

Winnisquam Echo

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SERVING TILTON, NORTHFIELD, BELMONT & SANBORNTON, N.H.

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Officer Abe Gilman of the Tilton Police Department recognized Fast Cash employee Richard Merrill III for his assistance in apprehending a burglary suspect he spotted breaking into a home across from his business on Laconia Road in Tilton.

Vigilant Fast Cash employees help police capture burglary suspect

BY DONNA RHODES
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TILTON — On Nov. 1 at approximately 9:35 a.m., Tilton Police received a 911 call from a business in the 500 block of Laconia Road for what appeared to be a burglary in progress at 511 Laconia Rd.

Employees of Fast Cash, located across the street from the residence, observed a female trying to break into several windows. She

then broke into one of the windows and entered the home. The caller, who knew she did not live there, observed the suspect as she came back outside after a few minutes then flee the scene. He reported to Tilton Police that she was heading westbound on Laconia Road in a silver Nissan Altima.

“Tilton Police Officer (Abe) Gilman, heading toward the call, observed the suspect vehicle travel-

ing westbound by Valvoline. While trying to stop it, the vehicle pulled into the parking lot of Valvoline and drove around the back of the building before finally pulling over,” reported Chief Robert Cormier.

At the time of the stop, Gilman found the driver had no identification, gave a false name and was driving a borrowed vehicle

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Local school sets out to start a new Thanksgiving tradition

BY DONNA RHODES
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FRANKLIN — Red Oak Montessori School of Sanborn Street in Franklin is hosting its First Annual Tater Trot on Thanksgiving morning, an event they hope will become a new tradition where families can gather for some fun and healthy exercise with the community before going home to enjoy their turkey and all the fixings.

Brooke Wakefield is a parent and board member

at the school, and said everyone from Red Oak is eagerly looking forward to the Tater Trot.

“We really want this to be a community event, and welcome everyone from the young to the seasoned in all the surrounding towns to come out and join us,” Wakefield said.

Tater Trot is being sponsored by Awakening Chiropractic, Lefebvre Construction and Eloise’s Closet and will take place at the Franklin Falls Dam,

located off Route 127 in Franklin, just south of the Sanbornton town line. The event will feature both a 1.5 mile “Fun Run” as well as a three mile race along the trails at the recreation area.

Registration for all ages and abilities begins at 8 a.m. on Thanksgiving morning, with a 9 a.m. kick off for both races. The first 50 people to register will also receive a free event tee

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PHOTO COURTESY

Raffaelli sworn in as Northfield Police Chief

At the start of the Oct. 29 selectmen’s meeting, Northfield Town Clerk Cindy Caveny swore in the town’s new police chief, John Raffaelli, a long time veteran of the department. As Selectman Steve Bluhm looked on, Christine Raffaelli then had the honor of pinning the Chief’s Badge on her husband. Approximately 40 people, including family friends and other area law enforcement officials, were also on hand to witness the ceremony and congratulate Raffaelli on his promotion to chief.

2014 Lilac and Wildflower calendars now on sale

BY DONNA RHODES
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REGION — Just in time for holiday gift giving, the Governor’s Lilac and Wildflower Commission is once again offering their limited edition 2013 Lilac Calendar, featuring the Top 12 photographs from this year’s photo contest.

“I think people will really enjoy the calendar this year. We received some beautiful entries of a lot of different and unique lilacs,” said commission Chairman Guy Giunta.

This year marks the 17th year of the Lilac Photo Contest, which celebrates the state flower and recognizes the talents of amateur photographers from all across New Hampshire.

The lilac was designat-

ed as New Hampshire’s state flower in 1919, and in 1984, the Lilac Commission was established under Gov. John Sununu. In 1995, Gov. Steve Merrill expanded that commission to include other wildflowers, which are also part of highway beautification projects around the state. The goal of the commission is to encourage the planting of lilacs and other wildflowers all across New Hampshire.

While weather in 2012 impeded the development of the fragrant blossoms, this year’s lilacs were abundant and drew more than 400 photographic entries in the annual contest.

