

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**West Central Behavioral
Health Announces New
Medication-Assisted
Treatment Program;
page A17**

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www.facebook.com/etickeernews

March 9, 2020



Many apartments have a view of Claremont City Hall; this one also boasts a balcony. All the units have sizable kitchens with electric appliances. (Eric Zengota photos).

From Gutted Shell to Downtown Housing

Some Apartments Already Rented in Claremont's Restored Goddard Block
Commercial Units to Occupy Ground Floor

By Eric Zengota
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—The first tenants of the Goddard Block on Pleasant Street moved into their apartments last week, within days of 10 of the units' securing certificates of occupancy. Certificates for the remaining 26 apartments will be issued in the next two weeks.

Meanwhile, the Goddard's ground floor is being readied for three retail and commercial units. They have been brought up to drywall status and meet electrical and fire codes. The specific needs of the leasing businesses will determine the final look and layout.

The apartment rentals are the culmination of more than a year's work of demolition, stabilization and a thorough revitalization of the iconic building.

Trumbull-Nelson Construction Co., of West Lebanon, is the construction manager. When their crews first entered the Goddard, the challenges were plain to see. The main building, first erected in 1926, was not only gritty and grimy but dangerous. The City, citing several code violations, had condemned it, forcing the tenants to relocate.

(Continued on page A15)

Stolen Car, Crash Lead to Arrest of Sunapee Man

NEWPORT, NH—Newport Police Chief Brent Wilmot reported Saturday that “This morning at about 8:46, the Newport Police Department received the report of a stolen vehicle, a 2015 Dodge Journey, from the parking area of 129 Sunapee St. Contemporaneous to the stolen vehicle report, the Dispatch Center received additional calls indicating that the stolen Dodge Journey was traveling eastbound on Route 103 heading towards the Sunapee/Newbury area at a very high rate of speed.

“First responding officers found the stolen vehicle crashed on the side of the road (in the Town of Sunapee) and fully engulfed in fire. Prior to coming to a final rest, the vehicle struck multiple utility poles, causing live electrical wires to fall into the roadway.”

Wilmot identified the driver of the vehicle as Matthew Sullivan, 42, of Sunapee, NH.

Wilmot reported that Sullivan “escaped the crash with minor injuries and then began running down the roadway prior to the emergency

personnel arriving on scene. Other witnesses have reported that Sullivan [allegedly] attempted to get into additional vehicles following the crash. Officers from the Newport, Sunapee and Newbury Police Departments immediately began working together to get Sullivan into custody before other damages or injuries could be caused. The resulting criminal investigation was a collaborative effort between the Newport and Sunapee Police Departments.”

Sullivan was transported to Dartmouth-Hitchcock for medical treatment. Currently, said Wilmot, he is being charged with Theft by Unauthorized Taking (felony), Reckless Conduct with a Deadly Weapon (felony) and Resisting Arrest/Detention (misdemeanor). The investigation is ongoing and additional charges are possible, Wilmot said.

Sullivan is expected to appear in Sullivan County Superior Court on Monday, March 9, for his arraignment.

Anyone who may have relevant information regarding this event incident is encouraged to contact Sergeant Stephen Lee of the Newport Police Department at 603-863-3232.

very different world: as a CPA. Years in the accounting business provided her many opportunities, but Olis was looking to branch out into new realms, leaving the computer desk behind. “I heard there was a shortage of young folks going into upholstery and there was a need,” she said. “It’s been the perfect balance of right brain left brain. I absolutely love how hard and hands on it is.”

Olis will be creating a project using a wide variety of shops, tools, education and resources across multiple disciplines. “I’ll be making a bench seat from scratch with inspiration from 1950s American car upholstery. The frame will be mixed steel/wood, the foam will be shaped by hand, and then the cover will be patterned and shaped to the foam and stitched with an industrial walking foot sewing machine.”

The Claremont MakerSpace’s Artist In Residence Program is supported by a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts.

For more information about the Claremont MakerSpace, including application information for the next Artist In Residence Program and our upcoming open house schedule, please visit: www.claremontmakerspace.org.

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TwinState MakerSpaces Names February/March 2020 Artist In Residence

CLAREMONT, NH—TwinState MakerSpaces, Inc., the nonprofit organization that operates the Claremont MakerSpace, has announced that Amity Olis has been selected as the February/March Artist in Residence.

Olis recently attended one of the last automotive upholstery schools in the country. Her career started in a

NH Lottery Numbers

02/29/2020

NH PowerBall
7 15 21 33 62 23

NH Mega Millions 03/06/2020
15 48 56 58 70 4

Tristate Megabucks 03/07/2020
1 9 14 35 40 2

For more lottery numbers,
<https://www.nhlottery.com/>

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2 Pleasant Street, Suite 3, Claremont, NH 03743

*Located in the
Brown Block.*

ABSOLUTE AUCTION

By the City of Claremont
→ **8 Tax Deeded Properties** ←
Saturday, March 21, 2020

11:00 AM

(registration begins at 10:30 AM)

Claremont Community Center
(152 South Street, Claremont)

Visit **www.NHTaxDeedAuctions.com**

For information and documentation.

For more information contact Karen at
Legal Eagle Auctions 603-301-0185 or

karen@nhtaxdeedauctions.com

Auctioneer: Richard D. Sager, NH Auctioneer License #6104



Commentary

NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

House Approves Amended Version of Automatic Voter Registration System



New Granite State voters, who are American citizens, may soon not have to be concerned about registering to vote under legislation passed by New Hampshire's House of Representatives last week.

On March 5 by a 202-146 division vote, the House approved an amended version of Senate Bill 7, which would implement an automatic voter registration system known as the Secure Modern Accurate Registration Technology Act or "SMART" Act for short. Under the proposed SMART Act, every time citizens apply for or renew their drivers' licenses or nondrivers' picture identification cards, they would be automatically registered to vote in the communities where they live, unless they opted out of being registered. The bill was approved after a brief debate on the House floor as well as a recommendation by 13-7 majority of the House Finance Committee.

Senate Bill 7, as amended by the House, would take effect Jan. 1, 2021, and would cost \$543,000 in its first year, \$490,000 in the second year, and \$553,000 in the third year, according to Stratham Rep. Patricia Lovejoy, a Democrat, who sits on the Finance Committee, and wrote the committee's majority recommendation report. Rep. Lovejoy added that the funding would mainly come from federal money under the HAVA (Help America Vote Act) Program, which was established by federal law in response to the controversial 2000 Presidential Election and has been accumulating in a dedicated account for the last few years; it presently totals approximately \$15.1 million, according to Rep. Lovejoy. Finally, she stated that currently 21 states, including all of the other five New England states, as well as the District of Columbia have automatic voter registration.

However, Senate Bill 7 opponents like Hudson Rep. Lynne Ober, a Republican, who wrote the Finance Committee's minority report, stated that the legislation as amended raises "significant issues." Rep. Ober first explained that our state now allows "same day voter registration," first implemented in the 1990s which is better than the measure, which she said was a "motor voter registration." She then claimed that a non-partisan organization had told Finance that it had "drafted a better bill that would move our state to on-line registration." Also, she said that the New Hampshire DMV (Dept. of Motor Vehicles) told the committee that it did not expect to do the training for its employees on voter registration, and would rely on the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office to undertake such training which Secretary of State William Gardner had told Finance would require the hiring of more staff, according to her. She concluded by writing that the measure should be turned into a study committee to deal with all the issues raised in her minority report.

For readers' information, Senate Bill 7 is not hastily-approved legisla-

tion. The bill was introduced into the New Hampshire Senate in 2019 by a group of nine Democratic legislators led by Brookline Sen. Melanie Levesque, and including Hanover Sen. Martha Hennessey, both Democrats. It was adopted twice by the full Senate last year after being recommended by two different Senate committees, Election Law & Municipal Affairs as well as Finance before being sent over to the House March 28, 2019. Then the House Election Law Committee, to which the bill was first referred, retained it for more examination before recommending its adoption Nov. 8, 2019. Next, after we representatives had approved the measure the first time Jan. 8, 2020, it was referred to the Finance Committee for additional scrutiny because of its fiscal impact on the state budget. By the way, all four legislative committees to which the bill was referred, added amendments in an effort to further improve it. Now the House's amended version returns to the Senate, where senators have the choice of either concurring with the House amendments, asking for a Joint Committee of Conference to hammer out a compromise version, or refusing to take any more action—thus defeating the bill altogether for the 2018-2020 Legislative Term. I believe the Senate is unlikely to choose the third option, though.

For the record, I did vote for Senate Bill 7 March 5 as well as Jan. 8 of this year. I voted "yes," because I believe we need to make it easier for New Hampshire's citizens to register to vote as well as cast their ballots. Doing so should increase voter participation in all elections, and make federal, state, and local officials more accountable to their constituents, in my opinion. Finally, while our state's "same day registration law," has helped increase voter registration, giving voters the additional choice of a "motor voter law," could increase voter registration even more as I have been told it has in the 21 other states and District of Columbia where it is now in effect.

