

Gilford Steamer

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026

GILFORD, N.H.

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FREE

Interactive concert examines how music holds a mirror up to society

NEW DURHAM — Music has had power over society, and society has had its own power over music since the first note was sung and the first drum struck.

In celebration of centuries and centuries of music in New Hampshire, the Friends of the New Durham 1772 Meetinghouse are sponsoring "Music: Society's Mirror," an interactive concert, on Sunday, July 12 at 1 p.m.

Held at the New Durham Public Library, the free event is a casual gathering for all ages that offers

something for everyone as it explores how culture is reflected in the music of the time. It starts with modern day and travels backward chronologically for 250 years, and then further back to Indigenous musical instruments, chants, and prayers.

The program features former resident Craig Werth, a songwriter and performer familiar to New Durham audiences from his tenure with the Merry-meeting Merrymakers in their many musical melodramas at New Durham School.



COURTESY

"Music: Society's Mirror," a free interactive concert for all ages this Sunday, will feature songs that reflect our culture from present day back through 250 years, performed by Craig Werth. Other parts of the program will be demonstrations of authentic Indigenous musical instruments, composing the audience's own song-of-the-day, a display of handmade instruments, a craft, and make your own sundae. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the New Durham 1772 Meetinghouse and will be held at the New Durham Public Library beginning at 1 p.m. Pictured here: youngsters "try their hand" at drumming at a past Storytime at the Meetinghouse with the Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook-Abenaki People. This drum is just one of many instruments attendees will experience.

Following his relocation to Newmarket, Werth went on to tour internationally for five years with Canadian folk singer David Francey and won a Canadian Juno Award for his work. He has collaborated with many acclaimed artists and performed throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, and other European countries.

Werth will open the chronological journey, touching on songs that reflected society at the time and some that helped shape America. Songs of the different eras demonstrate how people were feeling about what was going on around them in good times, difficult times, and periods of unity or discord, as well as how society could use music for change.

"I think of music as language," he said. "These musical expressions are a part of us, and that's why we suggest people sing along. Plus, it's fun."

The program boasts many additional elements to keep it as lively as possible. An accomplished composer, Werth will create a

song with the audience as partner that captures the current mood of the participants. Good vibrations, no doubt. All audience participation is based on comfort level; the aim is to just have a good time.

Of course, music played an important role long before colonists set foot on the shores of the East Coast. Indigenous peoples' music was profoundly intertwined with spiritual beliefs and community life, serving specific purposes such as religious ceremonies, hunting, and healing.

Paul and Denise Pouliot, the main speakers of the Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook-Abenaki People, will be on hand to explain and demonstrate how Indigenous musical instruments were used in dances, chants, and prayers, and how they made up such an important part of their culture. They bring with them a wonderful array of authentic instruments that people are allowed to touch and play.

Included in the event is a display and demonstration of instruments Werth

SEE CONCERT, PAGE A11

Alton celebrates "250 Years Strong" with annual Old Home Day Parade

ALTON — The Alton Business Association proudly presents the Alton Old Home Day Parade on Saturday, Aug. 8, stepping off at 11:30 a.m. This year's theme, "250 Years Strong," honors the nation's semiquincentennial and the deep-rooted pride of the Alton community.

Spectators are invited to bring their chairs and line the route between Letter S Road and Alton Bay for one of the most anticipated community traditions of the summer. The parade celebrates local organizations, businesses, and residents who make Alton the town it is, and this year that celebration carries the weight of 250 years of American history behind it.

Anyone wishing to participate in the parade may register at altonbusinessassociation.com.

Alton Bay makes for a full day destination on Aug. 8, with the parade as the centerpiece of a day that includes:

The Alton Bay Boat Show, hosted by the New Hampshire Boat Museum, marking its

50th anniversary, runs from 9 a.m. to noon at the Alton Town Docks. The show features restored wooden and early fiberglass boats, free admission, and People's Choice Awards voted on by spectators.

The Old Home Day Weekend Craft Fair brings local artisans and handcrafted goods to the heart of Alton Bay, running alongside the morning's festivities. The Alton Parks and Recreation Summer Concert Series closes out the day with Bittersweet performing live at the Alton Bay Bandstand from 7 to 9 p.m.

"August 8 is the kind of day that reminds you why people fall in love with the Lakes Region," said Sarah Goodrum, Chairperson of the Alton Business Association. "The parade is the heartbeat of Old Home Day, and everything happening around it makes Alton Bay the place to be this summer."

For parade registration and full event details, visit altonbusinessassociation.com.

Hiker dies following medical emergency on Mount Major

ALTON — On Thursday, July 2 at around 2 p.m., New Hampshire Fish and Game was notified that a hiker was having a medical emergency on Mt. Major.

A 68-year-old New Hampshire resident whose

identity was still being withheld pending notification of the family as this week's edition went to press had been hiking on his own and was able to place a call to 911, but stopped communicating

with the dispatcher. He was nearly one mile from the trailhead. Hikers who came upon him a short time later attempted CPR.

Along with Conservation Officers members of Alton Fire Department,

Alton Police Department and Gilmanton Fire Department responded. Fire personnel attempted additional life saving procedures but unfortunately the hiker succumbed to his condition.

Golden Eagles, Timber Wolves earn softball All-State honors

Belle Dow of Gilford named Division III Pitcher of the Year

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

REGION — Local softball players were among those honored when the high school coaches from around the state gathered to select this spring's All-State honorees.

In Division III, Gilford's Belle Dow was named Pitcher of the Year and was joined in earning First Team honors by teammate Maddie Metz, Danica Weymouth of Winnisquam, Madi MacDonald of Belmont, Olivia Packard of White Mountains and Kylee Guptill and Paige Harding of Prospect Mountain. Guptill was also named MaxPreps Player of the Year. Second Team honors went to McKenna Kelley of Berlin, Kora MacKenzie, Paityn Glidden and Sophie Bowman of Prospect Mountain, Bailey Perkins of Belmont and Taylor Marsh of Gilford and Honorable Mention went to Mia Macaione of Gilford, Natalee Cullen of Belmont and Olivia Richard of Ber-



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Maddie Metz of Gilford earned First Team All-State for the runner-up Gilford Golden Eagles.

lin. Also earning First Team honors were Ava Archambault (Player of the Year) of Bishop Brady, Dee Levesque and Sophie Huynh of Raymond, Olivia Knightly of Monadnock, Bizzie Pelletier and Mollie Gaynor of St. Thomas and Paige Boudette and Aurelia Salce of Hopkinton.

Second Team was also presented to Hailey Anzmann and Mattie Williams of St. Thomas, Madison Mundy, Brooklyn Griffin and Abigail Tyrell of Bishop Brady, Violet Bennett of Conant, Brooke Aiken of Kearsarge, Gracie Dean of Monadnock and Gianna Gott of Raymond. Honorable Mention

was also awarded to Avery Loew of Hopkinton, Ella Blanchette of Bishop Brady, Alexis Shaugnessy of Kearsarge, Bailee St. Saver and Anna Aiken of Stevens, Sydney Wells of Raymond and Cadence Smead of Hillsboro-Deering.

Winnisquam coach Mark Dawalga was named

SEE SOFTBALL, PAGE A6

On The Green 1 Rain or Shine Under Canopy

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Sat 10-5
Sun 10-4

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Kingswood announces honor roll

WOLFEBORO — Kingswood Regional High School has released its honor roll for the fourth quarter of the 2025-2026 school year.

High Honors

Grade 9: Everett Bowley, Kinsley Ortisi, Drea Benton, Charlotte Edwards, Nicolas Gerade, Paydon Cardinal, Solara Fowler, Carly Weeks, Alexis Blair, Reagan Bouse, Eire Corbally, Harrison Moore, Ellie Fuller, Maddock Skelley, Zachary Dubuc, Bristol Richards, Anthony Czarnecki, Abigail Ackerly, Tadhg Kolodner, Lily Wheeler, Yaniellys Maldonado, Kamyia Patel

Grade 10: Kaylee Pellerin, Timothy Drake, Colby Proctor, Carter Wiltfong, Theodore Hall, Jonathan Bronson, Clara Lucas, Eliza Marchand, Sophia Nichols, Jacob Pinard, Peter Plachowicz, Brielle Dow

Grade 11: Carolien Kinzmaier, Vaeh Dow, Avery Kunzler, Kelsie Davis, Megan Nicol, Brody Hanson, Gary (Dean) Porter, Lexi Baker, Maya Nolin, Jeremy Sellers, Zachary Pickle, Tavin Herget, Jacob Dubuc, Ryan Santerre, Adelyn Arsenault, Kyle Beaulieu, Lainey Clarke, Adelle Harrington, Jerilyn Cornwall, Myles O'Keefe, Isabella Dickey, Ellie Brown, Mathew Ames, Kayla Cegielski, William Edwards, Ewan Nicoll, Dakota Goss, Henry Whyte, Anthony LaRosa

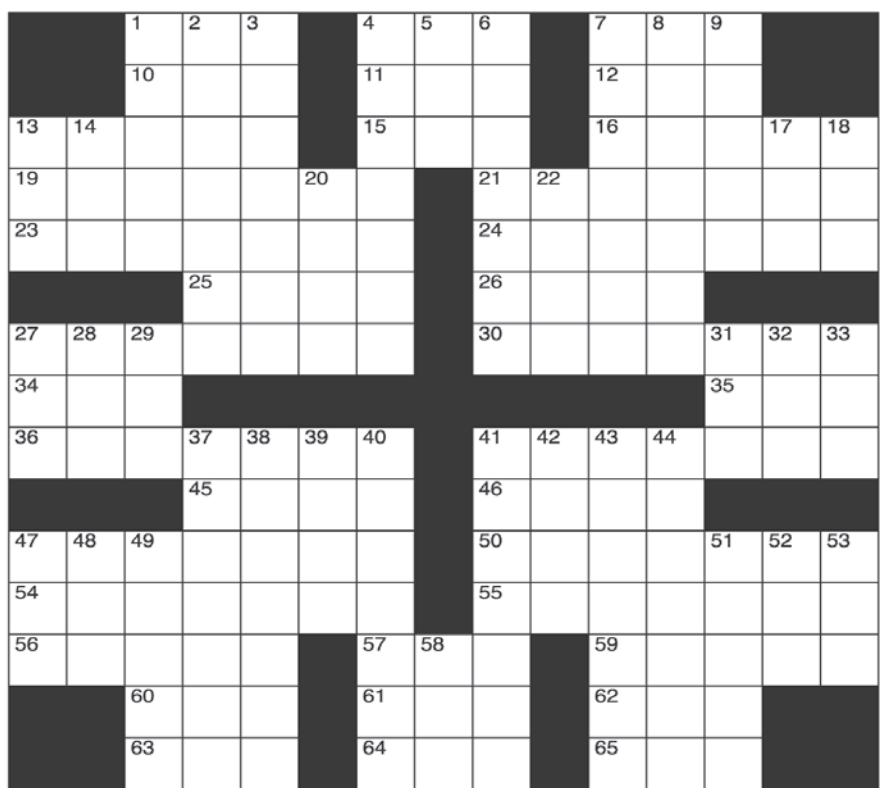
Grade 12: Blake Walbridge, Dean Richards, Jacob Moody, Makenzie Boisvert, Brady Moulton, Ryker Booth, Liam Brown, Taylor Mullen, Alexander Cronin, Jordyn Martineay, Alyssa

