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# NH Monarch Festival to be held in Belmont Aug. 22

BELMONT — The 14th annual NH Monarch Festival will be held on Saturday, Aug. 22 at the Tioga Pavilion in Belmont, NH. This family-friendly event runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and is open to all ages.

The festival celebrates the monarch butterfly, its remarkable migration, the importance of milkweed and conservation efforts, and much more. Once among the most abundant butterflies in North America, the monarch population has declined more than 80 percent since the 1990s. Loss of habitat, pesticide use, and overwintering challenges are among some of the contributing factors of this decline.

This year, the NH Monarch Festival has partnered with several conservation and community groups to bring awareness to monarchs, milkweed, and conservation efforts in a fun and educational setting. The event will feature live specimens, several science and educational stations, kids’ activities, food and beverage, and a variety of vendors and



exhibitors.

And, for the first time, the Festival will feature a historic tagging demonstration. With the help of NH Audubon, the Festival will tag a couple of monarch butterflies with the latest nano-tag technology created by Cellular Tracking Technologies and the Project Monarch app. Officially launched last year, these Bluetooth-enabled, solar-powered tags are helping scientists understand migration patterns in real-time. This is the first time New Hampshire will be deploying these tags.

“The Monarch Festival is not just about pretty butterflies. It’s about helping and supporting an entire ecosystem. It’s also about bringing together the community in a fun and educational setting and inspiring people of all ages to help make a difference. Because if the monarchs thrive, we all benefit,” said Amira Provost, NHMF Event Coordinator and Monarch Community Scientist.

SEE **FESTIVAL**, PAGE A8

# State Police investigate drowning in Canterbury

CANTERBURY — The New Hampshire State Police is investigating an apparent drowning in Canterbury.

At 12:56 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, Marine Patrol Officers responded to a report that a swimmer had gone under water in the Merrimack River in Canterbury and did not resurface.

Upon arrival on the scene, first responders from the Concord Fire Department launched a boat to search the area and located the man near the middle of the river. They recovered him from the water and began lifesaving measures. He was then transported to a local hospital, where he was later pronounced deceased.

The victim has been identified as Robert Batchelder, 19, of Manchester.

The preliminary investigation determined that Batchelder was swimming with a co-worker when he began to struggle in the water. Several people attempted to help

SEE **DROWNING**, PAGE A8

# McQuade Fine Arts brings in-person art classes to Lakes Region Art Gallery starting Aug. 3

TILTON — McQuade Fine Arts is offering a new series of in-person art classes led by juried artist Stephanie C. McQuade at the Lakes Region Art Gallery in Tilton. These welcoming, hands-on courses are ideal for beginners and emerging artists seeking to build skills in watercolor and pastels.

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SEE **ART CLASSES**, PAGE A8

# Winnisquam rally comes up short in state tourney semifinals

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING  
Sports Editor

MEREDITH — The final day of the New Hampshire Babe Ruth state tournament in Meredith on Sunday, July 12, saw the Mount Washington Valley 16U squad taking on Winnisquam in the semifinals to earn a spot in that evening’s championship game.

MWV came out of the gate strong in the top of the first inning, scoring

two runs. Dylan Calabro walked and got to third on a couple of Winnisquam balks. He then scored on a base hit from Brogan McManus and a Bowen Brown double brought in McManus with the second run before Winnisquam pitcher Kobe Lloyd got a grounder to end the inning. Evan Cote led off the bottom of the first with a double and Lloyd worked a walk and both moved up

SEE **SEMIFINALS**, PAGE A8



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Evan Cote celebrates with coach Dante Gentile after sliding into third base in action in the state tournament semifinals against MWV last Sunday.



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# Easterseals NH invites community to celebrate Phase II groundbreaking at Military & Veterans Campus



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FRANKLIN — Easterseals NH invites community members, Veterans, military families, first responders, local leaders, and supporters to celebrate the groundbreaking of Phase II of the Easterseals NH Military & Veterans Campus on Tuesday, Aug. 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 27 Holy Cross Rd., Franklin.

Phase II will expand the Campus with the addition of the Solinsky Equine & Recreation Center and the Solinsky Empowerment Center, creating new opportunities for healing, connection, and personal growth. The expansion will include dedicated space for Easterseals NH Veterans Count care coordination, art and music therapy, equine-assisted services, recreational programming, service dog training, classrooms, and challenge-based activities that further the campus mission of wellness, resilience, and support.

Construction has begun with completion anticipated in summer 2027.

The event is free and open to the community. Guests are asked to RSVP by Friday, July 24, at <https://militaryveteranscampusnh.org/events/phase-ii-groundbreaking/>.

Guests are invited to arrive at 10 a.m. for networking, followed by a speaking program at 10:30 a.m. An elevated lunch will be served at 11:15 a.m., with campus tours, ceremonial photos, and additional activities to follow.

The event marks an exciting milestone in the continued growth of the 15-acre campus, which serves military members, Veterans, first responders, and their families through affordable housing, wellness programming, recreation, and supportive services.

“This groundbreaking represents our continued commitment to those who have served our communities and our country,” said Maureen Beauregard, President & CEO of Easterseals NH. “As the campus continues to grow, we’ll be able to expand the programs, services, and opportunities that help military members, Veterans, first responders, and their families heal, connect, and thrive at all stages of their journey.”

About Easterseals NH Military & Veterans Campus

The Easterseals NH Military & Veterans Campus in Franklin is a first-of-its-kind center in New Hampshire, providing military members, Veterans, and their families with housing, essential services, and recreation — all in one place. Spanning 15 acres, next to a rail trail and the Merrimack River, the campus offers affordable housing, a hub for military support organizations, and access to a variety of outdoor activities.

Located on campus, the Bernadine Herron Center offers a flexible event and retreat space to rent and 22 carefully-appointed guest rooms for people partici-

pating in retreats who need overnight accommodations. The Campus offers opportunities for nonprofits, government agencies, and businesses, to host gatherings, trainings, and events. In Phase II, the Campus will feature the Solinsky Equine & Recreation Center and the Solinsky Empowerment Center. With these spaces for healing, connection, and growth, this Campus ensures those who served receive the care and community they deserve. <https://militaryveteranscampusnh.org>

About Easterseals NH  
Established in 1936, Easterseals NH provides exceptional services to ensure that all people of all abilities and their families have equal opportunities to live, learn, work, and play in their communities. Throughout New Hampshire, the organization serves the diverse needs of more than 14,000 children, adults, seniors, and Veterans with a wide range of abilities and needs each year. The organization does this through comprehensive, outcome-driven services and programs covering early intervention, autism, intellectual and developmental disabilities, behavioral health, family and physical disability services, substance use treatment, and care coordination.

For more information, visit [eastersealsnh.org](https://eastersealsnh.org) or follow us @EastersealsNH on Facebook.