Furthermore, March 5 the House approved an amended version of House Bill 1629, which aims to help our state deal with its affordable housing crisis. The bill was approved on a 276-60 roll call vote after lengthy debate on the floor as well as a recommendation by an overwhelming majority of the House Municipal & County Government Committee to approve it. It now proceeds to the Senate for further review. The legislation is sponsored by a bipartisan group of six representatives led by Manchester Rep. Willis Griffith, a Democrat, and includes Sunapee Rep. Gates Lucas, a Republican.

Hillsboro Rep. Marjorie Porter, a Democrat, wrote the Municipal & County Government Committee's majority report recommending House Bill 1629's passage. In her report, Rep. Porter declared that the bill "serves to encourage the development of affordable housing within the state." She added that in amending the measure, her committee "worked closely with all the major stakeholders to make its provisions enabling, rather than mandatory," as well as "to maintain and enhance local control of development." Among other provisions, the bill would authorize the New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives to provide free training materials to planning and zoning boards of appeals to properly deal with proposed affordable housing developments accord-

(Continued on page A7)

Guest Commentary

Claremont School Board Urges Support for Budget in its Entirety

By Frank W. Sprague
Claremont School Board Chair

The Claremont School Board, for the first time in a number of years, is in a position where painful cuts to the budget are not necessary. For the most part this is due to the tireless efforts of school boards, administrations, and other elected officials from Claremont, Monadnock, Berlin, Pittsfield, Franklin, Keene, Manchester and many other communities applying pressure to our elected state officials to begin repair on a broken school funding system. The New Hampshire legislature and senate were able to negotiate substantial 'one-time money' for many school districts. The intent of this money was to literally stop the bleeding caused by the systematic phasing out of stabilization funds, loss of building aid, cuts to special education aid, and woefully inadequate funding by the State. Some have suggested that this is tax-payer money and it all should be returned to them. However, when Governor Sununu presented "the check" he clearly stated that this money should be used to correct deferred maintenance and to repair damage to opportunities for student learning caused by ongoing budget cuts. With this in mind the warrant articles comprising the 2020-21 school budget were developed.

Article 2: Main Budget:

1) As we have done for the last several years there was a line by line examination of the proposed budget by the budget sub-committee with all principals and directors. As in every year past, explanations were given and adjustments made when necessary. With a priority on needs vs. wants.

2) A new board sub-committee charged with capital improvements has spent the last year with maintenance director Steven Holt assessing building needs (especially roofs) and created an extensive prioritized needs-based database based on maintenance that has been deferred as well as anticipated.

3) Restoration of positions at the middle school, Social Studies and Science. These were reduced a number of years ago due to a prior budget crisis.

4) A systematic approach to "efficiencies" including elimination of unfilled paraeducator positions and redundancies at the SAU level resulting in savings of hundreds of thousands of dollars.

5) The main budget contains funding for a negotiated contract with the SREA (teachers). The main goal being competitive in pay with surrounding districts, allowing Claremont to attract and retain quality teachers.

Continued development of "in-house" programming to provide opportunities to our most challenging students, allowing those students to remain in Claremont saving thousands of dollars for tuition and busing costs. Long-term goals being to generate tuition income by accepting students from neighboring communities as well as meeting the needs of a more substantial portion of Claremont students in, or destined for, placement out of district.

Articles 3, 4, and 5: Negotiated contracts with Secretaries, Paraeducators, and Maintenance and Transportation. These negotiations resulted in pay raises for these associations, with the goal of the school board being to get all groups to agree to a change in health insurance which saves tax payers and employees substantially on health insurance benefit premiums.

Articles 6 and 7:

1) School buses

2) Infrastructure

A responsible plan for the use of one-time money makes sense. This money will be placed in trust for use at the discretion of the school board only. This use will exclusively be for the purpose of a plan for the structured and responsible replacement of an aging bus fleet and money for planned and unplanned repairs of facilities. These trusts will ensure that no warrants for buses or maintenance will appear on ballots for a period of 3 - 5 years. This is sound fiscal management not a frivolous use of taxpayer money.

A no-vote on Articles 2, 6 or 7 will result in a substantial tax reduction, that is not in question, but for the 20-21 school year only. It is still necessary to provide opportunities for students, pay our employees, and repair and replace our assets. Tax relief will be short-lived as substantial increases in the next several years will occur as the issues that these warrants propose to address are not going away.

A no vote on Articles 3, 4, or 5 will prove costly as employees will keep their prohibitively expensive Blue Cross – Blue Shield insurance.

The Claremont School Board asks that the Claremont School Budget be supported in its entirety. In spite of the ambitious nature of this year's budget, it does represent a 56-cent decrease when compared to the 2019-20 budget.

Letters to the Editor

Help Protect our Quality of Life in Claremont

To The Editor:

A proposal declared to be of regional impact is being pushed on the City of Claremont by Recycling Services, Inc. (owner Acuity Management, Inc.) to construct a facility to process construction and demolition (C&D) waste from all over New England, on a tiny lot at Claremont Junction. Among many greatly harmful effects would be heavy truck traffic. Allowing this major change of use would send thousands of additional trucks a year to the City, arriving through neighboring communities. At 500 tons per day, 6 days a week, that's annually more than 10,000 large trucks and semi-trailers loaded with often contaminated demolition debris, including nails that can end up on our roads.

My husband, John Lambert, and I own three businesses at Claremont Junction, an auto dealership, a bicycle shop and apartments. We are being severely threatened by the prospect of unprecedented numbers of trucks, converging on our family-oriented businesses.

As the editor of *The Valley Green Journal*, I have joined with others to organize as a grassroots group, A Better Claremont (ABC). We desire to help lead the City out of this nightmare proposal to better things that embrace the spirit of the City's master plan promoting the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors. Great things in the offing include the revitalization of the Amtrak railroad station and the downtown area, and bicycle and walking paths.

We have retained an attorney, Amy Manzelli, of BCM Environmental & Land Law, who submitted a 12-page letter to the Claremont Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) March 2 hearing outlining the many ways in which Acuity's proposal falls short of our zoning laws.

The Valley Green Journal is providing a web page for ABC, so be sure to check out www.valleygreenjournal.com. To view the March 2 hearing, where many citizens spoke in opposition, go to the CCTV posted video at ZONING BOARD of ADJUSTMENT - public hearing of 3/2/20, <http://www.claremontv.org/>.

The next ZBA hearing is April 6. Go to the City website for more information. To see Acu-

ity / Recycling Services, Inc.'s applications and to learn about Claremont zoning ordinances, check out the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Go to the Planning and Development Office on North Street and ask to see the maps, the appraiser's report, the original 1987 variance and site plan. Ask more questions.

Please get involved. Your quality of life is at stake!

Jan Lambert

**Charlestown, NH, business owner in
Claremont, NH**

Property Values would be Affected by C&D Recycling

To The Editor:

The March 2, 2020, City of Claremont, Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting was very successful. Many residents appeared to testify about the harm that this facility will cause to our city and not just on Maple Avenue or the Junction. I was very proud of the folks who bravely went to the microphone and spoke truth to this nightmare. The meeting ended with many residents not being able to speak. Please come to the next board meeting, which is scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2020 at 7 pm. The venue has been changed to the Community Center. This location will be much more comfortable for citizens to come out and speak against the project.

At last Monday's meeting the project's attorney presented a long list of false information about the benefit of the project. One thing he stated was that an analysis of property sales showed that property values would not decrease. Thank goodness that Bonnie Miles was there to speak the truth. Bonnie has sold real estate in our city for many years. She looked the attorney in the eye and told him that his information was false and that property values would indeed decrease. Bonnie to the rescue! Thank you for the truth.

In the event that this project will be litigated, should it fail to be approved, it is important to know that the judge will weigh citizen opposition very heavily in her/his decision. Please come out Monday, April 6, 2020 at 7 pm, to the community center and express your opposition. Last Monday no one was in favor of the

facility. Come and be heard. Only if you speak out can your voice be heard.

Jim Contois

Ward II, Claremont, NH

Claremont is no Longer a Dumping Ground

To The Editor:

Dear Claremont,

You and your neighbors stood up for your City last Monday night, March 2nd. You were articulate and wise, passionate, firm and respectful. I hope you will come back with more of your neighbors, until Acuity Management, Inc. understands that Claremont is no longer a dumping ground. This is not the city where Acuity's owners will make their millions.

Claremont's value is in its people. This is a place to grow up, to live, to work and play, to raise families, to come back to and to grow old in a safe community where people care for and protect one another. You did that last Monday night at City Hall. Claremont is better for it. With tenacity and perseverance, working with your local government and organizations and with each other, Claremonters will continue on their way toward a better future.

