

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**SAU6 Staff, Teachers
Join the Ranks of the
Vaccinated; page 8**

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March 22, 2021

Respecting the Past, Creating a Future

Ink Factory Rehabbing Former JSL Building

By Eric Zengota
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—He spent many a Friday evening roller skating there as a kid, said Jeff Barrette. Fast forward a few decades to Christmas Day 2020. Jeff, his wife, Sarah, and their two daughters are there skating across the same floor, their laughs echoing off the 18-foot high walls.

“There” is the old Junior Sports League building on School Street in Claremont. The Barrettes’ company, The Ink Factory, which has outgrown its current building on Water Street, bought the property from the City in December. The Barrettes are investing \$400,000 to remodel the new quarters, which will also have a dedicated space for their other business, VegetaBall’s Artisan Pesto.

“It’s a very strong building,” said Jeff Barrette.

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The two-tiered spectator gallery will be leveled up to one floor. An office and a conference room will have windows overlooking the equipment room (Eric Zengota photo).



New Hampshire Wildlife Meets Climate Change

A Series of Public Presentations, Hands-on Activities Offered by the Claremont Conservation Commission

CLAREMONT, NH—Beginning April 1 through October 2021, a series of four presentations and complementary workshops—addressing the impact of climate change on New Hampshire wildlife—will be offered via Zoom by the Claremont Conservation Commission. For more program information and the Zoom

link go to: <https://www.claremontnh.com/environmental-education>.

Informative and participatory, the presentations include overviews by wildlife experts and hands-on activities in which participants can apply new knowledge and skills. Designed for adults and students, they are designed to help

attendees understand the far reaching effects of global warming on animals and their habitats in New Hampshire, including amphibians, birds, pollinators, and water animals.

The first program, Climate Change: Evidence, Impacts and Action, Thursday, April 1,

(Continued on page 3)



CFD Called to Structure Fire Saturday Morning

CLAREMONT, NH—At 0937 hours, on the morning of March 20, the Claremont Fire De-

partment was dispatched to a reported structure fire at 74 Charlestown Road. The duty shift responded with two engines. A first alarm was requested by the duty captain while responding. Upon arrival, the first due engine found heavy smoke coming from a single-story wood frame structure. The duty crew stretched an inch and three-quarter line and made entry into the building. After knocking down the fire, crews checked for extension and overhauled the fire area. The fire was called under control at 1023 hours.

A Ladder from Newport assisted at the scene. Engines from Ascutney and Cornish covered the Claremont Fire Station.

Fire damage was limited to one end of the house and the attached single bay garage. The rest of the house sustained severe smoke and heat damage. The resident was awoken

and someone knocking on the door trying to alert him of the fire.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation by members of the Claremont Fire Department but is believed to be accidental at this time, said the CFD.

(Eric Zengota photos)

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Located in the Brown Block.

Series, from page 1

at 7:00 p.m., features Franklin Pierce University Institute for Climate Action’s Dr. Fred Rogers (Professor of Geology and Environmental Science), Dr. Catherine Koning (Professor of Environmental Science), and Dr. Gerald Burns (Professor of English). Dr. Rogers explains the science of the greenhouse effect and the causes of our climate change crisis. Dr. Koning talks about how local wildlife species—including spring peepers, wood frogs, salamanders, and other vernal pool species—are impacted by annually rising average temperatures. Additionally, Dr. Burns describes the human factor, asking how we got ourselves into this environmental crisis and what we might do to fix this existential problem.

Also Brett Amy Thelen (Science Director for the Harris Center for Conservation Education) introduces the Harris Center’s vernal pool inventory project. The complementary hands-on activity will be held Saturday, April 3, from 11:00 to noon. Participants can learn how to document vernal pools and sign up for in-person field training on amphibian egg mass identification and on how to gather vernal pool collection data.

Additional dates to save for the upcoming Climate Change presentations include:

- May 8 – The Effects of Climate Change on NH Birds. Avian conservation biologist Dr. Pamela Hunt at NH Audubon explains how climate change disrupts New Hampshire birds and their habitats.
- June (date TBD) – Pollinators in a Changing Climate. Lisa Wise (UNH Cooperative Extension Climate Adaptation Program) and Heidi Holman (Biologist, NH Fish & Game Department) explain the importance of pollinators and how to help these invaluable insects in our own yards.
- October 9 and 16 – River Restoration and Resilience.

Colin Lawson, M.S. (New England Culvert Coordinator), John Magee (Fish Habitat Program coordinator, NH Fish & Game Department), Lisa Loosigian (SOAK Coordinator, NH Department of Environmental Services), and Jeremy Clay (Assistant Director, Claremont Department of Public Works) discuss how water wildlife, who depend on rivers and streams as habitats, are now under threat from global warming and how to make their and our water habitats healthy.

The Claremont Conservation Commission actively manages Claremont’s natural areas guided by the ethic of sustainable stewardship. The series is presented in collaboration with Taking Action for Wildlife, a partnership among UNH Cooperative Extension, the NH Fish & Game Department, and the NH Association of Conservation Commissions. It is funded in part by the New England

Grassroots Environmental Fund (www.grassrootsfund.org).

SHS Alumni Meeting March 24

CLAREMONT, NH—The SHS Alumni meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 17th, has been moved to Wednesday, March 24th. All alumni are welcome.

CDA Pecan Sale

CLAREMONT, NH—Catholic Daughters of the Americas are sponsoring an Easter Holiday Pecan Sale on Saturday, March 27, and Sunday, March 28, in St. Mary Church after all Mass services; 12 oz. Mammoth Pecans, 12 oz. Jumbo Roasted Cashews, Glazed Pecans and Pecan Clusters will be available.



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Commentary

NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

Hammering Out a Capital Budget

While partisan party politics continues to dominate the overall tone of New Hampshire's House of Representatives so far in 2021, a few House policy committees are working together in a more bipartisan manner to improve our state.

One example is the House Public Works & Highways Committee, a committee of which I am again a member for the 2020-2022 Legislative Term. This is a committee that, from my past experience, has had fewer partisan squabbles and helped pass more important bipartisan legislation than many other policy committees. Among such legislation that the Public Works Committee considers in odd-numbered years is our New Hampshire's biennial capital budget that appropriates money to be bonded and spent on various capital projects throughout the state. Capital projects traditionally include the construction, renovation, and additions to state buildings and grounds as well as the purchase of vehicles, heavy equipment, and computer hardware for state government. This budget is proposed by the governor by Feb. 15 of every odd-numbered year as required by current law, and then referred to Public Works for its scrutiny as well as committee recommendation, which is usually positive with a number of amended revisions. Next, it is sent to the full House for a vote, which is usually at the same time as the operating budget in early to mid-April of every odd year. Every capital budget that I can remember since entering the House in 1992 has been designated as House Bill 25, and is primarily sponsored by the House Public Works & Highways Chair, who this term is Bedford Rep. John Graham, a Republican.

Gov. Christopher Sununu's third proposed capital budget as contained in House Bill 25's original version would authorize bonding a total of \$340,522,089 in funds. More specifically, \$127,338,718 in New Hampshire General Fund Bonding, \$14,845,000 in Highway Fund bonding, as well as \$16,288,000 in bonding from other state funds, including the Fish & Game Dept. and Liquor Commission.

Finally, the over \$340 million total includes \$182,050,371 in federal funds, most of which would be leveraged with the help of some of the previously-listed state funds. But please remember that the Governor's proposal is just the starting point for House Bill 25. Since I have been a member of the Public Works Committee, there have always been changes made to the Governor's proposed capital budget in my committee. Furthermore, additional changes are usually made by the New Hampshire Senate. Finally, even more changes are often made as part of a compromise capital budget hammered out in June by the House and Senate during a joint committee of conference usually formed to resolve disagreements between the two bodies. Then the bill will be sent to Gov. Sununu, who can either sign it into law, veto it,



or let it become law without a signature.

However, when it comes to House Bill 25, Public Works from my past experience mainly reviews the portion of the capital budget funded by General Fund Bonds. As part of this review, the committee calls on the State Treasurer to answer questions about House Bill 25. Among other questions, the committee this year has asked Treasurer Monica Mezzapelle how the amount of money to be bonded for various projects as proposed by the Governor would affect New Hampshire's Debt Affordability Ratio, specifically, a ratio expressed as a percentage and determined by the amount of all General Fund Bonds issues versus the total amount of General Fund Revenue the state has at certain times when the Treasurer issues such bonds. According to my understanding, current state law prohibits our debt affordability ratio from going above 10 percent. Although from past experience the ratio has never gone above eight percent and is now in the six to seven percent range according to Treasurer Mezzapelle, a range she indicated that would not dramatically change, if the House and Senate finally approve the Governor's proposal of \$127 million in General Fund Bonding, or even higher up to \$135 million.

Readers may ask why keeping New Hampshire's debt affordability ratio to a low percentage is so important. Well, if our state maintains such a low 6-7 percent range then the situation results in the three major bond rating agencies giving us a higher bond rating for state bonds. Ratings now between Aa1 and AA+, which are considered good. Such good ratings mean that not only are our state government's borrowing costs are less in the form of lower interest rates, but that borrowing costs for our counties, municipalities, and school districts are also usually less. Something that is always in the back of my mind as I scrutinize the capital budget. Anyway, more on House Bill 25 in future columns. **Email: jocloutier@comcast.net**

NH Delegation Announces Nearly \$7 Million in Federal Grants for Manchester, Lebanon & Pease Airports

WASHINGTON, DC— Tuesday, U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH) and Representatives Annie Kuster (NH-02) and Chris Pappas (NH-01) announced that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) awarded \$6,931,354 in federal grant funding to Manchester, Pease and Lebanon Airports through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act that was passed by Congress and signed into law in December.

The continued operation of New Hampshire's airports is needed to ensure essential workers and supplies are able to reach the state and to keep necessary travel open and available for Granite State businesses and industries. By providing urgently needed economic relief to Manchester, Pease and Lebanon Airports, this funding will help support operations at the three facilities, prevent personnel layoffs and back sanitization efforts combating the spread of pathogens like the COVID-

(Continued on page 5)

Airports, from page 4

19 virus, said the delegation in a joint statement.

The breakdown of funding is as follows:

- Manchester-Boston Regional (Manchester) – \$4,498,004
- Portsmouth International at Pease (Portsmouth) – \$1,427,609
- Lebanon Municipal (Lebanon) – \$1,005,741

As transportation and shipping hubs, Granite State airports are fundamental pieces of New Hampshire's infrastructure network and serve as catalysts of economic growth for our communities," said Senator Shaheen. "These federal grants will provide urgently needed financial relief to Manchester, Lebanon and Pease Airports, allowing these three facilities to weather severe revenue shortfalls that threaten their survival, prevent staff layoffs, support sanitization and public health efforts and provide Granite Staters with reliable and accessible transportation."

Nursing Home Upgrade: Go or No Go ?

