

A FREE PUBLICATION



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TRENDY TIMES



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January 14, 2025 VOLUME 16, NUMBER 09

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Jan's Fairlee Diner

By; April Dyke

I hope everyone had a great last two weeks and everybody remained safe on New Year's Eve. Well I ended up making it out for the trendy dining guide review Anthony and I decided to check out Jan's Fairlee Diner. I had seen what their daily specials were on Facebook. So I already knew, walking in there what I was sure I had wanted to eat. It was lunchtime, and Jan's truly is a diner atmosphere. You walk in, there are tables to your right and to the left is the counter. We sat at a table. The menus were already on the table when we sat down the waitress came over and asked us what we wanted

to drink. I had a Coke he had a water then she told us what the specials were, which was a Burger wrap with the Big Mac flavor! Chicken fajitas wrap !!! We also have Chicken divan w/ rice Shepard's pie w/ roll. We both decided to go with the burger wrap with the big Mac flavor. it definitely did not disappoint. He went with onion rings and I went with fries. it was a delicious meal. We could only eat one half of it each. We ended up taking the other half home and had it the next day. The waitress came over and asked if we wanted any dessert. We both said no

so she brought over the check and said that we could pay it any time and not to rush. The bill came to \$40.34. As we got up to pay at the register, we did have to check out the desserts. There was a carrot cake and many other delicious looking items may have to check those out at some point. We paid the bill and put the tip on the table and headed out for the rest of our day. Most definitely get in to check those daily specials out. Hope you have a great next couple weeks and hoping to make it to Pollys pancakes the next round. Make sure to have a trendy day.



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OBITUARY:
*Abby
Margaret
(Johnson)
Metcalf,*

Abby Margaret (Johnson) Metcalf, 78, of Piermont, NH, passed away peacefully on January 4, 2025, at the Jack Byrne Center in Lebanon NH. Born on May 15, 1946, she was the daughter of the late Helen F. (Bartlett) and Norman T. Johnson.

Abby grew up in Northwood, NH, where she was known as Margaret. Raised on a working dairy farm, she participated in 4-H, showing dairy cows and sheep at local fairs, and worked at her family's business, Johnson's Dairy Bar. After earning her Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Plymouth State College in 1968, she began her teaching career in Merrimack, NH, and later at Piermont Village School. Following her marriage to John E. Metcalf in 1970, she became known as Abby and pursued her life-long dream of farming.

In 1974, Abby and John established the Piermont Plant Pantry with two greenhouses and a large vegetable garden which included strawberries, sweet corn, pumpkins, and squash. Abby's creativity brought the community together through events like the annual pumpkin lighting tradition. Over the years, Abby's dedication transformed it into a thriving retail and wholesale business with up to 18 greenhouses. Abby also led the operation of the Metcalf's Udder Place dairy goat farm until 1991.

Abby was deeply involved in her community. She served as Piermont Town Clerk and a member of the School Board in the 1970s and 1980s, volunteered with the Piermont Congregational Church, led local 4-H groups, and became the first woman firefighter on the Piermont Volunteer Fire Department. She also chaired Piermont's 250th birthday cele

bration committee. She served as a trustee of trust funds, and cemetery trustee and after John passed, she was appointed in his former roles as manager of the town sewer plant and sexton of the Piermont cemeteries.

Predeceased by her husband John (2021), son Ai (2023), daughter-in-law Michelle (2019), Abby leaves behind her children Abigail Metcalf Underhill (Jeff) and Asa N. Metcalf (Heidi); grandchildren Helenmae Metcalf (Justin), Kathleen (Metcalf) McNeilly (Nate), Tom Stevens-Metcalf, Wyatt John and Colleen Underhill; great-grandchildren Chloe and Zoey Bragg; brothers Peter S. and Thomas E. Johnson (Brenda); and sister-in-law Marianne (Metcalf) Miller; 5 nieces and 1 nephew and several cousins.

Abby is most remembered for her tireless work ethic, willingness to offer her opinion and dedication to the Piermont community at large.

We must not forget her love of the Boston Red Sox and the long-time rivalry that she and John shared as he was a devoted New York Yankees fan.

Services are being planned for a later date, at the convenience of the family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Piermont Scholarship Fund, c/o Piermont Town Office, PO Box 27, Piermont, NH 03779.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

**ANOTHER
NIGHT OF
HEART-
ACHE**
By Maggie
Anderson

As millions of Americans are tuned to the TV images of the fires raging in southern California, I am stunned by the news that one of my brothers has lost his home to the flames. And several more of my relatives have homes directly in the path of the wind-whipped conflagration.

It seems surreal, a Groundhog Day moment, not just for me, but for all those who lost so much in the forest fires here on the coast and so many places across the state.

I had a piece ready to send to our editor, more of the stuff of politics, politicians, and who hurts the most when decisions are made.

In the face of such destruction and grief, politics fade.



Douglas M. Riggie Sr. 84 Woodsville, died on Monday January 6, 2025, at his home in Woodsville. He was born in Woodsville, on June 3, 1940, to David and Arlene (Henderson) Riggie. He graduated from Wells River High School in 1958.

He joined the NH National Guard and after completing basic training went on to barber school. He worked for some time locally as a barber before finding work in the paper mills in Ryegate and Lincoln. In retirement he worked as courier at Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank

Doug enjoyed photography and built his own dark room at his house. He enjoyed hunting and fishing and attending his grandchildren's sporting events, as well as walks next to the river on Abbott Ave, keeping the local wildlife well fed, and his morning trips to McDonalds for breakfast with friends.

He is predeceased by

OBITUARY:
*Douglas M.
Riggie Sr.*

his parents; wife, Carol (Adams) Riggie, and a brother David Riggie. He is survived by two sons, Patrick Riggie and Doug Riggie Jr. a daughter Shauna Walker and husband Jamie. He was "Bumpa" to his three grandchildren, Brendan, Ryan, and Makayla Walker. He is also survived by three nephews, Mike, Mark, and Keary Riggie.

There will be a graveside service for Doug and Carol on Saturday June 14, 2025, at 1PM at Pine Grove Cemetery, Swiftwater Rd, Woodsville, NH. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Woodsville Area Booster Club (WABC), 9 High Street, Woodsville, NH 03785

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

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It's widely thought that home ownership is a key to building wealth — but is it? And should you consistently make sacrifices to buy your own home?

Let's start with the first question: Is owning a home essential to building wealth? It would probably be more accurate to say that home ownership can be helpful in building wealth. Building home equity — essentially, the difference between the size of your home's value and what you still owe — is certainly valuable. Plus, the bigger your equity, the less you might have to take out in a new mortgage if you ever want to buy a different home.