Smith, Lillyanna Lowton, Isabelle Fournier, Andrew Hunt, Emma Lyons, Julia Young, Malcolm Clark, Felix Roberts, Nathan Cloos, Thomas Bronson, Danielle Gray, Kaden Duque, Audrey Wood, Thomas Benker, Gianna Santangelo, Timilehin Abere, Rider Leslie, Kahlan Gilbert, Beth Gardiner, Joshua Rogers

Lauren Reitler, Michael Gardiner, Sara Fernandes, Chase Richards

Grade 11: Victoria Hicks, Anna Johnson, Cassidy Libby, Rebekah Peterson, Dillon Quinn, JayLynne Wallace, Allyvia Stevens, Jacob Roy, Abigail Morin, Izabella Forest, Abigail Lemay, Giselle Nunez, Acacia Scott, Katie DeVito, Ethan Marcoullier, Hayden Russell, Reid Swinerton, Chloe Houghtaling, Ella Eastman, Taylor Culverhouse, Paisley McInnis, Vincent DeVito, Hayden Herbert, Hayden Merrow, Alexis Fitch, Tucker Eaton, Sophia Dupell, Emma Ouellette, Aliyah Arsenault, Morgan Lewis, Saige Griffin, Cohen McNevech, Laura Fernandes, Payton Leclair, Tucker Ivone, Adaline King, Connor Woodbury, Brady Call, Kurtis Sheffer

Grade 12: Nathaniel Demain, Miley Bentley, Phoenix Piekarz, Alexandra Ackerly, Faith VanAuken, Brycen Wallbridge, Nicko Gardner, Joy Peterson, Devin Perkins, Serafin Agramonte Jose, Devin McEvoy, Lilyana Scott, Jack Marks, Zoe Scripture, William Blake, Ruby Brown, Benjamin Bean, Savannah Duseault, Soleil Daley, Graham Burke, Colby Hewitt, Bryce Sandlin, Anya Pollini, Grady Steele, Adrianna Noel, Aiden Clause, Allison Doherty, Aiden Dupuis, Charity Thomas, Peter Morin II, Annissa Desrochers, Brynn Demers, Andrew Curtis, Benjamin Nuzzelillo, Samuel (Tucker) Baca, Selena Vergato, Quinn Ivone, Autumn Ricker, Liam Rauschnot, Nelson Edwards, Ayla Robinson, Haley Savley

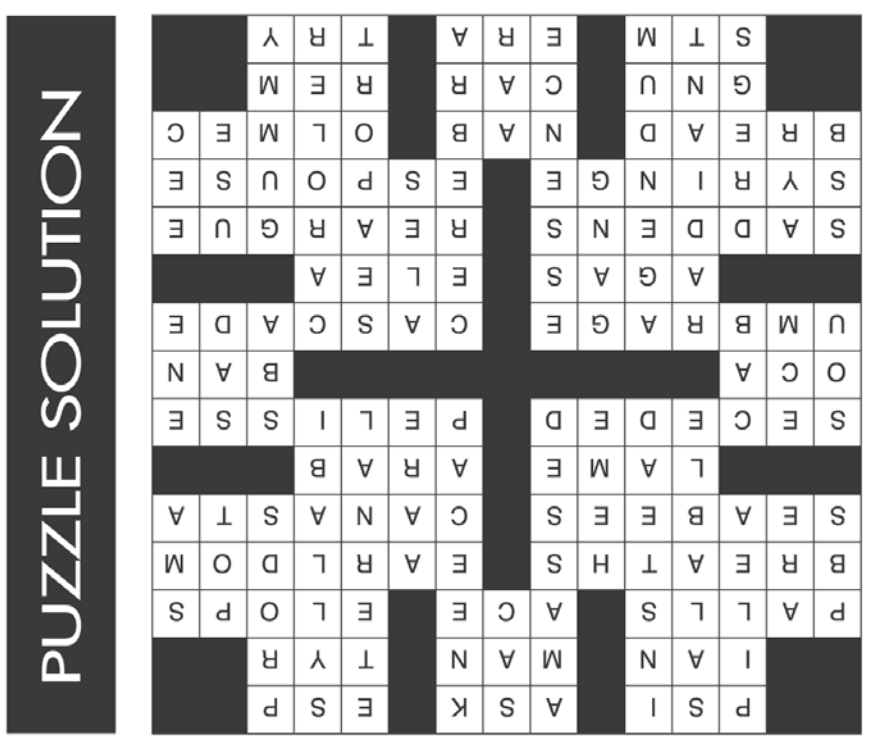


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Tire pressure measurement
- 4. Request
- 7. Clairvoyance
- 10. 007's creator
- 11. Adult male
- 12. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 13. Cloths spread over a coffin
- 15. Breeze through
- 16. Ladyfish genus
- 19. We all take them
- 21. Earl's jurisdiction
- 23. Members of U.S. Navy
- 24. Rummy-like card game
- 25. Affected by injury
- 26. Member of a Semitic people
- 27. Withdrew from a union
- 30. Woman's cloak
- 34. Spanish river
- 35. Prohibit
- 36. Something you can take
- 41. Dish soap brand
- 45. Ottoman military commanders
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 47. Makes somber
- 50. Discuss again
- 54. A tool to inject
- 55. Support
- 56. Informal term for money
- 57. Catch doing something wrong
- 59. Prehistoric people
- 60. Large African antelope
- 61. Vehicle
- 62. Georgia rockers
- 63. High resolution microscope
- 64. Pitching statistic
- 65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Indoor plant
- 2. Marketable
- 3. Rather
- 4. Collected
- 5. A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
- 6. Irish hip-hop trio
- 7. Ageless
- 8. Course requirements
- 9. Pokes at
- 13. TV channel
- 14. They ___
- 17. Cooking material
- 18. Investment account
- 20. Iron-containing compound
- 22. Swiss river
- 27. Small coin (French)
- 28. Electronic countermeasures
- 29. Taxi
- 31. Helps little firms
- 32. Unhappy
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Glowing
- 38. Item to be addressed
- 39. An informal body of friends
- 40. Intrinsic nature of something
- 41. Neural structures
- 42. Brews
- 43. A place for ships
- 44. One who sings holiday songs
- 47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 48. Scottish town
- 49. The most worthless parts
- 51. Sticky
- 52. Put to work
- 53. Precursor to the EU
- 58. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)



Fisichelli named to Spring President's Honor Roll at Bismarck State College

BISMARCK, N.D. — Abigail Fisichelli of Alton has been named to the President's Honor Roll for the Spring 2026 semester at Bismarck State College.

"We know and appreciate that every student's journey is unique. Earning a place on the President's Honor Roll is a significant accomplishment that reflects both academic excellence and a commitment to personal growth," said BSC President Brian Kalk.

Students must maintain at least a 3.50 grade point on a 4.00 scale while enrolled in at least 12 semester hours of classes to qualify for the BSC President's Honor Roll.

About Bismarck State College

Bismarck State College (BSC) is North Dakota's Polytechnic Institution, offering high-quality, affordable education with more than 100 career pathways, in-

cluding two-year associate degrees, four-year bachelor's degrees, and short-term program certificates. Dedicated to student success since 1939, BSC prepares students for high-demand careers through comprehensive advising, flexible in-person and online course options, industry-driven curriculum, and continuing education opportunities. Learn more at www.bismarckstate.edu.

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Sphinx!



Meet Sphinx, a big-eyed tabby girl with a one-of-a-kind meow, an unforgettable face, and a constant look of wonder that gives her a little owl-like charm.

Sphinx is a girl who knows exactly what she wants, and she has made it very clear that she would prefer to be the only feline in the home. The very thought of sharing her space with another cat is enough to make her tail puff up, so she is looking for a home where she can enjoy being the one and only.

Outside of that, Sphinx is a pretty simple girl. She is looking for treats, affection, love, and a place where she can explore and feel comfortable. She wants a person who will show her all the best parts of being a cat, from cozy naps to adventures around the house.

With her big eyes, curious expression, and unique personality, Sphinx is ready for a home where she can be confident, comfortable, and fully herself. She is looking for someone who will appreciate her quirks and give her the chance to be the cat she has always dreamed of being.

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Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Alton Bay Concerts at the Bandstand 2026

Summer Concert Schedule: 7-9 p.m. at the Alton Bay Bandstand, Alton Bay

July 11- "Thursday Afternoon Band"- Classic and Modern Rock- July 18- The Visitors- Oldies, Classic Rock, Country Rock; July 25- Got It Covered Band- Cover Songs; Aug. 1- Quint E. Sential Band- Country Rock and popular songs; Aug. 8- Bittersweet- Classic Rock; Aug. 15- Mutha Hubbard Band- high energy Country Band; Aug. 22- Saxx Roxx- back by popular demand and August 29- Cool Beans- '60's and '70's Rock.

