

# e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**North Country  
Smokehouse to  
Increase Starting Pay  
to \$15 an Hour;  
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[etickeernews@gmail.com](mailto:etickeernews@gmail.com)  
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March 29, 2021

## Program Helping to Provide Restaurant- Made Meals to People in Need

CLAREMONT, NH—Thanks to a grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, the Upper Valley Everyone Eats model is crossing the Connecticut River: Vital Communities is working with Claremont, NH, partners to pilot a program in that city that will provide restaurant-made meals to people in need.



Beginning March 25, three participating restaurants—The Hitchin' Post, Sunshine Cookshop, and The Common Man— are each preparing 65 meals per week for the Claremont Soup Kitchen, for a total of 195 meals per week. The restaurants will receive \$10.90 per meal (\$10 plus a 9% New Hampshire rooms and meals tax) and are asked to allocate at least 10 percent of their ingredient budget to New Hampshire farms and food processors. These nutritionally balanced meals are intended for anyone experiencing food insecurity or whose food insecurity has been impacted by the pandemic. The program is currently slated to run for 10 weeks. Partners hope this pilot will inspire enthusiasm for a larger-scale adoption of this model in New Hampshire.

“The Claremont Soup Kitchen is truly blessed to be chosen to participate in Everyone Eats,” said Cindy Stevens, the kitchen’s  
**(Continued on page 2)**

## ‘I’m Egg-cited to Be Visiting Claremont!’

### *Easter Bunny Will Hop Over to Saturday’s Egg-Stravaganza*

By Eric Zengota  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—An Easter without the Easter Bunny? Once — that is, 2020 — is enough.

“Hundreds of kids have collected Easter eggs at Arrowhead over the last few years,” said Parks & Recreation director Mark Brislin. “But last year, we had to cancel due to COVID-19. One year later we’re still navigating the pandemic, but we didn’t want to disappoint the kids again.”

Brislin and the department staff came up with an eggs-tra special event that will keep participants, staff and volunteers safe.

On Saturday, the Easter Bunny will be the guest host of an Egg-Stravaganza Drive-Thru, to be held at the parking areas of Claremont Middle School and Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center.

Can a drive-thru replace an on-the-ground egg hunt? Justin Martin, superintendent of recreation programs, is sure of it. “Our Halloween trick-or-treat drive-thru was a huge success,” he noted. “Doing something similar at Easter is the way to go. Kids will be getting goodie bags with candy and toy-filled Easter eggs. Plus they’ll get a map and directions for a city-wide scavenger hunt!”

Participants must attend the  
**(Continued on page 13)**



**This year, the Easter Bunny will travel from his usual lair at Arrowhead to Claremont’s first-ever Egg-Stravaganza Drive-Thru at CMS and SRVRTC (Courtesy photo).**

**Meals, from page 1**

executive director. “This program is one more example of how amazing our community is and their willingness to look out for their neighbor. It is heartwarming to know that not only can we provide for those needing food assistance but also those who are struggling to keep their staff working.”

The Claremont program is modeled on Vermont Everyone Eats, for which Upper Valley Everyone Eats (UVEE) is the Upper Valley hub, administered by Vital Communities. Begun in August 2020 and slated to continue through June 2021, Vermont Everyone Eats is funded by the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development and made possible through a grant provided by the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development to Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA). UVEE is a partnership of Vital Communities, LISTEN, the Upper Valley Haven, Willing Hands, and numerous Upper Valley restaurants and social service providers.



The Claremont program is also inspired by other programs around New Hampshire that connect restaurants to people facing food insecurity due to COVID, such as Community Kitchen of Keene, Community Meals to Go in Portsmouth, and the Monadnock Restaurant Project.

“This model, this pandemic response, has cropped up around the state, around New England, and the country because it’s so efficient and impactful,” said Lauren Griswold, Vital Communities’ coordinator of UVEE and the Claremont program. “With one source of funding it supports an economic sector and boosts community food security.”

As of March 14, UVEE had accomplished the following:

- Meals served: 70,000
- Individuals served: 68,300
- Seniors served: 15,000
- Revenue for restaurants: \$700,000
- Revenue for farms and food businesses: \$46,500

For information about UVEE and Claremont Everyone Eats, check out the UVEE web page at <https://vitalcommunities.org/> or email [uvee@vitalcommunities.org](mailto:uvee@vitalcommunities.org).

**Cornish Police Investigating Damage to Cars, Thefts**

CORNISH, NH—The Cornish Police Department is investigating a report of damage to two cars and thefts from a car in the general area of the Townhouse Rd and Center Rd intersection.

It is believed this occurred Friday evening between 8pm and 5am. If anyone else notices damage to their cars, or items missing or saw something suspicious, please contact the Cornish Police Department at (603) 543-0535 or by email at [Doug.Hackett@CornishNH.net](mailto:Doug.Hackett@CornishNH.net).

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**Phyllis A. Muzeroll**  
Publisher/Editor

**Eric Zengota**  
Contributing Writer/Photographer  
-----  
[etickernews@gmail.com](mailto:etickernews@gmail.com)

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

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**NH Lottery Numbers**

**03/27/2021**

**NH PowerBall**

**6 14 38 39 65 6**

**NH Mega Millions 03/26/2021**

**4 25 37 46 67 15**

**Tristate Megabucks 03/27/2021**

**10 22 23 34 41 3**

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

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**LAW OFFICE OF  
JAMES G. FELEEN, PLLC**

[WWW.FELEENLAW.COM](http://WWW.FELEENLAW.COM)

**JAMES G. FELEEN, ESQ.**  
EMAIL: [jim@feleenlaw.com](mailto:jim@feleenlaw.com)

TEL: (603) 504-6507  
FAX: (866) 862-6394  
CELL: (603) 477-4671

2 Pleasant Street, Suite 3, Claremont, NH 03743

Located in the Brown Block.

## Newport Man Pleads Guilty to Unlawful Possession of Firearms

CONCORD, NH—Jacob Valley, 26, of Newport, NH, pleaded guilty in federal court to unlawful possession of firearms, Acting United States Attorney John J. Farley announced Tuesday.

According to court documents and statements made in court, on November 15, 2019, law enforcement officers searched Valley's home pursuant to a federal search warrant. During the search, they found firearms and ammunition. As a person with felony convictions, Valley is legally prohibited from possessing firearms and ammunition.

Valley is scheduled to be sentenced on July 13, 2021.

"In order to protect the public from violent crime, it is vitally important to keep guns out of the hands of criminals," said Acting U.S. Attorney Farley. "We will continue to work closely with our law enforcement partners to identify and prosecute felons who possess guns unlawfully."

This matter was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, with assistance from the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force; the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office; the Manchester Police Department, Claremont Police Department, Charlestown Police Department; and the New Hampshire State Police. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Anna Dronzek.

The case is part of ATF's Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative, which is a federally-funded program intended to reduce gun violence through law enforcement training, public education, and aggressive law enforcement efforts to investigate and

prosecute gun-related crimes.

## Man Sentenced for Attempted Sexual Assault

LEBANON, NH—On August 12, 2019, the Lebanon Police Cyber Crimes Unit had been conducting an online investigation of Noah Rosenzweig, age 24, of Quechee, VT. This led to the arrest of Rosenzweig after he arrived at a location to allegedly meet with what he thought was a juvenile for sexual acts.

On March 17, 2021, Rosenzweig was convicted in the Grafton County Superior Court of Certain Uses of Computer Services Prohibited and attempted Endangering the welfare of a child, both Class B Felonies. Rosenzweig was also charged with attempted sexual assault.

He was sentenced to 3-6 years in the New Hampshire State Prison.

## Sunapee Gravel Roads are Thawing Fast

SUNAPEE, NH—The following gravel roads and/or sections of a gravel road are currently closed:

The gravel section of Sargent Road (Closed to through traffic)

The gravel section of Stagecoach Road (AKA Sugar House Hill) (Closed)

Schoolhouse Lane (Closed to through traffic)

Trask Brook Road from Route 103 to the Newport Town Line. (Closed to through traffic)

Please seek an alternate route unless you live on one of these roads and then proceed with caution.

# Just Drive Away

rates as low as

# 2.75%

annual percentage rate\*

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John Stark Hwy, Newport**

\* Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Opportunity Lender. Your rate may vary depending on your credit history. See site for details.

# Commentary

## NH House Happenings

By Rep. Gary Merchant

### Dissecting the State Budget

Every two years, at the beginning of each legislative cycle, the New Hampshire legislature tackles budgeting for the General Fund, the Educational Fund, the Highway Fund, and the Fish & Game Fund. The General Fund is the state's primary operating fund for all transactions not accounted for in any other fund. The budgetary process starts in the House, with House Bill 1 (HB1) and House Bill 2 (HB2). HB 1 outlines the numbers needed for taxes and for spending. House Bill 2 (HB2), often referred to as the 'trailer bill', contains language needed to make HB1 work.