Last year's bad idea is now a bad idea in a building with doors big enough to drive a train through. Dust in the air, lead paint, nails falling on beat-up streets and noise. Imagine dropping large chunks of concrete debris mixed with who knows what from who knows where into train cars near peoples' homes. Shipping minimally sorted demolition waste 700 miles away so somebody can remove rebar? Really? Something doesn't add up. Even Vermont Yankee is planning to leave a lot of its concrete rubble on-site in Vernon.

Nothing has changed since 2019 when Acuity withdrew its last application to set up a waste business at a recycling center. Acuity's claim that an industrial-scale waste operation near Maple Ave. and Claremont Jct. will, "in the long run," be good for Claremont is as outlandish as it is implausible. It's tough when someone lies to your face and says there won't be any lead in the waste Acuity would bring to town. If the material were safe, it wouldn't be coming to Claremont to be shipped into another time zone.

Letters to the Editor

There is no upside for the City of Claremont. The ZBA should deny Acuity's applications for variances and special exception. The people must continue to say NO.

This is what democracy looks like at home; it's not what you see on CNN, Fox News and MSNBC with cage fights and primaries, talking heads and celebrity politicians. Sometimes local government actually looks like Government of the People, for the People and by the People. It is our government. It's an amazing thing when it works. Let's use it. Get involved, stay involved and show up. Community engagement is what makes government, in the best sense of the word, successful.

In appreciation of a great little city and its resilient residents,

John Tuthill, Acworth, NH

Supporting the Claremont School Budget

To The Editor:

Everyone wants to see taxes decrease. What the proposed school budget is doing is taking the additional monies allocated from the state to address issues that are currently needed such as the roof at bluff school and fire alarm systems required by code. Additional safety issues are also addressed in the proposals. All these proposals will result in a DECREASE in the current school tax rate of \$.56 due to the additional funding from the state.

The Claremont School budget as presented takes a current and forward look at the needs of the school system and the needs for infrastructure maintenance that are inescapable. What taxpayers need to realize that all buildings and school buses need to be maintained and updated periodically. The reserve funds proposed are designed to level off the impact of major expense items that will absolutely occur in future years. By building these reserves now when we have additional funds from the state we get a step ahead without an additional burden on the tax rate.

If we approve all articles the tax rate will be \$.56 LESS than the current rate and we can accomplish many of the needs for infrastructures and start the reserve funds. It is short sighted to deny these needs for a short term or one time drop in the tax rate that we will only

reverse in the future when these costs are still facing us as an emergency and then we look to bond the funds to cover the cost with interest plus the inflation factor for repairs and/or new buses.

Vote yes on this common sense approach for the school budget.

Tom Rock, Ward 2, Claremont, NH

Rep. Cloutier, from A4

ing to her report. Finally, she stated that it would "streamline" the appeals process for developers trying to build affordable housing in local communities, clarify what could be included in inclusionary zoning ordinances, and modify the criteria for workforce housing.

Nevertheless, House Bill 1629 opponents included Seabrook Rep. Max Abramson, a Republican, and also member of Municipal & County Government, who wrote the committee's minority report recommending the measure's rejection. In his minority report, Rep. Abramson stated that he has received many emails from constituents concerned about the "loss of local control," and an "increasingly heavy-handed approach by the state in dictating local land use policy," to which the bill would lead. More specifically, he claimed that the bill as amended would "add more requirements for planning boards, require more meetings to understand the impact of the new rules," and would require the Office of Strategic Initiatives to move reports between towns and the state. He also claimed that communities now with affordable senior housing would this housing, if they didn't "add workforce housing."

I did vote for House Bill 1629. While I believe this bill alone will not solve the affordable housing crisis in New Hampshire and Claremont, it is a step in the right direction. But to further solve this crisis so that more young families, including more young families with children, move to our state, I also believe state government needs to take more action that includes reforming how the Granite State pays for Grade K-12 public education, so that such education's current reliance on local property taxes doesn't discourage communities from erecting affordable housing for young families.

Email: jocloutier@comcast.net.

Shaheen Statement on DHS Announcement of Additional Temporary Work Visas

WASHINGTON, DC— U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen, a senior member of the Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee, issued the following statement after the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that it will make available an additional 35,000 H-2B temporary work visas for the remainder of fiscal year (FY) 2020. In January, Shaheen and a bipartisan, bicameral group of lawmakers called on DHS to increase the statutory cap of H-2B visas for FY2020. Under the law, DHS has the authority to release up to 64,176 additional visas for the remainder of the year.

H-2B workers support American jobs and small businesses, and the H-2B program is an important asset to New Hampshire industries such as tourism and landscaping. Bipartisan research has found a direct correlation between increased numbers of H-2B workers and a rise in pay across the board for all employees. As required by law, employers must first make a concerted effort to hire American workers to fill open positions. H-2B visas fill needs for American small businesses when there are not enough able and willing American workers to fill the temporary, seasonal positions.

"While I'm glad the Department of Homeland Security is heeding my call to release these additional visas, I'm disappointed it falls well below the threshold allowed under the law. It's also frustrating that these visas will be made available in two separate periods, making it difficult for New Hampshire's small seasonal employers to plan for their peak operating season that's only months away," said Shaheen. "Seasonal workers are critical to New Hampshire's tourism and landscaping workforce, which play an important role in our state's economy. The administration is releasing barely half of what they could make available under the law – it's disappointing they didn't take full advantage of this opportunity to help businesses that rely on this program."

SHS Senior Starts Write-In Campaign for School Board Seat

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—A Stevens High School senior has thrown his hat into the Claremont School Board race; the election will take place on Tuesday, March 10. Tyler Sullivan, currently the Student Representative to the board, announced his write-in campaign on Facebook on Wednesday.

“I decided to run for school board after the meeting this week because I believe it is time for fresh ideas and fresh faces on the board,” the 18-year-old told the e-Ticker News

on Friday. “It has been a consistent board for three years now. We need someone young to fill the gap. The term is for three years. I would balance it because I have been able to balance three jobs, school and student rep duties currently. I have a track record of balancing events and responsibilities all while maintaining good grades.” Sullivan said that his “plans after my senior year are to remain in Claremont and attend college at Colby Sawyer College for education.”

Sullivan said that the most important issue to him “at this moment is bullying and vaping. These two issues need to be enforced both in school and at home.”

Getting into the race just a few days before the election makes campaigning a challenge, but Sullivan is using social media as one avenue to let voters know he’s in the race.

“I am spreading the word through Facebook,” he said. He added that word of mouth



Tyler Sullivan
(Courtesy photos)

and signage that he is putting up around town are two other ways he’s trying to get the word out.

In his Facebook post, Sullivan introduced himself and other reasons he decided to run: “Since Middle School, I have been involved with local, state and national politics. I have been to school board meetings, organized gun safety walkouts, joined student leadership groups, went to student leadership trainings, founded a statewide student voice organization, ran for NHHSD Vice Chair and served in class offices. The most important piece is that I am a student in the district of SAU6 and I am a current Senior at Stevens High School. I currently serve as the Student Representative on the School Board, However, that position gives me no power to vote on things that directly affect students in the district. It’s time for a change! I have nothing against the current school board members but I believe that it is time for a student to be on the Board. Let’s make local election history and win!

“Enough on that, Here is what I will do as a school board member, at least try my hardest to do.

“I will continue the fight to stand up for the students and teachers in our district. Too many teachers leave the district for higher

paying jobs. Too many teachers begin their teaching career here and move on for better pay. These are amazing teachers that we lose on a yearly basis. I cannot begin to count all my teachers who have left the district for better pay.

“I will continue to stand up for our transportation department. Our bus drivers and bus aide are the backbone of our district. Without them, over half of our students would not be able to get to school. Without them, students would not be as safe as they currently are. Many of our buses are overdue and need to be replaced because they are breaking down.

“The lunch debt is a nationwide issue. We need to solve it! We cannot keep adding to our lunch debt. Why do we have it? If a child has to attend school for 6 hours a day, they should be entitled to a lunch. Where’s the money gonna come from? Not the taxpayers but grants or donations. Maybe change our food provider. The food is good some days and bad the others. Lets re-look this fully!

“We also need to re-look our current cell phone policy.”

On the ballot for school board seats are Frank Sprague, the current chair, and current board member Michael Petrin; both seats are three-year terms.

Learn to Make Felted Soap

CLAREMONT, NH—Want to learn how to make felted bars of soap?

Long before people used loofahs or washcloths for bathing, they felted their curds of soap. Wet felting bars of soap allows you to produce a decorative, customized bar that provides smooth lather with a built-in washcloth! Felting also extends the life of the bar. During this workshop you will felt two bars of soap. (Bring your favorite brand or Yardley will be provided by the instructor.)

