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March 2026

MONTHLY

Art teacher honored at Hampstead exhibit



COURTESY PHOTO

Michael Terrile at work at his easel.

HAMPSTEAD — The community is invited to a special art exhibit honoring longtime Hampstead Central School art teacher Michael Terrile. The exhibit will be on view April 10 to April 12 at the Hampstead Central School, 21 Emerson Ave. An opening reception will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, April 10. The show features his acrylic paintings, many inspired by New Hampshire landscapes, and reflects his lasting impact on generations of students.

Michael Terrile, a longtime Hampstead Central School art teacher and accomplished landscape painter, grew up in Haverhill, MA, and studied art at Franklin & Marshall College, Parsons School of Design in Paris, and Massachusetts College of Art,

where he earned his Master in Art Education. He later completed his MFA at Vermont College.

Terrile exhibited his work professionally and was a member of the New Hampshire Art Association, receiving awards for both excellence and originality.

For 34 years, he inspired generations of students in Hampstead with his enthusiasm, humor, and dedication to art. He passed away on June 18, 2025, leaving a lasting impact on his family, students, and community.

Exhibit hours are Friday, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free. Prints will be available for sale. All proceeds to go towards the Michael Terrile scholarship fund.



"Three Steeples" by Michael Terrile.



"Optimism: First day of the New School Year" by Michael Terrile.



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Looking for something to do outside the immediate area? Check out the following upcoming events.

MANCHESTER: Bob Marley

- » Friday, April 10; Saturday, April 11; Sunday April 12
- » Don't miss comedian Bob Marley, as seen on the Letterman Show, Late Night with Conan O'Brien, and Comedy Central.
- » Performance times: April 10 at 7:30 p.m., April 11 at 5:30 and 8 p.m., April 12 at 7:30 p.m.
- » @ The Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover Street
- » Cost: \$48.50 per person
- » Info/tickets: 603-668-5588 / www.palacetheatre.org

LACONIA: Face-2-Face: Tribute to Elton John & Billy Joel

- » Saturday, April 11
- » Taking turns at an onstage piano, the dual tribute artists of the Billy Joel/Elton John Face-2-Face Tribute Show conjure the beloved songsters in both sound and image.
- » 8 p.m., Colonial Theatre of Laconia, 609 Main Street
- » Cost: \$44-\$68 (+ \$3 order fee applied before checkout)
- » Info/tickets: 800-654-8874 / www.coloniallaconia.com

PORTSMOUTH: Wild & Scenic Film Festival

- » Friday, April 17
- » Attendees of all ages can



BECKS

Head to the Palace Theatre to see Comedian Bob Marley, pictured. Performances will be on Friday, April 10, Saturday, April 11 and Sunday, April 12 at 80 Hanover St., Manchester.

- expect award-winning short films about nature, outdoor adventure, conservation, wildlife, environmental issues, agriculture, and more.
- » 7 p.m., The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut Street
- » Cost: \$25 per person

» Info/tickets: www.themusichall.org

PORTSMOUTH: Children's Day

- » Sunday, May 3
- » This Festival combines family-friendly activities, entertainment and usually, an ice cream sundae – all sponsored, hosted and supported by the Downtown Merchants, area companies, civic organizations and volunteers of the Seacoast.

Did You Know?

To go directly to the calendar of local events online, go to the top of our website (-eagletribune.com-) and choose "local calendar" in the navigation bar.-

- » 12-4 p.m., Market Square
- » Info: www.proportsmouth.org

PORTSMOUTH: TEDxPortsmouth 2026: Uncharted

- » Friday, May 8
- » One of the biggest TEDx events in the country, TEDx-Portsmouth is an immersive, full-day event showcasing a diverse lineup of inspiring speakers, rousing artistic performances, local food and more.
- » 9 a.m., The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut Street
- » Cost: \$100 general admission, \$50 limited view
- » Info/tickets: 603-436-2400 / www.themusichall.org

DOVER: Southeastern NH Gem & Mineral Show

- » Saturday, May 9 & Sunday, May 10
- » Featuring 30+ tables of gems, minerals, jewelry, and more.
- » 10 a.m. — 4 p.m., Dover Elks Lodge #184, 282 Durham Road
- » Cost: \$5 for adults; children under age 12 are free
- » Info: www.SENHMC.org

STRATHAM: Great Bay Food Truck Festival

- » Saturday, May 9
- » Featuring 25+ food trucks, beer garden, live music, kid zone, and more.

- » 12-4 p.m., Stratham Hill Park,
- » Cost: \$10 online in advance, \$15 on the day of
- » Info: www.greatbay-foodtruckfestival.com

PORTSMOUTH: Matt Fraser: America's Top Psychic Medium

- » Thursday, May 28
- » Join America's top psychic medium for a night of live psychic readings and undeniable proof of life after death.
- » 7:30 p.m., The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut Street
- » Cost: \$49/\$69/\$79/\$99
- » Info/tickets: 603-436-2400 / www.themusichall.org

NASHUA: Herman's Hermits Starring Peter Noone

- » Friday, May 29
- » Accompanied by his band, Herman's Hermits, Noone currently performs over 200 concerts a year. He consistently plays to sold-out venues, and his admirers span the generations.
- » 7:30 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts, 201 Main Street
- » Cost: \$57/\$68/\$79/\$101
- » Info/tickets: www.nashua-centerforthearts.com

MANCHESTER: NH Beer & Bacon Festival (Ages 21+)

- » Saturday, June 6
- » The NH Bacon & Beer Festival is a fundraiser organized by High Hopes Foundation of New Hampshire.
- » 1:30-5 p.m., Arms Park, 10 Arms Street
- » Cost: \$70 general admission online, \$80 on-site (if available); \$50 for designated driver general admission online, \$40 on-site (if

available; VIP admission also available

- » Info/tickets: www.nhbaconbeer.com

NASHUA: Something Wonderful Tonight – Tribute to Eric Clapton & George Harrison

- » Friday, June 12
- » Based in Boston, Something Wonderful Tonight brings to life the timeless music of Eric Clapton and George Harrison, offering a tribute that is as faithful as it is fresh.
- » 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts, 201 Main Street
- » Cost: \$39-\$59 + order fee
- » Info/tickets: 800-657-8774 / www.nashuacenterforthearts.com

DOVER-FOXCROFT, MAINE: Maine Whoopie Pie Festival

- » Saturday, June 13
- » Come sample a wide-variety of whoopie pies, browse the arts, crafts and foods offered by more than 100 vendors, enjoy live music, rides and games for kids of all ages, and more.
- » 10 a.m. — 4 p.m., Piscataquis Valley Fairgrounds, 77 Fairview Ave.
- » Cost: \$6 per person; kids age 12 and under are free
- » Info: www.mainewhoopiepiefestival.com

LOWELL, MA: Blue Man Group: North American Tour

- » Tuesday, June 23 & Wednesday, June 24
- » Dive into the thrilling Blue Man Group experience – a blend of captivating music, interactive art and audience engagement. Blue Man Group creates a fun, disruptive and out of the ordinary atmosphere that exhilarates the senses and uplifts spirits for audiences of all ages.
- » 7:30 p.m., Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 E. Merrimack Street
- » Cost: \$57/\$68/\$79/\$101/\$133
- » Info/tickets: www.lowellauditorium.com

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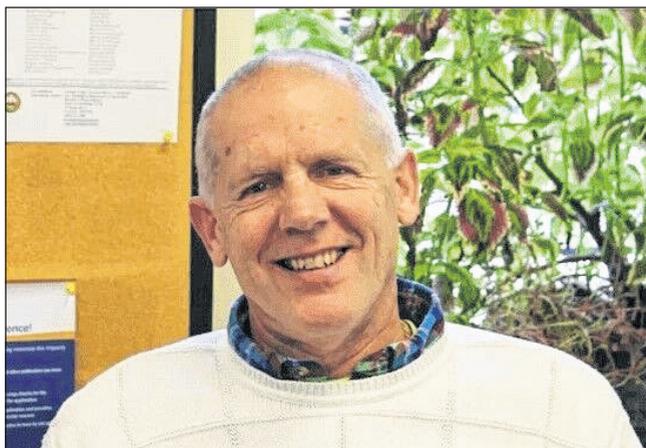
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Spring into gardening with Atkinson Garden Club

ATKINSON — Finally! Spring is in the air! As snow melts and winter fades away, the anticipation of Spring gardens takes strong hold. And as we all know, early preparation is key!

Advanced Master Gardener, Ron Trexler, will be featured at the Atkinson Garden Club's Spring Open Meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at Kimball Library, 5 Academy Ave. His powerpoint presentation, "Getting the Garden Ready for Spring," is the perfect program to provide some momentum for the tasks ahead.

While we wait for our garden soil to dry and warm up, we can always clean and sharpen our tools and inspect our hoses, plan the layout of this year's garden, and maybe start some seeds indoors. Then garden clean up, soil prep, pest treatment, fertilization, composting and pruning are other topics and activities to be considered in getting our gardens ready for planting. Come



COURTESY PHOTO

Advanced Master Gardener, Ron Trexler, will present "Getting the Garden Ready for Spring" at the Atkinson Garden Club's Spring Open Meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at Kimball Library, 5 Academy Ave., Atkinson.

and learn all the details.

Ron Trexler has spent a lifetime "nurturing people and plants." He has been a volunteer with the Master Gardener program at UNH Cooperative Extension since 1915, and continues to give presentations to garden clubs, libraries, and varied community organizations.

An avid gardener, (seed propagation being one of his favorite activities) he also serves on the Executive Board of the New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs.

The program with Ron is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

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Maple Ave: Zita Foss to Ralph R. and Karen J. Gallo, \$575,000
 18 Christine Dr: Chavers Bernice C Est and Lisa C. Ambrosio to Stephanie and Laurence Carroll, \$665,000
 3 Stone Pond Ln: John L. and Peter A. Feuer to Jlf Ret and John L. Feuer, \$175,000
 7 Birch Ln: Mark L. Bernier to Mason P. White, \$575,000
 85 East Rd: Spruce Cone Bldg & Dev LLC to Hillary Nelson, \$757,000
 5 Longview Dr Unit 205: Craig A. Josephs and Clare Miller to John Devine, \$318,733
 5 Longview Dr Unit 205: Craig A. Josephs and Clare Miller to John Devine, \$318,800

DANVILLE

57 Hampstead Rd: Shore T and Tammi Georgaklis to Kelsei Leblanc and Caitlin Menzie, \$530,000
 18 Diamond Dr: Helen M Mcphillips RET and Kristen Mcisaac to Seda A. and Sertac Tunc, \$592,000
 Sandown Rd: 70 Sandown Road LLC to Barone Ret and Marie M. Barone, \$237,533
 23 Wymans Lndg: Nicholas and Rebecca Marie Rera to Caleb J. and Erin L. Ashford, \$483,000

EAST KINGSTON

139 North Rd: Robert R Seally LLC to Todd B Bates RET and Todd B. Bates, \$1,110,000
 9 Casey Rd: Desiree and Daniel J. Benoit to Chester H. and Lauren Locke Maguire, \$620,000

HAMPSTEAD

21 Country Rd: Gilson Ft and Suzanne Bigos to Amanda J. Lovely and Matthew Casccio, \$555,000
 241 East Rd: Prunier Rt and Sheila M. Prunier to Nathaniel Roy and Julie Stcy, \$601,000
 10 Steeple Chase Rd Unit 10: Leighann M. Roche to Brandon M. Addonizio, \$362,000
 13 Autumn Ln: Ryer Rt and Damond V. Ryer to Cole Ft and Maria Cole, \$540,000
 228 Main St: Marciano Bryan Est and Margaret Margiano to Smb Investments LLC, \$280,000
 1 Remington Dr: Carol J. Razza to Jana and Brent Wordell Rotsko, \$605,000
 Tanglewood Unit C: Mary Angela Ducharme to Amanda and Adam Van Gestel, \$325,000