Now for the next question: How much should you sacrifice to buy your own home? This isn't an easy question to answer because buying a home isn't just a financial issue — it's also an emotional one. Many people simply

might be willing to make many sacrifices to join the ranks of homeowners.

However, if you're relatively young and you are part of a single or even a dual-income household, you may well find that your other priorities are more important than home ownership, at least for the moment. These priorities can include paying off student loans, reducing other debts, paying for child care, meeting health care costs and even saving for retirement. With all these expenses, you might not be able to take on a big mortgage, along with real estate taxes, homeowners' insurance and the inevitable but costly repairs that come with owning a home.

In addition to the danger of becoming "house poor" by paying too high a percentage of your income on your mortgage, you could face

Is buying a home always the right move?

like the feeling of owning a home. If you fall into this category, you

another issue by sinking too much money into your home — and that's liquidity. A home is much more illiquid than savings or investment accounts, so if you needed money in a hurry, and most of yours was tied up in your home, you might be in a jam. You could tap into your home equity through a loan or a line of credit, but that's basically taking on even more debt, though these loans and credit lines typically offer lower interest rates than other forms of borrowing.

So, here's the bottom line: You don't need to feel that you are missing out on a chance to build wealth by not buying a home immediately — especially if you would feel extremely stretched by the mortgage payments, given how expensive homes are today. You won't hurt yourself — and, in fact, you'll likely help yourself — by taking care of your most pressing priorities first.

Of course, this doesn't mean that you can never become a homeowner. If you would still like to own a home someday, you could start saving for a down payment, keeping the money in a liquid, low-risk account. Just as importantly, though, you should plan on how owning a home can fit into your budget and how it will affect your cash flow. If you can manage it, you may indeed find that there's no place like home.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones—Member SIPC

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**OBITUARY:
Shirley A.
Lang,**

Shirley A. Lang, 77, Piermont, died at Jack Byrne Palliative Care Center on Friday January 3, 2025, after a period of failing health. She was born in Hingham, MA on March 21, 1947, to Warren and Meda (Crawford) Lincoln. She attended Hingham public schools, graduating from Hingham High School with the class of 1965. She enrolled at Plymouth State College where she met Robert Lang. She graduated in 1969 with a BE. Shirley married Robert Lang on July 8, 1972, at the South Shore Baptist Church in Hingham, MA.

Shirley found work as a PE teacher in Fall River,

MA and later a taught social studies at Littleton High School when the couple moved to NH. Shirley went to work in patient placement in 1975 at the Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital in Hanover, retiring in 2023 from Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Shirley was an avid reader. She enjoyed watching the birds and tending to her flower gardens, but, more than all else, she enjoyed time with family. She made sure her sons and grandchildren were able to spend summers on Newfound Lake, as she had as a child, and loved Christmas time with her family.

Shirley is predeceased by her parents and two brothers, Donald and Rob-

ert Lincoln. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Robert Lang; two sons, Timothy Lang of Concord, NH, and Jonathan Lang and his wife Leah of Springfield, VT; four grandchildren, Alexis, Dominick, Sadie, and Nolan; two brothers, Wendall Lincoln and his wife Joan of Greenland, NH, and Alan Lincoln of The Villages, FL; a sister-in-law Betsy Lincoln, of The Villages; an many nieces, nephews, cousins, and close friends.

Services will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, those who wish may make donations in memory of Shirley to the Jack Byrne Center at <https://dhmca-lumdev.hitchcock.org/giving/jack-byrne-center> To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.



**OBITUARY:
Steven John
Rogers, Sr.,**

NEWBURY-Steven John Rogers, Sr., 82, passed away quietly on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at Cottage Hospital in Woodsville, NH.

He was born in Woodsville, NH on November 8, 1942, the son of Mila (Egley) Rogers and Lloyd Rogers. He spent his childhood on the family farm on Rogers Hill in West Newbury, VT and graduated from Newbury High School in 1960.

Steve married Sharon Elliott on July 6, 1963, and they were blessed to spend 54 years together on Rogers Hill Farm in West Newbury, VT where they raised four children. He is survived by his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren: Steven Rogers, Jr. and wife Katie (Baldwin) Rogers and their 5 children, Noelle Jean (Rogers) Beyer and husband James Beyer and their 2 children, Christine Alma Rogers and fiancé Jim Fairbanks and her daughter and granddaughter, and Tammi Lynn (Rogers) Parker and husband Lester Parker and 3 children and 2 grandchildren. He is also survived by numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents, Mila (Egley) Rogers and Lloyd Rogers, and siblings May Shearer, Polly (Pike) Van Buren, Oliver (Bud) Rogers, and Theodore (Ted) Rogers.

Steve was a hard-working man who, with Sharon by his side, ran many businesses through the years. He was a farmer, he had a sugaring operation that grew to 20,000 taps at its height, he was a major in the Vermont Army National Guard, he was a bus driver as well as owner of Rogers Transportation, he owned a garage in Bradford, and he owned Rogers Rubbish Removal. He was on Newbury Town's select board, the school board, and a town lister.

Steve loved people and never shied from hard work. He worked tirelessly to provide a good life for his family.

Steve will be remembered by the many people whose lives he touched for being a good listener, the help and advice he offered, his laughter, and his inspiration. He drove to many sporting events and watched and enjoyed his children's athletic pursuits and all the Oxbow athletes he watched through the years. He will be dearly missed.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday January 19, 2025, from 1pm-2pm followed by a memorial service from 2pm-3pm at Hale Funeral Home, 187 Upper Plain, Bradford Vt.

Hale Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Those wishing to express online condolences may do so at: www.halefuneralhomes.com



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Calendar of Events

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

EVERY FRIDAY

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NOON - 7:00 PM

Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River.

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June 1

July 6

August 10

September 7

October 5

November 2

December 7

Lisbon Area Historical Society Museum

Late in Arriving: How Electricity Changed Rural NH

Jan15 2025 7pm

HMSC Activities for January

Mon-Fri Games & Puzzles are ongoing, Craft room is open daily except during scheduled groups.

Every Monday: 9:30 Chair Yoga, 1:00 Drums Alive, 1:00 Cards & Cribbage

Other Mondays: 1/6 @ 8AM Community Breakfast, 1/13 & 1/27 @ 7:30 Men's Breakfast

Every Tuesday: 9:00 Plastic Canvas, 9:30 Bone Builders, 10:30 Kids Ballet Class, 11:00 Interfaith Chat, 12:30 Discovery Bible Group, 1:00 Food Pantry, 1:00 Popcorn & Movie

Other Tuesdays: 1/28 @ 10:30 WGSB will give a presentation on Artificial Intelligence and The Middle School Chorus will entertain at 10:45

Every Wednesday: 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:00 Food Pantry, 10:30 Kids Jazz Class, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive.

