

# The Baysider

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024

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

FREE

## PMHS fair raises money for robotics team

BY ERIN PLUMMER  
mnews@salmonpress.news

ALTON — Holiday fun and gifts could be found at Prospect Mountain High School at the seventh annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair benefitting the school's robotics team.

Crafters and different

student groups set up tables around the first floor of PMHS on Saturday, Dec. 7.

The fair is a major fundraiser for BOB #319, the school's robotics

ERIN PLUMMER  
(Right) PMHS student Avery Mahanes does painting at her family's table at the fair.



team and members of the team helped out throughout the fair.

Mentor Michelle Kelley said she used to vend at craft fairs herself and said she thought it would be a great thing to have at the school and raise money. After seven years it has become a big success.

"The craft fair has expanded and taken off," Kelley said. "It's great, it brings the community in."

Kelley said the day was going great. She said this is the first year that every vendor who signed  
SEE PMHS FAIR, PAGE A6

### Gilford DPW responds to first storms of the season

BY ERIN PLUMMER  
mnews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD — Plows were back on the roads for the first snowstorms of the season in a week that saw an overturned vehicle and a generous donation.

The area saw its first significant snowfall of the season on Thanksgiving. According to the National Weather Service, the Thanksgiving storm brought snow totals of four inches measured in Laconia to 5.2 inches measured in Belmont.

DPW Director Meghan Theriault talked about the storm response during her update to the selectmen during the Dec. 4 meeting. She said crews were out on Thanksgiving clearing snow off the roads.

"Huge thank to all the DPW staff who missed Thanksgiving with their families," Theriault said. "I just

wanted to mention that this is the stuff we hope doesn't happen, and it does and they miss a holiday. They were all here all afternoon and evening."

Public Works crews did get to enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner thanks to a local business owner.

Theriault thanked Mary Breton of Lakeshore Market and Deli, who donated an entire turkey dinner with all the fixings to the DPW.

Board Chair Gus Benavides said he wanted Breton to receive a formal recognition for her generosity.

Just hours after that meeting crews were back out to clear the roads after another few inches fell on the area. According to the DPW's Facebook page, crews were back out at 2:30 a.m. to address slippery roads.

Around 3:30 a.m. a  
SEE STORMS, PAGE A6

## Nominations sought for Gordon Preston Outstanding Community Service Award

BARNSTEAD — Barnstead residents, we need your help! Please nominate a worthy individual for the Gordon Preston Outstanding Community Service Award as referenced below:

Mahatma Gandhi said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Gordon Preston's life epitomized this quote. He was devoted to serving the community for the benefit of all. When Gordon arrived in Barnstead many years ago, he immediately immersed himself into volunteering within the community. He continued to generously serve this town for the rest of his life. Gor-

don was welcoming of all newcomers to Barnstead and inspired others to get involved and change our small town for the better. He believed that one person could make a difference and his life's work exemplified that.

In the spirit of Gordon's unwavering service to our community, The Gordon Preston Outstanding Community Service Award is presented to a person who embodies the same type of dedication to The Town of Barnstead. This award recognizes the unsung hero or heroine that continually gives their precious time to benefit our community as a whole. It is a small way to say thank you for all you do.

The Gordon Preston Outstanding Community Service Award ceremony debuted at The Gordon Preston Celebration of Life Gathering in 2019 and we are committed to continuing this award each year in Gordon's honor.

### Criteria for nominees:

- Any volunteer and/or Barnstead town employee who serves our community to benefit our town and the residents.

- Nominee does not have to be a resident of Barnstead

- This person consistently demonstrates the quality of outstanding service to the Town of Barnstead.

- Their actions have made a meaningful con-

tribution to the community through their time, actions, talents and dedication

- Someone who is not normally recognized for their unyielding efforts that benefit our town... the unsung hero/heroine

We encourage you to nominate someone, whose commitment to and service in the Town of Barnstead has made a positive impact on the lives of the residents and the local community. We will be accepting nominees until Jan. 6.

### Please include:

- The name and contact information of the person you are nominating

- Your name and con-

SEE PRESTON, PAGE A10

## Strong core returns to the court for Gilford girls

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING  
Sports Editor

GILFORD — Coach Scott Currier enjoys coming to practice every day and that has him feeling pretty good about his Gilford girls' basketball team this winter.

"I have been happy with the work ethic of the group and their willingness to put the effort into getting better," Currier said. "They are also a great group that takes coaching very well and want to compete."

"So, in short, it is fun to come to practice every day and see where we go," he continued.

The Golden Eagles return a strong group of athletes that saw significant playing time over the course of last season and will be counted on to produce in a big way this year. The group includes Olivia Keenan, Leah Davignon, Lianna Keenan, Grace Kelly and Skye Maltais.

"This group saw significant playing time last year and make up a significant part of our rotation," Currier said. "They will be looked upon to lead us on the floor but also to pro-

vide leadership for our team."

The Golden Eagle coach notes that Grace Scott and Abby Watson are both players who are poised for larger roles this season after both had great work during the preseason. The team is also excited about the addition of Gracey LeBlanc, who will strengthen the play underneath and brings plenty of toughness to the table. Additionally, Haley Corum, Emma Horton and Taryn Limanni have all started to carve out the roles with the team.

"They are all working hard to get acclimated to how we want to play every day and showing great strides because of it," Currier stated.

After earning a post-season berth last year, the Golden Eagles are looking to return to the playoffs and take another step forward.

"We are truly taking it on a day to day basis with a goal of getting better every day, working to improve our work as a team and compete at a high level," the Golden Eagle coach continued. "We would love to make

our way back to the tournament, but we also recognize that there is a ton of work to be done between that and the start of the season."

The Golden Eagles will play two games each with Belmont, Winnisquam, Conant and Inter-Lakes and single games with White Mountains, Somersworth, Stevens, Monadnock, Hopkinton, Prospect Mountain, Berlin, St. Thomas and Newfound.

The Golden Eagles are set to open the season on Friday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. at White Mountains Regional and will be hosting Belmont on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 6:30 p.m.

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



COURTESY

### Recipient of a legacy

Katherine Egeler, 103, receives the gold-tipped ebony Boston Post cane from New Durham Selectperson Dot Veisel as Selectman Marc DeCoff looks on. Awarding the canes was part of a circulation-boosting campaign launched in 1909 by the now defunct Boston Post newspaper to honor the oldest citizens of New England towns. Not that much later, in 1921, Katherine Egeler was born, and as New Durham has continued the practice through the years, she was awarded the cane this past weekend for being the town's oldest resident. Having lived through 18 different presidents, Egeler has traveled the world and visited every state in the country. Select Board Chairperson David Swenson read a compilation of interesting events that happened in the year of her birth, such as the invention of the pop-up toaster, the unveiling of the Model T convertible, and "Second-Hand Rose" hitting the top of the charts. A much beloved member of the community, Egeler said she was "honored" to receive the cane and engraved plaque.

## Holidays bring early deadlines

Along with merriment and good cheer, the holiday season brings with it an accelerated press schedule for our next few editions.

The submission deadline for any press releases and letters to

the Editor intended for publication in our Dec. 19 edition will be Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 4 p.m.

For the Dec. 26 edition, the deadline will be Monday, Dec. 16 at 4 p.m.

For the Jan. 2 edition, the

deadline will be Thursday, Dec. 19 at 4 p.m.

Please note that our offices will be closed Dec. 23-25 in observance of Christmas and Dec. 30-Jan. 1 in observance of New Year's.



# Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

## After School Program — Dec. 20

On Early Release days at ACS Alton Parks and Recreation Staff will pick up participants, in grades 1-5, from school and walk together to the Pearson Road Community Center for an afternoon of fun. Dec. 20 theme is "Festive Fun"; activities include: themed games, coloring,

crafts, snacks and more. \$5 per child. Pick up time at the Community Center is 3 p.m. Limited space, register today by contacting parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

## "Light Up Alton" Holiday Decorating Event

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department

and the ABA are sponsoring a residential and business decorating event. Maps with decorated locations will be available to the public on Dec. 13—check the Town of Alton web site or Alton Parks and Recreation Facebook Page for a copy of the map. For more information contact 603-875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov. Happy Holidays.

nh.gov. Happy Holidays.

## Trivia Night—Test your Knowledge

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a Free Hot Cocoa Bar and Trivia Night on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at the Pearson Road Community Center from 6-7:30 p.m. Program is free. Join the game as

a team or an individual player. Test your knowledge and compete for the first place prize. Categories include: History; Pop Culture; Entertainment; Art; Science; Sports; Geography; and more. A fun hot cocoa bar and holiday cookies will be provided. Please register at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov by Dec. 13 to guarantee your seat in the game.

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.

## Guided Meditation with Instructor Karen Kharitonov

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a Guided Meditation experience on Thursdays, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, and Jan. 30 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. The program is free, donations are greatly appreciated to support local charities. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

## Dungeons and Dragons

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a weekly Dungeons and Dragons adventure on Wednesdays at the Alton Bay Community Center from 6-8 p.m. starting Jan. 8. The program is free for ages 18 and up. Flex your creative muscles with fellow adventurers. Perhaps the group will even battle the dreaded Lake Winnepesaukee Monster itself. 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.