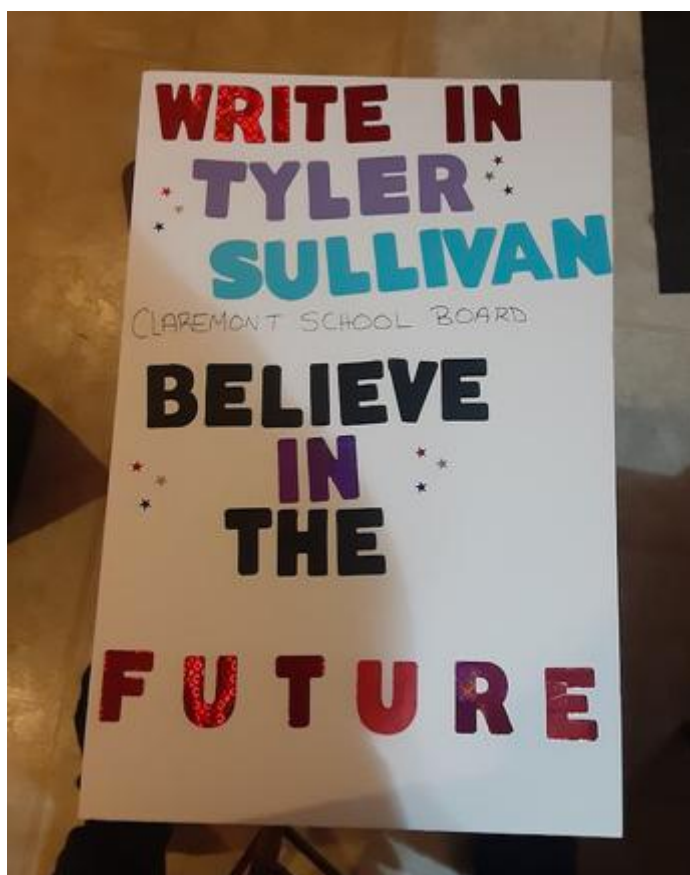
All felting materials included.

Students must bring:

- 2 standard sized bars if you have a preference in soaps
- The cut off feet of a pair of nylon hosiery
- A hand towel (wet felting can be messy)

Date/time: March 15, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

For more details, visit <https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#!/event/2020/3/15/learn-to-make-felted-soap>.



**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
MAKE A SILVER RING AT CLAREMONT
MAKERSPACE**

To register, please go here:
<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#/event/2020/3/11/make-a-silver-ring>

In this workshop, you'll learn the basics of silver-smithing while you make a simple silver ring! The instructor will guide you through various options for how to embellish your band, the shape of which you will get to choose. You'll try soldering and learn how to polish your finished product into a beautiful ring! No experience necessary. All materials will be provided, and \$5 materials fee is included in the registration cost.

Venue Claremont Makerspace
Address 46 Main St
Claremont NH 03743, US
Starts Wed Mar 11 2020, 5:30pm
Ends Wed Mar 11 2020, 8:30pm

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11
Intro to Arduino AT CLAREMONT
MAKERSPACE**

To register, please go here:
<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#/event/2020/3/11/intro-to-arduino>

This class is truly designed with the beginner in mind and serves as a great introduction to the world of physical computing! It is for anyone who has never played around with Arduino before and those who have played around a little bit but aren't entirely sure about how the basics work. We'll blink some lights, turn some motors, read some sensors and make a little noise. We'll touch on some very basic programming and prototyping concepts as well; 12 and up. Under 12 are welcome with an adult partner or if they've been approved by the instructor.

Class fee includes one REXQualis Arduino UNO R3 Project Basic Starter Kit or a ELE-GOO UNO Project Basic Starter Kit to take home after the class to continue making projects!

Laptops will be provided. Familiarity with Windows is strongly suggested. Non-members should bring a USB drive if they wish to save any work done in class. Please contact electronics@claremontmakerspace.org about the possibility of bringing your own laptop.

Venue Claremont Makerspace
Address 46 Main St
Claremont NH 03743, US
Starts Wed Mar 11 2020, 6:00pm EST

Ends Wed Mar 11 2020, 8:30pm EST

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14
CLAREMONT RABIES CLINIC
9-11am**

Low cost rabies clinic on Saturday, March 14, Sullivan County Humane Society will be holding a rabies clinic for dogs and cats from

9-11 at the Claremont Mason Lodge, 40 Maple Ave. Shots are \$10/each. No appointment necessary. By law, shots will be good for 3 years with proof, in the form of a rabies certificate, of previous vaccination, otherwise it is a 1 year shot.

Questions? Please call 542-3277 for more information.

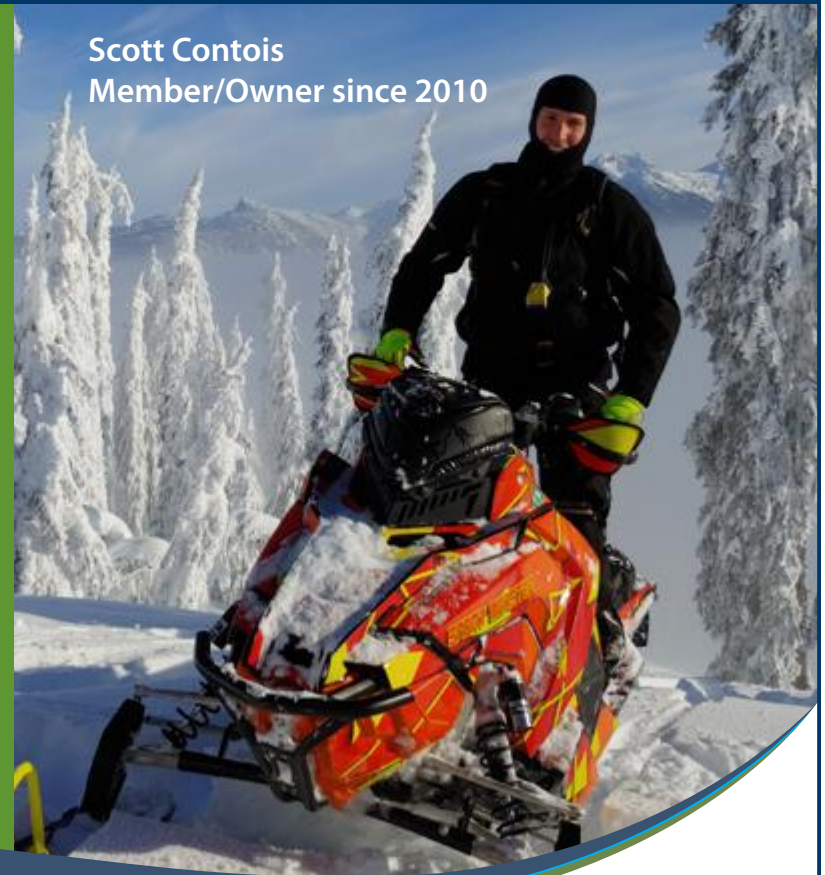
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CHARLESTOWN



TWIN VALLEY ESTATES, CHARLESTOWN— Attractive mobile home, 2 bedrooms, eat in kitchen plus a dining area. Attached covered porch, shed, landscaped lot. **See MLS# 4793053 for more info and photos. \$38,000.**



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**Ashley Bergeron
Agent**



This lovely ranch offers 3 bedrooms, large kitchen with plenty of cabinets, spacious open dining/living room with fireplace, and private deck on the back overlooking the seasonal views. Attached one-car garage.
\$150,000

Lebanon Fire Department Phone Scam Reported

LEBANON, NH—The Lebanon Police Department and Lebanon Fire Department have received reports from Lebanon residents about a new scam circulating. The scam callers claim to be calling about a Lebanon Fire Department fundraiser and ask the person for credit card information for a donation.

"This is a scam," said Lebanon Police Richard Mello. "The Lebanon Fire Department is not conducting a fundraiser and would never call residents to request a donation. We are reminding people to never give out personal or financial information over the phone.

"If you feel you have been the victim of a scam in Lebanon, please feel free to call the Lebanon Police Department at 603-448-1212."

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

iNaturalist Tutorial

Working Woodlands Workshop

9-11am

Location: Forest Center at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP, Woodstock, VT

Join the National Park and the Vermont Center for Ecostudies for a workshop on how to use the citizen science tool iNaturalist to collect data and learn about the species that surround us. Please bring your camera or smartphone and weather appropriate clothes to take your new "iNat" skills outside after the initial presentation. Co-sponsored by Vermont Coverts and the Vermont Woodlands Association

Please pre-register as space is limited. To register or learn more call (802) 457-3368 x 226, or email us at leah_marshall@partner.nps.gov. Be sure to tell us how many are coming.