KENSINGTON

13 North Rd: Pamela A. and Jeffrey L. Welsh to Sean Peters, \$3,000,000

KINGSTON

23 Ash Dr Unit 23: Jeffrey Letourneau to Kristen Dirocco and Glenn Deluca, \$455,000
 13 Madison Ave: Kristine E. Nadeau to Lauren A. Grindrod and Daniel A. Perry, \$780,000
 Scotland St: Brienna Dwyer to 6 Scotland Rd LLC, \$305,000
 Morning Dove Rd: Dennis Berbaum to 28 Morning Dove Road LLC, \$248,000

NEWTON

Great Pond: Ridge Rentals LLC to Buddy Builders LLC, \$340,000
 21 Marcy Hill Rd: Claire J. Smith to Rafael G. Rivera and Alexandria Vaillancourt, \$299,000

PLAISTOW

5 Kimball Ave: James C. Wright to Brian Hickey, \$442,533
 98 Sweet Hill Rd: Michael A. and Lauren K. Schlerf to Sebastian R. and Alexandra M. Yoma Honores, \$1,010,000
 22 Danville Rd: K & S Contractors Supply to Big Als Services LLC, \$650,000
 4 Hale Spring Rd: Wayne A. and Jacqueline Shields to Todd Higgins and Stephanie Strainge, \$525,000
 193 Main St: Diane Ruiz

and Eladio Deleon to Kathleen and Scott Neault, \$495,000

73 Newton Rd: Rclx-ml-Ptlwjr 73 Newton R and Robert C. Landry to Plaistow Point LLC, \$1,950,000
 6 Palmer Ave: Ashily M. Perez to Paul H. Nguyen and Madison D. Ferrara, \$440,000

3 Shady Ln: Shady Lane LLC to Mac Plaistow LLC, \$4,400,000

17 Walton Rd: Corey M. Eddows and Adriana Ferreira to Michael E. Dunn, \$465,000

15 Canterbury Frst: Kyle A. Elardo and Dianne Plantamura to Alyson and Sean Herlihy, \$401,000
 201 Oak Knoll Rd: Jordan Mathew and Alyssa N. Bailey to Desiree and Daniel J. Benoit, \$810,000

SANDOWN

37 Reed Rd: Diamond Edge Rlty & Dev L to Drew and Michelle Doyle, \$699,933
 17 Bobcat Way: D F Rt and Stephen J. Doherty to Rwwii LLC, \$1,100,000
 121 Hampstead Rd: Kaitlyn R. Berretta and Dylan T. Young to Riley H. Blumenfeld and Craig W. Hamilton, \$580,000
 110 Main St: Rr LLC to Kayla Radwich and Ryan Goudreault, \$535,000

Button Up Workshop

EAST KINGSTON — NHSaves Button Up, the popular home energy savings workshop series, is coming to East Kingston. The East Kingston Public Library, Carriage Towne Monthly and Friends of the East Kingston Public Library are presenting this free workshop for residents. It will take place at 6:30 p.m. Thursday March 19, at the East Kingston Public Library, 47 Maplevale Road. This workshop is also available on Zoom by going to plymouthenergy.org/button-up or the NHSaves event page.

The workshop is sponsored by NHSaves and coordinated statewide by the Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI).

NHSaves is a collaboration of New Hampshire's electric and natural gas utilities (Eversource, Liberty Utilities, NH Electric Cooperative and Unitil). The utilities are working together to provide NH customers with information, incentives, and support designed to save energy, reduce costs, and protect the NH environment. PAREI of Plymouth, NH is working with local groups around the state to bring these workshops to the public on behalf of New Hampshire's utilities.

The NHSaves Button Up Workshop is a 1.5-hour presentation plus Q&A about how to improve the energy efficiency of your home. It is conducted by

a certified energy auditor and covers basic building science principles as well as examples of whole house weatherization measures that will button up your home for the heating and cooling seasons. It also covers details about the energy efficiency programs offered by NH utilities (for existing homes and new construction) that provide energy audits, weatherization measures such as air sealing and insulating, and rebates on new technologies and products such as electric and gas appliances and high efficiency electric heating/cooling equipment.

NH residents wishing to use energy more efficiently, conserve energy and save money on their heating and cooling bills, will find the workshop presentation very helpful. The local workshop organizer, Sherry Castle said "We are bringing this workshop to East Kingston because it offers valuable and practical information about how to save energy and reduce costs while making our homes more comfortable. The information about available funding can also help make these improvements possible for more people. With the high cost of energy, efficiency is now more important than ever. We hope many people will take the time to attend this informative workshop."

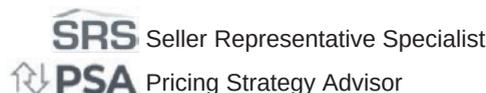
For questions about the East Kingston NHSaves Button Up, email Sherry Castle ekpublib@comcast.net.



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BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY



COURTESY PHOTO

Hampstead Lions Club will hold their 31st annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 4, at the Central School, 21 Emerson Ave. The Easter Bunny will be available for photographs with the children and families. There will also be a craft table where children can make Easter decorations and a raffle table with the chance to win themed baskets. Donations are \$8 for adults, \$4 for children.

Garden club announces plant shop adventure and gardening series

SANDOWN — The Sandown Garden Club invites the community to a special evening at Root Rot at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 6, at 265 E. Main St., East Hampstead. Root Rot is a unique nature and plant shop born from a love of natural history and all things green and growing. Part nature nook, part plant paradise, this thoughtfully curated space offers something for everyone to enjoy. Every corner reflects creativity and a deep appreciation for the natural world.

Owners Seven Tummino and Dave Cabral will welcome guests and share their warmth and passion for what they do. Come connect with nature — and with each other — and leave inspired, perhaps with a new leafy treasure in hand.

Seats are still available for “Roots & Resilience” Workshop at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 13 at The Laurels Farm, 127 Odell Road,

in Sandown. Offered by The Laurels Farm in partnership with the Sandown Garden Club, this hands-on gardening series meets the second Monday of each month through May. Open to all experience levels, topics include garden planning, soil health, pest management, and sustainable growing. The cost is \$5 (benefits the Sandown Food

Pantry). To register, go to <https://shorturl.at/JlftX>.

Sandown Garden Club warmly welcomes new members from the community. Whether you’re an experienced gardener or just beginning your journey, there’s a place for you. Interested in becoming a member? They’d love to have you. For details, visit www.sandowngardenclub.org.



TIM JEAN/Staff photo

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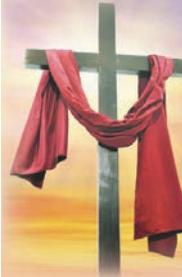
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Holy Week & Easter



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Maundy Thursday Prayer Service, April 2nd 7 PM

Good Friday Service 7 PM

Saturday, April 4th Easter Vigil 8 PM

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Scholarship opportunity for local students

PLAISTOW — The Plaistow Area Commerce Exchange (PACE) is pleased to announce that it will award scholarships to graduating high school seniors in Spring 2026 from the seven communities it serves: Atkinson, Danville, Hampstead, Kingston, Newton, Plaistow, and Sandown.

Eligible applicants must be current high school seniors residing in one of these towns and must have been accepted into an accredited college or university, professional or technical school, certificate program, or other post-secondary program for the 2026-2027 academic year.

To apply, students must submit a completed general scholarship application, essay, transcript, resume, and letter of acceptance. More information

about the scholarship program and applications can be found online at www.PACENH.com. Applications must be received by April 1, 2026.

PACE is a 501(c)(6) organization comprised of professionals and businesses from seven towns in southern New Hampshire, that works hard to support and promote its members and local businesses. Operating by its original mission and purpose under the motto "Building relationships while supporting our community," each year PACE sponsors fundraisers to provide scholarships to high school students, and to support local libraries, elementary schools, and food pantries.

To become a member, register for an event, or for more information, visit PACENH.com or email PACENH@yahoo.com.

HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR AT TIMBERLANE



COURTESY PHOTO

Timberlane Regional High School will host a Health & Wellness Fair as part of their Mental Health Awareness Week. The fair will be held from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, at Timberlane Regional High School cafeteria, 36 Greenough Road, Plaistow. Resources will be available from a wide variety of vendors to assist both mental and physical health. Free and open to the community. For additional information, email Mr. Taylor Donovan at taylor.donovan@timberlane.net.

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Meet Cheryl Field: Your guide to living longer, living well



COURTESY PHOTO

Cheryl Field

Hello, Carriage Towne Monthly readers! I'm Cheryl Field, a former Kingston, NH resident. My parents, Patricia and Marvin Diamond, owned L'il Johns restaurant, where I started as a dishwasher and later became a waitress. Now, I live in Brentwood and have 37 years of nursing experience, specializing in older adult care. I believe in practical wisdom, honest conversations, and empowering people to take charge of their health as they age. With age comes change, and I want you prepared!

My nursing journey began at the bedside in acute rehab for 17 years, then moved into leadership in skilled nursing homes. The biggest lessons came from caring for my own family. Navigating the system and seeing gaps in communication and care delivery made me a passionate advocate for older adults and caregivers.

My mother, Patricia, died in 2009; I was her advocate through cancer. My father, Marvin, is now 91½ and lives with his wife, who is also his caregiver. My role remains advocate for what they both want and need as they age. I've seen how small daily habits can make a big difference in health and independence.

In this column, I'll share insights, stories, and actionable tips on aging with intention for independence. My goal is to help you stay independent, informed, and inspired—no matter where you are on your "getting older" journey. I'll answer your questions, tackle tough topics, and celebrate victories—big and small—that come with living longer and living well.

I'm often asked for the one habit I'd suggest for older adults. Here's my best advice: Get four 12- or 16-ounce bottles of water,

label each 1 through 4, fill them each morning, and drink them throughout the day. This simple habit prevents dehydration, bladder infections, and immobility—the top three reasons older adults are hospitalized.

Let's get started! Snap a picture of yourself with your water bottle and email it to me for a chance to win a copy of my book. I'll give away a copy each month to an engaged reader. If you have questions or topics you'd like me to cover, reach out. This column is for you! Send your questions to info@cheryl-field.com, learn more about me and my book Prepared! A Healthcare Guide for Aging Adults at www.cherylfield.com, or follow me on Facebook at Cheryl Field Senior Care Consultant. With age comes change—let's get you prepared!

Here's to independence, resilience, and a life well-lived.