Creating the state budget is always challenging, but COVID-19 has made it more so. Last summer the state predicted a \$300 to \$500-million-dollar shortfall related to the pandemic. This spring, the estimated state budget shortfall was reduced to \$50 million because business taxes and the Real Estate Transfer tax actually did better than expected.

The Governor's proposal for 2022-2023 includes a reduction in the Business Profit tax, the Business Enterprise Tax and the Meals & Room tax. It would also phase out the Interest & Dividend tax over the next five years. Together, these taxes account for 58% of revenues in the General Fund and 32% of the Education Fund.

The Governor's proposed tax cuts make little sense. New Hampshire already has the lowest Business Profit tax in our region -- 7.9% vs. Massachusetts at 8.0%, Vermont at 8.5%, and Maine at 8.93%. The state has cut the Business Profit and the Business Enterprise taxes twice in prior years. Many larger, publicly traded companies have done well during the pandemic. Some of these corporations have seen substantial growth in the value of their stock over the past year. Ironically, it is these entities which will benefit from cuts to the Business Profit and Business Enterprise tax -- not the smaller, locally owned mom and pop shops that form the backbone of our communities, have struggled to remain afloat and could really use the help.

When the Meals & Room tax was created in 1967, the intent was to share revenue with municipalities 60-40. Now the state shares just 20% of the revenue, requiring local governments to raise local property taxes to cover the rest. Since this tax provides the second largest contribution to the General Fund, reductions to it have a potentially devastating effect. The pandemic's impact on the hospitality industry has already reduced the amount collected through this tax significantly. Reducing the tax rate further is unlikely to change consumer behavior enough to buoy this sector, but will mean even less revenue available to be shared with local governments.

More bad news: a boost in education funding -- monies targeted to communities with more low-income students and towns with lower



property value -- which was included in the last budget is missing from this one. Adequate education aid is approximately \$100M less in the proposed budget. Instituting a statewide school voucher program as Republicans are maneuvering to do via HB2 will cost taxpayers still more.

Other revenue sources the state relies on are shrinking, too. Non-educational local government assistance is projected to decrease. One-time grants to municipalities (those oversized checks the Governor handed out during the last budget cycle) are gone. You can expect to see upward pressure on county-level property taxes as a higher level of contribution, perhaps as much as 20% is required to sustain Medicaid nursing home and certain waiver services.

The Governor's reductions on the revenue side could translate into painful cuts to the programs Claremont residents count on, whether it is funding for family resource centers like TLC which provides essential parenting support and recovery services, or for children's mental health. Granting tax savings to big business threatens to eliminate social safety nets important to our most vulnerable citizens.

Over 60% of tax revenue collected by state and local governments in New Hampshire comes from property taxes -- far greater than any other state. The state's failure to share tax revenues with local municipalities leaves cities and towns holding the bag. When legislatures in Concord decide to cut taxes for the few based on the outdated belief in trickle-down economics, what tickles down to many of us here in Claremont is paying higher property taxes.

It's time to stand up and support property tax relief with a budget that works for the many, not the few. Write or call the Governor and legislators. Say no to HB1 & HB2 before they impact you.

*Sources: The Tax Foundation, NH Department of Revenue Administration, and the Internal Revenue Service.*

Email: [gary.merchant@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:gary.merchant@leg.state.nh.us)

## New Hampshire System of Public Education on the Auction Block

By Rep. Linda Tanner

I believe that free public education is a public good and part of our social contract. It is a public service that can be utilized by everyone, governed by a democratic process of an elected school board accountable to the community.

Public education offers equal opportunity and is a cornerstone of our democracy. The underlying principle is that all children, no matter the circumstances of their background or who they are, deserves a fair start in life.

Public education is about lifting us up, not weeding us out. Even if you are born into a situation without money or power, you have a chance to make your life better by developing knowledge, skills and

**(Continued on page 5)**

## House of Representatives – Claremont

**District 3/Ward 1: Andrew O’Hearne**

[friendsofandrewohearne@comcast.net](mailto:friendsofandrewohearne@comcast.net)

**District 4/Ward 2: Gary Merchant**

603-542-2228

[gary.merchant@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:gary.merchant@leg.state.nh.us)

**District 5/Ward 3: Walter Stapleton**

603-542-8656

[WaltStapleton@comcast.net](mailto:WaltStapleton@comcast.net)

**District 10/Wards 1, 2, 3: John Cloutier**

603-542-6190

[jocloutier@comcast.net](mailto:jocloutier@comcast.net)

## Senate – Claremont

**District 5: Suzanne Prentiss**

[suzanne.Prentiss@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:suzanne.Prentiss@leg.state.nh.us)

## District 1 Executive Councilor

**Joe Kenney**

(603) 271-3632

[joseph.Kenney@nh.gov](mailto:joseph.Kenney@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>

To find out who your local state representatives/senators are in Sullivan County, please visit <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/members/wml.aspx>

## **Rep. Tanner, from page 4**

having a window to opportunities.

The voucher system is the Libertarian dream scheme to privatize education by fracturing the “system,” forcing the dismantling of our public schools, taking away any governmental oversight or requirements on education, and placing the cost of education on the pocketbooks of parents and local taxpayers.

Education will be a market commodity, not a public good.

New Hampshire is at that inflection point of this choice. Do we, as a state with one of the best public school systems in the nation, want to literally buy into vouchers for the education of our children? Do we want the money that the state pays into our public schools given to a third-party group whose headquarters are in New York City?

Do we want this organization giving public funds to parents or guardians of children without public accountability for the money, without local community oversight, without educational standards and assessments, without a safety net for dealing with issues schools face — discrimination, disability, child abuse, food insecurity, homelessness, mental and physical problems?

What is being sold to the public as “school choice” is really an attempt to make the education for our children a market decision like buying a car.

The difference is that, unlike car dealers, private and religious schools can tell you they do not want your child or the public money you have. What is being sold as costing less is going to cost the parents of children and the taxpayer more, while the state pays less and less.

New Hampshire is a testing ground for the most expansive voucher system in the nation. Gov. Chris Sununu, Commissioner of Education Frank Edelblut and the Republican Party have put our state’s public education on the auction block. They know there is great public opposition, but they are persisting.

Here is the strategy: Retain the voucher bill, HB 20, in the House for a backup and second chance if the Senate’s bill, SB 130, fails.

Next, the Republicans in the Senate push SB 130 out of the normal legislative process by hiding it in the “back” of the budget bill to avoid more public opposition and legislative scrutiny.

One of the bills slips through, the governor signs it, Edelblut gets to set the rules, and New Hampshire’s public schools are dismantled, fait accompli.

New Hampshire citizens, this is the time for you to take a stand, to be counted, to have your voice heard. This voucher scheme will fundamentally and detrimentally change our public school system, leave many children behind and unprotected, will cost parents and taxpayers more, and will undermine one of the most fundamental ideals of the American dream, equality of opportunity.

You have the power now to stop vouchers by testifying at hearings, writing, and calling your legislators, your senators and the governor.

*Linda Tanner, of Georges Mills, represents the Sullivan 9 District in the New Hampshire House and is a member of the Education Committee.*

## **Senators Hassan, Ernst Lead Bipartisan, Bicameral Effort to Increase Access to Child Care for Working Families**

WASHINGTON, DC—U.S. Senators Maggie Hassan (D-NH) and Joni Ernst (R-IA) are leading a bipartisan, bicameral effort to increase access to child care for working families in New Hampshire, Iowa, and across the country.

The Improving Child Care For Working Families Act builds on the American Rescue Plan by permanently increasing the amount of tax-free dollars working parents and their employers can set aside in a dependent care assistance plan (DCAP) to use toward child care expenses. While the American Rescue Plan increases the DCAP limit to \$10,500, the change is only in effect for the year 2021. This bill offers lasting relief by making the change permanent.

“I’ve long heard from parents across New Hampshire about challenges that they face affording child care, and the COVID-19 pandemic has only underscored the need to take action on this pressing issue,” said Hassan. “I am glad to partner with my colleagues in the House and Senate on this bipartisan bill that could make a difference for hard-working families’ bottom lines.”

## Claremont is 'Grilling for Good' on May 8th

CLAREMONT, NH—On May 8th, the Claremont Opera House, Claremont Soup Kitchen and Claremont Savings Bank are coming together to hold a “Grilling for Good” benefit concert, including a “Chopped” style food competition. The concert will be held on the hillside of Arrowhead Recreation Area. Funds raised through the event will support the Soup Kitchen’s Summer Lunch Feeding Program for area K-12 students, and fund new programming for the Opera House. “Claremont Savings Bank was eager to sponsor this community event as part of their ongoing support of the two non-profit organizations,” said the COH.

The Chopped Competition - Grilling Edition - starts at 4pm with three contestants, who are city residents not working in the food industry. There will be two rounds of competition: appetizer and entree, with judging after each round. The Soup Kitchen will be selling concessions of grilled favorites and beverages. Sweet Fire BBQ will provide beer/wine service in a restricted adult only area.

