Match fundraiser issued for new Zamboni for outdoor rink at Strawberry Banke Museum

Portsmouth, NH - Strawberry Banke recently announced that Rink Services Group (RSG), the company that manages Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond, the Museum’s seasonal ice skating rink, has issued a matching fundraiser to help offset the cost of a new Zamboni. Donations will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to $5,000, from Friday, January 12 through Monday, January 15, and can be made at the Admissions Desk in the Lawrence J. Yerdon Visitors Center, 14 Hancock Street, or online via StrawberryBanke.org/zamboni-match-fundraiser

The current Zamboni used at Labrie Family Skate is over 30 years old, on its third engine, and facing increased repair costs. To maintain the high-quality skating experience enjoyed by the community, RSG is actively working towards retiring the aging Zamboni at the end of this skating season.

“Rink Services Group is proud to support Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond,” said Gary Warriner, Founder of Rink Services Group. “It is our goal to be a partner in providing this rink for the community, as a healthy winter activity that brings people together, and we are thrilled to be part of ensuring that outdoor skating in Portsmouth at Strawberry Banke continues to thrive."

"Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond is not just an ice rink; it's a community gathering place designed for individuals of all ages and abilities to enjoy winter recreation together,” said Linnea Grim, President and CEO, Thomas W. Haas Endowed Chair. “This match challenge fundraiser is crucial to securing a new Zamboni, ensuring that 'Keeps Portsmouth Skating' remains a reality for years to come. We are so grateful to Gary and Rink Services Group for their continued support.”

Donations made during the match challenge period (Friday, January 12th at noon through Monday, January 15th at 11:59 PM) will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to $5,000, and will be used towards acquiring a new Zamboni for use at the rink, enabling the Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond to continue serving as a central hub for winter fun and community engagement.
Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond is open seasonally from December through February. Weather permitting the rink is open Monday through Friday and Sundays from 9 AM to 9 PM. Saturdays from 8 AM to 9 PM. Wednesdays from 11 AM to 9 PM. For more information, visit StrawberyBanke.org/skate.

**About Strawberry Banke Museum:**
Strawberry Banke Museum, in the heart of downtown Portsmouth, NH, is a 10-acre history museum interpreting history, from Indigenous history to the present day, through historical houses on their original foundations, heirloom gardens, traditional crafts, and costumed roleplayers who share the stories of the families who lived in the authentic waterfront neighborhood of Puddle Dock. The Museum welcomes visitors, members, and schoolchildren for daily programs, exhibits, skating, and signature special events throughout the year. Strawberry Banke Museum is funded in part by grants from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation; the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts & National Endowment for the Arts; the Institute of Museum and Library Services; the National Endowment for the Humanities: Democracy Demands Wisdom; The New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program.
For more information and a complete calendar of events, please visit StrawberyBanke.org.