Parent concerns drive reconsideration of multiage class

By Donna Rhodes

Sanbornton seeks input for improvements to town park

By Donna Rhodes

Staining, equipment decisions made for potential Northfield department

By Meghan Hudson

Traditions live on this holiday season

By Chun Fu

Sanbornton seeks input for improvements to town park

SANBORNTON — James Bolduc of LaPrene Engineering and Surveying reveals his conceptual design for a Town Park Master Plan.

Robert Ward will be holding two other public hearing to process the outcome of a recommendation for Town Meeting continuation.

"We have some homework for you tonight. We like you would be provided with a merit to those who come forward," Bolduc said.

"We'd love to hear from all parties how it would work for you," Bolduc said.

"It's not gonna happen," Bolduc said.

...
Lessons from last year help officials prep for upcoming winter

**Tilton police nab multiple burglary suspect**

By Donna Rhodes

Tilton police received a call of a burglary in the 130 Block of Colby Road. The caller believed he was only gone a short time and that the suspect vehicle was green.

The female suspect, Melissa A. Stone, 34, of Franklin was arraigned this evening. Her vehicle this evening was a small build female quickly leaving the scene, similar to the Northfield burglaries.

Tilton Police put out a radio area broadcast and located the suspect vehicle was heading north toward Sanbornton. Approximately 15 minutes later, Trooper Alberten noticed a vehicle matching the description pulled off on the side of the road at the bottom of exit from Route 16. It was a green Pontiac Sunfire being operated by a small build female with brown hair.

As she was parked on the side of the road with her hand in her pocket, she got a call of a second burglary on Vista Heights. The owner was not sure if the door had been opened. As she returned home, she noticed several items stolen. As units responded to the second burglary, a witness to Vista Heights reported a small green Pontiac Sunfire being operated by a small build female quickly leaving the scene, similar to the Northfield burglaries.

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Matt Pedde, 17, works out at Lakes Region Fitness with friends Jake Suttile, 17 (white shirt), and Frank Suttile, 22 (black shirt). -Meghan Siegler

The vaccine has only re-... -Meghan Siegler

Public approves of administrative insurance changes -Meghan Siegler

I’ll do what I want to do.” For now, though, Fischer is focused on drawing more people to the gym and the group classes, which are already in place under the former owners. Whoever is interested in joining the gym, they will certainly be greeted at the door.

"Everyone is here all the time,” he said. “They key to any business, I think the corner should be hands on.”
Two steps forward, one step back

Winnisquam’s School Board has been working diligently to create equality through the distribution of student groups among all classrooms. In a smart move toward creating goodwill in the community, the school board has made a decision that was meant to assuage concerns that have only recently learned about the change and been able to speak out about their concerns. Fortunately, the decision had already been made, which will make it that much harder to change it back.

While we don’t disagree with the multischool classroom process, we do think the School Board could have made an effort to get parents and teachers involved in the decision prior to making a decision. It’s a big change, and it would have been beneficial for all parties involved in the process to have more communication. Monday’s meeting did address the topic and was meant to assuage concerns, but again, doing this before the fact (as specifically inviting parents, teachers and the community to a meeting rather than assuming the public looks at School Board meeting agendas or has only recently learned about the change and been able to speak out about their concerns).

So while we disagree with the multischool classroom process, any discussion in the future should be part of a particular learning environment, it seems unfair to have taken away that make it work. Everyone has had school before, and parents have only recently learned about the change and been able to speak out about their concerns. Unfortunately, the decision had already been made, which will make it that much harder to change it back.

The future of my grandchildren is at risk. The President figures a full 35 percent of the American children ages 17-24 are unqualified for military service due to obesity and drug addiction. The deficit will be around that much that will hurt us to change it back.

Send your letters! Winnisquam Echo

5 Water Street, Meredith, NH 03253

Our fax number is 279-3331.

Or, you can email us at jumbo@salmonpress.com. Please include your name, address, and phone number.

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We need healthcare reform

The idea that Tort Reform could cut cost is one that I find unacceptable. As a senior we need our rights protected more now than ever is our right under the Constitution.

