



THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2026

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FREE

Investigation continues after fire destroys floating bar and restaurant on Winnepesaukee

ALTON — New Hampshire State Fire Marshal Sean P. Toomey announces the investigation of a commercial boat fire on Lake Winnepesaukee.
At 3:39 p.m. on Sat-

Barnstead Historical Society celebrates "Stars, Stripes and Stories"

BARNSTEAD — The Barnstead Historical Society is pleased to announce it will be once again participating in Old Home Day on Aug. 8 on the historic Parade Grounds. Visit our exhibit from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. to learn more about how the Old Home Day theme of "Stars, Stripes, and Stories" connects to Barnstead's history. Books and memorabilia available for purchase.

We look forward to seeing you!



COURTESY PHOTOS

Photos posted on social media by the owners of The Dive on Winnepesaukee show the aftermath of a massive fire that destroyed the floating bar and restaurant last weekend.

the Smalls Cove sandbar and open for business at the time. Marine Patrol Officers and firefighters from Alton, Gilford, Tuftonboro, and Wolfeboro responded with various resources, including fireboats, and ultimately helped knock down the flames. No injuries were reported.

Investigators from the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office were later requested and assumed lead of the investigation into the origin and cause of the fire. While all aspects remain under investigation, at this time, investigators believe the fire started in the kitchen area. The fire is not considered suspicious, and the owner of the business is fully cooperating with investigators.

Due to the extent of the damage, the boat is considered a total loss, and was subsequently towed away from the scene.

SEE FIRE, PAGE A11

New Hampshire Boat Museum celebrates 50 years of Alton Bay Boat Show

ALTON — When the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) hosts the 50th Annual Alton Bay Boat Show on Saturday, Aug. 8, visitors will experience more than a stunning display of classic wooden and early fiberglass boats. A cherished tradition of Alton Old Home Day, the boat show has brought generations of boating enthusiasts, families, and visitors together to celebrate New Hampshire's rich boating heritage.

"They will step into a living current of New Hampshire history and a way of life that has shaped the



state's identity for more than a century and still ripples across its lakes today," said Executive Director Devon Kurtz.

The show runs from 9 a.m. to noon at the Alton Bay Town Docks and is free and open to the public. Spectators are invited to walk the docks, meet the owners, and cast ballots for the People's Choice Award. Pre-registration is not required, and docking is first-come, first-served.

"It's one of the longest-running vintage boat shows in the region, and it has become a gathering spot for owners, families, and enthusiasts who understand that each vessel carries a story," Kurtz added.

Referring to it as "a thrilling spectator event," Kurtz said the show reveals "subtle insights" into New Hampshire lake life. "What is actually on display is a culture — the craftsman-

ship, the family memories, the friendships formed on the water. That is what the museum exists to protect."

The 50th Annual Alton Bay Boat Show is sponsored by Mundial Group, Water's Nook Home Decor and Gifts, The NASWA Resort, Shibley's at the Pier, Shibley's Drive-In, Guiding Light Fishing Tours, and Alton Home and Lumber.

Founded in 1992, NHBM is a statewide resource, with exhibits, youth programs such as Junior Skippers, on-the-water experiences, and community events that reach visitors from across New Hampshire and beyond. To learn more about NHBM's exhibits, programs, and events throughout the season, visit nhbm.org.

Legion Baseball team split the first two games of the state tournament over the weekend at Holman Stadium in Manchester.

Post 1 opened the tournament on Friday, July 24, against Exeter Post 32 and dropped a 10-6 decision. Exeter scored once in the bottom of the first inning and each team scored a run in the second inning. Laconia took the lead with three in the top of the third inning before Exeter answered with seven in the bottom of the frame to take the 9-4 lead. Each team scored a run in the fourth and Laconia scored the game's final run in the top of the fifth inning for the 10-6 final score.

Brayden Townsend had two hits, drove in two runs and scored a run to lead the way for the Laconia offense while Luke Diamond had two hits and scored a run, Carter Lloyd had two hits, drove in a run and scored a run and Jake Tryon had two hits and scored a run. Wyatt Divers had a hit and scored a run, TJ Charbono had a hit and drove in two runs, Dio Katsigiannis had a hit and scored a run and Landon Sargent had a hit.

Charbono started on the hill for Laconia Post 1, pitching into the third inning and giving up just one earned run while Katsigiannis followed him to the hill and pitched into the fifth

inning, giving up two earned runs and Tryon finished things out without giving up a hit in an inning and two-thirds.

Laconia bounced back the next day and knocked off Salem Post 63 by a 6-4 score to keep their tournament alive.

Post 1 scored four times in the first inning and Salem answered with three in the bottom of the first inning. Neither team scored again until the bottom of the fifth when Salem pushed across the tying run. However, Laconia answered with two in the top of the sixth inning and held tight for the 6-4 win.

Divers had a pair of hits, drove in a run and scored a run to pace the Post 1 kids while Diamond had a double, drove in a run and scored a run, Lloyd had a double and scored a run, Charbono had a hit and scored a run, Riley Galloway had a hit and scored a run and Ryder Palsgrove had a hit.

Lloyd went the distance on the mound for Post 1, giving up three earned runs and striking out six through the seven innings of work.

The win kept Laconia Post 1 in the double-elimination tournament, putting them up against Rochester on Sunday afternoon.

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

On The Green

Arts & Crafts Festival

August 7-9

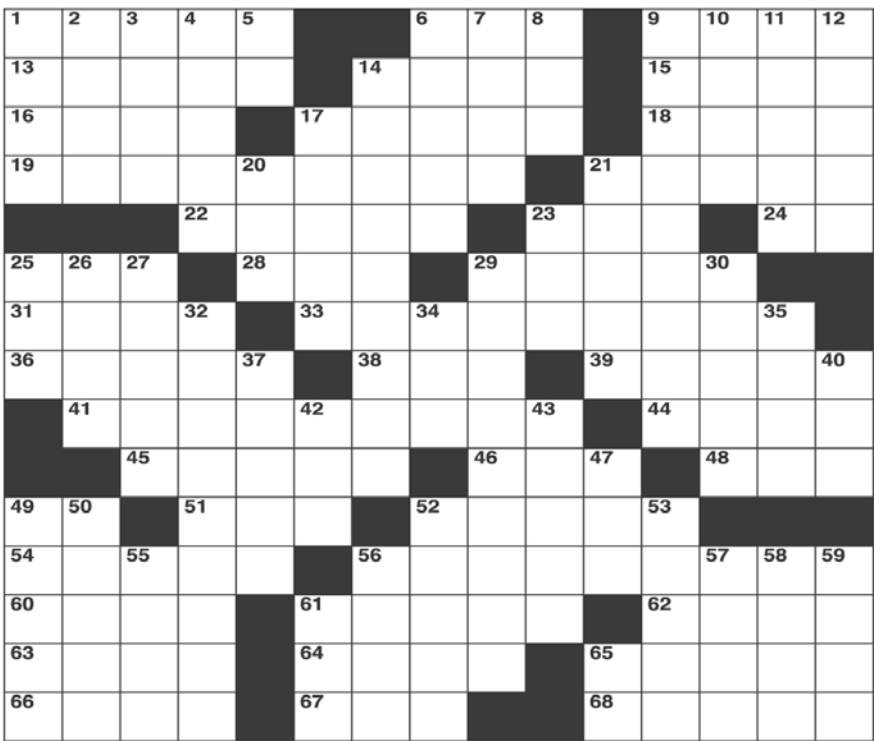
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Bleated

6. Snakelike fish

9. Database management system

13. Social evolution anthropologist Service

14. American rocker Grohl

15. Greek personification of compassion

16. Negatives

17. Rescued

18. Self-immolation by fire ritual

19. Assigns tasks

21. Popular type of cigar

22. Discounts

23. The whole quantity

24. New York Giants legend

25. Indicates before

28. Lentils

29. Extremely angry

31. Body part

33. "North Star State"