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## BELMONT POLICE LOG

BELMONT — The Belmont Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of July 6-13.

Michael W. Gebo, age 55, of Belmont was arrested on July 8 for Criminal Trespassing, Harassment, Breach of Bail, and Possession of a Controlled Drug.

Crystal P. Gagnon, age 35, of Laconia was arrested on July 10 for DUI-Aggravated with a Passenger Under 16, Endangering the Welfare of a Child, Criminal Mischief, Breach of Bail, and DUI-Impairment.

Douglas Walter Michalke, age 34, of Belmont was arrested on July 11 for Harassment.

Roy Albert Butler, Jr., age 60, of Waltham, Mass. was arrested on July 11 for DUI-Impairment.

Justin Jones, age 39, of Sanbornton was arrested on July 12 for Possession of a Controlled Drug and Resisting Arrest or Detention.

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# Franklin Savings Bank welcomes Joe Todisco as Chief Retail & Customer Experience Officer



Joe Todisco

FRANKLIN — Franklin Savings Bank is pleased to welcome Joe Todisco to the role of SVP, Chief

Retail & Customer Experience Officer. Joe will be based out of FSB's Main Office in Franklin.

Todisco comes to FSB with a 25-year career in the banking industry. Most recently, he held the position of VP, Regional Manager at Northern Bank & Trust, where he oversaw retail and small business banking, developed sales strategies and aligned objectives, fostered critical relationships and partnered with departments to facilitate a seamless customer experience.

"I am most excited to help the Retail team members expand on their current skill sets so that we can offer FSB customers an exceptional experience," Todisco explains. "I wanted to join a commu-

nity-oriented bank in New Hampshire that places both its employees and its customers first."

Todisco is results-driven with experience improving service levels and expanding market share, while fostering high-value client relationships.

"We are excited to have Joe join the Management Team at Franklin Savings Bank," explains Brian Bozak, President & CEO. "His commitment to the customer experience, knowledge of both retail and business banking, and strong strategic mindset make him an excellent fit for the future of FSB and its customers."

Joe lives in Derry with his wife, Christine, and three daughters. He has a positive mindset and enjoys golf as often as his schedule allows.

"You become unstoppable when you work on things people can't take away from you. Things like your mindset, character and personality," adds Todisco.

Established in 1869, Franklin Savings Bank is an independent, mutually-owned community bank, offering an array of commercial lending, personal banking and investment services. The Bank also offers investment and

financial planning services through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Independence Financial Advisors. A recognized leader in providing the latest in financial services technology, Franklin Savings Bank remains committed to serving the needs of businesses, families and the communities it serves, through a dedicated team of employees, a diverse line of financial products and services, and continued investment in emerging technology. Visit [www.fsbnh.bank](http://www.fsbnh.bank) to learn more or follow the bank on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube.

# ReDiscover Canterbury Shaker Village in 2026 on NH Heritage Museum Trail



CANTERBURY — Canterbury Shaker Village, a member of the NH Heritage Museum Trail, invites visitors to "ReDiscover Canterbury Shaker Village" this season with new programming, active preservation projects, and fresh experiences at this National Historic Landmark. Canterbury Shaker Village is a nonprofit-owned National

Historic Landmark district featuring 25 restored Shaker buildings in a 694-acre setting of forests, fields, gardens, and mill ponds.

"Canterbury is a portal into an intriguing, historic world—one where nearly 300 Shakers lived and worked together as a community for 200 years," said Manager of Communications and Engagement Garrett Bethmann. "Whether

you're discovering it for the first time or returning after time away, we want people to rediscover why this place moves them and connect with who we are today."

In 2026, an updated tour model introduces guests to the Canterbury Shakers and invites them to follow their curiosity through the property's open spaces and buildings. The land comes

alive this season through a new Bee House exhibition on the Shakers' agricultural history and a pilot partnership with Sanborn Mills Farm that grows produce and brings traditional farming techniques to the gardens and greenhouses. A new monthly recreation group, the Movers and Shakers Trail Club, meets on the trails the last Saturday of every month.

"With the Meeting House and East House both undergoing restoration at once, this is a rare chance to see preservation happening in real time," Bethmann added. "It shows the craft and dedication it takes to keep these buildings—one from 1792, one from 1810—alive for the next generation."

"Canterbury Shaker Village is a treasure, and it's one of many across the NH Heritage Museum Trail," said Trail President Jeff Barraclough. "Each of our members opens a door to a different part of this state's story. When you rediscover a place like Canterbury, you're really rediscovering the heritage of New Hampshire itself."

To learn more about Canterbury Shaker Village, visit [shakers.org](http://shakers.org). To learn more about the NH Heritage Museum Trail, featuring nearly two-dozen members in the Seacoast, Lakes Region, White Mountains, Dartmouth-Sunapee Region, and Merrimack Valley, visit [nhmuseumtrail.org](http://nhmuseumtrail.org).

## Adrianna Roberts among Mississippi State University's recent graduates

MISSISSIPPI STATE, Miss. — Adrianna Roberts, of Starkville, Miss. is among more than 3,500 students graduating from Mississippi State University in spring 2026. Roberts received the Bachelor of Science from MSU's College of Arts and Sciences. MSU President Mark E. Keenum congratulated graduates as the May ceremony's keynote speaker, emphasizing the world-class education they received and the core MSU values it reflects.

"Integrity, strong work ethic and respect for others—that's who we are, and that's what we're known for," Keenum said. "Embrace and live your life with these values."

About Mississippi State University

Mississippi State University is a national STEM-focused, doctoral degree-granting, land-grant university offering a wide range of educational experiences for learning and growth to a student body of more than 23,000 students. Holding the R1 "Very High Research Activity" designation from the Carnegie Foundation, MSU is committed to its comprehensive research university mission, addressing complex local and global challenges with innovative ideas and solutions. MSU also provides access and opportunity to students from all 50 states and 95 countries.

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# Opinion

## 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.

## Small wings, big responsibility

The monarch butterfly has long occupied a special place in the American imagination. Its brilliant orange-and-black wings, seemingly delicate against the summer sky, somehow carry it on one of the most remarkable migrations in the natural world. Every fall, generations of monarchs begin an epic journey stretching thousands of miles to overwintering grounds in Mexico, a feat that continues to amaze scientists and nature lovers alike.

Yet today, that familiar sight has become far less common.

Since the 1990s, the monarch population has declined dramatically, losing more than 80 percent of its numbers. Habitat loss, widespread development, changing agricultural practices, pesticide use, and climate-related challenges have all contributed to the decline. While the reasons are complex, the message is simple: even the smallest creatures depend on healthy ecosystems, and those ecosystems depend on all of us.

