

A FREE PUBLICATION



Next Issue: Tuesday, May 16
Deadline: Thursday, May 11

TRENDY TIMES

20 Pine Street, Woodsville, NH 03785
Phone: 603-747-2887

Email: Gary@TrendyTimes.com
Website: www.TrendyTimes.com

MAY 2, 2023 VOLUME 14, NUMBER 15

The Colonial Theatre Prepares for 108th Season

The Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem, NH is pleased to welcome audiences back for its 108th season this May. This season will feature fifteen Live! @The Colonial concerts, in addition to films, special community events, and Kids! @The Colonial shows.

The Colonial kicks off its Live! series on Thursday, May 11th with beloved Grammy Award Winning singer and songwriter Shawn Colvin. Colvin stopped the industry in its tracks with her arresting 1989 debut, *Steady On*. The following spring, Colvin took home the Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Folk Album, establishing herself as a mainstay in the singer-songwriter genre. In the ensuing 30

years, Colvin has won three Grammy Awards, released thirteen superlative albums, written a critically acclaimed memoir, maintained a non-stop national and international touring schedule, appeared on countless television and radio programs, had her songs featured in major motion pictures and created a remarkable canon of work. Over the course of three decades, Shawn Colvin has established herself as a captivating performer and a revered storyteller.

"We have been overwhelmed by the response to our Live! show announcements shows this spring" said The Colonial Theatre's Director of Programming, Susanna Brent

"this community really loves live music and we are so happy to be able to share so many incredible acts." The month of May also includes the return of Griffin William Sherry to The Colonial. Griffin performed on The Colonial stage last summer with *The Ghost of Paul Revere* and returns with new music from his first solo album and special guest, Town Meeting.

In addition to the full slate of programming, this spring a number of building improvement projects will kick-off. "We're so excited for the 2023 season to begin! In addition to an excellent lineup of films and Live! events, The Colonial will replace its asphalt roof, update the covering on our



patio, and add a fresh coat of paint on our historic building's facade" said Christine Etter, Executive Director.

To learn more about upcoming movies and events, purchase tickets, or to become a member or volunteer please visit www.BethlehemColonial.org

While you are there, sign up for regular email updates or follow The Colonial on Instagram (@bethlehemcolonial), Facebook (Facebook.com/BethlehemColonial) or Twitter (@ColonialNH).

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TRENDY Dining Guide

Tuttle's Family Diner

by Gary Scruton

Our most recent Trendy Dining Guide experience was a Saturday lunch time visit to Tuttle's Family Diner in Wells River, VT. At the beginning it was a bit of a strange visit. We walked through the front door and had our choice of anywhere we wanted to sit. Now this is often the choice that is offered at Tuttle's, but the difference was that we could sit, literally, wherever we wanted. No one else was there! Very different from the normal business of this diner. I should add that it was not long before things did change and by the time we left there were several people at the

counter and at least two other tables were occupied.

Perhaps the difference was that we were arriving just after I had done one of my Saturday morning volunteer jobs, so our timing was unusual. But one thing that was the same, was good service and good food. We took one of the tables right in front of the "specials" blackboard. From that list I chose the smoked pulled pork sandwich which came with fries. Janice decided on an edible taco bowl. She also got a glass of water while I, having come from that volunteer job that started so early, went right for my coffee, which I had not gotten earlier in the

day.

As expected it was not long before our waitress brought our meals over to the table. Before the meals arrived Janice did get three small cups of condiments for her taco dish. One of salsa, one of sour cream and one of taco sauce. She likes all three and spooned them right onto the top of the taco salad. As she ate she also found lettuce, tomatoes, green peppers, onions, seasoned meat and cheese. Plus, as ordered, the bowl was also edible, and therefore part



of her taste delight.

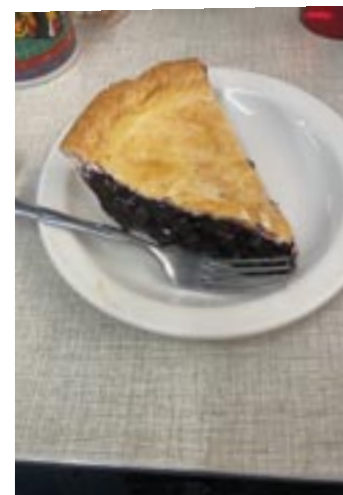
My plate had a healthy amount of fries along with a good sized pulled pork sandwich, and three or four pickles.

When we were checking out later one of the other diners, someone we know, came over and asked how I had liked the sandwich. He was asking because he was the one that had done the smoking. That made me like the meal even better as it was another example of local people buying locally made products to serve to other local people. If we all do that, our local economy gets stronger.

As I had mentioned earlier it was a Saturday and I had actually skipped breakfast all together, and had got some good exercise in the morning, so when I finished my meal I still had a bit of room left. Upon inquiry of our waitress, and a little help from one of the owners, I learned there was one

piece of blueberry pie remaining, but not for long. I must mention that this piece of pie was more than what I would normally expect to be served at an eatery. Even so it had no chance at surviving and I very much savored each and every mouthful.

The total cost of our two meals, drinks and dessert was \$34.86 including the tax. As is our habit we paid for the meal with a credit card at the front counter and left a cash tip on the table.



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Vinalhaven

by Elinor Mawson

My aunt and uncle had a yearly trip to Vinalhaven Island, and were so enthusiastic about it that we were always anxious to hear about their experiences there. One year they asked if we would like to visit them when they had their vacation.

Our kids were little, and we hadn't been too far from home due to money constraints as well as summer jobs, graduate school--one thing after the other. Their invitation got us to thinking if we could spare a few days doing something fun and different.

We weighed all the options: would our kids be able to sleep somewhere other than home? Could we spend a few days away? After several days we decided we could do it, and plans were made.

The trip involved driving to Rockland, Maine to get the ferry. After an hour and 15 minutes we would arrive in Vinalhaven where my uncle would meet us. We would go to their cottage to spend two days and two nights, and hope everything went well.

When we got to the cottage, we were met by my aunt and got "the tour" of the place. The cottage consisted of 4 rooms; the "facilities" were in an adja-

cent building. There were no other buildings in sight, nor was the ocean. I wondered what made the place so desirable year after year, but was reminded that my uncle had spent some of his childhood on the island. I knew he loved it there; my aunt wasn't so thrilled about it since she was claustrophobic and hated the foggy days.

It wasn't long before our boys started whining and saying they were "bored".

Although we had brought a few games for them, they got tired of playing and began to rag on each other. I wasn't comfortable sending them outside to play, and tried all sorts of ideas out on them, to no avail. It was embarrassing for one thing, and with no other ideas, I was fit to be tied.

I wish I could say that they got over their boredom and frustration, but the rest of our time on Vinalhaven was more of the same. The next day, my husband and older son

went lobster fishing with my uncle which quieted things down somewhat, but they picked up on it when everyone returned. They had brought some crabs home from their fishing trip and the boys helped take the meat out of the shells, I don't have to tell you that the ensuing crabmeat sandwiches had plenty of shells in them.

I couldn't wait to be taken to the ferry on the third day. I hadn't been out of the cottage once, I couldn't tell you what the island looked like and by the time we left, I didn't care. Our boys continued to fight and whine for the hour and 15 minutes on the boat as well as the 2-hour trip home.

We didn't take our kids anywhere for a number of years after that. When they were at home they stayed out of each other's way and we didn't have too many problems with them. But whenever I hear the word "Vinalhaven" I always think of those three days of misery, and wonder why we bothered.

Another Big Co-op Check



Harrison Kanzler, AHEAD executive director, and Joy Noel, AHEAD Director of Operations, hold the Big Check at the Littleton Food Co-op

Littleton Food Co-op welcomed Harrison Kanzler and Joy Noel from AHEAD (Affordable Housing, Education, and Development) on April 6th to hand them a check for \$5,033.97 to be used to support all aspects of AHEAD's programs nec-

essary to sustain its mission to strengthen and revitalize our North Country communities. Congratulations to AHEAD and thank you to all the members/owners and customers who rounded up at the register in March!

Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times

May 2, 2023

Volume 14 Number 14

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How Would You Vote?

Currently, the NH House of Representatives is just about evenly split between Democrats and Republicans. As of April 26, 2023, House membership is as follows: 200 Republicans, 196 Democrats, 3 Vacancies and 1 Democrat not yet sworn in. On any session day, due to attendance, either political party could be in the majority. As a result of this nearly split legislature, a number of bills have been sent to the House floor with "No Recommendation."

I have included an example of a "No Recommendation" committee outcome. SB 52, is relative to the regulation and operation of electric charging stations. When the full House meets on May 4, SB 52 must be acted upon. After reading the 2 differing committee reports for SB 52, how would you vote on the issue?