## Weight Training Classes — Mondays and Wednesdays

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

## Pilates Classes in Alton Bay — Tuesdays and Thursdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Pilates classes at the Alton Bay Community Center on Tuesdays and 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

## Kingswood announces first quarter honor roll

WOLFEBORO — Kingswood Regional High School is pleased to announce the following students have met the criteria for honor roll for the first marking period ending Nov. 8. All students who earn a numerical quarter grade of 93 to 100 in all classes will receive Highest Honors recognition. All students who earn a numerical quarter grade of 84 to 92 or higher in all classes will receive Honors recognition. Congratulations to our honor roll students!

### Highest Honors

Grade 12: Benjamin Baca, Sophia Baca, Jacob Brown, Norah Brown, Spencer Clark, Kaitlyn Cooper, Hayden Eastman, Edward Evans, Savannah Hughes, Samuel Keniston, Oliver Kolodner, Caden Laing, Sarah Lucas, Liam Moore, Samantha Petit, Kylie Rapoza, Sierra Rose, Gary Ross III, Kylie Ruths, Riley Stevens, Landen Tedesco, Adriane Teves, Bradley Tuttle, Jiner Zhuang.

Grade 11: Thomas Benker, Samantha Bennett, Liam Brown, Malcolm Clark, Alexander Cronin, Annissa Desrochers, Nelson Edwards, Beth Gardiner, Haylee Hammes, Braelyn Hathcock, Michael House, Quinn Ivone, Lillyanna Lowton, Jordyn Martineau, Cooper

McCourt, Brady Moulton, Oliver Noel, Haley Savley, Alyssa Smith, Brady Walston.

Grade 10: Mathew Ames, Lexi Baker, Cody Bennett, River Billings, Kayla Cegielski, Shelby Cheney, Kelsie Davis, Vaeh Dow, Jacob Dubuc, Alexis Fitch, Alexis Fowler, Marley Gregory, Adelle Harrington, Hayden Herbert, Adaline King, Caroline Kinzmaier, Morgan Lewis, Ewan Nicoll, Zachary Pickle, Cadance Reilly, Ryan Santerre, Kurtis Sheffer, Hayley White.

Grade 9: Hannah Bennett, Kyle Blaisdell, Miley Boisvert, Jonathan Bronson, Lillyann Carlson, Melinda Clark, Brielle Dow, Mya LaPlante, Clara Lucas, Sophia Nichols, Jacob Pinard, Lily Reeves, Briana Sanft, Jacob Therriault.

### Honors

Grade 12: Ashton Andruskiewicz, Isaiah Arsenault, Julia Avery, Kaitlyn Beau lieu, Matilda Bellington, Alivia Blaney, Kadence Blodgett, Rylan Bourdeau, Brody Brown, Garrett Burke, Isabella Bush, Isaak Carr, Ava Cole, Maya Colson, Jack Dolliver, Rowan Donovan-Laviolette, Liliana Duque, Maddex Eliopoulos, Brooke Ferland, Avery Gregory, Evan Harrington, Summer

Inman, Jack Larson, Addison Lawlor, Noah Leighton, Macyn Leitoile, Riley Levesque, Benjamin Libby, Julia Loring, Jaylin Lovering, Julia Mahler, Kylei Merrow, Lyla Murray, Matthew Oliveira, Ryan Osgood, Natalia Pawnell, Hailey Peaslee, Emma Pinard, Richard Piper, Cameron Powers, Kolton Ritchings, Sebastian Roberts, Tyrese Ryder, Morgan Sprince, Charlie Stipo, Zachary Stipo, Hannah Vachon, Cormack Welch, Susan Wetherald, Eva Zavvas.

Grade 11: Timilehin Abere, Russell Belyea, Ayden Bernier, William Blake, Makenzie Boisvert, Thomas Bronson, Ruby Brown, Graham Burke, Aiden Clause, Nathan Cloos, MacKenzie Corbett, Nathaniel Demain, Brynn Demers, Savannah Dusseault, Isabelle Fournier, Kahlan Gilbert, Madelyn Gionco, Hailey Hartford, Cali Hughes, Andrew Hunt, Vaega Johnson, Griffin Karcher, Kylee King, Emma Korntved, Avalyn Lambert, Grace Lehmann, Rider Leslie, Emma Lyons, Brendan MacPhee, Jack Marks, Jacob Moody, Taylor Mullen, Asher Murphy, Kendal Oliver, Corbyn Owens-Bostick, Olivia Pedersen, Joy Peterson, Luke Plachowicz, Anya Pollini, Bryan Purington, Dean Richards, Ayla Robinson, James Rogers, Bryce Sandlin, Eric Santangelo, Gianna Santangelo, Zoe Scripture, Elijah Seward, Peter Smith III, Grady Steele, Evan Thurston, Matthew Varni, Joseph Vasco, Audrey Wood, Julia Young.

Grade 10: Adelyn Arsenault, Madison Bowley, Andrea Brophy, Brady Call, Andrew Cann, Brody Chaisson, Brenden Colety, Jerilyn Cornwell, Elliott Crouse, Taylor Culverhouse, Kilee Davis, Katie DeVito, Isabella

Dickey, William Edwards, Connor Elwell, Laura Fernandes, Shelby Fontaine, Izabella Forest, Tiana Fowler, Isaac Gagnon, Logan Gil, Avery Gilpatrick, Dakota Goss, Saige Griffin, Brody Hanson, Riley Hartford, Tavin Herget, Victoria Hicks, Dylan Ivester, Tucker Ivone, Anna Johnson, Avery Kunzler, Payton Leclair, Emma Lewis, Cassidy Libby, Cameron Lopes, Ethan Marcoullier, Caden McAllister, Cohen McNevech, Heath Meehan, Megan Nicol, Maya Nolin, Alexis Oikola Emma Ouellette, Hannah Piper, Peter Prentice, Hayden Russell, Ewan Rutherford, Colton Sargent, Acacia Scott, Jeremy Sellers, Owen Steele, Katelynn Stys, Reid Swinerton, Cameron Tuttle, Ava Waldron, Kendall West, Carmin White, Connor Woodbury.

Grade 9: Madeline Amidon, Leah Anderson, Hadley Aucoin, Basil Bennet, Joseph Broza, Malcolm Button, William Cafmeyer, Hunter Chase, Charles Chick, Angelika Cordatos, Caleb Croteau, Camella Cushing, Olivia Dixon, Kaden Dow, Timothy Elliott, Jocelin Farnan, Sara Fernandes Madison Gaouette, Michael Gardiner, David Garner, Maya Gray, Theodore Hall, Torri Herschel, Zackary Hidden, Jayden Hodgdon, Alex Hopkins, Cole Inman, Adelyn Joseph, Lacey Kline, Kaedan Laurion, Peyton LeClair, Aurora Leonard, Jacob Livie, Alexis MacBrien, Eliza Marchand, Aydin Mather-Adams, Abraham Mayfield, Coralena Meroski, Ebon Morrison, Paul Noel, Violet Orzechowski, Landon Peaslee, Kaylee Pellerin, Rosyelina Peterson, Peter Plachowicz, Colby Proctor, Lucas Rauschnot, Lauren Reitler, Abigail Ricker, Mackenzie Shea, Payton Sternberg, Lorelai Tuttle, Evan Valley, Jaicie Weemhoff, Ashlyn Williams, Carter Wiltfong.

## Masons hosting monthly breakfast Sunday

ALTON — It is that wonderful time of the year. We want to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year. On Sunday, Dec. 15, the Masons of Winnepesaukee Lodge in Alton will hold their monthly Breakfast Buffet starting at 7:30 a.m., open to the public, at the Lodge on Route 28, a quarter mile south of the Alton Circle.

With fruit, biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs, omelets, bacon

and sausage, home fries, beans, pancakes, French toast, coffee and juice being served, it is a perfect time for family and friends to sit down and enjoy an all you can eat breakfast buffet. Cost is \$12. The Masons serve breakfast between 7:30 and 11 a.m. They hope to see you there (always on the third Sunday of the month).

For more information about the breakfasts or Winnepesaukee Lodge, please contact David Snyder at 603-717-1713.

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# “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is a true family affair

Show on stage at Village Players Theater in Wolfeboro this weekend



COURTESY

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” takes the stage this weekend at the Village Players Theater in Wolfeboro. Pictured taking part in the pageant are (left to right) Cecilia Hamilton, Maria Reese, Moira Leavitt-Carlson, Russell Carbone, Peter Reese, Laura McKenna, Norah Heinemeyer, Anna Reese, Olivia Marbury and Justus Marbury.

WOLFEBORO — Not only is the Village Players’ production of “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” a great show to bring the whole family to see, it is also a family affair on the stage as well, with numerous different families taking part in bringing the story to life.

