

MEREDITH LIONS CLUB holds its 21st annual rubber duckie race on Wednesday afternoon in downtown Meredith

Meredith resident wins rubber duckie race

By HARRISON HAAS

hhaas@citizen.com MEREDITH — Ducks by the dozen raced down the in Meredith on falls Wednesdav afternoon, with hundreds of spectators waiting to hear their number called during the 21st annual Meredith Lions Club Rubber Duckie Race at the Mill Falls Marketplace.

People from all over New England, including a padding of Mallard ducks, stood at the shore of Meredith Bay to see which duck was the fastest.

Swimming past the finish line first was duck No. 2842, which belonged to

John Buletti of Meredith Meredith. The \$200 fifth who earned the \$1,000 grand prize.

This year, a total of 3,262 ducks went down the falls. The record year was in 2003 when exactly 3,900 ducks toppled down and into the bay.

Runner-up this year was Vickie Carty of Meredith, who took home \$500 donated by Mill Falls Inn and Marketplace and Elan Publishing. Third place, a \$300 check from Hearing Enhancement, went to Lynn Sanford of Moultonborough. Fourth place, a \$200 check from Chris Williams Architect and Ameriprise Financial, went to Stephen and Geralynn Fountain of

place prize from Remcon North and Ambrose Brothers went to Cindy and Gary Kuns of Moultonborough.

President Marie Valliere of the Meredith Lions Club said this is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the organization. The event originally was set up as a cooperative event with David's House a facility near Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon that provides a home-away-from-home and supports families and their children who are receiving

See Duckie, A5

Man faces felony threatening charge

charged a Sheridan Street premises. Police charge resident with felonious criminal threatening and criminal trespass following an incident Tuesday on White Oaks Road.

Police say Ralph C. Alexander Jr., 54, of 169 Sheridan St., Laconia, threatened another person with a gun following a verbal argument in which the asked alleged victim

LACONIA — Police have Alexander to leave the that Alexander pulled a small-caliber handgun and pointed it directly at the victim's head, threatening to kill him.

There were several other people at the residence at the time, including several young children, police say. Police arrested Alexan-

der a short time later, recovering the handgun alleged

to have been involved in the incident. Alexan-

der refused bail and is being held at the Belk-

nap County jail pending arraignment in the Fourth Circuit District Court-Laconia Division.

Police charge man in underage drinking party

charged a local man with facilitating an underage drink-

ing party Tuesday night. Damir Seifija, 24, of 718 North Endicott St., Laconia, allegedly held a party where alcohol was consumed, with several participants under age 21. When police arrived in response to a loud music complaint, Seifija allegedly told the under-age people to

LACONIA — Police have hide in the basement. Additional officers were

called to the scene to assist with the large number of party-goers, with two officers from the Meredith Police Department also helping out. They charged 12 individuals, ranging in age from 17 to 20 years, with unlawful. internal possession of alcohol.

Police charged Garret R. scheduled Aug. 9.

Dunlap, 20, of Sandwich with internal possession of alcohol, resisting arrest, and obstructing governmental operations, and detained him at the Belknap County jail in lieu of \$2,000 cash bail, pending his arraignment on July 6 in the Fourth Circuit Court-Laconia Division

Seifija's arraignment is

Police chiefs association warns of telemarketing scam

Chief Paul Donovan has learned of a telemarketing company that has been soliciting funds, claiming to be act-

fraudulent call. In a statement, the NH As-

CONCORD-Salem Police ing on behalf of the NH Asso-sociation of Chiefs of Police ciation of Chiefs of Police. The said it believes fundraising is association warns that it is a an important vehicle in help-

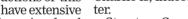
See Scam, A5

Intimate view of 'On Golden Pond'

I do recommend that you get tickets for "On Golden Pond," now playing at Pit-Freight man's Room through Aug. 12.

Wednesday's matinee performance, one of two complimentary shows for people of the Lakes Region, saw a full house — around 150 people — who sat entranced throughout the 2 1/2-hour running time and gave the cast a standing ovation at the end.