**March 10 (Tuesday) – School Election polls are open
8:00am-7:00pm.**

Classified Ads

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLANNING BOARD HEARING Monday, March 9, 2020 7:00 PM Council Chambers, City Hall

Notice is hereby given that public hearings will be held concerning the following application:
(PL 2020-00002) Lynn Fisher, 446 Charlestown Road – Application for a subdivision of parcel 198-1 into two lots at 446 Charlestown Road. Tax Map 198, Lot 1. Zoning District: RR2
Interested parties may review the applications at the City of Claremont Planning and Development Department, 14 North Street during normal business hours. Comments may be submitted in person at the hearing, or in writing at 14 North Street, Claremont NH 03743, or by email at cityplanner@claremontnh.com.
Richard Wahrlich, Chair

PUBLIC NOTICE

Conservation Commission MEETING

Thursday, March 19, 2020 6:00 PM
Council Chambers, City Hall
Gary Dickerman, Chair

CLAREMONT Energy Advisory Committee PUBLIC Meeting

Monday, March 16, 2020 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Visitor Center, 14 North Street
Claremont NH

TUESDAY, MARCH 10 Business Planning

Do you have a great business idea but don't know how to launch it? Do you have an established business without a plan for growth? A solid business plan will help you map the road to success.

The next session is March 10th. Sign up now! For more information, please visit <https://rvcc.coursestorm.com/category/business-training>.

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CLAREMONT, NH

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Art Exhibit: Selections

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Saturdays, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Tuesdays-Fridays, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Library Arts Center Gallery

58 N. Main St., Newport, NH

Price: Free

SELECTIONS 2020—Selected Winners from the 2019 Juried Regional

Classified Ads

TELLER Full - Time Newport, NH

One Credit Union is currently seeking an experienced Full-Time Teller to join our Newport, NH team.

The ideal candidate will have:

- Minimum of (1-2) years TELLER experience: IDEAL
- Prior cash handling experience
- Particularly strong experience in branch operations and customer service.
- Strong math and computer skills.
- Strong oral and written communications.
- Ability to work branch hours.
- Demonstrated skills as a team player.
- Demonstrated organizational skills while managing multiple tasks.
- Organizational, time management and prioritization skills.

The Full-Time (Float) Teller reports to the Branch Manager and performs the duties of Teller.

Requirements:

- Education Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Wages commensurate with experience and skillsets.
- Benefits include Health Care, HRA, FSA, Dental, Vision, Life & Disability, 401k plan, Holidays (10), Paid Time Off (PTO)

Email cover letter, resume and
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Classified Ads

TELLER Full - Time (Float) Claremont, NH or Newport, NH

One Credit Union is currently seeking an experienced Full-Time Float Teller to join our Claremont, NH or Newport, NH team.

The ideal candidate will have:

- Minimum of (1-2) years TELLER experience: IDEAL
- Prior cash handling experience
- Particularly strong experience in branch operations and customer service.
- Strong math and computer skills.
- Strong oral and written communications.
- Ability to work branch hours.
- Demonstrated skills as a team player.
- Demonstrated organizational skills while managing multiple tasks.
- Organizational, time management and prioritization skills.

The Full-Time (Float) Teller reports to the Branch Manager and performs the duties of Teller. Will be required to travel from Branch to Branch as assigned by Branch Manager.

Requirements:

- Education Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Wages commensurate with experience and skillsets.
- Benefits include Health Care, HRA, FSA, Dental, Vision, Life & Disability, 401k plan, Holidays (10), Paid Time Off (PTO)

Email cover letter, resume and
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**FRI/SAT/SUN
MARCH 20, 21, 22**

Sisters Weekend Marketplace... a bit of whimsy for the home and soul...

Spring has arrived at Sisters and we are smiling... the store is bursting with bright colors, fabulous fragrances and delicious flavors.

Our "Meet The Maker" Belinda who works in polymer clay will be with us. Her Easter egg creations along with her miniature boxes, jewelry, and pen/pencil sets are simply sensational!

She will be demonstrating her work with us on Saturday. So get your Spring on and mark your calendar:

Fri March 20th 6-9pm Sat March 21st 10-5pm Sun March 22nd 11-4pm
Sisters Weekend Marketplace
82 Main St. Windsor VT
Follow along for some sneak peeks...
FB Sisters Weekend Marketplace
IG SistersWeekendMarketplace

FREE - Diabetes Prevention Program Informational Meeting

Tuesday, March 17 at 12-1 PM
Newport Health Center, Community Room

FREE Connect Suicide Prevention & Intervention Training

March 17, 1-4 PM
New London Hospital, Helm Conference Room

FRIDAY, March 20, 2020 at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP

Free Educator Workshop: Water - Environmental Data Collection

Join Shelburne Farms and the National Park Service for an exciting new series of place-based education workshops focused on collective science and stewardship in the Upper Valley. This March workshop is designed to familiarize educators with protocols to collect environmental data about Water using the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's GLOBE program.

For more details and to register, please visit the event page: <https://shelburnefarms.org/calendar/event/collective-science-and-stewardship-in-the-upper-valley-carbon-cycle-weather>

Workshop fees will be waived for this workshop thanks to generous support from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation's Wellborn Ecology Fund.

**MAY 6
NEWPORT SPRING JOB FAIR**

Newport's Spring Job Fair will be held on Wednesday, May 6, at the Wheeler Gymnasium at Towle Elementary School in Newport of from 2:00pm – 6:00pm. Presented by the Town of Newport's Economic Development Office.

Open to the public and free for businesses.

More information and RSVP at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1_CR-R6UGHqodVc2-2EwJNamHnaAn_N-DR3xgdmrK95biA/viewform?edit_requested=true

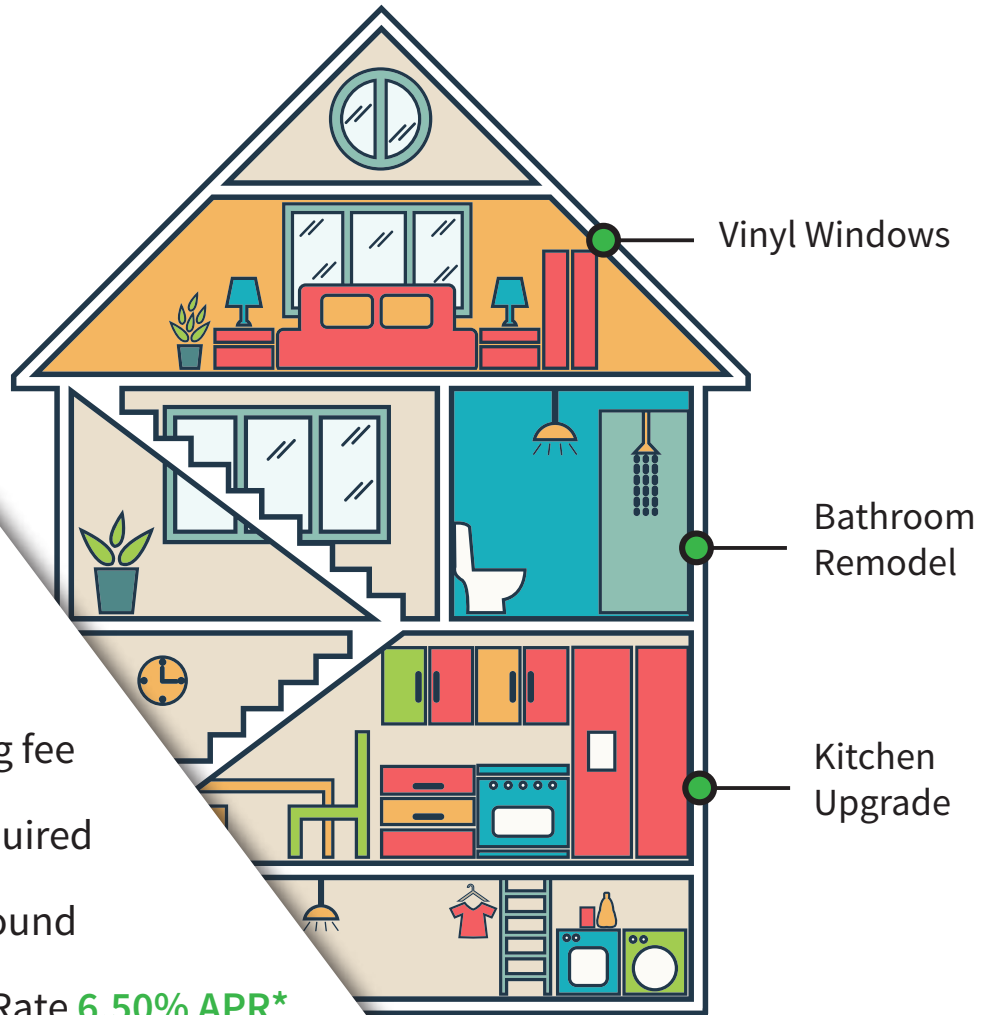
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Goddard, from A1

The project included a gutting of three stories and a basement; installation of seven stabilization braces; new construction of a three-story apartment annex; re-facing the brick façade; and creating the 36 units all the way from skeletal studs and beams through to eight studios, 17 one-bedroom and 11 two-bedroom units. The Goddard is heated by hot water; its sprinkler system is up to city code, thus meeting the most current fire safety standards.