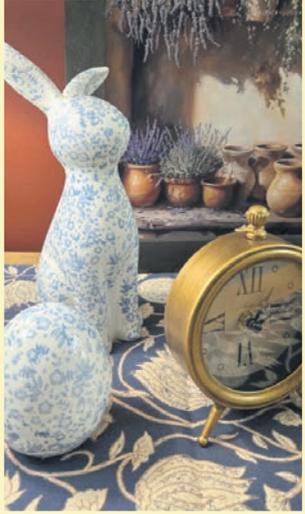
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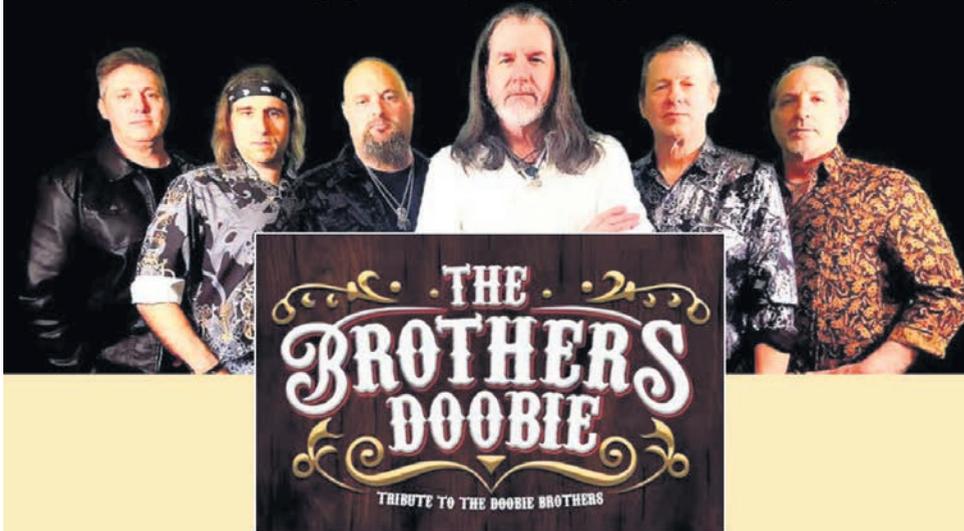
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The Brothers Doobie: Celebrating the Sound of the Doobie Brothers

When it comes to capturing the essence of classic rock, The Brothers Doobie stand out as the #1 tribute band to the legendary Doobie Brothers. With their infectious energy, masterful musicianship, and undeniable passion for the music, they transport audiences back to the golden era of the 1970s and '80s, when the Doobie Brothers dominated the charts with timeless hits.

At the heart of The Brothers Doobie is Sean Byrne, a charismatic frontman whose vocal prowess and stage presence take the audience by storm. With an extraordinary range and a knack for emulating the distinct sound that made the Doobie Brothers iconic, Sean brings an authentic experience to every performance. Fans rave about his ability to channel the spirit of classic hits like "Listen to the Music," "Black Water," and "Long Train Runnin'"—all while adding his unique flair that keeps them coming back for more.

But it's not just Sean's vocals that make The Brothers Doobie shine; the band is comprised of seasoned musicians whose collective experience spans decades. Each member brings their own distinct style, creating a dynamic sound that pays homage to the original band while adding a fresh twist. The harmony vocals are tight, the guitar solos electrifying, and the rhythm section lays down grooves that get everyone dancing.

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Two Hampstead Dads Are Changing the Future for people with Disabilities

When Ed Goyette and Brad Duquette looked at how students with disabilities were being prepared for life after high school, they saw a problem — and decided to fix it. They founded Major Choice, a career mentorship program for young people with disabilities. Through one-on-one mentorship, participants explore their strengths, work preferences, and personality — then map out a realistic path forward.

More than 200 young people have already completed the program. It's fully virtual, recognized by the NH Department of Education as a credit-bearing course, and funded for eligible participants through New Hampshire Vocational Rehabilitation.

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Concert, crafts, cribbage and more at Sandown Library

Brittney Bergholm, director

SANDOWN — Sandown Public Library will offer the following upcoming programs for children and adults.

Weekly Programs

Cribbage: Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.; **Mahjong:** Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon; **Story Time (Ages 3+):** Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. **Toddler Tales:** Thursdays (when there is no music) from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Monthly Programs

Graphic Novel Book Club: Monday, March 23, from 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.; **Where Dragons Dream Book Club:** Monday, March 23,

from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.; **STEAM Explorers:** Wednesday, March 25, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; **Fiber Fest:** Monday, April 6, from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; **Lego League:** Monday, April 6, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; **Monday Movies:** Monday, April 6, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; **Monday Morning Mystery Book Group:** Monday, April 6, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.; **Messy Monday:** Monday, April 13, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.; **Food for Thought:** Monday, April 13, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; **Kids Kraft:** Wednesday, April 15, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; **Books & Bites Book Discussion:** Wednesday, April 15, from 4:30 to 6 p.m.; **Tunes for Tots:** Thursday, April 16, from 10 a.m.

to 10:45 a.m.; **Kidz Rock:** Thursday, April 16, from 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.; **Ready 2 Rock:** Thursday, April 16, from noon to 12:45 p.m.

Special Programs

Kick off St. Patrick's Day from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, March 21 with an **Irish Music Concert** with "JuBilley".

Friends of the Sandown Public Library will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 1.

A presentation on **Cyber-security Awareness** will be offered from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 2.

Learn **Ukrainian (Pysanky) Egg Decorating** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 11.

To confirm locations, times, and to register for programs, go to www.sandownlibrary.us.

New England Hot Sauce Fest announces new location

PORTSMOUTH — The New England Hot Sauce Fest is excited to announce a new home for its 5th annual festival, relocating to the field at Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, following the sale of the previous location, Smuttynose Brewery.

The festival will take place on Saturday, Aug. 1, with a rain date of Sunday, Aug. 2, and will deliver the same beloved experience fans have come to expect — now set against one of New England's most iconic historic backdrops.

A true New England celebration for hot sauce lovers, the New England Hot Sauce Fest showcases craft hot sauces with an exclusive focus on New England and Northeast makers, bringing together bold flavors, community, and charitable giving in one high-energy summer event.

"Strawbery Banke Museum is the perfect fit for this festival," said Gabe DiSaverio of The Spicy Shark, and creator of the New England Hot Sauce Fest. "It's a beautiful, open field in the heart of our hometown, and it allows us to keep the festival exactly the same while elevating the overall experience."

The event footprint remains practically identical in size to previous years, ensuring the festival layout, number of vendors, and programming remain unchanged. For the first time, shuttle buses will not be required, as attendees can easily access Portsmouth's low-cost public parking lots or utilize street parking where available.

Festival highlights include:

- 30 Craft hot sauce vendors from across New England and the Northeast;
- Unlimited hot sauce

samples, music, food trucks, and beer;

- Fan-favorite MCs Bella and Dark from Heat 101 returning, alongside DJ Kevin;

- The festival's signature hot pepper eating contests, both amateur and professional;

- Family-friendly fun, including bouncy houses, face painting, and a magic show.

Continuing its commitment to giving back, the New England Hot Sauce Fest will once again donate majority proceeds to Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation and Seacoast Science Center, two local nonprofit organizations dedicated to marine education and conservation.

VIP ticket holders will receive early entry from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and both general admission and VIP tickets are currently on sale and moving quickly at www.newenglandhotsaucefest.com.

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Discover what's happening at Colby Memorial Library

Ann Massoth, director

DANVILLE — Colby Memorial Library will host Bob McDermott who will lead a discussion on Unidentified Flying Objects at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 21 at the Community Center, 169 Main St. There's been a lot of buzz in the news of late and this is your chance to hear from a New Hampshire resident who has studied the question of life from other planets beginning with the "Exeter Incident" one of the first well-documented sightings that occurred in the Exeter area in 1965. Mr. McDermott has been an amateur historian and paranormal researcher for 25 years and hosts a popular paranormal podcast.

Birder's Raffle and Bird Program

Spring is almost upon us and that means we'll be seeing and hearing more birds. The Friends of the Library are sponsoring a Bird Watcher's Raffle with prizes including a \$50 gift card to the Wild Birds Unlimited store in Plaistow, binoculars, a New Hampshire bird book, a framed 14X14 original photograph of egrets, a hummingbird feeder and more. Tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. Proceeds go to a Friend's goal of updating library furniture.

Tickets will be drawn on April 11 at the conclusion of a 1 p.m. program on birds. Danville's Marianne Sears who has worked at Wild Birds Unlimited as a "Back Yard Bird Specialist" for 26 years and has been a bird watcher almost her entire life will speak about attracting birds to your yard, identifying them and more. Library Director Ann Massoth, who enjoys photographing wild birds of prey such as eagles, ospreys,

and owls will talk about important birding spots in our area, bird identification apps, how to know what is being seen where, and more. The winner does not need to be present for the drawing.

Local Artist's work on display

We are happy to exhibit paintings of Danville resident, Linda Borrelli. Linda's acrylic and watercolor paintings are inspired by her travels of the United States, Canada and Europe as well as natural vistas seen while snowshoeing, canoeing and hiking in our area. Stop by to see Linda's artwork in our "gallery space" in between the first and second floors. Anyone interested in purchasing a painting should contact Linda directly.

The Library Board of Trustees are currently revising our Art Exhibition policy, and we are excited to host other artists in the near future.

Seed Library

Please check out our seed library. We have free vegetables, herb, fruit, and flower seeds. Take what seeds you need and leave some for others. We would love to see more residents taking advantage of the seeds and, ideally, bring us harvested seeds at the end of the season. We have seed envelopes for loose seeds.

We also have seed catalogs for reference and information on upcoming programs and news from the Pathway Pollinators of New Hampshire. Pollinator Pathways are public and private pesticide-free corridors of native plants that provide nutrition and habitat for pollinating.

Other Happenings

Sewing With Sue is offered one Saturday a month at 10:30 a.m. Children will learn beginning sewing techniques with volunteer Sue Murray. Call the library for dates, to register and for information on materials to bring.

Chess Club meets every Wednesday at 4 p.m. We have a great group of enthusiasts of adults and children of all ages and all experience levels.

Knitting and Crafting Hour is held on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. This informal drop-in group is meant for folks to gather and share ongoing work.

Join us each Thursday morning for **Storytime** featuring stories, action songs, puppets, and movement, and crafts. Toddlers meet at 10 a.m. followed by Pre-K at 11:30 a.m.

Babytime, a special interactive story time for infants is held the second Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m.

The **Mystery Book Club** meets every first Thursday at 6:30 p.m. In April the group will discuss *The Magpie Murders*. Books are available at the library.

The **Junior Book Club** meets monthly on a Thursday at 4 p.m. On March 26 the group will discuss *The Lightning Thief* by Percy Jackson.

Cookbook Club meets on the second Saturday at 11:30 a.m. Each month is a different theme. Come check out our cookbooks and *Cooks Magazine* for inspiration and then bring your creation to share.

Nature Journaling and Nature Book Club meets quarterly. The next meeting is in May. Please contact Ann for the reading list and more information.



Planning a garden? Check out the seed library at Colby Memorial Library, 7 Colby Road, Danville.

COURTESY PHOTO

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MONTHLY

Activities planned for Mental Health Awareness Week at Timberlane

PLAISTOW — The week of April 20-24, Timberlane Regional High School will host their 3rd annual Mental Health Awareness Week: Strides Against Stigma. In partnership with Connor's Climb and SoRockNH, the Timberlane students, staff, and the community are invited to participate in a week of events and activities, all centered around the importance of mental health and fighting against stigma.

Timberlane Regional School District students, staff, families, and community members are invited to the 2nd annual Mental Health Awareness Week Coffee House at 6 p.m. Monday, April 20, at the Timberlane High School Cafe, 36 Greenough Road. This free event, hosted by the TRHS Student School Climate and Culture Committee, will showcase TRHS student talents. Bring some cash along for coffee and baked goods.

The 3rd annual Community Celebration Event for the Timberlane Regional School District community will take place at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at the Performing Arts Center, 40 Greenough

Road. Admission is free. The evening will start with an Open House, where many of the high school clubs and organizations will be present. This will be followed by an awards ceremony to highlight students who have been working hard to make our school a positive place and then a talk by Judge John Broderick for parents.

