

Island Park bridge restoration begins



BY DONNA RHODES
Contributing writer

TILTON — It was an exciting evening in the town of Tilton last Wednesday, when crowds of people gathered along East Main Street to watch as the Island Park Footbridge

was removed for restoration by Chasse Crane Service, LLC of Hudson, then loaded up for delivery to Arnold M. Graton Associates Inc. in Holderness, where it will be restored to its original condition. The history of the bridge is a lengthy one. In short, it was first con-

structed after Charles E. Tilton took ownership of the island in 1865. In 1881 the bridge to the island was originally built of wood but in 1881 an Iron Pony Truss Bridge was designed and patented by Lucius E. Trusdell. The bridge was then constructed by a company owned by

Albert D. Briggs, while the construction supervisor was John Smith of Springfield, Mass. The price was \$1,800, a lot of money in those days. After Tilton's death, the island and bridge were deeded over to both the Town of Northfield and the Town of Tilton. Of course, there was maintenance and repairs over the years and since the island and bridge spanned the

Winnepesaukee River between the two towns, both communities not only shared ownership but the cost of upkeep as well. In 2020, when the bridge was falling into disrepair, Jeanie Forrester, the Tilton Town Administrator at that time, did some research on it and discovered the historical importance of the structure. It was then that moves to restore it

got underway. Forrester contacted the National Preservation Alliance that year and the bridge was approved for their Seven to Save program, which each year recognizes seven historic sites in New Hampshire worthy of restoration and preservation. Among its historical significance is the fact that there are

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Volleyball Bears aiming for playoff return

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

TILTON — With four of last year's starters graduated from the team that made the playoffs, Winnisquam volleyball coach Mark Dawalga expects it might take a little time for everyone to get on the same page. However, he's optimistic that his senior-led group can make a return to the playoffs and be contenders as the season rolls along.

"It may take a little time to get everyone on the same page," the Bear coach said. "I really believe in this group." The seniors that Dawalga expects to lead the way are outside hitter Caidyn Carter, setter Anna Drinkwine and outside hitter Alexis Mingolla. The team also brings back some more talent from last year's team in the form of junior outside hitter Danica Weymouth and sophomore outside hitters

Sophie Fair and Avril LaBranche. "We will also have a new back line," Dawalga noted, pointing out that the Bears will lean on juniors Addison Bernier and Kinzie Nelson in the back row. "Their experience from the past two years on JV will really help us as we look to add new players." The Bears will also be adding some newcomers to the mix in sophomore setter Abby Meunier and sophomore outside hitter Eila Petty and ninth grade defensive specialists Alissa Jean and Kaylee Jeanson. "We will look to get better every day in practices and games and see where we are at the midway point of the year as we continue to grow as a team to hopefully make a playoff push," Dawalga stated. The Bear schedule will include two games each with Souhegan, Gilford, Manchester West and Hanover and single

games against Laconia, Oyster River, Somersworth, Manchester Memorial, John Stark, Fall Mountain, Prospect Mountain and Kennett. The season officially kicks off for the Bears on Wednesday, Sept. 3, as they will be on the road at neighboring Laconia for a 6 p.m. varsity start. Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.

Wrong-way driver arrested on I-93

CANTERBURY — A Massachusetts man was arrested last week for driving the wrong-way while intoxicated in Canterbury. At 12:16 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 17, State Police dispatch started receiving multiple reports of a wrong-way driver on Interstate 93 southbound in Northfield.

Troopers from the Troop D barracks responded to the area and located a silver 2016 Subaru Crosstrek pulled over to the left shoulder of the road, facing the wrong way, by mile marker 50.6 in Canterbury. It was determined later that the driver of the vehicle had pulled over due to running out

of gas. There was no one around the Subaru at the time the Troopers arrived on scene. During the investigation, Trooper Zavala located a man in the median wood line, who, when commanded to do so, exited the woods. The Troopers

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Belmont Public Library announces September programs and events

BELMONT — The Belmont Public Library is excited to share a full calendar of events and activities for patrons of all ages this September. From book groups and arts workshops to storytime for children, the library continues to be a vibrant community gathering place. Each Monday morning at 10 a.m., adults are invited to join Fiber Arts Mondays, a self-guided gathering for knitting, crochet, and other fiber crafts. Later the same day, at 2 p.m., the library offers a Watercolor Workshop, where participants can explore painting techniques in a relaxed setting with supplies provided.

The library is also hosting several engaging book groups. On Thursday, Sept. 11 at 4:30 p.m., the Afternoon Book Group will discuss "Amazing Grace Adams" by Fran Littlefield. The Friday Fiction Book Group will meet on Friday, Sept. 19 at 10:30 a.m. to read "All Adults Here" by Emma Straub. Mystery lovers can join the Mystery Group on Thursday, Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. to talk about "Mother-Daughter Murder Night" by Nina Simon. The Nonfiction Book Group will meet the following month, on Thursday,

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Early deadlines for Labor Day

With our offices to be closed Monday, Sept. 1 in observance of Labor Day, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication in that week's edition has been moved up to Thursday, Aug. 28 at 4 p.m. Submissions can be e-mailed to the Editor at brenndan@salmonpress.news.



“Granite Orpheus” movie premiere to benefit Colonial and Powerhouse

LACONIA — What started as an exercise in experimental filmmaking by two friends in spring 2015 has ended up as a 70 minute independent film called “Granite Orpheus,” which will have its public premiere at the Colonial Theatre on Friday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. Starring Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative’s producer Bryan Halperin as Orpheus, the movie co-produced and directed by John Hession and Rick Broussard under the banner of Resurrection Films is inspired by John Cocteau’s 1959 take on the Orpheus and Eurydice myth and was filmed all around downtown Concord.

Says Halperin, “When my friend Rick Broussard asked me if I’d like to try my hand at film acting for two days of shooting at Concord Market Days in June 2015, I said sure, not knowing that it would turn into a 10-year project that finally finished shooting in May 2025! I had quite an adventure running around every basement, attic and alleyway in downtown Concord at all hours of the night and got many good stories to tell.”

After a private screening was planned for the cast and crew in late August, Halperin asked the



Bryan Halperin and Gina Carballo as Orpheus and Eurydice.

filmmakers what their subsequent plans were for the film. Other than entering it into film festivals there was no plan for an immediate public showing in New Hampshire so Halperin came up with the idea to show the film at the Colonial as a fundraiser for Powerhouse and the Colonial Theatre Advancement Fund. This is likely the first World Premiere Screening of a movie at the Colonial Theatre since return to Peyton Place in 1961!

“I figured a movie filmed entirely in New Hampshire by a bunch of people creating art for the fun of it should

have an opportunity to be seen by the New Hampshire community,” Halperin said. “And considering the fact that I’m usually directing and rarely acting, I thought there might be a curiosity factor amongst Powerhouse’s fans to see my attempt at ‘brooding film action hero.’ If I stink, at least we will raise some money for two good causes that are important to me, Powerhouse and the Colonial itself.”

