

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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Patient Tested at VRH for COVID-19 is Positive; page A2

<u>etickernews@gmail.com</u> <u>www.facebook.com/etickernews</u>

March 23, 2020

Sununu, NH Delegation Urge Trump to Help Speed Up Production & Distribution of Medical Supplies

CONCORD, NH— On Friday, Governor Chris Sununu sent a joint letter with New Hampshire's Congressional Delegation urging President Trump to take additional steps, which will serve to speed up the production and distribution of critical medical supplies needed to combat the COVID-19 outbreak.

The letter said in part, "New Hampshire and states across the country are running danger-ously low on supplies needed to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak, including personal protective equipment, swabs needed to conduct diagnostic tests, and ventilators. States alone cannot address these shortages, especially when they are competing against each other and the federal government to purchase available resources. We need a coordinated federal response to distribute current inventories, ramp up production, and quickly get needed supplies to states.

"While we have world-class medical professionals, first responders, and hospital facilities in New Hampshire, the lack of basic supplies is threatening our ability to combat this crisis. The first step to help address these shortages is to distribute additional supplies from the National Stockpile and from any other available federal sources to provide immediate support while new production ramps up.

"Second, we ask that you take steps to ensure that we see results from your announcement today under the Defense Production Act as soon as possible. The authority under this Act can help bring the full force of the enormous manufacturing capacity of the United States to bear against this pandemic – but im-

(Continued on page A7)



Valley Regional Hospital has opened a dedicated COVID-19 Testing Center and Screening Hotline (Courtesy photo).

COVID Testing Center Opens at VRH

CLAREMONT, NH—Valley Regional Hospital now has a dedicated COVID-19 Testing Center and Screening Hotline. The Testing Center is located outside Claremont Urgent Care on the Dunning Street side of the Valley Regional campus and opened on Wednesday, March 18, at 8:00 a.m.

Before being tested, it is required that patients call the designated COVID-19 hotline for prescreening at 603-542-7850. This number connects you with a healthcare professional that will screen you by phone if you feel that you are exhibiting the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 but do not feel that there is a medical emergency that requires immediate intervention.

(Continued on page A2)

Testing, from A1

If it is determined that testing is indicated, you will be directed to the VRH Campus and park in the COVID-19 designated parking spots which are located near the Claremont Urgent Care Center where healthcare professionals will care for you outside of the hospital building. Only individuals who meet criteria for testing will be tested in an effort to conserve supplies.

VRH asks those who believe they need testing to "Please make every effort to call ahead to be screened. This will enable us to provide care quickly and in an orderly fashion."

COVID-19 Hotline: 603-542-7850

Hours: Monday-Friday 8AM-7PM, Saturday &

Sunday 8AM-4:30PM

Charlestown Urgent Care Center Closed Temporarily

"In light of this news, and to better care for our community, VRH has made the difficult decision to temporarily close the Charlestown Urgent Care Center. The staff of Charlestown Urgent Care will be relocated to the Claremont Urgent Care Center to assist with the

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Phyllis A. Muzeroll Publisher/Editor

Eric Zengota
Contributing Writer/Photographer

etickernews@gmail.com

Snail mail to: 6 Osgood Ave. Claremont, NH 03743 603-542-7319

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Member, NH Press Association

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COVID-19 Outside Testing Center and COVID-19 Hotline. Our goal is to keep our community safe and utilize our resources effectively during this difficult time. We greatly appreciate the understanding of the communities affected by the temporary closure of the Charlestown Clinic and we thank everyone for their continued support."

Patient Test at VRH for COVID-19 is Positive

CLAREMONT, NH—Valley Regional Health-care was notified Tuesday night by the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that a patient who was tested at the hospital is positive for COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus. All proper precautions were taken with this patient to ensure the least amount of risk to our colleagues, patients, and visitors, said a hospital spokesman. "The team was prepared to care for this patient, followed protocols appropriately and our preparedness efforts around the virus are in line with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and DHHS guidelines.

"We adhere to strict confidentiality standards and therefore will be unable to provide information on the patient. We are working with DHHS to identify any close contacts of this patient and will follow up with any others with whom they may have had contact since the patient's possible exposure. The patient is currently recovering and being closely monitored.

"As we often do during infectious disease outbreaks, we have implemented new temporary visitor restrictions which generally preclude any visitors to the Inpatient, Emergency

> Department

or Urgent Care areas although there may be some specific waivers on a case-by-case basis. We urgently request cooperation from our community to adhere to these temporary restrictions that are so important to mitigate the spread of the virus. We also remind you to practice excellent hand hygiene, refrain from touching your face, use social distancing techniques and avoid large gatherings. Further, we request you only present to the Emergency Department if you are in immediate need of emergency services.

"As a healthcare institution in our region, we frequently and effectively provide care for those with infectious diseases. We have been preparing for the potential presence of the virus in our broader community and we are confident in our ability to maintain the health and safety of our staff, patients and visitors."

Although the patient tested positive at VRH, the Incident Planning and Operations Center NH Department of Safety told the *e-Ticker News* that "positive case reports are indicated by the person's residence (county), not where the test was completed", explaining why the NHDHHS' COVID-19 map shows only one identified case for Sullivan County thus far, reported Sunday night.

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NH Lottery Numbers 03/21/2020

NH PowerBall 2 23 40 59 69 13

NH Mega Millions 03/20/2020 34 35 41 45 54 5

Tristate Megabucks 03/21/2020 8 13 26 29 41 2

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



Hospitals Restrict Visitors

No Visitation Policy Set at VRH

CLAREMONT, NH—Effective March 17, 2020, Valley Regional Hospital began restricting all visitors to the hospital under a temporary no visitation policy. "We are taking this measure to protect our patients, community members and employees from the spread of and potential exposure to Corona virus (COVID-19).

"Care teams will use discretion in specific circumstances:

- -End of Life Care
- -Patient Safety

"We recognize the valuable role that family members and visitors play in the healing process and appreciate that these restrictions may cause challenges for our patients and their families. Valley Regional Hospital would like to thank the public for their cooperation as we work to keep the community calm, informed and healthy."

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health Further Revises Visitor Access for Patient and Staff Safety

LEBANON, NH – As the COVID-19 situation rapidly progresses in the Upper Valley and with continued evaluation of precautionary steps to slow the spread of the virus, beginning Wednesday, March 18th, all Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health facilities will no longer allow visitors.

Visitor limitations apply to patient rooms, general waiting areas, emergency departments, clinics, and the Cafe. Exceptions will be made for the neonatal ICU, partner or spouse of patients in our Birthing Pavilion or those visiting patients receiving end-of-life care.

"We understand the important role that visitors play in the healing process and this decision will be difficult for patients, their families, and friends. This decision was made to preserve the ongoing wellness of our patients and staff."

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health facilities, includes Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC), Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital, New London Hospital, Cheshire Medical Center, Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center

and Dartmouth-Hitchcock's (D-H's) Community Group Practice in Southern New Hampshire.

1st Positive Test Result of COVID-19 Identified in Sullivan County Reported

On Sunday, March 22, 2020, DHHS announced 13 new positive test results for COVID-19. There have now been 78 cases of COVID-19 diagnosed in New Hampshire. The new cases are all adults, including nine males and four females. The 13 new cases reside in Rockingham (3), Hillsborough County other than Manchester and Nashua (3), Strafford (2), Grafton (1), Manchester (1), Belknap (1), Carroll (1), and Sullivan (1) counties. Positive case reports are indicated by the person's residence, not where the test was completed. This is the first positive case of COVID-19 identified in Sullivan County.

Eight of the new cases have either had travel to domestic or international locations or have had close contact with a person with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis. Five of the cases have no identified risk factors. Community-based transmission has been identified in the majority of the counties in the State. Nine new cases are isolating at home. Two of the new cases are currently hospitalized and one was hospitalized and released; thus far, six patients out of the 78 positive cases (8%) have been hospitalized.

