



THE CONCORD INSIDER

Feb. 8 to 14
Free and dramatic

Options for date night

Theater, music, lectures and more



17
Good dog
Myrtle helps
support students'
literacy.



5 **Performance**
Community Players
present 'Witness for
the Prosecution'

find it

Book of the week 12
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This week in Concord history 13

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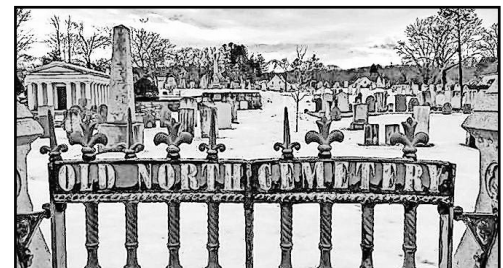
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Cemeteries In Concord -

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Please join us in welcoming special guest, Jill Huckins with the Cemetery Division for the City of Concord.

Thursday February 8 | 7pm

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www.Concordhistoricalsociety.org



calendar

Feb. 8

■ **Bach's Lunch: Share the Love Valentine's Day Concert:** 12:10 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. Bach's Lunch: Share the Love Valentine's Day Concert with Peggo, Paul, and Friends Free. Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St, Concord. 603-228-1196. reception@ccmusicschool.org.

■ **Medical Education Info Session:** 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. Free. Ross Education Center, 102 Fort Eddy Rd., Concord. 603 224 2135.

■ **Monthly Forum: Economic Outlook 2024:** 11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. \$35 - \$45. Holiday Inn, 172 N. Main St., Concord. events@concordnhchamber.com.

Feb. 9

■ **Open Studio Art:** Feb. 9, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Bring whatever art project you are working on to our Open Studio! Spend time getting to know other local artists and their craft. Free. GoodLife Programs & Activities, 254 N State St, Unit L, Concord. kgagnon@goodlifenh.org.

Feb. 10

■ **Cholesterol Support through Wellness: Heart Health Talk Pt 1:** 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Join us for an engaging heart health talk,



FILE

where we'll discuss wellness strategies to support cholesterol and promote a healthy lifestyle! Free. Natural Wellness Corner, 239 Loudon Rd, Concord. 603-225-2747. cdonovan@natural-wellnesscorner.com.

■ **Hockey Game:** 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. . Douglas N. Everett Arena, 15 Loudon Road, Concord.

■ **Storytime Stations at the Heights:** 9:30 a.m. Free. Heights Branch Library, 14 Canterbury Rd, Concord. jsalemy@concordnh.gov.

Feb. 12

■ **How to Buy A House Class**

with **Carolyn MacLeod:** 6 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. Join us for a free, in-person class (with food & drink) where we break down the home buying process & empower you to take the leap! Free. Real 603 Home & Lifestyle Group, 5 Eagle Square, Concord. 603-491-4184. carolyn@real603.com.

■ **SNHU Transfer Visit:** 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. NHTI, 31 College Dr, Concord.

■ **Sourdough Starter Care & Feeding with King Arthur:** 5:30 p.m. Free. Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord. jsalemy@concordnh.gov.

■ **Total Body Fitness:** 9 a.m. - 9:55 a.m. Improved cardiovas-

cular fitness as well as improved strength. Mon 2/12-4/8, 9-9:55am, \$55. \$55. GoodLife Programs & Activities, Concord. kgagnon@goodlifenh.org.

Feb. 13

■ **Hearing Screenings:** Feb. 13, 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hearing Screenings, Ear Cleaning & Hearing Aid Care. Tues 2/6-2/17 4-5pm, FREE. Free. GoodLife Programs & Activities, 254 N State St, Unit L, Concord. kgagnon@goodlifenh.org.

■ **Organized Chaos:** 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Free. Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord. jsalemy@concordnh.gov.

Feb. 14

■ **BEMER Appointments:** 11:45

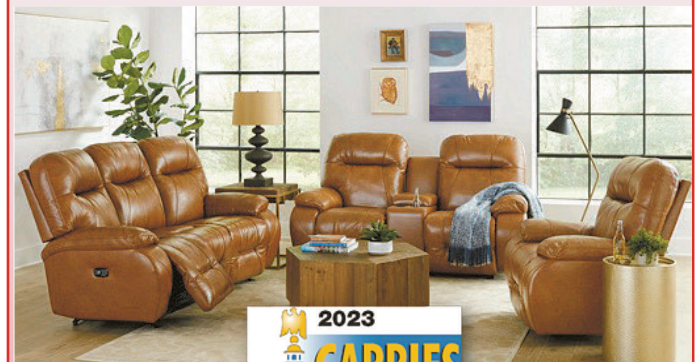
a.m. - 1 p.m. BEMER is a class 2 medical device that can increase your overall blood flow by up to 30%. Wed, 2/7-2/28, \$10, 11:45am-1pm. \$10. GoodLife Programs & Activities, 254 N State St, Unit L, Concord. kgagnon@goodlifenh.org.

■ **Hockey Game:** 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Douglas N. Everett Arena, 15 Loudon Road, Concord.

■ **Preschool Storytime:** 9:30 a.m. Free. Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord. jsalemy@concordnh.gov.

■ **Yoga for All:** 5 p.m. - 5:55 p.m. \$55. GoodLife Programs & Activities, Concord. kgagnon@goodlifenh.org.

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mardi gras

Catholic Charities NH Mardi Gras set

The 18th Annual Mardi Gras will be making its return to Concord on Feb. 10 at the Grappone Conference Center, bringing together the community to support NH neighbors facing poverty, homelessness, mental health challenges, and other timely issues impacting communities statewide.

The evening will include a variety of authentic Cajun cuisine, games, live and silent auction items, dancing and more. The live auction will feature vacations to Mexico, Nashville, New York City (Broadway) and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel the world for two. Additionally, the silent auction will offer items ranging from sporting events to golf packages, winery tours, and more.

