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Seventh inning rally sinks Post 1 in Conway



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Carter Lloyd was stellar on the mound for Post 1 in Conway last week, allowing just one run through six innings.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
 Sports Editor

CONWAY — In a game that was a pitchers' duel through the first five innings in American Legion Baseball action on Monday, June 29, Laconia Post 1 opened up a 5-0 lead in

the top of the sixth before Conway Post 46 walked off with a 6-5 win in the bottom of the seventh inning at Nasby King Field in Conway.

Conway's Serghio Espezua and Laconia's Carter Lloyd danced their

way through the first few innings, working around a few hits, walks and hit batters.

Brayden Townsend was hit by a pitch with one out in the top of the first, stole second and went to third on a wild pitch. After team-

mate Wyatt Divers worked a walk and stole second, Espezua snared a hot line drive back to the mound and turned it into a double play to end the inning. Lloyd gave up a two-out hit to Devin Jakubec in the bottom of the first but the

game remained scoreless after one.

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

Divers was hit by a pitch to open the top of the third, stole second and went to third on a wild pitch. One out later, Lloyd was hit by a pitch and stole second and one out later, Riley Galloway worked a walk to load the bases, with Espezua getting another strikeout to end the inning. Korbin James worked a walk to

lead off the bottom of the third inning, but Divers picked him off first with a perfect throw. Matt Charrette had a two-out double but he was stranded on the bases.

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

Lloyd worked a walk to start the top of the fifth and after Espezua struck out two, a Sargent double plated Lloyd with the second run of the game and Bowen Brown took over on the

SEE POST 1, PAGE A8

“Unsung Heroes in New England History” to be presented at next Sanbornton Historical Society meeting

SANBORNTON — Brad Wolff will present a program entitled “Unsung Heroes in New England History” at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 9 at the Lane Tavern of the Sanbornton Historical Society.

Wolff is a retired social studies teacher who was previously recognized by the New Hampshire Department of Education as well as the Gilder-Lehrman Institute of American History as New Hampshire's Social Studies Teacher of the Year.

He will speak about six New England residents, three of them from New Hampshire, whose lives and contributions have distinctively shaped our history and impacted our lives. They include Revolutionary War hero Gen. Henry Knox, author Harriet Beecher Stowe, conservationist Katherine Sleeper Walden, lighthouse keeper Walter Eberle, Korean War soldier George A. Curley, Jr., and political activist Doris Hadlock.

The Lane Tavern is located at 520 Sanborn Rd. (Route 132) in Sanbornton and is handicapped accessible and air-conditioned. The program is free to the public and will be followed with complimentary light refreshments in the Tap Room of the Lane Tavern. For more information, email us at info@lanetavern.org or call Linda at 603-603-286-4526.

Franklin Savings Bank awards \$18,400 in scholarships

FRANKLIN — Sixteen high school graduates were granted a combined total of \$18,400 in scholarships on behalf of the FSB Scholarship Fund. The awards were presented to seniors from seven area high schools located within the bank's primary market area, and include: Franklin High School, Gilford High School, Goffstown High School, Merrimack High School, Merrimack Valley High School, Newfound Regional High School, and Winnisquam Regional High School.

“Education is a cornerstone of stronger communities, and we are happy to support local students as they pursue higher education in their fields of interest,” says Brian Bozak, President & CEO.

Since 1994, the FSB Scholarship Fund has provided support to students in their pursuit of higher education. To date, the bank has awarded 741 scholarships totaling \$441,079 to high school graduates. The scholarship fund represents the bank's commitment to helping families afford higher educational opportunities for their children who wish to attend college on a full-time basis. Visit FSNH.BANK for additional information.

Established in 1869, Franklin Savings Bank is an independent, mutually-owned community bank, offering an array of commercial lending, personal banking and investment services. The Bank also offers investment and financial planning services through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Independence Financial Advisors. A recognized leader in providing the latest in financial services technology, Franklin Savings Bank remains committed to serving the needs of businesses, families and the communities it serves, through a dedicated team of employees, a diverse line of financial products and services, and continued investment in emerging technology. Visit www.fsbnh.bank to learn more or follow the bank on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube.

Children's Fund announces campaign to raise \$45,000 for 45th year supporting children in need



COURTESY

Warren Bailey, founder of the original Children's Auction initiative.

LACONIA — Leaders of the Greater Lakes Region Children's Fund have announced a campaign to raise \$45,000 this year — over and above its annual fundraising — to celebrate 45 years serving children and families in need.

The initiative was launched in 1981 by the late Warren Bailey, then a DJ for WLNH, who held the initial event out of a van in downtown Laconia and grew the effort — which became known as the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction — each year simply by asking individual people to help.

Additional fundraisers were founded over the

years to support children and families, and now the organization that distributes the funds is called the Children's Fund; it is supported by four key annual events: the December Children's Auction, Pub Mania, the Sweepstakes Social and Christmas in July.

Over 45 years, the Children's Fund has distributed more than \$10 million to 150 nonprofits that serve local children and families in need.

“For nearly half a century, our mission has been to support local children and families in need, creating a positive impact within our community,” said Jennifer Kelley, executive director

of the Children's Fund. “As we reflect on our journey, we aim to raise awareness about the ongoing challenges faced by these families and inspire community members to join us in making a difference.”

Kelley said contributions of any size are welcome to support the Fund's vital work.

“Your support will help us continue our efforts and enhance the lives of children and families in our community,” she added.

The campaign will run through Friday, Dec. 11.

To make a donation, visit ChildrensFundNH.org, and click on the \$45 K for 45 link.

Bank of New Hampshire supports Castle Preservation Society as Castle Sponsor

MOULTONBOROUGH — Nestled in the Ossipee Mountains with sweeping views of Lake Winnepesaukee, Castle in the Clouds is a treasured landmark, offering a wide variety of public programs, educational experiences for local schools, an award-winning wedding venue and dining with live entertainment. This year, the Castle Preservation Society, the nonprofit steward of the Castle in the Clouds, celebrates its 20th anniversary.

Bank of New Hampshire is proud to continue its support of the historic Castle in the Clouds' Sponsors Program with a \$5,000 sponsorship.

"We value our long-standing partnership with the Castle Preservation Society and its commitment to preserving the unique history of Castle in the Clouds for future generations," said Leia Fabian, Moultonborough Banking Office Manager for Bank of New Hampshire. "As a community bank with deep



Pictured (left to right): Cynthia Day, VP – Fiduciary Officer & Senior Relationship Manager, BNH Wealth Management; Leia Fabian, Moultonborough Banking Office Manager for Bank of New Hampshire; and Charles Clark, Castle in the Clouds Executive Director.

roots in the Moultonborough community, we are pleased to support an organization that plays such an important role in our region."

Founded in 1831, Bank of New Hampshire is the oldest and one of the largest independent banks headquartered in the state. With assets exceeding \$2.8 billion and 21 banking offices across New Hampshire and southern Maine, the bank provides comprehensive deposit, lending and wealth management solutions for families and businesses. As a mutual organization, Bank of New Hampshire is focused on the success of its customers, communities and employees — rather than stockholders. With a legacy of strength and stability, the bank combines local decision-making and trusted guidance with modern technology to deliver a seamless banking experience. For more information, call 1-800-832-0912 or visit BNH.Bank.