The Goddard Block is the most recent project of New Eng-



land Family Housing (NEFH). CEO Kevin Lacasse characterized it as “a workforce housing
(Continued on page A16)

Seven styles of bricks were salvaged during the restoration. Masons re-used as many as possible, diligently patching together a virtual jigsaw puzzle. Their detailed work on the Pleasant Street façade is evident.

Photos by

Eric Zengota

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Goddard, from A15

project with mixed incomes. There are 25% of the units set aside as 'market-rate' housing, and the rest have various affordability criteria."

For more information on the apartments, contact Alliance Asset Management, Marcia Franklin, 603-931-0007 or 603-715-8331, mfranklin@alliancenh.com.

For information on the commercial space, contact New England Family Housing, Kevin Lacasse, 603-530-2091, klacasse@nefamilyhousing.com.

There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Goddard Block renovations, 10am Friday, March 20, 54 Pleasant St., Claremont.



Above: The original central staircase, dating to 1926, is one of the historical features preserved under the guidance of consultant Lisa Mausolf. Her documentation and reports flowed through the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources to the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. **Right:** A huge skylight brightens the top-floor hallway. David Rising, the Trumbull-Nelson project superintendent, points out another historical-preservation feature: exterior windows from 1927 repurposed as an interior light-well.

Photos by Eric Zengota

e-Ticker Business News

West Central Behavioral Health Announces New Medication-Assisted Treatment Program



Nurturing dreams... Transforming Lives...

CLAREMONT NH — West Central Behavioral has announced the opening of a Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program for opioid addiction with client intakes beginning begin March 9. The new MAT Program will be located at West Central's Substance Use Services clinic at 251 Elm Street in Claremont, NH.

The MAT Program will be highly personalized and use suboxone treatment. Individualized therapy and individual medication checks will also be offered.

According to Dr. Robert Morrell, director of West Central's Substance Use Services clinic, "Our goal is to help people break the vicious cycle of opioid addiction with a personalized program that treats clients compassionately and offers them expert care."

West Central Behavioral Health is the non-profit community mental health center for the Upper Valley and Sullivan County regions. It ensures access to advanced counseling, treatment, and support for people of all ages and income levels. Its vision is to eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness and substance use disorders so people will seek out help when they need it most.

With locations in Claremont, Lebanon, and Newport, NH, West Central offers adult outpatient services, child & family services, substance use services, 24/7 emergency services, and residential services. Its Emergency Ser-

vices crisis line phone number is 800-564-2578. To schedule an appointment call 603-542-5128. Learn more online at: www.wcbh.org.

Habitat for Humanity Still Accepting Applications for Homeownership

The Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity will be building a 2-family home in Lebanon this spring and is currently accepting applications for one of the duplex units. Applications are due Monday, March 30, 2020.

Habitat partner families are selected by our Family Committee through a careful application review and interview process. Please realize that the application process may take four months or longer from date of submission to final approval.

If you are unsure about your eligibility for a Habitat home, please call or email us with your questions. Upper Valley Habitat will review your application using the following criteria:

You must demonstrate a need for an Upper Valley Habitat home, including:

Your current housing situation is inadequate and substandard (overcrowded or unsafe).

You are living with family or friends, or in temporary housing.

You are cost-burdened: Rent is more than 30% of the household's monthly income.

The living conditions are inadequate for a

person living with disabilities.

You are unable to access conventional bank financing.

Your total family income must be between 30% and 80% of HUD County Median Family Income, adjusted for the size of the family. See the table for further detail.

You commit to pay an interest-free or low-interest rate mortgage.

You agree to provide 300 hours of "sweat equity" into building the home (including financial and home ownership education classes). In the case of a disability or other extenuating circumstances, we will make special arrangements to accommodate your needs.

For more information and an application, please visit <https://www.uvhabitat.org/homeownership>.

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CPD Announces Arrests Following Four-Month Long Drug Investigation

CLAREMONT, NH—For approximately the last four months, the Claremont Police Department, New Hampshire Attorney General’s Drug Task Force, Sullivan County Sheriff’s Office and New Hampshire State Police conducted a joint investigation into alleged controlled drug sales in the Claremont area. The investigation culminated in the arrest of two suspects and execution of a two search warrants at 5 School Street in Claremont on March 2. According to Claremont Police Chief Mark Chase, “There, investigators located a large quantity of suspected crack cocaine. The investigators also seized over \$13,000 cash and recovered four firearms with one of the firearms being confirmed as stolen from the Keene, NH, area.”

Chase identified those arrested as Christopher Fields, 40, New York, NY, who was located during a motor vehicle stop in Claremont and arrested on two counts of Drug Sales. The investigation resulted in additional charges of:

- Drug Enterprise Leader – 25 to life maximum punishment
- Possession/intent to distribute substance represented to be crack cocaine 5 grams or more – life exposure b/c of prior drug convictions (criminal liability for the conduct of another w/ Antwaun Tucker RSA 626:8)
- Sale of substance represented to be crack cocaine, 1 count for February 21st – 7.5-15 b/c of prior drug convictions (criminal liability for the conduct of another w/ Antwaun Tucker RSA 626:8)
- Sale of substance represented to be heroin, 1 count for February 21st – 7.5 – 15 b/c of prior drug convictions (criminal liability for the

conduct of another with Antwaun Tucker RSA 626:8) Felon in possession for each firearm (Ruger LCP .380, Ruger P 91, Glock 43, Century Arms 7.62 x 39 mm) (criminal liability for the conduct of another with Antwaun Tucker RSA 626:8)

The vehicle that Fields was traveling in was seized and a search warrant was executed on the vehicle; the search allegedly resulted in the seizure of approximately 600 bags of suspected heroin. This drug having an approximate \$6,000 street value;

Antwaun Tucker, 42, New York, NY, who was located and arrested at 5 School Street on four counts of drug sales. This investigation resulted in additional charges being filed on Tucker. Those charges include:

- Drug Enterprise Leader – 25 to life maximum punishment
- Possession/intent to distribute substance represented to be crack cocaine 5 grams or more – life exposure b/c of



Christopher Fields



Antwaun Tucker

prior drug convictions (criminal liability for the conduct of another with Christopher Fields RSA 626:8)


Sale of substance represented to be crack cocaine, 2 counts Feb 5th and Feb 6th – 7.5-15 b/c of prior drug convictions (criminal liability for the conduct of another with Christopher Fields RSA 626:8)

Sale of substance represented to be heroin, 2 counts Feb 5th and Feb 6th – 7.5 – 15 b/c of prior drug convictions (criminal liability for the conduct of another with Christopher Fields RSA 626:8)

Felon in possession for each firearm (Ruger LCP .380, Ruger P 91, Glock 43, Century Arms 7.62 x 39 mm) (criminal liability for the conduct of another with Christopher Fields RSA 626:8).

Fields and Tucker were both held at the Sullivan County House of Corrections and were both arraigned at Sullivan County Superior Court on March 3. After the hearing, both Fields and Tucker were held without bail and further court hearings will likely be held, said Chase.

The criminal investigation into the sale of illegal drugs in the Claremont and surrounding area remains open and further arrests are anticipated, said Chase.



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Claremont

Carl Bannon RPh
Chad Beane RPh
SRPClaremont@gmail.com

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Sat 9AM - 2PM

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Claremont Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten pre-registration is now open for all incoming kindergarten Claremont students for the 2020-2021 school year. In order for your child to qualify for kindergarten, you must be a Claremont resident and your child must be 5 years old by September 30, 2020.

Pre-registration will run until May 1, 2020.

If you would like to pre-register your child, please go to www.sau6.org to fill out the pre-registration form.

How Much Will Market Volatility Really Affect You?

There's no way to sugarcoat it: If you're an investor, you haven't liked what you've seen in the financial markets recently. The effects of the coronavirus triggered a market "correction" – a decline of 10 percent or more – and more volatility is almost certainly on the way. But instead of fretting over your investment statements, you could consider some more positive approaches to this situation.

For one thing, ask yourself this: When do you really need the money from your investment accounts, such as your IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan? These are retirement accounts, so, depending on your age, you may not need to tap into them for 20, 30 or even 40 years. If so, your losses may be "paper" ones only for now and aren't subjecting you to imminent financial jeopardy. This isn't to minimize the effect this downturn will have on you, of course – it always takes time to recover lost ground, and there are no guarantees with investing. However, although past performance does not guarantee future results, it is useful to note that, over its long history, the U.S. stock market has typically trended in one direction – up – despite serious and sometimes lengthy declines such as we saw in the Great Depression and, to a lesser extent, the bursting of the "dot.com" bubble of the early 2000s and the financial crisis of 2008-09.