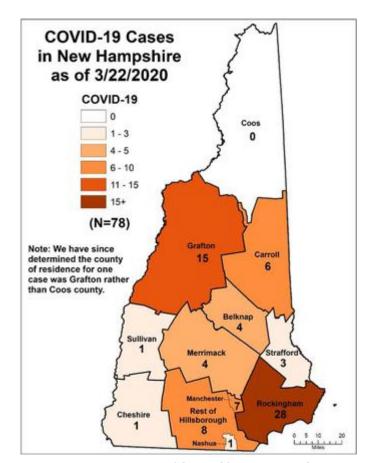
DHHS is also updating the county of residence for a case announced on March 20. DHHS has since determined that the county of residence was Grafton County rather than Coos County. The map to the right issued Sunday reflects this new information.

COVID-19 Hotline

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

Sullivan County Registry of Deeds Closes to the Public Temporarily

NEWPORT, NH-Due to the concerns sur-



The total number of identified cases in NH as of Sunday was 78. Positive case reports are indicated by the person's residence, not where the test was completed, explaining why the NHDHHS' COVID-19 map shows only the first identified case for Sullivan County (reported on Sunday) to date despite a patient's positive test result at VRH earlier last week (NHDHHS graphic).

rounding COVID-19, the Registry of Deeds of fice will be closed to the public until further notice. Documents for recording will be accepted when submitted electronically, by FedEx, UPS or USPS.

"We will accept documents for recording in our lobby of the County building. Please contact us upon arrival and we will meet you in the lobby to retrieve documents and accept return information and payments. We would ask that you bring blank checks with you for payment of recording fees."

If you need a copy of a recorded document or have questions or concerns, please contact the registry for further assistance: (603) 863-2110.

"As this situation continues to evolve, you are asked to check our website for updated information. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work together to minimize the risks of COVID-19 in our community."

Commentary

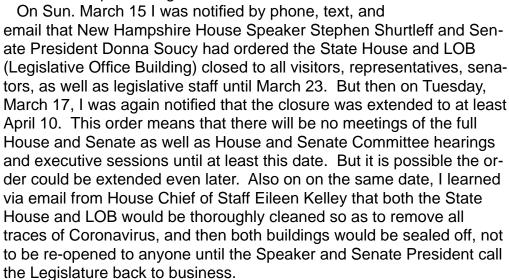
(603) 227-4020.

NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

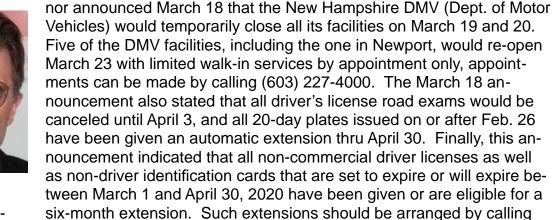
State, City Unite for the Common Good

Like all other entities throughout the world as well as our nation and state, the Coronavirus has impacted the New Hampshire Legislature.



Nevertheless, the temporary closure of the State House and LOB to legislators doesn't mean that New Hampshire's state government hasn't been responding to the Coronavirus pandemic. Gov. Christopher Sununu and the Executive Branch agencies have been very busy in the past week working to keep our state safe. Among other actions, the Governor has so far issued ten executive orders since declaring a "State of Emergency," on March 13. The first order issued March 15 was to close all the state's public schools at least thru April 3, and transition them to remote online learning. The second March 16 order prohibited all public gatherings of 50 people or more as well as prohibited all bars and restaurants from allowing patrons to eat and drink on their premises. Other issued orders include temporarily barring all utilities and internet providers from disconnecting customers for the Emergency's duration as a temporary moratorium on all tenant evictions and bank foreclosures. Yet other orders permit workers laid off because of the Coronavirus to apply for unemployment benefits without the usual one-week waiting period as well as allow bars and restaurants to temporarily provide takeout deliveries of beer and wine. Yet others temporarily expand Telehealth Services so as to protect the public and health care providers when diagnosing patients as well as establishing an Emergency Healthcare System Relief Fund, which will help insure that New Hampshire's community hospitals remain open. Finally, the most recent order issued on March 21 temporarily requires all retail stores to utilize only single-use disposable bags for all purchases so as to better protect store employees from being exposed to Coronavirus.

Frankly, I would not be surprised to see a few more executive orders issued by the Governor within the few weeks until the "State of Emergency," is lifted. Also while not officially an executive order, the Gover-



For the record, believe that Gov. Sununu has done a good job so far in responding to this unprecedented pandemic. I fully understand and agree with all his issued executive orders, however inconvenient some of them may be to myself and some of my constituents, orders permitted under the declared State of Emergency, which is authorized under two state laws, last revised by the Legislature in 2002. These laws include RSA (Revised Statutes Annotated) 4:45 III (e) which declares that a Governor has the authority "to perform and exercise such other functions, powers, and duties as are necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population." Also there is RSA 4:47 III, which states that a Governor has "the power to make, amend, suspend, and rescind necessary orders, rules, and regulations to carry out emergency management functions in the event of a disaster beyond local control."

I sincerely wish that Gov. Sununu continues his good job in dealing with the Coronavirus pandemic. Also, I believe that Claremont City and School District leaders are doing a great job in responding to this terrible pandemic. I am sure that it was not easy to make some of the tough decisions that these local leaders have had to make over the past week—closing buildings like City Hall, the Community Center, and Fiske Free Library as well as quickly creating alternative ways to educate, feed, and otherwise serve our school students. I am hopeful we will all get through these terrible times, and emerge stronger than ever as a local community and state, but only if we think not just about ourselves and our families, but fellow citizens struggling to cope. These citizens especially include our nurses, doctors, and other medical professionals who are on the front lines in the war against the Coronavirus

In closing, I would like to quote House Speaker Stephen Shurtleff, who wrote in the March 20 House Calendar to us representatives that the Coronavirus "knows no boundaries and has brought us together to work cooperatively for the good of our citizens." The Speaker added, "The people of New Hampshire constantly see the political bickering in Washington, D.C. They occasionally see it happening here in the Granite State. But the message for the people of New Hampshire is simply this: We may disagree with each other on politics and policy, but when it comes to the public safety of the people of New Hampshire, we in the New Hampshire House are united for the common good of those we serve." Email: jocloutier@comcast.net

House of Representatives - Claremont

District 3/Ward 1: Andrew O'Hearne

friendsofandrewohearne@comcast.net

District4/Ward 2: Gary Merchant 603-542-2228 gary.merchant@leg.state.nh.us

District 5/Ward 3: Walter Stapleton 603-542-8656 WaltStapleton@comcast.net

District 10/Wards 1, 2, 3: John Cloutier 603-542-6190 jocloutier@comcast.net

Senate - Claremont

District 5: Martha Hennessey 603-271-3067 martha.hennessey@leg.state.nh.us

District 1 **Executive Councilor**

Michael Cryans 603-271-3632 Michael.Cryans@nh.gov

Washington, DC

Sen. Jeanne Shaheen 520 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 202-224-2841 http://shaheen.senate.gov/contact

Sen. Maggie Hassan

B85 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: (202) 224-3324 https://www.hassan.senate.gov/

Rep. Anne Kuster

137 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 phone: 202-225-5206 http://kuster.house.gov/contact

Letters to the Editor

Don't Allow C&D Site in City

To The Editor:

In a word, DON'T. Don't allow a C&D site to come into our city. We are opposed to it for a number of reasons: (1) health issues of people, especially school children, living in the area; (2) the increase in big truck traffic creating more wear and tear on our already falling apart streets, (3) not to mention the noise and danger to foot traffic: (4) and all the hidden expenses which will arise from the previous three problems which will ultimately be passed on to the already overtaxed taxpayers of Claremont.

C&D...Construction and Demolition ... OR Casualties and Destruction.

Ed & Nancy Miville Claremont, NH

Charlestown Bingo Cancelled for the Time Being

To The Editor:

Charlestown Memorial VFW Post had hoped and planned to continue holding Bingo during these turbulent times, however the Governor has taken that choice out of our hands by issuing an emergency order prohibiting social gatherings of 50 or more people. Therefore we are forced to cancel Bingo for the foreseeable future. According to State Representative (Charlestown) Steve Smith, this order is in affect until April 9, and may be extended. Stay tuned, we will post more as times goes on and things normalize.

