

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**City Manager Search
Prompts Lengthy Council
Debate; page A8**

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April 15, 2019



Tax Exemption for Renewable Energy in Claremont

The Claremont Energy Advisory Committee has reviewed and endorsed the new City Council ordinance for the adoption of a renewable energy system tax exemption. Based on new legislation from the state of New Hampshire, Claremont residents who are interested in purchasing and installing clean energy sources to heat or cool their homes, heat water, or produce electricity will be able to receive an exemption from the assessed value of these improvements due to this program. Applying specifically to solar, wind-power, and wood heating devices, individuals who install qualifying renewable energy systems in their homes and property, must apply for an application at the Assessors office, by April 15, to receive this exemption.

After the solar panels are purchased and installed, for example, a resident would need to complete the application. A qualified applicant will have no increase in the assessed value of the property due to the installation of the qualifying system. Any newly purchased renewable energy systems that are on the resident's property on April 1st of any given year would be eligible for exemption in that year's tax.

A qualifying renewable energy system must be on the same parcel where it provides energy to a building – household or business. It is

(Continued on page A7)

Governor Talks Support for Local Projects During Visit to Arrowhead Monday

By Eric Zengota and
Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—Three State-funded projects that would benefit the City of Claremont are in danger of disappearing. The governor's budget, which included funding through the use of surplus State money in House Bill 2, earmarked money for energy-efficient upgrades at Arrowhead Lodge (\$100,000) and the Visitor Center (\$30,000), as well as sidewalk and drainage repairs (\$120,000).

But the Finance Committee removed them from the bill. Now, the only way to get them back in the budget is via a floor amendment sponsored by a State Representative. If passed by House vote, the measure would move to the Senate for approval. According to Claremont Representative John Cloutier, who wrote in his weekly *e-Ticker News* column last week, "...most of these projects were removed from House Bill 2 by the Finance Committee because many of the projects either

(Continued on page A2)

Governor Chris Sununu addressed funding issues for local projects in Claremont. Behind him from left: Rep. state senator Ruth Ward, state representative Gary Merchant, Claremont mayor Charlene Lovett (Eric Zengota photo).





Chuck Allen, president of Arrowhead Recreation Club, speaks about the importance of Arrowhead Recreation Area to the Claremont economy. Behind Allen, left to right: Gov. Chris Sununu, state senator Ruth Ward, state representative Gary Merchant, Claremont mayor Charlene Lovett, and state representative Walter Stapleton (Eric Zengota photo).

Sununu, from A1

should have been put in the capital budget, or would benefit only a few specific municipalities. While I agree that the three-listed projects are worthwhile, I can understand the Finance committee's reason for removing them from House Bill 2. Instead, I believe that they could be authorized and paid for through other legislation we in the House and Senate will consider in the next few months."

In an April 8

press conference held at Arrowhead Lodge, Gov. Chris Sununu summed up the procedure with his "big message." Noting that New Hampshire has the largest legislative body in the country, he added, "the power of the State derives from the individual. Contact your representatives and senators. Advocate for the initiatives that your community needs."

Sununu had opened his remarks by expressing support for strategic investments in local governments. These are especially vital for communi-

ties like Claremont that require costly infrastructure improvements but lack the tax-based revenue to carry them out.

Department heads in Claremont were asked by the mayor to come up with two to three project proposals that they wanted to see funded. Mark Brislin, Director of Claremont Parks & Recreation, the department under which the Arrowhead Recreation Area falls, included the energy upgrades for the lodge as one of his proposals. Communities around the state were encouraged to submit project proposals.

4-H Teen Conference Registration

The 4-H Teen Conference 2019 registration is open. Open to teens completing 8th through 12th grade (Age 14 by 6/23/19). Spend four days on the beautiful UNH Durham campus, make new friends while connecting with old friends, develop Leadership Skills, experience college life at UNH, choose from a range of different and engaging workshops. You don't need to be from NH or a 4-H member to attend. Follow the links for more information or to register: <https://extension.unh.edu/events/2019-4-h-teen-conference>.

e-Ticker News of Claremont LLC is published Mondays

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NH Lottery Numbers

04/13/2019

NH PowerBall
4 17 26 32 49 10

NH Mega Millions 04/12/2019
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Tristate Megabucks 04/13/2019
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Commentary

NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

A Good Budget for Claremont



New Hampshire's House of Representatives adopted two budgets last week, one that is dramatically different from Gov. Christopher Sununu's version, while the other is only slightly different.

On April 11, by a 225-159 roll call vote, the House approved an amended version of House Bill 1, popularly known as the "operating budget," which was recommended by a majority of the House Finance Committee, all Democratic representatives. This approval followed passage by a 224-160 roll call vote of an amended version of House Bill 2, which would raise the necessary revenue as well as make the required legal changes to implement the operating budget as recommended by the Finance Committee. Passage of both bills followed nearly two and half hours of debate on both. But earlier in the same day, the same House by an overwhelming 362-5 roll call vote approved House Bill 25, more popularly known as the "capital budget," with no floor debate, and after a unanimous bipartisan majority of the House Public Works & Highways Committee had recommended approval.

The two-year operating budget approved on April 11 totals \$12.9 billion in spending and would start on July 1, 2019 and run thru June 30, 2021. The \$12.9 billion includes approximately \$5.5 billion in General and Education Trust Fund spending. Other spending would come from federal funds (\$4.1 billion), other funds (\$2.3 billion-not sure of their source), Highway Fund (\$523.3 million) Turnpike (\$344.5 million), Liquor Fund (\$151.3 million), Fish & Game Fund (\$28 million), as well as Sweepstakes Fund (\$24.1 million). The approved budget now proceeds to the New Hampshire Senate for further consideration. It appropriates approximately \$300 million more than the budget proposed by Gov. Sununu in his Feb. 14 Budget Address.

More specifically, the House budget allocates much of the \$12.9 billion for different priorities than the Governor's priorities. As mentioned in last week's column, it increases adequate education aid by \$164 million statewide, and completely funds full-day kindergarten without relying on Keno revenue. But it also fully funds in the area of education, Catastrophic Special Education, Transportation, and Building Aid. Claremont would be slated to receive an extra \$5.3 million in state aid, if the operating budget as approved by the House becomes law.

As earlier indicated, the operating budget approved was mainly similar to the one recommended by Finance. But in an effort to improve it as well as compromise with the Governor in regard to at least a few of his concerns, the House adopted two floor amendments on April 11 as well. The first floor amendment included an extra appropriation of \$500,000 over the next two fiscal years to the Internet Crimes Against Children Fund. These amendment was passed by a 376-4 roll call vote, and provided the \$500,000 by slightly cutting funds for the Fort Stark Historic Site on the state's seacoast, and cutting school building

aid. The second amendment passed by a narrower 220-159 roll call vote allocated \$1,225,000 for preliminary design work for an SPU (Secure Psychiatric Unit) on the grounds of the New Hampshire State Hospital in Concord. Under the approved amendment, the design would be accomplished by renovating existing space now used to house and treat children with mental illness. Space the children will soon vacate because most of them will be transferred to a new treatment facility, already in the approved budget. Presently, adults with severe mental illness in our state are housed and treated on the grounds of the Mens Prison in Concord, a situation Gov. Sununu aims to fix in his proposed budget by both designing and constructing an SPU.

The approved House Bill 2, more commonly known as the "trailer bill", would fund the operating budget in a variety of ways. Among others, it would extend the Interest & Dividends Tax to include capital gains, rescind the business tax cuts adopted by previous Republican legislatures and the Governor, tax legalized sports betting, extend the Tobacco Tax to vaping products, as well as tax legalized marijuana, if House Bill 481, which legalizes pot, and was given final passage by the House on April 4, becomes law. Also a new payroll tax will be levied on the wages of all employees to help pay for the new FMLI (Family & Medical Leave Insurance) Program in the budget. Even with the approximately \$300 million in new spending authorized in the budget, a record \$116 million would be put into the Rainy Day Fund, which is reserved for state government to use in case of financial emergencies. Finally, for the sake of improved budget accuracy, House Bills 1 and 2 as approved eliminate the past practice of double-counting appropriations due to transfers between different state agencies. This practice done in previous budgets made it appear as though certain agencies spent more dollars than was actually the case.