Nonetheless, you may have shorter-term goals – a wedding, down payment on a home, overseas trip, etc. – for which you need to save. For these goals, though, you wouldn't want to touch your IRA or 401(k), anyway, as you'd likely face taxes and penalties. Instead, you'll want your money invested in liquid, low-risk accounts that will be minimally affected, if at all, by declines in the financial markets. These vehicles might include Certificates of Deposit (CDs), money market accounts and even good old-fashioned U.S. Savings Bonds, all of which offer the protection of principal and can pay higher rates than traditional bank savings accounts.

But you might also have longer-term goals that can be addressed through investments that may be somewhat or largely free of the effects of market volatility. For example, to supplement your retirement income, you might consider a fixed annuity, which can provide you with a guaranteed interest rate and, depending on how it's structured, an income stream you can't outlive.

Apart from the issue of when you might need money from your investment accounts, you might want to ask yourself another question: Just how much of my net worth is tied up in my portfolio? If you're like many people, you have other assets apart from your investments. If you're a homeowner, consider your house: Has it dropped in value at all during the recent market decline? Probably not. Do you still have just as much equity in it as you did a month ago? You might have even more. In other words, the value of your investments may have dropped a certain percentage, but the decline in your overall net worth may well be significantly smaller.

So, here's the bottom line: Large drops in the financial markets aren't much fun for investors – but that doesn't mean the bottom has dropped out on your financial future. Keeping things in perspective is a good move in all of life's endeavors – including investing.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC



Martha Maki, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

54 Opera House Sq
Claremont, NH 03743
603-542-7667

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Intro to 3D Printing

CLAREMONT, NH—Intro to 3D Printing is for anyone that has zero to little experience with 3D Printing. We will provide an overview of 3D printers and the printing process – covering everything from the way 3D printers are built through the ways we use them to create objects. In this beginner level class, we will discuss different methods of 3D printing and cover the fundamental steps for designing and printing models. Participants will get to know how the MakerSpace's printers – the Lulz-Bot Taz 6 and Lulzbot Mini – work, and how to use them safely. Bringing your own laptop is strongly encouraged! March 13, 6:30 p.m.

Mar 13 2020, 6:30 p.m. For more details and to register, <https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#!/event/2020/2/21/intro-to-3d-printing>.



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Community Remains Opposed to C&D Transfer Station Variance Request

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—Around 100 people attended the Zoning Board meeting Monday night as the board heard additional testimony from the attorney representing American Recycling & Disposal regarding its quest for a variance to operate a C&D transfer station at its recycling facility on Industrial Blvd. at the junction. Those attending filled Council Chambers, and others went to “overflow” space with a TV set up so they could at least follow the proceedings. In all, the company is seeking a special exemption and three variances. Unlike its past variance request that would have created an outside C&D sorting operation, the company has now presented plans, albeit somewhat limited so far, for an indoor operation. While attorney Biron Bedard, with Ransmeier & Spellman out of Concord, NH, said they want to replace the existing building with a new one, there were few details Monday night on what type of building they were proposing. Bedard said the inside operation would include dust control, ventilation and a sprinkler system and that there would be no loading outside, all would be done inside the structure, “eliminating” dust and noise. Bedard said that the “operation already exists” and that the exemption would allow “a different material to come in, be loaded on rail cars and shipped to the midwest.” He said that the availability to dispose of C&D material is limited in New Hampshire and that there is no such facility in the southwestern part of the state. “There is a need for this kind of operation,” he said.

While in the past the company has said as many as 50 trucks a day would be hauling C&D material—some of which would likely include lead and asbestos say those in opposition—to the site, Monday night the figure was said to be 77, including employee vehicles. The company has said it planned to process some 500 tons of material a day, removing the recycled material and loading the waste onto rail cars, up to five a day, to be transported out west; Wheelabrator took in some 200 tons a day.

Residents remained opposed to the plan and many spoke up during the meeting reiterating their opposition. John and Jan Lambert, who own three businesses near Industrial Blvd., both spoke against, with Jan saying, “We want you to reject this application” and John adding, “Demolition is not recycling, and they have a permit for recycling, not demolition.” They have retained attorney Amy Manzelli, of BCM Environmental & Land Law, who submitted a 12-page letter to the Zoning Board outlining the many ways in which the company’s proposal falls short of zoning laws, they said. John Lambert added that the City is trying to invite tourists and business people to the community via the train station, and that the heavy truck traffic will only add to the pounding the roads are taking, “no matter the route. The overall value of our community will decrease. It’s the wrong location for our town. It’s not recycling.”

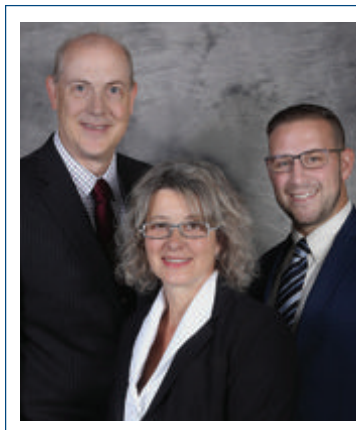
Other residents brought up a wide range of concerns, including who would pay for road damage, dust that could contain toxins on the trucks as they come and go from the facility—there are

no plans to wash down trucks—impact on the environment, truck routes and noise. Local realtor Bonnie Miles expressed concerns about asbestos from older houses that are demolished and said that “you can’t tell me values (of houses near the operation) are not going to be dropping.”

Board members approved vice chair Abigail Kier’s call for a regional impact review for a number of other communities, including Charlestown, Newport, Sunapee, Cornish, Plainfield, Ascutney and Weathersfield, and asked Bedard to provide documentation on noise, traffic routes, a decommission plan and an appraisal study of surrounding properties for the next meeting, which will be held on April 6. Kier also requested that the City provide the Zoning Board with definitions of recycling and transfer stations and C&D.

The meeting started with Kier reading into the record several letters of other residents who opposed the plan. Thus far, no residents have voiced support for the exemption.

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Communities, Institutions Put Coronavirus Protocols into Place

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

Area residents got a closer introduction to the coronavirus situation last week as word was received that a presumptive case of COVID-19 had tested positive in Grafton County. Last Monday, the NH Department of Health and Human Services announced the case, saying that “This individual is an adult male from Grafton County and is currently isolated at home with mild symptoms. DHHS conducted testing...on the individual after they returned from travel to Italy and notified their healthcare provider after developing fever and respiratory symptoms within 14 days of travel.

“This morning, we identified the first presumptive positive test result for COVID-19 in New Hampshire. This positive test is in an individual who traveled to Italy and developed symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within several days of travel. At this time, there is no evidence of more widespread community transmission in New Hampshire,” said State Epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan. “The State is conducting an investigation to determine potential exposure to other people in order to quickly isolate and test any additional people with suspect coronavirus.”

The NH Public Health Laboratories (PHL) conducted the test and identified the presumptive positive result. The patient’s specimen was sent to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for confirmatory testing. The CDC is conducting confirmatory tests on all state laboratory tests that are found to be presumptively positive for COVID-19.

DHHS started a contact investigation and reached out to individuals who may have been in direct contact with the individual. Public health professionals are monitoring any close contacts and ask them to self-quarantine for 14 days following their last exposure to monitor for potential symptoms of the virus. Household contacts of the person who has presumptively tested positive have been self-quarantining at home since the state and healthcare providers determined that the individual met the criteria to be evaluated for COVID-19.

On Tuesday, DHHS announced the second presumptive positive test result in New

Hampshire for COVID-19. This individual is an adult male from Grafton County who was in close contact with the first person to test positive for COVID-19 and is currently isolated at home. DHHS is awaiting confirmation of two

presumptive positive test results by the CDC. DHHS began a contact investigation for the second person who tested positive and said it expected additional cases may be identified
(Continued on page A23)

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that are related to this investigation.

The contact investigation for the first person identified as a presumptive positive case was initiated as soon as the person was identified for testing. Through the course of the investigation, DHHS determined that the first patient, despite having been directed to self-isolate, attended an invitation-only private event on Friday, February 28. DHHS has issued an official order of isolation to the first patient under RSA-141-C:11. DHHS is contacting attendees who had close contact with the person during the event and notifying them to follow the recommended 14-day self-isolation.