At 5pm, the COH Orchestra led by Director Gerry Grimo, will play classic hits from the mid-late 20th century. The playlist will include early rock, R&B, blues, fusion and easy listening tunes featuring the Beatles, Van Morrison, Chuck Berry, Wilson Pickett, Bette Midler, Tina Turner, Mama Cass, Stevie Wonder, George Benson, Chubby Checker and many others.

Tickets are \$25.00 for adults and \$10.00 for K-12 students, with \$10 of every adult ticket and \$5 of every student ticket going directly to the Soup Kitchen’s summer program to feed area youth.

Tickets can be purchased online starting April 5th at [www.claremontoperahouse.org](http://www.claremontoperahouse.org). Social distanced assigned seating will be in place and masks are required when not in your assigned seating area. Doors open at 3:30pm.

*Event Name: Grilling for Good: A Claremont Benefit Concert*

*Date: Saturday, May 8th, 2021*

*Time: 4 to 7pm; Doors open 3:30pm*

*Address: Arrowhead Recreation Area, Robert Easter Way, Claremont, NH Cost: \$25 for adults, \$10 for K-12 students*

*Tickets available online beginning April 5th at [www.claremontoperahouse.org](http://www.claremontoperahouse.org).*

**Peeps Diorama Contest at the Library Arts Center**

**Entry Deadline: March 31st, 4:00pm**

**Library Arts Center 58 N. Main St. Newport**

**Dioramas on Display: Dioramas will be on display April 2 -23, 2021. Peeps gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 11am-4pm, and Saturdays, 10am-1pm.**

**Free admission.**

The Library Arts Center (Newport, NH) presents the 10th Annual Peeps Diorama Contest—a fun, springtime tradition! Community members of all ages, businesses, school classrooms, groups & organizations are all encouraged to enter this light-hearted, creative contest using the iconic Easter candies: Peeps. The dioramas will be on display in person in the gallery, with social distancing, and also online.

Submissions may be dropped off to the Library Arts Center gallery Tuesday March 31, 11-4. Entry Deadline: March 31 at 4:00pm. No entry fee.

Dioramas on Display: Dioramas will be on display April 2 -23, 2021. Peeps gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 11am-4pm, and Saturdays, 10am-1pm.

For more information, contest rules and entry forms, visit [libraryartscenter.org/peeps](http://libraryartscenter.org/peeps).



## 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<sup>nd</sup>\*\*.

\*\* unless there was a change/upgrade in property





## NH DHHS COVID-19 Update – March 28, 2021

CONCORD, NH—On Sunday, March 28, 2021, DHHS announced 301 new positive test results for COVID-19, for a current PCR test positivity rate of 2.9%. These results include 188 people who tested positive by PCR test and 113 who tested positive by antigen test. There are now 2,766 current COVID-19 cases diagnosed in New Hampshire. Of the results reported Sunday:

3/27: 301 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 thirty-three individuals under the age of 18 and the rest are adults with 48% being female and 52% being male.

The new cases reside in Rockingham (86), Hillsborough County other than Manchester and Nashua (53), Strafford (30), Grafton (20), Merrimack (18), Cheshire (10), Sullivan (9), Belknap (6), Carroll (5), and Coos (3) counties, and in the cities of Nashua (27) and Manchester (23). The county of residence is being determined for eleven 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.

DHHS has also announced two additional deaths related to COVID-19. We offer our sympathies to the family and friends:

1 male resident of Grafton County, 60 years of age and older

1 female resident of Rockingham County, 60 years of age and older

There are currently 76 individuals hospitalized with COVID-19. In New Hampshire since the start of the pandemic, there have been a total of 83,027 cases of COVID-19 diagnosed.

**As of Sunday, there were 15 current positively identified cases in Claremont; 43, in Sullivan County as numbers throughout the state continue to slightly tick back up.**

# All Granite Staters 16+

## eligible this week

**Monday,  
March 29**

**40 to 49  
years old**

**Wednesday,  
March 31**

**30 to 39  
years old**

**Friday,  
April 2**

**All 16+  
years old**

Go to <https://www.vaccines.nh.gov/> to sign up for a vaccination appointment.

### COVID Case Confirmed at SHS

On Friday, March 26, the Claremont School District reported another confirmed case of COVID-19 at Stevens High School.

“We have completed contact tracing and all families and staff members have been notified,” said Assistant Superintendent Donna Magoon. “We have provided the list of names of students and staff to New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).”

### 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.

### 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.

### Expect Wait Time While Registering for Ages 40+

State officials and Governor Chris Sununu were urging patience ahead of today’s rollout of VINI for ages 40+, indicating there may be a wait for individuals looking to book appointments online during high volume times as NH opens up the vaccine to those 40+.

“We have made upgrades to the system which will allow more than 1,000 people per minute to register with plenty of appointments for everyone,” said Sununu. “Also, instead of overrunning the system early in the morning, I ask individuals to consider registering during lower volume times to help ensure a smooth and orderly day for all registrants.”

The State is utilizing a new online waiting room ahead of the 40+ age group so that individuals will have a sense for the length of wait they can expect. The feature will share an estimated number of minutes until it’s their turn to proceed through the registration and appointment process.

The State is urging everyone to use only one device ahead of the registration process. Individuals who attempt to sign on with multiple devices risk having longer wait times and will contribute to a slower registration process.

## Mayoral Notes by Charlene Lovett



### House Finance Committee to Act on Proposed Budget

After Governor Sununu proposed his state budget for fiscal year (FY) 22 and 23 in February, it went to the House Finance Committee for consideration. The committee held a public hearing on March 16, followed by numerous Finance Committee Division I, II and III work sessions in which several amendments were proposed. During the week of March 29, the House Finance Committee will vote in favor or against those amendments and then send the budget, as amended, to the House for a full vote. Given the impact of both the proposed budget and amendments to municipalities, it is important that we continue to advocate for ourselves during this process.

On March 16, I submitted testimony to the House Finance Committee outlining the importance of reinstating revenue sharing and providing the full 40% distribution of the Rooms and Meals Tax to municipalities. Revenue sharing, as defined in RSA 31-A, was created by the NH Legislature in 1970 and dictated that "a portion of the general revenue of the state shall be returned to each city and town of the state." This occurred until 2009 when the legislature suspended it due to the financial impacts of the Great Recession. The legislature continued the suspension of revenue sharing in every budget thereafter, and the governor proposes to keep this in effect for FY22/23. For Claremont, this has meant a loss of \$5,647,512 in revenue sharing since 2010.

When the Rooms and Meals Tax was enacted by the NH Legislature in 1967, the revenue was to be divided between the state and the municipalities at 60% and 40% respectively. It was an opportunity for both the state and municipalities to benefit from the tourism trade and reinvest those funds at the state and local level. Over the years, the legislature has reduced the municipalities' share at varying levels. Since just 2011, this has equated to a loss of \$4,997,330 for the City of Claremont. While

the governor's proposed budget does include an increase in the distribution to municipalities, it does not restore it to the full 40%.

Also included in the governor's proposed budget is the suspension of state aid grants (SAG) for projects not substantially completed by December 2019. State aid grants provide 20% to 25% funding for infrastructure projects that are typically expensive and financed over many years. Should a city or town receive a SAG, 20%-25% of the annual payment for the project is covered by the state funding. At this time, all of Claremont's projects utilizing a SAG were substantially completed by December of 2019. So, the suspension of SAG as proposed by the governor does not negatively impact Claremont.

However, during the House Finance Committee's work session, an amendment was proposed to suspend all SAGs. Currently, Claremont has eight projects partially funded by SAGs. Should all SAGs be suspended, whether they were substantially completed by December 2019 or not, Claremont would lose \$212,416 and \$210,933 in FY22 and FY23 respectively. This would be an additional \$423,349 to the \$10,644,842 the city already lost in revenue sharing and Rooms and Meals Tax revenue.

Claremont, like all municipalities, partners with the state in fostering economic prosperity. When the NH Legislature created revenue sharing per RSA 31-A, the Rooms and Meals Tax and SAGs, the importance of cultivating this partnership was recognized. Municipalities, alone, do not have the financial resources to invest in their communities, but they know what is needed. Reinstating

revenue sharing, allocating the full 40% tax revenue distribution and maintaining SAGs is critical to our taxpayers, infrastructure and ability to fulfill master plan goals and objectives.