Besides Halperin, the cast includes longtime NH actor Gina Carballo as Eurydice and newcomer Yarrow Farnsworth as Hades. Other faces that New Hampshire residents might recognize include Magician Andrew Pinard, artists Saad Hindal and Simon Harling, Brian Waldron and Kae Mason. And Halperin’s now grown daughters have cameos that they filmed when they were 14 and 11! The movie features a musical score produced by Brian Coombs of Rocking Horse Studios in Pittsfield and an original song sung by New Hampshire’s own “American Idol” contestant, Alex Preston.

Tickets for the fundraising event are \$20 and can be purchased through coloniallaconia.

com or powerhousenh.org. The public sale begins on Friday, Aug. 15 at 10 a.m. After the film

there will be a discussion of the moviemaking experience with Broussard, Hession, and Halperin offering the audience a chance to ask questions and learn more about the 10 year process of making “Granite Orpheus.”

Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative is the resident theatre company of The Colonial Theatre in Laconia. Check out powerhousenh.org for all the latest info on Powerhouse or contact info@powerhousenh.org for more details. For more information on “Granite Orpheus,” check out <https://www.resurrectionfilms.org/graniteorpheus>.

Father-son duo to perform at Franklin Library



FRANKLIN — The Franklin Opera House is excited to welcome Jack & Tim, four-time nominees for the British Country Music Awards. They captured Simon Cowell’s attention on “Britain’s Got Talent” with a heartfelt performance of their original song, “The Lucky Ones,” earning the coveted Golden Buzzer in 2018. This talented father-son duo has been touring together ever since, delighting audiences around the world with their strong connection on stage.

Presented by NH Music Collective, this concert features Jack & Tim live! Whether recording at Abbey Road, performing at legendary venues like the London Palladium, or embarking on successful tours across Europe, they have garnered millions of streams on platforms such as Spotify, iTunes, and YouTube. Tim has established a successful career as a songwriter and producer, while Jack started his journey in The West End with Andrew Lloyd Webber’s

“School of Rock.”

Jack and Tim continue to create original works that reflect their growth and journey together. Join them on Sept. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Franklin Public Library, located at 310 Central St., Franklin.

Seating is limited! Tickets are available at www.fohnh.org: \$18 for adults and \$16 for students and seniors. Tickets at the door will be \$20.


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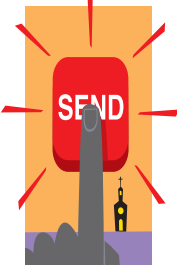
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48th Annual Quilt Show moves to new location



LACONIA — Save the date! Members of the Belknap Mill Quilters Guild have been quilting up a storm in preparation for their 48th annual Harvest of Quilts Show scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 20 and Sunday, Sept. 21 at its new location, the Lakes Region Community College (LRCC), 379 Belmont Rd., Laconia. The campus offers a great location with ample parking, and the entire show displayed on one accessible level.

The guild will display

more than 150 handmade quilts of all sizes, home decor, quilted clothing, and accessories. Styles range from traditional to modern, bed quilts, wall hangings, and embroidered works of art, and many original designs will be on display. Quilt show winners will be decided by the public's popular vote, ending at 5 p.m. on Saturday, with ribbons awarded on Sunday. Tickets for the Guild's 2025 raffle quilt "Blue Smoke" (pattern by Wilmington Prints) are being sold and will

BELMONT POLICE LOG

BELMONT — The Belmont Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Aug. 11-18.

Austin Nicholas Champagne, age 18, of Sanborn-ton was arrested on Aug. 11 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of License-Original and Youth.

Timothy M. Millen, age 37, of Belmont was arrested on Aug. 11 for Domestic Violence-Simple Assault resulting in Bodily Injury or Physical Contact.

Jordan Christopher Truett, age 18, of Belmont was arrested on Aug. 12 for multiple counts of Criminal Mischief and Breach of Bail.

A 48-year-old male from Belmont received a summons in lieu of arrest on Aug. 13 for driving after Suspension of Vehicle Registration and Driving After Administrative Suspension of License.

Midnight at the Masquerade fundraiser to benefit Partnership for Public Health

LACONIA — Step into an evening of elegance and mystery at Partnership for Public Health's inaugural 'Midnight at the Masquerade' fundraiser. The murder mystery-themed event promises an unforgettable experience from 6-9 p.m. Sept. 12 at the Lakeport Opera House in Laconia. MVSB (Meredith Village Savings Bank) is proud to support the organization with a \$2,500 sponsorship.

"The Lakeport Opera House will set a dramatic stage for the mystery in store," said Tammy Carmichael, PPH Chief Executive Officer. "We look forward to seeing the community come together for this engaging event and we are grateful to our community partners, like MVSB, who help make fundraising events like this possible."

"We're proud to support the Partnership for Public Health and their upcoming event," said Samantha LeClair, MVSB Business Development Officer. "Their mission to educate, empower and collaborate on health initiatives aligns with our commitment to fostering healthier communities. We're excited to see the impact of this fun and meaningful event."

PPH's mission is



COURTESY

From left, Samantha LeClair, MVSB Business Development Officer, Tammy Carmichael, PPH Chief Executive Officer, Carissa Elphick, PPH Senior Director of Advancement, and Elizabeth Brothers, MVSB Mortgage Loan Officer NMLS# 69282, pose together at the Partnership for Public Health headquarters in Laconia.

to lead and partner in public health strategies across the Lakes Region and New Hampshire for safer and healthier communities. Go to events.pphnh.org to learn more and purchase tickets for the event.

MVSB has been serving the essential banking needs of people, businesses, nonprofits and municipalities for more than 150 years. As a mutual savings bank, MVSB has no stockholders but rather operates for the benefit of its customers,

employees and community. Since our founding, one thing has always remained true: caring is at the heart of everything we do. By building and nurturing relationships, we believe that we can cultivate a community where we all thrive. It all starts with caring about our customers and neighbors. To learn

more, visit any of the local branch offices located in New Hampshire in Alton, Ashland, Center Harbor, Exeter, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, North Conway, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.

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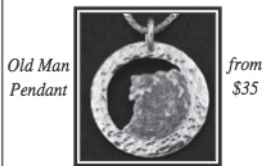
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Opinion

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a day-time phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

Seize the waning days of summer

Oh, no! Summer is coming to an end; however, we know the weather will stay warm likely through September, then it's on to what we New Englanders affectionately call "Sweatah weathah." But for now, let's focus on making the most of what we have left of our coveted New England summer days.

Time passes so quickly that we forget we had meant to do this, or go here and see that, or visit this old friend. The good news is that there is still time for a no regrets summer.

The most fulfilling thing we can do is to reconnect with friends. Plan a night out having appetizers, or a last-minute summer grill session. Even planning a short meet up for a walk or a hike is a great idea. Find a lake or a river with some nice rocks and just relax and catch up, taking in all that summer has to offer.