I voted for both the budget, House Bill 1, and its trailer bill, House Bill 2, for many reasons already written about in last week's and this week's columns. I believe that while it is not a perfect budget, it is a good budget for Claremont and the rest of our state. A good budget because, among other benefits, it increases state education aid, and restores state revenue to municipalities, which I mentioned in last week's column. Consequently, property taxes in Claremont and other property-tax communities could actually decrease over the next two years, if it becomes law. But readers should remember that the Senate could make changes to the House version of this budget, and Gov. Sununu is likely to veto any compromise agreed to by both legislative bodies. The House has taken a strong stand for more state education aid and property tax relief, which makes me proud to have voted "Yes."

Finally, I am so pleased that the full House overwhelmingly approved House Bill 25, the capital budget, that provides bonded funding for statewide capital improvements, including construction, repairs, and installation of new heavy equipment in state-owned buildings, parks, and other facilities. The week before my Public Works & Highways Committee had unanimously recommended House Bill 25, which appropriates \$124 million in General Fund bonding, \$4 million higher than the \$120 million in such bonding the Governor had recommended in his proposed capital budget on Feb. 14.

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Letter to the Editor

Support House Bill 358 and Reduce Risk of Lead Exposure

To The Editor:

Two months ago, Governor Chris Sununu addressed lawmakers about the state budget. They applauded when he said "Together we'll continue to improve prevention of childhood lead poisoning." Their applause is welcome news for supporters of House Bill 358, legislation that reduces the risk of lead exposure by restoring New Hampshire's ban on burning construction and demolition debris (C&D) and its fuel byproducts. HB 358 passed the House, and it is now the Senate's turn to support this important legislation.

C&D is often contaminated with lead, a toxic metal for which there is no safe level of exposure. Combustion releases lead in a form that can be easily inhaled and ingested. C&D should never be burned.

Current NH law allows 250 milligrams of lead in each kilogram of C&D approved for combustion. This is a shocking amount since the toxicity of lead is measured in micrograms or a millionth of a gram. Burning 10,000 tons of C&D annually, as allowed at the Wheelabrator trash incinerator in Concord, can legally introduce 2.5 tons of lead into the environment in the form of air pollution, ash, leachate, and sludge. A proposed pyrolysis facility in Epping could process up to 146,000 tons of C&D each year to make waste-derived fuels. This is unacceptable.

Restoring NH's sensible ban on burning C&D and C&D fuels will reduce the risk of lead exposure. I urge Governor Sununu and the NH Senate to support House Bill 358.

Katie Lajoie, RN
Charlestown, NH

Senator Hassan Joins in Introducing Bipartisan Legislation To Establish Investment Tax Credit For Energy Storage

WASHINGTON, DC—Senator Maggie Hassan Thursday joined her colleagues in introducing the bipartisan Energy Storage Tax Incentive and Deployment Act of 2019 to establish an investment tax credit (ITC) for business and home use of energy storage.

Energy storage complements intermittent renewable resources, such as wind and solar to increase full-time availability, provide backup power in case of emergencies, and help reduce the need for high-cost power during periods of peak demand – such as during the coldest mornings or hottest afternoons.

"Expanding the investment tax credit to include clean energy storage will help encourage the use of renewable energy among individuals and businesses in New Hampshire, while also helping to combat climate change and drive down energy costs for hard-working Granite Staters," Senator Hassan said.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, there are about 25,000 megawatts of installed energy storage in the United States, including over 700 megawatts of battery storage.

The proposed tax incentives are modeled on the current ITCs for solar energy and apply to either large, grid-connected energy storage systems or to smaller battery systems for residential power. Home battery storage, coupled with a small wind or roof-top solar system, could be used to store energy during the day for use later in the day or during overcast skies and to help consumers reduce their energy bills.

The bipartisan bill was introduced by Senators Martin Heinrich (D-NM) and Cory Gardner (R-CO), both members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

The bipartisan Energy Storage Tax Incentive and Deployment Act is supported by the Energy Storage Association (ESA), as well as the Advanced Energy Economy (AEE), American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), ClearPath Action, Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES), National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), National Hydropower Association (NHA), and the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA).



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First Congregational Church
72 Pleasant Street
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Saturday, April 27, 2019
7:00 a.m. to 10 a.m.



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Bacon or Sausage

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Adults: \$8.00
Children 2-12: \$5.00
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Exemption, from A1

not intended for commercial enterprises in the business of generating energy for sale to others.

Steve Hamilton, at the Claremont Assessor's office, states that the most important feature of this new ordinance is that it is tax neutral - a tax exemption utilized to encourage the desired activity of purchasing a renewable energy system and not for property tax reasons. The definition of renewable energy is a source of energy that is constantly replenished and available, including the sun, wind, moving water, organic plant and waste material (eligible biomass) and the earth's heat (geothermal). Most of these were among the only sources available to humans around the world until the advent of non-renewable energy sources such as coal, oil, and gas. These fossil fuels are being depleted from the earth and will eventually disappear. It is imperative that we begin planning for energy efficiency and lower costs for all of our residents.

In 2018, the New Hampshire state energy plan identified our state as having the third highest electric rates in the nation. Clean energy, another name for renewable energy systems, should provide cheaper energy for home-owners in Claremont who utilize the most modern technologies of solar panels, wind turbines, and wood burners.

The Claremont Energy Advisory Committee will be researching and planning for ways the city and community can work together on energy efficiency opportunities. Our goal is that residents save money and conserve energy!

Springfield Hospital Announces New Emergency Department Provider

SPRINGFIELD, VT — Springfield Hospital's contract with BlueWater Emergency Partners of Brunswick, ME, began April 9th, the facility has announced. This new contract, first announced last October, ensures access to a vital community service and provides the Emergency Department with a board-certified doctor, nurse practitioners and physician assistants working alongside the experienced nurses on site at Springfield Hospital 24/7, said the hospital in a statement.

"Superior clinical care and overall patient experiences are top priorities," said Michael Halstead, Springfield Hospital's Interim CEO. He added, "We remain committed to our promise 'Where People Come First' and we are confident that our collaboration with BlueWater Emergency Partners will deliver the high level of care patients expect -- particularly when they find themselves in emergency situations."

BlueWater, 100% owned and operated by emergency physicians, has a "successful track record providing high quality care, operating efficiency and cost effectiveness in rural and community hospitals in New England. All Emergency Department operations are monitored daily to ensure high quality care is being provided," said the hospital.

The American College of Emergency Physicians recently recognized three BlueWater locations as 'top performers' among the 1,000 emergency departments across the country that participate in E-Qual – a network of emergency clinicians that works to improve clinical outcomes, coordinate care and reduce cost. BlueWater CEO, Jay Mullen, MD, said they also offer "a unique program that is on the leading edge of opioid use disorder treatment in emergency settings that allows patients to have their treatment needs met quickly. This program will be particularly valuable at Springfield Hospital, where substance use disorder and mental health are identified as high priority needs in the region," he added.

Mullen also stated, "Emergency Department doctors are trained to deliver babies in cases of emergency. We have worked closely with rural EMS teams and ED staff in other regions to provide childbirth emergency preparedness and we are willing to offer similar services if desired for the region."

Halstead reports the overall focus is "to create positive experiences for patients and for health care professionals. Most importantly, our work will engage patients in healthier lifestyles and improve overall health outcomes in the communities we serve. Bluewater's success delivering high quality care at lower costs will help us ensure local access to services that are financially sustainable, and that are essential to our population health strategy," he added.

A change in billing will be noticeable to patients beginning April 9th. Patients who visit the Emergency Department will receive two invoices for care – one from Springfield Hospital for facility charges with payment returned to Woburn, MA; and one from BlueWater Emer-

gency Partners for professional services with payment returned to Boston, MA. "We appreciate our patients' understanding of this change," commented Halstead.

Springfield Hospital's existing financial assistance program will continue as currently offered. Anyone needing assistance is invited to call 802-886-8959 ext. 1506, or Valley Health Connections at 802-885-1616, to schedule a confidential consultation.