Paint Night on the Land Bandstand With Anne Morrell

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring an outdoor Paint Night with instructor Anne Morrell at the Alton Bay Bandstand on Wednesday, July 29 from 6-7:30 p.m., rain date is July 30. Scene is a mountain view landscape with soft blues of the lake and green trees on the mountain top. All supplies are included, \$25 for adults; \$15 for children 12 and under; pay instructor on site. View the painting example on the Alton Parks and Recreation Face Book Page or ask for a copy to be emailed to you. All abilities are welcome. Bring a friend or sign up solo. Please RSVP with your name

and contact information to parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or call 603-875-0109. Register early as space is limited.

Pick Up Pickleball Games

Pick up Pickleball games are being held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to noon at the Liberty Tree Park Tennis Courts. Beginners are welcome, bring your own equipment. Courts are located behind 65 Frank C. Gilman Highway. Parking is across the street next to Mill Pond and by the Water Department. For more information, contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Guided Meditation

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring Guided Meditation with Karen Kharitonov on Thursdays: July 9 and 16 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.

Dungeons and Dragons

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a weekly Dungeons and Dragons adventure on Wednesdays at the Alton Bay Community Cen-

ter from 6-8 p.m. The program is free for ages 18+. 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.

Alton Old Home Days Craft Fair-Aug. 8 & 9

Celebrate Alton Old Home Days by attending a New England Style Craft Fair on August 8 and 9, 2026. The fair will take place at Railroad Square Park in picturesque Alton Bay overlooking Lake Winnepesaukee. Juried vendors will be located inside the Alton Bay Community Center and throughout the waterfront park. All vendor items are handmade by local artisans and include food items, maple products, bird feeders, jewelry, tote and cosmetic bags, stoneware pottery, wood signs and crafts, journals, greeting cards, paintings, linens, quilts, pillows, dog and cat treats and toys, laser cut and engraved items, seashell designs, children's books, knitted and crocheted items, and much more. Craft Fair items make unique holiday gifts. Craft Fair hours are Saturday from 9:00a.m.-5:00p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., rain or shine.

Alton Celebrates Old Home Days

The Town of Alton is planning events for Alton Old Home Days.

If your organization is sponsoring an event please contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov to be added to the schedule.

Alton Old Home Days are Aug. 8 and 9. Activities include:

Saturday, Aug. 8

Old Home Days Craft Fair- 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Railroad Square Park.

Vintage Boat Show- 9 a.m.-noon. Public Boat Docks.

ABA Parade- Hometown USA: 250 Years Strong- 11:30a.m.- Starts at the Letter S Road and ends in Alton Bay.

Alton Fire Association Chicken BBQ- Central Fire Station- Starts at 4:30 p.m. until sold out.

Bittersweet Band Concert, a local favorite, playing classic rock- 7-9 p.m., Alton Bay Bandstand.

Sunday, Aug. 9

Old Home Days Craft Fair- 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Railroad Square Park.

Alton Fire Department vs Alton Police Department Annual Softball Game- 10 a.m.- Jones Field.

Cribbage Tournament- 1:00p.m.- Alton Bay Bandstand, Free. Arrive early to get a seat in the game.

Water Bandstand Committee presents

Live Music Concert- The Water Bandstand Committee is sponsoring the "Thursday Afternoon Band" on Aug. 14 from 7-9 p.m. at the Alton Bay Land Band-

stand. The Committee is also sponsoring the "Maine Attraction Water Ski Show Team" on Saturday, Aug. 22 at 3 p.m. in Alton Bay. Rain date is Sunday, Aug. 23.

All Saints Summer Fair returns July 18

WOLFEBORO — The 64th Annual All Saints Summer Fair will be held on Saturday, July 18 from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The Summer Fair is an All Saints tradition that helps us serve the community of Wolfeboro and the Lakes Region. The fair includes baked goods, home goods, plant and garden items, collectibles, toys, tools, fabrics, crafts, jewelry, books, Silent Auction items, a place to receive a prayer requests and of

course delicious food. This year, All Saints invites you to visit our new Labryinth.

Proceeds help support the outreach and service ministries of All Saints Church. Be sure to check out the Summer Fair this year. It is a wonderful opportunity to have fun as we gather as a community of faith.

If you are interested in joining the festivities and working with us, please contact the church office.

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Maybe six guys.
Ten.

The dog guy.
The website guy.
The grandparent guy.
The business guy.

That's good.

How about one guy.

sidehustlenh.com

SIDE HUSTLE

Vanessa Flanders earns SUNY Cortland President's List honors

CORTLAND, N.Y. — Vanessa Flanders of Gilford was one of 740 SUNY Cortland students who earned President's List honors for the Spring 2026 semester. Flanders's major is Exercise Science.

To qualify for the President's List, students must earn a grade of A- or better in each of their classes

while carrying a course load of 12 hours or more.

SUNY Cortland is one of New York's top public universities, offering a high-value education spanning nearly 70 undergraduate majors in diverse fields that include education, business economics, exercise science, sport management and biological sciences. This mid-

sized institution, located in the geographic heart of New York state, provides a high quality of student life, outstanding faculty and extensive out-of-classroom educational experiences. Since 1868, it has offered students the educational experiences they need to turn their dreams into careers. Learn more at Cortland.edu.



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Opinion

SECTION A, PAGE 4

SALMON PRESS, THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026

A celebration 250 years in the making

Every town has traditions that residents circle on the calendar long before the date arrives. In Alton, Old Home Day is one of those occasions. It is a celebration that brings together lifelong residents, seasonal visitors, former neighbors returning home, and newcomers discovering what makes this corner of New Hampshire so special.

This year's theme, "250 Years Strong," arrives at a fitting moment. As communities across the country mark America's 250th anniversary, Alton has the opportunity to celebrate not only the nation's history but also its own enduring character.

Parades are sometimes dismissed as simple entertainment, but they represent something much deeper. They are one of the few public events where nearly every segment of a community is represented. Veterans, first responders, civic organizations, businesses, youth groups, churches, musicians, classic cars, and families all share the same route. For a couple of hours, differences fade into the background, replaced by smiles, applause, and the unmistakable feeling of belonging.

That sense of connection is becoming increasingly valuable.

Modern life often encourages people to experience communities through screens instead of sidewalks. Shopping happens online. Conversations take place through text messages. Entertainment streams into our living rooms. Yet no app can replace standing shoulder to shoulder with neighbors as children wave from parade floats or local organizations proudly display the work they do throughout the year.

Old Home Day reminds us that communities are built through participation.

The day's lineup reflects that spirit perfectly. The New Hampshire Boat Museum's 50th anniversary boat show celebrates the Lakes Region's rich maritime heritage. The craft fair showcases the creativity and entrepreneurial spirit of local artisans. The evening concert provides another opportunity for friends and families to gather under the summer sky before another season begins to wind down.

Each event stands on its own, but together they create something greater than the sum of their parts. They invite people to spend an entire day reconnecting with neighbors, supporting local organizations, and making new memories.

These traditions also depend on volunteers. Behind every parade float, every craft booth, every concert, and every community celebration are countless hours donated by people who believe their town is worth the effort. Planning meetings, fundraising, traffic control, setup, cleanup, and dozens of unseen tasks rarely receive public attention, yet they make events like Old Home Day possible.

Their work deserves appreciation.

The "250 Years Strong" theme also offers an opportunity to think about what strength truly means. It is not measured only by longevity or historic milestones. It is reflected in communities that continue to welcome new families while honoring longtime residents. It is found in businesses that invest locally, organizations that give back, and neighbors who continue showing up for one another.

Every generation inherits traditions from those who came before. The responsibility is not merely to preserve them, but to keep them vibrant enough that the next generation wants to continue them.

On Aug. 8, Alton will once again demonstrate why small-town traditions continue to matter. There will be laughter along the parade route, conversations between old friends, introductions to new neighbors, and children experiencing the excitement that may one day become their own cherished memories.

That is how communities endure.

For 250 years, America has been shaped not only by the events recorded in history books, but by thousands of towns where people gather, volunteer, celebrate, and build lasting connections. Alton's Old Home Day is one of those gatherings. It is a reminder that while history deserves celebration, community deserves participation.

Here's hoping the sidewalks are full, the weather cooperates, and another generation discovers why this tradition remains one of summer's finest days in the Lakes Region.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Visitors Band is coming to Barnstead Summer Concert Series!

They have many years of playing together but 2025 was the first time they played at the Barnstead Parade Grounds. To say they were well received would be an understatement! They had some of the audience up dancing and P&R received positive feedback from everyone they spoke to. The Visitors Band is a community music ensemble from Dover, New Hampshire,

with a long history in the state's music scene. They perform a mix of classic rock 'n' roll hits from the '60s and '70s, '80s rock anthems, and some country tunes, appealing to fans of retro and mainstream pop/rock from that era. Barnstead Parks and Rec is thrilled to welcome them back to the parade grounds on July 11!

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Diversions

Not being blessed with air conditioning in my truck, I was driving home from work with the windows open. All of a sudden, I felt something crawling under my leg. It certainly wasn't a tick, it felt like something with wings. I tried to brush it out a couple of times unsuccessfully, thinking it was gone only to have it reassert its presents.

Trying to keep most of my attention on my driving, I reached down into my shorts and scooped the critter up into my hand. It wasn't at all too happy about this action, that was obvious. I looked down to see what I had and realized that it was some kind of a small hornet or a wasp, not just a gentle bee.

It was like my hand knew what to do instinctively and instantly threw it toward the open window where it flew away, off to its freedom, some distance from where it had joined me. I didn't even almost get stung. What a blessing. Thank you, Lord.

So today was a Friday. I usually leave Fridays open for looking at work or finishing up unfinished stuff.

I also use it for small jobs. There's a woman who said that she'd call and didn't, so instead of hounding her, I enjoyed a casual morning inside while it rained quite profusely and after lunch headed off to pick up supplies for an upcoming job.

Everything was written on a little notebook list. I found what I needed and headed for the checkout. The computer wouldn't accept my credit card. She tried and tried; it kept rejecting it. Finally, another cash register person came and got it to work. I loaded up the truck and headed home.

It wasn't till I parked the truck, that I realized I forgot a major portion of the purchase. I really need to remember to check my lists before going to the checkout. I started up the truck and drove back to the store. I was hoping to have time to go for a walk out back to check out the woods, but now that time was all eaten up by my second adventure to town.