Nostalgia tells us that time spent with friends on our bikes until the lights came on were the best carefree times during the summer months. Why not take a night and watch old movies to bring you back, and escape from the go, go, go that is adulthood. Our favorite blasts from the past include "Field of Dreams," "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure," "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom," "Crocodile Dundee," and anything with Steve Martin and Martin Short.

Spending time outdoors during late night hours is always a treat. Look up at the stars, even if it's from your own porch and enjoy a peaceful moment, listening to the crickets and the frogs have a chat.

That book sitting on your coffee table that's been staring at you all summer? Pick it up, and give yourself a goal to read at least five pages...just do it, before you know it, you'll be engrossed in it.

Get outside and go for a run, bike ride or a hike in a new place. Find places that you can revisit when the snow falls! Snowshoes and Nordic skis, heck even moon boots do the trick! But alas, let's stay focused on summer.

Take a refreshing swim in a nearby lake or river. Pop yourself onto a floaty and just bob as all of your cares float away.

Try to cook as many meals as possible outdoors on your grill. Soon it'll be too cold to wait to flip your burgers and dogs.

We love all seasons, and every time one ends, we get excited for the next. One of the benefits of living in New England is enjoying a solid four-season year. Pretty soon it will be pumpkin everything, apples and crisp fall leaves, but for now...let's stay in summer mode!



COURTESY

Come and celebrate the holiday at the Labor Day Weekend Gunstock Craft Fair on Aug. 30 & 31 at Gunstock Mountain Resort, 719 Cherry Valley Rd., Route 11A, Gilford, Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.! There will be more than 110 amazing arts & crafts exhibitors displaying a wide array of awesome arts & crafts including laser art boards, dyed yarns & spinning wheel demos and also weaving demos, chainsaw wood carvings & demos with Elise, awesome tie dye clothing, various jewelry styles including leather/crystal/silver/beaded/jade & gold jewelry, stained glass art, laser art creations, resin artwork, watercolor art, skincare, hand poured soy candles, books with authors, knits & crochet items, fused glass art, CBD wellness products, balsamic vinegars/oils, gourmet foods/baked goods & local honey, 3D art, luminaries, wooden clocks, local roasted coffees, personalized cutting boards, amazing quilts, hand painted home decor, floral decor & lots more! Live Music Saturday & Sunday with North River! Enjoy Adventure Park - zip lines, aerial lift ride with views of Lake Winnepesaukee; Mountain Coaster; hiking; new restaurant with deck & views of Gunstock! Food! Free admission & aree parking to the Craft Fair! Rain or shine under canopies! Friendly, leashed dogs are welcome! For information, call Joyce at (603) 387-1510. Preview online at joycescraftshows.com. See you there!

Friends!

You can have the strongest mindset in the world, but hang out with the wrong people, and that mindset will begin to sink like an anchor.

I remember my parents drawing strict lines around who I could hang with—and it infuriated me. They were my friends, after all. But as I've grown, I've realized my parents understood something my youthful optimism didn't: the attitudes, habits, and moods of others seep into your life—unnoticed, until they've stuck.

I was a sneaky teenager, a little rebellious, always finding ways to hang out with my friends despite my parents' disapproval. Over time, I started to notice something strange—my thoughts, my behavior, even the way I talked started to sound less like me and more like them. Deep down, I knew something was off, because the way I was thinking didn't line up with how my parents raised me—it was more like I had borrowed my friend's mind without realizing it.

My dad took me to see the famous motivational speaker Jim Rohn one time, and I heard Mr. Rohn say, "You are the

average of the five people you spend the most time with." At the time, it sounded like one of those catchy quotes you jot down and forget. But as

the years have gone on, I've realized it was more than a nice line—it was a scientific truth.

Ever hear of mirror neurons? These are neurons in your brain that fire when you see someone else act or feel something. In a way, your brain copies them without asking permission. Studies show that if your friends are negative, lazy, or full of doubt, your brain begins to mirror that state. Your focus drops, your motivation decreases, and slowly, their reality becomes your reality. You begin to think and act like them.

And it doesn't stop with your closest circle. Researchers at MIT ran a study on the "hidden influence of social networks." They found that our moods, choices, and even levels of ambition ripple out three degrees. That means your friend's friend's friend—someone you've never even met—can still be shaping your outlook.

It's called emotional contagion. Emotions spread through groups like the flu. If your circle

is pessimistic, it spreads. If they're optimistic, that spreads too.

There's also something called the Default Mode Network, or DMN, in your brain. Think of it as your mental autopilot—the backdrop of your identity, self-image, and the story you tell yourself about who you are. Neuroscience shows your DMN is highly malleable. Spend too much time around people who doubt themselves, and you'll doubt yourself too.

But here's the flip side. Mirroring isn't destiny. Just as negativity rubs off on you, so does passion. Hang around people who are building, creating, chasing their vision, and your brain taps into that energy too. Watch someone take bold risks, and your own neural circuits for courage light up. Inspiration isn't magic—it's your brain being reshaped by the people around you.

That's why Warren Buffett once said, "It's better to hang out with people better than you. Pick out associates whose behavior is better than yours and you'll drift in that direction."

And it echoes an even older truth, passed down in different forms for centuries: "Show me your friends, and I'll

show you your future."

Curate your circle like it's an investment in your future. Spend time with people who believe bigger; live with more discipline, and push themselves further—not because they're flashy, but because their habits rub off on you. Their standards become your standards. Your brain literally rewires itself to match the company you keep.

So before you beat yourself up for not living up to your full potential, pause and look around. Who are you spending most of your time with? Their doubts—or their dreams—are setting the boundaries for what you believe is possible.

If your people are impatient dreamers, grounded believers, creative disruptors—keep them close. If they're dragging you into doubt, laziness, or "good enough" thinking, let them go—gently, but firmly.

Your brain is wiring itself every single day. Intentionally choose people who light sparks—not just for your mood, but for your mind, your vision, and your future.

Toby Moore is a columnist, the star of Emmy - Nominated A Separate Peace, and the CEO of Cubestream Inc.

Regular guy

to it.

Once upon a time, I dreamed of being a songwriter and performer — winning awards, selling out concert halls, and making women weak in the knees with heartfelt romantic ballads. There was just one problem: I never learned to play the guitar, and crafting lyrics that rhyme — let alone the music to go with them — was a little

out of my reach.

Once upon a time, I wanted to be a Major League Baseball player. Making that diving catch or getting that hit with runners on base in the bottom of the 9th. I settled for Centerfielder on the church softball team.

As an adult, over the years, I've taken on many roles — husband, father, pastor, chaplain,

neighbor. In other words, a regular guy. But the truth is, I never wanted to be just a regular guy. I wanted fame. I wanted fortune. Because somewhere deep down, I believed I had to be extraordinary to be truly loved.