"In the past year, we wit-



A previous Catholic Charities event.

COURTESY

nessed an unprecedented increase in demand for our services, with more than 1,200 additional Granite State residents seeking our

help to escape dire and life-changing situations," said Laura Brusseau, Director of Development Operations for Catholic Charities NH.

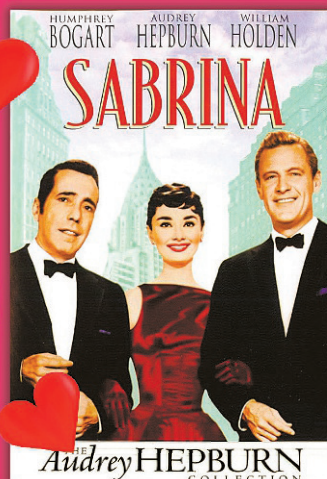
"Mardi Gras is a special night to come together to support them and celebrate the power of goodwill across New Hampshire."

Event proceeds will support Catholic Charities NH's wide range of programs and services, helping individuals and families of all backgrounds and faiths move beyond crisis to more stable and self-sufficient lives. These programs include case management and financial literacy training, mental health counseling, support for mothers, families and children, senior support services, and transitional and community support for struggling veterans, bringing meaningful change to hundreds of thousands of lives.

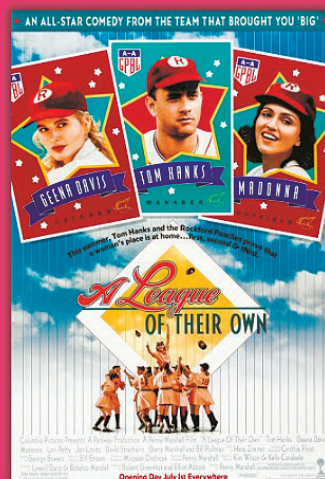
Tickets are available to purchase at www.cc-nh.org/mardigras.

Mardi Gras is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors, including our Presenting Sponsor, CGI Business Solutions (Presenting Sponsor).

*Celebrate with your
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Sabrina
Saturday, Feb 10 at 10 am



A League of Their Own
Tuesday, Feb 13 at 7 pm



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RedRiverTheatres.org

Celebrate Wednesday February 14th Valentine's Day Sweetheart Dinners

- **Crispy Chicken with Broccoli Over Tortellini Alfredo**
Homemade Crispy Chicken Tenders Over A Bed Of Broccoli And Tortellini Alfredo
- **Braised Short Rib with Butter Whipped Potatoes**
18 Hour Ale Braised Short Ribs Over Whipped Potatoes
- **Grilled Pork Ribeye with Sautéed Mushrooms And Onions**
Grilled Pork Ribeye With Our House Made Bacon And Onion Jam
- **Roast Turkey Dinner**
Fresh Roasted Turkey Atop Of Bread Stuffing, Served With Cranberry Sauce
- **Mustard Crusted Cedar Plank Salmon**
Fresh Salmon Seasoned And Seared.
- **Broiled Homemade Maryland Crab Cakes**
Fresh Jumbo Lump Crabmeat Mixed With A Light Bread Crumb Stuffing
- **Prime Rib Of Beef Au Jus**
Award Winning Slow Roasted Prime Rib Of Beef, Served With Au Jus
- **Sirloin Tips And Lobster Macaroni And Cheese**
Delicious Sirloin Tips Paired With Our Creamy, Homemade Lobster Mac And Cheese
- **Baked Haddock Au gratin**
Fresh Icelandic Haddock In Our Basil Pesto Sauce, With White Wine And Crumbs
- **Fresh Center Cut Swordfish Piccata**
Delicious Swordfish layered with Picatta Sauce served with capers and white wine
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Filet Topped With Lump Crabmeat And Béarnaise Sauce



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Players in 'Witness for the Prosecution'



COURTESY OF MICHAEL VON REDLICH

Chris Connell and John Conlon (from left) play sparring barristers for prosecution and defense in Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution," Feb. 16-18 at Concord City Auditorium. Valerie Kehr (standing) casts a jaundiced eye on the proceedings in the role of Justice Wainwright.

From Feb. 16 to 18, the Community Players of Concord NH will present Agatha Christie's *Witness for the Prosecution* at Concord City Auditorium. Part of the Community Players' 96th Season, the famous Christie thriller is the most-performed courtroom drama and recognized as one of her greatest plays. Based on a short story the famous "Queen of Crime" wrote in 1925, the 1953 play covers a sensational murder trial both in the courtroom of London's "Old Bailey"

and behind the scenes in the barrister's chambers as the action unfolds.

Christie's plot involves a young man named Leonard Vole, who is charged with the murder of a wealthy older woman with whom he was involved in a questionable relationship. Believing the man to be innocent, barrister Sir Wilfred Robarts takes the case. When it's revealed that the murder victim recently changed her will leaving her estate to Vole, the public interest es-

SEE PLAYERS PAGE 6



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Poll closes at 6:15PM on February 11

concordmonitor.secondstreetapp.com/2024-Big-Game/



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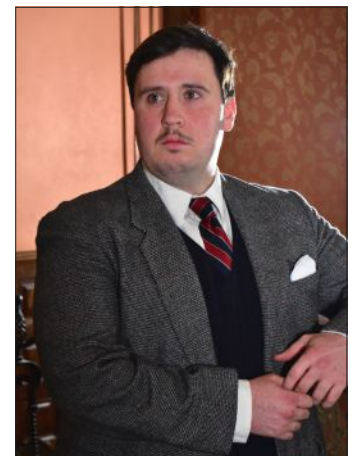


PHOTOS COURTESY OF MICHAEL VON REDLICH

Select members of the cast of the Community Players' "Witness for the Prosecution" appear in Agatha Christie's stage thriller.

