

# e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**County Property  
Taxes Could See a  
Nearly 10% Increase;  
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## Calling All Classes

### Stevens Alumni Association Has Big Plans for 2021

By Eric Zengota  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—Dick Girard is proud to state that the Stevens High School Alumni Association is the oldest active high school alumni association in the nation. No argument there: this year is its 150th anniversary.

But Girard — the association's vice president and parade chairman — is looking for help from as many members and businesses as possible to celebrate a century and a half of memories and fellowship.

There's plenty of time for anyone to get involved in this year's parade, scheduled to take place on Saturday, Oct. 2, which is also Homecoming Day. It will feature both the Class of 2020 (whose celebration was cancelled last year due to the pandemic) and the Class of 2021. But as always, alumni from all classes at Stevens and St. Mary's High School (which closed in 1971) are invited to participate.

(Continued on page 14)



SHS alumni vice president and parade chairman Dick Girard (Eric Zengota photo).

## 30 Years Since *Claremont*: The Monumental Ruling and the Work That Remains

The NH School Funding Fairness Project hosted an event on Thursday, June 10, in Concord to mark 30 years since the start of the seminal *Claremont School District v. Governor of New Hampshire* lawsuit. Originally filed by the Claremont, Franklin, Lisbon, Allenstown, and Pittsfield school districts, *Claremont* ultimately established that the State of New Hampshire has a constitutional obligation to provide all children with an adequate public

education and to fund that education with taxes that are uniform throughout the state.

Thomas Connair, who was Chair of the Claremont School Board at the beginning of the suit, spoke of joining the board in 1987 and facing a still-too-familiar set of problems. As he recalled, Claremont had the highest property tax rate in the state, seniors on fixed incomes were being priced out of their homes, and yet the schools still could not provide the basics. A

young lawyer at the time, Connair saw a constitutional violation in the state's school funding system and led a two-year charge to organize the five districts in filing their lawsuit.

Andru Volinsky, lead counsel for the plaintiff districts, discussed the origins of the case, remarking that 30 years is both "a time to reflect and a time for a call to action." Volinsky recalled illustrative stories that embodied the im-

(Continued on page 6)

# The Elegance of the Crawl

## Local Sculptor Installs Statue at CSBCC

By Eric Zengota  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—"Freefalling, weightless / as in dreams of / wingless flight ... " These lines from Robert Hayden's poem "The Diver" evoke the motion of "The Swimmer," a 200-lb. statue donated to the Claremont Savings Bank Community Center by Ernest Montenegro. To the poet's words he'll add "the swimmer breaks the water's surface with the grace of a razor's edge" on a plaque in the display case.

"I usually work in bronze," said Montenegro, "so the learning curve of a new medium, wire mesh, was a good experience." The figure began to take shape as his required project during two months as artist-in-residence at Claremont MakerSpace two years ago. "I al-

ways aimed to give it to the City. The Cumberland Farms Corporation made a generous donation of \$5,000 to Claremont, intended specifically to fund this work so that no city funds were



used." The donation and statue were formally accepted by a unanimous vote at a city council meeting in April.

Parks and recreation director Mark Brislin chose the location just outside the CSBCC pool. "We're happy to have 'The Swimmer' here," he said. "It might even inspire our own swimmers to add a lap or shave off a few seconds from their time."

**Left to right: Sculptor Ernest Montenegro poses with Parks & Rec director Mark Brislin by "The Swimmer", recently installed at the Claremont Savings Bank Community Center (Eric Zengota photo).**

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### NH Lottery Numbers

**06/19/2021**

**NH PowerBall**

**4 22 35 38 39 20**

**NH Mega Millions 06/18/2021**

**14 36 44 46 53 18**

**Tristate Megabucks 06/19/2021**

**1 4 12 24 26 1**

**For more lottery numbers,**  
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# FORWARD THINKING

## >>>> Determining If It Makes Sense To Move or Remodel

**If your family needs more space, your options include remodeling your current home, building a new one, or buying one already on the market. Each alternative has its pros and cons.**

If you already own your home or have significantly paid down your mortgage, your first instinct might be to make it larger or more efficient. But you must weigh the time, expense, and inconvenience of remodeling against the pricier options of buying and building. Whichever choice you make, ensure you understand the available financing options.

**GET READY FOR STICKER SHOCK.**

Housing prices rose over 10% in 2020 thanks to sharply lower inventory.<sup>1</sup> Accordingly, the average number of days on market for home sales fell significantly. Demand has been strong in all 50 of the largest U.S. metro markets, but your local real estate professionals can discuss housing prices for the neighborhoods that interest you. Mortgage interest rates are low, making it easier to finance homes despite inflated prices.

**REMODELING LETS YOU STAY PUT.** Some considerations that favor remodeling are proximity to schools, work, friends, and family. The cost will depend on the scope of the work and whether you'll be contributing sweat equity. For 2020, whole-house renovations averaged between \$15 and \$60 per square foot, depending on home size, appliances, quality of materials, etc.<sup>2</sup> If you just want to remodel



a bathroom or kitchen, expect to pay \$100 to \$250 per square foot. Remodeling builds equity, but don't underestimate the hassle and inconvenience of living on a job site.

**HOMEBUILDING PUTS YOU IN CONTROL.** When you have strong ideas about the shape, size, layout, and location of your home, building it from scratch can make a lot of sense. The average cost to construct a new home in 2020 was \$248,000, with cost per square foot ranging from \$100 to \$155.<sup>3</sup> You can simplify the process by buying a plan from a local homebuilder. Furthermore, manufactured and modular

homes can go up quite quickly and are usually built to high standards. Don't forget to factor in the cost of land, which can add considerably to the overall expense.

**HOMES IN ALL PRICE POINTS ARE SELLING AT INFLATED PRICES.** In 2020, the median home price

rose to more than \$300,000, and was \$307,000 in midyear.<sup>4</sup> As inventory narrows, you can expect prices to continue to rise. Budget constraints may have you looking at older homes, which means you will probably be inheriting some problems left over by the seller. Always use an independent home inspector before making a final bid, and budget for any immediate repairs.

**YOUR HOME IS YOUR COSTLIEST INVESTMENT.**

Financing a home purchase, construction, or renovation is an important factor in getting what you want at a price you can afford. Many people are eligible for FHA loans, but there are many other options. If you've got the housing bug, contact me to discuss how it fits into your overall financial plan. Together, we can figure out which alternative makes the most sense while observing your financial constraints.



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 Ashleigh McFarlin CFP® LPL Investment Advisor Representative  
 Kayla Rivet Client Services Assistant

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<sup>1</sup> [realtor.com/research/september-2020-data/](https://www.realtor.com/research/september-2020-data/) [10/1/20] <sup>2</sup> [homeguide.com/costs/house-remodeling-costs](https://www.homeguide.com/costs/house-remodeling-costs)

<sup>3</sup> [homeguide.com/costs/cost-to-build-a-house](https://www.homeguide.com/costs/cost-to-build-a-house) <sup>4</sup> [bankrate.com/real-estate/housing-trends](https://www.bankrate.com/real-estate/housing-trends) [9/21/20]

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*This material was prepared by LPL Financial, LLC.*

# Commentary

## NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

### County Property Taxes Could See a Nearly 10% Increase



If the the Fiscal Year 2022 Sullivan County Budget as proposed by the three County Commissioners were to take effect, the new budget would result in a nearly ten percent increase in county property taxes.

This property tax increase, which would take effect July 1, and run through June 30 of next year, was disclosed in a public hearing held by the three Commissioners: George Hebert, Ben Nelson, and Joe Osgood June 15 at Claremont's SRVTC (Sugar River Valley Technical Center). A public hearing was attended by several other county officials, approximately three citizens, as well as 12 members of Sullivan County Delegation to New Hampshire's House of Representatives. Ten representatives attended in person, and two attended remotely via Zoom. Only Charlestown Rep. Walter "Terry" Spilsbury was absent.