BlueWater leaders said they look forward to becoming more involved in Springfield Hospital's area communities. "We are sponsoring an event honoring local EMS providers in May, and we look forward to finding more ways to collaborate with stakeholders in and around the region," said Mullen.

"We extend our thanks and appreciation to the Emergency Services of New England staff that have provided emergency care for the Springfield region for many years," said Halstead. "Springfield Hospital has a first-class Emergency Department and ESNE played an important role in that. While changes are taking place, we want the community to know that we are here continuing this vital community service."

He also noted, "For times requiring less urgent care, the SMCS health center network includes locations in Springfield, Bellows Falls, Ludlow, Londonderry, VT, and Charlestown, NH. Each of these health center locations offers walk-in care, with no appointment necessary, as a cost-effective alternative to the emergency room. These are all important services for our region that we plan to continue, even as we adapt to meet the needs of a changing health care environment."

Q&A: Careers in Solar Energy

CLAREMONT, NH—Interested in learning what kind of backgrounds, skills and expertise is required to get into solar? Want to join the emerging workforce and learn how solar professionals made their way into the industry? Join members of local solar installation companies to find out how they made their way into the industry, the future projections of solar careers and how you can find a job in solar. This event will include a Q&A.

Date: Tuesday, April 16th 6 PM

Location: 46 Main Street, Claremont, NH. Claremont Makerspace

To register, please go here:

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#/event/2019/4/16/solar-careers-event>.

Claremont City Manager Search Prompts Lengthy Council Debate Wednesday

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—An update on the search for a new City manager at Wednesday night's council meeting dragged on for a time, with councilors frequently disagreeing with one another over various aspects of where the search was and where it is going and what they wanted.

The council had decided previously to have a search committee made up of three councilors—Allen Damren, Jonathan Stone and Claire Lessard—two department heads and four residents. Damren, Stone and Lessard have been meeting, having been tasked with getting things underway preliminarily. At Wednesday's meeting, Damren introduced the rest of the council to a survey for public input that they had been working on. Councilor Andrew O'Hearne objected to the work the three had done before the full committee had been formed. Mayor Charlene Lovett responded that they were starting the information gathering process. "We're not at that [full committee] point yet because the council voted to do the search itself," she said, adding that had to appoint three people to take the lead to get the early-stage work going. "This is what was the concern done this ourselves," said Lovett, "not hiring a company."

Damren added that "nothing nefarious" was going on and what they were doing was "just a way to keep things going forward."

There was some question that meetings had not been properly warned, something that Stone said needed to be done.

Damren presented a draft survey which asked nine qualifications that people would want to see in a City manager that were to be ranked: Minimum of three years of experience as a city manager or equivalent; proven experience managing community development and/or redevelopment; experience with municipal finance, budgeting, and forecasting; successful experience with collective bargaining agreements and negotiations; good communicator with community groups; must be able to communicate well and work with an elected city council; ability to represent the community positively with state and county governments; experience with seeking and successfully obtaining federal and/or state

grants and high ethical standards. The last one was quickly shot down by several councilors, who thought it was a given that that would be a quality people would automatically want. Councilor Nick Koloski said he wished that qualification wasn't on the survey, wondering "in what community" would ethical standing be ranked against other qualities.

Damren agreed and said it would be removed from the list. The ranking system was also not popular with other councilors and it was agreed to change it to five categories instead: Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree and Strongly Disagree. He also agreed to add lines for the survey taker's name, date, if they were a resident and their ward or if they were a non-City resident.

The question of the makeup of the local search committee also came up as the council slogged away at advancing the process of the City manager search Wednesday night. Although it had already been agreed upon that the committee would consist of nine people—the three councilors, two department heads and four residents—Councilor Scott Pope suggested that they add four more positions, those that specifically included people from the school district, county government and business community. The model the City is using is based on the one used by the County in its last three County manager searches, regarded as highly successful; that committee was composed of commissioners and elected county officials such as the sheriff. Pope commented that there were already 10 applicants and that he wanted to see it expanded to 13. Koloski agreed with his proposal.

However, Councilor Jeremy Zullo disagreed. "If we keep changing the process, we're going to be treading water, this whole time..." He added that he thought they should stick to the "process we already have."

Stone said that while he wanted to see diversity on the committee, he was "not in favor of adding more." Pope reiterated his belief that the number should be expanded; O'Hearne sided with Stone.

At that point, Lovett spoke up. "My concern is, if we're having this much discussion about the search committee, I wonder if we've made the right choice." Damren said he was against increasing the number and had he not missed several meetings due to illness, would have

voted to go with a search firm.

"If it's taking this much time to make these decisions, the wrong decision was made," said Koloski. "I don't see anything good coming out of this road we're going down." He added that he hadn't wanted the decision-making to fall to a small committee but that this "is exactly what's happening."

At that point, Lovett called for a 10-minute break so that councilors could regroup before continuing. At their return, they addressed several other agenda items that people had been sitting in Council Chambers to speak on before returning to the search issue later Wednesday night.

It was finally decided by the council to hold a meeting on April 23 at City Hall, 6:30 p.m. to select the search committee members.

Interim City Manager John MacLean said that he had "three potential candidates for the two positions of department heads on the committee."

The deadline to apply for the City manager search selection committee is April 18. The form may be found at <http://www.claremontnh.com/government/boards-and-committees/default.aspx>.

Also at Wednesday night's meeting, Terry Gould, speaking on behalf of the Claremont Farmers Market Association, told the Council that it was making a gift of two, possibly three, benches for Broad St. Park, to replace the concrete ones presently there. From 2004-2017, the organization was run by a rotating group of volunteers, Gould said. Last year the Market was added to the Parks & Recreation's umbrella of events that it oversees. P & R director Mark Brislin, present at Wednesday's meeting, shook hands with Gould and thanked him for the donation, saying that the new benches would be "nice for all the activities that take place there."

Gould said that the CFMA has been sitting "on the sidelines" to make sure the event would keep going and it has, he said, thanking the City for its efforts.

To learn more about the market or to sign up as a vendor, visit <http://www.claremontnh.com/residents/departments/parks-and-recreation/farmers-market.aspx>.

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*Ann's  
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Of The Week*

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**Tammy Bergeron  
Owner/Broker**



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**Ashley Bergeron  
Agent**

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# Classified Ads

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Reason:  
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Appear



Original Charges:  
Operating after being certified as a  
Habitual Offender, Class B Felony  
Driving While Intoxicated - Fourth  
Offense, Class B Felony

On April 19, 2017, the Sullivan County Grand Jury indicted Timothy Francis for operating after being certified a habitual offender and driving while intoxicated, fourth offense.

On Nov. 7, 2017, Francis failed to appear in Sullivan County Superior Court for a final pre-trial hearing.

On Nov. 21, 2017, the Sullivan County Superior Court issued a warrant for the arrest of Francis for failure to appear on Nov. 7, 2017.

*This information is provided by Sheriff John Simonds of the Sullivan County Sheriff's Department.*

*Anyone with information regarding this individual is asked to contact the Sheriff's Department or their local police department.*

**CORNISH, NH —1.5 Story Cape 3 Bed 2 Bath.** New kitchen and hardwood floors. 2.5 acres.  
**MLS # 4743895 \$269,000**



**CORNISH, NH —LAND 6.8 Acres.** Drive-way and well in place. Nice setting, level lot at top of site.  
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**CLAREMONT, NH — 2 Story New Englander 4 Bed 2 Bath.** Large closets, some walk-ins. Barn over garage for additional storage.  
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## Quilting Machine Training at CMS

CLAREMONT, NH—The Claremont MakerSpace's quilting machine is a great tool for creative, efficient quilting! In this hands-on training session, participants will learn how to set up a project on the quilting machine and utilize its standard features. Participants of this class will have the opportunity to sign up for follow-up certification sessions. Note: Individuals with no prior experience on a quilting machine are required to take this workshop before getting certified to use the quilting machine at the CMS. For more information, please email the CMS Fiber Arts Shop Lead, at: [textiles@claremontmakerspace.org](mailto:textiles@claremontmakerspace.org). Date: 4/23/19, 5:30 - 7 PM Location: Claremont Maker-space. To register for this class, please go here: <https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#/event/2019/4/23/quilting-machine-training>.