Take care of yourselves and one another,

Tom St.Pierre FTC/SS, USN, Ret. Commander **Charlestown Memorial Post 8497 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**

No Bailouts for the Wealthy

To The Editor:

I hope our elected representatives focus on the American people who are in financial crisis right now with any bailout legislation. Our most vulnerable neighbors have no or very limited options for help in dealing with this pandemic. We need not focus on big industry, but rather the common good of all Americans. Hotel chains, cruise lines, and airlines should not have priority for bailout money due to this crisis. I want the American people who are struggling and most vulnerable to have their needs met before big business gets their chunk of the economic stimulus pie.

I also want to highlight the rapid shift our communities are making to address this crisis. Our local government and schools have responded quickly to address this pandemic. Members of my community are self-isolating except for the emergent needs for food and those who must go to work. My faith community is shifting to online video conferencing. I have shifted my psychotherapy practice to an online platform this week. People I know are looking out for each other and connecting in safe ways.

These are examples of how, in times of crisis, our communities can transition to life-saving measures to deal with threats. I urge our leaders to see how we could use this model of transitioning to address the existential threat of the climate crisis. The pandemic will affect us in disastrous ways for months, and the aftermath for years. The climate crisis is already affecting us in serious ways. It will continue to do so for generations. We need to transition to renewable energy and life-saving measures that address the climate crisis now for the sake of our children, grandchildren and future generations. This cannot wait.

Rebecca MacKenzie

Claremont, NH

COMMUNITY UPDATES COVID-19

CLAREMONT, NH -In order to keep our residents and employees safe, the transfer station will be instituting the following procedures:

- 1.) Social Distance-please stretch your arm toward the employee so he can punch the ticket from a safe distance.
- 2.) Employees will not be opening trunks and counting trash bags, please just let them know how many bags you have.
- 3.) If you require assistance throwing away your trash, please stay in your car and notify the employee at the gate. He will radio his coworker to assist you.
- 4.) If no one is at the office, please look for the green vests. They will be sanitizing the common contact surfaces.
- 5.) Although we all greatly appreciate your generosity, please don't be offended if employees refuse the food and other goodies you bring them. during this time.
- 6.) Employees will be installing boxes near the office for your batteries and fluorescent bulbs instead of handing them directly to the employee.

This may slow the operation, but the safety of both the employees and citizens are our first concern. Thank you for your patience during this time.

There will be reduced public access to the City Clerk's office & Welfare department effective immediately. All access for those offices will be through the main City Hall Door. Police doors will remain open. Please be careful not to touch hard surfaces and call first, if possible, to schedule an appointment.

Update from the Community College System of New Hampshire

In response to the escalating public health situation, New Hampshire's community colleges will extend the online learning format through the end of the Spring semester (May 9, 2020). Further information is available at https://www.ccsnh.edu/covid-19/.

NH DMV is Transitioning to Appointment Only Services

Due to concern for the health and safety of our customers and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic:

Starting Thursday, March 19, the DMV transitioned to phone and online services. All walkin services will be paused.

Starting Monday, March 23, limited walk-in services will be available only by appointment at Concord, Dover, Manchester, Newport, and Twin Mountain.

Further information is available at https:// www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/dmv/news-events/

2020/20200318-dmv-transitioning-to-appointments.htm.

LEBANON OPERA HOUSE Temporary Closure:

LOH will not present public events through April 30

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Becky Vittum

LPL Investment

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Delegation, from A1

plementing it will require continued strong leadership and oversight. The Defense Production Act allows you to give priorities and allocation authorities to emergency management agencies, establish voluntary agreements with private industry, and utilize a variety of incentives to expand and restore domestic manufacturing capabilities for these desperately needed medical supplies and equipment. Now you must take further steps to turn this announcement into tangible results by ensuring that agencies quickly draw up contracts with manufacturers and begin to produce these supplies immediately.

"In addition, we urge you to use the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership program network to identify manufacturers with relevant expertise or excess or idle production capacity, take steps to put appropriate quality control measures into place, and then prioritize and accelerate the production of needed medical equipment..."

Local Businesses Get Creative, Make Adjustments in the Age of Virus Restrictions

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—We are now firmly in the age of COVID-19, and nary a soul is not being affected by the crisis. Children are home, with parents struggling at times to balance overseeing school lessons with work, while social and civic organizations are canceling or postponing event after event. Businesses are trying their best to weather the uncertainty while employees for many places are simply out of work for an unknown length of time.

Restaurants and bars have been ordered by the state to offer only take-out and/or delivery services, and many eateries are coming up with creative ways to attract business while their dining rooms remain empty. Some area restaurants are posting tempting photos of food offerings available at their place of business on social media while others are including a roll of toilet paper with orders over a certain amount.

Hannaford and Market Basket in Claremont are offering special shopping hours for seniors to help ensure they can find what they need. Market Basket announced that on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5:30 to 7:00 a.m., the stores will be open only to serve customers 60 and older. Hannaford is offering early morning hours for seniors, from 6:00 - 7:00 a.m., Tuesday - Thursday. Hannaford has also temporarily changed its hours from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. to allow for more time to clean, stock shelves and enable employees to have additional time to rest. Hannaford is pledging \$250,000 in donations to support local food banks.

Area banks are also making temporary changes, closing their lobbies to the public and asking customers to use online services, ATMs and drive-up windows and to call customer service with questions.

City and town halls have also been making changes, closing some or all in-person services by limiting public access to facilities and asking citizens to do as much business online, by email or mail or to call the specific department with which they are seeking to do business. Police departments are also cutting back on public services, such as fingerprinting for businesses, tours, ride-alongs and other public interaction. Most libraries in the area have also closed their doors temporarily to the public but encourage patrons to check out their offerings online.

High Demand for Online Unemployment Services Crashes State Website

Unprecedented numbers of people filing for unemployment benefits due to COVID-19 impacting the NH workforce led to serious problems for those trying to access the New Hampshire Employment Security website last week. The site crashed repeatedly, and those trying to contact the agency by phone also had significant issues trying to make contact; all NHWorks offices have been closed to the public for the time being, requiring people to go online or phone in for assistance. To try to eases the online congestion, the state has created a new system, assigning a block of time based on the first letter of your last name to file your new claim. Details can be found on the Home page at https://www.nhes.nh.gov/.

—Phyllis A. Muzeroll

NH DHHS District Offices Open for Telephone, Online Applications Only

CONCORD, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Bureau of Family Assistance has announced that in order to protect the health and safety of its customers and staff, all District Office (DO) buildings will be closed for client-facing activities until further notice.

People in need of assistance may apply for benefits online at https://nheasy.nh.gov/#/ and will be scheduled for a phone interview in order to complete their benefits application.

People with no internet access should call 1-844-275-3447.

Sununu issues Emergency Order for Stores to Use Single Use Paper or Plastic Bags

CONCORD, NH—On Saturday, NH Governor Chris Sununu issued Emergency Order 10: Requiring all grocers and retail stores to temporarily transition to use of single use paper or plastic bags. This Order shall apply to grocery stores, supermarkets, convenience stores, retail stores selling any product, and any other similar establishment engaged in instore sale of retail products to customers.

"Our grocery store workers are on the front lines of COVID-19, working around the clock to keep New Hampshire families fed," said Sununu. "With identified community transmission, it is important that shoppers keep their reusable bags at home given the potential risk to baggers, grocers and customers. This Emergency Order directs all grocers and retail stores in the state to temporarily transition to only use new paper or plastic grocery bags provided by stores as soon as possible."

The **City** has created a COVID-19 page at http://www.claremontnh.com/residents/COVID-19.aspx. It will be listing cancellations of events as they come in as well as state and federal government information. The City would also like to encourage residents and business owners to sign up for Code Red community notification. To enroll, please go to the Police Department page on the city web site at http://www.claremontnh.com/residents/departments/police.aspx.

