Swept up in hilarity

Community Players of Concord present ‘The 39 Steps’
Virtual author talk
Elissa R. Sloan returns to Gibson’s Bookstore on Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. for her second virtual event, with her second novel, Hayley Aldridge is Still Here. Elissa will be in conversation with author Laura Hankin (Happy and You Know It, A Special Place for Women).

Jazz life showcase
Vaughn A. Booker, Jr., Ph.D. showcases the religious lives of jazz greats such as Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, and Mary Lou Williams, from his book, Lift Every Voice and Swing: Black Musicians and Religious Culture in the Jazz Century (NYU Press, 2020).
Tune in to this virtual event on Feb. 17 at 5 p.m.
Exploring the musicians’ expressions of faith, Dr. Booker shows how these jazz professionals enacted religious beliefs and practices that echoed, contested with, and diverged from the predominant African American religious culture of their time, allowing them to hold unconventional positions of religious authority.
For more information, visit nhhumanities.org/programs

Crafts, drafts event
A tasting benefit hosted by Concord Hospital Trust, proceeds from Crafts, Drafts & Barrels support the Cardiovascular Institute at Concord Hospital. Enjoy an evening of spirits, beer & wine sponsored by Martignetti Companies of Northern New England and New Hampshire Distributors on Feb. 17 from 5:30 to 9 p.m.
There will be tasty bites from local restaurants, a silent auction, mocktails and non-alcoholic options. Visit giveto.concordhospital.org/events/crafts-drafts-barrels/registration

Uncertainty in ER
Concord’s own Farzon A Nahvi, M.D., an ER physician at Concord Hospital, presents Code Gray, a narrative-driven medical memoir that places you directly in the crucible of urgent life-or-death decision-making, offering insights that can help us cope at a time when the world around us appears to be falling apart.
Head to Gibson’s Bookstore to listen in on Feb. 21 at 6:30 p.m.
In the tradition of books by such bestselling physician-authors as Atul Gawande, Siddhartha Mukherjee, and Danielle Ofri, this beautifully written memoir by an emergency room doctor takes place during one of his routine shifts at an urban ER. Intimately narrated as it follows the experiences of real patients, it is filled with fascinating, adrenaline-pumping scenes of rescues and deaths, and the critical, often excruciating follow-through in caring for the patients’ families.

Woman who dares
Jennie Powers took a stand against social vices in New Hampshire and Vermont in the early twentieth century. She was a humane society agent in Keene from 1903-1936 and one of the first humane society agents to become a deputy sheriff in New Hampshire. Jennie was known across the country as “The Woman Who Dares” cited by the Boston Post newspaper in 1906 as having arrested more men than any other woman in America. As a photographic activist, she used her camera to document animal cruelty, family violence, and widespread poverty in New Hampshire’s Monadnock region and beyond.

This one-hour illustrated presentation from Jenna Carroll introduces us to Jennie’s life story, the work of humane societies at the turn of the twentieth century, and the politics of the Progressive Era from a local perspective.
Hosted by Center for the Arts, Lake Sunapee Region, on Feb. 21 at 5:30 p.m. at New London Inn.
"Pokko and the Drum"

By Matthew Forsythe (children’s picture book, 2019)

Pokko is a little frog who lives inside a mushroom with her parents. She simply loves adventure and excitement. Pokko’s parents, on the other hand, prefer a more modest existence. “We don’t like drawing attention to ourselves,” says her father. Mama and Papa Frog prefer quiet and predictability.

Mama and Papa Frog love to give gifts. Unfortunately, Pokko’s joie de vivre can turn well-meaning gifts into “mistakes,” as Papa calls them. There was the pet llama that nearly squashed Mr. and Mrs. Frog. There was the slingshot, which was certainly NOT used according to the manufacturers’ directions. Now, imagine how Mama and Papa feel about Pokko’s new bass drum and its steady beat-beat-beat reverberating through their tiny mushroom house!

