

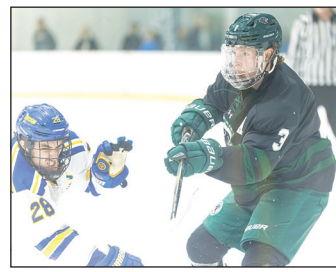


### It's time to spring ahead

Daylight-saving time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday. Set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night!

### SAT. SHOWDOWN

Plymouth State hosting NCAA tourney game • B3



**POLITICS**  
Biden making first visit to NH in over a year • A3

"There is nothing so powerful as truth"  
DANIEL WEBSTER



# NEW HAMPSHIRE UNION LEADER

"FROM COÖS TO THE SEA"

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Friday, March 8, 2024

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## THE HARMONY MONTGOMERY MURDER CASE

# State's star witness paroled



DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER FILE

Adam Montgomery enters the courtroom for jury selection for his murder trial last month in Hillsborough County Superior Court in Manchester. It was the only day he attended.

## Bill would compel killer's attendance at sentencing

By Kevin Landrigan  
Union Leader Staff

CONCORD — In the wake of Adam Montgomery's murder conviction, the New Hampshire House of Representatives suspended all its rules to let in a late bill that would compel offenders convicted of a Class A felony to attend their sentencing hearings.

State prosecutors have filed a motion asking the judge to require Montgomery's attendance when he is sentenced on second-degree murder and other charges in connection with the killing of his daughter Harmony, 5, in 2019.

House Speaker Emeritus Stephen Shurtleff, D-Penacook, said the state has a strong victim bill of rights, and his bill would give families the right to face the offender when they give a victim's witness statement at the sentencing hearing.

Adam Montgomery was absent for much of his trial.

"This isn't right," said Shurtleff, a retired deputy U.S. marshal.

The bill would not go as far as federal

▶ See **Bill**, Page A8



Kayla Montgomery, the estranged wife of convicted murderer Adam Montgomery, the man who beat his 5-year-old daughter Harmony to death in 2019, wipes away tears during questioning from the parole board at the New Hampshire Correctional Facility for Women in Concord Thursday.

DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER

## Estranged wife of Adam Montgomery, the man convicted in his daughter's death, will be free after completing prison programs

By Jonathan Phelps  
Union Leader Staff

Kayla Montgomery, who testified last month to witnessing the brutal murder of her stepdaughter, will be released from prison on parole once she completes mandatory programs.

Montgomery, 33, offered intense details during the trial of her estranged husband, Adam Montgomery, who was convicted of beating 5-year-old Harmony Montgomery to death in December 2019 and of going to great lengths to

cover it up.

The three-member adult parole board granted clemency after a half-hour hearing at the women's prison Thursday morning. The hearing took place in a small, highly secure room with wooden tables.

The conditions of Montgomery's release include intensive supervision for 90 days. This includes more leeway for parole officers to note violations and make frequent checkups.

Montgomery's mandatory programs likely will be completed by the end of the

month. She is working with a case manager to find a sober living home, where she will be required to live for 90 days.

Montgomery pleaded guilty on two charges of perjury in November 2022 after reaching a fully negotiated plea agreement with the Attorney General's Office. With part of the sentence suspended, she was expected to serve 1½ years.

She lied about her employment at Dunkin' and told police her husband

▶ See **Parole**, Page A8

### RECREATIONAL SKIING

## Smaller hills have big upside: Steep discounts

IN A WORLD where crowded trails and long lift lines are the norm, it can be refreshing and rewarding to explore some of the smaller ski areas, where good deals can be found in the winter months.



NH Winter

Jill Armstrong  
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Take King Pine Ski Area, for instance. Located in Madison between Ossipee and Conway, King Pine offers 17 trails spread across 50 acres of skiable terrain. Although the vertical drop is only 350 feet, the terrain is varied enough for all abilities, from winding green beginner slopes to short yet steep

double-black diamonds and tree-skiing areas off the backside of the mountain.

With plans to remain open through March 31 (depending on weather), King Pine recently announced a variety of spring skiing specials. (See box, Page A8.)

I visited King Pine last Saturday, a mild March day. In the morning, my partner and I



PROVIDED BY JILL ARMSTRONG

Jill Armstrong speeds down Pitch Pine, one of the steepest trails at King Pine Ski Area.

explored the mountain, riding all three triple chairlifts to the summit and checking off each trail one by one.

While we enjoyed cruising slowly down beginner trails like Scotch Pine and Knotty Pine — one of my favorite trails for its unique play on words — we were also able to get our heartbeats racing on the double-black steeps of Pitch Pine and Pine Cruise, trails with clear views of Purity Lake across the road.

▶ See **NH Winter**, Page A8

### 40 UNDER FORTY

## Young enterprising honorees united by ties to their communities

■ Union Leader joins in recognizing professionals statewide.

By Jamie L. Costa  
Union Leader Staff

Emmett Soldati embarked on his entrepreneurial quest at age 6 with a neighborhood lemonade stand in Somersworth. The police quickly shut it down for improper permitting.

On Wednesday, Soldati, 35, was honored with the New Hampshire Union Leader's "40 Under Forty" award, which recognizes community leaders throughout the state for their outstanding work and volunteer efforts.

Soldati owns the Teatotaller, an inclusive, recovery-friendly tea and coffee shop with locations in Somersworth, Dover and Concord.

"We're in an epidemic of loneliness, and our work as community



BRITTANY GRIMES, UNION LEADER

Dr. Natalie Tilton, 39, founder and chief executive officer of Physical Therapists at Ability Allies, stands with Eric Salovitch, 33, president and owner of Northam Survey LLC at the 2024 "40 Under Forty" award ceremony at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord on Wednesday.

leaders has to be about the community. We are young people retaining young people," Soldati said. "Connection is powerful, and New Hampshire is not geared toward

▶ See **Honorees**, Page A12

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### In the markets:

S&P 500: 5,157.36  
+52.60 (1.03%)

### Today's Chuckle

When crustaceans join Facebook: seashell media.

### A Small Prayer

With You, Lord, we can enjoy the benefits that come from unexpected opportunities. Amen

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