

Shaker Regional board approves back to school plans



BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
josh@salmonpress.news

BELMONT — The Shaker Regional School District board met last Tuesday to discuss the return to school, answering questions about the return to school plans that have been devised

for each of the district’s four schools. Superintendent Michael Tursi noted that all four principals met consistently over the last few months as the plans for each school were put together. “We’re really proud

of what they’ve put forward,” Tursi said. The district sent out a survey to those throughout the district, including students, parents, teachers and support staff, looking for their input on what they wanted in a return to school

and just more than 50 percent of respondents said they hoped for full access, just more than 30 percent hoped for partial access and a little more than 18 percent wanted no access. The plan in the Shaker Regional School District

is to bring the students back to the buildings in a phased-in approach, beginning with a partial access/hybrid model on Sept. 9. The board notes that the plan would be to reassess the model at the beginning of October in order to make a more informed decision moving forward prior to the Columbus Day weekend. The partial access/hybrid model will divide students into two different cohorts, the “A” cohort and the “B” cohort. Cohort groups will be established by students’ last names, with adjustments made to accommodate families and households with different last names. Schools will operate on an alternating schedule with approximately 50 percent of the students in school on one day. Under the district’s plan, Mondays will be remote teaching and learning for all students and teachers. Tuesdays and

Wednesdays will see Cohort A in the school for in-person learning and Cohort B doing remote learning. Thursdays and Fridays will have Cohort B in school and Cohort A doing remote learning. The school days will be shortened by one hour, which will allow teachers and staff to connect with students who are learning remotely, to give staff the opportunity to populate Google Classroom with lessons and resources and provide district professionals to focus on remote learning needs. Following guidance from state, national and world health organizations, the district has set up floor markers, established one-way traffic patterns and minimized opportunities for groups to mix in order to follow social distancing guidelines as much as possible. Staff and students

SEE **SCHOOL**, PAGE A7

Tilton-Northfield Fire District to receive FEMA grant

TILTON — The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today \$41.3 million in direct assistance grants to 105 fire departments nationwide through the agency’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program. Additional phases will soon be announced.

The Tilton-Northfield Fire District will receive \$925,490 from FEMA for a SAFER grant. This three-year grant will be used to hire four new firefighters. The SAFER grant program was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter organizations to help increase the number

of trained firefighters available in our communities. The goal of the SAFER grant program is to assist local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities to respond to emergencies and assure that communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards. With enhanced staffing

SEE **GRANT**, PAGE A7

Winnisquam plans to play

Many guidelines will be in place as Bears return to sports



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Winnisquam plans on playing sports this fall with a regional schedule whenever possible.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

TILTON — As far as challenges go, new Winnisquam Athletics Director John Larsen certainly has found himself with a big one in his first few months on the job. “As my mentor Pete Cofran (retired Newfound Athletics Director) said, if you can get through this you’ll be fine,” Larsen said with a laugh. Winnisquam has joined with fellow Division III schools to come up with an agreement that will help sports be a possibility while also keeping the athletes and coaches safe in the time of COVID-19. Mandates approved include all fans and spectators must wear masks or face coverings while on school grounds and social distancing should be practiced. Players

will also be required to wear face masks on the bench and while arriving at facilities. Coaches are also required to wear face masks when social distancing is not possible. There will be no handshakes or communal water. No contests should be played on back-to-back days with a goal of two days between contests with no end of season JV jamborees or tournaments. Additionally, Larsen noted that school officials will screen athletes and coaches prior to home games and departing for away games. Documentation will be carried to the game for the information of the other team. “When we send kids on a bus, the AD, assistant AD or trainer will escort every bus off campus with paperwork saying they’ve been

checked,” Larsen said. “There’s a lot of things that they’ve put in for safety reasons, so we’ll be busy.” Larsen said that in addition to the Division III agreement cited earlier, Winnisquam will also have its own individual sport-specific mandates to further protect the athletes, officials and spectators, which will be released as the season gets closer. “I can tell you that we have a very detailed plan both on paper as well as at each sporting venue,” Larsen said. As for the sports season, Larsen said that as of mid-August, Winnisquam is all in on all levels and for every sport. He also pointed out that the idea is that the school will be playing in a regional bubble as

SEE **SPORTS**, PAGE A7

Veterans Home promotes Arthoen Wolf to Director of Resident Care Services

TILTON — The New Hampshire Veterans Home (NHVH) is pleased to announce the promotion of Arthoen Wolf, MS, APRN, to Director of Resident Care Services. “Arthoen comes to the position with a great wealth of knowledge and understanding of our veterans and their needs. She has proven that she will lead our resident services with compassion, integrity and advocacy,” shared Margaret LaBrecque, NHVH Commandant. “Her approach to caring for our residents coupled with her professional experiences make Arthoen a wonderful fit for this position.” In her new role, Ms. Wolf directs and supervises nursing services;



Arthoen Wolf

social work; recreation therapy; quality, policy and staff development; volunteer services; chaplain; admissions; medical records; physical therapy and dieticians. She bring over 25 years of clinical and operational experience in nursing, including NHVH Nurse Practitioner, State of NH Board of Nursing and Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services, Dartmouth Hitchcock, and Clinical Adjunct Faculty

at Rivier and Drexel Universities. A resident of Concord, Ms. Wolf holds Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Registered Nurse, and ANCC Board Certified Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner certifications. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Maryland at Baltimore and a Master of Science (MS) in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing from the University of Massachusetts in Lowell. While earning her MS degree, she was awarded the Graduate Dean’s Award and was inducted in the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing and the Delta

SEE **WOLF**, PAGE A7

Conservation Trust announces challenge grants to help complete Weeks Project

Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) cross the finish line! LRCT is excited to announce that the Samuel P. Pardoe Foundation and another anonymous donor have each approved \$5,000 challenge grants to help LRCT raise the remaining funds needed to permanently protect a key 65-acre parcel of land located on the western slopes of Gunstock Mountain in Gilford, adjacent to the Muehlke Family Christmas Tree Farm.

"We are heartened to know that, even during these uncertain times, support for conserving key natural places around us remains strong," stated LRCT President, Don Berry.

LRCT and the Gilford Conservation Commission are working together to conserve the John M. and Eileen R. Weeks property, which has long been a conservation priority in Gilford. \$104,415 is still needed to complete this project by early this fall.

Donate securely online now by visiting the LRCT website at www.LRCT.org

Donate by check, payable to "LRCT" with "Weeks" in the memo field and mail to LRCT, PO Box 766 Center Harbor, NH 03226.

Donate by phone: Call LRCT at (603) 253-3301 to leave your name and a phone number. Staff are working remotely but they will do their best to call you back in less than 48 hours to process your credit card over the phone.

Email us at lrct@lrct.org and include your name and phone number and someone will call you back to process your gift over the phone. Spread the word!

