



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

COVERING ALTON, BARNSTEAD, & NEW DURHAM - WWW.SALMONPRESS.COM

Football set to make its debut at Prospect Mountain

Timber Wolves kick off first-ever football season on Sept. 11

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

ALTON — A new era has dawned at Prospect Mountain High School. For the first time in school history, Timber Wolves will be suiting up to play football, as the school begins a new program. The Prospect football squad will start this year in Division IV and because they are petitioning down for the first two seasons, they are not eligible to make the playoffs this year, but will be eligible next year.



COURTESY PHOTO

The first-ever Prospect Mountain football team is set to open the season on Sept. 11 against Newfound. turnout with 28 kids on Christie. “We have one

baseline expectation, and that is to compete.” The Timber Wolves will be looking to a solid group of seniors to lead the way as they start a new tradition in Alton. While they don’t have any varsity experience in the sport, some of them played as kids in neighboring leagues and others bring experience from other varsity sports to the table. The group of seniors include Blake Pappaceno, Gavin DeWitt, Charlie Chandler, Hunter Sawyer, Cody Manley, Owen Libby-Sprague and Luchiano Pecorino.

“The guys have been working hard all summer to get ready for this season and we are looking forward to competing on the football field this year,” Christie said. “We are excited to see the team on the field and for our community to experience football for the first time in the 20-plus-year history of the school.” Christie acknowledged

that there is work to do but expects his squad to hit the ground running in the inaugural season. “As you could imagine, there is a lot that goes into getting a program off the ground,” Christie said. “We feel like we are in a great spot and expect a strong start for the Timber Wolves football program.” The Timber Wolves will play a schedule that includes home games against Newport, Mascoma, Farmington-Nute and Newfound and road games at Fall Mountain, Raymond and Hillsboro-Deering. The season officially kicks off on Friday, Sept. 11, with a 7 p.m. home game against Newfound.

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

DES announces drawdowns on local ponds

ALTON / NEW DURHAM — The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), Dam Bureau, is planning to adjust the water levels in Wentworth Pond and Mill Pond behind the Alton Power Dam beginning Sept. 2. In accordance with RSA 482:13, NHDES is notifying the local governing bodies and the NHDES Dam Safety and Inspection Section that this drawdown will be a full drawdown to the base of the dam, lasting approximately 1–2 weeks. Following this period, the impoundment will be refilled to a level 2.5 feet below the current water surface elevation by leaving the stoplogs out of the dam. Beginning Sept. 2, the stoplogs in Jones Pond Dam will also be removed, resulting in a water surface decrease of approximately four to five feet from its current elevation. This reduction will support ongoing engineering evaluations and wetland studies within Jones Pond. The waterbody will remain in a lowered state until the dam is removed. For more information, please contact Corey Clark, NHDES Dam Bureau at corey.j.clark@des.nh.gov or 603-271-1961.

Labor Day means early deadlines

The offices of the The Baysider will be closed Monday, Sept. 7 in observance of Labor Day. To ensure that our Sept. 10 edition arrives in subscribers’ mail boxes on schedule despite the holiday, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication that week will be Thursday, Sept. 3 at 4 p.m. Submissions can be e-mailed to Editor Brendan Berube at brendan@salmonpress.news.

Registration now open for Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation’s Annual Pumpkin Figure Contest!

GILFORD — Registration is now open for the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation’s Annual Lakes Region Pumpkin Figure Contest fundraiser. “Get ready to let your patriotic spirit shine!” said Executive Director Chris Guilmett. “As America celebrates its 250th birthday and LRSF marks its 70th anniversary, we invite you to bring your most creative red, white, and blue ideas to life. This year’s pumpkin figures will be judged on how proudly and creatively they celebrate America.” Kim Lacasse, the Foundation’s Assistant Director, said she is excited to build on the success of the annual Pumpkin Figure Contest. “The time participants put in, the creativity they show, and their willingness to share their creations with the community are wonderful to see,” she said. The



seasonal fundraiser has become a community-wide tradition. Along with the patriotic theme, entries will be judged in several categories, with prizes awarded. “Over the years, we have seen amazing entries from families, businesses, schools, individuals, and nonprofit organizations, and we are excited to see this year’s creations,” Guilmett said. Registration is available through the Pumpkin Figure Contest tab on the Foundation’s Web site. Visitors can also purchase tickets for two additional fall fundraisers: the popular Cakes ’n Sweets Calendar Raffle and the new Harvest Gift Card Haul Wreath Raffle. Pumpkin Figure Contest participation is not required to buy raffle

tickets. The contest is open to individuals, families, schools, businesses, and nonprofits. Each pumpkin figure must include at least one pumpkin. To qualify, entrants must live in the Lakes Region, and entry forms must be received by Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation by Oct. 9. Judging will take place Oct. 15, 16, and 17. An interactive map of pumpkin figure locations will be available to download from the Foundation’s website for those planning a fall outing. To register for the Annual Lakes Region Pumpkin Figure Contest, view Harvest Gift Card Haul Wreaths, or purchase raffle tickets for the Cakes ’n Sweets Calendar Raffle or Harvest Gift Card Haul Wreath Raffle, please visit www.lrscholarship.org.

Late goals lift Gilford boys over Belmont

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — In a game fitting of two rivals at the start of a new season, the host Gilford soccer boys used two goals in the final minutes to edge visiting Belmont by a 2-0 score on Thursday, Aug. 27. The Raiders had early pressure in the zone but could not convert and Gilford came back with a cross from Carter Bruneal that was cleared by Belmont’s David Mahoney. The Golden Eagles had the game’s first corner that Belmont’s



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Gilford’s Zach Osman and Belmont’s Wyatt Bamford battle for the ball in season opening action last Thursday.

Labor Day Weekend!

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End 68 Hours seeking local families in need

REGION — End 68 Hours of Hunger in Alton, Barnstead, and Pittsfield is seeking families in need for the 2026/2027.

End 68 hours of hunger is designed to provide children with easy to prepare beneficial and healthy meals for the time period of the 68 hours they are not in school on weekends. Typically, we provide enough food for 3 dinners... 2 lunches... 2 breakfasts and some snacks. We also provide bonus food when we

know there is a school vacation coming up.

Our program is looking for families who reside in Alton, Barnstead or Pittsfield who can benefit from our program. Note: There are no income requirements for this program, we just need family name, size, gender and age of each kid, email/phone for communication and address to deliver.

Registration: Please contact Lori Mahar at 603-490-5254 or email: barnsteadnh@end-

68hoursofhunger.org or online using the following link: <https://registration.end68hoursofhunger.org/>. Once a family has been signed up, we will make contact in order to confirm the best method for food distribution to those individuals.

If anyone knows of a child or children that need food immediately, please share this information or contact us. For more information, visit www.end68hoursofhunger.org.

CLUES ACROSS

1. Longtime *Vogue* editor Wintour

5. A Spanish title of respect

10. A way of looking

12. Properly

14. Rolled steel

16. Not down

18. Law degree

19. Consume food

20. Intermediate ecological stage

22. Old world, new

23. Dispense justice

25. Stiff hair-like structure

26. Ethiopia

27. Cool!

28. Father

30. An enthusiastic devotee of sports

31. Holm oak

33. Be united

35. Rattling breaths

37. Supermarket chain
38. Provided with a quality

40. Samoan monetary unit

41. Swiss river

42. Hill (Celtic)

44. Have already done

45. ATM company

48. Syngman __, Korean president

50. Very willing

52. Arctic explorers (abbr.)

53. Food listings

55. Bachelor's place to crash

56. Big Blue

57. Sports magazine

58. Relating to a place north of south of the equator

63. Female follower of Bacchus

65. A type of laugh

66. Slovenly women

67. Large jug

CLUES DOWN

1. Boxing's GOAT

2. Zero

3. Midway between north and northeast

4. Concurred

5. Added flavor

6. Amount of time

7. Eggs of parasitic insects

8. S-shaped moldings

9. Atomic #45

10. __ d'art: small artistic item

11. A godparent's "kids"

13. Nocturnal burrowing lizard

15. Hit lightly

17. Aircrafts

18. Witness

21. Alluding to something

23. Take to the limit

24. Baglike structure in a plant or animal
27. Start over

29. Administered

32. Romanian monetary unit

34. Unit of liquid capacity

35. Equips with weapons again

36. Disney town

39. Female deer

40. Title of respect

43. A place to go rafting

44. A way to conclude

46. Type of television

47. Georgia rockers

49. Leonhard __, Swiss mathematician

51. Slang for gun

54. River in Bosnia and Herzegovina

59. Bar bill

60. Small, gray-headed crow

61. Frozen water

62. Norwegian krone

64. Commercial

Wright museum hosting lecture and book signing by author James M. Scott

WOLFEBORO — On Tuesday, Sept. 8, the Wright Museum will welcome James Scott. This is the sixteenth program of the Wright Museum's 2026 Education Series.