Sullivan County manager Derek Ferland narrated a slide presentation on the budget and noted that the actual appropriations in the proposed spending plan actually increase by only 2.66 percent. In other words, the present Fiscal Year 2021 Budget had total appropriations of \$33,725,880, while the total proposed appropriations in Fiscal Year 2022 will be \$34,622,168. Mr. Ferland explained that the proposed 9.76 percent tax increase is due to four major factors. These factors include not using as much of county government's "unassigned fund balance," or "rainy day fund", to offset tax increases as has been done in past budgets. Second, there were extra expenses at both the nursing home and county jail during this past year occurring because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Third, there was less Proshare money from the state and federal governments for nursing home expenses coming to the county than in years past. Fourth and finally, there were increased personnel costs, especially county employee retirement costs as mandated by current New Hampshire Retirement System Law. Mr. Ferland's presentation indicated that the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget will include a grand total of \$27,772,668 in personnel costs. In summary as stated in the presentation, the county is in the "people business."

The presentation continued by further elaborating that the county's expenses in the present Fiscal Year 2021 Budget were overall under projections. But nursing home expenses increased above projections, while revenue declined—both due to COVID-19, expenses that were not all reimbursed by the federal government's three COVID relief bills passed by the United States Congress within the past 15 months. These three bills altogether provided a total of \$960,000 in COVID relief to the county, according to the presentation.

Furthermore, in addition to the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget,

Mr. Ferland's presentation listed the Commissioners' Three Strategic Goals for the year. These goals first include investing in our people: county employees with various training, retention recognition, and wellness plans. The second goal is strategic use of resources such as a sustainable annual budget as well as management plans for county land and infrastructure. Finally, the third goal is to exercise responsible regional leadership among the county's 15 municipalities and such entities as UNH (University of New Hampshire), especially regarding the Cooperative Extension Service.

Finally, the presentation highlighted some of Sullivan County Government's achievements in the past fiscal year. These included the innovative and even humorous ways county employees, especially at the nursing home survived the COVID-19 pandemic. Also the ongoing construction of Sullivan House in Claremont, which will be located in the former *Eagle-Times* building on Sullivan St. and serve as a sober housing unit for individuals attempting to transition from their substance abuse problems to a more productive life. This housing unit is expected to open by the end of this year. Next, there was attainment by the County of a \$1.7 million lead abatement grant from the United States Dept. of Housing & Urban Development for the City of Claremont. Finally, there was the opening of the Glidden Ridge Trail on some of the County's vast acreage in Unity.

The Commissioners' proposed budget is now being scrutinized by the Delegation's five-member EFC (Executive Finance Committee) for possible ways to reduce the 9.76 percent tax increase. The EFC is chaired by Sunapee Rep. Suzanne Gottling, and includes Claremont Rep. Gary Merchant, Sunapee Rep. Linda Tanner, Acworth Rep. Judy Aron, and Rep. Spilsbury. The EFC is scheduled to hold several meetings for this challenging scrutinization. In any case, the EFC is slated to propose its own version of the budget June 29 Full Delegation to be held again at Claremont's SRVTC on 111 South St.

The budget hearing lasted over one hour. The budget hearing was then followed by a separate public meeting, which lasted over two hours called by the Commissioners to further explain and answer questions from the Delegation and public about their proposed renovations to the nursing home. The renovations were proposed earlier this year and have been the subject of two separate meetings held by the Delegation in April. The renovations would tear down the 90-year old Sanders Building and include a major addition to the approximately 50-year old Stearns Building. These renovations which the Commissioners have proposed would be at a cost of approximately \$54 million.

The Commissioners have proposed paying for them in part by using approximately \$8.4 million from the third COVID Relief bill, better known as ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) as well as pulling out \$5 million from the County's Capital Reserve Fund, used for building and repair projects. But they are requesting the Delegation approve borrowing approximately \$40 million over the next 29 years, an amount that would be repaid by county property taxes, a request that has bitterly divided our Delegation because of the high amount.

(Continued on page 5)

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To find out who your local state representatives/  
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[http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/members/  
wml.aspx](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/members/wml.aspx)

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

Mr. Ferland, facilities director Mary Bourque and nursing home administrator Ted Purdy as well as the renovation project’s general construction manger attempted to answer all the questions from the Delegation, questions that included possible ways to reduce the renovation’s scope and cost. They also asked whether Sullivan County could find alternative ways to deal with the long term health care needs of our aging population. These listed county officials and construction managers said they have done all they could to keep renovation costs down. They added that making additional changes would not be feasible, cost even more because of the longer wait time, and even reduce the nursing home’s revenue. Finally, Mr. Ferland added that current federal law prohibits county governments from getting in the assisted living business.

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## **Following Request by Senator Hassan, GAO Releases Report Detailing How Postal Service Handles Complaints**

WASHINGTON, DC—Following a request from U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan, a member of the committee that oversees the United States Postal Service (USPS), the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a comprehensive report detailing how USPS handles customer complaints. The report found that despite implementing a new online system to track customer complaints, the Postal Service is still not meeting its performance goals for customer service – which includes timeliness in responding to customer complaints.

“The COVID-19 pandemic further underscored our reliance on mail delivery for everything from food to medication, and I know how problematic it can be when those important packages arrive late or don’t arrive at all,” Hassan said. “When these delays do occur, Granite Staters deserve to have their complaints resolved quickly and efficiently. This report shows that the Postal Service still has a ways to go to improve its response time to customer complaints, as well address on-going mail delays. I will keep pushing the Postal Service to improve its operations so that Granite Staters can receive the consistent and quality service that they expect and deserve.”

The GAO report found that in Fiscal Year 2020, Americans made 10.7 million customer complaints to the Postal Service, the majority of which were related to late or missing packages. The report also noted that USPS installed a new software system in 2019 to better collect and track customer service and complaint information.

## **Kuster, Dingell, Fitzpatrick, Katko Introduce Legislation To Ban PFAS in Cosmetics**

WASHINGTON, DC—Thursday, Representatives Annie Kuster (D-NH), Debbie Dingell (D-MI), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), and John Katko (R-NY) introduced the bipartisan No PFAS in Cosmetics Act, which would ban the use of harmful forever chemicals known as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in cosmetics. The legislation would require the Food and Drug Administration to ban the use of PFAS in cosmetic products within 270 days of the bill’s enactment. Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) and Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) have introduced the companion bill in the U.S. Senate.

“The lack of transparency and safeguards for ingredients in personal care and cosmetic products is alarming and leaves Americans vulnerable to potentially dangerous chemicals, including PFAS,” said Rep. Kuster. “From shampoo to makeup, consumers deserve to know that the products they use are safe for them, their families, and our environment. I’m proud to support the No PFAS in Cosmetics Act to ensure Americans can trust that the cosmetic products they are using are safe and free of toxic PFAS chemicals.”

“PFAS chemicals are in products that we use every single day and most Americans don’t even know the danger they face daily,” said Rep. Dingell. “Just the other day, I looked at the label on my lipstick and didn’t see PFAS, and because it’s not labeled, we don’t know exactly what dangerous chemicals could be transferred from our personal care products...”

## Ruling, from page 1

portance of *Claremont's* ruling and of the work we face in ensuring New Hampshire at long last meets its responsibilities.

Volinsky spoke of "Reading Recovery," a program in Claremont at the time that helped below-grade-level learners catch up in the second grade. The district identified roughly 50 students in need of the program, citing scientific research that stated if those below grade level do not catch up by the second grade they are unlikely to ever do so. However, the district only had money to provide needed services to 30 students. Because the state would not provide extra resources, educators in Claremont were forced to choose 20 students to fail in public education. Volinsky also spoke of Allentown. At the time the district did not have space in the building and could not afford a portable classroom on the grounds in which to provide necessary one-on-one special education services, so educators were forced to conduct instruction in the bathroom with the stalls still in place. "Elementary students who get special education services, perhaps the most stigmatized students in the school, got their services in the bathroom in our wealthy state through the 1990s. These things still happen today. . . . Over and over we ignore the districts that are failing because they are on the low end of the economic spectrum and don't have a lot of say in the legislature."