Statement in support of Ought to Pass with Amendment: This bill creates a study committee to determine how to fund the necessary electrical

infrastructure to support electric vehicle (EV) chargers. With growing EV adoption throughout the region, EV chargers are sorely needed throughout the state for out-of-state tourists and residents alike, especially north of Concord, and the need is only going to increase. The study committee would review existing funding sources and investigate additional sources. To be clear: this bill on its own does not create any new taxes or fees. It simply would start a process that would help keep tourism dollars here in New Hampshire, rather than losing them to our neighbors, all of which are ahead of us in EV charging infrastructure. (Rep. Thomas Cormen)

Statement in support of Inexpedient to Legislate: This bill would establish a study committee to study the installation of charging stations for electric vehicles (EV) in NH. The bill includes a directive to study ways that charging stations and their associated infrastructure can be paid for by someone other

than EV users. While this is troubling, it is not the main problem with the bill. The main problem is that this study committee would duplicate tasks already assigned to an existing organization. RSA 238-A establishes the NH Transportation Council whose duties include studying and making recommendations on the same issues that this study committee would address including, "Investigate methods of encouraging investment in new technologies for transportation." In addition to this existing council, the Department of Environmental Services and the Department of Transportation have over \$21 million of non-ratepayer funded and on-going projects to deploy EV charging stations in our state, and Clean Energy NH has a stakeholder group studying the issue. Concerns about NH losing tourist dollars to neighboring states are misplaced as market forces will provide an adequate supply of charging stations in direct response to consumer demand. (Rep. Michael Harrington)

I will support the motion, Inexpedient to Legislate.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rep Rick Ladd

Weathervane Theatre to Hold Local Auditions In May

Local Auditions for Season 58 to be held Saturday, May 20 from 10AM - 3PM. All ages welcome.

WHITEFIELD, NH - Weathervane Theatre is thrilled to hold local auditions for its upcoming 58th season (running June 9 - October 14, 2023) for the productions of North Country Shakes: The Bard on Broadway, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Mamma Mia!, and Guys and Dolls.

Auditions will take place at Weathervane Theatre's rehearsal space, The Grange, located at 29 Maple Street in Whitefield, NH. All ages welcome. Auditionees should be prepared to present a Shakespeare monologue (does not need to be memorized) and a brief (30-60 seconds) song selection. Auditionees may prepare a Shakespeare monologue of their choice or can select one from Weathervane's website (weathervanenh.org/work-with-us/#auditions) to perform. Please note that there will

not be an accompanist provided at this audition so auditionees are to provide their own accompaniment track or sing a capella. Weathervane will provide amplification. Auditionees may prepare a song of their own choice or select one from Weathervane's website. Please note that Weathervane will work with school schedules (ie: children cast in Midsummer are not required to perform in weekday matinees).

For additional audition and show information please visit weathervanenh.org. Questions can be directed to info@weathervanenh.org

In addition to onstage opportunities, Weathervane also seeks local behind the scenes talent. Currently seeking costumers, carpenters, painters, musicians, box office staff, and a residence manager. Interested applicants can submit a resume to weathervanejobs@gmail.com. Flexible hours and competitive pay for the right candidates. Ad-



ditional info regarding these positions can be found at weathervanenh.org/work-with-us.

Weathervane's 58th season opens June 9, 2023 and runs through October 14, 2023. Season productions include Jersey Boys, Stones in His Pockets, Honky Tonk Laundry, Meteor Shower, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Mamma Mia!, Guys and Dolls and Primary. Season subscriptions are currently on sale at weathervanenh.org or by phone at 603-837-9322. Please note all phone calls will be returned within 3 business days per the off-season box office schedule.

Byrne Foundation Gift Supports Opportunity for Teens

[Bradford, VT]: The Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation has awarded \$22,000 to Bradford Teen Center, of Bradford, Vermont, in support of the Center's programs to benefit youth from Bradford and surrounding Vermont towns. The Byrne Foundation, based in Hanover, New Hampshire, is well-known in the region for its support of non-profits both large and small.

"We are grateful for the Byrne Foundation's ongoing support, starting in 2020 when the Foundation's gift helped us open this teen drop-in center," said Executive Director Emily Cummings. "Since that time, thanks in part to this support, our capacity has increased, so that, over the past year, attendance at The Hub has more than tripled."

The Hub provides a safe, enjoyable environment where teenage youth are heard, encouraged, and empowered. Its after-school and out of school programs are designed to stimulate creativity, enhance self-esteem, and support social-emotional development. There is no charge to attend The Hub, which is open to grades 7-12, every day after school and on Saturdays.

For more information: <http://www.bradfordteen-center.org>.

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Weeks State Park Summer Program:

Weeks State Park Summer Program: Migratory Bird Day Walk Thursday, May 11, 2023 7 am to 12 pm. Lead by David Govatski

Join us for a Migratory Bird Day Walk at Weeks State Park. We will meet at the parking lot of the scenic auto road at 7 AM. We will slowly walk up the auto road looking and listening for a variety of migratory birds that are settling in our territories. We expect to see a variety of warblers and flycatchers at this birding hotspot. We also will be looking at Spring ephemeral wildflowers. The walk is a 3 mile round trip and ascends 800 vertical feet at an easy pace. At 11 AM we will offer an optional visit to Martin Meadow Pond to look for loons, osprey and eagles. Free Migratory Bird day posters will be available. The program is free and open to the public. Bring binoculars and dress for the weather.

David Govatski is the field trip leader and is an experienced bird guide and naturalist.

The summer programs are sponsored by the Weeks State Park Association, NH Division of Parks, and UNH Cooperative Extension. "Thank You" to our local business supporters who help make the summer program series possible.

Weeks State Park Summer Program: Nansen Ski Club June 30, 2023 7 pm. Presented by Scott Halvorson and Shawn Costello

Nansen: Past, Present and, Future - A Short Version of a Long Story

Join us! The oldest ski club in the country is celebrating its heritage and continuing to grow its traditions.

The Nansen Ski Jump (aka Big Nansen), built in 1937, hosted every meaningful ski jumping event in the country before being shut down in 1985, and coming, oh so close, to being gone forever. It's being resurrected!

The "Little Nansen", a smaller jump, located in the shadow of the Big Nansen, and the "L'il Nansen", a beginner's jump, were built this past fall and played host to two competitive events, to great acclaim and large crowds. Ski jumping is back!

But there is so much more! The Nansen Ski Club has 140 years of rich history tracing its roots back to the beginning of American skiing.

This presentation hopes to give a glimpse into this history and the history that we hope to make going forward.

Scott Halvorson is the

grandson of Alf Halvorson, a key force in the construction of the Big Nansen ski jump and Shawn Costello is a former jumper and primary organizer of the last Big Nansen jumping event.

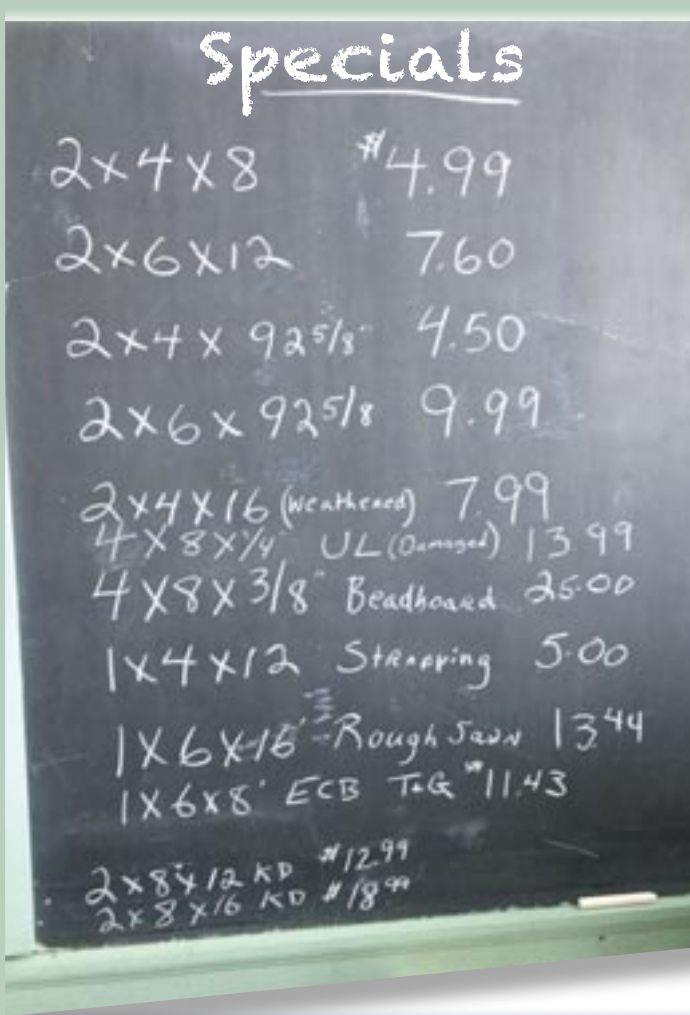
This program will be in the Great Room of the Summit Lodge of Weeks State Park and will begin at 7pm. Come early and bring a picnic supper, or climb the Fire Tower for one of the best views north of the notches. Weeks State Park is located on the east side of Route 3, approximately 2 miles south of Lancaster, NH. Carpooling is strongly suggested if possible for the events.