*Charlene Lovett is the Mayor of Claremont and welcomes your feedback. Please email questions, comments or concerns to her at [clovett.ccc@gmail.com](mailto:clovett.ccc@gmail.com).*

### 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.

### Got News?

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**Warm weather and flower blossoms mean it's time to get back to work for this bee.**

**Photo by Phyllis A. Muzeroll**

# Classified Ads

## NEW TO THE MARKET



**CLAREMONT - Two family home on McKenzie Drive.** This attractive Duplex has a new roof on both the house and garage. One side has one bathroom, the other has two. Separate heating systems both covered with a Protection Plan, basement has a wall separating both sides. Near Moody Park. **See MLS # 4852866 for more info and photos. \$162,500.**



**Bonnie Miles**

  
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**Tammy Bergeron**  
 Owner/Broker



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Learn more at: <http://www.tlcfamilyrc.org/employment-opportunities.html>

# Classified Ads

## SEEKING MAINTENANCE PERSON

Housing Complex in Claremont, NH, currently seeking a reliable, honest, self-motivated individual to fill a full-time position on our maintenance staff. Must have general knowledge of building maintenance. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, light janitorial duties, basic plumbing repairs, painting, apartment turnover and any other aspects of general building/property upkeep. Must be available to work Monday-Friday with some on-call rotation.

If interested, please email your resume to: [mhood@ehdoc.org](mailto:mhood@ehdoc.org)

## Help Wanted Immediately

**First Congregational Church of Claremont seeks a part-time Bookkeeper/Office Assistant.** Must know QuickBooks, including payroll, A/P, A/R, taxes, reporting, etc. Also must know Microsoft Office Products such as Word and Excel. Flexible 6-8 hours a week, starting at \$15/hr. Please email resume to: [firstcongregationalchurch@myfairpoint.net](mailto:firstcongregationalchurch@myfairpoint.net), or mail to: 72 Pleasant Street, Claremont, NH 03743. No walk-ins.

## PUBLIC NOTICE Anti-Litter Task Force MEETING Wednesday, March 31, 2021 7:00 PM Via ZOOM

\*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom.  
Join the Zoom Webinar Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86169656545?pwd=aUxIT-Fo0U2ViQjRWak5Da3RQekFQZz09>  
Passcode: 438066 By Phone: 1-646-558-8656  
US (New York) Webinar ID: 861 6965 6545  
If there is a problem getting through to this number, please call 603-504-0341.



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### Claremont, NH

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**\$169,900 (MLS 4852081)**



### Charlestown, NH

26.5 acres of land zoned for general mixed usage, to include commercial development. Close to both downtown Charlestown and Claremont. Explore the possibilities.  
**\$109,900 (MLS 4663269)**



### Cornish, NH

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Deborah Charlebois



## OUR TURN

### **Community Call to Action: Empowering Adults to Protect Children From Sexual Abuse**

Rarely a week goes by that we are not made aware of national headlines about sexual abuse. Whether it's the Olympics, a faith community, school, national sports team or a high-profile case of sex trafficking, we are reminded that sexual abuse is a community problem hidden in plain sight.

One in ten children experience some form of sexual abuse before the age of 18. Sexual abuse can be physical and it can also include showing pornography to a child or teen, watching a child/teen undress, sexual jokes and banter and exposing genitals. Sexual abuse thrives on silence and secrecy. Victims are often made to feel they contributed to or caused the abuse. In addition, there are many misconceptions about sexual abuse that contribute to the shame and secrecy. For instance, children are often taught to be aware of "stranger danger" and yet statistically we know that children are more likely to be abused by someone they know and trust than by a stranger. Do they know what to do if it's a family member, coach, faith leader, older teen or family friend who is crossing a boundary? Society promotes an incorrect idea of who we think could harm others sexually. These stereotypes mean that those who are well-connected, well-liked and well-respected are more likely to have their concerning behavior overlooked because society doesn't deem them someone who looks or acts like they could hurt someone.

The good news in all of this? Sexual abuse is 100% preventable. One of the greatest protective factors a community can have is for adults to know the signs of concerning behav-

ior and the resources for help. Those who harm sexually will often seek out a vulnerable person. They often focus too much time and attention on one child/teen at the expense of relationships with their own peers. They will isolate a young person and confuse them with gifts, promises and attention. Often this happens right within sight of adults who don't know the warning signs. Adults can be charmed by deceptive behavior. Learning how to work through our own doubts (Am I misreading the situation? What if I'm wrong?) can mean the difference between a child being harmed or not. Knowing that there are places we can call if we have questions or suspicions can make all the difference. If we can prevent a child from being sexually abused, wouldn't we?

Sometimes people worry that if we talk about sexual abuse we will scare children. But one of the strongest protective factors for youth is education: teaching them about anatomically correct words for body parts, boundaries and getting help. If children have the language to talk about their bodies and if they have caring adults who have opened doors to honest conversations, they will have the words to use and supportive people to tell if someone crosses their boundaries. There are excellent resources to help parents, caregivers and other caring adults to know how to talk with children. Stop It Now ([www.stopitnow.org](http://www.stopitnow.org)) offers a confidential helpline and extensive resources, and Darkness to Light ([www.d2l.org](http://www.d2l.org)) focuses on training and information to help adults protect children from sexual abuse.

TPN is our community's local resource, with information at our website as well as advocates and educators ready to answer questions, provide support and connect people to resources. We are invested in the wellness of our communities and provide developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed education for students pre-K through high school that focuses on recognizing feelings, boundaries and accessing trusted adults. These life skills empower youth to know and trust their feelings and to know what to do if boundaries are crossed. We

also provide training for adults to learn the signs and feel empowered to take action if they have suspicions. Child by child, school by school, caregiver by caregiver, we are building a strong safety net for all youth. And we need your help.

We need a community call to action so that anyone who might want to harm a young person sexually will see that our community is informed and empowered. Whether for your faith community, school, workplace or community group, call TPN to schedule a workshop that empowers adults to protect children. If you have questions about concerning behavior or want to know how to talk to children in your life, call us. Join us and be part of a call to action that strengthens the safety nets for all youth.

*OUR TURN is a public service series by Turning Points Network (TPN) serving all of Sullivan County with offices in Claremont and Newport. We provide wraparound supports for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and human trafficking and we present violence-prevention education programs in our schools. For more than 40 years, TPN has helped people of all ages move from the darkness of abuse toward the light of respect, healing and hope.*

*For information contact 1.800.639.3130 or [www.turningpointsnetwork.org](http://www.turningpointsnetwork.org) or find us on Facebook and Instagram.*

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**Easter, from page 1**

drive-thru to receive the scavenger hunt information. The map will pinpoint locations in the City’s park system where Easter-themed yard signs will have questions on them. Kids can submit their answers on-line. Six lucky winners, chosen at random on April 5, will receive Easter-themed baskets.

Everyone is encouraged to bring their camera, as the Easter Bunny will be available for some egg-cellent selfie window photos while kids remain in their vehicle.

“Saturday will be an eggs-traordinary morning,” promised Brislin. “We hope to see everyone there.”

*Who: Grades Pre-K to 5*

*When: 9 to 11am Saturday, April 3*

*Where: CMS and SRVRTC parking areas, South Street*

*Note: To keep traffic moving, drivers should use the South Street entrance across from Montshire Pediatric Dentistry, then follow signs around the back of the middle school.*

For more information, visit [claremontparks.com](http://claremontparks.com) or call 603-542-7019.

**Finance Director to Retire**

CLAREMONT, NH—City manager Ed Morris announced at Wednesday night’s City Council meeting that long-time Finance Director Mary Walter is planning to retire “this summer...She will be greatly missed,” he added. Morris told the council that he and staff are currently putting together a recruitment package “for this critical position for the City.” He added that he would keep the council apprised of that recruitment process.

He also announced that in October the Fire Department applied for a fire prevention grant from Factory Mutual Global for the purchase of a Sparky The Fire Dog costume. The City has received notification that the Fire Department has been awarded \$2,700 of the \$3,118 it will cost to purchase the costume. “This will be a great addition to our fire prevention program and will be used during the annual fire prevention parade and for many other events,” said Morris.

Morris also introduced new Deputy Police Chief Mark Grasso. Grasso is a retired Connecticut State Trooper who retired at the rank of Sergeant in 2014. He worked briefly in the private sector and then decided to get back in public service, where he was hired at the Westport, CT, Police Department.

—Phyllis A. Muzeroll

**Public Notice  
Claremont School Board Public Hearing and  
Regular Meeting April 7, 2021 at 6:30pm**

**Location Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center**

The Claremont School Board will be holding an in-person, audio broadcast and virtual public hearing meeting and a regular meeting to immediately follow.

**Open to the Public (in person) - limited seating**

Due to Covid-19 and the health and safety of our residents, only a limited number of citizens are allowed to attend. Those in attendance will need to adhere to safety rules which include: temperature check, hand sanitizer, wearing a face mask, social distancing, and others deemed necessary. To reserve your seat, please call Melissa Small at 603-543-4200 ext. 6009

**Audio Broadcasted on CCTV Channel 8**

Citizens without access to CCTV 8 may Call in to listen by dialing 1-929-436-2866 ID 961 2589 6360 Passcode 236988

Streaming by using this link <https://zoom.us/j/96125896360?pwd=UjZh-RFNUUGhIZzZITzRad2lGais0UT09>.