Though 30 years have passed since *Claremont* was initiated, much of its promise remains unfulfilled. Molly Horn, who has lived the effects of the *Claremont* lawsuit as both a student at Lisbon High School and now a teacher at Franklin High School, stressed that schools "do the best they can with what they've got." In her 17 years as a Franklin teacher, she's seen too many great teachers lost, either to jobs in higher paying districts or to reductions in force. Though Franklin teachers' jobs are never "for

sure" at any point in the year, she remarked on how so many of her colleagues have "overcome these budget obstacles in creative and innovative ways." But, she continued, "where a student lives shouldn't determine how good their schooling is. [We] fill out our budget requests each year not with what will serve our



**L-R: Frank Sprague, Molly Horn, Andru Volinsky, Tom Connair, John Graziano, and John Tobin (Courtesy photo).**

students best, but with what will keep our spending the lowest...communities like Franklin have a very hard time meeting the obligations with the existing resources." Teachers like Horn are often told to offer more electives while facing staff reductions, keep students up to date with technology even though there are no computer teachers, use engaging resources with no budget to procure them, and individualize their teaching despite expanding class sizes. To close, Horn said, "We do the best we can with what we've got, despite there never being enough."

John Graziano, interim Pittsfield School District superintendent, spoke to the challenges his district faced this year in the form of a \$1 million funding shortfall. The FY 2019-2020 state budget had provided one-time aid which allowed the town to cut taxes while keeping the school above water. But without those funds this year, Pittsfield residents were given

an impossible choice: raise already astronomical property taxes or cut school funding below even the default budget. Graziano declared, "The fight will continue, and 30 years from now we will remain convicted to this awesome responsibility."

Frank Sprague, current Chair of the Claremont School Board and retired school administrator in Newport and Claremont, spoke to the "ongoing and self-fulfilling prophecy of failure" in property-poor districts. "In the context of real estate, the most important room...is the classroom." He observed that employers are well aware of concern for quality public schools when choosing where to locate their businesses and argued that underfunding schools robs those communities of future economic investment. In property-poor districts, Sprague remarked, "we don't have the luxury of making decisions on what will be the best for our students, but must choose what will do the least harm."

John Tobin, *Claremont* lawyer and Chair of the Board of Directors for the NH School Funding Fairness Project, closed out the event by declaring the work isn't over. "This problem continues, and in fact

it's worse. The tax rate disparities are worse [and] the spending gaps are worse. What we need to do, ultimately, is change the minds of the people in [the legislature] or change the people in [the legislature]."

*The NH School Funding Fairness Project (NHSFFP) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit advocacy organization that educates the public and elected officials about New Hampshire's public school funding system, raises awareness about the inherent flaws of that system, and advocates for lasting solutions to the twin crises of school funding and property taxes. Over the past two years, NHSFFP has delivered presentations on school funding and property taxes to 80 different audiences across the state and was a driving force in persuading the legislature to bolster school funding as part of the FY 2020-21 budget. To learn more, please visit [www.fairfundingnh.org](http://www.fairfundingnh.org).*



## NH DHHS COVID-19 Update – June 18, 2021

CONCORD, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has issued the following update on the new coronavirus, COVID-19.

On Friday, June 18, 2021, DHHS announced 25 new positive test results for COVID-19. Friday’s results include 18 people who tested positive by PCR test and 7 who tested positive by antigen test. There were now 265 current COVID-19 cases diagnosed in New Hampshire.

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 four individuals under the age of 18 and the rest are adults with 56% being female and 44% being male.

The new cases reside in Hillsborough County other than Manchester and Nashua (4), Rockingham (4), Carroll (2), Strafford (2), Belknap (1), Cheshire (1), Coos (1), and Sullivan (1) counties, and in the city of Manchester (3), and in the city of Nashua (3). The county of residence is being determined for three 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 either had close contact with a person with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis or have recently traveled.

DHHS has also announced one additional death related to COVID-19. We offer our sympathies to the family and friends.

- 1 male resident of Rockingham County, 60 years of age and older

There were currently 19 individuals hospitalized with COVID-19. In New Hampshire since the start of the pandemic, there have been a total of 99,254 cases of COVID-19 diagnosed.

**As of Friday, there were 7 current positively identified cases in Claremont and 5 in Unity; the remaining communities with identified cases fell in the 1-4 range. DHHS reported 18 in Sullivan County.**

CONCORD, NH—Only second dose appointments will now be offered at state-managed fixed sites.

Individuals with questions or looking to reschedule their appointment are encouraged to do so online at [vaccines.nh.gov](https://vaccines.nh.gov) or by calling 2-1-1. If you live near a bordering state or having trouble contacting the NH COVID Call Center, please call (603) 271-5980. COVID-specific call-takers are available from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, 7 days a week.

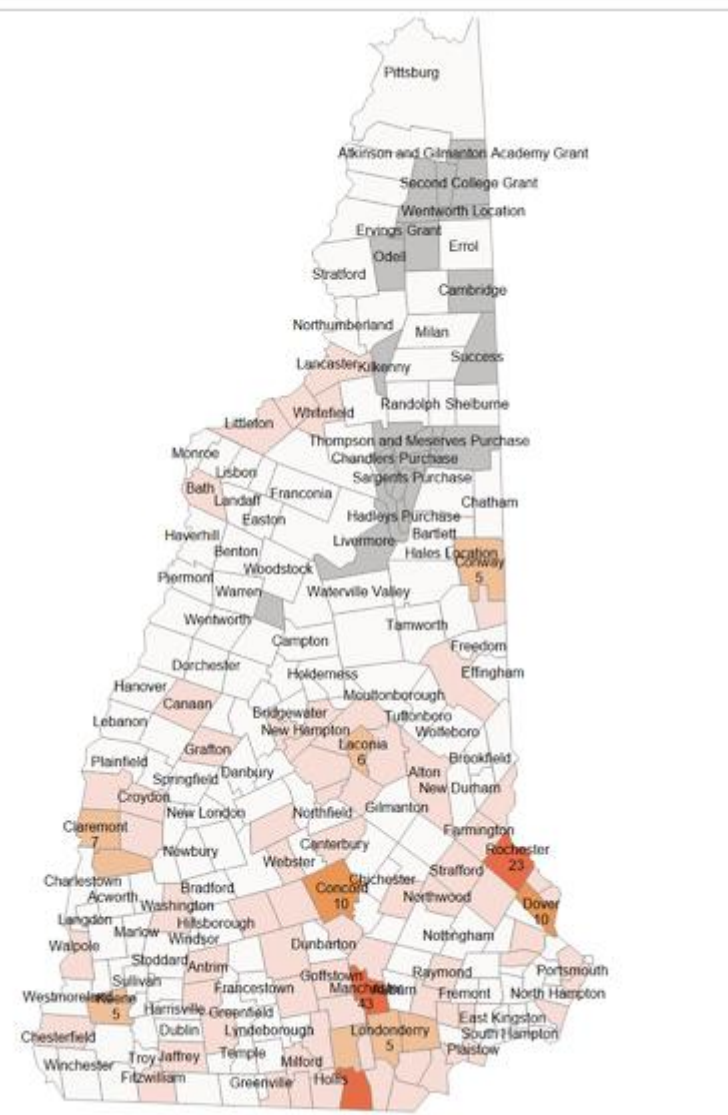
### COVID-19 Hotline

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.

### Vaccine Information in NH

For vaccine information, please visit <https://www.covid19.nh.gov/resources/vaccine-information>.

### Vaccination Sites Update





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# Plans for New Car Wash on Washington St. Approved

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—Deemed as a complete application, a project that will bring a new car wash to Washington St. was approved by the Claremont Planning Board on June 14. Since the business is an allowed use, there will be no Zoning Board hearings for the proposal.

The business will be located at 313 Washington St., on a 1.9 acre parcel nestled between O'Reilly Auto Parts and Maurice Auto & Truck Inc. The building for the car wash covers 6,440 square feet,

with a building height of 40 feet. The five-bay car wash will have three automatic bays and two self-service bays, those on the west side. The business will be designed to accommodate four wheelers, removed from their trailers where they can be washed, allowing for the trailers to be washed afterward. There will be a striped area on the side for the four-wheeler trailers. There will also be three vacuum islands, a one-way circular motion driveway and two underground tanks. Recycled water will be used for washing undercarriages only. All structures will be outside of the floodway; the access point from the road will be through the rail trail.

