorful plastic eggs hidden throughout the Library, then make a ladybug or butterfly craft to take home. A special guest is also planning to be there for selfies, and family photos so plan to bring your camera. Bring a container to collect your eggs in and arrive at the following times: Ages infant to four years- 9 a.m. start time for Egg Hunt- craft to follow; Ages five to 10- 10 a.m.- start time for Egg Hunt- craft to follow. The event is free to Alton residents. Parking is on Main Street and B&M Park. Please use the rear entrance of the Library to enter for the event. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109, parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Guided Meditation

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring Guided Meditation with Karen Kharitonov on Thursdays April 2, 16, May 7 and May 21 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Meditation is helpful for reducing stress and slowing our bodies down to breathe. The program is free, donations accepted to benefit the food pantry. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Hit the Trail!

Hiking Programs offered for all levels

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

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

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

Alton Town Wide Yard Sale

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its Annual Town Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, June 6, 2026, rain or shine from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. If you would like to participate by having a Yard Sale at your house contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov before May 18 with your Yard Sale address location. When signing up please include your name, phone number and complete physical address. Free Yard Sale maps will be available after May 27.

Tinkergarten at B&M Park for ages eight and under

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

USTA Spring Tennis Lessons — Adults

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Tennis in the Parks for adults on Wednesdays at the Liberty Tree Park Tennis Courts from May 6-June 10 from 6:00p.m.-7:30p.m. Registration is \$75, includes instruction with a USTA New England certified instructor. Basic tennis skills will be taught: forehand, backhand, serve, overhand and volley. Register by April 17; class size is limited to

seven. Registration forms are available at www.alton.nh.gov or stop by the Parks and Recreation Kiosk at 328 Main St. to sign up. Contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 for more information.

Weight Training classes — Mondays and Wednesdays

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

Pilates classes in Alton Bay — Tuesdays and Thursdays

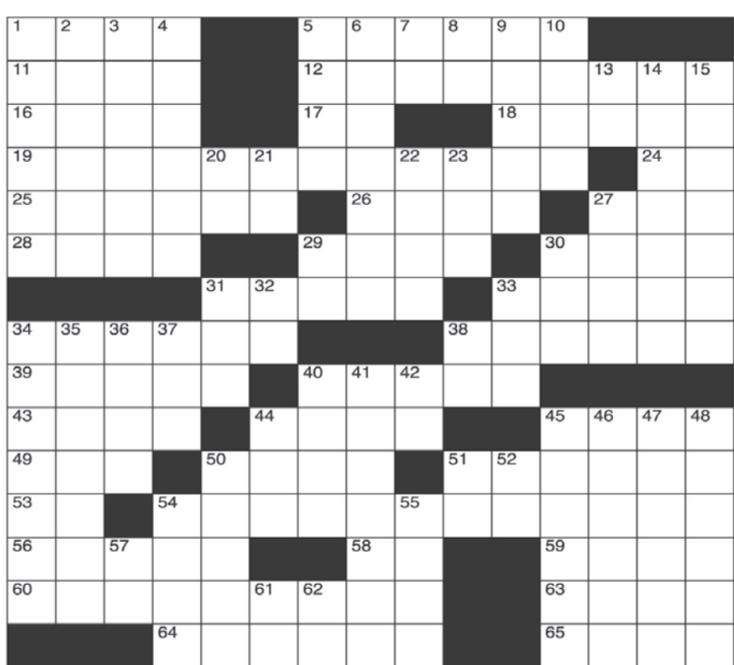
The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Pilates classes at the Alton Bay Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. with certified instructor Donna Lee. All level adults are welcome for a full body, low impact class that will improve muscle tone, flexibility, balance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

Dungeons and Dragons

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

Alton Parks and Recreation Department Podcasts

For people that want a quick summary of the programs, events and activities going on at the Parks and Recreation Department, check out the Alton Parks and Recreation Department "Community Connection" podcasts which are available on the Town of Alton Web site: www.alton.nh.gov under Parks and Recreation.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. "Bird of Paradise" constellation
- 5. Red Sox WS winner Bronson
- 11. Whirl
- 12. The State Dept. has a notable one
- 16. Energy, style and enthusiasm
- 17. Part of the mind
- 18. Mountainous country
- 19. Type of beverage
- 24. Atomic #109
- 25. Opposite of falsities
- 26. Female sheep
- 27. Rocky peak
- 28. Sensitive information sharing environment
- 29. Ethnic group of Thailand
- 30. Patron saint of Rome Philip
- 31. Psychedelics
- 33. Japanese pine
- 34. Have an impact on
- 38. Violent disorder
- 39. A French river
- 40. Early Mesoamerican civilization
- 43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
- 44. Musician Clapton
- 45. Ancient Greek sophist
- 49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 50. Valley
- 51. A way to unwind
- 53. Atomic #93
- 54. Recommending
- 56. Indigo bush
- 58. Larry and Curly's pal
- 59. Off-Broadway theater award
- 60. Fencers
- 63. Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
- 64. Relating to songbirds
- 65. A way to assign

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Some are "secret"
- 2. Intestinal openings
- 3. Distant planet
- 4. Assembly possessing high legislative powers
- 5. Genus of typical owls
- 6. One with distinctively colored hair
- 7. Red cross
- 8. An alternative
- 9. Abominable snowmen
- 10. About ear
- 13. The opening letters
- 14. Feeling of regret
- 15. Atomic #39
- 20. Luteinizing hormone
- 21. Atomic #55
- 22. Carries a debt
- 23. Albanian monetary unit
- 27. Semitic abjad letter
- 29. Yes
- 30. Negative
- 31. Earn a perfect score
- 32. Connecticut
- 33. Partner to cheese
- 34. Snack nuts
- 35. Quadruped's body part
- 36. Locate
- 37. Pitching statistic
- 38. "___, myself and I"
- 40. Utah city northwest of Provo
- 41. Football players in the trenches
- 42. One who runs the show
- 44. Wood
- 45. Performing artists
- 46. Slang for a cut
- 47. More breathable
- 48. Most crafty
- 50. Provokes into action
- 51. University of Dayton
- 52. Sodium
- 54. Large fish of the mackerel family
- 55. Not one
- 57. ___ and behold
- 61. Sports highlight show
- 62. "The Great Lakes State"

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Ember!

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

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

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

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

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April events at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

BARNSTEAD — Good to Know Info: We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month until 3 p.m. (April 9). Earth Day is April 22. School vacation week is April 27 - May 1.

April is National Poetry Month. To celebrate we will have poetry by students from NHTI on display here in the library from April 2 to April 30! Swing by to see their creations during regular business hours.

We are once again hosting a Seed Swap! From April 4 - May 30, stop by the library with seeds to donate, if you have any, and then grab some new ones, too!

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

Music and Movement Storytime, aka Littles Love to Learn! Join us on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for an interactive storytime filled with stories, songs, and loads of sensory play designed specifically for toddlers.

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

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

NEW On the first Wednesday of the month (April 1), starting at 3:30 p.m., we are hosting a Young Readers Book Club for students in Kindergarten through

5th grade. Participants will have the opportunity to share and recommend their favorite books while explaining what makes those stories special to them. They will also be encouraged to ask questions and engage in thoughtful group discussions. We'll wrap up the program with a simple craft activity, and light snacks will be provided.

Our Read the Room Book Club (ages 18 and up) takes place on the first Wednesday of the month (April 1), from 6-7:30 p.m. in the library. This month's book will be "Paranesi" by Susanna Clarke. Next month's book will be "Uprooted" by Naomi Novik. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

On Thursday, April 2, we will be celebrating International Children's Book Day! This day is all about inspiring a love of reading and to call attention to children's books and authors around the world. Stop by the library and pick out a free book from our Book Nook/Donation Bin—take home a story and start a new reading adventure. We hope to see you at the library!

NEW Calling all Mah Jongg fans - come join us at the library! Players meet the first (April 2) and third (April 16) Thursdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. No registration required.

NEW (Rescheduled) We are starting a Lifelong Learning Series here at the library, and our first program is a Plant Propagation & Seed Starting Workshop. Come join us Saturday, April 4, from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Master Gardener Michelle will be teaching the basics of starting your own garden, as well as offering propagation tips. All materials will be provided.

Jamming Tuesdays at OFML: 6-8 p.m. (ages 18 and up). Do you play a string instrument? Well then, dust it off and come make music with us! On the first (April 7) and third (April 21) Tuesdays of the month, join us for jam nights at the library (in the meeting room). No need to be an expert—just bring your instrument and a love of music. Share a few tunes, trade chords, get feedback (if you'd like), and most of all, have fun!

Thursday, April 16, is an incredible day. Yes, it's National Librarian Day. Woohoo! Feel free to come into the library bearing gifts (e.g., chocolate) for your favorite librarians! Or check out a book or a DVD or a

game. We like when you do that stuff, too.