36. David __, US playwright
38. Lower and raise one's head

39. Private rendezvous

41. In a way, improved

44. A place to play

45. Astronomical period of 18 years

46. Automobile

48. Something you can take

49. A radio band

51. Jaws of a voracious animal

52. Short-billed rails

54. Chinese province

56. Shameless

60. Horizontal passage from the surface into a mine

61. Indian respectful titles

62. Fail to entertain

63. Dried-up

64. Central Utah city

65. Southern U.S.

66. German river

67. Necessary for breathing

68. Put into play

CLUES DOWN

1. Curved segment

2. Wings

3. Yellowish volatile liquid

4. Makes less severe

5. Debit note

6. Overhang

7. The nights before

8. Type of light

9. Lacking enthusiasm

10. Tattle

11. Some is "heavy"

12. One who is canonized

14. Indicates date and place of writing

17. "Peace" in Arabic

20. "Olaf" actor Josh

21. Fragmented rock

23. They __

25. Advanced degree

26. Backside

27. Influential architect and design couple

29. An act of undue intimacy
30. Words from which later words are derived

32. 10 meters

34. Neither

35. Fungal sacs

37. The law of God revealed to Moses

40. A woolen cap of Scottish origin

42. A promise

43. Challenges

47. British Air Aces

49. Large bank

50. Served as an omen

52. Cavalry sword

53. Vaccine developer

55. Belgian WW2 resistance leader Jules

56. Italian Seaport

57. Hip joint

58. __ Clapton, musician

59. Insect repellent

61. Constrictor snake

65 "The First State" (abbr.)



Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events

July 30 - Aug. 6

Thursday, July 30
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

Lego Week, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.

Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon

French, 4-5 p.m.

Jonah Knight: Dino-saur Safari, 4-5 p.m.

Jonah Knight takes you on a magical story-telling adventure learning about dinosaurs!

Friday, July 31
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.

Rice Krispy Treats, 10-11 a.m.

All week we will be free building Legos, followed by Friday at-10am-11amwhen we will have rice crispy Legos!

Sensory Play, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Hand & Foot, noon to 2:30 p.m.

Happy Crafters, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Advanced Conversational German, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Beginner Line Danc-ing, 4-5 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 1
Beginner Line Danc-ing, 10:15-11:15 a.m.

Monday, Aug. 3
Fun & Fitness with Joyce, 9-10 a.m.

Tai Chi, 10:15-11 a.m.

Bits & Bytes, 11 a.m. to noon

This month's topic will cover hardware and software maintenance.

Mahjong, noon to 3 p.m.

Writing Wizards, 4-5 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 4
Feel Good Fitness w/ Dottie, 9-10 a.m.

Senior Sculpt, 10-11 a.m.

Bridge, 10 a.m. to noon

Mind Tricks: The Magic of Neuroscience, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Learn about how the brain works through this comedic magic show, immersing kids in neu-rology in a fun and en-gaging way!

Hummingbirds: Won-der on Wings, 5:45-6:45

p.m.

Join Joe Callanan, Natural History Educa-tor & Wildlife Photogra-pher for a one-hour pre-sentation about the Ruby Throated Hummingbird. Enjoy exciting and dra-matic images of these tiny birds captured by his photography.

Wednesday, Aug. 5
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.

Card Games, 10 a.m. to noon

Senior Stretch Yo-gaah!, 10-11 a.m.

Check out an Expert, 10 a.m. to noon

Wooden Tortoise - Adult Craft, 1-2 p.m.

Don't slow down your crafting! Wood Tortoise is the perfect piece to re-lax, decorate and be cre-ative at the library. Use paint, stains, and glitter to give this little crea-ture extra love!

Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 6
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.

Fun & Fitness with Joyce, 10-11 a.m.

French, 4-5 p.m.

Alton Historical Society's program on Revolutionary War soldiers continues Aug. 6

ALTON — The Alton Historical Society will pre-sent a continuation of our July 21 program, "In honor

of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our coun-try," on Thursday, Aug. 6 at 7 p.m. at the Gilman Library

on Main Street in the lower level.

Time ran out to present all 40 Rev. War Soldiers of Alton on July 21, so Part 2 will cover the remaining 18 soldiers not covered on July 21. Marty Cornelissen will present a look at these re-maining men, although not born in Alton, but resided here before and/or after the war, that served our coun-try as Revolutionary War Soldiers and Patriots, to include their military histo-ry, bio and life history that has been collected over the past decade through his re-search. These men served from; the Battle of Bunker Hill to the routing of British General Burgoyne. Marty is a member of the Alton Historical Society and NH Old Graveyard Associa-tion. All Alton Historical Society programs are open to the public and are always free of charge.

For more information, contact Mary Cornelissen at cotntail@tds.net. Hope to see you there.

Gilford Public Library Top Ten Requests (Plus Two)

1. "The Calamity Club" by Kathryn Stockett
2. "Regime Change" by Maggie Haberman
3. "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi
4. "Country Road Murders" by James Patterson
5. "Rockets Red Glare" by James Patterson
6. "Whistler" by Ann Patchett
7. "Storm Tide" by Paul Doiron
8. "Ransom" by Daniel Silva
9. "A Dark Path" by Linda Castillo
10. "Yesteryear" by Caro Claire Burke
11. "Project Hail Mary" by Andy Weir
12. "The Mother Daughter Book Club" by Sue Patterson

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Bluegrass comes to the bandstand on Saturday night

WOLFEBORO — The Saturday night free concert series in the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand opens the month of August on Saturday, Aug. 1, with High Range bringing their bluegrass sound to the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee.

High Range is a New Hampshire-based band playing both original and cover songs featuring fiddle, guitar, mandolin, banjo, upright bass and drums together since 1999. The band features Todd Jones on guitar, banjo and vocals, Rob Kneeland on mandolin, drums and vocals, Ellen Carson on fiddle and vocals, Steve Roy on mandolin and bass and Brendan Dowd and Zac Francis on bass.

The band has opened for numerous acts including Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, Tim O'Brien and Cornbread Nation, The Waybacks, Carol Noonan, Lori McKenna, Bill Morrissey and Tommy Makem at venues around New Hampshire, including the Stone Church in New-



COURTESY PHOTO

High Range will play in the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand on Saturday, Aug. 1, at 7 p.m.

market, Prescott Park Folk Festival in Portsmouth, Great Waters and the New Hampshire Folk Festival as well as numerous venues outside of the state including the Bluebird Café in Nashville, the Thomas Point Beach Festival in Brunswick, Maine, Hickory Fest in Stony Fork, Pa. and Down Home in Johnson City,

Tenn.

The band has also earned great reviews for their performances. "High Range has forged a tight, compelling ensemble sound that is highly musical and thoroughly entertaining," said David McCarty of Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine. Dave Higgs of Bluegrass Breakdown on

Nashville Public Radio said, "High Range has a sound all its own, full of surprises, instrumental excellence, some fine vocals and some absolutely killer originals." The Friend of the

Wolfeboro Community Bandstand concerts run from 7 to 9 p.m. in Cate Park in downtown Wolfeboro each Saturday in July and August. Though there is no charge for the concert, a pass-the-hat 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.

High Range will play at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 1, 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 Community Services partnered with Aubuchon “round-up” program

ALTON — Alton Community Services is excited to announce a month-long partnership with the local Aubuchon store. Please consider participating in the “round-up” program during the month of August. When you agree

to round up to the nearest dollar, all proceeds will be donated to Alton Community Services for their continued assistance to their clients. A big shout out and heartfelt thank you to Aubuchon for their support. Visit our website (al-

toncommunityservices.org) to learn how you can provide assistance to ACS.

Rumor has it there will be a food pantry presence in the Old Home Days Parade! Look for us and be sure to wave.

Gilford police log

GILFORD — The Gilford Police Department reported the following arrests from July 13-23.

Kyle T. Sharpe, age 36, was arrested on July 14 for DUI-Impairment and Transporting Alcoholic Beverages.

A 47-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on July 14.

Two adult males, ages 46 and 60, were taken into protective custody for intoxication on July 14.

A 40-year-old was taken into protective custody for intoxication on July 15.