Tony Crawford of Hooksett, NH, said he came to Claremont for some ATV recreation

and liked the area so much and saw potential for another Circle T car wash that he decided to pursue a business here, with an eye to attracting ATV customers. The business will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with an attendant on duty from 8am to 5 pm. LED lighting will be installed around the perimeter. When the doors are closed, there will be no noise, presenters said.

Crawford said he expected that construction would begin in late fall, hoping to have the business operational before winter begins. He said he has his own staff of maintenance people and his goal is always to provide "great customer service...[giving] a good product at a fair price." He currently has 11 locations as well as a "couple of laundromats". He also said they "like to work with the community; I would like to see a Circle T soccer team up here, [a] baseball team." He had high praise

for City staff and said he "really liked it" when asked by board member David Putnam as to how working with Claremont had gone. "What a great town to work with," he said. Other towns, he said, haven't been as business friendly.

## SUNDAY, JULY 4 PLAINFIELD FOURTH OF JULY FAMOUS STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

There won't be a parade but there will be strawberry shortcake!

Plainfield Community Church's famous strawberry shortcake and strawberry pie will be offered for curbside pickup on July 4. First come first served so be sure to come early! Shortcake-to-go will be \$5 each and a whole strawberry-pie-to-go will be \$10. Curbside pickup from 11 am – 2 pm in front of the church on Route 12A in the village.

# Road Trip!



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\* See site for details.

# Classified Ads

## 4 FAMILY PROPERTY



**CLAREMONT - New to the Market.** A 3 family apartment building, a small single family home, a workshop, and a 4 car garage. **See MLS# 4865716 for more photos & info. \$199,000.**



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**Tammy Bergeron  
Owner/Broker**



[tammy@housetohomesnh.com](mailto:tammy@housetohomesnh.com)  
[Ashley@housetohomesnh.com](mailto:Ashley@housetohomesnh.com)  
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131 Broad Street  
Claremont, NH 03743  
Office: 603-287-4856  
Fax: 287-4857  
Cell: 603-477-1872



**Ashley Bergeron  
Agent**



**Cornish.** Antique Cape, level lot, wide pine floors, hearth with wood stove, 2 baths, upper floor could be set up for bedroom or additional living space. Private septic and well. Needs some TLC. Will not go FHA, VA OR NHFA.  
**\$215,000**

## Swing, Swing, Swing

### Annual Gala for Scholarships – July 8th

Just in time to welcome in the summer and return to gathering in person, the Center for the Arts announces their Annual Gala will take place July 8th at the New London Historical Society. They invite people to enjoy an evening of music and dancing to the sounds of The Bedford Big Band, plus the annual 10 X 10 art sale, all to raise money for CFA Arts Education Scholarships.

Sue Elliot, Scholarship Committee Chair said, "Our hope is to continue to support students in the Lake Sunapee region, who are talented in various aspects of the arts, so that they can develop their unique gifts. We have in the past awarded students in grades 7 to 12 financial assistance to attend workshops, intensives, and classes throughout the region and beyond, and senior scholarships for students going to college with the ultimate goal of pursuing a career in the arts. Our fundraising events help these young people realize their dreams of becoming artists, writers, vocalists, musicians, actors, and filmmakers. Along with the financial help, our most fervent wish is that students will know that they have come from a community that supports and encourages young people who are talented and wish to pursue their artistic dreams. Without financial support, this could not become a reality."

The Center for the Arts has awarded more than \$28,000 to students to attend summer intensives and to those pursuing the arts in college. Students from all twelve towns in the Lake Sunapee region have benefited from these scholarships over the years. This event will help fund this year's scholarship awards, which will be announced at our July 2nd First Friday at the bandstand in New London.

The event takes place at the New London Historical Society on July 8th and begins at 6:30 pm. All tables and seating will be socially distant and pod reservations are available upon request. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be served and there will be a cash bar.

Tickets are limited. The cost is \$60 per person for non-members and \$50 per person for CFA members. Tickets can be purchased online at [centerforheartsnh.org/gala](http://centerforheartsnh.org/gala) and at Morgan Hill Bookstore or the Tatewell Gallery and include one free drink.

If you have questions or need further information, please contact [info@cfanh.org](mailto:info@cfanh.org).

## HELP WANTED

### Looking for a compassionate companion

for a 43-year-old man with cognitive disabilities. Position is in Newport, NH, and is live in with room and board covered as well as a stipend. Must have own transportation. No personal care required; just supervision and assistance with meals, shopping, and appointments. Respite available when needed.

**Interested persons should text contact information to 603-520-7038. NON SMOKER.**

### AmeriCorps positions available at Turning Points Network

TPN is dedicated to supporting victims/survivors in their effort to heal from the trauma of domestic violence, sexual assault and/or stalking, while striving to prevent the occurrence of violence in Sullivan County and in society at large.

**Qualifications:** At least 18 years of age, commitment to community service, interest in the issues of domestic and sexual violence and stalking, ability to work independently with limited supervision, and ability to remain non-judgmental and open-minded. No prior related experience necessary.

**Requirements:** Full-time commitment beginning September 2021 through September 2022. Must possess a valid driver's license, reliable transportation and automobile insurance.

**Full-time Benefits:** Living allowance, health insurance (for full-time members only), childcare benefits (if member meets eligibility requirements), and an educational award upon successful completion of program requirements.

By joining AVAP, you have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of hundreds of victims of domestic and sexual violence and stalking. Once individuals join AVAP, they receive training from experts in the field of victim services, learn skills that transfer to any occupation and make valuable connections with other socially conscious individuals.

Find the application here: [AVAP - New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence](http://AVAP - New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (nhcadv.org)) (nhcadv.org)

Please contact Amanda at (603)543-0155 or [Amanda@turningpointnetwork.org](mailto:Amanda@turningpointnetwork.org) for more information.

## NOTICE

**The Central Collections office at Claremont City Hall will be closed for Staff Training on Wednesday, June 23rd, and will reopen on June 24th.**



## HOME OF THE WEEK



OUTSTANDING! MODERN CONTEMPORARY, 3 BEDROOMS, 2 1/2 BATHS, ON A PRIVATE COUNTRY SETTING LOCATED IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF WEST CLAREMONT. THIS ONE OFFERS LOTS OF SPACE, INCLUDING A LARGE EAT-IN KITCHEN, FORMAL DINING-ROOM, MASTER SUITE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, LIVING ROOM WITH PROPANE FIREPLACE, CATHEDRAL CEILING, AND EVEN A FINISHED BONUS

ROOM OVER THE HEATED GARAGE. LOTS OF KITCHEN CUPBOARDS WITH A CENTER ISLAND, A PANTRY, A BREAKFAST NOOK AND TONS OF COUNTER SPACE AS WELL AS UPDATED STAINLESS APPLIANCES. THE MASTER HAS 2 WALK-IN CLOSETS, A HUGE MASTER BATH WITH RADIANT HEAT AND HAS A SHOWER PLUS A DEEP JET TUB. THERE IS A TOTALLY PRIVATE BACK DECK TO ENJOY THE OUTDOORS AND BEST OF ALL, THERE IS A 13 X 14 ENCLOSED SUNROOM/PORCH AT THE BACK OF THE HOUSE. THE LAUNDRY ROOM IS ON THE MAIN FLOOR WHICH ALSO INCLUDES A HALF BATH. ALL THIS SETS ON AN 11 ACRE WOODED LOT 5 MINUTES FROM I-91, A QUICK COMMUTE TO THE UPPER VALLEY. SETS ON A QUIET COUNTRY ROAD.

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# On the Way to High School ... At Last!

## CMS graduates 147 8th Graders

CLAREMONT, NH—On the evening of June 17, a caravan of vehicles looped around the parking lot of River Valley Community College. Inside each car, van and truck was an eighth-grader from Claremont Middle School.

The caravan passed under a 38-foot flag hanging from a Claremont Fire Department ladder truck. Each student's name was broadcast across the lot via a bullhorn. They took in the cheers of CMS teachers who lined the lane holding signs of congratulations and calling out best wishes. Most important of all, they received their certificate of graduation (plus a very red swag bag). At the far end of the loop, the vehicles were put in park, and entire families headed to the CMS "mission banner" for a photograph.