PLAYERS FROM PAGE 5

calates and Sir Wilfred questions his own judgment. Vole swears his foreign-born wife will support him in court, but when they learn that Mrs. Vole is still married to a husband living in Berlin, both defendant and lawyer realize their defense may be in jeopardy. Agatha Christie's fascinating characters and bright (and often witty) dialogue become intense courtroom drama that reaches a thrilling finale which only begins with the jury's verdict. "Miss Christie has got the audience in her pocket," wrote the first night London critics, "the



COURTESY OF MICHAEL VON REDLICH
Garrison Garron plays the role of Leonard Vole, the main suspect in the murder trial in Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution."

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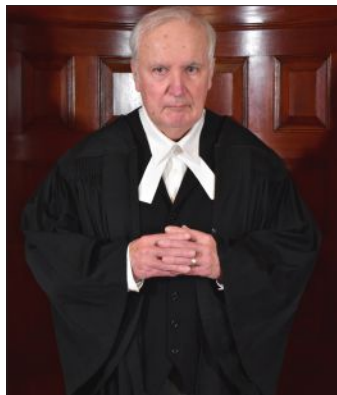
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COURTESY OF MICHAEL VON REDLICH

Emilia Halstead appears as the mysterious court witness Romaine Vole in Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution."



COURTESY OF MICHAEL VON REDLICH

John Conlon portrays Sir Wilfred Robarts, Q.C. in Agatha Christie's "Witness for the Prosecution."

accomplished thriller writer has created a well-made, humorous, exciting case."

Well-known for the 1958 film version with Charles Laughton and Marlene Dietrich, "Witness for the Prosecution" has been presented on stage throughout the world, made twice for television and the 2017 environmental London revival is still playing, six years later; "Guilty of being a great night out."

The Community Players production, directed by Matt Mutrie and produced by Ron Bryson, features a full cast of 19 actors, including John Conlon (as Sir Wilfred Robarts), Garrison Garron (as Leonard Vole), Emilia Halstead (as Romaine Vole), Chris Connell (Myers), Peter Josephson (Mayhew), Dana Sakos (Inspector Hearne) and Valerie

Kehr (as Justice Wainwright). The production is stage managed by Ross Gourvitz, with costumes by Suzanne Potoma, lighting by Ron Bryson and set by Craig Walker. (Please note that due to the dramatic climax of this play, no one will be permitted to exit or re-enter the auditorium during the final 15 minutes of the performance.)

Performances are Friday, Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m. at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets can be purchased at communityplayersofconcord.org. Cost is \$20 adults, \$18 juniors/seniors. Theatre box office opens 90 minutes prior to each performance. More information can be found by calling 344-4747.



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young professional of the month

Erin Doonan gives hospitality a new spin



Erin Doonan

Concord Young Professionals Network (CYPN) introduces you to the “Young Professional of the Month,” Erin Doonan. Each month, the CYPN Steering Committee recommends individual in the community it thinks readers would enjoy getting to know better.

Erin Doonan

How old are you? 25.

Where do you live? Concord, NH.

Where do you currently work? I own Pours & Petals, a local boutique catering company and mobile bar service. You

might see our green or yellow vintage camper turned mobile bar/food truck around town. We often attend local public events, where we sell our well-known flavored lemonades, cold brew, and other scratch-made treats.

Tell us a little bit more about what you do. I absolutely love what I do for my career. It is definitely time-consuming, as I put in far more than 40 hours a week. However, it is really rewarding to work for yourself. As an entrepreneur, I wear many hats — from owner to

chef to bartender to manager to marketer. It's a challenging but fulfilling role that allows me to constantly learn and grow. I have always been passionate about food and hospitality — the service industry is what I know best. Pours & Petals was born out of my love for creating personal and elevated event experiences. You can learn more at poursandpetalsevents.com.

What do you like to do for fun? I've played ice hockey my whole life, and I still play in a local league. I also love anything to do with traveling or eating.

Where is the best place you've visited? Alaska.

If you could visit any country, where would you go? I have such a travel bug, but Peru and New Zealand are high up on my priority list. I'd also really like to backpack Europe.

What is one of your life goals? My ultimate life goal is to be on a reality game show, but more specifically, Survivor.

Favorite movie of all time? Tangled or Mamma Mia. But I also love watching any sort of investigative documentary.

Who would you really

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Sunday



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like to meet? Taylor Swift, of course.

Who is your greatest role model? Any female business owner!

What's your favorite restaurant in Concord? Street has recently become a favorite of mine! I also go to The Post quite often for breakfast.

Why do you choose to live in the Greater Concord area? I've been a NH resident since 2016. I recently moved here from the Lakes Region, as Concord offers everything I was looking for.

Favorite place to be? Wherever my dogs are.

How did you find out about CYPN and how has it benefited your business or you personally? I found CYPN when I moved to Concord, when I joined the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce. I was immediately drawn to CYPN because it represents young professionals specifically, and I love connecting with other like-minded people!

What has been your favorite CYPN event so far? The Sunflower Festival at Sunfox Farm last summer!

Tell us a few interesting facts about yourself! I ran a completely impromptu marathon last year, I interned at Disney World twice during college, and I eat some form of cheesy

pasta almost every day (oops!) Yes, I know it's a lot, but It's my comfort food. Also, if I didn't go to college to work in the event service industry, I wanted to go into politics to facilitate fighting climate change and promote sustainability. My other two potential career paths were dermatology and architecture.

Join CYPN for two events this month. On Wednesday, February 21 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. just CYPN for a networking event at HRKNSScwork — Concord's own makerspace! Catch up with CYPN friends, meet new people, and sign up to get your headshot photo updated by Charlene Graham Photography! CYPN's Wellness Series kicks off on Tuesday, Feb. 27 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. with a workshop on navigating your career journey with Career and Leadership Coach, Jonna Ferguson.

Join CYPN friends for an open and insightful discussion about discovering your professional values, building skills that set you up for success, and taking proactive steps towards fulfilling opportunities — within your current organization, or further afield. Sign up for all CYPN events at concordnhchamber.com.