Join us on Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 p.m., for a hands-on DIY Bird Bath Workshop (18 and up). We'll provide the materials and guidance—you bring the creativity! Perfect for beginners and craft lovers alike. Space is limited so please call the library to register.

Family Crafternoon is a family-focused event that happens every third Friday of the month (April 17), at 3:30 p.m. Because of the Art Gala described below, we will be supplying a Take & Make activity on the day of the gala. After you get your kit, feel free to stop in and see all the artwork on display!

On Friday, April 17, join us for an evening of creativity and celebration at our annual National Art Honor Society Gala! This special one-night-only event showcases the incredible talent of our student artists, along with artwork on display from members of our library and local community. Members of the community, bring artwork you'd like to display for the community to enjoy. Drop off your masterpiece during library open hours, now through April 10. Poetry by students from NHTI will also be featured. Enjoy light refreshments as you explore the art and celebrate creativity together. Don't miss this chance to support and experience the arts in our community!

On Wednesday, April 22, from 5-6 p.m., we are hosting a 3D Printing Workshop. Riley (a Graphic Arts student) will be teaching the basics of 3D printing and starter level machines. Please call the library to register.

Tuesday, April 19 to Saturday, April 25 is Library Week at OFML! Stop by to see staff recommendations, get take-home crafts, view our wide selection of books, and check out our fun children's area. Learn about the inter-library loan process, which expands your access to books and DVDs, and Libby, which gives you free access to e-books and audiobooks. Pick up a library events hand-out to find out what we're doing from month to month. Ask about how to get our local newsletter, the Barnstead Banner, which is full of community and library events, articles, and recipes. Finally, take a gander at our Crested Gecko, Jeffrina—if you can spot her!

NEW We are hosting a Kids Graphic Novel Club on Thursday, April 23, from

4-5 p.m. Are you into graphic novels? Come talk about them! Read a graphic novel before we meet, then come share your thoughts — what worked, what didn't, and what you'd recommend to someone else. Read it. Talk about it. Find your next favorite! Light snacks provided. 5th grade and up. Call or email to register.

On Friday, April 24, from 6:30-8 p.m., join us for Books & Banter. This lively book club is open to everyone and invites you to share and explore a wide range of genres. Come ready to discuss up to three books you've recently

read, giving a brief synopsis to spark conversation. Don't miss out on the fun—come share your thoughts, learn about new books, and enjoy a cozy evening of discussion.

Let's Write a Novel! Join us in the library's meeting room for a series of structured classes on the how-to's of writing a book. This class runs from 6-7:30 p.m. on the last Friday of the month (April 24). Budding writers, 16 and older, ignite your passion for storytelling, discover how to build your hero's journey, and take your novel from concept to can-do!

On Thursday, March 30 at 5 p.m., we are holding a Shirefest Planning Meeting. Are you volunteering or partnering with us for Shirefest (it's coming in August)? Join us for a collaborative planning meeting where we'll share updates, brainstorm ideas, and coordinate our magical efforts! Whether you're a returning volunteer or just jumping in, your input is welcome and appreciated as we work together to bring this enchanted event to life.

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

Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events March 26 - April 2

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

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

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

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

French, 3-4 p.m.

Flock to It, 3-4 p.m.

The sheep got loose and are running wild! Get them back into their fold before time runs out.

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

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

Friday, March 27
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Saturday, March 28
Beginner Line Dancing, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

Honoring Loss, noon to 1:30 p.m.

A supportive, reflective invitation designed to honor loss, create space for healing, peace and quiet renewal. Pre-

sented by Carol Wallace and Dottie Bergeron.

Monday, March 30
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 9-10 a.m.

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

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

Mahjong, noon to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, March 31
Feel Good Fitness w/ Dottie, 9-10 a.m.

Senior Sculpt, 10-11 a.m.

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

Change Your Blood Sugar, Change Your Life, 10:45-11:45 a.m.

This class explores the critical role that blood sugar and its management plays in your overall health. You'll learn how the body utilizes glucose and insulin, and the many factors that influence them. Most importantly you'll learn habits and strategies for managing healthy levels of blood sugar and the like. If you're ready to take control of your energy, clarity, and long-term health,

this class will give you the tools and knowledge to make it happen. Presented by Dr. Amanda from Awakening Chiropractic.

Homeschool Group, noon to 1:30 p.m.

Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, April 1
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.

Senior Stretch Yoga, 10-11 a.m.

Card Games, 10 a.m.-noon

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

Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.

Science Seekers: Wacky Weather, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Join in on the fun with wacky weather experiments!

Thursday, April 2
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

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

Jelly Bean Bracelets, 3-4 p.m.

Kicking off April we are making Jelly Bean Bracelets! Fun, easy and delicious!

French, 3-4 p.m.

Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.



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Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026

A new chance to serve

A community is often measured not only by what it builds, but by who shows up to help.

That is why the upcoming informational meeting for a new local chapter of Lions Clubs International in Alton deserves attention from residents who care about the future of their town. Scheduled for Thursday, March 26, at 7 p.m. at Sweet Caroline, the meeting represents more than a recruitment effort. It is an invitation to strengthen one of the most reliable traditions in small-town life: neighbors helping neighbors.

Service clubs once formed the backbone of civic activity across New Hampshire. In many communities, they organized scholarship drives, supported youth programs, funded fireworks displays, hosted holiday events, and quietly stepped in wherever help was needed. Over time, some of these organizations faded as schedules grew busier and fewer people felt they could spare the hours.

Yet the needs never disappeared.

What makes the Lions model particularly appealing today is its flexibility. The organization has long understood that modern volunteers often cannot commit to weekly meetings or large time requirements. Instead, it emphasizes participation at whatever level members can manage. That approach reflects a practical truth about community service in 2026: people still want to help, but they need options that fit into real life.

A new Lions Club in Alton could fill important gaps that are difficult for municipal government to address on its own. Service clubs are uniquely positioned to respond quickly to local needs because they are built from residents who already understand their community. Whether the work involves supporting seniors, assisting families, sponsoring youth opportunities, or strengthening community events, the impact tends to ripple far beyond the original project.

There is also something less visible but equally important that service organizations provide. They create connections.

In towns like Alton and surrounding Lakes Region communities, people often say they value the sense of belonging that comes with living here. But belonging does not happen automatically. It grows through shared effort. When residents gather around a project, whether large or small, they begin to know one another in ways that cannot be replicated through social media or brief conversations at the store.

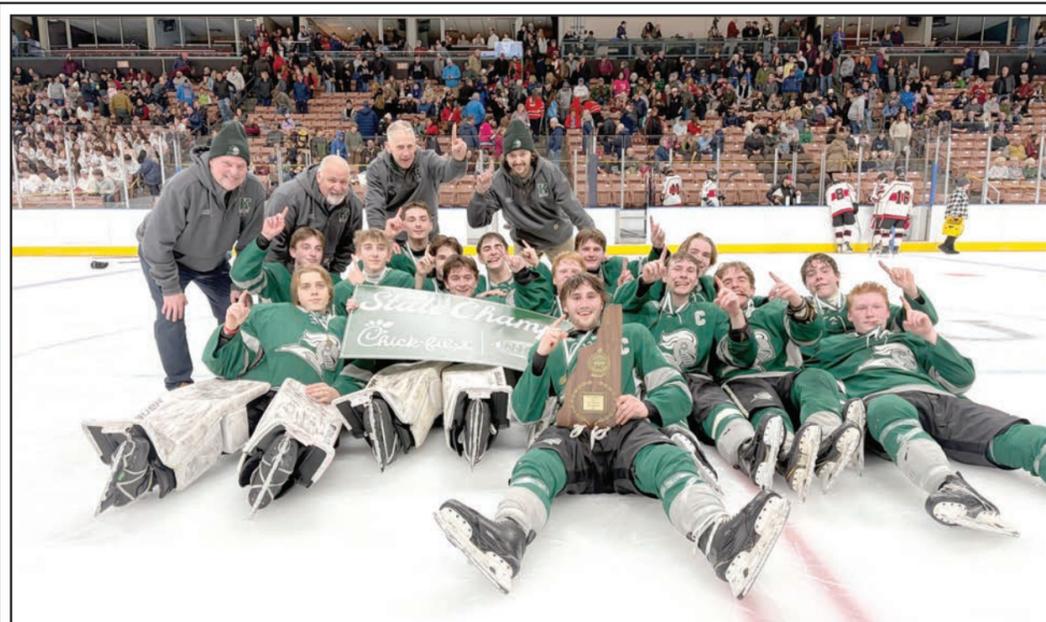
That kind of connection builds resilience. It makes communities stronger during difficult times and more vibrant during good ones.

It is easy to assume that service clubs are only for long-time residents or retirees with extra time. In reality, they depend on a mix of perspectives. Younger residents bring energy and new ideas. Longtime community members bring history and continuity. Working families bring practical insight into what today's households actually need. A successful club reflects all of those voices.