Joanne M. Conroy, MD, CEO & President of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health, released a statement saying that “The health and safety of our patients, the public and our employees is of the utmost importance to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health. When confirmed cases of Coronavirus in the U.S. escalated early last week, we immediately implemented established appropriate response protocols. These protocols included activating internal, multi-disciplinary teams that work closely with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services and that are trained to respond to rapidly-evolving situations such as COVID-19. Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health recognizes that, unfortunately, an employee who was directed by Dartmouth-Hitchcock to self-quarantine did not comply. We understand the public’s concern. All appropriate procedures were followed by Dartmouth-Hitchcock and we are confident that no patients at Dartmouth-Hitchcock were put at risk of exposure.”

On Friday, DHHS announced that on March 5, the Metropolitan Medical Response System, a highly-trained volunteer corps affiliated with DHHS, deployed to Lebanon to collect specimens from people determined to be potentially at risk for COVID-19. MMRS deployment was enabled by the Declaration of a Public Health Incident issued by DHHS Commissioner Lori Shabinette. Specimens were collected from three community members for COVID-19 testing. MMRS is comprised of volunteer doctors, nurses, pharmacists, paramedics, EMTs, mental health professionals and non-medical personnel who provide medical support during public health events. As of this writing, Friday afternoon, 25 people had been tested in New Hampshire with two testing presumptive positive.

Communities and institutions began rolling

out policies last week related to dealing with COVID-19. On Tuesday, **River Valley Community College** cancelled all day and evening classes at its campuses, saying that one of the instructors was in the presence of another being tested for the coronavirus. “The college closed as a matter of caution to allow us an opportunity to assess the situation and consult with the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health Services,” said a statement issued Tuesday. Classes resumed on Wednesday; the instructor was going to be off campus for two weeks out of precaution.

Claremont City Manager Ed Morris released a statement on Wednesday stating that the City wanted “to let the community know that we are in constant contact with the Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network through Fire Chief Burr and will advise the public as information becomes available. The most important thing each of us can do is to take basic precautions to help minimize the spread of other respiratory illnesses, like colds and the flu, that can also help keep an illness like COVID-19 from spreading. These precautions include but are not limited to:

- Frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

- Stay home when you are sick.

- Cover your cough or sneeze with your sleeve or a tissue. Throw the tissue in the trash.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

“We will update the public as the situation develops with any guidance or directives that may affect our community,” said Morris. “Please be aware that the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is leading the New Hampshire response to COVID-19. What we really want the public to understand is that the City is complying with all directives from the Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network, New Hampshire Health and Human Services, and the CDC. Our main objectives are to alleviate unnecessary concern while safeguarding the health of our community.”

The Network is governed by local community leaders who serve on the Public Health Advi-

sory Council and is funded by federal grants, local nonprofits, and Dartmouth-Hitchcock. GSCPHR is one of 13 public health regions in NH and comprises 15 towns, one city, approx. 47,000 people and two hospitals (Valley Regional Hospital & New London Hospital).

SAU 6 also posted a statement on its website, reiterating standard, common sense steps people can take to protect themselves and urged parents to teach their children about proper handwashing, not touching their faces, etc; parents were also reminded about keeping sick children home, standard practices with any cold, flu or flu-type illness. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), children 10 and under are the least affected group of individuals when it comes to COVID-19.

Also, **Valley Regional Hospital** released a press release on Wednesday, saying in part that “We are screening all patients to determine if they have a history of travel from countries with outbreaks. If we have a confirmed or potential patient with COVID-19, we will institute standard protocols, as well as additional measures, to prevent the potential spread of the virus. Here are the current CDC recommendations to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:

- “Take everyday preventive actions for respiratory infections, such as avoiding close contact (CDC defines as “within 6 ft.”) with people who are sick, staying home when sick, and washing hands often. Avoid traveling to places with widespread or sustained community transmission of the coronavirus.”

VRH also added, “For your safety and ours, all patients will be screened when entering the hospital, urgent care, physician practices or any of our specialty clinics. This should only add a few extra minutes to your visit, but please be prepared that you may experience delays depending on how many patients we are seeing.

- “All patients with appointments in the hospital building will be required to enter through the main entrance and after hours through the Emergency Department entrance for screening.

- “Anyone with a cough will be required to wear a mask the entire time they are here.

- “If you plan on visiting the inpatient unit, and are exhibiting any cold or flu-like symptoms, we ask that you please not visit until your symptoms have cleared. Likewise, if there is any sickness within your household, for the health of our patients and staff, we ask that

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you please postpone your visit.”

At the county level, **county manager Derek Ferland** said they were remaining vigilant in guarding against COVID-19 as well. Those being taken into the jail get a standard health screening upon their arrival and that will continue as normal procedure. With the population being younger and generally healthier, there is a lower chance of infection. However, that does not diminish the need for protocols being used, especially with a closed inmate population. At the nursing home, director of nursing April Bartley said, “We are a 24/7 facility where we take care of residents.” She said that they have posted notices at the entrances regarding the virus and for recent travelers to wait 14 days before visiting the facility if they have traveled abroad to designated Level 3 Travel Health countries that include China, Iran, South Korea and Italy. When asked if residents or others had asked questions about the coronavirus at the nursing home, Bartley said that there had not been any “concerns expressed.” She said they had rolled out educational materials to staff to keep employees up to date on the situation, however.

As far as the jail and nursing home were concerned, said Ferland, they were utilizing the standard protocols and information being provided by the NHDHHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) along with common sense, reminding everyone to do their due diligence until the risk abates.

UPDATE:

On Sunday, March 8, 2020, City of Lebanon officials were alerted by DHHS that another case of COVID-19 has been identified in the Grafton County. An individual who attended a worship service at Hope Bible Fellowship in West Lebanon has tested positive for COVID-19.

Recommendations from DHHS regarding this new development are as follows:

“Anyone who attended the March 1 social or service and has developed symptoms of fever or respiratory illness should immediately stay home and distance themselves from household members and contact the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at 603-271-4496 (after-hours: 603-271-5300).”

DHHS has stated there were approximately 60 people in attendance at the March 1st service.

Sunday, March 8, 2020, 3:45 pm

Dear SAU 6 School Community Members:

It was disclosed earlier today to Maple Avenue Elementary School Principal Kathleen Bunnell, that one of her staff members attended a church service on Sunday, March 1st, at the Hope Bible Fellowship in Lebanon, NH. The New Hampshire Division of Public Health Services (DPHS) informed the Hope Bible Fellowship pastor that two persons at the worship services on 3/1/20 became sick this week and were tested and are presumptively positive for COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus. Public health officials reported that the persons involved are in self-isolation at home, under the supervision of a public health professional. Even though the Maple Avenue Elementary staff member is not exhibiting any current signs of illness, the NH DPHS is instructing anyone who attended the service on Sunday, March 1st for 14 days from the date of the service through March 15 to remain in self-isolation at home, under the supervision of a public health professional. Therefore, the staff member will remain home and will not return to Maple Avenue Elementary School until March 16, 2020.

I would like to commend the staff and administration at Maple Avenue for their commitment to the health and safety of students and staff members and for taking such immediate, preventative actions to ensure the continued well-being of the Maple Elementary School Community.

Michael C. Tempesta
SAU 6 Superintendent



Responding to COVID-19

Since the confirmation of COVID-19 in New Hampshire, public and health officials at the federal, state, county and local level are working together to respond appropriately. At a recent press conference hosted by the NH Hos-

pital Association, our federal delegation, governor and health officials stated our response must be science based, coordination and communication are critical, and NH is prepared. Additionally, they noted that we can all help minimize the transmission of this virus by taking proactive measures as outlined by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As stated on the CDC’s website, “COVID-19 is a new disease, caused by a novel (or new) coronavirus that has not previously been seen in humans.” Given the science of the virus, the CDC has outlined its response as follows:

“Global efforts at this time are focused concurrently on containing the spread and mitigating the impact of this virus. The federal government is working closely with state, local, tribal, and territorial partners, as well as public health partners, to respond to this public health threat. The public health response is multi-layered, with the goal of detecting and minimizing introductions of this virus in the United States. CDC is operationalizing all of its pandemic preparedness and response plans, working on multiple fronts to meet these goals, including specific measures to prepare communities to respond to local transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19.”

This, in turn, has initiated response actions at various levels of government nationwide. In NH, the CDC and Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) coordinate directly with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Emergency Management. These two entities then coordinate directly with the county Public Health Networks (PHN). The PHNs, in turn, interact directly with municipal emergency directors within their county.

In Claremont, the local Director of Emergency Management is the Chief of the Fire Department, Bryan Burr. The local Emergency Management team is comprised of public officials, health officials and first responders. Each week, the team receives a weekly update from DHHS and NH Emergency Management. That information is then forwarded to City Manager Morris.

Should action be required, the Claremont Emergency Team is prepared. Having practiced numerous emergency related exercises, the team knows what to do in the case of an epidemic.

Charlene Lovett is the Mayor of Claremont and welcomes your feedback. Please email questions, comments or concerns to her at clovett.ccc@gmail.com.



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