By Rep. Walt Stapleton

Last week in *e-Ticker News Commentary*, Rep. Gary Merchant presented a good recap of Sullivan County Nursing Home history and the current rehab decision facing the Sullivan County Delegation in his article, "NH House Happenings—"What to Build? That is the Question". The project must be decided very soon against deadline of July 1st to avail quoted guarantees on bond and construction costs and to secure contractor start of work this Spring!

So, I won't repeat all that again here. Instead, I want to focus on that sense of urgency and why we should act to approve the existing project plan.

The Sullivan County Commissioners and their very capable staff, along with the architect and construction consultants, have formulated excellent plans, bids, and logistics for this project, but if we miss the July 1st deadline, the project will be delayed for at least another year and that means further rise in construction and material costs, and increasing bond rates as the economy heats up coming out of the COVID pandemic.

There is some thought that perhaps trimming the project from 156 beds to the current average census of 135 beds might save some of the cost off the \$54M project. But how much? There's not enough time for a rework of the plans and an amended design and quote without delay to the project start. The revision work, re-permitting and admin. expenses could cost up to \$1M, eroding some of that 21-bed slim-down advantage.

The loss of those 21 beds would devastate the care capacity and revenue capability of the renewed Nursing Home: No room for expansion when we're faced with an aging Boomer population, demographic growth in the County, no capacity for additional private pay patients that bolster revenue over lower Medicaid rates, no room left for increasing short-term rehab needs, and worse, may require additional space in a decade or so – all completely erasing the gains attained with the full-bed design!

For awhile we thought that, because of the rising construction costs from when the project was first considered in 2016 and the tight labor and materials market resulting from COVID, it might be more quality/cost-effective to consider an entirely brand new building. But the estimate for that on the Unity campus is about \$80M. The commissioners looked at several off-campus sites in Claremont and Newport, but that would involve additional property acquisition, land development, and utilities upgrade costs, bringing the total to \$100+ M! Additionally the separate facility would add about a \$1M overall annual increase in County operating expenses due to the loss of shared assets at a single Unity location, i.e., heating from the Biomass plant, good well water, laundry and food support, etc., in concert with the Dept. of Corrections county jail.

And, incidentally, the plan for the upgraded facility actually includes 45% new construction along with the rehab of Stearns and MacConnell buildings, and, demolition of the obsolete 1930 Sanders building! So, post project, we'd have no remnant buildings to market, maintain or demolish! Clean fix.

Sullivan County Commissioners have well-managed available budget assets, engaged competitive construction bonds, eked out competitive construction bids and continue to ferret out additional Fed and State grants, project or reserve funds, and COVID relief (like the \$8.4M allocating to the County from the current American Recovery Act), any of which could enable lowering of the bond principal and/or term from 29 years to 25 years. Such resources could mitigate the project's tax rate increase, which prior to these possibilities, was roughly around \$44 on a \$150K home, and \$61 on a \$200K valuation. Also countervailing are some legislative budget and education funding/tax relief initiatives in the works.

So, "all the ducks are in a row" and are ready, set, but awaiting the "go"! This project, as already designed, will enhance quality care and add 50-60 years of extended, code-compliant facility life at a value-captured cost. Further delay will jeopardize this opportunity and add further significant expense.

Please give me your timely input so I can properly represent you at our forthcoming Delegation meeting and the important vote on this project: waltstapleton@comcast.net, cell 603-995-1034, text, voice and voicemail. U.S. Mail: 90 Veterans Park Rd, Claremont NH 03743.



Please see related Commentary by the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners on page 28

15th TPN Steppin' Up Names National Field Representatives as Event Honorary Chair

CLAREMONT, NH—National Field Representatives will partner with Turning Points Network as Honorary Chair and Lead Sponsor of the Sullivan County crisis and support center's 15th Steppin' Up to End Violence that culminates on Saturday, May 15, at 9:30 AM.

As a family-owned business for 30 years, National Field Representatives has become one of the most respected names in the property inspection and preservation industry and a leader in employee teamwork, camaraderie and benefits.

Known for its annual signature event, Turning Points Network has hosted hundreds of supporters walking and running through historic downtown Claremont in years past. Steppin' Up 2021 will be a virtual event, encouraging individuals, organizations and companies to raise money anywhere, anytime, any way they want – from now through May 15.

On Saturday, May 15, a video of the combined efforts – teams, individuals, sponsors and volunteers – will be shared on-line, followed by a virtual celebration and awards party on May 26.

This year's Steppin' Up virtual event will include contests for best mask, best costume, best team theme, best pet participant as well as recognition of top fundraisers and sponsors.

Steppin' Up participants can submit photos and videos of their fundraising efforts to TPN before May 5 to be included in the event. Go to <https://www.turningpointsnetwork.org/steppin-up> or to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/events/1393623240984049> or call 603-542-8338 for details about teams, sponsorships, contests and to register for the free link to watch these events on-line on May 15 and May 26.

Turning Points Network serves all of Sullivan County with offices in Claremont and Newport, helping people of all ages move from the darkness of abuse toward the light of respect, healing and hope.

For information about survivor services, contact 1.800.639.3130 or www.turningpointsnetwork.org or find us on Facebook.

www.facebook.com/etickernews

Charlestown Middle School Teams with RVAPL for Podcast Project

CHARLESTOWN, NH—In January, Charlestown Middle School 6th graders were assigned to create a podcast interview using primary sources—someone who is an expert or who has had direct experience with an event. Everyone had free choice to choose their topic, and one student, Clynton Harris, wanted to know what it was like to run an animal shelter.

His teacher, Rose Marie Marinace, put him in touch with the shelter staff and shelter president of the River Valley Animal Protection League, Donna Montgomery, who gave his questions to the shelter director, Kara Lee. Harris and Lee couldn't meet for the interview because of COVID, but everyone worked creatively to help the project be a success.

Lee wrote down the answers to Harris's questions about running the shelter and caring for the animals. Harris wrote a script that helped tell the story with her expertise, and then he recorded it. The topics touched on the kinds of animals cared for at the shelter, what fostering an animal is, the kinds of food the cats receive and how rescued kitties make great pets.

Harris's enthusiasm for the project from start to finish was noticed by his teacher, and they worked together to polish it up for submission to National Public Radio's Student Podcast Challenge.

Montgomery said that she and Marinace hope to bring students to see the shelter at a later date when field trips are allowed "because supporting an early interest in volunteering is good for kids and for the non-profits they support. Until then, we'll be waiting to hear the winners of the contest in the late spring."



Clynton Harris

REMINDER

to all Owners of property in Claremont

– your 4th quarter property tax bill is due by March 31st.

This bill should be the same amount that was due on January 2nd**.

** unless there was a change/upgrade in property





NH DHHS COVID-19 Update – March 21, 2021

CONCORD, NH – On Sunday, March 21, 2021, DHHS announced 241 new positive test results for COVID-19, for a current PCR test positivity rate of 2.4%. Today’s results include 181 people who tested positive by PCR test and 60 who tested positive by antigen test. There are now 2,377 current COVID-19 cases diagnosed in New Hampshire. Of the results reported today:

3/20: 241 new cases

Several cases are still under investigation. Additional information from ongoing investigations will be incorporated into future COVID-19 updates. Of those with complete information, there are 40 individuals under the age of 18 and the rest are adults with 52% being female and 48% being male.

The new cases reside in Rockingham (68), Hillsborough County other than Manchester and Nashua (33), Strafford (33), Merrimack (22), Cheshire (13), Coos (6), Belknap (5), Grafton (4), Carroll (3), and Sullivan (2) counties, and in the cities of Manchester (15) and Nashua (23). The county of residence is being determined for 14 new cases.

Community-based transmission continues to occur in the State and has been identified in all counties. Of those with complete risk information, most of the cases have had close contact with a person with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis.

There are currently 72 individuals hospitalized with COVID-19. In New Hampshire since the start of the pandemic, there have been a total of 80,543 cases of COVID-19 diagnosed.

As of Sunday, there were 9 current positively identified cases in Claremont; 30, in Sullivan County.

COVID-19 Hotline

211NH has been mobilized to handle all COVID-19 related calls from New Hampshire residents. All residents with questions or concerns regarding COVID-19 can call 2-1-1.

NH Launches VINI, Begins Phase 2A Scheduling

On Wednesday, March 17, the State of New Hampshire launched the Vaccine & Immunization Network Interface (VINI), the state’s new COVID-19 vaccine scheduling and appointment management website, as Phase 2A scheduling begins for state-managed fixed sites.

As New Hampshire’s vaccination effort remains ahead of schedule, appointments at state-managed fixed sites for Phase 2A began on Thursday, March 18. Previously, appointments at fixed-sites for Phase 2A were not expected to begin until Monday, March 22.

Since vaccination clinics with school districts and Regional Public Health Networks began on March 12, thousands of individuals eligible under Phase 2A have been vaccinated through closed clinics.

The new VINI platform is a state-managed site, which transitions New Hampshire away from reliance on the federally managed VAMS platform. Still, there were numerous reports this Monday morning that residents using the site were having issues trying to make appointments. The move to a state-run site was intended to ease the problems that had been associated with the federal site. There were also some reports of problems using the 2-1-1 system. The state had reported that “the fastest way to schedule an appointment is through vaccines.nh.gov. An extremely high

call volume to 2-1-1 is anticipated. Wait times may be long, but every call will be answered by a live person.”

All staff working in New Hampshire in the following settings are eligible for vaccination under Phase 2A:

K-12 schools

Licensed child care settings

License-exempt settings enrolled with the NH DHHS – Bureau of Child Development

Municipal or other recreation programs providing before and/or after school, vacation, or summer youth programming

Head Start and Early Head Start Programs

Licensed youth camps

Registration for individuals between 50 and 64 years of age begins on Monday, March 22, under Phase 2B, with appointments beginning on Thursday, March 25.

Sullivan County Health Care Updates Visitation Policy

Sullivan County Health Care has started scheduling visits once again, and the Visitation Coordinator is available to start scheduling your visits. She is available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday to arrange “visitation station visits”. She can be reached at 603-542-9511, X-298; if you get her voicemail, please leave a message. She will return your call as soon as possible.

New Hampshire 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Summary Report (updated March 21, 2021, 9:00 AM)

NH Persons with COVID-19	80,543
Recovered	76,949 (96%)
Deaths Attributed to COVID-19	1,217 (2%)
Total Current COVID-19 Cases	2,377
Current Hospitalizations	72
Total Persons Tested at Selected Laboratories, Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)2	648,883
Total Persons Tested at Selected Laboratories, Antibody Laboratory Tests2	38,401
Persons with Specimens Submitted to NH PHL	N/A
Persons with Test Pending at NH PHL3	90

250 Needles

SAU6's All-Day COVID-19 Vaccinations

Joining thousands of other educators and school district staff around New Hampshire, 250 employees of SAU6 (Claremont and Unity) signed up to be vaccinated on Saturday.