Other Wednesdays: 1/8 @ 10:00 Veterans Coffee & at 10:30 Ask a Nurse, also The BOYZ will entertain at 11:00, 1/15 @ 10:00 Book Discussion

Every Thursday: 9:30 Bone Builders, 1:00 Food Pantry, 1:00 Adult Ballet, Music by Phyllis Vogel from 11:15-12:30

Other Thursdays: 1/2 @ 12:30 Hymn Sing with Byron, Crafts on 1/9 & 1/23 @ 10:30, Paint & Sip on 1/16 @ 12:00, 1/2 & 1/16 @ 12:30 Herbal with Elaine

Every Friday: 12:30 Mahjonn, 1:00 Popcorn & Movie, 1:00 Senior Strengthening

Other Fridays: 1/10 Floral with Jane

Saturday: 1/11 Open Mic food service at 5:30/Music 6:00-8:00

Upcoming Events

Haverhill Rec

Acoustic Music Jams The jams are once per month, held at the Clifford Memorial Building

65 South Court St. Woodsville from 12-3.

January 5

February 2

March 2

April 6

May 4

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Weathervane Theatre's Windsock Summer Theatre Camp Opens Enrollment for 28th Season



OBITUARY: *Jonny Dooley,*

North Haverhill, NH – Jonny Dooley, 68, passed away at the Grafton County Nursing Home, with those who cared for him by his side, on Wednesday, December 11, 2024. He was born in Hobart, OK, on April 30, 1956, to his parents Wilafay (Harrison) and Wendell Dooley.

He graduated from Hobart High School, and joined the Army shortly thereafter in 1985. He lived in Texas and Arkansas before moving north to live in Bristol, NH. He

worked as a baker at Safeway. Jonny loved to go fishing. In March of 2017 he moved into the Grafton County Nursing Home where he charmed the staff with his sweet nature.

Jonny will be remembered by those who cared for him. He will be buried in the Horse Meadow Cemetery in the spring.

To offer remembrances of Jonny please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting with arrangements.



Weathervane's theatre day camp will return July 14 - 26.

WHITEFIELD, NH - January 6, 2025 - New Hampshire's award-winning Weathervane Theatre is pleased to announce enrollment for its summer theatre day camp - Windsock - is now open.

For over 20 years, Windsock Camp has brought campers from across the White Mountains region to the Weathervane and introduced them to the building blocks of theatre with all the fun of the typical summer day camp experience.

Grace Livingston Kramer will once again lead Windsock Camp as Executive Director. Livingston Kramer, a Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) director and educator with international credits, is in her fourth season with the camp and her sixth season with Weathervane Theatre.

Known for her work on and off stage, Livingston Kramer is Weathervane's company manager and a resident acting company member. Her stage credits include Rosie in Mamma Mia!, Missy in Winter Wondrettes, and her New Hampshire Theatre Alliance Award-nominated turn as Peaseblossom in Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Livingston Kramer has also served as a guest director for Weathervane Theatre's Patchwork Players for three seasons (Tommie Sawyer, Pinocchio, and Cinderella).

Outside of Weathervane, Grace recently

served as the Managing Director for Education at Maine's Penobscot Theatre Company. In addition to overseeing their youth theatre programming (Dramatic Academy), Grace choreographed many Dramatic Academy productions, including The Addams Family, SpongeBob, and Coraline. She is a founding member of HEART Global, a non-profit focused on connecting students worldwide through music. Her music outreach non-profit work has taken her all over North America, Europe, and Japan, teaching students of all ages.

"Windsock Camp is back for another exciting season, and we couldn't be more excited," said Livingston Kramer. "Campers will create their own show with scenes and songs under the guidance of our professional theatre artists from our resident acting company and production team. A true hands-on experience in all facets, our 2025 campers will have an experience unlike any other."

Running July 14 - 25, 2025, Windsock will offer two one-week camps for ages 6-11 and one two-week camp for ages 6-17. The camp day starts at 9 AM and ends at 4 PM and is divided into blocks of rehearsal for the camp show and blocks of instruction from Weathervane guest and resident artists covering all aspects of theatre (dance, music, Shakespeare, tech, etc.), strengthening the connection between the campers and the



Weathervane resident company. Campers also receive exclusive behind-the-scenes access to Weathervane's highly anticipated productions of Grease and Waitress. Additional perks for campers include complimentary Patchwork Players performance tickets and discounts for select Mainstage productions.

Windsock will present its final camp show on Saturday, July 26, at 10 AM on Weathervane's outdoor stage. A complete theatrical production, the show will include elements like props, costumes, music, and a set. The camp show will only feature campers enrolled in the second week of camp (July 21 - 25).

Camp registration is now open. Camp pricing ranges from \$354 - \$794. Family discounts and scholarship opportunities are available. Book by Sunday, January 19th, and save up to \$145. Camp registration includes the classic Windsock Camp t-shirt tie dye experience and complimentary tickets to a Patchwork Players performance at the Weathervane.

For more information and to register, visit weathervanenh.org/education. Additional inquiries can be directed to camp staff by email (windsock-camp@gmail.com) or phone (603-837-9322).

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To Apply:
Please email your resume to jyoung@haverhill-nh.com or stop by Town Hall at 2975 DCH, North Haverhill NH to complete an application.



OBITUARY: Ralph Albert Wright,

Haverhill, NH – Ralph Albert Wright, 85, passed away on Monday, December 23, 2024. Ralph was born December 12, 1939, in Hanover, NH, the son of Forrest E. and Althea (Dow) Wright

Ralph was a lifetime resident of Haverhill where he attended Haverhill Academy. He joined the army in the early 1960s and was stationed in Germany during his enlistment. As a real estate broker, he grew his early experience with his family's lumber mill and farm into a lifelong career of buying and selling real estate and working in the timber industry. This provided him with the continuous opportunity to satisfy in his life-long enjoyment of hiking a forest and discovering the potential of the land. Ralph also loved the treasure hunt of the local auction circuit.

Survivors include his four sons, Kevin F. Wright and wife Pamela (Gorski) Wright of North Billerica, MA, Todd R. Wright of Haverhill, Alan G. Wright and wife Jody (Tower) Wright of Milton, VT, and John A.

