

Gilford Steamer

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

GILFORD, N.H.

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FREE

Community action achieves another milestone

NEW DURHAM — The Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Committee offers its thanks to the community for helping us reach this milestone! Your generous support has brought the project to a pivotal stage! We are excited to unveil the formal conceptual schematics created by the award-winning architectural firm Christopher P Williams Architects.

During a recent Select Board meeting, Norman E. Larson, AIA, LEED AP, and Jason Moore, AIA, NCARB, from Christo-



COURTESY

Pictured: Back Row, left to right — Jason Moore and Norman E. Larson of Christopher P Williams Architects, LLC, ZBF Committee members Scott Drummy and Christine Evans. Front row, left to right: ZBF Committee member Sherry Cullimore, Select Board members Dot Veisel and Rudy Rosiello. Schematics of the Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Committee, proudly presented for the formal conceptual design Project. Norman stated,

“that aided by volumes of photographs, data, and research compiled over the years and provided by the committee,” they were able to understand the Committee’s objectives for the venue. These schematics will serve as a resource for the organization when seeking “budgetary quotes” to estimate the project’s completion costs.

The schematics provide visual views of the project from both exterior and interior perspectives, along with dimensional layouts for the reassembly of these historic buildings and the construction of new buildings.

The Committee wishes to thank Norman and Jason for turning the Committee’s vision of reassembling and constructing the SEE **FARMSTEAD**, PAGE **A11**

Resist cabin fever at New Durham’s annual Winter Carnival

BY CATHY ALLYN
Contributing Writer

NEW DURHAM — Resist cabin fever! It’s time to gather your winter gear, your fishing gear, and get it in gear for the sixth annual Winter Carnival on Saturday, Feb. 28, sponsored by the New Durham Parks and Recreation Department.

Recreation Director Celeste Chasse has shoveled together a flurry of frosty fun, featuring old favorites and new nippy delights at the Farmington Fish and Game Club on Old Bay Road.

The ice fishing derby is the draw for many, of course; Chasse calls it the public’s most popular activity of the day.

“They like the prizes,” she said.

She talked about hearing a lot of good-natured ribbing among registrants.

“They joke with each other about who will get there the earliest for the best spot.”

For those who did not register online, sign-ups open at 6:30 a.m. Look forward to some ice breaking activities when the party gets started at 7:00 a.m. Without any thermal springs in sight, fisherfolk will be out there in their long johns until the contest ends at 2 p.m.

Ice fishing is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to activities. You’ll have the chance to slip some bills into your wallet with an entry in the Poker Run On the Ice. A five-dollar buy-in gets you a card every hour from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., and the best hand wins 50 per cent of the pot. Adults only, please.

“The snow doesn’t cooperate every year,” Chasse said, “but if it does, we’ll have a snow sculpture contest.” Registration starts at 11 a.m. and then competitors can get started with their hogamadogs - the enormous ball shape formed by rolling a snowball across soft snow – that will serve as the base for their artistic carvings.

The fan favorite remote car races are back for the third year because “the kids love it.” Bring your own car for races on the ice track at 11 a.m.

What’s winter without chili? Or soup? The beloved cook-off will be back this year to warm up attendees. Chasse asks that participants drop off a full crockpot of their tasty chili and soup at the clubhouse between 11 and 11:30 a.m. Those who are sampling should prepare to eat, eat, eat from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Prices are \$3 to taste/judge chili or soup, and only \$5 to taste/judge both. It will be \$2 for a bowl add-on. Chasse said that payment is in cold cash only.

Not wanting to deny Jack Frost a summer-time treat, Chasse will be serving up ice cream. “This is the second year for our ice cream social,” she said. Patrons can bite back against the biting cold by sinking their teeth into the frozen confection after the ice fishing is wrapped up and all prizes for the events have been announced and awarded at 2 p.m. Hot fudge will be the warmest thing offered.

Chasse likes to switch up activities so she’s added several different

SEE **WINTER CARNIVAL**, PAGE **A11**

Barnstead officer honored for service to local children

BARNSTEAD — In a ceremony held on Feb. 21 at Prospect Mountain High School, Patrol Officer Nicholas Ciampa of the Barnstead Police Department was honored with a Volunteer Appreciation Award for his commitment to fostering literacy and a love of reading among local children. The award was presented by Library Director Dannielle Hinton, recognizing Officer Ciampa’s dedicated efforts in volunteering at the Oscar Foss Memorial Library.

The presentation of the Volunteer Appreciation Certificate was a testament



to the Barnstead Police Department’s commitment to community engagement through innovative polic-

ing strategies. The department actively encourages its officers to participate in community programs, aligning with its community policing initiatives that aim to build trust and transparency between law enforcement and residents.

The Barnstead Police Department views programs like these as essential to fostering positive relationships within the community. By engaging with residents outside of traditional law enforcement roles, officers build rapport and trust, contributing to the overall safety and well-being of children and families in Barnstead.

Gilford boys survive upset bid from Prospect Mountain Golden Eagles beat Stevens to earn Final Four berth

BY JOE SOUZA
Contributing Writer

GILFORD — After dropping a 45-point contest to area rival Gilford in the regular season, the Prospect Mountain boys’ basketball team had to come up with a way to slow down the Golden Eagles when the two met in the opening round of the NHIAA Division III tournament.

And the 13th seed nearly pulled it off.

In a battle from the start, number four Gilford responded to the challenge in time to advance. Down 32-30 late in the third quarter, the Golden Eagles closed the game with a 17-3 run to pull out a 47-35 victory here. Senior captain Mark Uicker led the charge with 15 points, including a big three-pointer to start the fourth quarter.

“You never apologize for winning,” Gilford coach Rick Acquilano said after his team moved to



JOE SOUZA

Prospect Mountain guard Vinnie Tilton (12) goes to the bucket with Gilford’s Ryan Folan (33) and Mark Uicker, left, closing in on him in the lane during the NHIAA Division III boys’ basketball tournament first round contest.

16-3 on the season. “I think they did a great job executing their game plan, but we executed well as well when we needed to so give our kids credit as well.

“Sometimes you need to get pushed into a cor-

ner before you come back fighting,” added the veteran coach. “We did that with one stop and one make at a time.”

Prospect Mountain (7-12) came in with a plan to stall and came a quarter

plus short of pulling off a major upset.

“We wanted to play stall ball,” Prospect Mountain coach Tyler Somers said. “We wanted to work 30 to 40 seconds off the clock, SEE **BOYS HOOPS**, PAGE **A6**

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Full Moon Snowshoe Hike

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a Full Moon Snowshoe Hike on Tuesday, March 3 at 7 p.m. at Morse Preserve/Pine Mountain, located on Avery Hill Road, off Alton Mountain Road. Moderate level, uphill and downhill hike, approximately 60-90 minutes- depending on trails chosen. The moon should be bright enough to light the way but an extra headlamp or flashlight is helpful for each person. Register by Feb. 27. Off-road parking is available at the Mike Burke parking lot. Directions: take Route 11 into Alton Bay, turn on to Rand Hill Road.

After three quarters of a mile on Rand Hill Road, take a left onto Alton Mountain Road. After approximately two miles, take a left onto Avery Hill Road. The trail head is located about 500 feet on the left after passing the Mike Burk Trail System. For more information and/or to register, contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Lean Into Edible Gardening — Baby Steps to Growing Your Own Food

Alton Parks and Recreation and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a Lean into Edible Gardening class on Wednesday, March 11 from 6:30-8 p.m.

at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room, \$20per person. Join Lisa Hynes, Gardenary Certified Consultant and Kitchen Garden Coach for an introduction to the different ways to incorporate vegetables, herbs, flowers and fruit into new and existing flower and vegetable gardens. Learn about companion planting, herb gardens, edible flowers, ornamental vegetables and receive recommendations for sourcing plants, containers, soil, seeds, etc. Register at the Parks and Recreation Department by March 5. For more information, contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or call 603-875-0109.

Guided Meditation

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring Guided Meditation with Karen Kharitonov on Thursdays, March 5 and March 19, from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. Meditation is helpful for reducing stress and slowing our bodies down to breathe. The program is free, donations accepted to benefit the food pantry. For more information, contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

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 bet-

ter 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 Commu-

nity Center from 6-8 p.m. The program is free for ages 18 and older. 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.

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

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a trip with Collette Tours to Scotland, Wales and England Oct. 25-Nov. 3. There is also an option for a three-night Paris post tour extension. The trip highlights include Edinburgh Castle; York Minster; Chester; Conwy Castle; Stratford-upon-Avon; Traditional Afternoon Tea; London and much more. Includes airfare, 12 meals, hotels and transportation to and from Alton. This is a great way to travel solo or with friends. A knowledgeable guide leads the entire trip. An information session will be held March 23 at 11 a.m. at the Gilman Library. RSVP to attend the session at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events

Feb. 26 – March 5

- | | |
|---|--|
| Thursday, Feb. 26
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.
French, 3-4 p.m. | Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Advanced Conversation-al German, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m. |
| Friday, Feb. 27
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon
The Wintering Body: A Chair Yoga Journey, 10-11 a.m.
Hand & Foot, noon to 2:30 p.m.
Movie Showing: Bad Guys 2, 1-3 p.m.
Ready for another Bad Guys adventure? Come enjoy light refreshments and a lot of giggles with family and friends! | Saturday, Feb. 28
Beginner Line Dancing, 10:15-11:15 a.m. |
| Monday, March 2
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 9-10 a.m.
Baby Storytime, 10:30 a.m.
Tai Chi, 10:15-11 a.m.
Bits & Bytes, 11 a.m.-noon
This month's session will focus on customizing and making your email | |

work for you.
Mahjong, noon to 3 p.m.
Writing Wizards, 4-5 p.m.
Mystery Book Group: Dirt Creek, 5-6 p.m.
Join us for this month's mystery book group! Betty Tidd will lead the discussion of "Dirt Creek" by Hayley Scrivenor. Copies of the book will be available at the circulation desk.

Tuesday, March 3
Feel Good Fitness with Dottie, 9-10 a.m.
Senior Sculpt, 10-11 a.m.
Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Jewelry Ring Tray, 11 a.m.-noon
Create a charming DIY jewelry ring tray by combining a clay base with soft fabric lining. Sign-up required.
Homeschool Group, noon to 1:30 p.m.
Death Cafe, 1-2 p.m.
Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Senior Stretch Yogaaah!, 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, March 5
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.
Living With Grief, 10-11 a.m.
French, 4-5 p.m.
Discover Greenland, 4-5 p.m.
Come join us for an evening of spectacular images, amazing facts and an introduction to the Inuit people who live on the largest island in the world – Greenland!

Laura Ball named to Kennesaw State's Fall President's List

KENNESAW, Ga. — Laura Ball of Laconia has been named to the Kennesaw State University Fall 2025 President's List. Majoring in Geospatial Sciences, Ball is among more than 6,900 undergraduate students recognized on the Fall 2025 President's List. To qualify, students must achieve a term grade point average of 4.0 while

completing a minimum of nine credit hours. A leader in innovative teaching and learning, Kennesaw State University offers undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degrees to its more than 51,000 students. Kennesaw State is a member of the University System of Georgia with 11 academic colleges. The university's vibrant campus

culture, diverse population, strong global ties, and entrepreneurial spirit draw students from throughout the country and the world. Kennesaw State is a Carnegie-designated doctoral research institution (R2), placing it among an elite group of only 8 percent of U.S. colleges and universities with an R1 or R2 status. For more information, visit kennesaw.edu.