Frank Wells as Norman fine effect. Thayer Jr. and Vinette Cotter as Ethel Thayer are an instance of perfect casting. Both have been involved in can enliven a character, and multiple productions of this Charlie is, indeed, a characplay and both have extensive



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Warren D. Huse An Occasional Opinion*

co-producer — portrays Chelsea Thayer convincingly and with flair. Keeping it in the family, Morgan Murphy — also co-producer plays Chelsea's love interest and father of young Billy to

Ernest Thompson, playwright, plays Charlie the Mailman as only Thompson



Hodecker add the finishing touch.

Thompson, composer Joe Deleault, Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster, and singer-songwriter Carly Simon provide appropriate directed by the Academy and moving music.



Like this past winter's production of "Political Suicide" — also by Thompson - sound and lighting were thoroughly professional. The rather sparse but stilleffective lighting of the former has blossomed into a bank of LEKOs to accommodate the larger space used for "On Golden Pond."

The program says this is the "only production of this American classic play ever

See View, A5

Plymouth

536-6300





Performance & Safety Critical for Retiring



backgrounds in regional and other theater. The rest of the cast is out-

standing as well.

Fourteen-year-old Jordan Puzzo deservedly captured hearts in the role of 13-yearold Billy Ray Jr. Jordan is making his theatrical debut but has numerous film, commercial, television, and voice-over credits.

Lori Gigliotti Murphy stepping out from her role as

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Streetcar Company's own Patte Sarausky has the offstage cameo role of a telephone operator — with the full measure of New England accent and temperament

As playwright Thompson said in his opening curtain speech, the interior of the building certainly lends itself to portraying a summer cottage on a lake — and the large paintings of Stephen

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In Today's Turbulent Times

Today is the day you're going to start to make the right choices with your retirement assets. At this stage in your life, 60 plus, making pour choices impacts the way you're going to live out the rest of your days. On one hand, the long term rising costs of living can reduce the buying power of a fixed income, but on the other hand, market volatility can dramatically impact the performance of your retirement portfolio.

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In today's market, an annuity is the only personal financial vehicle that can offer you both the growth potential and the security of guaranteed income payments.

In 2008 Mass Mutual Financial Group released an updated study in which a portfolio incorporating stocks, bonds, and incremental purchases of an annuity, produces more guaranteed lifetime income, develops more liquidity to address other retirement needs, and builds more long-term wealth than other commonly adopted retirement income strategies.

"Incorporating a fixed income annuity in a retirement income account yielded greater long-term wealth for an investor - along with more income security than a portfolio of equity and bond investments alone, even in an 'up' market."

Source: Mass Mutual Financial Group, study of retirement income account allocation among equities, bonds and fixed income annuities, (updated May 2008).

The study, which tested four strategies for managing a retirement income account over 181 time periods (referred to as cases) between 1965 and 2006, found that the three strategies involving an income annuity, whether purchased all at once or over time, generally out performed the stock and bond only strategy, regardless of market conditions at the time. In fact, the investment only approach, even during strong equity and bond markets, ran out of money in 25% of the cases. In contrast, the strategy of laddering into a life annuity matched the income goal in 100% of the cases tested.

While the stock and bond only strategy preserved the original deposit in 45% of the cases tested, the laddered life annuity strategy preserved the original deposit in 93% of the cases tested.

• For the 45% of the stock and bond only cases the average liquid value of the

laddered life annuity strategy was 66% higher.

- In every case, the laddered life annuity strategy matched the income of a life and 20 year certain annuity (which offered no liquidity) utilizing 100% of the deposit, and on average more than tripled the original deposit at the end of the period.
- In contrast to a strategy of living off interest and preserving the original deposit, the laddered life annuity strategy matched the income in every case and on average resulted in more than 5 times the original deposit.

Retirement income distribution is critical for insuring that you and your spouse never run out of monies. Naturally there is a place for equities and I'm not suggesting to rid yourself of your investments. However, a smart choice with "some of your monies" is going to protect your way of life with annuities and the benefits of laddering.

