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SPORTS

## Merrimack's Malik Edmead is ready to shine

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# The Eagle-Tribune

Two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize

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Caitlin Lee, the daughter of Mike Peters, co-owner of Peters' Farm in Salem, N.H., cuts fresh flowers to be sold at the farm stand. Lee is also a teacher but helps with the family farm in the summer.

TIM JEAN/Staff photo

## Wedded to the land Peters' Farm turns to a 5th generation

By Jamie L. Costa

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**Editor's note:** This is the third in an occasional series leading up to the 275th anniversary celebration of the Town of Salem, N.H., an event called "Salembration," planned for Aug. 9.

SALEM, N.H. — Each morning, sometimes before dawn, the Peters family tends to their

» **About "Salembration," Page 2.**

peas and corn to sell at their farm stand on Cross Street.

By the time most people are leaving for their day jobs or drinking their weekend coffee, the morning harvest is done. It's been this way since the 1800s.

"We plan our lives around farming," said John Peters, a third-generation farmer. "We have our children in the winter."

The farm is recognized by locals and passersby as one of the longest standing farms



Longtime friend and Peters' Farm employee Johnny Klecan, left, and Dan Peters refill the wagon with freshly picked corn.

in the area, known for its traditional values and practices and visited again and again for its nostalgia and fresh-picked produce.

### Origins in the 1800s

Though the family first bought land in Salem in 1911, their farming origins date back to the 1800s to a part of Turkey known as Western Armenia where their Armenian ancestors were used as

indentured servants on Turkish farms.

They couldn't own land, their homes were made out of mud and they didn't have wood to burn. From their one cow, they could make cheese, milk and yogurt and burn the manure to stay warm during the winter months.

The life-changing decision to immigrate to Lawrence, where the family settled prior to relocating to Salem, saved



"We plan our lives around farming. We have our children in the winter."

— John Peters, a third-generation farmer

the family from a mass genocide during World War I that killed between 600,000 and 1.5 million Armenians living in Turkey.

"There was a lot of erasure of the Armenian culture there and there are a lot of us that immigrated to this area," said Matt Peters, a fourth-generation farmer.

The area was largely populated by Germans at the time when James (Jamgochian) Peters, the farm's founder, bought a barn, a house and some farmland on Cross Street, then known as Salem

SEE FARM, PAGE 2

## Ayotte signs bill to ban surprise ambulance bills

By William Skipworth

» [NH Bulletin](mailto:WSkipworth@nhbulletin.com)

NASHUA — Gov. Kelly Ayotte signed Senate Bill 245 on top of a stretcher Thursday morning.

"I have not signed a bill on a stretcher (before)," she quipped. "This is a good circumstance to do it. I wouldn't want to do it in others, but if I had to, I would. I want you to know."

Ayotte was at American Medical Rescue in Nashua, surrounded by ambulances and paramedics, for a ceremonial bill signing. The legislation she signed into law prohibits

surprise ambulance billing in New Hampshire and sets the rates at which ambulance providers can legally charge for their services.

"Imagine if you or a loved one needed an ambulance because you were having a health situation that threatened your life," Ayotte said. "This bill is going to make sure that when you have that ambulance come to your house for your mother or your father or your loved one, that there's not a surprise bill that comes afterwards, that really makes you feel,

SEE BILLING, PAGE 2



WILLIAM SKIPWORTH/N.H. Bulletin

Gov. Kelly Ayotte signs Senate Bill 245, which bans surprise billing and standardizes pricing for ambulances in New Hampshire, on a stretcher at a ceremonial bill signing in Nashua on Thursday.

## Healey files plan to boost economy

Funding to go toward jobs, research and education

By Ella Adams

» [State House News Service](mailto:StateHouseNews@state.ma.us)

BOSTON — Gov. Maura Healey wants to infuse the state's research and jobs sector with hundreds of millions of dollars as Massachusetts grapples with a tight fiscal climate and federal fluctuations in research and education support.

Flanked by cabinet secretaries and life sciences, academic, labor and business leaders, Healey on Thursday announced she's filing a \$400 million bill "to leverage private and institutional resources" to retain and create jobs, support research and protect innovation. The proposal is one piece of a new plan the administration has dubbed the "Discovery, Research and Innovation for a Vibrant Economy" (DRIVE) initiative.

"This isn't just about filling gaps left by federal cuts. This is forward-looking," Healey said when rolling out the initiative at a press conference. "In this moment, with uncertainty in Washington, in the face of competition from places like China, we are stepping forward, Massachusetts, to lead."

Touting it as "something that no other state is doing," Healey said the initiative would not just create jobs in health care, education and science sectors, but also in

SEE ECONOMY, PAGE 5

### ANDOVER

## Young actors raise money for cancer research

By Jonah Frangiosa

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ANDOVER — It was quiet on set. The lights dimmed, curtains rose, and the crowd of proud parents was eager to see their little ones grace the stage.

Through four performances over the weekend, the Voices of Hope Summer Youth Program brought the coming-of-age production "13: The Musical" to life at Ballard Vale United Church, 23 Clark Road, filling the sanctuary with musical numbers for a good cause.

VOH, a nonprofit group, held one performance Friday, two shows Saturday, and a final encore on Sunday, with a cast of 26 student performers ages 10 to 18 from across the Greater Boston area. It was a showcase of talent, heart and community, with proceeds from the weekend's sold-out performances benefitting the Termeer Center for Targeted Therapies at Mass General Cancer Center in Boston.

The musical follows protagonist Evan Goldman as he navigates adolescence with a 13th birthday on the horizon. All in all, the

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