

'Clefs' claim annual spelling bee

The Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation held its 18th Annual Community Spelling Bee Thursday night at Laconia High School. Following a rigorous competition, which lasted 7 rounds, the Laconia High School Band team, "The Treble Clefs," sponsored by Baron's Major Brands, LLC, composed of Joey Bailey, Noah Mousseau and Bryden Wright took the title spelling the word "funipendulous." The LHS team was in a tight face off round with the second place team the "Three Stooges" from the Gilford High School Business Department. This is the second year in a row that a high school team has taken the title. Traditionally, over the past 18 years, the adult teams have dominated.

Paulette Loughlin, Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation Executive Director commented "The evening was a great mixture of spelling prowess and light-hearted fun. In round 4, Mark Cote from the Cross Insurance "Cross" Word Speller team was certain that his team would not be able to spell the word given and his response was perfect..the spelling of this difficult word was: "go-red-sox." The audience responded with applause. In that same round, upon hearing the word to be spelled, one of the team members from Belmont quipped "are you sure that is a word?" And so the evening went."

The winners of the costume contests for the young people were: first place, the Holy Trinity School "Ice, Ice, Baby" Blithe Spirits (Grace DeMatos, Ava Hosmer and Reagan O'Neill); second place, the "Three Musketeers" (Josh Raymond, MacKenzie Yale and Lilly Mastine-Ingmire) from the Gilford High School Business Department; and in third place the "Moose-Busters" team representing the Mousseau



Bryden Wright, left, Joey Bailey and Noah Mousseau – of the Laconia High School Band "Treble Clefs" – proudly raise their trophy as the winners of the 2018 Lakes Region Scholarship Community Spelling Bee. (Courtesy photo)

family (Finnian, Holden and Madeline Mousseau.) For the adults the winners included: first place, the Dr. Minnihan's Laconia SAU team "The Killer Bees" composed of Dr. Brendan Minnihan, Regina Theberge and Kelly O'Brien, in second place the "Word Builders" from Pleasant Street School (Kim O'Neil, Liz

Rosenfeld and Sara Stewart; and the third place team the "Cross" Words from Cross Insurance (Mark Cote, Sarah Cullen and Dawn Wilkins.)

In addition to the spelling competition, there were door prizes drawn each round with prizes for audience members and competitors alike, and a special puzzle drawing open to all.

Dave, I'm Retiring What Do I Do?

So, you're ready to retire and you're not quite sure what you should be doing about your retirement. There are many moving parts that need to be sorted out. What are the Discussion Priorities and what timelines do I have? Those are all really good questions and every retiree situation is different, that's why it's important to work with a Financial Advisor. There are many Financial Advisors out there, so you should work with an Advisor you are comfortable with. Some Advisors are conservative, and others believe in a combination approach of Mutual Funds, Variable Annuities and Fixed Annuities, it's all about how comfortable you feel about the advice you're receiving.



What Should I Know If I'm Comfortable

If your structuring tax qualified monies out for usage; i.e. creating a stream of payments, be mindful of the tax impact of monies that are being distributed. Also, make sure you don't run out of monies as it needs to last. So, to the point of making it last, consider what can happen to your retirement dollars if the markets don't perform as expected. It seems with a bull market of nearly nine years the correction could be in sight, or just around the corner. I like my clients to look at Fixed Index Annuities or Laddered bonds for Safety, Growth and Control of their hard-earned monies. Many retirees are heavily waited in stock like accounts that are NOT geared for de-accumulation and income structuring. If this is not properly set up than the retiree gets hit with losses perhaps and never really is able to recover his/her money. As I eluded earlier in this article it's extremely important to have your retirement monies in accounts that are geared for distribution primarily and have principle protection.

What about NEGATIVE SEQUENCE of RETURNS

Oh Yes and by the way that can have a devastating impact on your funds. A Negative Sequence of Return is a market correction or a Black Swan event that dramatically changes the trajectory of your retirement values. If you lose 50% of your money to a big correction in the market you will need to make 100% of it back. Try pulling that trick off when your using the money to live on. So, it's important to NOT risk your hard-earned monies in places that can do it quickly AKA the stock market. Also, I'm not telling you what to do it's just my experience that most clients who own IRAs, 401Ks and other tax qualified accounts never understand how to properly structure payments out to themselves. Tax qualified accounts are meant to be used to subsidize your income, so you can enjoy your retirement. Sadly, there are so many that never understand how to set up payments that are never going to lose earnings and principle. Leaving these monies to others other than your spouse could mean heavy taxes. It's called "Income with Respect to the Descendent" All of these monies are taxed at 100% of the beneficiary's tax bracket, unless it's a spouse or the beneficiary opts out for an inherited IRA. My 30 plus years of experience is, the kids usually take the cash value of the IRA and pay the taxes. It's too bad I have seen a lot of money get melted away and sent to the Internal Revenue Service.

Some of you may or may not know, but at DAK we encourage you to vote. We think voting is important in America today, so after you've cast your ballot on November 6th, please stop by the DAK Financial Group office to get your Free hot coffee and Free delicious Cider Belly doughnut from 7am- 12pm.

DAVE K

Dave Kutcher is certified in Long-Term Care Planning (CLTC). Dave has almost 30 years' experience working with retirees and previously served as a Captain in the Marine Corps for 15 years. He owns and operates DAK Financial Group LLC, 328 Daniel Webster Highway, Meredith, NH 03253, 603-279-0700, dak@worldpath.net.

Proudly Building The Lakes Region



sales@centralnhconst.com

603 340 3549

- * New Construction
- * Custom Homes
- * Additions
- * Remodeling

- * Custom Kitchens & Bathrooms
- * Garages, Decks & Porches
- * Roof Replacements
- * Site Work / Excavation

Free Estimates

Fully Insured



DAK Financial Group LLC
328 Daniel Webster Hwy.
Meredith, NH 03253
603-279-0700
www.dakfinancialgroup.com