Over three days in August 1945, a nation once morally opposed to the bombing of civilians killed 120,000 men, women, and children; doomed tens of thousands more to agonizing death in the weeks and months ahead; and annihilated two cities: Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Empire of Ashes explores the final brutal months of the war in the Pacific, featuring the voices of never-before-heard

victims of the atomic bombs. Through interviews with survivors and accounts gleaned from Japanese sources, New York Times best-selling author James M. Scott combines the attacks' heart-wrenching details with their causes and consequences, from debates within the Manhattan Project at Los Alamos, Oakridge, and Hanford to the fallout that would alter decades of life in Japan.

James M. Scott is a Pulitzer Prize finalist and New York Times bestseller author

Doors open at 6 p.m., the program begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 8 at the Wright Museum's

DuQuoin Education Center, 77 Center St. in Wolfeboro. Admission is \$8 for members and \$12 for non-members. Reservations are strongly encouraged and can be made online at <https://wrightmuseum.org/lecture-series> or by calling 603-569-1212.

The region's leading resource for educators and learners of all ages on World War II, the Wright Museum features more than 14,000 items in its collection that are representative of both the home front and battlefield. For more information about the 2026 Lecture Series, or museum, visit wrightmuseum.org.

University of Rhode Island celebrates more than 4,000 new graduates during 2026 Commencement

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island celebrated more 4,000 of its newest alumni during the University's 2026 Commencement. Approximately 3,800 undergraduate degrees and 900 graduate degrees were conveyed to students during the ceremonies which took place May 15-17, 2026.

Among the graduates were:

Lindsay McCullough of Alton Bay graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Jared Cardinali of Laconia graduated with a

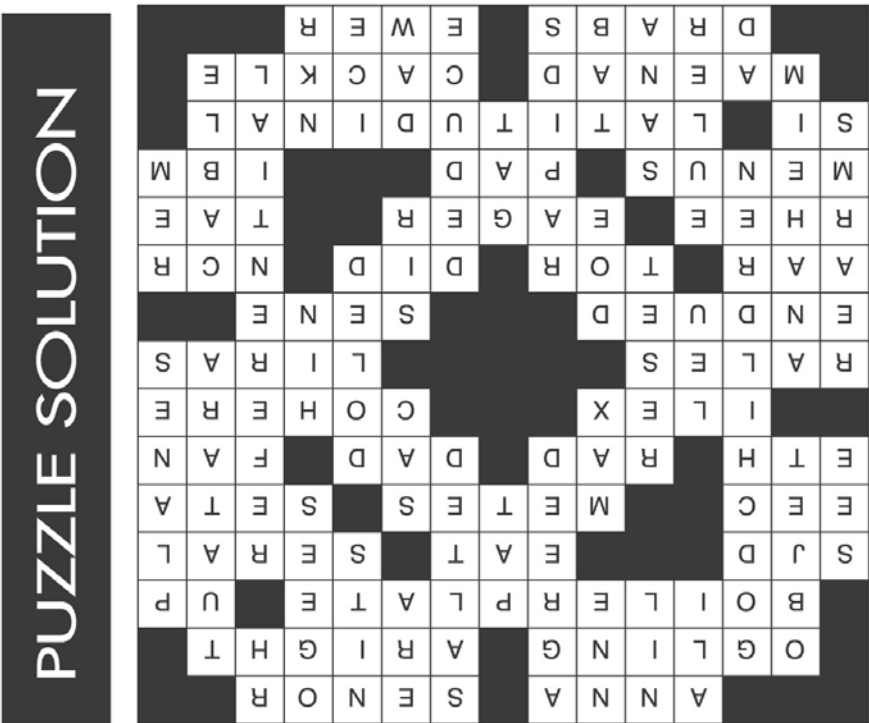
Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering

Molly McLean of Gilford graduated with a Bachelor of Science, Textile Fash Merch & Design

About the University of Rhode Island

The University of Rhode Island is a diverse and dynamic community whose members are connected by a common quest for knowledge. As a global education leader and the state of Rhode Island's flagship public research institution, URI offers distinctive

opportunities designed to meet the global challenges of today's world and the rapidly evolving needs of tomorrow. Founded in 1892, URI now enrolls more than 18,000 students and offers more than 200 degree programs across nine schools and colleges. As a land- and sea-grant institution, URI is a key driver of economic development in Rhode Island and contributes significantly to the health and vitality of the state, the New England region, and the nation. To learn more, visit: uri.edu.



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PETS OF THE WEEK

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Meet City, a handsome medium to large breed boy with a heart full of love and excitement for the important people in his life. Once City knows you're his person, he is sure to show you with happy wiggles, a big personality, and plenty of enthusiasm. He is always ready for a walk, an adventure, or simply spending time with the people he loves.

City can be a little nervous when meeting new people, so he will need a patient adopter who is willing to



take the time to build a relationship with him. We will require a few meet-and-greets before he goes home to make sure everyone feels comfortable and that a strong bond can begin to form.

This sweet guy is looking for someone who can match his energy, understand that trust takes time, and appreciate the wonderful companion he is. With a little patience and a lot of love, City is ready to become someone's loyal best friend and adventure buddy.



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Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Pilates Classes in Alton Bay — Tuesdays and Thursdays

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Pilates classes at the Alton Bay Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 a.m. with certified instructor Donna Lee. Classes are ongoing. All level adults are welcome for a full body, low impact class that will improve muscle tone, flexibility, balance and strength. \$10 per class, cash or Venmo. Bring a mat, water and hand weights. For more information/register contact Donna at breathepilates1@yahoo.com or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Dungeons and Dragons

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a weekly Dungeons and Dragons adventure on Wednesdays at the Alton Bay Community Center from 6-8 p.m. The program is free for ages 18 and up. Sign up at parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 to secure your game slot. Join in the fun with friends or plan on meeting new people.

Camp Constitution plans fall retreat in Alton Bay

ALTON BAY — Camp Constitution will hold its Fall “Fling” Retreat from Friday, Oct. 23, through Sunday, Oct. 25, at the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center.

The weekend retreat will offer participants a variety of activities, including arts and crafts, Bible studies, an evening campfire and optional marksmanship.

The cost for the week-

Tinkergarten Program- Free class September 11

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Tinkergarten with Miss Kim on Fridays at B&M Park from 10-11 a.m. for children ages eight and under. Try a class for free on Sept. 11. The eight-week session runs Sept. 18 to Nov. 13 (no meeting Oct. 30), \$150. Tinkergarten is an outdoor play experience that is interactive, cooperative and creative- let’s play outside and explore what nature has to offer. For more information and to register, go to: <https://sites.google.com/view/learn-and-grow-with-miss-kim/home>.

Guided Meditation

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring Guided Meditation with Karen Kharitonov on Thursdays, Sept. 10 & 24 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. The program is free, donations accepted to benefit the food pantry. For more information contact Alton

Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Honoring Loss Gathering

Alton Parks and Recreation and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring a special gathering on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Gilman Library, 100 Main Street, led by facilitators Carol Wallace and Dottie Bergeron. Honoring Loss is a gentle conversation created for anyone navigating grief, change, or life’s many transitions. Together, we will honor our journeys, remember those we love, and find comfort in discussion, understanding, and hope. Whether your loss is recent or long ago, personal or shared, you are welcome here. Please RSVP to parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Travel Club Trips Cowboy Country and Taste of Italy in 2027

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring two trips with Collette Tours in 2027. The first trip is to Cowboy Country. Trip

highlights include Grand Teton National Park; Badlands National Park; Crazy Horse Memorial; Mt. Rushmore and much more. The trip includes a visit to Yellowstone National Park which is famous for its geysers, hot springs and herds of bison. Witness the impressive Old Faithful, travel over the Sylvan Pass and see Yellowstone Lake. Trip dates are June 8-15, 2027 and include airport transportation from Alton, airfare, 10 meals, hotels, and guided transportation through Cowboy Country, including walking, bus, and covered wagon tours.

Alton Parks and Recreation is also sponsoring a trip with Collette Tours to Italy in 2027. The trip highlights include Rome; Narni-

Umbria Region, Chianti Region, Tuscany, and Florence. Explore an archaeological site hidden beneath the village; take a walking tour of Assisi and see views of Lake Trasimeno; visit the famous Basilica of St. Francis and admire Giotto’s frescoes; take a cooking class and visit olive groves; and much more. Trip dates are October 23-Nov. 3, 2027. Includes airfare, 16 meals, hotels and transportation.

These trips are a great way to travel in a group and with a knowledgeable guide. An informational session will be held on Sept. 21 at 11 a.m. at the Gilman Library about both trips. RSVP to attend the session-603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov.

nh.gov.