WOW Trail launches Buy-a-Brick Campaign to support expansions, connections

LACONIA — Community members will have an opportunity to leave a lasting mark on a new enhancement in Lakeport while supporting the efforts of the WOW Trail by purchasing a brick for themselves or a loved one.

Leaders of the trail recently launched a "Buy a Brick. Build the Connection" campaign, inviting

residents, businesses and visitors to purchase personalized, engraved bricks that will become part of the new Lakeport Connector, now under construction in Lakeport.

This new section will connect the WOW Trail to the Opechee Loop.

Bricks can be used to honor loved ones, celebrate family milestones,

recognize businesses or commemorate meaningful connections to the Lakes Region. Proceeds from the campaign will help support development of the connector and future trail enhancements.

"This is an opportunity for people to become a permanent part of the WOW Trail story," said Allan Beetle, president of the WOW

Trail. "Every brick will represent a personal connection and help us build a safer, more beautiful and more connected community."

The Lakeport Connector is being developed as part of the emerging Opechee Loop project, which will eventually create nearly six additional miles of safer bicycling opportunities around Lake Opechee.

The new promenade section will provide a welcoming public space, where residents and visitors can gather, relax and enjoy views of Lake Opechee, and it will also improve connections between neighborhoods, businesses and recreational destinations.

The WOW Trail has committed significant funding toward the promenade project and is working with community partners, city officials and private developers to bring the vision to life.

Bricks are available in two sizes: four-inch by eight-inch for \$150, and eight-inch by eight-inch for \$300. They will be installed along the new Lakeport promenade this fall.

The WOW Trail currently provides more than four miles of recreational

and transportation opportunities connecting Laconia and Belmont.

"The WOW Trail has always been a community project, and this gives people a chance to become part of it in a very personal way," Beetle said. "Years from now, families will be

able to walk the promenade, find their brick and know they helped create something that benefits the entire region."

To purchase a brick or learn more about the campaign, visit wowtrail.org, and for more information, email info@wowtrail.org.

Loon experts to discuss 10-year migration study

MOULTONBOROUGH — On Thursday, July 9, join loon experts Dr. James Paruk and Brooks Wade as they discuss their extraordinary 10-year study on Common Loon migration at South Carolina's Lake Jocassee, a stunning reservoir rated by National Geographic as one of the world's "50 last great places on Earth." Learn about their unique partnership, new findings on wintering loons, and the highlights of 30+ years of loon research!

Held at The Loon Center in Moultonborough, the Summer Nature Talks are presented every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. during the months of July and August. All programs are free admission. For more than 40 years, the Loon Preservation Committee has worked to preserve the common loon and its habitat in New Hampshire through monitoring, research, education, and management activities.

Next Thursday, July 16 – Ancient Elephants: Woolly Mammoths of New England with Susie Spikol

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

To see the full 2025 nature talks schedule, please visit www.loon.org.

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Meet Sphinx!

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

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

Outside of that, Sphinx is a pretty simple girl. She is looking



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

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

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Belmont Public Library invites community to join July Summer Reading events

BELMONT — Summer is in full swing at Belmont Public Library, and July is packed with exciting programs for all ages as part of the 2026 Summer Reading Program: “Plant a Seed, Read.” Running through August 8, the program encourages readers from preschool through adulthood to discover new books, attend engaging events, and earn prizes along the way.

Throughout July, the library will welcome a variety of special guests and hands-on activities:

Mr. Aaron — Thursday, July 2, at 10 a.m.
Archives to Astonish — Saturday, July 11, at 10 a.m.

Shawn — Thursday, July 23, at 10:30 a.m.

Wildlife Encounters — Saturday, July 25, at 10:30 a.m.

In addition to these special events, the library offers weekly activities for children, teens, and adults:

Diamond Art (Ages 10+) — Tuesdays at 2 p.m.

Preschool Storytime — Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

LEGO Creations (Grades 5–8) — Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

Craft Garden (Grades 1–4) — Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Friday Feature — Fridays at 2 p.m.

Teen Book Group — Fourth Thursday of the month at 4 p.m.

Adult programs including Fiber Arts Group, Watercolor Workshop, Mah

Jongg, and Book Groups continue throughout the month.

Readers of every age can earn incentive prizes simply by reading. Children and teens track their progress using reading logs, while adults participate with a Summer Reading Bingo Board. Participants can also choose which grand prize drawing they would like to enter at the conclusion of the program on Aug. 8.

Registration remains open throughout the summer, and everyone—from preschoolers to adults—is encouraged to participate.

For registration information and a complete calendar of events, visit belmontpubliclibrary.org, call (603) 267-8331, or stop by Belmont Public Library, 146 Main St.

About Belmont Public Library

Belmont Public Library is committed to inspiring

lifelong learning, fostering community connections, and providing engaging programs and resources for residents of all ages. The

ing, creativity, and exploration through free events, activities, and prizes for the entire community.

Students named to Dean’s List at Plymouth State University

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

Nathan Lavoie of Sanbornton

Emma Haddock of Belmont

About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates, and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. The Plymouth State Cluster Learning Model emphasizes open, integrative, and project-based experiences. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire. To learn more about Plymouth State University, visit www.plymouth.edu.

Students named to President’s List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH — Students have been named to the Plymouth State University President’s List for the Spring 2026 semester. To be named to the President’s List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.70 or better for the Spring 2026 semester and must have completed at least 12 credit hours during the semester, at least nine of which must confer grade points, at the time the lists are finalized.

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

- Dylan Allard of Sanbornton
- Callissa Harbour of Tilton
- Tatum Hartford of Belmont
- Riley Pinard of Belmont
- Jocelyn Roache of Belmont
- Aaron Sanborn of Belmont
- Preston Warner of Northfield
- Cassandra Caron of Northfield
- Noelle Drouin of Northfield
- Gracey LeBlanc of Belmont
- Erin Atherton of Sanbornton
- Ryder Dutton of Belmont
- Michael Narensky of Sanbornton
- Brooke Nelson of Belmont
- Hannah Laughy of Sanbornton
- Madison Heitz of Sanbornton
- Siera Kender of Belmont

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Powerhouse holds auditions for two fall productions

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

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

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

Auditioners may audition for both shows. Big Bad auditions will begin at 6 pm both nights and Starcatcher auditions will follow at approximately 7 p.m. Actors are encouraged to audition for both to improve their chances of participating in at least one of the shows. For all the information on how to register and prepare for the auditions check out <https://www.powerhousenh.org/auditions>.

Also, check out powerhousenh.org for all the latest info on Powerhouse including ticket links for its summer production of Shrek the Musical, or contact info@powerhousenh.org for more details. For more information on all the programs at Prescott Farm, go to www.prescottfarm.org.

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Opinion

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

COURTESY

Please join us at the Tilton Senior Center for a PowerPoint presentation (with accompanying artifacts) to learn about the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum. The presentation will include a general digital tour of the museum, its mission as well as engaging, hands-on artifact examinations and discussion. The program is open to the public, free to attend and will take place on Thursday, July 23 at 12:15 p.m. at the Tilton Senior Center, 11 Grange Rd. For more information about the Tilton Senior Center, please call 603-527-8291.



The stories that don't make the front page

Every community has two histories.

One is recorded in official documents, meeting minutes, and newspaper archives. It tells us when buildings were constructed, budgets were approved, roads were paved, and elections were decided.