Students, staff and community members are invited to a Wellness Fair at 2:15 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, in the TRHS Cafeteria, 36 Greenough Road. Join for food samples, wellness activities, raffles, community outreach, giveaways, and physical and mental health resources.

Gather together for a night of food trucks, athletics, and laughter at the Milkmen improv show at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at the Performing Arts Center, 40 Greenough Road. The high school will host food trucks from 3:45 to 7 p.m., outside the cafeteria.

The week will conclude with the community Dance Team showcase, at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 24, at the Performing Arts Center, 40 Greenough Road. All are welcome.



CARL RUSSO/Staff photo

The food trucks were a popular activity at last year's Mental Health Awareness Week at Timberlane. The trucks will return again this year from 3:45 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 23, at Timberlane Regional High School, 36 Greenough Road, outside the cafeteria.

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Stitchers invited to twice-monthly Sit-and-Stitch

Vicki J. Brown

EAST KINGSTON — Whether you are stitching-savvy or are just starting, you are welcome to join the new, twice-monthly Sit-and-Stitch gatherings, held twice monthly on the first and third Tuesdays of every month, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the East Kingston Public Library, 47 Maplevale Road Bring a project. Beginners are welcome.

In the month of April, the Sit-and-Stitch gatherings will be on Tuesday, April 7 and Tuesday, April 21.

This is a drop-in group. Join when you can. Bring any project using a needle and eye — embroidery, needlepoint, cross-stitch, crewel, crazy quilt embroidery, hand sewing, mending.



COURTESY PHOTO

Something for everyone at Kingston Library

Melissa Mannon, director

KINGSTON — Join us for regular children's programming most days of the week. On Monday and Friday we offer 123 Play with me from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. followed by Music and Movement. Join us for Tuesday Crafternoons and Theme Thursdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Story Times include our regular Wednesday event at 10:30 a.m., with Jack the Dog joining us the first and third story time dates each month. We also offer Be Calm and Listen On every Tuesday at 1:15 p.m. This program is for kids with sensory issues or those who just prefer a calmer setting.

We feature regular adult programming each day. Exercise programs include Light Aerobics on Mondays and

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga at 11 a.m. on the same days, and Reiki on Mondays at 2 p.m. (There is a donation recommended for yoga and Reiki.) Walking Club will return every day at 8 a.m. as soon as the Chase Field track is clear of snow. The library also offers fun activities that give people a chance to get together and share the things they love. On Tuesdays, join us for Hobby Haven at 10 a.m., Knitting Group at 1 p.m., or Chess at 3 p.m. Jigsaw Puzzle Group meets on Friday at 10:30 a.m., as does Cribbage across the hall. The library offers free Matinee Movies with popcorn every Wednesday at 1 p.m.

Our monthly and special programs in April include our new Caregiver Support

Group, which takes place on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Our Older Adult Seminar occurs on the first Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m. and in April features "AI and Culture." Don't forget the Teens! We offer Teen Book Talk on the third Wednesday of each month to give kids a chance to talk about whatever they are currently reading. Finally, come celebrate Poetry Month with us on April 2 — time TBA.

See the calendar on our website for more programs including meditation, additional crafting programs, and our five book clubs. Information about our exhibits and upcoming musical programs are also described on the website. We look forward to welcoming you.

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Janet Arden, head of circulation

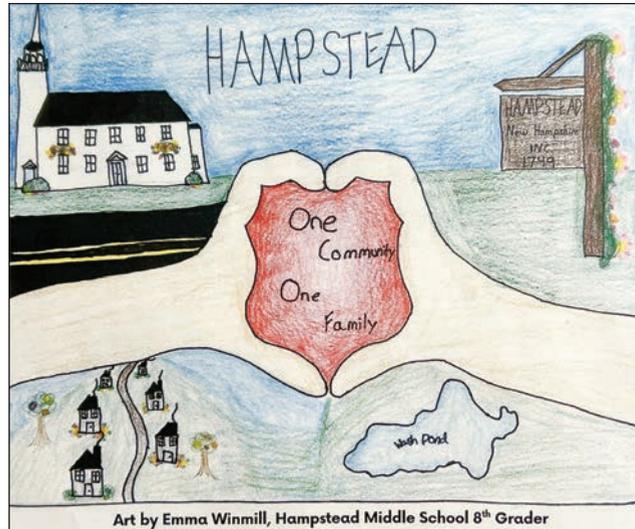
HAMPSTEAD — The Hampstead Public Library is working with town committees and clubs to present the annual Hampstead Meet & Greet. This year the event takes place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at the Hampstead Middle School, 28 School St. Residents are encouraged to drop-in during that time to meet representatives from over twenty-five boards, committees, and clubs as well as state representatives. A complete list is given on the Library's website, www.HampsteadLibrary.org.

It's a great opportunity for adults and kids to ask questions of town representatives and to discover how they can become more civically engaged. In addition, the Library has a table with take-and-make crafts for children and a prize wheel for adults and kids to spin.

This year, visitors can also explore a Hampstead Fire Department truck outside in the parking lot. Plus, the Heaven's Kitchen Food Truck is selling delicious snacks as a fundraiser.

There is new photography exhibit in the second-floor meeting room now through the end of March. It showcases the work of Liz Cardoso, a professional travel photographer. Her exhibition, "Portugal Unveiled: Through the Doors of Time," invites viewers to explore the symbolism of Portugal's vintage doors and reflect on the doors they encounter. On Tuesday, March 31 at 6:30 p.m., the public is invited to join Liz as she presents Sacred Doorways: Travel, Transition & Becoming at Midlife. In this image-rich talk, Liz shares the story behind her photography exhibition and the deeper meaning she discovered along the way.

The Friends of the



Pictured, the artwork created by Hampstead Middle School student Emma Winmill. Many middle school students submitted their artwork for consideration in a poster contest to advertise the annual Hampstead Meet & Greet event. Emma's art was chosen as the winner.

Hampstead Public Library have a business meeting on Thursday, March 26 at 6 p.m. All members and those interested in the Library are welcome.

On Tuesday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m., in partnership with the Hampstead Historical Society, the Library presents General Lafayette, "The Nation's Guest," Comes to

New Hampshire. In 1824, President Monroe extended an invitation to the Marquise de Lafayette, the last surviving general of the American Revolutionary War, to visit America and help commemorate the nation's upcoming 50th anniversary. The presentation by Peter Maguire, features images from both the past and present and highlights the historic markers provided by The Lafayette Train Inc.

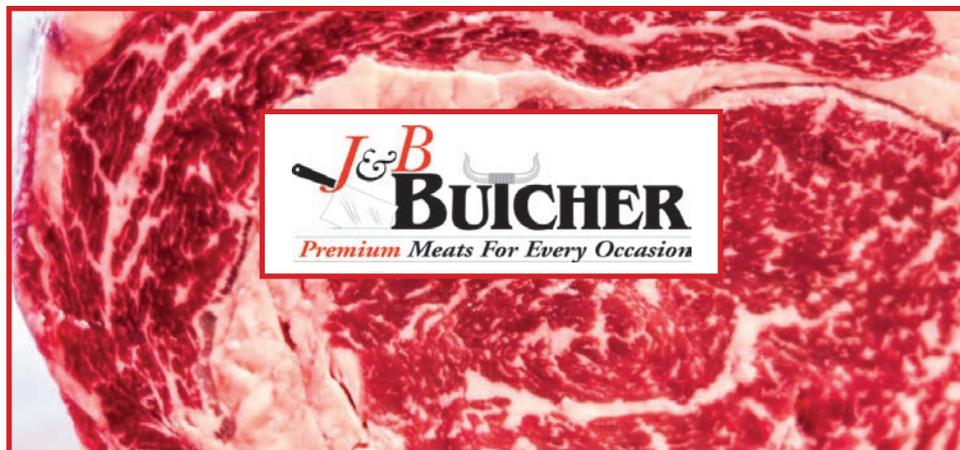
Other upcoming free adult program highlights include: Introduction to Reiki, an informational session, on Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m.; and Medicare Basics on Tuesday, April 28 at 6 p.m.

Youth in grades 6-8 can take a Safe Sitter Babysitting Course at the Library from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 11. With a hands-on, interactive curriculum, this course empowers preteens to manage

real-life situations, make safe choices, and respond to emergencies. Attendance is limited. Advance registration is required and there is a fee. Please visit the Events Calendar on www.HampsteadLibrary.org for details.

Highlights of further events for children and teens include: Family Movie Night on Wednesday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m.; Brick Buddies LEGO Club on Wednesday, April 1 at 5:30 p.m.; Stars & Stories Kids Book Club on Saturday, April 11 at 1:30 p.m.; Teen Yoga Recharge on Thursday, March 26 at 6 p.m.; Gamers Sanctuary for grades 5 and up on Wednesday, April 1 at 3 p.m.; and Teen Advisory Board meeting on Thursday, April 2 at 6 p.m.

Further event information can be found at www.HampsteadLibrary.org. Visit the Library at 9 Mary E. Clark Drive, or call 603-329-6411 with questions.



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Kick off spring with Sandown Recreation

SANDOWN — Sandown Recreation announces the following upcoming programs and events. To register, go to <https://shorturl.at/BGc4t> or call 603-887-1872.

Monthly Mystery – The Last Transmission: Pick up your copy of this month's mystery story at the recreation center ahead of time, then join for a discussion to piece together the clues and share theories about what really happened from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 25.

Senior Craft Day – Spring Wreaths: Celebrate the season by creating your own spring wreath from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26. All materials are provided, and participants will enjoy a relaxed, creative afternoon while crafting and socializing. The cost is \$15 per person.

Half Day Craft – Glass Gem Art: Join True Colors Glassworks for a creative afternoon making glass gem art from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 1.

Participants will design and assemble a colorful piece to take home. This program is perfect for kids looking for a fun activity during April vacation week. The cost is \$15 per piece.

Petals & Poses: Mindful Moments will lead a relaxing yoga session followed by a floral arranging workshop where participants will create a beautiful bouquet to take home. This special event will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 4

and combines movement, creativity, and a celebration of spring. The cost is \$70 per person.

Adult Yoga: Adult Yoga returns this spring with a flexible drop-in format. Participants can attend as many or as few sessions as they like. This all-levels class focuses on relaxation, stretching, and building strength in a welcoming environment. Classes will be held from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays, starting April 13.

The cost is \$20 per session.

Mini & Me Yoga: Join from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Sunday, April 19 for parent-and-child yoga. The class encourages connection, movement, and mindfulness through fun poses and activities designed for both adults and children to enjoy together. The cost is \$20 per adult/child pair.

Glass Pendant Workshop: Nancy from True Colors Glassworks is back again from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday, April 23. This time, participants will create two beautiful glass pendants that can be turned into necklaces. This workshop costs \$20 per person.

Trivia & Tacos: Join for an evening of trivia and tacos in partnership with the Sandown Public Library. Bring your friends or form a team and test your knowledge while enjoying a fun, social evening from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 28. There is no charge to attend.

Lions, Scouts partner for food drive in Atkinson

ATKINSON — Atkinson Lions and the Atkinson Cub Scouts are partnering to hold a Food Drive from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 28, at Atkinson Community Center, 4 Main St. Just drive in the parking lot and volunteers will accept your donations.

The food pantries (St. Luke and St. Anne's) are looking for items such as coffee/tea, canned chicken, mayo, jelly/jam, hamburger helper, crackers, spices, salad dressing, maple syrup, juice boxes, ketchup, Spam, mac n' cheese, boxed potatoes, mashed potatoes, au gratin,

pancake mix, syrup, canned pasta, canned tomatoes, beef stew, hearty soups, cake and brownie mixes, rice mixes and cookies.