Tilley races to second in Hanover

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor
HANOVER — The Gilford Nordic ski team headed to Oak Hill in Hanover for a race on Wednesday, Feb. 18. The Skiathlon format started with a 2.5K classic leg than the athletes

change skis for 2.5K skate leg. Maria Tilley finished second in the girls' race, crossing with a time of 15:17. Alissa O'Brien finished with a time of 23:08 for 67th place overall. In the boys' race, Gun-

nar Marvel was 47th overall in a time of 17:06 and Oskar Karlsson finished in 50th place overall in 17:38. *Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.*

Local residents attend Saint Anselm College's Blessing of the Hands ceremony

MANCHESTER — Ella Smith of Center Barnstead was celebrated ahead of their clinical experience at Saint Anselm College's annual and treasured Blessing of the Hands ceremony. The Blessing of the Hands ceremony is a special tradition and major milestone for second-year nursing students at Saint Anselm. Family, friends, and faculty gather in the college's Abbey Church to support nursing

students as they prepare to enter a clinical environment for the first time. The ceremony marks the beginning of their clinical practice, a halfway point to pinning, and a step towards an impactful future in healthcare. Members of the monastery preside over the blessing and present each student the medal of Saint Raphael, patron saint of nurses. Founded in 1889, Saint Anselm College is a nation-

ally-ranked four-year liberal arts college providing a 21st century education in the Catholic, Benedictine tradition. Located in the greater Boston region in southern New Hampshire, Saint Anselm is well known for its strong liberal arts curriculum, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, commitment to inclusiveness, a highly successful nursing program, and a legacy of community service.

Gilford Public Library Top Ten requests (plus two)

1. "Cross and Sampson" by James Patterson
2. "Stolen in Death" by J.D. Robb
3. "Jigsaw" by Jonathan Kellerman
4. "The Invisible Woman" by James Patterson
5. "My Friends" by Fredrik Backman
6. "Private Rome" by James Patterson
7. "Return of the Spider" by James Patterson
8. "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon
9. "Pendergast: The Beginning" by Douglas J. Preston
10. "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi
11. "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans
12. "Buckeye" by Patrick Ryan

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Woody is equal parts sweet and spunky. One minute he's gentle and affectionate, the next he's showing off his zoomies and expressive eyebrows like he's starring in his own cartoon. His tall, floppy ears only add to the comedy.

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his recall command daily. With a low to medium energy level, he's the definition of mellow and laid-back. Duke keeps his kennel tidy and shows his smart, curious personality through his gentle and playful nature. He's cuddly, independent, and loves bouncing around while playing. On a slow, relaxed walk, Duke is the perfect companion, staying right by your side. If you're looking for a friendly and affectionate dog who thrives in a calm environment, Duke is ready to fill your life with love.

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Historic day for US cross-country skiers

Vermont's Ben Ogden wins his second medal of the Olympics



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Skiers take off from the start of the sprint relay at the Tesero Cross Country Stadium on Wednesday, Feb. 18.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Cross-country skiing competition at the Milan-Cortina Winter Olympics took place at the Tesero Cross Country Stadium.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

TESERO, Italy — It was a historic day for the US cross-country skiing team at the Tesero Cross Coun-

try Stadium on Wednesday, Feb. 18.

The US team of Vermont's Ben Ogden and Gus Schumacher finished with the silver medal, Team

USA's first ever medal for the men in the cross-country team sprint freestyle event.

Ogden and Schumacher battled through a tight pack in the early exchanges,

keeping close to the leaders. Ogden's 3:14.3 first leg set a strong pace, and Schumacher maintained it, giving the team a cumulative 6:28.6. As the race progressed, Og-

den's third leg moved the team up the standings, and Schumacher's powerful anchor of 2:43.25 brought the final total to 18:30.35, earning them second place overall.

The medal marked Ogden's second medal of the Milan-Cortina Olympics, making him the most decorated cross-country ski athlete in Team USA history. Team USA men had only won one cross-country skiing medal prior to the Milan-Cortina Olympics.

"It's pretty crazy. It's huge," Ogden said. "Every good result, be it an Olympic medal or a podium at the World Cup or junior worlds or whatever, gives you and the whole team a boost, because we all train together and race together.

"The others know that when we have success they can have success, and I think it's just going to snowball, which is going to be awesome," he continued.

"The whole of the Olympics have been a development in my mental state, believing in myself, bouncing back from things that could shake me a little bit, and just keep going forward, keep fighting," Schumacher said. "Today, my issue was that I was pretty nervous in the morning. To be able to get out there and forget about it, race instinctually and just be ready to go hard and give it everything I've got is something I'm proud of in terms of development."

And Schumacher had nothing but praise for his teammate's historic Olympic Games

"It wasn't a fluke that Ben got a medal," Schumacher said. "You saw him race every heat just like crazy and that's been going on all season."

Ogden and Schumacher placed first in the qualifying rounds of the men's cross-country team sprint event to secure a place in the finals. Ogden completed the red course in 2:52.91, placing fourth in the heat, while Schumacher finished the blue course in 2:52.81, the third best time in the heat, for a combined time of 5:45.72. This was the first time in Olympic history that any U.S. man or men's team has led a phase of cross-country skiing competition.

Prior to the men's competition, the US women took to the course, with arguably the best American cross-country skier ever, Jessie Diggins teaming with Julia Kern.

Diggins and Kern bounced between second and fifth through the first five exchanges and were just 2.3 seconds off the lead after the third exchange. Diggins' first two legs were the second best behind eventual gold medalist Sweden, but the final two legs saw the Americans fall 11.54 seconds back to finish fifth.

The duo finished seventh in the qualifying round to secure a place in the finals. Diggins completed the red course in 3:17.48, the second best time in the heat, while Kern finished the blue course in 3:31.95, placing 26th, for a combined time of 6:49.43. The Americans were 19.49 seconds behind Sweden, which led the field.

Diggins and Kikkan Randall won this event in PyeongChang in 2018, the first-ever American medal in the event.

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

Jack Hughes nets overtime winner as US men's hockey wins gold

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

MILAN, Italy — Last time it was a miracle. This time, it may have been a bit more expected.

The US men's ice hockey team battled its way through the Olympic tournament before meeting up with rival Canada in the gold medal round on Sunday, Feb. 22.

The Canadians gave the US men everything they could handle before Team USA captured its first Olympic men's hockey gold since the Miracle on Ice team in the 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid, N.Y.

The match started well for Team USA when Matt Boldy took a pass from Auston Matthews in the neutral zone and charged down the ice. He split two Canadian defenders and deftly slipped the puck past goalkeeper Jordan Binnington's stick to give Team USA an early 1-0 six minutes into the contest.

Canada mounted tremendous offensive pressure throughout the second period, testing Team USA goalkeeper Connor Hellebuyck multiple times. They finally broke through for the equalizer when Cale Makar found the net from the right wing 1:45 before the second intermission.

The Canadians continued to pressure Hellebuyck at the start of the third period, sending in 10 shots in the first five minutes. Hellebuyck was able to withstand the onslaught, leading to a 1-1 score at the end of regulation.

The game advanced to the sudden-death overtime, where it took Team USA only 1:41 to close it out. Jack Hughes took a pass from Zach Werenski and rifled it under Binnington's pads from the left side, giving Team USA the win.

"It doesn't matter about the goal. Just an unbelievable team, unbelievable team win," Hughes said. "And we're just so proud



JOSHUA SPAULDING

The ice is littered with all manner of hockey equipment as Team USA celebrates the gold medal in Milan on Sunday.

to be American and win. We're so proud to win for our country, and you know, just win for the USA Hockey brotherhood.

"The best experiences I have are playing for my country, playing to break the golden drought with this group of guys and for us to win gold here at the Olympics, just an unbelievable moment," he added. "Listen, they probably outplayed us a little bit tonight. Our goalie stood on his head though, and then overtime we both have skilled players, so anything can happen."

"I'm proud of the resilience. I'm proud of how we handle adversity, and just how that belief never wavered and never wavered to the death," said Brady Tkachuk. "I knew that was a belief that we had, but for it to be reality, this is an insane feeling."

This was the eighth meeting between Team USA and Canada in the Olympic gold medal game. The only other time Team USA won was at the Olympic Winter Games Squaw Valley 1960.

It is the third time Team USA has won the Olympic gold medal in men's ice

hockey. The other two were in 1960 and Lake Placid 1980.

Team USA's medal count in men's hockey now stands at three gold, eight silver, and one bronze.

Semifinals

Team USA advanced to the men's ice hockey gold medal game with a 6-2 victory over Slovakia in semifinal action Friday night at the Milano Santagiulia Ice Hockey Arena.

Dylan Larkin connected on a lightning strike goal at 4:19 that ticked off Samuel Hlavaj's stick, giving the US the early advantage. Tage Thompson scored a power play goal with 41 seconds left in the period, taking a feed from Jack Eichel on the left side and one-timing it off Hlavaj's shoulder and into the net. That made give Team USA a 2-0 lead at the first intermission.

The US broke the game open in the second period when Jack Hughes and Eichel scored back-to-back goals within 19 seconds of each other, making the score 4-0 at the 32:33 mark. That prompted Slovakia head coach Vladimir Orszagh

to bench Hlavaj in favor of Stanislav Skorvanek. It took less than six minutes for Skorvanek to surrender a goal, as Hughes picked up his second of the period at 38:24.

Slovakia finally got on the scoreboard at 44:55 when Juraj Slafkovsky caught Hellebuyck flat-footed and slipped it past him into the lower right corner for a 5-1 score. Neither team let up in their intensity, as Brady Tkachuk scored on a breakaway with nine minutes remaining and Pavol Regenda answered at 53:17 to trim the margin back to 6-2.

Zach Werenski led all scorers with three points from three assists. Jack Hughes earned two points with his two goals, while Thompson, Eichel and Brady Tkachuk each had two points from a goal and an assist.

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

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CATHY ALLYN — COURTESY

At the recent Candidates' Night, New Durham Moderator Linda Callaway, right, explained the opportunity to get involved in the town as a write-in candidate for committees that have vacancies. She cited the Cemetery Trustees and the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Contested races on the ballot this year are for the Select Board, Trustees of the Trust Funds, Moderator, and Budget Committee. Voting is Tuesday, March 10 at the New Durham School from 7 a.m. -7 p.m.



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Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026

The quiet strength of volunteer boards

In every one of our towns, from Alton Bay to Barnstead, Gilman-ton to Gilford, there is a meeting happening somewhere this week.

A select board reviewing contracts. A budget committee scruti-nizing line items. A conservation commission weighing the impact of a proposal near wetlands. A zoning board hearing an appeal from a neighbor who believes something is not quite right.

Most of these meetings draw small audiences. A handful of resi-dents. A department head. Perhaps an applicant and an abutter.

And yet, the decisions made in those modest rooms shape daily life more than many of us realize.

Property taxes. Road maintenance. School appropriations. Public safety funding. Land use standards. Recreation programs. Library budgets. All of it begins with citizens who agreed to serve.