The informational meeting later this week is not a commitment. It is simply a chance to listen, ask questions, and consider whether becoming a Lion might be the right fit.

Communities rarely regret creating more opportunities for people to step forward and help. In fact, they usually regret the opposite.

Alton has always benefited from residents willing to lend a hand when it mattered. A new Lions Club offers another way to keep that tradition moving forward.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Skate with the champs

The Friends of Kingswood Hockey invites the public to skate with the Division III champion Kingswood boys' hockey team at the Pop Whalen Arena on Saturday, March 28, at 7 p.m. Entrance is free and donations will be accepted, with all donations going toward purchasing championship rings for the Knights. Kingswood defeated Berlin-Gorham 2-1 in overtime last Saturday in the Division III title game to win the program's first championship since 1999.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Spent

Last night's gig went well. There was a St. Patrick's flair to it. Some people had green on and the meal was a corned beef dinner. My shirt had little green stripes in it, but I certainly wasn't trying. I don't even think I have a gig shirt that's green. Or a non-gig shirt, for that matter.

There was a snowstorm coming that was perfectly timed for the ride home. Little bits of flurries during pack out, then as soon as we all headed home, it started coming down seriously. I got to use my fog lights for a change. I wish that they would work without having my low beams on, but my low beams are so marginal that it really doesn't matter much. High beams produced total white-out conditions. Not for me.

My speed stayed a bit below speed limit, so the impatient ones got to pass me, solid line or not. There was very limited visibility and a good thing there wasn't much traffic. My actual problem was trying not to fall asleep. For someone who usually hits the hay around nine, this 12:30 cruise was tremen-

dously irregular. I'm sure I left consciousness for a few milliseconds.

When I woke up this morning, I looked out at all the nice new snow and saw lots of new critter tracks. I should have put all my morning activities on hold and gone out and checked them out. As it was, I was three hours past my normal rise time. After eating brunch, I headed out and there were already major amounts of melting taking place. There was one set of tracks that I was concerned about that started behind the ski shed, came by the back of the house then headed out past the tractor.

I'm always concerned that these may be fisher tracks, knowing that if they were, my cat would soon be history. Only four toes, great, it's not a fisher. What it actually looks like is a larger cat than mine. I've seen the tracks before and not been able to check them out. I finally got a good sampling. My mind slips off the big occasional strays that show up around here. Could one of them be crashing under the shed with the skunk, porcupine, or other

large rodent? No question on that possibility.

Speaking of skunk, it certainly must be spring. I drove to town the other day, a trip of less than five miles, and detected two separate scent sites that upon quick scanning, determined them to be roadkill. They're all going to be out soon, and in search of something to eat. Hide away those bird feeders. Bears have no respect for anything you may own, except maybe a twelve gauge. And you don't want to get that involved. Believe me.

While taking care of some domestics, I had this major consciousness impression. There's new snow on top of a solid base, it could be great skiing out there. Taking a total detour on activities, I was soon sporting my cross country gear and heading out next to the house. The skiing was nice. A little slow, but not sticky new snow glopping up the bottoms slow, that make it more like snow shoeing. It was wonderful.

The snow had pretty well disappeared where there was any southern exposure to the afternoon sun. But

there still remained enough coverage on the northern exposures to successfully ski. And wouldn't you know that that's where all my trails are. I went around as many as I could. There were some trails that I wanted to mow with the tractor, but with all the greenery of summer hiding what's underneath, I opted to wait till spring. The mower deck is so much more efficient than a man with a lopper. Unfortunately, on these trails I was plagued by baby trees and blackberry shoots with their large thorns. Total inconvenience.

All too soon I ran out of gas. My body just said, that's it, head home. You're on reserve. So I did. I'm so out of shape. I left my skis out just in case I get the energy to make another run or two. I'd considered skiing out to the mailbox, but that gets the too much sun I mentioned earlier.

But I tried, dead end going to mailbox so I skied till spent again, then walked to mailbox.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

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.

Notes from Windy Hollow

Remembering the penny

BY VIVIAN LEE DION
CONTRIBUTOR

A few weeks ago, the government stated that it cost more to make a penny and declared that there would no longer be any more pennies made or put in circulation. It was a sad day for me because I grew up with pennies. I didn't collect them but they were nice to have in my pocket. I guess that I would call it spare change.

However, the 1943 penny, in particular, was of great interest to me because

of the decision the government made. "Because of World War II a shortage of copper combined with a need forced the mint to use an alternative alloy. Freeing up tons of copper for the war effort, the now famous steel coated zinc combination was developed. It is the only use in US coinage of this alloy. It did however present a few problems immediately. The mint recognized the metal was harsh on coinage dies, reducing die life. Secondly, once new metal composition

was released into circulation rust and oxidation was now a new consideration to collectors judging qualities of these coins."

I was in junior high school when I made an arrangement with the cafeteria manager. I would leave class early and set up a milk stand in exchange for a welcoming free hot lunch. At three cents a bottle, students bought this milk. In the course of doing business I exchanged three copper pennies for the zinc ones. I was happy to get those special pennies. When

I returned home my mother asked me to give her good friend Mae one of them. Although I did not want to do it I agreed.

Here are a few folk sayings regarding one cent coins: Find a penny and all day long you'll have good luck. A penny for your thoughts. Pennywise pound foolish. It costs a pretty penny. Pennies from heaven. A penny saved is a penny earned.

Vivian Lee Dion of New Durham is a writer and speaker.

Letters to the Editor

Thank you for each and every dollar

To the Editor:

Gilford Got Lunch would like to acknowledge the generosity of the town voters who donated cash and food on voting day. We appreciate the Gilford Youth Center for allowing us to set up a table for donations.

We are gearing up for our 14th year, and we could not do it without the wonderful community support

we receive.

GGL is always looking for volunteers, and the Web site, www.gilfordgotlunch.com, can be accessed to sign up for volunteering and donations.

Again, we thank you all for each and every dollar!

Meg Jenkins

For the Board of Gilford Got Lunch

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COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Historic dam be damned?

BY TARA LAMPER

ALTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

People in the small town of Alton are in an uproar. A big change is on the horizon, and there are a multitude of concerns.

Conveniently central to most destinations around the state, from mountains to coast and amenities in between, Alton is a quaint, rural village that becomes a busy tourist town in summer. It sits at the southern tip of Lake Winnepesaukee, with the Merrymeeting River winding through the community and opening into Alton Bay. Waterfront living and recreation is a significant portion of revenue for the town.

Near the northern end of the Merrymeeting River is the old Alton Power Dam. Constructed in 1923 and rehabilitated in 1979, it originally served as a hydroelectric generation plant. Today, it serves only to hold back recreational water in Wentworth and Mill Ponds. These small bodies of water provide the community with popular fishing spots, a seasonal ice skating rink, and scenic views. The area around these ponds holds incredible biodiversity. According to forester Tom Foster, one tiny fragment of land near the dam is identified as supporting over 70 species of plants. Mill Pond also acts as catchment for runoff from the town cen-

ter, preventing or reducing pollution from flowing into Lake Winnepesaukee.

The Alton Power Dam, owned by NH Fish & Game (NHFG) and operated by the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Dam Bureau, is classified as a high hazard dam with risk for failure during a "1,000 year storm event," which could wipe out Letter S Road and surrounding low-lying residences. Although the dam has held throughout many high-water events over the past century, including recent catastrophic flooding that washed out Route 140 and the fatal 1996 collapse of Meadow Pond Dam, it fails current safety requirements. The cost to fully repair the dam is currently considered prohibitive by the Dam Bureau.

Due to these safety and budgetary concerns, NHFG and NHDES plan to decommission and likely remove the dam after gathering more information about what the impacts would be and the total cost of removal. This process will begin after ice-out in late March of this year, ultimately drawing down the water level by 2.5 feet.

According to NHDES, the drawdown will be performed by removing a maximum of one six-inch stoplog per day, monitoring impact with each step. The Dam Bureau states that this phased release reduces the



risk of sediment erosion and potential for movement of contaminants. The timing of an ice-out drawdown is strategic to minimize the disturbance of overwintering amphibians and nesting waterfowl.

During and following the drawdown, the Dam Bureau will conduct water and sediment testing to assess quality and contamination levels. They will also monitor any impact on connected waterways, flora and fauna. Observations and test results will be compared to existing baseline samples before proceeding as the state deems appropriate. There is currently no schedule set for the next stage of dam removal or remediation, which is likely five or more years off.

The Alton Conservation Commission (ACC), in cooperation with other local environmental groups, has begun their own water sampling as well to ensure full awareness of any pos-

sible environmental and infrastructural impacts. ACC will continue testing and monitoring throughout the drawdown process.

