

Alton residents call for return of swap shop

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

ALTON — The selectmen will further examine reestablishing a swap shop at the town transfer station with the aim of having it decided at the 2025 town meeting, though several residents are urging the board to bring the shop back sooner.

The town had a swap shop in a trailer at the

solid waste center for around 20 years until it was closed in 2020. Former swap shop volunteer Myrna Knight said she was in the shop in 2020 when someone told her the town was closing it because of the pandemic. Before then a slip and fall at the swap shop resulted in a lawsuit that the town's insurance company Primex settled out of court.

Several residents have been urging the town to reopen the swap shop and the selectmen have discussed options to bring it back.

During the July 23 selectmen's meeting, selectman Richard Shea said he visited several towns with similar shops at their transfer stations to get a sense of how they are run and what buildings, infrastructure, and

labor are used.

Shea said he knew of 12 towns that have these shops and visited eight of them. Out of the eight, five were staffed by a group of volunteers and the most common staffing arrangement was having volunteers take two to three-hour shifts. He said most of the towns he talked to had enthusiastic volunteers to help with their shops and worked well with the transfer station staff.

Chester's shop was located right by the main building and was managed by town staff. Bedford's shop was leased to a private operator and Jaffrey's shop was run by a chamber of commerce.

Each of the shops had different rules on what items were accepted and not accepted. Some general rules included a shop was only open to users with transfer station stickers and that items

there after a certain time would be disposed of among others.

Shea said it would probably be better of the shop was in an enclosed area for security reasons.

He said he spoke with Solid Waste Center Director Scott Simonds on a possible location for the shop and they determined a good location would be in a low area by the bins for construction and metal debris. Shea said Simonds seemed to be open to having the shop and appreciated its possible benefits.

Board Chair Paul LaRochelle, however said that area of the solid waste center sees heavy truck traffic and is not as easy to get in and out of especially during peak hours.

Shea said he got a quote from Alton Motorsports, which has provided other sheds for the town, on a possible shed

for the shop. The proposed price for a 12-foot by 20-foot shed would be \$8,500 to \$10,000, DPW staff could prepare the site for around \$500, and security cameras could be installed around it for around \$1,000. Shea said they could possibly proposed a warrant article of \$12,000 to \$14,000. It would likely be staffed by volunteers, but using town staff for six days a week during the warmer months at a rate of \$24 an hour would cost around \$7,500 a year.

Shea also said Primex, which represents most of the municipalities in the state, did not have any significant objections to having a shop.

The previous lawsuit led many selectmen to have concerns about liability. The selectmen expressed concern about the town being opened up to any more liability by

SEE SWAP SHOP, PAGE A14



COURTESY

Congratulations to the Royer children, Lily Vivi, and Vinny, who received their first library card here at Oscar Foss Memorial Library! May your love of reading be lifelong!

Alton looking at budget preparations

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

ALTON — Town officials are getting ready for 2025 budget preparations with the selectmen to further examine topics such as merit pay increases, the use of disaster reimbursement funds,

and the town's fund balance.

Town Administrator Ryan Heath updated the selectmen on the coming budget process during the board's July 23 meeting.

Heath said the department heads were tasked with working

on their budgets for 2025. He said the budget schedule is being worked out and they have tentatively scheduled meeting with the department heads the first week of September. This would lead to a presentation to the

SEE BUDGET, PAGE A15

Gilford Town Clerk now issuing veteran, antique plates

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

GILFORD — Motorists looking for Veteran's and Antique plates can come right to town hall as the Town Clerk-Tax Collectors office can now issue these plates.

The town announced in a statement on July 26 that the Town Clerk-Tax Collector's office was now able to issue Veterans and Antique Plates. The office will provide information on the requirements for each plate to anyone who is interested in getting them. The announcement also contained a list of requirements for each plate.

People who live in neighboring towns can also come to the Gilford Town Clerk-Tax Collectors office to get help and information on how to get their own Veteran's and Antique plates.

Veteran's plates can be issued to anyone who served in the US Armed Forces and received an honorable discharge. Anyone interested in getting these plates must show one form a list of acceptable documents that show an honorable discharge including a DD214

or DD217 form, individual forms from any of the armed services where the person served, documents from each branch of the military, a form GSA 6954 from the National Archives, or a Verification of Service letter from the Department of Veteran's Affairs.

Under state law, Antique plates can be issued to any motor vehicle over 25-years-old "maintained for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public interest." Vehicles used for commerce are not eligible for these plates. This plate is also not issued to vehicles "intended for daily use" but those that are in their original condition, restored to original, or in better condition.

For a full list of regulations for both plates, visit https://www.gilfordnh.org/file/3585/Veterans_and_Antique_Plates.pdf.

The Gilford Town Clerk-Tax Collector's office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and on Thursday from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. For questions, please contact Town Clerk-Tax Collector Danielle LaFond at 603-527-4713.

Elizabeth Albert, Rhiannon Reinholz are 2024 Walsh Scholarship winners

GILFORD — The Cheryl Lynn Walsh Memorial Scholarships were presented at the Gilford High School Senior Awards Night. It is with great pride that Gilford Rotary Club announces that Elizabeth Albert of Gilford & Rhiannon Reinholz of Gilmanton were this year's Scholarship winners.

Albert plans to major in health sciences/pre physical therapy at Franklin Pierce University.

Reinholz plans to attend Plymouth State University with a major in Social Science.

The Award and Scholarship are presented annually by the Gilford Rotary Club. It is awarded



COURTESY

Cheryl Lynn Walsh Scholarship Winners Elizabeth Albert & Rhiannon Reinholz.

to the applying student(s) who display Cheryl's character, promise and aspirations. With the presentation of the 36th Annual Cheryl Walsh Scholarship, over \$90,000 has been presented to 56 graduating Gilford High School seniors.

The Scholarship was started and was first pre-

sented in 1989. Gilford Rotary initially funded the Scholarship with seed money which was invested conservatively. The proceeds/earnings

of investments plus contributions by Committee members, family members and friends has resulted in \$500 - \$3,000 grants to the recipients over the years.

Annually, recipients receive a silver commemorative bowl, a citation, and the grant at Senior Awards Night in June. In May, a selection committee of board members, friends and past recipients conduct interviews to select the recipients. The Scholarship has traditionally attracted the brightest and most talented leaders and scholar/athletes of the Senior Class.

Several fund-raising activities have been held

over the years, including the long-standing Annual Rotary Pancake Breakfast at Gilford's Old Home Day.

The goal has been to raise and conserve a substantial enough principal to fund a meaningful and truly helpful grant to each year's recipient(s). The original fund goal of \$100,000 was reached in 2021. It is hoped that increasing the fund past the original goal will allow for bigger scholarships and additional recipients.

Contributions may be made to: The Cheryl Lynn Walsh Memorial Scholarship Foundation, c/o Treasurer, Gilford Rotary, Inc., P.O. Box 7091, Gilford, NH 03247-7091.

Alton Parks and Recreation Community Connection

USTA Youth Tennis Lessons
The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Tennis Lessons for Grades 1-8 on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Prospect Mountain High School Tennis Courts from Aug. 6-22. Grades are divided by times: Grades 1 & 2- 9-10 a.m.; Grades 3-5-10-11 a.m.; Grades 6-8- 11 a.m.-noon. Registration is \$60 for Alton and Barnstead residents and includes a brand new tennis racquet, and instruction with a USTA New England certified instructor. Non-resident fee is \$70. Basic tennis skills will be taught: forehand, backhand, serve, overhand and volley. Register by Aug. 2, class size is limited to seven. Registration forms are available at altonparksandrecreation.com or stop by the Parks and Recreation Kiosk at 328 Main Street to sign up. Contact parksrec@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109 for more information.

Alton Bay Concerts at the Bandstand 2024
Summer Concert Schedule: 7-9 p.m. at the Alton Bay Bandstand, Alton Bay
Aug. 3- Ricky and the Giants- Rock and Roll; Aug. 10- Bittersweet- Classic Rock-Fireworks to follow at 9 p.m.; August 17- EZ Band- Classic and those destined to be; Aug. 24- Saxx Roxx is back by

popular demand; Aug. 31- Got It Covered Band- Cover Songs.

Alton Bay Old Home Week Craft Fair
The Old Home Week Craft Fair will be held in Alton Bay on Aug. 10 & 11. New England artisans with handmade wares will be displaying their crafts at the Alton Bay Community Center and Railroad Square Park. Unique offerings include custom-made jewelry, fine wood crafts and furniture, maple products, soaps, skin care, honey, fabrics, totes, bags, pet treats and toys, skin care, quilts, baskets, photography, table runners, wall hangings, pottery, jams, dips, spices, candles, and more. Saturday, Aug. 10 – 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 11 – 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Admission is free.

Alton Old Home Week 5K Road Race
The Old Home Week 5K Race will be held on Aug. 10 at the Alton Bay Bandstand, start time is 9 a.m. Co-Sponsored by Meredith Village Savings Bank. USATF Certified Course through Alton. Computerized timing with bib chip; results posted online. Scenic/ lake and river views, slight varying course, flat/downhill with one moderate incline, paved. Prizes, refreshments, water stops, traffic control and raffle for racers. Registration forms and map available at www.alton.nh.gov or register online by Aug. 6 at <https://runsignup.com/Race/NH/Alton/AltonOldHomeWeek5KRoadRace>. Race day registration starts at 7:30 a.m. at the Alton Bay Bandstand.

Alton Old Home Week Cribbage Tournament
Join in the Old Home Week Cribbage Tournament on Sunday, Aug. 11 at 1 p.m. at the Alton Bay Bandstand and play outside by the lake. Register in person at 12:45 p.m. at the Bandstand. Prizes will be awarded to winners. All ages are welcome.

Local, Guided Hike to Pine Mountain Summit
The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a free hike on Friday, Aug. 16 to the top of Pine Mountain at 1:30 p.m., weather permitting. Meet at the Mike Burke Trail parking lot, bring a friend or hike solo. Hike will be approximately 45-

70 minutes, round trip. For more information and to pre-register by August 14 contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Alton Trails- All Star
Alton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a get outside and hike program in 2024. Hike seven local trails, and receive an Alton Trails All Star sticker. All you have to do is take a photo on each trail, and send the photos to parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov. Trails include: Mike Burke Trail; Knight's Pond; Trask Swamp and Fort Point Woods Conservation Area; Gilman Pond; Mt. Major; Pine Mountain and Cotton-Hurd Brook.

Events Sponsored by Water Bandstand Committee
Aug. 2 - Live Concert at the Alton Bay Land Bandstand from 7-9 p.m. featuring "The Thursday Afternoon Band."
Aug. 24 - Water Ski

Show at 3 p.m. in Alton Bay, rain date is Aug. 25.

Pick Up Play in the Park- Court Sports
Community members 18 years and older interested in playing Basketball, Tennis or Beach Volleyball on Thursday nights from 6-7:30 p.m. and/or Pickleball on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8-11 a.m. are invited to sign up for Pick Up games at Liberty Tree Park Courts. Visit www.altonparksandrecreation.com to sign up through SignUpGenius. Bring your own equipment and make it a game; try it once or play every week.