Wright of Billerica, MA; two granddaughters, Catherine Pamela Wright and Elizabeth Kelsey Wright; three sisters, Violet Burgess of Chelsea, Vermont, Carol and Rupert McKean of Glenclyff, NH and Marion Thayer, of Woodsville, NH; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He also leaves behind his long-time partner Carol Wellman from Wilder, VT. He was predeceased by his former wife and mother of his four sons, Marilyn Ruth Goss Wright, his parents and brothers, Harold Wright, and Carl and his wife Glenna M. (Hight) Wright, and brothers-in-law Tom Burgess and Clarence Thayer, Jr. and by a niece, Anne Marie Belyea.

Abiding by his wishes, there will be no calling hours or funeral services held. Ralph asked to have his ashes spread at the family homestead where he spent his childhood.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com

Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

Haverhill Select Board Update by Gary Scruton

Once again I had the opportunity to sit and speak with two of the five members of the Haverhill Select Board, Joe Longacre and Ron Hurlburt. Our conversation covered many areas of what is happening as town meeting 2025 draws closer.

The first thing we talked about was the search for a new Town Administrator. It had earlier been reported that a contract had been offered to a candidate. That candidate eventually turned down the offer stating that appropriate housing could not be found. After a response from the Select Board with some additional choices were offered for housing the candidate still turned down the offer.

With the possibility of going back to square one in the search, and even the possibility of a significant monetary expense to widen the search with a professional search team, another somewhat local candidate has been identified and is scheduled to sit for an interview with the Select Board on Monday, January 13.

In regards to other staffing conditions in Haverhill's town office and workforce, there are currently at least two open positions. One is for a new head of maintenance and the other for a road crew worker. The position of Assistant Town Clerk was recently filled again,

and that person is now being trained in order to get that office to full capabilities.

Most Haverhill taxpayers are very well aware of the recent re-assessment as well as the new tax rate and consequently the new tax bills that came out in late December. Those wishing to file a tax abatement request should check with the town office for the proper paperwork, and know that there is a deadline to file such a request.

Our conversation also included talk about the work of this year's Advisory Budget Committee, chaired by past Haverhill Moderator, Gary Hebert. That group has not yet finished their deliberations, but have gone thru many, many numbers over many, many hours. For the first time, at the request of the recent Haverhill Road Committee, those numbers included proposed budgets from the Woodsville Fire Department and Woodsville Highway Department. Those final numbers will be recommended to the Select Board no later than Monday, January 27. Following that date the Select Board will go thru the numbers themselves making any final changes before the Budget Hearing that is set for Monday, February 10.

The Select Board representatives also pointed out that as 2025 gets

started there are no pending lawsuits and there is sincere hope that no more will be part of the future in Haverhill. This will help to reduce the budget line for legal assistance.

It should also be noted that the last day to present a petitioned article to the Town Clerk is Tuesday, February 4. Any article can be presented as long as there are at least 25 signatures of registered Haverhill voters. Forms are available at the town office.

One other important note is that three of the five current members of the Haverhill Select Board will be up for election on Tuesday, March 11. Kevin Knapp's three year term expires at the end of town meeting this year. Teresa Paige was appointed to fill the seat of Phil Blanchard whose term was due to expire in 2026. And Ron Hurlburt is currently in the seat of Carolyn Hoffman whose term was due to expire in 2027. The time frame for filing for candidacy of any of these seats will be in February.

Haverhill's Annual Town Meeting is tentatively set for Saturday, March 15 at the Haverhill Cooperative Middle School. Over the past several years it has been held in conjunction with the Haverhill Cooperative School District Annual Meeting. At the time of this conversation the exact details were still not yet worked out.

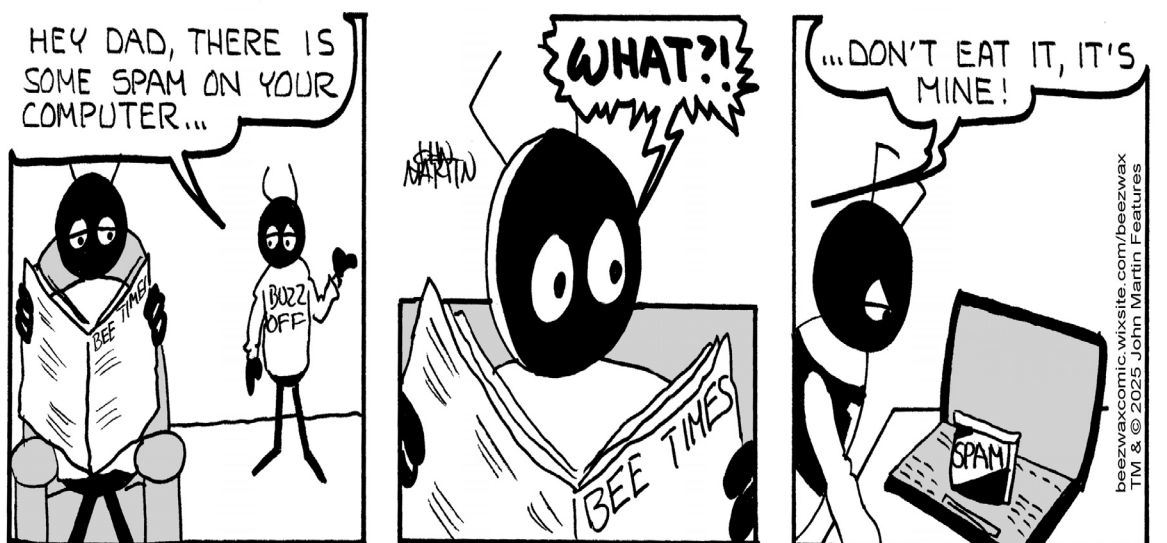
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BEEZWAX By John Martin





OBITUARY:
Gary W. Goodwin,

Gary W. Goodwin, 80, Woodsville, NH, in his own words.

I passed away at my home in Woodsville at the age of 80 yrs old on Dec.21st 2024.