The summer programs are sponsored by the Weeks State Park Association, NH Division of Parks, and UNH Cooperative Extension. "Thank You" to our local business supporters who help make the summer program series possible.

Linda Scherf for Weeks State Park Association



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Grafton County Announces Pandemic Emergency Relief Funding For Grafton County Non-profit Organizations

North Haverhill, NH - Grafton County has received an allocation of American Rescue Plan Act - Local Fiscal Recovery funds. The Grafton County Commissioners and Executive Committee have authorized \$500,000 in Pandemic Emergency Relief funding to be made available to qualifying nonprofit organizations located in Grafton County.

The goal of this funding is to provide grants in amounts between \$1,000 and \$20,000 to nonprofit organizations located in Grafton County to reopen or recover from negative economic impacts linked to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nonprofit organizations interested in this

opportunity should visit Grafton County's website at www.co.grafton.nh.us to view the eligibility requirements, terms and conditions, and the application. For questions and additional information not available on our website, please contact County Administrator, Julie Libby by email at jlubby@grafton-countynh.gov or by calling (603) 787-6941. Applications can be submitted until May 26, 2023.

The Grafton County Commissioners are very excited to be able to provide this money to nonprofit organizations in our community to help them recover from the ongoing effects of the COVID pandemic.



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Volume 14 Number 14

Calendar of Events

EVENTS FROM LOCAL NON-PROFITS, SCHOOLS AND TOWNS. *PRESENTED FREE BY TRENDY TIMES.*

TUESDAY, MAY 2

WOODSVILLE WELLS RIVER 4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE MEETING
7:00 PM
Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River

THURSDAY, MAY 4

LAPSIT STORYTIME
10:00 AM
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum

SUNDAY, MAY 7

BENEFIT TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER
10:00 AM-7:00 PM Cash 1:00 PM Tournament
Moose Lodge 1779, St. Johnsbury

ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAM

12:00 - 3:00 PM
Clifford Memorial Building, Woodsville

MONDAY, MAY 8

DANCE PARTY MONDAYS
10:00 AM
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum

ACORN CLUB STORYTIME

2:00 PM
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum

ATV/OHRV PUBLIC HEARING

6:00 PM
Clifford Memorial Building, Woodsville

Haverhill Select Board Meeting

6:00 PM
Clifford Memorial Building, Woodsville

ROSS-WOOD AUXILIARY UNIT #20

MONTHLY MEETING
6:00 PM
4 Ammonoosuc Street, Woodsville

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

ROSS-WOOD POST #20 AMERICAN LEGION INSTALLATION DINNER & CEREMONY
6:00 PM
4 Ammonoosuc Street, Woodsville

THURSDAY, MAY 11

LAPSIT STORYTIME
10:00 AM
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum

FRIDAY, MAY 12

FAIR FOOD FESTIVAL
5:00 - 8:00 PM
North Haverhill Fairgrounds

NORTH SEA GAS, Scottish Folk Band
7:30 PM tickets:www.courtstreetarts.org
Alumni Hall, Haverhill

SATURDAY, MAY 13

FAIR FOOD FESTIVAL
11:00 AM - 8:00 PM
North Haverhill Fairgrounds

A COMMUNITY FESTIVAL OF SONG
2:00 PM See Article on Page 7
Bethany Church, Pike

RECEPTION HONORING BETTY JOHNSON GRAY

3:00 - 5:00 PM RSVP Requested
Alumni Hall, Haverhill

OPEN MIC NIGHT

6:30 - 9:00 PM
Horse Meadow Senior Center, No. Haverhill

THE NEW MOZAIC (American Soul/Funk) & GENTLEMAN BRAWLERS (Soul /Jazz)
6:00 PM
Terrace Ballroom, Lake Morey Resort)

MONDAY, MAY 15

DANCE PARTY MONDAYS
10:00 AM
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum

ACORN CLUB STORYTIME

2:00 PM
St. Johnsbury Athenaeum

FRIDAY, MAY 19

THE ROUGH & TUMBLE album release party
7:30 PM tickets:www.courtstreetarts.org
Alumni Hall, Haverhill

SUNDAY, MAY 21

PADDLE THE BORDER - SPRING
10:30 AM See Ad on Page 8
Woodsville Community Field

EVERY THURSDAY

WORKING ON WELLNESS
6:00 PM
Monroe Public Library

EVERY FRIDAY

SHARE THE HARVEST TABLE
NOON - 7:00 PM
Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River.

EVERY SUNDAY

BETHANY CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICES
9:00 AM "the church set apart on the hill"
Mt. Moosilauke Highway, Pike, NH
Phone: jo anne at 603-787-6658

WEEKLY EVENTS AT

CLIFFORD MEMORIAL BUILDING

South Court Street, Woodsville
ANTIQUÉ STROLLERS WALKING PROGRAM
Monday – Friday from 11:00-12:00
PICKLEBALL
Tuesday & Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM
Saturday mornings at 9:00-10:30 AM
LINE DANCING every Wednesday evening
6:00 - 7:00 PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

BEG, STEAL OR BORROW (VT Bluegrass)
6:00 PM
Lake Morey Resort waterfront

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

WILLING WORKERS SOCIETY OF
SUGAR HILL LUPINE MARKET
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Sugar Hill Meetinghouse, 1445 Route 117

OCT & BPL Offer Summer Drama Camp

Old Church Theater, in collaboration with the Bradford Public Library is excited to offer a Summer Drama Camp this year for thespians between 12-18 years old.

Classes on designing and building sets, script writing, costumes, make-up, finding your way around the stage, using stage voices, Becoming Your Character, and more will be presented. Camp will begin daily from Monday, June 26, 2023 to Saturday June 30, 2023, between the hours of 10am and 3pm.

Interested members of the camp will also be encouraged to write ten minute one-acts before camp begins that

members of the camp will prepare for a performance at Elizabeth Park on July 1st. (We hope to get 4-5 script writers!)

Auditions will be held at the Bradford Library on Sunday, May 21st between 2-4 pm.

Our local boy scout troop has been invited to make hot dogs and hamburgers for sale, along with chips and drinks, for campers and audience members. Anyone who wants to attend the performance is invited!

Contact Melissa Mann at melissa.mann@old-churchtheater.org for more information, or to register.

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A Community Festival of Song May 13 in Pike

"A Community Festival of Song" hosted by Bethany Church of Pike will be held on Saturday, May 13th at 2:00 p.m.. This informal gathering will include Teen Worship with Littleton Youth Movement 360, vocalists, Archie Steenburgh, Lori Coronato, Scott Sulham, Mal & Diane Kircher, The Bethany Singers, as well as pianist, Mac Starring of Littleton. Broadway, Gos-

pel, Patriotic and Contemporary Christian Music will be presented by our talented musicians.

A pie social will conclude this joyful community time together.

Bethany Church, "the church set apart on the hill" is located directly off Mt. Moosilauke Highway on route 25 in Pike. For more information, please call Jo Anne at 603-787-6658. Everyone is invited!

Horse Meadow Senior Center May Activities

5/1 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:00 Grief & Loss Support, 10:30 Candy Bar Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive, 1:00 Cards/Cribbage

5/2 9:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 9:30 Interfaith Chat, 12:30 Crafts, 1:00 Outdoors Walking Group, 1:00 Food Pantry by appointment

5/3 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:30 Board Games, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive

5/4 9:30 Bone builders, 1:00 Outdoors Walking Group, 1:00 Hymn Sing w/Byron, 1:00 Food Pantry

5/5 9:00 Kids Ballet, 9:45 Kids Jazz, 10:00 Popcorn & Movie, 10:30 Senior Stretch, 12:30 Mahjongg, 12:30 Computer help, 12:30 Herbal w/Elaine

5/8 9:30 Chair Yoga, 1:00 Drums Alive, 1:00 Dementia Support Group, 1:00 Cards/Cribbage

5/9 9:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 12:30 Crafting Time, 1:00 Outdoor Walking Group, 1:00 Food Pantry, Music by Jane Wilcox

5/10 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:00 Veterans Coffee, 10:30 Board Games, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive

5/11 9:30 Bone builders, 10:00 Floral with Jane, 1:00 Outdoor Walking Group, 1:00 Food Pantry by appt.