Five Colleges Book Sale Shifts to Online Sales

LEBANON, NH—In response to the COVID-19 situation, the Executive Committee of the Five Colleges Book Sale has determined that for the health and safety of our volunteers and patrons, this year's sale will shift to an online book sale format for the 2020 season. The physical sale scheduled for April 18 and 19 at Lebanon High School has been cancelled.

"We will be selling books online at www.fivecollegesbooksale.org in the near future. Please check back frequently for updates," said a spokesperson in a press release.

Book donations will continue to be accepted at the current sorting site (former Sears retail location in the Kohl's/JC Penney's plaza on 12A in West Lebanon, NH) Tuesday through Saturday, 9 am - 4 pm through March 27.

Patrons of the sale may also make a tax deductible monetary donation in support of our annual scholarship fund by visiting our website, www.five-collegesbooksale.org and clicking 'Donations' on the menu. Net profits from online sales and monetary donations will provide financial aid to students from New Hampshire and Vermont to attend Mt. Holyoke, Simmons, Smith, Vassar, and Wellesley.

"We will continue following the most updated guidance and precautions from health officials with attention to the cleanliness of our sorting site.

"We will continue to ask volunteers and the general public to follow public health officials' guidance of frequent hand washing and to stay home if you are feeling ill.

"Again, the health and well-being of our volunteers, patrons, and the communities where we live, work, and play is of utmost importance. We thank everyone for their understanding during this unprecedented time.

"We look forward to resuming the Fives Colleges Book Sale in 2021 as we enter our milestone 60th year."

Questions may be directed to Priscilla Dube, 603-428-3311, priscilla2nh@gmail.-com.

Five College Book Sale - used, antiquarian, out-of-print, hardbacks, paperbacks, fiction, biography, history, religion, science fiction, ephemera, music, cookery, travel Five-Colleges Book Sale--largest in northern New England annually offers about 35,000

used and antiquarian books on all subjects, in good condition, modestly priced. Also old cds, records and tapes; five-collegesbooksale.org

MAY 6 NEWPORT SPRING JOB FAIR

Newport's Spring Job Fai will be held on Wednesday, May 6, at the Wheeler Gymnasium at Towle Elementary School in Newport of from 2:00pm – 6:00pm.Presented by the Town Newport's Economic Development Office. Open to the public and free for businesses.

More information and RSVP at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1 CR-R6UGHqodVc2-2EwJNamHnaAn N-DR3xgdmrK95biA/viewform?

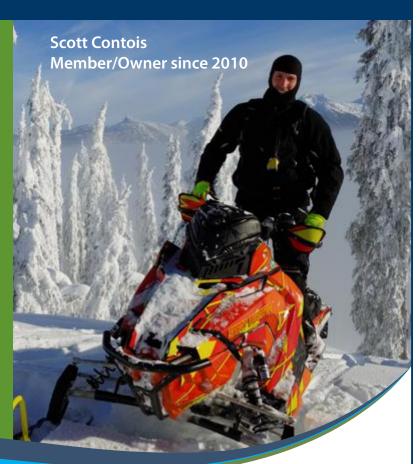
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Coordinate, Cooperate, Communicate

City and School Officials Work Together to Combat COVID-19 Crisis



By Eric Zengota e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—The City of Claremont and SAU6 held a joint press conference on March 18 to update citizens on the emergency plan and procedures designed to battle the coronavirus pandemic.

Mayor Charlene Lovett announced that all City departments "have moved rapidly to meet this crisis." Until further notice, all non-essential board and commission meetings are cancelled. City employees are still at work, but since visitor access to departments is limited, Lovett recommended calling ahead to conduct most business. It's important to visit the City's website — claremonth.com — on a regular basis, as new information on hours, services and health practices is posted throughout the day.

City manager Ed Morris has extensive experience in emergency response, having been a firefighter for 18 years. "The City is committed to preserving and providing essential services as well as safeguarding public health," he stated. In addition to visiting claremonthh.com, he noted, anyone can phone the State's COVID-19 hotline at 2-1-1 or 866-444-4211 (TTY: 603-634-3388).

There are drive-up testing sites at Keady

Family Practice on Washington St. and Valley Regional Hospital. These are intended only for persons exhibiting symptoms, Morris stressed. They should first phone 603-650-1818 about getting a diagnosis and making appointments for being tested, he said.

School superintendent Michael Tempesta noted that all school buildings are closed, and that most SAU6 district employees are working remotely. Custodians are giving the schools a deep "summer cleaning," then closing the rooms to keep them sanitized.

School buses parked outside Claremont's three elementary schools, Claremont Middle School and Stevens High School are now food-service stations. School bus drivers and school aides hand out bagged breakfasts from 8am to 9:30 a.m., and bagged lunches from noon to 1:30 p.m. Elementary school students started to pick up their remote-learning study plans at the same times. Middle and high school students were getting their study plans and Chromebooks along with bagged meals beginning last Thursday. Any student with dietary restrictions or who cannot get to the buses should call the district at 603-543-4200. Tempesta emphasized that social-distancing should be practiced at all bus locations to prevent the spread of infection.

Fire chief Bryan Burr, the City's Emergency Management Director, assured the public that "the Fire Department will continue to provide the highest level of emergency response." He is in constant contact with local, county and State officials, working to stay abreast of the latest developments and updated guidelines. Burr recommended visiting various websites for more information, including claremonthh.-com, nh.gov/covid19/ (State site) and cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

Police chief Mark Chase noted that "the entire department, your officers, will work as always to ensure the safety and security of all Claremont citizens." He noted that, in accordance with social-distancing guidelines, officers will not approach individuals too closely except in emergencies. And if they respond to a call at a home or business, he added, they may even ask persons to step outside into a fresh-air setting.

Lovett concluded the press conference by saying, "We're living in an extraordinary time. The City will do all we can to lessen the hardship. The best way is for everyone to militantly follow CDC guidelines. I thank the Claremont community for working together to fight this virus."

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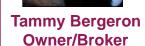
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Need to see this outstanding Contemporary home!

This home offers complete privacy within the city limits. Attached three-bay garage with and additional 2500 sq ft barn. Gleaming wood floors, stone fireplace with wood stove insert Galley kitchen off the formal dining room. Spacious living room with large windows for natural light. All on 6 acres of land. \$275,000

Plainfield Public Libraries Closed Until Further Notice

After careful consideration and to protect the well-being of our patrons and staff against the coronavirus outbreak, we have decided to close the Plainfield Public Libraries starting Tuesday, March 17th, until further notice.

Over the next couple of days, the staff and I will be formulating a plan to provide some limited services. Watch for messages and posts from us. We will do our best to keep you reading.

The best way to contact us is by email: mer-prml@plainfieldlibraries.org. We will be checking for messages daily. We will answer questions and can provide assistance with electronic library resources.

Follow us on Facebook at Plainfield Public Libraries or search for us on Instagram Plainfield NH Libraries @ merprml.

Take advantage of our electronic resources by visiting our website: https://plainfieldlibraries.org/ Download books and audiobooks with NH Downloadable Books, Stream video on Kanopy. Read the New York Times on-line.

You will need a library card to access these great resources. Don't have one? Email us and we will contact you.

Wi-fi access is always available outside of our library buildings. It's not the same as being in a library, but if you need internet access you can link into wifi.

Take care and watch for updates.

The Staff and Trustees of the Plainfield Public Libraries

G.H. Stowell Library Updates

The G.H. Stowell Library in Cornish is currently still open during regular hours. Inter library loans are not possible as many libraries across the state are closing or limiting services and the delivery van has stopped service as of 3/18/2020.

Information will be coming out soon with regards to the April book group meeting. Visit http://www.cornishnh.net/?page_id=129 for updates.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Claremont, Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet on Monday, March 30, 2020

Council Chambers, City Hall at 7:00 p.m. SITE VISIT

The Zoning Board will meet at 6:00 PM at 607 Washington Street

For a site visit ahead of the public hearings.
They will move on to 153 Washington Street for a site there and then

On to City Hall for the 7:00 PM meeting.