Please share this message with your family and friends!

[Click here to learn more about the Weeks Conservation Project]

Visit LRCT.org for more information about this project.

LRCT sends a big thank you to everyone who has already contrib-

uted to this outstanding project! No gift is too small as each and every donation will help LRCT reach their matching funds challenge and help to conserve this land.

Anyone who has hiked in the Belknaps, or who enjoys the views of the Belknaps from Gilford or other places in the region, can attest to the beauty of this landscape. LRCT and the Town of Gilford have already raised approximately 65% of the funds needed to complete the project. The anonymous donor and the Pardoe Foundation challenge grants will each match—dollar for dollar—up to \$5,000 of additional project donations received by LRCT, so now is the time to take advantage of this extraordinary opportunity.

The Lakes Region Conservation Trust, founded in 1979, has conserved over 27,500 acres of land throughout the Lakes Region of New Hampshire, including 33 miles of shoreline, 21 summits, and more than 95 miles of trails.



COURTESY

Dramatic 180-degree views to Gilford and the nearby lakes and mountains.

LRCT's land conservation work preserves community character, conserves critical wildlife habitat and diverse ecosystems, protects

water resources, natural landmarks and scenic landscapes, and provides a variety of recreational opportunities for people of all ages. To learn

more about LRCT, please visit the LRCT Web site at lrct.org or call 253-3301.

Still hanging around after 80 years

Art Association/Gallery Annual Members show opens Sept. 3

TILTON — This play on words best describes the history of the Lakes Region Art Association, when 80 years ago, a small group of lakes region area artists gathered together and established the Laconia Art Association. Their objective was to find ways for them to display (hang) their art for the public to see and buy, to learn from each other, critique and teach art. The tradition lives on, and today, after 79 years of hosting its Annual Members Show and growing from just a few member artists to now well over 100, Lakes Region Art Association will hold its 80th Annual Members Show at their gallery, 120 Laconia Rd., Tanger Outlets, Suite 132, in Tilton, from Sept. 3 until Sept. 27.

On Saturday, Sept. 5 from 4 to 7 p.m., Lakes Region Art Association will host an ice cream social at the opening reception, free to the public and sponsored by Irwin Motors.

Chairperson for the annual show, artist Pat Edsall reports "We have a fantastic show planned, and some really great art entered to be judged as the 'best of the best' by three independent and highly respected professional artists. There are 10 different mediums to be judged: oils, pastels, watercolors, acrylics, digital artwork, photography, ink, sculpture, drawing and mixed media with cash prizes awarded in each category. They'll also be a first, second, and third, cash awards for 'Best of Show.' We invite everyone to attend the show any Thursday thru Sunday in September and vote for the

People's Choice Award.' The Gallery requires all who attend to maintain social distancing and wear a mask."

President of the LRAA/Gallery, Thomas Hitchcock, likes to remind people... "All art and

photography on display in the gallery, for sale, is priced well below

market value because you are

buying directly from the artist. There are no mark-ups, or any increase in pricing to cover sale

commissions, or fees for framing because all wall art is ready to be hung. We are unlike any other gallery around, in fact, we've just been chosen as the 'Best Art Gallery' in the Lakes Region. Another reason we're so unique is, we are a teaching gallery. No matter your age, or what you believe is your level of talent, we offer lessons to anyone who wants to learn to draw, paint and take great photographs. Come to the Gallery and sign-up to take our (low cost) classes and workshops."

The Lakes Region Art Association/Gallery is a non-profit, 501-c3 organization dedicated to promoting the cultural importance of art, giving artists the chance to display and sell their art, and to teach art for a life-long fun and rewarding activity. The LRAA Gallery is open Thursday-Sunday, 11 a.m.- 7 p.m. For information on membership and/or a Business Sponsorship, contact: Tom Hitchcock at 496-6768.



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LPC reports on loon numbers, plans, and pandemic response

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

MOULTONBOROUGH — The year 2020 has had some challenges for the loon population as well as the human population, with the Loon Preservation Committee taking measures to help loons despite limitations from the pandemic.

The LPC held its annual meeting on Thursday via Zoom where LPC Executive Director Harry Vogel gave the annual “State of the Loon” report on loons as well as an update on the organization.

The LPC monitors 375 lakes across the state. He said while not all these lakes have loons, all have the potential to have them.

Work of LPC staff and volunteers has included banding loons and taking blood and feather samples, examining failed eggs, doing necropsies on dead loons, and others.

The LPC also has a number of initiatives to help protect loons and their nests. They have collected over 15,000 pieces of lead tackle in a buyback program. LPC volunteers and biologists have put out nesting rafts to help loons who have lost their nesting sites, floated signs warning boaters of loon nests and chicks and will work with dam owners to make sure water levels remain stable to protect loon nests. Vogel

said nine out of every 10 chicks that hatched this year benefitted from LPC interventions.

Usually the LPC has a number of events and activities over the year to raise awareness of loons and money for the organization but COVID-19 put a stop to many of them this year.

“Most of our talks, our Summer Gala, our Loon Festival, our golf tournament all canceled this year, but we carried on and we changed our tactics to reach people in different ways,” Vogel said.

Volunteer and Outreach Biologist Caroline Hughes worked with volunteer Bill Gassman to redo the organization’s website and volunteers have maintained a social media presence for the LPC.

The LPC’s Thursday night nature talks have also been available online.

The Loon Census still went on this year with 501 people counting 568 loons across the state.

The collected data from over the summer was compiled into a preliminary report on the state of the loon population in the state.

This year, there were 320 pairs, which he said was a record number. The numbers of nests and chicks, however, was slightly down this year. Around two thirds of all territorial pairs nested, which Vogel said was a

little low. On average, 0.9 chicks hatch per pair, which he said is up this year, and is on par with data from the past 10 years.

Vogel said research has indicated that there is a baseline goal of .48 surviving chicks in a year to keep the loon population stable. While that number in 2020 fell below that line, Vogel said the numbers have been on or above for six of the past 10 years.

Overall, 56 percent of nests were successful. Around a third failed for unknown reasons. Vogel said there are a number of reasons for nest failure that have human factors. The presence of humans around the lake can lead to an increase in predators such as raccoons and gulls.

With more people boating this year, large wakes can flood nests and potentially wash eggs away.

For the past few years, the LPC has been investigating the reason for low numbers of loons on Squam Lake, including high levels of contaminants. Fortunately, the numbers on Squam were better this year.

“Squam actually had a good year this year, and that’s very gratifying because we’ve been working for almost 15 years to understand and reverse the declines of loons on Squam Lake,” Vogel said.