In small towns, government is not distant. It is your neighbor across the street. It is the parent who coached youth sports. It is the retiree who now spends Tuesday nights reviewing spreadsheets instead of relaxing at home.

These volunteers are not professional politicians. They are mechan-ics, business owners, teachers, contractors, nurses, farmers and retirees. They bring practical experience to the table, not press conferences.

That is both the beauty and the challenge of local governance.

Budgets are tight. State aid fluctuates. Costs for fuel, equipment and insurance continue to rise. Residents understandably want stable tax bills. Departments understandably want the resources to do their jobs safely and effectively.

There is no magic solution. There is only arithmetic.

Every winter, budget season forces uncomfortable trade-offs. Is it time to replace aging equipment? Can a position remain vacant another year? Should capital improvements be delayed? How much can taxpayers reasonably absorb?

The work is painstaking. It requires patience, attention to detail and, above all, a willingness to listen.

Public frustration can surface easily. It is tempting to assume that decisions are simple or that solutions are obvious. From the outside, they often appear that way.

Inside the meeting room, however, the picture is more complex.

Line items represent real services. A reduction here affects re-sponse times. A delay there affects maintenance schedules. A cut somewhere else affects programming for children or seniors.

Reasonable people can disagree. They often do.

What matters is not unanimous agreement, but a shared com-mitment to the town's long-term stability. That stability depends on steady hands rather than dramatic gestures.

We are fortunate in this region to have residents who continue to step forward. Filing periods come and go. Names appear on ballots. Some run unopposed. Some face competition. All take on responsibility.

It is easy to overlook this quiet civic machinery because it func-tions without fanfare. Roads get plowed. Schools open on time. Per-mits are processed. Fire trucks roll when needed.

That reliability is not automatic. It is built on hours of unpaid service.

This is not a call for blind praise. Oversight and accountability are essential. Residents should ask questions. They should read meeting minutes. They should attend hearings when issues matter to them.

But they should also recognize the scale of what these boards man-age with limited resources.

Small-town government does not run on ideology. It runs on com-mitment.

The next time you pass Town Hall with lights on after dark, con-sider who is inside and why. Chances are it is someone who lives near-by, serving not for recognition, but because they believe the town is worth the effort.

That quiet strength is something we should never take for granted.



COURTESY

Kingswood Regional High School's Knights Against Hunger are grateful for the community's support of this year's Empty Bowls fundraiser, held Valentine's Day weekend.

Letters to the Editor

We need to work together to ensure responsibility to the taxpayer

To the Editor:

My name is Ken Ross-Raymond, and I am asking new Durham voters for the privilege to serve as one of your selectmen.

My wife, Anne, and I came to New Durham about five and a half years ago. We moved here from Salisbury to be closer to children and grandchildren. We were very involved in town government in Salisbury for many years. Anne served as a Planning Board member for 15 years. I served as a Selectman for 16 years and as the ex-officio member of the Budget Committee for 10 years.

I am a current member of the CIP committee, and served as a Budget Committee member for one year. I also served on the police chief interview committee when Chief Millar was interviewed and hired by the Board of Selectmen. In the past year, I have attended most of the BOS meetings as well as most of the Budget Committee meetings.

Besides experience, I would bring a strong desire to

move the town in a more positive direction. Working with other board members I would advocate for more transpar-ency. There have been far too many non-public meetings. I would advocate for more public input in the decision mak-ing process. This is your town! You should have a say in how you would like it to look! I would support employees and departments with respect and the freedom to do the jobs they were hired to do. For the taxpayer, we must be responsible with the money that they entrust us with and treat it as though it was just that, their money!

I've suggested a few times now that it will be a great day when every member of every board and committee will work together to ensure that all employees and depart-ments have what they need to operate in a manner that is most responsible to the taxpayer. Let's make that our goal. Thank you.

Ken Ross-Raymond
New Durham

I have three things to offer Alton

To the Editor:

My name is Richard Shea, and I have served as a Se-lectman in Alton for the last three years. I am asking for your vote, as I am seeking a second term.

I have three things to offer Alton voters. First, my re-cord. I believe I've done a good job representing the peo-ple. I've always made my positions known and argued forcefully for what I believed was best for the town.

Secondly, I offer experience. I spent a dozen years in local government in Connecticut, with two terms as Se-lectman in a town similar in size to Alton. I learned a great deal about how local government should function, and especially the value of listening and compromise. While the location was different, the challenges were the same. Now I've served a full term in Alton. I've gained a solid understanding of our town government, how it works, and what further improvements are needed.

Third, I offer my time. While some issues are straight-forward, many require research and study. Reviewing

applicable state laws, past Alton practices and policies followed by other New Hampshire communities is often critical in determining the proper course of action on any given issue. This requires considerable time, and, as I'm fully retired, it's time I can and will invest.

I plan a second posting in the next few days, listing several issues I've supported which have benefited the town, as well as areas where more effort is needed. I can be reached by email at sheaforselectman2026@gmail.com. I would welcome any questions, comments or com-plaints. I will do my best to respond in a timely manner.

Election day is Tuesday, March 10. Our polls are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. at the Prospect Mountain High School. Absentee ballots are available at the Alton Town Hall Town Clerk's office.

I would very much appreciate your support.

Richard "Dick" Shea
Alton

Knights Against Hunger grateful for support of Empty Bowls

To the Editor:

On Friday, Feb. 13, Knights Against Hunger held its an-nual fundraiser, Empty Bowls.

Knights Against Hunger was founded in 2014 by stu-dents who wanted to fight food insecurity in their school. Since its inception, Knights Against Hunger has provided approximately 76,000 meals to students in need and has raised over \$150,000 in private donations. In addition, the program has grown to cover Kingswood Regional Middle School and provides snacks for Lakeside Academy. Knights Against Hunger is a separate organization from End 68 Hours of Hunger, but complements its excellent work in the Governor Wentworth Regional School District by serving students grades 7 through 12.

Empty Bowls 2026 was one of our best yet. We are over-whelmed by the generosity of our community. On a very cold and busy night, more than 220 community members wrapped around our school and came together to ensure that Knights Against Hunger bags continue to go out each week. We are excited that we were able to pull off a packed event that was filled with alumni, families, fellow students and community members from all over our wide-ranging district. We were touched by the many ways people gave of their artistic talents, culinary skills, time, labor, hard-earned money and most of all, presence. From our student musi-cians to our Knights Against Hunger alumni, to the busi-nesses in our community who blew our fundraising goals out of the water, to the library staff, custodians, mainte-nance, and cafeteria staff who went above and beyond to help make this event possible, we are so grateful!

This was truly a community event, and we would like to

specifically thank the following businesses and individuals for their support. We would like to recognize the follow-ing individuals and businesses that sponsored tables at our event, which contributed significantly to its success: Doran Independent Insurance, Huggins Hospital, Eastern Propane and Oil, Green Mountain Furniture, Avery Insurance, Wolfe-boro Lions Club, Northtown Builders, Keller Williams, All Saints Episcopal Church of Wolfeboro, Stephen Goggin and Kate Poteiger, Seaport Financial Planning, the Hewitt Family, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the First Congregational Church of Wolfeboro, the Krause Family, and our legacy sponsor, St. Katharine Drexel Parish. For our soups and food items, thank you to Morrissey's Front Porch, Localtopia, Butternuts, Boys Fresh Catch, Marker 21, Nolan's, Farm to Table, Kingswood Youth Center, the LRTC Culinary Arts Program, the KRHS Foods classes, the Wicked Loon, Capt. John Nicoll, Certainly Sweet, Lucas Coffee, Back Bay Boathouse, Yankee Smokehouse, John-sons, Baked by the Lake, and La Boca.

For generously donated bowls, our sincere thanks go out to the Kingswood Arts Department, Brewster Academy, Cornish Hill Pottery, The Wheel House, Sarah Burns and Sweet Fern Pottery, Studio Gallery, Michelle Gilbert and Cotton Valley Pottery, Grey Fox Pottery, Jupiter's Laby-rinth, Hampton Pottery, Skysong Pottery and Sally Corn-well, Maureen Mills, and Martina Cyr. We are humbled by and grateful to this fantastic community that supports our mission each and every day.

Sincerely,

Christina Fuller
On Behalf of Knights Against Hunger

Lakes Region Community College: Your college on the rise

To the Editor:

Community colleges play a powerful role in strengthen-ing the regions they serve. According to the American Asso-ciation of Community Colleges, areas with higher commu-nity college enrollment experience increased income levels and lower unemployment. That's especially encouraging

for our community, where Lakes Region Community Col-lege (LRCC) continues to grow. We are, without question, a college on the rise.

Recently, I had the opportunity to share some updates with local leaders and our faculty and staff. I think it's im-

SEE LETTER, PAGE A11

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 deter-mine whether a submission satisfies our require-ments and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

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LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Life

I was working the other day, and a nice young woman walked in with her two young kids. Surprisingly enough, she knew my name. I did a double take as my mind scrolled back in time till I realized that she was the daughter of some very old friends, and here she was with a pair of kids of her own. I still have memories of her when she was her kids' age.

Isn't that what life is about? Pretty much the only thing really worth anything, in the long run, is passing this life on, and watching what happens? I have a collection of sons. Some biological, and some a function of time invested in growing them up. I admit that I no longer interact with them as much as when they were young. I'd say that comes with growing up, I guess. One has a kid, another is thinking about it. The others are still working their way up to those kinds of decisions. We all have our choices to take.

There was a beautiful young woman who came into my life early on. She would have probably been a wonderful partner. My life would certainly have ended up totally different if I had taken that choice. My mind was totally aiming in a totally different direction back then though. She followed her own compass elsewhere and became a someone I used to know. Distant friends. Never to be seen again, most likely.

All our threads create a crazy mesh from all our various choices, all knit into this interconnected fabric of friends and families that blankets the globe, extending from eons past up through today. Each of our

individual threads weaving throughout our era like the core of a baseball.

Have you ever found an old baseball that had been hidden outside in the grass and leaves for a couple of years? It's usually disassembling. The outside threads usually go first allowing the leather wrap pieces to fall off exposing all the guts inside that unravel and fall apart.

That's kind of like life, ain't it? We spend most of our years making the best we can of things, then one day, realize that our threads are getting a little worn. Some stubbornly stay in the race while others sort of sit back and watch from the sidelines as the yarns begin to unravel. Meanwhile, everything else just keeps moving on.

I don't waste my time doing the "what if" game. Everything I did was decided at that instant, the way I wanted it to be. If I had actually thought about the consequences of what I was about to do I may have changed some of my choices. Occasionally, someone would talk some sense into me. Most of the time I didn't want to listen.

I had said many times that I would go and travel around Europe when and if the band ever broke up. So when it came time to decide between being an engineer at the world's largest computer manufacturer and backpacking around lands unknown across the sea, we all know where my compass was pointing.

Attending open mics always brings you in contact with silver haired newcomers who always wanted to play music but chose the factory. Thanks to the inter-

net, they can now learn all they need to know to play well. They missed recording songs off of jukeboxes, trying to figure out words and cords. Equipment that shocked you and actually blew up. The whole essence of what was learning to play rock 'n roll back then.