Superintendent Michael Tempesta noted that "SAU6 was assigned to a 'pod' at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover." A caravan of vehicles headed up all day Saturday. On the way home, teachers, administrators and staff with "BandAided" arms



Getting their first doses at Fall Mountain Regional High School are (from left) Michael Tempesta, SAU6 superintendent; Shannon Popescu, Unity School Board member; and Jennifer Thompson, who teaches Grades 6 through 8 at the Unity School (Eric Zengota photos).



Left: Among the 250 SAU6 employees who were vaccinated at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center were Jennifer Peoples (far left/teacher), Ben Cooper (staff) and Shanee Taylor (staff) (Courtesy photos).

Text by Eric Zengota



carried their official vaccination record cards noting the date to return for the second dose.

Tempesta himself, however, as well as assistant superintendent Donna Magoon got their shots at Fall Mountain Regional High School in Langdon. They had long been scheduled to attend the annual meeting of the Unity School Board later that morning, and managed to get their appointments at the closer site.



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JSL, from page 1

“It had to be, starting out as a National Guard Armory in 1931.” The architect’s plans call for typical rehab projects, such as gutting some rooms and reframing others, hanging new ceilings, replacing windows, and installing ADA-compliant bathrooms.

In and around all this reconstruction, Barrette wanted to preserve as much of the JSL character as possible. A mural of signatures, dating from the end of the JSL years, will be covered with a plexiglass panel. The 1943 logo at center court will be buffed up. Past that, a wall will be built separating the equipment room from an employee recreation room, complete with an original basketball hoop, electronic score-board and another preserved mural.

The Ink Factory space plans to open for business in July. VegetaBall’s Artisan Pesto is expected to be ready at the end of April.

The Ink Factory is well known in the Upper Valley for its range of printed products, including T-shirts, sweatshirts and jackets worn by school athletes and race participants. Barrette noted losses to the business during 2020. “All those local and regional sports, so many Parks and Recreation activities were cancelled due to COVID-19.” But, he added, “We came up with some creative solutions that brought us out of the downturn.”

One such product was pandemic-driven. Students from the Stevens High School Class of 2020 were able to buy yard signs printed with their senior photo and class year. The signs will be available again this year.



This room will be transformed into a fully-equipped kitchen and packing space for VegetaBall’s Artisan Pesto.



Jeff Barrette is incorporating many JSL memories into the new Ink Factory spaces.

Photos by Eric Zengota

Classified Ads

NEW TO THE MARKET



Claremont - A 1983 Marlette Mobile Home in Pine Hill Park. 2 bedrooms, attached carport, shed. Located in the top section of the park. See MLS# 4851874 for more info and photos. \$39,000.



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Classified Ads

Cone Scholarship Program

The Cone Automatic Machine Company Charitable Foundation scholarship program will continue for the coming school year 2021-2022. This scholarship is available to the children or grandchildren of former employees of Cone-Blanchard Machine Company having a minimum of five years of continuous service with Cone-Blanchard Machine Company who meet the eligibility requirements.

Eligibility Requirements, Terms of Award Payments and applications may be obtained by writing to Cone Automatic Machine Company Charitable Foundation; the mailing address is PO Box 65, Claremont, NH 03743.

Completed applications must be post-marked no later than May 12, 2021.

Sunapee Recreation Spring & Summer Programs Update

SUNAPEE, NH—Sunapee Recreation Dept. is implementing a "pay later" system for all programs as this will ensure that you still receive the pertinent information regarding the activity you have registered for. Therefore, please still register for programs at no cost. As we re-evaluate, we will send out information on start dates and fees. Register online at www.town.-sunapee.nh.us

Currently taking Registration for:
 Tee-ball - pre school & kinders
 Majors, Minors & Rookie level Baseball - grades 1st-6th
 Softball-grades 3rd-5th
 Summer Day Camp x 8 weeks **New for summer 2021
 Swim Lessons - Dewey Beach
 Sailing Lessons
 British Soccer Camp
 Adult Easter Egg Hunt ** New for Spring 2021
 Jr Adventure Camps - fishing, Archery, fort building ** New for summer 2021
 Granite State Track & Field- ages 9-14
 **New for Spring 2021
 Special Programs for Seniors!! ** New for summer 2021

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Coldwell Banker Homes Unlimited is pleased to announce the recognition of 5 members of our team receiving national awards. These recipients are chosen from Coldwell Banker's 96,000 agents worldwide!

Congratulations to Brian Whipple for receiving the International Sterling Society Award! This award is given to only the top 22% of all qualified Coldwell Banker agents!

Congratulations to Bonnie Miles and Viola Lunderville for receiving the International Diamond Society Award! This award is given to only the top 15% of all qualified Coldwell Banker agents worldwide!

Congratulations to Jan Ranney and Justin Ranney for receiving the International President's Circle Award! This award is given out to only the top 8% of qualified Coldwell Banker Agents worldwide.

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Bonnie Miles
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Justin Ranney
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Jan Ranney
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 Multi-Million Dollar Club



Brian Whipple
 International Sterling Society Award
 Multi-Million Dollar Producer



Cathy Thompson
 Million Dollar Club



Viola Lunderville
 International Diamond Award
 Multi-Million Dollar Club



Anthony Emanouil
 Million Dollar Club



Jenn Boyer
 Million Dollar Club



Deborah Charlebois
 Multi-Million Dollar Club

Keene, Alstead Residents Among Those Charged With Crimes Related to Virtual Currency Exchange Business

Six individuals were indicted by a federal grand jury in New Hampshire and charged with participating in a conspiracy to operate an unlicensed money transmitting business and other offenses, Acting United States Attorney John J. Farley announced Tuesday. Those charged in the indictment are:

Ian Freeman (formerly Ian Bernard), 40, of Keene

Colleen Fordham, 60, of Alstead

Renee Spinella, 23, of Derry

Andrew Spinella, 35, of Derry

Nobody (formerly Richard Paul), 52, of Keene

Aria DiMezzo (formerly James Baker), 34, of Keene

Freeman, Fordham, Renee Spinella, Andrew Spinella, and Nobody also are charged with wire fraud and participating in a conspiracy to commit wire fraud. Ian Freeman is charged with money laundering and operating a continuing financial crimes enterprise. Freeman and DiMezzo also are charged with operating an unlicensed money transmitting business.

According to the indictment, since 2016, the defendants have allegedly operated a business that enabled customers to exchange over ten million dollars in fiat currency for virtual currency, charging a fee for their service. They allegedly operated their virtual currency exchange business using websites, as well as operating virtual currency ATM machines in New Hampshire. The indictment alleges that the defendants knowingly operated the virtual currency exchange business in violation of federal anti-money laundering laws and regulations. In furtherance of their scheme, the indictment alleges that some defendants opened bank accounts in the names of purported religious entities. According to the indictment, some defendants then allegedly engaged in substantial efforts to evade detection of their unlawful virtual currency exchange scheme by avoiding answering financial institutions' questions about the nature of the business and misleading financial institutions into believing their unlawful virtual currency exchange business was instead a religious organization receiving charitable contributions.

All of the defendants were arrested during a coordinated law enforcement action on Tuesday. They were scheduled for initial appearances before a United States Magistrate Judge on Tuesday afternoon.

This matter was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, and the United States Postal Inspection Service in coordination with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Georgiana L. MacDonald and Seth R. Aframe.

Kidnapping and Stolen Vehicle Case Reported by NHSP Troop C

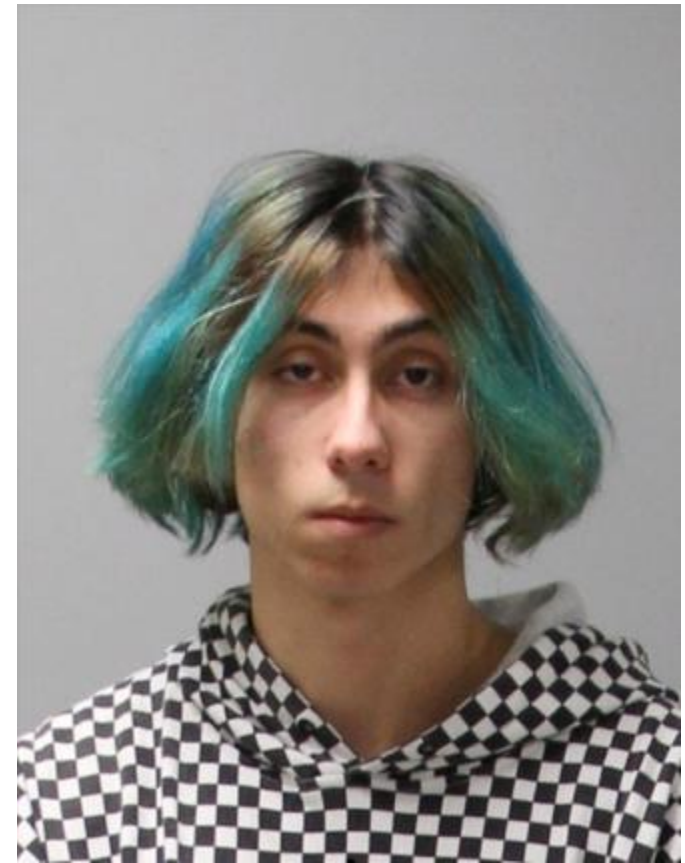
On March 19, 2021 at approximately 0905 hours, New Hampshire State Police—Troop C Detectives received a request from Swanzey Police Department asking for assistance with a reported kidnapping that had occurred in their town in the early hours Friday morning.

According to the reports, an 18-year-old male from Fort Worth, TX, had flown to the state with the intention of meeting a 17-year-old female with whom he had been speaking using a popular messaging application. The male was identified as Cameron Snody and the female, a Swanzey resident, will remain unidentified due to her age.

Snody is alleged to have stolen the victim's brother's vehicle and driven the victim and her 15-year-old friend to New York City before contact was made with the younger female, who informed family members that they were traveling northbound.

Through a joint effort with Connecticut State Police, the vehicle driven by Snody was located on Interstate 91 in Connecticut at approximately 1015 hours. Snody was taken into custody without incident, and the two juvenile females were transported to the local hospital where it was determined they were unharmed.

Snody is charged in New Hampshire with two counts of Kidnapping



Cameron Snody (NHSP)

(RSA 633:1) as well as Theft By Unauthorized Taking (RSA 637:3). He is currently being held in custody in Connecticut awaiting extradition.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

Cooking Demonstration and Cookbook Discussion, 7 pm, Virtual

Chef David of Main Street Kitchens will join us for a live, virtual cooking demonstration. David will prepare a selection from Ina Garten's new incredibly popular cookbook, "Modern Comfort Food". Stay after the demo to join a discussion of the cookbook.

Email mary.king@plainfieldlibraries.org for the Zoom link.