## Community Discussion on NH Ed Funding

NEWPORT, NH— On April 30th, a Sullivan County community event to look at the funding of education in New Hampshire will be held at Newport Middle/High School cafeteria from 6:00-8:00 p.m. All Sullivan County residents, teachers, administrators, school staff, and city and town officials are cordially invited to attend. Your input on this matter is important to the children/citizen's of Sullivan County.

The purpose of the event is for Sullivan County residents to review the current state of education funding in NH; identify the impacts of NH education funding for residents, towns, cities and school districts; and create a coalition of residents, school personnel, city and town officials who will create a plan for sustainable funding of our children's education to be promoted at the state government level, rather than continue with the crisis management model for NH education funding we now have. It is not sufficient and the education of our children suffers inordinately due to the current model. Please attend.

Rights and Democracy (RaD), a citizen-based support network created to build strong communities for all, supports the work of local citizens to create healthy and just communities. RaD has helped support the local effort of citizens to create this event.

## Rabies Clinic and Dog Licensing Event

LEBANON, NH—The Lebanon City Clerk's office has announced that it is teaming up with Stonecliff Animal Clinic to offer a Rabies Vaccination Clinic and Dog Licensing event on Saturday, April 27, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Lebanon City Hall. Dog licenses are due by April 30, 2019, and rabies vaccinations are part of the licensing requirements. The purpose of this event is to help provide a means for owners to easily obtain a rabies vaccination for their dog and license their dog before the deadline.

This event will take place in the Lebanon City Clerk's Office, at 51 North Park Street. Please use the side entrance to City Hall for both the Clinic and Dog Licensing.

### The Rabies Clinic:

This is available for anyone, regardless of where they reside. The clinic will only be for rabies vaccinations; no other services will be available. The cost for a rabies vaccination is \$18.00. Cash and check only will be accepted for payment, which is due at the time of service.

### Dog Licensing:

This is open for all residents of Lebanon and West Lebanon to license their dogs. This is a great opportunity for those who wish to license their dog in-person but cannot visit our office during regular business hours. If you are not attending the rabies clinic, but wish to just come in to license your dog, please remember to bring a copy of your dog's current rabies vaccination. If your dog has been spayed or neutered since the last time he or she was licensed, please also bring the spay or neuter certificate. And while you're here, don't forget to sign up for the Eighth Annual Top Dog Contest!

For payment for licensing, we can accept cash, check, debit or credit cards. (Please be aware that a processing fee of 2.79% will be charged on debit and credit card transactions).

## Documentary, *Paris to Pittsburg*, to be Shown in Claremont

CLAREMONT, NH—*Paris to Pittsburgh*, is being shown in Claremont on Earth Day and the day after. This documentary is a Bloomberg Philanthropies' film distributed by National Geographic Documentary Films. It "brings to life the impassioned efforts of individuals who are battling the most severe threats of climate change in their own backyards. Set against the national debate over the United States' energy future — and the Trump administration's explosive decision to exit the Paris Climate Agreement — the film captures what's at stake for communities around the country and the inspiring ways Americans are responding."

The Sierra Club's Ready for 100 Campaign is mentioned in this documentary as one of the ways Americans are meeting the global challenge to transition away from the use of fossil fuels. To view the trailer, visit [ParistoPittsburgh.com](http://ParistoPittsburgh.com). The local efforts of five communities in western New Hampshire to achieve

100% renewable energy goals through the Sierra Club's Ready for 100 Campaign is a heroic effort to address global warming, and build local resilient and loving communities.

ACTS Now, a local Spirit-led book and eco/social justice action group, is sponsoring this event at the Claremont Community Center, 152 South Street, Claremont, on both Monday, April 22nd and Tuesday, April 23rd, from 6:20 to 8:30 p.m., free of charge. A panel discussion on local renewable energy projects will follow the film screening, offered after both screenings, Monday and Tuesday. One of the goals of this event is to highlight positive opportunities participants have to address global warming in practical ways as individuals and as community members.

For more information, please contact: [acts.now.888@gmail.com](mailto:acts.now.888@gmail.com).

## Claremont Savings Bank Foundation Accepting Applications

CLAREMONT, NH—The Claremont Savings Bank Foundation will continue in its 16th year awarding grants to not-for-profit organizations in our community. Since the Foundation began in 2004, over \$1,108,148 has been awarded to 219 organizations, many of which are multi-year recipients. These organizations cover a wide variety of causes that reflect the diverse passions of the community. Prior grant recipients include: Arrowhead Recreation Area, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Charlestown Senior Center, Claremont Learning Partnership, Connecticut River Special Olympics, Cornish Fire Association, COVER Home Repair, Friends of Veterans, Richards Free Library, Springfield Family Center and many others.

The Foundation is currently accepting grant applications through May 10, 2019. For eligibility criteria and to apply, visit [www.claremontsavings.com/foundation](http://www.claremontsavings.com/foundation).

### THURSDAY, APRIL 18

#### The Uninvited: Invasive Plants

6:00 p.m.

Claremont City Hall,

Hosted by the Claremont Conservation Commission.

Douglas Cygan, NH Invasive Species Coordinator, will provide an in-depth look at upland invasive plant species of New Hampshire.

**The 13th Annual Steppin' Up to End Violence  
5K Walk & Fun Run  
is May 4th, 2019!**



**No survivor should ever have to stand alone.**

For over 40 years, TPN has stood as the only agency of its kind in Sullivan County providing direct support to survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, trafficking, and stalking 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

**It is more vital than ever that we come together as a community to reduce and eliminate personal violence in all its forms.**

Funds you raise through Steppin' Up directly fund services and supports for survivors, as well as TPN's comprehensive prevention programs that reach more than 2,400 children per year in schools across Sullivan County.

We invite you to make a difference with us May 4<sup>th</sup> at this family friendly fundraising event in a community show of solidarity and support for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Whether you walk, run, jog or take your children or pets for a stroll, please consider becoming a part of [#SU2019](https://www.facebook.com/turningpointsnetwork)

**Event day registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at Claremont Middle School**

To join a team or create a team, or fundraise individually, check out our event at First Giving and register your own fundraising page.

[https://www.firstgiving.com/event/turningpointsnetwork/steppin\\_up2019](https://www.firstgiving.com/event/turningpointsnetwork/steppin_up2019)

You can also find more information at our website

[www.turningpointsnetwork.org/steppin-up](http://www.turningpointsnetwork.org/steppin-up)

Or find us on Facebook to learn more at

[www.facebook.com/turningpointsnetwork](https://www.facebook.com/turningpointsnetwork)



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## Gorgeous Graphics: How to Make Your Business Look Good on Social Media

CLAREMONT, NH—Claremont Makerspace is hosting a program on how to pull people in through eye-catching visuals.

Confused by photo & image sizes for social media? Can't get text onto photos? Illegally using photos from the web? Want to create an epic infographic?

Use skills from this class for your social media sites, email marketing, website, and print materials.

When: Wednesday, April 17, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Where: Claremont Makerspace

46 Main Street

Claremont, NH

To register, please go here:

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#/event/2019/4/17/gorgeous-graphics-how-to-make-your-business-look-good-on-social-media>.

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## AARP Holds Meeting April 11, Elects Officers, Board Members

CLAREMONT, NH—The Claremont Area AARP Chapter met April 11 at The Earl Bourdon Centre. Becky Rostron from ServiceLink explained several changes coming to supplemental senior insurance programs in 2020 and answered many questions. Terri Paige, Transit Director for Southwestern Community Services, explained the bus system and fares for buses that run in Claremont, Newport and Charlestown and handed out schedules. She also explained the volunteer driver program that SCS oversees to assist seniors over 60 get to appointments not covered by the bus system.

A donation was made to the "Steppin' Up to End Violence" walk on May 4 and several members volunteered to walk, bake and do administrative work that day. A thank you for supporting the school weekend backpack program hosted by Trinity Episcopal Church was read and a large box of food was delivered after the meeting. Many members assisted the recent American Red Cross blood drive.