They will also be providing items to Liberty House in Manchester for the Veterans. They need items such as canned pasta, pasta sauce, beef

stew, corned beef hash, canned meat (tuna, chicken, Spam and Vienna sausage), peanut butter and jelly, canned fruit and canned carrots. Also being accepted are clothing: jeans (34 or smaller), sweatshirts (any size) and hygiene products (toilet paper).

Monetary donations will also be accepted, along with gift cards to supermarkets or gas stations.

If you need your food items picked up or have questions, contact Roger Clapp at 603-489-3913 or email rogerdclappjr@comcast.net.

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Kingston History: Dirt roads and a shovel in hand

Deborah Castaldo, Kingston Museum volunteer

It's never easy to maintain roads during the winter, but in 1800's Kingston it was even more of a challenge – they were shoveled by hand. Kingston was a major stop for travelers between Boston and Portsmouth. The dirt roads had to be cleared of snow. Townsfolk did the work, and those who owed taxes worked off their debt with their shovels. What couldn't be moved was packed down with snow packing drums so sleighs could traverse the roads easily. It would be the 1920's before the roads were paved.

It's hard to know exact snowfalls for the 1800's in Kingston, but since the town is inland, and the climate was colder 200 years ago, we can assume they had their work cut out for them. Oversight was provided by the Surveyor of the Highways, a position that rotated through the “responsible” citizens of town. But by 1926 the job demanded steady oversight and Eugene C. Kimball was elected as Road Agent. He had quite a job on his hands; it took two to five days to

clear the roads after a big snowstorm. Today, it takes two to five hours.

There were other challenges, at least from a 2026 point of view. In the 1940's the town had a Caterpillar D4 bulldozer with wings for snow plowing, fancy for the time but slow by today's standards. In the 1950's, sand was shoveled by hand out of the back of a moving truck and salt was shoveled along the tire tracks on the road. Nevertheless, it was a welcome advance over shoveling.

In 1855, highway expenses were \$336, a major part of the town budget, approximately \$1,117.62 in today's dollars. By the 1990s that budget had grown to \$300,000, equal to nearly \$800,000 today. Kingston had 65 miles of road by then, and the work to maintain, plow, and clear them had become a full-time job run by a professional Highway Department.

For its first 200 years of existence, Kingston was a small rural community. Now it's a quiet bedroom community, with more than 65 miles of road and the townsfolk need only clean their driveways with their shovels.



An early snowplow.

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Food Truck Festival returns to Hampstead

HAMPSTEAD — Hampstead Congregational Church will host the annual Hampstead Eats Food Truck Festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, April 25, at 61 Main St. There will be a variety of food trucks including Mr. B's, Pat's Cider & Donuts, Chubbs Fries, and more.

Bring a chair or blanket and find a spot on the lawn to enjoy your food and live music.

Admission is \$5 (cash only) per person; free for children age 5 and under.

For questions, call 603-329-6985 or email office@hampsteaducc.org.

Antiques Appraisal Day

NEWTON — Step back in time and discover the story — and value — behind your treasures. Newton

Recreation will sponsor an Antique Appraisal event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at the Town Hall, 2 Town Hall Road. Bring anything you'd like to be appraised. The appraisers will not be buying anything, just providing an estimate on what they believe it is worth.

Feel free to bring pictures of large items, such as furniture.

The cost is \$5 per item.

Spring Fling to benefit Make-A-Wish

HAMPSTEAD — Hampstead Lions Club will host their annual 2026 fundraiser for the NH Make-A-Wish organization. This year's Spring Fling event will take place from 4 to 9 p.m. Sunday, March 29, at Castleton Banquet and

Conference Center, 58 Enterprise Drive, Windham. Along with a scrumptious 4-course dinner buffet, the Spring Fling event will feature entertainment by World Gone Crazy Comedy, a DJ from Get Down Tonight, live auction, and so many raffles for tempting gift baskets and other prizes.

Tickets are available now for just \$65 each, and 100% of the funds raised will go towards fulfilling the wish of a very special NH child with cancer. Last year the club raised nearly \$50,000 for NH Make-A-Wish, and with your help, they can beat that number in 2026.

For more information and to purchase tickets online, visit <https://shorturl.at/EPEVA>. To order tickets or to donate, contact Lions Club member Berny Longbook at 603-329-5603.

Upcoming programs at Plaistow senior center

PLAISTOW — The Vic Geary Senior Drop in Center, 18 Greenough Road, will have their Monthly Special from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Thursday, March 12. This activity is free to seniors 60+ and serves coffee and donuts, has raffles and door prizes. The theme for March is St Patrick's Day and will feature dance music by the Southern NH Ukulele Group. To register, call 603-382-9276.

The Arthritis Foundation Education Center will present a program about arthritis and how to manage chronic pain from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 24.

A Spring Wreath Making Workshop with Jessica from

Silverthorne Adult Day Care will be offered at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 25. Registration is required.

Bingo with cash prizes is held weekly from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For a complete list of programs, visit <https://shorturl.at/3zB1r> or subscribe to their monthly newsletter at <https://shorturl.at/YMP9d>.

To register for programs or questions, call 603-382-9276.

An egg-citing celebration with the Easter Bunny

NEWTON — Bring the family for a fun-filled event full of smiles, springtime cheer, and a chance to meet everyone's favorite fluffy guest. Hop on over to Newton Town Hall, 2 Town Hall

Road, from noon to 2 p.m.

Saturday, April 4 for a hopping good time with the Easter Bunny.

The Recreation Commission will offer free photos with the Easter Bunny. Each family will receive a Polaroid photo on the spot, and they're also happy to take a photo on your phone if preferred.

Kids will receive Easter eggs filled with fun prizes. There will also be games, crafts, coloring, and much more for everyone to enjoy.

Bingo night in Atkinson

ATKINSON — Win prizes and have fun on Bingo Night from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at Atkinson Congregational Church, 101 Main St.

Admission is \$10, which

See **BRIEFS**, Page 18

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» **Briefs**

Continued from Page 17

includes 10 games, with extra Bingo cards available for purchase.

Come for the games, stay for the prizes and great community spirit.

For questions, call 603-362-5519.

Meet & Greet with Sandown Civic Groups

SANDOWN — The Sandown Lion's Club will host the 2nd annual Sandown Civic Meet & Greet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at Sandown Town Hall, 320 Main St. All are welcome.

Members of the following groups and organizations will be available: Sandown Lions Club, Heritage Commission, Garden Club, 60 Plus Club, Baseball and Softball Association, Historical Society, Oktoberfest Committee, Sandown

Recreation, PTA, Senior Transportation, and Conservation Commission. This annual event is a way to bring town committees and groups together to get to know one another and give the residents the opportunity to learn more about what each group does. As always, this is a great way to foster a sense of community among all the great organizations that Sandown has to offer and give people a central event to meet representatives of all the committees and clubs. It's also a wonderful way for people to get in touch should they want to get more involved in the local community.

For additional information, email wbundzinski@gmail.com.

The Giving Garden springs anew

KINGSTON — For a dozen years The Giving Garden has grown fruits and vegetables to donate to food pantries in the area to help fight food insecurities.

On the grounds of New Creation Healing Center and Trinity Church, 80 Route 125, The Giving Garden has also been a source of participants learning new techniques to practice at their gardens at home.

The first planning meeting for the new year will be held on Monday, March 23 at 10 a.m., at "The Meeting House," the yellow building on the property.

Writes director Betsy Budelman, "We encourage anyone to join us who wants to learn organic gardening or would like to share their experience of gardening.

"We gather once a week, usually on Monday mornings, throughout the growing season (May to October), and we enjoy and learn from each other while growing food for local food pantries. This past year we came from eight different New Hampshire towns and look forward to adding to that number this year."

For further information, call Betsy at 603-702-1190.

Learn about military benefits at Veteran's Club meeting

ATKINSON — Veterans in the Atkinson area will have a unique opportunity to learn more about their benefits at the upcoming Veteran's Club meeting at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 7. The event will take place at the Atkinson Community Center, located at 4 Main St., near the post office.

The guest speaker will be Command Sergeant Major Will Valliere (Ret.), a fully accredited National Service Officer for the Vietnam Veterans of America. CSM Valliere is a lifelong member of several veterans' organizations, including the Vietnam Veterans Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans. He will cover a range of topics, including applying for disability, retirement, burial, and other benefits available to America's

military veterans.

CSM Valliere will provide guidance on starting a disability claim through the VA, answer questions about military retired pay and educational benefits, and discuss additional benefits accessible to veterans and their families. Attendees are encouraged to invite veterans they know to this informative session, which promises expert insight into VA matters. The Veteran's Club hopes to see a strong turnout for this important event.

Share your career with Timberlane students

PLAISTOW — Timberlane Regional High School & Southern Rockingham Coalition for Healthy Youth (SoRock) have partnered to present a Career Expo from 10:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Monday, April 20, at Timberlane Regional High School Gymnasium, 36 Greenough Road.

Representatives from

all industries, trades, and professional ventures are invited to participate. This is not a traditional recruitment fair, but rather a showcase of opportunity for students to see what a "day in the life" looks like in your field.

Tables and chairs will be provided — you bring the inspiration. RSVP by Friday, March 27. To sign up, go to <https://shorturl.at/nEdpE>.

Pansy bowl fundraiser

EPPING — Epping Garden Club will hold their annual Pansy Bowl sale — just in time for spring. Your order of the colorful, hardy and cheerful pansies will be available for pick up from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 11, at Epping Library parking lot, 151 Main St.

Costs are: \$16 for 1 bowl, \$30 for 2, \$45 for 3, \$60 for 4. Payment is by checks payable to Epping Garden Club.

The deadline to order is Friday, March 27. Orders can

See **BRIEFS**, Page 19



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» Briefs

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be mailed to Eunice Miller, 9 Folsom Mill Lane, Epping or emailed to eppinggardenclub@gmail.com. If you have any questions, call Eunice at 603-300-0064.

Boston Bruins Alumni Charity Game

EXETER — Join for an unforgettable afternoon of hockey, community, and mental health advocacy as local players hit the ice against Boston Bruins Alumni to support suicide prevention and youth mental health education. Connor's Climb Foundation will present Connor's Climb vs. Boston Bruins Alumni at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 4, at The Rinks, 40 Industrial Drive. The event will feature food and drinks, raffles, a silent auction, and more. Hockey fans of all ages are welcome.

The cost is \$15 for general admission (Ages 19+), \$10 for teens age 11-18; free for age 10 and under. For tickets, visit www.connorsclimb.org. Proceeds to support youth mental health and suicide prevention.

Drive-through rabies clinic

FREMONT — The Town of Fremont will hold their annual Rabies Clinic from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 11, at the Town Garage, 113 Danville Road. This is a drive-through event. Services not limited to residents, anyone may attend.

Dogs must be leashed, and cats must be in carriers. Animals to remain in vehicle until it is time for their vaccine or microchip.

Rabies shots are \$20 and microchips, \$30. Microchips have lifetime registration included. Please present certification of previous vaccination; otherwise, your animal will receive a one-year vaccine. Beth True

Gibb DVM of Rochester NH Veterinary Clinic will administer the vaccines and microchips.

For additional information, email nhk9cop@comcast.net.

Fremont Town Clerk will be on site to license Fremont dogs for 2025. Avoid the fine — license on time.