5/12 9:00 Kids Ballet, 9:45 Kids Jazz, 10:00 Popcorn & Movie, 10:30 Senior Stretch, 12:30 Mahjongg, 12:30 Computer Help

5/15 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:00 Grief & Loss Support Group, 10:30 Candy Bar Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive, 1:00 Cards/Cribbage

5/16 8:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 9:30 Interfaith Chat, 12:30 Crafting Time, 1:00 Outdoor Walking

Group, 1:00 Food Pantry, Music by Jane Wilcox

5/17 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:00 Book Discussion, 10:30 Board Games, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive,

5/18 9:30 Bone Builders, 1:00 Outdoor Walking Group, 1:00 Food Pantry by appointment

5/19 9:00 Kids Ballet, 9:45 Kids Jazz, 10:00 Popcorn & Movie, 10:30 Senior Stretch, 12:30 Mahjongg, 12:30 Computer help, 12:30 Herbal w/Elaine, Haircuts by Marshall by appointment, Music by Marshall

5/20 Spring Fling Walk/Run Event with BBQ, Vendors, and a 1 or 3 mile walk.

5/21 MAY flowers Community Dinner ~ Music @1:00 Meal @2:00

5/22 9:30 Chair Yoga, 1:00 Drums Alive, 1:00 Dementia Support Group, 1:00 Cards/Cribbage

5/23 9:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 12:30 Crafting Time, 1:00 Outdoor Walking Group, 1:00 Food Pantry, Music by Jane Wilcox

5/24 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:30 Board Games, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive

5/25 9:30 Bone Builders, 1:00 Outdoor Walking Group, 1:00 Food Pantry

5/26 9:00 Kids Ballet, 9:45 Kids Jazz, 10:00 Movie & Popcorn, 10:30 Senior Stretch, 12:30 Mahjongg, 12:30 Computer Help

5/29 CLOSED for Memorial Day

5/30 9:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 9:30 Interfaith Chat, 12:30 Craft Time, 1:00 Outdoor Walking Group, 1:00 Food Pantry

5/31 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:30 MEDICARE FRAUD presentation, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive

Take A Fire Tower Hike in NH

Looking for a different hiking venue? Make visiting a NH fire tower your goal this spring

As spring takes hold and more people seek new recreational adventures to help shake off winter, the N.H. Forest Protection Bureau is reminding everyone that there is a special category of hiking destinations across the state: New Hampshire fire towers.

The bureau maintains more than a dozen fire towers, from Pittsburg to Peterborough to Derry. While the hikes to some are challenging – up to three-miles round trip – others have a short walk to the base.

Anyone visiting five or more towers in N.H. Tower Quest program can receive a patch and water bottle sticker, simply by reporting which towers they visited and when.

Making a visit to a tower an even more unique outdoor experience, some towers have a fire lookout on site who monitors conditions and keeps an eye out for potential wildfires.

"Many of our fire towers are staffed on weekends and on high fire danger days throughout fire season, which typically runs from April through October in New Hampshire," said Chief Steven Sherman of the N.H. Forest Protection Bureau. "Reaching the summit of any hike is always mem-

orable, but when it's coupled with the opportunity to actually go into a fire tower cab and meet with a fire lookout, that's the kind of experience that makes really special memories.

"It's important to keep in mind that spring marks the beginning of wildfire season in New Hampshire," Sherman continued. "Even though we do have rainy days, forest fuels like leaves and twigs, along with dried grasses, can easily ignite and turn into a wildfire. This means it's especially important that people are mindful about extinguishing any campfires, smoking materials or brush piles 100 percent so that our forests will remain beautiful, welcoming places for all."

Increased wildfire conditions aren't the only thing to keep in mind when recreating outdoors now and in the coming months. Trails, especially in forests and at higher elevations, may still be wet

from snowmelt or rain; stepping off them can cause erosion as well as damage plants and animals that live nearby.

Anyone planning a hike is encouraged to visit the HikeSafe website, hike-safe.com, before they head out to make sure they are prepared for the day.

Information about the N.H. Tower Quest program can be found on the N.H. Division of Forests and Lands' website, nh.gov/nhdf or by searching "NH Fire Towers" on most search engines.

The N.H. Forest Protection Bureau is part of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources' Division of Forests and Lands, which protects and promotes the value provided by trees, forests and natural communities. For more information about the Division of Forests and Lands and the work of its Forest Protection Bureau, visit nh.gov/nhdf or call 603-271-2214.

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Flags Fly High at The Colonial Theatre

This Saturday, May 6th, The Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem, New Hampshire signals the theatre's opening with flags flying high atop the historic building.

Seasonal theatres make up a sizable part of New Hampshire's summer economy, from summer stock playhouses to art house cinema, and each spring New Hampshire blooms with the reawakening of these small arts institutions. The Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem adds a bit of fanfare to their spring opening traditions with the hoisting of two red pennant flags atop the historic theatre which are flown for the duration of the season. The festive flags each sport a "C" or a "T" for Colonial Theatre.

"Raising The Colonial's pennant flags on opening day is a treasured tradition at our theatre. They are a sign that spring is truly here, that maybe just maybe the last snow storm is behind us, and that arts and cultural programming will once again brim from our theatre's auditorium" said Christine Etter, Executive Director.

The flags go up at the Colonial this Saturday, May 6th for the first film of the theatre's 108th season, *The Lost King* by director Stephen Frears. This inspiring true story follows amateur historian Philippa Langley who believes that she has made the archeological find of the century: the lost burial



site of King Richard III. Taking on Britain's most eminent historians she forces them to rethink the legacy of one of the most controversial rulers in English history.

Tickets are also on sale for The Colonial's first Live! @The Colonial concert of the season featuring Grammy award-winning singer-songwriter Shawn Colvin. Colvin stopped the industry in its tracks with her arresting 1989 debut, *Steady On*. The following spring, Colvin took home the Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Folk Album, establishing herself as a mainstay in the singer-songwriter genre. In the ensuing 30 years, Colvin has won three Grammy Awards, released 13 superlative albums, written a critically acclaimed memoir, maintained a non-stop national and international touring schedule, appeared on countless television and radio programs, had her songs featured in major motion pictures and created a remarkable

canon of work. Over the course of three decades, Shawn Colvin has established herself as a captivating performer and a revered storyteller.

Historic traditions and the tradition of great films and music have made The Colonial Theatre a cherished fixture of Bethlehem's Main Street. The mission of the Friends of The Colonial is to inspire and invite participation in the cultural conversation by preserving and improving this historic landmark theatre, providing high-quality film and performing arts programming and quality family entertainment, and offering a vision of small-town revitalization based on the arts.

General Admission tickets for *The Lost King* are \$8, while Member tickets are \$6. Tickets for Shawn Colvin are \$52 for General Admission, \$62 for Front and Center, and \$42 for members. Tickets and information are available online at www.BethlehemColonial.org.

To learn more about upcoming movies and events, purchase tickets, or become a member or volunteer please visit www.BethlehemColonial.org. While you are there, sign up for regular email updates or follow The Colonial on Instagram (@bethlehemcolonial), Facebook (Facebook.com/BethlehemColonial), or Twitter (@ColonialNH).



Photo of two Tom Turkeys in a corn field with two Hens. NH Turkey season took place last weekend for the Youth Hunt, April 29-30. Spring Turkey season runs from May 1 - May 31, 2023. I encourage you to go on the NH Fish and Game website huntnh.com or pick up the NH Fish and Game Booklet called *NH Hunting Digest*. Most Town Clerks have them or where you purchase your Hunting License has the Digest for more information. Two suggestions, ask the Landowner for permission to hunt and be safe. Good luck and enjoy the outdoors. Tom Thomson, Orford, NH

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- Bradford Conservation Commission
- Upper Valley Land Trust • Upper Valley Trails Alliance

Paddle The Border - Fall is scheduled for Sunday, October 1, 2023

**For Further Information Contact Mike Thomas (802) 757-3960
or email mikethom1@charter.net
www.cohase.org • www.newburyconservation.org**

Coming To Court Street Arts



Captivating the audience with his vast knowledge and passion for the outdoors, author Gary Moore shared his secrets to discovering scenic views and trails in our region during his talk last week (4/27) at the Monroe Town Hall, sponsored by the Monroe Public Library.