Maybe there's a little of that in all of us. Call it Insecurity. We only need to look out our window. SEE VNA PAGE A5



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THE WINNISQUAM ECHO
PUBLISHED BY
SALMON PRESS

PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
(603) 677-9083
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POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to the Winnisquam Echo, P.O. Box 729, Meredith, NH 03253.

USPS 024-975
The Winnisquam Echo is published weekly by Salmon Press, P.O. Box 729, 5 Water St., Meredith, NH 03253. Periodicals postage paid at Meredith, NH 03253.

Before the madness begins, a quick trek to the Midwest



Took a short trip to Milwaukee to see a game at American Family Field and the Brewers obliged with a walkoff win.



The retractable roof on American Family Field makes quite an impressive sight even as you approach the park from outside.

JOSHUA SPAULDING

It was pretty fitting that it was Stranger Things Night at American Family Field in Milwaukee, Wis. on Friday night, given that this guy is one of the stranger people you might meet and I was there, tucked along the left field foul pole as the Milwaukee Brewers took on the San Francisco Giants.

As longtime readers might know, I am on a (relatively slow) quest to visit all of the Major League Baseball ballparks and I try to tick at least one, if not two, off each season. Earlier this year after covering

the Kennett baseball and softball teams and Kingswood baseball team in South Carolina, I journeyed over to Atlanta and saw the Braves play but I wasn't sure I was going to get another park in this summer.

However, when I looked at my schedule, I realized that there was one weekend in August that might work. The week after the Granite Man Triathlon and the week before Labor Day had nothing on the schedule and with my Friday and Saturday off from the Yum Yum Shop, I figured it would be a

SPORTING CHANCE

By JOSHUA SPAULDING

good time to get away for a day or so before the madness of the spring sports season begins.

I was supposed to come to Milwaukee a couple of years ago, but a cancelled flight ruined those plans, so it was first on my mind of places I might try to get to and when I looked at the schedule, they were at home for a weekend series with the Giants. I bought a ticket, booked the flights, secured a hotel room and decided this would be the short getaway before it gets really busy.

I found myself on an early morning flight (actually the first flight of the day) out of Manchester on Friday morning, heading to Baltimore. Watching the Red Sox take on the Yankees the previous evening, I had seen a commercial for the Indy Car Series race, which was taking place in Milwaukee on Sun-

day, so I had a sneaking suspicion that my Baltimore to Milwaukee flight would be full and it was. Completely. Nonetheless, we got there on time and I took an Uber into the heart of the city and spent some time walking along the river on the Milwaukee River Walk, which was quite nice.

I was having lunch at the Milwaukee Public Market when my footwear (I hate shoes, I was wearing Adidas slides) decided it had had enough and broke, leaving me in a slight predicament. I walked barefoot a few blocks to a Foot Locker and bought a pair of similar slides (definitely not the same, definitely very uncomfortable) that got me through the rest of the weekend.

Once that disaster was over, I checked in at my hotel before heading to the ballpark. The woman next to me on the plane and my first Uber driver of the day both noted that everyone locally still calls in Miller Park, though it now bears the name American Family

Field. Walking up it was quite impressive with the retractable roof open on a beautiful evening. I got inside and found my Stranger Things hat (it was a special theme night ticket that needed redemption) and stopped at the team store for my traditional purchase of a hat and shirt. Because I spent over a certain amount of money, they threw in a free Stranger Things Funko Pop as well.

The game started out rough for the hometown Brew Crew, as a pair of solo homers by San Francisco had them up early, but Milwaukee rallied to tie and then took the lead late. San Francisco then tied the game against the Brewers closer in the ninth inning before William Contreras deposited a two-out homer into the bullpen in left field in the bottom of the ninth inning for the walkoff win.

I am writing this in the airport on Saturday morning as I head back to New Hampshire (via Baltimore). By the time this hits newspapers, the fall sports season will

have started and I will be somewhere on the road covering something.

But before that, I managed to see two new ballparks this summer (and visit three new states as well, South Carolina, Georgia and Wisconsin). Left on the list are the parks of the Chicago White Sox, Kansas City Royals, Miami Marlins, Texas Rangers, Arizona Diamondbacks, all four California teams and the future Las Vegas Athletics. I also haven't been to the new Yankee Stadium, but did see a game at the old stadium in the Bronx.

Joshua Spaulding is the Sports Editor for the Granite State News, Carroll County Independent, Meredith News, Gilford Steamer, Winnisquam Echo, Plymouth Record-Enterprise, Littleton Courier, Newfound Landing, Coos County Democrat, Berlin Reporter and The Baysider. He can be reached at josh@salmonpress.news at 279-4516, or PO Box 729, Meredith, NH 03253.

HIGH SCHOOL SLATE

Thursday, Aug. 28

BELMONT
Cross Country at Gunstock; 4
GILFORD
Cross Country at Gunstock; 4

Friday, Aug. 29

BELMONT
Boys' Soccer at Newfound; 5:30
Girls' Soccer at Newfound; 4
GILFORD
Boys' Soccer vs. Derryfield; 4
Field Hockey at Winnisquam; 4
Girls' Soccer at Derryfield; 4
WINNISQUAM
Boys' Soccer vs. Berlin; 4
Field Hockey vs. Gilford; 4

Tuesday, Sept. 2

BELMONT
Boys' Soccer vs. Sanborn; 4
Girls' Soccer at Sanborn; 4
GILFORD
Boys' Soccer at Trinity; 4
Field Hockey vs. Stevens; 4
Girls' Soccer vs. Trinity; 4
Golf at Sanborn; 4
WINNISQUAM
Boys' Soccer at Somersworth; 4

Wednesday, Sept. 3

BELMONT
Golf at Lake Sunapee Country Club; 4
GILFORD
Golf Home Match; 4
Volleyball at Fall Mountain; 6
WINNISQUAM
Volleyball at Laconia; 6

Thursday, Sept. 4

BELMONT
Boys' Soccer vs. Mascoma; 4
Golf at Androscoggin Valley Country Club; 4
Volleyball at Conant; 6
WINNISQUAM
Field Hockey vs. Stevens; 4

All schedules are subject to change.

Loudon NASCAR weekend moves to August next year

LOUDON — NASCAR announced the 2026 national series schedule today that includes an Aug. 22-23 stop at New Hampshire Motor Speedway (NHMS). New England's only NASCAR weekend will feature the Team EJP 175 NASCAR CRAFTSMAN Truck Series (NCTS) regular season finale followed by the second-to-last regular season race for the NASCAR Cup Series (NCS).

"Next year's NASCAR weekend will literally be a pressure cooker for those drivers," said New Hampshire Motor

Speedway Executive Vice President and General Manager David McGrath. "The drivers will undoubtedly be putting it all on the line, and the truck drivers specifically will be fighting for their final chance to make it to the NASCAR Playoffs. New England race fans are in for a wild weekend of racing at 'The Magic Mile' next August. What a perfect way to close out a summer of fun with family and friends."