Leahy, Denault, Connair & Hodgman, LLP Attorneys at Law

- Personal Injury
- Probate
- Wills & Trusts
- Family Law
- Auto Accidents
- Wrongful Death

Thomas P. Connair, Esq. & Jessica J. Hodgman, Esq.
General Civil Practice in Claremont since 1931
Phone: 603-543-3185 www.leahydenault.com

Cornish PD Investigating Suspicious Activity Reportedly Involving Teens

CORNISH, NH—On Saturday morning, March 13, at 02:37 hours, the Cornish Police Department received a call of three suspicious males walking on Townhouse Road in Cornish, NH. Cornish Police Chief Doug Hackett reports that the “Cornish Police responded and were assisted by officers from the Claremont Police Department and the NH State Police. Officers located the three males on Townhouse Road between Dingleton Hill Road and Moonlite Drive. The three males ranged in age between 14 and 16 years old. Two of the males had knives on their persons.

“While attempting to detain the three juveniles, one juvenile began to fight with the officers. During this apprehension, one officer was injured and required medical treatment for his injuries. Subsequent investigation leads officers to believe the three males were involved in thefts from motor vehicles in the Windsor, Cornish, and possibly Plainfield areas.”

Cornish Police are asking people in the area of Route 12A and Townhouse Road to report any missing items from their vehicles, and to check any exterior camera systems for suspicious activity prior to 02:37 hours. Please report any such activity to Cornish Police at (603) 543-0535 or doug.Hackett@CornishNH.net.

USDA Free Meal Plan Extended through Summer 2021

CONCORD, NH—The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced that they will continue support by providing free meals to New Hampshire students under several waiver programs. The extension is now good through September 30, 2021.

The waiver extension allows for safe meal distribution sites that serve all children for free, regardless of income. In addition, the waivers:

- Allow meals served through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) – collectively known as “summer meal programs” –

to be made available in all areas at no cost;

- Allow meals to be served outside of the normally required group settings and meal times; and

- Allow parents and guardians to pick-up meals for their children, including bulk pick-up to cover multiple days of feeding children.

“We are very happy to hear that the USDA will be extending waiver programs through September so that schools and organizations are able to serve healthy meals to children safely, during the summer,” said Michelle Myler, Administrator of the Bureau of Student Wellness. “I want to thank the schools and their staff for their tireless efforts in supporting and feeding our children during these unprecedented times.”

Since March 13, 2020, New Hampshire schools have served over 13 million meals to New Hampshire students.

In the past year, over 12 million children from all around the country have had a hard time accessing regular meals and these waiver programs have been able to provide needed relief to many.

To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Windsor, Saturday, March 27 from 11:00 a.m. until noon, Old South Church will be distributing palms on the front steps of the church.

They will also be hosting a Food Drive to benefit the Windsor Food Shelf. The Food Shelf is specifically looking for canned tuna and chicken, baked beans and canned vegetables; but any donations are gratefully accepted. Monetary donations are also appreciated (checks made out to: Old South Church with Food Shelf written in the memo).

Masks are required and we will be socially distancing. Donate and collect a palm for Palm Sunday (March 28).

Saturday, March 27

Demolition Work Party at Cornish Fairgrounds

The Cornish Fair will be replacing one of the 4-H Cattle barns with a new structure and the existing barn needs to be demolished.

If you can help us please RSVP to George Edson at jilledson@comcast.net. You will be updated with more details.

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closing costs
thru 3/31/21*



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John Stark Hwy, Newport



* See site for details.



The first day of Spring arrived on Saturday and the snowdrops were ready to greet the change of seasons. Snowdrops mark the first signs of Spring, flowering ahead of daffodils and other seasonal floral delights.

Photo by Phyllis A. Muzeroll

Business News

Mt. Ascutney Hospital Again Earns Patient-Centered Medical Home Recognition

WINDSOR, VT –The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality, has once again awarded Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center (MAHHC) and Ottauquechee Health Center (OHC) Recognition as a Patient-Centered Medical Home™ (PCMH™). The Hospital first earned this honor in 2015 and has re-certified yearly since then.

The Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) Recognition program highlights medical practices that place patients at the forefront of care, and where continuous quality improvement is prioritized. The NCQA's Patient-Centered Medical Home program recognizes primary care providers who have demonstrated they can effectively coordinate care among all of their patients' health care providers. The model benefits patients by giving them better access through expanded hours and web support, helping them understand their treatment options and better manage chronic conditions while creating a partnership with their provider. In order to maintain Recognition as a PCMH, MAHHC's outpatient clinics at Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center in Windsor and the Ottauquechee Health Center in Woodstock successfully met a comprehensive range of performance benchmarks for patient care, including effective care planning, coordination and access to care, as well as measuring performance and quality.

According to Mt. Ascutney Hospital's CEO and Chief Medical Officer, Joseph Peras, MD, "Achieving Recognition as a Patient-Centered Medical Home was an achievement that we're always proud of, but sustaining that level of quality and patient focus year after year is something else again. It's a testament to the dedication of the

staff at MAHHC and OHC, who are consistently excellent in every aspect of their jobs measured by the NCQA. I congratulate my colleagues on a job well done, while stressing that the real good news is for our patients."

About the National Committee for Quality Assurance

NCQA is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality. NCQA accredits and certifies a wide range of health care organizations. It also recognizes clinicians and practices in key areas of performance. NCQA's Web site (www.ncqa.org) contains information to help consumers, employers and others make more informed health care choices.

Granite Air Center Achieves Carbon Neutrality

WEST LEBANON, NH—Granite Air Center, a member of World Fuel Services Air Elite Network, has long believed in the importance of doing what they can to reduce their environmental impact. The company demonstrated its commitment in 2018 by installing a 200-kilowatt solar array at its facility, the largest solar array in the City of Lebanon, NH, at the time. The company continued to lead the way by achieving carbon neutrality for all of 2019.

"World Fuel applauds Granite Air's leadership in sustainability," said Darren Fuller, vice president, business development at World Fuel Services. "Many aviation companies are taking a wait-and-see attitude to decarbonizing. Still, visionaries like Granite Air see sus-

tainability as good for the environment and a critical business imperative. We are honored we can support them in their journey with Carbon Offsets and Sustainability Programs."

Granite Air was able to achieve this goal by purchasing carbon offsets to make up for its Scope 1 and Scope 2 carbon emissions. Scope 1 emissions include all direct emissions from the company's operations, such as heating the buildings, operating vehicles and equipment, etc., while scope 2 emissions primarily include the carbon footprint of the production of electricity consumed by the company.

The company hopes to achieve Scope 3 carbon neutrality in the coming years. Jason Archambeault, the company's co-owner and COO, said Scope 3 carbon emissions are a
(Continued on page 16)



CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM
OF
CLAREMONT





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Business News

Carbon, from page 15

much bigger challenge. “Scope 3 emissions are much more involved to calculate as you need to include every indirect emission related to the business in any way, right down to the miles driven by employees to get to and from work, for example. But we hope within the next couple of years we will be able to meet that goal.”

“We are excited about achieving this milestone. In addition to being good stewards of the environment we feel it is good business,” said Greg Soho, Granite’s CFO and other co-owner. “We will continue to look for ways to reduce our environmental impact.” The company is working towards converting much of its equipment and vehicles to electrically powered equipment to further reduce emissions at the source, in addition to improvements such as LED lighting to reduce direct energy consumption.

Based at the Lebanon Municipal Airport, Granite Air Center was founded in 2012 and operates as a Fixed Based Operator (FBO), providing all aviation services at the airport. Services include fueling, parking, hangar storage, de-icing, maintenance, catering, and concierge services. www.graniteair.com.

New App Launches on World Water Day, Aids Connecticut River Paddlers

GREENFIELD, MA – A new smartphone app launches on World Water Day, March 22, to help paddlers navigate the Connecticut River, particularly for multi-day paddles. The Connecticut River Paddlers’ Trail (CRPT) is a unique, water-based trail that includes a series of primitive campsites and river access points spanning 400+ miles of the Connecticut River through NH, VT, MA and CT. CRPT is managed by a collaborative of more than 30 non-profit organizations and state agencies, including the Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC), the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the Vermont River Conservancy. Those interested in downloading the app can find it in CRC’s on-

line store at www.ctriver.org/shop, or search “Guthook Guides” in your smartphone app store.

“We chose to launch this new app on World Water Day, a day where people around the world recognize the importance of water in our lives,” says Gabriel Chevalier, CRPT Coordinator. “The Connecticut River is the longest river in New England and enriches our lives in many ways. It offers many recreational opportunities that promote healthy communities and boost local economies. This new app offers paddlers an easy-to use digital paddling guide to navigate the CRPT campgrounds, access points, rapids and other resources along the Connecticut River.”

Proceeds from the \$9.99 app and waterproof printed maps are used to fund trail stewardship projects. The app was developed in partnership with Atlas/Guthook Guides, who offer similar app-based guides for other well-known trails like the Long Trail and the Appalachian Trail. The Connecticut River Paddlers’ Trail map is available as an in-app purchase in the Guthook Guides app, a free download from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.

The Connecticut River Paddlers’ Trail is managed by a collaborative of organizations, guided by a shared vision.



Partners assist with trail planning and development, building and stewarding primitive campsites, improving access points and portage trails, and disseminating information to visitors. Campsite development, as well as ongoing stewardship, is carried out by volunteers, scout troops, and youth stewardship corps who work together to mitigate the impacts of recreation use. To learn more, visit www.connecticutriverpaddlerstrail.org.

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Sununu Announces Launch of New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program

CONCORD, NH – Governor Chris Sununu announced last week that the New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program established through the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) launched at noon on Monday, March 15th. It will provide aid to eligible residents of New Hampshire who cannot pay their rent, utilities and heating costs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"While the worst of this public health crisis is now behind us, New Hampshire will continue to provide assistance to those in need of additional supports," said Sununu. "The Emergency Rental Assistance Program is key to ensuring that we open doors of opportunity and help New Hampshire families as we begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel on this pandemic."

The five regional Community Action Partnership (CAP) agencies will work directly with renters in need, review their applications, check eligibility, and process payments for eligible expenses.

The program will cover past-due and future rent payments; utilities, such as electricity, home heating costs, water, sewer, trash; and other housing-related costs such as internet and relocation expenses associated directly or indirectly with COVID-19. Relocation expenses including rental application fees, utility hook-up fees, and security deposits are also eligible. Grants will be provided directly to the landlord or utility provider on behalf of the household. A landlord, with the tenant's permission, may apply for assistance on behalf of their tenant.

To be eligible, at least one person in the household must qualify for unemployment benefits, had their income reduced, had significant costs, or had other financial hardship due to COVID-19. The household must be at risk for homelessness, be paying more than 30% of their income for rent and utilities, or live in

unsafe or unhealthy housing, as well as meet certain income requirements.

Program guidelines, a Frequently Asked Questions guide, and the NHERAP application (online and a printable form) will be available by noon on Monday, March 15, 2021 at www.CAPNH.org and on each of the five CAP agency websites. CAP staff are available to assist with the application process. Individuals may also call 2-1-1 to get assistance in contacting their CAP agency.