Finally, the newest freshmen went home to celebrate. The Stevens Class of 2025 was on their way.



Top: Zoe Stevens gets a great view through the sunroof; below, the parade of cars passes beneath the CFD's mammoth flag.

Text, photos by Eric Zengota

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CREDIT UNION

\* See site for details.

## Alumni from page 1

“We’ve had as many as 50 floats in a single parade,” said Girard, “and we already have 10



committed for this year.” The theme — Board Games — is last year’s, but in reality, “the choice of theme is wide open,” he added. Applications to register floats can be found on the association’s website; there is no registration fee.

The parade route has been changed to avoid any work that might be left on the Pleasant Street revitalization project. Floats, bands —



such as the New Hampshire Police Association — and marchers will gather at the staging areas on Broad Street between Putnam and Chestnut streets, as well as Chestnut and South streets. From there the 2.2-mile route loops through downtown via South, Pleasant, Summer, Pearl, Central and Main streets, rounding through Opera House Square, and finishing at Broad Street Park.

This year there will be two Parade Marshals, each celebrating their 25th class anniversary. A Marshal from the Class of 1995 will lead the

2020 contingent, and a Marshal from 1996, the Class of 2021.

Three judges — unknown even to Girard — will award a set of trophies to floats from classes ending in 00, 02, 03, 04 and 05. If there are double the normal amount of floats, the judges will award a second set to classes ending in 01, 06, 07, 08 and 09.

The association typically hosts an alumni banquet after the parade. This year, alumni will gather on the Visitor Center Green once the Chili Cook-Off (a Parks and Recreation event) comes to a close. There they’ll enjoy concessions, entertainment by the Backwoods Axe Company, and plenty of time for catch-up conversations.

In the meantime, local businesses continue to support Stevens graduates. Girard noted that Ramunto’s, Daddy’s Pizza, Tremont House of Pizza, and Domino’s will present gift certificates to every graduate of the 2020 and 2021 classes. These students are affectionately known as the association’s newest members as soon as they “turn the tassel” at graduation ceremonies.

Girard emphasized that the association’s usual sources of income are dues payments, donations and sponsor ads (\$50 and \$100). This year, there will also be a fundraiser through the Ink Factory in Claremont; orders will be taken on their website for tee-shirts, long-sleeve shirts and sweatshirts imprinted with the class year of your choice.

As plans for the 150th shift into high gear, Girard highlighted the many ways alumni, businesses and donors can get involved:

- For general information on the association — and to pay your dues or make a donation — go to [stevensalumninh.com](http://stevensalumninh.com)
- Email [alumni@stevensalumninh.com](mailto:alumni@stevensalumninh.com)
- Phone the office at 603-542-8987
- Find out more about Alumni Weekend at [stevensalumninh.com/news/10408/alumni-weekend-2021/](http://stevensalumninh.com/news/10408/alumni-weekend-2021/)
- To order imprinted “Class of YYYY” shirts, visit [inkfactoryclothing.com](http://inkfactoryclothing.com).

## Claremont Fire Dept. Log

### Sunday, June 13th

0148 E4 responded to a medical call on Lonsdale St.

0642 E4 responded to a medical call on Prospect St.

0953 E4 responded to a medical call on Fiske Pl.

1501 E4 responded to Bible Hill Rd for an alarm sounding.

1900 E4 responded to Myrtle St for juveniles burning objects.

### Monday, June 14th

0204 E4 responded to a medical call on Curtis St.

0749 E4 responded to a medical call on Main St.

1108 E4 responded to Mulberry St for a fire alarm.

1129 E4 responded to Mulberry St for a CO detector sounding.

1844 E4 responded to a medical call on Washington St.

1942 E4 responded to a medical call on Heritage Dr.

### Tuesday, June 15th

0909 E4 responded to a medical call on Winter St.

1302 E4 responded to a medical call on Highlandview Ave.

1327 E4 responded to North St to assist the ambulance.

2305 E4 responded to Main St for oil in the road.

### Wednesday, June 16th

0748 E4 responded to Sullivan St for a CO alarm.

1046 E4 responded to Summer St for a fluid leak.

2007 E3 responded to Unity, mutual aid, for a building fire.

### Thursday, June 17th

0256 E4 responded to a medical call on Bond St.

1423 E4 responded to North St for a lift assist.

1800 E3 responded to Sullivan St for a vehicle fire.

2329 E4 responded to Manor Dr for a gasoline leak.

### Friday, June 18th

1413 E4 responded to Leet Dr for a water issue.

1746 E4 responded to Pleasant St to assist the ambulance.

### Saturday, June 19th

0723 E4 responded to Washington St for an overdose.

1614 E4 responded to Pleasant St for an overdose.

1725 E4 responded to Maple Ave for a smoke investigation.

1748 E4 responded to a medical call on Federal St.

## Business News

### Claremont Savings Bank Announces Two Promotions

CLAREMONT, NH— Claremont Savings Bank is pleased to announce the promotion of Timothy Bates to Senior Vice President of Information Technology and Operations.

“We are delighted with the work Tim and his IT and Facilities staff have done for the Bank,” said Reggie Greene, President and CEO. “We recently asked him to take on management of Operations in addition to his existing duties, and are recognizing his performance and increasing responsibility by promoting him to Senior Vice President. Tim is an important member of our executive management team,” continued Greene.



Timothy Bates

Bates came to Claremont Savings Bank in 2007 with significant IT and Project Management experience gained at TD Ameritrade and while serving in the military. He is currently on the board of the Claremont Soup Kitchen. He has previously served on the Claremont Christian Academy and the Claremont Opera House boards.

“I am truly honored and excited to take on this new challenge,” said Bates. “I would like to thank the Board of Trustees and Senior Management for their faith and trust in me to serve in an executive leadership position. I would also like to thank all the staff that have been on my teams over the 14 years I have been employed by Claremont Savings Bank for their hard work and tireless efforts for growth and constant improvement,” continued Bates.

Bates resides in Claremont with his wife and children. He has a Bachelor's degree in Business from the College of Saint Joseph, and a Masters of Business Administration from Plymouth State University.

In addition to Bates's promotion, Zachary Haines has been promoted to Vice President of Operations. “Zach is compassionate with his staff and has a strong work ethic. He has a great attitude which rubs off on the entire Operations department,” said Bates. “He takes great pride in his work which is evident in his project delivery. Zach has worked very hard to receive this promotion and it is my honor to be able to continue to work with him in the future,” continued Bates. Haines began his career with the Bank in 2009.



Zachary Haines

(CDFA) has awarded Sullivan County \$108,500 to support the Sullivan County Lead Paint Abatement Program. The funds will be used to augment over \$1.7 million in grant funds awarded last fall by HUD through their lead paint abatement and healthy homes programs. Overall, the County expects to mitigate lead paint hazards in 60 housing units across Sullivan County.

“We want to thank CDFA for this award and are eager to engage with businesses from our local community and get their support for this tax credit program,” said Sullivan County Manager Derek Ferland. “These additional resources will help us address funding gaps that would otherwise prevent some projects from getting done. Every project we accomplish will protect the health of young children in our

**(Continued on page 16)**

### CDFFA Awards Sullivan County \$108,500 in Tax Credits to Support Sullivan County Lead Paint Abatement Program

NEWPORT, NH— The New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority



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# Business News

## CDFA, from page 15

communities, so it's important to do all we can to make these happen."

"Organizations awarded Tax Credit resources have demonstrated a strong commitment to their communities – in the midst of uncertainty and significant challenges – that speaks to the resiliency and vibrancy of the Granite State," commented Katy Easterly Martey, Executive Director, CDFA. "These community builders are driving positive, long-lasting change within our communities."

Easterly Martey continued, "Through public-private partnerships, this year's awardees are addressing critical needs within our communities like access to a broad base of housing opportunities and supportive services; creating new economic opportunities through affordable, quality childcare and job creation; and revitalizing neighborhoods and downtowns."

In addition to providing critical gap funding, this award will also assist with providing free training and certifications in lead paint abatement to increase the availability of local contractors to do this work. This aspect will boost Sullivan County's local economy by keeping a larger portion of the total grant dollars—over \$1.8 million—in circulation locally.