The officers and board members for 2019-2020 were elected: Brenda Saunders, president; Sherrie Curtis, vice-president; Kathy Thompson, secretary; and Alberta Marro, treasurer. Board members are Millard Cook and Beverly McGuire (3 years); Robert and Jean Beldaire (2 years) and Mary Cook and Charlie Sisson (1 year).

Door prizes were won by Judy White, Alberta Marro, Joe McElreavy, Joy Shaw, Mary Cook, Kathy Thompson, Sandy Greene, and June Burr. Easter eggs filled with candy were made by Tim and Faith LaBelle for all and refreshments were served.



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## MEMBER NOTICE ANNUAL MEETING

The 60th Annual Meeting of the NH Community Federal Credit Union will be held at the credit union office on Friday, April 26th at 7:00 p.m.

There will be light refreshments from 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. This meeting allows members to vote for members seeking election to the board of directors and to ask questions about their credit union.

Members running for a board of director position and wanting to be included on the ballot must submit an application, to the attention of the C.E.O., no later than Monday, April 15th before 5:00 p.m. Applications are available at the office.

After the meeting there will be a special drawing for those members in attendance.

# e-Ticker Business News

## Southwestern Community Services Honors Their Volunteer Drivers

By June Aleck

CLAREMONT, NH—How many times throughout our lives have we been told not to accept rides from strangers?

Well....if you've ever accepted a ride to your medical appointment by one of the volunteer drivers of Southwestern Community Services (SCS), you most certainly would sense an immediate, warm, cheery welcome as if you've known your driver your entire life!

Thursday evening, April 18th, SCS Terri Daignault (Volunteer Driver Coordinator) and Terri Paige (Transit Director Transportation) honored their cherished volunteer drivers with a "Star-Studded" themed celebration (created by SCS' own Ruth McDonough) to show their appreciation and gratitude for their services. These remarkable volunteers unselfishly give to others in need, rides to various types of medical appointments. These appointments can be local, county-wide and/or as far away as Boston, MA.

Why? Why would someone want to spend a few hours per day, week and/or month, or even an entire day transporting people in their own personal vehicles to medical appointments? The responses heard throughout the celebration were simply..."I do it for the enjoyment of helping people." "I've been blessed with good health and have always volunteered my entire life." "It gives me a purpose in life and gets me out of the house so I'm not lonely." "We become friends and I genuinely care for the folks that I'm providing a ride to." "I learn so much history from these folks while talking in the car; I cherish their stories." "I do it as if I'm ever in the situation where I needed a ride to a medical appointment, I hope there'd be someone to help me out as otherwise, I wouldn't be able to live in the community that I call my home."

The mileage reimbursement is an added bonus; 58 cents per driven mile. If you're on a fixed income, trying to live on Social Security,

or could use a little "extra" this monetary benefit is quite helpful as well. For the "stay-at-home" moms while their children are in school – this would be a perfect way to earn a little extra cash while helping someone in need of a ride to their medical appointment. Drivers can sign up for as little as a few hours per month, per week, per day – whatever fits into your own schedule.

Both Daignault and Paige could hardly stress enough that they need more volunteer drivers, such as the "star volunteers" honored this evening. They have an overabundance of appointment requests and not enough drivers to fill these requests. Terri Daignault stated, "The hardest, heart-wrenching calls are the callers who ask if they could be placed at the top of the list and to let the drivers know the importance of their appointment. These are the regular, daily calls that break my heart. We just don't have enough volunteers to fulfill all the requests. And, every request is of utmost importance to us."

So...for those who have a valid driver's license and an insured vehicle, who are in a "slump" wanting something to do, need to find a sense of purpose in their life, want to get themselves out of the house doing "something"



**Left to right: Terri Paige, SCS Transit Director; Volunteer-Gianna Gregorutti; Terri Daignault, Volunteer Driver Coordinator; Volunteer-Patricia Moody, Volunteer-Cecilia "Della" Jeffrey, and Volunteer-Diane Clemons. Missing from photo are Volunteers Curtis Allard, Jordan Derderian, Deborah Logerfo, Marilyn Lyons, Kevin Pitkin and Nancy VonKahle (June Aleck photo).**

that can honestly make a difference in the lives of those perhaps less fortunate, pick up the phone and give Southwestern Community Services a call at (603) 542-9609. Join the "Star-Studded" SCS volunteers that continue to shine brightly in the eyes of your neighbors, your community.

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# e-Ticker Business News

## NHEC Announces 6% Summer Period Bill Decrease

PLYMOUTH, NH—Driven by a decrease in the seasonal cost of energy, summer period electric bills will be going down by nearly 6% for most members of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC).

Effective with bills rendered May 1, 2019, the Co-op Power portion of members' bills (the cost of actual energy) will decrease by 13%, while the Regional Access Charge (the cost of transmission grid services) will decrease by 4%. The result for the typical residential member using 500 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month will be an overall bill decrease of 5.7%, or \$6.33 per month. The typical residential member using 1,000 kWh per month will see a total bill decrease of 6.6%, or \$12.65 per month. The new summer period rate is less than one percent higher than the 2018 summer period rate.

The rate reductions were approved on March 26 by the NHEC Board of Directors, continuing an annual pattern of higher power costs in the winter months and lower power costs in the summer months. One of the main reasons for this is the seasonal variations in the regional

wholesale price of natural gas, which is used to generate approximately half of the electricity produced in New England.

Over the past several years, electric rates during the six-month summer period (May 1 – October 31) have been substantially lower than the winter period. Natural gas demand increases sharply during the winter months due to its use as a heating fuel. This increased demand drives up the cost of generating electricity. This can also lead to constraints in the region's natural gas pipeline infrastructure leading to price spikes during cold spells, further impacting the cost of electricity.

The May 1 rate change results in a 13% decrease in the Co-op Power rate, from \$0.09256 to \$0.08088 per kilowatt hour (kWh) and a 4% decrease in the Regional Access Charge, from \$0.02501 to \$0.02404 per kWh. A complete list of NHEC rates and fees is available under the Rates & Tariffs menu at [www.nhec.com](http://www.nhec.com).

NHEC is a member-owned electric distribution cooperative serving 85,000 homes and businesses in 115 New Hampshire communities.

## Substation Upgrades Automate Grid, Enhance Reliability for Customers

MANCHESTER, NH—As part of ongoing efforts to enhance reliability for customers, Eversource was scheduled to deliver new equipment to its Emerald Street substation last week as part of a project to modernize its electric system in the Greater Keene area. A replacement for aging electrical equipment, new transformers and switchgear will further automate the electric system, enhancing the ability of Eversource's system operators to monitor the grid, remotely isolate outages, reroute power to customers and pinpoint the location of trouble spots to quickly dispatch crews to make repairs. The new switchgear—the largest to be installed in an Eversource substation in the Granite State—was scheduled to travel from Fulton, MO, weather permitting.

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## Gagnon Honored with Good Scout Award

CLAREMONT, NH—On Thursday, April 11, former Claremont Mayor and State Representative Ray Gagnon was presented the Greater Claremont Good Scout Award by the Daniel Webster Council of the Boy Scouts of America at a luncheon attended by family, friends, and representatives of the Claremont business community. The event was the 20th annual Claremont Good Scout Award Luncheon and honored Gagnon for his years of service to the community. Recipients of the award exemplify the values found in the Scout Oath and Law that the Boy Scouts of America strives to instill in its members, including commitments to help other people at all times and be trustworthy, courteous, and kind.



The Good Scout Award was presented to Gagnon by past award recipients Mayor Charlene Lovett and Carolyn Towle, with help from Claremont Troop 38 Eagle Scout Prescott Herzog. Lovett and Towle spoke about Gagnon's history of public service, both in elected office and as a member of countless community committees and boards. They also shared personal stories reflecting on Gagnon's generous nature, his knack for telling great stories and putting others at ease, and the ways he has encouraged others to strive to make a difference. "Ray's contributions to this community have been many, but the greatest among them is the impact he has made on the lives of others," stated Lovett.