NORTH SEA GAS, will take the stage at Alumni Hall, Haverhill, on Friday, May 12th at 7:30pm. Over thirty-nine years and stronger than ever! "North Sea Gas" is one of Scotland's most popular folk bands with great vocals and tremendous three part harmonies. Guitars, Mandolin, Fiddle, Bouzouki, Harmonica, Whistles, Bodhrans, Banjo and good humor are all part of the entertainment. They have received Gold and Silver Disc awards from the Scottish Music Industry Association and regularly have sold out shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and around the



world! They have released 22 albums. Their show, and their albums, consist of traditional, contemporary and self-penned material put together, in a style all their own, along with their humor and story-telling.

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Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times

May 2, 2023

Volume 14 Number 14

We Accept Cash, Check or Credit/Debit Cards



CLASSIFIEDS



Personal: For Sale, Wanted, Lost, Found: Up to 30 words FREE for 2 issues. (\$10,000 value limit)
 Business: Help Wanted, For Rent, etc. \$10/2 issues, \$20/5 issues, \$50/15 issues. Limit of 30 words.

Classifieds that exceed word count may be subject to an additional charge.

Mail or Drop Off at Trendy Times, 20 Pine Street, Woodsville, NH 03785 Email: Gary@trendytimes.com

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Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times May 2, 2023 Volume 14 Number 14

Letter to the Editor: The Danger of Mifepristone

To the Editor,

We all know that a federal judge has recently ordered the halt of the sale of Mifepristone, a commonly used abortion drug because, as he said, the FDA was negligent in approving the sale of the drug 20 years ago without adequate patient safety studies. Let's just see how dangerous this drug really is to women.

As of December of 2018, a total of 24 women out of 3.7 million died from using Mifepristone. Side effects from its use included nausea, weakness, fever/chills, vomiting, headache, diarrhea and dizziness.

Viagra, a drug that helps men achieve erections so they can have sex and possibly impregnate women, was approved in 1998. Since then, 29% of men taking it died in the first 8 months and through 2007, 1,824 deaths occurred, mostly from heart attacks. During that same time, Cialis, another erection drug approved in 2003, is linked to 236 deaths, and Levitra, yet

another erection drug approved in 2004, resulted in 121 deaths. In addition, the three erection medications have caused or significantly contributed to at least 2,500 non-fatal heart attacks and other serious heart problems, as well as more than 25,000 other potentially serious side effects including mini-strokes, vision and hearing loss.

It is obvious that Viagra, Cialis, and Levitra are insanely more dangerous to men than Mifepristone is to women. If Mifepristone is banned due to its "extreme danger" to women, then all erection drugs MUST be banned as well. That's assuming, of course, that the whole idea of the abortion drug being banned is truly about women's safety and not really about making abortions even harder to get and diminishing women's reproductive rights even further.

I go with door number 2. Let the male outrage begin.

Rachael Booth
Landaff, NH

Rachael,

As I have stated to other letter writers, you know more about this particular situation than I do. Therefore I can only comment in a general manner. But on the surface it seems that a judge may not be the best person to determine if a medical procedure (which would include medication) is good or bad for the general public, much less for any one particular person.

I am not presenting myself as for or against abortion. I am only saying that I wish people, whether they are a judge or not, should be honest when they offer an opinion, especially when it potentially affects so many others.

Gary Scruton, Editor

Letter to the Editor: Attacks on the Catholic Church by Our Own Government

To the Editor,

Recently documents have leaked out stating how the FBI was looking for extremists in the Catholic church. It said that Catholics who liked the traditional masses in Latin may have ties to extremist groups. Really? This is so ludicrous. What are they implying? There may be a group of Latin speaking Catholics planning to destroy something? (Maybe there is even a drug smuggling nun biker gang!)

Now back in the 1990s and 2000's when the extreme Islamists were committing attacks, any surveillance or spying in a mosque was forbidden. But is it ok to do this in the Catholic church? The Catholics did not threaten anyone or blow anything up, yet they are under surveillance?

The Saint Louise Catholic Church in Washington was vandalized by a trans individual last year. This person also spray painted a church employee's face and clothes in the attack. The cost of the damage was \$30,000.00 The Biden administration DOJ rec-

ommended NO jail time for this. How disgusting is that? What's next? Priests and parishioners will be attacked and Biden will say it's justified? So obviously all of this is about the Catholic church's stance on abortion and LGBT issues. And this is what the Biden's administration does. If someone goes against their agenda then they are demonized, attacked and basically have no rights. Biden's administration has no regard for the first amendment rights of someone who opposes them. This is right out of the Hitler, Stalin and Mao playbooks.

This reminds me when Black Lives Matter and Antifa rioted and attacked people and destroyed cities. Nothing happened to them except a few hand slaps. The Dems quickly came to their defense. Kamala Harris wanted people to send money in to bail out the small amount that were arrested. And this is our vice-president?

Democrat leaders encouraged people to harass the Supreme Court Justices at their homes. That is

outright illegal, yet nothing happened to them. Can you picture what would happen if Republican leaders told people to harass the liberal Supreme Court justices. There would be an immediate call for their imprisonment. There would also be rioting, looting and the burning of our cities.

Don't forget that Biden's administration has added 87,000 agents to the IRS. This agency also has 4,600 guns and 5 million rounds of ammunition. Why does the IRS need all of these people, weapons and ammunition? The IRS Mission Statement says nothing about armed combat.

So we have the FBI spying on Catholic Churches, a violent, vandalizing church attacker getting no jail time, and blatant violent destructive criminal acts getting a free pass. We also have an IRS agency that has no combat mission yet is armed for war. What are we to expect from this administration in the future? Where is this heading?

Alex Foryan
Landaff, NH

Alex,

I hate to say it, but neither the Democratic nor Republican party has a monopoly on attacking their opponents. In today's American political atmosphere it seems that either you are with me 100% or you are my enemy that must be destroyed. Where has our tolerance for differing opinions gone? What happened to giving all the facts and not just those that benefit your own side?

There is no excuse for spray painting a church or any other building that you do not

own yourself. But is it an offense that mandates jail time? And finally, regarding the IRS. I have heard that some information being sent to the IRS may sit on a desk for a year before it is addressed. It may take that many new agents to get thru that backlog. As far as the guns and ammo are concerned, according to your numbers a very small percentage of IRS agents have firearms. Probably those who are sent out to collect form the less than honest tax payers.

Gary Scruton, Editor

Letter to the Editor: Ride Safe, Stay Off the Yellow Line

To the Editor,

Every year I write an editorial on safe riding for Bikers. As a Former Rider and Driver, one of the ways to ride safely, is to "Stay off the White/ Yellow/ Double/ Center line".

Your handle bars, hands, arms, legs, knees & feet are in the oncoming traffic, when your front

wheel "Rides The Line"

Please ride safe this coming Memorial weekend and July 4th Holiday week and Summer Fall Vacation

"Ride Safe All The Time" "Bikers Ride Safe ,DON'T Ride The Line"

Nancy Leclerc
North Woodstock, NH

Nancy,

Back in my younger days I also rode a motorcycle. Most of my riding was to and from work, but I did a few "trips". I was lucky that I only had one or two very minor "bike drops" and no serious incidents.

However, I know plenty of people who have been injured, or worse, while riding a motorcycle. And it was not always their fault. So along with bikers being careful I urge all drivers of vehicles on the roads to watch out for the other guy, and especially for those bikes that can seem to "come out of nowhere". Ride Safe and enjoy.

Gary Scruton, Editor

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Some “Did-You-Knows” About Estate Plans

If you’ve done any estate planning, or even if you’re just familiar with it, you probably know the basics — that is, a comprehensive estate plan can help you pass on assets to your family while also achieving other goals, such as designating someone to take care of your affairs if you become unable to do so. But you may not know about some other estate-planning issues that could prove important in your life:

- Power of attorney for students – Children heading off to college may be considered legal adults in many states. Consequently, you, as a parent, may not have any control over medical treatment if your child faces a sudden, serious illness or is involved in an accident. Instead, a doctor who doesn’t know your child or your family may decide on a course of action of which you might not approve. To help prevent this, you may want to have your college student sign a medical power of attorney form, which will allow you to make decisions on your child’s behalf if doctors don’t think your child can make

those choices. You might also want to combine the medical power of attorney with an advance health care directive or living will, which lets you specify actions you do or don’t want to happen. In any case, consult with your legal advisor before taking any of these steps.

- Community property versus common law – Not all states treat married couples’ possessions equally. If you live in a community property state, the property you acquire during your marriage is generally considered to be owned in equal halves by each spouse, with some exceptions. But if you live in a common law state, the property you obtain while you’re married is not automatically owned by both spouses. In these states, if you buy some property, you own it, unless you decide to put it in the name of yourself and your spouse.