Knowing that all my leftovers were gone, and that I'd need to cook something for supper. I took advantage of being in the

city and scooped up some fast food, as I wouldn't be getting home till well after six. That's not the time to start cooking something in my book.

At this time of year, for a couple of weeks, the sun comes up around the corner and shines on that hidden side of the house. When the sun gets up above the trees, there is a time when it reflects off of my bedroom window, making this jagged rectangle beam that shines right down into the hole in the bluebird house.

I've noticed this for a couple mornings now. Today I saw things moving round inside. It's usually to dark in there. This beam is like a Super Trouper follow spot, it's blindingly bright. And just like stage lights, I'll bet it warms the place up a bit. When the beam moved off, they again began rustling about, sticking their little beaks out the opening. It must be incredibly bright to them. I know it is to me. They'll soon be crawling out, flying around, and then flying away. That's what birds do.

I wonder if they have music with them? Like the

birds in Snow White. Do you? Cosby did a thing on kids having their own individual music on his Wonderfulness album. We used to laugh at his stories a lot.

A drummer friend admitted to me that he also did the personal drumming that I do. Maybe it's a percussion section thing. I'm constantly tapping out rhythms with my teeth. I may have inflicted unnecessary tooth wear in doing so, but my dentist has never commented about it.

By moving my jaw in different ways, hitting different combinations of teeth, I can produce a number of different drum tapping sounds inside my head. I piece them together into a cadence of the moment, that can last a long time. It could easily be my rhythm for the day. They're usually about a measure or two long, and just get repeated.

Life can easily distract me from my music, but when things settle down, it's easy to slide back into the rhythm.

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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There are some conversations that last an hour and leave you wondering what was actually said.

Then there are the five-minute conversations you have in New Hampshire. Those are the ones that stick with you.

I'm talking about the exchanges that happen in places where nobody is in a hurry, even if everyone claims they are. At the hardware store while waiting for paint to be mixed. On the bench outside the post office. Standing beside a pickup truck after you've both reached for the same cart at the transfer station. You don't know the person's name. They don't know yours. But for five minutes, you're neighbors.

It usually starts with the weather, because that's what New Englanders do. If it's been raining, someone will say we needed it. If it's been dry, someone will say we needed rain. If it's perfect outside, someone will remind you it won't last. Then, almost without realizing it, the conversation wanders.

Someone mentions the old mill that used to stand down the road. Another person remembers buying

penny candy at a store that's been gone for thirty years.

Before long, you've learned that the stranger's grandson just graduated, they're hoping the tomatoes finally take off this year, and they're still driving the same truck because, as they put it, "It hasn't given me a reason to replace it."

Five minutes. That's all. Then you both smile, say, "Well, I'd better let you get going," and head in opposite directions.

I've always liked those conversations because they're so... unplanned. Nobody is networking. Nobody is trying to impress anyone. Nobody checks a phone every thirty seconds. They're simply talking. It feels almost old-fashioned now.

These days, we're connected to hundreds of people without actually speaking to very many of them. We know what distant acquaintances had for breakfast, but we couldn't tell you the name of the fellow who always waves from his porch when you drive by.

Somewhere along the

line, convenience started replacing conversation. That's a trade I'm not sure was worth

making. I still think communities are built one conversation at a time. Not the big speeches at Town Meeting. Not the debates on social media. Just the little chats that remind us we're sharing the same place. Those moments are where trust begins.

You discover the person next to you grew up in town, or moved here because they wanted a quieter life. You learn who's recovering from surgery, whose daughter just started teaching, or who finally caught the fish that got away last summer. By the end of those five minutes, the stranger isn't quite a stranger anymore. The funny thing is, you'll probably never see them again.

Or maybe you will. A month later, you'll pass each other at Old Home Day or the county fair. Neither of you remembers the other's name, but you both remember the conversation. You nod. Maybe you stop and talk for another five minutes. That's how small

towns work.

Relationships aren't always built through grand gestures. They're built through repeated moments of familiarity. One wave. One conversation. One chance encounter.

Before long, you realize you've become part of one another's lives, even if only in the smallest way. I hope we never lose that.

Life keeps getting faster. Stores add self-checkout lanes. More errands can be done without speaking to another soul. Some days that's convenient. But convenience has never been the same thing as community.

Community still requires people willing to pause for a few minutes and ask, "How've you been?" It's a simple question. Sometimes, it's exactly what someone needed to hear.

So this week, if you're waiting in line at the feed store, the library, or the local market, don't be too quick to stare at your phone. Look up. You may find yourself having one of those five-minute conversations. And if you're lucky, you'll drive home realizing it was the best part of your day.

SPORTS

Seventh inning rally sinks Post 1 in Conway



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Carter Lloyd fires a pitch for Laconia Post 1 during action last Monday in Conway

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

CONWAY — In a game that was a pitchers' duel through the first five innings in American Legion Baseball action on Monday, June 29, Laconia Post 1 opened up a 5-0 lead in the top of the sixth before Conway Post 46 walked off with a 6-5 win in the bottom of the seventh inning at Nasby King Field in Conway.

Conway's Sergio Espezuza and Laconia's Carter Lloyd danced their way through the first few innings, working around a few hits, walks and hit batters.

Brayden Townsend was hit by a pitch with one out in the top of the first, stole second and went to third on a wild pitch. After teammate Wyatt Divers worked a walk and stole second, Espezuza snared a hot line drive back to the mound and turned it into a double play to end the inning. Lloyd gave up a two-out hit to Devin Jakubec in the bottom of the first but the game remained scoreless after one.

Lloyd worked a walk to open the top of the second and Cavan Sanborn was hit by a pitch. One out later, a Landon Sargent base hit plated the first run of the game and one out later, Brendan Dee worked a walk before Espezuza got a strikeout to end the inning. Lloyd then set the side down in order in the bottom of the second inning.

Divers was hit by a pitch to open the top of the third, stole second and went to third on a wild pitch. One out later, Lloyd was hit by a pitch and stole second and one out later, Riley Galloway worked a walk to load the bases, with Espezuza getting another strikeout to end the inning. Korbin James worked a walk to lead off the bottom of the third inning, but Divers picked him off first with a perfect throw. Matt Charrette had a two-out double but he was stranded on the bases.

TJ Charbono led off the top of the fourth with a walk and took second on a passed ball. One out later Divers worked a walk before Espezuza again escaped the jam with a strikeout to keep it 1-0. Lloyd responded by setting the side down in order in the bottom of the inning.

Lloyd worked a walk

to start the top of the fifth and after Espezuza struck out two, a Sargent double plated Lloyd with the second run of the game and Bowen Brown took over on the mound for the hosts. Charbono was hit by a pitch and Dee walked, loading the bases, but the Conway hurler got a groundout to his brother, Jacob, at third base to end the inning. Jonah Pepin led off the bottom of the inning with a walk, but Divers again executed a pickoff move to eliminate the runner. James had a base hit that was compounded by an error and Bowen Brown had a base hit, but both runners were stranded as Lloyd got a grounder to third to end the inning.

Divers opened the top of the sixth with a base hit and Jake Tryon walked before a Lloyd bunt hit loaded the bases with nobody out. Sanborn worked a walk to plate a run and a sacrifice fly from Galloway drove in another run. Sargent worked a walk and a Charbono ground-er to second plated another run before Post 46 got out of the inning with Laconia leading 5-0.

Espezuza led off the bottom of the inning with a double and went to third on a Jakubec fly ball to center. Jacob Brown then drove in Conway's first run of the game with a base hit, cutting the lead to 5-1 before Lloyd retired the next two batters to end the inning. Bowen Brown worked around base hits from Divers and Lloyd in the top of the seventh, with Pepin gunning down Divers stealing second to help get out of the frame.

Post 46 then went to work in the bottom of the seventh. Owen Robertson led off with a base hit and one out later, Bowen Brown beat out an infield hit and a Charrette hit drove in the second run of the game for Conway. Espezuza reached on an error with another run crossing the plate and Dee took over on the hill for

Laconia. Back-to-back walks to Jakubec and Jacob Brown cut the lead to 5-4 and a Hayden White base hit drove in Espezuza and Jakubec to give Post 46 the walkoff 6-5 win.

The two teams will meet again on Monday,



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Riley Galloway takes a throw at first base during Post 1's game with Post 46 in Conway last Monday afternoon.

July 13, at Robbie Mills Park in Laconia at 7 p.m.

Post 46 is scheduled to be at Bedford today, July 9, at 6 p.m., at Lebanon for a doubleheader at 10 and 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 11, and at Concord on Wednesday, July 15, at 6 p.m. before

returning home to take on Bedford on Thursday, July 16, at 6 p.m.

Post 1 is scheduled to be hosting Weare on Friday, July 10, at Memorial Park at 5:30 p.m., will be hosting Keene for a doubleheader on Sunday, July 12, at 12

and 2:30 p.m. at Memorial Park and will be at Sweeney at Gill Stadium on Tuesday, July 14, at 6 p.m.

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

Students named to Dean's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH — Students have been named to the Plymouth State University Dean's List for the Spring 2026 semester. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 for the Spring 2026 term, be a matriculated student with at least 12 credits, at least nine of which must confer grade points at the time the list is finalized.

Olivia Griffin of New Durham

Skylar Hammes of New Durham

Mason Pappaceno of Alton

Logan Grant of Gilford

Madelyn Lounsbury of Laconia

Jack Segalini of Gilmanon

About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State Uni-

versity serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates, and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. The Plymouth State Cluster Learning Model emphasizes open, integra-

tive, and project-based experiences. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire. To learn more about Plymouth State University, visit www.plymouth.edu.

Local University of Rhode Island students named to Spring Dean's List

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that several area students have been named to its Spring 2026 Dean's List. Among them are:

Jordyn Byars of Gilford

Alyssa Pepin of Laconia

Christine Pingol of Gilford

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 through 3.79 grade point average. Part-time stu-

dents qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.30 through 3.79 grade point average.

Students named to the Dean's List represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New Jersey, and many other states and countries.