The other history is written much more quietly. It lives in the memories of people who have spent decades in the same neighborhood. It is found in family-owned businesses that have watched generations grow up, in volunteers who faithfully show up year after year, and in the countless conversations that happen over coffee counters, church suppers, and grandstand bleachers.

Those stories rarely come with ribbon-cuttings or proclamations. Yet they are often the ones that define a town.

Communities such as Tilton, Belmont, Northfield and Sanbornton are fortunate because they still possess something that many places have lost: a strong sense of continuity. People remember who owned a building before it became today's restaurant. They can point to the old schoolhouse, the former railroad line, or the field where neighborhood children once gathered for pickup baseball games. That shared memory creates something valuable. It reminds us that we are part of a much longer story. At the same time, every generation has a responsibility to add a few chapters of its own.

Today's stories are being written by volunteers organizing food drives, firefighters answering late-night calls, teachers encouraging students, entrepreneurs opening businesses, and residents who quietly improve their neighborhoods one project at a time. Most of these efforts will never receive awards. Many won't even receive public recognition. But they matter.

Communities aren't built only through major projects or public investments. They are built through thousands of ordinary decisions made by ordinary people. Choosing to coach a youth team. Serving on a town committee. Helping organize a library program. Supporting a local fundraiser instead of staying home. These actions create the kind of towns where people want to live.

In an era when national headlines often dominate conversations, it can be easy to overlook what is happening close to home. Yet the decisions made locally, and the relationships built locally, usually have a far greater impact on our daily lives than events unfolding hundreds of miles away.

The quality of our parks, our schools, our downtowns, and our neighborhoods depends not on distant institutions but on the willingness of local residents to become involved. Fortunately, this region has never lacked for people willing to step forward.

As another busy season unfolds, there will be school events, community celebrations, municipal meetings, historical programs, concerts, athletic contests and countless opportunities to gather. Each one adds another sentence to the story these towns are writing together.

Years from now, few will remember who won every game or what the weather was on a particular weekend. They will remember who showed up. They will remember the traditions that continued because someone cared enough to keep them alive. And they will remember that the strength of a community has never been measured only by what appears on the front page, but by the thousands of good deeds, quiet conversations, and familiar faces that never needed a headline to make a lasting difference.

The five-minute conversation

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

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

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

It usually starts with the weather, because that's

KIND FOLKS, COLD WINTERS

By CHIPPY

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

Someone mentions the old mill that used to stand down the road. Another person remembers buying penny candy at a store that's been gone for thirty years. Before long, you've learned that the stranger's grandson just graduated, they're hoping the tomatoes finally take

off this year, and they're still driving the same truck because, as they put it, "It hasn't given me a reason to replace it."

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

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

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

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

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

You discover the person next to you grew up in town, or moved here because they wanted a quieter life. You learn who's recovering from surgery, whose daughter just started teaching, or who finally caught the fish that got away last summer. By the end of those five minutes,

the stranger isn't quite a stranger anymore. The funny thing is, you'll probably never see them again.

Or maybe you will.

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


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

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

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

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

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



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MVSB supports inaugural Camp Resilience Leadership and Wellness Gala

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

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

The gala will shine a light on Camp Resilience’s Chiefs Wellness and Leadership Program, dedicated to supporting both mental



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

and physical health for its participants. This innovative program provides a variety of opportunities, including outdoor recreation and life skills workshops, designed to promote overall well-being. Participants benefit from fireside peer conversations, as well as mindful meditation and breathing exercises. These techniques are intended

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

“Camp Resilience is doing important work to support first responders

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

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

events. Camp Resilience (d.b.a. Patriot Resilient Leader Institute) is a nonprofit organization founded in 2014. Through retreats and programs held in the Lakes Region, Camp Resilience focuses on improving the physical, social, mental, and emotional well-being of participants. Offerings

include outdoor experiential learning, life skills training, and peer-to-peer support, helping individuals build resilience and carry those skills back into their professional and personal lives while strengthening the communities they serve.

Go to campresilience.org for more information about Camp Resilience and its programs.

MVSB has been serving the essential banking needs of people, businesses, nonprofits and municipalities for more than 150 years. As a mutual savings bank, MVSB has no stockholders but rather operates for the benefit of its customers, employees and community. Since our founding, one thing has always remained true: caring is at the heart of everything we do. By building and nurturing relationships, we believe that we can cultivate a community where we all thrive. It all starts with caring about our customers and neighbors. To learn more, visit any of the local branch offices located in New Hampshire in Alton, Ashland, Center Harbor, Exeter, Gilford, Laconia, Melvin Village, Meredith, Moultonborough, North Conway, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Rochester or Wolfeboro, call 800-922-6872 or visit mvsb.com.

NH Boat Museum to host 50th Annual Alton Bay Boat Show Aug. 8



ALTON BAY — The New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM) will host the 50th Annual Alton Bay Boat Show on Saturday, Aug. 8 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Alton Bay Town Docks. The free public event marks a half-century

of celebrating New Hampshire’s freshwater boating heritage and is among the longest-running vintage boat shows in the region.

“What I love about the Alton Bay Boat Show is how it turns the whole

waterfront into a living gallery,” noted NHBM Executive Director Devon Kurtz. “Every boat carries a story, every owner is eager to share it, and the community leans in with real affection. It’s one of the coolest, most heartfelt

days on the lake.”

At the show, which features classic wooden and early fiberglass vessels (model year 1975 and earlier), spectators are invited to walk the docks, meet the

owners, and cast ballots for the People’s Choice Award.

“This is one of the most exciting events of the summer for the whole family,” said NHBM Executive Director Devon Kurtz. “It’s truly a remarkable collection of boats, and spectators can get up close and talk with the owners.”

Pre-registration is not required, and docking is first-come, first-served.

“Reaching the 50th anniversary is a significant milestone for the museum and for the boating community across New Hampshire,” added Kurtz.

The 50th Annual Alton Bay Boat Show is sponsored by The NASWA Resort, Mundial Group, Inc., and Water’s Nook Home

Decor and Gifts.

Founded in 1992, NHBM is dedicated to preserving and sharing the state’s rich freshwater boating heritage. Through dynamic exhibits, youth programs like Junior Skippers, and on-the-water experiences, NHBM brings New Hampshire’s boating story to life for visitors from across the state and beyond.