Pilates Classes in Alton Bay- Tuesdays and Thursdays
The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Pilates classes at the Alton Bay Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. with certified instruc-

tor Donna Lee. All level adults are welcome for a full body, low impact class that will improve muscle tone, flexibility, balance and strength. Pre-registration is \$10 per class or \$15 drop in. Bring a mat and water. For more information/register contact Donna at breathepilates1@yahoo.com or parksrec@alton.nh.gov.

Paint Night
Join family, friends, and community members for a night out of relaxation and fun with instructor Anne Morrell on Wednesday, Aug. 21 from 6-8 p.m. on the Alton Bay Land Bandstand. All supplies included. No art experience needed. All ages welcome. \$25 per person. The painting will be the view from Pine Mountain looking at Lake Winnepesaukee. To register or for more information, contact parksrec-asst@alton.nh.gov or 603-875-0109.

Blessing of the Animals offered at First UMC

GILFORD — A Blessing of the Animals will be offered by Rev. Nami Yu at the Outdoor Chapel, First UMC of Gilford. Bring your furry, feathered, or finned friends for a special blessing ceremony on Saturday, Aug. 3 at 5 p.m. All creatures, great and small, are welcome! (Please have proper carriers or leashes for your pets.) Also, you may bring pictures of your furry family. Join us for this heartwarming event that celebrates the bond between humans

and their beloved animal companions. This blessing is being offered Rev. Nami Yu in the beautiful outdoor chapel at First United Methodist Church, located at 18 Wesley Way (Off Route 11-A near the 3/11 bypass), Gilford. We look forward to seeing you and your pets for an afternoon of blessings, community, and joy. For more information, please contact the First UMC of Gilford. 603) 524-3289 or by email at nhhope@gmail.com.

Gallery Gatherings at the Wright Museum continue Aug. 7

WOLFEBORO — Join us at the Wright Museum of WWII on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at 10:30 a.m. for an engaging conversation with special guest speaker Linda Shenton Matchett. A bestselling author, speaker and history geek, Matchett writes about ordinary people who did extraordinary things in days gone by. Her blog, "History, Mystery and Faith," contains posts on little known facts about WWII, information about writers from the Golden Age of mystery writers (1930s and 1940s), author interviews and adventures in research. Matchett is also a volunteer docent and archivist at the Wright Museum as well as a trustee for her local public library. Her favorite activities include exploring historic sites and immersing herself in the imaginary worlds created by other authors. The Wright's Gallery Gatherings are an opportunity to ask your questions and speak directly with special guests.

Linda Matchett is well known to visitors at the Wright Museum for her appearances at the Wright's lecture series, including a presentation on the role women played as spies during WWII, a topic covered in one of her books, "Women of Espionage." Please join Matchett at the Wright on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at 10:30 a.m. – it promises to be an interesting hour

that you can combine with your museum visit – Don't miss it! Mark your calendars for other special 30th anniversary Gallery Gatherings at wright-museum.org & <https://wrightmuseum.org/museum-events/30th-anniversary-celebration/>. Future events will also feature Estelle Parsons and Christin Kaiser. Details to follow. The Wright Museum is located at 77 Center St. in Wolfeboro.

Cal Schrupp graduates from Bates College

LEWISTON, Maine — Cal Schrupp of Gilford graduated from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, with a major in Geology and a minor in Philosophy. Schrupp was also granted the Bates Senior Scholar Award, an honor bestowed upon graduating seniors who have participated in varsity sports for four years and have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above. On May 26, Bates College graduated students from 36 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and 19 countries, with 437 members of the Class of 2024 accepting congratulations and diplomas from President Garry W. Jenkins. It was the first Commencement for Garry Jenkins, who took the

helm at Bates on July 1, 2023. He noted how the graduating class' time at Bates has been bookended by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and the horrific shooting in Lewiston Oct. 25, 2023. "The Bates Class of 2024 has been tested, and they have persevered," Jenkins said. "They have taken on everything that has come their way and they also have thought deeply about their personal relationships to local, national, and global events. And in so doing, they have found joy and strength in one another, in connections, in relationships." "Lean into this grit," Jenkins told the Bates Class of 2024. "This resolve and resiliency you've developed. Practice and further cultivate your ability and

stamina to take on challenges as you encounter them, to adjust to changed circumstances, to make the best of less-than-ideal situations, to regroup when you are knocked off your planned course." The Commencement speaker was Mary Louise Kelly, the host of NPR's evening news program All Things Considered, who received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree. The two other honorands were poet Richard Blanco, who received a Doctor of Letters degree, and President Emerita Clayton Spencer, who served as president of Bates from 2012 until June 30, 2023 and received a Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Located in Lewiston, Maine, and home to about 1,800 students,

Bates is internationally recognized as a leading liberal arts college. Located in Lewiston, Maine, Bates is internationally recognized as a leading liberal arts college, attracting 2,000 students from across the U.S. and around the world. Since 1855, Bates has been dedicated to educating the whole person through creative and rigorous scholarship in a collaborative residential community. Committed to opportunity and excellence, Bates has always admitted students without regard to gender, race, religion, or national origin. Cultivating intellectual discovery and informed civic action, Bates prepares leaders sustained by a love of learning and zeal for responsible stewardship of the wider world.

Plymouth Town Wide Yard Sale

Saturday, September 7

Vendors and Sponsors wanted

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<https://tinyurl.com/tbhyardsale>

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Southern Rail kicks off August in Cate Park

WOLFEBORO — The next Saturday night concert in Cate Park will bring a nationally-known bluegrass band to the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand on Saturday, Aug. 3.

Southern Rail performed last year and is returning to bring their high-energy, fun show to the bandstand for local concertgoers to enjoy again.

Southern Rail brings riveting harmonies, irrepressible humor and sparkling banjo and mandolin solo work. The group's reverence for the traditional shines throughout their concerts and is reflected in their prolific songwriting.

The band includes Jim Muller on guitar and lead vocals, Sharon Horovitch on acoustic bass and harmony vocals, Richard Stillman on banjo and harmony vocals and John Tibert on mandolin and lead and harmony vocals.

Muller's rich, distinctive lead vocals and offbeat humor have become one of the band's trademarks over the years, but he is also known for his polished flat-picking and rock sol-



KEN TIBERT — COURTESY PHOTO

SOUTHERN RAIL will return to the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand on Aug. 3.

id rhythm and has been playing guitar for more than four decades.

Horovitch is known for her limber bass work and her tireless energy on stage and off. She has worked with Muller on many recording projects and offers her tenor and high-baritone harmonies to the band's sound.

Stillman has been playing bluegrass banjo for more than three decades and has been involved in a number of influential bluegrass bands over the years. He also has numerous studio recording cred-

its with many New England folk artists and is a past New England banjo champion.

Tibert starting playing guitar at age 14, but once he heard Dave Grisman on Old and in the Way, his life was never the same, as he's been addicted to bluegrass ever since. He brings fluid, lyrical mandolin playing and superb bass vocals to the band's sound.

Southern Rail will take to the bandstand on Saturday, Aug. 3, for a 7 p.m. concert in Cate Park. The Friends of

the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand concert series is presented free of charge each Saturday night in the bandstand in Cate Park, with each concert lasting two hours with a short intermission. At intermission, there will be a pass-the-bucket offering collected to help support the free concert series.

In the event of bad weather, check the Friends of the Wolfeboro Community Bandstand Facebook page and signs will also be posted at the entrance to the park.

NHEC offers new Renewable Energy rate

PLYMOUTH — New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) now offers an optional Renewable Energy Rate for members who wish to support the development of renewable energy in the region.

Members who enroll in the Renewable Energy Rate have the choice to purchase Co-op Power with 50 percent or 100 percent renewable attributes. For the Aug. 1, 2024 to Jan. 31, 2025 rate period, the 50 percent renewable option is 1.861 cents

more per kWh than the Basic rate. The 100 percent renewable option is 3.861 cents more per kWh than the Basic rate paid by most members. The added revenue received will be used by NHEC to purchase Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), which are a way to account for and encourage renewable energy production and use.

"Our purpose is to serve our members, and to provide them with affordable, reliable electric service. We have a diverse

membership, a number of whom are passionate about supporting and growing sources of renewable energy. Offering this new renewable rate aligns with our goal as a cooperative to provide energy solutions for all the segments of our membership," said Alyssa Clemensen Roberts, President & CEO of NHEC.

"Increasingly, our members have expressed a desire to have more of the power they use come from renewable sources. Recognizing this, the

board worked to create this option for our members who want to do more to increase the use of renewable energy," said NHEC Board Chair William Darcy.

The Renewable Energy Rate is available to all members who purchase Co-op Power at the Basic residential classification of service (rate codes B or N01A).

To learn more about NHEC's Renewable Energy Rate, please visit: www.nhec.com/renewable-energy.

Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance meets Aug. 7

WOLFEBORO — Wolfeboro Singletrack Alliance invites you to its Aug. 7 public meeting to discuss the sta-

tus of mountain bike & multi-use trails in the greater Wolfeboro area.

From relaxed cycling routes to advanced

downhill runs Wolfeboro offers a large selection of trails for all riders.

Please attend and

learn more about the organization, the trails and how you can guide us to better serve the community.

New Durham Development Committee hosting informational session

NEW DURHAM — The Town of New Durham will be having an informational ses-

sion on Aug. 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Community Room, located at 6 Main St. This event is

being hosted by the New Durham Development Committee, and will include the topics of short-

term rentals, housing, small businesses and a town or recreation center.

Interlakes Summer Theatre opens "Legally Blonde" July 31!



COURTESY

Chelsea Hermann, Tiffany Stoker and Bella star as Elle, Paulette and Brusier in Interlakes Summer Theatre's Production of "Legally Blonde," which will run from July 31-Aug. 11.

MEREDITH — The Interlakes Summer Theatre will continue its 17th season with "Legally Blonde" on July 31 at 7:30 p.m.

Based on the beloved 2001 movie, "Legally Blonde" follows the transformation of Elle Woods whose life is turned upside down when an expected wedding proposal ends in the Delta Nu' president getting dumped. When Elle decides to get "serious" and follow Warner to Harvard Law School to win him back, she soon realizes she is in way over her head as she battles snobbery, sexism and stereotypes. This fast-paced musical with memorable songs and explosive dances, proves that you can be both "Legally Blonde" and the smartest person in the room.

The production will be directed by Michael Stoddard and choreographed by Gustavo Wons, with Musical Direction by Susie Jolink. Set Designer is Katherine Wexler; Costume Designer-DW Withrow, Lighting Designer-Connor White, Sound

Designer-Jared Lipkin, Technical Director-Michael Byne, Prop Design-Troy Tedeschi, Stage Manager-Lily Landoch, Production Manager-Kristen Wettstein, Costume Shop Manager-Ginny Fisher, Assistant Stage Manager-Raeya Garcia, Assistant Lighting Designer Brandon Clague, Costume Shop Technician-Savannah Richey.

Legally Blonde will run from July 31-Aug. 11, with a matinees on both Thursdays. Next up will be "Million Dollar Quartet" Aug. 14-18.

Interlakes Summer Theatre is grateful for our Sponsors-Season Sponsor-Meredith Village Savings Bank, Show sponsors-The Mug Restaurant, Golden View Health Care, Voila Salon, Friedman & Bresaw Law, Sanders Management, RC Brayshaw Printing, The Daily Sun.