Weight Training classes — Mondays and Wednesdays — Starts Oct. 5

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Weight Training Classes on Mondays and Wednesdays, with AFAA Certified Instructor Kellie Troendle, from 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library for adults of all ages and abilities. This program starts on Oct. 5. Try the class for free on Sept. 21 & 23. Build strong muscles and bones, increase flexibility and develop better balance. Bring light hand weights, a mat and water. For more information, contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109. \$20 per month, register on site.

Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events Sept. 3 – Sept. 10

Thursday, Sept. 3
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.
Storytime w/ Animals, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
You can't miss this special storytime series with different live animals!
French, 4-5 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 4
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon
Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Hand & Foot, noon to 2:30 p.m.
Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
Advanced Conversational German, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Beginner Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 5
CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Monday, Sept. 7
CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Tuesday, Sept. 8
Feel Good Fitness with Dottie, 9am-10am
Senior Sculpt, 10-11 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon
Preschool Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Home School Club, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Meeting every other Tuesday 10:30 a.m. to noon, our Home School Group for kids 5th grade and up always has something fun going on! See our website for more info, registration is required.

Wednesday, Sept. 9
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Senior Stretch Yogaah!, 10-11 a.m.
Card Games, 10 a.m. to noon
Check out an Expert, 10 a.m. to noon
Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.
Science Seekers: Travel Through Time, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Explore and experiment

with a historical twist traveling through time!

Thursday, Sept. 10
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.
Storytime With Animals, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
You can't miss this special storytime series with different live animals!
Middle School Graphic Novel Club, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Join Miss Rachael at the Gilford Village Store for our middle school graphic novel club! Sign up is required.
French, 4-5 p.m.

Are you LakeSmart? Help keep New Durham water bodies healthy!

NEW DURHAM — You can make lake-friendly living the cultural norm in your community by leading through example and encouraging your neighbors to do the same. NH LAKES offers the LakeSmart Lake Friendly Living Program.

This free, nonregulatory, and voluntary certification program recognizes and rewards property owners, like you, who maintain their homes and surrounding landscape in ways that help restore and preserve the health of New Durham’s

water bodies.

Free LakeSmart books are available in the Town Clerks Office. The final date for property tours in New Durham this year is Sept. 4. Sign up by contacting ndassistant@newdurhamnh.us.

Country Bookseller welcomes author Rebecca Eisenberg

WOLFEBORO — Join us at The Country Bookseller Saturday, Sept. 5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. as we welcome pastry chef and food blogger Rebecca Eisenberg as she launches her brand-new baking book, “Small-Batch Breads: 50 Recipes for Loaves, Buns, and Flatbreads Made with One Cup of Flour” — already a already a New York Times Bestseller!

Sit and chat with Eisenberg and purchase your own copy of her new book and have it signed by the creator

herself.

For more information or to pre-order a copy

of the book, call The Country Bookseller at 603-560-6030.



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Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

More than a first season

There will be something different under the lights at Prospect Mountain High School this fall.

For the first time in the school's more than two decades, the Timber Wolves will take the field as a football team. When Prospect Mountain hosts Newfound on Sept. 11, the scoreboard will matter, but it will hardly tell the whole story.

This inaugural season is about building something. Starting a high school athletic program from scratch is no small undertaking. There are uniforms and equipment to purchase, schedules to arrange, coaches to hire, facilities to prepare and countless logistical details that most spectators will never see. More important, there must be students willing to take the considerable leap of becoming the first players to wear the uniform.

Prospect Mountain has found them. A roster of 28 players for an inaugural season is an encouraging beginning, particularly for a program without generations of older players establishing expectations for those who follow.

These Timber Wolves cannot look back at championship teams, famous games or school football records because none of those things exist yet. They get to create them. That gives this particular group of students an opportunity few high school athletes ever receive. Years from now, when future Timber Wolves take the football field, someone will be able to point to 2026 and say this was where it started.

The seniors deserve particular recognition for embracing that challenge. Blake Pappaceno, Gavin DeWitt, Charlie Chandler, Hunter Sawyer, Cody Manley, Owen Libby-Sprague and Luchiano Pecorino will have only one season to play football for Prospect Mountain.

They will not benefit from several years of experience within an established varsity program. Instead, their responsibility is to help establish the culture that younger players will inherit.

Coach James Christie has set a fitting baseline expectation: compete. That is a sensible standard for a first-year program. Prospect Mountain is petitioning down to Division IV for its first two seasons and will not be eligible for the playoffs this fall. That makes conventional measures of success somewhat less important.

Success should instead be measured in progress. Are players learning the game? Are they improving from September to November? Are younger athletes seeing something they want to become part of? Is the program developing the discipline, sportsmanship and commitment that will sustain it long after the excitement of the inaugural season has passed? Those questions matter more than whether the Timber Wolves finish their first season with a winning record.

There is also a role for the community. New programs need spectators in the stands, parents willing to help, younger children imagining themselves in those uniforms someday and residents willing to support students who are attempting something new. The Sept. 11 opener against Newfound offers an opportunity to begin creating that atmosphere.

High school sports are at their best when they become community occasions. They give students another place to belong, another reason to challenge themselves and another opportunity to learn how preparation, teamwork and perseverance translate into results.

Football will now become part of that experience at Prospect Mountain. There will inevitably be mistakes and difficult games. That is part of building any program. There will also be firsts that can never be repeated: the first kickoff, first touchdown, first victory and first group of seniors to walk off the field knowing they helped establish something that did not exist before. Those are accomplishments worth remembering.

The Timber Wolves are beginning with a blank page. Twenty-eight young athletes now have the opportunity to write the first chapter.



COURTESY PHOTO

Come and celebrate Labor Day Weekend Gunstock Craft Fair, Sept 5 & 6, at Gunstock Mountain Resort in Gilford! Hours are Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days! Buy American made arts & crafts! There will be several demos including rug loom demos, chainsaw demos, and pottery demos. There will be more than 115 awesome exhibitors, including many different media such as handsome inlaid furniture, amazing beautiful resin art, fabulous metal animation and signage, amazing chainsaw wood carvings, custom leather belts & beautiful totes/pocketbooks, gourmet oils & vinegars, NH maple

syrops, hand poured soaps, soy candles, several jewelry styles, quilts and quilted wall-hangings, pottery, handcrafted textiles, charcuterie boards, children's chalkboard mats, custom signs, amazing baked goods, and lots more! Live music with North River both days! Rain or shine under canopies! Free admission & free parking! Friendly, leashed dogs are welcome! More Info Call Joyce (603) 387.1510 GPS Address: 719 Cherry Valley Rd., Gilford. See you there! More information at joycescraftshows.com.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Scary

There were things that I wanted to get done today. Even some on my mental list that I might have been able to get to if things had gone well. Well, I didn't get to any of them. Technology took over my day. Everything I did was totally dragged down like it had a ball and chain attached to it.

Things didn't start till after nine. I took it easy after breakfast, then I made a couple of calls and texts to get things going. With received answers, I was able to get to ordering things. That's when the fun begun. For some cosmic reason, maybe solar flares or something, the computer and cell phone totally weren't cooperating.

When trying to log onto an account, the secret code messages weren't getting received in my email. I was sent here and there, finally made it to a human who tried her best to help me get my order processed and drop shipped to an address other than mine, then her computer wouldn't enter my order successfully. This took hours.

I never called my customer to see if I could come

over and do her small job, I was drowning in technology. I threw together a grilled cheese sandwich for lunch then headed off to chill down with a walk out into the woods with my mushroom box. I've been receiving all kinds of photographs from friends and I figured that after all that rain we just had, there might be some mushies to pick.

I walked and walked. To places I've had success before and places in between. Nothing. Everything was so dry. It didn't feel quite ready for finding mushrooms to start with, but I needed the walk. All along I'm wondering where are all these people getting their pictures.

After I got home, I got back online and managed to connect with a human who was able to connect all the dots. Then I got a phone call from a friend who answered one of the major questions I didn't want to go to another customer service rotary to solve. I did that early last month and that was two hours of everything including a factory reset. It seems that the same old problem kind of resurfaced. Thank you, Lord, for technology.

Really.

I decided that I should get myself out of there for a while. I think I even forgot to bring my cell phone. Such fortitude. I might have received an important call, or text. Highly unlikely though.

It just so happened that this was the first night of the local balloon rally, so I headed on over to check it out. It was a beautifully calm and sunny evening, perfect for people watching. The place was loaded with spectators of all ages. I met some of the kids from school and chatted. And just as I suspected, the balloons went up and flew away. It's been years since suitable weather conditions had coincided with my presents there. It was nice to see.

After all the balloons were gone, it started to sprinkle. I knew it was only a shower, but I didn't feel like hanging out for the glow thing after dark, so I took off in pursuit of something ice cream-ish.