This doesn’t necessarily mean, however, that your spouse has no rights, because common law states typically have rules that guard surviving spouses from being disinherited. But here’s the key point: If you move from a community property state to a common law state, or vice versa, you might not want to assume that your and your spouse’s property ownership situations will remain the same. Consequently, if you do move, you may want to con-

sult an estate-planning attorney in your new state to determine where you stand.

- Pet trusts – You always strive to take good care of your pets. But what might happen to them if you become incapacitated in some way? Unless you have a close family member or friend who’s willing to take over care for your pet, you might want to consider setting up a pet trust, which can take effect either during your lifetime or after you pass away. A trustee typically will make payments to the caregiver you’ve designated for your pet, with payments continuing for the pet’s lifetime or a set number of years. Again, an estate-planning attorney can help you with this arrangement.

Estate planning certainly involves the big-picture issue of leaving a legacy to the next generation. But the issues we’ve discussed can also be meaningful to you, so you’ll want to address them properly. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

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Letter to the Editor:

To the Editor:

I am a New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) Director who is up for re-election this year. Three years ago I promised that if elected I would use my experience as a consumer advocate and utility regulator to fight for affordable and reliable electric service and to secure grants for broadband internet initiatives. I delivered on those promises.

On broadband, my most notable achievement was serving as project manager and co-author with fellow Director Leo Dwyer of a grant application which won a whopping \$50 million subsidy for NHEC broadband! As a direct result of that grant 13,885 of my fellow Grafton County residents will be wired for fiber internet service, and NHEC will ultimately provide service to all of its

members in the County.

Another \$200 million in federal broadband and electricity grant funds will be coming to NH, so retaining the Board’s grant-seeking expertise will be critical for members. As chair of NHEC’s broadband subsidiary, NH Broadband, I will also make sure we implement broadband cost-effectively and get fiber internet to members as soon as possible.

I have voted against proposed electric rate increases, including the size of NHEC’s fixed monthly electric charge – the highest in New England. This \$33 monthly residential charge is much higher than any electric utility regulated by the NH Public Utility Commission -- for example, Eversource charges \$13.81/month. NHEC’s monthly charge unfairly burdens members with

lower annual electric usage, such as poorer and elderly members, apartment dwellers and seasonal residents.

I maintain that the NHEC Board should be as protective of its members’ finances as public utility regulators are of investor-owned utility customers.

Keeping these important issues in mind, I urge you to vote in the Co-op’s director election that begins on May 3 and runs through May 31, and I ask for your support and vote. Leo Dwyer of Sandwich is also on the ballot and deserves your vote for his strong support of broadband and his demonstrated willingness to vote against proposed unjustified rate increases.

Bill Darcy
NHEC Director
Benton, Grafton County,

ning water, but not with a big smile. It is great to see a utility moving forward to bring this capability to its customers, and hopefully many others in the near future.

*Bill,
For many people, and I would also say most everyone, internet availability in the form of broadband has become a utility that is a necessity. Sure we could do without it. We could also do without electricity or run-*

Gary Scruton, Editor

Letter to the Editor:

To the Editor,

According to the Newbury Recreation Department and the Newbury Selectboard the children of Newbury are all equal, but some are more equal than others. According to the town's website "The Recreation Committee is a town appointed board that coordinates recreational events including sports and holiday celebrations for all Newbury children in grades K-6." Apparently that means all Newbury children in grades K-6 who attend Newbury Elementary School but does not include Newbury K-6 students who live within the boundaries of Wells River, an incorporated village within the town of Newbury, who go to Blue Mountain Union and not Newbury Elementary.

All Wells River residents (either as property owners or through rent payments) pay taxes to Newbury like everyone else does in Newbury. Wells River taxes help fund this year's \$13,000 appropriation to the Recreation Department. Wells River provides 7.66% of the total taxes collected (as per the Town Treasurer) in the whole town of Newbury meaning the Rec. Department receives \$995.80 of their \$13,000 budget from Wells River taxes. The Newbury

Rec. Department has paid all the costs for Newbury Elementary students to play for the Newbury CV Little League team. There are 15 Wells River students playing on the BMU CV Little League team. Wells River parents were required to pay a \$45.00 fee (for a total of \$675) for their child/children to play, after already helping to pay for Newbury Elementary students to play. Wells River parents in effect are paying twice. The Recreation Department, partially funded by Wells River taxes, doesn't even want to talk to Wells River residents about this inequality and were referred to the Select board, which Wells River taxes help pay for the Select board stipends too.

A group of residents have attended the last 3 select board meetings, and for the 3 meetings the results have been the same, "we need more information and we want to make the right decision". It does make one wonder what information they haven't been able to gather after 3 meetings. I also wonder why a former Newbury resident who happened to be in the building was allowed to opine that if Wells River parents were reimbursed for Little League than any parent could ask that their \$1000 costs be reimbursed

so their child could play hockey. I have to admit I did not see that coming. It is a deflection move people use when the facts don't support their side. We were talking about Little League not hockey. It might appear to some, that the select board is looking for a way not to pay but don't want to vote not to pay while there are Wells River residents in the audience.

It was remarked that it must be frustrating for me, but they want to make the right decision. It isn't frustrating; it is disgraceful that after 3 meetings the right thing has not been done. Voters from Newbury and Wells River approved the town budget of \$650,340 for general town expenses, including the \$13,000 recreation budget. The Recreation Department and the Selectboard should look at the budget and make the necessary adjustments. Budgets can be changed as circumstances change.

We are not asking for special treatment, we are just seeking to not pay twice and to receive service for what we are paying for. The Wells River Little Leaguers are just as equal as the Newbury Little League Players. This is not 1984.

Richard M Roderick
Wells River, Vt

a very valid and important point. Tough decisions, by definition, are not easy. But it is the duty of all our elected officials to make them, after due consideration. Then we can all enjoy the fun of watching our children and/or grandchildren, or maybe just the neighbors' kids, play ball!

Gary Scruton, Editor

Richard,

It was Benjamin Franklin, one of our founding fathers who said "We must all hang together, or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately." Now paying for Little League is certainly not a hanging offense, but the idea of a community all pulling together whatever the situation may be is still

Lawrence Leslie Hart passed away at the age of 80 on March 6th, 2023, at his home, with his grandchildren and their spouses

by his side. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, May 13th at the top of Hart's Field off Hart's Road at 1PM.

Letter to the Editor:

Democrats need a rebranding!

To the Editor,

In January I began my term as the Democrat representing Grafton District 2 and quickly realized Democrats have a branding problem. I have always viewed myself as politically moderate, not totally beholden to the ideas of a single party. In Concord I sit on the commerce committee, where we had a hearing on HB227, a bill, that if enacted, would dictate the criteria banks can and cannot consider when making business loans. During the hearing, I challenged the sponsor because the bill is very anti-free market, and I was concerned about it leading to serious governmental overreach. That evening a lobbyist who witnessed the exchange asked me if I am Republican. It's funny, it was me, a Democrat, defending the free market from a bill sponsored by 11 Republicans!

Beyond the traditional culture war issues (book bans, LGBT+, women's & immigration rights) where Republicans support heavy-handed government regulations, they also regularly support anti-business/anti-freedom bills. In addition to HB227, my committee heard, HB86, HB225, and HB304 all Republican sponsored bills that would have applied additional, unnecessary regulations on businesses or individuals. In contrast,

it was a Democrat who sponsored HB167, which REMOVED undue regulations on nano breweries. A simple, commonsense bill that was headed for defeat if it were not for my forceful arguments during the committee meeting. I am happy to report it just passed the Senate and is headed to the governor's office! Finally, let's not forget that cannabis legalization passed because an overwhelming majority (88%) of Democrats voted with a slight majority (54%) of Republicans to expand freedom, a bill that looks headed for defeat in the Republican controlled Senate and for which our Republican Governor has vowed to veto despite more than 70% of granite staters supporting the legalization of cannabis.

Democrats are branded as anti-business and anti-freedom, meanwhile, Republicans are viewed as the pro-business defenders of liberty. In reality, both parties use regulations to push their agendas, and depending on the issue, Republicans can be quite supportive of anti business, liberty crushing regulations. There are many Democrats working to cut red tape and expand personal freedom and I am proud to count myself among them. Democrats need a rebranding.

Jared Sullivan
Bethlehem

Jared,

I have the position (sometimes good and sometimes bad) of responding to all the Letters to the Editor I receive. It is what I was taught as a youngster. In doing so do my best to stay on the proverbial fence. Another way of putting that is that I do my best not to fall into the ranks of either party, but to find that middle grounds. Labels often do not make a situation better. Instead, labels put a prejudged idea of what someone thinks or feels, which, at least on occasion, may not be true.

