



Charity gaming's winners and losers



Records show wide disparity between the payouts received by New Hampshire nonprofits

By **SRUTHI GOPALAKRISHNAN**
Concord Monitor

St. Paul's School, one of the state's most elite college-preparatory institutions, received more than \$200,000 in do-

nations from a New Hampshire casino last year.

Meanwhile, a local nonprofit serving hundreds of people experiencing homelessness in Concord barely scraped together just over \$14,000 from the same charitable gaming system.

This disparity among nonprofit organizations — from those that rake in the most money to those who benefit the least — can be directly attributed to the

number of nights a casino partners with them and the popularity of the casino itself, a review of public records shows.

St. Paul's, which uses the money to support its summer program for public high school students, got a portion of its proceeds from 10 nights of gambling at The Brook Casino in Seabrook, one of the state's hottest betting spots.

SEE **SUNSHINE WEEK A5**

LOUDON

Book closed on old law

Voters repealed 150-year-old statute that forced some to pay Concord school taxes

By **JEREMY MARGOLIS**
Concord Monitor

For more than 150 years, a small band of Loudon property owners who live along a winding country road have sent their children and education tax dollars to Concord schools instead of their own.

Next year, that should change.

Town residents on Saturday overwhelmingly approved a warrant article to end this strange historical vestige, effectively repealing a state law that has remained on the books since 1859.

The town meeting vote was the culmination of a decades-long effort by Loudon residents Paul and Beth Morrisette, who reside in one of the 13 properties that exist in this legal holdover. The Morrisettes and their neighbors pay town taxes to Loudon but school taxes to Concord. The situation is a clear instance of taxation without representation: the residents are ineligible to vote in Concord's annual school elections due to their residence in Loudon.

"I want my money from my taxes to go to my kids in this town," Paul Morrisette said on Saturday to rousing applause.

The change, which will take effect in July 2027, barring any unforeseen complications, will not be purely triv-

SEE **LOUDON A6**

Woodworker Jim McLaughlin is crafting a new sign for Exit 8 on Interstate 89



Geoff Forester / For the Monitor

Jim McLaughlin, a Warner-based artisan and League of NH Craftsmen juried member, works with all hand tools for the sign he is making for a I-89 exit 8 sign for the town.

A WARNER WELCOME



Courtesy

Darkened by mold and weather for over 40 years, beautification group members Kathy Carson and Sara McNeil washed the old sign.

By **EMILIA WISNIEWSKI**
Concord Monitor

Curled wood shavings sprinkled across Jim McLaughlin's workspace, filling the cabin connected to the garage of his Warner home with fragrant Atlantic white cedar.

McLaughlin, a self-taught woodworker, was commissioned by the town's beautification group to make a new welcome sign for Exit 8 on Interstate 89. The area's existing sign had degraded over time and become infested with ants and termites.

With several carving tools and his glasses spread out across the project, McLaughlin meticulously

molded a plain five-by-four-foot plank into a 'Welcome to Warner' sign true to previous designs.

"I really enjoy doing it," he said. "I like giving joy to people."

The sign displays a green mountain to represent Mount Kearsarge, a red covered bridge with a stream flowing under it and, of course, a large "Welcome to Warner" message.

Warner had two welcome signs built around the early 1980s: one at Exit 8 and another at Exit 9, both made by the now-defunct Warner's Mens Club.

While both signs sustained severe damage over time, one

SEE **WARNER A5**

"I want my money from my taxes to go to my kids in this town."

PAUL MORRISSETTE,
Loudon resident



Jeremy Margolis / Monitor staff

The law book that contains the 1859 law that zoned what were then three farms from Loudon into a Concord school district rests on a table at the State Archives.



DAVID BROOKS
Granite Geek

Fisher's jaunt was a tech celebration

GPS has opened a 'new door' for researchers tracking wildlife

The story of a young female fisher who walked from a UNH parking lot all the way to Franconia Notch looking to establish a new home is intriguing, despite its sad ending. But the

really interesting part is what it says about the way technology is giving us incredible insight to the wild world.

"It has really changed the entire way that we do research," Rem Moll, an associate professor at UNH, said of using GPS to track wildlife, the approach used in the report on the travels of the fisher known as F003. "Being able to track ani-

mals as they move through the landscape on their own — that was just a completely new door that was opened for all sorts of questions and research on behavior, movement, mortality, survival."

The young fisher — a species that,

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