This year was also a



Loon Preservation Committee Executive Director Harry Vogel reports on activities by the organization in 2020, including the release of a rescued loon.

hot year, meaning loons in parts of the state fared better than others. While loons in the Sunapee and Monadnock Highlands fared well, loons on the Seacoast did not have a good year. Vogel said climate plays a big role in the state of loons. Overall temperatures in New Hampshire were five degrees above average, placing the temperatures closer to southern Massachusetts.

“When you get the temperatures typical of southern Massachusetts loons don’t fare well and that should not come as a surprise to any of us,” Vogel said. “Loons are a northern species, they are close to the southern edge of their breeding grounds in New Hampshire.”

The LPC is now in the beginning of a capital campaign to raise mon-



The LPC is embarking on a capital campaign to expand the Loon Center and construct an operations building.

ey for an expansion of the Loon Center and the construction of a secondary building. Since the building was constructed in 1993 the staff, exhibits, and various pieces of equipment have grown exponentially. Vogel showed a photo of a few staff members packed into a small space with equipment and paperwork.

The LPC plans to expand the main building and construct a second building for rafts, boats,

signs, and housing and facilities for staff. The new building will be the Kittie Wilson Field Operations Center named after ardent volunteer Kittie Wilson who passed away in 2018.

The campaign’s goal is \$2 million, so far thanks to a quiet phase of the campaign they have already raised over \$1.75 million. They still have around \$230,000 left to raise and will continue with their campaign.

LRPA continues to celebrate Alfred in August with “The 39 Steps”

LACONIA— Alfred Hitchcock is recognized as one of cinema’s most intriguing and successful directors, and with good reason. LRPA After Dark is celebrating “The Master of Suspense” during his birthday month of August with a festival of some of his early works Join us each Friday and Saturday night at our new showtime of 10 p.m. for a thrilling good time. This weekend (Aug. 28 & 29), we close our Hitchcock festival with the 1935 romantic crime thriller “The 39 Steps,” starring Robert Donat and Madeleine Carroll.

On vacation in London, Richard Hannay (Donat), a Canadian tourist, is enjoying a music hall performance when a man is murdered – and young woman, Miss Smith, confesses the murder to Hannay,

begging him to give her sanctuary. Back at his flat, she explains that she is a double-agent trying to keep a group of spies from stealing a valuable military secret. That night, Miss Smith is stabbed in Hannay’s flat. She manages to warn Hannay to run before she succumbs to her wounds. Immediately, Hannay becomes a fugitive, both from the police, who accuse him of murder, and from the spies, who need to kill him for what he knows. He takes a train to Scotland, where he hides from the police in the compartment of an attractive blonde named Pamela (Carroll). Pamela wants nothing to do with Hannay and alerts the police, but he manages to escape to the Scottish countryside. The next few days include many harrowing (and sometimes humorous)

run-ins for Hannay, and he once again comes into contact with Pamela. Will she believe his innocence and help him clear his name?

“The 39 Steps” is often considered to be Hitchcock’s first great international masterpiece, and was both a critical and box office success. The New York Times reviewer Andre Sennwald described “The 39 Steps” as having “sinister delicacy and urbane understatement,” while Variety wrote, “International spy stories are most always good, and this in one of the best.” The film employs two of Hitchcock’s notable trademarks: the innocent man (Hannay) wrongly accused of a terrible crime that he didn’t commit, who must go on the run and work to clear his good name; and the use of a “MacGuffin,” a plot point or device that is important to the story, but really irrelevant to the viewing audience. Film critics have noted that “The 39 Steps” really laid the groundwork

for every thriller with “the man on the run” that has ever been made since that time.

It was a favorite film of Orson Welles, who commented to an interviewer, “Oh my God, what a masterpiece.” Join us after dark for this Thirties thriller.

Mark your calendars for our final “Alfred in August” presentation!

Aug. 28 & 29:

“The 39 Steps,” 1935

Coming in September: LRPA’s 3rd Annual “Silent September” Film Festival!

Sept. 4 & 5:

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Sept. 11 & 12:

“He Who gets Slapped,” 1924

Sept. 18 & 19:

An Evening of Silent Comedies!

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watch us online at live.lrpa.org to catch all the fun.

About Lakes Region Public Access Television (LRPA)

Lakes Region Public Access Television (LRPA) is a nonprofit, non-commercial public access TV station and community media center located on the Laconia High School campus in Laconia. LRPA cablecasts locally on Atlantic Broadband Channel 24 (educational programming and public bulletin board), Channel 25 (information and entertainment) and Channel 26 (government meetings) to more than 12,000 homes in our member communities of Belmont, Gilford, Laconia, Meredith and Northwood. Programming is produced by and for the people of the greater Lakes Region. LRPA’s mission is to empower our community members to produce content that fosters free speech

and the open exchange of ideas,

encourages artistic and creative expression, promotes a well-informed public through governmental transparency, and

unites our communities through the power of media and technology.

LRPA’s slogan: Community empowered by media. Visit us on the Web at www.lrpa.org.

TILTON POLICE LOG

TILTON — The Tilton Police Department responded to 483 calls for service and made the following arrests during the week of Aug. 10-16.

Arrested during this time period were Tyler Moses (for Driving After Suspension and Disobeying an Officer), Mathew Angell (for Possession of Drugs), Michael Peterson (for Driving After Suspension), Chad Shurleff (for Theft By Deception), Peter Dibiasco (for Simple Assault, Criminal Mischief, and Theft from a Motor Vehicle), and Lance Linguard (for Driving After Suspension).

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A hard-fought right

Women acquired the right to vote on Aug. 18, 1920. It's amazing to think that there are individuals born during that time are still with us today, bringing into light that it wasn't long ago that women were given the right to take part in the democratic process.

The 19th Amendment stated that citizens could not be denied the right to vote based on sex. Because of loopholes, many African American men and women were not permitted to vote pending literacy tests and the inability to pay poll taxes leaving the group disenfranchised. That same year some states, such as Georgia, had a law requiring people to register to vote six months in advance, which meant that many were turned away from the polls. In states such as California, New York and Illinois, women were permitted to vote before the 19th Amendment was ratified.

In 1915, a group of 25,000 women marched in New York City, demanding the right to vote. During that time, the New York Times printed an article against the women's cause, stating, "If women vote, they will play havoc for themselves and society and that if granted suffrage they would demand all the rights that implies. It is not possible to think of women as soldiers and sailors, police patrolmen or firemen, heavens think of the chaos!" The National Women's Party began to picket the White House in 1917, for the entire year despite weather. Some women were arrested and sent to work camps as punishment.

This month, National Women's Suffrage Month, commemorates the turning point in American history as well as the founding of the League of Women Voters. Women began requesting the right to vote in the 1600's. Second lady Abigail Adams wrote to her husband in 1776, "Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands. Remember, all Men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the Ladies, we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice or Representation." Adams would never cast a ballot.