Notice is hereby given that public hearings will be held concerning the following applications:

(ZO 2020-00001) Scott Fischer, 607 Washington Street – Application for a variance from sect.

22-167 of the Zoning Ordinance to permit operation of a portable sawmill that would be less than 1000 feet from existing dwellings in the vicinity of 607 Washington Street. Tax Map 135, Lot 16.

Zoning District: RR

(ZO 2020-00009) Scott Fischer, 607 Washington Street – Application for a Special Exception to permit addition of a portable sawmill to the lot at 607 Washington Street. Tax Map 135, Lot 16. Zoning District: RR

(ZO 2020-00008) Doug Thurber, Bellows Falls VT – Application for a variance from sect. 22-316 of the Zoning Ordinance to permit the addition of a powersports/trailers sales and service business to the lot at 271 River Road. Tax Map 152, Lot 4.

Zoning Districts: I1 and AR
(ZO 2020-00010) Amcomm Wireless, 153 Washington Street – Application for a variance from sect. 22-600 of the zoning ordinance to permit installation of a sign that has the illusion of movement at 153 Washington Street. Tax Map 120, Lot 236. Zoning District: B2

Interested parties may review these applications at the City of Claremont's Planning and Development Department, 14 North Street during normal business hours.

Comments about these applications may be submitted by any of the following methods:

In person at the hearing, or In writing at 14 North Street, Claremont NH 03743, or

By email at cityplanner@claremontnh.com.
Michael Hurd,
Chair

CORNISH, NH

2.5 Story Colonial 5 Bed 2 Bath

- * Large rooms and wood floors
- * 16 acres

MLS # 4794769 \$319,900



CORNISH, NH

1 Story 2 Bed 1 Bath

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- * Private back deck

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CLAREMONT, NH

2 Story New Englander 3bed 1 Bath **BLUFF AREA**

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PLANNING BOARD MEETING Monday, March 23, 2020 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall
Discussion of the Capital Improvements Program
For FY2021-2026

Richard Wahrlich, Chair

www.etickernewsofclaremont.com

www.facebook.com/etickernews



Public Hearing is Postponed but not the Threat

By Jan Lambert

In the first column last week from the citizens group, A Better Claremont (ABC), we summarized a proposal being presented by Recycling Services, Inc. (RSI), owned by Acuity Management, Inc., and doing business as the American Recycling & Disposal Company, which currently operates a scrap yard at 38 Industrial Blvd. near Claremont Junction. RSI is seeking to expand to receive construction and demolition (C&D) debris on a 1.5 acre lot, with the bulk of the waste to be shipped by rail for disposal. The scale of the operation is massive with estimates of more than 50 truckloads or up to 500 tons of C&D daily, six days a week. A large crowd of citizens attended the first public hearing on March 2. Many concerns were expressed about traffic, road wear, toxic materials, noise, and especially for the safety of children in the area with residences and schools nearby. The applicant's lawyer was the only person who testified in favor of the project.

The Claremont Zoning Board's continuance of the hearing, previously scheduled for April 6, has now been postponed, but it could be back as soon as May 4. We don't yet know what is transpiring as far as the applicant complying with the long list of missing information requested by the ZBA at the March 2 hearing. We do know that the list of objections and concerns continues to grow.

The question of effects on surface and ground water has been raised. With a stream and wetland adjacent to the site, contamination seems inevitable. The local subcommittee of the Connecticut River Joint

Commissions has submitted a letter, which states in part, "We have serious concerns about ecologically hazardous materials (e.g. lead, arsenic, grit) escaping the site or while in transit and making its way into the Connecticut River." Two major points are that contamination will occur at both the site itself and during transit by truck or rail car. It is not possible to prevent such contamination, given the sheer volume as well as the toxic nature of the demolition waste being handled. The letter concludes, "It is questionable whether measures implemented to curb impacts would actually be sufficient. We have serious concerns about whether precautions taken would be sufficient and effectively monitored." They also bring up a concern about road wear and tear, emphasizing the impact on the river which already has serious bank erosion.

The road issue has been of ongoing concern to the City of Claremont. Jeremy Clay of the City's Department of Public Works has submitted a letter detailing the enormous cost to the city that would arise from greatly increased numbers of loaded trucks per day traversing the City's streets and roads. Repair and ultimately replacement costs are estimated at \$1 million for each mile of road. In his letter, Mr. Clay outlines all the routes that trucks could possibly use to reach the Claremont Junction site. According to the NH Department of Transportation, he states, "each loaded tractor trailer is the equivalent to 26,000 passenger cars, per day." This could cause road wear equivalent to that of 1.5 million cars per day.

Mr. Clay estimates as much as a \$10 million dollar price tag for the city to upgrade the roads to withstand such heavy usage.

The ABC webpage at www.valleygreenjour-nal.com has posted copies of both letters, as well as other letters and links to other helpful information, including an online petition. We are striving to make it as simple as "ABC" for you to get the information you need to become part of the positive movement for "A Better Claremont"!

Please do not let the current postponement of public hearings prevent you from taking action. Public involvement is critical. We still have time to raise public awareness about the hazards of RSI's proposal. While the public hearings are in a state of continuance, the Claremont ZBA is open to public comment. Anyone can write or email the City Planner at any time, and that is what needs to be done. Send your comments and concerns electronically to cityplanner@claremontnh.com. You can also write to the City of Claremont's Planning and Development Department, at 14 North Street, Claremont NH 03743.

Programs & Events Update From the Sullivan County Conservation District

Check our website: https://www.sccdnh.org/
programs
and facebook
events
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Changes Boutique and Thrift Store is closing temporarily in response to recommendations from public health officials to engage in social distancing.

We regret this temporary measure, especially in light of celebrating our Grand Reopening just two weeks ago. However, we value the health and safety of our staff and volunteers and the community members who support Changes.

Please follow us on Facebook for updates.

We hope to be of service to the community soon.



Clean Energy NH, www.cleanenergynh.org a New Hampshire advocate and educator on all things related to clean energy and energy efficiency, recently sent the following news brief to interested members. The Claremont Energy Advisory Committee's education outreach subcommittee is providing the following news brief to the readers of the eTicker News.

Solar Rebate Program

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has offered a rebate program for Commercial & Industrial (C&I) solar projects since 2010. This rebate program is funded by the state's Re-

newable Energy Fund (REF) and is managed by the PUC's Sustainable Energy Division. Since 2010, the rebate program has been an important tool for project financing and has been a valued state resource to expand solar energy penetration across New Hampshire.

Due to rapidly increasing popularity and limited funding especially over the past few years, the rebate program has experienced multiple periods of waitlists & closings due to demand outstripping supply of rebate funds. The rebate program has been closed since July 2019. Funding for the rebate program's 2020 Fiscal **Year is approximately** \$680,000.

The PUC has announced the re-opening of the C&I Solar Rebate Program. The program re-opened on Monday, March 16. The PUC will conduct a public lottery to determine queue positions for applications. The deadline to submit applications for the public lottery is 4:30pm on April 17, 2020. The PUC will hold the lottery on April 21, 2020 at 1:00pm at the Commission's office, 21 South Fruit Street in Concord, NH. If the number of applications received does not appear to exhaust available funding, then the lottery will be cancelled.

The PUC has made several modifications to the rebate program. These include:

- Incentive level has been lowered to \$0.20/ watt
- Maximum rebate amount is \$10,000
- Project extensions have been limited to a one-time only period of not more than 2 months, with one exception (if the delay is a utility-caused interconnection delay, an extension will be granted for the amount of time necessary for the utility to interconnect the project)

- Certification required that both applicant & installer have read, understand, & agree to terms & conditions (rather than check 35 boxes)
- Applicants are required to demonstrate **class II REC certification** with their Step 2 rebate application
- Active applications will be approved or denied within **60 days** of being deemed complete
- Projects will be required to acknowledge the REF as a source of funding used in any literature, press release, or public discussion of the project
- Applicants must demonstrate that their project's interconnection application has been received by the utility
- Third-party owned projects must include a letter of acknowledgement & consent from the site owner

The official program webpage is: https://www.puc.nh.gov/Sustainable%20Energy/RenewableEnergyRebates-Cl.html.