“The lilac season was longer this year, and it was a beautiful bloom. As a result of that, we had double the entries over last year. The contest and

calendar have been a big success over the years and we’re very pleased with how much everyone enjoys it,” Giunta said.

Winners and the location of their photos for the 2013 competition were: 1st Place- Edward Pratt, Salem; 2nd Place- Fred Mehrmann, Manchester; 3rd Place- Sonja Kappes, Alton Bay; 4th Place- Bethany Brenner, New London; 5th Place- Mark Giulucci, Kington; 6th Place- Lydia Williams, Dover; 7th Place- Mark Giulucci, Candia; 8th Place- Steven McCutcheon, Gilford; 9th Place- Susan Tullis, Heniker; 10th Place- Howard Arndt, Bedford; 11th Place- Martha Gaudes, Bedford; and 12th Place- Barry Reed, Epping.

Prizes included overnight stays at the Mount

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PHOTO COURTESY

Six sections of a covered pedestrian bridge that was purchased for \$1 from the Town of Dover were moved to Belmont last week, and now sit in a secure location at the highway garage as they await placement over the Tioga River next spring.

Belmont residents welcome new addition to the Village

BY DONNA RHODES
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BELMONT — Beginning with numerous recommendations laid out in a 2010 charrette, Belmont has been steadily building toward the future. Last week, a covered pedestrian bridge arrived in town with plans for it to span the Tioga River, where it will help complete that vision for success and bring back the vibrancy of its historic mill village.

With the completion of a new highway bridge and walkway over the Cochecho River in Dover, their covered bridge, built in 1996, was no longer needed. In Belmont, that wooden bridge was seen as a gateway to opening the newly revitalized village green to greater pedestrian traffic and recreation opportunities while lending a quaint New England look to the area.

The Belmont Conservation Commission, with assistance from some of

the town revitalization funds, was able to purchase the covered bridge from the Dover for just \$1, plus the cost of moving the structure. Last week, they watched as the bridge was transported in six sections to the yard of the town highway department where it will await its final placement next spring.

“Hooray — it’s ours now,” said Conservation Commission Chairman Ken Knowlton.

Moving the more than 160-foot wooden structure may have seemed daunting to some communities who passed up on the opportunity to buy the covered bridge. Knowlton said Mark Roberts and his crew from Leslie E. Roberts, LLC, however, were able to easily bring the bridge to its new home in Belmont.

“We are very, very fortunate to have someone like Mark and his company in our town. They gave us such a great price

and were so professional. They knew just what needed to be done and they did it,” Knowlton said. “I can’t sing their praises enough!”

In order to disassemble the bridge, Knowlton said he worked with Woody and Christine Fogg to first remove hundreds of nuts, bolts, washers and splicing plates that held the structure together. Each piece was labeled to make

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LILAC

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Washington Hotel, the Common Man in Plymouth and the Black Swan Inn in Tilton, as well as packages for Canobie Lake Park, Funspot, Conway Scenic Railroad, gift certificates and numerous lilac promotional items.

Calendars are now being sold for \$5 apiece, along with a \$3 shipping fee for each one ordered. Checks must be made out to the "Granite State FFA Lilac Fund" and mailed to Governors Lilac and Wildflower Commission, P.O. Box 21, Sanbornton, New Hampshire 03269-0021.

Proceeds from the sales



PHOTO COURTESY

The Governor's Lilac and Wildflower 2014 calendars are now on sale, featuring 12 beautiful photos taken by amateur photographers all across New Hampshire.

help provide lilacs to communities around the state.

For more information on the commission, horti-

cultural tips on lilacs and wildflowers, and rules for the photos contest, please visit www.nh.gov/lilacs.

BELMONT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

reconstruction simpler. From there Roberts and his crew then broke the bridge down into six separate top and bottom sections for the move.

Over five days the pieces were flat bedded to Belmont along with some concrete supports that anchored the bridge when it was in use in Dover.