In 1848, the cause picked up, after a women's rights convention in New York with Elizabeth Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and Lucy Stone spearheading the group of 300 women. Supporting Stanton, was abolitionist Frederick Douglas. After 70 years, with the last 20 packing a powerful punch, public sentiment changed and women were eventually heard and supported.

This year, when at the polls, let us remember the women who were imprisoned, marched in treacherous weather, went on hunger strikes and dedicated their lives so that the women of the future could have a voice.

Congress designated August 26 'Women's Equality Day' in 1973.

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STRATEGIES FOR LIVING

The third option

BY LARRY SCOTT

Rioting in the streets, an approaching national election that may change the face of America, and an uncertain future have left many of us sleepless and concerned. Where we go from here is anyone's guess; we're a nation in deep trouble!

The first and greatest commandment, said Jesus, is that "You should love the Lord your God." And a second, a take-off from the first, is that "You should love your neighbor as yourself." These two commandments go together; as we have turned away from God, we have turned against our "neighbor."

I need not prove the point. Watch the news. Observe men beating men they do not know, mobs entering a business to steal everything they can get their hands on, young people stoning their local police, there under assignment to protect the community.

What we have here is not a political or social problem, we have a spiritual problem. The hatred shown our police, the devastation of our cities, and the call for changes that defy common-sense, is evil. Race relations are not being served, social inequities are not being resolved, and no one is better off for all the mayhem.

I admit that, as a white man, I am unable to identify with the pain and suffering that has been festering in the black community. America needs help; things need to change. The death of those who like George Floyd have suffered at the hands of the white community must count for something. But we have not helped ourselves by turning away from God. We have loosened the restraints of moral responsibility, hoping a free society will be a happy society. It will not happen!

So, what do we do?
Miles McPherson,

onetime football player for the San Diego Chargers, and now pastor of Rock Church, San Diego, has addressed the problem plaguing America in his book, "The Third Option." Moved by the deaths of Breonna Taylor, Rashard Brooks and George Floyd, McPherson says those of us who care have another alternative, a "Third Option." We can back off from highlighting our differences and honor those things we have in common.

We can, he says, 1). Acknowledge our blind spots and admit we don't always know what others have gone through; 2). Rename "others" as your brother or sister. Don't label others in a way that destroys what we have in common; 3). Be the person who, in the name of Jesus Christ, makes others feel welcome in your group; 4). Acknowledge your brother or sister's color. It is OK to validate the way God made

us; and, 5). View every conversation as a race consultation. Before you make assumptions, get the facts.

I question whether Miles McPherson's philosophy will change the face of America. I do not see fundamental change coming to America short of a spiritual revival. But his approach can surely change me, and that, I believe, is where we must each begin.

America needs God, and if they are going to find Him, they will do so through men and women who reflect the love and compassion our God has for all His children. Our role is not to convict others of sin; that is the role of the Holy Spirit. Our mission is to show love and compassion, to tell the angry, rioting mob we care, and that God has a solution to all their frustrations and hurt. His Name is Jesus!

For more thoughts like this, follow me at indenseoftruth.net.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Compliance will not move NH forward

To the Editor:

I am running for State Senate District 2. New Hampshire has one of the highest corporate tax rates in the country, along with high energy and housing costs. These factors make it difficult to attract new businesses.

The state taxes businesses for not making a profit. The tax is called the Business Enterprise Tax. Payroll and interest, paid to the bank, is taxed. If a business cannot pay on time, it is hit with excessive late fees and penalties. If elected, my first bill proposed will be the elimination of the Business Enterprise Tax.

My opponent, Bob Giuda, opposes my policy change, and believes it will open the door to an income tax. He wants to continue the policy of taxing businesses that have no profit. Many businesses were mandated to be shut down, by heavy handed government policies, and the final insult will be the Business Enterprise Tax.

I believe the short-term gain of taxing underperforming businesses has a long-term effect on future

revenues. It discourages new businesses from moving to New Hampshire and does nothing to stimulate small business development. We should want to grow and develop business in our state, to employ workers and make a profit.

Eliminating the Business Enterprise Tax would require the state to reduce the growth in spending. Belknap County is the lowest taxed and staffed county in the state. As Chairman of the Belknap County Commissioners, I can tell you we are also the most efficient. For a strong future, we need strong businesses, not printed money and excessive taxation.

The State Senate needs business leaders that understand how an economy works. Government needs to create the conditions, so we can all succeed. I am running for the State Senate because silence and compliance are not leading and moving the great State of New Hampshire forward.

DAVID DEVOY
SANBORTON

Five bills I would also have vetoed

To the Editor:

Many want to applaud Gov. Chris Sununu for the record number of bills he actively vetoed over the past 3 years. And certainly, he was the firewall against increased taxes and assaults against the Second Amendment. However, too many bills that he signed or allowed to become law are destructive to you and your children.

Bills I would have also vetoed as your Governor are bills that tear at the fabric of the family. Parents have a duty to guide and shepherd their offspring into responsible citizenship. Basically, the recent legislature wants to insert themselves between you and your children. Government have been doing a slow creep to supplant your parental duties, providing meals, clothing, counseling, etc., making you more and more dependent upon those provisions that are creating more and more of a distance from you child. When legislation interferes with those responsibilities or ignores biologic reality, responsible

leadership should step in to prevent the overreach of legislators. Here are five bills that I would have vetoed.

HB 1319 - Bathroom Bill prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity and reinforcing the mental confusion that allows for physical or chemical alteration of a biological reality. Boys are born boys and girls are born girls.

HB 587 - Therapy Ban punishes therapists who are treating mental illness and denies parental responsibility to seek help for their child's mental confusion. Under this law a child who is confused about their sexuality cannot be counseled even with parental consent.

SB 263 - Discrimination on gender identity in public schools opens the door for lawsuits against innocent references towards a child who today is biologically a boy and tomorrow feels like a girl. Teachers, administrators and peers become targets for lawsuits claiming "bullying" tactics

HB608 -Gender Identity added to Unlawful Discriminatory Practices in Public Accommodations. This bill dissolves the distinction between men and women and is an attack on women. The consequences are many. Just to mention a few: Men identifying as a woman can now enter competitions against biological women. This could put an end to girls or women wining competitions specifically for them. Privacy in dressing rooms has been removed. It also allows for chemical enhancement in sports, something that has been taboo in the past.

HB 669 Adds "X" for "other" to "M" for "Male" or "F" for "Female" on Drivers' Licenses, Identification cards, and applications issued by the Motor Vehicles Administration denying biological reality. This law defies logic. What will be next? What other identifying markers will be allowed? Change in age?

The veto pen is a powerful tool. But so is allowing bad bills to become law through signature. Leading the people of New Hampshire requires making decisions that do no harm to her citizens.