Speaking of choices,

at times, I've wondered if those who allowed themselves to be deceived by the lie that it was "no problem", ever wonder what he, she, or even they, might be like today if they had taken a different decision. We'll never know till we meet them on the other side. Doesn't that entice you to want to make

sure you'll get there to find out?

Those of you who pass after me, I hope that you have found the faith that opens that tiny little door to eternity. I pray that any clues that have been laid to prove successful as I'd love to spend that time with all of you. I'm sure that we'll find

wonderful things to do.

This life was a gift from your parents. Heaven is a gift from God, you only need to believe all his son's story.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

Notes from Windy Hollow

Favorite things

BY VIVIAN LEE DION
CONTRIBUTOR

As soon as I thought about my favorite things my brain went into overdrive and the keys clicked away. Let me start by saying I have two sons who weren't finicky or particular about their food. However, I was always making deals with my oldest son, Scott. He wasn't a big eater in fact he was sort of a bit on the skinny side. So here is how I handled his eating situation. Both sons loved singing the catchy song, "Oh, Oh, Spaghetti O's". So, when I mentioned what we were having for supper both jumped at the chance to eat their favorite meal. My youngest son, Eric, was always happy

with his servings and gobbled everything up. In fact, if there was anything left in the serving dish, Eric asked for more. Getting back to Scott, first I put a little extra in his plate and if he said he didn't want any more Spaghetti O's my bargaining ability was set in motion. I smiled, and went over to his plate and said, "Ok honey. If you can do me a favor, I'll divide your supper in two and you can eat whatever side you wish." It worked every time. He was happy, I was happy and there was his little brother Eric who was always happy with his portion and always ate everything up.

Now let's get to me about one of my favorite things.

It's hard to imagine that leftover or neglected bread is what I like best. No one in my family growing up except me enjoyed eating the pieces at the end. I hate to think of how many were thrown in the trash bag as a child before I found about how delicious they were. I've been eating them my whole life as they are special to me. The ends of a loaf of bread are commonly referred to as "heels". My routine in the morning after I brew coffee is to be the first to look in the bread bags on the counter searching for one. Even the term "heel" can mean an inconsiderate or untrustworthy person. As I learned from the internet, "Superstitions may

vary, some cultures believe that taking the end pieces of a loaf brings good luck or guarantees prosperity." Many people save them for making casseroles or take them apart for dipping in sauces. Heels can even be frozen and used at a later time. Don't throw your heels away because these flavorful pieces of bread will delight someone who likes crunchy, flavorful bits. "Whether you enjoy the ends as the perfect vessel for a sandwich or repurpose them for other culinary adventures, it's clear that these often-maligned slices can hold their own in the world of bread."

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

The sound of a snowplow at dawn

There are certain sounds that tell you exactly where you are.

A Loon call across a summer lake. The hollow thump of a screen door closing in July. And in this time of year, before the sun has even considered rising, the steady scrape and rumble of a snowplow moving

d o w n
y o u r
r o a d.

I heard it the other morning, long before

my alarm. That low diesel growl, the metallic rhythm of blade against pavement, the soft hiss as sand and salt hit the frozen surface. I lay there for a minute and listened. I did not need to look out the window. I knew what was happening.

Someone was out there making the day possible.

We do not often see the plow drivers. By the time most of us pour our first cup of coffee, the road is passable and the work is done. We back out of our driveways, maybe grumble about the ridge of snow at the end, and head off to work, to school, to wherever we are needed.

But someone was awake when we were not.

I have always thought there is something uniquely New Hampshire about that arrangement. We understand weather here. We do not panic at the first forecast. We stock up, we check the shovel, and we go about our business. And when the snow comes, we

trust that the people responsible for clearing it will do their part.

It is a quiet trust.

I have spoken to plow drivers over the years, usually in the warmer months when the urgency has faded. They do not romanticize the job. It is long hours, unpredictable sleep, constant focus. The roads they know so well in daylight look entirely different at 2 a.m. in a storm. Every mailbox, every curve, every narrow stretch between stone walls demands attention.

Yet they show up.

There is a discipline to that kind of work. You cannot decide you are not in the mood for it. You cannot put it off until morning. Snow has its own schedule, and so do the people who move it.

When I hear that first pass down our road, I feel a kind of reassurance. Not because I enjoy being woken up early, but because it signals that the machinery of community is in motion. The town crews are out. The contractors are out. Neighbors are already brushing off trucks and

warming up engines.

Before long, the sound shifts. A second pass, smoothing what the first one cleared. Then the distant whine of a snowblower somewhere up the street. A shovel scraping a walkway. The thud of snow sliding off a roof.

By mid-morning, the world looks calm again, as if it all happened effortlessly. Fresh banks line the roads. Driveways are carved out like neat little corridors. Life resumes.

I think about that sometimes when we talk about self-reliance. We prize it here, and rightly so. But even self-reliance has help behind it. The cleared road. The sanded hill. The unseen driver who made sure you could get where you needed to go.

We may not wave as the plow goes by in the dark, but we notice when it does not. And that tells you something.

The sound of a snowplow at dawn is not poetic in the traditional sense. It is loud. It rattles the windows. It interrupts sleep. But it carries with it a promise: you are not on your own.

In a place where winters still mean something, that promise matters.

LETTER

(continued from Page A4)

important to share this information with our broader community since accessible education doesn't just support students; it strengthens the entire region.

Student enrollment has increased.

Over the last four spring semesters, LRCC's unique student enrollment in credit-based programs increased 14.2 percent. LRCC serves over 2,200 learners annually across degree programs, Early College, and non-credit workforce training. Over the past five years, that represents more than 900 additional students. That is not a minor shift.

Getting students to their personal finish line is even more important. At LRCC, 75 percent of full-time students re-enroll year-to-year; a full 5 percentage points above the national average. When students persist at this level, they have the structure and support to reach their goals, even with the realities of childcare, transportation issues, and financial pressures.

We remain an affordable option.

Since 2011, CPI inflation has risen by roughly 37 percent. Over that same period, LRCC tuition increased only 6.25 percent. This reflects a commitment to keep higher education and workforce training within reach. But affordability requires stewardship. Through careful management and operational efficiencies, LRCC's total expenses are lower today than they were in 2019. While our impact grows, we

remain disciplined about cost.

More than 70 degree and certificate programs are available.

We offer more than 70 degree and certificate programs aligned with the needs of our region and state. Our most in-demand pathways include nursing, fire science, automotive technology, culinary, electrical systems, and business. Our workforce development has also expanded significantly, with 15 training programs that deliver faster entry into good jobs, stronger retention for employers, and greater stability for families.

We are proud members of our community.

LRCC is part of the region's civic and economic infrastructure. We partner with local organizations, participate in community events, and help convene employers and educators around shared challenges. When LRCC is strong, the Lakes Region is stronger. I cannot be prouder of the success of our college and our community. But we are mindful that we must address the constraints that can slow progress.

- Capacity in high-demand programs is limited. Some programs require specialized labs, equipment, clinical placements, and faculty that require investment and planning.

- Recruiting and retaining qualified faculty and trainers is increasingly competitive. We ask skilled professionals to teach in a labor market where their expertise is in high demand.
- Many students face

barriers with transportation, childcare, housing instability, and the rising cost of living. These challenges are often the difference between a student completing a credential or dropping out.

We need your help.

If you are an employer, we need your partnership through advisory engagement, internships, apprenticeships, financial support, and direct feedback about the skills you need most. Reach out to discuss how we can build the workforce pipeline together by emailing lrcinfo@lrcc.edu or calling 603-524-3207.

If you are a community leader or policymaker, we need continued investments to expand capacity and remove barriers. Supporting community colleges is one of the most direct, measurable investments for workforce readiness and economic stability.

And if you have the ability, please consider a gift that will support LRCC and its students. Visit <https://www.lrcc.edu/about/donate-to-lrcc>.

LRCC's momentum is inspiring and the data is clear. But what matters most is what that momentum represents for all of us: more residents learning new skills, more families accessing opportunities, and more employers finding the workforce they need.

I invite you all to help us continue our work and become part of our college on the rise.

Patrick Cate
President, Lakes Region
Community College
Laconia

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Golden Eagle girls punch ticket to the Final Four



JOE SOUZA

After a Campbell turnover, Gilford guard Addie Hodsdon, right, looks to break down the sideline with the Cougars' Amelia LaPlante defending in NHIAA Division III girls basketball tournament action

BY JOE SOUZA
Contributing Writer

GILFORD — The young Gilford girls basketball team turned things up on the defensive end to get things going in the postseason.

Number three Gilford completely bottled up number 14 Campbell, limiting the visitors to just nine points in the middle two quarters as the Golden Eagles pulled away for a 40-26 victory in the first round of the NHIAA Division III tournament.

"It was a gritty win by our kids," Gilford coach Scott Currier said. "We are a young team, so this was a great experience. They are freshmen or JV kids from a year ago so for a lot of these kids it was their first meaningful playoff experience.

"I just told them to enjoy the moment," added Currier. "You know not every kid gets this opportunity so enjoy it. It should be fun."

That inexperience showed at times, but once the Golden Eagles settled into the game they gradually pulled away from the Cougars (6-12).

Freshman point guard Addi Hodsdon scored the first five Gilford points, helping the hosts take a 5-3 lead. The opening quarter though would go back and forth. Kate Silver hit a short jumper and Kate Fluet converted inside, giving Campbell a 7-5 edge.

The Golden Eagles though closed the frame with a 6-0 run, getting buckets from Penny Lewis and Penny Flanders before a fastbreak bucket by Hodsdon to take an 11-7 lead after one.

It turned into a defensive struggle in the second frame. The Cougars switched to a 3-2 zone and took away the wings. Gilford picked

up its intensity in its 2-3 zone, trapping down low every time the ball went down inside as the two teams combined for eight points.

The Cougars would finally open the scoring in the quarter. Kenzie Ripley would grab a rebound of her own miss and put it back in 3:30 into the frame. Zoey Bourque made a nice move in the lane after taking a pass from Ripley would tie the game at the 3:52 mark to tie the contest at 11.

Gilford continued to struggle offensively against Campbell's zone. The Golden Eagles went up for good when Lewis tracked down a loose ball following a Campbell miss and went the distance to finish a layup for a 13-11 Gilford edge with 1:58 remaining in the first half. Hodsdon would add a couple free-throws with just over a minute remaining to take a 15-11 edge into the halftime break.

"Campbell is a much better team than people think," Currier said. "They are well coached. They made it tough to get inside, and that made it difficult for us."

The Golden Eagles found a little more success offensively in the second half, while bottling up the Campbell attack completely. Gilford would hold the Cougars to no field goals in the frame, just five free throws. Hodsdon laid one in and moments later, the freshman guard found Skye Maltais for a three-pointer to give Gilford the largest lead of the contest at 20-11.

Campbell would get free-throws from Bourque and Fluet to cut into the Gilford lead, but Hodsdon would convert a conventional three-point play to push Gilford's lead to 23-13.

Campbell would get two free throws from Bourque and one from Fluet, cutting Gilford's lead to 23-16 heading to the fourth quarter.

"I thought when we were solid and active on the defensive end, we were able to pull away," Currier pointed out.

Gilford would take command in the fourth as the host pulled away in the final eight minutes. Hodsdon netted the first bucket with a nice layup before two Maltais buck-

BOYS HOOPS

(continued from Page A1)

move the ball around. When you do that against a zone defense, the gaps get bigger and bigger. When we did that, we were able to get some great shots and layups."