REGION/STATE

nisquam Marina where

Belmont paramedics took

believes is a local resident,

was taken first to Lakes

Region General Hospital

and later to Dartmouth-

Hitchcock Medical Center

Neither the man's name

nor his condition was im-

Sanbornton and Laconia,

Laraway said Belmont

firefighters were kept hop-

ping Wednesday afternoon

and evening with medical

and service calls; among

the latter, reports of

downed power and tele-

phone lines in the Sunset

Drive area and a large tree

that fell onto a car on near-

Donovan. "Before the sales

pitch even begins, the tele-

marketer must tell you

that the call is a sales or a

fundraising call. The tele-

marketer must tell you his

or her name and the name

removed from many tele-

marketing lists through a

free service offered by the

Federal Trade Commis-

sion. Simply register at

the Commission's website,

www.donotcall.gov, or call

1-888-382-1222 from the

number you wish to add to

the Do Not Call Registry.

those not covered by the

National Do Not Call Reg-

istry, must take you off

their list if you specifical-

ly request that they do so.

Tell the telemarketer to

'remove me from your tele-

marketing list' and ask

how long it will take to

have your number re-

moved. If you get another

call from a telemarketer,

they have broken the law.

Contact the police depart-

ment in your area, or you

can send an email to the

NH Association of Chiefs

"All telemarketers, even

"You can get your name

of the company.

by Route 3.

Like his colleagues in

mediately known.

The man, who Laraway

over.

Obama

From Page A1

opening of the city's campaign headquarters for Obama for America-New Hampshire.

Diana Lacey, president of the State Employees' Association of New Hampshire and a Belmont resident, spoke to attendees about why she supports President Obama and why the upcoming election is important to her.

This election is about a clear choice," Lacey said. "The president is rebuilding our economy — an economy built to last, not an economy based on bubbles," Lacey said.

"The president's vision stands in stark contrast to Mitt Romney, who believes in an economy built from the top down and supports the same policies that crashed our economy and devastated the middle class.

She said the president has worked to restore the economy and the middle class by investing in education, energy, the environment, and infrastructure.

Lacey said the proof is in the statistics, noting that the country has seen 27 months of consecutive private-sector job growth and 4.3 million jobs have been added to economy over the past four years.

"As Obama said in Durham last week, 'the debate in this election is not whether we need to do better, but how we do better," Lacey said.

Sarah Austino, field organizer for the campaign in the Laconia area. said she is volunteering for the campaign because she is an ardent supporter of the president and many of his goals and policies.

Growing up poor in South Florida, with a single mother who decided to go back to school and earn a college degree so she could better provide for her children, Austino said she has seen first-hand the importance of education in peoples' lives and how it can raise the social and economic status of individuals.

"I'm here because Obama is the only candidate who will stand up for people like my Mom," Austino said, noting



From Page A3

treatment through the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth (CHaD).

Valliere said the first \$1,000 raised during the race typically goes to David's House.

"We consider David's House a part of our community because there are local family members and club members who have had to use the facility," said Valliere. "The Meredith Lions Club sponsored a room when they built the new facility; there is a Lion Room there now with a plaque from us. We made a pledge to pay \$20,000 for the room over 18 years. Other programs the Lions Club supports from money it raises includes Adopt-a-Family, Camp Pride, Clyde Dolly Scholarship, DARE, Eyeglasses, Fidelco Guide Dogs, Green and White Mountain Girls Scouts, Hearing Aids, Jan Adams Memorial Scholarship, LCIF, Meredith Senior Center, Meredith Lions Club Scholarship, Robert "Bob" Valliere Scholarship, and the NH Sight and Hear-



SARAH AUSTINO, Laconia field organizer for President Barack Obama's re-election campaign, speaks during the offcial opening of the city's campaign headquarters in downtown Laconia Tuesday night.

that, during Obama's administration, the number PELL grants awarded to students has doubled and student loan interest rates have been significantly lowered.

Austino said Belknap Coun-– which she said is the most Republican county in the state — is a key battleground in the upcoming presidential election. With Obama winning the presidency by only 395 votes in Belknap County in 2008, she said it is crucial for volunteers to get out and talk to voters.

Knott-Garon of Katie Meredith was one the area's residents who attended Tuesday's opening. She said she came because she felt inspired to get involved after hearing Caroline Kennedy speak in Meredith last week.

"I've never gotten involved in politics before, but I just feel so strongly about this election with all that's going on in the world," Knott-Garon said.

A supporter of the health care act and Obama's efforts to pass an income tax increase on the wealthiest Americans, Knott-Garon said she wants to assist the campaign in whatever way she can.