I was born on 9/13/44 in Barre, VT and raised in South Ryegate. I entered the army in June of 1963 until December 1965. Served in Vietnam in a Helicopter Battalion Strike Unite for one year. I suffered the effects of Agent Orange which contributed to illness and my passing in later years. I was predeceased by my parents Warren and Pearle Goodwin and my first wife Laurel Murray. I leave behind my brother Stuart Warden Goodwin and his Children, Katrina and her husband Frank Whalen, and Benjamin and his wife Erin Goodwin and their Children. My daughter Valerie Jeanette Joda and her husband Stephen Joda living in Texas. My Grandson Noah J Bogie and his wife Brittany Fulton Bogie and My Great Grandsons Jacob and Caleb Bogie. My second

wife Claire Elaine Goodwin and my stepdaughter Karen and husband Peter Saladino and family. After Grade School I went to Woodsville High School in Groton, VT. Joining the US Army and attaining the rank of the Staff Sergeant. I was trained in combat infantry and attended quartermaster school at Fort Lee, VA. Then assigned to serve one year 5 days in the 145th aviation battalion in Vietnam. After coming home in December 1965, I went to work in the A&P food stores cutting meat for a short time. Then I entered the memorial industry trained in Granite cutting, polishing, sawing, and sandblast. While doing this I started my own little meat shop cutting meat for farmers, dressing deer for hunters during the winter. Snow blowing around town and working as a helper on a dairy farm. If you are still with me on this journey, great. I hope to make your reading worthwhile. During the summer in those years working on that dairy farm haying, milking, and everyday chores, mowing cemetery lots, cutting granite and digging graves. As the

60's rolled on I decided it would be a good idea to build a log home and cut firewood which I burned and sold, also raising many rabbits for meat, chickens, ducks, geese and beef. I don't think I left anything out. At that time my daughter was about 10 years old, and we would sit on the bank of the pasture and hand feed crack corn to the geese and ducks. In those years along with raising animals and raised lots of vegetables and dug a root cellar and it was very much needed during those bitter cold winters of the 70's. During those years I was working at Granite Memorial plants in both South Ryegate and Barre, VT and traveling daily. I rarely gave it a thought in those days. Still with me? OK, on we go. Coming back to South Ryegate I worked in another granite plant and became foreman and at the same time I started investing in flipping rental properties and moved to Woodsville, NH. In the early 90's I decided to start my own stone gift and granite studio in Woodsville and then moved it to Littleton, NH. Fast growth and providing stone gifts and garden sculptures to gift shops all over New England. Helped in the development of the Granite Museum in Barre and consulted in this trade in PA., Ohio, Maine, somewhere in the middle of that I went to Caracas, Venezuela helping do the repair granite work on the American Embassy which had just been built. The economy was changing. So, I came back and started working with the mentally challenged in Art Therapy at my home studio. Then going to work at Grafton Nursing Home in Haverhill, starting out working in dietary, going to activities and working in administration and then deciding to retire. I went back to Grafton Nursing Home and worked as a volunteer for the next 10 years. During that time my daughter and I went to a body building competition and the bug bit me. I

found a trainer and started training for competitive bodybuilding and competed in several shows for a few years. I was in my early 70's at this time. After that I started training others for competition and fitness and then set up my own fitness studio and as years went by, I worked more with the seniors and others that were under care for hip and knee replacements and other modalities. During those years I had the desire to set up an aquatic center and I started a nonprofit which is extremely hard to accomplish. After 14 years of demanding work, it did not work out, but I enjoyed doing it. So, there you have it. I loved it all and would love to have added new things to it. Maybe next time. I've always been a firm believer in the pebble and water analogy. Which goes like this: "Throw a pebble into placid water and see where the ripples go". All our pebbles touch so many lives and hopefully my pebble reaches many lives in positive ways, I believe this is what we're here for and I trust that I have completed this task. Please send any donations to: www.uso.org/donate/donate-in-honor

Thank you for letting me share my adventures with you. I have no regrets. On to new adventures, Gary.

Services will be held privately on behalf of the family.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

Want to Connect to Other Readers? Join the Bath Book Club!

The Bath Library Book Club will be discussing "Educated" by Tara Westover on Monday, February 10 at 4:30 pm at the Bath Public Library. "Educated" is Tara's award winning memoir of her childhood in the mountains of Idaho, and of her subsequent education and struggle for self-invention.

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her childhood was spent preparing for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag". In the summers she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winters she salvaged in her father's junkyard. Lacking any formal education, Tara taught herself enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University where she studied history and discovered a wider world.

Books may be picked up at the Bath Library; hours are Monday and Wednesday 9:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm; and Saturday 9:00 am to noon. Anyone with an interest in reading and conversing about books is welcome to attend. For information, please contact the library at 603-747-3372 or email bathlibraryljh@gmail.com

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Home Health Aide sought to provide daily compassionate support, care and assistance to a local female farmer in her late 60's living with multiple sclerosis with limited ability. Assistance is needed at the start of each day for 2 to 3 hrs. Responsibilities include daily grooming, meal prep, light housekeeping, appointments, ability to monitor vital signs a plus. Requirements are prior experience in caregiving, valid driver's license and ability to lift 50 lbs, How to Apply: Email resume or letter of interest to teamkimmeg@gmail.com, along with two references. Applications will be reviewed and interviews will be scheduled on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

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Inaugural Day in New Hampshire

By: Rick Ladd

On January 9, 2025, Governor Kelly Ayotte was sworn in as New Hampshire's 83rd Governor. Governor Ayotte has a long, honorable record of service to the Granite State. With experience as legal counsel to Governor Craig Benson, Prosecutor for the NH Department of Justice, NH Attorney General, and New Hampshire's State Senator from 2011 to 2017, she will serve the Live Free or Die State well.

Her inaugural speech stressed progress through unity and encouraged legislators, local officials and the business sector to tackle the state's housing crisis and workforce shortage. In a recent issue of Business NH Magazine, Governor Ayotte stated, "For our young people coming out of our universities, coming out of the community colleges, coming out of high school, they have to have a place to live. The top priority, economically, is to work to address this housing issue." This priority was at the top of

her inaugural speech. She encouraged folks who are tired of out-of-control taxation south of New Hampshire's border to visit and live in NH where income taxes or property taxes will not occur on her watch!

Governor Ayotte was quick to emphasize that New Hampshire is one of the top 10 states in total education funding per pupil. Her husband is a retired pilot and now teaches mathematics in Nashua HS. The Ayotte family values public school education and supports educators making the learning environment the best. "That's why today, I am announcing that we will be taking action to ban cellphones in our schools." There is currently legislation in both the Senate and House limiting the use of cellphones in classrooms. One of those bills is HB131, sponsored by myself. The bill states, "policy shall restrict the use of student personal cellphones during class instruction without educator approval. Districts are en-

couraged to consider exceptions to student use during instruction when an educator is using devices as part of a lesson plan."

In regard to the upcoming budget, Governor Ayotte echoed Governor Sununu's directive to all commissioners to control spending and to align expenditures with department allocations which will be less than the previous year. Business revenue to the state has been less. Toward the end of her inaugural speech, the Governor announced that she will create the Commission of Government Efficiency, similar to that announced by President Elect Trump, to help identify ways to shrink government, cut spending, and minimize waste.

I look forward to chairing the Education Funding Committee, and in working with Governor Ayotte this session.