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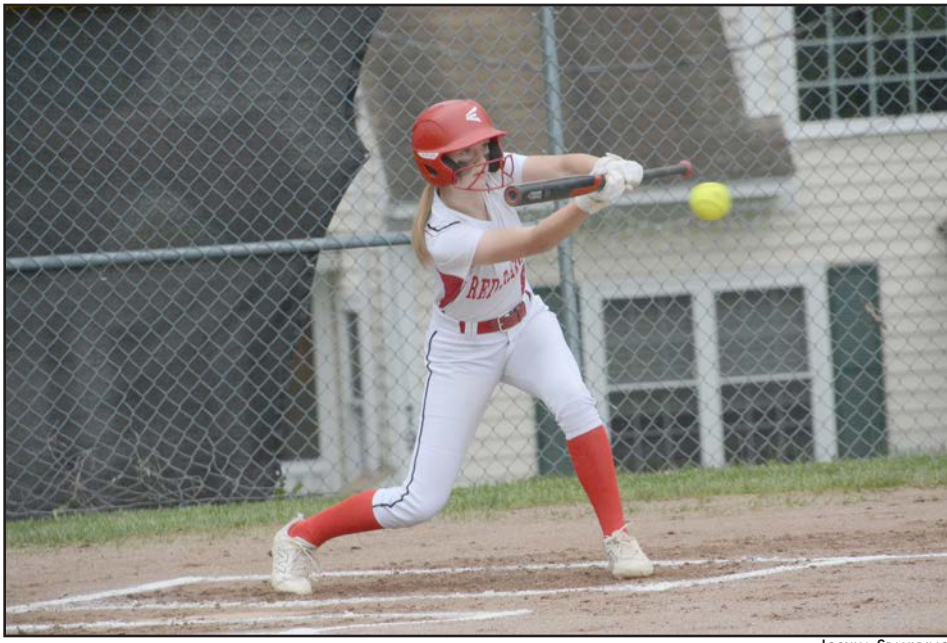
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Local girls earn softball All-State honors

Mark Dawalga named Division III Coach of the Year



JOSHUA SPAULDING

Winnisquam's Danica Weymouth was named First Team All-State for the Winnisquam softball team.

BY JOSHUA SPAULDING
Sports Editor

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

In Division III, Gilford's Belle Dow was named Pitcher of the Year and was joined in earn-

ing First Team honors by teammate Maddie Metz, Danica Weymouth of Winnisquam, Madi MacDonald of Belmont, Olivia Packard of White Mountains and Kylee Guptill and Paige Harding of Prospect Mountain. Guptill was also named MaxPreps Player of the Year. Second Team honors went to McKenna Kelley of Berlin, Kora

MacKenzie, Paityn Glidden and Sophie Bowman of Prospect Mountain, Bailey Perkins of Belmont and Taylor Marsh of Gilford and Honorable Mention went to Mia Macaione of Gilford, Natalee Cullen of Belmont and Olivia Richard of Berlin.

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

Second Team was also presented to Hailey Anzmann and Mattie Williams of St. Thomas, Madison Mundy, Brooklyn

of Raymond and Cadence Smead of Hillsboro-Deering.

Winnisquam coach Mark Dawalga was named Division III Coach of the Year and Angie Carey of Bishop Brady was named Assistant Coach of the Year.

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

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

Second Team accolades were also presented to Alayna MacKenzie of Epping, Madison Parker of Colebrook, Brielle Krook, Hannah Cargill and Fio-



Madi MacDonald of Belmont earned First Team All-State honors for her senior campaign.

Year.

In Division II, First Team honors went to Kingswood's Lily Scott, Second Team was presented to Kennett's Makenna Noyes, Kingswood's Ella Smith and Plymouth's Emily Perras and Honorable Mention went to Kingswood's Makenzie Boisvert and Caelynn Blattenberger and Plymouth's Alyvia Foote.

iza Parks of Oyster River, Sydney Borges of ConVal, Taylor Ouellette of Bow, Katelyn Herrmann of Merrimack Valley, Kaydence Stinson of Laconia, Phoebe Hood of Sanborn and Caileigh Aguiar of Pelham.

Also earning Second Team accolades were Alyssa Boutin of Sanborn, Kinley Moore, Mae Hagelberg and Chloe Hamlin of ConVal, Madison Oppold of Bow, Izzy LaRose of Campbell, Aubrin Berger of Pelham, Grace Harrold and Lexi Wolsky of Souhegan, Reilley West of Coe-Brown, Aubrey DeJesus of Oyster River and Sophie DeDomenico of Lebanon.

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

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

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

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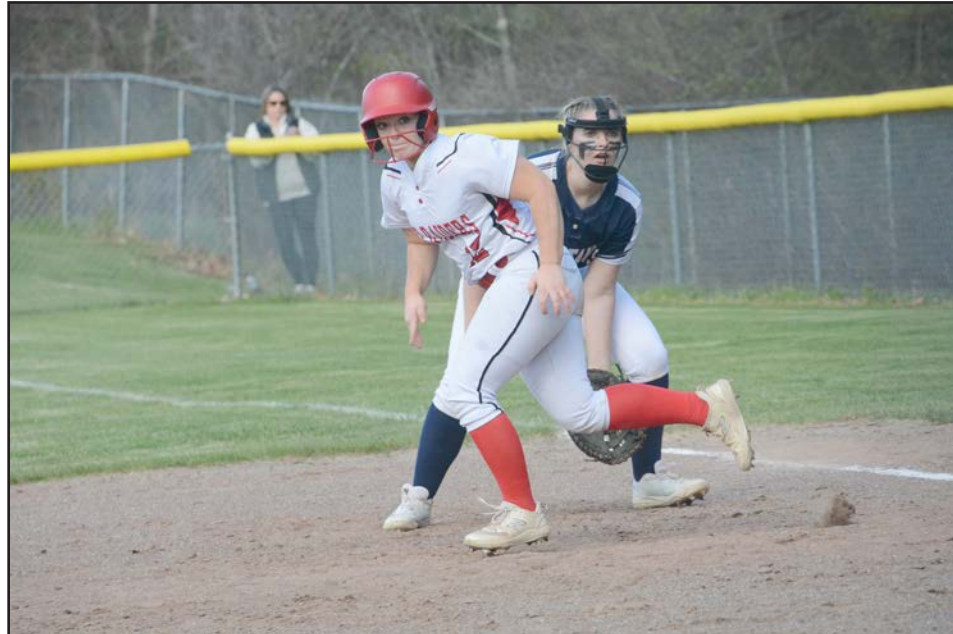
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E.O.E.



Belmont's Bailey Perkins was named All-State Second Team for the spring season.

Griffin and Abigail Tyrell of Bishop Brady, Violet Bennett of Conant, Brooke Aiken of Kearsarge, Gracie Dean of Monadnock and Gianna Gott of Raymond.

Honorable Mention was also awarded to Avery Loew of Hopkinton, Ella Blanchette of Bishop Brady, Alexis Shaugnassy of Kearsarge, Bailee St. Saver and Anna Aiken of Stevens, Sydney Wells

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

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

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

Joining Scott in earning First Team honors were Savannah Chapman and Katie Lorenz of John Stark, Ava Kaercher (Pitcher of the Year) of Lebanon, Addison Coffin, Ari Fenton and Kylie Bieniek of Coe-Brown, Kate Michaud (Player of the Year) and Al-



Natalee Cullen of Belmont earned All-State Honorable Mention for the Raiders this spring.

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Dan Egan brings award-winning documentary to The Flying Monkey

Story of Clyde Best stops in Plymouth as part of North American tour



COURTESY PHOTO

Filmmaker Dan Egan's documentary on Bermuda football legend Clyde Best will be coming to the Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Aug. 8.

PLYMOUTH — As the excitement of the 2026 FIFA World Cup sweeps across North America, New Hampshire filmmaker Dan Egan brings his award-winning documentary, *Transforming the Beautiful Game: The Clyde Best Story*, home to Plymouth as part of its expanding North American tour. Following acclaimed premieres in London and Bermuda, the film's World Cup tour includes the Rox-

bury International Film Festival in Boston, Kicking + Screening at Lincoln Center's Summer for the City Festival in New York City, screenings in Atlanta, the River Valley Film Festival in Pennsylvania, and the Woods Hole Film Festival, before returning home to New Hampshire for a special hometown screening at The Flying Monkey on Saturday, Aug. 8.