Tickets can be purchased at our Box Office at 1 Laker Lane from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. every day, or online at interlakes theatre.com, or by calling 1-603-707-6035.

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Beyond memes and headlines — the imperative of informed voting

In an age where social media dominates the landscape of information dissemination, it's too easy to fall into the trap of making decisions based on quick headlines and catchy memes. However, the upcoming election is of such paramount importance that it demands a deeper level of engagement from every voter. The stakes have never been higher, with one candidate making unprecedented claims that, if elected, no one will ever have to vote again because they'll have it "fixed real good." On the other side, a candidate is fiercely advocating for the preservation of American freedoms. This is a critical moment in our history, and we must take it seriously.

The rhetoric of patriotism and freedom has been used by both sides, often skewed and manipulated to serve political agendas. However, we must look beyond these slogans and closely examine what the candidates are truly saying. The promise of never having to vote again is a direct threat to the core of our democracy. Imagine if the Democratic nominee made such a statement—there would be widespread outrage. Yet, when the Republican candidate makes this claim, it is somehow normalized. This normalization is dangerous and undermines the very foundation of our democratic process.

Democracy is built on the right to vote. It is the cornerstone of our political system and the means through which we, the people, hold our leaders accountable. Any suggestion that this right could be taken away should be met with fierce resistance. It is not just a political issue; it is an existential threat to the values upon which our nation was founded. When a candidate threatens to erode this right, it is a call to action for all citizens to rise above party lines and defend the principles of democracy.

In this election, more than ever, we must be vigilant and well-informed. It is not enough to rely on snippets of information from social media. We must delve into the policies and promises of each candidate, understanding their implications for our future. We must listen to what they say and, more importantly, believe them. Their words and actions are a reflection of their intentions, and we must take them at face value.

The narrative that one side is the sole defender of patriotism and freedom is a distortion. In reality, the fight to maintain government out of our personal decisions and to preserve our freedoms is being waged by those who are committed to upholding democratic values. The threat to our democracy is real and immediate. If we are to preserve the freedoms we hold dear, we must act now.

For those who are still uncertain about the gravity of the situation, I urge you to do your research. Look beyond the memes and headlines. Seek out reliable sources of information and educate yourself on the stakes of this election. Understand that democracy is a fragile system that requires our active participation and protection.

This election is a defining moment in our history. The choice we make will determine the future of our democracy. We cannot afford to be complacent or misinformed. We must take the candidates at their word, understand the implications of their promises, and vote to protect our democratic rights. This is not just another election. Do not be fooled by party lines or catchy slogans. Believe in the power of your vote and use it to safeguard the principles of freedom and democracy.

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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COURTESY

LRAA announces July Artists of the Month

LRAA members have the opportunity to enter a piece of artwork into the Artist of the Month Program at each monthly Member Meeting. Winners 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. Our July Artists of the Month are, from left to right — Back Row: Sally Hibberd, James Cryan, Sherwood Frazier. Front Row: Pat Anderson, Fay Lee. These Winning Artists' artwork will be on display in locations in the Lakes Region until Aug. 19. Fay Lee, this month's First Place winner, has the distinct honor of displaying several pieces of her artwork at Annie's Cafe & Catering in Laconia. Warm up 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 August in the following locations: Sherwood Frazier- Northway, Tilton; James Cryan - Gifford Library; Sally Hibberd - Laconia Public Library; Pat Anderson - Franklin Savings, Gifford.

Let's Talk. That Thing.

BY PAMELA MOTT

Summertime and the living is... locals buzzing with the sounds of summer. What would it be without community? Around here we all share a piece of the bigger story, adjusting to the seasons, capturing the days in the bay on the lakes and in the

mountains. Some of us are just trying to get by. The story of our community depends on where it comes from. Some of us locals hold the tales of the haunted town hall or the fire station. Others will tell you about the local taverns and the happenings that will seem like they are written by

Hollywood. Share your stories. Local stories are entertaining ways to learn about who we are and where we are going in our changing world.

How is it that we become involved in our community while keeping a focus on what matters, our connections to ourselves and

each other? Now we know around here, us locals like our privacy, choices, security and freedoms. Being in community is to strengthen those things that are so valuable to us.

Local trails are buzzing with life get out there and start listening. August is coming in fast.

LETTERS FROM EDWIN

Peanut butter

The weather guys said that there was a heat advisory today and that I should stay inside. But all my present work is outside. As a socialist, knowing that I will get paid the same whether I work or not, I decided to follow their directions.

But actually, being a capitalist, I used this time to do other things, like making out bills and figuring out prices. Then a phone call got me to

go check out some work where I installed a door latch while I was there. So much for not working.

After that I dropped off bills to customers and checks to the bank. Then I headed back to the house for a late lunch time snack. Where would we be without peanut butter and jelly? It's hard to believe that I didn't like peanut butter growing up. I love it now. What a weird kid.

In one of my first bands, the Rainy Days, a junior high band that never played out, except the time we set up in my backyard and some neighbors called the cops. Dad said to never do that again. I suggested that name for the band because every time we practiced it rained.

One night at practice, the mother of the house made up a big dish of toasted English muffins

covered with ooey gooey peanut butter for us. I managed to get one down. Laboring through it with my mouth totally coated with all that icky sticky stuff. "No, thank you." I didn't want another one. Today, I would devour the whole tray.

The last time I mentioned my blueberries I was wondering what was up with all the birds. Wouldn't you know that

SEE EDWIN, PAGE A5

Letters to the Editor

Election volunteers needed in Alton

To the Editor:

There are three elections coming up in Alton in the next six months, and they cannot be successfully conducted without the help of a significant number of volunteer poll workers. It takes about 25 citizen volunteers, working with the Selectmen, the Town Clerk, the Supervisors of the Check List, and the Moderator to conduct an election to the standards set by the General Court and the Secretary of State's Ballot Law Commission.

In order to be certain of enough volunteers for each election, we would like to maintain a roster of 60 to 70 registered voters who would be willing to step up when their schedules allow. Training sessions are

held prior to each election to ensure that the volunteers have the latest rules, guidelines, and procedures fully explained and understood.

If you would like to participate in our elections, please send your contact information to moderator@alton.nh.gov, or drop the information off at the Town Clerk's office any time.

We have always held fair, honest, and open election in Alton, and look forward to continuing to do so with your help.

Gene Young
Town Moderator
Alton

Taxes should benefit the many, not the few

To the Editor:

Years ago, I was fortunate to be introduced to the Lakes region by friends who owned property on Merrymeeting Lake. Like many summer properties, the house came with books for the occasional rainy day. The book I chose one day was called something like "A History of New Durham, New Hampshire," and to my surprise, it turned out to be a fascinating read. It spoke of a time when settlers could select a piece of unsettled land and end up owning it, in exchange for clearing it, building a home on it, and contributing their labor for community projects. As someone who has struggled (like many do today) to reach homeowner status, I was enchanted by the dream of work in exchange for land ownership.

The idea was that the land would be populated by folks who could defend it, provide labor to establish roads and tame the wilderness in exchange for homesteads. Although a great idea in theory, in practice problems developed with settlers who were happy to

develop their own properties but balked at the community work they had agreed to (building and maintaining roads). With no local government present to enforce the labor required for community services, an alternative solution was needed. Taxes were that solution. Taxation had worked in England and other European countries, and taxes now came to New Hampshire.

Today, as then, taxes are used to support core community services; roads, public safety and public education. When we hear politicians talk about cutting taxes for higher economic groups, let's consider what the impact is likely to be on other economic groups and on roads, public services and education that our community depends on. As a person of moderate means, I am willing to pay my fair share in taxes for the services that benefit our community, but I do not want my taxes to go up so that those at the top can have their taxes lowered.

Jill Houser
Alton

Going out of Town

From hot streets to a cool harbor walk: A hot summer day in Boston

BY ERIN PLUMMER
mnews@salmonpress.news

I have found that being in downtown Boston on a day of high heat can be kind of a gamble. High temperatures can make the city feel like an oven, but it is the land of a thousand air conditioners. On the Sunday afternoon when I wanted to escape my hot apartment for someplace else, I knew I was rolling the dice on potentially entering another even hotter space, but it was a gamble that paid off with a warm evening with gorgeous views of the Waterfront at night, some delicious street food, and even a little Shakespeare in the Common.

In the exactly 15 years that I have been taking regular hikes around downtown Boston, I have experience most every form of weather and how it interacts with the environment. Unsurprisingly high heat does not play well with a major city. The ground is all concrete and asphalt and all around you are tall buildings from brick and concrete to skyscrapers of metal and glass. If you find yourself in a highly concentrated area of buildings, the heat effect is brutal, and the city just feels like walking through a kiln. That's not even mentioning the underground T stations which are only cooled by industrial fans that just push the heat around.

At the same time, you are in an area surrounded by tourist spots that are fully air conditioned. Get too hot and you can pop into Quincy Market, the Prudential Center, or any place else. Even though the T stations aren't air conditioned, the trains are for the most part.

This was the gamble I took on a particularly

EDWIN

(continued from Page A4)
the next day they had their great awakening. Perching on the trellis and garden fence, they'd continually dive into my poor bushes for tidbits of my blue goodies.

While watching this transpire, mother turkey wandered up from the back woods with her little ones and proceeded to peck away at the low hanging berries.

This morning, I went to see what I could find, and they are pretty much picked over for another year. I managed to get about a half a cup worth. Most of what's there are shriveling up into what the birds will come back for this winter. Those that have been opened up by the birds are getting preyed upon by other flying creatures. There was a wasp enjoying some sweet juice while I reached up to pick some near it. We were cool. Both enjoying Gods great abundance. Wouldn't it be nice if everybody could live and let live?

Since I haven't planted much of anything yet this year, there's not a lot for all the returning Japanese Beetle crew to eat, so they've taken over the blueberry bushes. Life is pretty good for them if you think about it. They have no predators, and all they have to do is eat blueberries all day, or do



ERIN PLUMMER

A hot summer night in Boston looking out at the Seaport from the Custom House Block on a hot summer night.

hot Sunday afternoon. My apartment doesn't do great in high heat, I have a few window air conditioners, but during certain times of day they can only do so much. It was also a deadline day too so the thought of just sitting at home and sweating while trying to get some work done held little appeal.

I pondered the best course of action to take and found myself feeling adventurous. I headed to Boston, but did so with a few strategies on how to deal with the heat.

The very act of being in a car for a few hours with the AC blasting is one way to deal with the heat. I also made a point to avoid the T and parked in the Common garage, which is a little cheaper after a certain hour. I intended to go to the Prudential Center where I could just pick up a seat and get my work done, though at the time the temperature was dropping slightly, and I was up for more movement. I decided to walk from the common to the Back Bay and take my chances with the T in case it got too hot. It was in fact warm but not horrible, though the back of my backpack got nicely soaked in sweat.

I did make a stop at one of my favorite food carts

in the Common that sells huge arepas (corn cakes sandwiching cheese) and empanadas (savory folded pastries with different fillings, in this case beef). I picked up one of each along with a cold iced tea, putting away the bag for a picnic later. I made the trek through the Public Garden and then found myself on Newbury Street.