"We can use at least one of those as an abutment for the section that will go behind the mill. That piece of the bridge will be fairly easy to put in place as we'll just have to bolt the top and bottom back together," said Knowlton.

Having that section in place will allow pedestrians to walk over the Tioga

River from Depot Street to the village green. It will also give access from the green to a planned trail along the railroad bed and river.

"There was a bridge in that area years ago where a train bringing workers to the mill would stop and people would cross the river to go to work," Knowlton said. "Parts of the old train depot are still there, so it'll be great to bring back that crossing."

He said the remaining two portions of bridge are just right for crossing the river further down the trail that will serve the public for hiking, bicycling and cross country skiing. The sections will have to be spliced back together but Knowlton said that shouldn't pose any problems.

"This bridge was built to last, and will serve the town well for many years to come," he said. "We want to thank (Town Administrator) Jeanne Beaudin for coordinating everything and the Board of Selectmen for being so enthusiastic about the project."

The challenge now will be to raise the funds to place the sections over the river but Knowlton said the commission has already been looking into grants. It will also be actively seeking donations and holding fund raising campaigns to help complete the project.

Details on how residents, businesses and other interested parties can contribute will be announced in the near future.

SCHOOLS

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shirt. There will also be numerous raffles for products and services from local businesses.

While there is no set entry fee, suggested donations will be gratefully accepted. All proceeds will benefit scholarships and programing at the school.

The Franklin Red Oak

Montessori School was founded in 1996. Classes were first held in a barn until they were able to purchase a building in 2001. It is a traditional Montessori school that works with children from the ages of three to six years of age to encourage and prepare them for higher learning. Students come from many communities, including Franklin, Tilton, Northfield, Sanbornton, Bristol,

Danbury and beyond. Lessons are specifically designed to meet the individual needs of each student as they work together to learn, grow and help each other. Their motto is, "Help me do it by myself."

For more information on the First Annual Tater Trot, people may contact Wakefield at brooketrout@yahoo.com or visit the school Web site at www.re-doakmontessori.org.

BURGLARY

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from Manchester. While he detained the suspect, other units responded to the house and confirmed it was a burglary and that Gilman had stopped the right vehicle.

The suspect was then placed under arrest and police were able to recover stolen cash, jewelry and

a priceless coin with the victim's name on it.

Arrested was 25-year-old Jessie Connelly of 77 Rochelle St. in Manchester. Connelly was charged with burglary, disobeying a police officer and operating a motor vehicle after suspension. She was scheduled for arraignment in Franklin District Court on Monday, Nov. 4.

"Officer Gilman's fast

response and observations resulted in the quick arrest of a burglary suspect," Cormier said in his press release.

Over the weekend, Officer Gilman also recognized Fast Cash employee Richard Merrill, III for noticing the crime in progress and contacting police right away with the details needed to locate and apprehend the suspect.

MARKET

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granola, maple syrup, jams, jellies, freshly roasted coffee, teas, beer, wine, gourmet food items, body care products, information on composting worms, herbal products, dog treats and more. Each Saturday and Sunday will also feature live music, information about sourcing local products and services and abundant sampling of delicious foods.

Tilton Winter Farmers' Market Founder and Director, Joan O'Connor, says, "Thanks to AutoServ of Tilton, this will be our third winter in the old Agway

building, which provides shoppers easy access from Route 93 at Exit 20. The Gaudet family and AutoServ staff lend ongoing, generous support by providing the space and a wide variety of services that help make the market possible."

"We are happy to partner with Joan O'Connor to support the Tilton Winter Farmers' Market again this year," says AutoServ General Manager, Dennis Gaudet. "The market fills a huge need for farm-fresh, healthy, local food. It's become wildly popular and attracts as many as 1600 people every weekend day, providing a great local food

resource for our community and vital outlet for our New Hampshire vendors." Tilton AutoServ has sponsored the market since it opened in 2012 and is a long-standing supporter of healthy eating and healthy lifestyles in the greater Lakes Region community.

For more information on the Tilton Winter Farmers' Market, visit www.tilton-winterfarmersmarket.com or visit the market on Facebook.