That is why events such as the 14th annual New Hampshire Monarch Festival in Belmont deserve recognition beyond being another enjoyable day on the community calendar.

Certainly, there will be plenty to entertain families. Children will have activities designed just for them. Visitors can see live monarchs, meet exhibitors, enjoy food and browse vendors. Those experiences alone make for a worthwhile summer outing.

But the festival offers something far more valuable than entertainment. It creates understanding.

Conservation often succeeds when it becomes personal. Reading statistics about disappearing pollinators is one thing. Watching a monarch butterfly emerge, learning about milkweed, or seeing researchers demonstrate new tracking technology makes the issue tangible. Knowledge has a way of inspiring action that facts alone sometimes cannot.

This year’s historic nanotagging demonstration is a perfect example. By attaching tiny solar-powered Bluetooth transmitters to monarch butterflies, researchers can gather real-time information about migration routes that were once impossible to track. New Hampshire’s participation in this effort places local residents at the forefront of meaningful scientific discovery while reminding us that conservation is constantly evolving through innovation.

The monarch’s story also reminds us that environmental stewardship rarely benefits only one species.

Milkweed, the only plant on which monarch caterpillars can survive, supports dozens of other insects. Native flowering plants feed bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and countless pollinators that play an essential role in agriculture and natural ecosystems. Healthier habitats improve water quality, strengthen biodiversity, and create more resilient landscapes for future generations.

In other words, protecting monarchs is really about protecting the broader web of life that sustains everyone.

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of the festival is its emphasis on practical action. Nearly everyone can contribute in some small way. Planting native flowers, reducing pesticide use, allowing patches of milkweed to grow naturally, or simply learning to appreciate pollinators instead of viewing every wild plant as a weed are all steps within reach of ordinary homeowners.

Collectively, those small actions add up.

Communities like Belmont have long understood the value of volunteerism and local involvement. Whether restoring historic buildings, supporting schools, helping neighbors after storms, or preserving open space, residents have consistently demonstrated that meaningful change often begins at the local level.

The same principle applies to conservation.

No single backyard will save the monarch butterfly. No single festival will reverse decades of population decline. But each garden planted, each child inspired, each family that leaves the festival with a greater appreciation for nature contributes to something larger.

The monarch’s migration reminds us that even the most extraordinary journeys begin with small steps. Perhaps the path toward healthier ecosystems begins the same way, one community, one family, and one butterfly at a time.



COURTESY

Another fun day was had at the Tilton Senior Center on July 15. The day started with Ageless Grace and Laughter Yoga exercise, TSC Book Club, a big table of card game players, lunch, games of Joker, and this fun craft making silly glasses led by Michele! Photo courtesy of the Senior Center’s Facebook page.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Mid-July 2021 vs. mid-July 2026

To the Editor:

In mid-July of 2021, the new Biden administration passed the American Rescue Plan, expanding tax credits for children, returning \$15 billion dollars to families of 60 million children. Every D.C. Republican voted “no.” For one year it helped 1 in 7 children living in poverty. Families did not stop working, as critics predicted. Pres. Trump’s One Big Beautiful Bill Act of July 2025, passing without a single Democratic vote, gave \$4.5 trillion in tax breaks to the wealthy and to corporations, while cutting more than \$1 trillion from social welfare programs. I pass this on from Heather Cox Richardson’s “Letters from an American.”

In lead-up to September 8 primary voting and then November 3 voting, candidates mail to us, perhaps poll us, put TV ads before our eyes. Our priorities? Choose

for the people we live among?

Ask candidates questions. What solutions do they offer for health care expansion rather than reduction? What solutions for childcare affordability? Can everyone have a fair shot at adequate housing? Our state fails in our taxation system with current state government (Republican dominated) shifting costs to property taxation as their “solution.” Costs are real. (An old bumper sticker now -- “Think education is expensive? Try ignorance!”) We have, with voting, chance to correct wrongs. Don’t just dream for better -- vote in caring Democrats. Love America. Party is not just a label.

Sincerely,

Lynn Rudmin Chong  
Sanbornton

## The joy of taking the long way home

Every now and then, I find myself turning off the main road for no particular reason.

Not because traffic is backed up. Not because I missed a turn. Just because I see a side road I haven’t traveled in a while and wonder where it goes these days.

It’s funny how much changes, and how much doesn’t.

The old white farmhouse is still there, although someone finally painted the barn. The general store I remember buying a bottle of soda from as a teenager is now an antique shop. The baseball field where kids once played until it was too dark to see the ball is quieter now, though the backstop is still standing as if it’s waiting for the next game to begin.

Living in New Hampshire, we’re fortunate to have an endless supply of roads that seem to wander simply for the pleasure of wandering. They follow rivers, disappear into forests, crest hills with views that postcards can’t quite capture, and connect towns

that still feel like neighbors rather than suburbs. The funny thing is that when we’re headed somewhere important, we rarely notice any of it.

Modern life has convinced us that the shortest route is always the best one. Our phones even congratulate us for saving three minutes by taking a different exit. We shave time off every errand as though those few minutes are treasures to be hoarded. But what exactly are we doing with all that saved time? Usually standing in another line somewhere. I think we’ve lost a little appreciation for the journey itself.

Some of my favorite memories weren’t destinations at all. They were drives with the windows down on an August evening. They were autumn afternoons when every bend in the road revealed another burst of red and gold. They were winter mornings when fresh snow turned familiar landscapes

### KIND FOLKS, COLD WINTERS By CHIPPY

into something entirely new. Even mud season has its own charm — though I’ll admit that charm is easier to appreciate after you’ve washed the truck.

A few evenings ago, I took one of those unnecessary detours. I passed a pond where a father and daughter were fishing from a weathered dock. Neither of them seemed particularly concerned whether they caught anything. They were simply sitting together, talking every so often, watching the water.

A mile farther along, someone had set up a little farm stand with tomatoes, zucchini, sweet corn, and a coffee can labeled “Thank You.” No cameras. No cashier. Just trust.

You don’t often find moments like that flying down the interstate.

The older I get, the more I realize life has plenty of highways already. Work schedules, appointments, deadlines, errands—they all encourage us to keep

moving.

Maybe that’s why the back roads feel so refreshing. They don’t seem to care what time it is. They simply ask you to slow down long enough to notice where you are. I suppose that’s true beyond driving, too.

We hurry through conversations, meals, weekends, even seasons. Before we know it, another year has slipped past and we’re wondering where it went. Perhaps it disappeared somewhere between the places we were trying so hard to get to.

This week, if you’ve got an extra fifteen minutes, skip the fastest route home. Turn where you’ve never turned before. Roll the windows down if the weather cooperates. Wave at the folks sitting on their porches. Stop at the farm stand. Pull over for the overlook you’ve passed a hundred times but never actually visited.

You might arrive a little later than planned. But I’ll wager you’ll get home with a few more stories than you left with.