TV/radio broadcast start times, network affiliations, additional racing action and entertain-

ment will be announced at a later date.

Race fans who attend the Sept. 19-21 NASCAR Playoffs weekend at NHMS will be the first ones able to lock in their favorite seats and campsites for NHMS's Aug. 22-23, 2026 NASCAR weekend by renewing while they're onsite next month.

Keep track of all of New Hampshire Motor Speedway's events by following on Facebook (@NHMotorSpeedway), X (@NHMS) and Instagram (@NHMS). Keep up with all the latest information on the speed-

way website (NHMS.com) and mobile app.

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VNA

FROM PAGE A4

dow to see the neighbor who seems to be making more money, is younger and better looking. And we feel less than. Inadequate. And some of us (me) will go to extraordinary lengths, making complete fools of our-

selves, to prove otherwise.

Being a great ball player doesn't earn love. Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Pete Rose, Barry Bonds. Pretty much jerks, or so people say. Way too many musicians have paid a steep price, needing the love and adoration of fickle fans. A five-year

mission exploring new worlds- well, I'll leave that one open.

I don't fully understand how or why we are loved — but I've come to be deeply grateful that I'm loved simply for being me.

That's what I hope for you, too.

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Powerhouse collaborates with Meredith Public Library for Holocaust education



Brian Crim

MEREDITH — The Meredith Public Library is hosting the Americans and the Holocaust traveling exhibit now through Sept. 4. The li-

brary is the only place in New Hampshire where community members can take in this special exhibit.

On Thursday, Aug. 28

at 6 p.m. at the library, Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, the resident theatre company of the Colonial Theatre in Laconia, will be collaborating with the Library on an event to encourage people to attend the exhibit.

Maci Johnson, a New Hampshire Theatre award winning actress and regular performer with Powerhouse, will be reading some passages from Anne Frank’s diary. Johnson will be appearing as Anne in Powerhouse’s upcoming production of Wendy Kesselman’s stage adaptation of “The Diary of Anne Frank” Oct. 10-12 at the Colonial.

Also participating

in the presentation will be Holocaust scholar Brian Crim, who is the new Cohen Professor for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Keene State College. Crim will be speaking about the famous diaries journey to and impact on America. Between 2001 and 2005, Crim served as an intelligence analyst with the US government, where he worked on issues related to counter-terrorism and right-wing extremism. Some of his publications include “Antisemitism in the German Military Community and the Jewish Response, 1914-1938” (2014), “Our Germans: Project Paperclip and the National Security State” (2018), and “Planet Auschwitz: Holocaust

Representation in Science Fiction and Horror Film and Television” (2020). Crim is currently researching a project about German and Austrian Jewish emigres serving in US military intelligence during the Second World War and the occupation of Germany.

Says Powerhouse producer Bryan Halperin, “We are excited to come to the library and make a contribution to this important presentation of this touring exhibit in our community and raise awareness about the Holocaust. Hopefully both the exhibit and our participation in this event will encourage attendees to come see Maci and her castmates at the

Colonial in October.”

After the presentation there will be time for attendees to ask some questions of Crim and Johnson and then walk through the exhibit. The “Americans and the Holocaust” traveling exhibit is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Holocaust and Memorial Museum and the American Library Association.

For more information on the exhibit go to <https://www.meredithlibrary.org/americans-and-holocaust-traveling-exhibit>. For information on Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative and its production of “The Diary of Anne Frank,” go to powerhouse-nh.org.

Lakes Region Art Association hosts Paint & Sip fundraiser

TILTON — The Lakes Region Art Association (LRAA) invites the community to join a fun and creative evening at their Paint & Sip Fundraiser on Thursday, Sept. 18 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the LRAA Gallery, Tanger

Outlets, Suite 300, Tilton. Guests will be guided step-by-step in creating their own acrylic painting of beautiful birch trees—perfect for beginners and seasoned painters alike. This bring-your-own-drinks event is

designed to encourage relaxation, creativity, and community connection.

The cost is \$50 per person, and all art supplies are included. All proceeds benefit the Lakes Region Art Association, supporting local artists and arts programming throughout the community.

Spaces are limited, so early registration is encouraged.

Event details:
What: Paint & Sip –

“Birches in Acrylic”
When: Thursday, Sept. 18 – 6 to 8 p.m.

Where: Lakes Region Art Association Gallery, Tanger Outlets, Suite 300, Tilton

Cost: \$50 (includes all art supplies; proceeds benefit LRAA)

Bring: Your own beverages

For more information or to register, please visit our Web site or go to <https://tinyurl.com/57a4wsn7>.



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As a load builder you will be responsible for accurately building and staging outgoing loads for delivery and will need to read and interpret work orders and load sheets. This position requires operating forklift and other material handling equipment. Maintaining a clean, safe and organized work area is important as well as working closely with dispatch and lumberyard workers to ensure timely order fulfillment. Heavy lifting is required. Previous warehouse experience is a plus.


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or you may email to duhlman@belletetes.com

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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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Seventh Annual Sock Hop & Classic Car Show returns to Belknap Mill

LACONIA — Get ready to travel back in time at the Seventh Annual Sock Hop & Classic Car Show at the Belknap Mill on Friday, Sept. 5! This beloved end-of-summer tradition combines the timeless charm of classic cars, the upbeat joy of 1950s rock & roll, and the creative energy of local art for a night that brings the whole community together.

The evening begins at 5 p.m. with a Classic Car Show lining Beacon Street East, where guests can admire beautifully restored vehicles from the golden age of cruising. At 6 p.m., the fun shifts to Rotary Park, where the always-popular Rockin' Daddios will take the bandstand as part of the final performance of the 2025 Concert Series. With their signature doo-wop harmonies and playful stage presence, the Rockin' Daddios bring the sounds of the late '50s and early '60s back to life, making it impossible not to dance along.

Inside the Belknap Mill, you're invited to the Opening Reception of "Color in Motion – The Art of Marcia Santore" from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Riverside Gallery. This vibrant new exhibit showcases Santore's bold use of color, texture, and abstraction to ex-



press motion, emotion, and mystery. Guests will have the chance to meet the artist, explore her work, and enjoy light refreshments. The exhibit is part of the Belknap Mill's Free First Friday, which includes free museum admission all day beginning at 10 a.m.

Throughout the evening, there's more fun to enjoy. The Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation will be set up on the patio

to share exciting updates on their community initiatives, and back by popular demand is the Root Beer Float Fundraiser, offering a sweet treat for just \$5. Additional snacks will be available for purchase, and guests are encouraged to pack a picnic dinner and enjoy it in the park while taking in the music and atmosphere.

The Belknap Mill welcomes owners of classic

cars to participate in the show—no registration is required, but space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Just bring your car and join the fun!