Pokko’s parents attempt to keep chaos at bay by sending Pokko outside to play her drum. Other forest animals, hearing the sound, grab their own instruments and form a parade behind Pokko. There’s an incident with a hungry wolf, which leads to a rule against eating fellow band members. Eventually, the band makes its way back to the Frog family’s mushroom home, where Mama and Papa Frog get (literally) swept up by the joyful cacophony. It’s then that they realize how much they appreciate little Pokko’s musical gifts, as well as her outgoing personality.

This is a simple, tender story with gorgeous illustrations from author, illustrator, and comic book artist Matthew Forsythe. A sweet sense of humor runs throughout the tale, and will register with both parents and young readers. There are lessons about the importance of community and being yourself. Best of all, Mr. and Mrs. Frog learn to appreciate that their daughter marches to the beat of her own drum. Perhaps granting children a bit of independence is not a “mistake” at all.

Visit Concord Public Library online at concordpubliclibrary.net.

Faithe Miller Lakowicz
“Secrets of the Nile”  
By Tasha Alexander  
(314 pages, mystery, 2022)  
Lady Emily and her husband Colin Hargreaves agree to take a trip down the Nile with Colin’s mother-in-law at the invitation of Lord Deeley, an amateur collector of Egyptian artifacts. Colin’s grown daughter Katharina von Lange will be joining them. While this is not the romantic trip that Emily had hoped for, she is still looking forward to the adventure. They meet the other guests on Lord Deeley’s cruise, many of them old friends or long acquaintances of Lord Deeley. They will be sailing up the Nile to his home in Luxor. Lord Deeley treats his group to a lavish English dinner and all is going splendidly. But at the end of the fantastic meal, Lord Deeley drinks his steaming tisane, staggers to his feet and falls over dead! Lady Emily and Colin begin to investigate his death, and discover that nearly all the guests had a reason for wanting Lord Deeley dead. Another storyline shows the life of Meryt, who is a sculptress living in an artist’s village in the time of the pharaohs. Meryt’s twin brother Bek has married Sunara, who seems intent on mocking Meryt and shunning her offers of friendship. The stories go back and forth from Lady Emily’s search for a murderer to Meryt’s story. Disturbing things are taking place at Meryt’s home – are the gods angry at them, or could it be someone with an evil intent? A friend tells Meryt that she is being too sensitive, but Meryt isn’t sure. She feels that she is in danger and Sunara is behind these malicious acts.  
If you like historical mysteries you should give this one a try. This is a fast-paced tale with a vivid sense of place – Egypt in two different eras. It has a lot to offer: horseback rides across the desert to meet with elusive suspects, tombs and hieroglyphs, ancient ushabtis (funerary sculptures) that provide clues to a centuries-old crime, interesting characters, love, betrayal, and revenge! And there’s a dramatic ending to both stories!  
Visit Concord Public Library online at concordpubliclibrary.net.  
Robbin Bailey
‘39 Steps’ a comic thrill

Get ready for a “comic thrill ride” with The 39 Steps, Patrick Barlow’s hilarious, ridiculous and utterly genius adaption of the 1915 spy novel by John Buchan and Alfred Hitchcock’s classic film of the same name. Barlow’s adaptation not only spoofs old movies and Hitchcock tropes from Psycho, Vertigo and more, it also adds a dash of Monty Python comedy as five actors instantly transform into over 150 characters with lightning precision – sometimes playing two characters at once!

Like the Hitchcock film which first put the fast-paced, location-shifting spy thriller on the screen, this comic sendup tells the story of an ordinary man flung into extraordinary circumstances. After a spy is murdered in his London flat, Richard Hannay is chased by a team of killers across England and Scotland, defying death in one seemingly inescapable scrape after another – including romance!

Kevin Gardner, well-known author, commentator, and theatre director in New Hampshire, directs this Community Players of Concord presentation. Having directed the Shakespeare program for many years with St. Paul’s School Advanced Studies Program, as well as numerous plays at Plymouth State University and New Hampshire’s professional summer theatres, Kevin is happy to be returning to the Players where he began appearing in plays as a teenager with his family in the 1960s. In 2008, Kevin