## Winnisquam Echo

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FRANK C. CHILINSKI  
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RYAN CORNEAU  
(603) 677-9082  
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR  
JIM DINICOLA  
(508) 764-4325

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER  
JIM HINCKLEY  
(603) 279-4516

MANAGING EDITOR  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
(603) 677-9081  
brendan@salmonpress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER  
JULIE CLARKE  
(603) 677-9092  
julie.c@salmonpress.news



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# Comfort Keepers

## Coping with a loved one with hearing loss

BY MARTHA SWATS  
Owner/ Administrator  
Comfort Keepers

Presbycusis is a gradual loss of hearing that may come with age. It can be caused by changes in the inner ear, auditory nerve, middle ear, or outer ear. It can also be caused by loud noise exposure, heredity, head injury, infection, illness, some prescription drugs, and circulation problems, including high blood pressure.

Tinnitus, which is also common in seniors, causes a ringing, hissing, or roaring sound in the ears. It can be the result of exposure to loud noise or certain medicines, and can accompany any type of hearing loss.

If a senior has not been diagnosed with hearing loss, but it is obvious that it is present, referral to a specialist may be necessary. Start with a visit to his or her regular doctor. The doctor may then refer the senior to an otolaryngologist, a physician who specializes in ear, nose, and throat – or an audiologist, who is a health profession-

al who conducts tests to define hearing loss. Sometimes the two work together in an office.

A senior with hearing loss may struggle with hearing alarms or telephones, or understanding speech on TV or radio; may be unaware that someone is talking or whispering; and may have a lack of understanding when talking on the phone, if several people are in a large room or many people are talking, or when a speaker's face can't be seen.

Psychological and social implications

Seniors with hearing loss may suffer negative psychological and emotional effects that can affect them socially. Here are some examples of what they may experience:

Feelings of being ashamed, inadequate, stupid, awkward, embarrassed, humiliated, or abnormal.

Difficulty thinking or concentrating, which can result in inattentiveness, distraction, and boredom.

Worry about loss of significant relationships, jobs, or about being perceived as incompetent.

A feeling of worthlessness, which could cause withdrawal from others and a lack of participation in everyday living.

How to support a senior with hearing loss

Stay sympathetic. While it is very frustrating to deal with seniors with hearing loss, it is even more frustrating for them. Don't ever respond "Never mind, it's not important." It only makes the person feel that he or she is not important enough to include.

Be patient. People who suffer from hearing loss wait 5-7 years before they do anything. Your loving support may speed up that process a bit, but if at any point you feel frustrated, remind yourself that this is a difficult and lengthy process.

Show understanding. Studies have linked hearing loss in seniors to feelings of stress, tension, depression, social isolation, irritability, nega-

tivity and anger. Don't let their attitude get you down. Try to understand the difficult situation they must live with every day.

Be respectful. Speak openly and naturally, and do not speak on the senior's behalf. Ask questions clearly or rephrase conversation so he or she may speak for himself or herself.

Don't be too helpful: Do not act as "ears" for the senior. While you think that you're helping out a loved one, it builds a relationship of co-dependence that can hurt him or her over time.

When you speak: Minimize or eliminate background noise.

Enunciate well, and don't distort speech, mumble, or lower your voice at the end of a sentence.

Use hands and facial expressions when you speak.

Speak at a normal speed, not too quickly or too slowly.

Speak more loudly – but never yell. Shouting distorts words.

Rephrase your com-

munication. Some seniors experience a type of hearing loss where certain sounds are difficult to hear, such as the "shhh" sound.

A hearing aid may help. It won't restore normal hearing, but it will increase awareness of sounds through magnification of sound vibrations. Larger vibrations are changed to signals sent to the brain, but there are limits to amplification, and inner ear damage can mean that even large vibrations can't be translated into signals. A doctor or a specialist can determine if a hearing aid will be helpful

About Comfort Keepers  
Comfort Keepers is a trusted provider of medical and non-medical in-home care, helping seniors and adults live safely, independently, and with dignity. Our comprehensive services include companionship, transportation, housekeeping, meal preparation, personal care, mo-

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## Joseph Curtin named to Salve Regina University's Spring Dean's List

NEWPORT, R.I. — Joseph Curtin of Sanbornton was named to the Dean's List during the spring 2026 academic semester at Salve Regina University. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 for full-time students completing at least 12 graded credits, or a semester grade point average of 3.8 for part-time students completing at least six credits.

Salve Regina University is a Catholic, coeducational institution of higher education founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1947. It offers rigorous, innovative academic programming in the liberal arts tradition that prepares students to be global citizens and lifelong learners. More than 2,700 undergraduate and graduate students from around the world are enrolled in Salve's 60+ academic programs, which include bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees along with graduate certificates and combined bachelor's/master's programs. Every undergraduate student engages in Salve Compass, a four-year experience that charts a personalized, values-based path connecting college to a successful, fulfilling career and life. The University is also home to the Pell Center for International Relations and Public Policy, a multi-disciplinary research center focused on the intersection of politics, policy and ideas. For more information visit [salve.edu](http://salve.edu).

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Dan Caron

LACONIA — Hayden Cardinal is exploring microbiology as a junior at Laconia High School.

Mileydi Jaynes, a sophomore at Winnisquam Regional High School, is building leadership skills through Civil Air Patrol.

And Soleil Lamar, a young woman from the Northern Mariana Islands, has entered the United States Naval Academy with hopes of becoming a military pilot.

Funding from the Greater Lakes Region Children's Fund is helping change the lives of these young people—and many others—by opening doors to STEM-related careers through WinnAero's Aerospace Career Education (ACE) Academy at Laconia Airport, one of the many nonprofit programs the fund supports.

About ACE Academy

Dan Caron, WinnAero's longtime director of educational services and ACE Academy director, says the academy was designed to provide students with a window into opportunities they might not otherwise encounter.

Held each summer at Laconia Airport, ACE Acad-

emy introduces students in grades 3 through 12 to aviation, aerospace and STEM careers through hands-on activities, guest speakers, field trips, simulators and orientation flights.

"Most students are getting exposed to careers they wouldn't be able to see otherwise," Caron says. "They get to talk to pilots, air traffic controllers, engineers, medical professionals, drone operators, airport planners and many other professionals connected to aviation."

This summer, more than 90 students from across New Hampshire are enrolled in 13 academy sessions. Programs range from aerospace engineering and manufacturing to air traffic control, search and rescue, space science, drone operations, aviation medicine and pre-ground school instruction.

High school participants can also earn one-half elective credit through New Hampshire's Learn Everywhere program.

Caron, a retired technology and engineering educator with more than 45 years of experience in middle and high school classrooms, has

helped lead ACE Academy since its early years. He says one of the program's greatest strengths is introducing students to careers they may never have considered through a hands-on approach to learning.