A 41-year-old male and a 41-year-old female were taken into protective custody for

intoxication on July 15.

A 38-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxication on July 15.

Robert G. Wainwright, age 33, was arrested on July 17 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of license.

Donald Thomas Lewis, age 31, was arrested on July 18 for Driving After Revocation or Suspension of License and driving after Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

A 36-year-old female and 39-year-old male were taken into protective custody for intoxication on July 18.

A 64-year-old male was taken into protective custody for intoxi-

cation on July 18.

Katie L. Ellis, age 42, was arrested on July 19 for Theft By Unauthorized Taking, Criminal Trespassing, and Contempt.

Joseph R. Huckins, age 41, was arrested on July 19 for Theft By Unauthorized Taking and Criminal Trespassing.

Jean Cote, age 19, was arrested on July 20 for Reckless Operation, Speeding too fast for existing conditions, and a Lane Control violation.

Jenna N. Chagnon, age 33, was arrested on July 23 for Allowing to Operate Unregistered and driving after Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

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When the smoke cleared

Few things capture the spirit of the Lakes Region quite like a sunny Saturday on Lake Winnepesaukee. Families gather on the water, friends reconnect, visitors discover why these shores have drawn generations, and local businesses work tirelessly during the short season that sustains them through the year. That is why the loss of The Dive struck such a chord across the community.

The images of flames consuming the floating restaurant were difficult to watch. For the owners, employees, and loyal patrons, it represented the loss of years of hard work and countless memories. Yet amid the destruction, one fact rises above every other: everyone made it off safely.

That outcome was not a matter of luck alone. The rapid response from New Hampshire State Police Marine Patrol, firefighters from Alton, Gilford, Tuftonboro, and Wolfeboro, and the many other agencies involved demonstrated the unique challenges of protecting a community built around water. Fighting a fire on a vessel anchored offshore requires specialized equipment, coordination, and training. Their efforts prevented what could have become a far greater tragedy.

Equally remarkable were the actions of ordinary people nearby. According to the owners' statement, individuals aboard neighboring boats jumped into the water carrying fire extinguishers, doing everything they could to help strangers in distress. They acted without hesitation, not because they expected recognition, but because someone needed help. That response says something important about the character of the Lakes Region.

Visitors often think of Lake Winnepesaukee for its scenery, recreation, and traditions. Residents know something else defines it. Whether on the water or on land, there is an unwritten understanding that when trouble comes, people step forward. Boaters assist disabled vessels. Neighbors lend a hand after storms. Volunteer firefighters answer alarms at all hours. That spirit cannot be manufactured. It is built over years of shared experiences and mutual trust.

The investigation into the fire will continue, and officials will determine exactly what happened. Early indications suggest the fire originated in the kitchen area and is not considered suspicious. Those findings are important because every lesson learned from an incident like this can help make future operations safer, whether aboard floating businesses, marinas, or recreational boats.

The environmental response also deserves recognition. Quick deployment of containment booms and monitoring by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services helped protect one of the state's most treasured natural resources. Preserving the health of Lake Winnepesaukee is essential not only for recreation but also for the communities and businesses that depend upon it.

For many, The Dive was more than a floating restaurant. It was a destination where birthdays were celebrated, friendships were formed, and summer afternoons stretched into evenings on the water. Those memories cannot be erased by fire.

The owners closed their message by saying that while The Dive may be gone, the community surrounding it is stronger than ever. Judging by the response from first responders, neighboring boaters, customers, and countless supporters, that statement rings true.

Buildings and boats can be rebuilt. Businesses can find new beginnings. What matters most is that no lives were lost, and that when the emergency came, an entire community responded with courage, professionalism, and compassion.

In the end, that may be the most enduring story to emerge from the smoke.



PHOTO COURTESY

Three more shows

Cecil Haversham (Bob Tuttle) and Thomas Colleymore (Jonathan Flower) try to keep everything together as the set literally falls down around them in the Village Players' production of "The Play That Goes Wrong." After performing to rave reviews in the opening weekend, there will be three more chances to see the hilarity. Shows are Friday, July 31, and Saturday, Aug. 1, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 2, at 2 p.m. at the Village Players Theater on Glendon Street in Wolfeboro. Visit village-players.com for more information and tickets. Tickets are also available at Black's in downtown Wolfeboro. "The Play That Goes Wrong" is generously sponsored by Dr. Richard J. Neal, DMD.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Tending

This morning was a ce-real day. I'm a regular ha-bitual person, and it being Wednesday, that's what I would usually have for breakfast. Having no alternative options, cereal it would be.

Being right at the beginning of blueberry season, I snuck in an early picking the other day. I knew that another five or six days would bring on the quantities we all desire. But it's been so hot and dry again, like last year where I got an early picking and the rest kind of just dried up on the bushes. I feared that might happen again.

Hanging my picking can around my neck, I headed off to the bushes. The lighter colored ones that are usually a week behind the dark flavorful ones were already well getting ripe. The dark plant was loaded. Usually by this point, the birds are ravenously devouring them. So far so good, I didn't need to be concerned about watching out for nibbled ones. What a pleasure. Thank you, Lord.

I knew that my back would soon be complaining so I concentrated upon only those that were right

in front of me. Those up on top were for the birds. Those down below were for the turkeys, porcupines, skunks and raccoons. And kids, if there were any of them back on the scene.

I made it half way around the bush before my can was mostly filled and my back was screaming for me to go sit down somewhere. Since it had rained a bit last night, the berries were plump and juicy, but were also pretty wet. I spread them out on a towel to let them dry. Wet berries in the refrigerator are begging for mold, something that I want to totally avoid.

Needless to say, I had a wonderful, blueberry adorned, bowl of my usual combination of breakfast items. It was certainly something special. Tomorrow, I hope to get to the other half of the bush. Cool mornings are the time for picking blueberries. If I get a similar haul I may have to freeze some. I haven't even touched the other bushes yet and they will be coming in quickly, Lord willing, please send us a bit more rain. It's so needed.

With the Brown Eyed Susan's looking withered

and the berries starting to appear wrinkled, I welcomed the forecast of showers this weekend. It may disrupt Saturday, but the world needs water and in a lot of places it's getting much harder to come by. We've been in and out of droughtville here for a good many years now. Spring used to really be the rainy season, recently it's been the time to paint your house.

Later in the summer, when it's hot and humid, the late afternoon thunder showers will kick in. The clouds will be building all day and when the sun starts going down and the temperatures start to drop, they drop what they've been collecting all day back on down. It's interesting to watch it all doing its thing. It keeps things interesting.

I've been able to get to some long needed house maintenance as I've put aside gardening for this year. For years, I've been allocating so much of my time to my vegetables, that I wasn't able to address my houses needs. They're finally getting done.

Even still, my gardener's urges remain active. I always wait till after the

forth of July to plant my potatoes. That way, it's past the time when the potato bug eggs get laid. There's still plenty of time to get a decent harvest before frost sets in.

Last year, I put some potatoes away to get planted this season. They've been sitting in a pizza box, sprouting all spring. Yesterday, I brought them up from the cellar and cut them up as I would usually do before planting. The thought was that I could take just a little bit of time from my house work so that I could plant these spuds that have now passed from garden to garden for so many years. Kind of like heirlooms.

It was such a spectacular day today weather-wise. Cool and dry, perfect for working on ladders. I moved all my ladders to the other side of the house and proceeded to get to work, hoping to come to a stopping point where I could then attend to my alternative.

Didn't happen, maybe I'll be able to next week.

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.

The five-minute errand

I've reached the age where I can confidently say there is no such thing as a five-minute errand in a small New Hampshire town.

On paper, it's simple enough. "I'll run down to the store for a loaf of bread." Five minutes there. Five minutes back. Fifteen minutes, tops.

Then reality steps in. Before you've even made it through the front door, someone asks if you've heard about the family of ducks that's taken up residence behind the library. As you're answering, another person walks in and reminds you about the church supper coming up next weekend. You haven't even reached the bread aisle before someone you've known for years asks how your son is doing. By the checkout counter, you're discussing whether the tomatoes are running early this season.