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” focuses on the unruly Herdman children who take over the church Christmas pageant despite having never heard the Christmas story before. The result is an unruly process of trying to get numerous angels, shepherds, wise men and the assorted kids involved in the pageant and audiences get the chance to see just how it all unfolds.

On the stage, there is a whole bunch of families taking part together. For Hannah Long, “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is a fam-

ily affair for the second time. Back in 2018 when the show was last on the Village Players stage, she shared the stage with her brother, Ryan. This time, portraying the show’s narrator, Beth Bradley, she is joined by her mother, Sharon, who plays her on-stage mother, Grace, the reluctant leader of the Christmas pageant.

Laura McKenna also appeared on stage the last time the Village Players presented the show and she returns, this time playing Imogene Herdman, and is joined on stage by her mother, Susan, who plays Mrs. Johnson.

Jeremy Hardin stars as Bob Bradley while his wife Rebecca plays Mrs. Slocum and their daughter Lyra plays Shirley, one of the girls in the Christmas pageant. All three are making their Village Players debut in this production.

Cecilia Hamilton made her Village Players debut in Bye Bye Birdie this past fall and she returns to the stage for the Christmas show as Maxine and brings along her sisters, Charlotte (Alice) and Josephine (Beverly) to join in on the fun.

Samantha Marbury takes the stage as Mrs. McCarthy and is also joined by two of her children, Olivia (Leroy Herdman) and Justus (Ollie Herdman) along with her nephew, Gage (David).

There are also three Reese children on the stage, with Peter Reese playing the son of the church reverend, Elmer Hopkins while Anna Reese plays Claude Herman and Maria Reese plays Hobie.

Bayleigh Devolve made her Village Players debut in last fall’s musical production of “Oliver” and her father, Ryan, made



COURTESY

Angels (left to right) Charlotte Hamilton, Jasmine Hamilton, Hannah Long and Bayleigh Devolve talk about the Herdmans during “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,” on stage this weekend at The Village Players Theater in Wolfeboro.

his debut in this past spring’s production of “Wit.” Now, they are sharing the stage together, as Bayleigh plays Juanita and Ryan plays Reverend Hopkins.

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” runs this weekend, with shows at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13, and Saturday, Dec. 14, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 15. Tickets are available at Black’s Paper and Gifts, online at village-players.com or at the door, while they last.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever is generously sponsored by Bruce and Kris Gurall and is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

## New coach, new faces for Prospect hoop girls

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING  
Sports Editor

ALTON — With, no seniors, a new coach and plenty of new faces, the Prospect Mountain girls’ basketball team will look a little different as the new year gets under way.

“The Prospect Mountain girls’ basketball team is a young but talented group, ready to compete and grow together,” said first-year head coach Isiah Anderson. “With a young core and a promising mix of returning talent and newcomers, the T-Wolves are eager to compete and build a strong foundation for the future.”

The Timber Wolves will be led by three players with varsity experience last year, including captain Paige Harding and Madison Miller, both junior guards. Harding brings leadership and court vision while Miller brings a sharp shooting touch and defensive grit.

The other player with significant varsity minutes is sophomore forward Ava Foster, who brings versatility and is a strong presence in the paint at 5’10”.

Also returning with some varsity experience is sophomore combo guard Madelyn Howlett

and Anderson expects her to make significant impact with her scoring ability and energy.

Ninth grader Katie Jones brings strong rebounding and scoring potential in her first year while international transfer junior Elena Munoz-Martin who brings depth and quickness to the Timber Wolf backcourt.

The remainder of the roster includes sophomores Emma Foster, Delaney Drolet and Felicity Upton and ninth graders Bailey Beck, Chloe Colby and Peyton McAneney.

The Timber Wolves play a schedule that includes two games each with Newfound, Winnisquam, Somersworth and Berlin and single games with Kearsarge, Raymond, St. Thomas, Inter-Lakes, Gilford, Belmont, Campbell and White Mountains Regional.

The season kicks off on Friday, Dec. 13, at home against Newfound at 6 p.m. and continues on Monday, Dec. 16, at home against Kearsarge at 5 p.m. and at Raymond on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 6 p.m.

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



COURTESY

The following Kingswood Regional Middle School students Rachel Tatarczuk and Ayla Doiron received the November After School Allstars Award for their dedication to student council. Congratulations! The following Kingswood Regional Middle School students received the November Super Knights Award for “Self-Esteem.” In the first row are Silas Eldridge, Logan Thurber, and Soraya Wheeler. In the second row are Ayla Doiron, Olivia Collopy, and Justin Walsh. In the third row are Drew Feyler, Cayla Proctor, and Solara Fowler. Missing from the picture is Lucas Nuzzelillo. Congratulations!



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# Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024

## Artificial intelligence: Humanity's smartest frenemy

Artificial intelligence (AI) is like that new kid in town who knows everything from helping you find the best Thai food at midnight to crafting the perfect apology text to your partner ("No, you're right. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to eat the last doughnut"). It's efficient, helpful, and eerily insightful. But as with all new friendships, there's a fine line between awe and mild existential terror.

Let's start with the good stuff. AI is a whiz at handling the mundane. Tedious tasks like sorting emails, balancing budgets, and even diagnosing diseases are no match for the lightning-fast algorithms working behind the scenes. For writers (and would-be procrastinators), AI is like having an over-achieving friend proofread your work and suggest snappier titles. It's also a democratizing force: AI in education, for example, can help students in remote corners of the globe access the same quality resources as those in urban centers. Impressive, right?

But there's a catch. AI is a mimic. It learns by absorbing patterns from mountains of data—which means it's less like a wise sage and more like a parrot with a doctorate. While this mimicry has its perks (who wouldn't want a bot to whip up a dinner recipe based on the random five ingredients left in your fridge?), it also poses a risk. The more we rely on AI, the more human creativity and originality could start to wilt.

Picture this: a world where everyone writes in the same witty, polished, AI-generated tone. Every wedding toast, blog post, and Tinder bio starts to sound suspiciously familiar. Instead of unique voices, we might end up with a global chorus of AI-crafted "perfect" responses. The quirks and idiosyncrasies that make us human—like mixing metaphors or inventing words like "hangry"—could fade into uniformity.

Then there's the "Big Brother" side of AI. While it's not (yet) plotting to take over the world, AI does have a penchant for gobbling up data. Every time you scroll through social media, ask your smart speaker for the weather, or upload that cat video, you're feeding the algorithm. AI knows more about you than your best friend does—possibly even more than you know about yourself. Creepy? Just a smidge.

But before we panic and unplug our devices, it's worth noting that AI isn't inherently good or bad. Like fire or a karaoke machine, it all depends on how we use it. Harnessed wisely, AI can do wonders. But if we lean on it too heavily, we risk trading our humanity for convenience.

So, what's the solution? Balance. Use AI as a tool, not a crutch. Write your own jokes, even if they're cheesy. Read a physical book and scribble in the margins. Embrace the imperfections that make you, you. And if AI starts getting too clever for its circuits, remind it who's boss by pulling out a rotary phone.

In the end, the future of AI is like a choose-your-own-adventure book: thrilling, unpredictable, and potentially disastrous if we stop paying attention. Let's just make sure we're the ones writing the story, not the machines.



## High spirits and good cheer

COURTESY

One of the highlights of the season in New Durham is the annual Senior Holiday Dinner. Attendees are treated to a spread of various foods and desserts, music, and the chance to win prizes. Here's where that ugly Christmas sweater your aunt gave you earns its keep! Being married more than 60 years increases your chance of winning something, too. The Parks and Recreation Department puts on the event.

## LETTERS FROM EDWIN

OBD2

I've been driving a good long time. Fifty-six years. My first car was powered by a three-cylinder two stroke engine, meaning that I needed to add a can of oil with the gas each fill up. That was before we were allowed to pump our own gas. I needed to trust that the gas station attendant would pour the whole can into the gas tank before putting in the gas or I could destroy my motor. That car screamed like a motorcycle. Its engine was pretty similar.

At that point in my life, I was totally ignorant of things automotive. I was of the "just put oil and gas into the thing" mentality. Check tire pressure now and then, and all was good. One day, while going to school, my car lost lots of power to the point that I turned around and brought it to a repair shop. I didn't know that with that engine, you needed to change the spark plugs every ten thousand miles and one plug had fouled. With only three cylinders to start, it's 38 horsepower diminished to around twenty five.

Those were definitely simpler times. You could

pretty much see everything inside the engine compartment, and there was plenty of space to do simple repairs yourself. Even muscle cars had sufficient working space.

One day upon parking my car outside of work, I could smell the aroma of burnt oil, so I opened the hood. There right in plain sight, I saw that the oil pressure sensor was squirting oil all over the engine. Simple fix. At lunch I walked over to the auto parts store and picked up the part. Armed with the adjustable wrench, that came with the cars little tool kit, I swapped out the part and that problem was fixed.

Another thing from the past that has disappeared are tune ups. The points and condenser would only last so long. Being one to stretch the time between replacing parts, I'd try to push these to their max. The points would usually go first. When they did, you could pull them out with a screwdriver, file them down with a fingernail file and replace them using a match book cover as a close enough feeler gauge. That would

get you home from the mountains.