"There are a lot of careers related to aviation that students might never have thought about," he says.

Those careers, far beyond the cockpit, include aerospace engineering, emergency services, aviation medicine, drone technology, navigation systems and civil engineering.

The various journeys

Cardinal, the Laconia High School junior, has attended 10 ACE Academy sessions over the years. This summer, he is participating in the St. Paul's School Advanced Studies Program and exploring a future in microbiology and other highly technical fields.

Jaynes, who lives in Tilton and attends Winnisquam Regional High School, will participate in her seventh ACE Academy session this summer. She is active in Civil Air Patrol and continues to advance through leadership positions that may eventually lead to military service.

Lamar's story demonstrates the long-term impact the program can have.

Originally from Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands, she attended ACE Academy while traveling across the United States with her mother 2022 to visit military academies and summer programs.

During her time at ACE Academy, she met a female Coast Guard crew member from Guam who inspired her to pursue aviation. Today, Lamar is a midshipman at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, where she hopes to become a pilot after graduation.

Caron says Gilford Public Works Director Meghan Theriault, a civil engineer,

is another example of the type of role model students benefit from meeting.

"Girls need to see somebody doing these jobs to realize they can do them, too," Caron says.

History and mission  
WinnAero was founded in 2009 by Lakes Region attorney and developer Bill Seed of Gilford.

According to Don Morrissey, WinnAero's treasurer and a founding member, the organization's mission is to help young people discover educational and career opportunities while building confidence and skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

WinnAero serves roughly 500 students each year. In addition to ACE Academy, the organization offers two other popular programs: Wings, Water, Wheels, an annual touch-the-plane and touch-the-truck event for families, and the Aerospace Career Fair, where STEM-related colleges, organizations and agencies showcase aviation and aerospace career opportunities for high school students.

Morrissey, a retired military pilot, says, "I am inspired by helping kids learn more about aviation, as well as the ever-changing and improving technologies available in this field."

"All it takes is one experience"

Whether they become pilots, engineers, scientists, military officers or leaders in other professions, ACE Academy provides students with something invaluable: the opportunity to discover what is possible.

"Sometimes all it takes is one experience or one person to open a student's eyes to a future they hadn't considered before," Caron says.

To learn more, visit [winnaero.org](http://winnaero.org).

To learn more about the Children's Fund, visit [ChildrensFundNH.org](http://ChildrensFundNH.org)

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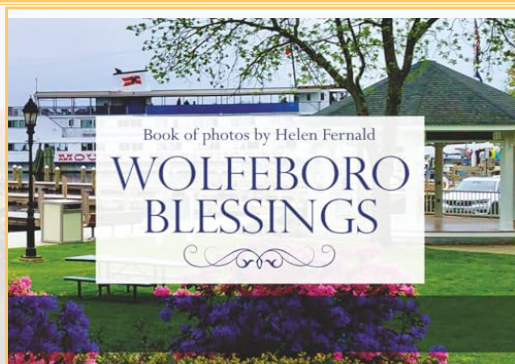
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Helen Fernald, Lakes Region photographer, released her first book of photos, featuring 12 photos of Lake Winnepesaukee and Wolfeboro for each season. Each of the 48 photos is



accompanied by a blessing. This book is available at the Country Bookstore and Black's in Wolfeboro and the Gilford Country Store. It is also available on Amazon.

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8 Ossipee's Bait and Tackle  
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9 Ray's Corner Country Store  
1156 West Milan Road  
Milan, NH 03588  
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10 Rocky's Ace Hardware  
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11 Sam's Outdoor Outfitters  
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12 Squam Lake Boat Livery  
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13 The Loon Center  
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FESTIVAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Admission is \$4 for children ages three to 12, \$7 for adults, and \$5 for seniors. Children two or younger and any attendee in an appropriate pollinator costume are admitted for

free.

About the NH Monarch Festival

The NH Monarch Festival is an annual community event dedicated to celebrating and conserving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators. Now in

its 14th year, the festival brings together families, nature enthusiasts, educators, and conservation organizations for a day of learning, fun, and hands-on engagement with one of nature’s most remarkable creatures.

DROWNING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1 him, but he went under water before they were able to reach him.

At this time, the death is not believed to be suspicious. The exact circumstances remain under in-

vestigation. Marine Patrol Officers were assisted by members of the Canterbury Police Department, Boscawen Police Department, Merrimack County Sheriff’s Office, Concord Fire Department, Canterbury Fire Rescue Department, and the New Hampshire

Fish and Game Department. Anyone with information that may assist the investigation is asked to contact Trooper First Class Christopher Prenaveau at Christopher.J.Prenaveau@dos.nh.gov or (603) 724-5693.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1  
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“These classes provide a supportive environment where students can unleash their creativity and see real progress,” said instructor Stephanie McQuade.

SEMI FINALS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

on a groundout by Danny Blodgett-Fralic. Mason Moss fielded a grounder to third and threw to Ryan Rendleman at the plate to get the second out and MWV starter Wyatt Boewe induced a grounder to short to end the inning.

Liam Shackford opened the top of the second with an infield hit and moved up on a Jacob Lubchansky sacrifice bunt and went to third on an Abbott DeVries groundout. A Calabro base hit drove in the third run of the game for MWV. Jordan Hill was hit by a pitch to open the bottom of the inning and went to second on a pickoff error. A Liam Hatfield sacrifice bunt moved him to third and Mason Dubreuil was hit by a pitch to put two runners on for Winnisquam. However, MWV was able to turn a 1-2-5 double play on a bunt chance to end the inning.

MWV loaded the bases in the top of the third, with McManus working a one-out walk and Brown following with a base hit. Rendleman worked a walk to load the bases with one out but Lloyd got a pop up to third and a pop up to second to end the inning. Blodgett-Fralic had a two-out double in the bottom of the third inning but Brown made a nice grab of a line drive to shortstop to end the inning.

In the top of the fourth, DeVries had a one-out base hit and Calabro reached on an error. Hatfield made a nice play on a foul pop to first base but Mason Moss reached on an error to drive in another run and a McManus double plated two more runs for the 6-0 lead before Lloyd got out of the inning. Hill worked a one-out walk in the bottom of the frame, went to second on a wild pitch and to third on a groundout from Hatfield. Dubreuil reached on an error to

drive in Winnisquam’s first run of the game. Jack Mingolla singled to keep the inning going but Boewe got a groundout to end the inning.

Jack McAllister had a one-out walk in the top of the fifth and Tucker Day singled. One out later, a DeVries base hit drove in both runners though Winnisquam was able to cut DeVries down at second to end the inning.

