

Laconia Kiwanis

LACONIA, N.H

Submitted By Bill Gile

Laconia Bike Week is an iconic event for Laconia, the Lakes Region and much of central NH. Last year, Bike Week was delayed until August and scaled way back. Now in 2021, Bike Week is back in a big way! The Laconia Daily Sun described the week as “hectic but mellow”. Laconia Kiwanis Club has sold water and soda at the same location on the boardwalk for many years. The location is perfect for our “Hydration Station”. We are able to charge \$1 for water and a variety of donated soda products. This price is possible thanks to the generous support of Shaw’s, who donates 20% of the water and charges us a discounted rate for the remaining cases of water we purchase. Our low cost for soda products is due to the many donations of soda from members and friends of the club. Many customers appreciated the fair price we charged and helped us in getting many repeat customers and generous tips of thanks.

Close to 20 Kiwanis members, friends and family members volunteered to work at the “Hydration Station” during eight days of Bike Week. That’s over 100 + volunteer hours including setup and tear down of the station. Thanks to all of the help and support from our club, friends and members of Hooksett Kiwanis, we raised close to \$4500!!

All the proceeds go to children and youth programs in Laconia, the Lakes Region and beyond. It helps fund “Kiwanis Kares” (Kiwanis and Reading Equals Success) - a partnership with the Laconia Schools. It also helps us support programs such as Belknap Mill’s “Kids in the Park” summer program, Lakes Region Scholarship fund and the Laconia High School Key Club to name just a few.