KAREN TESTERMAN
FRANKLIN

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet sweet Joan! Joan came all the way from Lubbock, Texas to find her forever family. She is a 2 year old boxer mix ready for adventure. Joan is currently learning quite a bit at our shelter. She is food motivated and willing to train! Currently Joan knows sit, down, is learning leash skills such as 'with me' aka heel, and loose leash walking. Joan would do best in an active adult only home as the only animal. If prospective adopters have another dog, we are happy to try them, however Joan has been a little over the top with her doggy friends. No cats for this sweetheart!

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JOAN

North Country Notebook

Finger-waggers vs. vernacular, as a ghost cat leaves its marks



By JOHN HARRIGAN
COLUMNIST

This week, we’re going from fisher (cats) to fishermen, and from mountain lions to catamounts, panthers, painters, cougars, and wildcats, all of which are among the many words used for the same creature.

One of my recurring nightmares could be made into a movie titled “Revenge of the Finger-Waggers.” In it, innocent camp-dwellers would be advanced upon by a phalanx of finger-wagging wildlife experts, scolding them for using “fisher cat” and “partridge,” not to mention “hedgehog” (vs. “porcupine”).

In the dream I would also get a million bucks for every time I’ve written about non-scientific terms that over the course of history have crept into regional vernacular and local lexicon, and the legend and lore behind them.

When the first European colonists stepped ashore near Cape Cod and the Gulf of Maine, they didn’t know how to feed themselves from the land or the sea. Neither



This image garnered wide circulation after it was posted by Pittsburg’s Lopstick Lodge & Cabins. It was dated June 5, and was said to have come from a trail-cam near Fish Pond Road in Columbia. (Courtesy Gerry Allen)

did they know much about the many new species of wildlife they encountered. Hence every feline-looking creature—fisher, bobcat, lynx, cougar—was called “wildcat.” When naturalists like John Josselyn, Thomas Morton, and William Wood arrived, they began trying to sort it all out. This process continues today (witness “coydog”).

For a long time, my book-reading scope of interest was first contact, coming after binge-reading on the Arctic, the conquest of South America, Antarctica, Siberia and the like), and in a way, it still is. When a new book comes out even only partially dealing with accounts of Europeans’ first experiences with native people, I’ll drop whatever I’m reading in a hot second to pick it up.

+++++
At one point during my wandering reading, I bumped into an article dealing with the etymology (origins of a word) of “fisher cat.”

Now, one of the brickbats the finger-waggers are always throwing at people who use “fisher cats” (okay, just once in a while, just out of tradition) is that fishers don’t catch fish.

But according to at least one branch of the Abenaki nation, they do. Early on, soon after the arrival of the first Europeans, an Abenaki hunter—most probably a Penobscot—told of watching the animal in question—the fisher, prized for its thick and glossy coat—trying to trap fish with its big, wide paws in tiny feeders-streams.

I wish I’d preserved the precise information on this little vignette, but at least I have it in my head.

Whatever the reason, “fisher cat” apparently crept into the early settlers’ vernacular, or general use. And as more precise terms were affixed to the various animals, the species were gradually sorted out. So now we know that we have the fisher (cat), mink, skunk, martin, and weasel. Only the top

dog in the family—the wolverine, which probably was here 14,000 years ago when he last glacier began melting—is missing.

+++++
Earlier this month, a friend sent me an image said to have come from someone’s game camera set up along a well-used wildlife trail near Fish Pond Road in the town of Columbia. For the benefit of readers to the south, this is a town just south of Colebrook.

The image is fuzzy, but definitely shows a cat-like animal with the other key feature, a very long tail. In fact, a close look can discern what looks like a black tip on the tail, a mountain lion characteristic.

Because the animal doesn’t look big enough in comparison to the yellow birch trees in the background, most people voted “housecat.”

Then, in early August, Albert Alix of Fremont sent me a photo his wife Jackie took when they and daughter Megan were coming out of the woods after fishing Simms’ Stream. The track was in the very same town of Columbia, not far from where the trail-camera was set up.

“My wife, daughter and I stayed in an RV on Jackson Road in Co-



On Sunday, Aug. 9, Jackie Alix took this photo near Fish Pond Road in Columbia, as she and husband Albert and daughter Megan, of Fremont, were on the way out after fishing Simms’ Stream. A cat walks with its claws retracted. The track was the size of a fist, or about four and a half inches wide. But what was it? (Courtesy Albert Alix)



This image of a rare coincidence—a cougar track (left) next to a black bear track—came from a trail-cam far to the west, in the Rockies. (Courtesy Reddit)

lumbia for a few days of R&R this past weekend,” Albert wrote. “Simms Stream looked good on the topo map, so we made our way there on Sunday morning and parked at the Route 3 bridge. We fished our way upstream for a couple hours and caught a lot of trout. I would guess we traveled half to one mile.”

Albert and family found out what many people discover (or already know) when they fish a brook that’s seemingly under everybody’s nose—that it has fish, and lots of them.

In fact, I’d bet that many readers have similar stories to tell, about wanting to catch a bunch of fish for a late breakfast or supper, disappearing into the swamp grass and alders for a while, and heading home with enough fish to fill a frying pan.

“When we had enough trout for supper, we climbed up to the gravel road and walked back to the truck,” Albert wrote. “We spotted the track in a mud puddle in the mid-

dle of the gravel road. It was a good print so my wife snapped a picture. I wish I had put a tape measure in the photo, but the print was at least as big as my hand.”

When I first saw the photo, I immediately thought “Cougar.” But I fully admit my bias. And here is the note I got back from Pat Tate, who’s pretty much the clearing house at Fish and Game for all things cougar:

“The track has the heel pad and toe orientation of black bear. I have received pictures in the past where black bear claws did not register.”

Readers, please feel free to send in your trail-cam photos. They often have interesting and unusual stories to tell.

(Please address mail, with phone numbers in case of questions, to campguyhooligan@gmail.com or 386 South Hill Rd., Colebrook, NH 03576.)

LRPC TAC Committee meets Wednesday

REGION — The Lakes Region Planning Commission’s Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will meet Wednesday, Sept. 2, from 2 to 4 p.m.

The TAC will hold an informal discussion of the transportation projects proposed by LRPC member municipalities for consideration for the state’s Ten Year Transportation Plan for 2023-2032. Formal prioritization of project proposals will take place in October.

As a result of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 public health crisis and pursuant to Emergency Order #12 issued by Gov. Sununu on March 23 regarding the state of emergency currently extended until Aug. 28, pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order 2020-016, the Lakes Region Planning Commission has determined that this meeting of its Transportation Advisory Committee will not be held at a physical location, but will be conducted via Zoom conference.

There are two ways for the public to access the meeting: Online at this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89189774353> or by telephone: dial 1-929-205-6099 (New York) and enter meeting ID 891 8977 4353. These instructions are also provided on the LRPC Web site at www.LakesRPC.org.

Anyone who has trouble accessing the meeting can call 279-5334 or email admin@lakesrpc.org for assistance.