Winnisquam made plenty of noise in the bottom of the fifth inning. Lloyd led off with a walk and was forced at second on a grounder by Camden Reagan. Caleb Hall worked a walk and a base hit from Kellan Hilliker loaded the bases for Winnisquam and MWV coach Josh McAllister went to Calabro on the mound. He was greeted by an RBI base hit from Hill and Hatfield grounded to short, forcing a runner at the plate. Dubreuil followed with a double to drive in two more runs and Micah Goodell pinch hit and reached on an error to drive in two more runs, cutting the lead to 8-6. A Cote double then drove in another run to make it a one-run game before Calabro got a strikeout to end the inning.

Hilliker took over on the mound for Winnisquam in the top of the sixth inning and Calabro opened the frame with a walk, took second on a wild pitch and one out later moved to third on a groundout from Moss. Calabro scored on a wild pitch to make it 9-7 and McManus worked a walk to keep the inning alive before a groundout ended the inning. Reagan led off the bottom of the frame with a base hit and was forced at second on a grounder to short by Hall. MWV then turned a 4-6-3 double play to end the inning.

McAllister had a base hit with one out in the top of the seventh inning but Winnisquam turned their own double play, the standard 6-3-6 variety, to end the inning. Brown took over on the hill in the bottom of the inning and closed out the game for MWV to send them on to the finals with the 9-7 win.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or [josh@salmonpress.news](mailto:josh@salmonpress.news).



Caleb Hall puts the tag on an MWV runner during state tournament semifinal action in Meredith last Sunday.



Kobe Lloyd got the start on the hill for Winnisquam in the state tournament semifinals last Sunday afternoon in Meredith.



Jordan Hill takes a swing for Winnisquam during action in the 16U state tournament last weekend in Meredith.

CLUES ACROSS

1. Egyptian bull god  
5. Romanian monetary unit  
8. Santa’s helper  
11. Fictional Pink Floyd corporal  
13. Sea eagle genus  
14. Broad volcanic crater  
15. Minneapolis suburb  
16. Actual commercial worth (abbr.)  
17. Exchange rate  
18. Ethnic peoples in Guinea  
20. Men’s fashion accessory  
21. Craft material  
22. Offerings  
25. Early  
30. Large room  
31. Soviet Socialist Republic  
32. One who hauls
33. Shorthand for accepting  
38. Promotional materials  
41. Loss of memory  
43. One who beheads  
45. Photographers  
48. Small, rich sponge cake  
49. White clerical vestment  
50. Partner to “ooohed”  
55. Abba \_\_, Israeli politician  
56. Zero  
57. Owl monkey genus  
59. Lace bug genus  
60. Mild expression of surprise  
61. Storage devices  
62. Keyboard key  
63. Make a mistake  
64. One-time Korean president

CLUES DOWN

1. Bridge building degree  
2. Expression of sorrow or pity  
3. Large, stocky, lizard  
4. Rumanian river  
5. Missive  
6. Stout-bodied moths  
7. Brings out  
8. Bird of prey  
9. King of Thebes  
10. Cleaving tool  
12. African antelope  
14. Three are particularly famous  
19. Satisfy  
23. C. European river  
24. Dictator  
25. Portion of (abbr.)  
26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet  
27. Consume food  
28. Woman (French)
29. Scrape or wear away by friction  
34. Popular vegetable  
35. Pacific Standard Time  
36. Brazilian state capital  
37. Paddle  
39. Cause to become insane  
40. Drier and flakier  
41. Mimic  
42. ESPN host Kimes  
44. One who moseys  
45. Secret political clique  
46. Behind the stern of a ship  
47. Supernatural force  
48. Sanctuary in Orthodox churches  
51. Swiss river  
52. Grayish white  
53. Engrave  
54. UNC’s chief rival  
58. Midway between south and southeast

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# Award-winning author-illustrator team to host book signing at NHBM

MOULTONBOROUGH — When Andy Opel's daughter was born in 2004, he noticed there were no children's books about Lake Winnepesaukee, so he decided to write one. Seven years and one gifted illustrator later, that idea became the first in a beloved series about life on the lake.

Two decades and five books later, Opel and creative partner, artist Karel Hayes,—runner-up winners at the 2024 New England Book Festival—will share their work at the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) on Saturday, July 25, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The award-winning team's books celebrate life on Winnepesaukee, including "The Witches: A Winnepesaukee Adventure," "The Weirs," "The Bobhouse: A Winnepesaukee Christmas Story," and "The Westwind."

For Opel, the series grew from a single fascination.

"The Witches are a sunken island that I knew well as a boater, and I've always been fascinated by the myth—or lack of a clear myth—about why they were called 'the witches,'" he said.

The first book's success led to four more, and now a chapter book. "I did not set out to make a series, but collaborating with Karel and exploring these fun themes inspired me to build it out," he added.

A writer, filmmaker, and musician, Opel teaches documentary video production and environmental communication at Florida State University. His roots run deep to New Hampshire, however, as his family has come to Winnepesaukee for five generations.

"The books are littered with family references and my memories of 'messing around in boats' with my brother and our friends on Dockham Shore," he said.

Each book also profiles an environmental group. "I want kids and adults alike to think about their role in protecting the lake so future generations can enjoy this amazing place," he said.

Bringing those stories to life is Karel Hayes, an award-winning watercolor artist whose work has appeared in exhibitions across the country, including the Salmagundi Club and the National Arts Club in New York City. She has illustrated more than twenty-eight books and written and illustrated twelve of her own—most notably, The Winter Visitors, an IPPY bronze medal winner, and The Summer Visitors, reviewed by The New York Times.

For Hayes, the Lakes Region is personal.

"After visiting every summer for over forty years, this area has become an integral part of our family history," she said.

That connection inspired her own chapter book series, beginning with "The Mystery of Lake Kanakondah." Though the lake is fictional, its stakes are not.

"I use the word 'guardian' in my book, and that is who we all are—guardians protecting the water in our lakes and the land surrounding them," Hayes said.

Beyond books, Hayes and her son, John Gorey, have created murals across New Hampshire—for the Moultonborough, Conway, and Madison Libraries; schools in Conway and Wolfeboro; and, most recently, New London Hospital's Pediatric Department.

Both authors called NHBM "the perfect setting."

"I can't imagine a more perfect setting to do a book signing about lakes and boats than in this wonderful building filled with boats," Hayes said.

Opel agreed, as he added, "The museum is a great place to think about how the past has shaped our current moment—and how what we are doing now will shape the future."

The signing is free and open to the public. During the event, there will also be crafts, a treasure hunt, and snacks. To learn more, visit nhbm.org.

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.

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# Abbott Business Networks, LLC, shifts business model to Consulting



Nate Abbott

GILMANTON IRON WORKS — Nate Abbott, the principal consultant of Abbott Business Networks, LLC, an IT firm, has recently shifted his model from an implementation and support service to consulting.