This event would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Laconia Putnam Fund, Lakes Region Community College, and media sponsors 104.9 The Hawk and Lakes 101.5 for helping us bring this unforgettable evening to life.



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2 Berry's Bait
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6 Newhook's Bait & Tackle
1763 US-302 UNIT 2
Lisbon, NH 03585
(603) 838-8117

7 North Country Angler
2988 White Mountain Hwy
North Conway, NH 03860
(603) 356-6000

8 Ossipee's Bait and Tackle
306 Pine River Road
Effingham, NH 03882
(603) 730-7674

9 Ray's Corner Country Store
1156 West Milan Road
Milan, NH 03588
(603) 449-2236

10 Rocky's Ace Hardware
257 Newport Road
New London, NH 03257
(603) 526-2800

11 Sam's Outdoor Outfitters
74 Monadnock Highway
North Swanzey, NH 03431
(603) 352-6200

12 Squam Lake Boat Livery
853 US Route 3
Holderness, NH 03245
(603) 968-7721

13 The Loon Center
183 Lees Mill Road
Moultonborough, NH 03254
(603) 476-5666

14 Winnisquam Country Store
1021 Laconia Road
Tilton, NH 03276
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Book

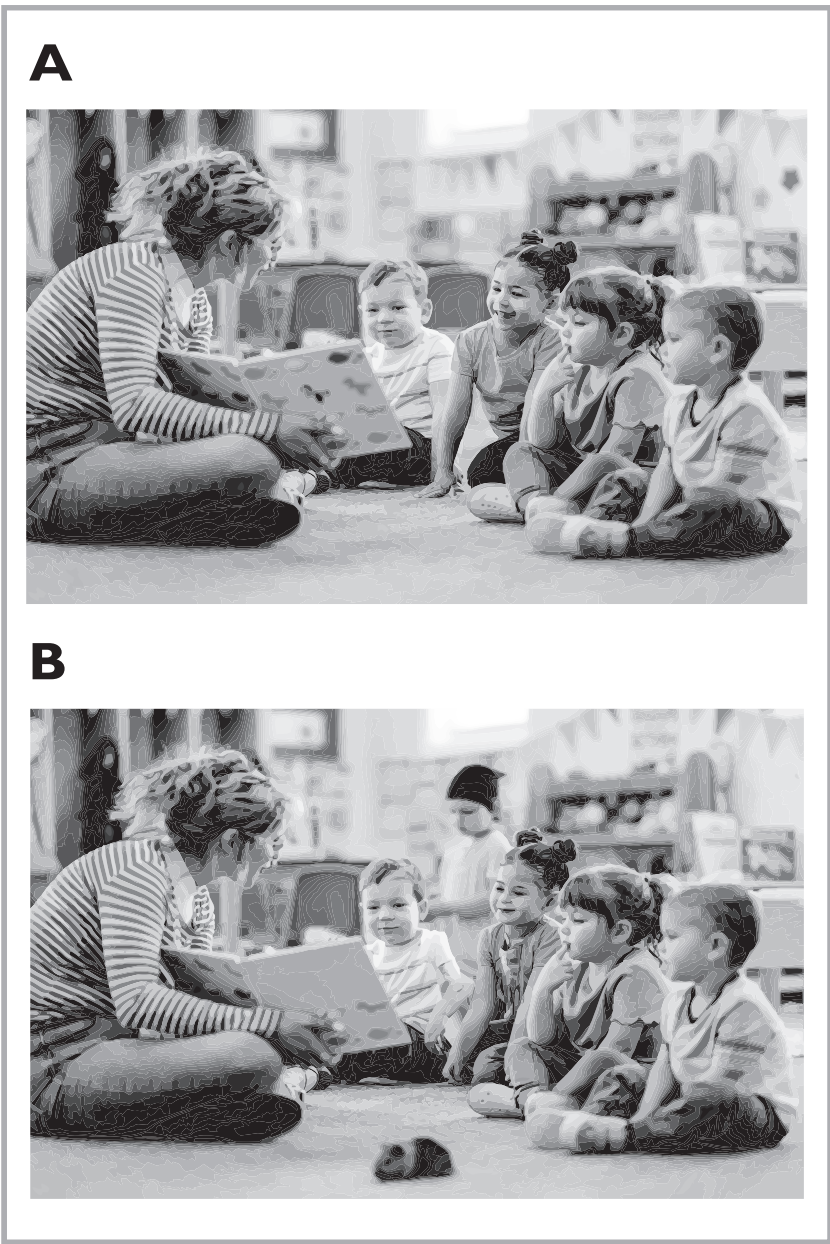
FACT:

In English-speaking countries, the works of this playwright are widely studied in school.

Answer: William Shakespeare

What's the Difference?

Find the four differences between the two pictures.



Answers: Guinea pig on rug 2. Missing shapes on book cover 3. Child standing in background 4. Missing stars on wall

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

AUG 26

1883: The volcano Krakatoa, located on an island near Indonesia, erupts.

1920: The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution is certified, giving women the right to vote.

1972: The Games of the XX Olympiad open in Munich.

NEW WORD

SYLLABUS

an outline of the subjects in a course of study

How they say that in...

English: Locker
Spanish: Taquilla
Italian: Armadietto
French: Casier
German: Schließfach

Did You Know?

Harvard University and the College of William & Mary are the oldest colleges in the United States, opening in 1636 and 1693, respectively.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: School bus

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to the school year.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 6 = S)

A. 26 18 25 21 20 7 26

Clue: Teach

B. 11 26 6 6 14 4 6

Clue: Plans for teaching

C. 21 11 20 6 6 12 14 14 13

Clue: Where students gather

D. 6 16 11 11 20 23 25 6

Clue: Course outline

Answers: A. educate B. lessons C. classroom D. syllabus

SUDOKU

9				2	8	1		
		4			5			
	5	2	9	1				
	4				7			
2				9		7		1
7	6	5	1		2	4		9
						3		
		1		3	6	5	9	2
3		8		7	9			4

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

ANSWER:

3	2	8	5	7	9	6	1	4
4	7	1	8	3	6	5	9	2
5	9	6	2	4	1	3	7	8
7	6	5	1	8	2	4	3	9
2	8	3	6	9	4	7	5	1
1	4	9	3	5	7	2	8	6
6	5	2	9	1	3	8	4	7
8	1	4	7	6	5	9	2	3
9	3	7	4	2	8	1	6	5

BRIDGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

only 63 cast iron bridges like it in the United States that are still in existence today.

According to reports and research from HistoricBridges.org, it's also the only bridge left standing that was designed by Lucius Trusdell and one of the last bridges like it to be constructed by the Briggs company and Smith in the 1800s.

In November of 2020, that information and the designation as it being not only a Seven to Save project but its elevation to both the New Hampshire and the National Historic Registry brought assistance in saving the bridge. It started with a \$17,000 grant from LCHIP for an initial engineering assessment of the structure.