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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SPORTS

Abenaki celebrates 30 years of youth lacrosse in Wolfeboro



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Abenaki Youth Lacrosse honored those who were instrumental in helping to start and build the program 30 years ago. Left to right, Bill Pottle, the Garnsey family (Charlie, Fred, Meighan, Ryder and missing, Erin), Margaret Martin, Kate Turner and Bill Lee.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Professional lacrosse player and Abenaki alum Ryder Garnsey signs a helmet for current Abenaki player Sawyer Aucoin at Abenaki Fun Day last Thursday.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Bob Hughes looks over the years worth of photos, newspaper articles and more about Abenaki Youth Lacrosse at last Thursday's Abenaki Fun Day, celebrating 30 years of the local youth lacrosse organization.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Former and current Abenaki players, coaches and supporters listen as Byron Martin recites a bit of history of Abenaki Youth Lacrosse.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

WOLFEBORO — For the past 30 years, Abenaki Lacrosse has helped to bring the sport to thousands of children throughout the Wolfeboro area and last Thursday afternoon, Abenaki alumni gathered at The Nick to celebrate those three decades and catch up on old times.

"I love the game and I wanted to see give every young person an opportunity to experience it," said Bill Pottle, who brought the idea of Abenaki to life back in 1996. "I grew up loving lacrosse and not having an opportunity to participate in a structured environment."

Pottle noted that when he was growing up in Massachusetts, the only lacrosse teams he knew of were at private schools and as someone who didn't go to a private school, he didn't have the chance to play. And he didn't want that to happen to other kids.

"I had access to stuff, I knew officials, I was active in the Lacrosse Foundation, I had fields at my disposal and some extra equipment," said Pottle, who at the time was serving as the Athletics Director and lacrosse coach

at Brewster Academy. "And I had Brewster players that were helping me coach." All that came together to

become Abenaki Youth Lacrosse with the first team in 1996.

And from the beginning,

there was a small group of folks leading the way, including Bill Lee, Kate Turner and Margaret Martin.

"It was a fun time, that first year was just magical," said Turner, who for many years was the Assistant Ath-

letics Director at Brewster Academy. "Everybody was new."

SEE **ABENAKI**, PAGE **A11**

SOFTBALL

(continued from Page A1)

Division III Coach of the Year and Angie Carey of Bishop Brady was named Assistant Coach of the Year.

In Division IV, First Team honors went to Lisbon's Meredith Barnes, Moultonborough's Beyla Rudolph and Woodsville's Makayla Walker, Second Team went to Lisbon's Autumn Himes, Gorham's Natanya Roberge and Moultonborough's Evelyn Buy and Honorable Mention went to Arya Kimball of Lisbon, Miyah Akines of Littleton and Eynne Matheson of Moultonborough.

Also earning First Team honors were Haley Rossit and Lexi Santamaria of Colebrook, Callie Hansen of Epping, Bella Laflamme and Lily Cornell of Franklin, Brielle Duffy of Newmarket, Eliza Arwood and Lexi Jordan of Portsmouth Christian, Alyvia Jaimes (Pitcher of the Year) and Rylee Phillips of Pittsburg-Canaan, Alex Penney



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Belle Dow of Gilford was named the Division III Pitcher of the Year for her senior season.

(Player of the Year) of Pittsfield and Taylor Goodspeed of Sunapee.

Second Team accolades were also presented to Alayna MacKenzie of Epping, Madison Parker of Cole-

brook, Brielle Krook, Hannah Cargill and Fiona Alix of Mascenic, Ava Zundell of Newmarket, Zuri Petlick of Portsmouth Christian, Sienna Grondin and Ella Gilbert of Pittsburg-Canaan, Savannah Chagnon and Chelsea Chagnon of Pittsfield and Mckenna Crouse of Wilton-Lyndeborough.

Also earning Honorable Mention were Kaelyn Fournier of Colebrook, Rachel Mazzone of Epping, Hannah Chesley of Newmarket, Hannah Cartier of Nute, Marion Spurr of Portsmouth Christian, Nika Pareira of Pittsfield and Gabby Stevens of Sunapee.

Gene Cote of Pittsburg-Canaan was named Division IV Coach of the Year and Amber Chouinard of Epping was named Assistant/JV Coach of the Year.

In Division II, First Team honors went to Kingswood's Lily Scott, Second Team was presented to Kennett's Makenna Noyes, Kingswood's Ella Smith and Plymouth's Emilyya Peras and Honorable Mention went to Kingswood's Makenzie Boisvert and Caelynn Blattenberger and Plym-



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Kylee Guptill of Prospect Mountain earned Division III First Team All-State and was also named MaxPreps Player of the Year for New Hampshire.



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Prospect Mountain's Paige Harding capped off her career with a state championship and First Team All-State honors.

outh's Alyvia Foote.

Joining Scott in earning First Team honors were Savannah Chapman and Katie Lorenz of John Stark, Ava Kaercher (Pitcher of the Year) of Lebanon, Addison Coffin, Ari Fenton and Kylie Bieniek of Coe-Brown, Kate Michaud (Player of the Year) and Aliza Parks of Oyster River, Sydney Borges of ConVal, Taylor Ouellette of Bow, Katelyn Herrmann of Merrimack Valley, Kaydena Hindson of Laconia, Phoebe Stood of Sanborn and Caleigh Aguiar of Pelham.

Also earning Second Team accolades were Alayna Boutin of Sanborn, Kinley Moore, Mae Hagelberg and Chloe Hamlin of ConVal, Madison Oppold of Bow, Izzy LaRose of Campbell, Aubrin Berger of

Pelham, Grace Harrold and Lexi Wolsky of Souhegan, Reilley West of Coe-Brown, Aubrey DeJesus of Oyster River and Sophie DeDomenico of Lebanon.

Honorable Mention also went to Alivia Mazzeo of Milford, Kacey Normandie of Pelham, Ryleigh Perry of Merrimack Valley, Sam Bishop and Lorelye LeClair of Oyster River, Hannah Lambert of Sanborn and Katie Fluet of Campbell.

Ryan Dow of Kingswood was named the JV Coach of the Year, Matt Kaercher of Lebanon was named Division II Coach of the Year and Mike Cote of Campbell was named Assistant Coach of the Year.

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

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See what happens when everything goes wrong

Village Players present "The Play That Goes Wrong" opening July 24

WOLFEBORO — If you've been part of a theater production, you know there's always a chance that things will go wrong. But the hope is always that things won't go wrong, the production will go on as planned and even if something does go wrong, the actors and crew will do their best to make sure that the audience will be none the wiser.

However, when it comes to the Cornley University Drama Society's production of "Murder at Haversham Manor," things go awry, and it will be very obvious to everyone. The results are hilarious.

That is the premise behind "The Play That Goes Wrong," the next production for the Village Players Theater, opening on July 24 at the theater in downtown Wolfeboro.

The actors in the production of "Murder at Haversham Manor" find themselves in all sorts of precarious positions as things literally fall down around them as they try to put on the show. The backstage crew becomes part of the show as well as they look to (sometimes) help keep things together.

Those familiar with the Village Players will recognize many of the



COURTESY Cecil Haversham (Bob Tuttle, left) and Thomas Colleymore (Jonathan Flower, right) try to console Florence Colleymore (Sarah Kuhn) as she grieves over her "dead" fiancée, Charles Haversham (Bob Rautenberg) in rehearsals for "The Play That Goes Wrong," opening on July 24, at The Village Players Theater in Wolfeboro.

faces that are portraying the actors portraying the folks involved in producing "Murder at Haversham Manor. It starts with Christian Boudman, who plays Chris Bean, the leader of Cornley Drama Society and plays Inspector Carter in their production. Bob Rautenberg plays Jonathan Harris, who is playing murder victim Charles Haversham and Jonathan Flower plays Robert Grove, who is playing Thomas Colleymore. Sarah Kuhn, in her second Village Players production, plays Sandra

Wilkinson, who is playing Thomas Colleymore's sister, Florence, who is also Charles Haversham's fiancée. Bob Tuttle plays Max Bennett, who plays a pair of characters in the show, Cecil Haversham and Arthur the gardener while AJ O'Neil plays Dennis Tyde, who

portrays Perkins the butler. Paul Stewart plays Trevor Watson, who is controlling the lights and sound for the Cornley University Drama Society but somehow finds himself on stage as things continue to go wrong. And trying to hold it all together as a good stage

manager should, is Kaylin Gagne, portraying Annie Twilloil, the "Murder at Haversham Manor" stage manager, who like the light and sound guy, also finds herself on stage, but finds that she might actually like it and may actually be pretty good at it.

The backstage crew for the "Murder at Haversham Manor" includes newcomers Dana Gardner and Jon Long along with veteran Village Players Helen Rautenberg and Jeremy Hardin and newcomer Julie Mills, in her second Village Players production.

The Olivier Award-winning comedy is a global phenomenon that's guaranteed to leave you aching with laughter and is directed by veteran Village Players directors Russ Ellis and Jay Sydow, who know a thing or two about bringing the funny to the stage in Wolfeboro.

"The Play That Goes Wrong" will be on the Village Players stage on July 24, 25 and 31 and

Aug. 1, all at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 2, at 2 p.m. Once again, The Village Players are offering tiered ticket prices for patrons who purchase tickets online. The \$45 "Hero" ticket helps to sustain Village Players shows in addition to covering costs including heating/cooling, cleaning, repairs, insurance and general upkeep of the building. The "Patron" \$20 ticket pays for the current show costs including costumes, publicity, scenery, scripts, sheet music, musicians and props. VP is also offering a \$10 ticket for "Friends." This price contributes to the current show while keeping ticket prices at a minimum. The theater hopes this price keeps prices affordable for the community. Tickets are available at Black's Paper and Gifts and online at village-players.com.

"The Play That Goes Wrong" is generously sponsored by Dr. Richard J. Neal, DMD.

Windham Community Band kicks off free summer concert series

WOLFEBORO — Classic concert band sounds will kick off the Friends of the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand's summer concert series on Saturday, July 11, at 7 p.m. in Cate Park.