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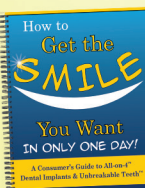
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Congress's Power of the Purse

Why does the federal government “shut down” when members of Congress fail to agree on new spending? Why is it becoming harder for Congress to pass routine spending bills? Why does Congress, rather than the President, hold authority over spending, and why does it matter? Professor Zachary Price will discuss Congress’s “power of the purse,” meaning its authority to control government spending, and provide important background on these and other related topics. The presentation will be held on Zoom on Friday, Feb. 9 at 5 p.m. Register online at https://us06web.zoom.us/join/8017065615472/WN_14c5o8zMQCeCRRld-THTtAA#/registration.

Explore Girl Scouts in Pembroke

New friends. New adventures. The best is yet to come! Shine bright with Girl Scouts and discover a whole new world of possibilities. Come explore Girl Scouts on Thursday, Feb. 8, from 6 to 7 p.m. at Pembroke Hill School, 300 Belnanger Drive, Pembroke. Anyone in the area is welcome to attend. Girls in grades K-3 and a caregiver are invited to learn about opportunities to get involved in your community. Try out sample activities and see the many ways to get involved in Girl Scouts while having fun! Open to all in the area! Can't make it to an event? No worries! We host multiple in-person and virtual sign-up events throughout the year. You can also join anytime online at girlscoutsgwm.org. Walk-ins are welcome.

With programs in the outdoors; entrepreneurship; science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); and life skills, girls have the space and support they need to grow so they can see themselves how we've always seen them.

Science in the Shadow Eclipse


The SEE Science Center is holding a Science on Tap discussion on Feb. 13. Science on Tap events are informal discussions with local scientists and experts on a particular topic. 2023-2024 is the 11th season of Science on Tap and is sponsored by Cambridge Trust. On Feb. 13 the topic will be: Science in the Shadow Eclipse 2024. A total solar eclipse is a time when all observers are immediately aware that we are part of a solar system. It is a fleeting experience

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that both scientists and artists try to capture. Join us to discuss how researchers and artists are working together to study and convey the data and experience of the upcoming solar eclipse. Ask about what has been learned from prior eclipses and what questions are being asked ahead of April 8. Our panelists will include: Emily Roy, Art and Design, Psychology double major, 2024 Plymouth State University, Genevieve Picciano, Applied Meteorology M.S. student, 2024 Plymouth State University, Erin Sweeney, PSU Art professor of practice, Plymouth State University, and Griffin Spinney, Climate Studies major, 2024, Plymouth State University. Science on Tap discussions are free and open to the public, but advanced sign up is appreciated. Science on Tap is held at Stark Brewing Co. in Bo's Lounge and Func-

tion Room at 500 Commercial St., Manchester. Doors open at 5 p.m., the discussion begins at 6 p.m. Attendees are welcome to order from the food and beverage menu during the event. Attendees can RSVP on the SEE Science Center website: see-science-center.org/science-on-tap.

Gardening bulk orders

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire (NOFA-NH) is pleased to announce their 2024 Spring

Bulk Order Program. NOFA-NH's annual Spring Bulk Order is a collective buying program for organic farming and gardening supplies. There is no minimum order, no shipping charges, and you don't have to be a NOFA-NH member to participate, but NOFA-NH members pay less. Large-scale farmers and small-scale gardeners alike are invited to place orders!

Save on supplies and support NOFA-NH at the same time! Bulk Order products include:

- Soil Amendments
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- NOFA-NH sources these products from a number of reputable suppliers in the Northeast. Shop online at bulkorderstore.nofanh.org, or download and mail in a paper form from nofanh.org/bulk-order to NOFA-NH, 84 Silk Farm

Road, Concord, NH 03301. Orders are due Sunday, February 25, 2024. Pick-up locations and dates: Andover: Saturday March 23, 2024, 9 a.m. to noon, Belletetes Building Products Weare: Saturday, March 23, 2024, noon to 4 p.m., Country Three Corners Rochester: Sunday March 24, 2024, noon to 4 p.m., Spaulding Industrial Complex Winchester: Saturday March 30, 2024, noon to 3 p.m., Lucky 13 Farm

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book of the week

'Agatha Christie: An Elusive Woman' by Lucy Worsley

(2022, 415 pages, Genre: Biography)

"Once I've been dead ten years, I'm sure no one will ever have heard of me." This statement wouldn't be nearly so ironic, had it not been uttered by one of the 20th century's best-known authors: Agatha Christie. Even today, nearly half a century after her death, Christie is a household name. She has been identified by UNESCO as the world's best-selling author. Her work has been assiduously adapted to the stage and screen—including last year's star-studded film adaptation of *Death on the*

Nile with Gal Gadot and Kenneth Branagh. In other words, most of us do not need to be told that Agatha Christie broke barriers for her writing. Where this 2022 biography really soars is in filling in the details of Christie's life beyond her literary contributions. It's a story that would be fascinating even if the subject weren't one of the world's best-known writers.

Agatha Mary Clarissa Miller, born in 1890, grew up in a genteel Edwardian family in southwest England. Young Agatha served as a nurse during World War I, and hastily married British fighter pilot Archibald Christie before he was sent to France to serve. In 1926, faced with her husband's infidelity, Agatha set

tongues wagging with a mysterious episode that seemed pulled from one of her literary thrillers. (I

won't spoil the story with too many details, but suffice it to say that it involved amnesia and a prolonged disappearance.) Later, Agatha would again raise eyebrows by marrying a man 13 years her junior, archaeologist Max Malloyan. The two were truly in love, and nurtured an unconventional marriage for the rest of Ms. Christie's life. (After they wed, Christie was legally the Lady Malloyan, but kept her former surname as a nom de plume.) Amazingly, Agatha regularly accompanied Max

on his archaeological excavations, serving as a field assistant. The places and practices that she encountered

in Middle East then made their way into her fiction—for instance, in the mystery stories *They Came to Baghdad*, *Death on the Nile*, and *Murder in Mesopotamia*.