In 2021 that assessment was complete and restoration plans for the bridge began to develop. Cost estimates at that time eventually reached \$1.7 million, however; a daunting figure. Northfield voters had already lost interest in their half-ownership and voted in March that year to cede themselves from ownership of both the park and bridge, turning

it all over to the Town of Tilton; a measure which was also approved by voters at their town meeting that year. One complication however was that Tilton could not lay sole claim to any property outside of their borders. The towns then got to work on a minor town property line adjustment, placing the whole of Island Park and its bridge in Tilton.

From there, Tilton began to delve further into how the project could be done at a reasonable cost. In their search, they came across Arnold M. Graton Associates, Inc., which agreed to take on the restoration. Being nationally known experts in truss bridges, they also agreed to the stipulations put forward for the restoration of the historic bridge, including the use of original materials and the maintenance of its structural integrity.

In May of 2025, Selectman Jon Scanlon reported to the Tilton Historical Society, which had great interest in the bridge, that an agreement for \$500,000 in restoration fees had been reached with the Graton company and plans were quickly underway to start the project. It's been reported that the federal grant money ob-

tained by Sen. Jeanne Shaheen will cover nearly all of that cost.

Last week, people from both towns and beyond lined the river to watch as the crew from Chasse Crane Service began the process of dividing the bridge into four sections. One by one they were each raised across East Main Street and onto a flatbed truck across the road in the Cumberland Farms parking lot. The entire process took approximately two-and-a-half to three hours.

As the crowd gathered, the Tilton Police Department was on hand, placing cones near the crane and flatbed, directing traffic and ensuring all the spectators were safe. As each section was lifted, traffic was stopped for a few minutes as they were swung over the road and placed on the truck. As that happened, cameras clicked, drones flew along the river and people cheered.

In approximately two years the newly restored pieces of the bridge will return though, and the music, picnics, weddings and other cultural events on Tilton's Island Park will be back for all to enjoy.

ARREST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

observed that man had fallen while running through the woods, sustaining a laceration above his right eye. They offered medical attention on scene, which he declined.

The man was then

identified as James McGillicuddy, 35, of Medford, Massachusetts. McGillicuddy identified himself as the driver and sole occupant of the Subaru.

McGillicuddy was arrested for charges of DUI and reckless conduct. He is being held on preventive detention in Merri-

mack County Jail pending his arraignment in Concord District Court on Monday, Aug. 18.

Anyone with information that could assist the investigation is asked to contact Trooper Zavala at John.A.Zavala@dos.nh.gov.

LIBRARY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Oct. 2 at 10:30 a.m., with a discussion of Maggie Smith's memoir "You Could Make This Place Beautiful." Copies of each title are available at the library or digitally through Libby.

For families, the library continues to offer Storytime every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m., featuring stories and activities for preschool-aged children. Families are also encouraged to participate in the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program, designed to help children develop strong early literacy skills.

September is National Library Card Sign-Up

Month, a perfect time for community members of all ages to get their first library card or renew an old one. A Belmont Public Library card opens the door to thousands of books, e-books, audiobooks, movies, and learning resources, as well as discounted passes to local attractions. Staff are ready to help anyone sign up and discover all the benefits a library card brings.

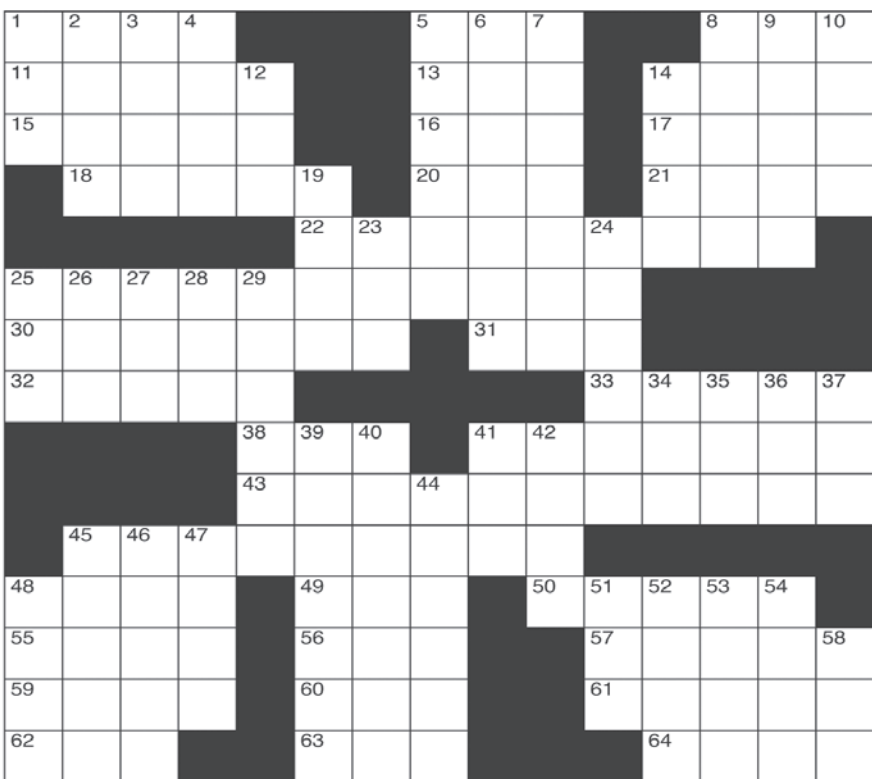
Library cardholders can take advantage of discounted admission to several popular destinations, including Castle in the Clouds, the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, New Hampshire State Parks, and the Squam Lakes Natural

Science Center. Several of these opportunities are generously sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Looking ahead, the library is excited to announce that First Tuesday Artist Nights will begin in October, offering a new monthly series that highlights creative talent from the community.

The Belmont Public Library looks forward to welcoming community members to these engaging programs throughout September.

For more information, visit belmontpubliclibrary.org or call (603) 267-8331.