Respectfully Submitted,
Representative Rick Ladd
Chairman, Education Fund-

LETTERS (and even some real words) From The Editor

Decency hopefully is not dead - yet

To the Editor,

I just ran a hard-fought but unfortunately failed bid for a seat in the NH House of Representatives for Grafton County District 5. It was an eye-opening experience, both in the support I got from voters on both sides of the aisle in the district as well as in the things I saw displayed and written about me by local people and in local newspapers, none of whom know me at all.

A man from my own town came to one of our Selectboard meetings (on which I serve) to complain that he didn't know enough about the candidates (not our problem). The very next day, he put out a poorly drawn handmade sign accusing my running mate and me of all kinds of things - all totally untrue - in an attempt to sway passing voters to think we were going to be the ruin of the state if elected. But keep in mind, he had just said he knew nothing about us or our stances. Because of freedom of speech, there was nothing I could do to keep him from lying about us with his sign or demand that he take it down. I had to just grit my teeth and consider the source.

Not long ago, with the election long over, a friend shared with me an editorial piece written by a man from Haverhill that had been published in the Trendy Times, one of our local free newspapers. This second malicious, mis-

formed, and purposefully uneducated man not only attacked my character in horrible ways, but my sexuality and my very identity. He called me everything from a "Marxist" to a "delusional man named Ray masquerading as a woman" who should go back to my original home state.

I was dismayed that there was nothing that I could do to prevent the first hateful man from posting his sign on his property, but I was truly angry that a local newspaper would print the hateful, ignorant diatribe that the man from Haverhill wanted everyone to think about me. I would have thought they'd have had more journalistic integrity than that.

Both of these events are portents of what is to become during the next four years of the convicted felon who is only days away from another seat in the White House. And with the head of Facebook now ceasing all fact-checking on posts, opening the door once again to unfettered mis- and dis-information campaigns, this is only the beginning.

I sincerely hope that decency is not totally dead yet in our country. I believe it is not. But we're all going to have to fight to get it back or we will lose the very foundations on which our country was built.

Rachael Booth
Landaff, NH

Rachael,

I have often, in this space, written that the freedom of speech is one of our most important and sacred rights. One person's opinion is just that, one person's opinion. Stating such does not make it true, or false. Trendy Times is not Facebook and has not, and will not, fact check letters to the editor. They are, as stated, simply one person's opinion. Which that person has the right to write.

In the meantime I will do my best to continue to offer space for those letters as well as an answer that hopefully brings some extra thought into the process no matter which side of the aisle the writer may be sitting on.

Gary Scruton, Editor

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Lisbon Area Historical Society Annual Meeting and Special Program

LISBON – Lisbon Area Historical Society (LAHS) has received a grant from New Hampshire Humanities to present "Late in Arriving: How Electricity Changed Rural NH" on January 15, 2025, at 7:00 PM at the LAHS Museum, 9 Depot St, Lisbon NH. This event, which is free and open to the public, coincides with the LAHS Annual Meeting, which members are encouraged to attend and vote for the 2025 slate of officers.

Join us for this special presentation by Stephen Taylor, who will share how the New Deal's Rural Electrification Administration and a determined group of farmers overcame opposition to create the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative in 1939. This effort brought electric power to nearly all previously unserved areas within a decade, trans-

forming life for thousands of households and changing civic and social life in New Hampshire's countryside. The presentation will also touch on the current disparity in broadband access and how it echoes past challenges.

Stephen Taylor is a lifelong scholar of New Hampshire agriculture and rural life. He has served as a daily newspaper reporter and editor, freelance writer, dairy farmer, and for 25 years as the state's commissioner of agriculture. He was the founding executive director of the Hampshire Humanities Council and is an active participant in its Humanities to Go program. New Hampshire Humanities nurtures the joy of learning and inspires community engagement by bringing life-enhancing ideas from the humanities to the

people of New Hampshire. Learn more at www.nhhumanities.org.

"We are excited to welcome Stephen Taylor to our museum. His deep knowledge of New Hampshire's rural history and his engaging storytelling promise to make this presentation an unforgettable experience for our community," said Dot Wiggins, President of LAHS. LAHS is committed to preserving and sharing the history of Lisbon, Lyman, and Landaff, NH. Our mission is to positively impact the community by promoting local history, organizing informational programs, and maintaining our museum, research, and event center. For more information about LAHS, visit www.lisbonareahistory.org, or follow us on Facebook or Instagram @ Lisbon Area Historical Society.



OBITUARY: Robert "Bob" Mace,

South Ryegate, VT- Robert "Bob" Mace, 81, passed away peacefully at his home with his family by his side on Sunday January 5, 2025.

A full obituary with service details will be published at a later date.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

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UPPER VALLEY AMBULANCE	Early Care and Education Association
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For information, people should contact Tracy Puffer at tracypuffer@oesu.org or call (802) 222-5212

Self-Sabotaging the heck out of myself

By Stevie Sassparilla

Do you ever get the feeling that you are not good enough?

I always wonder if anyone else ever has their inner dialog tell them that they suck as much as mine does. I could be having a pretty decent day and then all a sudden that god damned Jimmy Cricket in my head tells me that I am the worst. Worst mom, worst friend, fat, ugly, whatever today's diss is I hear it in my head.

When you are bipolar it's a mind-altering experience every single day. You can feel manic and be on top of the world but also feel like you are the biggest pile of crap in existence.

That back-and-forth is so exhausting mentally,

and it translates physically. I came home from work yesterday and just crashed because my mind was so heavy that my body could not carry on physically. This will later translate into my brain as, "Gee, Stevie, you are lazy."

But let me tell you about the self-sabotage of bipolar. I spent the better part of my marriage feeling like I was not good enough to be with the partner I was with. I felt like I was the crappiest wife and mother. I still struggle with that. I worked so hard mentally that I was exhausted which also translated into giving up. I wanted to die. I wanted out I wanted to run. And I did.

I hurt a lot of people

with my ups and downs, no one got hurt worse than what I did to myself. I will spend the rest of my life monitoring my moods, taking meds, going to therapy, and making sure I do not ever put myself or my family through that hell again.

One of the tools I use is monitoring and tracking my moods and meds and even water intake in my sketchbook. However, DBSA (Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance) has a great tool kit here. <https://www.dbsalliance.org/wellness/wellness-toolbox/>

I am working hard on me. Sometimes I fail and flounder, but I won't give up.



OBITUARY: Nancy Marie Bly,

Justesen, and her sister, Susan Justesen.

Born in Passaic, NJ, on June 13, 1951, Nancy earned a bachelor's degree in education and pursued a professional career in Connecticut as a financial planner for teachers.

Nancy cherished her ski house and treasured the time she spent with her family, especially her grandchildren. She enjoyed horseback riding, knitting, solving crossword puzzles and watching Penn State football.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations or volunteer time to be given to your favorite charity in Nancy's memory.