Please visit our website: [www.sau6.org](http://www.sau6.org) under School Boards to review agenda.

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\* See site for details.

# Let's Talk

## Healthy Eating on a Budget

MARCH  
**30**  
Tuesday  
**12:00pm**

Join Age Well's registered dietician Brigitte Harton and VNH community liaison Terry Hyland on the VNH Facebook page for a LIVE event about how you can affordably prepare your own healthy meals at home. More information on the event can be found at <https://bit.ly/2OYsuOo>

**TERRY HYLAND**  
*VNH Community Liaison*



**BRIGITTE HARTON**  
*Registered Dietician with Age Well*



## Stevens Brooks Conservation Easement Project to Continue Moving Forward

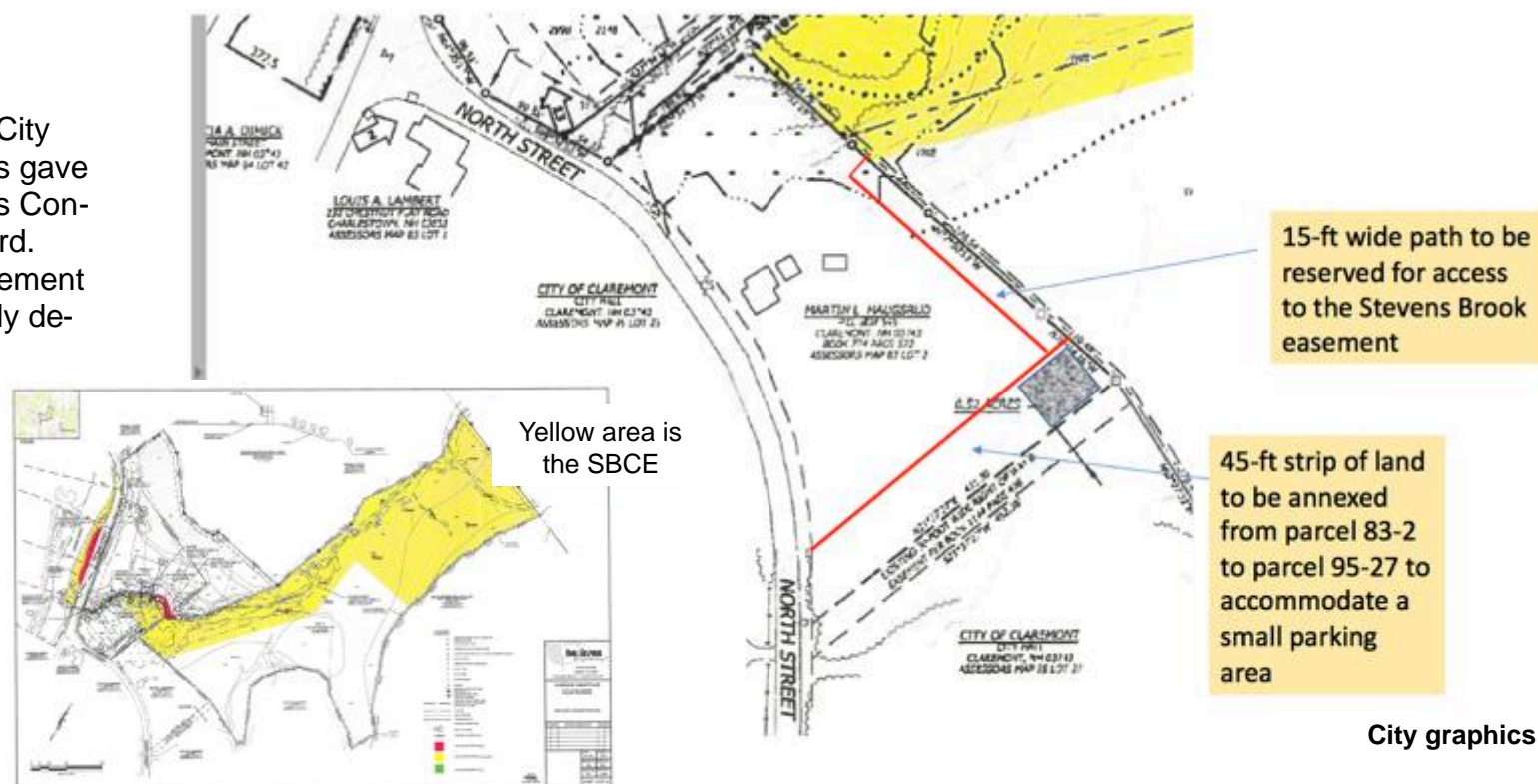
By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—At Wednesday's City Council meeting, a majority of councilors gave thumbs up to having the Stevens Brooks Conservation Easement project move forward.

The Stevens Brook Conservation Easement was created as part of the Tractor Supply development. It is about 22 acres set aside for conservation and is meant to be open to the public for education and enjoyment, said City officials. It was deeded to the Claremont Conservation Commission in 2011. The Commission has been looking after it ever since. However, the easement is completely landlocked, making access difficult for public officials and impossible for the public currently. The manager of the Tractor Supply store has been allowing the Commission to get to the easement by way of their parking area, but this arrangement is purely informal and "subject to change without notice". The Commission wants to create a walking trail through the easement to fulfill part of the easement's purpose. But since the easement is landlocked, "investing in that effort seems risky and won't happen if they can't get permanent access," said the Planning and Development Office.

The City recently acquired the lot at 263 North Street by tax deed. This lot directly abuts the conservation easement. The Commission is working out a series of pathways to secure permanent access from North Street via this parcel, and that discussion was the subject of the presentation to the Council Wednesday night.

When the Stevens Brook Conservation Easement was created in 2011, no provisions were made for the public to access it. The easement has no frontage on a public right of way and therefore is technically landlocked. The Conservation Commission, charged with oversight of the easement and which has invested thousands of dollars of its own to secure and maintain it, would still like to create a walking trail through those 22 acres of the easement for its intended public education and enjoyment. The CCC has engaged Snow-Hawk LLC to design and construct the trail.



The Commission is proposing to access the easement from North Street by the following: Annex a 45-ft. wide strip of land along the easterly boundary of parcel 83-2 from parcel 95-27 to parcel 83-2. This would accommodate a small, 35-ft. x 45 ft., 3-space parking area. The entrance on North St. would be on the flat part of the road, before the steep pitch.

The annexed portion would connect with a 15-ft. wide path across the northerly boundary of parcel 83-2 to provide access onto the Stevens Brook easement. The 15-ft wide path would be reserved for use by the public when the parcel 83-2 is sold.

CCC chair Gary Dickerman said, "This really is an opportunity we've been waiting on for years and we would like to proceed with plans for trails..." The CCC needs the approval of the council to proceed with its proposed access plans. Commission member Steve Wood said the space is "a very natural area and has a lot of opportunity" for educational purposes. Cameras put in the area have revealed a wide variety of wildlife that uses the land. It is hoped that the area can be used for both general public enjoyment and school classes.

While the CCC was not seeking approval for any motions at this time, it was seeking and received a consensus from the council to move forward with its proposed plans for creating public access to the easement.

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# Business News

## North Country Smokehouse Pays It Forward

**Starting Pay Increases to \$15 Per Hour with Raises for Valued Employees**

CLAREMONT, NH—North Country Smokehouse in Claremont has taken the initiative to increase starting pay wages to \$15.00 per hour and raise hourly wages across the board for current production employees.

“Our retail business grew exponentially over the last year.” said

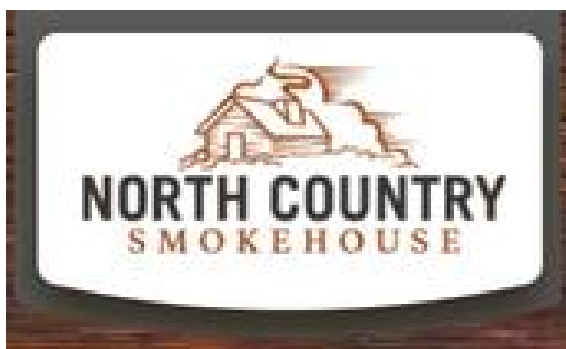
Aaron Corbett, North Country Smokehouse Chief Executive Officer.

“The pandemic required the very best of people. Our employees work hard and

continue to meet increasing demands and maintain the quality of our products. We wanted to show them how much we appreciate their efforts. We couldn't do it without them.”

Pre pandemic, roughly 70% of North Country's business was in foodservice, with the remainder coming from upscale retailers like Whole Foods and Hannaford Supermarkets. “The Covid-19 lockdown meant more home-cooking. Our business shifted and retail now makes up roughly 50% of our total revenue.” said Corbett. When the grocery stores got busy with shoppers looking to stock the fridge and add variety to at-home meals, retailers began sourcing new brands to line the store shelves and North Country Smokehouse was among them. “We added Wegman's, Shaw's, Big Y and Target, and expanded our regional footprint with Whole Foods this year,” said Corbett. “Despite obvious challenges, we were fortunate to have employees who believed in the product and the work we do. The company realized significant growth this year, it's only right we pay-it-forward.”