In this biography, historian and BBC commentator

Lucy Worsley is astute at identifying the sociocultural factors that shaped Agatha Christie's ambitions and sensibilities throughout her long life. These included a strong attachment to her mother and a love of domesticity, hospitality, and upper-crust manor houses which would belie her later

financial difficulties. Christie was a breaker of molds, pursuing romantic equality and paid labor in an era when well-to-do women were encouraged to do neither. She was a dramatist in addition to a novelist, an aspect of her career that didn't even begin to flourish until Christie was in her sixties. While Worsley's affection for Christie is apparent, her subject doesn't get a "pass" on the less savory aspects of her life story, including the antisemitism and lazy orientalism of her later works and the creative accounting that allowed her to dodge taxes in England and abroad for decades. Still, for all her warts, Christie proves a complex individual who, if nothing else, forged her own way and left an impressive legacy. "No one will have heard of me," indeed!

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CONCORD MONITOR

history

Feb. 8, 2002: Lindsay and Allyson Lemire, 21-year-old Bow natives, appear on Sally Jessy Raphael's talk show. The show is a dating game-like episode titled "Love Search. . . For Someone Like Me," and pairs the women with aspiring actors and Dou-blemint twins Jermyn and Joseph Daube.

Feb. 8, 2001: More than 30 Concord police and state Drug Task Force officers raid an apartment complex in Concord to arrest three men and a woman who the authorities say are involved in a crack ring. The city's police deployment is one of the largest in recent memory.

Feb. 8, 1897: Concord's first movie plays at White's Opera House. The show includes bathers at Rahway, N.J., a watermelon-eating contest, a mounted policeman stopping a runaway horse and a three-minute boxing match featuring Gentleman Jim Corbett. "There is nothing fake about it," the Monitor reviewer reports, adding that the pictures are "vivid and truthful."

Feb. 8, 1847: Franklin Pierce addresses a large meeting called in Concord to advocate "a vigorous and determined prosecution of the war with Mexico. Pierce will win a brigadier general's commission, and his war exploits will help propel him to the presidency in 1852.

Feb. 9, 2002: In her Olympic debut, moguls mogul Hannah Hardaway,

from Moultonboro, places fifth, eight-hundredths of a point out of the medals.

Feb. 10, 2003: On the eighth day of deliberations in Manchester, jurors acquit John Bardgett, 26, a self-described nursing home "Angel of Death," of murder by injecting two terminally ill patients with morphine.

Feb. 10, 2001: Wind gusts of up to 60 mph sweep across the state, ripping branches off trees and leaving more than 11,000 homes and businesses without power.

Feb. 10, 2000: Prince Michael of Kent spends the afternoon dining and skiing at Loon Mountain, interrupting the fun with a 20-second pose for news cameras. His New Hampshire

hosts trip over themselves to fulfill his wishes, but his own subjects seem unimpressed. "In Britain he's minor royalty," one observer says.

Feb. 11, 2001: The 72nd annual World Champion Sled Dog Derby wraps up in Laconia. For the Marsh family from Mendon, Mass., what began modestly has become serious business. "At first we thought it might be cool to try it out, and just entered a few," says Lori Marsh. "Now we're racing practically every weekend from October through March."

Feb. 11, 1941: President Franklin D. Roosevelt appoints John G. Winant of Concord to succeed Joseph Kennedy as U.S. ambas-

sador to Great Britain. Winant, a Republican, is a former governor and served earlier in FDR's presidency as the first administrator of the Social Security Administration.

Feb. 12, 2004: Concord High wins the Division I boys' Nordic skiing state championship classic race, with a combined score of 766 to Keene's 748. The title is the first boys' ski championship since 1992.

Feb. 12, 2002: Andover's Kris Freeman skis into 22nd in the men's 15-kilometer race at the Olympic games in Salt Lake City.

Feb. 12, 1968: Eugene Daniell of Franklin disbands the New Hampshire write-in effort for Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Theodore

Sorenson, RFK's national spokesman, says Kennedy has asked that no votes be cast for him. A month later, after Sen. Eugene McCarthy wounds President Johnson in the March New Hampshire primary, Kennedy will rethink his strategy and enter the race.

Feb. 12, 1967: The weather observatory atop Mount Washington simultaneously records a temperature of minus-41 degrees Fahrenheit and a wind of 110 miles per hour. The chill factor is off the charts.

Feb. 12, 1973: The Concord City Council rejects plans for a shopping center on the site of the South End Marsh. At issue: a \$3 million air-conditioned shopping mall providing 250 new

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jobs. Says one resident: "We are not running out of shopping centers like we are running out of marshes."

Feb. 13, 2002: In the Lakes Region it's not a typical winter for local business-owners who deal in the fishing supplies, snowmobiles and ski gear that are usually in demand this time of year, the Monitor reports. They say relatively warm temperatures, low snowfall totals and an economy that was sluggish before winter began are combining to make this a slow year.

Feb. 13, 1847: Thomas "Old Soldier" Haines dies at 87. A Concord man, Haines volunteered in the Patriot cause at the age of 19. He was slightly wounded at Fort Ticonderoga in 1777

and had worse luck near Saratoga. He was shot and lay two days among the dead before being rescued. The ball had passed through both cheeks, nearly severing his tongue. The Bouton history of Concord reported: "His face bore the mutilation till his death."

Feb. 13, 1788: New Hampshire delegates convene to consider the proposed U.S. Constitution. About two-thirds oppose it, and only after cajoling by Dr. Josiah Bartlett and other supporters do the delegates agree to reconvene in Concord in four months.

Feb. 13, 1849: Fire destroys all but the blacksmith shop of the Abbot & Downing coach factory in Concord. It will be rebuilt.