The LRPC TAC encourages all members of the public who are interested in any aspect of transportation to provide input during the meeting. For additional information about this meeting, please contact the LRPC at 279-5340.

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The Town of Northfield, NH, requests janitorial cleaning companies or qualified persons to furnish proposals to perform cleaning services for town buildings. Buildings include; Northfield Town Hall, Police Station and Public Works (Administrative Area).

Interested parties are invited to review the Town’s RFP information at www.northfieldnh.org, or at Northfield Town Hall, 21 Summer Street, Northfield NH 03276.

All submissions should include at least 3 professional references. All submissions or inquiries should be sent to the Town Administrators Office, 21 Summer Street, Northfield, NH 03276, or townadmin@northfieldnh.org, (603)-286-7039. Insurance Policy Declaration Page will be required at the time of the approved proposal.

Northfield Selectmen reserve the right to accept or reject any and all proposals, and to award bids most advantageous to the Town of Northfield.

SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Advisory Budget Committee

The Shaker Regional School District is seeking community members to serve on the Advisory Budget Committee. The board will select 3 members from Belmont and 3 members from Canterbury to serve on this committee at its September 22, 2020 board meeting. All members must be registered voters for the town in which they are serving. Please visit www.sau80.org to review the charge of this committee.

Please submit a letter of interest to Debbie Thompson, Business Administrator at dthompson@sau80.org or Shaker Regional School District, 58 School Street, Belmont, NH 03220 no later than September 15, 2020. Please contact Ms. Thompson at 267-9223 ext. 5303 with any questions.

Bike Week kicks off amid changing times

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

LACONIA — Motorcycle Week will look a bit different this year, but organizers say this could be a successful week with people making safe decisions and embracing the spirit of riding.

Laconia Motorcycle Week officially kicked off on Saturday, and will last through this coming Sunday, Aug. 30. A number of Motorcycle Week stakeholders took part in a press conference on Thursday at the Northeast Motorsports Museum to kick off the week.

The event was rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and a number of changes have been made to ensure social distancing. The city of Laconia announced it would not issue any vendor permits on Lakeside Avenue except for a few community organizations. This means there will not be any retail or food vendors and live music will only take place at just a few privately managed locations.

“I’ve heard several people say it’s different this year for Motorcycle Week,” said Laconia Motorcycle Week Executive Director Charlie St. Clair. “It’s different when I go to the supermarket; it’s different when I do anything, or try to do anything.”

St. Clair said this has been a rough year overall for the board of directors, but everyone in the association has gone above and beyond this year.

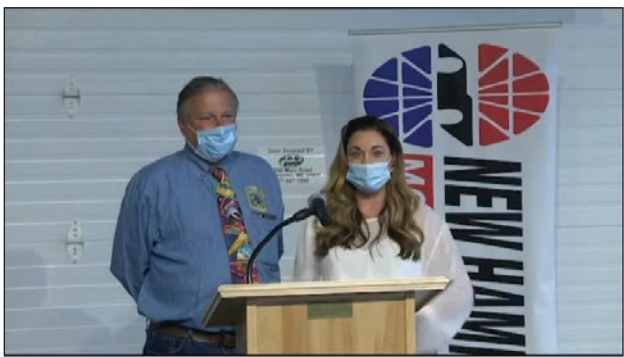
“We’re all dealing with and that’s with regards to getting things sanitized up there and doing everything we can for everybody else,” St. Clair said.

St. Clair talked about the concerns with the city’s decision not to have vendors on Lakeside Avenue this year. He said he likes to remind people that back in the 1930’s there were no vendors and business was done from local stores.

“To be fair to the city of Laconia, I think they did the right thing,” St. Clair said. “They tried to keep people from congregating. That was their call, and the board supports that, and so we’re good with that.”

Motorcycle Week Association Deputy Director Anderson said a collaborative effort has taken place over the past few weeks to help market safety at the rally.

Posters by the Partnership for Public Health were posted around the



COURTESY PHOTO

Charlie St. Clair and Jennifer Anderson of the Laconia Motorcycle Week Association speak at the kick off press conference for this year’s Bike Week.

Weirs advising people to socially distance, wear masks, and wash and sanitize hands as well as get out and ride.

A 30-foot long banner was also put up over Lakeside Avenue reading “Keep New Hampshire Safe.”

“I think this kind of joint effort is just one more way that we can help instill confidence in folks for their own personal wellness,” Anderson said.

At the same time Nano Coating Technologies will be working to sanitize and put in a germ inhibiting system around Weirs Beach, especially on frequently touched surfaces like parking meters, railings, and others.

“There is a lot different but there is a lot that is the same,” Anderson said. “Our number one goal is always safety. It’s usually focused around motorcycle safety and it still remains that now. We have this additional layer of reminding people for their personal safety, not just on the motorcycle but for health related to the current pandemic.”

A common sentiment from speakers was that one of the big priorities of Bike Week is encouraging people to get out and ride and explore the state’s scenic byways. New Hampshire Motor Speedway General Manager Dave McGrath said there are so many different areas to explore around the state on a motorcycle, a sentiment echoed by Anderson and St. Clair.

Chief Mark Armaganian of the New Hampshire Liquor Commission said they have taken a “proactive approach” for this year’s event and have worked with their licensed partners and local officials to educate people of the liquor laws and the Safer At Home guidelines. He encouraged people to speak with their inspectors in case they had any questions or saw any potential problems and violations.

“Our investigators will be high profile during this week,” Armaganian said. “They will be actively visiting each one of our 65 licensed establishments prior to this week coming.”

He said the work of the Liquor Commission hasn’t changed since the pandemic and he foresees a successful event with everyone taking the necessary safety and health precautions.

Capt. Bill Haynes of the New Hampshire State Police advised people to expect an elevated police visibility over the week.

“The intent of that is to provide safe roadways (and) highways for you to come into our state and operate freely and get home safely, that’s the sole intent,” Hayne said.

McGrath talked about the different events and races that would be going on during the week. The week would start with Vintage Motorcycle Racing on Saturday and Sunday with the Loudon Road Racing Series over the second weekend. Bike Week will end on Sunday with the 97th annual Loudon Classic.

“Things are going to be a little different this year at the speedway, but we’re focused on making sure that riders are here having a good time, and if they want to see some great speed, they should do it at the speedway,” McGrath said.

Anderson said there will be some new activities this year, including one and two-hour tours on the Hobo Railroad between the Weirs and Meredith.



PHOTOS BY ERIN PLUMMER

Bikes cruise through Lakeside Avenue on Sunday afternoon after the start of Bike Week.



Posters from the Partnership for Public Health reminding visitors of precautions against coronavirus are posted around the Weirs.



The Hobo Railroad pulls into the Weirs. The railway is offering one- and two-hour rides between the Weirs and Meredith during the week.