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 2^{nd**}.

** unless there was a change/upgrade in property



INVITATION TO BID

CITY OF CLAREMONT CLAREMONT OPERA HOUSE AIR CONDITIONING CLAREMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE March 17, 2020 WVA PROJECT NO. 20006

The City of Claremont invites the submission of lump sum bids from qualified Contractors for the design/build HVAC upgrade for the Claremont Opera House Air Conditioning.

- 1. Bidding Documents for use by Contractors in preparation of bids maybe obtained from Gem Graphics, 415 Marlborough Street, Keene, NH 03431, Telephone (603) 352-7112, Email plans@gemgraphics.nh.com after March 20, 2020. Bid Documents will not be separately issued to Sub-bidders or others.
- 2. Bidding documents may be examined at the offices of WV Engineering Associates, PA, 11 King Court, Keene, NH, and at the city manager's office at the City of Claremont.
- 3. Sealed bids will be received for the proposed work in the office of City Manager's office, City of Claremont, 58 Opera House Square, Claremont, NH 03743 prior to 2:00 PM, Local Time, April 3, 2020. Proposals will be opened and read aloud. Decisions regarding award will not be made at this time.
- 4. All bids must be valid for at least 45 days after the date of the bid opening and must be guaranteed by a bid bond.
- 5. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and if all bids are rejected, the Owner may undertake the work by such means as he deems suitable. The Owner further reserves the right to waive any formalities in the preparation and submittal of proposals.
- 6. A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference and Construction Site Walk-Through Inspection will be conducted on March 27, 2020, at 9:00 AM. The location to start will be at 58 Opera House Square, Claremont, NH meet in City Council Chambers.

CITY OF

CLAREMONT: Finance Director, Mary Walter

ADDRESS: 58 Opera House Square

Claremont, NH 03743

(603) 504-0395

Finance@claremontnh.com

BY:

DATED: April 3, 2020

Mayoral Notes by Charlene Lovett



Working Together to Get the Resources We Need to Fight COVID-19

Federally supported, state managed and locally executed has been the mantra of the U.S. government for years. Witnessing it in action is never more visible than during an emergency. This heightened level of collaboration means that municipalities will get the resources needed to fight COVID-19. It may take longer than we would like at times or there may be details that have yet to be worked out, but recent conversations at all levels of government demonstrate that everyone is working together.

Unleashing the resources needed to help municipalities has to start at the federal level. If you have been following President Trump's press conferences, the federal government is focused on removing the barriers to innovation in order to fight COVID-19 and providing the resources needed to help mitigate the impact. On March 18, I, School Board Vice-Chair Zullo, City Manager Morris and Superintendent Tempesta participated in a White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (WH IGA) conference call.

The WH IGA is the primary liaison between the White House and State and local elected officials and Tribal Governments. Since early March the WH IGA has invited state and local officials to conference calls in order to share information on COVID-19 and actions taken at the federal level in response. Over 5000 state and local officials participated during this latest call, giving us the latest updates on what the federal government is doing to support states and municipalities. Actions taking at the federal level, in turn, lead to executive action at the state level. This week, Governor Sununu issued several executive orders pertaining to the restaurant industry.

access to Telehealth Services and the establishment of the Emergency Healthcare System Relief Fund. In addition, the Governor and this staff stay in close contact with the municipalities, enabling local leadership to directly communicate the challenges they are currently facing.

Also this week, Senator Shaheen held a conference call with the mayors of New Hampshire's 13 cities. I and City Manager Morris participated in that call. Senator Shaheen briefed us on what Congress is doing to help communities, focusing on financial packages that are being negotiated to help both municipalities and small businesses. The mayors then had an opportunity to share their concerns with her, including supply chain shortages, testing and personal protective equipment, and the financial impact to businesses and families.

As a result of this intergovernmental collaboration, a resource pipeline spanning from the federal to the local level has been firmly established. Because of the two-way communication that is taking place, the government is able to better respond to the needs at the local level. Such access to resources and collaborative communication will ensure that Claremont is well equipped to address COVID-19.

In closing, I would like to thank the public for its ongoing efforts to follow Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines regarding COVID-19. I know that this has created personal hardships throughout the community. However, your efforts are critical as the City continues to work around the clock to fight COVID-19 and secure the resources to help the community get through this difficult time.

Charlene Lovett is the Mayor of Claremont and welcomes your feedback. Please email

questions, comments or concerns to her at clovett.ccc@gmail.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE Claremont Development Authority Full Board Meeting

Thursday, March 26, 2020 7:30 AM Visitor Center, 14 North Street, Claremont, NH

COVID-19 NOTICE
Cornish Tax Collector
Open for Mail-In and Drop Box Transactions

Walk-In Transactions on Limited Basis

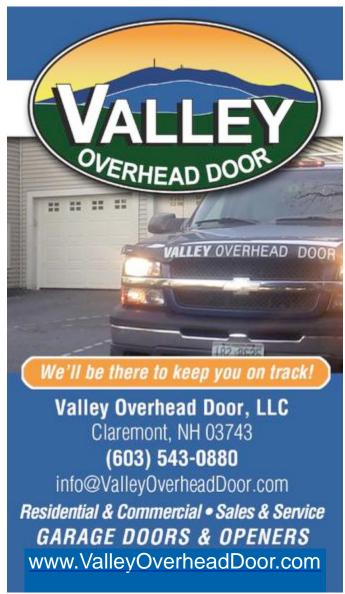
The Cornish Tax Collector's Office will remain open for walk-in transactions which must be conducted in person. All other transactions will be handled through the mail or the town office drop box.

Phone: (603) 675-5221

Email: cornishtaxcollector1@comcast.net Mail: PO Box 202; Cornish Flat, NH 03746 If you must conduct business in person,

please knock on the foyer door.





e-Ticker Business News

TLC Continues to Provide Support, Services

CLAREMONT, NH—TLC Family Resource Center continues to provide supports and services to all families during the COVID 19 pandemic. "Our services include supports for families with school-aged children, foster parents, youth, and all affected by substance use disorders. While we are unable to provide face-to-face services at either of our offices at 109 and 1 Pleasant Street (Center for Recovery Resources) in Claremont, we continue to serve families through telephone, texting, zoom, Facebook, and other social media platforms," said Executive Director Maggie Monroe-Cassel.

"Starting the week of March 23rd, new resources for families and those in recovery will be on our website at tlcfamilyrc.org. In addition, we are evolving ways to provide our sexual health curriculum to teens on a web-based platform. We also have systems in place to support LGBTQIA youth and their families remotely. Thanks to modern technology, all our programs can continue to support families during this public health crisis.

"In addition, we have diapers available for families in need. We can also provide limited clothing to families. TLC has a registered

nurse on staff who can take calls during the weekday to respond to questions from pregnant or lactating moms or any parent with a concern about the health of their child. Call 603-372-2622 to speak to our nurse Karen Jameson. We continue to take new clients. Anyone interested in enrolling in our family support programs or support groups can call Rene Couitt at 603-372-7758. Anyone needing recovery support can call 603-287-7127. Information on all our ongoing programming is available on our website at tlcfamilyrc.org. We encourage all families to reach out to us with concerns or questions. TLC stands for Teach Loving Connections and we are here to help you stay connected to resources and people who can support you

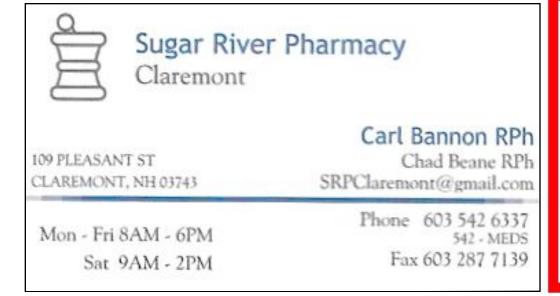
and your family." TLC Family Resource Center supports and strengthens all families, children, and youth of Sullivan and Lower **Grafton counties** with a wide range of free programs, support groups, and education. More information is available at www.tlcfamilyrc.org.