The Windham Community Bands were established in May 1997. Co-founded by Roanne Copley, Frank Rydstrom, and Bruce Lee, the membership quickly increased from the original eight musicians and now consists of about 80 total members and includes three performing groups: The Windham Concert Band, The Windham Swing Band and a Saxophone Ensemble. The band is a volunteer, non-profit, organization serving musicians and the public from Windham, Derry, Londonderry, Salem, Methuen, Mass., Hudson, Manchester, Nashua, and other area communities. Musicians of all ages are welcome to join.

The band has performed in Hampton Beach, Newburyport, Haverhill and Lowell, Mass. and in summer concert programs throughout southern New Hampshire.

The band is comprised completely of volunteers ranging in age from teens to seniors and they come from various backgrounds. Many are music teachers, while others are doctors, business people, technical professionals and retirees. Some are still students. Band members come from towns from throughout the area.

The Windham Community Band plays a repertoire of music that most will find familiar, including Broadway musicals, popular medleys, swing, jazz, marches and other favorites.

The Windham Concert Band director is Spencer Aston, who is currently an Assistant Professor of Music at Bridgewater State University where he teaches private trumpet lessons and directs the BSU Bear Band. Dr. Aston has frequently guest conducted and given clinics/masterclasses at schools all across New England. The assistant director is Pam Choinski, who is the band director at Abby Kel-



COURTESY PHOTO The Windham Community Band is the first act in the Friends of the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand concert series. The group plays July 11 at the Cate Park Bandstand beginning at 7 p.m.

ley Foster High School in Worcester, Mass.

The Friends of the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand is a non-profit group that sponsors free concerts in Cate Park each Saturday throughout July and August. The group is always looking for a wide variety of musical styles to fill the Saturday night series and the opening week of the series brings the sounds of traditional concert bands.

The concerts run from 7 to 9 p.m. in Cate Park in downtown Wolfeboro. Though there is no charge for the concert, a pass-that offering is taken at intermission to help support the Friends of the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand's mission to bring quality acts to Wolfeboro every summer.

The Windham Community Band will play at 7 p.m. on Saturday, July 11, weather permitting. The concerts are subject to weather conditions. If bad weather is threatening and the concert

has to be postponed, there will be a sign posted at the park entrance near the town docks and will be posted online at wolfeborobandstand.org and on the group's Facebook page.

Alton Bay company featured in statewide tourism initiative



COURTESY Chris Shields of SUPNH films a commercial for the NH State Parks and Recreation sharing his expertise in paddleboarding as part of the Wildly Responsible NH campaign.

ALTON BAY — before stand-up paddleboarding had taken hold in the Lakes Region. The company offers paddleboard rentals and recreational programs on Lake Winnepesaukee and Lake Wentworth.

"Chris has been doing this longer than most people have known what a paddleboard is," said Sarah Godrum, Chairperson of the Alton Business Association. "Having SUPNH represent New Hampshire in a statewide campaign is exactly the kind of recognition this community deserves."

The Wildly Responsible NH commercial is expected to air summer 2026. More information is available at supnh.com.

"It's an honor to represent New Hampshire's waters in this campaign," said Shields. "Responsible recreation is something we've built this business around from day one, so it means a lot to see that recognized at the state level."

SUPNH was founded more than 18 years ago,

founder Chris Shields was selected by NH State Parks and Recreation to appear on camera as a subject matter expert. Shields provided equipment for the production and led a paddle tour for the film crew following the shoot, with filming conducted on location in Alton Bay.

SUPNH is the Lakes Region's first and longest-running stand-up paddleboard company, founded by Chris Shields and based in Alton Bay, NH. SUPNH serves local residents, vacationers, and recreational programs throughout the Lake Winnepesaukee region.

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Barnstead Parks & Recreation Highlights

Motto: "Bringing Community Together by Doing Fun Stuff!"

Summer Concert Series
Barnstead Parks &

Recreation is pleased to welcome to the Summer Concert Series Stage, The Visitors Band of NH on July 11 and White Dog Duo on July 18. The concerts are free and concessions will be offered by local organizations (cash only). Grab a chair or a blanket and come on down to enjoy the show!

Classes are every Fridays from 6 – 7:30 p.m. (weather dependent) at the TL Storer Scout Reservation. Equipment will be provided, or you can bring your own. \$10 for the session. The link for registration can be found on our website.

The fee for Barnstead residents is \$40, with a \$5 sibling discount off each additional child in the same family. Non-Barnstead residents' fee is \$50, and the sibling discount still applies. Some financial assistance is available thanks to a donation from The Congregational Church of North Barnstead. Contact BarnsteadP&Rhelps@gmail.com to inquire on availability if needed. Signup forms are posted on the website under Forms/Documents or you can pick up a copy at town hall or email barnsteadparks@gmail.com.

various openings on the commission, and we are excited to welcome new members. Contact Gail McCullough if you would like more information.

Barnstead Garden Club

We thrive off of community volunteers and donations, so please reach out to us through our Facebook page, Barnstead Garden Club, or barnsteadgc@yahoo.com if you can lend a hand! We appreciate any help and support and hope you join our team!

Please watch our website (barnsteadnhparks-rec.com) and Facebook page (@barnsteadparks) for additional details, date changes, cancellations, and pop-up events. We can also be reached at 802-332-3799 and barnsteadparks@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Commission member openings

Being a part of the commission is a great way to be more involved in creating, planning, and hosting activities or programs for our community. There are many different levels of involvement and time commitments. We have

Local University of Rhode Island students named to Spring President's List

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that several area students have been named to its Spring 2026 President's List. Among them are:

- Lily Rapoza of Alton Bay
- Jared Cardinali of Laconia
- Molly McLean of Gilford
- Alana Sawyer of Gilford

To be included on the President's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.80 through 4.0 grade point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.80 through 4.0 grade point average.

Students named to the President's List represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New

York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries.

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.

Town Wide Yardsale

A town wide yard sale will take place on July 25 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Send an email to Parks and Rec to get your address added to the map. Need a place to set up? Not a problem, you can set up at the P&R Garage/Yard for a \$5.00 fee. You will need to bring your own set up (i.e. Table, chair, EZ-UP).

Archery Program

Barnstead Archery – Registration is open for session 2 (July 17 – Aug. 21) and session 3 (Aug. 28 – Oct. 9).

Powerhouse holds auditions for two fall productions

LACONIA — Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, the resident theatre company of The Colonial Theatre in Laconia, announces auditions for two fall productions. On Sunday, July 19 and Tuesday, July 21 at the Colonial, local actors are invited to audition for the dynamic comedy "Peter and the Starcatcher" and "Big Bad: The Trials and Tribulations of a Fairy Tale Wolf," an original theatrical adventure. The former is part of the 2026 Colonial Series, and the latter is part of the Spark Series and will take place at the beautiful Prescott Farm campus in Laconia.

"Peter and the Starcatcher" will be directed by Bryan Halperin. Based on the popular book series "Peter and the Starcatchers" by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson, this imaginative play is about how a young orphan boy becomes Peter Pan. Powerhouse is looking for comedic actors to play a variety of roles in this storytelling theatre style play where the actors make the world come to life with creative costumes, props and set pieces. Rehearsals will begin in late August, and performances will be Oct. 9-11. Auditions are open to ages 16 and up. "Big Bad" is the third new interactive theatre adventure Pow-

erhouse has created to bring kids and adults of all ages to the Prescott Farm campus. Written by Powerhouse veteran Tess Hodges and directed by Courtney Palmer, every 20 minutes a different group will set off on an adventure that takes them through fairy tales regarding big bad wolves. While the promenade theatre experience is appropriate for all ages to attend, auditions will be open to adults and teens 12+. Big Bad runs Sept. 12 and 13 and will begin rehearsals in early August. Auditioners may audition for both shows. Big Bad auditions will begin at 6 pm both nights and Starcatcher

auditions will follow at approximately 7 p.m. Actors are encouraged to audition for both to improve their chances of participating in at least one of the shows. For all the information on how to register and prepare for the auditions check out <https://www.powerhousenh.org/auditions>. Also, check out powerhousenh.org for all the latest info on Powerhouse including ticket links for its summer production of Shrek the Musical, or contact info@powerhousenh.org for more details. For more information on all the programs at Prescott Farm, go to www.prescottfarm.org.

Jalen Reese named to Hamilton College Dean's List

CLINTON, N.Y. — Jalen Reese of Gilford has been named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2026 semester.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must be a current member of the Class of 2026 or 2027, have carried a course load of four or more graded credits throughout the semester, and earned an average GPA of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale.

Reese, a rising senior majoring in mathematics, is a graduate of Gilford High School.

Hamilton College, a leading liberal arts in-

stitution located in Clinton, New York, is where exceptional students explore passions through an open curriculum and robust research, internship, and off-campus study opportunities. Students graduate ready to lead purposeful lives thanks to highly regarded faculty mentors, generous resources that support each student's interests, and a loyal alumni network. The College's need-blind admission policy ensures access for talented students with limited financial means. Learn more at www.hamilton.edu.

Loon experts to discuss 10-year migration study

MOULTONBOROUGH — On Thursday, July 9, Join loon experts Dr. James Paruk and Brooks Wade as they discuss their extraordinary 10-year study on Common Loon migration at South Carolina's

Lake Jocassee, a stunning reservoir rated by National Geographic as one of the world's "50 last great places on Earth." Learn about their unique partnership, new findings on wintering loons, and the highlights of

30+ years of loon research! 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 more than 40 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 16

– Ancient Elephants: Woolly Mammoths of New England with Susie Spikol 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 2025 nature talks schedule, please visit www.loon.org.