I've become such a space cadet. That's what we used to call those who smoked too much to function properly back in the seventies. A

more contemporary term I believe is a stoner. Not that I've been anywhere near that stuff in years, but my actions are reminiscent of said individuals.

Just yesterday, at men's breakfast, I got my plate of food then poured myself some OJ, and walked over to the table and sat down. No sooner did I sit down but I hear, "Hey Ed, is this your OJ?". I looked down to realize that it was. He brought it over to me.

Then this morning, when I got downstairs, I grabbed my Tai Chi slippers off the shelf then noticed that I had left the bathroom window open yesterday without the screen on it. I went in and closed it. After which I looked up to get my slippers and they were gone. Who could have taken my slippers?

I pray I never look left and see something coming down the road, then look right, and pull out not remembering. I don't ever want to hurt anyone. It's scary.

E.Twaste

Correspondence welcome at edwintwaste@gmail.com

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime 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.

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When did everything start needing a password?

KIND HEARTS,
COLD WINTERS

By CHIPPY

I recently attempted to accomplish something that once required approximately 30 seconds.

I wanted to pay a bill.

Years ago, this involved writing a check, putting it in an envelope, licking a stamp and placing the whole thing in the mailbox. Now it requires cybersecurity clearance.

I went to the company's Web site and entered my password.

Incorrect.

I tried another password.

Incorrect.

Then I tried the password I was absolutely certain was correct.

Incorrect.

The Web site suggested that I reset my password.

Fine.

I clicked the button. An email arrived containing a six-digit code. I copied the code, returned to the website and entered it. Then came the instructions for creating my new password.

It had to contain at least eight characters, one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter, one number, one symbol and, judging by the difficulty involved, possibly the maiden name of my third-grade teacher. I created one.

"Password does not

meet requirements."

Apparently, I had disappointed the Internet. So I created another. This one was accepted.

Then the Web site informed me that my new password could not be the same as any of my previous passwords. At this point, I began to miss stamps.

Passwords have become one of the great inconveniences of modern life. I understand why we need them. There are people out there who would happily steal our identities, empty our bank accounts and probably use our streaming subscriptions if given the opportunity. Security matters. But I am beginning to wonder how many secret combinations one ordinary human being is expected to remember.

The bank has a password. The credit card has a password. The utility company has a password. The doctor's office has a password. The insurance company has a password.

Every online store you've visited since 2009 appar-

ently has a password.

Then there are the rules. One Web site wants 10 characters. Another wants 12. One requires a symbol. Another does not allow certain symbols. Some want you to change your password every few months. And every computer expert tells us the same thing: Never use the same password twice. That's excellent advice if you're capable of memorizing 74 unrelated strings of letters, numbers and punctuation marks. I sometimes have trouble remembering why I walked into the kitchen.

There are password managers, of course. Those are programs designed to remember all your passwords so you don't have to. Naturally, the password manager itself requires a password. Lose that one and I assume you are sent back to 1987.

Then came two-factor authentication, which means knowing your password is no longer enough. Now you must prove that you are really you. A code gets sent to your phone.

This works beautifully unless your phone is in another room. Inevitably, mine is upstairs. So what began as an attempt to check an account balance becomes exercise. Up the stairs. Get the phone. Down the stairs. Enter the code. "Code expired." Back upstairs.

Technology was supposed to save us time. I suspect it has simply changed how we waste it. Still, I know better than to romanticize the old days too much. Writing checks wasn't particularly exciting, and standing in line at the bank on a Friday afternoon wasn't exactly a treasured American tradition.

There are enormous conveniences in being able to pay bills, transfer money and handle countless errands from the kitchen table. I simply wish my kitchen table didn't occasionally feel like the command center at NORAD.

Eventually, I got my bill paid. The Web site congratulated me. Then a little box appeared.

"Would you like us to remember this device?"

Absolutely.

At this point, somebody ought to remember something.

Strong returning group set to lead Gilford field hockey

Golden Eagles shut out Conant in season opener

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

GILFORD — With seven returning starters, a total of 10 returning players, five strong ninth graders and a new sophomore addition, the Gilford field hockey team has a solid base for fourth-year head coach Joy Southworth to work with as the new season kicks off.

“The 2026 Gilford field hockey team is a brand new team and they are enthusiastically learning how to work well together,” Southworth said. “The team is full of skill, drive and enthusiasm and I feel grateful and honored to lead this eager group of young ladies.”

Leading the way for the Golden Eagles will be returning senior captains Catherine Fay and Grace Southworth.

“We have 10 returning players and they are all hungry and striving for daily improvement,” Southworth noted. “They believe it’s not about what they did, it’s about what they are doing.”

Adding to the mix of the 10 returning players are ninth graders Ads Montminy, Addie Bar-on, Kaitlyn Jacques, Abi Lyman and Molly McClare along with sophomore newcomer Addison Hodsdon.

“Their effort and dedication are impressive,” Southworth said. “These



COURTESY PHOTO

The Gilford field hockey team rolled to a 10-0 win over Conant to kick off the new season last Thursday afternoon.

young ladies were built to love the work. They are trying a lot of new things and learning to trust one another.

“My goal as the Gilford varsity field hockey coach is to help each girl, and the team as a while, conquer challenges and reach their greatest potential,” the Golden Eagle coach stated.

Southworth and assistant coach Sherri Benson led their girls into the opening game of the season last Thursday afternoon, with Gilford coming out with the 10-0 win over the visiting Orioles.

In addition to Conant, the Golden Eagles will

SOCCKER

(continued from Page A1)

Brennan Geoffrey cleared and Kyle Waldron went the other way with a chance but could not get a shot on net.

Gilford had another corner that Omario Brooks headed on net with Belmont goalie Kyle Monasky making the save. Brooks had a crossing pass and then Ben Coapland connected with Owen Wolpin for a chance that was stopped by Monasky. Waldron made another run that Gilford goalie Gavin Forest snared and Gilford had another corner kick chance, Brody Ennis had a bid go high for the Raiders and Niko Smith had a good defensive stop for the Raiders as well. Wolpin made a run that Sam Binder was able to stop in the Belmont de-



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Declan White circles onto the ball during action against Belmont last Thursday afternoon.

fense and Bronson Glines and Evan Martinez teamed up for a chance that Forest stopped. Mahoney and Derik Matthews had good defensive stops for Belmont and Waldron had a chance that Forest raced out to grab. Skyler Kohout had a cross for Gilford and Jevan Beale had a chance denied by Monasky.

Declan White had a nice crossing chance for the hosts that Matthews cleared and White had another chance that the defense of Geoffrey and Aaryn Durand helped to turn away. Monasky stopped a Wolpin shot and Easton St. Cyr sent a shot over the net. Ennis came back with a chance

for Belmont that Forest stopped and the game went to halftime with no score.

Beale had a direct kick chance for the hosts to start the second half and Luke Javalgi had a long direct kick chance as well. Wolpin had a bid denied by Monasky and also sent a shot wide. After Gilford had a corner that missed the mark, the Raiders came back with their own corner, with Waldron’s shot stopped by Forest.

Coapland and Bruneau teamed up for a chance that Monasky stopped and Bruneau had another shot that the Belmont goalie snared. White headed on a chance from Brooks and

play two games each against Laconia and Berlin and single games against Monadnock, Derryfield, Winnisquam, Hopkinton, Mascenic, Sanborn, Newfound, Mascoma, Bishop Brady, Kearsarge, Pelham and Stevens.

The Golden Eagles will be in action on Friday, Sept. 4, at Mascenic and Wednesday, Sept. 9, at Sanborn, both at 4 p.m.

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

Beale sent a shot wide of the net as the Golden Eagles threatened with another corner. Mahoney made a run for the Golden Eagles that was stopped by the defense of Oskar Karlsson and Binder had a good clear for the Raiders.

Mahoney sent a shot high on a Belmont corner kick and then Ennis ripped a shot off the crossbar. Zayn Morris had a chance denied by Forest and Wolpin went the other way with a shot that went wide of the net.

Gilford got on the board in the final five minutes with Wolpin tipping the ball past Monasky for the 1-0 lead and then White added the second goal just a couple of minutes later and Gilford held tight for the 2-0 win.

Gilford is slated to be in action on Friday, Sept. 4, at home against Somersworth and Tuesday, Sept. 8, at home against Prospect Mountain, both at 4 p.m.

Belmont is scheduled to be in action on Friday, Sept. 4, at Conant and Tuesday, Sept. 8, at Laconia, both at 4 p.m.

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

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CELEBRATING 35 YEARS!!!

Laconia-Gilford Lions Club donates \$1,500 to The Home Possible Project

GILFORD — The Home Possible Project (HPP) is pleased to announce a generous \$1,500 donation from the Laconia-Gilford Lions Club in support of HPP's efforts to create a permanent, supportive home for adults with developmental disabilities in the Lakes Region.