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TRIVIA NIGHT

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All proceeds benefit Red River Theatres!
Suzanne Watts plays a spy on the run who creates havoc in a crowded theatre with Todd Bubier in the Community Players' production of "The 39 Steps" at Concord City Auditorium. Directed a brilliant production of Mary Zimmerman’s adaptation of Metamorphoses with the Players. The multi-talented cast of The 39 Steps includes Tod Bubier of Manchester, Julia Kehr and Daniel Kehr, both of Concord, Seth Bunke of Boscawen and Suzanne Watts of Penacook. Performances are at The Concord City Auditorium on Feb. 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. Adult tickets are $20 and junior/senior tickets are $18. Tickets are available online at communityplayersofconcord.org or at the Audi box office. Box Office hours are Feb. 12 1 to 4 p.m., Feb. 17 and 18 6 to 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 19 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. For more ticket information, contact box office chair David Murdo at nhdm40@comcast.net or (603) 344-4747.
Live music

Feb. 16
- Brian Booth at Hermanos from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- Soggy Po Boys Concert at Concord Community Music School from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Feb. 17
- Michael McArthur at Twin Barns Brewing from 5 to 9 p.m.
- Charlie Chronopoulous at Pour Decisions Brewing from 7 to 10 p.m.
- Fatha Groove at Makris Lobster & Steak House from 8 to 11 p.m.
- Alex Cohen at Tower Hill Tavern from 9 to 11:59 p.m.
- Joe Messineo and Taylor Hughes at Area 23 Pub.

Feb. 18
- Eyes of Age at the downtown Concord winter farmer’s market from 9 a.m. to noon.
- The Honey Bees at Two Villages Art Society from 4 to 6 p.m.
- Adrea Paquin at Twin Barns Brewing from 5 to 8 p.m.
- Eric Lindberg at Over The Moon Farmstead from 6 to 9 p.m.
- Colin Hart at Hermanos from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- Dusty Gray at Chen Yang Li from 7 to 10 p.m.
- Renegade Cartel at Makris Lobster & Steak House from 7 to 10 p.m.
- Andrew North and The Rangers at Area 23 Pub.

Feb. 19
- Alan Roux at Makris Lobster & Steak House from 1 to 4 p.m.
- Paul Bourgelais at Hermanos from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Feb. 20
- Chris Lester at Unos Pizzeria & Grill from 6 to 9 p.m.
- Craig Fahey at Hermanos from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Feb. 21
- Ken Budka at Mount Sunapee from 3 to 5 p.m.
- Kimayo at Twin Barns Brewing Co. from 5 to 8 p.m.
- Dancing Madly Backwards at Pour Decisions Brewing from 8 to 11 p.m.
- Stoned Wasp at Area 23 Pub.
- Just Sayin at Makris Lobster & Steak House from 8 to 11 p.m.

Feb. 22
- John Franzosa at Hermanos from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- Carrie and The Wingmen at Area 23 Pub.

Feb. 23
- Brian Booth at Hermanos from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Feb. 24
- Hank Osborne at the Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to noon.
- Beats by J.D at Makris Lobster & Steak House from 1 to 3 p.m.
- Kimayo at Twin Barns Brewing Co. from 5 to 8 p.m.

Feb. 25
- Chris Lester at Unos Pizzeria & Grill from 6 to 9 p.m.
- Craig Fahey at Hermanos from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Feb. 26
- John Franzosa at Hermanos from 6:30 to 9 p.m.
- Carrie and The Wingmen at Area 23 Pub.
- Beats by J.D at Makris Lobster & Steak House from 1 to 3 p.m.
Colin Herlihy at Mount Sunapee from 3 to 5 p.m.
Tyler Levs at Twin Barns Brewing from 5 to 8 p.m.
Chris Lester at Over The Moon Farmstead from 6 to 9 p.m.
Justin Cohn at Chen Yang Li from 7 to 10 p.m.