It looked like the perfect plan, as the Golden Eagles struggled offensively as they pressed to answer early on.

The two teams exchanged leads in the opening minutes, though the Timber Wolves were very methodical on offense and the Golden Eagles were rushing to pick up the tempo and rushing. Trailing 6-4, the Timber Wolves closed the opening quarter with an 8-1 run to take a 12-7 lead after one. Owen Bubar started the spurt with a wide-open three and Colby Hall had a conventional three-point play.

Vinnie Tilton pushed the Prospect lead to 14-7 early in the second, but the Golden Eagles responded with a seven-point run keyed by Owen Hawkins to tie the game at 14. The Timber Wolves though stuck to their plan and gradually built a 20-14 lead, forcing Acquilano to call a timeout. It remained that way until the final 1:12 when Gilford ran off five points, capped by a Hawkins three-point play to make it 20-



JOE SOUZA

Gilford's Penny Lewis rips a rebound away from Campbell's Katie Fluet in NHIAA Division III girls basketball tournament action in Gilford.

ets pushed the Golden Eagles lead to 29-16. Gilford would push its lead to as high as 17 points (38-21) en route to the win.

"Campbell's a much better team than their record," Currier said. "We didn't see them this year, but we tried to give them as much information as possible. We wanted to give them the answers to all the questions."

And they answered them with their aggressive defense and by pushing the ball up the court offensively, the key to

Gilford's success this year.

Hodsdon poured in 21 points to power the Golden Eagles, which included a 5 of 6 performance at the free-throw line. Maltais finished with eight, five in the fourth quarter when Gilford pulled away, and Lewis netted seven points. Flanders had four to round out the score for Gilford.

Campbell struggled offensively against the aggressive Golden Eagles, with no one hitting double digits. Amelia LaPlante led the visitors

with seven, while Bourque and Fluet finished with six apiece. Ripley chipped in with five.

On Saturday, the Golden Eagles needed an extra frame to earn a spot in the final four as they outlasted number Hopkinton 45-39 in overtime.

The win sent the Golden Eagles into the Division III semifinals, where they were set to take on Monadnock after deadline on Wednesday. The Division III finals are Saturday, Feb. 28, at 1 p.m. at Keene State College.



JOE SOUZA

Prospect Mountain's Heath Dunne lines up a three-pointer over Gilford's Mark Uicker during NHIAA Division III boys' basketball tournament action.



JOE SOUZA

Gilford's Henry Sleeper (11) eyes the bucket as he collides with Prospect Mountain's Colby Whitehouse during the first round of the NHIAA Division III boys' basketball tournament in Gilford.

19 Prospect. The Timber Wolves though got a buzzer-beating three from Bryce Lounsbury to take a 23-19 lead into the half.

"I really thought we had it," Somers said. "When it was 20-14 there in the second quarter, I felt if we stayed committed to it, we could open it more because they were struggling offensively. But we missed some easy shots, and they made a little run before halftime."

Prospect stuck to the plan in the third, though the Golden Eagles were picking up the intensity on the defensive end. Uicker scored the final five points in a 7-2 Gilford spurt to give the hosts their first lead since midway through the opening quarter. It went back-and-forth until the final two-plus minutes. Ryan Flan put in an offensive rebound and Uicker knocked down one of two free throws to give

the Golden Eagles the lead for good, 33-21 heading to the fourth.

Gilford bottled up the Timber Wolves in the fourth, holding the visitors off the board for the first 3:48 of the final frame while taking care of business at the free throw line to pull away for the win. The Golden Eagles went 14 for 21 at the charity stripe overall but hit seven of eight in the final eight minutes.

"I told them to just play our game," Acquilano said. "We got a couple of defensive stops, deflections and made a couple of layups."

"Our leadership really came through tonight," continued Acquilano. "I told my two captains (Henry Sleeper and Mark Uicker) that I need your leadership right now. You need to be that rock for us right now, and they were. I thought they did a really good job keeping the team

focused. We had to not get caught up looking at the scoreboard, just focus on making the next play."

The Golden Eagles featured a balanced attack with four players scoring eight or more points. Uicker led the charge with 15. Hawkins tossed in 12, while Sleeper connected for 10 and Folan netted eight.

For the Timber Wolves, it was an experience to build on. Sophomore Colby Whitehouse led the visitors with 12 points. Classmate Colby Hall tossed in nine, while juniors Lounsbury and Tilton had six and five respectively.

"I'm really proud of my guys. They really rose to the challenge," Somers said. "I felt we were in control for like two and a half quarters. They have a lot more experience than us, but I'm proud of this group. We worked on it for two hours in practice yesterday, focusing on no quick shots and they executed it pretty well tonight."

"Overall, I'm really proud of my guys. They played hard," he added.

The Golden Eagles went on to punch their ticket to the final four, pulling away from number five Stevens for a 48-35 win on Saturday. Gilford moved on to face Kearsarge in the Division III semifinals in Bedford after deadline Tuesday. The Division III finals are Saturday, Feb. 28, at 4 p.m. at Keene State College.



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Barnes earns another Olympic gold medal

New Hampton School graduate helps Team USA women's hockey to victory



JOSHUA SPAULDING

New Hampton School graduate Cayla Barnes earned her second gold medal and third Olympic medal overall as Team USA beat Canada 2-1 in overtime last Thursday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Team USA women's hockey earned its third gold medal on Thursday, Feb. 19, at the Milan-Cortina Olympics.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Salem's Caroline Harvey earned her second Olympic medal and her first gold, helping Team USA to the gold in Milan last week.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

MILAN, Italy — The United States women's hockey team had cruised through the Olympic tournament like nothing was standing in the way of standing on top of the podium.

Rival Canada had other ideas when the two met on Thursday, Feb. 19, in the gold medal game at the Santagiulia Ice Arena in Milan.

The Canadians scored the first goal of the game in the second period, only the second goal given up by the United States in the entire Olympic tournament and the defending Olympic champions held that lead to the final few minutes, when the United States pulled their goalie and got the tying goal before winning the program's third gold medal in the three-on-three overtime by a 2-1 score.

It was the seventh meeting between Team USA and Canada, the only two teams to win Olympic gold since women's hockey was added to the Olympic program, with the women's Olympic ice hockey gold medal on the line.

It was a defender Megan Keller who provided the difference and put Team USA on the top step of the podium.

After a scoreless first 20 minutes, Canada broke through less than a minute into the second period. Working a penalty kill, they turned the tables, scoring when Kristin O'Neill finished off a shorthanded breakaway on a Laura Stacey pass.

Canada goalkeeper Ann-Renee Desbiens was stout throughout the game, as the US kept testing her and she kept answering. Down 1-0 with 2:23 left in the contest, Team USA

coach John Wroblewski opted to roll the dice and pulled his goalkeeper, Aerin Frankel. The move paid off 19 seconds later when Hilary Knight redirected Laila Edwards' blue line shot over Desbiens' glove to level the game at 1-1.

That set the stage for the three-on-three overtime. Both teams came out trading opportunities, but it was Keller who cashed in her chance at 4:07 into overtime. She took a two-line pass from Taylor Heise and angled in from the left wing with a defender on her hip. Her backhanded shot slipped past Desbiens for the goal that ended the match and was golden for Team USA.

"It's like invigorating every part of your mind, body and soul. It's the best way to describe it," coach Wroblewski said. "A sense of accomplishment through the players, that's where you feel it - watching their elation, their victory."

"It touches every part of you as a human being - to be involved in the Olympics, to see the group that you work with persevere. It's a great moment," he added. "I was just trying to make a move, take a chance. I was trying to win, not play to not lose. That's what we talked about in the locker room," Keller said of her winning goal. "We wanted to go out and take it. Heise made a great pass and I was just trying to get to the net."

For Knight, who ended her historic Olympic career as the leading scorer in Team USA history with 15 goals, there wasn't a better way to go out.

"I love this group. It's so special to be able to play at this level. I feel a lot of gratitude. It's such a magical moment and I'm just trying

to soak it all in," Knight said. "I think about all the people that helped me get here, keep us healthy at this level. It's really special. I can't wait to share this with some people."

Team USA had 33 shots on goal to Canada's 31. Keller led all scorers with two points from a goal and an assist.

The gold medal is the third for Team USA, added to those won at the Olympic Winter Games Nagano 1998 and PyeongChang 2018. This made a two-time gold medal winner and three-time medal winner out of New Hampton School graduate Cayla Barnes and gave Salem's Caroline Har-

vey a gold medal to go with the silver she won in Beijing.

Semis

The US continued the high offensive pressure it has employed throughout the tournament, outshooting Sweden by a 13-2 margin in the first period of the Olympic semifinals on Feb. 16. Barnes scored first for Team USA, blasting a long-distance shot from the right side past Sweden's goalkeeper, Ebba Svensson Traff, just 5:09 into the game.

Heise made the score 2-0 midway through the second period, taking a feed from Hannah Bilka on a

breakaway. Traff got her glove on Heise's shot but couldn't control the puck, which slipped under her arm and into the goal. Then Abbey Murphy squeezed in a shot from a narrow angle along the right goal line at 35:12.

Kendall Coyne redirected Laila Edwards' blast from the middle of the rink 58 seconds later for a 4-0 lead, prompting Sweden to swap Traff for Emma Soderberg.

It didn't take long for the US to test Soderberg, as Hayley Scamurra took a feed from Britta Curl to beat Soderberg from point-blank range at 37:59, leading to a 5-0 US lead at the second

intermission.

Sweden stepped up their offensive play as they tried to match Team USA's physicality, matching the US in shots the remainder of the game (21-21). They were unable to get the puck past Frankel, who picked up the shutout.

Murphy (one goal, one assist) and Bilka (two assists) led Team USA with two points each. After Team USA built a 13-2 advantage in shots in the first period, the two teams matched each other, 21-21, during the final two periods.

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

Shiffrin makes history in Cortina

Slalom gold comes 12 years after she first won Olympic gold

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy — Heading into Milan-Cortina, the enduring Olympic image of Mikaela Shiffrin, the winningest alpine skier of all time, just may have been her sitting on the side of the course in Beijing four years ago, collecting her thoughts after skiing out of the course in the slalom.

That image is a thing of the past now, as the Olympic image of Shiffrin will be one of celebration after she dominated the field at the Tofane Alpine Center on Wednesday, Feb. 18, to win the Olympic slalom for the second time in her career, earning her third gold medal and fourth medal overall.

With the win, Shiffrin became the oldest American woman to win an alpine skiing gold medal and in a weird plot twist, she is



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Mikaela Shiffrin talks to the media after the giant slalom just a couple of days before winning the slalom in Cortina, Italy.

also the youngest American woman to win an alpine skiing gold medal, which she

achieved as an 18-year-old in Sochi in 2014. That also marks the longest gap be-

tween Olympic gold medals in the same discipline.

Shiffrin spent her younger years in the Upper Valley of New Hampshire and attended Burke Mountain Academy just across the state line in upstate Vermont.