Under federal law, this program is only for eligible renters, not homeowners.

The NHERAP will be administered by New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHFA), in collaboration with GOFERR. An extensive statewide outreach campaign is planned to inform the public, renters, landlords, organizations, and service providers about the New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Details about the program also are available at www.NHHFA.org/emergency-rental-assistance.

What Makes a Wetland Wonderful?

What makes a wetland wonderful?

The Black River Action Team invites you to come find out on Wednesday, March 31st, from 6 - 7 PM with the whole family, as Zapata Courage shares her far-ranging experiences with these soggy, boggy, and priceless parts of our landscape. From the Green Mountains of Vermont to Kenya's Amboseli National Park, Courage has stories to tell about why wetlands are incredibly valuable not just to wildlife that depends on them for habitat, but also to the humans who may not realize the many benefits wetlands offer us.

Courage, a District Wetlands Ecologist with the State of Vermont, even offers a fun "homework assignment" if students would like

their work shared on a Vermont State blog. Sign up before the 30th to take advantage of this free and fun hour-long adventure, hosted by the Black River Action Team in collaboration with the Springfield Town Library: <https://tinyurl.com/yerrwqf7>.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, March 25, 2021 6:00 PM

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting is being conducted via Zoom.

The public is invited to join the Zoom meeting online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87350247309?pwd=dmF2RTVtU01NaFZZNzlwUVhmYlZtdz09>
Passcode: 498067 By Phone: US: +1 646 558 8656
Webinar ID: 873 5024 7309

If there is a problem getting through to that number, please call 603-504-0341.

This will be a workshop meeting for the Commissioners.

David Messier, Chairperson

PUBLIC NOTICE PLANNING BOARD B-2 Zones Subcommittee MEETING

Friday, March 26, 2021 3:30 PM

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Join the Zoom Webinar Online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87419391283?pwd=ekh6TWtz-ZUc3TTJmZ2pjTUdqam1IUT09>

Passcode: 042138 By Phone: 710363 1-646-558-8656 US (New York) Webinar ID: 874 1939 1283

If there is a problem getting through to this number, please call 603-504-0341.

The committee will continue reviewing the Design Guidelines.

Richard Wahrlich, Chair

Got news?

Send us your news and photos

Wetlands Are Wonderful...
with Zapata
Springfield Town Library
Wednesday, March 31
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Business Owners' Issues Go Beyond 'Mom and Pop' Label

If you own a small business, you typically don't get a lot of recognition – so you may be pleased to learn that March 29 is National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day. You might not necessarily think of your business as a “Mom and Pop” operation, but it certainly contributes to the well-being of your family now, and possibly to that of future generations, too – if you make the right moves.

Depending on the nature of your business, you may have spent the past several months more concerned about today than tomorrow, given the serious economic repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is still placing stress on a great many business owners across the country.

If your business has been adversely affected by the pandemic, you might be eligible for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan. As you may know, recent legislation provided \$285 billion more for this program. To learn more, and to start the application process, visit the Small Business Administration website at www.sba.gov. You have until March 31 to apply for a PPP loan. Other relief also may be available.

But regardless of whether you apply for one of these loans, you can take other steps to help maximize the benefits you get from your business – and perhaps even extend its longevity.

Here are a few suggestions:

- **Establish a retirement plan.** If you don't already have a retirement plan, it's never too late to set one up. As a business owner, you have several options, including an “owner-only” 401(k), a SIMPLE IRA and a SEP-IRA. All these plans are fairly easy to establish and can offer potential tax advantages, as well as providing you with a source of retirement income in the future. You may want to work with a financial professional to pick the right plan for your needs.

- **Coordinate your business assets with your investment portfolio.** Like most business owners, you may have a great deal of your personal wealth tied up in your business. And, as the past year has certainly shown, this can be risky. Consequently, you'll need to weigh this risk factor when deciding on investing in your retirement plan or in other investment accounts. This doesn't mean you should try to avoid all risk only by pursuing the most conservative vehicles – which would be counterproductive to achieving enough growth to meet your retirement income goals – but you will need to pay close attention to your investment mix to ensure it provides you with an appropriate balance to what you've invested in your business.

- **Develop a transition strategy.** How will you make the transition from business owner to the next phase of your life? Will you sell the business outright? Will you gradually transfer it to a family member? If so, what mechanism will you use? It's a good idea to have these types of plans in place well before you need to enact them, so you may want to consult with your financial, legal and tax advisors soon.

A “Mom and Pop” business may sound quaint and carefree – but, as you know, running a business of any size can be an all-consuming endeavor and always involves significant financial concerns. Get the help you need to meet these challenges.

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

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Sports

CYBSA Youth Baseball/ Softball Is Back & Registration Is Now Open

CLAREMONT, NH—Claremont Parks and Recreation has announced that CYBSA Youth Baseball/Softball is back this spring. “We have been working hard with the CYBSA Board to be able to offer this program,” said the department. Registration is now open online at www.claremontparks.com.

Fisher Cats Continue Scholarship Program in 2021

MANCHESTER, NH—Applications are now open for the New Hampshire Fisher Cats Scholar-Athlete Scholarships, which have awarded over \$375,000 to graduating seniors since 2007.

Applications may be submitted at NHFisherCats.com; visit this site for more information.

This season, the Fisher Cats (Toronto Blue Jays Double-A affiliate) will award \$1,500 college scholarships to 10 student-athletes in New Hampshire and two student-athletes in Massachusetts.

Scholarship recipients will be selected using criteria that includes academic achievement, athletic achievement, and active citizenship.

Applications will be accepted until April 30 at 5 p.m. Scholarship recipients will be notified by May 31, and honored on the field at Delta Dental Stadium during a Fisher Cats game this season.

Spring in Their Steps

Basketball Players Head Into Season’s Second Half

CLAREMONT, NH—The spring equinox arrived at 5:37am on Saturday. No doubt, some young athletes were already wide awake, re-playing their drills in their head. Imagining jump shots. Making the game-winning lay-up. Itching to head to the Claremont Savings Bank

Community Center to play their next game ... which they were certainly going to win.

On their fourth of six Saturdays, the teams of the Youth Basketball League, organized by the Claremont Parks & Recreation Department, played with growing confidence. All told, the players scored 221 points, shooting past week 3’s tally of 197.

CCTV livestreams every game. Watch them online at claremontv.org channel 8, or on



public access cable channel 8.

The livestreaming schedule — five games in four divisions — is 9am, 5/6 Boys; 10:30am, 5/6 Girls; 12noon, 3/4 Girls; 1:30pm, 3/4 Boys; and 3pm, 3/4 Boys.



Text by Eric Zengota; photos by Eric Zengota and Justin Martin

Game Day — March 20, 2021

Division	Team / Score	Team / Score
5/6 Boys	Nets 42	Celtics 33
5/6 Girls	Sparks 24	Storm 19
3/4 Girls	Tennessee 30	UConn 22
3/4 Boys	Kentucky 13	Louisville 9
3/4 Boys	Louisville 23	Michigan State 6

Inspiration

Welcoming All

By Priscilla Hull

Yet another day of promise with strong sunshine but chilly wind. About ten days ago on a very similar day, I was surprised to see the tenant wren checking out the house that we put up nearly 40 years ago! Some said that it wouldn't be inhabited, but Mom knew birds and was sure someone would live there. We have always had wren houses and bird feeders. We were pretty sure that even though this house was attached to a post supporting the roof of the walk to the front door, it would be inhabited. The very next day, sure enough, there were wrens checking it out. Although it was late in the season, they did start building. Now, this might have been a decoy house for that season, but we were pleased that it was considered. The house overlooked the herb garden that Mom would establish. There was a yew bush, a mountain laurel, japonica shrubs and the tamarack and more bird attractions around.

Sure enough during the winter, a chickadee found shelter in this bird house. In the spring, wrens returned and it was too funny watching the brave little wrens chasing the larger chickadees out of what they rightly considered their home!

After a couple of years, Mom was no longer able to do her garden work, so I'd do my gardening during the week and then I'd spend Saturday afternoon working her garden. It was not difficult to maintain as it was well designed and planted. While I was working in her garden I enjoyed the wren songs. As the weather warmed up and baby wrens became evident, I took to wearing a hat for protection as the angry wren Mama and Daddy dive bombed me! After all, I was intruding on their space, but the work needed to be done. I learned that wrens liked music. I would open the windows and play Saturday Afternoon at the Opera so that both the wrens and I were amused as I worked. The wrens not only seemed to be enjoying the music, but they often sang along. The especially liked *Madame Butterfly*.

They were only upset now when the resident garter snake appeared. They really went into a frenzy when the snake appeared and while some snakes slither up trees, the silly garter snake is definitely a ground dweller. So there was no problem.

For 40 years I've enjoyed the company of wrens in the front yard. I welcome them back in the Spring. I listen to their song from Spring through Fall. I watch for a resident chickadee in the fall when the wrens have left.

This year with such cold weather and snow, I bought a mealy worm cake when I welcomed the wren back. The Mama and Daddy wren, as well as chickadees and more, have enjoyed that! I watched the little wren chase the chickadee out of his winter home and am looking forward to hearing the baby wrens chirping as I go out to play in my garden (much smaller now) or sit in the yard listening to the opera on Saturday afternoon.

We never know who we are welcoming to our homestead. Wrens, chickadees and cardinals are favorites, but all are welcome!

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Remember to welcome strangers into your home. By doing so you may welcome Angels unaware.

Hebrews 13:1-2

Priscilla Hull is the Lay Leader of the First United Methodist Church in Claremont, NH.



Calendar Of Events

Community Discussion on Hydropower in NH & VT

WALPOLE, NH— While hydro facilities provide us with electricity, dams block aquatic passage, harm rivers and the critters that rely on them. The Wilder, Bellows Falls, and Vernon Dams started the process of securing new operating licenses in 2012. Final license applications were submitted in December 2020 and the owner, Great River Hydro, proposed operational changes for their three dams that will be a big win for the river – but they can still do more to protect this resource.

This year is a critical year for all of us to speak up for our rivers in response to this license application. These licenses will be in place for the next 40-50 years! We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to move these three dams to more river and fish-friendly operations.

To find out more about how the changes proposed in December will affect your river and actions you can take to make a difference, join conservation partners from NH & VT for their virtual event: Hydropower Happy Hour on Tuesday, April 6th from 6:30–8:00pm. To register for this event, which is required to receive virtual link to join, please visit <https://hydropowerhappyhour.eventbrite.com>

Speakers will include the Connecticut River Conservancy's River Steward Kathy Urffer, Applied River Scientist for The Nature Conservancy Katie Kennedy, and Chair of the Connecticut River Joint Commissions' FERC Working Group Jim McClammer. Additional partners on this event include the Ashuelot River Local Advisory Commission, the Cheshire County Conservation District, the Sullivan County Conservation District, the Grafton County Conservation District, the Windham County Natural Resources Conservation District, and the White River Natural Resources Conservation District.