CDFA Tax Credit awards are made to organizations in the form of tax equity. New Hampshire businesses support the selected projects by purchasing the tax credits, resulting in the nonprofit receiving a donation and the company receiving a 75 percent New Hampshire state tax credit against that contribution. The credit can be applied against the Business Profits Tax, Business Enterprise Tax, or Insurance Premium.

To learn more about CDFA's Tax Credit Program, visit: <https://nhcdfa.org/investing-in-nh-communities/tax-credit-program/>.

### *About the Community Development Finance Authority*

The Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) is a statewide nonprofit public authority focused on maximizing the value and impact of community development, economic development, and clean energy initiatives throughout New Hampshire. The organization

leverages a variety of financial and technical resources, including the competitive deployment of grant, loan, and equity programs. Those resources include New Hampshire state tax credits, federal Community Development Block Grant resources and the CDFA Clean Energy Fund.

For more information about CDFA and its programs visit [www.nhcdfa.org](http://www.nhcdfa.org) or call 603-226-2170.

## Members Reelect Four Incumbents to NHEC Board

PLYMOUTH, NH – Members of New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) have re-elected four members to the company's Board of Directors.

A total of six candidates were running for election to four open seats on the Co-op's 11-member Board of Directors. As a member-owned cooperative, NHEC is governed by Directors who are elected by the membership. The four candidates elected by NHEC's members were Jeffrey Morrill of Holderness, Brenda Boisvert of Campton, Daniel Senie of Charlestown and Edward French of Raymond. All four winning candidates are incumbent Board members and will serve three-year terms.

Below are the full results of the 2021 Board of Directors election.

Jeffrey Morrill	5,548
Brenda Boisvert	4,582
Daniel Senie	4,419
Edward French	3,833
John Goodrich	3,791
Carla Muskat	3,710

At NHEC's Board Organizational Meeting on June 16, the Board of Directors elected the following officers to serve one-year terms:  
 Chair of the Board – Jeffrey Morrill  
 Vice Chair of the Board – Daniel Senie  
 Treasurer – Edward French  
 Assistant Treasurer – Carolyn Kedersha  
 Secretary – Brenda Boisvert

*About New Hampshire Electric Cooperative*  
 NHEC is a member-owned electric distribution cooperative serving 85,000 homes and businesses in 118 New Hampshire communities..

## D-H Partners with North Country Healthcare to Provide Critical Neonatal Care via Telemedicine

LEBANON, NH—North Country Healthcare (NCH), a nonprofit affiliation of four medical facilities in New Hampshire's White Mountains Region, will partner with Dartmouth-Hitchcock (D-H) Connected Care and Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock (CHaD) to provide neonatal services to patients via telemedicine.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock TeleICN (intensive care neonatology) provides around-the-clock real-time assessment and treatment recommendations through telemedicine. Using state-of-the-art technology, board-certified D-H neonatologists are able to join the local bedside teams to provide neonatal care to infants.

"Dartmouth-Hitchcock Connected Care is pleased to form this partnership with North Country Healthcare," said Steve Ringer, MD, Neonatology Section Chief, CHaD. "Creating greater access to local care for all residents of Northern New England is a Dartmouth-Hitchcock imperative. Bringing this specialized service to the North Country to help moms and infants to receive the care they need close to home and near their local support systems is especially gratifying."

## Lunderville Reaches \$2M in Sales

CLAREMONT, NH—Coldwell Banker Homes Unlimited congratulates Viola Lunderville for reaching \$2M in sales as of June 2021. The team at Coldwell Banker would like to thank Viola for all hard work and dedication.

"She is dedicated to both the office and her clients," said the Coldwell Banker office. "If you are looking to sell your home or to buy a home, give her a call."







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Presents

# Birds & Blooms



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## Even 'Singles' Need Estate Plans

If you don't have a spouse or children, you might think you don't need to do much estate planning. But if you have any assets, any familial connections, any interest in supporting charitable groups – not to mention a desire to control your own future – you do need to establish an estate plan.

In evaluating your needs for this type of planning, let's start with what might happen if you die intestate – that is, without a last will and testament. In this scenario, your assets will likely have to go through the probate process, which means they'll be distributed by the court according to your state's intestate succession laws, essentially without regard to your wishes. Even if you don't have children yourself, you may have nephews or nieces, or even children of cousins or friends, to whom you would like to leave some of your assets, which can include not just money but also cars, collectibles, family memorabilia and so on. But if everything you own goes through probate, there's no guarantee that these individuals will end up with what you wanted them to have.

If you want to leave something to family members or close friends, you will need to indicate this in your last will and testament or other estate planning documents. But you also may want to provide support to one or more charitable organizations. Of course, you can simply name these charities in your will, but there may be options that could provide you with more benefits.

One such possibility is a charitable remainder trust. Under this arrangement, you'd transfer appreciated assets – such as stocks, mutual funds or other securities – into an irrevocable trust. The trustee, whom you've named – in fact, you could serve as trustee yourself – can then sell the assets at full market value, avoiding the capital gains taxes you'd have to pay if you sold them yourself, outside a trust. Plus, if you itemize, you may be able to claim a charitable deduction on your taxes. With the proceeds, the trust can purchase income-producing assets and provide you with an income stream for the rest of your life. Upon your death, the remaining trust assets will go the charities you've named.

Aside from family members and charitable groups, there's a third entity that's central to your estate plans: yourself. Everyone should make arrangements to protect their interests, but, in the absence of an immediate family, you need to be especially vigilant about your financial and health care decisions. And that's why, as part of your estate planning, you may want to include these two documents: durable power of attorney and a health care proxy.

A durable power of attorney lets you name someone to manage your finances should you become incapacitated. This arrangement is especially important for anyone who doesn't have a spouse to step in. And if you become incapacitated, your health care proxy – also known as a health care surrogate or medical power of attorney – lets you name another person to legally make health care decisions for you if you can't do so yourself.

Estate planning moves can be complex, so you'll need help from a legal professional and possibly your tax and financial advisors. You may not have an immediate family, but you still need to take steps to protect your legacy.

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

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## Claremont Announces Slate of July 4th Events

CLAREMONT, NH—The Claremont Parks and Recreation Department is excited to announce that the Annual July 4th Celebration at Monadnock Park will take place on Sunday, July 4th. The fun will begin at 6 PM with many local vendors on hand selling food, drinks, and novelty items. American Cheese will be the feature entertainment, playing rock and country hits from the 50's to the 80's. "The band is great for dancing or just listening to," said Parks and Rec director Mark Brislin. "July 4th is a great time to bring the community together and celebrate! All of these fun events will lead up to the spectacular fireworks show at 9:30 to conclude the evening."

This year's fireworks display is presented by McGee Toyota of Claremont. To help continue the popular July 4th celebration in future years, Claremont Parks & Rec will be asking for a \$1 donation at the entrance of Monadnock Park. Your support is greatly appreciated to help continue this tradition; donations for the fireworks fund can also be sent to or dropped off at the Claremont Savings Bank Community Center, 152 South St., Claremont, NH 03743, during business hours.

Parking spaces will be available along Broad Street and Pleasant Street. Only handicapped and authorized vendor parking will be allowed at Monadnock Park. In the event of inclement weather, the rain date for this event will be on July 5th. Please be sure to visit [www.claremontparks.com](http://www.claremontparks.com) or like us on Facebook @ClaremontParks for up-to-date schedules and announcements for the July 4th celebration.

### Schedule of Events

6:00 PM Food Vendors Open  
 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM American Cheese Performance  
 9:30 PM Fireworks Presented by McGee Toyota of Claremont

## WorkReadyNH Marks 10 Years

WorkReadyNH is celebrating 10 years of service this year. WorkReadyNH was developed in 2011 after a series of Business Round Table discussions with New Hampshire employers who said that the skills they wanted most in employees were soft skills.

The Community College System of NH (CC-SNH) was tasked with creating a professional tuition-free soft skill training that included communication, critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, ethics, team-building, conflict resolution, safety, customer service, diversity, and employer expectations. Employers also asked for adequate reading and math skills and suggested that appropriate interview

skills were desired as well. Participants earn two certificates including a National Career Readiness Certificate from ACT and a Work-ReadyNH Certificate from CCSNH. There are now over 4000 graduates who range from 16 to 80+ years old, reflecting a wide range of work and educational experience. To learn more, go to [www.ccsnh.edu/workreadynh](http://www.ccsnh.edu/workreadynh).