Then there is the deficit and the grandchildren. For my own children, that would be their student loans. Senator Gregg and his party has never seemed to care much about, only to cut Pell Grants, and raise tuition at state colleges.

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Plungers help raise nearly $15,000

The fifth annual Salvation Army Turkey Plunge was held Saturday Nov. 24, was a success as over $15,000 were raised, including the Mayor-elect of Laconia, Mike Seymour, took the plunge with many more spectators at Weirs Beach Plunge. This number of plungers, plus the families which followed, raised almost $15,000, which will go to the local branch of the Salvation Army so that the upcoming holidays for the less fortunate of our neighbors will be a little bit easier. Thanks to all those Plungers.

No charitable event can be as successful without the generosity of local business people helping their Neighbors in Need. The Salvation Army Turkey Plunge Committee wishes to thank Richard Ray and his family for donating the use of their restaurant. The Weirs Beach Lobster Pound, for the lunches, food and beverages, and Pat’s Pizza, for the food. Coca-Cola of the Lakes Region was a favorite sponsor of the Turkey Plunge.

For decades the faith community has overlooked the poverty of our greater Lakes Region community, but has now come to a pivotal moment in people’s lives, has provided and encouraged and rallied the troops, helping build confidence in all who love and support the Turkey Plunge.

Lastly, we also want to thank Pat Kelly of WLSH-WEMJ for being our Master of Ceremonies for the Turkey Plunge.

The list of people to thank is long but their generosity was great. Please thank them whenever they patronize their businesses of locations that have made and are making their community better. It might be the greatest challenge. We hope you will be the National Guard.

Shelton will be closing at 1 pm on Christmas Eve and all day on Christmas Day.

Regular hours on Saturday, Dec. 26.

A legend among us

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The Christmas spirit

I was having a hard time getting into the Christmas spirit. Not that I was being particularly scroogelike, but I'm not much of a Christmas lover. Usually I do little decorating other than put out a small Christmas tree in the bedroom. But this year, as I thought about all the wonderful things I'd had the opportunity to do, I knew that I had to do something to get into the spirit.

I decided to watch a movie that I knew I would enjoy. I settled in my favorite chair, put on my favorite Christmas movie, and let the magic take over.

As I watched, I was transported to a world where Christmas was all about joy and happiness. I saw people coming together to celebrate the season, and I felt a warmth deep inside me.

I realized that the Christmas spirit isn't just about the decorations or the gifts. It's about the love and friendship that we share with each other. It's about the joy of giving and receiving. It's about the magic of the season.

I took a deep breath and closed my eyes, feeling the warmth of the spirit. I knew that I was ready to celebrate the season.

The Christmas spirit is the greatest gift of all, and I'm grateful to be able to experience it every year.
Sant Bani School knits hats for Rwandan Babies

Kyle Rollins

Kyle Rollins was excited to hear that he was named Student of the Month at Winisquam High, but he might not have had anything to do with winning the distinction for himself. rollingins@pih.org, he said, was the inspiration behind the nomination, as he himself was a volunteer for the organization.

“Volunteering is a great way to help others and provide a sense of purpose,” said Rollins, a senior at Winisquam High. “I believe that by giving back to our community, we can make a positive impact on the lives of those around us.”

Rollins said that he has been volunteering with PIH for over two years and has seen firsthand the impact that their work can have.

“It’s amazing to see how much difference one person can make,” he said. “I’m proud to be a part of an organization that is making a real difference in the world.”

When asked about his future plans, Rollins said that he is considering pursuing a career in public health or international development.

“PIH’s work is truly inspiring,” he said. “I hope to continue volunteering in the future and use my skills to make a difference in the lives of others.”

Lake Region Waverakers selling holiday ornaments

Lake Region - The Waverakers for Households Team continues their annual tradition, offering three different ornament sets for the holidays. This year’s sets include a colorful penguin ornament, a precious snowflake ornament, and a beautiful heart ornament. Each set is available for purchase at the Waverakers’ annual ornament sale, which will be held this weekend.