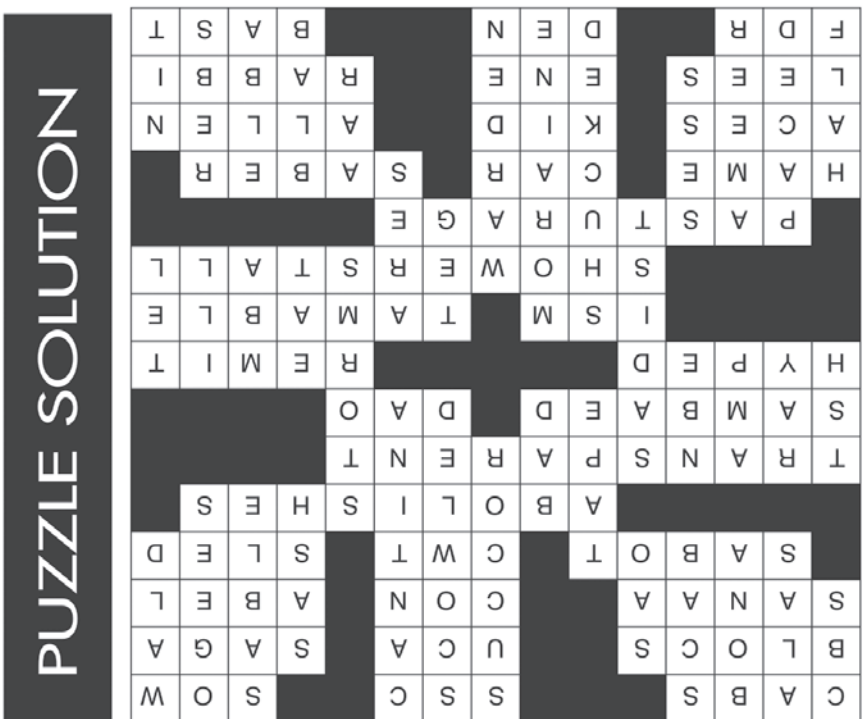


CLUES ACROSS

1. Taxis
5. Space Systems Command
8. Plant seed by scattering
11. Alliances
13. Fiddler crabs
14. Heroic tale
15. Yemen capital
16. Misleading gesture
17. Cain and ___
18. Simple shoe
20. Hundredweight
21. Children's toy in the snow
22. Gets rid of
25. Free of deceit
30. Performed a dance
31. Chinese philosophical principle
32. Exaggerated
33. Refrain from inflicting
38. A doctrine
41. Can be subdued
43. A place to bathe
45. Land used for pasture
48. Curved piece of iron
49. Automobile
50. Fencing sword
55. Breezes through
56. Child
57. NBA legend Iverson
59. Horsley and Iacocca are two
60. Midway between northeast and east
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. U.S. leader during much of WW2
63. Lair
64. Fibrous material

CLUES DOWN

1. Home of "60 Minutes"
2. Expression of sorrow or pity
3. ___ fide: legitimate
4. Immune response
5. Assistance and support
6. Glared
7. Spanish saloon
8. Pitch black
9. S-shaped lines
10. Statistical test
12. ___ Paulo, city
14. Graduation garb
19. A way to record
23. Not good
24. Weather events
25. A pituitary hormone
26. Jamie Foxx film
27. Rocker's accessory
28. One point east (clockwise) of due north
29. One who obtains pleasure from another's pain
34. Consume
35. Licensed for Wall Street
36. Sick
37. Israeli city ___ Aviv
39. Removed the husk
40. Mass of rocks and sediment
41. Two-year-old sheep
42. Area units
44. Prison overseer
45. Walked
46. Wartime escort aircraft carrier
47. Tax
48. 50 percent
51. Swiss river
52. Tattle
53. Actor Idris
54. Resist authority (slang)
58. Egg of a louse



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PETS OF THE WEEK



Meet Billy!

Billy is a handsome boy with so much love! He would do best in a home where he's the only animal, as he deserves to get all the love possible! He loves to get belly rubs, play ball, and cuddle up with

his person.

Please email adoptions@nhhumane.org with additional questions or to make an appointment to meet Billy!



Meet Diamond!

Say hello to Diamond!

Diamond isn't just a cat—she's a diva in a fluffy, adorable package. With her larger-than-life personality, she's got a charm that can't be ignored. This princess is living her best life lounging in the sun and eating endless treats

She may have a little attitude, but it's all part of her charm. Diamond knows what she wants, when she wants it, and she's not afraid to let you know! If you're looking for a cat who's got style, sass, and

plenty of love to give (on her terms), look no further.

Adopting Diamond means welcoming a true personality into your home, one that's bold, loving, and unapologetically herself. Get ready for a fluffy companion who'll keep you on your toes and warm your heart all at once. Ready to spoil her? She's ready to rule your world.

Diamond is a professional knee slapper. Apply now OR visit during the next available adoption walk-in hours, Wednesday-Saturday 12-4pm.

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Tanger Outlets invites local schools and educators to apply for TangerKids Grants Program

TILTON — Tanger Outlets Tilton announced yesterday that its annual TangerKids Grants Program will return for the 2025/26 academic year, continuing a long history of investing in the community's educational resources and ensuring continued student success. Lakes Region educators are encouraged to apply at grants.tanger.com between Aug. 11 and Oct. 18.

The TangerKids

Grants Program annually invites teachers and education leaders across the country to identify their needs and request funding for vital local programs that better serve students and, ultimately, produce an enhanced and engaging learning environment. This year, Tanger has earmarked a significant portion of grants to support underserved schools, accessibility programs and student needs. Faculty members

at public and private schools from pre-K to grade 12 are eligible to participate in the annual program.

Throughout the program's nearly 30-year history, Tanger has contributed more than \$3.7 million directly to educational initiatives in the 38 communities it serves. In 2024, TangerKids Grants awarded nearly \$200,000 to initiatives across the U.S. and Canada, with 60% of the funds supporting inclu-

sive classroom environments for underserved schools.

Tanger shoppers across the country can make their voices heard and help select winners of extra funding through Shopper's Choice voting, Dec. 2-15. Award recipients will be announced and celebrated at the center's annual TangerKids Day on Jan. 30, 2026.

State Police investigate drowning at Opechee Bay

LACONIA — The New Hampshire State Police is investigating a woman's death in Laconia.

At 7:11 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 18, the New Hampshire State Police (NHSP) Marine Patrol was notified of a possible drowning in Opechee Bay. The victim was later identified as Bonita Johnston, 73, of Laconia.

Witnesses reported to investigators that Johnston was last seen swimming alone in the water near the Lakeview Estates Beach at approximately 7 p.m. Minutes later, several witnesses reportedly ran over to the beach after they saw Johnston floating face down in the water. Two good Samaritans then attempted lifesaving efforts until HHfirst responders arrived. Johnston was later pronounced deceased at Concord Hospital - Laconia.

The autopsy confirmed that Johnston suffered from a medical event and then drowned.

Marine Patrol was assisted at the scene by members of Laconia police and fire departments.

Anyone with additional information is asked to contact Marine Patrol Sgt. Nicholas Haroutunian at (603) 293-2037 or Nicholas.M.Haroutunian@dos.nh.gov.



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SHAKER REGIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT
FOOD SERVICE WORKER

Shaker Regional School District is seeking a part-time (4 hours/day) Food Service Worker for Canterbury Elementary School beginning in the 2025-2026 School Year. This position is for 184 days (178 school days, 2 additional work days, and 4 paid holidays). Please submit an application and 3 letters of reference to Nancy Cate, 255 Seavey Rd, Belmont, NH 03220. You may contact Mrs. Cate at 603-267-6525 X1352 to obtain an application or visit the Human Resources section of our website: www.sau80.org to download a copy. Successful completion of a post-offer pre-employment criminal background check, including fingerprints, are required. Shaker Regional School District is an equal opportunity employer.

**\$1,500
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