I thank you for stepping up and serving your community. Please keep us all informed of your efforts.

Gary Scruton, Editor

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Adam W. Smith



What About Ma?

by Kellie Quackenbush
All About Gossip and Slander

Ma would rather cut her own tongue out than say something unkind. Her's was the generation of discretion. A time when only the worst scandal would ever be discussed, in hushed tones, and never around the children. Even after a person had passed, be it many decades ago, she would only speak of the highest qualities of that individual. We do not speak ill of the dead.

Gossip, as defined by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary is " : rumor or report of an intimate nature, : a chatty talk, : the subject matter of gossip." At one point or another, everyone is exposed to some type of gossip. Usually people experience the "chatty" type of gossip which focuses on personal news: Shared information such as engagements, vacations, births or elaborate gifts (which may be considered bragging). However, there is the type of gossip that is unfounded, negative and hurtful.

Gossip can be either a noun or a verb. Calling someone a gossip is not a compliment, it generally means they take pleasure in passing salacious information that may be less than true. My experience with gossips is that they start with a small fact and dress it up until it becomes a scandal. Generally, gossip is not intended to hurt anyone, bored people with too much time on their hands just need to make conversation.

There is slander, defined by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary as "noun-the action or crime of making a false spoken statement damaging to a person's reputation." and the "verb - make false and damaging statements

about (someone)." Slander is not misinformed gossip but a willful lie told to hurt the person of topic. Family members and businesses, in the midst of feuds may take the leap from gossip to slander.

For a business to be caught slandering an individual or another business, there are legal consequences. Slander, as designed, hurts a reputation and can damage a business or person's position in the community. Slander is untrue statements that may cause loss of employment, loss of income and loss of friends or customers. There is a fine line between gossip and slander.

Providing facts, facts without embellishment or hyperbole, is the best way to share information among friends and co-workers. Presenting an opinion about a behavior or another person's action in a given situation should be clearly stated as such. I like "In my opinion, there is no place for gossip in the work environment." The reality is that we should be spending more time actually working and less time chit-chatting.

I would not presume to say that every hurtful statement made is gossip or slander but one has to wonder. Why would someone share a hurtful piece of information about someone else? It is a clear wonder that people feel the need to speak negatively about others in public. What could be the purpose of such talk?

I think about where is the information or disinformation being shared. A private conversation with nobody else around could be a source of caution. However, such talk in a social setting, such as a

party or shopping or at a diner - could be the type of talk that causes trouble. How many people are hearing this information and is the subject at the event? If it is truly mean communication, can it be verified and would you feel comfortable telling the person what you had heard?

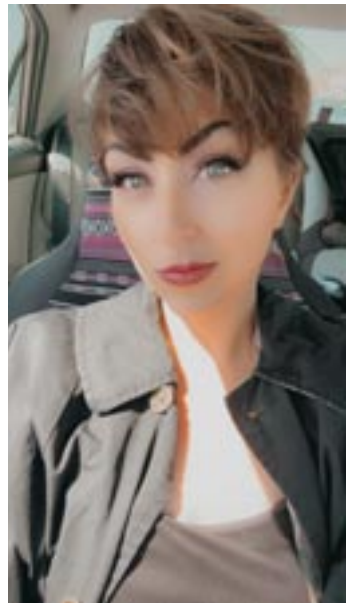
Of late, the television news has been under scrutiny for what it has broadcast. There have been many examples of statements and information shared that had not been true and were not 'fact checked' causing turmoil and greater harm to those involved and to the listeners that had trusted the information to be correct. The courts will determine if they were guilty of slander.

Thinking of the past and the great news people that stood firm to maintain their integrity, I think of Walter Cronkite. I remember one time he was handed a sheet of paper to read and he asked "has this been verified?" The answer was "no" so he refused to read it. Per Walter Cronkite, "As anchorman of the CBS Evening News, I signed off my nightly broadcasts for nearly two decades with a simple statement: 'And that's the way it is.' To me, that encapsulates the newsman's highest ideal: to report the facts as he sees them, without regard for the consequences or controversy that may ensue."

I strive to be like Ma and not say anything unkind. Sometimes, I am left with only the facts. I strive to keep my information true and use my words for good. I hope you do too.

NEK Council on Aging Welcomes Carol Smith

Newport, VT – The NEK Council on Aging is pleased to announce that Carol Smith has been hired as Case Manager for the Coventry, Irasburg, Albany, Craftsbury, and Barton/Glover area. This position supports clients by evaluating long-term needs and providing person-centered and lifestyle options that inform, encourage, inspire, and support older and disabled adults to live independently and age well. "Carol brings a wealth of experience in caring for people in the community. That experience, and her inquisitive nature, are a perfect fit for helping those we serve to achieve their goals for aging and living well," said Meg Burmeister, Executive Director. Smith brings experience in customer service, retail management, inventory management, and database applications as the former Evening Manager of Shaw's Supermarket in Derby and the Weekend Manager of Eden Specialty Ciders in Newport. She also was Registrar Assistant at Bethany College helping to process transcripts for students. She served as a State Tested Nursing Assistant



for the Good to Be Home Care Services, an elder care organization in Saint Clairsville, OH where she provided in-home services for nutrition, shopping, personal care, and medical record keeping. She was the primary at-home caregiver for a family member for two years, managing all aspects of medical and personal care needs. Smith obtained her bachelor's degree in psychology from Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia. She lives in Derby Line with her two children and enjoys life, the performing arts, crafting, and mallet percussion (xylophones, marimbas, vibraphones, and glockenspiels



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SALESRICHARD M. RODERICK, APRIL SCRUTON & GARY SCRUTON
CONTRIBUTING WRITERSMAGGIE ANDERSON, MARIANNE L. KELLY, ELINOR P. MAWSON, CINDY PINHEIRO, KELLIE QUACKENBUSH
DISTRIBUTION AGENTS.SHARON CASSADY, DAWN DEAN, RICHARD RODERICK, GARY SCRUTON
EDITOR / PUBLISHER.....GARY SCRUTON
ASSISTANT PUBLISHER .. APRIL SCRUTON
WEB MASTER PAUL HUNT

Phone 603-747-2887
E-MAIL: gary@trendytimes.com
20 Pine Street • Woodsville, NH 03785
WWW.TRENDYTIMES.COM

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Stupid Is As Stupid Does

Op-ed by
Maggie Anderson

The latest news stories across the country have brought to mind a couple of thoughts I learned from two brilliant people, at least brilliant in terms of their ability to draw a bead on reality.

The first, my paternal grandmother, told me psychiatry was just a difficult way to spell common sense, and added that the world could use a whole lot more common sense if anybody bothered to ask her.

The second is the memory of an old Gary Larson cartoon. The scene is a group of penguins who, having looked skyward in order to watch the passing of a formation of jets flying overhead, have all ended up lying on their backs as a result.

One penguin looks at another, and to paraphrase Mr. Larson, asks - If a thousand people do a stupid thing, is it still a stupid thing?

Good question. One we should all be asking ourselves every single day.

I don't know what's in the minds of the other women in this country, but I am sick of seeing the things my generation fought for, were ridiculed for, even jailed for, being erased at every turn.

Women are stripped of personal space in so many areas already, and that shrinkage is expanding as I write. On the TV screens I am subjected to advertisements for every piece of personal equipment made, along with everything except an on-screen tutorial of how to apply or insert, and which areas to shave with what razor.

Frankly I've had enough of being stripped of my privacy and my dignity.

Recently awards for Woman of the Year,

Time's cover story of Woman of the Year, even awards honoring brave women on the International stage, have been given to people who are not biological women at all.

Women's sporting contests are being invaded. People who, having decided to play for both teams, or perhaps just trying out for each to see which they have the best advantage in, are routinely crushing the competition in women's sports, as well as, due to their biological size and strength, crushing some skulls along the way.

There is not a library, or public space of any kind, that would allow a black face performance, or a comical depiction of a Mexican peasant enjoying a noontime siesta while sitting under his sombrero to shield himself from the midday sun, and no chance at all of permitting a skit with an old stereotypical Chinese coolie in his cone-shaped hat.

Such depictions are seen as demeaning by any adult with a single synapse still firing.

But these same public spaces are not only allowing women to be portrayed as some sort of grotesque caricatures, complete with cartoon makeup, and phoney assets, They are actually leaning on the Constitution to support their position.

Why is it okay to paint women in such a humiliating light, laughable at best, and yet charge you with a hate crime if you put on a show that called so many other idiotic practices to the fore?

Black face is no more humiliating to a black person than pretending a drag queen is an example of womanhood is to me, and all the other women who don't see themselves as some sort of joke.