Motorcycles line parts of Lakeside Avenue after the start of Bike Week in a year that looks a lot different because of the pandemic.

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GRANT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
levels, recipients should experience a reduction in response times and an increase in the number of trained personnel assembled at the incident scene.

The grant is funded

through FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. The grant applications are submitted from each agency directly to FEMA, where the applications are reviewed and scored by fire service personnel from throughout the nation.

FEMA obligates funding for this project directly to the recipient agencies. It is the recipient agency's responsibility to manage their grant award within federal guidelines with technical assistance and monitoring provided

by FEMA Fire Program Specialists.

Additional information about FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters grant program(s) may be found at <https://www.fema.gov/firegrants>.

WOLF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
Alpha Pi International Honor Society. Ms. Wolf has also served in the United States Naval Reserve.

The New Hampshire Veterans Home is home

to men and women veterans who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. NHVH was established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier's Home for Civil War Veterans and is a recipient of the Quality of Life Award from

the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State's elderly and disabled veterans with dignity, honor and respect.

NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans. For more information, call 527-4400 or visit www.nh.gov/veterans, www.facebook.com/nhveteranshome.

SPORTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
much as possible.

Of course, that is all dependent on what other schools do in the coming weeks as they prepare for the new season.

"It all depends on who is in and who is out with individual sports going forward," Larsen said. "Fingers crossed."

Winnisquam, like the rest of the public schools in the state, is also following the return to play guidelines set by the

governor and the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association's return policies.

The NHIAA has set the first day for any school to practice as Sept. 8 while low risk sports bass fishing and golf can play their first match on Sept. 10.

Moderate risk sports are set to follow with the first day of competition on Sept. 18. This includes cross country, field hockey, soccer and volleyball while high

risk sports football and spirit will be able to start on Sept. 25.

Additionally, the NHIAA has set up an open tournament, which will allow flexibility for schools to schedule games and contests against teams in their region whether or not they are in the same division, without penalty.

The NHIAA has left things up to individual schools as to how they want to handle sports.

As for his first few

months on the job, Larsen, who succeeds Brian Contorchick as the Winnisquam AD, thanked both Cofran and Franklin Athletics Director Danny Sylvester for their guidance and assistance as he begins his new position.

"I am very fortunate to have Pete and Danny," Larsen said.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.

Electrical accident triggers garage fire

TILTON — On Aug. 17 at 3:28 p.m., Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS responded to a building fire at 991 Laconia Rd. in Tilton.

First arriving crews observed a two-car detached garage that was close to the main home, with fire and smoke coming from an open door. An off-duty Belmont firefighter was found assisting the property owner in using a garden hose to knock the flames down. A first alarm was immediately requested due to significant garage contents and the fire potentially spreading to the house.

Tilton-Northfield Engine 3 quickly deployed a hand line and extinguished any visible fire inside of the garage. Crews from Laconia and Belmont assisted with overhaul and smoke removal.

"The fire would have been a lot worse, and could have potentially extended into the home if you were not for the efforts of the Belmont off-duty firefighter and property owner," stated Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Captain Tim Ames.

There were no firefighter or civilian injuries reported, and the fire was declared under control at 4 p.m.



COURTESY

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Captain Tim Ames is checking for hot spots with a thermal imager camera.

The cause of the fire was electrical, and considered accidental. Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS would like to remind everyone that extension cords are for temporary use only and should never be used on high electrical draw appliances.

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS companies, along with Franklin and Belmont, Laconia, Sanborn-ton, and the Tilton Police Department assisted at the scene. The Gilman-ton and New Hampton Fire Departments provided station coverage.

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\$135,000
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HELP WANTED

Landscape crew members wanted

Well established Lakes Region New Hampshire landscape company is seeking softscape and hardscape team members. Valid drivers license required. Please call 603-279-8100 or email scott@scottburnslandscaping.com



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This is a full time position in our Ashland Lumber store. Duties include assisting customers and contractors with product selection and order entry. Minimum 2 years experience in the building industry. Basic computer skills required. Excellent customer service skills a must. Will be required to work some Saturdays and Sundays. Saturday hours 7:30 - 5:00 pm and Sunday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

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You may apply in person or download an application from our website. All applications should be submitted to:

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Framers and Laborers Wanted

Wallace Building Products is a successful and growing manufacturer of building products for the construction industry. We seek full-time Framers and Laborers to join our team in Danbury NH.

This position will work with other employees to build rough -framed walls for the construction industry in a shop environment. Framing experience is a plus, but we will train.

Apply in person at 1525 US Rte 4 in Danbury NH
Or call 768-5900 to set up an appointment



HELP WANTED

Administrative Assistant

Union Congregational Church of Hebron

Our long-time Administrative Assistant recently announced her upcoming retirement. Thus, we at Union Congregational Church in Hebron, are looking for a replacement to join our staff.

Duties include working closely with the pastor to prepare weekly service bulletins and prayer lists, maintaining the church calendar, communicating with local press and the congregation, maintaining the church files and databases, assembling the report for the annual meeting and ordering supplies.

This is a part-time position of approximately 10-15 hours per week. Pay is \$15.00 per hour paid bi-weekly.

If you have questions or wish to submit a resume, you may contact Jill Erickson at erickson.jill@gmail.com

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To view full descriptions of the positions and to apply, please visit
<https://jobs.usnh.edu>

Plymouth State University is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access/Affirmative Action

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HELP WANTED

Professional painters needed

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No Early Birds Please

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THANK YOU!

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2020-2021 School Year

Professional & Support Staff

LANCASTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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All applicants must apply on [Schoolspring.com](#)

Paper applications will not be accepted.

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Varsity Boys' Tennis Coach

(positions are contingent upon COVID-19 status)

(Contact Kerry Brady, AD, for application, etc. – 837-2528)

For further information, contact:

Stephanie Glidden, Adm. Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools

and to the Director of Student Services

White Mountains Regional School District

SAU #36

14 King Square

Whitefield, New Hampshire 03598

TEL.: 603-837-9363/FAX: 603-837-2326

Email: sglidden@sau36.org

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH, NH

PART-TIME POSITION AVAILABLE

The Town of Plymouth is seeking applications for a part-time clerical position

(16-24 hrs/wk) performing a full range of office duties at the Selectboard's office – hourly range is \$13.00 - \$16.00.

Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma. Computer knowledge and experience in a professional office setting are required. Excellent customer service and teamwork skills are also required. Helpful: Knowledge of municipal operation and familiarity with the Town of Plymouth.