Shiffrin crossed the line in a combined time of 1:39.10, winning the women's slalom by 1.50 seconds, the largest margin in any Olympic alpine skiing event since 1998. Her U.S. teammates also delivered strong performances, with Paula Moltzan posting a 1:41.29, with the fastest time of the

SEE SHIFFRIN, PAGE A10



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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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March 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. (March 12). Election Day is Tuesday, March 10. The library will be closed two Saturdays in a row for the Barnstead Town Meeting (3/14) and the Barnstead School Meeting (March 21). Both meetings start at 9:00 a.m. and are held at the elementary school. These meetings are for residents to vote on important town and school matters, along with their budgets.

“Pets of OFML” 2026 desk calendars are still for sale for \$8! Proceeds from our desk calendar sales go to fund library programs. This would make a great gift for all the pet lovers in your life, and support literacy at the same time. Hurry in and get your copy today!

March is Women’s Herstory Month! Here at the library, we will have a display of books about and/or written by amazing and incredible women for you to view and check out.

The Peeps are in the diorama house! Between March 3 and March 19, enter your most creative Peeps diorama based on a book. Entries should be roughly the size of

a shoebox, all characters should be made from Peeps, and limit one entry per person or family/team. Be sure to put your age (or “adult”) and name on entries. Dioramas will be on display for public voting from March 20-March 31, and prizes will be awarded on Apr. 1.

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 4 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 Little’s 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 p.m. Classes are by donation (suggested \$8). All are welcome and encouraged to attend, regardless of ability to donate.

Read Across America Week is coming! Join us in celebrating Dr. Seuss’ Birthday at OFML during the week of March 3-7. Find your child’s favorite book, discover a new author, and spend quality time reading to your child at the library. We will also have games, activities, and crafts to do all week during library hours.

Jamming Tuesdays at OFML: 6-8 p.m. (ages 18 and older). Do you play a string instrument? Well then, dust it off and come make music with us! On the first (Mar. 3) and third (March 17) 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!

NEW On the first Wednesday of the month (March 4), 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 older) takes place on the first Wednesday of the month (March 4), from 6-7:30 p.m., in the library. This month’s book will be “Between Two Kingdoms” by Suleika Jaouad. Next month’s book will be “Paranesi” by Susanna Clarke. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

NEW Calling all Mah Jongg fans - come join us at the library! Players meet the first (March 5) and third (March 19) Thursdays of the month at 1:30 p.m. No registration required.

NEW 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, Mar. 7, 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.

On Thursday, March 12, at 6 p.m., we are holding our first Shirefest Planning Meeting of the year. 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.

On Thursday, March 19, at 6 p.m., we would be pleased if you would join us for an Edwardian/Jane Austen Murder Mystery Night full of intrigue and deception! Costumes are encouraged, and snacks will be provided. Must be 18 and older, and space is limited to ten participants, so registration is required.

Line Dancing is coming to the library! On Thursday, March 19, from 6:30-8 p.m., don your dancing shoes and join us for a fun-filled evening! We’re excited to welcome Cathy from Granite State Stomp, who will be leading a lively class open to all skill levels. Whether you’ve line danced before or are just ready to give it a try, this program is a great way to get moving and have some fun. Open to teens and adults. No partner needed—just bring your energy and get ready to stomp! Call or email to register.

Family Crafternoon is a family-focused event that happens every third Friday of the month (March 20), at 3:30 p.m. Join us this month to create spring art—no experience needed, just imagination and a willingness to have fun. We’ll provide the paint, brushes, and canvas — you bring the smiles and creativity. Dress for a little mess and a lot of memories! Perfect for kids and grown-ups of all ages.

NEW We are starting a Kids Graphic

Novel Club on Thursday, March 26, 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. Fifth grade and up. Call or email to register.

New Hampshire Fish & Game presents “Restoring Brook Trout in New Hampshire,” on Thursday, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. Learn about the natural history of the brook trout and what we can do to help preserve them in our state.

On Friday, March 27, 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 (March 27). 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!

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

Local students named to Fall Dean’s List at Saint Michael’s College

COLCHESTER, Vt. — Abigail R. Giuda of Barnstead and Izaak J. Walton of Gilmanton were named to the Dean’s List at Saint Michael’s College for the Fall 2025 semester. Students who complete at least 12 credits of classes and achieve a grade point average of at least 3.5 in a particular semester are cited on the Dean’s List for that semester.

About Saint Michael’s College
Saint Michael’s College, founded in 1904 on principles of social justice and leading lives of purpose and

consequence, is a selective, Catholic college just outside Burlington, Vermont, one of the country’s best college towns. Located between the Green Mountains and Lake Champlain, our closely connected community guarantees housing all four years and delivers an internationally respected liberal arts education, preparing students for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives. Young adults here grow intellectually, socially, and morally, learning to lead with empathy and professionalism, and to be responsible for themselves, each other, and their world.

Local residents named to Simmons University Dean’s List

BOSTON, Mass. — Hale K tk of Gilmanton and Sophia Baca of New Durham have been named to the 2025 fall semester dean’s list at Simmons University in Boston.

To qualify for dean’s

list status, undergraduate students must obtain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, based on 12 or more credit hours of work in classes using the letter grade system.

About Simmons University

Located in the heart of Boston, Simmons is a respected private university offering nearly 50 majors and programs for undergraduate women and graduate programs open to all on campus, in blended formats or entirely online, in nursing and health sciences, business, communications, social work, public health, library and information science, and more. Founded in 1899, Simmons inspires

a culture of education, connection, and action through high-impact learning with engaged faculty, an immersive community that forges lifelong networks, and career-centered programs that accelerate professional success. The result is a Simmons experience that prepares graduates to thrive as they launch and advance in their careers. For more information, please visit www.simmons.edu.

Church Service SCHEDULE

<p>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 abundant.harvestnh.org or e-mail ahfc@faith.com.</p> <p>ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER Sundays throughout the summer 10am & 7pm 875-6161.</p> <p>BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON Alton 9:30a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Ben Ruhl, www.befreechurch.net.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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 ccopp.praisegathering@gmail.com</p> <p>COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON Pastor Jared Cassidy 10am Worship service Sunday 20 Church St. Alton (603) 875-5561 www.ccoalton.com</p> <p>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</p> <p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FARMINGTON Worship Services: 10:00 AM 400 Main Street Farmington, NH 03835 www.farmingtonnhucc.org</p> <p>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;</p>	<p>Pastor Ryan Blackard</p> <p>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</p> <p>PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BARNSTEAD, N.H. on the Parade in Barnstead Sunday Morning Worship Service for all ages begins at 9:00am. Prayer Meeting- April through November at 7:00pm on Wednesday Evenings. Pastor Sandy Pierson - 483-2846</p> <p>ST. KATHARINE DREXEL 40 Hidden Springs Rd, Alton, 875-2548. Father Robert F. Cole, Pastor. Mass Saturday 4pm; Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am; Daily Mass Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 8:00am.</p> <p>ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Sunday 9:30, 50 Main St., Pittsfield Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg www.ststephenspittsfield.com</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rt. 171 at Tuftonboro Corner. Sunday services 10:30 am. Church 603-539-8058</p> <p>UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF LACONIA Sunday services and religious education 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. 172 Pleasant St. Laconia • 524 6488 • uusl.org</p> <p>MAPLE STREET CHURCH Sunday Service 11am 96 Maple Street, Center Barnstead NH 03225</p>
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Doherty helps Team USA to best biathlon relay Olympic finish ever

Fifth place finish betters sixth place results from PyeongChang

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

ANTHOLZ/ANTERSELVA, Italy — Sean Doherty was part of Team USA's biathlon 4X7.5K relay team that recorded the best Olympic finish ever in PyeongChang, South Korea in 2018, placing sixth overall.

Now, with three new teammates, he has etched his name in the Team USA biathlon record books again as they finished in fifth place at the Antholz Biathlon Arena on Tuesday, Feb. 18, to give the team its best finish ever.

Racing through steady snowfall, the Americans showed composure and resilience on both the range and the course, crossing the line 2:27.4 behind the



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Competitors take off in the biathlon 4X7.5K relay at the Antholz Biathlon Stadium last Tuesday. Kennett graduate Sean Doherty is in the second row in the middle with bib five.

key.

"Pretty good work done for me, the race stayed close and Maxime was able to be in striking distance," Doherty continued. "I have confidence the team is in good hands with their (Schommer and Wright) capable skill and we'll see what they can do."

Wright, for his part, praised Doherty for the leadership that he has provided over the last year as the team worked toward the Olympics.

"Sean is like Yoda a little bit, it's great having him on the team," Wright said. "I don't even know how many times he's raced at Antholz or in an Olympic Games, so no shortage of points from him, particularly with me and Max being a bit younger and Paul coming into the sport late."

"Sean's just a (expletive removed) legend," Wright said.

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

Taking some turns in the mountains of northern Italy



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Standing at the top of the ski slope near my hotel in northern Italy, about to make my first ever descent on foreign snow.

SPORTING CHANCE



By JOSHUA SPAULDING

I guess I'll go skiing. Those are words that Gilford alpine coach and band director Lyvie Beyrent, a college friend, uses all the time when she puts on her skis for another day on the slopes.

For me, I decided to take those words and put them into action, even half a world away.

Last Monday was a day without a lot on the schedule that was easy to get to and/or I needed to cover. One of the Chinese journalists staying in the same hotel had noted he had gone skiing at Kronplatz, a large ski area that hosts World Cup events near the Anterselva Valley. He also said he had gone skiing just up the road from the hotel at a small local hill.

Not wanting to take my chances with buses, given the luck I was having across my two weeks in the mountains, I decided on the small hill just up the road from the hotel, which would also be a much cheaper option. I originally planned on going on Saturday, but when I walked up there was a large race going on, which was taking up most of the slope, so I decid-

ed against skiing that day.

But Monday morning, it was fairly quiet and the freshly-fallen snow called out as I walked up the hill. I went into one of the most fully-stocked ski rental areas I have ever seen, particularly for a tiny little ski area with one lift and one real slope. I filled out some paperwork on a computer screen and the helpful woman outfitted me with skis, boots and poles and even had a helmet and goggles, since I didn't have either (it is a law that you have to wear a helmet skiing in Italy). The grand cost? A whole 40 euros.

I then walked upstairs to the ticket window and bought a two-hour ticket for 19 euros. I figured two hours would be about what I could handle without ski pants or gloves and I was basically right. The snow that was falling when I got there eventually stopped and I was left with a few inches of fresh powder on top of the groomed track.

The lift was essentially a t-bar, at least it worked the same way. And from the bottom it didn't seem like it was all that long. But truth be told, it was further up than I realized and once I got to the top, it took me a bit longer to get down the hill than I expected.

But man, the conditions

were fantastic. It was about as perfect as I could have asked for as the sun came out for a while and you could look up and down the valley as you made your way down the slope.

Just about the time my ticket was going to expire, a group of students showed up for ski lessons, making the line for the lift a bit longer (there were only maybe 10 people there before the group showed up), so it was basically perfect timing.

I turned in my rental gear and walked back to the hotel satisfied that I had done something I didn't think I'd ever do... Ski in the mountains of Italy. And it was pretty cool.

Joshua Spaulding is the Sports Editor for the Granite State News, Carroll County Independent, Meredith News, Gilford Steamer, Winnisquam Echo, Plymouth Record-Enterprise, Littleton Courier, Coos County Democrat and The Baysider. He can be reached at josh@salmonpress.news at 279-4516, or PO Box 729, Meredith, NH 03253.