Beginning Monday, March 29th, new smokehouse hires will start at \$15 per hour. The new pay plan makes North Country Smokehouse among the highest paying, local production companies in the area. In addition to higher-than-average wages, the smokehouse will continue to offer employees a full benefit package that includes health, dental, 401k match, vision, paid-time-off, profit sharing, employee assistance program (EAP), and an employee discount program.



“We're grateful we're in a position to do this” said Corbett. “We have been a family-first business for more than a century. Our Founder was a third-generation smoke master who believed in taking care of our local community and people in it. It is important to us that we carry on in that tradition.”

North Country Smokehouse is currently hiring for several production positions and is hopeful the new pay plan

will attract qualified candidates. They are asking interested parties to apply in person or email a resume to [info@ncsmokehouse.com](mailto:info@ncsmokehouse.com).

### Got Business News?

CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM  
OF CLAREMONT

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# Business News

## Bank of New Hampshire Voted Best Commercial Lender and Best Local Bank for Small Businesses by *NH Business Review* Readers

LACONIA, NH—Bank of New Hampshire was voted Best Commercial Lender and Best Local Bank for Small Businesses in *NH Business Review's* 2021 Best of Business (BOB) Awards. *NH Business Review* readers cast more than 4,700 online votes to select this year's BOB Awards recipients, which included nearly 100 businesses across New Hampshire in a range of business-to-business categories. Bank of New Hampshire, along with all 2021 BOB Awards winners, will be celebrated during *NH Business Review's* Best of Business (BOB) virtual awards party on April 1.



"At Bank of New Hampshire, we have been dedicated to our customers, our communities and their futures for 190 years," stated Chris Logan, Executive Vice President - Chief Operating Officer for Bank of New Hampshire. "As we celebrate this milestone year, it is an honor to be recognized statewide for our commitment to delivering innovative solutions and exceptional service as both a top local bank and commercial lender. We are celebrating being awarded Best Local Bank for the 9th consecutive year, which is a testament to our ability to remain safe, strong and secure even in the midst of these challenging times."

"The annual BOB awards recognize the hard work of businesses that provide outstanding products and services throughout the Granite State each year," said Jeff Feingold, editor of *NH Business Review*. "Congratulations to Bank of New Hampshire, and the rest of the 2021 winners, on this well-deserved acknowledgement."

To learn more about the 2021 Best of Business Awards, and for a full list of winners, visit [nhbr.com/BOB-Awards](http://nhbr.com/BOB-Awards).

Bank of New Hampshire, founded in 1831, provides deposit, lending and wealth management products and services to families and businesses throughout New Hampshire and southern Maine. With 21 banking offices and assets exceeding \$2 billion, Bank of New Hampshire is the oldest and one of the largest independent banks in the state.

*NH Business Review* is the only statewide business journal and provides business information, news and features in the Granite State.

### Investing for Home Creation

Thursday, April 8, 5:30 pm

Your savings can help create more lower-cost homes. Learn how even small amounts can bring financial, social, and environmental rewards presented by Vital Communities.

Click on this link to register for this free event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91234567890>

To learn more about Vital Communities, visit <https://vitalcommunities.org/>.

**Got Business News? Send us your news and photos.**



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## How Much Risk Should You Take Before Retirement?

If you're planning to retire in just a few years, you may be getting excited about this next phase of your life. However, your ability to enjoy retirement fully will depend, at least partially, on the resources you can draw from your investment portfolio. So, while you still have time to act, ask yourself if you're comfortable with your portfolio's risk level.

Your relationship with risk can change noticeably over time. When you started saving for retirement, you may have been willing to take on more investment risk, which translated into a relatively high percentage of stocks and stock-based mutual funds in your investment portfolio. As you know, stocks offer the potential for greater returns than other assets – such as bonds and certificates of deposit (CDs) – but they are also typically more volatile and carry more risk. But when you were many decades away from retirement, you had sufficient time to recover from market fluctuations. (Of course, there are no guarantees – it's possible that some stocks will lose value and never regain it.)

Now, fast forward to where you are now – closing in on retirement. Even at this stage of your life – and, in fact, even during your retirement – you will need some growth-oriented investments to help stay ahead of inflation. Over time, even a low inflation rate, such as we've had the past several years, can erode your purchasing power.

So, the issue isn't this: "Should I get rid of all my risk?" You shouldn't – and, in fact, you couldn't, because all investments, even the ones considered most "conservative," contain some type of risk, even if it isn't the risk of loss of principal. For instance, some investments run the risk of not keeping up with inflation. Instead, ask yourself these questions: "How much risk should I take within my portfolio?" "How much risk do I actually need to achieve my goals in retirement?"

Of course, there are no one-size-fits-all answers. You'll need to look at your investment portfolio to see if it's positioned to provide you with the income you'll require in your retirement years. You might have initially based your financial strategy on a specific type of retirement lifestyle, but now that you're nearing retirement, perhaps you've changed your mind. Your anticipated new lifestyle might require either more or less income than you had originally projected – and if that's the case, you may need to adjust the risk level in your portfolio or make other adjustments.

For example, suppose you had initially envisioned a rather quiet retirement, sticking around your home, volunteering and spending time with your grandchildren. But in recent years – and especially since the confinement many of us have felt during the COVID-19 pandemic – you may have thought that you'd now like to travel extensively. To achieve this goal, which will likely cost more than your original one, you may have to work longer, or invest more each year until you retire, or seek a higher return on your investments – which means accepting more risk.

As you can see, managing risk is a balancing act – and you may need to make some tough choices. But as long as you're aware of how much risk you can take, and how much risk you may need to take to reach your goals, you can develop a strategy that aligns with your objectives.

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



**Martha Maki, AAMS®**

Financial Advisor

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# 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. Registration is now open online at [www.claremontparks.com](http://www.claremontparks.com).

## Nail-Biters

### Youth Basketball Players Continue to Improve in Next-to-Last Week

CLAREMONT, NH—Two 1-point victories at Saturday’s Youth Basketball League made for more than the usual excitement. As the teams gain confidence, their play is increasingly dynamic, often faster, with more steals and closer outcomes. They also notched a total of 223 points, two more than the previous week’s tally.

Part of the energy for such concentrated play comes from knowing that next week’s games will be the last in their season. While many are already registering to play in the youth baseball and softball spring leagues, they are making every pass, rebound and basket count toward a win.

CCTV continues to livestream every game. Josh Nelson, CCTV executive director, has been getting emails of appreciation from families who can’t be at the CSB Community Center but who watch from home. The farthest-flung fans? Grandparents in Virginia.

Livestreaming schedule — five games in four divisions — online at [claremontv.org](http://claremontv.org) channel 8, or on public access cable channel 8: 9am, 5/6 Boys; 10:30am, 5/6 Girls; 12noon, 3/4 Girls; 1:30pm, 3/4 Boys; and 3pm, 3/4 Boys.



**Practically Perfect Pyramid — Nets vs. Celtics (5/6 Boys); Balletic Battle — Sparks vs. Storm (5/6 Girls); Coaching Up a Storm.**

Text and photos by Eric Zengota

### Game Day — March 27, 2021

Division	Team / Score	Team / Score
5/6 Boys	Nets 42	Celtics 29
5/6 Girls	Sparks 25	Storm 24
3/4 Girls	UConn 21	Tennessee 20
3/4 Boys	Louisville 21	Michigan State 4
3/4 Boys	Kentucky 28	Michigan State 9



# Inspiration

## Lighting Candles

By Priscilla Hull

There is an ancient Chinese saying that is quoted by many. It says, "It is better to light one small candle than to curse the darkness." It is also attributed to Eleanor Roosevelt, or possibly W. L. Watkinson in 1907. Whatever its origin, it might be something for us to consider today.

We have darkness all around. There seems to be little hope for a world that has been torn apart by mistrust, anger and frustration by many. We live in perennial darkness where the dawn seems just too far away for comfort. So, when we think of the darkness, we feel as though we shall never see the light again. There is little hope for a world that appears to be drowning in disease, anger, poverty. Nothing is going well. Nothing is right. The light at the end of the tunnel seems so distant that we'll never find it.

Yet, we look back in history and see that there have been dark times before. Eleanor Roosevelt lived through some dark times in our country's history: the two World Wars and the Depression. Yet through it all, she maintained a strength to admire. She was not afraid of controversy. She faced her trials and managed to set an example for the women of her time. The lesson many of her followers held on to and emulated was one of courage and strength. We learned to stand up for what was right, for ourselves and for our neighbors. We learned to read political news and to understand that we could make a difference.

