



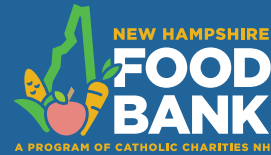
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## SAVE THE DATE

UPCOMING MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

**Friday, August 21**  
**12:00–2:00 PM**

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST  
**PLYMOUTH ELKS LODGE 2312**  
**1159 NH – 175, HOLDERNESS, NH**

The NH Food Bank will bring truckloads of food to  
distribute to families and individuals.

This event is open to all. No proof of residency or income needed. This is  
a drive-through event. All items will be distributed to you in your vehicles.

## SAVE THE DATE

**Tuesday, August 4th**  
**5PM - DUSK**

at Benton's Sugar Shack in Thornton, NH



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Plymouth | Ashland | Holderness

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July 2026

# STAY CURRENT



## Members Gather for 2026 Annual Meeting

Pitch perfect weather ushered in 160 guests for this year's 87th Annual Meeting of Members, held at The Owl's Nest Resort in Thornton. In addition to Co-op business updates, the night also brought news of this year's election outcomes which saw one incumbent and two newcomers elected to three-year terms on the 11-member Board of Directors.

The annual event gave friends and neighbors the chance to mingle with new acquaintances and employees, while enjoying a reception before settling in to hear from leadership about 2025's accomplishments.

At the business portion of the meeting, Board Chair William "Bill" Darcy focused on the Co-op's priorities for 2025: reliable and affordable electricity, the growth of NH Broadband and the Co-op's financial stewardship. Darcy highlighted that Co-op rates remain lower than the other utilities serving the Granite State and while most members saw a modest increase in distribution rates, they also realized a significant reduction in the fixed monthly rate. Darcy credited prudent power purchases and increased grid investments with navigating a volatile energy market.

President & CEO, Michael Jennings, addressed the increase demand for electricity, spurred by the colder winter and spring, as well as members relying on greater electricity for home heating and EV chargers. The Co-op tackles the challenge of this increased demand by remaining dedicated to reliability and affordability and the processes in place to exercise disciplined spending.

In addition to the opening reception, members enjoyed access to the Owl's Nest resort, a live band and a chance to win numerous raffle prizes.

As for the Board of Directors Election, Co-op members saw six candidates running for three open seats, each with a three-year term. Incumbent William Darcy was re-elected and Co-op members elected two newcomers to the board, Laurel Boivin and Carl Knowlton.

The Co-op is a member-owned company that relies on the active participation of its members to govern and sustain the business. We thank all members who voted or stood for election. And we thank the other candidates, former board member Robert McLeod, Brad Harkavy and Tom Randell for stepping up and running for the board.



## Board of Directors Elects Officers



**Alana Albee**  
Chair



**Bill Darcy**  
Vice Chair



**Jerry Stringham**  
Treasurer



**Peter Laufenberg**  
Assistant Treasurer



**Jeff Morrill**  
Secretary



"When I think about the history, the origin story of how this cooperative came to be, I can't think of a more American story," said Congresswoman Maggie Goodlander. "When people come together around a common purpose, they can accomplish things that no one can accomplish alone. And that is the power of the co-op: that people living in rural communities in this state saw what investor-owned utilities couldn't see, and that was the power of people organizing together to share in the power and to keep it affordable, reliable, and sustainable."

-REP. MAGGIE GOODLANDER



## Thank You

A debt of gratitude to Center Harbor member Harry Veins, who served on the Co-op Board for 17 years, completing his term at the Annual Meeting of Members on June 16. Harry also served as Chair of the NHEC Foundation from 2023 - 2026. (More to come about Harry in the August newsletter).

# Revealing Time: A Celebration of American Milestones

**Digging back in time, well, takes time. To celebrate the country's Bicentennial in 1976, Plymouth had buried a time capsule on the lawn of the former Grafton County Courthouse with objects contributed by the community. On May 16, about 200 current and former locals gathered once more on the lawn at what is now Town Hall for the great reveal.**

Spearheaded by the Plymouth Historical Society, the organization saw an opportunity for history to repeat itself. The effort paired the unearthing of the 50-year-old relics, with a new collection of items to mark this year's U.S. 250th anniversary.