Potential mobilization of contaminated sediment is the most immediate concern. ACC suspects a large buildup of sediment behind the dam, which could be stirred up and washed downstream towards the bay during the drawdown or dam deconstruction. If this is proven true, remediation would be required before removing the dam or possibly even continuing with the drawdown. NHDES does not believe this will become an issue during drawdown as enough water depth should remain above the localized sediment to minimize disturbance.

Mill Pond, which connects to Wentworth Pond and will be affected by lowering water levels, is also known to be highly polluted. As Mill Pond will drain into Wentworth Pond at an unnatural rate during drawdown, there may be potential for additional contamination to enter the water system, whereas it currently sits mainly undis-

turbed. At this time, water testing of Wentworth Pond shows contaminated discharge from Mill Pond is minimally detected, likely due to the dilution effects of the flowing Merrymeeting River.

Aesthetic environmental impact is the next concern and one of the biggest public outcries. Lowering the water level will expose quite a bit of shoreline in these small ponds, which the community worries will become mudflats. While this is certainly possible to some extent, revegetation generally occurs within one season, the dormant seed banks within the soil quickly sprouting to life. However, invasive species are always a threat and may begin to colonize the newly exposed areas. Consequently, close monitoring of the regrowth process will be pertinent.

The effects on the greater Merrymeeting River and marsh system are unknown and will largely depend on the topography of Wentworth Pond's floor. If the drawdown's impact reaches further upstream than expected, NHDES claims it will halt activities. Merrymeeting Marsh contains endangered species, among its other important functions, so all groups agree that it must be protected from any negative impact.

Worries about other impacts to the community, such as potential effects on ground water levels and nearby wells, the insulation of town water lines running under the river, and of course the effect on

views and property values remain at the forefront of the public's mind. Unfortunately, the Dam Bureau will not know the extent of these or the aforementioned impacts until they begin drawdown and subsequent monitoring.

On the flip side, dam removals also have positive impacts on the environment. In fact, studies have shown that manmade dams are ecologically disruptive. As The Nature Conservancy puts it, rivers are the arteries of the earth and dams create blockages. Free-flowing rivers allow proper distribution of sediment and nutrients, and greater migration of aquatic life. Meanwhile, unnaturally dammed ponds impede the passage of fish and other wildlife, and can create stagnation, leading to toxic algae blooms. (We see this in Mill Pond.) Connectivity supports biology and balance, whereas impoundments reduce biodiversity. In practically every case study of removed dams, the long-term environmental benefits far outweighed the immediate community impact.

Still, balance between environmental health and a town's well-being must be considered. Obviously, a sudden change in the connectivity of the Merrymeeting River system after a century of being dammed might have unforeseen repercussions to both the local ecosystem and community. It is imperative that each step forward is taken with care, regarding all sides that may be affected.

The first real sign of Spring isn't the weather

Every year about this time, somebody says, "Feels like spring's finally here," and I usually look outside at a yard still patched with old snow and think, Not quite yet.

Spring doesn't arrive all at once in New Hampshire. It never has. It sneaks in the way a polite guest does, opening the door just a little at a time and waiting to see if anyone notices.

When I was younger, I thought spring meant warm air. Now I know better. Around here, spring means sound first. You hear it before you see it. A drip off the roof. A little trickle running along the edge of the road. A screen door somewhere down the street opening for the first time since October.

That first open window in the house always surprises me. My wife usually beats me to it. I'll come into the kitchen and feel that faint cool breeze moving across the floor, carrying the smell of damp earth and old leaves waking up again. It is not warm air. Not even close. But it is different air.

That difference matters. I noticed another sign last week while walking past a neighbor's yard. Someone had dragged a rake out of the garage and leaned it against the fence. No leaves were being moved yet. No cleanup had started. But the rake was there, standing ready like it had business to attend to soon. That's spring in New Hampshire right there.

KIND HEARTS, COLD WINTERS By CHIPPY

Mud season gets all the attention this time of year, and I understand why. You cannot go anywhere without bringing half the driveway back into the house on your boots. But I've come to appreciate mud season more as I get older. It is proof the ground is softening again. After months of frozen certainty, a little mess is not the worst thing.

I saw a group of kids riding bikes down our road the other afternoon without hats or gloves. That was another sign. They were not riding fast. Just circling around the same stretch of pavement like they were reacquainting themselves with freedom after a long indoor winter.

You forget how quiet winter can be until it starts filling up again with voices.

There is also a certain look people get in March that I recognize immediately. Folks linger outside longer than necessary. They stand at the mailbox a minute too long. They pause halfway up the walkway and look around as if something important might be happening in the trees.

It usually is. The chickadees start sounding busier. The crows hold longer conversations. Even the late afternoon light changes its mind

about leaving so early. None of this feels dramatic while it is happening. But taken together, it adds up to something steady and reassuring.

When our children were young, spring meant baseball gloves coming out of the closet and boots drying by the door. These days the house stays quieter, but I still find myself noticing the same small signals. The calendar may say spring starts on a certain day, but around here it really begins when people start believing winter is no longer in charge.

I have learned not to rush it. New Hampshire does not reward impatience in March. We will still get one more surprise snowstorm. Probably two. Someone will put their shovel away too soon and regret it.

Still, something has already shifted.

You can feel it in the way neighbors wave a little longer when they pass. You can see it in the first muddy pawprints across the kitchen floor. You can hear it in the quiet confidence people have when they say, "We made it through another one."

Spring does not arrive in New Hampshire all at once.

It arrives the moment we begin opening the door again.

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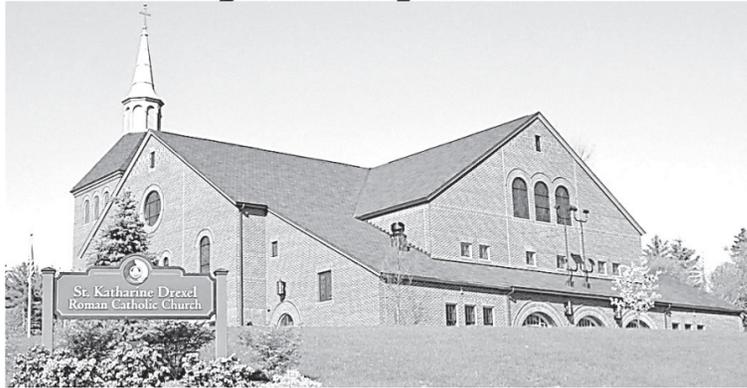
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- March 28-29: **Palm Sunday Masses**, 4:00 p.m. Saturday
8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday
March 30: **Confessions**, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; 5:00 to 7:00
April 2: **Holy Thursday Mass**, 7:00 p.m.
April 3: **Good Friday, The Passion of Our Lord**, 7:00 p.m.
(Ecumenical Service: All Saints Church in Wolfeboro at Noon)
April 4: **Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil Mass**, 7:00 p.m.
April 5: **Easter Sunday Masses**, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.



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JOSHUA SPAULDING

Addison Hodsdon of Gilford finished off her freshman campaign by earning Division III All-State Second Team.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Prospect Mountain's Ava Foster earned Division III All-State Second Team honors.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford's Taylor Marsh was presented Division III All-State Honorable Mention in her freshman season.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford's Skye Maltais capped off her season by earning All-State Honorable Mention for Division III.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Prospect Mountain's Paige Harding earned Division III All-Defensive Team honors.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford's Scott Currier was named the Division III Coach of the Year, while assistant coach Celeste Best was named Sub Varsity Coach of the Year.

HOOPS

(continued from Page A1)

Honorable Mention was also earned by Abby Jarvis and Kelsey Fillion of Fall Mountain, Audrina Pelton of Stevens, Madden Huff of Kearsarge, Sophia Huynh of Raymond, Zoe Bishop of Hopkinton, Mollie Gaynor of St. Thomas and McKenzie Ripley of Campbell.

Jarvis, Kennah Scott of Berlin, Ella Santaw of Monadnock, Paige Boudette of Hopkinton and Paige Harding of Prospect Mountain were all name All-Defensive Team.

Gilford's Scott Currier was named Division III Coach of the Year while his assistant coach, Celeste Best, was named Division III Sub Varsity Coach of the Year. Olivia Richard of Berlin was presented the Jack Ford Scholar Athlete Award.

In Division IV, First Team honors were presented to Delaney Whiting of Groveton and Leah Poulton of Littleton while Second Team honors were earned by Makayla Walker of Woodsville and Ella Horsch of Littleton. Earning Honorable Mention

were Addison Pilgrim and Juju Bromley of Littleton, Makalyn Kenison and Myl-ee Kenison of Groveton, Addison Koehler of Profile, Alicia Johnson of Moultonborough and Katie Houston of Woodsville.

Joining Whiting and Poulton in earning First Team honors were Player of the Year Ava Buchanan of Portsmouth Christian, Haley Rossitto of Colebrook, Amaya Beckles of Newmarket and Ryenn Pedrone of Holy Family.