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**(603) 542-7711**

\*The Annual Percentage Rate (APR) shown is accurate from 4/5/21 to 10/1/21 with auto-deduction from a Claremont Savings Bank deposit account. APR is 7.00% without auto-deduct from a CSB deposit account.



Add 1.00% with credit score below 675. Additional fees may apply. Offer of credit is subject to credit approval. Rates and programs are subject to change without notice.

## My, How They've Grown!

Last Father's Day, four members of the Claremont Fire Department brought their children — all of whom were born in 2019 — to the station for a “family” photo. The kids enjoyed the visit so much that they convinced their dads to get together again this year. The youngsters and their proud papas are, from left: Delina, 2½, and Calvin Limoges; Kennedy, 2, and Jim Chamberlain; Madelyn, 2, and Mike Snide; and Avery, 1 year and 8 months, and Kyle Lizotte.

We're looking forward to seeing how much cuter — if possible — they'll be on their third birthdays. Happy Father's Day, everyone!



Eric Zengota photos

## Builders Club Is Steppin' Up

### CMS Students Make Donation to Turning Points Network

Members of the Claremont Middle School Builders Club presented a check for \$150 to Amanda Mace (center), programs director at Turning Points Network in Claremont. The donation was in support of TPN's Steppin' Up to End Violence. This fundraiser is usually a walk through the City, but as in 2020, this year's event was virtual.

Typically, the Builders Club holds fundraising events throughout the school year. This year, however, pandemic restrictions made large events impossible. The students decided to dip into the club's savings, donating \$75. The Claremont Kiwanis Club, which supports many Builders Club activities, matched that amount (Courtesy photo).





## A Budget that Reflects Our Priorities

The Claremont City Council is nearing the end of the budgetary process for Fiscal Year 22 (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022). On June 22, the Council will meet to discuss final changes that it will make to City Manager Morris's proposed budget. The following evening the Council will then present the proposed budget with those changes to the public for comment and then vote upon it. Ensuring that the budget reflects our priorities will be critical in how we move forward as a city.

Back in February of this year, the Council established four priority areas: housing, economic development, infrastructure and tax rate stabilization. Below is a breakdown of those areas and how the proposed budget supports continued progress in each area:

1. **Housing** – Nationwide, there is a housing shortage and it is no different in Claremont. Our vacancy rate hovers at zero and the inventory of homes for sale is limited. Given the importance of housing to people, our tax base and economic prosperity, housing is a major priority. Therefore, the City's focus is to increase our housing stock, improve housing quality and address blight. Much of the work to accomplish this falls on the Planning and Development Department as it oversees all housing development. It also, along with the Fire Department, inspects for code compliance. Therefore, it is important that the budget allocates enough resources to that department. The proposed budget provides funding for a fully staffed department and allocates funding for code enforcement and blight reduction.

2. **Economic Development** – Creating an environment that draws developers, businesses and people is critical for development. Revitalizing the City's Center, identifying the best use of city-owned land, cultivating innovation in the environment/energy sector and utilizing development incentives are critical in fostering economic growth. Accomplishing this will create new opportunities, increase the tax base, and enhance our community. Again, much of this

work falls to the Planning and Development Department and the proposed budget fully staffs the department. In addition, it also provides funding for marketing the City, as well as funds for software that will streamline operations and improve efficiencies.

3. **Infrastructure** – Each year, the number one infrastructure complaint from the public's perspective is the condition of our roads and sidewalks. For years, the accepted benchmark was to allocate \$750,000 annually for pavement management in the budget. However, in the past 15 years that amount has varied, anywhere from zero to \$712,000. Such fluctuations have prevented us from making the progress desired in maintaining our roads. Though \$650,000 was allocated in the current budget, funds have either been recently transferred from other departments or encumbered, allowing the city to invest over \$870,000 into roads this year. The Council's objective is to invest even more into roads in FY22 and find a better approach for sidewalk management. Besides roads and sidewalks, the Council is also focused on the water and sewer systems, as well as broadband. The Council is considering changes to the water and sewer rates which support the operation and maintenance of those systems. While not contained in the proposed budget, the Council will be discussing how federal funds may be used to improve broadband access to those areas in the municipality with limited or no access.

4. **Tax Rate Stabilization** – While Claremont's overall tax rate is the highest in the state, only a portion of that tax rate is allocated to the City. Currently, that portion is \$15.17 and the proposed budget seeks to level fund that tax rate. To maintain that level and make the strategic investments needed, the Council is focused on operational efficiencies, advocacy for state revenue, protecting and increasing property values. The proposed budget includes software upgrades and capital projects that promote efficiencies and a fully funded Assessing Department, critical to tracking city valuation. While advocating for state revenue is outside of the proposed budget, a successful outcome will reduce the need to rely so heavily on the local taxpayer.

Despite the pandemic, Claremont has seen much progress in FY21. The City is facilitating the development of new, market rate housing. It is moving forward with the revitalization of Pleasant Street, a main artery in the historic district. It is removing blighted properties, investing in its infrastructure and increasing its

overall valuation. A budget that builds upon this momentum and focuses on the priorities will ensure further success in FY22.

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

## Claremont VFW Partners with Care Coordination Program of NH to Help Local Service Members

CLAREMONT, NH—The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 808 has partnered with the Care Coordination Program of NH to better render assistance to veterans and service members in Sullivan County. The Care Coordination Program of NH is the primary program for NH Army National Guard, Army Reserve, and Air National Guardsmen who have sustained injuries through service.

"Our mission is to help veterans, service members, and their family members," Commander James England explained. "The Care Coordination Program of NH is the main liaison with our State's National Guard and through them, we'll have the ability to become aware of issues our local service members and veterans are facing and better address them."

Direct assistance is available through the VFW by way of a relief fund that VFW members actively contribute to.

"We've been working hard to raise awareness and funds because we never know when a service member or veteran in our community will be in distress," Steven Cornell, the Treasurer said. "It's good to see those funds going to the intended use."

The Care Coordination Program of NH is available to all service members of any branch. They work with multiple non-profit organizations to help service members get the care they need. The CCPNH's intake line is (888) 989-9924. Oliver Lacasse Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 808 is Claremont's VFW Post. It is a non-profit veterans service organization that began in May of 1936 and continues today with its core mission to help veterans, service members, and their family members in the community.

If you know of a local veteran or service member that needs assistance, call the VFW Post at (603) 542-9353 or through its email address at [olvfwpost808@gmail.com](mailto:olvfwpost808@gmail.com).

# Sports

## Four Home Runs Lead Fisher Cats Over Yard Goats, 8-5

MANCHESTER, NH – Vinny Capra, Jordan Groshans, Otto Lopez, and Gabriel Moreno each hit homers, Simeon Woods Richardson struck out a career-high nine batters, and the New Hampshire Fisher Cats (Blue Jays Double-A affiliate) edged the Hartford Yard Goats (Colorado Rockies) 8-5 on Sunday afternoon at Delta Dental Stadium. After dropping the first three games of the series, New Hampshire won three in a row to earn a split with Hartford.

The Fisher Cats jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the second with a Chavez Young RBI single and an LJ Talley sacrifice fly.

Moreno, who leads the Double-A Northeast League in batting average and RBI, launched a two-run blast over the right field fence in the third inning to make it 4-0. It was the first of a season-high four home runs for the Fisher Cats.

Hartford drew within one run on a three-run double from Willie Abreu in the fourth, but Lopez, who ranks second in the league in batting average, crushed his first homer of the season to dead center field to extend the lead to 5-3 in the fifth.

The Yard Goats again cut the lead to one with a Sean Bouchard RBI single in the top of the seventh before Groshans made it 6-4 with a solo shot over the fence in right in the bottom half. Later in the inning, Vinny Capra launched a solo home run of his own to right center to extend the lead to 7-4.

A sac fly from Austin Martin made it 8-4 in the eighth. Hartford homered in the ninth to cap the scoring at 8-5, but Brody Rodning recorded the final three outs to seal the win.

