

# WHEN YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, WE ARE THERE WITH YOU.

As our country faces its worst public health crisis in a generation, we at the *Valley News* want you to know that we've heard you — and we're here for you, just as you have been here for us.

We've heard you through phone calls, emails and letters, and even your messages on the back of the A section. In a dark and trying time, your support is a source of light.

We understand the vital importance of trustworthy local news amid deep uncertainty, and we are doing everything we can to continue in our duty to you, our readers.

Our mission of producing dependable journalism has remained true over nearly 70 years, and it has carried us through crises before, from the Lebanon fire of 1964 to Tropical Storm Irene in 2011.

Last year, the newsroom came together to define our mission further: to connect, engage, inform and give voice to our Upper Valley neighbors.

"Connect" comes first. In an era newly defined by social distancing, and with many of us shouldering

the weight of isolation at home in an effort to keep ourselves, our families and our communities safe, perhaps that connection through our pages has never been more important.

We'll keep you informed throughout this crisis, rigorously reporting on the work of businesses, government, health care, schools and beyond. We'll tell the stories of people facing drastic change, identify resources that will help us all get through it — and we'll be there to document uplifting moments that remind us of the resilience of the human spirit.

This work neither starts nor stops with the newsroom. We stand alongside our colleagues in advertising, circulation, customer service, the business office, the press and delivery in this duty to you.

And it extends beyond the *Valley News*. We join newspapers across the country today in sharing this message of togetherness.

Whatever happens, whenever it happens, we'll be there with you.

*The VALLEY NEWS newsroom*

## CHOPPED



Shane Young and his son Loren Young, 14, of Tunbridge, split firewood in Tunbridge on Thursday. Young, who is a logger, said this is the kind of work he would normally be doing this time of year. "Everybody is changing their schedule," he said.

VALLEY NEWS — JENNIFER HAUCK

## CORONAVIRUS

# Police warn of crowding

Beaches, trails packed; NH reports third death

By JONATHAN VAN FLEET  
Concord Monitor

People eager to get outside as the weather gets warmer are triggering warnings from police who have been tasked with enforcing new stay-at-home orders.

Crowds of people showed up at beaches and hiking trails Saturday, leading to potentially unsafe conditions, police said.

Police in Mont Vernon, N.H., posted a photo on Facebook showing cars lining both sides of the road near the trailhead to Purgatory Falls.

"This is not social distancing and this is why COVID-19 continues to spread through NH," the police department said. "Please utilize common sense. Get outside and exercise but this is not the way to do it."

While hiking trails are still open in New Hampshire, beaches have been closed to the public.

Police in Rye, N.H., reported that people were jogging, walking and riding bicycles on both sides of Ocean Boulevard on Satur-

SEE NH, VERMONT A5

## DARTMOUTH ATHLETICS

# A front-row seat to the crisis response

Big Green rower interned at CDC as coronavirus pandemic grew

By GREG FENNELL  
Valley News Staff Writer

HANOVER — When Dartmouth College junior Michael Green began his winter-term internship in January, the novel coronavirus outbreak was limited to China and

Green's future with the Dartmouth heavyweight crew team held promise.

Green is now at home in Columbia, Md., awaiting the start of a new term away from Hanover, uncertain when he'll be able to return north. Dartmouth rowing won't have a spring season. The virus has become a worldwide concern.

Green observed the virus'

SEE GREEN A3

COURTESY PHOTOGRAPH

Dartmouth College junior rower Michael Green, shown in an undated photograph, spent 10 weeks this winter as an intern with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta as the coronavirus pandemic was growing.



# Norwich signs town manager contract

By TIM CAMERATO  
Valley News Staff Writer

NORWICH — Town Manager Herb Durfee accepted a contract last week that will extend his tenure through August 2021, but it comes with new oversight and additional expectations.

The contract, which was signed Friday, includes a pay increase that nudges his salary over \$90,000 and reimbursement for

SEE DURFEE A3

## INSIDE



## SPORTS

### FOLLOWING BRADY

New Englanders now living in Florida have a new team to cheer. Many fans of Tom Brady say they will continue to root for him as he joins the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. **Page B2**

## CLOSE-UP

### HUNTING FOR TREASURE

One way to cope with the recent coronavirus events is to enjoy some time outdoors. Keep these adventures interesting for children by staging nature hunts and awarding points and treats for finding creatures. **Page B1**



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