Suddenly, 45 minutes have disappeared. And somehow, you've forgotten why you came in.

I've heard people complain that everyone knows everyone else's business

in a small town.

Sometimes that's true. But I've found that more often

than not, people simply know one another's stories. There's a difference.

They remember when your kids were little enough to ride in the shopping cart. They remember when your parents still came into town every Saturday morning. They remember your first job, your old pickup truck, or the dog that insisted on greeting every customer outside the hardware store. Those memories become part of the conversation without anyone trying very hard.

Years ago, I traveled to a larger city for work. I walked into a convenience store, bought what I needed, paid, and left. The entire transaction took about ninety seconds. Nobody spoke beyond "Hello" and "Have a nice day." It was efficient. It was also strangely forgettable.

Back home, efficiency often loses to familiarity. The cashier might ask whether you're head-

ed to the lake for the weekend. Someone in line might recommend a roadside farm stand you've never tried. Another customer might hold the door while the two of you spend five minutes debating whether summer has gone by faster than usual.

It's not that we're avoiding getting things done. It's that people matter more than schedules.

I've noticed visitors sometimes become impatient with this pace. They're standing behind someone catching up with an old friend, wondering why the line isn't moving.

The rest of us don't seem terribly bothered. We've learned that the extra few minutes are part of the experience. One day, you're the person waiting. The next day, you're the one doing the talking. It all balances out.

Of course, there are limits. If I'm standing behind someone buying lottery tickets one scratch-off at a time, even my New Hampshire patience

starts to wear a little thin.

We're friendly. We're not saints. Still, I hope we never become so rushed that every errand feels like a race. Life already gives us enough reasons to hurry. The grocery store, the post office, the local diner—those are some of the last places where conversation still happens naturally. Nobody schedules it. Nobody sends a calendar invitation. It simply unfolds because two people happened to arrive at the same place at the same time.

And that's worth preserving.

So if you happen to see me heading into town for "just one thing," don't expect me back anytime soon. There's a good chance I'll return with the bread.

There's an even better chance I'll come home with three local updates, one restaurant recommendation, news about somebody's new grandchild, and absolutely no memory of why I thought the trip would only take five minutes. Around here, that's time well spent.

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Makers Mill opens applications for creative entrepreneurs

WOLFEBORO — For many artists, growers, and makers, creating a great product comes naturally. Building a successful business around it can be the harder part. Makers Mill is helping bridge that gap with its new Artists, Growers & Makers Business Lab, a nine-session program designed to help creative entrepreneurs transform their passion into sustainable businesses.

Based on the proven curriculum developed by the Hannah Grimes Center for Entrepreneurship, the Business Lab combines practical business education with hands-on activities, coaching, peer learning, and real-world application. Over nine weeks, participants actively build their own business roadmap while receiving personalized feedback, encouragement, and accountability from instructors and a small cohort of fellow entrepreneurs.

"There are so many talented people in our community who have already created something meaningful," said Stina Kindwall, Business Lab Facilitator at Makers Mill. "The Business Lab is about helping them build the confidence, practical skills, and support they need to turn that passion into a sustainable business. You don't have to have everything figured out. You just have to be ready to take the next step."

The Business Lab is designed for artists, growers, makers, and other product-based entrepreneurs who have a business idea or are already selling what they make. Participants do not need to have every detail figured out. They simply need a product they believe in and a willingness to learn.

Throughout the program, participants will identify their ideal customers, build a compelling brand and marketing strategy, price products for profitability, better understand business finances and cash flow, explore business structures and funding opportunities, and develop a practical Business Case tailored to their own venture. The program concludes with a Marketplace Event where participants will showcase their businesses to the community.

Limited to just eight participants, the small cohort encourages meaningful discussion, personalized feedback, and lasting



Bob Pacini, Makers Mill woodworking instructor and artisan, displays a selection of his hand turned wooden bowls in the Makers Mill woodshop. His handcrafted work is available for purchase at the Makers Market inside Makers Mill, 23 Bay St., Wolfeboro.

connections among local entrepreneurs. Participants will leave with practical tools they can immediately apply, greater confidence in their business, a supportive network of peers, and a clear roadmap for future growth.

The Artists, Growers & Makers Business Lab reflects Makers Mill's mission of helping people discover, cultivate, and share their unique gifts while strengthening the Lakes Region through entrepreneurship, creativity, and community.

The nine-session program meets Thursdays from Sept. 17 through Nov. 5, from 5 to 8 p.m., with a Marketplace Event to follow on a date selected by the cohort. Standard tuition is \$500, with sliding scale options available to help make the program accessible.

In addition to participant applications, Makers Mill is seeking local businesses and organizations to sponsor individual Business Lab sessions. Each of the nine sessions offers a unique opportunity for a sponsor to support emerging entrepreneurs while demonstrating a commitment to strengthening the Lakes Region's creative economy. Sponsorships help keep the program affordable through Makers Mill's sliding-scale tuition model and connect sponsors with a network of local artists, growers, makers, and small business owners.

LRAA announces Artists of the Month for July

TILTON — The Lakes Region Art Association announces its Artists of the Month for July 2026.

LRAA members have the opportunity to enter a piece of artwork into the Artist of the Month Program at each monthly Member Meeting. Winners, pictured above, are able to display and sell a single work for a month in various public venues throughout the Lakes Region in participating Banks and Libraries or Local Businesses. Back Row: Sarah Kahn, Sally Hibberd, James Cryan. Front Row: Nancy Kingston, Gail Brunt

The Winning Artists' artwork will be on display in locations in the Lakes Region through the third week of September 2026.

Nancy Kingston, this month's First Place winner has the distinct honor of displaying several pieces of her artwork at Annie's Cafe



& Catering in Laconia, NH. Chill out with some scrumptious homemade soup and sandwiches and enjoy the art while you eat!

The art pieces for the Honorable Mention artist will be on display through the third week of September in the following locations:

- Sally Hibberd - Franklin Savings Bank, Gilford
- James Cryan - Camden Bank, Tilton & Franklin Savings, Franklin
- Sarah Kahn - Camden Bank, Meredith & Gilford Library
- Gail Brunt - Laconia Library

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Broadway's best lands in town

Great Waters brings Mandy Gonzalez to Anderson Hall

WOLFEBORO — Great Waters Summer Concerts is delighted to present Broadway star Mandy Gonzalez in an unforgettable evening of music as part of the Concerts in Town series on Saturday, Aug. 8 at 7:30 p.m. The performance will take place at Anderson Hall at Brewster Academy, offering an intimate, acoustically rich setting right in the heart of Wolfeboro.

Best known for her powerhouse performances on Broadway and beyond, Mandy Gonzalez brings a dynamic and emotionally resonant program that spans beloved show-stoppers, contemporary favorites, and personal storytelling. With a voice that has captivated audiences from "Hamilton" to "In the Heights," she promises a performance that is both thrilling and deeply moving.

This Concerts in



COURTESY PHOTO

Mandy Gonzalez

Town event invites audiences into a close-up musical encounter—where every note, lyric, and moment is felt. Anderson Hall provides the perfect backdrop for an evening that highlights Mandy's extraordinary vocal range and magnetic stage presence.

Great Waters Summer Concerts, a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing world-class music to New Hampshire's

Lakes Region, continues its tradition of presenting exceptional artists in unique and inspiring venues. Performances like Mandy Gonzalez at Anderson Hall offer audiences a chance to experience top-tier talent in an intimate and memorable setting.

Great Waters is proud to enrich the cultural life of the Lakes Region. Special thanks to our leadership sponsors—Eastern Propane and Oil, Belknap Landscaping, Maxfield Real Estate, Paul Zimmerman, Fidelity Investments, and Lake Winni Team—for their continued support.

The performance will take place at newly air-conditioned Anderson Hall at Brewster Academy in Wolfeboro. Tickets are available at www.greatwaters.org, by phone at (603) 569-7710, or at the Great Waters office in Wolfeboro.

IT'S Summer TIME!

Did you know?