Doors open at 6 p.m.,

with the film beginning at 7 p.m. Following the screening, Egan will host a live audience Q and A, sharing the remarkable true story behind football pioneer Clyde Best and the decade-long journey to bring one of soccer's most important untold stories to the screen.

Transforming the Beautiful Game celebrates the extraordinary life and legacy of Bermudian football legend Clyde Best, the first

Black football superstar of England's modern television era and a pioneering figure whose influence helped shape the growth of professional soccer in the United States.

At just 17 years old, Best signed with West Ham United, where he endured relentless racism while breaking barriers at the highest level of English football. Over his career, he made 218 first-team appearances, scored 58 goals, and became a symbol of courage, perseverance, and change.

Among the film's defining moments is Easter Sunday 1972, when Best, Clive Charles, and Ade Coker became the first three Black players ever to start together in England's First Division—a historic milestone that transcended sport and helped change English football forever.

The documentary also chronicles Best's influential career in the North American Soccer League (NASL), where he helped lead the Tampa Bay Rowdies to the 1975 Soccer Bowl championship before becoming a fan favorite with the Portland Timbers. His professional career also included stops in Cleveland, Toronto, Los Angeles, and indoor soccer, helping establish the sport's foundation in North America.

Directed by award-winning filmmaker Dan Egan, the documentary traces

Best's remarkable journey from Bermuda to England's top flight, where his resilience and excellence inspired generations of players on both sides of the Atlantic.

Narrated by acclaimed actor Tony D. Head and featuring an original score and songs by Roy Hay of Culture Club, the film combines never-before-seen archival footage with exclusive interviews featuring football legends including Ian Wright, Sir Geoff Hurst, Harry Redknapp, Les Ferdinand, Viv Anderson, Garth Crooks, Rodney Marsh, Howard Gayle, Carlton Cole, Ade

Coker, and U.S. Men's National Team star Kasey Keller. The documentary also explores Best's close friendship with teammate Clive Charles, who later became one of the most influential coaches in U.S. soccer history.

The film has received standing ovations throughout its international tour and continues to earn praise for telling the untold story of one of football's most important pioneers while highlighting the power of sport to challenge prejudice, unite cultures, and inspire future generations.

Greater Lakes Region Children's Fund takes Gold Awards in three categories at Best of the Lakes 2026



LACONIA — Leaders of the Greater Lakes Region Children's Fund are thrilled to have taken the gold award in three categories at the Best of the Lakes Region 2026 event in June.

The nonprofit was named Best Place to Volunteer, Best Annual Event and Best Charity Event.

"We are so grateful to those of you who voted for us, and we are proud," said the Children's Fund's Executive Director, Jennifer Kelley. "You're helping us make an impact in our amazing community."

More than 310,000 votes were tallied in the contest, in 196 categories.

The Best of the Lakes Region 2026 event was organized by The Laconia Daily Sun, and the celebration took place at The Lake Estate on Winnisquam.

The Children's Fund's Winner Takes All raffle at the event brought in \$3,210 to support children and families in need in the Lakes Region.

"A big thank you to all those businesses that contributed gift certificates for this raffle, and thanks to all the people who bought raffle tickets," Kelley said.

Earlier this month, leaders of the Children's Fund announced a campaign to raise \$45,000 this year—over and above its annual fundraising—to celebrate 45 years serving children and families in need.

Over 45 years, the Children's Fund has distributed more than \$10 million to over 150 nonprofits that serve local children and families in need.

To make a donation, or learn more about the organization, visit Childrens-FundNH.org, and click on the \$45 K for 45 link.

COURTESY Back row: Jill Lieberman, Jennifer Prince, Anna Terry, Paige Youschak, Melanie Anderson, Gina McCann, Kelly Patz, and Doug Morrissette. Front row: Executive Director Jennifer Kelley, Amy Daley and Jean Schelb.

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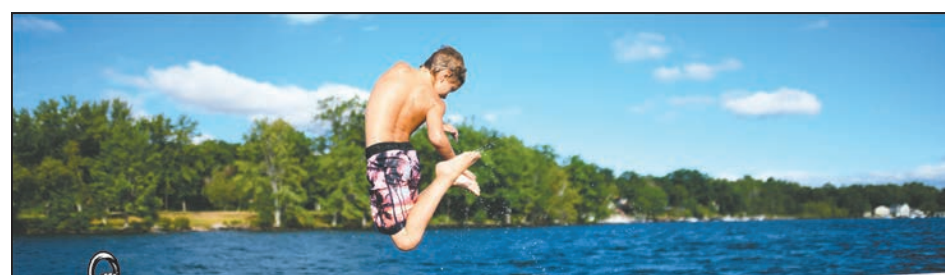
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POST 1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

mound for the hosts. Charbono was hit by a pitch and Dee walked, loading the bases, but the Conway hurler got a groundout to his brother, Jacob, at third base to end the inning. Jonah Pepin led off the bottom of the inning with a walk, but Divers again executed a pickoff move to eliminate the runner. James had a base hit that

was compounded by an error and Bowen Brown had a base hit, but both runners were stranded as Lloyd got a grounder to third to end the inning.

Divers opened the top of the sixth with a base hit and Jake Tryon walked before a Lloyd bunt hit loaded the bases with nobody out. Sanborn worked a walk to plate a run and a sacrifice fly from Galloway drove in another run. Sargent worked a walk

and a Charbono grounder to second plated another run before Post 46 got out of the inning with Laconia leading 5-0.

Espezua led off the bottom of the inning with a double and went to third on a Jakubec fly ball to center. Jacob Brown then drove in Conway's first run of the game with a base hit, cutting the lead to 5-1 before Lloyd retired the next two batters to end the inning. Bowen Brown worked

around base hits from Divers and Lloyd in the top of the seventh, with Pepin gunning down Divers stealing second to help get out of the frame.

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

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

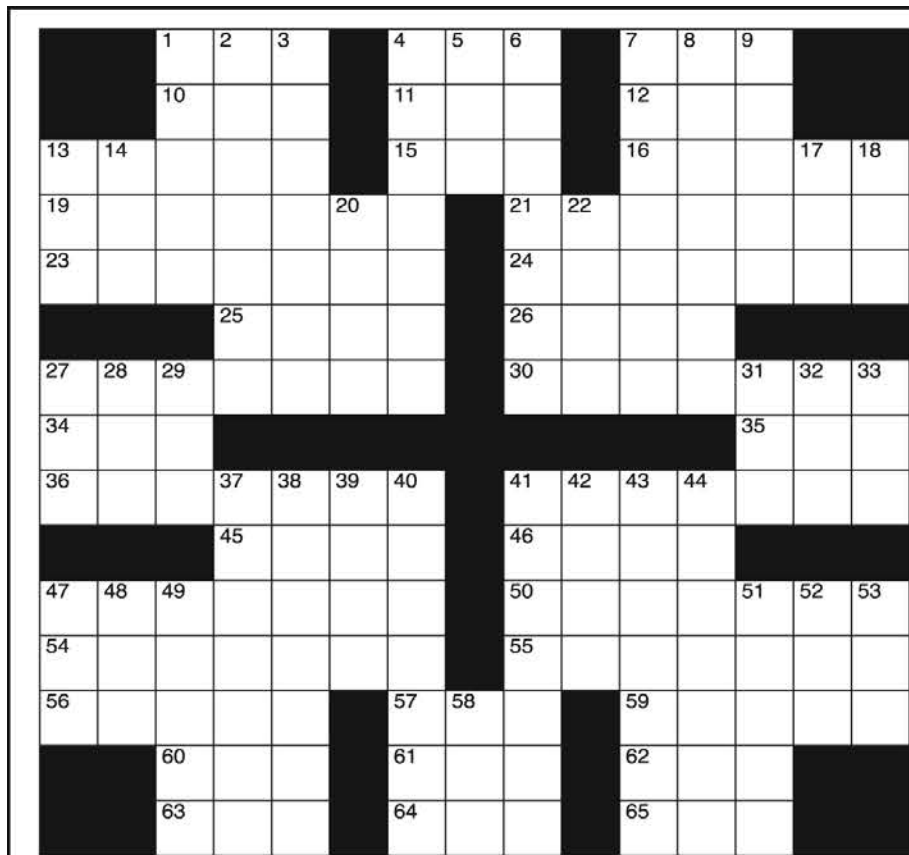
The two teams will meet again on Monday, July 13, at Robbie Mills Park in Laconia at 7 p.m.