Over the years I learned how to do all kinds of auto repairs. Exhaust, brakes, water pumps, alternators, clutches, bearings, and shocks come to mind. Undoubtedly there are more. I was pretty much self-taught. Knowing basic mechanics, with a simple look at the problem, solutions usually came to mind.

That was then. Ain't no more. I had a couple of nineteen 71 cars parked back in the woods that I wanted to restore someday. After having kids and realizing that I'd probably never build that garage, I sold them to someone who would. I'm still somewhat nostalgic, but glad I don't have that dream to attend to.

These days, engine compartments are totally crammed with stuff. Working on them is a nightmare. I cut out an air conditioner part that was in my way as I tried to replace a water hose fitting. There was no way to get my hand in otherwise. The AC didn't work anyway, so now it never will.

My last old pre-96 vehicle sits rusting in the front yard, a virtual stor-

age unit as it's a pickup with a cap. It's been sitting there since it blew a ring and started blowing smoke screens down all the roads. Rebuilding a motor wasn't on my wanted skills list. So now all my vehicles are presided over by their computers, monitoring all their sensors and sending me diagnostic engine fault codes. The dreaded check engine light.

This weekend, I headed off to a gig and after a while looked down and noticed that my temp gauge wasn't reading as usual. The heater was working fine so I figured that it wasn't due to lack of coolant. After stopping to get something to eat, it seemed back to normal. I figured that it must be the temperature sensor.

Going home after the gig, the check engine light came on. Oh dread. The code was for a coolant temperature sensor failure. I'm so glad that the computer verified my diagnosis. I'll go pick up a part and figure out how to replace it. I hope it's somewhat accessible.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

## Star of Bethlehem

For over two thousand years, the Star of Bethlehem has captivated imaginations and sparked debates among scholars, astronomers, and theologians.

Mentioned in the Book of Matthew, this star guided the Three Kings—wise men from the East—to the birthplace of Jesus. But what was this mysterious star? Was it a supernatural event, a naturally occurring astronomical alignment, or something else entirely? To this day, the Star of Bethlehem remains a radiant enigma in the story of Christmas.

The Magi, often depicted in nativity scenes as three kings, were likely not kings at all but astrologers or priests from regions such as Persia, Babylon, or possibly even as far as China.

They were united by their study of the heavens, seeking divine messages in celestial movements. Guided by the mysterious star, they may have traveled along ancient trade routes, such as parts of the Silk Road, on a journey that could have spanned thousands of miles to their ultimate destination, Bethlehem.

They saw the star as a sign of someone destined for greatness. Their gifts—gold for a king, frankincense, incense used in worship, and

myrrh, an embalming spice foreshadowing death—reflected what they believed the star was telling them about this person.

But what exactly was this star that inspired such a journey?

Some believe the star was a miraculous sign, a divine light placed in the sky by God to announce the birth of Jesus. This interpretation aligns with the biblical account but leaves no room for scientific explanation. To those with faith, the star's miraculous nature may be the ultimate answer—a symbol of heaven's intervention in earthly affairs.

Others suggest the star could have been a comet, viewed as an omen in ancient times. A comet's bright and fleeting nature would have made it a striking and memorable sign in the night sky.

Could the Star of Bethlehem have been an exploding star—a supernova? A supernova creates a sudden, brilliant light in the sky that can last for weeks or months. While ancient Chinese and Babylonian astronomers meticulously documented celestial events, there are no surviving records of a supernova occurring during the timeframe of Jesus' birth.

One of the most wide-

ly accepted theories is that the Star of Bethlehem was a rare alignment of planets. In 7 BC, Jupiter and Saturn came together in three conjunctions within Pisces's constellation. This phenomenon would have created a strikingly bright light in the sky.

Jupiter, often associated with kingship, and Saturn, symbolizing protection, aligned in Pisces—a constellation some ancient astrologers connected to significant events for the Jewish people. Possibly interpreted as heralding the birth of an extraordinary leader or figure of great importance.

The "Great Conjunction" of Jupiter and Saturn occurs every 20 years, but the rare triple conjunction in Pisces around 7 BC has not happened in the same way since. To ancient astronomers, such alignments were seen as divine messages. This unique conjunction in Pisces might have been linked to significant astrological meaning.

While these theories offer intriguing possibilities, none fully explain the Star of Bethlehem.

If the star was a natural phenomenon, why didn't other cultures widely record it? And how did it appear to "stop" over Bethlehem?

These unanswered questions continue to shroud the star in mystery.

The Magi's connection between the star and the birth of a king raises intriguing questions. Did they draw conclusions from ancient Hebrew texts, astrological insights alone, or a combination?

Their reliance on astrology raises the question: could their journey suggest hidden truths found within the ancient study of Astrology and their influence on earthly events? Their interpretation suggests a deep understanding of celestial symbolism and its potential to foretell significant events.

Whatever its true nature, the Star of Bethlehem remains a symbol of hope and mystery, reflecting humanity's timeless quest for meaning in the cosmos.

Whether a miraculous light or celestial alignment, it represents the pursuit of truth and the willingness to follow where it leads.

As we look to the winter sky this Christmas, we can imagine the Magi doing the same over 2,000 years ago, marveling at the unknown. The Star of Bethlehem, still inspiring awe, invites us to journey—not across deserts, but toward our sense of wonder.

## Letter submission policy

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

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

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# Festival of Trees brings out Alton community

BY ERIN PLUMMER  
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ALTON — Local individuals, organizations, and businesses contributed brightly decorated trees, wreaths, and even a gingerbread house to help local families during the sixth Alton Festival of Trees.

Trees and wreaths lined the inside of the Gilman Museum on Dec. 7 & 8 for the festival. Visitors could stop by and look at the trees as well as buy raffle tickets for each tree and vote for their favorites.

The event is organized every year by the Alton Business Association and benefits Alton Community Services' Mrs. Santa Fund, which helps families in need during the holidays.

At the end of the event on Sunday afternoon, ABA chair Christy Painchaud and ABA board member Jen McCullough drew the winners for each of the trees. The drawing was recorded by ABA board member Heather Dominick and posted on the ABA's Facebook page.

"We want to thank you guys so much for your participation this year," Painchaud said in the video. "We rely on our local businesses, organi-



Alton Business Association board members Jen McCullough and Christy Painchaud drew winners for each of the trees and wreaths featured in this year's Festival of Trees in a video by Heather Dominick.

zations, Alton residents to donate and decorate trees, so we're very, very happy to continue this tradition for our town."

This year, the festival had 15 entries from different Alton businesses, residents, and organizations. Participants could contribute large and small trees as well as wreaths and garlands. Each tree and wreath was decorated in a different theme, and also included other prizes such as gift cards and other items.

Visitors could also vote for a fan favorite tree. The most votes went to the Local Tree from the ABA, though Painchaud said it should have been



Two women from Alton anonymously submitted this gingerbread house to be raffled off.

left off the ballot because it is the ABA's own tree. The fan favorite award went to the tree with the second most votes: the Farmer's Market tree Painchaud contributed

on her own.

The event also includes a gingerbread contest. Painchaud said only one entry was submitted but the creator was unable to drop it off due to

illness.

The event did receive a gingerbread house donated by two anonymous women from Alton to be raffled off. The small gingerbread house was done in the form of a greenhouse with lights and a Christmas tree inside.

"That is truly amazing, they made this and it's just unreal," Painchaud said.

Painchaud thanked everyone who contributed to the event and gave special recognition to the small businesses that donated items included with the trees.

## HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

<p><b>Friday, Dec. 13</b> <b>KENNETT</b> Boys' Hoops vs. Merrimack Valley; 6 Girls' Hoops at Merrimack Valley; 6</p> <p><b>KINGSWOOD</b> Boys' Hoops vs. Lebanon; 6 Girls' Hoops at Lebanon; 6:30</p> <p><b>PROSPECT MOUNTAIN</b> Boys' Hoops at Newfound; 6 Girls' Hoops vs. Newfound; 6</p> <p><b>Saturday, Dec. 14</b> <b>KENNETT</b> Girls' Hockey at Lebanon; 5:20</p> <p><b>KINGSWOOD</b> Wrestling at ConVal; TBD</p> <p><b>Sunday, Dec. 15</b> <b>PROSPECT MOUNTAIN</b> Indoor Track at UNH; 9</p> <p><b>Monday, Dec. 16</b></p>	<p><b>KINGSWOOD</b> Boys' Hockey vs. Kearsarge-Plymouth; 7:10</p> <p><b>PROSPECT MOUNTAIN</b> Boys' Hoops vs. Kearsarge; 6:30 Girls' Hoops vs. Kearsarge; 5</p> <p><b>Tuesday, Dec. 17</b> <b>KINGSWOOD</b> Boys' Hoops vs. Merrimack Valley; 6 Girls' Hoops at Merrimack Valley; 6:30</p> <p>Golf Home Match; 3:30</p> <p><b>PROSPECT MOUNTAIN</b> Boys' Hoops vs. Raymond; 6 Girls' Hoops at Raymond; 6</p> <p><b>Wednesday, Dec. 18</b> <b>KENNETT</b> Alpine Skiing at King Pine; 10 Boys' Hockey vs. Kearsarge-Plymouth; 6:10</p>	<p>Boys' Hoops at Berlin; 6 Girls' Hockey vs. Bishop Brady; 6 Girls' Hoops vs. Berlin; 6</p> <p><b>KINGSWOOD</b> Alpine Skiing at King Pine; 10 Boys' Hockey at Monadnock; 6:25 Wrestling vs. Prospect Mountain; 6</p> <p><b>KINGSWOOD-PROSPECT MOUNTAIN</b> Girls' Hockey at Pinkerton; 7:20</p> <p><b>PROSPECT MOUNTAIN</b> Wrestling at Kingswood; 6</p> <p><b>Thursday, Dec. 19</b> <b>PROSPECT MOUNTAIN</b> Boys' Hoops at Inter-Lakes; 6 Girls' Hoops vs. Inter-Lakes; 6</p> <p><b>All schedules are subject to change.</b></p>
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# Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events