Got news?

Send us your news and photos
etickernews@gmail.com

Need Some Extra Space for Your Next Project/Business/ Creative Experiment?

CLAREMONT, NH—Need some extra space for your next project/business/creative experiment?

The Claremont MakerSpace has Personal Studio Spaces that provide personal work areas for dedicated users to call their own. Personal studio spaces are made up of 48" dividers and come in sizes of 60 sq/ft and 100 sq/ft, with each studio including 2 power outlets and an Ethernet jack.

Learn more about CMS Personal Studio Spaces at <https://claremontmakerspace.org/studio-space/>.

As well, they are currently offering tours of CMS. Tours are scheduled in advance and participants must follow our COVID-19 policies. To schedule a tour, please email info@twinstatemakerspaces.org.

Virtual Grief Support Available Through Lake Sunapee VNA

NEW LONDON, NH—Lake Sunapee VNA offers two virtual grief support groups for the community, which can be attended once, multiple times or as needed. To help anyone grieving during this pandemic and time of social distancing, a "Bereavement Check-in" group is available on the third Wednesday of every month from 4:00-5:00pm. A "Widow to Widow" group is held on the first Monday of every month from 3:30-5:00pm.

Anyone interested in participating in these free groups should email their contact information to Lori O'Connor at loconnor@lake-sunapeevna.org and a member of the bereavement team will call with further details.

SCCD Seeks Nominations for Conservation Legacy Awards

UNITY, NH—In honor of the 75th anniversary for Conservation Districts in the State of NH, the Sullivan County Conservation District seeks nominations for the Conservation Legacy Award. This award seeks to honor the nominees sustained commitment to the stewardship of natural resources in Sullivan County.

For 75 years the County Conservation Dis-

tricts have worked tirelessly with landowners and communities to promote the conservation and responsible use of natural and agricultural resources. The Legacy Award endeavors to shine a spotlight on those who embody this mission. Businesses, organizations, individuals, and families are eligible for the award if they live in or are based in the County, have a minimum of 5 years experience of sustained commitment to conservation and stewardship.

Nominations should be no more than two pages and include a summary of why the nominee is deserving of this honor. Nominations could include information on the nominees' property stewardship, overall impact of the County's environmental health, activism on behalf of conservation and agriculture, education and outreach in the community, their willingness to share natural resource information with the public, service as a mentor for others, service to conservation organizations, and/or any notable accomplishments or awards.

Nominations are due to the SCCD no later than March 31, 2021 and can be submitted digitally or by hard copy in the mail. Nominations can be mailed to Conservation Legacy Awards, Sullivan County Conservation District, 95 County Farm Rd. Unity, NH 03743 or emailed to ddextraze@sullivancountynh.gov.

These awardees will be announced in June 2021.

For further information about legacy awards, contact: Dawn Dextraze at 603-504-1004 or ddextraze@sullivancountynh.gov.

Charlestown VFW Bingo Schedule

CHARLESTOWN, NH—Charlestown VFW Bingo schedule for the new year:

Charlestown VFW Bingo is offering a weekly opportunity for some semblance of normalcy. Wednesday nights 5:00 for early birds and 6:30 for regular fun and games. Currently we play 12 regular and two 2 part games, as well as a 50/50 game, Winner-take-all game, Carry Over Coverall game and a Jackpot game. In Gov. Sununu's most recent mandate request is that when moving about the hall, please wear a face covering whenever 6' social distancing can't be maintained. While seated at the tables, masks may be removed. Be mindful that in the Gov.'s mandate there are many reasons why someone may choose to not wear a mask – and they cannot be questioned or made to

prove why they choose not to; nor will they be penalized for not wearing a mask. Please be respectful of others.

Attendance will be limited to 94. We do have some masks on hand as well as plenty of hand sanitizer for your use. To all our patrons that choose to attend, thank you for your patronage during these turbulent times. For those who don't feel comfortable attending at this time, we understand and wish you well until we can meet again.

Tom St.Pierre, Commander, Charlestown Memorial VFW Post 8497

A Message from ServiceLink

NH ServiceLink offices across the state are open via phone and email during the COVID-19 pandemic. In this time of social distancing it's easy to feel alone and isolated. ServiceLink is a phone call away! Trained, nationally and state certified staff is available via phone during normal working hours.

ServiceLink staff is here to listen, answer questions, problem solve, and link you to resources and services.

In addition, ServiceLink helps individuals connect to long term services and supports, access family caregiver information and supports, explore options and understand and access Medicare and Medicaid. We are, as always, confidential, unbiased, and free to the public.

Call 1-866-634-9412 toll free or find us online.

Direct phone numbers and email addresses for each local office are listed on our website. Offices are located in Atkinson, Berlin, Claremont, Concord, Keene, Laconia, Lebanon, Littleton, Manchester, Nashua, Stratham, Rochester, and Tamworth.

Area Grocery Store Hours Reserved for High Risk Population

HANNAFORD - Most stores reserve 7 AM – 8 AM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. In Massachusetts, those special hours are 7 AM – 8 AM daily
 MARKET BASKET 6 AM - 7 AM EVERY DAY Claremont
 CO-OP FOOD STORES 7AM - 8 AM EVERY-DAY WRJCT, Lebanon & Hanover
 PRICE CHOPPER 6AM - 7AM EVERYDAY-Windsor & West Lebanon
 SHAWS 7AM - 9AM TUES & THURS West Lebanon
 WALMART 6 AM - 7 AM TUESDAYS ONLY Claremont & West Lebanon
 PLAINFIELD COUNTRY STORE Call ahead for curb side pickup, 709-7055. Prepared meals, grocery items.

March Virtual Classes at Claremont MakerSpace

Join us this March for a live & free virtual class! Follow the Claremont MakerSpace links to the relevant event pages to register and learn more. Space is limited and some events have registration deadlines.

Registration for all classes may be found here:

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/>
Getting to Know The ShopBot

March 23, 3 PM

In this beginner level virtual class, participants will learn the basic operation of the

ShopBot CNC Router. Covered topics include the axis', attaching material, the ShopBot software and basic safety. This class is presented free of charge and will be presented via Zoom. Upon registration, you will be sent a link to the Zoom connection information.

Learn How To Laser Cut A Box
March 23, 4 PM

In this free virtual learning class, learn how to use a laser cutter to cut a small wooden box. We will look at a variety of resources and watch the Claremont Makerspace laser cutter in action and give a demo of Corel Draw. This will be a great overview for anyone that has not laser cut before or are looking for some possible new tricks.

Their Stuff, Our Stories
March 24, 31, April 7 & 14, 2 PM

Remember show & tell from elementary school? Whether it was your favorite day or not.... Let's experience it again in a warm and welcoming community. What's the favorite photo or object you inherited? Why do you keep it? How did it come into your life? What story does it tell? Let's gather together to share the stories of the things we keep. Each week you'll be asked to bring a photo or object that holds a piece of the story of your loved one lost or an ancestor found. Join us for one or all of these story-sharing gatherings focused on the theme Passed & Present. How do you keep their memories alive? Register for sessions 2, 3 & 4 here.

Make A Chain Maille Bracelet
3/25/21, 6 PM

AA Sewer & Drain and Maintenance LLC
 Call Sandy to schedule your job today
 603-543-7118

Corey Beard 15+ years experience
Ralph Beard Jr 25+ year experience builder
 aaseweranddrain@yahoo.com

22 West Court Road
 Sunapee, NH 03782
 603-454-4850

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**STUMP GRINDING
 TREE REMOVAL
 FIRE WOOD
 LANDSCAPING
 SNOW PLOWING**

Call Today! 603 443-3747 603 863-0451

In this virtual class, we'll create a Byzantine bracelet by weaving links of chain. Byzantine is an ancient pattern for weaving chain and is an excellent starting point for learning chain maille. The finished chain features an intricate appearance and great flexibility.

Introduction To Music Theory & Composition

3/29 - 6/14, 9:30 AM

Introduction to Music Theory & Composition takes a fun approach to grasping the fundamental ideas and tools that are used to compose music that resonates with us. With a range of listening exercises and composition games, this course teaches the language of Western music from the most basic elements through to more nuanced expressions. Participants are encouraged to bring recordings, questions, and observations to class for discussion as we unlock the secrets of what makes music meaningful.

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/advanced-music-theory.jpg>

Advanced Music Theory & Composition

3/29 - 6/14, 2:30 PM

Advanced Music Theory & Composition is for folks who have already taken the introductory as well intermediate courses and are looking to further expand and apply their music knowledge base. We will study how to employ dynamics, voicing, forms, examine Western music history and capitalize on tracking, mixing and mastering music composition software. Students are encouraged to bring recordings, questions, and observations to class for discussion as we evolve our understandings of how to compose and record music with subtlety and nuance.

Intermediate Music Theory & Composition

3/29 - 6/14, 6 - 7 PM

Intermediate Music Theory & Composition is for folks who have already taken an introductory and want to take it all to the next levels. We will get more deeply into alternative scale types, how to write harmony sections and how to use music composition software. Students are encouraged to bring recordings, questions, and observations to class for discussion as we delve more deeply into how to compose music which resonates with us.

Dream it, Make it, Print it

March 30 - April 20 at 6 p.m

Over four sessions, participants learn how to use a CAD program to create their very own designs. Learn about the engineering design process and make your own original pieces in Tinkercad. We'll then print your designs on our

3D printers. Projects can be mailed to you! Recommended ages 8 and up. Should be comfortable using a computer mouse and keyboard.

Design Technology For Kids

April 20 - 22nd, 2:00-3:30pm

In this 3-part series kids will experiment with designing towers, bridges, and launchers using simple materials, most of which can be found in your home. Each session will begin with a warm-up activity, and will revolve around a different principal - balance, strength, and motion – through hands-on design activities. While there's a progression of challenge across the 3 workshops each session stands alone.

Questions about upcoming classes, events or the Claremont MakerSpace in general? Let us know at info@twinstatemakerspaces.org.

Claremont Senior Center News

Apology: Please forgive us for the clock situation last week. We got caught trying to gain an hour. Clocks should have gone forward not back. Sorry.

Hi everyone! We hope you made it through the March winds OK. Boy!! Did they blow!! It will be interesting to see how April comes in. Like a lamb we hope. We don't know how all of you made it through the time change, but we are still trying to catch up. The Center's volunteers caught up without a hiccup. They are all geared up for the week. Let's see what they are up to.

As usual, the volunteers keep going. We have changed their batteries. That should last until October. It's fun to watch them. They know what each other does or is doing and never bump into each other. No traffic light needed here. Here are the non-stop meals for Tuesday and Thursday:

Tuesday, March 23—Soup, Liver and Onions or Hamburger, Potatoes, Vegetable, Dessert (Please specify liver or hamburger when calling.)