Feb. 13, 1932: Wearing a

knitted toque (there are no more substantial headgear), Douglas Everett skates for the United States against Canada in the Olympic ice hockey final at Lake Placid. The teams tie 2-2. Canada, undefeated in the tournament, wins the gold medal. Everett will bring a silver medal home to Concord.

Feb. 14, 2000: Everett Arena officials ask the Concord City Council to chip in half the construction costs for adding two new locker rooms. Among other things, the plans would bring the rink into compliance with federal disability regulations and gender equity laws.

Feb. 14, 1916: The Boston Post publishes Carl Wilmore's account of his trip to Franconia to inter-

view Robert Frost, who moved there the previous spring. Frost tells Wilmore: "I hear everything I write. All poetry is to me a matter of sound. I hear my things spoken."

Feb. 14, 1942: Although the manufacture of fireworks is banned for the duration of the war, wholesalers say they have plenty of firecrackers on hand so that New Hampshire people can celebrate the Fourth of July.

Feb. 14, 1983: Students at the Webster elementary school are delighted by a visit from Gov. John Sununu. "He has a great job. He just goes around visiting schools all over the state. I would like to do that," says fourth-grader Sam Bailey. Jason Rockwell, asked to as-



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sess Sununu's term in office, chooses a diplomatic response: "I liked his suit."

Feb. 15, 2002: The Diocese of Manchester releases the names of 14 priests who have been accused of sexual misconduct with children between 1963 and 1987.

Feb. 15, 2001: The Sells Falls bridge is closed for repairs. One of the few crossings of the Merrimack River in Concord, the bridge has been slated for reconstruction in the past. As far back as 1993, the state said a new bridge would be in place by 1998.

Feb. 15, 1911: A bill sponsored by U.S. Rep. John Weeks of Massachusetts, a New Hampshire native, calls for federal purchase of forest lands. The Weeks Act will lead to the designation

of the White Mountain National Forest.

Feb. 15, 1965: New Hampshire Sweepstakes Director Edward Powers travels to Maine to brag about New Hampshire's lottery, the first in the nation. Monitor columnist Leon Anderson worries about competition. "Perhaps our best way to promote the Sweepstakes as the only gambling venture of its kind in the nation would be to tell folks in other states it is no good and let us have it all to ourselves."

Feb. 15, 1943: As a war measure, Concord's Mayor Charles McKee recommends that stoplights be eliminated at city intersections. Posting stop signs in their places will conserve gasoline, he says.



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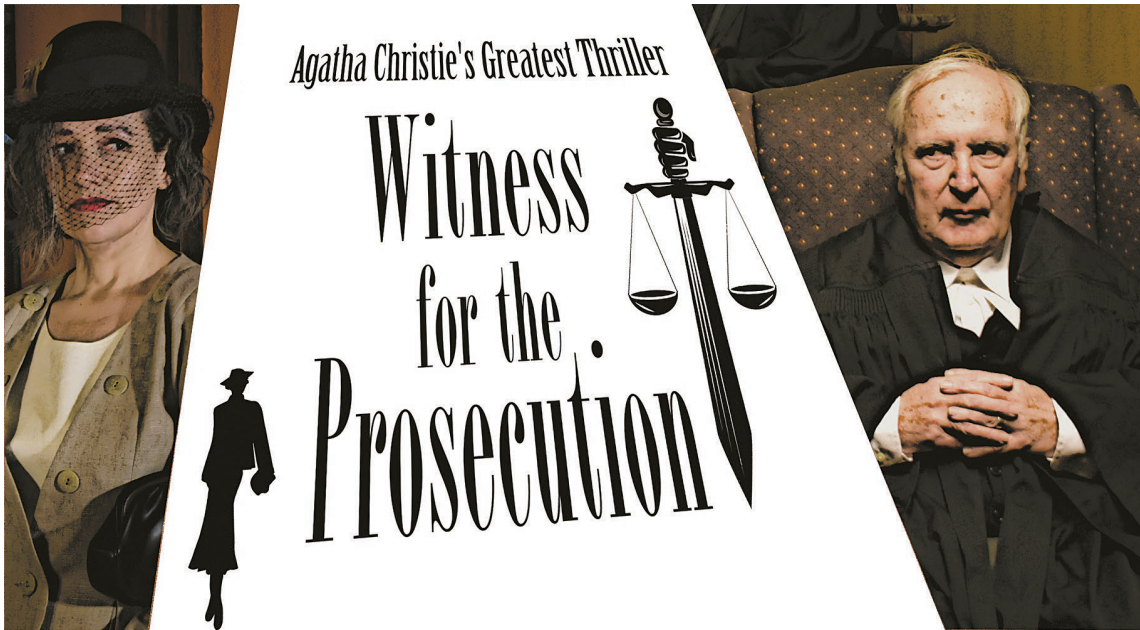
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With her sweet disposition, non-judgmental nature, and calming influence, Myrtle has quickly become the most popular girl at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School.

When she struts through the front door, students run over just to say hi. And those lucky enough to spend some one-on-one time with her are ecstatic.

"She's become a celebrity," said School Counselor Taylor Fluery.

Myrtle is not your average student, and not really a student at all, but a 7-year-old therapy dog owned by New London resident Carrie Bouton. Bouton volunteers with Myrtle, a cross between a Golden Retriever and Labrador Retriever, at the K-5 school once a week

SEE MYRTLE PAGE 18



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MYRTLE FROM PAGE 17

to read with students and take part in the counseling curriculum that Fluery teaches.

Each grade has eight weeks for one student from every class to read with Myrtle for 15 minutes in the guidance office. The same student meets with Myrtle for an eight-week session; however, other students interact with her during the guidance classes.

Students are nominated to practice their literacy skills with Myrtle and for some special time with her. The school selects students who may be struggling with con-

fidence or dealing with difficult life experiences.

