



Newsmakers

NH Business Finance Authority honors lenders; FIT names new leader

Business, B1

DERRY

Town eyes limits on electioneering

■ Clerk cites wave of complaints from September primary.

By Julie Huss
Union Leader Correspondent

Derry town officials are considering an ordinance to limit electioneering near the polls after residents reported campaigning in a nearby parking lot during last month's state primary. The proposed ordinance,

if approved, would add protections for the safety and rights of voters at polling places along with allowing for the "uninterrupted movement of voters and vehicles" while handling any electioneering near the polls or in parking lots. Issues at last month's primary election drew many complaints from voters coming to the polls at Pinkerton Academy and prompted the need for this ordinance, according to Town Clerk Tina Guilford.

Guilford came before Town Council Oct. 6 during the first of two public hearings on the ordinance. Complaints, Guilford said, were mostly about people standing in the Pinkerton parking lot handing out flyers and paper information to people arriving to vote that supported various candidates and political issues. "I've never gotten as many complaints as I did in a primary election," Guilford said, adding past

elections had usual complaints like traffic, parking and waiting in long lines, but nothing like this for a primary. In a report to Council, Guilford stated many voters felt "threatened and intimidated." Many voters then carried those pamphlets into the gym where long lines of voting booths were set up. Many voters cast ballots and left the pamphlets in

► See Derry, page A2

MILFORD PUMPKIN FESTIVAL



Tristen Shatney, 7, of Nashua, stuffs a scarecrow with help from his mother, Tricia, at the Milford Pumpkin Festival on Saturday.

KATHRYN MARCHOCKI/UNION LEADER CORRESPONDENT

Gourds, ghouls and a homecoming feel

By Kathryn Marchocki
Union Leader Correspondent

Autumn is New Hampshire's time to shine and one of the best places to enjoy it is the Milford Pumpkin Festival where large crowds flocked to the three-day extravaganza that ended Sunday afternoon. Pumpkins of all shapes and sizes took center stage at the annual event that also was part Homecoming Weekend, part music and food festival with a big dose of the spooks thrown in as kids gave their Halloween costumes a trial run and some adults channeled their favorite superhero or horror movie villain. "This is my favorite fall



The winners of the Milford Pumpkin Festival's Great Pumpkin Weigh Off line the Oval Saturday. First place went to Steve Geddes of Boscawen whose gourd came in at 2,145 pounds.

KATHRYN MARCHOCKI/UNION LEADER CORRESPONDENT



Jerry Guthrie was honored at the Milford Pumpkin Festival Friday night as this year's Citizen of the Year. Guthrie displays the plaque he received while standing with his wife, Amy, and their son, Andrew.

KATHRYN MARCHOCKI/UNION LEADER CORRESPONDENT

ELECTIONS

Republicans on defense in governor races

■ Democrats could win a majority of governorships for the first time since 2010.

By Kevin Hardy
Stateline.org

As the political prospects for Republicans worsen ahead of November's midterm elections, the GOP is increasingly playing defense over its yearslong grip on state governments. That's particularly true for gubernatorial elections, as Democrats could win a majority of governorships for the first time since 2010. Currently, Republicans boast a 26-24 gubernatorial advantage over Democrats. This November, voters will choose governors in 36 states. Thirteen of those races are considered competitive by the nonpartisan Cook Political Report with Amy Walter, which ranks the competitiveness of races for governor, the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House. Some of this cycle's most competitive races are in politically divided states such as Nevada and Wisconsin. But Republicans also are playing defense in several deeply conservative states, including Alaska, Iowa and Ohio. Last week, the Cook Political Report moved its ratings of the Florida

and Texas governor races from Likely Republican to Leans Republican. That means the GOP candidates are still favored in those states, but "given the grim political environment for the GOP, we can't rule out the possibility of an upset in one or both contests," wrote Senate and Governors Editor Jessica Taylor. Democratic control of more governor's offices could mean more bipartisan compromise — or gridlock — in state capitols. In Nevada, however, a Democratic governor could initiate a new era of policymaking: Republican Gov. Joe Lombardo has vetoed more than 160 bills approved by the Democratic-controlled legislature during his term. In states such as Alaska, Georgia and Ohio, Democratic governors could deliver new checks on Republican lawmakers who have enjoyed years of legislative control. The competitive races for state executives come as Democrats seek to rebuild state power after years of Republican dominance in statehouses. In addition to controlling a majority of governor's

► See Election, page A2

TELECOM

Hassan presses Trump Mobile on data security, FCC compliance

■ Senator asks FCC to review the Trump-branded carrier after hackers claim customer data theft.

By Kevin Landrigan
Union Leader Staff

U.S. Sen. Maggie Hassan, the ranking Democrat on the Joint Economic Committee, is pressing Trump Mobile — the Trump family's telecommunications venture — on data protection, alleging the company may not have met legal requirements for operating in this high-stakes sector. In a letter to Trump Mobile Chief Executive Officer Patrick O'Brien, Hassan questioned if the firm met consumer protection and national security requirements. She also called upon the Federal Communications Commission to review this matter following two reported data breaches over the past month affecting thousands of Trump Mobile customers. "Telecommunications

providers play an important role in preventing foreign adversaries and scammers from abusing cellular services, and new research detailed in this letter raises alarm bells about Trump Mobile and its partners' ability or willingness to provide secure and reliable services in this complex space," Hassan said in a statement. The minority research arm of the JEC contends Trump Mobile may not have made critical filings with the Robocall Mitigation Database, created to hold telecom providers accountable for stopping illegal calls. Failure to comply with the robocall rules can be punished with fines, removal from the database, and an order requiring other phone companies to block the offending

► See Hassan, page A2

INDEX

Abby/Advice	A6	Lotteries	A4	Sports	B3-6
Classified	A7	Nation	A10	Weather	B10
Comics	B9	Obituaries	A6		
Crosswords	B8	Opinion	A8-9		

Today's Chuckle

Expert baker: a roll model

A Small Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for counting me among your children. Amen

New Hampshire Union Leader

Price \$3.00

©2026 Union Leader Corp., Manchester, N.H.



MAILING LABEL