In addition to honoring Gagnon and bringing the Claremont community together to celebrate, the luncheon



raised funds for the Daniel Webster Council of the Boy Scouts. The Daniel Webster Council promotes and supports Scouting throughout the Granite State and is made up of nearly 10,000 youth members and 5,000 adult volunteers. The Council provides year-round programming for Scouts, including summer camp at the Griswold Scout Reservation in Gilmanton and Camp Carpenter in Manchester, and helps train and support volunteers and community partners to deliver quality Scouting programs for boys and girls of all ages.

For more information on Scouting in New Hampshire, visit [www.nhscouting.org](http://www.nhscouting.org).  
**Top: Mayor Charlene Lovett and Carolyn Towle, both former recipients, present the award to Ray Gagnon; bottom: Gagnon with Aubree Herzog and Prescott Herzog (Courtesy photos).**

## Claremont's Annual Easter Egg Hunt Set for April 20 at Arrowhead

CLAREMONT, NH—Claremont's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, April 20, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., on the hill at the Arrowhead Recreation Area.



Come meet the Easter Bunny, hunt for eggs, and visit with your friends! Wear your mud boots and remember your Easter Baskets!

In the event of inclement weather, the egg hunt will be moved to the CSBCC, right across the street.



### Kindergarten Registration Claremont School District April 1-19, 2019 April 29-May 3, 2019

Any child who is five (5) on or before **September 30, 2019** and who resides in Claremont may register for Claremont School District's 2019-20 Kindergarten classes from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM at the elementary school your child will attend. Evening registration will be held at the following times:

|                   |          |              |
|-------------------|----------|--------------|
| Bluff School      | May 1    | 6:00-7:00 pm |
| Disnard School    | April 9  | 6:00-7:00 pm |
| Maple Ave. School | April 30 | 6:00-7:00 pm |

To begin registration, go to [www.sau6.org](http://www.sau6.org) and click on "ENROLLING STUDENTS" under Quick Links to complete the online registration. Then please bring your child's birth certificate and proof of residency to your neighborhood school. Computers are available at each school for registration use if needed. If you are not sure in which school area you live or have any questions, call the Superintendent's Office at 543-4200 for information.



## Earth Day Offers Valuable Lessons to Investors

On April 22, millions of people will observe Earth Day by participating in events that support environmental protection. As a citizen, you may want to take part in a local celebration. And as an investor, you can learn a few lessons from the themes of Earth Day.

Here are a few of them:

**Avoid a toxic investment environment.** A recurring topic of Earth Day is the necessity of reducing toxins from our air, water and land. And, while you might not think of it in those terms, your portfolio can also contain some “toxic” elements in the form of investments that may be hindering your progress, or, at the very least, not contributing to it. For instance, you might own some investments that, for one reason or another, have consistently underperformed, or are now too aggressive for your risk tolerance, which can change over the years. In these cases, you might be better off selling the investments and using the proceeds for other, more appropriate ones.

**Look for sources of renewable energy.** Efforts to protect our environment include a push for more renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind. As an investor, you, too, can look for “renewables” in the form of investments that keep paying you back in one way or another. Of course, the most basic example would be a bond, which pays you regular interest until the bond matures and you get your principal back, provided the issuer doesn’t default, which is generally unlikely with an investment-grade bond. However, you also may want to consider another type of renewable – dividend-paying stocks. By reinvesting these dividends, you can increase the number of shares you own – and share ownership is a good way to help build your portfolio. Some companies have paid, and even increased, their dividends many years in a row, but keep in mind they’re not obligated to do so.

**Plant seeds of opportunity.** Some Earth Day events involve planting trees – many of which won’t be fully grown for decades. When you invest, you are planting seeds in the form of investments you hope will grow over the years. Of course, you will likely see some volatility along the way, but over the long term, investments with strong fundamentals may reward you for your patience.

Apart from these ideas, you also can connect the idea of helping protect the environment with investing for your goals. Through socially responsible investing, you can screen out investments in companies whose products you find objectionable, while supporting businesses whose work you believe helps contribute to a better world. And you can find investments, such as mutual funds that emphasize social responsibility, whose returns are competitive, so you don’t have to sacrifice growth potential for your principles.

In the nearly 50 years since Earth Day celebrations began, we have taken steps to improve many aspects of our physical world, although the work continues. And by following some of the same techniques, you can improve your investment environment, too.

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



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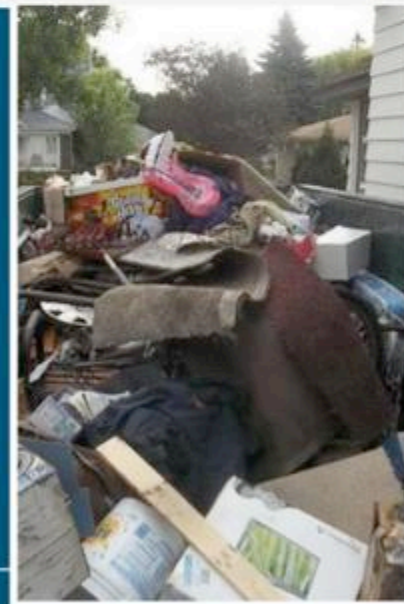
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## Intro to CNC Routing

CLAREMONT, NH—Computer numerical controlled (CNC) routers rock. They're cutting machines used for cutting various hard materials (wood, aluminum, foam, plastics, etc).

Intro to CNC Routing will provide an overview of CNC routing with a ShopBot CNC machine – covering safety procedures and basic setup and operation of the ShopBot CNC system, as well as the software used to run this tool. We will walk through the process of cutting out a pre-programed design and end with parts ready to assemble! Participants of this workshop will have the opportunity to sign up for a follow certification session. Upon successfully passing this certification test, these Members will be allowed to use the ShopBot on their own.

Date: Tuesday, April 16th , 6 - 9 PM

Location: Claremont Makerspace, 46 Main St.

To register, please go here:

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#/event/2019/4/16/intro-to-cnc-routing>.



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## It's About Food

By **Johnny Navillus**



### Spring Stuff

I remember as I was growing up we had butcher shops in the neighborhood, When you asked for an item, the butcher would put it on a scale, raise his hands like he was being held up and took a step backwards. They did this routinely. I asked my mother what that was all about. It seems that they did this to show they didn't have a thumb on the scale or were stepping on a switch to make the scale show heavier. Everybody was afraid of being ripped off.

I'm reminded me that a good source of recipes are the supermarkets. Just about every one has a display of recipe cards in the meat and seafood departments. They are on heavy stock or plastic and hold up well. Another source is the staff in these departments. They are usually willing to share ideas. The shoppers in line behind you are willing to share ideas as well.

I want to go over some safety tips for grilling outdoors. This is a reminder for veteran grillers and some insight for beginners.

Keep your grill away from the house. My brother-in-law's house still has melted vinyl siding from his grill. If you place the grill next to the house when not in use, move it away when you fire it up. Vinyl melts and looks ugly and wood ignites or smolders.

Never spray more lighter fluid on smoking charcoal or charcoal on fire. The flames will travel back to the container and a trip to the Emergency Room could interrupt a nice cook-out.

Always use long handled utensils. I hate the smell of burning hair, especially my own.

When cooking, never leave the grill unattended. Small children and pets are curious and could have an accident. Spilling hot coals and a grill full of food makes a real mess, not to mention severe burns.

I always leave cleaning up the grill for the next day or even the next use. That way I know the coals and ashes are really out. Never put hot coals in a metal bucket. Many decks are lost this way. Those buckets get really hot.

Charcoal reaches temperatures above the cleaning cycle of your oven. Respect that at all times.

Firefighters are nice people. If you know any, invite them before the cookout. You don't want them showing up in their work clothes and driving their big red shiny trucks. Think first, especially early in the season.

If you grow pumpkins this year, when they have formed a little, very gently scratch a name in the skin. When they mature you will see the name clearly. Young kids think elves did it.

Play with your food.

Write to Johnny at [etickernews@gmail.com](mailto:etickernews@gmail.com).