Laconia-Gilford Lions Club President Matt Sousa presented the check to Lisa DiMartino, Chair of the HPP Board of Directors, at HPP's future building site on property generously provided by the First United Methodist Church of Gilford-Laconia. Several HPP Board members, supporters and prospective future residents were also present for the presentation.

"This is the kind of creative and imaginative solution that we need, and our club is happy to support this effort," said Sousa. "We hope this will inspire other organizations to follow suit and help address the lack of housing for adults with developmental disabilities."

The Laconia-Gilford Lions Club is an official affiliate of Lions Clubs International, the world's oldest service organization. Through its fundraising and community service, the club directs its efforts toward making a positive difference in the local community.

The Home Possible Project, a local grassroots nonprofit, is developing an eight-apartment community residence in Gilford that will provide



adults with developmental disabilities with safe, private, accessible homes in a supportive community setting. The residence will include shared living and community spaces and 24/7 staff support, while emphasizing independence, dignity, meaningful relationships and participation in the broader community.

The project incorporates universal accessibility, smart-home and assistive technologies, energy-efficient systems, and thoughtfully designed indoor and outdoor community spaces. The goal is to create a sustainable, lifelong home where adults with developmental disabilities can live safely with greater independence, dignity and meaningful connection to their community.

The project was created in response to a significant shortage of appropriate housing options for adults with developmental disabilities, many of whom

continue to live with aging parents or other family caregivers because suitable alternatives are limited.

"This generous donation is about much more than the dollars," said HPP Board Chair Lisa DiMartino. "It is an important vote of confidence in our vision and in the future

residents who will one day call this place home. We are incredibly grateful to the Laconia-Gilford Lions Club for recognizing the need and helping us move this project forward."

HPP is currently working to secure the funding needed to bring the project to construction. Support from local businesses, civic organizations, foundations, individuals and community partners is helping turn the vision into a reality. While

significant progress has been made, HPP still needs additional financial support to reach its construction funding goal and move this project forward.

The Home Possible Project extends its sincere appreciation to President Matt Sousa and the members of the Laconia-Gilford Lions Club for their generosity, leadership and commitment to the community.

To learn more about The Home Possible Project, or how you can help make this vision a reality through a donation, partnership or other form of support, please visit www.homepossible-nh.org or contact HPP at 603-436-1900, email: info@homepossible-nh.com or PO Box 7259, Laconia, NH 03247.

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OBITUARIES

Leslie A. Baratta, 80

Leslie A. Baratta, 80, of Alton, NH, passed away peacefully at home with her family by her side on August 27, 2026, following a bravely fought brief illness.

Leslie was born in Waltham, MA May 1, 1946, to William and Gloria (Rosetti) Drummond. She was raised in Woburn, MA, and educated locally. Leslie earned an associate degree in business from Chandler’s School for Women and went on to build a rewarding career in the administrative side of healthcare. She worked at Woburn Medical Associates, and served as the office manager both at Seacoast Cancer Center, in Dover, NH, and a physicians practice at Huggins Hospital, in Wolfeboro, NH until retirement.

Above all else, Leslie was a proud mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who lived for her family. The time she spent with those she loved was what mattered most to her. Not only did she cook countless dinners for her family, she was still offering to babysit her great-grandkids at 80 years old. Her family was truly the center of her world.



Leslie had many interests and enjoyed the simple pleasures in life. She loved spending time at the beach, making jewelry, and gathering with friends and family for game nights. She especially enjoyed playing dominoes, including her favorite game, “Train”. She adored turtles and it showed in every corner of her home. Leslie was always very active and was an avid jogger until her illness. She loved to have fun and was always the life of the party, especially with her friends in Florida “The Winettes”. Her warm personality and generosity with her time and energy created countless wonderful memories that will remain with those who knew and loved her.

Leslie is survived by

her husband, Robert “Bud” Baratta; her daughter, Stacey Perry, and her partner Timothy Savoy, of Alton; her son, Robert “Rob” Baratta, and his wife, Amy Baratta, of Weare, NH; her grandchildren, Nicole Tanguay and husband, Jason; Joseph Perry Jr.; and Michael Perry and wife, Annabelle; her great-grandchildren, Robby, Emma, and Danny Tanguay, and Colton Perry; along with many beloved extended family members and cherished friends.

In addition to her parents, Leslie was predeceased by her son-in-law, Joseph Perry.

Family and friends are invited to gather Tuesday, September 8th 11:30am-1:00pm at Cremation Society of New Hampshire, 172 King Street in Boscawen, NH. Memorial Service will begin at 1:00pm in the funeral home chapel with burial to follow at 2:00pm at New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery, 110 Danel Webster Highway in Boscawen, NH. To view an online memorial, leave a message of condolence, or for more information please visit www.csnh.com.

Red Cross and Hello Kitty® and Friends join forces to help save lives

REGION — The American Red Cross urges people to celebrate the power of kindness by making an appointment to give lifesaving blood or platelets. Every donation is critical to helping prevent the next blood shortage.

The Red Cross and Hello Kitty® and Friends are partnering in September to remind donors that comfort and care are always better when shared. Just one blood or platelet donation can help more than one patient enjoy a happier future. As a thank-you, those who come to give Sept. 1-20, 2026, will get an exclusive Red Cross x Hello Kitty plush mascot clip and surprise sticker pack, while supplies last. For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/HelloKitty.

Thanks to the generosity of thousands of people who rolled up a sleeve this summer, the blood supply continues to recover from critically low levels. As we enter September, the blood supply remains vulnerable — especially as we approach new seasonal challenges such as back-to-school activities that can cause donors to be less available to give, and the ongoing potential for tropical systems in the Atlantic, which can further threaten the blood supply by disrupting blood drives. By making and keeping appointments now, donors can help the Red Cross ensure lifesaving blood products are on hand wherever they are needed, including communities where donations may not be possible due to severe summer weather and natural disasters.

One small act of kindness can travel far. Spark joy and book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Sept.1-20:

Belknap Belmont

Sept. 15: 12:30 - 5 p.m., St. Joseph Church,

96 Main St.

Gilford

Sept. 10: 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 18 Wesley Way

Laconia

Sept. 16: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Granite VNA, 780 N. Main St.

Meredith

Sept. 9: 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., St. Charles Borromeo, 300 NH Route 25

Tilton

Sept. 5: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tanger Outlets, 120 Laconia Rd.

Sept. 19: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tanger Outlets, 120 Laconia Rd.

How to donate blood

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

About the American Red Cross:

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a non-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or follow us on social media.

About Sanrio®

Sanrio® is the global lifestyle brand and home to Hello Kitty®, created in 1974, and many other beloved character brands such as My Melody™, Kuromi™, Little Twin Stars™, Cinnamoroll™, Pompompurin™, gudetama™, Aggretsuko™, Chococat™, Badtz-Maru™ and Keroppi™. Sanrio was founded on the philosophy that a small gift can bring happiness and friendship to people of all ages. Since 1960, this philosophy has served as the inspiration to offer quality products, services and activities that promote communication and inspire unique consumer experiences across the world. Today, Sanrio's business extends into the entertainment industry with several content series, gaming offerings and theme parks. Sanrio boasts an extensive product lineup which is available in over 130 countries. Sanrio hopes to bring smiles to everyone's faces with their vision of "One World, Connecting Smiles." To learn more about Sanrio, please visit www.sanrio.com and follow @sanrio and @hellokitty on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, Pinterest and subscribe to the Hello Kitty and Friends YouTube Channel.

Granite VNA offers

“A Matter of Balance”

volunteer coach training

LACONIA — Granite VNA is seeking “A Matter of Balance” Volunteer Coaches to help strengthen the independence of older adults throughout the Lakes and Greater Capital regions. The virtual training is Thursday, Oct. 1, 8:30-9:30 a.m. and the in-person training at Granite VNA Office – Laconia, 780 No. Main Street is Monday, Oct. 5 and Tuesday, Oct. 6, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

A Matter of Balance Coaches will:

- Help participants become more confident about managing falls
 - Help to identify ways to reduce falls
 - Lead exercises to help increase strength and balance
 - Feel great about giving back to their community
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(603) 224-4093 or (800) 924-8620, ext. 85664 or by visiting www.granitevna.org.

About Granite VNA

Granite VNA is a not-for-profit licensed and certified home health and hospice care provider. The agency serves people of all ages in 72 communities across the Greater Capital Region and Central New Hampshire by providing home care, hospice care, pediatrics and maternal child health services, and wellness programming. The agency has offices in Concord, Laconia and Wolfeboro. Formed through the merger of Concord Regional VNA and Central New Hampshire VNA & Hospice, Granite VNA has served New Hampshire since 1899. For more information about Granite VNA, visit www.granitevna.org.