To my delight I found that Newbury Street was closed to traffic as part of the city's weekly Open Streets program in the summer. I've been to Newbury Street during Open Streets and it's a fun place to be, though that only applies when the temperature is below 85 degrees. As much as I wanted to hang out and check out the art vendors, the heat was now becoming annoying and I made my walk down the side streets to get to the Prudential Center.

The Prudential Center is one of the best places to be on a hot day even with the crowds. I walked out of the hot, sunny area to be greeted by lovely AC. If I have a free afternoon and need to get some writing done, the Pru is one of my go-to places to bring my laptop. It's a building that's mostly open all day with a lot of open seating right, free

the make new little beetles dance, or both at the same time.

So the other day as I was keeping cool under the gas station roof with my paint brush, I noticed this young woman stepping out of her car at the gas pumps. What a vivacious specimen of woman flesh, according to regional norms and cultural indications as presented in movies and endless media. I thought, woe. I love the summer, when girls wear these skimpy almost nothings. I may be a senior, but I'm still a red blooded male at heart and do appreciate these moments. I'm quite harmless.

She went into the store, I kept painting. The next thing I hear is, Mister Twaste! How are you? My God, I didn't recognize her with sunglasses hiding her soul. Realizing that, she took them off. I suddenly saw who she was, a girl from town who I used to have in school. We talked for a bit before she took off to go take care of her elderly patients. Thoughts of George Burns come to mind. She used to be one of those slim tomboy types.

Speaking of used to be, every time I wash my hands, or look at them, this thought flashes through my mind, "these aren't my hands"? Once straight fingers have become all curved and



ERIN PLUMMER

Going down the Harborwalk past the Marriot Long Wharf.



ERIN PLUMMER

The Commonwealth Shakespeare Company presents "A Winter's Tale" in Boston Common.

and mostly reliable WIFI, and to plenty of drink and snack places. I got myself a lemonade form Dunks and parked in a side hallway to get my stuff done.

A few hours later, my work was done, and I was sufficiently cooled off from earlier. Now I was ready for another part of this journey I had been looking forward to for a while. I walked through Copley Place and went down to the Back Bay T stop, one that has a lot of open air so not as much of an oven. I took a train to State Street, got to the street and made a few crossings, then the sky tinged in twilight hung in front of me over a wide bay bordered by twinkling lights. I couldn't go home on this trip without an evening stop at

the Waterfront and savor the sea breeze and all the brightly lit skyscrapers.

I started at Christopher Columbus Park and found a little picnic table by Long Wharf to enjoyed that arepa, empanada, and bottle of Snapple I got earlier. As I hoped the air was cooling off and the breeze was gorgeous plus all the people watching. I savored my little dinner and the whole atmosphere until finally walking on.

I walked along the Harborwalk and found my way to the end of the wharf at the Custom House Block where I was surrounded by some lovely views. Across the harbor were the lights of the Seaport District. Right next door was Logan Airport and all the

planes taking off and landing against the night sky. The water was all around with boats of all sizes cruising by. I also got there around the same time as a big ferry from Provincetown landed in Boston and so many people poured through the harbor in colorful clothes.

It was a perfect moment to stand in one spot and take in the cool breeze, the lights of the nearby buildings, the reflections on the water, and the vast sky over everything. It was such a peaceful moment.

I finally pulled myself away from this urban beauty and decided it was a good time to walk back into the Common and get my car. By now the air was much cooler, but still with that summer warmth. I passed through the crowds in Quincy Market, found my way through Downtown Crossing, and was back at the Common. I walked down the speaking paths toward the entrance to the garage and found myself walking right by Shakespeare in the Park. During the summer, the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company puts on a free show in the Common, this year their production is "A Winter's Tale." I stopped for a moment to see some of the show, but soon home was calling and I got back to my parking lot.

I went home a bit sweatier, but happy for such a lovely evening trip. Going to Boston on a hot day can be a gamble, but this one worked with some great moments and great memories.

bent by arthritis. So far it hasn't negatively affecting my typing or bass playing much. Thank God that I didn't pick guitar.

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New Hampshire Boat Museum to offer photo sessions on the water

MOULTONBOROUGH — On Monday, Aug. 19 and Monday, Aug. 26, New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) will offer Family Picture Days on the Miss Lauren and Millie B, respectively.

“This is something new we are offering this year,” said NHBM Program Director Anne Lennon, who said NHBM is working with Wakefield-based Birch Blaze Studios. “It’s a rare opportunity to have professional photos taken out on the water on our authentic wooden boats.”

The sessions can hold up to eight people and will include a short cruise and photos which will take approximately one hour. Photos in the Miss Lauren will be taken in Paugus Bay, while the Millie B will take groups near the Varney Islands by Wolfeboro.



of preserving a special moment on the lake,” she added. “Birch Blaze Studios specializes in portraits in nature, so it feels like a perfect collaboration.”

One hour-long photo session costs \$250. To purchase a session on the Miss Lauren or Millie B, visit nhbm.org.

NHBM’s Moultonborough Campus is open Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. through September. Founded in 1992 by vintage and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM offers dynamic exhibits and engaging programs and events tailored to the diverse boating lifestyles and values of people of all ages.

Wright Museum Gallery Gathering spotlights artist Christin Kaiser

WOLFEBORO — Join us at the Wright Museum of WWII on Thursday, Aug. 8 at 2 p.m. for an engaging conversation with special guest speaker Christin Kaiser.

Kaiser, a UNH Carroll County Extension Advanced Master Gardener, is well known to the Wright community for her design and care of the Wright’s Victory Garden. Kaiser’s extensive background includes earning her Australian Permaculture Designer Certification in 2015, from David Holmgren during a two-week residential PDC course in Rocklyn, Victoria Australia. At the Wright Museum, Kaiser designed, built, renovated and has cared for the museum’s Victory Garden and is currently rebuilding the gardens to better suit museum and community needs. She is passionate about sustainability and local food production.

The Wright’s Gallery Gatherings are an opportunity to ask your questions and speak directly with special guests.

Please join Christin Kaiser at the Wright Museum on Thursday, Aug. 8 at 2 p.m. – it promises to be an interesting hour that you can combine with your museum visit – Don’t miss it!

Mark your calendars for other special 30th anniversary Gallery Gatherings at wrightmuseum.org & https://wrightmuseum.org/museum-events/30th-anniversary-celebration/.

The Wright Museum is located at 77 Center St. in Wolfeboro.

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Barnstead Historical Society salutes veterans

BARNSTEAD — The Barnstead Historical Society is excited to be joining the Salute to Veterans at Old Home Day on Aug. 13, on the historic Parade grounds beginning at 9 a.m.

Barnstead Parade was originally by the military for drills and inspections that were held in May and September, by one or more companies, so long as the New Hampshire military system existed. This system required service for all competent males between the ages of 18 and 45 years of age. The last official military use of the Parade was for the muster of the NH National Guard. The troops marched to the train station and boarded a train to Hoboken, N.J. From there, they departed for Europe and World War I, becoming part of the US Army Yankee Division in 1917. Old Home Day booklets, with a complete schedule of events, are available at the Farmers Market, Parks and Recreation concerts and a variety of other businesses. Stop and visit with us!

ough Campus is open Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. through September. Founded in 1992 by vintage and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM offers dynamic exhibits and engaging programs and events tailored to the diverse boating lifestyles and values of people of all ages.

NHBM’s 2024 season is sponsored in part by Belletetes, Eastern Propane & Oil, Epoxy Floor New England, Goodhue Boat Company, Kingswood Press and Design Studio, KW Coastal, Lake and Mountains, North Water Marine, and Taylor Community.

Church Service SCHEDULE

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 abf@faith.com.

ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTER
Sundays throughout the summer 10am & 7pm, 875-6161.

BEFREE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ALTON
Alton 9:30 a.m. Sun. Meeting at Prospect Mountain High School. Pastor Ben Ruhl, www.befreechurch.net.

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NEWS

ESSENTIAL local NEWS

Great Waters presents two outstanding performances at two locations



REGION — There’s no choice here as you won’t want to miss either of these two fabulous performances - one on Friday, Aug. 9, when Great Waters presents “The Greatest Love of All – A Tribute to Whitney Houston” at the Castle in the Clouds in Moultonborough, and the other

on Wednesday, Aug. 14 when Broadway actress Rebecca Robbins performs music from the Oscar Songbook at Brewster Academy’s Pinckney Boathouse. Both shows will begin at 7:30 p.m.



linda Davids in this “mind-blowingly spot on” tribute show. *(Not associated with the Estate of Whitney Houston.) Ms. Davids, a native of Port Elizabeth, South Africa, has been featured on Fox TV’s “Showtime at the Apollo” and BBC 1 TV’s “Even Better Than the Real Thing.” Part of the Concerts in the Clouds series, this is an evening not to miss. Major sponsors of the evening

are Eastern Propane and Oil, Fidelity Investments, and Belknap Landscaping, Inc. Please note this show is on a Friday night, unlike all the other Great Waters performances at the Castle. The following Wednesday, Rebecca Robbins will appear at the Pinckney Boathouse on the campus of Brewster Academy in Wolfeboro as part of the Concerts in Town series. She will per-

form selections from the Oscar Songbook, such as Beauty and the Beast, The Lion King, Wicked, and many more. Robbins has appeared on Broadway in “A Tale of Two Cities” and “Phantom of the Opera.” She has also appeared at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, Toronto’s Princess of Wales Theatre, San Francisco’s

Orpheum Theatre, and the Hollywood Pantages Theatre. The James Curvey Family Foundation partly sponsors the Concerts in Town Series. Tickets for both performances may be obtained online at www.greatwaters.org or by calling the office in Wolfeboro at 603-569-7710.

Wright Museum examines legacy of the Fighting Seabees

WOLFEBORO — On Tuesday, Aug. 6, the Wright Museum will welcome back Fred Johnson. This is the ninth program of the Wright Museum’s 2024 Education Series. More than 12,500 African Americans served in Seabee units in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters during World War II, a group largely forgotten today. During the war these men not only built advanced bases and offloaded cargo, but helped break institutional conceptions of race, paving the road toward complete integration of the Navy. Johnson joined the Hope faculty in the fall

of 2000. His primary field is 19th century U.S. history, specifically the Civil War. His other areas of study include the U.S. in the 20th century, the U.S. military, foreign policy and African history. He is an award-winning public speaker, a member of Toastmasters International and the National Speakers Association. He has advanced to the semifinal rounds of the Toastmasters World Series of Public Speaking competition eight times, placing him among the 100 best speakers in the global organization, taking second place in 2017 and 2018.

Doors open at 6 p.m., the program begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 6 at the Wright Museum’s DuQuoin Education Center, 77 Center St. in Wolfeboro. Admission is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Reservations are strongly encouraged and can be made online at <https://wrightmuseum.org/lecture-series> or by calling 603-569-1212. The region’s leading resource for educators and learners of all ages on World War II, the Wright Museum features more than 14,000 items in its collection that are representative of both the home front and battlefield.

For more information about the 2023 Lecture Series, or museum, visit wrightmuseum.org.