# Pancake *Breakfast*

to benefit the Claremont Chamber of Commerce **Scholarship Fund**

**April 20 | 8am-11am**  
**The Teal Lantern**  
**inside Sugar River Valley Tech.**

**PRICING** \$10 Adult | \$5 Children | 5 & Under Free

**MENU** Pancakes, North Country Smokehouse  
Bacon & Sausage, Fruit Salad, Coffee & Juice

**SCHOLARSHIP 1**  
for High School Seniors

**SCHOLARSHIP 2**  
for Adult Members  
Continuing their Education.

**More information & scholarship application:**  
[www.greaterclaremontnh.org/Scholarship-Fund](http://www.greaterclaremontnh.org/Scholarship-Fund)  
and (603) 543-1296

Menu items have been graciously donated by



## SAU 6 Board Takes Look at School Lunch Issues

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—Members of the SAU 6 Board took a look at school lunch issues that have been plaguing the district at its Thursday night meeting. At the SAU 6 Board meeting on March 28, Acting Superintendent Cory LeClair had told board members that the districts—Claremont and Unity—had missed out on reimbursement money from the National School Lunch Program for the food service program in the first half of each of the last two school years. The failure to file the applications by the due dates resulted in Claremont losing out on \$150,722 for the '17-'18 school year and \$188,222 for the current year. Unity's losses were \$11,941 in 2018 and \$11,223 this year. Thursday, LeClair told board members that "There will be a tax impact", not this year, but "in future years." When asked why this had happened two years in a row, LeClair said she only learned of the issue "this February."

Claremont School Board member Jason Benware said that people wanted to know how this happened twice and wondered if the district could present a timeline of what happened.

Finance Director Mike O'Neill said he wanted to prepare a documented timeline to better explain what happened.

Claremont School Board member Carolyn Towle said she didn't mind having a timeline done but wanted it completed "ASAP".

The district switched to having the Abbey Group administer the lunch program in 2017-18, but the company is not responsible for filing applications for federal lunch reimbursement funds, and during the switchover, confusion ensued about who was responsible for filing which applications necessary for different aspects of the lunch program. O'Neill said they didn't realize getting an RFP sent out late would hold all the claims in the district.

In November of last year, the district hired a food service program assistant. Her duties include keeping track of debt collection, contacting families who owe money to find out why and if they are properly enrolled in the appropriate programs or if there has been a

change in their status, whether payments have been correctly applied to the right accounts and other related matters. She is now also being tasked with filing the correct applications for the the federal reimbursements.

The board also voted to allocate up to \$5,000 to conduct an efficiency audit within the district. While some board members favored

doing it before the new superintendent, Michael Tempesta, comes onboard to highlight those areas in need of help, the majority favored doing it after he takes the reins so can determine what areas he would want covered in such an audit. The vote to wait until Tempesta comes onboard passed, with two nays.

## Giving to those who give back.

Since 2004, we have donated more than \$1,108,000 in grant money to not-for-profit organizations that improve the quality of life in the communities we serve. We support a wide variety of causes that reflect the diverse passions of our community.



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800-992-0316

[claremontsavings.com](http://claremontsavings.com)

## Southwestern Community Services Presents Sullivan County Transportation Transit System Plan

By June Aleck

CLAREMONT, NH—A well-attended public meeting was held by Southwestern Community Services (SCS) to unveil results from their outreach and survey study in regards to improvements and recommendations for public bus transportation. Those attending included elected officials, stakeholders (i.e. riders), and Chamber and SCS staff. The illustrated presentation itself was given by Jill Cahoon of the Hooksett consulting firm AECOM where she serves as a Transit Planner/GIS Specialist. AECOM conducted the outreach and survey that led to this presentation.

Short term plans that are in hopes of being implemented within the next few months include; improving the timing between bus stops so the routes run on time and the timing is consistent; extend route deviations to  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile (currently at  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile); create easy to read color-coded schedules; develop route maps, change Dial-A-Ride hours.

Recommendations for the Claremont bus route include extending service to 6:40PM, service every 90 minutes (two 45 min. bi-directional routes), five scheduled trips to River Valley Community College, convert loops to bi-directional service, which is more direct.

Newport route recommendations include bi-directional service along Washington St. on all trips, extend route to Ruger on select trips, serve the Summercrest Senior Living Community on-demand only, service every two hours.

Charlestown route recommendations include one additional daily trip, Old Claremont Road and Lovers Lane on-demand only, scheduled transfers with the Newport and Claremont bus to access Washington St. The underlying goal for all stages: Improve service to current riders and increase ridership overall.

Within the next few months, Terri Paige, SCS Transit Director, plans to schedule outreach meetings with businesses, organizations, and various groups to help educate people and guide them through the initial implementation of additional services. The future development of route maps and easy to read color-coded schedules are in the works to assist bus riders. "We hope to be the strong infrastructure piece for Sullivan County communities," she said. "This presentation is the final draft," she added, "but we always welcome input so that we can continually improve our service."



**Terri Paige, Director of SCS Transit, discusses mid and long-term plans for the public bus transportation services (June Aleck photo).**

It was stressed at the meeting that a grant was received that will provide free passes available to Medicaid recipients. Please contact the transportation agency for further information regarding the free passes.

To view the transportation studies online, go to the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission website at <https://www.uvlsrc.org/projects/transportation/>

To request an outreach meeting to discuss the implemented, upcoming enhancements to the transportation services or if you have questions, contact Paige at 603-542-9609, office, or 603-477-9423, cell. She may also be contacted at [tpaige@scshelps.org](mailto:tpaige@scshelps.org).

[www.facebook.com/etickernews](https://www.facebook.com/etickernews)

### Make Your Own Duffel Bag

CLAREMONT, NH—Come and learn how to make your own duffel bag with the team from Cole-tac! Students will be given all of the parts needed to make their own bag and will work step by step through completion. Some of the skills that will be used are part layout, straight stitching, webbing installation, zipper installation, binding raw edges, and bag customization. Be ready to work with heavy duty Cordura nylon and make a bag that is tough as nails! It is encouraged to have some basic sewing machine skills prior to taking this class.

Cole-tac is a Newport business specializing in outdoor and tactical gear. Learn more about them here: <https://www.cole-tac.com/>.

Date: April 18th, 5:30 - 9 PM

Location: Claremont Makerspace, 46 Main Street, Claremont, NH

To register, please go here:

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#!/event/2019/4/18/make-your-own-duffel-bag>





## ***CITY OF CLAREMONT – SPRING CLEANUP***

THE SPRING CLEANUP PROJECT WILL BEGIN ON **MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2019, THROUGH FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2019.**

LEAVES AND GRASS RAKINGS MUST BE LEFT AT THE CURBSIDE IN **PAPER COMPOSTABLE LEAF BAGS.**

PER CITY COUNCIL POLICY ADOPTED ON 05/12/04, THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WILL NO LONGER ACCEPT OR PICK UP LEAVES THAT ARE NOT IN PAPER, BIODEGRADABLE BAGS. THESE 30 GALLON BAGS ARE AVAILABLE AT VARIOUS LOCAL HARDWARE, GROCERY AND DEPARTMENT STORES.

**ALL COMPOSTABLE, PAPER BAGGED LEAVES MUST BE AT THE CURBSIDE BY 7:00 AM ON MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2019.**

NO GARBAGE, BRUSH OR HOUSEHOLD ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP. ALL AREAS WILL BE COVERED ONLY ONCE.

Victor St. Pierre  
Director of Public Works



## State Funding Needed for Infrastructure Improvements

On Monday, April 8, Governor Sununu stopped in Claremont to talk about the inclusion of capital improvement projects in his proposed budget, and the impact that they would make to communities across the state. The funding for these projects would come from surplus funds from FY18 and those projected for FY19. The Governor stated that such funds are best spent on one-time projects and not those that would increase operating costs in future years.

Regardless of whether people believe that the Governor should have included capital improvement projects in his proposed budget, his initiative highlighted municipal needs for funding to improve infrastructure. Claremont, like many other communities, does not have the resources to fund many of its infrastructure needs. State funding support would enable our City and other communities to accomplish projects that would decrease operating costs, improve energy efficiency and stimulate economic growth.