Some of the vestiges of our world today that are now encased in two boxes designed for the purpose of historic preservation included a Co-op hard hat; a compilation of food costs, including several menus from local restaurants and flyers from Market Basket and Hannaford; a pen and ink drawing of the Smith Millennium Covered Bridge by Don Hundgens; and catch phrases of today, as well as drawings from classes at Plymouth Elementary School.

"So often we are just in the midst of living and it's not until you get some hindsight of 50 years and look at how this was taken on in '76 and what's put in the capsule, and the energy around it now and them thinking about what they want to be seen when they open it in 50 years. It's these shared stories and memories that connect people and create community," said Lisa Lundari, vice president of the Plymouth Historical Society and co-organizer of the Time Capsule project with fellow board member, Judy Faran. "Sometimes it's good to bring it back to a less global and more local level and remember the things that make our small town special."

## PULL BOX

Unearthing the 50-year-old relics from the casket that had been donated by LaFontaine's Funeral Home in '76 uncovered curiosities of the era and really, the innocence of a different time, different thoughts.

Some of the items that saw the light on the May 16 fair weather day were:

- A **Co-op meter** (trust us, it wasn't Smart)
- **Newspapers** published for that very day, November 11, 1976
- A **Bobcat bumper sticker** (hometown pride)
- A **rotary phone** (enough said)
- A **high school graduation ring** (with a special story – visit the exhibit)
- A **key** (to who knows what?)

Yesteryear's artifacts will be on display through November 28 at the Plymouth Historical Museum on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and by chance or appointment.



# Co-op Scholars

Congratulations to the winners of the 2026 NHEC Foundation Scholarship awards. Six young Co-op members received plaques and grants of \$1,500 to further their education. Three of our young scholars attended the June 16 Annual Meeting.

Thank you to the Co-op members who participate in the Round Up Program. Round Up funds the NHEC Foundation Scholarships. Not enrolled in Round Up? It's easy and affordable – about six dollars a year. Learn more and enroll: [nhec.com/round-up-program](https://nhec.com/round-up-program)



L-R -- Aladin Crnolic, Lukas Mondor and Riley Emmerton

## Meet the Winners

**Lukas Mondor**  
(Northfield)

UMass Lowell  
Applied Biomedical  
Science –  
MLS Program  
Concentration  
3rd Year

**Riley Emmerton**  
(Littleton)

Emerson College  
Film, Television,  
and Media Arts  
1st Year

**Camper Dales**  
(Nottingham)

Davidson College  
Political Science/  
Pre-Law  
1st Year

**Aladin Crnolic**  
(Sandown)

Boston University  
Data Science  
1st Year

**Caroline Goren**  
(Center Harbor)

Plymouth State  
University  
Nursing  
3rd Year

**Samuel Flynn**  
(Haverhill)

New England  
College  
Creative Writing  
3rd Year

## Thank You Sponsors

Co-op is grateful for the financial support of its Annual Meeting sponsors. Thanks to their donations, the Co-op was able to host the 87th Annual Meeting on June 16 at no cost to the membership.



## Aiding In Emergency



The Co-op was proud to partner with Stewart's Ambulance Service as we joined organizations across the state in May, training as many Granite Staters as possible in the New Hampshire Hands-Only CPR initiative.

Part of the challenge was spearheaded by state

Executive Councilor John Stephen, who had been saved from his cardiac arrest by this method as one person administered CPR and another called 911.

"Had they not done the CPR, I probably wouldn't be here today," Stephen told WMUR, which reported that 1,894 Granite Staters – far surpassing the goal of 1,000 – learned the technique.

In 15-minute sessions, more than 40 Co-op employees learned the "how-tos" of the chest compression technique to keep blood flowing to the person's brain and buy time in a cardiac emergency until emergency services arrive. The focus, whether working alone or with someone, is to not miss a beat – literally. Immediate bystander CPR can double or triple someone's chance of survival. If you can, please reach out to your local fire and ambulance departments to find out about training sessions.