Thursday, March 25—Soup, Chicken Slouviaki, Rice, Vegetable, Dessert.

Members-\$4. Nonmembers-\$5. Take out: 11:45am-12:15pm. Call 543-5998 to reserve your meals.

We told you how wonderful and knowledgeable our kitchen volunteers are. Well, the entire kitchen staff participated in a "Safe Food Handling" refresher class which also included

new updated procedures and guidelines. Now that's a dedicated and caring staff of volunteers!

Last chance this month to get those footsies in shape. We tell you. Your toes and feet will feel so good after this treatment. The Foot Clinic will be here on Wednesday, March 24. Call-603-748-1731 for an appointment.

On Monday, March 29th, the Center will host a Blood Drive. Time: Noon-5:00pm. Please donate if you can. First timers are always welcome. You will be so happy to know that you helped save a life or help someone heal. Please call 1-800-Red-Cross for an appointment. Thanks for you donation.

Taxes, taxes, taxes. Get your taxes done here! This group of nice people treat each person special, no rushing or confusion. They take the time to explain and get it right. Call-1-802-345-5415 for an appointment. They are at the Center on Fridays.

We are still looking for members to serve a two-year term on the Board of Directors. Believe us, it doesn't hurt at all. You will meet the dedicated members who are friendly, concerned, and share a joke once in a while. Directors have a say in a lot of what happens at the Center. Some pretty lively and informative conversations occur in the Board meetings. Call 543-5998 for information about applying. Join us. Don't be shy.

Has the cold weather made you want to take a nap, cuddle up with a good book, sip cocoa? Well, get up!! Start planning a trip you would like the Center to offer. Day trip? Overnight? Help us plan with your plan. Let us know where or your interests so we can make a match. Go to the monthly newsletter at cnhc-s.org. On pg. 6 is a survey . Fill it out. Bring it in or send it in. You can also send us an email at seniorctr5@comcast.net. Help us out. It has been a cold winter. We want some fun!

We are still waiting for our wish we told you about last week. One more week. We can't tell you how happy we will be when it comes. Well, that' it for this week. We're still here. Our board meeting in April will tell us if we are ready to open safely. Rules are changing every day. Hang in there. Stay safe, stay well, call a friend or neighbor. See you next week.

Thought for the Week: Happiness often sneaks in through a door you didn't know you left open.

Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights Rd., Claremont, NH. Tel: 543-5998. Masks required.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Claremont, Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet on

Tuesday, March 30, 2021 7:00 PM

Via ZOOM

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting is being conducted via Zoom.

The public is invited to join the Zoom meeting on-line at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86817468369?pwd=UWpzbzl5Mm1NNzJPTmFDREVWd05h-UT09>

Passcode: 110094 By Phone: 1-646-558-8656 US (New York) Webinar ID: 868 1746 8369

If there is a problem getting through to that number, please call 603-504-0341.

This meeting will be a training session for the Board.

Public Notice

Claremont Development Authority Full Board Meeting

Thursday, March 25, 2021, 7:30 AM

Via ZOOM

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City is suggesting citizens participate in this meeting by Zoom.

Join online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86336033430?pwd=N3ZITEZraFVYTEErSWpta-ExZUDIQdz09>

Passcode: 649637Or Telephone: 1 646 558 8656 Webinar ID: 863 3603 3430

If there is a problem getting through to that number, please call 603-504-0341

Claremont Fire Dept. Log

Sunday 3/14/21

0754- Engine 3 responded on Kenyon St. check the well being

1808- Engine 3 and Car 2 responded on Windy Hill Rd. for tree and wires down

Monday 3/15/21

1106- Engine 3 responded on Elm St. for a Box Alarm

1301- Engine 3 responded on Elm St. for a public assist

1410- Engine 3 responded on Main St. for a smoke investigation

1432- Engine 3 responded on Tutherly

Ave. for a smoke detector issue

Tuesday 3/16/21

0720- Ladder 1 responded on Pleasant St. for a public assist

1056- Engine 3 responded on Washington St. for a motor vehicle accident

1330- Engine 3 responded on Winter St. for a smoke investigation

1518- Engine 3 responded on Dunning St. for a motor vehicle accident

Wednesday 3/17/21

0026- Engine 3 responded on Broad St. for a lift assist

0530- Engine 3 responded on Broad St. for a lift assist

0906- Engine 3 and Ladder 1 responded on Bonneau Rd. for a chimney fire

1236- Engine 3 responded on Green St. for a Lifeline activation

1347- Engine 3 responded on Plains Rd. for a fire alarm sounding

1856- Engine 3 responded on Ridge Ave. for a medical call

2134- Engine 3 responded on Pearl St. for a fire alarm sounding

Thursday 3/18/21

0848- Engine 3 responded on Deerfield Ct. check the well being

1018- Engine 3 responded on Broad St. for a medical call

1140- Engine 3 responded on Main St. for a medical call

1607- Car 2 responded on Spring Farm Rd. for a transformer issue

1912- Engine 3 responded to Heritage Dr. to check the well being

1947- Engine 3 and Engine 1 responded on Main St. for a reported house fire

Friday 3/19/21

1043- Engine 3 and Ladder 2 responded on Broad St. for a Box Alarm

1456- Engine 3 responded on Broad St. for a motor vehicle accident

2004- Engine 3 responded on Belliveau Ave. for possible CO issue

2038- Engine 3 and Engine 1 responded on Bonneau Rd. for reported electrical fire

2314- Engine 3 responded on West Ter-

race for a medical call

Saturday 3/20/21

0935- Engine 3, Engine 1 and Ladder 2 responded on Charlestown Rd. for a structure fire

1511- Engine 3 responded on Main St. for a medical call

2318- Engine 3 responded on Block Ave. for an odor investigation

Attention Sunapee Dog Owners

SUNAPEE, NH—All dogs over four months old must be registered by their owners or keepers with the Town Clerk prior to April 30th. You must bring a valid rabies certificate at the time of registering. A \$25.00 forfeit will be assessed if not licensed by June 1st.

Brownsville Community Church Easter Week Services Schedule

BROWNSVILLE, VT—On Thursday, March 25th, from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m., there will be a Drive-Through Community Easter Egg Give-Away for the first 100 children.

Sunday, March 28th, is the Palm Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.

On Thursday, April 1st, at 6:30 p.m. there will be a Maundy Thursday Service.

A Good Friday Stations of the Cross Service will take place on April 2nd at 2:30 p.m.

NEW TIME & LOCATION: A Sunday Sunrise Service on April 4th will start at 8:30 a.m. with an outdoor service at Ascutney Outdoors.

The Easter Sunday service follows at 9:30 a.m. at the Church.

In anticipation of high attendance at other indoor services, and in compliance with current COVID regulations, attendance needs to be limited at the services held inside the church including the Easter Sunday 9:30 service.

Seating will be handled on a first-come, first-serve basis and overflow will be accommodated in the Fellowship Hall with the service livestreamed on a large screen. Masks and social distancing are required at all services for now.

The weekly Sunday services that start at 9:30 a.m. will continue to be available live on-line at <https://www.facebook.com/brownsvil-lecommunitychurch/> for the foreseeable future.

Remembering Loved Ones...

Life Tributes

Obituaries May Be Found On Our Website

We post obituaries on our website to make them available in “real time,” as they are released by funeral homes. We will continue to publish them here weekly, as well, for your convenience if you wish to print out any of them.

www.etickernewsclaremont.com

Robin Savoie-Toltz

Robin Savoie-Toltz of Newbury, NH, passed away at her home on Friday, March 12, 2021. She was the daughter of the late Fabien (Frenchie) Allard and Theresa (Breton) Allard and was born on September 3, 1957.

Robin was the widow of Howard (Howie) Toltz, who passed away in 2010. She was the very proud mother of the late Baylee Simpson-Allard, who died tragically in an auto accident in 2015. Robin graduated from Stevens High School, a member of the class of 1975. She received a bachelor's degree from Plymouth State College, after spending a year studying in England. She was employed as a Support Enforcement Officer for the NH Department of Health and Human Services for several years. Sadly, worsening health issues prevented Robin from enjoying the things that made her most happy. She treasured the memories of days when she could travel with Howard and Baylee. She loved the lake and her boat, the Robin's Nest, and the gatherings with her lake neighborhood friends. She also loved the Jersey tomatoes, thanks to her cousin, Eric. In her last years, she enjoyed watching cooking shows and spending time with her faithful dog, Otis.

Robin is survived by her mother, Theresa Allard of Claremont; brother, Rock Allard (Holly) of Claremont; stepson, Ian Toltz of Boston, MA; nieces, Pamela Scott-Smith of Sarasota, FL, Alayna Lucero of Bourne, MA, Kelsey

Churchill of Canaan, and nephew, Aaron Allard of Las Vegas, NV. She is also survived by her aunts, Laurette Willette and June Silva, both of Claremont. Robin was especially close with her cousin, Eric Knapp, and loved her many cousins who live throughout the United States.

If desired, memorial contributions in Robin's name can be made to the Upper Valley Humane Society, 300 Old Etna Road, Enfield, NH 03748 or the American Diabetes Association. Services will be held in the summer with a date to be determined.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

John Nemcovich, 90

John Nemcovich died on March 14, 2021, at the age of 90 in Los Angeles, CA. John was born on March 20, 1930 in Claremont, NH. He was the sixth of seven children of Jacob Gregory Nemcovich and Fenia Vederka Nemcovich, who had emigrated from Russia. Following graduation from Stevens High School in 1947, John served in the military and graduat-

ed from Tri-State College in Indiana with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1956. John lived the majority of his adult life in Los Angeles where his brother Peter and sister Helen also resided. John was dearly loved by family and friends.

John is survived by one sister, Nancy Nemcovich Gussman of Annapolis, MD; two nephews, Jesse Paxton of Norwalk, CA, and William H. Gussman, Jr. of New York, NY; three nieces, Katherine Woods and Elizabeth Gussman of Annapolis, MD; Joan Oyerly of Shepherdstown, WV; four grandnephews, Nicholas Oyerly and Andrew Oyerly of Shepherdstown, WV; and Henry Gussman and Alistair Gussman of New York, NY, and two grandnieces, Jennifer Paxton of St. Charles, MO and Emily Woods of Annapolis, MD.

John was predeceased by his brothers, George Nemcovich and Peter Nemcovich, by his sisters Eva Nemcovich, Helen Paxton and Anna Chrun, and by his nephew, Floyd Paxton.

A graveside service for John will be held at Mountain View Cemetery in Claremont on March 27, 2021, at 11:30 a.m. Father Andrew Tregubov, of Holy Resurrection Church in

“Safety glasses are your friend.”

-Dr. Sam Given

All kinds of common eye injuries can be prevented just by wearing safety glasses. That's what Dr. Sam will tell you. Does he sound like your dad?

Sometimes. But your dad had some good advice.

And so does Dr. Sam. See for yourself.