Stage shows

Breadcrumbs – theatre KAPOW on Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m., and 19 at 2 p.m. at the Bank of NH Stage. A elusive fiction writer diagnosed with dementia must depend upon a troubled young caretaker to complete her autobiography. In a symbiotic battle of wills, they delve into the dark woods of the past, unearthing a tragedy that shatters their notions of language, loneliness and essential self.
The 39 Steps at The Audi on Feb. 17, 18 (7:30 p.m.) and 19 (2 p.m.) An ordinary man is flung into extraordinary circumstances when a female spy is murdered in his London flat. With a team of killers on his trail, Richard Hannay is tracked across England and Scotland, defying death in one seemingly inescapable scrape after another – including romance!
The World Was Ours at Hatbox Theatre on Feb. 17, 18 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 19 at 2 p.m. The coveted Edburg Art Endowment is about to be awarded to one of three finalists who have three very different artistic visions. Prof. Adley Schwartz has traditional views, Z-Jones believes art is rebellion, while Joy wants her art to scream didactic societal messages. All three find themselves in a museum waiting room while the board makes their final decision. Their divergent views escalate when they realize the lucrative grant will come with demands that may compromise their artistic and moral values. Looking on (and bickering) from the ether are none other than Salvador Dali, Andy Warhol and Bob Ross.
Croce Plays Croce on Feb. 23 at Chubb Theatre, show starts at 8 p.m.
Alan Doyle on Feb. 23 at the Bank of NH Stage at 8 p.m. From the moment he burst onto the scene in the early 1990s with his band Great Big Sea, Canadians fell in love with the pride of Petty Harbour, Newfoundland, whose boundless charisma and sense of humour was eclipsed only by his magnetic stage presence.
Black History Month Unity Concert with Martin Toe and Destin Boy Official on Feb. 24 at 8 p.m.

Red River Theatre

A Man Called Otto (PG-13) Otto Anderson (Tom Hanks) is a grumpy, suicidal widower who seems to relish criticizing and judging everyone.
80 For Brady (PG-13). Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda, Rita Moreno, and Sally Field made it their life-long mission to go to the Super Bowl and meet NFL superstar Tom Brady.
Feb. 16, 1812: Henry Wilson is born in Farmington. He will serve as vice president to Ulysses S. Grant.

Feb. 16, 1943: The temperature falls to 37 below zero at 8:30 a.m., the coldest temperature ever measured in Concord. The record had been 35 below, set Jan. 8, 1878.

Feb. 17, 1740: John Sullivan is born in Somersworth. He will grow up to be a vain lawyer with British sympathies and an American Revolutionary War general, but not a good one.

Feb. 17, 1874: Franklin B. Evans, killer of Josianna Lovering of Northwood, is hanged at the state prison. On his last night, Evans sold his body for $50 to a Concord doctor who planned to bring it to the Dartmouth College medical department. Evans was curious to learn if his bones would be wired together. The idea amused him. Over three years later, in a prank, students will steal his skeleton from a lecture hall and hang it on the college grounds.

Feb. 17, 1900: Deep in debt, the 96-year-old Abbot & Downing coach and wagon company is taken over by creditors. Employment has dropped from 300 to 200. The families of Lewis Downing and J. Stephens Abbot will no longer be involved in running the company after 1901, and the new bosses will struggle to keep the enterprise afloat.

Feb. 18, 2001: NASCAR fans in New Hampshire and around the country watch in disbelief as Dale Earnhardt crashes on the final lap of the Daytona 500. Although the TV audience won’t know it for a little while, Earnhardt dies instantly of head injuries when his famous No. 3 smashes head-on into the track wall. Speaking for many fans, local motorsports commentator Jerry Venne says, “There’s nothing worse that could happen at the speedway.”
Feb. 18, 1827: The Rev. Asa McFarland, Concord’s Congregationalist minister for 30 years, dies at the age of 58. Two portraits of McFarland exist, including one by Samuel F.B. Morse, a resident of Concord in the early 19th century.

Feb. 18, 1774: The New Hampshire Gazette reports on a meeting of the Matrons of Liberty at the house of Susanna Spindle in Portsmouth. The women question the motives of those trying to stop the importation of tea from Great Britain. Their resolution states: “That the Merchants under the pretence of guarding our Liberties, prevented the landing of the East India Company’s Tea; and at the same Time sell their own at such an extravagant Price, make it evident it is not our Interest; but their own private Gain they are pursuing.”