Increasing time spent outdoors enjoying nature can positively affect mood and mental health. Generally speaking, outdoor enthusiasts tend to be happier overall. The American

Psychological Association says spending time in nature is linked to both cognitive benefits and improvements in mood, mental health and emotional well-being. Both green spaces and blue (aquatic) spaces benefit overall well-being. Several years ago, the University of Derby in the United Kingdom conducted a study titled, "The 30 Days Wild." The study encouraged people to do something wild once a day for 30 days. Participants shared that their connection to nature and

doing things in nature created a significant increase in happiness and health. People who spend more time outside can experience greater self-esteem, less stress, increased memory retention, and more positive body image. Natural environments also lower activity in the rumination area of the brain, decreasing negative, repetitive thoughts. Also, those who are outside more tend to be engaging in physical activities, and exercise directly correlates to better mental health.



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Helen Fernald, Lakes Region photographer, released her first book of photos, featuring 12 photos of Lake Winnepesaukee and Wolfeboro for each season. Each of the 48 photos is accompanied by a blessing. This book is available at the Country Bookstore and Black's in Wolfeboro and the Gilford Country Store. It is also available on Amazon.

Book of photos by Helen Fernald

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SPORTS

Checking in on the Los Angeles Olympics

Last week marked two years out until the Los Angeles Olympic Games, which take place in 2028 in the City of Angels. Ahead of those games, the organizers invited members of the press to take part in the World Press Briefing, which took place this past week.

Organizers traditionally hold these events ahead of the Games, but this was the first time that I decided to take advantage of said opportunity. Obviously, it was much easier this time around given that the Olympics are here in the United States, so I don't have to travel around the world to attend.

I had to finagle my work schedule at the Yum Yum Shop a bit in order to get in three days at the event, so I headed south to Boston really early last Tuesday morning to catch a flight through Chicago to LAX. Luckily, I was able to check into my hotel a few hours earlier than normally allowed and my first thought was finding an In N Out Burger. Unfortunately, there was not one anywhere near the hotel, so I got an Uber and got the food I was craving. The Uber ride

SPORTING CHANCE

By JOSHUA SPAULDING

to the restaurant cost more than the food that I bought, but I was not complaining.

Tuesday night was the opening reception held at Cosm, which is a location near the new SoFi Stadium, home of the NFL teams in Los Angeles. I wasn't sure what to expect because I didn't do any searches or anything and I was pleasantly surprised. At first it looked like a typical nightclub type place with bars and tables with big screens lining walls. But in reality, it was an impressive facility featuring a "dome" that was a lot like a planetarium, only a little more high-tech. And when that thing came on it blew my mind. It was like you were in the middle of the stadium watching a game, or in an arena, or on a mountainside. The experience was incredible and I think could definitely change the way people watch sports moving forward.

Wednesday was the first



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Looking out at downtown Los Angeles from the top floor of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum during the World Press Briefing venue tour last week.

full day of the World Press Briefing and we got a chance to see a number of the venues that will be used for the Olympics. We started at the aforementioned SoFi Stadium, which will be 2028 Stadium for the Olympics. It was impressive to say the least and I can imagine seeing the Opening Ceremony and swimming there in 2028. From there we made the short trip to Intuit Dome, home of the LA Clippers,

which will host basketball at the Olympics. Next it was on to BMO Stadium, home of the LAFC. It will be used for lacrosse and flag football in the Olympics as Exposition Park. Our next stop was right next door at the historic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, which will host its third Olympics in 2028 when track enters the venue. We were served lunch on the top deck of the suites before moving on to

the final two venues, the Peacock Theater in downtown LA, which will host boxing and weightlifting and its neighbor, the Crypto.com Arena, home of the LA Lakers, Kings and Sparks, which will host gymnastics as Downtown LA Stadium in 2028.

Thursday was spent mostly indoors in the hotel ballroom where we got the chance to hear about the many different aspects of the Olympics, ranging from the Main Press Center to transportation, technology

and scheduling. It was informative and interesting and a solid primer on the LA Games.

There was one more morning of one-on-one interviews, but I had to be home for work on Saturday morning, so I caught a morning flight out of LAX through Kansas City back to Boston. Four flights on the week, only one minor delay, so not that bad.

I still have no idea whether I will get credentials for the Los Angeles Olympics (the application process opens at the end of August), but if the opportunity arises, I will at least have to take the chance and spend a few weeks in California in the summer of 2028. And if it doesn't happen, there will probably still be donuts to be made.

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



Class of 2026

The National Baseball Hall of Fame held its annual induction ceremony over the weekend in Cooperstown, N.Y. The Class of 2026, with their plaques, included (l to r), Jeff Kent, Andrew Jones and Carlos Beltran. Also honored at the ceremony (in the seated photo) were Joe Buck (right) as the Ford C. Frick Award winner and Paul Hoynes with the Buck O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award. For more information about the National Baseball Hall of Fame, visit baseballhall.org.



DICK MCGRATH - COURTESY PHOTO

PSU hosting book launch for coach Joan Forge

PLYMOUTH — In celebration of the publication of her book, "Forging a Positive Team Culture: A Coach's Guide to Building a Healthy Athletic Environment," Plymouth State University will be hosting a book launch for volleyball coach Joan

Forge on Wednesday, Sept. 16, from 2 to 3 p.m. at the school's HUB Hague Room. Anyone interested in purchasing the book, with all proceeds going to benefit the Plymouth State University student-athletes, can find the book on Amazon.com.

Alton Garden Club welcomes co-owner of Blue Winds Lavender Farm



ALTON — The Alton Garden Club held its June 23 meeting at Gilman Library with Laura Pomerleau of Blue Winds Lavender Farm in Strafford as the featured speaker.

Established in 2021 by Pomerleau and her husband, she related the difficult work involved in converting more than 200-year-old farm acreage into the drier, sandy loam fields lavender bushes require. Blue Winds currently grows six varieties of lavender, with more than 2000 plants yielding their lovely scents. Lavender leaves can be used for culinary purposes in baked goods and teas, as aromatherapy to reduce

anxiety and stress, in scented soaps, lotions and cleaning supplies after distillation into oils, and it is a well-known natural insect repellent. Blue Winds has had several events planned this summer, beginning with a July 4 cookout and a July 11 Bloom Fest with music and refreshments.

Presenting the Horticulture Moment was Sandy Lowe, who spoke about creating a stumpery. This is a garden feature that uses tree stumps, logs and root wads arranged artistically as its basic structure. It began in Victorian England and encourages the growth of moss, ferns and shade-lov-

ing plants, such as hostas and lichens, to provide a habitat for insects, toads and birds. It is a unique way to upcycle fallen trees and stumps on your property.

We welcome those who

have an interest in gardening and the beautification of our community to join us as guests for our programs. Watch The Baysider for information on upcoming meetings.

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HK Powersports Land & Lake Poker Run raises more than \$250,000 for Easterseals NH

LACONIA — Making waves in more ways than one, the 25th annual HK Powersports Land & Lake Poker Run drew a spirited crowd to New Hampshire’s Lakes Region on Saturday, July 11, raising more than \$250,000 for Easterseals NH’s core programs serving children, adults, seniors, and Veterans of all abilities.

Since its launch in 2001, the HK Powersports Land & Lake Poker Run has raised more than \$2.3 million vital funds for Easterseals NH, supporting integrated services that help thousands of individuals of all ages and abilities thrive each year. This year’s event



COURTESY PHOTO

Participants come together by land and “sea” to enjoy the 25th Annual HK Powersports Poker Run for Easterseals NH earlier this month. The patriotic-themed event concluding at The NASWA Resort in Laconia raised more than \$250,000 for individuals served by Easterseals NH throughout the state. Photo credit: Silver Image Photography, Manchester, NH.

ersports, Mix 94.1 FM Radio, Sea-Doo, Seachoice Products, and The NASWA Resort. We also extend our thanks to additional sponsors whose generous contributions help make our events possible: Baron’s Major Brands, Belknap Subaru, Bioaqualife, Bio-Kleen, Callahan A/C and Heating Services, Coca-Cola, Cohen Family Foundation, Crown Special Events, Fireside Living, Foster’s Tavern, Irwin Marine, J. Grimbilas Strategic Solutions, Laconia Daily Sun, North Water Marine, North Wing Offshore Racing, Nor-Tech powered by Innovative Performance, Paus Bay Marina, South End Media, Sysco Northern New England, Watermark Marine Supply, West Pointe Waste Services, White Mountain Fiberglass and Winnisquam Marine.