Second Team was also presented to Zoey Johnson of Farmington, Lucy

Treece of Mount Royal, Lexi Santamaria of Colebrook and Ellie Hopkins of Nute.

Also earning Honorable Mention were Kiara Rugora of Newmarket, Shaylee DiPrizio of Farmington, Alyvia Jaimes and Sienna Grondin of Pittsburg-Canaan, Isabella Stevens of Portsmouth Christian, Sienna Gregory and Breanna McCabe of Mascenic and Grace Thibault of Holy Family.

Bromley, Makalyn Kenison and Woodsville Morgan Crocker earned All-Defensive Team honors along with Lydia Ederly of Newmarket, Rossitto and Mariana Vicinanza of Holy Family.

Derek Tremblay of Mount Royal was named Division IV Coach of the Year while Moultonborough's Johnson was presented the Jack Ford Schol-

ar Athlete Award.

In Division II, Kingswood's Caelynn Blattenberger and Plymouth's Ella Duchette both earned Honorable Mention.

First Team honors for Division II went to Player of the Year Shea Hanson of Milford, Payton Vaughn of Bow, Ana O'Donnell of Hollis-Brookline, Emma Lapierre of Coe-Brown, Grace Riley of Pelham and Kate Stephens of Pembroke.

Earning Second Team honors for Division II were Anna Fazelat and Holly Dufoe of Derryfield, Anne Phillips and Hailey Steinmetz of Pembroke and Jade Lucas and Emma McNutt of Merrimack Valley.

Joining Blattenberger and Duchette in earning Honorable Mention were Izzy Navoy of Merrimack Valley, Sophia Guianazzo of Pelham, Zofia Rosen-

field and Nayaa Dineshkumar of Souhegan, Ava Strazzeri of Pembroke, Samantha Disco of Hollis-Brookline, Wren Horne of Oyster River, Ella La-Flamme an Emma Slop-er of Derryfield, Lauren Longley and Bella Berg of Bow, Madison Taylor of Coe-Brown and Addie Tullar of Hanover.

Lucas, Steinmetz, Fazelat, Brooke Bouchard of Hollis-Brookline and Lanai Hickman of Souhegan all earned All-Defensive Team honors.

Heidi Moore of Hollis-Brookline and Noah Cummings of Pembroke shared Division II Coach of the Year honors and Janessa Lofton of Hollis-Brookline was named Sub Varsity Coach of the Year.

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



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

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

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Makers Mill offers week of creative April vacation workshops for youth



Beckett shows off his colorful mixed-media artwork created during a recent youth art class at Makers Mill. Similar hands-on projects will be part of the April Vacation Arts & Crafts Camp for youth ages eight to 13, running April 27 through May 1.

WOLFEBORO — Families looking for creative activities during April school vacation will find a full week of hands-on arts programming at Makers Mill. The nonprofit makerspace will host five youth workshops for ages eight to 13 from Monday, April 27 through Friday, May 1, giving young makers the chance to explore painting, mixed media, printmaking, leatherworking, and more. Each workshop runs 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and includes a lunch break.

Students may attend a single class or sign up for multiple days. Class sizes are intentionally small, limited to six students, to provide plenty of individual attention and hands-on learning. The week begins Monday, April 27 with Fine Arts & Mixed Media, where students experiment with paint on canvas and add layered textures and materials to create dimensional artwork. On Tuesday, April 28, the Decoupage Creations workshop introduces the art of layer-

ing paper cutouts, paint effects, and decorative elements such as gold leaf to create imaginative scenes sealed with Mod Podge. The Wednesday, April 29 class, Printmaking Fun, teaches students how to carve their own design into a block and transform it into a reusable stamp, printing their artwork onto different surfaces. On Thursday, April 30, Leatherworking Adventures invites students to craft a small leather pouch and create a decorative back-

pack charm using dyes and stamping tools. The week concludes on Friday, May 1 with Paint Your Pet, where students bring a photo of a favorite animal and learn how to recreate it on glass with their own creative flair. All workshops are taught by Jennifer MacLean, a Makers Mill instructor known for her engaging and inclusive teaching style. MacLean leads the Leather Circle at Makers Mill

and teaches a variety of youth art programs. Her background as an occupational therapist and speech-language pathologist informs her thoughtful, adaptive approach to working with young learners. Each workshop costs \$40, plus a \$5 materials fee. Students should bring a lunch, snack, and drink in a sealable container. Makers Mill also participates in the ClassWallet program for K-12 students. If

you plan to register using ClassWallet please call Makers Mill directly to register as the process is different. To learn more and register, visit makersmill.org/aprilkids or call 603-569-1500. Makers Mill is a nonprofit community makerspace located at 23 Bay St. in Wolfeboro. Free tours are offered every Friday and the first Saturday of each month at 10 a.m.

Erica deVries to address Tri-Town Democrats

ALTON — The Tri-Town Democrats of Barnstead, Gilmanton, and Alton will be meeting on Monday, April 6 at the Pearson Road Community Center (6 Pearson Rd.) in Alton. The gathering will start at 5:30 p.m. with time for socializing and light refreshments before State Rep. Erica deVries, the speaker, begins at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend, and it is a family friendly event, with arts and craft supplies available for children.



Does the campaign slogan “Vote for the childless cat lady” ring a bell? It was in 2024, and Erica deVries, of Hampton was running for state representative in Rockingham District 29. The slogan was a way to poke fun at J.D. Vance, then running for Vice President, based on his attacks against childless women. The gentle humor in Ms. DeVries’ campaign earned her a spot on the national news and in the hearts of Rockingham County voters. She won election and has been serving as a state representative since then. By way of background, deVries attended the University of Maine, where

she majored in Political Science, and she then went to Vanderbilt Law School, graduating in 2001. She later made her home in New Hampshire, living in an old farmhouse in Hampton. She owns a consulting company providing fundraising and grant guidance to nonprofits such as the Nature Conservancy, the NHSPCA, and others. She has also served on the local zoning board, using her legal skills to help the town avoid litigation and encourage policies to reduce the housing crisis. DeVries’ priorities as state representative include reproductive rights, housing issues, and better funding of our local schools. Come join us on April 6! Please RSVP at tritowndems@gmail.com.

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10:30 – SILVERSEA, BOB TOLSTER

11:00 – ROCKY MOUNTAINEER & CANYON SPIRIT, JOHN RAICHE

11:30 – SAGRES VACATIONS, MARCO FERNANDES

12:00 – AMERICAN CRUISE LINE, APRIL PIAZZA

12:30 – COLLETTE, ANDREW LEIGHTON

1:00 – LINDBLAD/NATGEO, JERILYN GIACONE

1:30 – AMA WATERWAYS, STEPHEN BATJIKA

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OBITUARY

Priscilla A. Lawrence 1945-2026

Priscilla A. Lawrence of East Longmeadow, MA, formerly of Alton NH, passed away peacefully on March 5th, 2025, after a courageous seven year battle with Alzheimer's disease. She was 81.

Born in Springfield, MA on January 27th, 1945, to Aurelia and Edward McGrady, she worked as a waitress, cashier and shipping clerk. She married Ronald Pouliot in 1961 and raised a family during the 1960's and '70's, when she looked forward to family vacations on Cape Cod each summer. Later in her life, she met David Lawrence, who resided in Suffield, CT, and they eventually married



and moved to Alton, NH, where they spent 25 years living happily and traveling frequently together.

Following the passing of her beloved David in 2014, Priscilla remained active in the Gilman's Corner neighborhood of Alton and enjoyed spending time with her in-laws, Dan and Cin-

dy Lawrence and their three children. Priscilla moved to Springfield, MA in 2019 to be closer to her son, Tony Pouliot, daughter Joanne Ramirez, and her five grandchildren. She always had a kind word and a warm smile for everyone she met.

Mrs. Lawrence is survived by her son, Tony Pouliot, her daughter, Joanne Ramirez, her son-in-law, Carlos Ramirez, and her five grandchildren, Claire, Jackson, Kevin, Clifton and Cameron.

Memorial contributions in Priscilla's name may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at: Alzheimer's Association | Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia Help

Rev. Dr. Charles P. Barnes

The Rev. Dr. Charles Barnes of Center Barnstead NH, age 77, died after a prolonged illness on February 25, 2026. Charlie was born on April 23, 1948 in Chicago, Illinois to Helen Fleming Barnes and Paul Edison Barnes. He attended Monmouth College for his Bachelors of Science degree, McCormick Theological Seminary for his Masters of Divinity, followed by Andover-Newton Seminary for his Doctorate of Divinity.

Charlie was called to serve churches in the United Church of Christ. He pastored churches in Wisconsin and Massachusetts. He served as the Assistant Conference Minister in the Indiana-Kentucky

Conference and finally as the Conference Minister in Rhode Island. After retiring to New Hampshire, Charlie was the Interim Pastor at Smith Memorial Church in Hillsboro. For the past 14 years, Charlie was a beloved and active member of the Congregational Church of North Barnstead, teaching Bible Study and occasionally preaching.