Safe Haven Ballet brings “The Nutcracker” to the Colonial stage

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present the Safe Haven Ballet’s “The Nutcracker” on Sunday, Nov. 29, at 4:30 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale now at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

Safe Haven Ballet is thrilled to bring our spirited, full-length ballet of “The Nutcracker” to The Colonial Theatre of Laconia! This dynamic performance includes all of your favorite characters including a strong-minded Clara to the eccentric Drosselmeyer, the spooky Rats, as well as our beloved Sugarplum Fairy danced by artistic director, Lissa Curtis. In the Land of Sweets you will be introduced to a variation unique to Safe Haven Ballet called The Brave American. Come sing and clap along to this spirited, patriotic piece!

SHB is located in beautiful Portsmouth, New Hampshire and exists to offer free trauma sensitive classes to survivors of sexual/domestic violence and trauma. Many of these brave survivors will be in the production as they help bring the magic of the season to you. We would love your energetic applause!

The original owner of the Colonial Theatre, Benjamin Piscopo, was from Italy, and the theatre featured a fire curtain depicting Venice as seen from the water. In August of 2002, the theatre closed after 87 years of operation. On June 15, 2015, the City of Laconia announced a partnership with the Belknap Economic Development Council (BEDC) to purchase, renovate, and reopen the Colonial. The newly reopened Colonial Theatre has a seating capacity of 750 and plays host to

various performances, including music, theatre, comedy, and civic events. Spectacle Management manages the Colonial Theatre and is home to the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative. The Colonial Theatre is located at 609 Main Street, Laconia, NH 03246. www.colonial-laconia.com

Founded in 2012, Spectacle Live offers venue operations, booking, programming, marketing, and production services across New England from offices in Lexington, MA, Lowell, MA, and Laconia, NH. The company partners with over a dozen venues to manage facilities and promote a variety of events, including concerts, comedy, theater, and family entertainment. For more information, contact Pete Lally at plally@spectaclelive.com or 617-531-1257. www.spectaclelive.com

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JOY CHURCH
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Prayer Night - 1st Wed of every month 6:30 pm
Pastors Mike & Kathy Mavity
joychurchnh.com

PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BARNSTEAD, N.H.
on the Parade in Barnstead
Sunday Morning / Worship Service for all ages begins 9:00am.
Prayer Meeting / April through November at 7:00pm on Wednesday Evenings.
Pastor Sandy Pierson - 483-2846

ST. KATHARINE DREXEL
40 Hidden Springs Rd, Alton, 875-2548.
Father Robert F. Cole, Pastor.
Mass Saturday 4pm;
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am;
Daily Mass Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 8:00am.

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Sunday 9:30, 50 Main St., Pittsfield
Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg
www.ststephenspittsfield.com

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rt. 171 at Tuftonboro Corner.
Sunday services 10:30 am. Church 603-539-8058

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NH Boat Museum casts off toward a broader, bolder future

MOULTONBOROUGH — Recently, Jaime Laurent boarded the Miss Lauren at The Lake Estate on Winnisquam and let the boat carry her out past the little cottages, the scattered islands, and all the way to the loon sanctuary.

As a trustee of the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM), she could have called it a working trip. Instead, she went as a guest, because understanding what a visitor feels on the water is, in many ways, “the whole point.” “That’s our mission — to give people accessibility to the water,” she said. “It’s a through line to everything we do at



Sara Evans coming to the Colonial stage Dec. 3

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present Sara Evans on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale now at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

Multi-platinum entertainer Sara Evans is at the top of her game. As the fifth most-played female artist at country radio in nearly the last two decades — her five No. 1 singles include “No Place That Far,” “Suds In The Bucket,” “A Real Fine Place To Start,” “Born to Fly,” and “A Little Bit Stronger”. Several of those #1’s spent 2 weeks in the top spot and were certified platinum by the R.I.A.A. Overall, she’s had 15 songs chart in the top 20.

Sara continues to thrill audiences around the world playing over 70 shows each year. Sara’s “stunning, country voice” (Rolling Stone) has earned her the prestigious Academy of Country Music Top Female vocalist accolade as well as numerous American Music Awards, Billboard Music Awards, Country Music Association, CMT and Grammy Awards nomi-

nations. In addition, the CMA awarded Video of the Year honors for her hit chart-topping single, “Born to Fly” from her double-platinum album of the same name. Evans’ discography also includes the multi-platinum selling studio albums Real Fine Place and Restless as well as the gold-certified projects Stronger and No Place That Far. Evans is also a proud member of the Grand Ole Opry.

The original owner of The Colonial, Benjamin Piscopo, was from Italy, and the theatre featured a fire curtain depicting Venice as seen from the water. In August of 2002, the theatre closed after 87 years of operation. On June 15, 2015, the City of Laconia announced a partnership with the Belknap Economic Development Council (BEDC) to purchase, renovate, and reopen the Colonial. The newly reopened Colonial Theatre has a seating capacity of 750 and plays host to various performances, including music, theatre, comedy, and civic events. Spectacle Management manages the Colonial Theatre and is home to the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative. The

Colonial Theatre is located at 609 Main St., Laconia, NH 03246. www.coloniallaconia.com

Spectacle Live’s mission is to create connections that make exceptional live experiences happen. Founded in 2012 and headquartered in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, Spectacle Live is a live event and venue management company specializing in performing arts centers across the Northeast. The company partners with municipalities and arts organizations throughout New England to provide comprehensive services, including venue operations, marketing and promotion, booking and talent buying, ticketing, food and beverage management, technical production, and consulting. Spectacle Live currently works with more than a dozen venues across Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, presenting a diverse range of events from concerts and comedy to theater and family entertainment. For more information, visit www.spectaclelive.com or contact Pete Lally at plally@spectaclelive.com or 617-531-1257.

the museum.”

When Laurent first became involved, NHBM was largely the domain of technical boating enthusiasts — the people drawn to history and heritage, the evolution of propulsion, the art of restorations, the passion of it all. That core still matters, although something has changed.

“Now it’s a community,” she noted. “The museum has vitality, it has an interest, it has a draw...It’s attracting all ages and audiences.”

The evidence is everywhere she looks. Her neighbor, a fourth-grade teacher, wants to bring her class to NHBM because New Hampshire history is part of the curriculum. Families

linger longer now that children engage in a little marina play-table, lake life story hour, or hunt for a hidden otter tucked among the exhibits.

“I’ve had parents comment that they are enjoying the museum too,” said Laurent, “because their children explored for about an hour, and it allowed them to walk around and take in the exhibits.”

Her own path into the museum began, fittingly, with children. Years ago, while teaching at Brewster Academy, she was asked to run a summer camp for kids from kindergarten through sixth grade.

“It was a blast,” she recalled. “We played port and starboard games, the Marine Patrol came and invited them on their boat to teach safety skills, and the New Hampshire Department of Environment Services came to demonstrate with hands-on activities to include water tables that educated youth about management of shoreline and aquatic invasive species.

But now, Laurent is looking to the future. Within days, NHBM will complete a major renovation, opening a bright new community room she described as “a very clean, beautiful white envelope. This adds 6,500 square feet to the museum to share

the legends, stories and heritage of our beautiful region.”

A virtual boating trainer will soon anchor the space, giving visitors a chance to practice highly realistic on-water skills. She is thinking bigger, too. A small grant application, if awarded, could seed a career-exploration program connecting young people to the many trades that keep the Lakes Region’s boats afloat.

Now, as the board prepares to begin its next strategic plan this winter, Laurent is focused on keeping the momentum alive.

“You have to keep thinking forward,” she said. “We will evaluate what we have accomplished, focus on the audiences we serve, and set our priorities and goals for the next phase.”

Founded in 1992, the New Hampshire Boat Museum is dedicated to preserving and sharing the state’s rich freshwater boating heritage through dynamic exhibits, youth programs like Junior Skippers, and on-the-water experiences. To learn more, visit nhbm.org.

NHBM is supported in part by Goodhue Boat Company, North Water Marine, Eastern Propane and Oil, Kingswood Press and Design Studio, and KW Lakes and Mountains.

New England Wolves kicking off a new season of hockey

LACONIA — The New England Wolves are set to begin the 2026-27 season with their first Junior practices on Sept. 7, and Youth team practices on Sept. 8. All practices are at the Merrill Fay Arena in Laconia. The Wolves will finish their first week of training with all teams on the ice for their annual Opening Weekend event on Sunday, Sept. 13, from 6 to 9 p.m. at home in Laconia. Food trucks, refreshments, drawings and prizes, equipment and apparel orders all will be available on Sept. 13.