“Girls Night: The Musical” coming to the Colonial

LACONIA — Coming to the Colonial Theatre of Laconia Saturday, Oct. 17: “Girls Night: The Musical!”

Share the fun & laughter at this hilarious, feel-good comedy as five girlfriends go from heartbreak to happiness during a wild night of karaoke. Get your girlfriends together and come sing along, dance along, and sip on cocktails as you take in this party of a show!

“Girls Night: The Musical” has been thrilling audiences and earning raves from critics throughout North America since it began touring after its sensational Off-Broadway debut. This touching and hilarious 'tell-it-like-it-is' musical takes audiences on a journey into the lives of a group of female friends. Audience members can’t help but laugh, cry and even find themselves singing and dancing in the aisles as some of the most popular hit songs of the ‘80s and ‘90s make this musical a fan favorite! Follow five friends as they re-live their past, celebrate their present, and look to the future on a wild and hilarious karaoke night out ... and you'll recognize a bit yourself in every one of them! It is described as “Desperate Housewives meets Mamma Mia” (Applause Magazine), “A boisterous, bust-out, bawdy musical revue” (Wisconsin State Journal), “An infectious, exhilarat-

ing sense of intoxication (Hollywood Reporter) and “As funny and outrageous as Sex in the City!” (The Advocate). “Girls Night” is bursting with energy, and is packed with hits “Lady Marmalade,” “It’s Raining Men,” “Man I Feel Like A Woman,” “I Will Survive,” “We are Family” and many more.

British playwright, author and television producer, Louise Roche has written and produced six other plays including Girls Night (UK Tours 2003, ‘04, ‘06), Bobby and Johnny (UK Tour 2005), Girls Behind (UK Tour 2005), Checkout Girls (Milton Keynes 2005), Lucky Balls (Milton Keynes 2002), and Milton Keynes The Musical (2002). Her novel, Glutton for Punishment is published in paperback, and her television writing includes “Where The Heart Is,” and “Doctors.”

Director, Sonya Flaherty has been with Entertainment Events, Inc. since 2007. She originally performed the role of Liza in the US premier of “Girls Night: The Musical” in Scottsdale, Az. in May of 2007. After touring for two years in “Girls Night: The Musical” and still working full-time in International Risk Management at American Express, EEI brought Sonya Carter and her 12 years of experience at American Express on board as its production supervisor

in 2009. In 2010, she was promoted to Chief Operating Officer. In addition to her responsibilities as the COO of Entertainment Events, Inc., she continues to supervise all production aspects from casting to closing night for all EEI productions. She still performs in “Girls Night: The Musical.” She has played three of the five roles in the show and has amassed over 400 performances on tour and Off-Broadway. Sonya has directed several of the touring companies of “Girls Night: The Musical” and originated the role of co-host Janice and directed the world Premier of WPMS: The Musical at the DuPont Theater in Wilmington, DE on June 29, 2010. Sonya Carter directed, co-authored and performed the role of Janice in the Off-Broadway premiere “Dishing With the Divas: The Musical” in January of 2011. “Cuff Me: The Fifty Shades Of Grey Musical Parod”y is the third Off-Broadway production she has directed.

Performances of “Girls Night: The Musical” at the Colonial Theatre of Laconia are on Saturday, Oct. 17. Ticket prices range from \$46 to \$90. To purchase tickets or for more information about group rates, call the Colonial Theatre of Laconia Box Office at 1-800-657-8774 or on the Internet at ColonialLaconia.com.

marked a major milestone, holding the 25th anniversary event.

Event participants traveled by boat, car, motorcycle, or personal watercraft to designated checkpoints on and around Lake Winnepesaukee, collecting playing cards along the way. The final stop was at NazBar & Grill at The NASWA Resort in Laconia, where players revealed their hands to judges for a chance to win cash prizes of up to \$1,000.

This year’s event celebrated America250 with a patriotic themed “All-American BBQ” on the lake’s shores. The celebration featured a buffet, live auction, raffles, and a variety of family-friendly activities—including chances to win grand prizes donated by Laconia-area businesses. Attendees also competed for prizes awarded to the best patriotic-themed costumes and decorations.

The HK Powersports Land & Lake Poker Run is dedicated to the memories of Hope and Peter

Makris, the late parents of The NASWA Resort owner Cynthia Makris, and Brian Connelly, a longtime Lakes Region community activist.

“My parents spent their lives giving back to their beloved communities,” said Cynthia Makris, whose father passed in 2007 and whose mother died at the age of “100.5” in May 2025. “I am continuing their legacies which makes our poker run very personal and meaningful for me, Brian’s sons, Greg and Gary Connelly and everyone on the Poker Run Committee who loved them dearly. It’s a fund-raising and ‘fun-raising’ event that helps thousands of people in memory of my parents and our dear friend, Brian, who was instrumental in getting the high-performance boats to participate since 2001.

Easterseals NH is deeply grateful for the support of its major event sponsors, including Amoskeag Beverages, Bank of New Hampshire, Brady-Sullivan Properties, HK Pow-

About Easterseals New Hampshire

Since 1936, Easterseals New Hampshire has provided exceptional services to ensure that all people with varied abilities and their families have equal opportunities to live, learn, work, and play in their communities. A leader in social services for individuals with disabilities and those underserved by traditional programs, Easterseals NH provides essential services and supports to approximately 14,000 children, adults, seniors, and Veterans annually. Their programs cover areas like early intervention, autism, intellectual and developmental disabilities, adult day and in-home care, behavioral health, housing, and substance use disorders. Easterseals NH is a community of care for all ages, for all abilities, for life.

For more information, visit eastersealsnh.org or follow them @EastersealsNH on Facebook.

Tanger Outlets Tilton to host Touch-A-Truck Event Aug. 7

TILTON — Tanger Outlets Tilton invites shoppers to kick off the start of the school season in style with its annual Touch-A-Truck event,

presented by Hannaford, on Friday, Aug. 7 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Families can celebrate their scholars with an array of free activities between Old Navy and Tropical Smoothie Cafe, including local vendors, games, activations and more. Hosted in partnership with the New Hampshire State Police, the event will bring together more than 10 participating municipalities, along with local

police and fire departments, giving families the chance to explore emergency vehicles, meet local first responders and enjoy a festive start to the school year.

Adding even more value, Tanger Deal Days will offer up to 25 percent off top brands like Skechers and Old Navy. Tanger Tilton has all the latest apparel, footwear, accessories and more to help students return to class in style.

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www.farmingtonnhucc.org
Sunday School at 10:15 AM September -June.

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Prayer Night- 1st Wed of every month 6:30 pm
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PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BARNSTEAD, N.H.
on the Parade in Barnstead
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ST. KATHARINE DREXEL
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Mass Saturday 4pm;
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am;
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Rev. Miriam Acevedo with Rev. Stephen Ekerberg
www.ststephenspittsfield.com

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rt. 171 at Tiltonboro Corner.
Sunday services 10:30 a.m. Church 603-539-8058

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Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

Free Soccer program for ages four to eight

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a free soccer program for ages four to eight led by the Kingswood Boys Varsity Soccer Coach and a group of awesome volunteers for Alton residents and surrounding Towns. The free soccer program will be held on Sundays at Alton Central School from Sept. 13-Oct. 18, 9-10 a.m. Cleats and shin guards are optional, bring your own. Free shirts will be provided to participants that register by Aug. 17. Register in person at the Parks and Recreation office or online at www.alton.nh.gov. Contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109 or parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov for more information.

Alton Bay Concerts at the Bandstand 2026

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

August 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 Aug. 29-Cool Beans- '60's and '70's Rock.