The Town of Plymouth is an EOE/AA employer. Please submit a resume with a cover letter by September 8, 2020 to: Kathryn Lowe, Town Manager, Town of Plymouth, 6 Post Office Square, Plymouth, NH 03264

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Town of Belmont

Cemetery Maintenance Request for Proposals

The Town of Belmont Cemetery Trustees invites interested vendors to submit a proposal for the Yearly Maintenance Contract for 2021-2022 to include mowing, clean up and up-keep of 22 Cemeteries located in the Town of Belmont. The contract will run from May 1st till November 11th. All prices submitted shall be by lump sum and only for maintaining cemeteries in their current condition, no additional compensation will be made by the Town unless authorized by the Cemetery Trustees and approved by the Board of Selectmen in advance of the work. The Town reserves the right to reject any and all proposals that are deemed not to be in the best interest of the Town.

Please contact Sharon Ciampi, Cemetery Trustee at 603-581-9746 or email belcem2015@gmail.com to set up a time to tour the Cemeteries. Final proposals shall be mailed to the Cemetery Trustees at PO Box 310, Belmont, New Hampshire 03220, no bids will be accepted by email, a fax transmission can be sent to 267-8327, no later than the close of business on Tuesday September 1, 2020.



Full-Time Installers Assistant

Energysavers Inc, a 45 year old hearth & spa product retailer in the Lakes Region, is looking for a motivated individual that wants to learn the trade of installing hearth products. You must be comfortable working on roofs when necessary and able to work with an installer to move heavy items. Energysavers pays for all educational costs to get and maintain NFI wood, gas and pellet certifications as well as a NH gas fitters license for gas hearth installations and service. LEARN WHILE YOU EARN!

No prior experience required. Must have a valid driver's license. Stop in to fill out an application:

Energysavers Inc,

163 Daniel Webster Hwy, Meredith NH

Smiling faces wanted to fill customer service positions

Greene's Corner Market

Moultonboro, NH

Full time and part time available

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\$10.00 - \$12.00 per hour to commensurate with experience

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• Call Cindy at 603-253-9300, stop by and fill out an application or email your contact information to cindy@greenescornermarket.com

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Live theatre returns to the Lakes Region

MEREDITH — When the COVID-19 pandemic abruptly shut down operations at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse in March, it was anyone’s guess when live performances would return to the Meredith campus. Initially the administrative team was hopeful to postpone spring shows for a few weeks and then resume. Plans for the summer season were still underway. Of course, all that changed quickly and spring and summer seasons were regrettably postponed indefinitely. Now, using the strict guidelines set out by the State of New Hampshire’s Reopening Task Force, the Playhouse is excited to announce a small season of three professional productions in September and October.

The first two productions of the season will take place at the Playhouse’s outdoor amphitheatre which was constructed along with the Playhouse’s mainstage in 2013 but has been underutilized in the past few years.

Producing Artistic Director, Neil Pankhurst says, “in our first few years in Meredith the outdoor stage was used frequently for our summer camp but when we moved our camp off-campus we didn’t have as much use for it. Though this isn’t the season we initially planned, in some ways it’s nice to have an excuse to give the outdoor stage a new lease on life. The technical team is currently hard at work extending the stage and building seating platforms for the audience so nobody will have to sit on the grass like in the old days.”

The two productions that will take place outdoors are “Or,” by Liz Duffy Adams and “The Mountaintop” by Katori Hall. “Or,” was always scheduled to be in the 2020 season. The three-person comedy easily lent itself to an outdoor performance and having two of the three actors, Nicholas Wilder and Rebecca Tucker, as an off-stage couple (they met at the Playhouse in 2014 and, in

non-COVID times, would have been married at the Playhouse this summer) made onstage interactions easier. The third performer, Haley Jones, is quarantined with Wilder and Tucker. All Playhouse cast and staff undergo multiple COVID tests and are strictly regulated to avoid any activity considered high risk.

“The Mountaintop” is a new addition to the season. In this Olivier Award-winning play, author Katori Hall imagines what may have taken place in Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, TN on the eve of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination in 1968.

Pankhurst says, “In most years, we choose our show titles well in advance to give plenty of time to plan and advertise them. That does not give us much flexibility to react to current events with our programming. Of course, 2020 is the year when all of that got turned on its head. Suddenly flexibility is the key word and the ever-evolving nature

of this year gave us the ability to add in programming to allow us to explore what’s on this nation’s mind. Obviously, the murder of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement is a topic that people are interested in exploring and we are grateful we are able to add a production that speaks to that.”

The final show of the season, which will take place on the Playhouse’s indoor mainstage, will be a new play called “No Wake” by Erica Berman. Set in Moultonborough on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee, the play explores the burgeoning friendship between a cynical local teenager and an irascible snowbird with a penchant for screaming at the jet skiers who disrupt his treasured loons.

Pankhurst says, “I loved the local connection to this show. On top of that, it was practically written for social distancing! The setting is two neighbors’ porches and 99 percent of the play involves them talking to each other

from their own porch! That alone seems to sum up summer 2020 on Lake Winnepesaukee!”

All three productions will follow or exceed the CDC and State of New Hampshire guidelines for social distancing, mask wearing, and other pandemic precautions.

Patrons are encouraged to visit www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org prior to booking tickets to read the COVID-19 protocols for attending. Tickets can then be purchased by calling the box office at 279-0333.

2020 Salmon Press

Fall Home Improvement

In Central NH

Distributed in the September 17, 2020 issues of...

GRANITE STATE NEWS, CARROLL COUNTY INDEPENDENT, BAYSIDER, MEREDITH NEWS, PLYMOUTH RECORD ENTERPRISE, WINNISQUAM ECHO, GILFORD STEAMER & NEWFOUND LANDING

Copy Deadline: Wednesday, September 30 at 3PM

To place an ad please contact:

Tracy at (603) 616-7103
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kids' corner

SCIENCE FACT!

THIS ELECTRICAL CHARGE IS MOST OFTEN LIMITED TO CLOUDS AND ONLY RARELY REACHES THE GROUND.

ANSWER: LIGHTNING

What’s the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A

B

Answers: 1. Polka dots missing 2. Extra paw print 3. Left umbrella handle missing 4. Jeans leg pulled down

THIS DAY IN...

HISTORY

- 1609: GALILEO GALILEI DEMONSTRATES HIS FIRST TELESCOPE TO LAWMAKERS IN VENICE.
- 1875: MATTHEW WEBB BECOMES THE FIRST PERSON TO SWIM ACROSS THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.
- 1950: PRESIDENT HARRY TRUMAN ORDERS THE SEIZURE OF U.S. RAILROADS TO AVERT A STRIKE.

New Word

CURRENT

a flow of electricity

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Storm

SPANISH: Tormenta

ITALIAN: Tempesta

FRENCH: Orage

GERMAN: Gewitter

Did you know?

LAKE MARACAIBO IN VENEZUELA IS RECEIVES MORE LIGHTNING STRIKES THAN ANY PLACE ON EARTH. THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF STRIKES CAN OCCUR IN ONE NIGHT.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: LIGHTNING STRIKE