Lake Sunapee VNA Announces Cancellations

NEW LONDON, NH— Effective March 16, 2020, Lake Sunapee VNA temporarily closed the following programs and services due to the COVID-19 pandemic: blood pressure clinics, foot care clinics, support groups, education programs, Good Day Respite, and The Renaissance Shoppe. In addition, no donations of merchandise to The Renaissance Shoppe will be accepted until further notice.

"This decision was made for the safety of everyone involved and will allow us to focus on (Continued on page A17)





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

e-Ticker Business News

VNA, from A16

our essential patient services during this critical time," says Jim Culhane, President & CEO. "We will re-evaluate the situation at the end of April and adjust accordingly."

For information about the essential home care and hospice services provided by Lake Sunapee VNA, call 603-526-4077 or visit <u>LakeSunapeeVNA.org</u>.

Newport Hopes to Host Chamber Day, Nano Brewfest in June

NEWPORT, NH—With the recent global and regional pandemic of the Covid-19 Virus, the Newport Area Chamber of Commerce understands that we have uncertain times. "None of us have an exact time table for when life as we knew it to return to



normal," said Steve Smith of the Newport Area Chamber board on Sunday. "Annually, the Chamber hosts Chamber Day and our Nano Brewfest on the Saturday of Father's Day. This year, we are scheduled for Saturday June 20th. Planning for both events has been transpiring for months, with lots of entertainment, vendors, games and beers to sample all in the works."

Smith continued, "That said, we don't know what we don't know. At this point, the Chamber is still planning on keeping both events, for the time being. However we are closely watching instruction and guidance from federal, state and local Newport officials. If the suggestion is to cancel or postpone our events, we will do so. The safety of our volunteers, vendors, visitors and community is our #1 concern.

"Initially, we had planned to go live with online ticket sales for our 7th Annual Nano Brewfest on Friday March 13th. Because of the speed everything has been going, we halted posting the online link and will not do any ticket sales for the brewfest until we are 100% sure how things will progress. The uncertainty is disappointing, but as of the last full week of March, we are still planning on having our events in June. If our plans do change, we will let the community know through our website, Facebook, and local media outlets.

"And one final note, please during these times, support as many local businesses as you can, at a physically distant, safe and sanitary manor. We all rely on these businesses to keep our community strong and vibrant. They are our friends and neighbors. Please support them, as they have supported us for generations."

Kiwanis Live Auction Postponed

CLAREMONT, NH—Due to the COVID 19 Virus, the Kiwanis Club of Claremont's annual live auction scheduled for April has been postponed until further notice, the club announced on its Facebook page. "Due to the uncertainty of this situation, we don't have any further information to report on this matter. We will have an auction but at this time we don't know when," said the organization. This year's event would mark the 20th annual Big Auction conducted to raise funds for children's charities.

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Meals to Go During a Health Crisis SAU6 Provides Bagged Breakfasts, Lunches to Students

Following the posted instructions, school superintendent Michael Tempesta, left, demonstrates proper social-distancing at the school bus in front of Stevens High School. Bus drivers like Steve Lizotte and school aides like Felicia Lallo will pass out bagged meals to Claremont students from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. and noon to 1:30 p.m. on weekdays while the schools are closed due to the COVID-19 crisis. The buses, parked at the elementary, middle and high schools, also serve as pick-up points for students' remote-learning study plans (Eric Zengota photo).

Know the Four Uses of Cash

It's important to have cash available for your everyday spending and the inevitable rainy day. However, you also need to develop a cash strategy that can contribute to your long-term financial success. But just how much cash do you need? And in what form?

To answer these questions, it's useful to look at the four main uses of cash:

- Everyday spending Your everyday spending includes the cash you use for your mortgage, utilities, groceries and so on. As a general guideline, you should have one to two months of living expenses available during your working years, and perhaps a year's worth of living expenses when you're retired. (The latter can be adjusted higher or lower based on your income from Social Security or a pension.) You'll need instant access to this money - and you need to know your principal is protected – so it may be a good idea to keep the funds in a checking or cash management account.
- Unexpected expenses and emergencies If you needed a major car repair or a new furnace, or if you incurred a big bill from a doctor or dentist, would you be able to handle the cost? You could – if you've set up an emergency fund. During your working years, this fund should be big enough to cover three to six months of living expenses; when you're retired, you may be able to get by with one to three months' worth of expenses, assuming you have additional sources of available cash. You'll want your emergency fund to be held in liquid vehicles that protect your principal, such as savings or money market accounts or short-term certificates of deposit (CDs).
- Specific short-term savings goal(s) At various points in your life, you may have a specific goal - a new car, vacation, wedding, etc. – that you'd like to reach within a year or two. Your first step is to identify how much money you'll need, so think about all the factors affecting the final cost. Next, you'll need to choose an appropriate savings vehicle. You could simply put more money in the accounts you use for everyday cash, or even in your emergency fund, but you would run the risk of dipping into either of these pools. Instead, consider opening a separate account - and tell yourself this money is for one purpose only.
- Source of investment You can use cash in two ways as part of your overall investment strategy. First, cash can be considered part of the fixed-income allocation of your portfolio (i.e., bonds and CDs). Because cash behaves differently from other asset classes – such as stocks and bonds – it can help diversify your holdings, and the more diversified you are, the less impact market volatility may have on your portfolio. (However, diversification can't guarantee a profit or protect against all losses.) The second benefit of cash, in terms of investing, is it's there for you to purchase a new investment or to add more shares in an existing investment. In any case, you probably don't want to be too cash heavy, so you might want to keep no more than 10% of your fixed-income assets in cash.

As you can see, cash can be valuable in several ways – so use it wisely.

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

Edward Jones. Member SIPC.



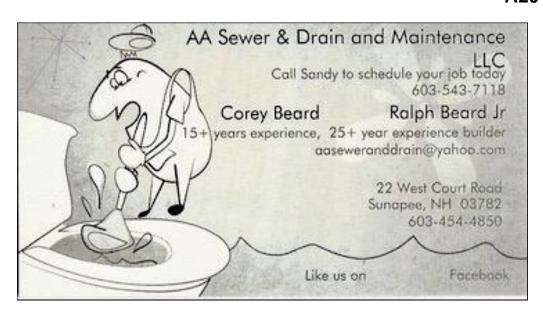
Blood Drive, Tuesday, March 24 Valley Regional, Claremont

The Red Cross Blood Drive hosted by Valley Regional Healthcare will still happen on Tuesday from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

The Red Cross has informed us that because of the COVID-19 outbreak, over 2700 blood drives have been cancelled, resulting in a great shortage of blood. We are coordinating with the Red Cross to carefully screen everyone, and all donation stations will be safely distanced from one another.

Please enter through our Dunning Street entrance for screening. Thank you all for you patience and understanding.

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Autopsy Completed on Victim of Royalton Shooting

The Vermont State Police arrested Francis Phelps, 29, of Royalton, VT, in connection with the fatal shooting Tuesday, March 17, at a home on Vermont Route 14.

Phelps was arraigned on Wednesday, March 18, in the Criminal Division of Vermont Superior Court in White River Junction on charges of second-degree murder, aggravated assault with a weapon, and possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony.

An autopsy on George Sun, 41, of Royalton took place Wednesday at the Chief Medical Examiner's Office in Burlington. The cause of death was determined to be a gunshot wound to the torso, and the manner of death is homicide.

The second victim of the incident was identified as Dakota Fielder, 26. He remains hospitalized at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, New Hampshire, and was in fair condition Wednesday morning when an update was released.

Through investigation, VT State Police said they learned that Sun and Fielder were involved in a dispute with Phelps and another man, who was staying at the residence at 4497 Vermont Route 14. Sun and Fielder traveled to the residence, at which point Phelps allegedly began shooting, striking both men. The second man at the Route 14 residence is not facing any charges at this time, said the VTSP.