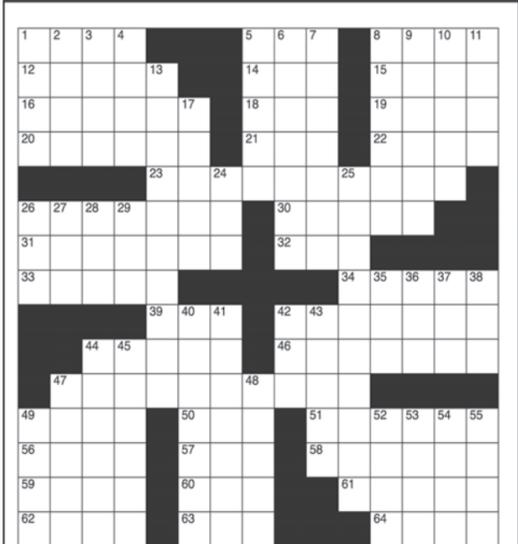
victorious French team, with Norway in second and Sweden in third. Maxime Germain delivered a flawless performance on the range, shooting a perfect 10 for 10, while Doherty, Paul Schommer and Campbell Wright used a combined eight spare rounds to keep the team firmly in contention. Overall, the U.S. posted the fifth best shooting performance of the day, a testament to their precision under pressure.

The relay (4 x 7.5 km) runs four legs with the distance based on gender (each men's leg is 3X2.5 km with prone and standing shooting stages). In each shooting stage, the competitor is allowed to use three spare rounds if needed to close their five targets. A 150-meter penalty loop is run for any unclosed targets after the eighth shot is fired. Exchanges between each leg are a tap of the shoulder from the incoming athlete to the outgoing athlete. The first team across the finish line is the winner.

"The vibe is good," said Wright in a post-race interview. "I think as a men's team, we've struggled a bit at these Olympics. So, I'm really happy that we can get fifth as a team here and that everyone can get a win before the Games finish."

Doherty kicked off the relay for Team USA, using three spare bullets in his shooting stages with Germain following with his perfect shooting stages. Schommer was next and then Wright took control, moving Team USA from around 10th place all the way up to the fifth place finish that they recorded.

"We should be pretty close to the lead positions, this race is staying close, it's looking good," said Doherty after finishing his leg and watching Germain clear his first five targets. "That was some good shooting in standing to use those spares effectively and avoid the loop, that's

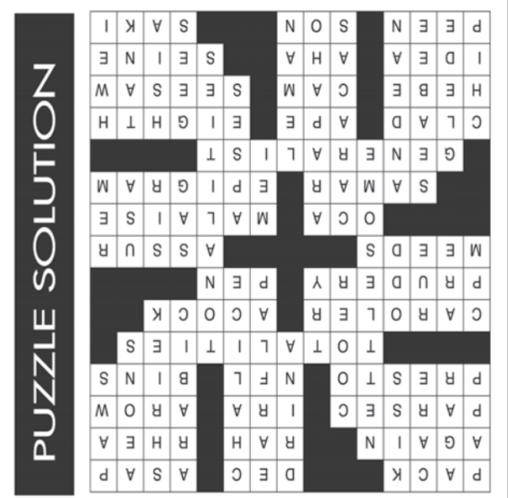


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. What travelers must do
- 5. Calendar month
- 8. Hopefully quickly
- 12. Once more
- 14. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 15. "Cheers" actress Perlman
- 16. Astronomy unit
- 18. Savings vehicle
- 19. Get your ducks in this
- 20. Right away
- 21. Popular sports league
- 22. Containers
- 23. Entireties
- 26. One who wassails
- 30. Turned-up position
- 31. Extreme modesty
- 32. Writing utensil
- 33. Rewards (archaic)
- 34. Ancient capital
- 39. S. American wood sorrel
- 42. General discomfort
- 44. Philippine island
- 46. A witty saying
- 47. One who summarizes
- 49. Covered in
- 50. Mimic
- 51. Henry was a notable one
- 56. Daughter of Hera and Zeus
- 57. Retired NFLer Newton
- 58. Playground equipment
- 59. Concept
- 60. Satisfaction
- 61. Fishing net
- 62. Hammer end
- 63. A father's male child
- 64. Japanese drink

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Off-Broadway figure
- 2. Gelatinous substance
- 3. Concern
- 4. "Lick It Up" rockers
- 5. Serbian river
- 6. Part of a hat
- 7. Bowl-shaped drinking vessel
- 8. Semitic language
- 9. Utter a shrill cry
- 10. Long times
- 11. Animal parts
- 13. Causing annoyance
- 17. Amorous talker
- 24. Attempt
- 25. Harmonic effects
- 26. Cost per mile
- 27. They ___
- 28. Bitterly regret
- 29. Not even
- 35. A way to drop
- 36. Title of respect
- 37. World leader
- 38. Georgia rockers
- 40. National capital
- 41. Great Plains people
- 42. Duck-sized dinosaur genus
- 43. Architectural recesses
- 44. Member of U.S. Navy
- 45. Mountainous
- 47. Kite bird
- 48. Sweetheart (archaic)
- 49. Popular snack made of potato
- 52. 70s songsters The Bee ___
- 53. SE China port ___men
- 54. Something to fill up
- 55. League of Legends character



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Saturday, Feb. 28
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Hockey at Somersworth; 7

WINNISQUAM

Hockey at Berlin-Gorham; 6

All schedules are subject to change.

THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	Route 28	N/A	\$434,933	John S. Daskey	Jeffrey Corzilius
Alton	N/A (Lot 55)	N/A	\$190,000	Cheri Monahan	JC Property Group LLC
Barnstead	956 N. Barnstead Rd.	Residential Open Land	\$120,000	Suzann Berg and James Twombly, Jr.	Fay Enterprises LLC
Barnstead	248 Varney Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$875,000	Henzi LT and James E. Henzi	Paul G. Lombardo
Gilford	110 Heights Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$820,000	William F. and Susan L. Dwyer	Ronald and Kathleen Ragonetti
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$340,533	Gary and Cynthia H. Kiedaisch	401 Gilford LLC

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.thewarrengroup.com

Badger earns top 10 finish at Meet of Champions

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

FRANCONIA — The top skiers from around New Hampshire descended on Mittersill at Cannon Mountain on Wednesday, Feb. 18, for the Meet of Champions. The top 10 skiers from each of the Division State Meets all qualified for the Meet of Champions.

For the girls, Lin-Wood's Greta Krill led the charge, finishing in second in the giant slalom and first in the slalom to finish first overall ahead of Profile's Maia Harrison, who won the giant slalom and placed third in the slalom for second place.

Kennett's Myra Johnston was third overall with a 10th place finish in the giant slalom and second

place finish in the slalom and Plymouth's Acacia Hartley finished in third in the giant slalom and 17th in the slalom for a fourth place finish overall. Kingswood's Ava Waldron was seventh overall with a fifth place finish in the giant slalom and an eighth place finish in the slalom and teammate Addy Ingham was seventh in the giant slalom and sixth in the slalom to place ninth overall.

All skiers in the top 10 qualified for the New Hampshire State Team to ski at the Eastern High School Championships.

Katy McPhaul of Profile was 11th overall with an eighth in the giant slalom and 15th in the slalom with Summer Laine of Kennett

in 13th place in the giant slalom and ninth place in the slalom for 14th overall. Lily Bishop of Gilford finished 12th in both the giant slalom and slalom to place 15th overall and teammate McKenna Howard was right behind her in 16th place with 13th place finishes in both the slalom and giant slalom.

Profile's Dena Presby was 21st overall with a 20th place finish in the giant slalom and 18th place finish in the slalom. Sasha Hamilton of White Mountains Regional was 18th in the giant slalom and 37th in the slalom for a 22nd place finish overall and Lydia Wiggin of Kennett was 22nd in the giant slalom and 34th in the slalom to place 27th overall. Lin-Wood's Hazel Wilson

was 31st overall with a 25th place finish in the giant slalom and a 30th place in the slalom with Maddie Stevens of Kennett right behind her in 32nd overall with a 32nd place finish in the giant slalom and 25th in the slalom.

Carrington Tetreault of White Mountains Regional finished in 34th overall with a 27th place finish in the giant slalom and a 35th place finish in the slalom, Penelope Weeden of Lin-Wood was 40th overall with a 41st place finish in the giant slalom and 33rd place finish in the slalom and Nora Weeden of Lin-Wood was 37th in the giant slalom and 43rd in the slalom for 44th place overall. Kingswood's Mazzy Little was 51st overall and Lin-Wood's Emma

Modzelewski was 53rd overall.

For the boys, Lin-Wood's Carver Krill took the overall win with his victory in the giant slalom and second place finish in the slalom. Teammate Jesse Corey was third overall with a fourth place in the giant slalom and third place in the slalom and Bode Badger of Gilford was fourth overall with his third place finish in the giant slalom. Kennett's Jake Stevens was seventh overall with a sixth in the giant slalom and 41st in the slalom.

All top 10 finishers earned the right to compete for New Hampshire in the Eastern High School Championships.

Woodsville's Gabe Roy was 11th overall with an eighth place finish in the giant slalom and a 22nd place finish in the slalom. Eleyas Rose of Kingswood was 14th overall with a 13th place finish in the giant slalom and a 10th in the slalom with teammate Wyatt Nichols was 15th overall with his 10th place finish in the giant slalom. Lin-Wood's Wyatt Weeden placed 16th overall with a 14th in the giant slalom and an 11th in the slalom, Kennett's Stash Doucette had a 12th place finish in the slalom to finish 18th overall, teammate Jonah Katz was 20th overall with a 26th in

the giant slalom and a 14th place in the slalom and Will Stone of White Mountains was 22nd overall with a 24th place finish in the giant slalom and a 15th place in the slalom.

Josh Goyette was 24th overall with a 38th in the giant slalom and a 16th in the slalom, Lin-Wood's Kai Mansharamani was 19th in the giant slalom and 23rd in the slalom for 27th place, Kain Benedict of Kingswood was 29th overall with a 21st place finish in the giant slalom and Tim Chauvette of Gorham was 31st overall with his 22nd place finish in the giant slalom and his 26th place finish in the slalom. Kennett's Tommy Calderwood was 32nd in the slalom, Plymouth's Harper Preston was 35th in the giant slalom and 39th in the slalom, Woodsville's Caleb Ilsley was 36th in the giant slalom and 35th in the slalom, Julius Nelson of Inter-Lakes was 40th in the giant slalom and Sebastian Eisenbarth of Plymouth was 43rd in both the slalom and giant slalom. Patrick Boucher and Stinson Myles of White Mountains and Dexter Marquis of Lin-Wood also competed.

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

SHIFFRIN

(continued from Page A7)

second run and AJ Hurt finishing 19th.

With her fourth Olympic medal and two golds 12 years apart, Shiffrin becomes only the second American woman to win four alpine skiing medals, joining Julia Mancuso in that distinction while also becoming the first American to win three alpine gold medals.

"Today I showed up for the skiing. I wanted to have two runs with really strong slalom skiing," Shiffrin said. "Now to be

through that is a little bit challenging to process.