The sale will take place on Saturday, December 24, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Waverakers’ annual ornament sale location. The sale will feature a variety of handmade ornaments, as well as other holiday decorations.

For more information, please contact the Waverakers at info@waverakers.org or call 603-436-7609.

The Waverakers for Households Team is a local non-profit organization that works to improve the lives of children and families in the Lake Region.

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We need your help to continue sending your local newspaper to all our customers located in the coverage area. Please contact us when you are going to be a change to your address. If you are leaving the area, we need to put a stop on your paper until you return. If you need to make a change in your name or address, please call us at 603-436-7609 and we will be happy to help. Thank you for your support.
Carey-Hatch accepted early to Bates College

An honor roll student throughout high school, Carey-Hatch was chosen to attend the New England Winter Games and to be named "Player of the Season" by the Concord Monitor, and was named "Player of the Year," "All-Star Team" in cross-country skiing, and "All Conference Team." During her high school career, Carey-Hatch was named to the Class M&S "All-Star Team" in cross-country and was named to the Granite State Conference "All Conference Team." Carey-Hatch also enjoys Alpine skiing and in tenth and eleventh grade she competed in the Eastern Regional Championships, and was named to the Granite State Conference "All Conference Team." Carey-Hatch also enjoys Alpine skiing and in tenth and eleventh grade she was awarded "Si "Meister" for her division. in spring track she specializes in distance events and relays. Her 4x400 m. team placed third at the Class M&M Meet, her split time was 2:27. She holds the school record for the 100 m. event with a time of 15.25.

Lakes Region holiday tourney to be held during vacation

"Many of the teams here have participated since the beginning," said GHS Athletic Director, David Pinkham. "We have some very talented teams, but it gives coaches the opportunity with their players. They can play with the line up before the new season." Players on Laconia’s boy team have been engaging holiday tournament champions for a few years, said Pinkham, although he said other teams would be competing for the championship title as well this year. Gilford girls also brought home the title last year. He said the tournament is a "great way to earn favors" and that there is "a great deal of parity" throughout the eight games scheduled. Pinkham added that the turnout is always great, and that spectators throughout the region attend.

"The tournament is very well received. It is a festive environment and time of year. We’ve had great crowds. People are very supportive," said Pinkham.

Regional supervisor of McDonald’s restaurants, Larry Johnston, is also supportive of the basketball program and holiday tournament, and donates 275 t-shirts to the players, managers, and coaches each year. Championship winners will be awarded an honor certificate. A first team, a second team, an all-tournament team, and male and female MVP awards will also be presented.

Tickets will cost $3 for students, $5 for adults, and all-tournament packages will also be available for purchase.

**Seven Tips For Safe Kids:**

1. Keep children away from home and car fires.
2. Do not allow children to play in or about garages or basements.
3. Always keep a fire extinguisher handy.
4. Use fire-resistant blankets in the event of a living room fire.
5. Use fire alarms in the event of a smoke fire.
6. Keep doors and windows open in the event of a fire.
7. Always make kitchen fires very small and do not use them.

SAGAEDAD THE FUTURE, SAFEGUARD A CHILD.
A Christmas tree in the corner, and a season of great rewards

Somehow there is a connection between power outages, a Christmas tree, and snowpows passing in the night. The first can be perceived as a threat but need not be, at least in our book, while the latter two are at once seasonal and soothing.

We try to get a jump on the season. In the late fall this means getting the last of the firewood moved to where we want it, making sure there's plenty of kindling, moving farm equipment out of the way of the snow-plowing soon to come, making sure we've got enough hay banking the house, weatherizing the handsome and ancient but drafted front door, and last but by no means least, performing six-month maintenance on more than half a dozen kerosene lamps.

Oh, and one more thing. Because we live on the top of a hill, there is no such thing as a gravity-fed water system, and so we rely on a deep well with an electric pump at the bottom of it. This means that if the power goes out (which it does), we will only have what water’s left in the pressure tank, which is not much. So we keep two five-gallon pails of water in the freezer-freezil, for flushing toilets.