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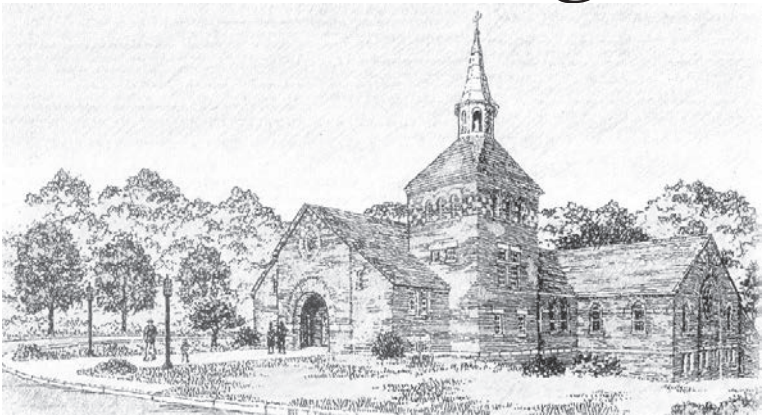
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God took a day off after creating us.



But you can find Him here all summer.

Genesis 2 tells us, “On the seventh day God completed the work he had been doing; he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had undertaken.” This summer your own vacation from work need not be a vacation from your faith. Here are a few of the regular events at our church—*your* church—this summer. You are welcome to join us for any or all of them:

- Saturday afternoons:**
Confession at church at 3:00. Mass at church at 4:00.
- Sunday mornings:**
Mass at church at 7:00, 8:30, and 10:30.
Mass online at 10:30 at stkandexel.org.
- Monday evenings:**
“Discovery Group” discussion at church at 7:00 p.m.
- Friday mornings:**
Eucharistic Adoration in church from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Weekday mornings (except Thursday):**
Mass at 8:00.

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New Hampshire Boat Museum to host 47th Annual Alton Bay Boat Show

ALTON — On Saturday, Aug. 10 from 9 a.m. to noon, the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) will host the 47th annual Alton Bay Boat Show at the Alton Town Docks. The popular event, which draws visitors from across New England, features antique wooden and early classic fiberglass boats built before 1975.

“This is a cool event,” said NHBM Executive Director Martha Cummings. “It offers attendees the opportunity to get up close to vintage and classic boats, and talk with the people who own them.”

Docking is first-come, first-served. Pre-registration is not required, although boat owners are encouraged to arrive before 9 a.m. The event is free for spectators, who vote for their boat favor-



ite to determine People’s Choice Award first, second, and third place winners.

“The show is fun for spectators of all ages,” added Cummings. “The boats that come are beautiful and there are always surprises.”

Part of Alton’s Old Home Day festivities, NHBM’s 47th Annual Alton Bay Boat Show is sponsored by Goodhue Boat Company, North Water Marine, and Shibley’s at the Pier.

Founded in 1992 by vintage and classic boat-

ing enthusiasts, NHBM offers dynamic exhibits and engaging programs and events tailored to the diverse boating lifestyles and values of people of all ages.

NHBM’s 2024 season is sponsored in part by Belletetes, Eastern Propane & Oil, Epoxy Floor New England, Goodhue Boat Company, Kingswood Press and Design Studio, KW Coastal, Lake and Mountains, North Water Marine, and Taylor Community. To learn more about NHBM, visit nhbm.org.

Sports

A unique Olympic Opening Ceremony and a unique media experience



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Boats carrying Olympic athletes make their way down the River Seine during last Friday’s Opening Ceremony of the Paris Olympics.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING

Sports Editor

PARIS, France—I was excited to see what the Paris Olympic Opening Ceremony brought to the table. My only previous Opening Ceremony was in Beijing and that was an exciting venture. When I got the e-mail from Bill Hancock last week saying that I had a ticket for the Paris Opening Ceremony, I was thrilled.

For those that don’t know, the Paris organizers decided to hold the Opening Ceremony on the River Seine, running through the heart of the city with the teams gathered on boats. The press credentials for this ceremony were certainly different than in the past. There were photo positions for accredited photographers along the Seine and at the Trocadero near the Eiffel Tower. There were also a few press seats at the Trocadero as well and the rest of the press was given access to certain points along the parade route.

The spot that I was given was near the Louvre, which happened to be where the torch came off the river after its trip and headed to inside the Louvre where the Olympic cauldron was lit. I was expecting a ton of security and in some respects, there was.

I decided to walk from the Main Press Center to my spot for the Opening Ceremony so I could see a little more of Paris rather than taking the subway and that worked out pretty well. I walked past the Arc de Triomphe

and down the Champs Elysees, which was a nice walk. Despite one wrong turn, I found my way fairly easily to the Louvre location. The amount of police and military I saw along the way was impressive, with cars full of security lining the roads in preparation for the big event.

Once I got to my location, they let me on the bridge without really checking much of anything in the way of security, which was kind of surprising. Obviously, I had my credential scanned and one soldier asked for my passport while I was standing waiting for the gates to open, but there was no more security than when I’ve been to any other venues.

Things went pretty well on my end to start and when the ceremony kicked off, it was on all the big screens along the riverbank. The boats took about half an hour to reach my location but it wasn’t long after that that it started raining. And it kept raining.

It didn’t pour, but it was just enough to be annoying and had me worrying about my camera and computer. One of the downfalls to this location was that there was no real space for accredited media to either work or store their equipment. In fact, I saw more than one person, obviously filing on deadline, working on the stairs underneath the bleachers on the bridge. It wasn’t totally dry, but it was one of the better locations.

Just as the torch came back up the river to our

location, my camera decided it didn’t want to work (water is my guess) and my phone died, since there was no place for us to plug in phones or computers like there is at most venues.

That being said, the ceremony itself seemed like it was pretty interesting. I didn’t see the entire thing but what I saw was pretty dramatic and I think the ceremony is often done for television viewers to watch and that was more than likely the case. I know there were some reports back in the United States that the broadcast wasn’t great, but I look forward to seeing it when I get back to see what I missed. And I am not 100 percent sure why Lady Gaga and Celine Dion were the featured performers, but that’s for other people to decide.

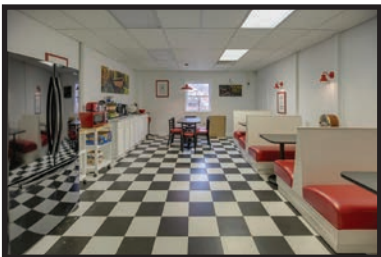
My walk back to the Main Press Center was not great, as the route I had traveled in on got changed due to road closures and I ended up way off course through no fault of my own. And just to make it more fun, it started raining again.

I eventually made it back to my hotel, right around 2 a.m., the camera came back to life and my phone was eventually charged. It was not quite the glamorous opening ceremony that I expected, at least from my end, but it was certainly unique, in so many ways.

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

SPORTS CONTINUED, PAGE A8

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Sports

Want to try a new sport? Handball just might be your thing

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

PARIS, France — There were a few sports I didn't get to see in my first Summer Olympics in Tokyo three years ago. On my second full day in Paris, I got to see two of them, but there was one that really caught my attention.

The sport is handball and I took a unique bus ride (new driver with coaches standing beside him, almost got in an accident and almost missed a stop) to the South Paris Arena to catch a few games of the Olympic handball tournament the day before the Opening Ceremonies, Thursday, July 25.

I had seen a little handball on television in

previous Olympics, but getting the firsthand look at the game was quite impressive.

I got there in the middle of a game between Brazil and Spain, with Brazil pulling out a 29-18 win and that was followed up by a match between Korea and Germany, which was pretty much back and forth the entire time. The guy sitting next to me, who worked with Team Korea in some capacity, told me that this group of players, who had been together competing for about 16 months, had never beaten a European team. His excitement with every goal and every big save by the Korean goalie was a lot of fun to watch. In the end, Korea pulled out a 23-22 win in



South Paris Arena is home to handball at the Paris Summer Olympics.

their opening game.

The big game of the night was the next game, as the host team from France, the defending Olympic champions, came to battle against Hungary and after the visitors took an early

lead, France rallied back and took the lead at half-time and then hung on for the 31-28 win.

For those who haven't seen handball, it is a body contact sport that features seven players per team on a 40X20 court

with two goal areas and a center playing area. The goal area is a semicircle around the goal, six meters away from the goal and only the goalie is allowed to step inside the goal area. There's also a line nine meters from the goal, which is the free throw line.

Handball is played in two halves, with 30 minutes in each half, with two overtime halves of five minutes played if the game is tied at the end of regulation. Balls used in handball matches are made of leather or synthetic material and must have a spherical shape. The surface of the ball should not be shiny or slippery. Typically, there are two categories of handballs - one made of resin and one without.

Additionally, the goalie can come on and off the court in exchange for

another player if he or she chooses and the goalie can also move up the court.

Players can throw, catch, stop, push or hit the ball by using their hands, head, torso, thighs and knees. They cannot touch the ball with their feet or with any part below the knee.

As a body-contact sport, attacking strategies are encouraged in handball, while passive play leads to a warning and loss of possession for the team. Teams are not allowed to hold the ball without attempting to attack or shoot on goal and they can't repeatedly delay actions like throwoffs. This play is penalized with a free throw against the team in possession, and if no shot on goal is taken after four passes, a free throw is awarded to the opposing team. Teams are warned to give them a chance to change their attacking approach before penalties are imposed.

I freely admit I didn't know all the rules going in, but I am glad I watched a few games and saw the intense action the sport provides.

Sports Editor Joshua Spaulding can be reached at 279-4516, ext. 155 or josh@salmonpress.news.
SPORTS CONTINUED, PAGE A10

The return of the roar of the crowd
After two "quiet" Olympics, rugby kicks off Paris with lively fans in the stands

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

PARIS, France — The first competitions of the Paris Olympics took place days before the opening ceremonies, as both soccer and rugby kicked off on Wednesday, July 24. Rugby took place at the Stade de France, the stadium that is scheduled to host the Closing Ceremonies and track later in the Olympics, while soccer took place in different stadiums around the country.

The US men were competing in soccer and rugby on Wednesday, both against host France. Since the soccer match was taking place in Marseille, which is a two-hour train ride from Paris, I elected for rugby to kick off my fifth Olympics.

I saw a little rugby during my trip to the Tokyo Olympics three years ago and I was excited to see it again, as it is a sport I don't get to see every day in my normal travels.

But there was one thing I hadn't really thought about, one thing that hadn't really crossed my mind until I showed up at the Stade de France as a huge crowd of spectators traversed down the street toward the stadium. The fact is, I hadn't seen an Olympic competition with any significant number of fans in the stadium since PyeongChang in 2018.



Stade de France hosted rugby in the days leading up to the Paris Olympics Opening Ceremonies.

through a large throng of people looking to get into the stadium, it clicked that I hadn't really seen this in six years. And it hit home a bit more when I got inside and there was the roar of the crowd, the roar that hadn't been there three years ago.

And when the host

French team came out of the tunnel, the crowd erupted and it happened again when they took the lead over the United States.

While the game ended in a 12-12 tie, it was very clear that the winners here were the athletes, getting the chance to

compete in front of a huge crowd and the fans, who were back in the Olympics after being forced out for a few years. That's a win-win.

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

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Sports

A busy first week as Paris Olympics get under way



By JOSHUA SPAULDING

The fifth Olympic experience in a decade (hard to believe) is off and running in Paris and there's been some ups and downs in the first week in the City of Light.