Following the example set by Eleanor Roosevelt, and others of her era, women began to light candles. We learned that while we might not make a difference with one candle, many candles, lit by many women, could make a difference. Rather than stand in the background and watch the world go by, we can bring light to the world. We can make a difference. Every candle that we light makes one little spot of brightness, takes away one little spot of darkness. It's a matter of being proactive.

We should all light one small candle and someday we'll find our world will be brighter and lighter. We will get by because of the candle lighters of the world! Peace will come. Poverty will be eradicated. Hunger will become obsolete, but it will take a lot of candles. Go, light a candle, dissipate the darkness, don't curse it!

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it."  
John 1:5



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

## Calendar Of Events

### CCC Sponsors Programs on how Global Warming Affects State's Wildlife

On April 1 at 7:00, via Zoom, *Climate Change: Evidence, Impacts and Action* is the first program in a series sponsored by the Claremont Conservation Commission. Experts from Franklin Pierce University's Institute for Climate Action will explain the causes of our climate crisis, about how local wildlife species are impacted, and what we might do to fix climate warming. As a follow up activity, on April 3 from 11:00 to noon, the Harris Center for Conservation Education introduces Vernal Pools 101, in which participants learn about these temporary woodland ponds, how to document vernal pools, and sign up for in-person vernal pool identification training.

For program information and the Zoom link, go to: <https://www.claremontnh.com/environmental-education>.

### 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, encourag-

ing 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/comevents/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](http://www.turningpointsnetwork.org) or find us on Facebook.

### 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.

### 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](mailto: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 be-reavement 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 Districts 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 pe-

nalized 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.

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

**Corey Beard**      **Ralph Beard Jr**  
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[aaseweranddrain@yahoo.com](mailto:aaseweranddrain@yahoo.com)

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 Sunapee, NH 03782  
 603-454-4850

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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 EVERYDAY WRJCT, Lebanon & Hanover  
PRICE CHOPPER 6AM - 7AM EVERYDAY-Windsor & West Lebanon  
SHAW'S 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 classes may be found here:  
<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/>

### 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](mailto:info@twinstatemakerspaces.org).

## Claremont Senior Center News

“Happy Days are here again. The skies above are clear again. Happy Days are here again.”

Bet you all sang along.

Hi everyone. The blue skies were just beautiful this past week, along with the warm sun and breeze. We think we are on the right track to Spring.

Thank you to all who picked up the Roast Turkey Dinner on Saturday. The volunteers served 137 hungry people. For those who missed out, look for our next one in April. Please note: this would not have happened if it not been for our volunteers-both experienced and new. Thanks.

Here is the menu for Tuesday and Thursday this week:

Tuesday, March 30-Soup, Baked Fish, Scalloped Potato. Vegetable, Dessert.

Thursday, April 1-Soup, BBQ Chicken Leg and Thigh, Potato Salad, Coleslaw, Apple Bread Pudding.

Take out only. Pick-up: 11:45am-12:15pm. Members-\$4, nonmembers-\$5. Call 543-5998 to reserve your meals. We know you will enjoy both. The volunteers make the menu to include things the seniors would like and with a variety of all fresh ingredients.

April's Foot Clinic dates have been set. Here are the dates to pamper the feet and you. Appointments are for Wednesday, April 14, April 21, April 28. Please call 603-748-1731. Happy feet are here again.

Taxes still on your mind? The AARP Tax Group will be at the Center on Fridays. Call 1-802-345-5415 for an appointment. Please leave a message if the box is full. They will return your call. The Center is Not making appointments.

We are still looking for members to volunteer for our board. We have a few members whose terms are up and will be leaving the board. A term is two years with a choice to serve two years more. We are serious about what happens at our Center. If you would like to serve a two year term, please call 543-5998 for more information.

Our trip survey is slow but the entries are wonderful, a lot of anywhere responses. We will make sure the CDC guidelines are in place. We just need to know where we are going and for how long. Think about it and contact us in three ways: call 543-5998, email-se-

niorctr5@comcat.net or take the survey on pg. 6 of our monthly newsletter at cnhcs.org. Mail it or bring it in.

Ok! We are bursting! We can't hold it in any longer. Our wish is finally here. We have a beautiful new generator. We have been waiting since October for it. They are in the final stage of hooking it up. Now, when the power is out, your event will not be left in the dark! Happy Days!! Another plus for our Center and its seniors. No more playing cards or pool in the dark. We have you lighted.

Well, that's all the excitement we can stand for this week. A new generator! Woohoo!. Have a good week everyone. Stay safe, stay well, call a friend.

Thought for the week: Every time you tear a page off the calendar, you present a new place for your ideas.

Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights Rd., Claremont, NH, 03743, 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

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

Monday, April 5, 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/87669855940?pwd=TGI2UXI0VWhtSzUvMTd4RGxEYU9l-QT09>

Passcode: 848658 By Phone: 1-646-558-8656 US (New York) Webinar ID: 876 6985 5940

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

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

**A. (ZO 2021-00002) Jaimie Butterworth, 266 Elm Street** – Application for a variance from Sec. 22-379(1) of the Claremont Zoning Ordinance to permit construction of a deck within the front setback on the property at 266 Elm Street. Tax Map 83, Lot 11. Zoning District MUHD

**B. (ZO 2021-00003) Ray Parker, Unity NH** – Application for a variance from Sec. 22-316 of the Claremont Zoning Ordinance to permit a duplex on the property at 408 Sullivan Street. Tax Map 117, Lot 13. Zoning District I-1

**C. (ZO 2021-00004) Elaina Schultz, Charlestown NH** – Application for a variance from Sec. 22-206(2) of the Claremont Zoning Ordinance to permit conversion of two single family homes without municipal sewer connection on the property at 264 Maple Ave. Tax Map 129, Lot 168. Zoning District R-1.

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](mailto:cityplanner@claremontnh.com).

Michael Hurd,

Chair

## Claremont Fire Dept. Log

### **Sunday 3/21:**

11:17 AM: Engine 3 responded Mutual Aid to Unity.

11:38 AM: Rescue 1 and Engine 1 responded to Washington St. for a motor vehicle accident.

11:44 AM: Engine 3 responded to the intersection of Main St. and North St. for a motor vehicle accident.

### **Monday 3/22:**

4:48 PM: Engine 3 responded to Bowen St. for a medical call.

### **Tuesday 3/23:**

12:15 PM: Car 1 was off on scene with an illegal burn on Washington St.

### **Wednesday 3/24:**

1:20 PM: Brush 1 and Utility 1 responded to Maynard St. for a brush fire.

4:09 PM: Engine 3 responded to Dunning St. for a motor vehicle versus pedestrian accident.

8:14 PM: Engine 3 responded to Hillside Terrace to assist Golden Cross.

8:34 PM: Engine 3 responded to Twistback Rd. for an alarm sounding.

### **Thursday 3/25:**

5:42 AM: Engine 3 responded to Windsor Rd. for a report of a possible tree on wires.

1:44 PM: Engine 3 responded to Webster Ave. for a medical call.

6:20 PM: Engine 3 responded to Lincoln Heights for a medical call.

7:05 PM: Engine 3 responded to the area of High St. and Barber St. for a smoke investigation.

### **Friday 3/26:**

3:49 PM: Engine 3 responded to Broad St. for a medical check of well-being.

6:38 PM: Engine 3 responded to Padody Hollow Rd. for a tree on wires.

10:32 PM: Engine 3 responded to Hanover St. for an illegal burn.

### **Saturday 3/27:**

12:41 AM: Engine 3 responded to Ledgewood Rd. for a medical call.

1:00 PM: Engine 3 responded to Byrd Ave. for a medical call.

1:41 PM: Engine 3 responded to Pleasant St. for a medical call.

1:47 PM: Engine 3 responded to Myrtle St. for a lift assist.

1:59 PM: Brush 1 responded to River Rd. for a report of a brush fire.

7:12 PM: Car 2 responded to Sugar River Drive for a burn pile inspection.

8:02 PM: Engine 3 responded to Bond St. for a medical call.

## **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

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, 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 online at <https://www.facebook.com/brownsvil-lecommunitychurch/> for the foreseeable future.

### **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.

### **First Fridays Poetry Night**

**April 9nd - First Fridays! Poetry Night!  
"Native American Beauty is Diversity"—  
5:30-6:30 Virtual Event**

Readings by this year's contest winners- In collaboration with the Mt Kearsarge Indian Museum.

A Sign Language Interpreted Event – Virtual Event See [www.centerfortheartsnh.org/first-fridays](http://www.centerfortheartsnh.org/first-fridays) for ZOOM link.



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.etickernewsoclaremont.com](http://www.etickernewsoclaremont.com)

#### George H. Bent, 89

George H. Bent, 89 years young, passed away peacefully on March 11 after a short stay at Elmwood Center in Claremont, NH.