Subscribe to the site for regular market updates. Interested vendors should e-mail Joan O'Connor at joconnornh@yahoo.com or call her at 496-1718.



PHOTO COURTESY

Lakes Region Community Services receives the Dunfey Award for excellence in management practices at the recent Nonprofit Leadership Summit. (Pictured: left to right) Dona Murray, LRCS Board Member; Stuart Wallace, Board Treasurer; Gary Lemay, Board President; Christine Santaniello Executive Director (holding award), Rebecca Bryant, Director of Finance; Joanne Piper Lang, Director of Development; and Cameron Tease representing the Corporate Fund.

Lakes Region Community Services receives prestigious statewide management award

LACONIA — Lakes Region Community Services (LRCS) is proud to announce that the agency has received the 2013 Excellence in Nonprofit Management Award. LRCS Executive Director Christine Santaniello accepted the award on Sept. 20, at the Annual Nonprofit Leadership Summit.

This prestigious award is given annually by The Corporate Fund in tribute to Walter J. Dunfey, New Hampshire business leader and philanthropist. Walter J. Dunfey was a successful entrepreneur and business executive, a co-founder and director of Dunfey Hotels (now known as Omni International Hotels) and subsequently The Dunfey Group.

The Corporate Fund 'Dunfey Award,' in partnership with the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, recognizes that management in the nonprofit sector is among the most demanding and most important work in

our society. Often, effective management within the nonprofit community goes unrecognized. This 'Excellence in Management' award is presented for outstanding management skill and talent within the nonprofit sector.

"The Corporate Fund Nonprofit Management Award applications were very impressive," said speaker Cameron Tease of Markem-Imaje, who presented the award. "It was difficult to make a decision among the distinguished list of nonprofits. The winners stood apart for their excellence. LRCS really impressed the judges with its nimble and innovative work in job development, its depth of commitment to those it serves, its success in selling tax credits to 37 area businesses for its relocation, its caring management practices for a staff of 350 and the effective leadership all around."

Upon reflecting on this honor, Santaniello com-

mented that the dedication and hard work of all agency employees have played a role in achieving this recognition.

"I am extremely proud of the work of all of the LRCS employees," said Santaniello. "As I have said on more than one occasion, everyone associated with the organization contributes their piece to the whole. No one person is solely responsible for the success or trials of the organization. So while I accepted the award on behalf of the organization, it is a tribute to everyone who plays a role in supporting the families and individuals we serve. I am very proud of this organization and who we are."

As a recipient of this award, LRCS also receives an unrestricted award of \$3,500. The agency's Board of Directors has decided that these funds will go to the LRCS Employee Assistance Fund in honor of the employees that made this possible.

CAMERA

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served as the official photographer for the Plymouth 250th, served as a photographer for World Stage Design in Cardiff, Wales, UK, and has served a range of organizations throughout New England.

She holds a diploma in professional photography from The Photography In-

stitute, Sydney, Australia. She is apprenticed to headshot and portrait photographer Peter Hurley in New York, N.Y. She has studied photography for dance with prominent photographer Lois Greenfield, also in New York.

The Lakes Region Camera Club is a local organization of photographers of many skill levels, and welcomes guests to attend a

meeting or two before joining the Club. The Club Meetings are held at The Trinity Episcopal Church on the First and Third Thursdays of the month for presentations, competitions, field trips, and other activities. Scheduled meeting times are 7-9 p.m. For more information, see the club Web site at www.lrcameraclub.com or call Phyllis Meinke at 340-2359.

AutoServ to host AARP safe driving course

TILTON — AutoServ Dealerships in Tilton is hosting the "Smart Driver Course," which is the new and improved AARP Safety Driving Course for participants 55 and older.

It will be held Monday,

Nov. 18.

It is a one-day, six-hour course from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. There will be a lunch break and participants can buy lunch at the dealership café or bring their own.

Cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Membership card is needed.

To register or more information, please contact Carolyn at 729-1120.

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