## Dec. 12 – Dec. 19

**Thursday, Dec. 12**  
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.  
Mystery of Owls, 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Join Joe Callanan for a one hour talk to learn all about the owls that live in our New England woods. See exciting images of owls in the wild captured by Joe's photography. Joe will share the intimate details of their lives as we learn about the natural history that makes each

species so successful living right here in our midst under the cover of darkness.

**Friday, Dec. 13**  
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.  
Heart 'n Soul Chair Yoga, 10-11 a.m.  
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon  
Hand & Foot, 12:30-2:30 p.m.  
Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Advanced Conversational German, 2:30-

3:30 p.m.  
Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 14**  
Beginner Line Dancing, 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
Candlelight Stroll, 5-7 p.m.  
Make the Library a stop on the Annual Gilford Village Candlelight Stroll. Listen to some carolers, make a craft, grab cocoa or cider and a snack!

**Monday, Dec. 16**  
Fun and Fitness With Joyce, 9-10 a.m.  
Baby Storytime, 10-10:30 a.m.  
Mahjong, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, Dec. 17**  
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.  
Geri Fit, 10-11 a.m.  
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon  
Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
Holiday in London,

England, 11 a.m.-noon  
Experience the magic of London during the holidays, through the eyes of iconic Londoner, Ebenezer Scrooge! Our guide will help you be immersed in Charles Dickens' world and discover the inspirations behind his immortal novella, "A Christmas Carol." This is a unique and wonderful holiday experience!  
Intermediate Line Dancing, 2:30-3:30 p.m.  
T(w)een RPG Sessions, 3-4:30 p.m.

hygienic, and other supplies to people in need in our community. Come help us make stockings filled to the brim with the needs of those around us.

T(w)een Gilford Public Library Gives Back, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

**Thursday, Dec. 19**  
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.  
Holiday Exercise Social, 10-11 a.m.

Come on by for some holiday cheer with your exercise buddies from Geri-Fit, Senior Sculpt, Yoga and Line Dancing. Have some laughs, play holiday trivia and enjoy light refreshments.

Mrs. Claus Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Listen to Santa Stories from Mrs. Claus herself!

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

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

This month's book is "A Christmas Memory" by Truman Capote. Led by Rhett; books are available at the front desk.

## Get ready for the holidays with Gilman Library

ALTON — Mrs. Claus invites you to join her for her Second Annual Christmas Party at the Gilman Library at 100 Main St., Alton. Mrs. Claus will be returning from the North Pole at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14. Santa will be too busy in the workshop to join her, so she has invited The Everywhere Man. He will bring his guitar and singing voice and provide the music. There will be a Take-and-Make Craft, a showing of the movie "The Muppet Christmas Carol," and other fun surprises. Three lucky winners will be chosen for a Door Prize, three unique and beautifully crafted

felt Christmas Stockings, adorned with plush appliques, one with Santa, the second with Frosty, and the third with a Reindeer. Light refreshments will be served. There will be lots of fun things to do and the party will conclude at noon.

'Tis the Season for Giving and The Giving Tree still has some tags left at the Gilman Library. This is an opportunity to give to residents of the Belknap County Nursing Home and Compass House, both in Laconia. The Compass House is a non-profit that serves Belknap County in support of

women and children in transition. Details are available at the library. The deadline for the Giving Tree gifts is Saturday, Dec. 14.

Hurry into the library to get your raffle tickets for the two raffles to be drawn on Wednesday, December 18th. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. The Christmas Spirit Raffle winner will receive a beautiful, blue, hand-crafted shawl, accompanied by the book "The Christmas Spirit" by Debbie Macomber. One winning ticket will also be chosen for the Friends of the Gilman Library Holiday Raffle. Just one ticket holder will receive an adorable Peanuts Christmas Yard Display, a lovely wreath and a vintage welcome sign, a Balsam & Fir Santa, pretty ornaments, a tree-topper and tree skirt, and holiday cards. If that is not enough for one winner, the prize also includes a wide variety of wrapping supplies, including gift tag stickers, various sizes of gift bags and

gift boxes, tissue paper, wrapping paper, ribbon, and bows for your gift-giving. Proceeds of Friends Raffles directly benefit the Gilman Library. An easy way to make a small donation to benefit the Gilman Library, and if you win a lovely prize, that is a bonus!

Remember that we also have the Food Pantry donation bin. The Community Food Pantry donation bin will be up all year round, to benefit local families in need. There are also some great gifts available for sale at The Friends' Corner and at the circulation desk. While you are here, check out the latest artwork on the windows, gifted to the library by Prospect Mountain High School Art Students, led by their talented teacher, Troy Corriveau.

Gilman Library will gladly help you get into the Christmas Spirit and the spirit of giving as you spread holiday cheer. See you at the library!

### Gilford Public Library Top Ten requests

1. "Lies he Told Me" by James Patterson
2. "Murder Island" by James Patterson
3. "Now or Never" by Janet Evanovich
4. "To Die For" by David Baldacci
5. "The Waiting" by Michael Connelly
6. "The Grey Wolf" by Louise Penny
7. "How to Read a Book" by Monica Wood
8. "In Too Deep" by Lee Child
9. "Framed" by John Grisham
10. "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon

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BRENDA JORETT — COURTESY  
Save the date of Dec. 31 for Last Night Wolfeboro featuring free, family-friendly events including: games, crafts, bingo, scavenger hunt, ice skating, escape house, puppet show, juggling act, concerts, church supper; plus New Year's Eve treats and fireworks (weather permitting) over Wolfeboro Bay. Updates and details on Facebook @ LastNightWolfeboro.



**Festive weekend ahead**

COURTESY  
New Durham residents have lots of holiday fun to look forward to. The Lighted Trail, sponsored by the New Durham and Farmington Parks and Recreation Departments, will be ablaze along the McCarthy Trail in Farmington on Thursday and Friday from 6 - 8 p.m., and Saturday from 5 - 8 p.m. Caroling will be the main feature of Here's to a Traditional Christmas at the New Durham 1772 Meetinghouse on Old Bay Road on Sunday, from 1 - 3 p.m. Eggnog, crafts, mulled cider, cookies, gift items, displays, and stories make up the rest of the event.

**PMHS FAIR**  
(continued from Page A1)

up attended the fair and they didn't have any cancellations.

Crafters from a number of different mediums sold their items at the fair. A few different student groups also sold items to raise money.

The fair also featured a cookie walk, visits with Santa, food, and more activities.

Members of the robotics team helped out during the fair, including helping the vendors throughout the event.

Team member Kas

Glaude said this is an event that brings a lot of people to the school, including a lot of people from around the community.

"So many people have shown up that I know, this is crazy," Glaude said.

Robotics team member Owen Joubert also sold an array of jams and jellies he made himself at his stand O.J.'s Jammin' Goodz.

Joubert has done 4-H since he was a kid and learned how to make jams and jellies around the age of nine. He would give them to other peo-



ERIN PLUMMER

Vendors paced the Prospect Mountain High School gym for the seventh annual Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair.

ple, then came up with the idea of doing his own stand four years ago.

The opportunity came up, I could go to the Barnstead Farmer's Market," Joubert said.

He said he already had a lot of product and made

extras to sell. He also sold different honeys, elderberry syrup, and breads.

He also sells his creations at the Barnstead Farmer's Market, and has sold at the Victory Worker's 4-H stand in Pittsfield for two years.



ERIN PLUMMER

PMHS student Owen Joubert sold homemade jams, jellies, and other items.



ERIN PLUMMER

Liam McStravic sold his amigurumi creations.

This was the first year The Crafty Sisters have taken part in the PMHS fair. Sisters Priscilla Adams, Kathy Mahanes, Robin O'Malley, and Cynthia Legere sold their creations in honor of their mother Mary Smith, who recently passed away.