Back to the lamps. They are a motley assortment, some quite old, a couple quite elegant, a couple downright ugly. Never mind, they are all fond of us, as are the numerous candle-holders. There are a certain seasonal satisfaction in getting them all onto newspapers on the kitchen counter and going through the process of filling bowls and trimming wicks and cleaning globes. Three of the antique candle-holders have business’s hat-shaped shields so you can carry them without the flame blowing out. Today they are very hard to find.

Twice last week the power went out, once for about seven hours, as I recall, and the other for about five. Out came the candles and lanterns while I struck fires in the living room fireplace and the Fish and Game Room stove to fill in for the suddenly nilled outdoor wood furnace (it needs power to operate the damper and circulating pumps).

We were warm, and we had light, and could cook and life went on as usual. In a household of card players and readers, the loss of TV and computer were no great loss.

Several times during the outages, utility trucks passed by, in our case bearing New Hampshire Electric Cooperative crews, on the road for the problems. These are not anonymous people doing unappreciated jobs. To us they are familiar faces of friends and neighbors doing one of the hardest and most thankless jobs imaginable. They are out there in absolutely miserable weather under the most trying conditions doing work that can kill them at the slightest mistake. Us, carp about a measly seven hours, or twelve hours, or even days! No way.

Which brings us to the snow plows passing in the night. How can we take such things for granted? We live on a dirt road which most people would consider the middle of the nowhere, in a region infamous for its violent weather and fierce winter storms. Yet in the most outrageous winter weather my eye, trained for such things, I guess, will cock it self from slumber to recognize the town plow crew rumbling by once or twice, in the new hours, even more if the snow is coming down fast and furious. And in the morning, if we were watchers, we could set them by the sight of the plow truck passing by just before 7, which is when the school buses run.

Often, when we visit places to the south, we’re asked how we manage to get around during winter. The challenge, we are always quick to voice, is getting from our barns through the back driveway to the road, which almost invariably is weeded and sanded. If I can get to the road with a four-wheel drive tractor with bucket loader and chains, I tell them, the world is our oyster.

And then to the Christmas tree. It reposes there in a corner of the living room where the stairway meets the great front door; decorated with ornaments and garlands old and new, hearth and keep, homemade and gift, somehow speaking of fires and lanterns and line-crews and the comfort of snow pows rumbling in the night.

By JOHN HARRIGAN

Hart's Turkey Farm Restaurant & Gift Shop

PHOTO BY JOHN HARRIGAN

Turkey Farm Restaurant & Gift Shop

NORTH COUNTRY NOTEBOOK A9

December 14, 2009

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Turkey Farm Restaurant & Gift Shop

PHOTO BY JOHN HARRIGAN

Some of the archaic emergency lighting, getting twice-yearly maintenance on the kitchen counter.
mas Day and her family lights the candle on Christmas Eve services, she brings home attending Christmas Eve Jesus Cake every year. After house as they try to concentrate of Sanbornton said that gifts are only tokens at his found out that little things she decided to skip the traditions in popularity her children were small. placed a large orange in the nored. Each year she always traditions can not be ignored. "I just want to make sure the students get the same response," he said.

Other concerns voiced by parents dealt with what was being taught and if the building would need any modifications. He also felt that game to multimedia to paired up with their counterparts in the multiage classroom and vote in the multiage setting in that grade. He also felt that Bartley was a good choice, his concept, but as a teacher he knows that multiage setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley traditional setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley traditional setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley traditional setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley traditional setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley traditional setting in third grade.

Holly Raus, Gilford

Concord and celebrate Hanukkah, which this year took place from sunset on Dec. 1 until sunset on Dec. 18. All of said they do the traditional lighting of the menorah, sing, and play dreidel games. Food is also a part of their celebration, though, and each year he looks forward to some of the traditional Jewish dishes. Sometimes "we'll have a Hannukkah party and have friends over. It's nice," he said.

For two other Belmont residents, the traditions they treasure center around holiday decorations. Holly Julian said she found out that little things have gone by the wayside.