Charlie had a broad range of interests and talents. He was a skilled woodworker and built a number of handsome pieces of furniture for their home. He had enjoyed sailing in his youth and loved having his retirement home on Locke Lake. Charlie was also very engaged in technology, and adapted his home to the latest and

greatest conveniences. He was an early user of solar energy and an early driver of an electric car.

What family and friends may remember best though was his story telling. Charlie loved to tell stories about his dear wife Celia, their marriage of 46 years, and their four children and five grandchildren. He also had good stories from the churches he served and from his youth as a Vietnam War resister. It was a rich and full life.

Charlie is survived by his beloved wife Celia Barnes, his children and their spouses, Philip and Catherine Price-Barnes of Bristol CT, Tammy and Bill Lacroix of Penacook NH, Benjamin and Aleagia Barnes of Branford CT, Andrew and Sieun (Abbi) Barnes of Melrose MA and his grandchildren Amber, Tyler, Michael Lacroix, Anna and Henry Barnes.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 28th, at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead, located at 504 North Barnstead Road in Center Barnstead. The service will begin at 2 pm followed by a reception at the church. In lieu of flowers, please give a donation in honor of Charlie to your favorite charity or church.

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

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

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

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

has risen to the challenge.

Adding to the spectacle is an ambitious technical production led by Scott Piddington and his tech team, who have created a set filled with surprises. As the show progresses, audiences will witness pieces of the set break, collapse, fall over, and come apart in spectacular fashion—all carefully designed to enhance the comedic chaos that makes the show so memorable.

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

The cast of 13 students features some of the strongest comedic performers to take the Gilford High School stage. Their commitment, energy, and timing create a whirlwind

of physical comedy, exaggerated characters, and unexpected mishaps that keep the audience engaged every second.

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

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

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

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

Gilford Youth Center to host Spring Craft Fair March 28

GILFORD — The Gilford Youth Center will host the Lakes Region Spring Craft Fair on Saturday, March 28, offering residents a chance to shop locally made goods while supporting youth programming in the community.

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

Youth Center, located at 19 Potter Hill Rd. Organizers say the fair will feature more than 50 vendors offering a wide variety of handmade items and crafts.

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

Proceeds from the craft fair will benefit

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

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

Alton Central School to hold Kindergarten screenings April 23 & 24

ALTON — Alton Central School will conduct Kindergarten screenings for the 2026-27 school year on April 23 and April 24.

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

screening appointment.

Parents and guardians can arrange a date and time by contacting Traci Cameron at tcameron@sau72.org.

School officials note that families whose children are not currently enrolled in the Alton Central School pre-Kindergarten program will need to provide several documents at the time of registration.

Required paperwork includes a copy of the child's birth certificate, immunization record, most recent physical examination record, and proof of residency.

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

Church Service SCHEDULE

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

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

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

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

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

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

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC
Sunday School and Worship Services
Rev. Kate Kennedy
603-776-1820
Our services are in person at 504 North Barnstead Road, Center Barnstead, NH and live-streamed on Zoom, Sundays at 10 a.m.
ccnorthbarnstead.com

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FARMINGTON
Worship Services: 10:00 AM
400 Main Street
Farmington, NH 03835
www.farmingtonnhucc.org

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

Pastor Ryan Blackard

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

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Sunday Morning Worship Service for all ages begins at 9:00a.m.
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Pastor Sandy Pierson - 483-2846

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Daily Mass Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 8:00am.

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Sunday 9:30, 50 Main St., Pittsfield
Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg
www.ststephenspittsfield.com

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rt. 171 at Tuftonboro Corner.
Sunday services 10:30 am. Church 603-539-8058

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	71 Range Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$700,000	Esther Lee and David B. Bertolami III	Deborah L. Bolster
Gilford	1031 Cherry Valley Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$600,000	Richard and Jennifer Kelly	La Lama Fiscal Trust and David La Lama
Gilmanton	25 Edwards Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$495,000	Joseph A. Lofrano	Steven Malo
Gilmanton	Woodhill Drive	N/A	\$19,000	Glenn and Charlene Forward	Raymond C. Peavey, Jr.
Gilmanton	N/A (Lot 26X)	N/A	\$18,533	Paul W. Zaniboni	Denise Styffe
Gilmanton	N/A (Lot 27X)	N/A	\$18,533	Paul W. Zaniboni	Denise Styffe
New Durham	98 Merrymeeting Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$300,000	Frederick Scibelli and Cruz Felicia Dela	Nathan Edward and Ginny Batchelder

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

Ducks Unlimited annual dinner set for April 11

FRANKLIN — The Daniel Webster Chapter of Ducks Unlimited will hold its 37th annual dinner banquet auction on Saturday, April 11, at 4:30 p.m. at The Franklin Lodge of Elks on 125 South Main St. in Franklin. James Cropsey is Area Chairman this year. Nearly 6,200 local Ducks Unlimited fundraising events throughout the country contribute towards Ducks Unlimited's national fundraising effort achieving 88 percent efficiency, resulting in 88 cents of each dollar raised being spent on wetland acquisition or

improvement. Each year the United States loses some 140,000 acres of wetland habitat. Since its inception, Ducks Unlimited has raised more than one billion dollars and enhanced and restored nearly 15 million habitat acres, encompassing more than 15,000 wetland projects, in an effort to reverse this destructive trend. Prime wetlands sequester more carbon than any other habitat with .39 metric tons on average per acre each year. DU's projects provide habitat for more than 600 wildlife species, including ducks, geese, and endangered or threatened species like the whooping crane and bald eagle.

While Ducks Unlimited has accomplished a great deal since its founding in 1937, the rapid draining of our wetlands demands that the organization continue to accelerate its work. Efforts like those of the Daniel Webster Chapter are a vital part of Ducks Unlimited's efforts.

Order your tickets for cash or check today. Dinner tickets cost \$100 for an individual and \$120 for a couple while youths under 18 years of age are \$65. All attending youths win prizes. Sponsor tickets are \$325 for an individual ticket. Sponsors will have a one in eight chance of winning a gun of their choice from a vast selection. Sponsors need not be present to win. Buy a table of eight for \$900 and receive the choice of a Traditions scoped muzzle loading rifle or a Traditions 1851 Colt Navy Revolver Reproduction. To purchase tickets or for information on how you can support Ducks Unlimited's program of wetlands con-

servation, contact Steve Saulten at 603-289-2109 or Jim Cropsey at 603-286-9633. You may also order online at www.ducks.org.

286-9633. You may also order online at www.ducks.org.

Gilford Public Library

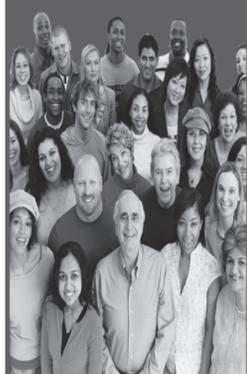
Top Ten requests (plus two)

1. "Judge Stone" by Viola Davis
2. "The Crossroads" by C.J. Box
3. "More Than Enough" by Anna Quindlen
4. "Heir of Whitestone" by Catherine Coulter
5. "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi
6. "The Irish Goodbye" by Heather Aimee O'Neill
7. "Cross and Sampson" by James Patterson
8. "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans
9. "Mule Boy" by Andrew Krivak
10. "Gales of November" by John U. Bacon
11. "Stolen in Death" by J.D. Robb
12. "Secret of Secrets" by Dan Brown



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Laconia: Turnkey 2BR/2BA condo features an updated kitchen, wood-burning fireplace, and a private balcony. Amenities include a saltwater pool, tennis courts, and trail more, making it an ideal vacation retreat.

Gilmanton: 19.1-acre development opportunity in the Smith Meetinghouse Historic District is approved for a 7-lot subdivision. Ideal for high-end custom homes, the property offers rural tranquility with easy access to Route 140.

New Hampton: This to-be-built 2,498 sf. custom home features a 4BR septic design, granite countertops, and a main-level primary suite. Enjoy private beach rights to Pemigewasset Lake. Facsimile image shown above.

Meredith: Located in the desirable Cummings Cove neighborhood, this 4-bedroom home includes a separate ADU for guests or rental income. Enjoy partial lake views and deeded access to Lake Winnepesaukee for swimming and kayaking, all while being just minutes away from downtown.

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Equal Housing Opportunity

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

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

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

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For the Washington DC area, please call HUD at 275-9200.

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You may also call The New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights at 603-271-2767 or write The Commission at 163 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301

Neither the Publisher nor the advertiser will be liable for misinformation, typographical errors, etc. herein contained. The Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertising.



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Community dinner to support Old Home Day fireworks

GILFORD — Residents are invited to enjoy an Italian-style community dinner later this month while helping support one of Gilford's most anticipated summer traditions.