"Our mother was very crafty, and she passed it down," Adams said.

She said it was great doing this in their mom's honor.

"Mom would have loved this," Adams said.

The table also included paintings by Kathy's granddaughter Avery Mahanes, a junior at PMHS.

She starts out with drawings and then paints the images. Mahanes was working on a painting during the fair.

Mahanes said she enjoyed taking part in the fair.

"I love the people here, it's like a really nice community with all the other vendors," she said.

Liam McStravic of Alton sold an array of crocheted plushies, including many popular characters in amigurumi style.

McStravic said he has been crocheting since he was 10 and started making plushies.

Different plushies take different amounts of time to make.

He has been doing the PMHS fair since the beginning.

"It's been pretty good for me," he said.

He said a lot of people came to the fair and business was steady.

**STORMS**  
(continued from Page A1)

six-wheel plow truck slid off Belknap Mountain Road, going off a corner and landing on its side in a ditch. The driver was uninjured and the truck was towed back to the garage. Pickup trucks covered the rest of that route.

Theriault said during the Dec. 4 selectmen's meeting all winter equipment is in good condition and was ready for the first storm of the season.

Systems were calibrated to deliver the right amounts of salt and liquid deicer. She said they are trying to track that equal amounts of both are being used per storm. Since each of the trucks is different, each vehicle comes with an individual "cheat sheet" of how much salt and liquid to use on each and where to turn the dials.

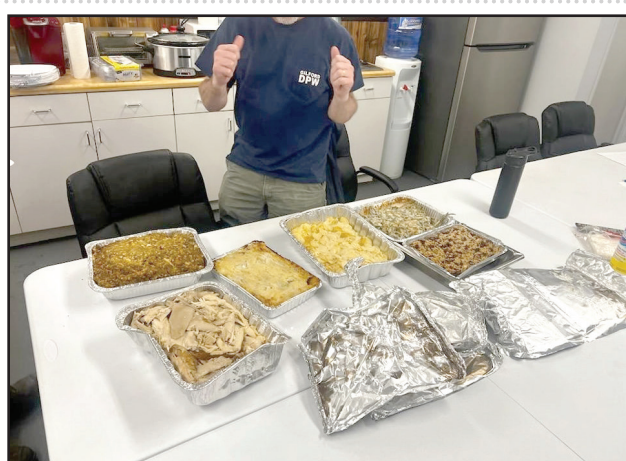
Benavides asked about the different monitoring systems on each of the trucks. Theriault said the systems are working fantastic.



COURTESY THE GILFORD DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

A Gilford plow truck flipped on its side during the Dec. 5 storm on Belknap Mountain Road. The driver was okay after the incident.

She said they inly really use that information if there is a complaint, including if a plow truck hasn't been to a certain area during a particular day. Theriault said they can pull up the information on the truck in that route and see what locations they were on that



COURTESY THE GILFORD DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Gilford DPW crews were able to enjoy dinner during the Thanksgiving storm thanks to Mary Breton of Lakeshore Market and Deli.

day. She said sometimes areas get missed for different reasons, such as new drivers who are not familiar with the route or drivers who are tired and might miss an area.

Each of the trucks also comes with video, which is especially helpful in the event of an incident, from reports of a damaged mailbox to an accident. The cameras are also used for public relations with a few photos of the trucks in action going on the department's Facebook page.

"It was always our intention especially working hand in hand with the staff that it would be just a helpful tool so I'm glad to hear it's continued to do that," Benavides said. "I know there were some concerns about it at first; I'm grateful it's a positive."

Theriault said these tools are not used for discipline.

"It's a resource for us if we need it to be able to respond to things," Theriault said.

**HO-HO-HOLIDAY Gift Guide**

*How some popular holiday traditions got their start*

Will you be baking gingerbread or hanging stockings by the fireplace this holiday season? Perhaps you'll be lighting the menorah or playing a game of dreidel? The holidays are steeped in tradition, some of which are older than celebrants may realize.

Individuals gather during the holidays and participate in various traditions that have withstood the test of time. Most people engage in these traditions or recognize symbols automatically, but it can be interesting to learn how

these traditions came to be.

**Christmas caroling**  
The British traditions of wassailing and mumming and the Slavic tradition of koliada were some of the precursors to more modern caroling. People would go door-to-door and recite poetry or sing with the hope of bringing about good fortune or influencing a future harvest, according to Rutgers University. Carolers spread hope and good tidings through song during a time of year when sunlight was limited.

**Christmas trees**  
Pagans once displayed evergreen branches as a reminder that spring would come again, while Romans placed them around temples to honor Saturn,

the god of agriculture. Eventually the evergreen was used in conjunction with Christian Christmas celebrations. In the sixteenth century, German Christians put trees inside their homes as symbols of everlasting life.

**Santa Claus**  
Children who celebrate Christmas eagerly await the arrival of a jolly sort who goes by the name of Santa Claus. His origin story stretches back to the third century, when Saint Nicholas became the patron saint of children. Saint Nicholas was a monk in what is modern-day Turkey. It is said that he traveled helping the poor and the sick. History.com says he is believed to have saved three impoverished sisters from slav-

ery by providing them with a dowry so they could be married, and he also provided gifts to children.

**Menorah**  
The menorah is a multi-branched candelabra used in Jewish religious rituals. The menorah is first mentioned in the book of Exodus when the design of the lamp was revealed to Moses by God on Mount Sinai. Many menorahs are seven-branched, but during Chanukah, an eight-branched menorah is used. The Chanukah menorah is modeled after the Tabernacle menorah that corresponds to the eight-day festival. It was used to celebrate the rededication of the Second Temple. The available oil supply was supposed to last one day, but the candles actually burned for eight.

**Mistletoe**  
Kissing under the mistletoe is a holiday season tradition that can lead to some red faces when couples are caught beneath the plant. Norse mythology paved the way for kissing under the mistletoe. Legend has it the gods used mistletoe

to resurrect Odin's son, Baldur, from the dead. Baldur's mother, Frigg, the goddess of love, made the plant a symbol of love and vowed to kiss anyone who passed under it. Mistletoe blooms under cold conditions, which is how it became associated with the holiday season.

**Yule log**  
Yule logs were once part of winter solstice celebrations to bring good luck and fortune, but America is where a yule log really caught on as a holiday tradition. In 1966, the WPIX television station in New York City aired a continuous loop of a fireplace burning for three hours with holiday songs playing. It became an annual tradition, says History.com. Some people even serve a cake that looks like a yule log. The Bûche de Noël is a traditional Christmas cake that is especially popular in France.

Holiday traditions continue in full force. Traditions are an enduring component of celebrations and help to unite people from all backgrounds during this special time of year.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

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# GHS craft fair brings crowds

BY ERIN PLUMMER  
mnews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD — Artisans and shoppers packed Gilford Middle and High Schools for the annual Gilford High School Holiday Craft Fair.

On Saturday, Dec. 7, GMS and GHS were packed with people for the annual fair raising money for the GHS senior class. The gyms and lower hallways of both schools were filled with tables of many different forms of crafts as was the connecting hallway between both schools and the GHS cafeteria. The GMS cafeteria was turned into a food court with different student organizations selling food for a fundraiser.

“We’ve had a fabulous day,” said co-organizer Meg Jenkins.

She said the doors opened at 9 a.m., and there was already a line going out to the curb. The buildings were filled with people all day.

Jenkins said there were some new vendors this year, including people 3D printed items, gourmet coffee, and popcorn.

All members of the senior class had to sign up for a time to volunteer including setting up on Friday, working during the fair, and helping take down right after it ended.

Class secretary Makenna Clayton said students set up by taping off the areas where tables would go and setting up the tables.

Seniors were back in



COURTESY PHOTO

Crafters and shoppers filled the Gilford High School gym during the annual GHS Holiday Craft Fair.



ERIN PLUMMER

Emily Wernig of Clay Culture Studios.

the building at 7 a.m. on Saturday to get things ready before the doors opened.

This year the seniors sold an array of wooden Christmas trees. Class vice president Kendal Heyman said all of the wooden Christmas trees sold out before 11 a.m.

The seniors sold food during the day including their traditional staples such as meatball subs with meatballs provided by Lakeshore Market and Deli, coffee, and Brother’s Doughnuts. They added some new items this year like macaroni and cheese, vegetable rice soup, and gourmet cupcakes from Bella’s Bake Shop.

Class treasurer Ella Kelliher and senior Cailin Tarr said they had just sold out of coffee and doughnuts.

“The kids really rocked it selling items,” Jenkins said.

They also did tasks throughout the day, including delivering food to the vendors.

Tarr said working at the fair was great overall.

New to the fair this year was Maple Fools with Jaime Jenkins of Center Harbor and her mom Marie Beaudet of Sandwich selling several flavors of popcorn. Jenkins said they started with a maple flavor and have branched out into



ERIN PLUMMER

Marie Beaudet and Jamie Jenkins of Maple Fools.



ERIN PLUMMER

Linda Dobson of LJ’s Family Creations.

other popcorn flavors such as white chocolate, movie theater butter, peppermint for the holidays, and many others.