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

on Thursday, July 16, at 6 p.m.

Post 1 is scheduled to be hosting Weare on Friday, July 10, at Memorial Park at 5:30 p.m., will be hosting Keene for a doubleheader on Sunday, July 12, at 12 and 2:30 p.m. at Memorial Park and will be at Sweeney at Gill Stadium on Tuesday, July 14, at 6 p.m.

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

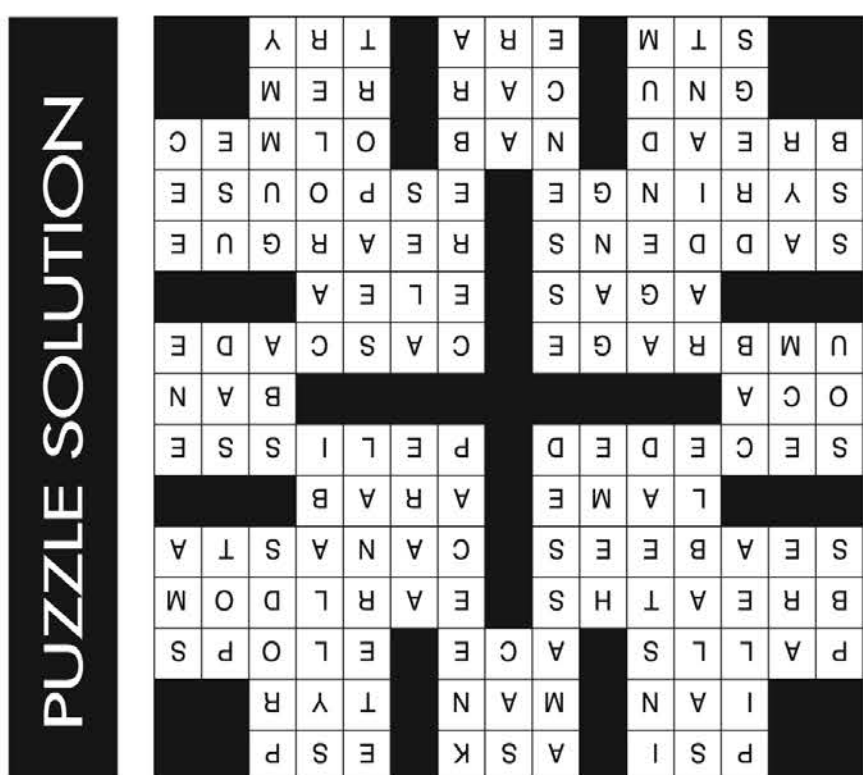


CLUES ACROSS

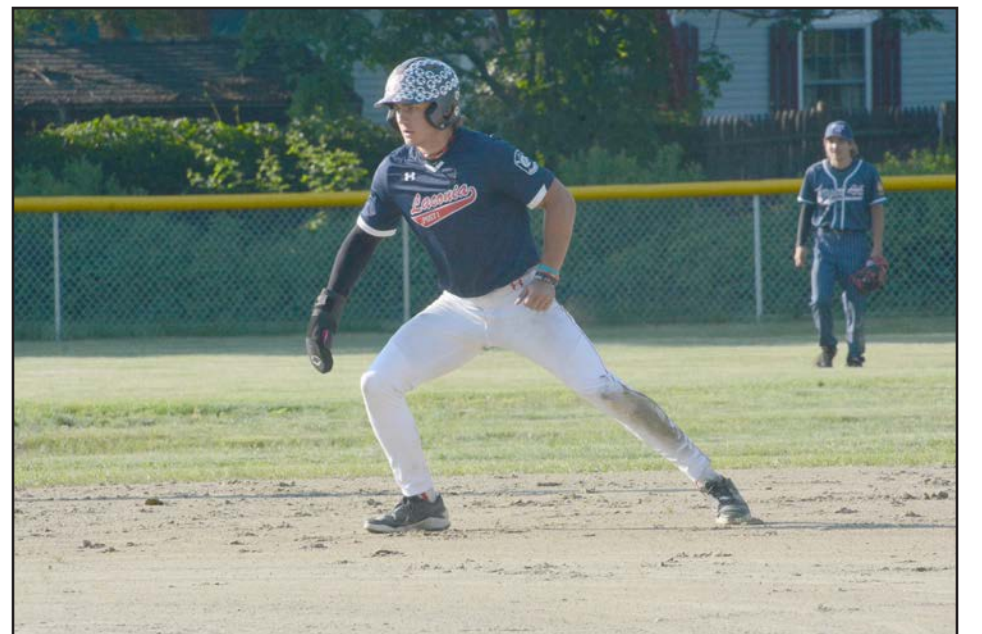
- 1. Tire pressure measurement
- 4. Request
- 7. Clairvoyance
- 10. 007's creator
- 11. Adult male
- 12. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 13. Cloths spread over a coffin
- 15. Breeze through
- 16. Ladyfish genus
- 19. We all take them
- 21. Earl's jurisdiction
- 23. Members of U.S. Navy
- 24. Rummy-like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

CLUES DOWN

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



Wyatt Divers looks for the safe sign after stealing second in action last week against Conway Post 46.



Brayden Townsend takes a lead off second during action in American Legion Baseball last Monday in Conway.

Colonial Theatre receives Best of Lakes Region honor

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre is honored to be recognized as Best Live Music Venue – Midsize in this year's installment of the Best of the Lakes Region awards. This is the fifth year in a row the Colonial Theatre has won top honors in the Laconia Daily Sun's annual program.

"We are delighted to be acknowledged as the Best Live Music Venue – Midsize and are deeply grateful to the lakes region residents who nominated and voted for us," said Nicole Ferland-Kemper, Manager of Theatre Operations. In 2025, more than 72 percent of all Colonial Theatre guests originated from lakes region counties, a testament to the connection local residents have with the Colonial Theatre and its programming.

"We love this community and the people within it," continued Ferland-Kemper, "the support we receive in return is extremely meaningful, it's wonderful to feel the reciprocity."

The Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, the Colonial Theatre's resident community theatre program was also recognized in the Best of the Lakes Region honors. The Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative took home gold in the Best Community Theatre/Live Performance Group category. This is the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative's first win.

The Best of the Lakes Region, in its eighth year, seeks to recognize the

businesses and people that make the lakes region of New Hampshire a vibrant, thriving community. With 196 categories spanning health and beauty, home and garden, services, motors, marine, shopping, eat and drink, and things to do, the contest ran from Feb. 24, when nominations opened, to April 10, when voting closed. According to BestoftheLakesRegion.com over 1,300 businesses, organizations, and individuals were nominated and the final vote tally totaled more than 310,000 votes.

Tickets for all events are available now at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

The original owner of the Colonial Theatre, Benjamin Piscopo, was from Italy, and the theatre featured a fire curtain depicting Venice as seen from the water. In August of 2002, the theatre closed after 87 years of operation. On June 15, 2015, the City of Laconia announced a partnership with the Belknap Economic Development Council (BEDC) to purchase, renovate, and reopen the Colonial. The newly reopened Colonial Theatre has a seating capacity of 750 and plays host to various performances, including music, theatre, comedy, and civic events. Spectacle Management manages the Colonial Theatre and is home to the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative. The Colonial Theatre is located at 609 Main St., Laconia, NH 03246. www.colonial-

laconia.com

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

Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative

The Award-winning Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative has been in residence at the Colonial Theatre since it reopened in 2021. Powerhouse is a 501(c)3 non-profit that provides artistic and educational theatre experiences for community participants.

Established in 2020 by Bryan and Johanna Halperin, Powerhouse is a professionally managed community theatre that engages the community in many ways through its annual five show Colonial Series and through special events and smaller productions around the region through its Spark Series. Check out the website for how you can get involved in Powerhouse as a performer, volunteer, patron, sponsor or donor! www.powerhousenh.org/

Castle in the Clouds has lots to offer in July

MOULTONBOROUGH — Castle in the Clouds is in full swing now that summer is officially here. This July there will be programs at the historic estate that range from guided hikes to yoga to a petting zoo!

There are several recurring programs that guests can participate in at the Castle this month, starting with Music Nights, which occur every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Registration is required for these evening dinner concerts with a view. On Mondays, you can also start the day with a family-centered Story Time & Craft Hour in partnership with the Moultonborough Public Library. These take place at the picnic pavilion from 11 a.m.-noon (there is a rain space for rainy days as well). Later on Mondays, guests can join in on Yoga on the Lawns of Lucknow from 6-7 p.m. On Sundays, guests can swing by for Solar Gazing from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. with the NH Astronomical Society.

Volcanoes & Cellar Holes: the History of Ossipee Park is a walking tour held every other Thursday at 10 a.m. There are also guided hikes most Thursdays as well as the Saturday Hikes most Saturday mornings. To see the com-



plete list of hiking times and locations visit our website.

Lucknow Garden Tours continue this month, alternating between Friday and Saturday each week. Join this 10:15 a.m. tour to see outside Lucknow Mansion and learn about the gardens directly from the Castle's head gardener.

Starting July 11, Concerts in the Clouds is back! Great Waters has a great line up this summer, starting with an Arrival from Sweden – an ABBA music experience. On July 17, guests can see Neil Berg; Peace, Love, and Rock & Roll. The following week will feature Chanticleer

– A cappella, on July 24. For tickets and more information, interested parties should visit the Great Waters Web site: <https://greatwaters.org/>.

On July 18 and 19, there will be a Petting Zoo in the meadow – a call back to when Castle in the Clouds used to feature their own petting zoo. This is a special Castle Preservation Society 20th Anniversary event, free for guests and their families.

Teachers can attend a two-day professional development workshop on July 22 and 23. Science of Writing will help teachers design explicit, systematic instruction that supports

all learners. Participants will have the opportunity to hike, tour the Castle, and eat at the Carriage House Restaurant as part of the two-day experience. Registration ends July 18, so be sure to secure a spot before then.

Also on July 23 is Constellations at the Castle, a great opportunity to learn more about, and observe, the night sky with a scenic view from the meadow and Carriage House. This event takes place in the evening from 8-10pm.

A day later, join Audrey Drake for a Sound Bath from 6-7 p.m. on July 24 and then, on July 26, join Bewitched Acres for a

Small-Group Beekeeping class from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

In order to register for these programs, please visit <https://www.castleintheclouds.org/calendar-of-events/month/2026-07/>. For more information, please contact programs@castleintheclouds.org or visit www.castleintheclouds.org

About Castle in the Clouds

As the premier historical museum in the beautiful Lakes Region of New Hampshire, Castle in the Clouds provides each visitor with a look into the past while providing contemporary comforts to make ev-

ery visit memorable. Originally called Lucknow, this breathtaking 6,300-acre property was developed in 1913 by Tomas G. Plant, a wealthy shoe manufacturer, to create a luxurious lifestyle with state-of-the-art amenities, beautiful hand-made furnishings, and a large staff to run the estate. These days, visitors come from all around the world to tour the mansion and exhibit gallery, dine in the Carriage House Restaurant or Café in the Clouds, explore miles of hiking and walking trails maintained by partner organization the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, or enjoy one of our many programs and events. Operated by the Castle Preservation Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Castle in the Clouds is revered as a cultural and educational resource. The Lucknow Estate was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2024, recognizing its national significance in architecture and landscape architecture. Castle in the Clouds is also available as a fairytale wedding location and versatile private event rental venue. For more information about Castle in the Clouds, visit www.castleintheclouds.org.

Vintage mahogany boat carries visitors through a century of Lake Winnepesaukee history



MOULTONBOROUGH — As the summer season gets underway on Lake Winnepesaukee, one

of the region's most distinctive ways to experience the water is also one of its oldest in spirit. The

Millie B, a 28-foot mahogany triple-cockpit "woodie" operated by the New Hampshire Boat Museum

(NHBM), departs daily from the Wolfeboro Town Docks, carrying passengers on narrated tours that double as a moving lesson in local history.

A replica of a 1928 Hacker-Craft, the Millie B is built to vintage specifications, accurate down to its historic seat colors and period fittings. The result is a rare working example of the wooden boats

that dominated the waters a century ago when Lake Winnepesaukee was at the center of New England's recreational boating culture.

"The Millie B is the quintessential New Hampshire Boat Museum experience," said Devon Kurtz. "It brings our region's boating heritage to life in a way nothing else can."

Lasting one hour, the tour follows a route past lakeside homes, historic boathouses, and a protected Loon Sanctuary, where passengers occasionally spot a loon chick riding on its mother's back. Individual headsets allow each guest to hear the captain's narration covering the lake's history, geography, geology, and wildlife.

"It is more than a boat ride," said NHBM's Anne Lennon. "It is a journey into the heart of Lake Winnepesaukee...Our captains

share the stories that make this lake so special."

Beyond scheduled tours, the Millie B is regularly booked for private charters, including weddings and marriage proposals. Every ticket includes free admission to NHBM, and life vests are provided for children under 12. Tour times, availability, and ticket prices are posted at nhbm.org.

Founded in 1992, the New Hampshire Boat Museum is dedicated to preserving and sharing the state's rich freshwater boating heritage through dynamic exhibits, youth programs like Junior Skipper, and on-the-water experiences. To NHBM is supported by generous partners, including Goodhue Boat Company, North Water Marine, Eastern Propane and Oil, Kingswood Press and Design Studio, and KW Lakes and Mountains.