Church Service SCHEDULE

<p>ABUNDANT HARVEST FAMILY CHURCH Sunday School for children up to age 12, service 10:30 a.m. Greater Wakefield Resource Center, 254 Main St., Union. Pastors Daniel and Sherrie Williams, 473-8914. For more information, please visit abundantharvestnh.org or e-mail ahfc@faith.com.</p> <p>ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER Sundays throughout the summer 10am & 7pm 875-6161.</p> <p>BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON Alton 9:30a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Ben Ruhl, www.befreechurch.net.</p> <p>CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH Worship Service 10:00am Bible Study 11:15am Rte 126 next to Town Hall Call or Text (603) 269-8831 centerbarnsteadcc.org</p> <p>CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF PRAISE C.C.O.P PRAISE GATHERING Every Saturday @ 5:30pm at the Iron Works church, 1802 NH Route 140, Gilmanton Ironworks, NH ccoppraisegathering@gmail.com</p> <p>COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON Pastor Jared Cassidy 10am Worship service Sunday 20 Church St. Alton (603) 875-5561 www.ccoaalton.com</p> <p>CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NORTH BARNSTEAD, UCC Sunday School and Worship Services Heather Ivone Milliken 603-776-1620 Our services are in person at 504 North Barnstead Road, Center Barnstead, NH and live-streamed on Zoom. Sundays at 10 a.m. ccnorthbarnstead.com</p> <p>FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FARMINGTON Worship Services: 10:00 AM 400 Main Street Farmington, NH 03835 www.farmingtonnhucc.org Sunday School at 10:15 AM September - June.</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NEW DURHAM NH Sun.School9:30am;Church10:30am;EveningService6pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting 7pm. Depot St., New Durham; Pastor Ryan Blackard</p> <p>JOY CHURCH 55 Barnstead Road Pittsfield, NH 03263 Sunday Celebration 9:30 am Prayer Night - 1st Wed of every month 6:30 pm Pastors Mike & Kathy Mavity joychurchnh.com</p> <p>PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BARNSTEAD, N.H. on the Parade in Barnstead Sunday Morning Worship Service for all ages begin at 9:00am. Prayer Meeting - April through November at 7:00pm on Wednesday Evenings. Pastor Sandy Pierson - 483-2846</p> <p>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.</p> <p>ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH Sunday 9:30, 50 Main St., Pittsfield Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg www.ststephenspittsfield.com</p> <p>UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Rt. 171 at Tufonboro Corner. Sunday services 10:30am. Church 603-539-8058</p> <p>UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF LACONIA Sunday services and religious education 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. 172 Pleasant St. Laconia • 524 6488 - uusu.org</p> <p>MAPLE STREET CHURCH Sunday Service 11am 96 Maple Street, Center Barnstead NH 03225</p>
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Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events

July 9 - July 16

Thursday, July 9
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Tea Party Week, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon
Pressed Flower Book Mark - Adult Craft, 1-2 p.m.
Create a beautiful pressed flower book mark to keep or give to someone special. This will count for Numbers 19 and 33 in your Summer Reading Passport! Sign-up is required.

French, 4-5 p.m.
Squam Lakes Science Center, 4-5 p.m.
Squam Lakes Science Center will be bringing beautiful animals to show and teach us all about them!

Friday, July 10
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Boba & Lemonade, 10-11 a.m.
To celebrate the end of Tea Party Week come in and enjoy some boba tea and lemonade!
Sensory Play, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Explore the wonders

of our five senses in this interactive playful program!
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, July 11
Beginner Line Dancing, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

Monday, July 13
Fun & Fitness with Joyce, 9-10 a.m.

Baby Storytime, 10-10:30 a.m.
Comics Week, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
All week we will be crafting Superhero Fortune Tellers, followed by Friday at 3-4 p.m., when we will snack on colorful popcorn!
Tai Chi, 10:15-11 a.m.
Mahjong, noon to 3 p.m.

Tuesday, July 14
Feel Good Fitness w/ Dottie, 9-10 a.m.
Senior Sculpt, 10-11 a.m.

Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon
Comics Week, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Summer Camp Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, July 15
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
Card Games, 10 a.m. to noon
Senior Stretch Yogaah!, 10-11 a.m.
Check out an Expert, 10 a.m. to noon
Comics Week, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Storytime at the Beach, noon to 1 p.m.
Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.
Three Men and a One-Shilling Knife: A Genealogical Look at Local History, 4-5 p.m.
Presented by the New Hampshire Society of Genealogists (NHSOG), this engaging program uses a dramatic 1788 tavern killing in New Durham to show how genealogists uncover the stories from the past. Through newspapers, court records, military records, petitions, and other original sources, the lecture follows

the intertwined lives of three Revolutionary War veterans and reveals how family history research can illuminate the people, events, and communities of New Hampshire's past.

Thursday, July 16
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Fun & Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon
Comics Week, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Comics Camp w/ Marek Bennett, 1-3 p.m.
Join special guest and professional cartoonist Marek Bennett as he teaches you how to make your own comic!
French, 4pm-5pm
Book Discussion: Any Biography of Benjamin Franklin, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
This month's book is any biography about founding father, Benjamin Franklin. Led by Rhetta; some book choices are available at the front desk.

Gilford police log

GILFORD — The Gilford Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of June 24-30.

Angel Gutierrez Torres, age 37, was arrested on June 24 for operating a motor vehicle after suspension of vehicle registration.

Kaitlyn N. Antonis, age 29, was arrested on June 24 for Willful Concealment and in connection with a warrant.

Chad Michael O'Connor, age 35, was arrested on June 24 for Resisting Arrest or Detention, Disorderly Conduct, and in connection with a warrant.

Braden Charles De

Anda, age 20, was arrested on June 25 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of license-Reckless Driving.

A 26-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on June 25.

A 30-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on June 25.

A 38-year-old male, 36-year-old female, and 41-year-old female were taken into protective custody for intoxication on June 25.

Benjamin Goodwin Blais, age 58, was arrested on June 26 for Domestic Violence-Simple Assault resulting in Bodily

Injury or Physical Contact.

Joseph E. Lagarde, age 46, was arrested on June 26 for being a Felon in Possession of a Dangerous Weapon and for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of license.

Vaughan Michael Wilson, age 70, was arrested on June 26 for operating a vehicle after Revocation or Suspension.

A 59-year-old female received a summons in lieu of arrest on June 27 in connection with a warrant.

Paul E. Davis, age 40, was arrested on June 27 for operating after Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

Two 21-year-old females were taken into protective custody for intoxication on June 28.

A 35-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on June 29.

Morgan Bedford Alighieri, age 41, was arrested on June 29 for Contempt.

Earlene L. Barnes, age 52, was arrested on June 29 in connection with a warrant.

A 32-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on June 30.

A 39-year-old female was taken into protective custody for intoxication on June 30.

New Durham Democrats to hold annual Peaches and Politics event July 19

NEW DURHAM — The New Durham Democratic Committee has once again gone all out for a peachy afternoon.

Peaches and Politics, an event with speakers from a variety of Democratic fields ranging from governor to local State House representative, a buffet of peach-themed homemade goodies, and a classic rock band, will be held on Sunday, July 19 at the Miller Farm, 51 Miller

Rd. in New Durham.

The buffet begins at noon and speakers take the microphone at 1:00 p.m. with a Question and Answer session following their brief presentations. Dancing is encouraged afterward.

Tickets are \$20 for a single, \$30 for two, and are available at the event and on ActBlue at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/peachesandpolitics2026>. Reserving tickets

through ActBlue is recommended. For more information or to indicate attendance, contact newdurhamdems@gmail.com.

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3. "Ironwood" by Michael Connelly
4. "The Things We Never Say" by Elizabeth Strout
5. "26 Beauties" by James Patterson
6. "The Calamity Club" by Kathryn Stockett
7. "The Mother-Daughter Book Club" by Sue Patterson
8. "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi
9. "Regime Change" by Maggie Haberman
10. "The Final Target" by Nora Roberts
11. "Yesteryear" by Caro Claire burke
12. "The Last Mandarin" by Louise Penny

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THE REAL REPORT


RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	30 Cynthia Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$365,000	Andrew and Kaitlyn Beattie	Craig R. and Jennifer L. Burgess
Alton	1472 Mt. Major Highway	N/A	\$875,000	Stephen B. McCarthy Estate and William A. McCarthy	Curtis and Jennifer Ann Cogliano
Alton	26 Scott Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$500,000	JC Property Group LLC	Michael Joseph, Jr. and Emily Alicia Chase
Barnstead	557 Beauty Hill Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$555,000	Anthony Adam and Daniel James Prizio	Maria and Sean Newton
Barnstead	16 Douglas Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$420,000	Kevin Charles, Sr. and Kelly Anne Walters	Caleb Sturm
Barnstead	485 Garland Rd.	Municipal Property	\$53,066	Town of Barnstead	Tyler Fortier
Barnstead	51 Nutter Circle	Single-Family Residence	\$450,000	Lane Laura Properties Inc.	Ashton Joyce and Morgan Gerardi
Gilford	39 Alpine Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$1,775,000	Maureen Gibson-Pugh RET and Carol Gibson-Pugh	Evans Fiscal Trust and Russell L. Evans
Gilford	121 Chestnut Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$561,993	John P. Dargin Trust	Dakota Gildea
Gilford	Route 11	N/A	\$92,533	Cikacz RT and Christine Cikacz	Walker Fiscal Trust and Steven A. Walker
Gilford	Route 11	N/A	\$92,533	Cikacz RT and Michael A. Cikacz	Brian P. and Kathleen A. Cimon
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$2,700,000	Brian M. Washburn and Matthew J. Sylvia	Peter B. and Kim E. Poutre
Gilford	N/A	N/A	\$450,000	Northland Group LLC	Storedge LLC
New Durham	369 Kings Highway	Mobile Home	\$398,000	Pamela Baxter	Donald Spaulding and Beverly Letourneau

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





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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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Bridgewater: Boasting 284 feet of prime river frontage, this 5.59-acre cleared building lot features mountain views and a level gravel driveway. Bordering a town wilderness park with sandy beaches.

Laconia: Secure this newer, rental facility offering prime proximity to local amenities, it's ideal for seasonal or contractor storage with significant potential for future expansion. 100% occupancy make this an exceptional find.

Alton: This 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath ranch is designed for effortless one-level living and captures picturesque views of Lake Winnepesaukee. The home features a chef's kitchen, a stone-surround gas fireplace, and 2 car garage.

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Students named to President's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH — Students have been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the Spring 2026 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point av-

erage of 3.70 or better for the Spring 2026 semester and must have completed at least 12 credit hours during the semester, at least nine of which must confer grade points, at the time the lists are finalized.