Maple Fools Popcorn can also be found at stores such as Moulton Farm in Meredith, E.M. Heath in Center Harbor, the Moultonborough Country Store, Zeb’s General Store in North Conway, and many others.

Beaudet said she used to do craft fairs in the past and tabled at the Gilford fair for many years. She said she talked to the organizers of the GHS fair and they got the opportunity to come to the fair this year.

“It’s good to be back here,” Beaudet said.

Jenkins said she enjoyed the fair and meeting up with people she knew.

Emily Wernig sold a variety of pottery pieces as part of her business, Clay Culture Studios. Wernig is a graduate of GHS and first started doing ceramics in art class with teacher Leaman Antone. The class inspired

ornaments, and many more. She said the different items give people different choices to select.

“I love making mugs, and I like making seasonal things,” Wernig said. “I like ornaments because it gives you a range of prices.”

Linda Dobson of Claremont does string art for her company LJ’s Family Creations. Each of her creations has shape for an outline with string threaded over nails to fill in the area.

She has been doing this for around eight years, starting with a sailboat craft and continuing to a full time activity starting three years ago.

Each outline is put on wood by a drill press, and she puts in the nails and wraps thread around them.

“It’s basically my little assembly line,” Dobson said.

Many of the pieces are made from old closet doors provided by a local crafter.

Dobson’s pieces can also be found at the Manchester Craft Market at the Mall of New Hampshire and Locally Handmade at the Merrimack Premium Outlets.

This was her second year at the GHS fair and she said she enjoyed it.

“A nice way to end my season,” Dobson said.

## Kingswood Regional High School hosts craft fair

PHOTOS BY ELISSA PAQUETTE



(Left) Bev Clements poses at her It’s Always Christmas station in the Kingswood Regional High School’s Christmas Craft Fair on Nov. 30 with one of her largest handcrafted snowmen.

Kingswood Regional High School (KRHS) students Bryce Sandin and Liam Brown were selling raffle tickets during the KRHS Craft Fair on Nov. 30 for locally donated items to benefit the school’s Future Business Leaders of America and the National Honor Society organizations.



Shoppers of all ages strolled the aisles in the Kingswood Regional High School practice gymnasium and throughout the hallways to support the students’ fundraising project. Vendor fees contribute to the cause. A robust crowd is much appreciated.

Jan Kaskiewicz pays for her lunch choices at the Kingswood Christmas Craft Fair. Bryce Merrin, a member of the Future Business Leaders of America program served as cashier.

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# Prospect Mountain High School announces honor roll

ALTON — Prospect Mountain High School has released its honor roll for the first term of the 2024-2025 school year.

## High Honors

Grade 9: Olivia Aulis, Juliana Beaton, Bailey Beck, Garrett Christiansen, Lily Cookinham, Natalie Cowser, Meredith Currier, Evan Fuller, Sabrina Gagnon, MacKenzie Glaude, Alexandra Goonan, Cole Hikel, Kaelyn Lemire, Stockton McKnight, Ravyn Paris, Devereaux Pearce, Alexander Ransom, Rebekah Thomas, Charlie Yeaton

Grade 10: Alexis Briggs, Madelyn Briggs, Nora DeVitto, Jude Dumond, Ava Foster, Emma Foster, Sydney Grasso, Madelyn Howlett, Kaitlyn Jones, Brock Libby, Owen Libby-Sprague, Braelyn Lounsbury, Brennah McCausland,

Dawson Meehan, Blake Pappaceno, Aiden Parent, Keira Sealfrank, Austin Therrien, Felicity Upton, Jaylyn Wilks, Riley Williams

Grade 11: Sophie Bellemare, Elizabeth Bishop, Loralie Chase, Joshua Clark, Rylan Clifford, Kee-lya Forsythe, Shaelin Forsythe, Lily Gerogius, Isabella Gonzalez, Paige Harding, Isabelle Jones, Natalia Kharitonov, Cameron Morrill, Knyte Neathery, Ava Pelletier, Alyssa Pica, Angel Pla, Zoe-Jane Ransom, Jenna Sykes, Aidan Taylor, Alexia Treadwell, Delaney Troendle

Grade 12: Jena Bald, Ryan Boles, Paige Caruso, Olivia Charles, Victoria Christie, Victoria Cowser, Sergio Gabriel Duarte, Benjamin Gagnon, Cassidy Glaude, Katie Healy, Sarah Lewis, Jacob Luscomb, Samuel Mc-

Grath, Darian Menefee, Gertrude Parsons, Ava Tibbs, Wyatt Varney

PG: Jaylyn Gagnon, Quinnlan Shea, Marco Del Greco, Jillian Nason

## Honor Roll

Grade 9: Bradan Berkins, Ayden Bernier, Jack Berry, Sophia Bowman, Charles Bravar, Nicholas Buonopane, Dylan Conway, Landen Deane, Logan Enright, Daniel Esperti, Amarah Ferland, Cole Graves, Gabriella Griffith, Kylee Guptill, Peyton Irving, Levan Kennerson, Lily Lake, Chase Lank, Brayden LeBrun, Braylon Lucas, Kora MacKenzie, Leighanna Mason, Richard Mullaney, Violet Page, Tegan Pelham, Evan Sabean, Kathleen Smith, Bailey Tesseyman, Charlie Warren, Matthew Whelan, Colby Whitehouse

Grade 10: Raymond Acosta, Alexander Adamich, Caleb Bemis, Gavin DeWitt, Makenna Dow, Delaney Drolet, Lila Francis, Michael Franklin, Leah Glazier, Brady Glidden, Paityn Glidden, Jaxon Gregg, Magdalena Hart, Ryley Hatch, Jillian Kean, Oliver Kingsbury, Andrew Koralski, Clara LeClerc, Aubrie Leeper, Shane Lemieux, Bryce Lounsbury, Amya Macomber, Harlie Maguire, Cody Manley, Alexa Mountain, Layla Nugent, Patrick O'Brien, Michael Perry, Daniel Pirozzi, Joseph Rawnsley, Trew Reed, Blake Snell, Benito Sorrentino, Emma Stanley, Anakin Torres, Caiden Wainwright, Kathryn Watson, Jazmine Witham

Grade 11: Layla Baker, Ayden Carignan, Genevieve Charity, Annabell Dnaiels, Aryella Demers, Taylor Greenwood, Nina Hann, Laney Henry, Emma Holden, Lexi Johnson, Kenneth LaGraize, Myah LaVoie, Ethan Leeper, Caleb Luc, Declan McCausland, Madison Miller, Gabrielle Pettelle, Krysten Richardson, Lyndsey Tiede, Braelynn Woods

Grade 12: Alexis Arsenault, Noah Biron, Damonica Charles, Joseph Deane, Joseph DeFruscio, Margaret Dowd, Alexandria Duclos, Shelby Eaton,

Gage Elliot, Abigail Fisichelli, Whitney Good, Kaleb Kennedy, Elsey Labbe, Meryk Libby, Travis Locke, Ashley Lyle, Hayden Moreno, Elena Munoz Martin, Yudai Nguyen, Olivia Noyes, Jordanna Price, James Pursley, Hunter Richardson, Ethan Ring, Riley Rothvoss, Dione Thoroughgood, Juliette West, Alexis Wilson, Parker Wood, Wyatt Yewdall, Oliver York

# HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

## Friday, Dec. 13

### BELMONT

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

### GILFORD

Boys' Hoops vs. White Mountains; 6  
Girls' Hoops at White Mountains; 6

### WINNISQUAM

Boys' Hoops at St. Thomas; 6:30  
Girls' Hoops vs. St. Thomas; 7

## Saturday, Dec. 14

### BELMONT

Indoor Track at Plymouth State; 10

### BELMONT-GILFORD

Boys' Hockey at Kennett; 2

### GILFORD

Indoor Track at Plymouth State; 10

## Monday, Dec. 16

### BELMONT

Girls' Hoops at Somersworth; 6  
Swimming at Hanover; 6

### BELMONT-GILFORD

Hockey at L-W-I; 4

### GILFORD

Swimming at Hanover; 6

### WINNISQUAM

Boys' Hockey vs. Belmont-Gilford; 4

## Tuesday, Dec. 17

### WINNISQUAM

Boys' Hoops at Inter-Lakes; 6  
Girls' Hoops vs. Inter-Lakes; 7

## Wednesday, Dec. 18

### BELMONT

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

### GILFORD

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

### WINNISQUAM

Boys' Hockey vs. Berlin-Gorham; 5  
Girls' Hoops at Raymond; 6:30

## Thursday, Dec. 19

### BELMONT

Alpine Skiing at Bretton Woods; 10

All schedules are subject to change.

# Patrick's Pub Mania returns Dec. 12

GILFORD — The self-proclaimed 'World's Greatest Barstool Challenge' is returning for its 13th Pub Mania event on Thursday, Dec. 12 from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. at Patrick's in Gilford. Thirty teams, comprised of local businesses, organizations and friends and family, will celebrate their year-round fundrais-

ing efforts on behalf of the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction.