2026 Household Hazardous Waste events are starting up

REGION — The Lakes Region Planning Commission will be hosting its annual Lakes Region Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collections again in 2026.

This year's event will feature six collection dates and nine collection sites that all participating residents may attend. The season will kick-off on June 20 with collection

sites in Franklin and Wolfeboro. The collection season will end on Sept. 19 with the final collection in Laconia. This year, the collections will be open to residents and taxpayers in 22 participating Lakes Region communities.

There is a variety of toxic and harmful materials that can be found in Lakes Region homes. These toxic materials are known as hazardous waste substanc-

es that can poison or contaminate our local environment like surface, ground or drinking water. Materials may include flammables, corrosive or reactive substances that can be found in your household, gardening supplies, garage, workbench or art supplies. Toxic materials that pose ground water contamination threats are not allowed at local

transfer stations. This is important for protecting human health and the water quality upon which the Lakes Region economy depends.

In addition to the Saturday, June 20 collections in Franklin & Wolfeboro, collections will also be held on Saturday, July 25 in Gilford & Meredith; Saturday, Aug. 1 in Alton & Moultonborough; Thursday, Aug. 27 in Tuftonboro; Thursday, Sept. 3 in Bris-

ton; and Saturday, Sept. 19 in Laconia. Saturday collections will run from 8:30 a.m. – noon, and Thursday collections will run from 2 – 6 p.m. All collection sites will be hosted at the same locations as our 2025 collection event.

Residents and residential taxpayers in the 22 participating communities may bring up to 10 gallons or 50 pounds of household hazardous products in for safe disposal at the collection site that is most convenient for them. Participating communities for the 2026 collections are Alton, Alexandria, Andover, Bridgewater, Bristol, Center Harbor, Franklin, Gilford, Gilmanton, Hebron, Hill, Holderness, Laconia, Meredith, Moultonborough, New Hampton, Sanbornton, Sandwich, Tamworth, Tilton, Tuftonboro, & Wolfeboro.



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Experience the music of Van Halen at The Colonial

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre of Laconia will present VH1 Tour: JUMP - America's Van Halen Experience on Sunday, July 26, at 7 p.m. Tickets to the show are on sale now at ColonialLaconia.com or by calling 1-800-657-8774.

After performing sold out shows across multiple different states and being recruited for international tours in Canada and Australia, JUMP has posi-

tioned themselves as one of the top up and coming Van Halen tributes on the planet. Delivering two hours of classic David Lee Roth era Van Halen, the Toledo, Ohio based band lineup is composed of a group of youngsters all born in the mid-late '90s and early 2000s. While their age offers a visual aesthetic true to Van Halen in their prime, their sound also reflects the same shredding Eddie guitar solos, rock solid rhythm section, and the whaling

two-tone screams reminiscent of David Lee Roth's voice. Featuring a variety of hits and deep cuts off of the first 6 albums, JUMP's live show includes a selection of skits and one liners portrayed by Van Halen from bootlegs of their live shows between 1978-1984. Experience an embodiment of the David Lee Roth era of Van Halen and immerse yourself in youth, nostalgia and rock 'n roll.

The original owner of

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

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

Founded in 2012, Spectacle Live offers venue operations, booking, programming, marketing, and

production services across New England from offices in Lexington, Mass., Lowell, Mass., and Laconia. The company partners with over a dozen venues to manage facilities and promote a variety of events, including concerts, comedy, theater, and family entertainment. For more information, contact Pete Lally atplally@spectaclelive.com or 617-531-1257. www.spectaclelive.com



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New Horizons Band announces 2026 Summer Concert Series



LACONIA — The New Horizons Band of the Lakes Region invites residents and visitors alike to enjoy an exciting season of live music as the ensemble presents its 2026 Summer Concert Series throughout the Lakes Region.

Based in Laconia, the New Horizons Band is a community ensemble made up of adult musicians from all walks of life. Some members are learning an instrument for the very first time, while others have returned to music after years away. Together, they share a love of music,

lifelong learning, and community service through performance.

Under the direction of retired Laconia High School music educator Debbi Gibson, the band will present a variety of musical selections throughout the summer, including marches, patriotic favorites, show tunes, jazz standards, and beloved audience classics.

“Every year I am amazed by what this group accomplishes,” said Gibson. “The dedication of our musicians and the joy they bring to audiences make

every season special. We hope you’ll join us at one of our concerts this summer.”

The 2026 Summer Concert Schedule includes:

July 4 – Hesky Park, Meredith, 7 p.m. (followed by fireworks)

July 11 – Sanbornton Old Home Day, Sanbornton Library in the morning

July 29 – Taylor Community Pavilion, Laconia, 6:30 p.m.

August 11 – Belknap Mill Gazebo, Laconia Rotary Park, 6:30 p.m.

The New Horizons

Band is part of an international movement founded on the belief that music is for everyone, regardless of age or experience. The organization provides adults with opportunities to learn, grow, and perform in a supportive musical environment while enriching the communities they serve.

All concerts are free and open to the public.

For more information about the New Horizons Band of the Lakes Region, upcoming performances, or membership opportunities, visit www.newhorizons-lakesregion.org.

About New Horizons Band of the Lakes Region

The New Horizons Band of the Lakes Region is a community concert band based in Laconia, New Hampshire. The ensemble welcomes adult musicians of all ability levels and rehearses Tuesday evenings at The Music Clinic under the direction of Debbi Gibson. Through performance, education, and fellowship, the band strives to share the joy of music throughout the Lakes Region.




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Leadership Lakes Region announces call for applications for 2026-2027 program year

REGION — Leadership Lakes Region (LLR) is officially accepting applications for its upcoming 2026-2027 program year. Aspiring leaders, profes-

sionals, and community-minded individuals who live or work in the Lakes Region are encouraged to apply. Leadership Lakes Region is a premier commu-

nity leadership development program designed to identify, educate, and motivate existing and emerging leaders. Through a series of immersive, monthly day-long seminars span-

ning from October to May, cohort members gain an inside look at the critical sectors driving the region, including healthcare, education, local government, economic development,

history and culture, and human services.

“Our mission is to build a stronger community by connecting civic-minded individuals with the resources, knowledge, and networks they need to make a lasting impact,” said Willow Furey, Leadership Lakes Region Program Coordinator. The 2026-2027 program year promises to offer our participants invaluable networking opportunities, leadership skill-building, and a deep-dive understanding of the unique challenges and opportunities facing the Lakes Region today.”

The program is open to a diverse range of participants. While ideal for corporate professionals, LLR strongly encourages applications from small and large business owners, entrepreneurs, and retirees looking for a meaningful pathway to strengthen their local knowledge and impact their community. Anyone with a passion for civic engagement and a desire to make a difference in the region is welcome.

How to Apply: Applications and additional program details are available online at www.leadership-lakesregion.org.

Spaces in the cohort are limited to ensure a high-quality, interactive experience. The deadline for submitting applications is Aug. 1. Early submission is highly encouraged, and tuition assistance/scholarship opportunities may be available for qualified candidates.

For more information about the program, tuition, or sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.leadershiplakesregion.org or contact Willow Furey, Program Coordinator, info@leadershiplakesregion.org.



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