On the plus side, the travel to Paris went smoothly, my luggage arrived with me and despite a bit of a wait in the airport, I got to my hotel last Tuesday evening. I also found my way to the train the next morning and found that the train runs directly to the Main Press Center. On the negative side, in addition to the long wait at the airport, my hotel room is incredibly small, in fact there is barely room for me to turn around. And if I thought the room was small, the bathroom is even tinier. Additionally, there's no air conditioning, though the window does open and I brought a small fan. However, to me it doesn't really matter how big the room is, as I am not there very much.

The first full day in Paris I spent getting acquainted with the Main Press Center, which is located on the upper floors of

TAKE A BREAK



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Getting the chance to see Versailles was definitely on my list of what I wanted to do in Paris and I checked it off the list on the first weekend.

the Palais de Congres, which is basically a large convention center with stores, restaurants and more on the bottom two floors. I also made a trip to the location of the Closing Ceremoy, Stade de France, to watch some rugby, including the United States men playing to a tie in their Olympic opener.

On Thursday morning, I got on another bus and headed to Invalides, where they are holding the archery events. This is a

sport I didn't see in Tokyo three years ago so I wanted to catch a little and also wanted to see Invalides, which is impressive. After the archery, I went to the handball venue for an interesting experience with a pretty cool new sport (see separate story).

Friday brought the Opening Ceremony (see separate story) and the first full day of Olympic action the next day started with a trip to badminton match, a couple

of train rides to the swimming venue to see Katie Ledecky win her 400 freestyle heat. After a train ride and a bus ride, I got to the water polo venue to watch the defending champion US women win their opener and then got on a couple more buses to make my way to the field hockey pitch, which is at the stadium that hosted the 1924 Opening Ceremony. It was a full day for sure, but given the transportation in Tokyo, it prob-

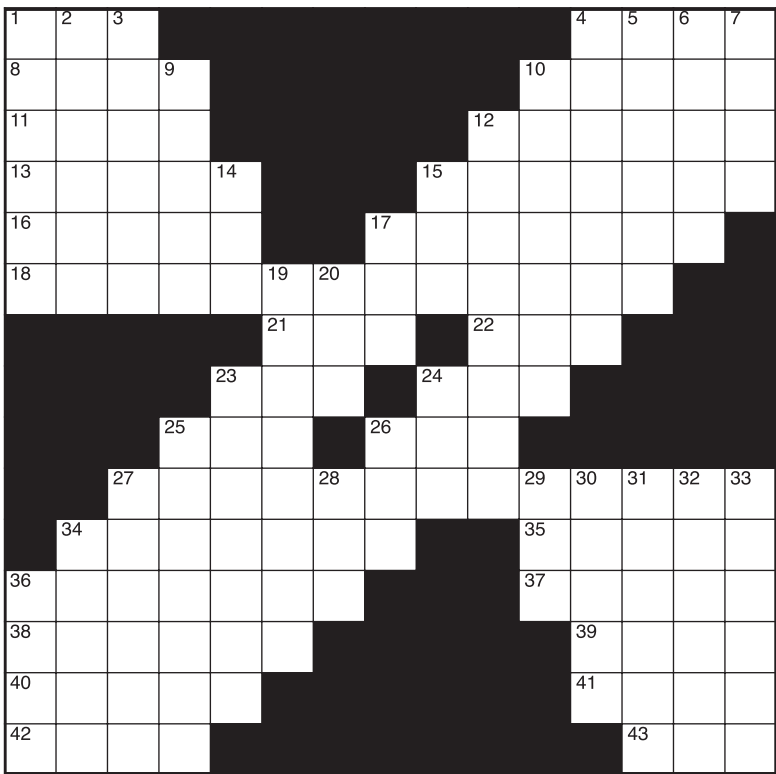
ably would've been impossible to see so many things in one day.

Sunday was a day of public transportation travels, which is still a little weird for me. I boarded a train (and another train) to Versailles. There was an equestrian event going on, but I was more interested in just walking around the grounds of the palace, which was absolutely incredible. Getting out of the competition area was a bit of a challenge, but there

was so much to see and Versailles as a village is quite nice as well. From there I took another two trains to the paddling venue to see whitewater kayaking. This was a bit of a disappointment, as when I got there the press tribune (area where press sit at the event) was full and I needed to get writing done (including this piece). I watched a few paddlers make their way down the course then went to the media center and got my writing done. I was also planning on heading to beach volleyball at the Eiffel Tower to close the night.

For updates on the trip, follow the blog at [salmonsportsguy.blogspot.com](#) or on social media (X and Instagram) at Salmon-SportsGuy as there are multiple updates a day out there to see.

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



ACROSS

- 1. Outsourcing (abbr.)
- 4. Post
- 8. German city on edge of Black Forest
- 10. "___, but goodie"
- 11. Spiced stew
- 12. Passionately
- 13. Monetary units
- 15. Group of living organisms
- 16. Organic compound derived from ammonia
- 17. High honors

DOWN

- 18. 5-year-olds' classes
- 21. Swiss river
- 22. Old woman
- 23. Cash machine
- 24. A way to soak
- 25. Hair product
- 26. Deride
- 27. "The Blonde Bombshell"
- 34. Cause to become insane
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Supported with money
- 37. Type of equation
- 38. Court officials

- 39. Indian god
- 40. Rids
- 41. Leak slowly through
- 42. Units of ionizing radiation
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

DOWN

- 1. Native of Slovakia
- 2. Deli meat
- 3. Fibrous substance in fungi
- 4. Cutting
- 5. Vedder and Van Halen
- 6. Horror comic novelist
- 7. Rulers of Tunis
- 9. Shaped like a circle
- 10. Make a pig of oneself
- 12. Aphorism
- 14. Witness
- 15. Single Lens Reflex
- 17. Freshwater North American fish
- 19. Nautical ropes
- 20. Leg (slang)
- 23. Pokes holes in
- 24. Moved quickly on foot
- 25. Fix-it shops
- 26. Type of bread
- 27. Repaired
- 28. Synthetic diamond (abbr.)
- 29. Type of drug (abbr.)
- 30. German city along the Rhine
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. Martini necessities
- 33. Get away from
- 34. Village in Mali
- 36. Djibouti franc

LOCAL NEWS WORD SEARCH

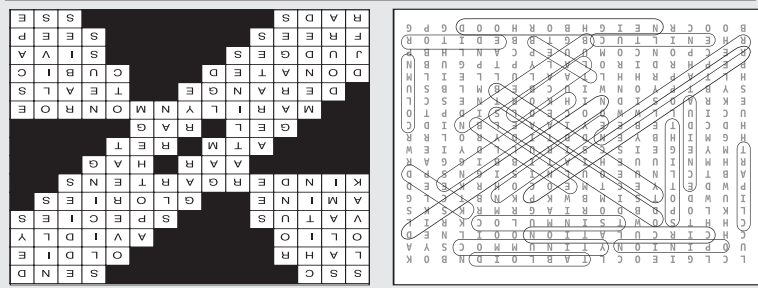


Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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AUDIENCE, BEAT, BROADSHEET, BULLETIN, BYLINE, CIRCULATION, CLIP ART, COLUMN, COLUMNIST, COMMUNITY, CUTLINE, DECK, DISTRIBUTION, EDITION, EDITOR, HEADLINE, LOCAL, NEIGHBORHOOD, NEWSPAPER, OBITUARIES, OPINION, POLICE BLOTTER, SPOTLIGHT, TABLOID

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THE REAL REPORT

RECENT REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

| Town | Address | Type | Price | Seller | Buyer |
|------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Alton | Chestnut Cove Road | N/A | \$250,000 | Alan and Jayne Picken | Richard P. Dangelo RET |
| Alton | N/A | N/A | \$299,000 | Hunter Fiscal Trust and Bradley S. Hunter | Baywinds LLC |
| Alton | N/A | N/A | \$1,025,000 | James R. and John E. Paull | John R. and Jennifer K. Irons |
| Gilford | 271 Belknap Mountain Rd. | Single-Family Residence | \$341,000 | Ellen McClung and Edward S. Cracraft, Jr. | Gatheral Properties Inc. |
| Gilford | 26 Checkerberry Lane | Farm/Forest | \$645,000 | Kurt T. Mullen and Amy R. Fleischer | Laurie A. Bondaz |
| Gilford | Durrell Mountain Road | N/A | \$410,000 | John F. and Carolyn B. Peverly | Billie A. and Drew S. Agey |
| Gilford | 117 Mountain Dr. | Residential Developed Land | \$134,000 | Denise D. Penney | Joshua Mullen |
| Gilford | 42 Orchard Dr. | Single-Family Residence | \$749,000 | Mia E. Jacobs | Ann Gillen Czerwinski RET |
| Gilford | 54 Wild Acres Rd. | Single-Family Residence | \$520,000 | Robert C. Tibbetts Trust | Larry A. and Pauline E. Bruskas |
| Gilmanton | Crystal Lake Road | N/A | \$700,000 | William J. Cimikoski RET and Robert Reder | Cameron Landry |
| Gilmanton | 133 Mountain Rd. | Single-Family Residence | \$445,000 | Emily E. and Dylan J. Beaulieu | Brian B. Liamos |
| Gilmanton | 34 Winter St. | Single-Family Residence | \$525,000 | William C. Ryan, Jr. | Alton J. and Rachel M. Robidas |
| New Durham | 88 Davis Crossing Rd. | Single-Family Residence | \$408,000 | Liam E. Riley and Stephany A. Petrillo | John Hopping |
| New Durham | Interlaken Drive | Residential Developed Land | \$10,000 | Kevin D. Rooney Estate and Carole R. Davis | Lilly & Co. LLC |
| New Durham | N/A | N/A | \$20,000 | David A. Bickford | Carol Bolstridge and Green Acres |
| New Durham | N/A (Lot 513) | N/A | \$250,000 | William F. and Stacey A. Shanahan | Roger R. Boisvert LT |
| New Durham | N/A (Lot 513A) | N/A | \$250,000 | William F. and Stacey A. Shanahan | Roger R. Boisvert LT |

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 informa-

tion 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.



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Sandwich: 3BR/4BA 2,755 sf. gentleman's farm. Boasting breathtaking 360-degree views, stone walls, and a bonus room above the 3-car attached garage with a kitchenette and 3/4 bath. Seller is a licensed Realtor in NH.
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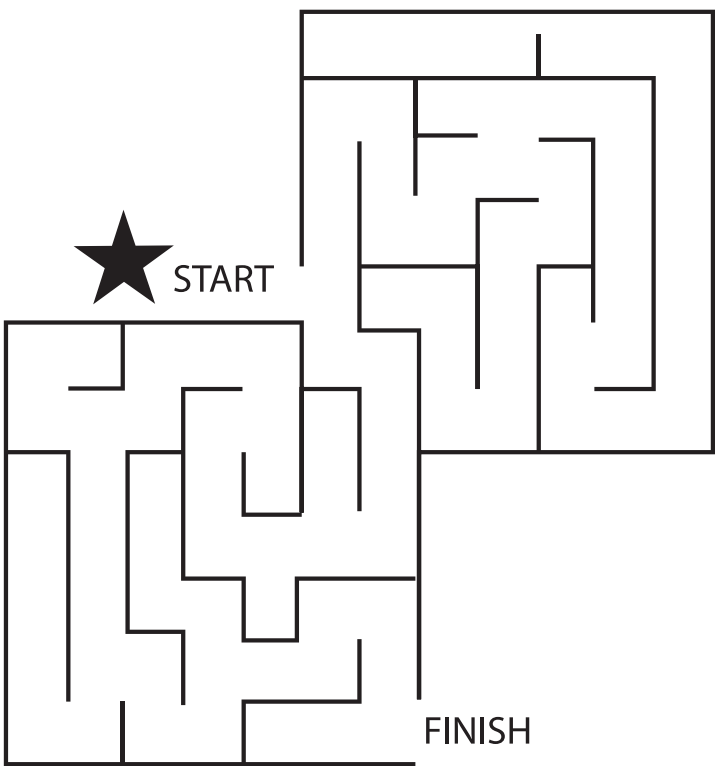
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THIS DAY IN...