Formerly a firm with up to five employees that installed computer networks and offered on-site support and maintenance as needed,

the model for Abbott Business Networks shifted after a client with 100 employees was acquired by a larger entity with its own IT service provider.

Abbott Business Networks will now be comprised of Abbott and his wife, Betty Ann Abbott, who provides bookkeeping and accounting services for the business.

Nate Abbott offers predominantly remote support—and on-premises, as needed—for businesses with roughly 100 networked devices and larger businesses that would like a dedicated resource focused on security, disaster recovery infrastructure, virtualization or AI.

“I still answer calls for help from clients with a range of technology needs. I have a tool kit and can

manage a desktop remotely and resolve issues from a malware spoof to a non-functioning printer, email issues or security breaches,” Abbott said. “Those are the kinds of problems I love to unwrap.”

Abbott has been in business for 29 years and has worked in a range of industries, including healthcare, tax support, legal, manufacturing, financial, PR and marketing, publishing, marine and RV and the nonprofit arena.

“The thing I’ve done the most is solve network problems for which there is no road map,” he said.

Early on in his career, beginning in 1986, Abbott was a senior system engineer for businesses that included Xerox, Bank of Tokyo Financial and Charter Systems. While successful,

he became uninspired by working with internal corporate clients and wanted to work directly with business owners who have a direct stake in the outcomes.

Abbott founded Iron Works Technology Consultants in 1998 and began helping entrepreneurs set up and manage their computer networks, sourcing and maintaining everything from the computers themselves to the cables, Wi-Fi, Ethernet switches and routers.

“When you solve a tech problem for a small business owner, you’re giving them a piece of their life back or a way to pay themselves more money. That’s really my guiding principle: How do I make you more successful and happier?” Abbott said. “Because technology is the thing that frequently takes the joy out

of running a business.”

Over the years, he has adapted to new technology platforms and helped his clients adapt as well. In 2006, the business name changed to Abbott Business Networks, LLC.

Around 2000, Abbott began helping clients migrate their systems to software bundles like Microsoft Small Business Server and products like it. By 2010, those systems were being replaced with platforms like Microsoft 365 and Google Workspace, and he continues to operate on these platforms.

He also helps clients adapt to AI.

“I cut my teeth on system infrastructure in the early days, and then I marched along with it as it’s moved to the cloud,”

he said. “I’m working with all of my clients on how we adapt. How do we perform with AI?”

Abbott is also active in the community.

He served as selectman in Gilmanton from 2000 to 2006; as a volunteer, board member and Chair for Future In Sight, previously the New Hampshire Association for the Blind; and as a volunteer instructor and board member for Lakes Region Disabled Sports.

Abbott currently sits on the Zoning Board of Adjustment in Gilmanton.

For more information, or to book time with Abbott, visit <https://www.abbottbiznet.com>.

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# Climb to the Clouds returns Aug. 7-9

**PINKHAM NOTCH** — The Mt. Washington Hillclimb, also known as the Climb to the Clouds, a thrilling car race from the base of the Mt. Washington Auto Road to the 6,288-foot summit returns for 2026 on Aug. 7-9. The Sports Car Club of New Hampshire is the sanctioning body of this event.

The 2026 Climb to the Clouds event will include two special enhancements this year:

The Paul Gibling Memorial Climb to the Clouds Race - The Mt. Washington Auto Road and the Sports Car Clubs of NH would like to honor the significant contributions of Paul Gibling, who was the heart and soul of the Climb to the Clouds Auto Road hillclimb for many years before his passing in 2022. This year's race will be officially declared the Paul Gibling Memorial Climb to the Clouds Race. A presentation honoring Gibling will take place during the race weekend.

Supporting Gold Star Families - A portion of this year's race proceeds will be contributed to Gold Star Families. A Gold Star family is one that has ex-



COURTESY PHOTO

Travis Pastrana has the current record for the fastest trip up the Mount Washington Auto Road.

perienced the loss of an immediate family member who died as a result of active-duty military service. The title honors the service member's ultimate sacrifice while acknowledging their family's loss, grief, and continued healing.

The race has a three-day format, with practice runs on half of the mountain on

Friday and Saturday morning. The practice location on either the lower half or the upper half of the mountain depends on the weather.

On race day, Sunday Aug. 9, each competitor makes two full runs of the technical, steep, and winding mountain road, once in the morning and once in

the afternoon. The field of 80 cars leave the starting line one minute apart from each other to tackle the 7.6-mile Auto Road.

The Auto Road is the oldest man-made attraction in the United States and is driven by approximately 50k recreational vehicles each year. Today, it typically takes a car and driver about 30 minutes to reach the summit — this race is a rare chance to see extreme drivers test their mettle on this extraordinary terrain.

"This road is such a challenge. It's probably the toughest road to drive flat-out in the world," said Travis Pastrana, following his record-setting drive July 9, 2017

The Mt. Washington Hillclimb is the oldest automotive Hillclimb in North America. First run in July 1904, it took place seven years before the first 500-mile race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway and 12 years prior to the inaugural Pikes Peak Hillclimb in Colorado. The Climb to the Clouds was run sporadically from 1904-1961, then not again until 1990 when it was run consistently until 2001.

Following a 10-year hiatus, the Mt. Washington Hillclimb returned in 2011 in support of the 150th anniversary celebration of the Mt. Washington Auto Road, which first opened on Aug. 8, 1861. Since the

2011 event, the Hillclimb has taken place in 2014 and 2017.

In 2021, around 2,500 spectators watched as history was made when Pastrana blasted his 2017 speed record (five minutes and 44 seconds), making his way up the steep, windy Mt. Washington Auto Road with a jaw dropping time of five minutes and 28.67 seconds. For anyone who has driven the road this is an almost unfathomable feat.

With plenty of action from start to finish, spectators of this race will enjoy thrilling race action and views on the steep, curvy, and picturesque Mt. Washington Auto Road.

Spectators can watch the action unfold with on-mountain tickets Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 7, 8 and 9.

On practice days Friday and Saturday, the Auto Road offers a spectator shuttle to Signal Corps, a winding section of road that offers an exciting vantage point.

On race day, Sunday, Aug. 9, spectators drive themselves to the summit for finish line spectating (cars and pickups only, no motorcycles), take the spectator shuttle to either Signal Corps, Cragway Turn, or Cow Pasture, or watch from the base festival area. Each location offers a unique and thrilling spectating experience.

Those wishing to purchase tickets can visit [mt-washington.com](http://mt-washington.com) for more information.