"I hate to see the little guy or middle guy have to carry everything on their backs, Knott-Garon said. "I feel we need to help one another out and give where we can.'

For more information, contact the campaign office at 603-

Romney From Page A1

he disagrees with the court's ruling that the mandate was a tax," Fehrnstrom said Monday on MSNBC.

Romney's campaign insisted it was not a change because the Republican said he agreed with the justices who dissented and would have ruled the mandate unconstitutional. The campaign said Romney agreed it is a tax simply because the court determines the "law of the land."

Romney's comments to CBS came in an interview conducted in Wolfeboro before he marched in the town's Fourth of July parade, holding hands with his wife. Ann. He also was joined by New Hampshire Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte, a possible candidate for a running mate.

"I see you waterskiing!" one parade-watcher told Romney as he crossed from one side of Main Street to the other, shaking hands with well-wishers. "Oh, I do it from time to time," Romney replied, smiling. At the end of the parade, he spoke to a crowd waiting at Brewster Academy.

Romney is spending this week on vacation at his lakeside estate. His participation in the parade through the center of town was his only official public appearance during a weeklong family break from campaigning.

Yet, it was not the first time that Romney has been seen around Wolfeboro since he arrived last weekend. His entire family — now numbering 30 has gathered at Romney's home on Lake Winnipesaukee

for the annual family vacation. And even though the family patriarch is now the presumed Republican candidate for president, many of their normal routines haven't changed. They've attended church, bought ice cream in town and taken the boat out on the lake.

Still, the vacation hasn't been all fun and games for the likely Republican presidential nominee. Romney huddled Tuesday with top advisers, including his campaign manager and the aide overseeing his vice presidential search. His top strategist was in town shooting video for new TV ads.

Officially, the week by the lake gives Romney some time to focus on his family and relax before the campaign push to the GOP convention in August. But unofficially, the down time also is a chance for the contemplative Romney to consider how the campaign is going and to adjust strategy as necessary in a contest that polls show is close.

Underscoring the stakes, Obama canceled his annual summer vacation on Martha's Vineyard, Mass. He spent a long holiday weekend at the Camp David presidential retreat and returned to Washington on Wednesday for the Fourth of July.

Behind the scenes in Wolfeboro, Romney is all but certain to be at work just as much as he is at play — and probably focused on the biggest decision he will make between now and when he accepts the GOP's presidential nomination at the convention. His self-imposed deadline for picking a running mate "before the convention" is looming large and the search for a No. 2 is well under way.

His campaign has stayed mum on whether that was a topic of conversation Tuesday when he and his wife spent at least 45 minutes talking with campaign manager Matt Rhoades, senior adviser Beth Myers and top strategist Stuart Stevens on the deck that overlooks the lawn be hind his home. Romney's five -particularly his eldest sons son. Tagg — also serve as informal political advisers, and all have been on hand this week, virtually ensuring that the campaign and the running mate search were discussed.

Romney's vacation ends Sunday when he's scheduled to head to New York for fundraising events - and to resume his campaign schedule fulltime.

Associated Press photographer Charles Dharapak contributed to this report.



From Page A1

mostly burns, Erickson said.

Belmont Fire Lt. Robert Laraway said his department was busy Wednesday, beginning with a report of an unresponsive person in Lake Winnisquam, in the area of the sandbar just north of Mosquito Bridge. Laraway said it was unclear what happened but apparently some recreational boaters observed the body of a middle-aged male in the water and pulled him in. The man, who Laraway said was cyanotic, was taken by a boater to the nearby Win-



From Page A3

is an important vehicle in helping to raise money for law enforcement education and training.

"And we take it very seriously," said Chief Dono-van. "We do all our own fundraising so that 100 percent of the money raised goes towards the programs we support and our association. This is done through direct mail.'

Although many telemarketers sell legitimate products from lawful companies, disreputable telemarketers using false and deceptive sales practices cost consumers billions of dollars a year, Donovan continued.

People can recognize a telemarketing scam when the caller's telephone number is from out of the area and when the caller uses high-pressure sales tactics.

'Most consumers don't know about the Federal Trade Commission's Telemarketing Sales Rules which give consumers important protections," said

of Police by going to their website at www.nhchiefsofpolice.com."