The following local students have been named to the Presidents List:

Celia Argue of Alton
Cutlas Greeley of Alton
Alexander Gagne of Alton
Jana Chorvatovicova of

Alton Bay
Brendan Allen of Laco-
nia
Camden Gustafson of
Gilford
Becc Kulengosky of Gil-
manton
Brenna French of Laco-
nia
Evan MacEdonia of Laco-
nia
Lilian Maynard of Gil-
ford
Maegan Shute of Gil-
manton
Ava Lien of Gilford
Abigail Shute of Gil-
manton
Macy Swormstedt of Laco-
nia
Kameron Young of Laco-
nia

Justin Ehmann of Laco-
nia
Kayla Gallagher of Gil-
ford
Karson Genakos of Laco-
nia
Cooper Perkins of Gil-
ford
Ethan Roys of Gilford
Rhiannon Reinholz of
Gilford
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Established in 1871,
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ty serves the state of New
Hampshire and the world
beyond by transforming our
students through advanced
practices where engaged
learning produces well-ed-
ucated undergraduates,

and by providing gradu-
ate education that deepens
and advances knowledge
and enhances professional
development. The Plym-
outh State Cluster Learn-
ing Model emphasizes
open, integrative, and proj-
ect-based experiences. With
distinction, we connect with
community and business
partners for economic de-
velopment, technological
advances, healthier living,
and cultural enrichment
with a special commitment
of service to the North
Country and Lakes Region
of New Hampshire. To
learn more about Plymouth
State University, visit www.plymouth.edu.

ABENAKI

(continued from Page A1)

Among the new faces coming to Abenaki were Fred and Meighan Garnsey, who's son Charlie was on the very first Abenaki team, a group of young men who would go on to win the 1999 state championship as the Kingswood Knights once they reached high school.

"The kids came to us and said they wanted a high school team," Fred Garnsey said. "We had to raise the money, it was one of those classic, kids will do whatever work someone needed, for a donation to the program.

"We paid for jerseys, equipment, whatever they needed," he added, noting that Lee became the coach and was eventually followed by Mike Jones, who was the coach when the team won the championship in 1999.

When Charlie Garnsey was playing for Abenaki, Pottle recalls his younger brother, Ryder, always hanging around, always soaking in the game that his brother, and his sister, Erin, were loving.

"I got to know (the Garnseys) and little Ryder, with a plastic stick, was at every practice and game, right at my hip," Pottle said.

That little kid with the plastic stick has become Abenaki Youth Lacrosse's greatest success story, as Ryder Garnsey, after playing at Brewster Academy and the University of Notre Dame, is now starring for the California Redwoods in the Premier Lacrosse League, where he has been playing since 2019. He's also an assistant coach with his alma mater in South Bend, Ind.

"Those guys were my heroes," the youngest Garnsey said of his siblings and their teammates. "That (lacrosse) was what they were doing and I thought it was the coolest thing in the world.

"I wasn't thinking about my future when I decided to play lacrosse, I was just doing it because it was the most fun thing to do," Ryder Garnsey said. "Luckily it's been the center of my life for the last 25 years."

"As a four-year-old, he couldn't get enough of it," said Fred Garnsey of his youngest son. "You've got to love it, but that was a crazy time, driving all over the place."

After that first Abenaki team in 1996, a girls' team was added with Turner and Martin leading the charge and that eventually led to Kingswood Regional High School adding lacrosse teams for boys and girls.

"The kids who played in church parking lots are now watching their kids play on the amazing fields at Kingswood, Brewster Academy and The Nick," said Byron Martin as he wrapped up a brief history of Abenaki Youth Lacrosse.

"We had something like 13 kids on that first team and the next year we had at least two teams and now we've had seasons of more than 200 kids," said Pottle, who left Brewster for the Upper Valley and then New York but has since returned and is back on the sidelines with Abenaki Youth Lacrosse.

"For the young girls (on those first teams), some of

them it was the first time on a team, with a uniform," Turner said. "Sometimes they even wore their uniform to bed."

Pottle came up with the idea of the white bison that serves as the Abenaki logo, noting it was powerful, graceful, lordly and was sacred to the Native Americans, who created the game that Pottle loves.

"I said wouldn't that white bison look incredible on the uniforms," Pottle said, noting he combined the colors of Syracuse orange, Virginia Blue and Loyola silver. "I am a scientist by trade but I love history, particularly the Native American culture. It just all fit."

After Byron Martin read a history of Abenaki, sprinkling in a number of names of folks who were in atten-

dance, Pottle, Turner, Margaret Martin and Lee (who traveled all the way from Michigan) were all presented with special plaques in honor of their dedication to Abenaki Lacrosse and the Garnsey family was presented with a special piece of artwork created by Byron Martin for their support of the Abenaki program.

Holly Williams Aucoin of The Nick spoke of her own kids' love of the game and their excitement of getting the chance to meet Ryder Garnsey, who also spoke briefly at the end of the ceremony, thanking his family and the Abenaki family.

"This is where I want to be on the Fourth of July," he said.

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

CONCERT

(continued from Page A1)

and his wife Liz have constructed by hand. The collection contains a harp, tongue drums, a mountain dulcimer, a frame drum, and various stringed instruments such as an octave mandolin and banjo.

The Pouliots will lead a craft for children, making a rattle filled with skunk

beans, a traditional Abenaki crop, that can be planted when the rattle falls apart from use.

The program will end with an ice cream social, complete with unlimited toppings.

"Music: Society's Mirror" is supported in part by a Civic Life and Belonging grant from New Hampshire Humanities. A spokesperson for the non-profit

Friends' group extolled the state organization for making the free event possible. "What better way to come together than to celebrate music? And how amazing is it to include hymns that were actually sung in our town's Meetinghouse?"

For additional information, contact the Friends of the New Durham 1772 Meetinghouse at meetinghousefriends@gmx.com.

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BMS

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Celebrating 15 Years of the ONE Community Project

GILFORD — Each summer, the Gilford Community Church (GCC) selects a community service project to focus on through their One Community Project (OCP). This year, the committee decided to take on two projects. One at the Fowler's Residence in Laconia, and the second at the Gilford Ice Skating Rink/Pickleball Courts. During these projects, twenty-eight adults and four children ranging from ages seven to 94 years old, volunteered their time and energy, scraping, painting, landscaping, window cleaning, mulching, and much more!

"Making a difference through a community proj-



McLane asked the youngest volunteers why they thought volunteering was important and they said:

Henry Walkley (age seven): "Because I love helping others who are older or can't do their home repairs themselves. It makes me feel good inside to help."

Douglas Walkley (age seven): "So people can have nice gardens and helping people is the right thing to do."

In conclusion, The Gilford Community Church and Gilford Youth Center finds true value in community service and outreach opportunities. The OCP is just another way to show we care about our community while teaching valuable lessons for youth and adults such as responsibility, compassion, and teamwork. Community service not only benefits those receiving help but also enriches the lives of those who give, making it a valuable experience for everyone involved.

Located in Gilford at 19 Potter Hill Rd., the Gilford Community Church (GCC) is an inclusive, open community that welcomes believers and doubters, seekers and skeptics, young and old. Viewable live on Facebook and available on YouTube, Sunday service at GCC takes place at 10 a.m. To learn more, or virtually attend service, visit www.gilfordcommunitychurch.org.



The Stars and Stripes continues to show its solidarity with Ukraine in this Independence Day weekend photo from reader Stuart Leiderman's victory garden in Barnstead.

ect can foster real change, build stronger bonds, and create lasting impact. OCP is about making a difference in the community. Each year this event is such a rewarding experience. I am so grateful to be a part of it," said Amber McLane, Director of GCC's Children and Youth Program.

Donna Snow has been participating in the OCP for the past 15 years (2011-2026).

"My daughter, Mary, started this project in 2011 as a Girl Scout Gold Award Project," said Snow.

"Her advisor was Gil-

ford Youth Center Director, Scott Hodsdon. The first couple of years, the project was called Christ Quest until changing the name to the One Community Project. I can't believe that 15 years later we are still making a difference in our community. I have been proud to volunteer my time helping with landscaping and painting projects for members of our local community. Contributing to these efforts has allowed me to help improve neighborhood spaces, support the community members in need and foster a stronger sense of pride and connection with the community. It has been a rewarding experience to work alongside others to make a positive and lasting impact," she added.

44th Annual Hot Air Balloon Rally returns to Pittsfield July 31-Aug. 2

PITTSFIELD — Get ready to soar! The Suncook Valley Rotary Club proudly presents the 44th Annual Hot Air Balloon Rally, returning to Pittsfield, New Hampshire, July 31 - Aug. 2. With more than a dozen hot air balloon pilots and crews from across the country expected to attend, this beloved summer tradition promises a weekend filled with colorful skies, family-friendly entertainment, and community fun.

Weather permitting, spectators can enjoy up to four spectacular balloon ascensions throughout the weekend:

- Friday evening
- Saturday morning and evening
- Sunday morning

The excitement continues after dark with the crowd-favorite Night Glows on Friday and Saturday evenings, when illuminated balloons create a dazzling display, followed by a spectacular fireworks show on Saturday night.

- Weekend Highlights**
- Helicopter rides
 - Live music and entertainment
 - Silly Solutions Balloon Entertainment
 - Corn Hole Tournament
 - Pilot Meet & Greet
 - Touch-A-Truck and Meet-a-Mascot
 - Craft Fair
 - The popular "Anything That Floats" River Raft Regatta Race



- Inflation Amusements
- Food vendors and local crafters
- Rotary's famous Pancake & Egg Breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday mornings

The weekend concludes Sunday morning with the Frank H. Donovan 5K Road Race and the always-popular Cow Chip Bingo Raffle. Admission is free!

The Hot Air Balloon Rally is entirely volunteer-run and serves as the Suncook Valley Rotary Club's largest annual fundraiser. Proceeds support scholarships and community initiatives throughout Barnstead, Chichester, Epsom, Loudon, and Pittsfield.

- Parking:
- Parking is \$10 per vehicle.
 - Parking with shuttle: Globe/MSA, using the

Leavitt Road entrance.

- Parking without shuttle: Atlantic Safety, 55 Barnstead Road.

Parking proceeds benefit local nonprofit organizations.

For the complete event schedule, vendor informa-

tion, photos, sponsorship opportunities, and more, visit nhballoonrally.org.

For the latest event updates, follow the Suncook Valley Rotary Balloon Rally on Facebook and Instagram: @suncookvalleyrotaryballoonrally.

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