The Gilford Old Home Day Committee is hosting a fundraising Italian feast on Saturday, April 18, at 6:30

p.m. in the downstairs hall at Gilford Community Church, 19 Potter Hill Rd. Proceeds from the event will support the fireworks display planned for this year's Gilford Old Home Day celebration.

The dinner will feature baked jumbo stuffed shells, Italian meatballs and sweet sau-

sage, tossed salad, rolls, and a chef's choice dessert. The meal will be prepared by Chef Dan Barnhart of The Plate Lunch. Attendees are welcome to bring their own beverages.

Tickets are available

for a \$20 donation per person, and advance reservations are required by Friday, April 10. Reservations may be made by bringing cash or a check payable to Gilford Old Home Day to the Gilford Parks and

Recreation Department, located next to the town clerk's office at Gilford Town Hall, 47 Cherry Valley Rd.

Organizers said the fundraiser will help ensure the continuation of the community's annu-

al fireworks display, a longstanding highlight of Old Home Day festivities.

For more information, contact the Gilford Parks and Recreation Department at 603-527-4722.

Granite VNA offers Caregiver Connection in Wolfeboro

WOLFEBORO — Granite VNA offers Caregiver Connection on Monday, April 13 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Harmony Coffee House, 21 Central Ave. in Wolfeboro.

Join us and connect with other family caregivers, while enjoying an opportunity to unwind and have discussions rich in empathy and resources.

Pre-registration is not required. For more information, call (603) 224-4093 or (800) 924-8620, ext. 85664 or visit www.granitevna.org. This program is offered at no charge.

About Granite VNA
Granite VNA is a not-

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

Alton Rotary Club launches speaker series

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

This program will be

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

For more information, contact us at altoncentrotary@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/AltonRotaryNh.

LACONIA — Officials at X Racing have announced well known and respected dealership HK Powersports, of Laconia and Hooksett, has come on board in support of our inaugural Snowmobile Mountain Madness event, set for April 11 & 12 at Gunstock Mountain Resort.

HK Powersports has a rich history of serving snowmobile enthusiasts throughout the Lakes Region with top-notch sales and service for decades. They've also supported racing in multiple forms, from snowmobiles in the winter, to short track stock car racing during the summer months.

"We're excited and proud to have an established dealer like HK Powersports involved at Gunstock," X Racing president Joe Duncan said. "With this race in their own backyard, a lot of their loyal customers

will be in attendance. We want to bring new racers to them, and sure appreciate them coming on board. We're working to attract new faces to the sport with our low-cost, big-fun Sunday Funday program. It's based on common sleds, not limited production machine, and offers multiple chances to race each day. Those new racers will need safety gear, which we know HK Powersports has available."

HK Owner/Operator Brian Whalley is a former racer who knows the value of having a race in his area.

"Racing has always been part of our DNA," Whalley said. "My family grew up around the sport, and it's amazing to see the energy building around snowmobile racing again in New Hampshire. Bringing an event like this to Gunstock gives fans, riders,

and families a chance to experience the sport up close."

Madeline Stack is the Marketing Director at HK Powersports, and understands that value, as well.

"At HK Powersports, we're always looking for ways to bring the powersports lifestyle to life," Stack said. "Partnering with X Racing allows us to showcase the excitement of snowmobile racing while connecting with enthusiasts who share the same passion for winter riding."

Make the most of race weekend with a stop at HK Powersports—your go-to destination for everything you need on and off the track. With two convenient locations, including our Hooksett store just off I-93 and our Laconia location just 15 minutes (eight miles) from Gunstock Mountain Resort,

getting geared up has never been easier.

Whether you're dialing in your sled or making last-minute adjustments, we've got you covered with a full selection of safety gear, performance parts, and race-day essentials. Stop in, stock up, and hit the mountain ready to ride.

X Racing is a sanctioning body for snowmobile racing based in Elk River, Minnesota. X Racing strives to maintain regional race circuits in the upper Midwest and Northeast to keep the sport thriving. It operates on a philosophy of affordable racing, keeping costs to a minimum for families who love sleds.

For more information, please go to www.SundayFundayX.com. To learn more about HK Powersports, go to www.hkpowersports.com.

Community survey launched to address gaps in women's health access across NH

REGION — Women of the Mountains Birth Initiative (WOMB) is calling on women across New Hampshire to participate in a brief, anonymous survey aimed at improving access to comprehensive women's health care statewide.

The survey is part of a federally funded initiative led by the New Hampshire Insurance Department (NHID) to better understand where women face barriers to care—including

insurance coverage gaps, limited provider access, and unmet health needs across the lifespan. Findings will directly inform state-level recommendations, payer strategies, and future outreach and education efforts.

WOMB recently partnered with NHID to host a regional focus group in late 2025. This follow-up survey expands that effort, offering a broader opportunity for voices—especially

those in rural and underserved communities—to be heard.

"Too often, decisions about women's health care are made without hearing directly from the people most affected,"

said a representative from WOMB. "This survey is a chance for lived experiences to shape real policy conversations."

The survey is voluntary, anonymous, and takes approximately 5–10 minutes

to complete. No personally identifiable information is collected. NHID has contracted with Health Management Associates to analyze results and prepare a report with recommendations to the state.

Community members are encouraged to participate and share the survey widely.

Take the survey at https://healthmanagement.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_d4h9ebw3BlIT oVM.

HELP WANTED



CASTLE in the CLOUDS

586 Ossipee Park Road • Moultonborough, NH 03254
603-476-5900 • CastleinthecLOUDS.org

JOB FAIR
March 28th from 1pm to 3pm

Year-Round Positions Available:
Director of Advancement • Line Cook • Sous Chef

Seasonal Positions Available:
Housekeeper • Data Collection Associate
Museum Interpreter • Weddings & Events Coordinator
Weddings & Events Assistant • Events Security Associate
Maintenance Assistant • Café in the Clouds Attendant
Café in the Clouds Manager • Front of House Attendant
Dishwasher • Busser/Food Runner
Trolley Driver
Visitor Services



Click on QR code for job descriptions and to apply.



Full-Time Installers Apprentice

Energysavers Inc, a 50 year old hearth & spa product retailer in the Lakes Region, is looking for a motivated individual that wants to learn the trade of installing hearth products. You must be comfortable working on roofs when necessary and able to work with an installer to move heavy items. Energysavers pays for all educational costs to get and maintain NFI wood, gas and pellet certifications as well as a NH gas fitters license for gas hearth installations and service. Starting pay, \$18-\$20 hour based on experience.

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

Stop in to fill out an application:
ENERGYSAVERS INC.
163 Daniel Webster Hwy., Meredith NH

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Tracy Lewis: 603.616.7103

Restaurant Week returns April 17 to April 25!

WOLFEBORO — Wolfeboro Area Restaurant Week begins April 17 offering residents and visitors a variety of delicious dining experiences all around the community. Creative menus will showcase the local flavor.

“We are thrilled to announce the 2026 Presenting Sponsor is

Amoskeag Beverages, proudly supporting local businesses,” expresses Wolfeboro Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Mary DeVries.

Amoskeag is a leading beer and alcohol distributor.

“The key to making this culinary event happen is of course participa-

tion by local area restaurants and specialty food shops. If your business has not already joined the event, there is still time to be a part of the celebration,” invites DeVries.

Sponsorships are also available and vendors who work with local businesses are encouraged to consider a partnership during the event.

Restaurant Week is a Community Event organized by the Chamber of Commerce to celebrate and showcase local

businesses, highlighting restaurants and specialty shops.

For more information, please reach out

to DeVries via mary@wolfeborochamber.com or telephone the Chamber of Commerce at 569-2200.

Center Barnstead Christian Church announces Easter services

BARNSTEAD — Center Barnstead Christian Church will observe the Easter season with two upcoming worship services open to the community.

A Good Friday service is scheduled for Friday, April 3, from 6 to 7 p.m.

The service will focus on reflection on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and the significance of the day in the Christian calendar.

The church will also host an Easter Sunday worship service on April 5 from 10 to 11 a.m., cel-

ebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Community members and families are invited to attend.

Both services will take place at Center Barnstead Christian Church in Center Barnstead.

LEGALS

BARNSTEAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
91 Maple Street
Center Barnstead, NH 03225
(603) 269-5161

BARNSTEAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Children may enter kindergarten if their chronological age will be five before September 30th of the year entering school.

Please contact us at 269-5161 Ext.4300 for a registration packet or stop by the school office. Orientation/Screening will take place April 23rd and 24th

LEGALS

BARNSTEAD NOTICE

RIVERVIEW CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The Annual Meeting of the Riverview Cemetery Association will be held at the Barnstead Parade Fire Station on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. Immediately following the public portion of our meeting, there will be a meeting of the Trustees.