The Youth program is becoming the fastest growing program in the state of New Hampshire with over 140 athletes participating from 8U to 18U in 2026-27. Combined with the more than 50 athletes in the Wolves Junior program (NCDC and USPHL Premier) and the anticipated 50+ signups coming up for their annual Mischa’s Little Stars learn to play program, the Wolves are consistently seeing growth and opportunities for hockey playing players and families in the Lakes Region.

The Junior Program left the Tier III Eastern Hockey League last season in favor of the Tier II NCDC and Tier III USPHL Premier. This move elevated the Wolves program to be in competition with some of the top programs in the nation. Their USPHL Premier team returns

standouts from last year in Anrijs Krumins, Sheldon Maoirano and Adam Hirs. The NCDC team is strongly poised for success as well, with Cam Plumb, Charles-Etienne Roy, Madi Zhaparov and Felipe Miguel- Miron all returning. The team is coached by Boston College alumnus and 2008 National Champion Tim Kunes. Fans in the Lakes Region will see a new, higher level of Junior hockey through the NCDC, which they haven’t seen before, with great programs such as the Boston Jr Bruins, South Shore Kings, Jersey Hitmen, and PAL Jr Islanders all taking on the Wolves.

The Junior team will play its first official games on Sept. 25 and will be accepting food donations for the Salvation Army all weekend in lieu of the gate fee. Special games are set for later in the year with

their annual NH Humane Society supply drive, and Food Drive to benefit the Lakes Region Vineyard Church. The Annual JBT Game is set for Jan. 9 as the Wolves host the Boston Jr Bruins.

The aforementioned Mischa’s Little Stars program began taking registrations on the Wolves official website on Sept. 1 (www.ne-wolfeshockey.com). This program is free to all skaters and comes with a free jersey and oftentimes free equipment is available through the Wolves equipment swap. Coaching this program is John McKenzie and Andrew Trimble. Reach out to these individuals to get involved, sign up, or acquire gear at scoringconcepts@gmail.com.

Stop by the Merrill Fay Arena or follow the Wolves on social media for more info.

Sarah Goodrum joins team at Moose 103.3 FM

LACONIA — Costa Eagle Media has announced that Sarah Goodrum has joined Moose 103.3 FM as Local Sales and Marketing Manager.

In her new role, Goodrum will work with Lakes Region businesses and community organizations to develop effective broadcast, digital and social media marketing solutions while strengthening the station’s community partnerships.

Goodrum is well known throughout the Lakes Region as a civic leader and advocate for local business. She serves as Membership Director of the Lakes Region Chamber and as volunteer chairperson of the Alton Business Association. She earned a master’s degree in business from Plym-

outh State University.

“Sarah brings the ideal combination of business knowledge, community involvement and genuine enthusiasm for the Lakes Region,” said Patrick J. Costa, General Partner of Costa Eagle Media. “She understands the opportunities and challenges facing local businesses, and she shares our commitment to helping them grow. We are proud to welcome Sarah to the Costa Eagle family and look forward to the energy, leadership and strong relationships she will bring to Moose 103.3 FM.”

Goodrum will represent Moose 103.3 FM throughout the region, working directly with advertisers to create customized campaigns that combine the reach and credibility of local radio

with the engagement of today’s digital platforms. Her appointment reflects Costa Eagle Media’s continued investment in local leadership, responsive client service and community focused broadcasting.

Moose 103.3 FM serves Laconia and the Lakes Region with a classic hits format featuring the greatest music of the 1970s, 1980s and beyond, along with local information, community involvement and marketing opportunities for area businesses.

Costa Eagle Media is a locally owned broadcast and media company committed to serving audiences, advertisers and communities through trusted radio brands, creative marketing solutions and meaningful local partnerships.

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	115 Big Barndoor Island	N/A	\$1,250,000	Christopher J. Andrews	Jana and Daniel Sunshine
Alton	172 Cherry Valley Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$202,533	Donald F., Jr. and Denise Greel	Sharon Greel
Alton	N/A (Lot 4)	N/A	\$97,533	James Lintner	Robert D. Muldoon RET
Barnstead	Beauty Hill Road	N/A	\$157,000	Jeffrey G. and Judith A. Esburnett	Tuttle Fiscal Trust Of 2025 and Dennis A. Tuttle, Jr.
Barnstead	Brewster Road	N/A	\$530,000	Leonard F. Arabia 2026 Trust	White Pine Point Holdings LLC
Barnstead	95 Georgetown Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$825,000	James L. and Christine E. Hardy	Robert A. and Shannon J. Sottolare
Gilford	2696 Lake Shore Rd., Unit 109	Condominium	\$625,000	Crowley Fiscal Trust and Margaret M. Crowley	Alexandria Rose and Christopher P. Russell
Gilford	Samoset At Winnepesaukee, Unit C	Condominium	\$740,000	Scott and Kerri Pochay	2021 Dean-Jakielo Fiscal Trust and Ryan G. Dean
Gilford	19 Smith Cove Rd.	Res.-Mtl. Bldg.	\$1,250,000	Katherine B. Tjarks Estate and Gerard Sartori	Wcv Premier LLC
Gilford	19 Smith Cove Rd.	Res.Mtl. Bldg.	\$1,450,000	Wcv Premier LLC	Oakley Loyal Pawperties LLC and New England Winsome Properties LLC
Gilford	12 Stonegate Ct.	Condominium	\$510,000	Thomas and Rose Shevenell	W.F. & Linda A. Knightly Trust
Gilford	12 Stonegate Ct.	Single-Family Residence	\$625,000	W.F. & Linda A. Knightly Trust	Frederick Kenneth and Joan A. Brierly
Gilmanton	Guinea Ridge Road	N/A	\$118,000	Nancy B. Randall 1996 RET	Ernest G. Gillan, Jr.

ABOUT THE REAL REPORT

Here are recent real estate transactions in Alton and the surrounding areas. These sales summaries are informational only, not a legal record. Names shown are usually the first listed in the deed. Sales might involve additional parties or locations. Prices are usually based on tax stamps and might be inaccurate for public agency sales. Refer to actual public documents before forming opinions or relying on this information. Additional publicly recorded information on these sales, prior sales and data from Department of Revenue Administration forms is available at www.real-data.com or 669-3822. Copyright 2011. Real Data Corp. In the column "Type": land= land only; L/B= land and building; MH= mobile home; and COND=condominium. Transactions provided by The Warren Group, Boston Ma., publishers of The Registry Review and Bankers and Tradesman newspapers, Phone: 1-800-356-8805. Website: www.thewarrengroup.com

Gilford police log

GILFORD — The Gilford Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Aug. 21-27.

A 70-year-old male from Gilford was taken into protective custody for intoxication on Aug. 21.

Dominick Christopher Mekkelsen, age 23, of Laconia was arrested on Aug. 21 for DUI-Impairment.

Leslie V. Alexander, age 66, of Chicago, Ill. was arrested on Aug. 21 for DUI-Impairment, Aggravated DUI,

and Operating Without Lights.

John H. Chapman, age 38, was arrested on Aug. 22 in connection with a warrant and for Dealing in and/or Possession of Prescription Drugs.

David Charles

Duprey II, age 39, was arrested on Aug. 23 for Criminal Mischief.

Adam R. Grenier, age 47, was arrested on Aug. 24 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of License and driving after Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

James Coyne, age 66, was arrested on Aug. 26 for DUI-Impairment, being a Felon in Possession of a Dangerous Weapon, and Possession of a Controlled Drug.

Kevin Gerard Sturgeon, age 72, was arrested on Aug. 27 for

DUI-Impairment following an Involuntary Emergency Admission.

Michael Carri, age 56, was arrested on Aug. 27 for DUI-Impairment and Transporting Alcoholic Beverages.





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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to The Federal Fair Housing Law which makes it illegal to make, print, or published any notice, statement, or advertisement, with respect to the sale, or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

(The Fair Housing Act of 1968 at 42 U.S.C. 3604(c))

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You may also call The New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights at 603-271-2767 or write The Commission at 163 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301

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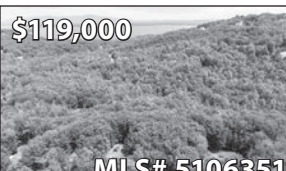
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Gilford: Set on a half-acre in a quiet neighborhood between Gunstock Mountain Resort and Lake Winnepesaukee, this wooded lot features public water and sewer available at the street.

Sugar Hill: Surrounded by mature woods on 5 acres, this custom 2-bedroom home features a great room with cathedral ceilings, a soapstone woodstove, and a primary suite with a cedar sauna and screened porch.

Laconia: Located near Lake Opechee with private beach and dock access, this 4-bedroom home features a main-level primary suite, a soaring living room with a gas fireplace, and a full walkout in-law suite.