## Bat Out of Helloween brings celebration of Meat Loaf and Rocky Horror to the Colonial

**LACONIA** — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present Bat Out of Helloween: Celebrating Meat Loaf and Rocky Horror on Friday, Oct. 23, at 8 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale now at [ColonialLaconia.com](http://ColonialLaconia.com) or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

Bat Out of Helloween is more than a concert - it is a powerful live experience that brings to life the music of Meat Loaf, Rocky Horror and other spooky hits. The show features alumni of Meat Loaf's official band, Neverland Express fronted by Andrew Polec.

Andrew Polec originated the role of Strat in Bat Out of Hell: The Musical in London's West End and across international productions earning critical acclaim for his ability to capture the intensity of Jim Steinman's writing.

His performance uniquely bridges the theatrical origins of the material with the raw power of a live rock concert, delivering a frontman presence that is both electrifying and deeply authentic.

"The only band endorsed by me and Jim Steinman," Meat Loaf said of this tribute to his musical legacy.

"Do not miss this! This is the closest you could possibly get... This is not a tribute band, but Meat's incredible, actual band and this band rocks!" raves Sir Brian May of Queen.

"Andrew is phenomenal, the definitive embodiment of the rock-and-roll spirit," says Jim Steinman.

About The Colonial Theatre of Laconia

The original owner, 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.coloniallaconia.com](http://www.coloniallaconia.com)

About Spectacle Live  
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 [atplally@spectaclelive.com](mailto:atplally@spectaclelive.com) or 617-531-1257. [www.spectaclelive.com](http://www.spectaclelive.com)



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### BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS SALE OF TAX DEEDED PROPERTY TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

In accordance with RSA 80:80 (II) the Town of Northfield is accepting bids on the following parcel acquired by the Town by Tax Deed:

- Map/lot: R06-8 Description: 1.35 Acres with Single Family Home and Outbuilding located on a private road  
Location: 434 Cross Mill Road Ext. Minimum Bid: \$35,000.00.
- Map/lot: R17-36H Description: 57.61 Acres of land situated on a Class VI Road  
Location: Polly Ham Road Minimum Bid: \$35,000.00.
- Map/lot: R17-36G Description: 16.56 Acres of land situated on a Class VI Road  
Location: Polly Ham Road Minimum Bid: \$20,000.00.

Minimum bid as noted above is required. The bid should represent the amount the bidder is willing to pay for the conveyance of the properties are accordance with the terms of sale. The property is being sold by the Town in an "as is" condition with no written or implied warranties as to the condition of the property, operations of the property's utilities or services, or any permitted uses of the property under the Town's land use ordinances.

Bids must be received at the office of the Town Administrator by 2:00 P.M. August 17, 2026 in a sealed envelope marked with the Map/lot number of the property you are placing a bid on, for example: "R06-8 Bid". The bid envelopes will be opened at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on August 18, 2026, the meeting starts at 5:00 PM and will be opened within the first 15 minutes of the meeting. The property will be sold to the highest qualified bidder, as determined by the Northfield Board of Selectmen, subject to collection of the nonrefundable deposit of \$5,000 due within 48 hours of the bid opening, signed agreement and deposit receipt, satisfactory closing, etc. Closings shall be on or before thirty (30) days from bid opening.

The deed of the Town shall be a Release Deed, releasing all rights, title, and interest of the Town. Conveyance will be subject to all easements and rights of way as existed at the time of the tax deed. Failure to close may result in a sale to the next highest bidder.

The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject all bids, and/or impose other conditions on the sale on or before the bid opening.



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

Dan Uhlman, General Manager  
20 West Street, Ashland, NH 03217  
or you may email to [duhlman@belletetes.com](mailto:duhlman@belletetes.com).

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Moultonborough - Lumber Counter

This is a full time position in our Moultonborough store. Duties include assisting customers and contractors with product selection and order entry. Preferred, but not mandatory, doors and windows experience. Minimum two years experience in the building industry. Basic computer skills required. Excellent customer service skills a must. Weekend hours required on a rotating basis.

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

Ian Shurbert, Branch Manager, c/o Belletetes Inc.  
121 Whittier Highway, Moultonborough, NH 03254  
or you may email to [ishurbert@belletetes.com](mailto:ishurbert@belletetes.com) E.O.E.

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Lumber & Building Materials Contractor Sales

Our Ashland location is searching for an experienced contractor sales member of our Lumber & Building Materials Contractor Sales Team as well as with our Millwork dept. You will prepare quotes, orders, invoices, special orders and purchase orders. This position will also coordinate deliveries and returns as necessary. You will serve as a resource for the customer, helping them make selections and build their confidence using your product knowledge and excellent customer service. Weekend hours required on a rotating basis.

Belletetes is a 5th generation, family-owned building materials supply company that has been in business for over 125 years. With 10 locations throughout NH and MA, we believe our employees are our biggest asset! When you join our team, you will be working in a family-friendly atmosphere where career growth is important, and we try to promote from within.

We offer an industry leading benefits package that includes competitive wages, health insurance, life insurance, paid vacation, paid time-off, paid holidays, paid bereavement leave, profit sharing, 401k and store discounts.

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

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Upcoming Loon Center program  
explores unseen lives of fawns

MOULTONBOROUGH — On Thursday, July 23, join a Squam Lakes Natural Science Center naturalist as we discover the hidden lives, surprising behaviors, and survival strategies of local wildlife, explored through real trail camera photos and videos that focus on the challenges and explorations of a young deer fawn. The evening will also feature a live animal ambassador of the forest.

Held at The Loon Center in Moultonborough, the Summer Nature Talks are presented every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. during the months of July and August. All programs are free admission. For over 50 years the Loon Preservation Committee has worked to preserve the common loon and its habitat in New Hampshire through monitoring, research, education, and management activities.

Next Thursday, July 31, John Cooley presents “Winter Ice Rescues.”

Directions to The Loon Center: From Route 25 in Moultonborough, turn onto Blake Road at the Central School. Go one mile to the end and turn right onto Lee’s Mill Road. The Loon Center will be on your left! For more information, call the Loon Center at (603) 476-5666.

To see the full 2026 nature talks schedule, please visit [www.loon.org](http://www.loon.org).



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Lumber Materials Handler

Belletetes has an immediate opening in our Ashland location for a full-time Lumber Materials Handler. The successful candidate is responsible for assisting customers and contractors locate materials and load vehicles, receive incoming shipments and select loads for delivery trucks. Computer skills and prior lumber and building material experience is beneficial. Heavy lifting is required. Saturday hours on a rotating basis.

Belletetes is a 5th generation, family-owned building materials supply company that has been in business for over 125 years. Are you looking to join a company that treats their employees like family? We believe our employees are our biggest asset!

When you join our team, you will be working in a family-friendly atmosphere where career growth is important, and we try to promote from within. We offer an industry leading benefits package that includes competitive wages, health insurance, life insurance, paid vacation, paid time-off, paid holidays, paid bereavement leave, profit sharing, 401k and store discounts.

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

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