Local communities pay tribute to fallen service members

By DONNA RHODES
DIONNA@SALMONPRESS.COM

TILTON — Tilton officials received word last week that the town has been named one of only two communities in the Winnipesaukee Region on Memorial Day weekend.

The town received the honor last Friday as the New Hampshire Association of Retired Persons had named the town as one of only five communities recognizing the service members who lost their lives in the name of freedom.

The city was also one of only two communities in the Winnipesaukee Region that made the honor roll for the 2012 Memorial Day Weekend.

The city received the award last Friday for the fourth consecutive year.

Local residents and veterans lined the streets in Northfield, Tilton and Belmont as paradegoers celebrated those who gave all in the name of freedom.

A wreath was laid by the Winnipesaukee Regional High School band.

Len Hooker and Howard Brown of the American Legion’s Charles Kilborn Post 49 in Belmont.

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A night of dancing

Area students enjoy themselves at the middle school dance hosted recently by the Pines Community Center in Northfield.

Community pays tribute to beloved former fire chief

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TILTON — Memorial services for retired Chief Harold Harbour were held on May 21 after a sudden illness.

Harbour passed away on May 21 after a sudden illness.4 column photo

Hundreds gathered to watch as the Tilton-Northfield Fire and EMS staff members were joined by members of the Franklin Fire Department, honor guards, military personnel and local police to accompany Harbour’s casket, draped in black bunting, carried from Paquette-Stein Funeral Home in Northfield to the United Methodist Church in Tilton.

Tilton-Northfield Fire Department’s Engine 1 carried the casket of retired chief Harold Harbour to services at the United Methodist Church in Tilton last Friday as current chief and deputy chief Brad Ober and Mike Robinson, respectively, along with other members of their staff stood at attention and prepared to give Harbour one final salute.

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Concord — Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health, United Way and the Endowment for Health will host a community discussion on June 3 from 4 to 6 pm to examine the link between poverty and health.

Area agencies, service providers and members of the general public are encouraged to attend. The event will take place at the Taylor Home, Woodside Building, 227 Bridges Drive, Laconia.

Social determinants such as income, education, and neighborhood have been proven to affect health and longevity. The event will examine these factors and bring local experts and community members into the discussion.

Beth Matthew-Bartlett, the Carsey Institute's director of research, will present a demographic analysis on vulnerable families. Beth will give the keynote presentation, followed by a panel of local experts and community members.

Ample time will be allotted for audience participation and dialogue on ways the community can collectively impact health and reduce poverty in the Lakes Region.

Phone: 524-2615 to RSVP or email knorr@lrphb.org

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Local high school teacher receives Education Advocate Award

CONCORD — Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health, United Way, and the Endowment for Health announced that Kerry Cook, Math Teacher at Franklin High School, for her work promoting the Running Start program, a partnership between the Community College System of New Hampshire and New Hampshire schools that enables high school juniors and seniors to take classes at their high school and college requirements.

The award was presented during a ceremony in Concord by Gov. Lynch and the Community College System's Chancellor Ross Gittell.

Running Start is an enrollment partnership that enables high school students to take college classes at their school that satisfy both high school and college requirements. Course credits through the Running Start program are accepted at New Hampshire’s community colleges, as well as many other colleges and universities in and outside New Hampshire. Each course costs just $30, providing substantial savings to students and their families from the cost of a college education. Sixty-five New Hampshire public high school partners participate in the Running Start program, which has grown to over 1,000 enrollments annually.

Gov. Lynch, CSSNH Board Chairman Paul Holloway and System Chancellor Ross Gittell presented the awards, along with Department of Education Commissioner Virginia Barry in attendance.

According to Holloway, "There has never been a more important time for the Running Start program. With Department of Education budget challenges faced by public schools, creative strategies to make college affordable for our New Hampshire students is critical. Running Start enables students and their families to save thousands from the cost of college."

Cook was selected for her commitment to her students at Franklin High School. Mr. Cook has spent the last three years working with LRCC’s Mathematics Department personnel to redesign the mathematics curriculum to better prepare her students for college-level work. With Mr. Cook's dedication, fourteen of her students were able to meet the Running Start requirements.

Kerry Cook was recognized as recipient of this year's Education Advocate Award from the Community College System of New Hampshire.

About CSSNH:
The Community College System of New Hampshire consists of seven colleges, offering associate degrees and certificate programs, professional training, and transfer pathways to four-year degree programs. The system's colleges are Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth, Lakes Region Community College in Laconia, Manchester Community College, Nashua Community College, NHTI - Joseph Columbus Church, Sun Flanders of the North Conway, Ladies Auxiliary, Tony Brown who provided the sound system and the Belmont Highway Department for their work on the monument.

Rhodes added. A wreath was placed at the monument by 15-year-old Avery Hutchinson of Northfield, who is Stevens’ great-grandson and a member of the U.S. Naval League Cadet Corps, and once again, the rifle team from Post 49 gave a gun salute for the Belmont event. Representatives of Belmont’s Girl Scout and Daisy troops also participated in the day by tossing flowers into the nearby Teggs River, and Taps, with an echo, played solemnly in the distance.

The ceremonies concluded with everyone joining hands to sing “America the Beautiful” as the high school band played.

Stevens thanked everyone who participated in the annual tribute, including Rev. Paul Bouchard of St. John’s Church, Sue Flanders of the North Conway, Ladies Auxiliary, Tony Brown who provided the sound system and the Belmont Highway Department for their work on the monument.

LACONIA — The Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health, United Way and the Endowment for Health will host a community discussion on June 3 from 4 to 6 pm to examine link between poverty and health.

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