Say 'NO' to Legalizing Pot in New Hampshire

Op-ed by Nick De Mayo

The DARE Program was used in schools across America for many years, and was a deterrent against drug use and violence among Middle School kids due to the intervention of local police officers in their area schools who befriended the kids, and taught them about the dangers of drugs and violence in their lives while the kids were still young. I think NH's towns and cities should revisit this positive program and institute the DARE Program's fundamentals in their schools. Perhaps the NH Dept of Education should find a way to lead the way?

As a 35-year veteran public school teacher who taught Elementary and Middle School, I can attest to the effectiveness of the DARE Program. The kids really loved the Program, and looked forward to experiencing the weekly visits of the DARE Officers. The officers offered so many fun things for the kids to do while, at the same time, teaching the kids that they can comfortably "say no to drugs and violence." Why did we ever let that promising program leave our classrooms, our schools, and our communities?! Look at the contemporary sad shape of our schools and communities today with rampant drug use and untamed violence. Just look at some of our once proud and glorious cities: New York, Los Angeles, Seattle, San Francisco, just to name a few. One can easily term these places "drug dens" and "crime-wave cities." People are leaving these places in droves due to drugs and violence.

I agree with Susan McKeown, whose article in the Monday, April 17, 2023 Union Leader entitled "Health shouldn't take a back seat to revenue" quite accurately points out the many dangers of legalizing recreational mari-

juana just to make a few "entrepreneurs" rich. What we in New Hampshire would really be doing is enriching the cartel overlords.

The Journal of the Missouri Medical Association, dated September 6, 2019, reports the impact of the legalization of marijuana in Colorado. It states: Medical and recreational marijuana are destroying the health and social fabric of Colorado the Centennial State. All one has to do is transcribe "New Hampshire" for "Colorado" in the following paragraphs.

The Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (RMHIDTA) program has published annual reports every year since 2013 tracking the impact of legalizing recreational marijuana in Colorado. The purpose is to provide data and information so that policy makers and citizens can make informed decisions on the issue of marijuana legalization.

Since recreational marijuana was legalized:

Traffic deaths in which drivers tested positive for marijuana increased 109% while all Colorado traffic deaths increased 31%.

Traffic deaths involving drivers who tested positive for marijuana more than doubled from 55 in 2013 to 115 people killed in 2018.

This equates to one person killed every 3 days in 2018 compared to one person killed every 6 ½ days in 2013.

The percentage of all Colorado traffic deaths that were marijuana-related increased from 15% in 2013 to 23% in 2018.

Since recreational marijuana was legalized:

Past month marijuana use for ages 12 and older increased 58% and is 78% higher than the national average, currently ranked 4th in the nation.

Adult marijuana use increased 94% and is 96% higher than the national

average, currently ranked 4th in the nation.

College age marijuana use increased 18% and is 48% higher than the national average, currently ranked 6th in the nation.

Youth marijuana use decreased 14% and is 40% higher than the national average, currently ranked 6th in the nation.

The yearly number of emergency department visits related to marijuana increased 54% after the legalized of recreational marijuana (2013 compared to 2017).

The yearly number of marijuana-related hospitalizations increased 101% after legalization of recreational marijuana (2013 compared to 2017). The percent of suicide incidents in which toxicology results were positive for marijuana has increased from 14% in 2013 to 23% in 2017.

RMHIDTA Colorado Drug Task Forces (10) conducted 257 investigations of Black Market marijuana in Colorado resulting in:

192 felony arrests
6.08 Tons of marijuana seized
60,091 marijuana plants seized

25 different states the marijuana was destined

Seizures of Colorado marijuana in the US mail system has increased 1,042% from an average of 52 parcels (2009 - 2012) to an average of 594 parcels (2013 - 2017) during the time recreational marijuana has been legal.

Marijuana tax revenue represents approximately 9/10 of one percent of Colorado's FY 2018 budget.

64% of local jurisdictions in Colorado have banned medical and recreational marijuana businesses.

Let's keep New Hampshire "drug free" and pray the NH Senate and Governor Sununu veto legislation to legalize recreational marijuana.

Nick De Mayo
Sugar Hill, NH

Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times

May 2, 2023

Volume 14 Number 14

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BEEZWAX

By John Martin





by Cindy Pinheiro
to contact Cindy (aka Cin Pin)
write to the editor at
gary@trendytimes.com

Almond Crusted Baked Chicken

Hello hello my fellow chefs! How are you all doing today? I'm okay just doing some spring cleaning. I was supposed to go to a dental appointment but RCT had to cancel because they had a couple of drivers call in sick. Yes I'm still without a car, hopefully not much longer. I'm in the process of getting a loan but it's taking longer than I expected.

It was brought to my attention that the Apple cake recipe that was in the April 4th issue was missing one ingredient, add 1 tsp vanilla extract. Sorry for the mistake. In fact I made it again because it's so tasty so you should give it a try.

Let's get started with today's recipe and how to make it.

Ingredients

- 2 lbs boneless chicken tenders
- 2 cups dry roasted shelled almonds
- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tsp onion powder
- 1 tsp garlic powder



- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 1 tsp dried parsley
- 1/2 tsp each salt and pepper
- 2 large eggs
- Maple syrup to drizzle on top

Using a food processor, pulse almonds to small bits, add Parmesan cheese and pulse. Add the onion powder, garlic powder, smoked paprika, parsley, salt and pepper and pulse to mix. Pour into medium bowl. Beat eggs in small bowl. Pre-heat oven to 400 degrees. Dip each chicken tender in egg then press into almond mixture. Spray a cookie sheet with Pam or use parchment paper. I

used parchment paper and it was good. Place all on cookie sheet and bake for 25-30 minutes until brown, turning half way through.

I served mine with Acorn squash that I started in the microwave. Slice in half, scoop out the seeds, place face down in microwave safe dish with 1/2" of water and cook 5-7 minutes, then finish in the oven. I used my Corning ware. Insert fork to make sure done. Serve in the shell with butter and maple syrup.

I also made baked potatoes the same way, starting in the microwave finishing in the oven, that I served with butter and sour cream. It was "Delizioso". If you don't want to drizzle maple syrup on your chicken make some brown gravy. That's it.

Enjoy this nice healthy meal with some Pinot Grigio or any light white goes well. Please drink responsibly.

With any leftovers re-heat in microwave or slice thin and make a great sandwich. This is a different way to use chicken so give it a try because your family will love it and you will be a star.

Well folks that's it for today's recipe. I hope you enjoy. If you have any questions please contact Gary and I will help you out. Until next time I am signing off,

Sincerely,
Cin Pin

Randy Roos & Urethane To Perform at The Loading Dock



The Loading Dock is pleased to announce that NH based composer and guitarist, Randy Roos, will be performing with Urethane, a high energy fusion jazz band, live in Littleton on May 6th at 8pm. Tickets are available on Eventbrite in advance for \$10 and \$15 day of show. All ages. Doors open at 7:30, music starts at 8.

This band blends a potent mixture of compelling compositions that serve as a launch pad for exploratory improvisation, infectious grooves, and spacey jams. Fans of Medeski Martin & Wood's adventure with John Scofield would not be disappointed. Randy Roos is a composer/guitarist/sound engineer who lives just south of the notch and is a professor at Berklee College of Music. Randy's band consists of drummer Jared Steer, Bassist Mike Rossi, and Steve Hunt on keys. Jared Steer has to be the hardest working drummer in northern NH. He plays

everywhere and is an in demand musician. Mike Rossi plays a lot with Jared, together they form a rock solid rhythm section. Steve Hunt is an incredible pianist in his own right. He has played with some of the heaviest of the heavies in Jazz including over ten years with guitarist Allan Holdsworth and has a strong personal style all his own. This show is a chance to hear musicians playing at a very high level, the likes of which you would need to travel to Boston, Montreal or New York City to experience.

The Loading Dock is a non-profit creative space dedicated to presenting original art. The venue is located on Mill Street in Littleton, the entrance is next to a loading dock directly behind Topic of the Town and just up the street from Bad Art. The best parking is on Main Street or in the free parking lots on Pleasant Street behind the movie theater.

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If you have a bike you want to sell, bring it to us **BEFORE** May 6th, pay a small listing fee of \$7.50 per bike and we will sell it for you. If it sells, you get your choice of 90% store credit or 60% cash. Bikes must be bike shop quality and safe.

If you are looking for a good used bike, come to the Swap on May 6th at 10am! Our parking lot will be set up with all the used bikes. Plus additional closeouts in our store.

On Sunday the leftover bikes go down to their reserve price.

Email us with questions info@littletonbike.com

30 Cottage St, Littleton NH. Below Littleton Freehouse

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