What's Happening Hampstead

HAMPSTEAD — What's Happening Hampstead is your front-row seat to the people, projects, and stories shaping the town. Hosted by Representative Lilli Walsh, this local cable TV show highlights community events, local leaders, volunteers, and organizations that make Hampstead such a special place to live.

Each episode offers timely conversations, local insight, and a positive look at what's going on right here at home. If you want to stay informed, connected, and inspired by your community—this is the

show to watch.

Watch on Hampstead Community Television Channel 16 or online at <https://shorturl.at/OgMBn>.

Health & Wellness Fair at Timberlane

PLAISTOW — Timberlane Regional High School will host a Health & Wellness Fair as part of their Mental Health Awareness Week. The fair will be held from 2:15 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, at Timberlane Regional High School cafeteria, 36 Greenough Road.

Resources will be available from a wide variety of vendors to assist both mental and physical health, as well as activities, giveaways and raffles. The event is free and open to the community.

For additional information, email Mr. Taylor Donovan at taylor.donovan@timberlane.net.

Improv to bring lots of laughs

PLAISTOW — Timberlane students perform each month at the Performing Art Center, 40 Greenough Road. The Milkmen Improv will be bringing you new shows in the New Year.

Save the date for lots of laughs. Performances will be held Thursday, March 19, Thursday, April 23, Thursday, May 21 and Thursday, June 18.

The students donate the proceeds to several TRHS club/groups.

For updates, call 603-382-6541 ext. 3980 or visit www.timberlane.net/pac/calendars.

Community pancake breakfast

ATKINSON — The Atkinson Lions and the Timberlane Music Association will hold a pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, March 29, at the Atkinson Community Center, 4 Main St.

On the menu will be pancakes — blueberry and plain,

eggs, sausage, pastries, juice and coffee. Servers will be the Timberlane Music Association and the Atkinson Lions.

The Easter Bunny may make an appearance.

The cost is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under 10 years old. Proceeds support the community.

Brothers Doobie benefit concert

ATKINSON — The Atkinson Lions will sponsor a Brothers Doobie concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 18, at the Timberlane Performing Arts Center on 40 Greenough Road, Plaistow. The general admission tickets are only \$50 and can be purchased by calling the ticket office at 603-257-5257 or online at <https://shorturl.at/sh5Mw>. These tickets would make great gifts too.

The Brothers Doobie stand out as the #1 tribute band to the legendary Doobie Brothers. The Brothers Doobie will play many of the



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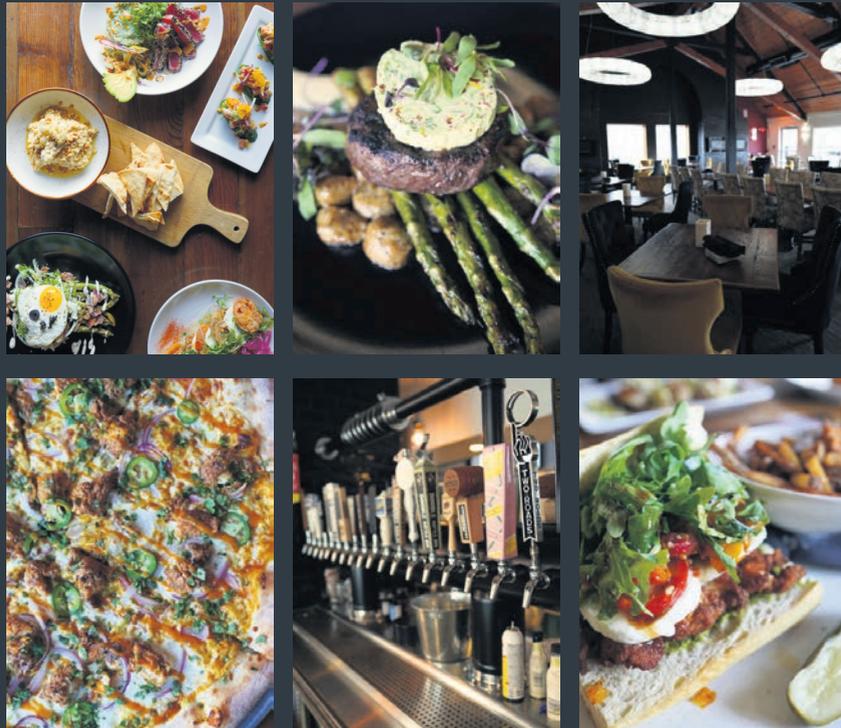
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classic hits from the 1970's and 1980's such as "Listen to the Music", "Black Water" and "Listen to the Music". This is classic rock that you've always appreciated.

The Atkinson Lions will also have a Silent Auction and a 50/50 raffle. All proceeds from the concert will go to help the local community.

Health and Wellness Fair seeks vendors

PLAISTOW — The Timberlane Regional High School Wellness Committee will hold its 3rd annual Health and Wellness Fair as part of the Mental Health Awareness Week from 2:15 to 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, at Timberlane Regional High School, 36 Greenough Road. The fair is free and open to the public.

Vendors are needed in all aspects of health and wellness for all ages from infants to senior citizens. Local businesses are also needed to support the special activities planned with these events. Your support can be in the form of a monetary donation, gift card, raffle basket, or gift certificate for goods/services. These donations may be used for, but not limited to: resources handed to students, participation incentives, ice cream social, wellness fair supplies, 5K prizes, and more. Please consider donating.

If you have any questions or wish to participate as vendor or business, email taylor.donovan@timberlane.net or call 603-382-6541, ext 3900.

Scholarships available

ATKINSON — The Atkinson Women's Civic Club announces two \$1000 scholarships for seniors

graduating in 2026 who reside in Atkinson.

Fundraising programs enable the club to continue these annual scholarships to members of the 2026 graduating class. Winners must be Atkinson residents graduating from any high school.

Students are specifically sought who have demonstrated involvement in community through volunteerism, civic contributions, local government scouting and/or other similar activities.

Timberlane Regional High School applications will be accepted. Students from other schools may apply online at www.awcc-nh.org. Applications are due by April 15. Questions can be directed to scholarship@awcc-nh.org.

Weekly card nights in Hampstead

HAMPSTEAD — Do you love to play cards? Come play Forty-fives on Tuesday nights through May 26, from

6 to 9 p.m. at Hampstead Congregational Church, Hadley Hall, 61 Main St. It's lots of fun with a great group of people.

There is no fee for playing but donations would be appreciated to help with the cost of heat and electricity.

Bottled water and snacks will be provided.

Music Bingo to benefit homeless animals

SALEM — Get your groove on, have fun, and help homeless animals. Join Salem Animal Rescue League for Music Bingo at 7 p.m. Friday, April 10, at Windham Country Club, 1 Country Club Road, Windham. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Teams of six will compete for prizes and bragging rights. Don't have a team of six? Never fear — they'll match you with other players.

The cost is \$60 per person and includes dinner, one drink, and one card per

game.

Registration is available through Wednesday, April 8. To sign up, go to www.sarlnh.org. Proceeds to benefit Salem Animal Rescue League.

Save the date: Wild & Scenic Film Festival

PORTSMOUTH — Save the date — Friday, April 17 at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., for a blockbuster slate of nature-themed films filled with breathtaking cinematography, unforgettable characters (human and wildlife alike!), and entertaining and inspiring storytelling. Attendees of all ages can expect award-winning short films about nature, outdoor adventure, conservation, wildlife, environmental issues, agriculture, and more.

SELT's volunteer film committee has hand-picked a program from the award-winning films curated by the South Yuba

River Citizens League (SYRCL) and the national Wild & Scenic Film Festival.

Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased in person at the Music Hall box office at 104 Congress St. (no fees), online through the Music Hall website at www.themusicHall.org (plus fees), or in person at SELT, 247 N. River Road, Epping (no fees).

Support group coming to Salem

SALEM — Join Beacon EMDR for an ongoing domestic violence support group for women held 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. each Tuesday beginning this winter.

A safe, confidential space will be provided for survivors to share their experiences, access support and gain resources for those who have faced abuse. The location of the meeting will not

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» **Briefs**

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be publicly disclosed. Each meeting will cost \$20.

For more information, contact Kimberly Krasowski at 603-244-6866 or kimberly@beaconemdr.com.

Discover WILD New Hampshire Day

CONCORD — Save the date! The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's popular outdoor festival, Discover WILD New Hampshire Day, is set for Saturday, April 18. This free community event takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the Fish and Game Department at 11 Hazen Drive.

Celebrating thirty-six years of connecting you to life outdoors, Discover WILD New Hampshire Day is a fun way for the whole family to explore

New Hampshire's wild-life resources and outdoor traditions. Browse educational exhibits presented by environmental and conservation organizations from across the state. See live animals, big fish, and trained falcons. Try your hand at archery, casting, fly-tying, and B-B gun shooting. Watch retriever dogs in action, get creative with hands-on craft activities, plus check out food truck alley—there is sure to be something for every taste.

Discover WILD New Hampshire Day is hosted by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department and presented by the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire, Fish and Game's nonprofit partner (www.nhwildlifeheritage.org), with support from media sponsor Manchester Media Group.

Watch for more details about Discover WILD New Hampshire Day at www.wildnh.com.

Fun programs ahead at Kimball Library

Kathleen J. Watson, assistant director/youth services director

ATKINSON — Kimball Public Library in Atkinson is pleased to offer the following upcoming programs.

Succulent Lights (Ages 9+): Get creative at this teen craft night as you paint plaster succulents, design your own display, and add a warm light for a cool, glowing décor piece to take home on Wednesday, March 25 at 1 p.m.

Picking Up the Threads: Join AHS Curator and genealogist Lucia Cusimano as she shares a treasure box of snippets — threads of the lives of various Atkinson women of this time period and Sally Holmes, an AHS director and historian, presents biographical sketches on four Atkinson women who picked up the threads on the homefront during

that era at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 26.

Boating Safety Course 2026: This class incorporates a range of learning methods consisting of lecture, videos, and student discussion. Classes will be held on Tuesday, April 7 and Thursday, April 9 at 6 p.m. Individuals must attend both evening classes.

PAWS to Read (Kids): Sign up for a reading appointment with Laddie, our Golden Retriever therapy dog, and her human, Kate. Sign up for a 10 minute reading appointment on Wednesday, April 15.

The Art of Encouragement: Thursday, April 16 at 6 p.m. At the end of this session, the participants will be able to distinguish between praise and encouragement as motivational tools and learn to identify ways others may try to discourage us from encouraging. Presented by Jack Agati.

Great Blue Herons and Beavers: Join Ron Watson as he discusses the relationship between the Great Blue Heron and the beaver and how they have become a conservation success story at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 23.

Italian Conversations Study Group: This adult study group focuses on practicing speaking Italian by helping each other through shared resources, various activities and games. Come join to further exercise your Italian the fun way at 6 p.m. Tuesdays.

Escape the Chocolate Factory (Ages 8+): Work together to uncover hidden clues, solve deliciously tricky puzzles, and find the special digits that launch the elevator before time runs out. Can you crack the code and make your sweet escape? Sign up for a sweet appointment on Monday, April 27.

Felted Flower Patch (Ages 8+): Needle felt daisy-like flower patches featuring a happy smiley face at the center, using soft wool and simple felting techniques at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 29.

Peeps Nest (Ages 3+): Celebrate spring with a sweet and simple treat! Kids shape and decorate their very own Rice Krispie nests, then top them with colorful candy eggs and a marshmallow Peep to create an adorable edible masterpiece at noon Thursday, April 30.