“Every student here has a background, and we try to see who would benefit most from the experience,” Fluery said. “We select students who could use a boost and who may not necessarily be picked for other things.”

Fluery said the students willingly read to Myrtle and aren’t embarrassed when they make mistakes.

“Myrtle is a very patient audience and the bond the children form with her is heartwarming,” she said. “We’ve seen kids with trauma backgrounds that

feel safe with Myrtle and that’s special to see.”

Mikey Brownell, a fifth grader, reads regularly with Myrtle and has developed a strong relationship with her. Mikey told Fluery that he feels “really happy” when he reads to Myrtle, and she listens. Mikey and Myrtle’s favorite books so far this school year are “Santa’s New Jet” and “Nine Ghosts.”

If students finish their book early, they give Myrtle a treat or snuggle up together.

“It’s not just about reading,” Fluery said. “It’s evolved into a TLC thing.”

Principal Kelly Collins said the opportunity to provide a safe space for students to decompress in a non-judgmental environment is the most important outcome of the partnership with Myrtle and Bouton.

“Comfort dogs bring this joy and comfort to students who are dealing with so many outside things that they try to turn off at school,” she said. “The dogs help them feel safe, comfortable and loved.”

Myrtle also visits classrooms. Beginning this school year, she helps with school counseling lessons. Fluery shares topics ahead

of time with Myrtle’s owner so they can coordinate lessons.

In kindergarten, for example, they will read a story about how animals have feelings, show unconditional love and can help with coping strategies. The students then have a chance to pet Myrtle and talk about how it makes them feel.

For the older students, they talk more in depth about how the interaction between humans and animals can lower stress hormones.

Myrtle even shows off her own reading skills. Bouton has cards that show com-



COURTESY KEARSARGE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kearsarge Elementary School student Laurel Osteen reads to Myrtle.



COURTESY KEARSARGE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kearsarge Elementary School student Colin Parker reads to Myrtle, who visits the school weekly.

mands like “sit.” Bouton or a student will hold up the card and without any verbal cues, Myrtle will read the card and follow the command.

“The kids are mesmerized,” Fluery said.

Bouton also passes out bookmarks with Myrtle’s face on them.

At the end of the year, all students who read with Myrtle get together one last time.

Last year, the group went for a walk, had treats and gave Myrtle special gifts.

“This provided a sense of closure, but also celebrated the great work students and Myrtle did together,” Fluery said.

This is Myrtle’s second year working KRES. Bouton’s dog Valley, a yellow male Retriever cross, visited the school regularly for 10 years under he passed in 2021.

Bouton raised both dogs as a volunteer puppy raiser for Canine Companions, an organization that provides service dogs at no charge to people with disabilities. Both dogs were released from the program during advanced training and returned to Bouton as pets.

“I believe the dogs’ purposeful backgrounds and early training are best put to use through the therapy work I’ve pursued,” she said.

Bouton said she’s enjoyed sharing Myrtle with schools and hospitals – an experience that has enriched her own life.

“As I volunteer in local spaces with the dog, I find it very meaningful to learn about the many rich resources in my own community and to meet interesting new people every week,” she said. “Myrtle seems to have quite a local fan club. Whether we’re in the area’s hospitals or neighborhood school, she brings comfort and love and leaves a trail of smiles.”

Collins is grateful that Bouton and Myrtle are willing to visit the school



COURTESY KEARSARGE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kearsarge Elementary School student Isiah Bolton relaxes with Myrtle, who visits the school weekly.

and commended Fluery for working with the duo.

“There is something about

connecting with an animal that gets us through a tough situation and that’s for

adults, too,’ Collins said. “We’re seeing a lot of heavy things that kids are carrying

and this is a small moment of time when it can be alleviated.”

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SAVE UP TO

\$1,599
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$231
For 24 Months

NEW 2024 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER LE AWD



Stock # PJT6948

SAVE UP TO

\$3,059
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$328
For 24 Months

NEW 2023 TOYOTA TACOMA Double Cab SR5 4x4



Stock # PJT929

SAVE UP TO

\$1,000
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$243
For 24 Months

Low lease: 24 months, 10,000 miles per year. 1st payment, \$645 acquisition fee, \$699 dealer fee & \$6,151 due at signing. No sales tax for NH residents. All manufacturers rebates to dealer. Special financing available for 36 months, MSRP: Corolla-\$23,354, Rav4-\$31,844, Highlander-\$38,503, Tacoma-\$39,620. Subject to credit approval. Manufacturers programs are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. *TFS financing is required. Expires 1-31-2024.

NEW 2024 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER LS FWD



Stock # 24240

SAVE UP TO

\$1,875
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$219
For 24 Months

NEW 2024 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT AWD



Stock # 24217

SAVE UP TO

\$3,600
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$129
For 24 Months

NEW 2024 CHEVROLET TRAX LS



Stock # 24281

SAVE UP TO

\$823
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$244
For 24 Months

NEW 2024 CHEVROLET SILVERADO LT Crew Cab 4x4



Stock # 24250

SAVE UP TO

\$11,000
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$189
For 24 Months

Low lease: 24 mos 10,000 miles per year. 1st payment, \$695 acquisition fee, \$699 dealer fee & \$6,850-Equinox, \$3,365-Trailblazer, \$8,075-Silverado, \$2,860-Trax cash or trade equity due at signing. \$0 security deposit due. 1.9% financing available on most models up to 36 months. (36 payments of \$28.60 for every \$1,000 borrowed). Subject to credit approval. No sales tax for NH residents. All manufacturers rebates to dealer. Manufacturers programs subject to change without notice. Up to savings on select vehicles. See dealer for details. GM Financing required. Expires 1-31-2024