A celebration of her life will be held in the coming months.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

Nancy Marie Bly, 73, of North Woodstock, NH, passed away on December 28, 2024. She is lovingly remembered by her two sons: Peter Sashin (Patricia) of Downers Grove, IL, and Matthew Sashin (Danielle) of Pawcatuck, CT; and her stepdaughter, Jessica Ickes (Joshua) of Broomall, PA. She was a proud grandmother to Olivia and Jordyn Sashin of Downers Grove, IL, and Asa Sashin of Pawcatuck, CT.

Nancy is also survived by her mother, Evelyn Justesen; her siblings: Jeff Justesen (Wanda), Roy Justesen, and Linda Kymalainen; as well as nephews Tom Justesen, Dustin Kymalainen, and Bobby Kymalainen, and nieces Wendy Kymalainen and Julie Kymalainen.

She was preceded in death by her father, Roy

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OBITUARY:
William
“Bill”
Edward
Dimick Jr.,

William “Bill” Edward Dimick Jr., age 78, from Monroe, NH, and recently Grafton County Nursing Home passed away peacefully at Cottage Hospital Friday evening December 27th, 2024, after an onset of continuous health issues. He went peacefully the way he had hoped for with his family and a few friends by his side.

William, the youngest of six children, was born on December 28th, 1945, to William Sr. and Doris (Clark) in Hardwick Hospital.

He lived in Walden, VT in his young years moving with his parents to Rockville and Vernon, CT where his father could work at Pratt and Whitney in East Hartford, CT. He returned north in 1963 and settled in Monroe, NH where he met his wife and love of his life working on her parent's farm as a teenager. When he was 18, he started building his home where he would reside until January of 2024 when he went to Grafton County Nursing home

On May 5th, 1967, he married Sally Hall of Monroe, and they raised three children. He worked as a milkman for Kilfasset Farms and delivered milk to the Haverhill, NH and Newbury, VT areas. A few years later he went to work for Poulsen Lumber in Littleton, NH as a sawyer. Bill was talented at many things and there wasn't much he couldn't do. He was a builder, wood carver, and an artist. His proudest moment was building his daughter Belinda's post and beam home and photo gallery... He was also very proud of his son William for building a hunting camp and

making it there for Thanksgiving this year.

Bill was loved so much by all who knew him and liked immediately by those he had just met. He made special friends with a few residents and staff during his stay at Grafton County Nursing Home.

Bill was predeceased by his parents; five siblings, David, Jason, and George, sisters Vera Gamble and Marion Guertin; and his wife Sally of 43 years.

He is survived by; his children, Belinda Emmons and husband Keith of Barret, VT, William Dimick III and partner Susan Clough of Benton, NH, and Mary Dimick and partner Richard Fournier of Ryegate, VT; two grandsons, Micheal and Max Fournier; a great-grandson Henry Fournier; and very special friends who are considered family, Bob and Nancy Norman of Monroe, NH

Bill loved his four special cats who were his babies. He missed them terribly, but they found good homes when he went to Grafton. Per his wishes, there will be no services at this time, but a Celebration of Life will be next summer. Bill will be greatly missed by all who know him.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.



Marcia Gay Lackie, 92, of North Haverhill, died at her home on January 8, 2025. She was born in Bloomfield, VT on July 3, 1932, to Arthur and Edna (Fuller) Gay. She graduated from Haverhill Academy with the class of 1950. She married Leslie W. Lackie on Christmas Day 1952.

Marcia was a lifelong Haverhill resident. She was a wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, mother-in-law, and caregiver. She worked at Bear Ridge Speedway for many years as a scorer and was inducted into the Bear Ridge Speedway Hall of Fame in 2019.

She was a member of the United Methodist Church in North Haverhill where she taught Sunday school, served as church secretary and communion steward in previous years. She was also a member of the Connecticut Valley Snowmobile Club, SHARE food program volunteer, and substitute teacher at the Woodsville Elementary School.

After Leslie's passing Marcia started selling Christmas Around the World earning herself several worldwide trips. Marcia enjoyed gar-

dening, snowmobiling, romance novel reading, crocheting, needlepoint, search a word puzzles and arts & crafts.

She was predeceased by her husband of 36 years, Leslie W. Lackie Sr. in 1989; a son Leslie W Lackie Jr. in 1975; parents Arthur & Edna Gay; siblings Emily Brooks, Beverly Lovan, and Willis Gay.

Survivors include; sons, David Lackie and wife Leslie, Norman “Smiley” Lackie and friend Donna; daughters, Janet Moulton, Nancy “Pipsy” Lackie and partner Shawn Carpenter, all of North Haverhill; 6 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Calling hours will be Friday, January 17, 2025, from

12 to 1:30, concluded with a service at 1:30 with Melissa Gould as Celebrant, at Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville, 1 Birch St. Woodsville. Interment will be held privately in the spring.

Memorial contributions may be made to the North Haverhill United Methodist Church, PO Box 29, North Haverhill, NH 03774; or Leslie W Lackie Jr Scholarship Fund, % Marie Bigelow, 45 Lawrence Street, Haverhill, NH 03765. To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.



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Caledonia SIU Hosts Successful Annual Training for Children's Advocacy Center Team Members

St. Johnsbury, VT – Caledonia Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) held their highly anticipated annual training, which focused on critical topics in child protection and trauma response. The event brought together professionals from law enforcement, social services, medical, mental health and advocacy groups for a day of insightful presentations and recognition of outstanding service to the team.

The training featured three distinguished speakers who shared their expertise on crucial aspects of trauma-informed care and child safety.

- Samantha Prince, of the Vermont Children's Alliance, led a session on trauma-focused minimal facts interviews, emphasizing the importance of compassionate, child-centered approaches when interviewing young victims of abuse.

- SGT Q, from QActual, delivered an impactful presentation on the ways trauma affects individuals, offering valuable insights into how responders can better understand and support trauma survivors.

- Katie Newell, from the South Burlington Police Department, provided a critical overview of the growing issue of child human trafficking, discussing warning signs, investigative strategies, and resources available for Multidisciplinary Teams.

The training also served as an opportunity to recognizing an exceptional individual within the multidisciplinary team (MDT). Chris Pilner from Vermont State Police, was selected MDT Member of the Year. This prestigious award is chosen by the

MDT peers to honor those who go above and beyond in their dedication to supporting child victims and advancing child protection efforts.

This training event was sponsored by Passumpsic Bank. "An important part of this event is to provide opportunities for MDT members to gather in a more relaxed atmosphere and help build a stronger team," said Christopher St. Cyr, Executive Director of Caledonia SIU. "Our grants do not cover the expenses of providing team training, so Passumpsic Bank's contributions were vital to the success of this event. I am grateful for their support."