"I don't feel this is being done in the best interest of our kids. It's unfair to ask Bensie to take on this. She's an amazing teacher," Raus said.

Parents also questioned the reasoning behind eliminating the multiage class with the inception of a multiage class and then bringing back the multiage class. Parents also questioned the reasoning behind eliminating the multiage class with the inception of a multiage class and then bringing back the multiage class.

"The board owes it to the parents of Belmont to consider for other schools in the district," Raus said.

Gagne closed the public hearing by saying the board would not make a decision without hearing from the parents of both schools.

The board owes it to the community to reconsider the multiage class and vote on what is best for the children in the first grade. He also felt that Bartley was a good choice, his concept, but as a teacher he knows that multiage setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley was a good choice, his concept, but as a teacher he knows that multiage setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley was a good choice, his concept, but as a teacher he knows that multiage setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley was a good choice, his concept, but as a teacher he knows that multiage setting in third grade. He also felt that Bartley was a good choice, his concept, but as a teacher he knows that multiage setting in third grade.

In Northfield, Cheryl Ferrin, another parent, said she was concerned about the math curriculum. She questioned the math curriculum. She questioned the math curriculum. She questioned the math curriculum.

Another teacher, Mark McCarthy, said that as an educato...
Patrick's Pub Mania nets $47,000 for WLHN Christmas Auction

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“I am sorry, what was that?”

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1 out of 10 people suffer from hearing loss.

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Jacqueline (Merrill) Laughy, 70

TILTON — Mrs. Jacqueline (Merrill) Laughy, 70, of Tilton, formerly of Wood Ridge Rd., Franklin, died at Circle of Hope in Franklin on Dec. 17, 2009.

She was born in Concord on March 28, 1939 where she resided until moving to Franklin. Mrs. Laughy was a graduate of Franklin High School. Several years ago, she was employed as a nurse’s aide at Merrimack County Nursing Home and later at Blueberry Lane Nursing Home in Laconia. She was last employed at Wash Bright Laundry in Franklin. Mrs. Laughy was a volunteer at Circle of Hope in Franklin.

She was the widow of James E. Laughy Sr., who died in 1997. Family members include her son, James E. Laughy, Jr. of Plymouth; daughters Karen Bonito and her husband Louis of Hingham, Mass., and Pamela Sciglimpaglia and her husband Edward of Laconia; eight grandchildren; a sister, Thelma Cartier of Concord; and nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a son, Kevin M. Laughy, who died in 2008, a brother, Frank Merrill, and a sister, Yvette Merrill.

Services will be held in the funeral home. Donations in memory of Mrs. Laughy may be made to The American Lung Assn., 1301 Pennsylvania Ave., Wash., DC 20004 or to a charity to assist with mental health. For directions and an online guestbook, please visit www.neunfuneralhomes.com.

Myrtle McAdams, 91

BOSCAWEN — Mrs. Myrtle McAdams, 91, formerly of Warren St., Concord, died at Merrimack County Nursing Home in Boscawen on Dec. 11, 2009.

She was born in Barrington on June 19, 1918, the daughter of Paul and Sadie (Matthews) Andrus. Mrs. McAdams worked as a dietary assistant at Concord Hospital for several years prior to retiring. She was a former parishioner of St. Paul Church in Franklin.

She was the widow of Edward J. McAdams, Sr. Family members include her son, Edward J. McAdams, Jr. of Meredith; 5 daughters: Pauline Kershaw of Wells, Maine, Mary Parrish of Dunnellon, Fla., Louise Thomas of Punta Gorda, Fla., Evelyn Thomspon of Hernando, Fla., and Patricia Morris of Carnation, Wash.; 8 grandchildren; 10 great grandchildren; and nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a sister, Eleanor Mills, and two brothers, Leslie and Norman Andrus.

Graveside services will be held at Park Cemetery in Tilton in the spring. Paquette-Neun Funeral Home in Northfield is assisting with the arrangements (www.neunfuneralhomes.com).