Make a Paper Climber (Grades 1-5): Make a climbing toy that climbs higher than you think at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 30. Have a race after you're done.

Registration is often required for many of our events. Please visit www.kimballlibrary.com online calendar for details and register or call us at 603-362-5234.



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JERRY MONKMAN – ECOPHOTOGRAPHY

Keim Property in Kingston.

SELT conserves critical Keim property in Hampstead and Kingston

EPPING — The Southeast Land Trust of NH (SELT) completed a critical conservation project in Kingston and Hampstead, protecting watersheds and wildlife habitat.

The completion of the 36-acre Keim Conservation Easement in Hampstead

and Kingston adds to approximately 290 acres of conservation and public land, which is part of a 1,700-acre unfragmented forest block. Cheryl Keim's property contains DES-designated High Priority Water Supply Lands and includes multiple vernal pools and

Keim Property in Kingston.

beaver ponds, providing critical habitat for the wildlife in this region.

“Cheryl was deeply committed to ensuring her land would remain a haven for

wildlife, plants, and trees,” said Kaitlin Deyo, Conservation Project Manager for SELT. “Her decision to donate a conservation easement over her land was an

incredible gift that she dedicated to the living landscape it protects.”

Transaction funding for this project was provided by the Merrimack

Conservation Partnership, a public/private effort for land conservation in the Merrimack River Watershed. To learn more, visit <https://shorturl.at/drzS8>.



JERRY MONKMAN – ECOPHOTOGRAPHY

THE Summer Adventure PLACE

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Join Us for the Seacoast Classical Academy Spring Book Fair

Seacoast Classical Academy invites you to join us for our Book Fair, scheduled for March 20 through March 22, 2026. This three-day event, hosted in the Academy's multipurpose room, promises to immerse scholars, families, and community members in the rich world of classical literature and timeless great books. Organizers have curated a selection from trusted vendors specializing in classical education which includes enduring classics that align with the Academy's classical education philosophy.

Central to the event is a celebration of the importance of reading timeless stories, which have shaped minds and cultures for centuries. At Seacoast Classical Academy, this pursuit aligns closely with the academy's core virtues of wisdom, truth, fortitude, and excellence—guiding principles that encourage scholars to discern moral excellence, pursue objective knowledge, and appreciate aesthetic harmony through great literature. By encountering these stories, young readers build character and train their minds to recognize and love goodness, truth, and beauty.

The fair will feature dedicated browsing sessions during the following hours:

Friday, March 20 from 5:00 - 8:00pm

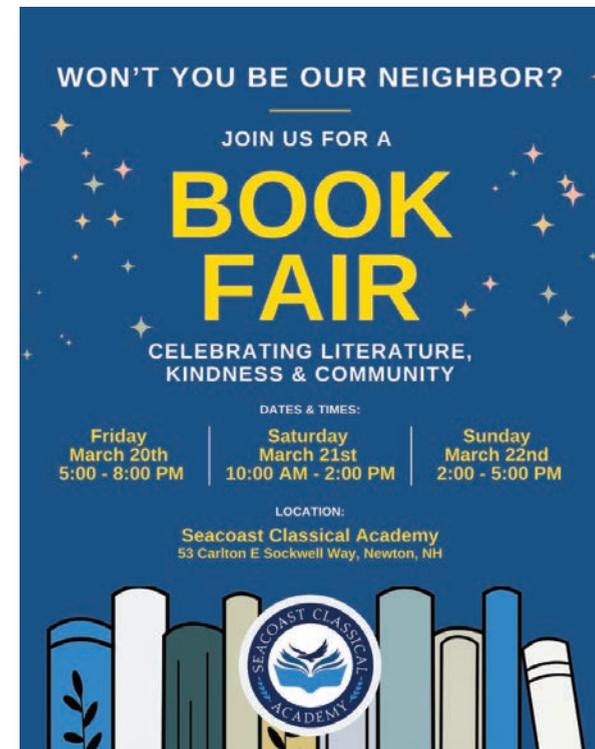
Saturday, March 21 from 10:00am - 2:00pm

Sunday, March 22 from 2:00 - 5:00pm

Every purchase made in-person will be automatically entered to win a wonderful raffle basket filled with great prizes. Proceeds from sales will directly benefit the school's library fund, helping to expand its collection of primary sources and supporting resources for the classical curriculum.

Families and friends are encouraged to mark their calendars and join what promises to be a highlight of the spring semester. Whether browsing for the next family read-aloud or seeking advanced texts for independent study, the book fair offers something for every age and interest. Please join us at this event that fosters a lifelong love of learning and strengthens our community around shared intellectual and moral pursuits.

**Seacoast Classical Academy,
53 Carlton E Sockwell Way, Newton, NH.**



Students on the rise

Molly Fahey of Hampstead was named to the University of Mississippi's Fall 2025 honor roll. Fahey, in the B.B.A. in Business Analytics & Info Systems program, was named to the dean's honor roll, which is reserved for students who earn a semester GPA of 3.50-3.74.

The University of Tampa has honored 2,444 students who were named to the dean's list for the Fall 2025 semester. Local students honored include: **Ellie Morris of Kingston**, a Senior majoring in Criminology and Criminal Justice BS and **Ella Ring of Atkinson**, a Freshman majoring in Undecided.

Gretchen Hirschfeld from **Hampstead** has been named to St. Lawrence University's Dean's List for achieving academic excellence during the Fall 2025 semester. Hirschfeld is a member of the Class of 2026 and is majoring in global studies and psychology. Hirschfeld

attended The Derryfield School.

Devon Berube of Atkinson and **Zachary Farnell of Plaistow** have been named to the dean's list for the Fall 2025 semester at Ohio University.

Tufts University recently announced **Molly Mahar of East Kingston** has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2025 semester. Mahar is a member of the Class of 2026.

Ella Murray of Atkinson has been named to the dean's list for the Fall 2025 semester at College of the Holy Cross.

In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College has named more than 950 students to the dean's list for the Fall 2025 semester. The following local students were honored: **Talon Oljey of Sandown**, **Victoria Gibson of Newton**, **Rebecca Trudeau of Newton**, **Kayla Barchard of East Hampstead**, **Sarah Bufano of Newton**.

Kindergarten registration for Kingston and Newton residents

KINGSTON/NEWTON — If your child will be five years old by Sept. 30, 2026, and you are a resident of Kingston or Newton, you should consider registering your child for tuition-free full-day kindergarten for the 2026-2027 school year. Please visit the school website at <http://bakie.sau17>. net and click the registration link. Please make sure you select next year, 2026-2027, when completing the registration. All registrations are done online.

Documentation required to complete the registration process includes current physical and immunization records, along with proof of residency. The Sanborn Regional School District has defined the following acceptable residency documents: a copy of a current utility bill (electric, cable, gas, or oil) showing your name and address (no PO Boxes), accompanied by a signed lease, a notarized letter from a builder or realtor; a property tax bill, a settlement document for a new

home, or a property deed. Registering early helps the staff plan effectively. They request that registrations be completed no later than May 1st to aid in classroom planning and registration processing.

New Hampshire State Law requires all children to have had immunizations for DPT, Polio, Mumps, Measles, German Measles, Chicken Pox, and Hepatitis B before school entry. They also require each child to have a complete medical examination within

one year before entry into kindergarten. All incoming kindergarten students are required to participate in a screening process. You must register your child to participate in the screening. Screening dates are tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 30 and Friday, June 6, 2026.

For more information, contact Kim Rousseau, Enrollment Coordinator, at 603-642-5272, ext. 101, or email krousseau@sau17.net.

Declaration of Independence presentation in Kensington

KENSINGTON — David Alcox will present "Unpacking the Declaration of Independence: What It Meant Then and Now" at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, at Kensington Public Library, 126 Amesbury Road.

Learn about the text of the Declaration of Independence, who the key players were, the Enlightenment influence and if the values espoused in the Declaration are still relevant

today. Participants will experience an unbiased look at the Declaration and receive valuable content to understand the influences and ideals of the document. They will be able to critically think about the document and have the knowledge of what it actually says. They will be able to form opinions and speak with conviction about what they learned.

David Alcox taught civics

at Milford High School for 25 years. He earned his master's degree in teaching social studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN, in 2006. He has received several awards and honors, including being named New Hampshire State Teacher of the Year three times, National Civics Teacher of the Year twice, the 2000 NH James Madison Fellowship recipient and the 2013

Milford Citizen of the Year.

The program is co-sponsored with The Kensington Historical Society and made possible by a generous grant through the New Hampshire Humanities Council.

Free and open to the public. Parking is also available in the school parking lot behind the library.

For more information, call 603-772-5022 or email kensingtonlibrary@comcast.net.



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» Chamber Chatter

**Emily Bilodeau,
Southern New
Hampshire Chamber of
Commerce**

Spring into action and opportunity! The April edition of Chamber Chatter is here, packed with can't-miss events, networking opportunities, and fresh ways to connect with our thriving Southern NH business community. Whether you're launching a startup, running a home-based business, or leading a well-established company, this month's edition is designed to spark connection, collaboration, and growth.

Solopreneurs, freelancers, consultants, and side-hustle superstars, you don't have to build your dream alone. For \$25/month, Chamber membership gives you real connections with local business leaders, promotional perks to increase your visibility, community credibility, and resources to help you thrive right from your home office.



Save the Dates:

Events - Open to the Public (Registration Required)

Karv Greek Kouzina:
Thursday, April 9th –
3:00pm - 4:00pm – Rib-
bon Cutting – 1 Delahunty
Drive, Unit 1, Windham, NH
03087

Health & Wellness Expo:
Wednesday, April 22nd –
4:30pm - 7:30pm – Hyla
Brook Estate| 140 Rock-
ingham Road, Derry, NH
03038

EPTAC: Thursday, April

23rd – 3:00pm - 4:00pm
– Ribbon Cutting – 7 Stiles
Road, Salem, NH 03079
Taste of Southern NH:
Wednesday, May 6th –
5:30pm - 8:00pm – Castle-
ton Banquet & Conference
Center – 58 Enterprise
Drive, Windham, NH 03087
– Tickets: \$50pp

Health & Wellness Expo – Open to the Public

Don't miss the Health &

Wellness Expo on Wednes-
day, April 22, from 4:30-
7:30 PM at Hyla Brook
Estate in Derry, NH.
This event offers the lat-
est in fitness, nutrition,
mindfulness, and over-
all well-being. Meet local
health experts and well-
ness professionals who can
provide valuable insights
and tips to help you live
your best life. This is the
perfect chance to prioritize
your health and well-be-
ing. Register here: [https://](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/health-wellness-expo-tickets-1981791763513?aff=oddtcreator)

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health-wellness-expo-tick-
ets-1981791763513?aff=od-
dtcreator.](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/health-wellness-expo-tickets-1981791763513?aff=oddtcreator)

Taste of Southern NH – Open to the Public

Get ready for a fla-
vor-packed adventure!
The Taste of Southern NH
is coming on Wednesday,
May 6th, from 5:30-8:00
PM at the Castleton Ban-
quet & Conference Center.
Enjoy an evening of deli-
cious bites and local fla-
vors while supporting a
great cause. Proceeds ben-
efit Chamber scholarships,
the Interview Challenge,
and the Business Educa-
tion Collaborative for local
students. Tickets are \$50
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Executive Director Cindi
Woodbury at [cindi@south-
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Moments in Another Time!