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Stock # PFT187

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OFF MSRP

Lease for only

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For 24 Months

NEW 2023 FORD EXPLORER XLT AWD



Stock # PFT141

SAVE UP TO

\$5,018
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$289
For 24 Months

NEW 2023 FORD BRONCO SPORT Big Bend 4x4



Stock # PFT059

SAVE UP TO

\$3,795
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$211
For 24 Months

NEW 2023 FORD F-150



SAVE UP TO

\$13,500
OFF MSRP

NEW 2024 HYUNDAI PALISADE Limited AWD



Stock # RHT199

SAVE UP TO

\$2,532
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$286
For 36 Months

NEW 2024 HYUNDAI KONA SE AWD



Stock # RHT241

SAVE UP TO

\$867
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$125
For 36 Months

NEW 2024 HYUNDAI TUCSON SE AWD



Stock # RHT288

SAVE UP TO

\$2,218
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$139
For 36 Months

NEW 2023 HYUNDAI SANTA FE SE AWD



Stock # PHT563

SAVE UP TO

\$4,349
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$99
For 36 Months

Low lease: 24 months, 7,500 miles per year. 1st payment, \$645 acquisition fee, \$699 dealer fee & \$6,156 due at signing. No sales tax for NH residents. All manufacturers rebates to dealer. Special financing available for 36 months, subject to credit approval. Manufacturers programs are subject to change without notice. FMCC financing may be required. * See dealer for complete details. Expires 1-31-2024.

Low lease: 36 months, 10,000 miles per year. 1st payment, \$699 dealer fee, \$650 acquisition & \$11,706-Palisade, \$7,206-Tucson, \$6,706-Kona, \$6,706-Santa Fe cash or trade equity due at signing. No sales tax for NH residents. All manufacturers rebates to dealer. Manufacturers programs are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. HMF financing may be required. Expires 1-31-2024.



NEW 2023 LINCOLN NAUTILUS

Stock # PLT034

SAVE UP TO

\$5,497
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$482
For 24 Months

PLT034. MSRP (\$58,120) 24 mo. lease, 7,500 miles/yr. Lease with \$7,982 due at signing. \$6,156 Cash or Trade Equity plus dealer fee, 1st payment & \$650 acquisition fee due at signing. No sales tax for NH residents. Please contact the dealer for complete details. VIN# 2LMF38K00PBL18716. Expires 1-31-2024.



NEW 2023 LINCOLN CORSAIR

Stock # PLT041

SAVE UP TO

\$4,794
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$399
For 24 Months

PLT041. MSRP (\$48,760) 24 mo. lease, 7,500 miles/yr. Lease with \$7,999 due at signing. \$6,156 Cash or Trade Equity plus dealer fee, 1st payment & \$650 acquisition fee due at signing. No sales tax for NH residents. Please contact the dealer for complete details. VIN# 2LMF38K00PBL18716. Expires 1-31-2024.



NEW 2023 LINCOLN AVIATOR

Stock # PLT029

SAVE UP TO

\$3,789
OFF MSRP

Lease for only

\$671
For 24 Months

PLT029. MSRP (\$76,685) 24 mo. lease, 7,500 miles/yr. Lease with \$8,171 due at signing. \$6,156 Cash or Trade Equity plus dealer fee, 1st payment & \$650 acquisition fee due at signing. No sales tax for NH residents. Please contact the dealer for complete details. VIN# 2LMF38K00PBL18716. Expires 1-31-2024.

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New Hampshire Ball Bearings, Inc. (NHBB) Astro Division located in Laconia, NH-heart of the scenic Lakes Region, is a World-Class 450+person, climate-controlled manufacturing facility that produces spherical bearings, rod ends, sub-assemblies and other precision metal parts for the aerospace industry, currently has an opening for a **Finance Manager**.

This dynamic individual will oversee the activities of the Division's Finance Department to ensure the accurate and timely dissemination of financial management reports, including but not limited to, internal/external monthly financial statements, annual audits and budgets. Prepare reports that summarize and forecast company business activity and financial position in areas of income, expenses, and earnings based on past, present and expected operations. Coordinate month-end and year-end closings. Individual will establish and maintain controls to verify the integrity of all processes, supporting important decision making for the company.

- Minimum of BS Degree in Accounting or Finance, CPA or Masters preferred.
- 10 Years experience in a Manufacturing Environment.
- 8 Years of Supervisory experience.
- Thorough knowledge of Standard Cost Accounting and Manufacturing Measurements.
- Inventory Controls.
- Knowledge of Government CAS and experience with interfacing with DCMA auditors.
- Experience in MAPICS Manufacturing Systems and broad General Ledger and Sales Systems Knowledge.
- Experience in a Weighted Average Cost Inventory valuation method environment a plus.
- Strong Microsoft Office skills.

NHBB has established and shall continue to nurture a culture which fosters long term economic, social, and environmental viability and sustainability. If you are interested in being part of our team, please submit your resume via the following options:

NHBB, Inc. Astro Division

155 Lexington Drive • Laconia, NH 03246

www.nhbb.com • Email: nparker@nhbb.com • Fax: (603)524-3524



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New Hampshire Ball Bearings, Inc.

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Manufacturing Manager

New Hampshire Ball Bearing's Astro Division is located in Laconia, NH—heart of the scenic Lakes Region. Astro is a World-Class 450+ person, climate-controlled manufacturing facility that produces spherical bearings, rod ends, sub-assemblies and other precision metal parts for the aerospace industry.

This dynamic leader will manage a three shift manufacturing operation with direct oversight of a supervisory staff supporting all production departments. Will play an integral role in the development and implementation of action plans to support our tactical and strategic goals. Must excel at working in a very dynamic, demanding and fast paced team oriented, environment.

A successful candidate will have a Bachelor's degree, 10 years of progressive leadership experience in a manufacturing environment, success at building and sustaining a high performance team, possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, experience managing department budgets and a strong working knowledge of lean and six sigma tools.

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Astro Division
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Laconia, NH 03246
www.nhbb.com
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NHBB is an equal opportunity employer all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected Veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

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