"These teams continue to inspire us with their fundraising creativity and their commitment to the kids of the greater Lakes Region," said Allan Beetle, co-owner of Patrick's. "It's always a very special day."

Since 2009, Pub Mania teams have collectively raised over \$2.5 million for the Children's Auction, supporting children and families in the Greater Lakes Region.

The public is invited to visit Patrick's for lunch or dinner between noon and 8 p.m. to cheer on participants and enjoy the festivities. Organizers

have arranged games and events throughout the day beginning with Opening Ceremonies at 11 a.m., with live music running from 4 – 11 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.patrickspub.com/pubmania](http://www.patrickspub.com/pubmania) and for the Children's Auction, visit [www.childrensauction.org](http://www.childrensauction.org).



COURTESY

Chef Dan Barnhart, center, stands next to Gilford Community Church Pastor Michael Graham and Gilford Parks and Recreation Director Brittini Stewart at a recent Senior Moment-um event put on by the Gilford Parks and Recreation Department in cooperation with the Gilford Community Church and The Plate Lunch. The Gilford Community Church allows the department's use of their hall for many Senior Moment-um events throughout the year. The Gilford Parks and Recreation Department is extremely thankful to Pastor Michael and the Gilford Community Church for allowing use of their function hall for these events as well as Chef Dan for all of the amazing meals he prepares!

# PETS OF THE WEEK



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## Meet Baby!

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

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# THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	Alton Shores Road	N/A	\$25,000	Ashley Newton	Dawn Mears
Alton	29 Finethy Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$369,000	David E. Hollowell RET	Keith A. Johnson
Gilford	22 Hickory Stick Lane	Single-Family Residence	\$385,000	Kenneth and Amy Corbin	Adam and Alexandra V. Crepeau
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$120,000	Helder S. Perry	David E. and Amy G. Poole
New Durham	9 Depot Rd.	Multi-Family Residence	\$352,533	Carole and Anthony Sullivan	Joshua C. Smith
New Durham	March Pond	N/A	\$713,000	David and Deirdre Thomson	William E. Zedalis

## ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

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

## Join us for the enchanting Gilford Candlelight Stroll!

GILFORD—Get ready for a magical evening as the Gilford Candlelight Stroll Committee invites you to the Annual Candlelight Stroll through our charming village on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. In case of inclement weather, the festivities will move to

Saturday, Dec. 21. The entire village will come alive with the warm glow of candles lining the stroll route, creating an unforgettable holiday atmosphere. From festive music to sweet treats, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Let the Gilford

Community Band set the holiday spirit with a concert at Gilford Community Church at 4 p.m. Then, starting at 5 p.m., take in the sights and sounds of the season as you ride through the village on a horse carriage or on foot. Step back in time with tours of the

Grange, Union Meeting House, and Rowe House. Sip on hot cocoa, munch on cookies, and make crafts at the library. Gather around the bonfire or toast marshmallows over a cozy campfire in Gilford Village Field. Be sure to keep an eye out for Frosty the

Snowman—and don't miss a chance to say hello to Santa Claus himself! This is a holiday tradition you won't want to miss! Bring your family, friends, and holiday spirit to celebrate the season in the heart of Gilford Village.

## Center Barnstead Christian Church announces holiday events

BARNSTEAD — Center Barnstead Christian Church invites you to experience a joyful and reflective Christmas Candlelight Service Friday, Dec. 20 from 7 – 8 p.m.

On Thursday, Dec. 19 from 7 – 8 p.m. at Oscar Foss Memorial Library, join us for an interactive presentation that will explore the origins of Christmas and discover how the traditions and festivities that we celebrate came about. Together we will unravel the many myths and mysteries around how Christmas began and evolved into the holiday that we are familiar with today. You may be surprised by what you discover!

## PRESTON

(continued from Page A1)

tact information

- Specific reason why this person deserves to be recognized

- Any anecdotal information or quotes from those who were touched by the nominee would be greatly appreciated

- All nominations must be submitted via email no later than January 6th.

- The award ceremony will be presented on Saturday, January 18th, 2024 in tandem with the Volunteer Appreciation Day celebration.


Nominations can be submitted to Kelly Fan at: [ursomeone@metro-cast.net](mailto:ursomeone@metro-cast.net)

Please contact above with any questions, thank you!

The selection committee for the Gordon Preston Outstanding Community Service Award will review the nominations and select one recipient that exemplifies the spirit of the award.

The Preston family would like to thank Margaret and Mike Cipriano for their generous and ongoing support in keeping the memory of Gordon Preston alive.





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


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 Meredith: 6BR/5BA, stunning waterfront retreat in Grouse Point Club. This completely renovated residence offers unparalleled luxury and breathtaking Lake Winnepesaukee water views. This property includes a highly coveted deeded dock. Call to learn about the association amenities!





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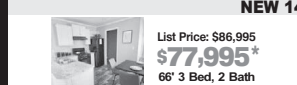



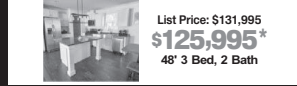

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# Second Annual Loft Christmas Show to benefit Lakes Region Children's Auction

MEREDITH — Embrace the joy of the Christmas season in the Loft at the Hermit Woods Winery in Meredith as three local musician favorites join together as a trio to celebrate the season through a mix of holiday classics and original compositions. Come and share what promises to be a wonderful evening of music wrapped around the theme of Christmas presented by artists Katie Dobbins, David Lockwood, and Andriana Gnap. This year's show marks the second annual presentation of a Christmas celebration in song by these musicians. For this year's one-night-only show at the Loft, they're back on stage together with additional musical support from the talents of New Hampshire artist Mike Moran on bass and percussion. Come and experience a special evening of Christmas magic.

In the spirit of the season of giving, 50 percent of show proceeds from ticket sales and tips will be given to the Lakes Region Children's Auction in support of local area children and related charities. So purchase a ticket with family members or friends and come with a joyful and generous heart knowing that you'll be supporting a great local business, three talented local musicians, and the good works of the Children's Auction. In the midst of the Christmas season, come and enjoy some of the music and songs that remind us all of its meaning and purpose.

This special show



will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 18, starting with a complimentary wine tasting at 5:30 p.m., Loft seating at 6 p.m., and musical performance from 7 – 8:30 p.m. A menu offering delicious foods and wines is available once the Loft has opened for seating. Food orders are taken prior to the musical performance while wine is available throughout the entire evening event. The Loft provides an intimate setting and is a listening room during show times.

Tickets for the show are \$10 - \$15 and available for purchase online at hermitwoods.com or at the Hermit Woods Winery located at 72 Main St. in Meredith. Seating is limited so be sure to purchase your tickets early.

#### About the Artists:

Katie Dobbins' music captivates with its authentic voice, seamlessly weaving through various styles and genres. Her wholesome and sultry vocals create a comforting connection, making you feel truly understood in the tapestry of life and love. Awarded Best Solo Act (Gold) at the 2024 Best of Lakes Region Awards, and nominated Female Performer of the Year at the 2023 New England Music Awards, Katie leaves a lasting impression with her honest lyrics and natural ease on stage. Her intentionality is evident in everything she does - from the music she creates to the details of each live show, making her performances a unique and beautiful experience.

Her most recent Holiday single, a creative acoustic rendition of "Silent Night," is available everywhere now, along with several other tunes released this year.

[katedobbinsmusic.com](http://katedobbinsmusic.com)

David Lockwood has gigged around New England for more than 40 years as a member of Straight No Chaser and Little Davey & The Aberrations, in freelance trios and duos, and as a soloist. His mobile piano adventures as Little Davey & The Rolling 88s has been featured several times on New Hampshire Chronicle. His most recent album

of original songs is "The Rest Is History" (2021). Two albums of solo piano music, "No More A Stranger: Hymns & Songs" (2020) and "Comfort & Joy: Christmas Hymns + Carols" (2022), have enjoyed wide success, gaining listeners from New Hampshire to New Zealand. Learn more at: [davidlockwoodmusic.com](http://davidlockwoodmusic.com).

Andriana Gnap is an American born singer/songwriter with a strong connection to her Ukrainian heritage. Her uplifting original songs (in English and Ukrainian) have been featured on international radio programs. She has ap-

peared as a vocalist, violinist, and dancer in theater and music festivals throughout the U.S. and Canada. Andriana also enjoys performing in local venues, such as Club Sandwich, operated by Broadway and film actor John Davidson. You may have heard one of Andriana's heartfelt ballads at New Hampshire's Cold River Radio show, opening for Jonathan Edwards along with her Family Trio Heavenstar. Recently, she published her first novel, "Two Worlds of Christmas." Learn more at: [www.Andriana.org](http://www.Andriana.org).

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## LEGALS

### Winnisquam Regional School District

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

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



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**ENERGYSAVERS INC.**  
163 Daniel Webster Hwy., Meredith NH

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6:30	Christmas Choir Concert
7:00	Christmas Mass
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