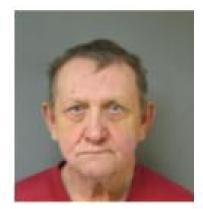
Man Charged with False Public Alarm

LEBANON, NH—On March 17, the Lebanon Police Department received a phone call about a male on a public transportation bus who was making statements that he was infected with coronavirus. The Department then received secondary calls from the bus company advising that the bus had been evacuated but the male subject remained on the bus.

Officers responded and identified the male involved asDavid Ladeau, age 65, of Hartford, VT. During the investigation, Officers were able to determine that Ladeau did not have the coronavirus and the statements he allegedly

made aboard the bus were false.

Ladeau was arrested and charged
with False Public
Alarm, a Class B
Misdemeanor, and
Disorderly Conduct, a Violation
level offense.
Ladeau was subsequently released
on personal recognizance bail



David Ladeau

with a court date of July 27, 2020 in the 2nd Circuit Court, Lebanon District Division.

Sunapee Residents Used to Sign Up for Code Red

SUNAPEE, NH—Sunapee residents are being encouraged to sign up for Code Red. Get important Town messages quickly; only used for Town notification purposes for significant incidents and events where the timely notification of the affected population is essential. Receive information via a telephone call, email, and/or text message.

Sign up on the Town of Sunapee home page: www.town.sunapee.nh.us.

Sunapee Food Pantry Needs

SUNAPEE, NH—This health crisis is starting to keep us very busy and the shelves in the Sunapee Food Pantry are getting a bit low. Food and paper goods are the priorities and if you want to ship them directly instead of dropping things off, that would be even better!

We really need:
Reusable Grocery Bags
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Bread & Muffin Mixes
Juice – Individual & Family Size
Rice
Potatoes
Shelf Stable Milk
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Snacks
Canned Corn
Canned Meats

Toothpaste

How You Can Help From Claremont Maker

In this difficult time you can put your skills, time and energy to use helping the community get through this.

Sew Face Masks: Supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers are being seriously strained. As the COVID-19 case count increases, this will become an ever increasing problem. Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center is asking for donations of home made fabric face masks. You can help right now by donating your time and skills. More information is available here on the Dartmouth-Hitchcock website: https://www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/patient-education/sewing-masks.html.

Help crowdsource Repair Information for Hospital Equipment: https://www.ifixit.com/ News/36354/help-us-crowdsource-repair-information-for-hospital-equipment?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=031620_US%20Newsletter_Fix%20From%20Home%20copy%20_3&utm_content=031620_US%20Newsletter_Fix%20From%20Home%20copy%203+CID_4b750dcce550cd3e95fee24a1e0e3655&utm_source=CampaignMonitor.

iFixit is building a central resource for maintenance and repair of hospital equipment. This is an attempt to centralize all the documentation and resources necessary to keep these life saving machines operating and to help the biomedical technicians who service them working as efficiently as possible when machines need repair.

Digital Fabricators (3D printers, CNC plasma torch operators, CNC router operators): There's a need for 3D printed parts including ventilator valves and reusable face masks as well as other fabricated parts. We are still investigating what specifically hospitals in the region are asking for or will be asking for in the near future and what the best design solutions are. In the meantime, if you are interested in helping, please contact ryan@clare-montmakerspace.org who has offered to help coordinate this effort.

If your business is impacted by this crisis, the Upper Valley Business Alliance has information about current resources available for regional businesses:

http://www.uppervalleybusinessalliance.com/covid19-information-for-businesses.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health Develops COVID-19 Testing to be Used for Hospitalized Patients and Healthcare Workers

LEBANON, NH - Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center's (DHMC) laboratory is now able to test for Novel Coronavirus n2019-CoV, the virus which causes the COVID-19 respiratory illness, the healthcare system announced Monday morning.

Building on the expertise of the DHMC laboratory for Clinical Genomics and Advanced Technology (CGAT) and the Microbiology laboratory, testing became available on Wednesday March 18. Implementing this testing required complex evaluations and validations of new testing protocols set forth by the FDA and CDC.

The number of tests that can be performed daily could be up to 1,000, but because of the ongoing shortages of test collection supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE), DHMC is limited to testing only hospitalized patients within the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health system and healthcare workers, including first responders, who have direct contact with patients. Once fully operational over the next week to ten days, the turnaround time from test to results should provide results to patients within 24 hours or less.

"Our testing capability continues to grow and evolve, and being able to test here at DHMC allows us to more rapidly screen patients and make best use of our resources," said Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health Chief Clinical Officer Edward J. Merrens, MD. "We also believe the ability to test here will help relieve pressure on the New Hampshire state laboratory, enabling the state to assist other hospitals. Our priority remains to care for our sickest patients and support those who care for them."

In other news from Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health:

More than 1,500 members of the D-H staff have been trained in the proper wearing and safe use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), greatly expanding the number of staff in place to work with increasing numbers of COVID-19 cases.

Additionally, more staff are being trained in the use of mechanical ventilators, to ensure adequate staffing for patients who will require ventilation

Donations of PPE – masks, gloves, gowns, face shields and other protective equipment – continue to stream in from the community to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health. These donations will supplement what we have here, and will help us continue to keep our staff safe as we work to meet this challenge." said Supply Chain Manager David Coombs.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock volunteers have joined a national movement of volunteers who have started to sew masks for hospital staff and patients. DHMC is preparing kits with fabric and elastic for local pick-up and launched a website with directions on how to sew the masks. "Sewing masks gives them, and others across New Hampshire and Vermont, the opportunity to band together as a community to serve something bigger than ourselves, which is what our volunteers do every day," noted Kristin Roth, Director of Volunteer Services at DHMC.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health reminds the community that anyone who has symptoms including fever, cough, and shortness of breath should self-isolate at home. The recommendation for the duration of home isolation period is at least seven days from the onset of symptoms, and at least three days of no fever, and resolution of symptoms. It is recommended that others in the home also quarantine during this time to help limit spread. If, however, patients at any time feel that their situation is worsening and might require hospitalization, they should call their health care provider or call their local emergency department.

U.S. Attorney Urges Public to Report Suspected Fraud Related to the COVID-19 Outbreak

CONCORD – U.S. Attorney Scott W. Murray of the District of New Hampshire today, Monday, urged the public to report suspected fraud schemes related to COVID-19 (the Coronavirus) by calling the National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCDF) hotline (1-866-720-5721) or to the NCDF e-mail address disaster@leo.-

gov. The public also can report fraud to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.IC3.gov.

In coordination with the Department of Justice, Attorney General William Barr has directed U.S. Attorneys to prioritize the investigation and prosecution of Coronavirus fraud schemes.

"During this national emergency, a small number of cruel and self-serving individuals are seeking to profit from the public's fear of COVID-19," said U.S. Attorney Murray. "There are reports of fraudsters selling counterfeit products and fake cures or setting up malicious websites in order to take advantage of people who are attempting to protect themselves from the virus. Such criminal exploitation will not be tolerated and will receive the full attention of federal law enforcement. I urge anyone who becomes aware of this type of fraud to report it. We will work closely with all of our law enforcement partners to end these despicable schemes and bring the criminals to justice."

In addition to the NCDF hotline, citizens also can report fraud to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) by visiting www.IC3.gov.

"With the outbreak of COVID-19, scammers have found a platform that preys on people's fears and could make them more likely to be victimized," said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division. "We want you to help us stop these fraudsters by reporting suspicious activity, fraud, and attempted fraud at ic3.gov. We also want you to avoid falling prey to these scams. So don't click on links within emails from senders you don't recognize, always independently verify the information originates from a legitimate source, never supply your login credentials or financial data in response to an email, and visit websites by inputting their domains manually."

Some examples of the fraudulent schemes related to COVID-19 include:

- Individuals and businesses selling fake cures for COVID-19 online.
- Phishing emails from entities posing as the World Health Organization or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Malicious websites and apps that appear to share Coronavirus-related information to gain and lock access to your devices until payment is received.
- Seeking donations fraudulently for illegitimate or non-existent charitable organizations.





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