"I wanted to thank my team and I wanted to send love to my family who's back home, and my brother and sister-in-law who are having a baby in the next month or so," she continued. "To see my mum and talk to my dad (Shiffrin's father, Jeff, died in February 2020), it's a lot. It's too much to process and express at the same time.

"I wanted to be free, I wanted to unleash. It's not easy to do that, but I've been so focused every single day," Shiffrin added.

"Through a lot of discussions with my psychologist and my mom and my team, everything we said was that, despite pressure or nerves, I want to feel this skiing.

"In the end, today, showing up - that was the thing I wanted most. More than the medal. Now, to also get to have a medal is unbelievable," she added.

Shiffrin also touched a little bit on that Beijing experience while talking about the fine margins in skiing.

"Everybody is experiencing something different, and I think I appreciate that,

because I've been on the other side of it, too," she said. "Ski racing is the most incredible sport, because we the athletes stand together through heartbreak and defeat and victory.

"We're a family, and I feel that with my competitors, with my teammates, with my peers," Shiffrin continued. "Every single athlete who was on the hill today showed courage just by being here."

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



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

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Historic night in freeskiing Big Air in Italy

Vermont's Mac Forehand wins silver on an impressive night in Livigno

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

LIVIGNO, Italy — Vermont's Mac Forehand saved his best for last in the freeski Big Air competition in Livigno on Tuesday, Feb. 17, but so did seemingly everyone else.

After posting a pair of 95.00 scores on his first two runs, Forehand went for broke and scored 98.25 on his third run, giving him a total score of 193.25 as the second to last skier of the night, which put him into the lead at the time. The last skier of the night, Norway's Tormad Frostad,

answered Forehand's challenge and nailed a 98.50 to improve his overall score to 195.50, edging out Forehand by 1.75 points. Matej Svancer of Austria won the bronze, scoring 191.25.

"I've never been in that position with two 95s before. I usually always mess up on my first or second jump and have to play it safe in my last two, but I landed the first two perfectly," Forehand said. "I knew I had to one-up one of the tricks and I deliberated with my coaches for like five minutes at the

top about what I should do. We talked about that trick for a while, and I just had to finally ski away and be OK and be alive."

That trick that he was talking about wasn't exactly on the list of things he expected to do on that night.

"It was a nose butter triple cork 2160. I think it's the world's first," Forehand said. "I don't think anyone's done it before. I learned the nose butter 1980 in training on the second day of training for big air."

"Honestly, I didn't

think I'd be doing that trick today, but the moments aligned and it all worked out," he added.

He also noted that it was the quality of the competition that led him to have to pull out something he'd never done before.

"The level of tricks I've been doing tonight were insane, and not everybody was on. People were crashing, too, but the top five guys all

landed insane tricks that would win any other contest day, he said. "I'm hyped to share the podium with those two guys, Matej and Tormod, good friends of mine. Tormod skied away from me tonight too, and it was cool to see him win that with those tricks."

Team USA claimed three of the top five spots, with Troy Podmilsak finishing fourth (184.50) and Konnor

Ralph fifth (178.00).

Frostad and Forehand both improved their placement from the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 by six spots: Frostad was seventh and Forehand was eighth.

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

FARMSTEAD

(continued from Page A1)

Zechariah Boodey Farmstead into a functional, attractive space that will serve the community's needs and serve as a gathering spot for events and activities. We thank them for guiding the volunteer group through the project's development stages. The project and the committee have greatly benefited from their expertise, design skills, and guidance. It's exciting to see the vision come to life in formal layouts. This partnership is rooted in shared goals: preserving and restoring historic buildings.

Founded in 1984, Christopher P Williams Archi-

tecs is an award-winning firm with a rich history of working with historic buildings across New England. They have been recognized for their preservation, restoration, and reuse efforts. The Belmont Mill and the Canterbury Shaker Village are among the projects they have partnered on.

Preserving these historic landmarks safeguards our shared heritage. A family home once served as a gathering place for brave pioneers who dared to lead in their beliefs during a pivotal time in our nation's founding history. These buildings will once again serve as a gathering spot for future generations, hosting a vari-

ety of historical and cultural programs, as well as civic, educational, social, or private events and activities for audiences. The Zechariah Boodey Farmstead Project aims to be a key support for efforts that continue to attract residents and visitors to our village core. It seeks to enhance community vibrancy and promote support for local businesses, active recreation, retail trade, and cultural experiences.

The Committee's next goal is to develop a request for proposals for the project's completion costs. This approach will enhance the Committee's ability to seek funding through private and public partnerships.

WINTER

CARNIVAL

(continued from Page A1)

ventures to the wintry mix this year.

"The performer is always popular," she said.

This year's entertainment for all ages features a number of performers. Scales, Feathers, and Fur is an extra-special animal show because the group uses surrendered animals as ambassadors to teach appreciation and understanding through interactive experiences. Mammals, lizards, tortoises, snakes, and invertebrates take the stage to illustrate their needs, behaviors, and adaptations. The show is 10 - 11 a.m. in the clubhouse.

An Ice Safety Demonstration conducted by the New Durham Fire Department is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Firefighters will be there in water rescue suits to show folks how to save themselves or someone else in case of thin ice.

The Winter Carnival boasts another vehicle

race; not a snow plow, snowmobile, or even a sleigh, but a Big Wheels. Kids 12 years and younger will get underway at 12:30 p.m. and adults (13 and older) will follow.

Adults in a Big Wheels race, you say?

"Oh, I have a special Big Wheels for them," Chasse said.

We can't wait to see that. Lots of snowy fun will take place all day long, too. Bring your own ice skates to take advantage of the cleared pond, hang out at the fire pit, listen to music, and visit the Good Eatz 603 food truck.

Friluftsliv is a Norwegian concept meaning that spending time outdoors in all weather is essential for well-being. And Chasse agrees.

"I think the snow is great," she said, when asked about providing entertainment at this time of the year. "We need to experience diverse weather."

She said several carnivals in the past took place during really cold temperatures, adding, "We can't predict the weather,

but we have to give the community opportunities to get them outside."

Tasked with an event of this size, there would be a real risk of Chasse getting snowed under if she did not have the volunteers she does.

"My regulars and my commission members will be down there helping out," she said. "I know I'm lucky. They take on a huge responsibility and all of them contribute so much."

Local businesses contribute, too. Prizes keep rolling in, but at press time Chasse had received help from Eastern Propane, Johnson's Seafood and Steak, Foster's Tavern, and Ackerly's Grill and Galley.

Go to ndparksandrec.com to register online for the ice fishing derby and for more information.

With so many sparkling activities for chionophiles, or those who love snowy conditions, what is Chasse's favorite?

"I like the whole day," she answered. "Every year is special and I take away memories from every year."

Gilford Community Church to host next Gals' Night Out

GILFORD — On Friday, March 13 at 6 p.m., the Gilford Community Church (GCC) will host Gals' Night Out with a presentation from Sheryl Faye as she portrays Civil War Nurse and Red Cross Founder, Clara Barton.

Her story ties directly into Civil War studies, community service, and reinforces the importance of reading and getting a good education to achieve your personal goals and dreams. From the time she was old enough to be a nurse within her own family, Clara's life

was dedicated to helping others. She accepted no pay as she taught poor children whose parents had no money to send them to school. She raised warehouses full of food, medicine and clothing during the Civil War, and then courageously went to the front to nurse the wounded and dying. Finally, she started the American Red Cross which is her legacy today.

A delicious dinner will be catered by Ellie Murphy, and any interested men are welcome to join this month as well.

Tickets for Gals' Night Out are \$25, and may be purchased through Tuesday, March 10 at the GCC Administrative Office. For those with questions, please call (603) 524-6057.

Located in Gilford at 19 Potter Hill Rd., Gilford Community Church (GCC) is an inclusive, open community that welcomes believers and doubters, seekers and skeptics, young and old. Sunday service takes place at 10 a.m., is also available on a livestream feed on GCC's Facebook page and later on YouTube.

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LEGALS

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Thursday, March 12, 2026

7:00 PM @ NEW DURHAM COMMUNITY ROOM & ZOOM

Robert W. and Cathy M. Anderson

You are hereby notified that a Hybrid Public Hearing will be held by the New Durham Zoning Board on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 7:00 PM for Case #2026-001. In case of cancellation, March 12, 2026, hearing would be rescheduled for March 19, 2026. The hearing is regarding an application submitted by Stephanie L. Richard, PE, of Changing Seasons Engineering, PLLC, on behalf of Robert W. and Cathy M. Anderson for property located at 45 Meaders Point Road, Map 111, Lot 026, in the Shore Front Conservation Area and the Steep Slopes Conservation District. The applicant is requesting Variances to Article V. E. Flood Hazard Area and Water Body Setbacks. No new buildings, except for water-related structures, shall be located in a flood hazard area, or less than seventy-five (75) feet from any water body or river; Article VI. C. (3) (a) - No privy, cesspool, septic tank, or sewage disposal area shall be constructed or reconstructed: i. less than one hundred twenty-five (125) feet from the edge of a public water body; Article VI. C. (3) (a) ii. less than seventy-five (75) feet from any well, or from a dwelling other than to which it is appurtenant; Article XIV. Shorefront Conservation Overlay District. C. Dimensional Requirements 1. Minimum Shore Frontage. Each dwelling with direct water access and with shore frontage as part of the lot dimension shall have a minimum shore frontage of one hundred fifty (150) feet. Article XIV. Shorefront Conservation Overlay District. C. Dimensional Requirements 2. Building setback: Except for water-related structures, all buildings shall be set a minimum of seventy-five (75) feet from the reference line; Article XX. C. New Buildings and Structures; Alteration and Expansion of Existing Non-Conforming Uses All non-conforming property may be used for new construction of buildings and/or structures (including septic and leach fields) and any non-conforming building may be altered and expanded provided: 1. They conform to Non-Conforming Setback and height requirements below; and, Article XX. C. 2. - Such expansion does not make any existing lot, structure or use more non-conforming within the terms of this Ordinance.

The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review by appointment by calling (603) 859-2091 ext. 2007. You can also contact via email: ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.gov

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KENNETT

Boys' Hoops vs. ConVal; 6:30
Girls' Hoops at ConVal; 6:30

Saturday, Feb. 28
KENNETT

Boys' Hockey vs. Timberlane; 5

All schedules are subject to change.



COURTESY

Lions at the Kettle

The Laconia/Gilford Lions again aided the Salvation Army during the holiday season. Members took shifts ringing the bell & collecting donations for the red kettle in the center of downtown Laconia. "It was an especially cold day, which got so bad that we had to finish earlier than planned," explained Club Board Director Bill Chandler. "But we are always glad to be among the many organizations helping the Salvation Army, and we will continue to do so every way we can." Pictured: Lions Club President Matt Soza.



KATHY SUTHERLAND

Playoff battle

The Prospect Mountain hoop girls battled past visiting Berlin in the Division III quarterfinals on Saturday, Feb. 21, by a 34-30 score. Prospect Mountain moved on to face top-seeded Fall Mountain in the Division III semifinals after deadline on Wednesday. The Division III finals are Saturday, Feb. 28, at 1 p.m. at Keene State College. Pictured are Kourtney Kaplan (0) going up for the block and Maddy Howlett firing off a shot in the lane.

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