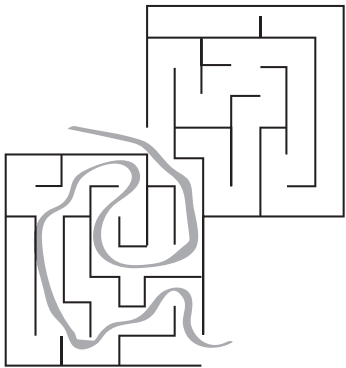
HISTORY

- 1901: A LAND LOTTERY BEGINS IN OKLAHOMA.
- 1914: THE CAPE COD CANAL OPENS.
- 2005: ASTRONOMERS ANNOUNCE THEIR DISCOVERY OF THE DWARF PLANET ERIS. IT IS MASSIVE AND THE SECOND-LARGEST KNOWN DWARF PLANET IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM.



A SHARPER TILT TOWARD THIS CELESTIAL BODY IS WHAT MAKES TEMPERATURES RISE DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS.

ANSWER: SUN



BLAZING

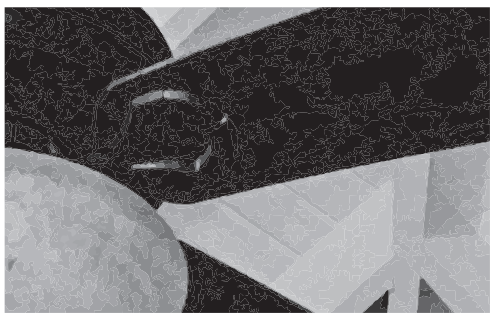
burn fiercely or brightly

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH: Humid
- SPANISH: Húmedo
- ITALIAN: Umido
- FRENCH: Humide
- GERMAN: Feucht



WHEN IT IS VERY HOT OUTSIDE, IT IS IMPORTANT TO DRINK MORE WATER TO AVOID DEHYDRATION AND HEAT EXHAUSTION.



ANSWER: CEILING FAN

⊙ * ✎ ☹ ~ ⓪ ♫ ✨ ✖ ✨ + ✨ ✨ ▲ ☾ * ♂ ✨ ✨ ♀ ☽ ♂
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

CRYPTO FUN

☹ ☾ ☽ ✨ ♂ ✨ ~ ✨ +

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to fairs and carnivals.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 14 = A)

A. 17 11 1 22 16

Clue: Moving attractions

B. 14 25 11 10 14 2 16

Clue: Farm residents

C. 2 22 10 12 25 14 1 22

Clue: Tart beverage

D. 24 14 10 22 16

Clue: Fun activities

Answers: A. rides B. animals C. lemonade D. games

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Vegetable varieties from Ukraine prevail over Barnstead’s wild munchers

BARNSTEAD — Who said, "There's no such thing as a free lunch?" For a second year, the seldom-seen wildlife that make their home in the woods and fields at Barnstead School have helped themselves to the Victory Garden's early sunflowers, beans and squash, chomping their leaves, buds, stems and all, right down to the stalks. Inch-by-inch and leaf-by-leaf, they are slowly recovering as many did last year, albeit for a late harvest.

Of interest, despite the early munching, some Ukrainian heritage varieties have prevailed. For one, the spicy arugula



COURTESY

American collards (left) and Ukrainian cabbage (right). that Stuart Leiderman broadcast from seed early on and then again every few weeks, has been growing untouched by animals. This is the fancy salad green that stores sell for dollars a bag. When the first planting recently bolted, flowered and went to seed, Leiderman

allowed the pods to dry, then collected and broadcast the seeds back into the beds for the fall months.

Likewise, also so far successful are the deep green cabbages that resident Jenny Hart and her grandsons Steven and Kaden started from seed indoors and then transplanted into the garden a month ago. They are growing as if completely "off the menu" of visiting wildlife. For another, many of the early-truncated sunflowers have recovered to where they are already blooming, although at not quite the expected height.

In this way, and although modest in size, the school's garden is a "proving ground" of sorts. Residents who would like to try some of their own seeds may email leiderman@mindspring.com

Thanks go to Barnstead teachers Brit-tany DeFlumeri and Cam Bailey, and residents Jenny Hart and her grandsons Steven and Kaden. New gardeners are always welcomed.

Tickets on sale for Village Players' “Wyrd Sisters”



COURTESY

A witch in stocks? Tickets are on sale now for The Village Players' Aug. 16 - 25 production of the Monty Python-esque “Wyrd Sisters.”

WOLFEBORO — Tickets are on sale now for The Village Players' production of Sir Terry Pratchett's “Wyrd Sisters.” Performances are the weekends of Aug. 16 and 23: Friday and Saturday nights at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Appropriate for all ages, “Wyrd Sisters”

entertains with the plotlines and more humorous aspects of Shakespeare's “Hamlet” and “Macbeth.” The play follows the attempts of three witches to stand between a kingdom and its doom—in Monty Python-esque fashion.

Adapted by Stephen Briggs from “Wyrd Sisters,” the sixth book in

the bestselling 41-book Discworld® series by Sir Terry Pratchett, “Wyrd Sisters” has built a worldwide following. If you're a fan of Granny Weatherwax, Nanny Ogg, Magrat Garlick, or any other of the show's 31 zany characters, feel free to attend in costume!

Tickets are available at www.village-players.com/wyrdsisters

and Black's Paper Store in downtown Wolfeboro.

The Village Players is a year-round non-profit community theater located at 51 Glendon St., Wolfeboro. For more information about the show and The Village Players, visit www.village-players.com.

Kayla Yates of New Durham graduates from Roger Williams University

BRISTOL, R.I. — Roger Williams University is proud to announce that Kayla Yates, of New Durham graduated with a B.S. in Architecture in May as part of the Class of 2024.

About RWU

At Roger Williams University, students are prepared to be thinkers and doers ready to solve challenging problems with innovative solutions. RWU offers 50 majors and robust offerings of graduate and professional programs across eight schools of study including Rhode Island's only law school, with campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the heart of

Providence, R.I. With small classrooms and a focus on undergraduate and graduate research and community engagement, a Roger Williams education blends the strength of liberal arts and professional studies, providing all students with the depth and breadth of interdisciplinary thinking and well-rounded knowledge necessary to succeed in our interconnected, global world. RWU is committed to strengthening society through engaged scholarship so that students graduate with the ability to think critically and apply the practical skills that today's employers demand.

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VTSU congratulates Maya Minnick on graduation

RANDOLPH CENTER, Vt. — Vermont State University is pleased to announce that Maya Minnick, of Laconia is part of VT-

SU's inaugural graduating class for May 2024!

This diverse group of over 1000 students hailed from more than

200 Vermont towns, over 20 states, and various countries around the world. Congratulations to Vermont State University's Class of

2024!

Vermont State University combines the best of Castleton University, Northern Vermont University, and

Vermont Technical College and serves students on five campuses and multiple learning sites across the Green Mountains and beyond, as well as online. Vermont State provides a high-quality, flexible, and affordable education for students seek-

ing associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees, certificates, and in-demand professional credentials. The university builds upon a history of public higher education in Vermont dating back to 1787. Learn more at VermontState.edu.

Meet a climate scientist in Gilford!

GILFORD — Climate Up Close is coming to the Gilford Community Church for a presentation and group discussion on the science of climate change. In partnership with the Gilford Public Library, GCC

is hosting our event on Thursday, Aug. 1, beginning with a Potluck Dinner at 5 p.m. and the Presentation at 6pm. Featuring scientists from Harvard University, UC Berkeley, NYU, and NOAA, this is an event you

won't want to miss. Learn more at www.climateupclose.org.

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 gilfordcommunitychurch.org.

Alton resident named to Clark University Dean's List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Aidan Joseph Conrad of Alton was named to first honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Spring 2024 semester.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that

prepares its students to meet tomorrow's most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate majors, more than 30 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our students to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence.

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Please drive carefully.



COURTESY PHOTO
Myrna Knight, who previously ran the solid waste facility's swap shop with Fran Washburn, speaks to the selectmen about a new possibility for opening the shop back up.

SWAP SHOP
(continued from Page A1)

establishing a new shop. Shea said liability is a risk, but one that can be managed and avoided.

The selectmen agreed to look further at different options with the aim of making this a warrant article. Selectman Drew Carter volunteered to work with Shea on looking at more details and coming back to the board with firmer details and cost estimates to present for an article.

on any form of town property. Speakers said that shouldn't prevent a new swap shop from opening.

Hunter Taylor said from his time on the County Commission he observed Primex would settle the majority of lawsuits against municipalities.

"I do want all of you to look at this as an opportunity for the town, not a problem to be faced," said Ruth Larson. "It's something that the town generally has shown tremendous amount of enthusiasm for and I want us to look forward on this and figure out a way to do it and not look at the potential liabilities of negligence law."

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**Full-Time Position
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Energysavers Inc is looking for a self-motivated individual to add to its staff. The position would include, but is not limited to, organizing and pulling parts for jobs as well as receiving deliveries. We are a highly recommended 49 yr old Lakes Region retailer of well-known hearth & spa products. You can earn while you learn! Potential to move into a service or installation position is a possibility. No prior experience required. Must have a valid driver's license & be able to lift/carry an 80lb min.

Stop in to fill out an application:

Energysavers Inc,
163 Daniel Webster Hwy, Meredith NH



Full-Time Installers Apprentice

Energysavers Inc., a 48 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.

LEARN WHILE YOU EARN!

No prior experience required. Must have a valid driver's license and pass the pre-employment drug screening.

Stop in to fill out an application:

ENERGYSAVERS INC.
163 Daniel Webster Hwy., Meredith NH

Donna Richardson said in the past four years the swap shop has been closed she wondered if the town has paid more in disposal feed than they would have with \$7,500 a year for staff for a swap shop. She said the board has spent too much time discussing a matter that, so far, no one had spoken against.

Knight, who ran the old swap shop with the late Fran Washburn, said they took good care of the shop and remembered the good it did a lot of people in the community. She recalled seeing kids running to the toybox, people who lived in an area not served by cable TV getting VHS tapes, and a family who lost everything in a fire getting furniture and dishes, and more.

"I enjoyed it and a lot of other people would get so much enjoyment out of seeing people," Knight said.

They agreed they would come back to the board in a month with their findings.

Several residents, however, said they were disappointed the board was waiting on a warrant article and urged the board to reestablish the shop sooner. Speakers said they shop was always popular and brought a lot of people together.