Feb. 18, 1974: Archibald Cox, the special Watergate prosecutor fired four months earlier by President Nixon, receives a hero's welcome at St. Paul's School, where he graduated in 1930. Speaking of the possibility of impeachment, Cox says that by his definition, to meet the constitutional test of “high crimes and misdemeanors,” an offense would have to be “a major crime against the body politic.”

Feb. 19, 1981: Two Vermont teenagers accused of killing two Dartmouth professors are arrested at dawn at a truck stop in Indiana. A local sheriff makes the collar after hearing a trucker say on his CB radio that he’s giving a ride to two boys trying to get to California.

Feb. 20, 2003: The House votes to let the state bypass local voters in establishing a limited number of charter schools.

Feb. 18, 1998: Franklin’s spring sports season is officially salvaged. Budget cuts have been erased by diligent fundraising. “We’d be walking down the street and people would hand us $10 and say, ‘Give this to spring sports,’” says Skip DuBois, the boosters’ vice president.

Feb. 18, 1869: Fire destroys Concord’s Columbian Hotel.

Feb. 18, 1942: Gov. Robert O. Blood urges coal and fuel oil conservation to aid the war effort. Homes should be heated to no higher than 65 degrees, he says.
Summer planning begins

Here’s a look at what was included in last Friday’s city newsletter:

Matt Walsh named Deputy City Manager of Development

The City of Concord is pleased to announce that Matt Walsh has been named Deputy City Manager of Development, effective on Feb. 5.

Walsh began his career with the City in October 2001. Over the past 21 years, he has held a variety of positions within the Community Development Department and City Administration, including Director of Redevelopment, Downtown Services, and Special Projects; Assistant for Special Projects; and Community Development Project Manager. He was appointed Interim Deputy City Manager of Development in September 2022. During his tenure with the City, he has managed and been involved with numerous public/private partnerships and projects, including but not limited to the redevelopment of the former Allied Leather Tannery site into Penacook Landing; the City Wide Community Center; Merchants Way off of exit 17; the Merrimack Lodge at White Park; the former NH Employment Security property; and management of the City of Concord’s municipal parking system. He has also continued to successfully manage the City’s three Tax Increment Financing Districts; the RSA 79-E Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive Program; Revolving Loan Fund Program; Community Development Block Grant Program; and Brownfields Program.

As Deputy City Manager of Development, Walsh’s responsibilities include oversight of the Code, Engineering and Planning Divisions; the operation, development and maintenance of the Concord Municipal Airport; and several capital improvement projects. His role also includes coordination of the City of Concord’s community development and economic development initiatives, and oversight of development permitting activities.

“I am pleased to announce that Matt Walsh is moving into the Deputy City Manager of Development role permanently. We are fortunate to have his wealth of knowledge about Concord and his extensive experience in public administration and community development as he takes the next step in his career,” said City Manager Tom Aspell.

“I am humbled and honored to be selected for this exciting opportunity. I am eager to work with the entire community to move Concord forward on its path of continued success and prosperity,” said Walsh.

Walsh graduated from the University of New Hampshire cum laude with a BS in Community Development with a minor in Resource Economics. He also earned a Master Degree in Public Administration from UNH. Prior to joining the City, Walsh was Principal Planner at the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, and was Town Planner of Alton, New Hampshire. Since 2008, he has served on the NH Community Development Finance Authority’s Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee. He is also a former member of Intown Concord’s Board of Directors, as well as the Concord Young Professionals Network.

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DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE RENTALS?
PGA Junior League Registration Now Open

PGA professional Phil Davis will serve as the Junior League Captain, providing kids with expert coaching and instruction. With parents and family members encouraged to assist as coaches and volunteers, PGA Junior League Golf involves the entire family and introduces kids to an all-ages sport they can play and enjoy together for a lifetime.

Utilizing the foundational youth growth-of-the-game program of the PGA of America, PGA Junior League Golf offers boys and girls, ages 13 and under of all abilities, a fun, social and inclusive opportunity to learn and play golf in a recreational team setting with their friends, complete with numbered jerseys.

The League utilizes a two-person scramble format for competition, which reinforces the team concept and creates a nurturing environment for learning the game. Teams play four, nine-hole matches in a game; Captains can substitute players every three holes, allowing everyone on the team a chance to participate.