Meredith: Panoramic Lake Winnepesaukee views, a main-level executive office, a dedicated primary retreat, and a lower-level recreation room. Resort-style amenities include a saltwater pool, a heated driveway, an attached 3-car garage, and a detached 2-car garage.



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Previously part of the Wicwas Lodge Property, this 1.02 acre lot is close to Rt 104 for easy commuting. Perfect for outdoor enthusiasts with nearby access to Lake Wicwas, hiking, and boating. Perc test results available.
\$169,000 (5106423)

MVSB Fund grant applications due Oct 15

New annual focus area announced

MEREDITH — MVSB (Meredith Village Savings Bank) is reminding nonprofit organizations throughout the Lakes Region, White Mountains, Mount Washington Valley, and Seacoast regions that applications for the 2026 MVSB Fund grant program are due by Oct. 15. The focus area for this year's grant cycle is food insufficiency. The MVSB Fund is seeking proposals from organizations and projects that work to address hunger, improve food access, strengthen local food security, and ensure that individuals and families throughout the communities we serve have reliable access to nutritious food.

Beginning with the current application cycle, each annual grant season will focus on one specific area of community need. By concentrating resources on a single impact area each year, the committee aims to maximize the positive results achieved through the program while helping a greater percentage of applicants receive funding.

Since 1997, the MVSB Fund has awarded annual grant-based contributions to nonprofit organizations that make a meaningful difference in the lives of local residents. Over the program's history, the Fund has awarded 621 grants totaling more than \$2.2 million to support a wide range of



The MVSB Fund Committee members present the 2025 distribution last year. The 2026 MVSB Fund application deadline is Oct. 15. From left, Charley Hanson, Carmen Lorentz, Marcus Weeks, Patrick Cate and Andy Hartmann stand inside the MVSB Main Office in Meredith.

environmental, social, educational, cultural, and historic initiatives throughout the communities MVSB serves.

"As the popularity of the MVSB Fund continues to grow, so does the number of deserving organizations seeking support," said Carmen Lorentz, MVSB Fund Committee Chair "By focusing on one critical community need each year, we can make larger, more meaningful investments in the organizations addressing that issue. We also hope this approach will reduce competition

among applicants and increase the likelihood that the dedicated staff and volunteers leading these important nonprofits achieve a positive funding outcome. Food insecurity affects neighbors in every community we serve, and we believe this year's focused approach presents an opportunity to make a measurable impact on a fundamental human need."

The MVSB Fund is separate from MVSB's ongoing community support efforts, which include donations, sponsorships, scholarships,

and thousands of volunteer hours contributed annually by employees. The Fund specifically provides grant-based support to organizations whose work enriches and improves the quality of life throughout the region.

Over the years, MVSB Fund grants have supported literacy and after-school programs, environmental conservation and monitoring efforts, historic preservation projects, organizations serving individuals and fami-

lies facing challenging circumstances, and initiatives that improve health, safety, and quality of life in local communities.

The MVSB Fund Board seeks opportunities where a modest investment can create a significant local impact. Grant requests of up to \$10,000 will be considered, with historical awards averaging approximately \$5,000. Eligible applicants must demonstrate tax-exempt status or public agency status, a primary pres-

ence within MVSB's market area, organizational sustainability, community impact, and the ability to effectively leverage grant funding.

Nonprofit organizations interested in applying are encouraged to review eligibility requirements and application materials at the MVSB Fund Application Web page.

Applications must be submitted by Oct. 15.

MVSB has been serving the essential banking needs of people, businesses, nonprofits and municipalities for over 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.

Exclusive private automobile collection opens to benefit Lakes Region Food Pantry

MOULTONBOROUGH — Automobile enthusiasts, collectors, and community supporters are invited to an unforgettable day inside one of the region's most distinguished private car collection of more than 60 cars during a special fundraising event benefiting the Lakes Region Food Pantry. Hosted at the private collection of Bob and Karen Ciardi, the event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Davisson Farm Car Barn, located at 276 Moultonborough Neck Rd. in Moultonborough.

The event will include tours of the collection, free coffee and donuts and opportunities to meet fellow car enthusiasts. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own specialty vehi-

cles for display as well. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the many programs Lakes Region Food Pantry offers to families, seniors and individuals including monthly food vouchers, children's summer lunch vouchers, children's sneaker and backpack program, senior winter boot program and higher education scholarships.

The collection features cars and trucks from the '50's, '60's and early '70's. Some of the highlighted vehicles include a: 1959 Ford Fairlane Skyliner, 1956 DeSoto Fireflite, 1970 Oldsmobile 442, 1954 Cadillac, and a 1967 Lincoln Continental Convertible with four suicide doors.

The event is free and open to the public.

For additional information, call Lakes Region Food Pantry at 603-476-5400.

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LEGALS

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 25, 2026 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 20, 2026. Please contact Ms. Thompson at 267-9223 ext. 5303 with any questions.



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MVSB supports inaugural Camp Resilience Leadership and Wellness Gala

TILTON — Camp Resilience will host its inaugural Camp Resilience Leadership and Wellness Gala on Sept. 18 at the Lake Estate on Winnisquam in Tilton. The event is open to the public and will feature inspiring speakers, live music, demonstrations, and formal presentations highlighting the extraordinary contributions of our Military and First Responder Leaders. MVSB (Meredith Village Savings Bank) has supported the event as the \$2,000 Chief Table sponsor.

“The Gala is an important opportunity to bring people together to better understand the impact of our programs and the importance of supporting those who serve and have served,” said Jeff Ladieu, Camp Resilience Executive Director. “At Camp Resilience, we are focused on creating meaningful experiences that help individuals strengthen their mental, physical, and emotional well-being, while building connections that extend beyond the program and back into their families, workplaces, and communities. Support from events like this allows us to continue expanding that impact.”

The gala will shine a light on Camp Resilience’s Chiefs Wellness and Leadership Program, dedicated to supporting both mental and physical health for its participants. This innovative program provides a variety of opportunities, including outdoor recreation and life skills workshops, designed to promote overall well-being. Participants benefit from fireside peer conversations, as well as mindful



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Elizabeth Mullaney, Camp Resilience Development Coordinator, Jeff Ladieu, Camp Resilience Executive Director, Sue Dagostino, MVSB Branch and Business Development Manager, Samantha LeClair, MVSB Business Development Officer, and Layla, Camp Resilience Mascot.

meditation and breathing exercises. These techniques are intended to help attendees manage stress and prevent burnout. All activities are thoughtfully crafted to be adaptable to a range of physical abilities, ensuring an inclusive and supportive environment for everyone involved.

“Camp Resilience is doing important work to support first responders and others in leadership roles who face high levels of stress,” said Sue Dagostino, MVSB Branch and Business Development Manager. “We are proud to support this event and the continued growth of their programs.”

Tickets to the Gala can be purchased online at camp-resilience.org/events.

Camp Resilience (d.b.a. Patriot Resilient Leader Institute) is a nonprofit organization founded in 2014. Through retreats and

Newcomers rounding out Cate Park summer concert series

WOLFEBORO — At the conclusion of an exciting summer in the Lakes Region, the Friends of the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand’s free summer concert series will welcome Billy D and the Rock-its to Cate Park on Saturday, Sept. 5.

Based in New England and performing all of the greatest doo wop and early rock and roll classics, Billy D and the Rock-its is an eight-piece show band bringing the authentic sound and style of the ‘50s and early ‘60s to venues around New England.

Billy D and the Rock-its is an entertaining show for audiences of all ages and includes Bill DiGiuseppe on vocals, piano and sax, Anna Bialsky on vocals, Glenn Sadin on guitar and piano, John Mainella on saxophone, Bri-



an Toney on vocals, Tony Vento on vocals, Mason Andraskiewicz on drums and Nick White on bass.

DiGiuseppe has been performing for more than 35 years, as a singer, musician, and dancer. Besides singing, he is also a superb drummer, and his well-rounded musicianship extends to many other instruments as well, including sax, guitar, bass, piano, trombone, and concert bass. He has also been a professional dancer and choreographer, and has performed with Anita Baker, the Cadillacs, and the Four Tops.

Billy D and the Rock-its was formed as a result of his lifelong passion for doo wop music and the 50s era in general, and name of the group was inspired by his baby blue 1955 Oldsmobile Rocket Super 88.

The Friends of the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand concerts take place each Saturday night in July and August, weather permitting, in the bandstand, located in Cate Park in downtown Wolfeboro on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee. Billy D and the Rock-its will be in the bandstand on Saturday,

Sept. 5, wrapping up the summer season with the Labor Day weekend concert.

If weather should cause the concert to be cancelled, signs will be posted at the entrance to Cate Park and a notice will be posted on the Friends of the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand Facebook page and at wolfeborobandstand.org.

The concerts will begin at 7 p.m. and run for two hours, with a short intermission, at which time a pass the bucket offering will be held to support the free concert series.

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