The Governor's proposed budget includes three Claremont projects, totaling \$250,000. An excerpt from my comments during the Governor's visit demonstrates why these projects are important and the need for state funding support. I hope you will find it informative:

Like many other communities, Claremont is a City with costly infrastructure improvement needs and a limited tax base. We know we need to make strategic investments to grow economically and bring much needed relief to the local taxpayer. We just can't do what is needed by depending on current revenue resources.

Time and again, the people of Claremont have demonstrated their commitment to this community. In 2012, the people voted to invest over \$12M in a complete renovation of the high school – without state building aid. We have aggressively pursued energy efficiency

projects that have reduced operating expenses, earning statewide recognition. We have invested millions in making infrastructure improvements in the downtown district to support and facilitate private investment.

We have accomplished much, and need to do more. However, our taxpayers need relief. We need the state's support if we are to continue making strategic investments. The three Claremont projects included in the Governor's proposed budget are sidewalk and drainage upgrades in our downtown district, energy efficiency upgrades to our Visitor Center and energy efficiency upgrades to the Arrowhead Ski Lodge. All have been on the Capital Improvement Plan for years, and align with state and local goals. All directly impact the local economy."

These projects are just a few of the many listed on our 6-year Capital Improvement Plan. The total cost of completing all of the projects listed on that plan is nearly \$35M. With a limited tax base, accomplishing these projects without state funding support is difficult at best.

On April 11, the NH House of Representatives elected to not include the majority of the Governor's proposed capital improvement budgets in its version of the budget. It now goes to the Senate for deliberation. Whatever the final version of the budget might be, there must be funding support for municipalities to address infrastructure needs that have long been deferred and hindered prosperity.

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



## S.C.H.C. Happenings

Submitted by Wendy Rastallis

Well, it has been awhile but I am back to share some of the great things happening here at Sullivan County Health Care. For starters, the snow is almost gone so soon we will be enjoying the beautiful views, gardens and smelling freshly mowed lawns. It is a very

happy time of year for our residents; however, the snow did not stop the staff from venturing out on trips in the community. Our residents were on outings such as Country Café, Imperial, Weathervane, Walmart, Hobby Lobby, Kauzukos, Pizza Hut, out to see Christmas lights, Springfield Diner Montshire Museum, the Dollar Store and probably a few I forgot to mention. As you can see we actually had a busy winter.


All of the staff take pride in what they do which is what makes this a happy home for our residents. We ask the residents' input on things and value their opinions. We include them in changes happening in the facility so they can ask questions as well as know that it is always about improvement for them. The resident's bond with the staff and often compliment them which makes it a special place for our staff as well.

The Activity staff meet with their residents monthly to see what activities are important to them and we create a calendar of events to meet their needs. We do not forget those who are unable to share and include what is beneficial to those residents as well. The activity team is great. They work hard every day to make the lives of our residents memorable and happy but also are there to lend an open ear when residents are in need.

We recently had a memorable guest which was a big surprise to our residents. We invited Evelyn Cormier from the "American Idol" to come entertain for our residents. We kept the residents guessing all week but they loved the anticipation. Staff made this a special event with decorations, a starting skit done by staff and even had the "judges" on board. She was very well received and the residents were thrilled when they found out who it was. Her voice echoed beautifully throughout the room as she captured the audience. They asked her many questions which she answered with grace. After the show Evelyn, her husband and her dad stayed to visit with the residents and staff. It was a great team effort by Activities staff and the residents will remember it for a long time, especially as they continue to watch the rest of the season on television.

This is some of our world up here on the hill. Please stop by and visit. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Wendy Rastallis at (603)542-9511x 220 or email at [wrastallis@sullivancountynh.gov](mailto:wrastallis@sullivancountynh.gov).

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



**CITY OF  
CLAREMONT**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

## Boards, Committees and Commissions Vacancies

*The City of Claremont is inviting citizens to apply for vacancies which exist on the following volunteer Boards, Committees and Commissions:*

|                                                                        |                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Board of Appeals                                                       | 5 Vacant Seats<br>3 Vacant Alternate Seats                          |
| Claremont Community Television Board                                   | 3 Vacant Seats                                                      |
| Claremont Housing Authority                                            | 2 Vacant Seats                                                      |
| Claremont Planning Board                                               | 3 Vacant Seats<br>2 Vacant Alternate Seats                          |
| Conservation Commission                                                | 1 Vacant Seat <i>(City Council Rep)</i><br>4 Vacant Alternate Seats |
| Energy Advisory Committee                                              | 1 Vacant Alternate Seat                                             |
| Fiske Free Library Board of Trustees                                   | 1 Vacant Alternate Seat                                             |
| Frances Tolles Home Board                                              | No Vacant Seats                                                     |
| Historic District Commission                                           | 2 Vacant Alternate Seats                                            |
| MT Ascutney Region River Subcommittee of the CT River Joint Commission | 2 Vacant Seats<br>2 Vacant Alternate Seats                          |
| Parks & Recreation Commission                                          | 1 Vacant Seats<br>4 Vacant Alternate Seats                          |
| Personnel Advisory Board                                               | No Vacant Seats                                                     |
| Policy Committee                                                       | No Vacant Seats                                                     |
| TIF Downtown Advisory Board                                            | No Vacant Seats                                                     |
| Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission                 | 1 Vacant Seat                                                       |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment                                             | 1 Vacant Alternate Seat                                             |

***Seats for Future Availability:***

|                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Claremont Housing Authority   | 1 seat expires 5/29/2019 |
| CCTV                          | 3 seats expire 5/31/2019 |
| Parks & Recreation Commission | 2 seats expire 5/31/2019 |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment    | 2 seats expire 3/31/2019 |

Call deForest Bearse at 504-0341 or stop by the Visitor Center at 14 North Street to find out how you can volunteer, or go online to [www.claremontnh.com/government/boards-and-committees](http://www.claremontnh.com/government/boards-and-committees). 4/9/2019

## Round Passes Through Apartment Ceiling in Newport, Injuring Child; Arrest Made

NEWPORT, NH—Newport Police Chief James Burroughs reported this Monday morning that the Newport Police Department Emergency Communications Center received a 911 call at 11:27 p.m. on April 14th from residents of 147 Laurel Street, advising that their 2-year-old daughter had been shot through the floor from the downstairs apartment. The Newport Police and Newport Ambulance Service responded and found that the child had been lying on the floor and had sustained a gunshot injury to her right leg. Subsequently, the 2-year-old was transported from the scene by the Newport Ambulance to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries. The name of the child is not being released.

“The investigation revealed that a single shot had come from the first floor residence,” said Burroughs. He identified the sole occupant of that residence as Timothy E. Hale, 51, Newport, NH.

Burroughs said that the investigation “revealed that Hale had [allegedly] discharged a single 12 gauge shotgun round from his bedroom through his ceiling, striking the 2-year-old. Hale was taken into custody and has been charged with a class B Felony for Reckless Conduct with a deadly weapon. He will be arraigned later today at the Sullivan County Superior Court.”

Burroughs said the child is listed in stable condition and remains at DHMC.

## “American Idol” Moves to Voting Stage

CLAREMONT, NH—Having made it to the top 14 contestants, Claremont’s own Evelyn Cormier pulled out all the stops on Sunday night’s episode of “American Idol”. Saying that she was usually known for songs that are a little slower or moodier, she went for a different sound in the latest round, performing “The Middle”, by Jimmie Eat World, even throwing in what judge Luke Bryan called a “Van Halen kick”. Cormier was dressed in a colorful outfit and appeared relaxed as she

sang. Voting for contestants started Sunday night at 8:00 p.m. and was open until 9:00 a.m. this morning to whittle the number of contestants down to the final 10. Cormier again won high praise from judges Bryan, Katy Perry and Lionel Richie. “Just when we think we’ve got someone pegged, we like to see a whole other element,” said Bryan. “Great job.” “What a great song choice,” said Perry. “That song was

a crowd pleaser. Thank you for taking a chance, it really paid off.” “...you’ve given us the left, the right and center of you,” said Richie. “Congratulations.”

Cormier said the song was one that she had often “jammed out” with family members.

Tonight, viewers will learn who makes it to the top 10; ABC, 8:00 p.m.

—Phyllis A. Muzeroll

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