The Railroad Through Sandown History of the Worcester, Nashua and Portland Division of the Boston and Maine Railroad

The first sections of what would become the Worcester, Nashua and Portland operating division of the Boston and Maine started in Worcester, Massachusetts, with the construction of the Worcester Branch Railroad and Worcester and Nashua Railroad in 1848. The Worcester and Nashua Railroad had a route from Worcester to Nashua through Ayer, back in the days when railroad names often reflected their destination cities.

The Nashua and Rochester Railroad was constructed from Nashua to Rochester, with trains first traveling the route in 1874. The railroad's primary sponsor was the Worcester and Nashua Railroad to reach Portland, Maine. The last hurdle, reaching Portland, was completed by the Portland and Rochester Railroad in 1871 with support from the City of Portland. The Portland and Rochester joined the Boston and Maine Railroad in 1883.

Due to the massive costs of building the route between Nashua and Rochester and its operational expenses, the W&N and N&R companies reorganized in 1883 as the Worcester, Nashua and Rochester Railroad. The debts of construction and a not-so-profitable route between Nashua and Rochester were still too overwhelming for the new railroad and was absorbed into the Boston and Maine's growing regional railroad system in 1886. Its inclusion marked the creation of the Worcester, Nashua and Portland Division.

By 1900 the Boston and Maine Railroad had three routes between Massachusetts and Portland, Maine, and despite the multiple routes the WN&P held the honors of the busiest single-track, non-signalized main line in the country. The Boston and Maine made improvements such as extending a second main line track in Massachu-

sets to Nashua and installing signals over the entire route in 1913.

Unfortunately the B&M did not see the need to maintain three routes to Maine, and the Worcester, Nashua and Portland was the first to get cut. The division itself ceased to exist in 1925, with the line split and shared between two other operating divisions. With this change, what was once a main line between Nashua and Portland dropped to branch line status. Schedule changes and declining use of the rail line saw the eventual end to trains between Hudson and Fremont and between Epping and West Gonic in 1934. A section in Nashua and what remained in Hudson were abandoned not long after in 1941 and 1942, respectively.

The line between Rochester and Portland saw new life in 1949 with the start-up of the Sanford and Eastern Railroad. The railroad was owned by Sam Pinsley, who was acquiring rail lines being abandoned that still had small volumes of rail traffic. Like what happened on many of the other New England short lines he created, the remaining rail customers slowly closed, moved, or switched to trucks for shipping. With fewer and fewer customers the Sanford and Eastern stopped running in 1963.

The remnants of the WN&P on the B&M system continued through the years until 1981 with the next series of abandonments – Rochester to West Gonic and Ayer to Hollis. A short one mile stretch in Nashua was torn up in 1993. Today, trains still regularly travel between Worcester and Ayer, but the remainder of this once busy route is now a mix of recreational trails, state highways, and abandoned railbed.

(Editor's note: You can find this information and more at www.sandownmhdepot.org)



Danville's Little Red Schoolhouse

Danville's Little Red Schoolhouse, 380 Main St., is associated with an important time period during the 1800s when New Hampshire communities began to develop plans for formal public education and public school facilities that would be available to all children. Prior to that time, early schooling had generally taken place in the form of "moving schools," usually in private homes and conducted when teachers were available; children attended when they could but there was no requirement.

The Little Red Schoolhouse, also known as the Middle District or Centre School, was built in 1834 after the Parish of Hawke (now Danville) voted to create three district schools to provide education for children in all sections of town. The Little Red Schoolhouse served as one of the town's district schools until it closed in 1902. It was the custom for such district schools to be administered by the selectmen, who attended to the finances, while a separate Prudential Committee handled the curriculum. Initially in Danville the selectmen managed the finances and a "Superintending" School Committee oversaw operation of the schools. By the late 1800s a Board of Education had been established to manage both the finances and operation of the town's schools. Danville's town reports contain yearly accountings of the Board of Education's achievements in educating the children in much earlier and simpler times.

These schools would service eight grades of students, who were taught physiology, composition, history, grammar, geography, arithmetic, penmanship, spelling, and reading by just one teacher. Town reports indicate that Danville's Little Red Schoolhouse generally served 9-10 elementary students. The first teacher in the school was Miss Levinia Sanborn, and the last, in 1902, was Miss Mabel Warner. The school year consisted of thirty weeks, with a schedule fashioned around harvest time and spring planting time, a testament to a way of life built around agricultural schedules.

One room schoolhouses were Spartan with few amenities, usually limited to heat and a privy. Danville's Little Red Schoolhouse originally had a fireplace on the outside for winter heat, which was replaced at some time with a pot-bellied stove. The building also once had an attached woodshed and privy. Its interior school room was furnished at the time with early double pine desks with bench type seats. The floor of the room was inclined from the back to the middle at an angle of twelve to fifteen degrees. The room was well lighted by seven windows and once had a fireplace on the outside for winter heat.

In addition to general maintenance and upkeep, the building has undergone restoration on several notable occasions. The building was restored by vote of the town in approximately 1940 and again by the Danville Grange as a community project in 1967. An open house was held in August 1967 and Miss Mabel Warner, the last teacher at the school in 1902, attended. In 2007 the exterior of the building was painted by a Danville Boy Scout as his Eagle Scout project. In the summer of 2014 the town replaced the wood shingle roof and made numerous repairs to the exterior boards. The town continues to maintain the building as a historic site to visit and a meeting space for occasional use.

Danville's Little Red Schoolhouse was listed in the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places in October of 2015. Benefits of being listed on the State Register include special consideration and relief from some building codes and regulations, designation of the property as historical (which is a pre-qualification for many grant programs), and acknowledgement of a property's historical significance in the community.

(Editor's note: Learn about historical sites in Sandown online at <https://shorturl.at/dFLyu>)

Service of Tenebrae at Trinity

KINGSTON — Trinity Church, 80 Route 125, will celebrate the service of Tenebrae at 6:30 p.m. on Palm Sunday, March 29.

The service is “non-denominational,” that is to say, “generic Christian” and goes back to the early centuries of the Church. Over the years leaders of the service have come from various churches in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

“Tenebrae” is Latin for “shadows” or “darkness.” The church is (relatively) dark and it’s progressively getting dark outside. The flames of several candles placed on the altar are extinguished one by one as Scripture readings are shared and thematic music is sung to tell the story of Holy Week.

This gradual descent into darkness is a

representation of Jesus’ increasing sorrow as the events of Holy Week unfold. After the last Bible verse is read, the last candle is put out, and the room is plunged into darkness. A loud noise may be sounded in the blackness, often a recorded low rumbling, to represent the closing of Christ’s tomb.

At this point, another lit candle, which has been hidden from view, is put on the altar, symbolizing that though Christ died on the Cross, He rose on Easter morning.

A freewill offering will be received. Kingston’s New Creation Healing Center is a faith-based, 501c 3 non-profit center of wellness comprising Family Practice Medicine (three providers), massage, counseling (two professionals), prayer

for those wishing it, and patient and community education. It is “the whole team for whole-person care.”

New Creation regularly gets inquiries from around the country asking if persons could come and stay to receive this care but the answer is presently no because there is no building on the property to house them. The offering will help build that facility. Tax-deductible checks may be made to Ducks on the Pond Realty (the separately incorporated fundraising arm). It is not necessary for you to give in order for you to attend, but any gifts of whatever amount will be much appreciated.

A reception will follow with refreshments.

For further information, call 603-571-0205.



COURTESY PHOTO

Atkinson Congregational Church, 101 Main St., Atkinson.

Holy week and Easter celebrations at Atkinson church

ATKINSON — Atkinson Congregational Church invites you to its Holy Week and Easter celebrations.

In addition, having joined forces with Hampstead Congregational Church, certain celebrations will be shared, hosted by one of the churches or the other.

“Holy Week commemorates events at the heart of the Christian faith as we remember the final week of Jesus’s life, his death and his resurrection. And although these things happened many years ago, they also connect with our own lives. It is a week filled with traditions and with special music as part of our worship life,” said Pastor Paige Besse-Rankin, Hampstead Congregational Church’s interim pastor who also became

Atkinson Congregational Church’s interim pastor last September.

Sunday, March 29 – Palm & Passion Sunday – The story of Holy Week will be told in shadows during Atkinson Congregational Church’s 10:30 a.m. worship service (9 a.m. at Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main St. in Hampstead).

Thursday, April 2 – Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m. – Atkinson Congregational Church will host this service in an intimate, solemn setting, featuring Holy Communion to remember the final meal Jesus shared with his disciples, and a Tenebrae component to commemorate the final hours of Jesus’s life.

Friday, April 3 – Good Friday, 3 p.m. – A prayer and meditation service will be held at Atkinson

Congregational Church, led by Kim Ridley and Kim Busta, who will share their musical talents.

Sunday, April 5, Easter Sunday, 6:20 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. (9 a.m. at Hampstead Congregational Church) – Pastor Besse-Rankin will lead the 6:20 a.m. sunrise service at Camp Telnor Beach in Hampstead at 167 Main St. Immediately following, enjoy a pancake and egg breakfast in Hadley Hall at Hampstead Congregational Church. Note there will not be a sunrise service at Atkinson Congregational Church. Both churches will host Easter Sunday services in their sanctuaries during their usual worship times.

A full schedule of services and Lenten resources can be found online at <https://shorturl.at/MV8vF>.

Plaistow Area Commerce Exchange

An alliance of commercial enterprises in Atkinson, Danville, Hampstead, Kingston, Newton, Plaistow, Sandown, NH

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March 19
8:30-10am

March Networking Breakfast
Plaistow Community YMCA
175 Plaistow Road, Plaistow NH 03865

April 16
11:30-1pm

April Networking Lunch
Pasta Loft
220 East Main Street, Hampstead NH 03826

May 21
8:30-10am

May Networking Breakfast
Sanborn Regional Highschool
17 Danville Road, Kingston NH 03848

June 18
11:30-1pm

June Networking Lunch
Zorvino Vineyard
226 Main Street, Sandown NH 03873

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A Medieval Knight to Remember

SALEM — Dust off your tunics and polish your armor. Greater Salem Caregivers (GSC) will hold their 2026 Annual Gala: “A Medieval Knight to Remember” on Wednesday, April 22, at the historic Searles Castle, 23 Searles Road, Windham.

From 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., guests will step back in time for an evening of chivalry, feast, and generosity. This year’s theme leans into the architectural magic of Searles Castle, offering attendees a night of live music, themed entertainment, and raffles. While medieval attire

is highly encouraged, it is not required—though a special prize awaits the “Best Dressed Noble” of the night.

Early Bird Pricing — tickets are available on Eventbrite for \$75 through March 25, after which the price increases to \$90.

Greater Salem Caregivers is also seeking sponsors and raffle items. Businesses interested in donating raffle items or sponsoring a portion of the evening are encouraged to contact the GSC office at 603-898-2850 or visit www.salemcare.org.

All event proceeds directly fund the free services



Greater Salem Caregivers will hold their Annual Gala: “A Medieval Knight to Remember” from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 22, at Searles Castle, pictured, 23 Searles Road, Windham.

31 CARRIAGE TOWNE MONTHLY • March 2026

provided by Greater Salem Caregivers, which acts as a lifeline for homebound seniors and disabled adults in Salem, Pelham, and Plaistow.

“Our volunteers are the modern-day knights

of the community,” says Executive Director Connie Young. “Last year, they helped to provide over 2500 services to ensure our neighbors reached their medical appointments, had

groceries, and friendly visits. This gala ensures that no one in our communities is left behind or forgotten.”

Greater Salem Caregivers, founded in 1989, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

dedicated to helping the homebound maintain their independence. By providing free transportation and grocery assistance, GSC helps residents age with dignity in their own homes.



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