



The Laconia Daily Sun

THURSDAY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026

VOL. 27 NO. 38

LACONIA, N.H.

603-527-9299

FREE

Easterseals NH breaks ground on Phase II of veterans campus

By **BOB MARTIN**
THE LACONIA DAILY SUN

FRANKLIN — While the old adage “it takes a village” is common, cliches can often be true.

This is the case with the Easterseals Military & Veterans Campus, as elected leaders, veterans, supporters, and stakeholders celebrated the groundbreaking of Phase II of the first-of-

its-kind project. The center is focused on giving veterans returning home from service a quality place to live, recover and recreate.

Hundreds of supporters flowed into the Holy Cross Road campus on Tuesday, where they saw the early stages of construction, and heard from those who care about what the second phase will offer.

Last September, Easterseals New Hampshire celebrated the grand opening of the 15-acre campus, featuring 29 affordable housing units for veterans, support services, a hotel, and conference center. The state-of-the-art apartments will house people part of the Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing program, and are based on income. The first phase took about 2.5 years to complete.

While the groundbreaking for Phase II took place Aug. 4, construction

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From left, Franklin Mayor Glenn Morrill; Easterseals NH & VT board members Eddie Edwards, Chair Bryan Bouchard and Tom Davis; Rep. Maggie Goodlander (D-NH); Ken Solinsky; Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH); Grace Solinsky; PROCON CEO John Stebbins; Easterseals NH & VT President and CEO Maureen Beauregard, board members Tracey Pelton and Jo Brown; UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Center Executive Director Karen Kersting with Checkers the therapy mini horse; Executive Councilor Joe Kenney (District 1); Justin Troiano of Sen. Maggie Hassan's office; Easterseals NH & VT board member Nathan Saller; Steve Pecora of Gov. Kelly Ayotte's office; Easterseals NH & VT board member Dick Rawlings; Chris Scott of Sen. Jeanne Shaheen's office; Easterseals NH & VT board members Genella McDonald, Rob Wiczorek and Brad Cook, and Easterseals Chief Military and Veterans Services Officer Ana McKenna celebrate the groundbreaking for Phase II of the Easterseals Military & Veterans Campus, in Franklin, on Tuesday. (Bob Martin/The Laconia Daily Sun photo)

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