Nicholas C. Rott
President

BARNSTEAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL INVITATION TO BID

LANDSCAPE SERVICES

May 1, 2026 - June 30, 2028

MANDATORY SITE VISIT

Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 11AM

Bids for Landscape Services will be accepted until 1:00 PM on Thursday, April 9, 2026 at the Business Office, SAU 301, Prospect Mountain High School, 242 Suncook Valley Road, Alton, NH, 03809, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid specifications can be obtained from Heidi Duford, Business Administrator at hduford@pmsau.org or 603-875-3800 ext 2158. Questions can be answered by calling or emailing the Facilities Director, Kevin Evans, at 603-875-7500 ext 3109 or kevans@pmsau.org.

Bids will be accepted only if sealed and clearly marked:

BIDS FOR: "Barnstead Landscape Services" Attn: Heidi Duford, SAU Business Office, Prospect Mountain High School, 242 Suncook Valley Road, Alton, NH 03809

DUE DATE: 1:00 PM on Thursday, April 9, 2026

The School Board reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, to accept any informality in a bid or to accept a bid which it deems to be in the best interest of the school district.

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL INVITATION TO BID

LANDSCAPE SERVICES

July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2028

MANDATORY SITE VISIT

Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 9AM

Bids for Landscape Services will be accepted until 1:00 PM on Thursday, April 9, 2026 at the Business Office, SAU 301, Prospect Mountain High School, 242 Suncook Valley Road, Alton, NH, 03809, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid specifications can be obtained from Heidi Duford, Business Administrator at hduford@pmsau.org or 603-875-3800 ext 2158. Questions can be answered by calling or emailing the Facilities Director, Kevin Evans, at 603-875-3800 ext 2031 or kevans@pmsau.org.

Bids will be accepted only if sealed and clearly marked:

BIDS FOR: "Prospect Mountain Landscape Services" Attn: Heidi Duford, SAU Business Office, Prospect Mountain High School, 242 Suncook Valley Road, Alton, NH 03809

DUE DATE: 1:00 PM on Thursday, April 9, 2026

The School Board reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, to accept any informality in a bid or to accept a bid which it deems to be in the best interest of the school district.

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

7:00 PM at NEW DURHAM TOWN HALL & ZOOM
GMR Holdings, LLC

You are hereby notified that a hybrid Public Hearing will be held in person and over Zoom by the New Durham Planning Board on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 7:00 pm in the New Durham Town Hall. The hearing is regarding construction and operation of a wireless telecommunications service facility within the Residential, Agricultural, Recreational Zoning District submitted by Brian S. Grossman, Esquire, of Strang, Scott & Giroux, on behalf of GMR Holdings of NH LLC, d/b/a Green Mountain Communications for property at Map 209, Lot 034, 320 Kings Highway, New Durham, New Hampshire.

The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review during normal business hours. If you have any questions on Zoom meeting, please contact the Land Use Administrative Assistant at ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.gov or the Planning Board.

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

7:00 PM at NEW DURHAM TOWN HALL
David Bickford

You are, hereby, notified that a hybrid Public Hearing will be held in person and over Zoom by the New Durham Planning Board on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 7:00 pm. The hearing is regarding a Subdivision within the Residential, Agricultural, Recreational Zoning District submitted by Paul F. Zuzgo, LLS, of Prospect Mountain Survey on behalf of David Bickford for property at Map 253, Lot 023, Old Bay Road, New Durham, New Hampshire.

The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review during normal business hours. If you have any questions on Zoom meeting, please contact the Land Use Assistant at ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.gov or the Planning Board.

Songwriter Round-Up show lineup set for March 26

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

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

Remarking on the success of the series, Manley reaffirms the valued partnership the Winery has developed with Katie Dobbins Music, expressing, "Working alongside Katie Dobbins and her Songwriter Round-Up Series has been an absolute delight. Katie brings an engaging presence to the



stage, effortlessly connecting with our audiences and showcasing incredible talent with each performance."

The next Songwriter Round-Up show takes place on Thursday, March 26, featuring the Lakes Region's own Katie Dobbins, a singer-songwriter who delivers heart-felt lyrics with beautiful vocal tones wrapped in guitar and piano melodies; Carrie Welling, a singer-songwriter based in Nashville with honest lyrics delivered by her bold, sultry vocals and supported by Americana pop melodies; and Olivia Conway, a young aspiring country singer and songwriter from New Hampshire with a passion for music and connecting to audiences through her songs.

All of these artists bring their own unique life-lyrics, melodies, and styles to the stage. This will be an evening of great original music and dynamic entertainment

that you won't want to miss. Learn more about each of these artists on the Hermit Woods Winery website.

A complimentary wine tasting will begin at 5:30

p.m., the Loft opens at 6 p.m. for seating & dinner orders, and music starts at 7 p.m. Patrons can further enhance their evening by selecting from a menu of tasty

items available from onsite Chef Eric Huckins. Tickets can be purchased in advance at hermitwoodswinery.com/the-loft or in-person at the Winery.

MVSB names SBA Leading Rural Lender of the Year

MEREDITH — Meredith Village Savings Bank (MVSB) was named Leading Rural Lender of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) New Hampshire District Office, recognizing the Bank's commitment to expanding access to capital for small businesses in communities across New Hampshire.

The award highlights MVSB's leadership in SBA 7(a) lending and its focus on supporting entrepreneurs in areas where financing options can be more limited. In the past year, 92% of MVSB's SBA lending supported businesses located in rural communities, reinforcing the Bank's mission to strengthen local economies and help businesses grow.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our communities, but for those in rural areas, getting access to financing isn't always easy," said Dan Osetek, Senior Vice President and Senior Commercial Loan Officer at Meredith Village Savings Bank. "Being named the SBA's Leading Rural Lender of the Year really reflects our team's commitment to support local business owners. We're proud to work with entrepreneurs who are creating jobs, reinvesting locally, and helping keep New Hampshire's rural communities strong."

MVSB leadership and



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Peter A. Steele, SBA New England Regional Administrator, Katelyn LaBonte, MVSB Senior Credit Analyst, Tina Simpson, MVSB VP Commercial Loan Officer, Tate Miller, MVSB Commercial Loan Officer, Dan Osetek, MVSB SVP Senior Commercial Lending Officer, Lori Cote, MVSB VP Commercial Loan Officer, and Amy Bassett, SBA NH District Director.

members of the Commercial Lending team accepted the award during the SBA's Lender Appreciation Ceremony at the historic Millyard Museum in Manchester on March 2.

MVSB's Commercial Lending team partners with businesses throughout the Lakes Region, Seacoast and Mount Washington Valley, helping them start, expand and adapt through every stage of growth. Combining local expertise, SBA programs, and advanced technology, the Bank delivers a modern lending experience that supports long-term economic vitality in New Hampshire.

The U.S. Small Business

Administration (SBA) helps small business owners and entrepreneurs pursue the American dream. The SBA's 7(a) Loan Program is its primary program for providing financial assistance to small businesses and offers government guarantees on loans of up to \$5 million. Learn more about the SBA New Hampshire District at sba.gov/district/new-hampshire.

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

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

Audubon announces program on rodent control and wildlife



COURTESY PHOTO

A deer mouse.

MOULTONBOROUGH — On Thursday, April 2 at 7 p.m. at the Loon Center in Moultonborough, the Lakes Region Chapter of the New Hampshire Audubon Society will present a program called "What's All the Fuss About Rodent Control and New Hampshire's Wildlife?" by Carol Foss.

Learn why some rodent poisons are killing New Hampshire wildlife and pets, and strategies to reduce secondary poisoning. In recent years, shocking numbers of raptors, foxes, coyotes, and other predators have been sickened or killed after preying on

rodents poisoned with rodenticides. Public and private property owners and managers need to use a non-poison, integrated pest management approach to rodent control and protect New Hampshire's native predators.

Carol Foss, Ph.D is Senior Advisor for Science and Policy for the New Hampshire Audubon Society.

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 Rte. 109 turn on to Lee Road and turn left on Lee's Mill Road.



CASTLE in the CLOUDS

586 Ossipee Park Road • Moultonborough, NH 03254
603-476-5900 • Castleintheclouds.org

JOB FAIR

March 28th from 1pm to 3pm

Year-Round Positions Available:
Director of Advancement • Line Cook • Sous Chef

Seasonal Positions Available:
Housekeeper • Data Collection Associate
Museum Interpreter • Weddings & Events Coordinator
Weddings & Events Assistant • Events Security Associate
Maintenance Assistant • Café in the Clouds Attendant
Café in the Clouds Manager • Front of House Attendant
Dishwasher • Busser/Food Runner
Trolley Driver
Visitor Services

Click on QR code for job descriptions and to apply.



In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, this 5K benefits Lakes Region Mental Health Center.

2nd Annual



Lakes Region 5K for Mental Health

May 31st, 2026
Race: 8:30am
Kids Fun Run: 8:00am

Tanger
TILTON

www.lrmhc.org
to register or sponsor



Register Here!

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