The Visitors Band — Sunday, Aug. 16

The Visitors Band, featuring oldies, classic rock and country rock, is scheduled to play at the Alton Bay Bandstand on Sunday, Aug. 16 6 from 3-5 p.m. This free performance is rescheduled from July 18, 2026.

Guided Meditation

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and Friends of the Gilman Library are sponsoring Guided Meditation with Karen Kharitonov on Thursdays, Aug. 13& 27 and Sept. 10 & 24 from 6:30-7:15 p.m. at the Gilman Library, Agnes Thompson Meeting Room. The program is free, donations accepted to benefit the food pantry. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Paint Night on the Alton Bay Bandstand With Anne Morrell

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring an outdoor Paint Night with instructor Anne Morrell at the Alton Bay Bandstand from

6-7:30 p.m on Wednesday, Aug. 19 - rain date August 20. All supplies are included, \$25 for adults; \$15 for children 12 and under; pay instructor on site. View painting example on the Alton Parks and Recreation Face Book Page or ask for a copy to be emailed to you. Please RSVP with your name and contact information to parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or call 603-875-0109.

Pick Up Pickleball Games

Pick up Pickleball games are being held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m.-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.

Dungeons and Dragons

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

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- 11:30 a.m.- Starts at the Letter S Road and ends in Alton Bay.

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

Bittersweet Band Concert, a local favorite, playing classic rock- 7:00p.m.-9:00p.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, arrive early to get a seat in the game.

Old Home Days Firemen's Chicken BBQ

The Alton Firemen's Association is sponsoring their annual (and famous) Chicken BBQ on Saturday, Aug. 8, starting at 4:30p.m. at the Central Fire Station. Parking is available at Mill Pond for eat in or drive through and pick up your meal to go.

Old Home Days Battle of the Badges Softball Game

The Alton Fire and Police Departments are playing their annual Old Home Days Softball Game on Sunday, Aug. 9 at 10 a.m. at Jones Field Park located on the Letter S Road. Stop by and cheer on your favorite local hero, this is a great

event and fun for the whole community.

Old Home Days Cribbage Tournament

Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a free Cribbage Tournament on Sunday, Aug. 9 starting at 1 p.m. at the Alton Bay Land Bandstand, weather permitting. Tournament seating is limited so please

arrive early to guarantee a spot. Prizes will be awarded to top finishers. A special thank you to Ruth Arsenault for leading this fun event. For more information contact Alton Parks and Recreation at 603-875-0109 or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Water Bandstand Committee Presents

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

Local residents to participate in Pan-Mass Challenge to Support Cancer Research

NEEDHAM, Mass. — This Aug. 1 and 2, the Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) will bring together more than 6,000 cyclists and 4,000 volunteers on August 1-2 to raise money for cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Participants from local communities will be among those helping support the PMC's mission to fund lifesaving cancer research and treatment.

Local Participants Include David Hamblent of Gilford and Ashley Maگون of Laconia

The PMC, which raises more money for charity than any other single athletic fundraiser in the world, is aiming to raise more than ever this year, with a fundraising goal of \$79 million.

This year's PMC comes at an especially critical time, with federal research support shrinking, grant approval rates reaching historic lows, and cancer cases continuing to rise. For the 20th consecutive year, 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar will go directly to Dana-Farber, one of the nation's top three hospitals for cancer research and care.

"The theme for this year's PMC, which is 'now, more than ever,' underscores the paramount importance of every single dollar raised in fueling the search for a cure," said Billy Starr, founder and chairman of the PMC. "We are endlessly grateful to every rider, volunteer, donor, and sponsor who makes the PMC possible. Because of their training miles, long hours of

volunteering, generous support, and unwavering commitment, we are moving ever closer to a world without cancer."

Since its inception in 1980, the PMC has raised \$1.125 billion for Dana-Farber, making it the organization's largest single contributor and accounting for 67 percent of the annual revenue of The Jimmy Fund, Dana-Farber's community-driven fundraising arm. This unrestricted annual funding has empowered and accelerated advancements in cancer research, deeply benefiting patients across the world.

During each annual PMC weekend, thousands of cyclists and volunteers come together from across the world, hailing from 47 US states and 12 countries, with a shared purpose of raising as much money as possible for Dana-Farber. Cyclists ride routes ranging from 25 to 177 miles. Included among these participants is the PMC Living Proof community, riders and volunteers who were previously treated or are currently undergoing cancer treatment and serve as Living Proof of the progress made through raising funds for cancer research and treatment.

There is still time to participate in this year's Pan-Mass Challenge. Folks interested in getting involved can learn more and register at PMC.org.

About the Pan-Mass Challenge

The Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) is a bike-a-thon that today raises more money for char-

ity than any other single athletic fundraising event in the world. Founded in 1980 by Billy Starr - who remains the event's founder & chairman, an annual cyclist, and a fundraiser - the PMC has raised \$1.125 billion for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through the Jimmy Fund. As Dana-Farber's single largest contributor, the organization generates 67 percent of the Jimmy Fund's annual revenue. 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar goes directly to fueling cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber. In addition to its two-day bike-a-thon across Massachusetts, the PMC is powered by further "spokes in the wheel," with initiatives including the PMC Winter Cycle, an indoor spin event; PMC Unpaved, a gravel bike ride; and PMC Kids Rides, mini bike-a-thons for children ages 2 to 15. The PMC attracts riders and volunteers from 47 states and 12 countries and over 300,000 individual donors. Across events, the PMC has successfully melded support from committed cyclists, volunteers, corporate sponsors, and individual donors, all of whom are essential to the PMC's goal and model: to attain maximum fundraising efficiency while increasing its annual gift. The PMC's aspiration is to provide Dana-Farber's doctors and researchers with the necessary resources to discover cures for all cancers. For more information, visit www.pmc.org.



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Town	Address	Type	Price	Seller	Buyer
Alton	68 Dan Kelley Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$680,000	K. & Debra A. Sandhage RET	Clinton Ludwig
Alton	50 Ridge Rd.	N/A	\$685,000	Aaron F. and Deirdre M. Hann	Jamie L. and Heather L. Wood
Alton	55 Trask Side Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$575,000	Jamie L. and Heather L. Wood	Natalie and Kevin Flynn
Alton	N/A (Lot 45)	N/A	\$39,933	Richard C. Purinton	Joseph and Nicole Cicchetto
Barnstead	64 Dalton Dr.	Single-Family Residence	\$450,000	Todd, Jr. and Danielle Ingham	Benjamin Male
Barnstead	N/A	N/A	\$375,000	Marcia Scott	Carol Collins Trust
Gilford	570 Belknap Mountain Rd.	Farm/Forest	\$60,000	Eugene R. Akers Estate and Lynn A. Grainger	Mark and Kimberly Lesnewski
Gilford	25 Country Club Rd., Unit D	Condominium	\$150,000	Tada Real Estate LLC	Holding Company LLC
Gilford	N/A (Lot 4-66)	N/A	\$659,000	S. & Allyson Gacelon RET	Thomas Paul and Kyper Paul Garrison
Gilmanton	969 NH Route 140	Single-Family Residence	\$682,000	Travis and Amanda Mims	Michael and Ashley Workman
Gilmanton	N/A (Lot 44S)	N/A	\$275,000	Peter and Chrystal Paetzold	Leann Herderhurst
Gilmanton	N/A (Lot 80W)	N/A	\$275,000	Peter and Chrystal Paetzold	Leann Herderhurst
New Durham	59 Davis Crossing Rd.	Single-Family Residence	\$799,000	Paula S. Koehler	Dylan and Alexis N. Reed
New Durham	Goslin Way	N/A	\$475,000	Anthony C., Jr. and Jade Lee	Daniel M. Maksy
New Durham	N/A	N/A	\$370,000	Anthony J. Iuele RET	Karen M. Laakso RET
New Durham	N/A	N/A	\$151,000	Christine Volinsky Estate and Samantha Martin	Gerkin LLC

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

Laconia's Joseph DiPietro named to College of the Holy Cross Dean's List

WORCESTER, Mass. Laconia was named Holy Cross Spring 2026 A member of the was named to the Dean's — Joseph DiPietro of to the College of the Dean's List. Class of 2026, DiPietro List for outstanding a-

ademic achievement during the spring semester of the 2025-26 academic year.