He was born in Clinton, MA, to Charles and Grace Bent on May 16, 1931. He is survived by his loving life partner, Judy Cabell of Claremont, NH; his two daughters, Karen (Bent) Salem of Annapolis, MD; and Joanne Bent of Oakland, CA; and his brother, Donald Bent of Sunapee NH; three grandchildren, Charles Salem, of Philadelphia, PA; Grace Salem of Glen Burnie MD; and Alexandra Salem of Portland, OR.

George grew up in Lynn, MA, and later attended high school at Classical High School in Springfield, MA. He attended University of New Hampshire and graduated in 1953 with a bachelor's degree in history. He served in the Air Force for two years after graduation and retired as a Captain.

George pursued the profession of education. He started his career in San Francisco at a private high school. He then moved to Keene, NH, where he taught at Wheelock Elementary school for several years. George and his two daughters moved to Claremont in 1964; he became a principal at Cornish Elementary School in Cornish, NH. He eventually became a teaching principal at both North Street and Bluff Elementary school. His final teaching job was at Way School in Claremont where he taught 3rd

grade for many years until he retired in 1993.

George was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Claremont and sang in the church choir for many years. He was an active member of the Ashley Players Theater group in the 1970's and 80's.

All types of sports were an integral part of George's life. He was a diehard fan of all Boston team sports, especially the Red Sox and Bruins.

George was a writer of beautiful poetry and enjoyed all kinds of music from Bach to the Beatles. He loved to read books on history and the *Sunday New York Times*.

George loved to travel and visited England and Europe several times. He enjoyed adventures in yard sale-ing and flea markets with his beloved partner, Judy, often getting up at 5 am to sell treasures. George cherished cats, especially, Sadie, who predeceased him.

Our wonderful George will be very greatly missed by his family and friends. He was a very humble, kind, gentle and loving man.

There will be a celebration of George's life this summer at a date to be determined, when we are all vaccinated against COVID-19.

In lieu of flowers, donations may to the Sullivan County Humane Society (SCHS), 14 Tremont St., PO Box 11, Claremont, NH 03743.

Condolences to George's family may be made in an online guestbook at <https://www.stringerfh.com>

#### Lena C. Stebbins, 100

Lena C. Stebbins, 100, of Summerfield, FL, and formerly of Cornish, NH, died March 13, 2021, in Florida.

She was born in Cornish Flat, NH, on April 17, 1920, the daughter of Junius W. and Gertrude (Westgate) Cole. She resided in Florida for the past 15 years and previously lived in Tilton, NH, for eight years in the late 90's; she lived in Meriden, NH, on N. Main Street for 50 years.

She retired from Kimball Union Academy in 1980 where she worked as the Secretary to the Treasurer and general bookkeeper for 22 years. She previously worked at Holsteins and after that with a cap and gown company.

“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.

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9 Dunning St, Claremont  
(we're right there by the hospital)



She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Meriden, the Meriden Home Economics' Club and the Cornish Garden Club. She was the widow of George E. Stebbins Sr, whom she married on May 10, 1942; he died June 7, 2003.

The surviving family includes two sons, George E. Stebbins, Jr. and his wife, Judith of Summerfield, FL; and Richard C. Stebbins and his wife, Teresa, of Grand Rapids, OH; five grandchildren, Christopher and Wendy Johnson, Ashley Student and her husband, Richard, Leah Hill and her husband, Donald, Ian Stebbins and his wife, Jennifer and Cole Stebbins, seven great-grandchildren, Paige, Kendall, Haylie, Jackson, Jazmin, Elliana and Jenna; one niece, Judy Taylor and her husband Kenneth.

She was predeceased by one brother, Donald W. Cole, in 1978.

Graveside services will be held Wednesday, June 9th, at 2PM in the Cole family lot at the Child Cemetery in Cornish with Rev. Harold "Dewy" Jones officiating.

The family suggests that donations may be made to the Meriden First Baptist Church, the Meriden Fire Dept. or the Charity of one's choice.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

### **Gail C. Page, 80**

Mrs. Gail Corrine Page, 80 years old, passed away at Valley Regional Hospital, Claremont, NH, on March 22, 2021, after a long respiratory illness. She was born on April 11, 1940 in Lancaster, NH, to Howard and Elsie Mellow, the farmer's daughter. She had one sister, Janice and Murray Rogers (deceased) and three brothers, Dick and Stella (deceased), Carlton (deceased), and John Mellow and his wife, Sherry. She is survived by brother and sister-in-law, Maurice and Estelle Page and predeceased by Joe and Jackie Lajoie, Richard and Joyce Kimball, and son-in-law, Richard Capone.

Gail and Ralph Page were married for 34 years. Ralph died of lung cancer at 51 years old. They had four children, Michael Aldrich (deceased) and his ex-wife Tina, Diana Capone and her deceased husband Richard, Stephen and his wife Mary, and Mark Page (deceased). She is also survived by eight grandchildren, Nicole and Sean Capone and his fiancée, Brittany, Samantha Howlett, Megan Lang and husband Justin, Katelyn

Page and her significant other, Mike Tetreault, Kim, Jason, and Julie Aldrich. She is survived by five great grandchildren, Alexas Aiken, Khloe Aldrich, Alaina, Brendan, and Landon Tetreault.

She enjoyed organizing Merrow Family reunions, family heirlooms, the Lancaster Fair, gardening, taking and sharing photos, and the front porch of her home.

She loved her neighborhood children from another mother, Shelia Kozel and DoriAnne Knapp Douglas as well as Darlene, Susan, and friends, Doris and Robert McCrossin, Fred and Janet Patridge, Harold and Muriel Tilton, Betty Fludd McClellan and Wayne Hannah

She was a resident of Claremont since 1964. Gail was a proud, retired weaver at Dartmouth Woolen Mill in Claremont often sharing stories of military products. She was nearly deaf from the bobbin noise. Gail was a long-standing parishioner of the United Methodist Church. She enjoyed bible study, fundraisers, church dinners, and lunching with her tribe. She believed everything tasted better with butter on it. Staples of her diet were donuts and coffee. She sponsored community holiday light funds, the Stevens High School Band and Annual Alumni parade. She held pride for SHS. Her people brought her joy. For years, she and her husband sponsored two fresh air / summer program brothers from New York, Jay and Chris Nyfler. She was a genuinely kindhearted example of someone who would give away the shirt on her back. She made her family promise to continue recycling.

Her final wish was for a scenic ride home to Lancaster and to be buried with her mom's family Bible.

Charitable donations in her memory can be made to the Claremont United Methodist Church, 38 Summer Street, Claremont, NH 03743.

A funeral service was held at Stringer Funeral Home in Claremont on Friday, March 26th, Gail will be buried in May at the Somersault Cemetery in Lancaster with a service by Pastor Dean Stiles.

### **Lynnan Parkinson, 57**

Lynnan Parkinson, 57, of Claremont, NH, died March 19, 2021, at Valley Regional Hospital.

She was a native and lifelong resident of Claremont, born on September 25, 1963, the daughter of Clayton and Lucille (Buswell) Parkinson. She was a graduate of Stevens

High School in the class of 1983. Lynnan worked at the Sullivan County Nursing Home in the laundry department since 1983. She was a member of the Women of the Moose Lodge #662 in Newport.

The family includes her son, Joseph Grey Jr. of Matthews, NC; brothers, Roscoe Parkinson, Clayton Parkinson and Tobiah Parkinson; sister, Beth-Anne Page Dube and nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents and a brother, Medcalf Parkinson.

A graveside service was held on Saturday, March 27th at the New West Claremont Burial Grounds on Old Church Road with Rev. Susan Eibner Interim of Union Episcopal Church officiating.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

### **William H. Fitts, 79**

William Hughes Fitts, 79, of Cornish, NH, died suddenly at his home on March 18, 2021. He was born on January 6, 1942, in Yonkers, NY, the son of Henry K. and Brenda (Skene) Fitts.

Bill was educated in the Winchester School system in Massachusetts. He was in the US Navy from 1962 to 1966.

He was a member of the Cornish Fire Department for 42 years, from 1976 – 2018, driving the tanker. He had previously been a part of the Sunapee Fire Department for 3 years, from 1973 – 1976.

He had been a millwright, working for Can-Am, CSI, and lastly Valley Regional Hospital. Bill enjoyed anything mechanical, repairing windup clocks, fixing the un-fixable; he read voraciously and enjoyed square dancing, canoeing and the NH Antique Tractor Club.

He is survived by his wife, Lois Fitts of Cornish; sister Rebecca Rylander of Sunapee; stepchildren: Russell Amison of Auburn, ME; Robin Amison-Reinhart of Branchburg, NJ; and Donald Amison of Cornish; five grandchildren and nieces, nephews and cousins. A graveside service with military honors and fire department honors will be held at a later date.

Donations may be made to the Cornish Fire Association/Scholarship Fund, Cornish Rescue Squad, or charity of your choice.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



***Glory of the Snow...***

**A sure sign of Spring are the little blue star-like flowers that appear early in the season.**

**Photo by Phyllis A. Muzeroll**