Teams typically play between four to six games in the regular season, which runs from June to July. All matches will be on Saturday or Sunday evenings starting at 5 p.m. Practices will be Wednesday or Thursday, 5 to 6 p.m.

Register at pgajrleague.com/junior-league-events/ec45220e-2d58-4032-b553-2019f17f096d.

Winter operations

Concord General Services crews continue to haul snow out of narrow streets and areas with high snow banks. Crews perform snow hauling to improve public safety and accessibility for street parking and line of sight for drivers.

Please be on alert for possible road closures and Emergency No-Parking signs, which are installed on streets anticipated for snow removal by noon the day before if parking will be impacted. Please follow signage throughout the season to allow crews to effectively clear snow. Crews will continue to work through areas as time allows.

Sign up for alerts for road closures, winter parking bans, and trash delays at concordnh.gov/notifyme. Winter parking bans and trash delay alerts are also available on the MyConcordNH mobile app and shared to subscribers of the General Gazette newsletter. Alerts are also displayed on the City website and social media. Follow General Services on Twitter @ConcordNHGS for road closures.

Thank you to all of our snowplow operators, equipment operators, and winter laborers for working hard to provide safe conditions of streets, sidewalks, and public spaces. We appreciate all of the support from the community and thank everyone for their patience as crews continue snow removal throughout the city.

Visit concordnh.gov/winteroperations to learn more about the City’s winter operations and plowing priorities.

Everett Arena

Ice skating at the Douglas N. Everett Arena is quickly approaching the end of the season. While the last day of ice skating will be March 16, the last Saturday session will be held on February 25, and the last Sunday session will be on March 5.

Come get your laps in out on the ice! Skating hours are Monday through Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sundays, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Admission is $6 and free for ages three and under. Skate rentals are available for $6 at the arena’s pro shop, and skate sharpening is available for $7 per session. A $60 punch ticket can be purchased for 10 sharpening sessions (that’s a $10 savings, with no expiration).

Adult stick practice continues through March 15 for ages 14 and up. Hours are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10 to 11:15 a.m. Admission is $10 and free for goalies. Helmet and gloves are required, and full equipment is recommended.

Find more information at concordnh.gov/skating.

Call for Art in New Hampshire’s Capital City

The City of Concord, NH and the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce invite sculptors to submit entries for Art on Main, a public art exhibit in the city’s historic downtown and beyond. Accepted entries will be on display from June 2023 through May 2024, and enhance the capital city’s award-winning Main Street.

Concord’s sixth annual outdoor sculpture exhibition is open to sculptors 18 years or older, preferably from New England. This initiative is a partnership between the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce’s Creative Concord Committee and the City of Concord. The Creative Concord Committee is made up of dedicated volunteers who work to enhance the creative economy in the Capital Region.

Artists may submit up to two works for consideration; each must be the property of the artist. All accepted artists will receive a $500 stipend. Accepted works must be properly secured upon installation for the safety of visitors and the artwork itself. The City of Concord takes a 30% commission for any sculptures sold to promote the visual arts. The deadline for entries is April 29.

“Concord’s Main Street really is New Hampshire’s Main Street,” said U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen. Works exhibited in Art on Main will be displayed in a destination city, full of unique shops, restaurants and cultural venues that attract a high volume of visitors throughout the year. Art on Main enhances these attractions by creating an open-air gallery that is free for all to enjoy. Last year the exhibit expanded to include an installation at the Community Center in the Heights neighborhood. The Creative Concord Committee hopes to include other city neighborhoods as well.

For more information about the City of Concord’s sixth annual outdoor sculpture exhibition, or to submit work for consideration, please visit concordnhchamber.com/arts. Questions should be directed to Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce President, Tim Sink, CCE, at (603) 224-2508 or tsink@concordnhchamber.com.

“Taper Deco,” the work of artist Rob Lorenson, was installed as part of a public art initiative.
Gilford School District
Seeking dynamic candidates to join our school community for the 2023-2024 school year. The successful candidates should seek to cultivate a learning environment that promotes collaboration, innovation, critical thinking and self-direction.

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**Gilford Middle School**
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