"I don't think you've seen, that I can recall, anything that has brought anybody more out than the swap shop whether it's on Facebook, at the coffee shop, at McDonald's, at the circle gas station," said Kelly Sullivan. "People are talking about this swap shop; it is something that they want."

On the liability issue, speakers said litigation is always an issue in society and the town could face a lawsuit over an incident

Gilford Public Library Classes & Special Events

Aug. 1 – Aug. 8

Thursday, Aug. 1
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
T(w)een Olympics Week, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
French Club, 4-5 p.m.
Climate Up Close (at Gilford Community Church), 6 p.m.
Climate Up Close is a group of climate scientists who believe Americans should reach their own judgments about climate science by seeing the evidence for themselves & putting their questions directly to climate scientists. Our presenters include scientists from Harvard University, NYU, and Princeton University.

Friday, Aug. 2
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Chair Yoga, 10-11 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon

T(w)een Olympics Week, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Adventure Storytime, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Join in on an adventure storytime outdoors!
Hand & Foot, 12:30-2:30 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, Aug. 3
Beginner Line Dancing, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Monday, Aug. 5
Fun and Fitness with Joyce, 9-10 a.m.
Baby Storytime, 10-10:30 a.m.
T(w)een Macrame Craft, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Mahjong, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 6
Senior Sculpt, 9-10 a.m.
Geri Fit, 10-11 a.m.
Bridge, 10 a.m.-noon
Under the Sea Craft, 10:30 a.m.
Create a one-of-a-kind under the sea craft.
T(w)een Macrame Craft, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
T(w)een Tabletop Club, 2-3 p.m.
Intermediate Line Dancing, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 7
Senior Stretch Yogaah!, 9-10 a.m.
Check out an Expert, 10 a.m.-noon
Card Games 10 a.m.-noon
T(w)een Macrame Craft, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Chess Group, 1-3 p.m.
Paint Group, 1-3 p.m.

Talk About Grief, 1-2:30 p.m.
NH Eats Local with Trillium, 5 p.m.
Stop by and meet Hannah Rush owner of Trillium Farm to Table restaurant in Laconia. Trillium has partnered with local farms to provide balanced, scratch-made plates with gluten-free and vegan options, inspired by the middle-east, Mediterranean cuisine, California, and classic comforts. Stop by and find out about the local farms and sample one of their many delicious dishes!

Thursday, Aug. 8
Geri Fit, 9-10 a.m.
T(w)een Macrame Craft, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Great Book Chase, 3:30 p.m.

Join Miss Jill in the Children's Room for an exciting obstacle course!
French Club, 4-5 p.m.
Cookbook Club, 5-6 p.m.
This month, we're celebrating NH Eats month! Grab a copy of New Hampshire: From Farm to Kitchen at the Front Desk and make a dish from that cookbook to bring to a potluck preceding our 6 p.m. presentation from the NH Food Alliance.
How to Eat Local, 6 p.m.
Do you want to eat more New Hampshire grown, raised, fished, and produced foods but are not sure where to

start? Join Colleen Stewart from NH Food Alliance to learn about the local food near you, how eating locally stimulates our state's economy and contributes to building climate resilience and social equity in our communities. The presentation will be led by Colleen Stewart, the Communications Coordinator for the NH Food Alliance, the statewide network coordinated by the Sustainability Institute at UNH, that puts on NH Eats Local Month. She and guest speakers will share their thoughts and ideas, with ample opportunity for attendees to ask questions.

Aging and Disability Resource Center information table on display at Gilman Library

ALTON — There will be an Aging & Disability Resource Center Information Table at the Gilman Library at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 18. ADRC Generalist Betsy Budesky will be available to assist you with your questions and needs. Formerly known as Service Link of New Hampshire, the Aging and Disability Resource Center, or

ADRC for short, helps older adults, people with disabilities, veterans, their families, and caregivers, connect to valuable services. The ADRC Generalists address specific needs and understand the frustrations that go with searching for the right answers. Their role is to objectively provide information about long-term ser-

vices and support programs, both public and private. They assist individuals in making informed choices about everything from counseling services to legal advice, health-care benefits, family and caregiver support, transportation assistance, and housing options. You can visit the Belknap County ADRC at their office at 11

Academy St., Laconia, or visit their Web site at <https://www.pphnh.org/>. For a closer, more convenient experience, stop by the Gilman Library, 100 Main St., at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 18, and introduce yourself to ADRC Generalist, Betsy Budesky. Reliable, unbiased information is served up at the table to you.



COURTESY

The public is invited to join members of Gilman Library's Alton Book Chat, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 13, for an Author Visit. New Hampshire Cozy Mystery author, Virginia K. Bennett, will be at the Gilman Library in Alton, New Hampshire, for the August book discussion featuring "Catch of the Day: a Newfound Lake Cozy Mystery," Book one of 14 in the series. Books will be available to purchase and sign.

BUDGET
(continued from Page A1)
board in time for the Sept. 10 selectmen's meeting.
"If you're all right with that, we'll plan on getting some preliminary department schedules for the Sept. 10 meeting and I'll put all the dept on notice, we'll start the presentations to the board," Heath said.
The selectmen agreed to move forward with this.
The merit pay increase for employees is one aspect Heath said will need to be discussed. Last year the town proposed a four percent increase, but during this year's town meeting voters rejected the budget article and the town has been on a default budget.

"I just have to sort of set those marching orders for the department heads so we know how to calculate wage lines moving forward, so I'm not sure if that's something the board is in agreement with," heath said.
Members of the board discussed proposing another four percent increase next year while selectman Richard Shea suggested doing calculations based on a three percent increase.
Another factor of consideration is the over half a million dollars the town received from the federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in disaster relief for the storms in December of 2022 and the summer of 2023.

Heath said the town has received \$531,303.74 from FEMA and are earmarked to receive around another \$200,000 before the end of the year.
Heath said this is going to be important considering how much to use from fund balance to offset any warrant articles or the tax rate.
The money from FEMA automatically goes into the fund balance. Heath said one option could be to put together a warrant article to put the FEMA money back into road construction and offset the money the town

has already spent after the floods and will offset how much the town will spend for road reconstruction in the coming year.
Shea asked if there are any restrictions on these funds and Heath said there weren't. Heath said the money is a reimbursement for the funds the town already spent to do repairs after the floods.
The amount in the fund balance is another consideration going into next year's budget. Heath said the town currently has around \$4.7 million in the fund balance. The Department of Revenue

Administration has different recommendations for how much money a town should have in fund balance with a maximum of 17 percent, which Alton's fund balance is getting close to. Heath said the town has tried to have aside at least 10 percent in fund balance, which also helps the town's interest rate in possible bond applications.
Heath said he would bring the breakdown of how much a town should have in fund balance for consideration at a future meeting.

Gilford Public Library Top Ten requests

1. "Swan Song" by Elin Hilderbrand
2. "Eruption" by Michael Crichton
3. "Camino Ghosts" by John Grisham
4. "The Women" by Kristin Hannah
5. "Think Twice" by Harlan Coben
6. "Resurrection" by James Patterson
7. "A Calamity of Souls" by David Baldacci
8. "The 24th Hour" by James Patterson
9. "Dead Man's Wake" by Paul Doiron
10. "The Situation Room" by George Stephanopolous

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LEGALS

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Tuesday, August 13, 2024, 7:00 PM at NEW DURHAM TOWN HALL & ZOOM
JOSE, WANDA, AND JOSEPH SANCHEZ

You are hereby notified that a Hybrid Public Hearing will be held by the New Durham Zoning Board on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 7:00 PM for Case #2024-005. The hearing is regarding an application submitted by Thomas Varney of Varney Engineering, LLC, on behalf of Jose, Wanda, and Joseph Sanchez for property located at Merry-meeting Road, Map 243, Lot 008/002. The applicants are requesting a Variance to **Article XIII. D. Dimensional Requirements 2.** Table 8: Buffer and Setback Distances by Resource and Use Category.

The full application is on file at the New Durham Town Offices for review by appointment by calling (603) 859-2091 ext. 2007. You can also contact via email: ndlanduse@newdurhamnh.us

One Community Project successfully completes another project

GILFORD — A program run by the Gilford Community Church (GCC); One Community Project (OCP), recently completed two local projects. One at the Parsonage building at GCC and the other at Gilford Public Beach.

"This was an unbelievably rewarding experience to help our community," said Amber McLane, GCC Youth Director. "I am so grateful to be a part of this project each year. It truly makes a difference."

One of the ten partici-



pating youth, ranging in age from 10 to 17, 13-year-old, Jacoby Drouin, also expressed gratitude.

"He likes to make a difference and make the community he lives in a better place. This is my fourth year of volunteering my time," he added.

Another youth, 12-year-old, Ben Coap-

land, said, "It's important to help people and the community. Each summer, I look forward to doing this project. Over the years I have landscaped and painted, and it has been fun to give back but to also do it with friends."



Pastor Michael Graham, sponsors were instrumental in the project's success. OCP was sponsored in part by Sherwin-Williams, Walmart, and Bank of NH.

"It literally took a village to make this project happen," he said. "We are so grateful for everyone who supported this effort."

OCP Committee member Tom Meierjurgan said "he was very encouraged to see the energy and excitement brought to the

project by the youth. I enjoy building things and if I can do that and also help the community out in the process, it's even more enjoyable."

Gilford Parks and Recreation board member Thom Francour said he has been part of Parks/Rec for 32 years.

"The gatekeeper hut was the original building built in 1960 and desperately needed to be replaced. Thanks to the Gilford Taxpayers for voting on the new bath house and a triple thank you to the Gilford Community Church, One Community Project for designing and building the Gatekeeper Hut. Come check it out!" Francour said.

Located in Gilford, GCC is an inclusive, open community with a broadly ecumenical spirit that welcomes people from all denominational and cultural backgrounds. To learn more about OCP, visit gilfordcommunitychurch.org or contact McLane at gccyouthprogram@gmail.com.

NH Boat Museum to feature artist Lucy Merrow in August

MOULTONBOROUGH — Lucy Merrow will be featured at the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) in August, with a members reception on Thursday, Aug. 8 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. highlighting her paintings.

"We are so excited to feature Lucy's work at our beautiful Moultonborough campus," said NHBM Executive Director Martha Cummings. "Her art is deeply connected to the Lakes Region, and it is wonderful to celebrate local masterpieces by talented artists."

Merrow is a member of the Mount Washington Valley Arts Association and the Governor Wentworth Arts Council. Her medium is oil and canvas, and her art is inspired by nature. She paints landscapes, buildings, and scenes from



the Lake Winnepesaukee area.

"Our Featured Artist Series is a collaboration with the local arts community and artists like Lucy who honor the rich history of creativity inspired by the natural beauty in our state," added Cummings.

Founded in 1992 by vintage and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM offers dynamic exhibits and engaging programs and events tailored to

the diverse boating lifestyles and values of people of all ages. NHBM is sponsored in part by Belletetes, Eastern Propane & Oil, Epoxy Floor New England, Goodhue Boat Company, Kingswood Press and Design Studio, KW Coastal, Lake and Mountains, North Water Marine, and Taylor Community.

To learn more about NHBM, or become a member, visit nhbm.org.



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