DOCTOR **SAM'S**
EYE CARE



(603) 543-2020
9 Dunning St, Claremont
(we're right there by the hospital)

Claremont, NH, will perform the graveside committal service.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Stringer Funeral Home and Nemcovich family ask anyone attending the graveside to abide with all regulations and please wear a mask and use social distancing.

Marilyn Prever, 77

Marilyn Susan Teresa (“Ima”) Prever, 77, on March 12, 2021, at the Sullivan County Health Care nursing home, after a long illness.

Ima was born on July 12, 1943 to Thelma (Kline) and Louis (“Lenny”) Oguss in Brooklyn, NY. She was a housewife, writer, self-taught intellectual (with a taste for quantum physics and eclectic theology), and lifelong spiritual adventurer, one who brought us all along with her. Jewish by birth, she embarked as a young mother on a search for truth that led her to Jerusalem and back, through Buddhism and Evangelicalism, and, in 1978, to the Catholic Church.

She was “Ima”—“Mama” in Hebrew—to her own children because she was living in Jerusalem when her first two began talking, but she was also “Ima” throughout her life to generations of friends and neighbors who gravitated to her and were warmly welcomed (though she was naturally shy) and well fed (though she had no great love for cooking).

She was preceded in death by her husband, Phil Prever, whom she met while cutting class at Brooklyn College and married when they were both 19.

She is survived by a sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Lloyd Fredericks of Lawrenceville, NJ; a nephew, Joshua Fredericks of Sunnyvale, CA; eight children (Devra Torres of Hyattsville, MD, Abigail Tardiff and Sarah Johnson of Coventry, RI, Simcha Fisher of Marlborough, NH, Jacob Prever of Fitchburg, MA, Joseph Prever of Boston, MA, Rosie Herreid of East

Providence, RI, and Isaiah Prever of Claremont, NH); and 42 grandchildren: Esther, Baron, Miriam, Rachel, Susanna, Juan Diego, Jopa and Gabriel Torres; Augustine, Anna, John, Peter, Mary, David and Abraham Tardiff; Margaret, Rose, Clara, Sonia, Josie, Reggie, Mercy and Naomi Johnson; Lena, Dora, Clara, Moses, Elijah, Sophia, Lucy, Irene, Benny and Corrie Fisher; Emma, Georgiana, Charlie, Benny and Danny Richards-Prever; and Michael, Tovah, Marta and Grace Herreid. She also leaves four great-grandchildren: Juniper, Anastasia, and Killian O’Neil and Georgiana Torres.

A private funeral Mass will be held at St. Joseph’s Church in Claremont, followed by the Rite of Christian Burial at Old St. Mary’s Cemetery.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

**EASTER WEEK AT TRINITY EFC
44 Main Street, Windsor, VT**

802-674-6781

Good Friday Service - April 2 at 6:00pm - "The Day Hope Dies"

Easter Sunday Service - April 4 at 9:30am - "Living Hope"

Both services will be held on site and remotely.

Reserve a spot for on site worship; Zoom Link is on our website to attend remotely.

Palms will be available in the church office on Friday, March 26, from 10am to 4pm for those worshipping remotely on Palm Sunday, March 28.

**SATURDAY, MAY 8
CORNISH SCHOOL MEETING**

The presentation summary of the proposed 21-22 Cornish School budget and Warrant articles have been posted on the Cornish School website at <https://www.cornish-school.org/>

Protect Yourself from COVID-19 Vaccine Scams:

Any representation that a COVID-19 vaccination can be provided quickly in exchange for money or personal identifiable information is a scam.

You will NEVER be asked:

- For payment in any form to reserve a vaccine for you or another person
- For payment in any form to schedule an appointment for yourself or another person
- To provide confidential information (such as a social security number, bank or credit card information) to reserve a vaccine or appointment
- To provide cash, money orders, gift cards, or another form of payment to secure your access in any manner to a COVID-19 vaccine

Visit nh.gov/covid19 to learn about updates related to the vaccine and for all other COVID-19 related information.

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

HOMELAND SECURITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

The Claremont City Council will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall and via Zoom.

To join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81529457408?pwd=dmpEQ1BRNXNibVFUblYnU1nWnZIQT09>

Passcode: 739587

Or by telephone: 1-646-558-8656

Webinar ID: 815 2945 7408

Passcode: 739587

If there is a problem getting through to that number, please call 603-542-7002.

AGENDA (Revised)

- 6:30 PM 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 6:32 PM 2. ROLL CALL
- 6:34 PM 3. AGENDA CHANGES

- 6:35 PM 4. *REPORT OF THE SECRETARY*
Minutes of February 24, 2021, City Council Meeting

- 6:40 PM 5. MAYOR'S NOTES

- 6:45 PM 6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- 6:55 PM 7. CITIZEN'S FORUM (Comments on Non-agenda Items Limited to 5 Minutes per Speaker (Council Rule 24))

- 8. OLD BUSINESS
- 7:05 PM A. Legislative Update
- 7:10 PM B. Focus Areas to Support Priority Areas
- 7:20 PM C. *City Fee Schedule – Public Hearing*
- 7:35 PM D. Stevens Brook Conservation Easement Access Update

- 9. NEW BUSINESS
- 7:50 PM A. Sullivan County ATV Club Biennial Trail Permission (City Manager)
- BREAK
- 8:10 PM B. *Donation of \$250 Tree for City Park (City Manager)*
- 8:15 PM C. *Donation of Electric Fireplace for Airport Terminal Building (City Manager)*
- 8:20 PM D. Water/Sewer Rates Presentation (City Manager)
- 8:50 PM E. Return to In-person Council Meetings Discussion (Councilor Koloski)
- 9:05 PM F. Claremont Cultural Resources Discussion (Council)

- 9:20 PM 10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND DIRECTIVES

- 9:25 PM 11. CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
- 9:30 PM 12. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE NOTE: Claremont City Council's next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall and via Zoom.

Why We Recommend Moving Forward With County Nursing Home Project

By The Sullivan County Board of Commissioners: George Hebert, Chair; Bennie Nelson, Vice-Chair, and Joe Osgood, Clerk

The Sullivan County Board of Commissioners would like to explain why we are unanimously in favor of moving forward right now with the proposal to renovate and expand the Sullivan County Health Care (SCHC) facility.

We recognize this is a monumental decision for the county. It's going to cost \$50-55 million and the last time county officials had to make a decision like this was in the mid-1960s. In spite of the high cost, we believe it represents the best value for Sullivan County's taxpayers if the county is to remain in the long-term care business. Acting now will allow us to borrow money at historically low interest rates. Waiting will only make this project more expensive.

Many of you are probably wondering: "Why is it so expensive?" The cost is impacted by three main factors: federal regulations, our local construction market (materials and labor), and existing site constraints. County staff provided a detailed presentation last month which can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1RpsJDWxk4>

We'd like to briefly summarize them for you now, starting with federal regulations. Long-term care facilities are heavily regulated by federal and state government and as you might imagine, these standards have changed a great deal since the 1960s. The biggest changes that are driving up costs involve clearances around resident beds for access as well as the maximum number of residents that can share toilet/shower facilities. The bottom line is these changes now require us to build resident rooms that are twice as big as they were in the 1960s. These larger rooms provide a more "home-like" environment instead of a sterile, institutional feel and they represent a vast improvement in quality of life for our residents. Residents will now be able to shower in their own rooms rather than having to travel down the hallway. These are good things for our residents. But larger rooms equals a larger building...and that means a larger price tag.

Another factor is our local construction market. Anybody who has visited a building supply store or tried to hire a plumber, electrician,

or builder recently understands costs have gone up and contractors are in short supply. The law of supply and demand impacts commercial construction projects in the same way.

And finally, part of the cost is due to existing site conditions and the phasing strategy. We need to prevent—or at least minimize—the amount of disruption to residents and staff during construction while preserving our occupancy rate to prevent significant revenue losses that would impact the county's budget. These are challenges that add time to the overall schedule as well as cost—but this plan is still far less expensive compared to building new.

So now you might be thinking: "If regulations have doubled the room size and construction market is high right now, let's build a smaller building by reducing the number of beds." We have spent a lot of time thinking about this as well and there are a few reasons why we don't support that approach. First, fewer beds would result in a greater percentage of Medicaid revenue from our resident census—which would be bad for our taxpayers because Medicaid reimbursement rates do not fully cover the costs of long-term care. The project's scope allows us to accommodate a diverse mix of residents with different bill-paying sources that include private pay, Medicare, and Medicaid. Sullivan County currently ranks #2 out of the 10 NH counties in terms of financial performance at its nursing home. Most counties lose between \$1.5 to 2.5 million each year in part because county nursing homes have a large share of Medicaid revenue. Having Medicare and private pay revenue is critical to maintaining SCHC's excellent fiscal performance. We don't think it makes good fiscal sense for our taxpayers if we reduce beds to lower the construction cost and end up losing \$1.5 to 2.5 million per year for the next 50-60 years.

Another reason we do not recommend reducing the number of beds is our aging population. In the next 25 years we expect to see increased demand for long-term care as the "Baby Boomer Generation" comes of age. We need to be looking ahead, not backward, so we are ready to meet the future needs of our citizens. This design also provides flexibility so we can adapt to meet future requirements

after the "Silver Tsunami" by increasing the size of the short-term rehabilitation unit or by converting semi-private rooms to larger, single-occupancy private pay rooms if we ever decide to reduce the total number of beds.

Furthermore, when it comes to the notion of vacant rooms, it's important to note that long-term care facilities aren't like hotels. Prior to COVID-19, our nursing home was just over 90% full. Our 156 beds are broken out into 4 separate units that provide specialized care based on the medical needs of our residents. Having a few empty beds in each unit provides needed flexibility to ensure newly admitted residents have a bed in the unit that best fits their situation. And as we mentioned above, we expect to see a surge in demand over the next 25 years.

What about the impact on local property taxes? This will depend on how much we borrow. Sullivan County is in line to receive nearly \$8.4 million from the recently passed American Recovery Act but we are waiting on additional details to see if we can apply those funds to this project. But let's assume we need to borrow the full \$50 million and also assume a 3% interest rate over 29 years (which is the maximum length of time the NH Municipal Bond Bank will allow). This would add about \$1.9 million to the County's budget—a 14% increase that works out to about 36 cents on the tax rate. Bear in mind, this is based on the County's average tax rate—each municipality calculates its own County tax rate so it is impossible for us to predict the specific impact to every single taxpayer. With that said, **this average increase of 36 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value equals \$54 per year for a home valued at \$150,000.**

We believe the men and women of Sullivan County Health Care provide an invaluable service to the citizens of Sullivan County. This is a once-in-a-lifetime decision and we realize this will be a significant financial commitment for the county's taxpayers. Please contact county staff, any of the County Commissioners, or your state representatives if you have any questions or concerns about this project. We expect there will be a public hearing on this project in April—you can follow the County's Facebook page or website for more details as they are finalized.