Ashland's 4th

WORLD WAR II veterans - members of the 'Greatest Generation' - appear in the Ashland Fourth of July parade. The crowd cheered and saluted the veterans as the float went by them during the Wednesday morning parade. Several members of the crowd walked up to the float, which was sponsored by the Meredith Village Savings Bank, and shook hands with the veterans

GORDON D. KING/FOR THE CITIZEN

to a minimum because

The Meredith Lions Club was founded in 1947, with 125 members. Now the attendance is down to 20 members, with the Lions Club always accepting members over the age of 18 years. Valliere said the organization's motto is "we serve," with their focus being on helping those in the community with eyesight and hearing loss. They are trying to form a younger group, called Leos, for teens at Inter-Lakes High School All prizes for the July 4 event — a total of 23 gift cards or items — were donated by local businesses, including E.M Heath, Moulton Farm, Giuseppe's Dockside Restaurant. Florist, George's Diner, Mame's Restaurant, Hart's Restaurant, the Common Man, Bootlegger's, Miss Print, Kevin's Cafe, Waterfall Cafe, Meredith Center Store, Innisfree Bookshop, and Annalee Dolls

whatever we make here goes right back out to the community," said Valliere. "I think this past year we've given out five sets of hearing aides and seven

ing Foundation. We try to keep our costs

pairs of eyeglasses.'

455-1086



From Page A3

Award-winning author." I the movie, three saw decades ago, and was not as favorably impressed, starpower notwithstanding.

In another program note, Thompson tells us his family "lived in New Hamsphire when I was born. I moved back 20 years ago, and I've spent a part of every summer on a lake in Maine, the inspiration for my play and not so different

surrounding here.' I very much enjoyed this production, in the intimacy of live theater in a relative-

us

from the beautiful bodies of

water

ly compact space. I thought Thompson's wit and bon mots hold up very well after all these years.

I hope you will go to see "On Golden Pond."

*With apologies to the late Alfred D. Rosenblatt, whose column of the same name ran in The Citizen during the early 1960s.



Accidents

From Page A1

rection, it goes from 35 to 55. "Last year, we had one down in this ditch" on the south side of Sinclair Hill Road, said Drake, while the vehicle in Tuesday's crash ended up in the north-side ditch. "Very interesting."

In a separate accident on Wednesday, a motorcyclist from Goffstown who NH State Police said was traveling in excess of 140 miles per hour on Interstate 93 was seriously hurt when he struck the rear of a northbound motor vehicle near the Sanbornton-New Hampton town line.

The operator of the motorcycle, 47-year old Thomas W. Van Uden, was airlifted to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon for treatment of what police said were serious injuries. His passenger, a 43-year-old Manchester woman, was treated, also for serious injuries, at Speare Memorial Hospital in Plymouth. The driver of the

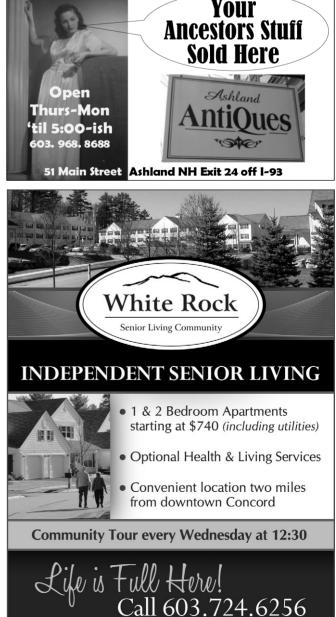
Police are considering a charge of aggravated driving while intoxicated against Van Uden who will be charged with reckless conduct and disobeying an officer.

Police said they got a call about the crash at 4:30 p.m., adding that a trooper earlier had clocked Van Uden's speed at 143 mph. Van Uden reportedly "sped immediately out of sight" and then, a short time later, smashed into the back bumper and trunk of a maroon-colored Chevrolet sedan.

Van Uden's 2003 Kawasaki ZX900 motorcycle was totaled from the collision, said police, while the car he hit was drivable, but sustained significant rear-end damage.

Police ask that anyone who witnessed the crash contact Trooper Mark Magoon at Troop D in Concord at 603-271-3333.





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