To qualify, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

About Holy Cross

The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,200 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.



Equal Housing Opportunity

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

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

This paper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed, that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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For The Washington DC area, please call HUD at 275-9200. The toll free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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

Neither the Publisher nor the advertiser will be liable for misinformation, typographically errors, etc. hereincontained. The Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertising.

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\$285,000
MLS# 5100423

Laconia: Meticulously maintained, this turn-key 3-bedroom, 2-bath home features an eat-in kitchen, a primary suite with a full bath, updated windows and laminate flooring, and a 2017 metal roof.

\$325,000
MLS# 5100990

Gilmanton: Set on a 0.77-acre level lot, this 3-bedroom home offers access to three shared beaches on Sawyer Lake. The interior includes a cozy living area anchored by a pellet stove, an eat-in kitchen, mini-split heating and A/C, and more!

\$402,000
MLS# 5100051

Sanbornton: Fully renovated, this light-filled 1-bedroom cottage located in a low-maintenance association living offers a sandy beach and a private deeded boat slip with seasonal rental potential on Lake Winnisquam.

\$919,000
MLS# 5100398

Laconia: This 4-bedroom, 4-bath home features a main-level primary suite, cathedral ceilings, a gas fireplace, and a granite kitchen. The walkout lower level adds a flexible in-law suite. Residents enjoy private Lake Opechee access with docks and moorings available, all steps from Laconia Country Club.

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Kingswood Theatre presents

“The Guy Who Didn’t Like Musicals”

WOLFEBORO — In a bold departure from tradition, Kingswood Theater is thrilled to announce its inaugural adult musical production, “The Guy Who Didn’t Like Musicals.”

Featuring an electrifying book and score by Starkid Productions, this genre-bending experience takes the stage Friday, August 14th and Saturday, Aug. 15 at 7 p.m., with a final matinee on Sunday, Aug. 16 at 2 p.m. Performances will be held at the prestigious Kingswood Arts Center. Audiences are advised that this production features mature content and language.

Renowned as StarKid’s most notorious and beloved work, “The Guy Who Didn’t Like Musicals” is a high-octane horror-comedy that subverts every trope of musical theater. With sharp music and lyrics by Jeff Blim and a witty book by Matt and Nick Lang, the show serves as the explosive first installment in the Hatchetfield series. Inspired by the tension of Invasion of the Body Snatchers, the story follows Paul (Adrian Champagne), a quintessential “average guy” who detests musicals. His worst nightmare comes to life when



his town is seized by an alien hive mind, forcing the citizens into elaborate, mandatory song-and-dance numbers.

“What began as an alumni summer project rapidly evolved into a professional-grade showcase for our entire local adult community,” says co-director Scott Giessler. “This is a rare opportunity for us to push artistic boundaries and explore edgy, sophisticated content that creates a truly unique experience for the Kingswood Arts Center stage.”

Co-Director Kathleen Hill echoes the excitement, commenting, “This cast is a powerhouse. Their camaraderie and raw enthusi-

asm have been palpable since day one; they truly embody the heart and soul of musical theater.”

Cast member Melanie Fedorowicz, who stars as Charlotte, adds, “This show is an absolute riot. It’s a hilarious, outlandish adventure that hasn’t been seen in this region before. It’s going to be a fresh, unforgettable experience for our audience.”

“We have a phenomenal collision of recent Kingswood graduates and seasoned theater veterans,” notes Rachel Byrd (playing Bill). “The energy this motley crew brings to the score is infectious, and it’s guaranteed to sweep the audience off their feet.”

The production features the signature technical excellence of set guru Norman Adjutant, stunning costume and prop design by Michael Allfrey, and dynamic music direction by Bobby Burns. Tickets are available now—secure your seats for this limited engagement at kingswoodtheater.org.

FIRE
(continued from Page A1)

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) responded to the incident and verified that booms had been deployed around the vessel. All onboard gasoline was consumed in the fire, and the diesel tank remains unaffected. NHDES continues to monitor the cleanup efforts in the area.

Investigators are still working to determine the number of people on board at the time the fire broke out, and are currently reviewing video evidence and interviewing witnesses. Anyone who was on board The Dive at the time of the fire and has not already spoken with investigators should contact the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal’s Office at 603-223-4289 or fmo@dos.nh.gov.

In a statement posted on the company’s Facebook page Sunday, the owners of The Dive described the previous day’s events as “the hardest day in our jour-

ney.”

“Watching The Dive burn was absolutely heartbreaking, and we are devastated by this loss. What matters most, though, is that every single person made it off safely. For that, we are incredibly grateful,” they wrote, thanking those onboard who jumped in to fight the fire and the many observers who swam over with their own fire extinguishers in an effort to try to save the boat for their “incredible courage and selflessness.”

“The outpouring of love, support, and prayers we’ve already received has meant more to us than words can express. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you,” the message continued. “The Dive may be gone, but the amazing community around it is stronger than ever and the memories and the wonderful people & friends we have met through these 9 years we will always cherish. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”

HELP WANTED



Full-Time Installers Apprentice

Energysavers Inc, a 50 year old hearth & spa product retailer in the Lakes Region, is looking for a motivated individual that wants to learn the trade of installing hearth products. You must be comfortable working on roofs when necessary and able to work with an installer to move heavy items. Energysavers pays for all educational costs to get and maintain NFI wood, gas and pellet certifications as well as a NH gas fitters license for gas hearth installations and service. Starting pay, \$18-\$20 hour based on experience.

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Songwriter Round-Up brings evening of original music to Meredith



MEREDITH — The partnership between Katie Dobbins Music (Gilford) and Hermit Woods Winery & Eatery (Meredith) which has brought the monthly music series Songwriter Round-Up to the Lakes Region is set to deliver another great show at the end of this month. Held in the region’s premier listening room, The Loft, located on the second floor of the Winery, this series has been giving audience members a chance to experience the original music of talented singer-songwriters from the New England area and beyond. At each show three artists share their songs and stories in a unique in-the-round style performance. Presented on the last Thursday of each month, this intimate series features two different songwriters each month along-

side award-winning performer Katie Dobbins. The series offers area residents and visitors an opportunity to experience the show “magic” that each new lineup creates. Winery co-founder and owner Bob Manley is thrilled to have his establishment be home to the monthly Songwriter Round-Up Series. Remarking on the success of the series, Bob reaffirms the valued partnership the Winery has developed with Katie Dobbins Music expressing “Working alongside Katie Dobbins and her Songwriter Round-Up Series has been an absolute delight. Katie brings an engaging presence to the stage, effortlessly connecting with our audiences and showcasing incredible talent with each performance.” The next Songwriter Round-Up show takes place on Thursday, July 30th, featuring the Lakes Region’s

own Katie Dobbins, a singer-songwriter who delivers heart-felt lyrics with beautiful vocal tones wrapped in guitar and piano melodies; Caitlin Piper, a New Hampshire-based singer-songwriter whose music blends soul, jazz,

pop, and rock into a sound that’s both timeless and contemporary in support of her moving and relatable lyrics; and Mary Moore, a Nashville-based folk-pop/indie-pop artist with powerhouse vocals and storytelling lyrics that

connect to people from all walks of life. All of these artists bring their own unique life-lyrics, melodies, and styles to the stage. This is sure to be an evening of great original music and dynamic entertainment that you won’t want to miss. Learn more about each of these artists on the Hermit Woods Winery Web site.

A complimentary

wine tasting will begin at 5:30 p.m., the Loft opens at 6 p.m. for seating & dinner orders, and music starts at 7 p.m. Patrons can further enhance their evening by selecting from a menu of tasty items available from onsite Chef Eric Huckins. Tickets can be purchased in advance at hermitwoodswinery.com/the-loft or in-person at the Winery.

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