Following the training, attendees and the public were invited to an open house, which was attended by 15 local professionals and community members. The open house offered an opportunity for networking, collaboration, and a deeper connection to the work of the SIU and CAC in supporting at-risk children and families.

About Caledonia Special Investigations Unit & Children's Advocacy Center (CSIU) owns and operates Caledonia Special Investigations Unit (CSIU) and operates Caledonia Children's Advocacy Center (CCAC) which collaboratively reduces the trauma of physical and sexual abuse for those seek justice. Multidisciplinary means we work with a variety of organizations that conduct criminal and civil investigations related to child abuse, provide medical and mental health services for crime victims, ensure all the providers talk to each other to coordinate their activities reducing victim trauma, and provide services to victims to ensure they know and

can use their rights.

Coordinated investigations mean investigators from different agencies work together to gather information about reported offenses. They develop a plan to maximize the skills of each team member and reduce duplication. Communities with CAC have better abuse investigation coordination. As a result, prosecutors are able to achieve a 94% conviction rate for cases carried forward.

Caledonia SIU was founded in August 2011 with a goal of establishing a Multi-disciplinary team to respond to incidents of sexual abuse, human trafficking, and abuse of vulnerable adults. As the program developed, the Board of Directors recognized the importance of developing a child advocacy center. Members of the National Children's Alliance came to the center in September to review the CAC program. The site reviewers were pleased with the way the Center operates. "I expect we will receive word in 2025 that our accreditation has been renewed," St. Cyr said. "Events like the training in December help us meet NCA's high standards."

Children's Advocacy Centers are committed to research-supported practices to help victims heal. Child victims served by CACs are four times more likely to receive a forensic medical exam. Mental health referrals are increased for child victims served by CACs compared to communities not served by a CAC. Research demonstrates that 97% of parents would recommend others to seek help through a CAC.



OBITUARY: Donna E. West,

Donna E. West, 88, of Newbury, VT passed away peacefully at Valley View in Bradford, VT on January 2, 2025. She was born on May, 4, 1936 in Springfield, MA the daughter of Richard W. Yeomans Sr and Lillian C. (Urch) Yeomans.

In Donna's early years, in East Longmeadow, MA she worked at a nursing home, bakery and was an Avon lady for ten years. Donna was also the Vice President of East Longmeadow Jaycettes. While in Newbury she worked at the Frances Atkinson Residence for many years. She was often heard asking the residents if they had their hug for the day, which is something she truly enjoyed.

Donna had many artistic talents. She was an avid gardener and painter. She was well known for her green thumb when it came to flowers and vegetables. Her little greenhouse was always full to overflowing, which led to selling the overflow locally. People would come from all over for her annual Memorial Day yard sale. She entered many of her flower arrangements, quilting and painted items at the North Haverhill Fair. Bringing home many awards for her talent yearly. She enjoyed volunteering her time there as well.

Donna is survived by five of her six children, Carol Gorman (John) of

Cheyenne, WY, David Foucher (Karen) of Hampden, MA, Brenda Bacon (Charles) of East Longmeadow, MA, Diane Moore (James) of Hinesburg, VT, Sandra Wassell (Philip) of Bath, NH; 12 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren; three sisters, Patricia Tyburski, of Beverly, MA, JoAnn McSweeney, of Springfield, MA, and Debra Dominguez, of East Hampden, MA; as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband Raymond E. West; her son Steven W. Foucher; three sisters, Barbara Bogdinoff, Florence Chubb and Gloria Morneau and two brothers, Richard Yeomans Jr and Gardner Yeomans.

She will be remembered by many as the bright spot in their day. She loved to sing and dance! Bringing a smile to all!

There will be no calling hours.

A private family burial will be held in the spring.

Donations in Donna's memory can be made to the Newbury Food Shelf, PO Box 170, Newbury, VT or to a charity of your choice. To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

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TRENDY KITCHEN

by **Cindy Pinheiro**
to contact **Cindy**
(aka **Cin Pin**)
write to the owner/publisher at
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Apple Cookies

Hello hello my fellow chefs! How are you all doing today? I'm doing okay but haven't been doing very much. It's been so so cold and frigid that all I want to do is hibernate. Just letting the dogs out is a freezing problem. Twice so far I've fallen on the ice outside. Both times when I fell my heel caught a patch of ice and I went down on my back and bumped my head. I got banged up and was terrified. No one was around but I managed to get up. Tylenol and rest helped but I'm already hoping spring comes early. I ordered some traction gripping things that fit over your boots. I used to have a pair but I have no idea what happened to them. Please be very careful when you head outside.

Today's recipe is so easy peasy, "Delicioso" and you probably have all the ingredients in your pantry. Let's get started with today's recipe and how to make it.

Ingredients
1 1/3 Cups packed brown sugar (If you have some hard pieces in your brown sugar try breaking them up with your fingers. If you can't break up throw out because

they don't melt)
1/2 cup softened butter (1 stick) microwave for 15-20 seconds and go from there it's okay if it melts.
1 large egg
2 cups of all purpose flour
1 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp ground cloves
1/4 tsp ground nutmeg
1 cup apple peeled, cored and mince finely (I used my mini food processor)
1 cup raisins
1/4 cup milk
1/2 cup chopped walnuts (optional)
Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease or use Pam spray on your cookie sheets.
Gather all your ingredients, measuring cups and spoons. Beat brown sugar and soft/melted butter in large bowl until light and fluffy with electric mixer. Beat in the egg until combined. In separate medium bowl combine flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg whisk together until thoroughly mixed. Beat in 1/2 of flour mixture into brown sugar then stir in apples, raisins, chopped

walnuts if you're using them and the milk mix then add remaining flour mixture and beat until well combined. Using a cookie scoop drop balls onto prepared sheet placing 2" apart. Bake in preheated oven for 10-12 minutes. Edges will get golden. Check bottom of cookie at 10 minutes for doneness. Depending on your oven cook an additional 2 minutes if needed.

Let sit for just a minute then transfer to wire racks to cool. That's it, you are done! This recipe makes 3 dozen. You and your family will love these, and I bet you'll make them again. Share some with your friends or invite them over for cookies and coffee. It's important to socialize with friends and they will hop at the invite. Yummy!

Well folks that's it for today's recipe. Please give it a try your family will call you a star and you won't be disappointed. Enjoy! Be safe, healthy and warm my friends and please be careful on the snow and ice whether you are walking or driving. Brrrr... Until next time

I am signing off.
Sincerely,
Cin Pin

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