Woods Richardson (W, 2-0) held Hartford to three runs on four hits with a walk and a career-high nine strikeouts in five innings.

Kyle Johnston took over for the next three innings, allowing one run on three hits with two walks and two strikeouts.

Groshans and Moreno each finished 3-for-4 with a home run.

The Fisher Cats hit the road for a six-game series against the Baysox (Baltimore Orioles) in Bowie, MD next Tuesday through Sunday. They'll return home for a six-game Fourth of July Week series against the Portland Sea Dogs (Boston Red Sox) from June 29 - July 4 at Delta Dental Stadium.

## Registration Now Open for Becoming an Outdoors Woman Introduction to Hiking Course

CONCORD, NH – Registration is now open for the New Hampshire Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) Introduction to Hiking Course. The day-long course will take place on Saturday, July 10, with an introductory Zoom session scheduled for Thursday, July 8. Enjoy a great day hiking Carter Notch while learning all about safety, proper gear, and planning for a rewarding hike. This class is intended for participants with minimal hiking experience. The cost for the workshop is \$80. Participants will learn what to pack and how to prepare for the hike during the Zoom session.

Participants can register online now at [www.nhbow.com](http://www.nhbow.com). Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and space is limited. All participants must be 18 years of age or older.



Owen Taylor was selected to participate in the New Hampshire Baseball Coaches D1-D2 East West All Star Game Wednesday at Gill Stadium in Manchester. They played a 9-inning game and Taylor participated for the West Team, which ended up winning the game 6-3. Taylor started the game and played both right field and 1st base. He batted twice and though he didn't get a hit, he drove in the 2nd run for the West team on a hard ground ball to shortstop. He also had 5 putouts, 2 coming in right field, and the other 3 at first base. Taylor is pictured here pitching for the Cardinals against John Stark earlier this year in the NHIAA DII Tournament (Doug Beaupre photo).

# Inspiration

## Strawberries in June

By Priscilla Hull

Maybe June is one of my favorite months. So I'll give it another day! I talked about buttercups and roses, flowers at the opposite ends of the scale in complexity, but not in beauty, although some may think differently from me.

This week I'll address the strawberry, the jewel of fruits. Luscious, juicy, sweet, the strawberry is the crown jewel. It comes from simple beginnings, growing on delicate plants low on the ground. It is humble, even as it grows so low to the ground. Tending strawberries can be back-breaking work. The plants are planted individually in the ground and straw is tucked around the plants so that the delicate fruit never touches the ground. The fruit is so delicate that if it rests on the ground it will quickly spoil. In large commercial fields, an irrigation system is carefully laid, directing the water to under the straw so that the berries don't get wet, just the roots. Not only is it difficult planting strawberries, but picking is also difficult. The berries don't just miraculously grow at the top of the plant, but under the leaves. So when we pick strawberries, we reach under the leaves to find every beautiful berry.

Berries don't ripen after picking, so be sure it is ruby red when picked. If making strawberry jam, gather a few underripe, not green, just a little more firm than most so that the jelly has the right mixture of sweet and tart and it is sure to jell making the jam thick. Of course, if the jam doesn't thicken, it is great strawberry syrup on vanilla ice cream!

In June, about the middle till the end, the great American dessert is strawberry shortcake! Fresh strawberries, sliced not too thin, but not too thick, with just a sprinkle of sugar and fresh whipped cream! Now comes the discussion, biscuits or those sponge rounds from the grocery store? My choice is the biscuit, fresh made and best when made by my friend, Charlotte. How delicious and quite frankly, enough for a Sunday night supper! What more is needed? My husband would say a tall glass of milk. I say, a big mug of coffee!

Of course, we could pick the wild berries, they are tiny and sweet and to pick enough for shortcake could take hours. To pick enough for jam might take all day. So I'll stick to the cultured kind from the farm for myself.

One word of caution, use the berries quickly, keep in a cool, dry place if they're kept overnight and spread on a tray on a towel so moisture doesn't accumulate. Moisture rapidly destroys the berries and stored in a bowl, they'll get moldy quickly.

Strawberries and champagne make for a most romantic evening!

However you enjoy your strawberries, take advantage of the relatively short season and feast on the humble, beautiful sweet strawberry during the two or three weeks of strawberry time each June.

Isaiah 4:2

*2 At that time the crops given by the Lord will bring admiration and honor; the produce of the land will be a source of pride and delight to those who remain in Israel.*

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





## MY TURN

### Building Situational Awareness

As the warmer months are upon us, part of staying safe this summer is building our situational awareness skills. While no one is ever responsible for being assaulted, developing your ability to notice changes in your environment can be a tool for creating additional self-protections.

Minimizing distractions is the first step in developing situational awareness. Smartphones are the largest culprit of monopolizing attention in today's environment. This distraction can be especially dangerous at transition points, such as walking to your car after a day's work when you are eager to check in with what you may have missed. Putting your phone away increases awareness of your environment, including noticing others around you in high-target places like parking lots and garages. Parking in well-lit areas makes you more visible and knowing your exit points can be crucial. Another good tip is having your keys ready to unlock only the driver's door so that no one else can enter your car while you are preparing to leave.

Furthermore, in hot summer months joggers may choose to run during the cooler mornings, a time when fewer people are out. Consider running in busier areas within sight of neighbors. If listening to music, leaving one ear bud out and keeping it at a low volume can help you hear an approaching car or footsteps coming up behind you.

Another step in increasing your safety is paying attention to body language. If you are walking with confidence, shoulders back and with

purpose, you are less likely to be targeted. Studies show that most potential attackers will be discouraged if they think you will put up a fight or might be able to identify them. If someone is following you, asking a simple question such as "Do you know the time?" or making small talk might dissuade them. Trust your instincts if someone makes unwanted advances.

Ultimately, the goal is prevention. While situational awareness can help us identify potential threats, those who are sexually assaulted are never at fault. If you have been assaulted, you are not alone. Turning Points Network can provide you with a wide range of support services to help you through the healing process.

*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.*

### Fundraiser Dinner for Local Woman

CHARLESTOWN, NH—There will be a fundraiser dinner on June 26th at the Charlestown VFW post on Lovers Lane Road for Jessica Ferland-Hersom who was diagnosed a few weeks ago with a very serious illness. The dinner will be half chicken, macaroni salad, potato salad, corn on the cob and watermelon. The price is \$15.00 per plate. Time is 1:00 to 4:00pm. There will also be several raffles. Please call if you would like to reserve a

meal: 603-504-6527. They are also available as to-go meals. There will also be drinks to purchase there and a container for any monetary donations people would like to make.

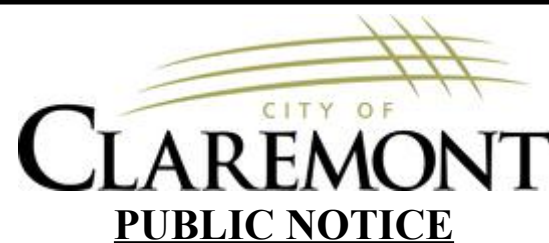
### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23

**Pollinator Scavenger Hunt, Eco Ag Center, Sullivan County Complex, Unity, NH**  
2-3pm

Learn about pollinators and search for them at Sullivan County's Eco Ag Center. Use field guides and the iNaturalist app to identify what you find. You can upload photos to iNaturalist and they will become part of the Sullivan & Cheshire County Pollinator Bioblitz project automatically. The garden is a sunny place, so wear sunscreen and bring some water. Contact: Dawn Dextraze, [ddextraze@sullivan-countynh.gov](mailto:ddextraze@sullivan-countynh.gov); 603.504.1004.

### St. Mary Alumni Meeting

CLAREMONT, NH—Calling St. Mary's High School Alumni Claremont, NH, to participate in Stevens Alumni Parade on Saturday, Oct. 2. A special organizational meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 29, in St. Mary's Gym in Claremont. For more information contact Claire Lessard, Vice Pres., St. Mary's Alumni Assoc., (603) 543-3617.



### VOTER REGISTRATION & CORRECTION

New Hampshire law requires that the Supervisors of the Checklist verify the checklist every 10 years. Any voter that has not voted since April 1, 2017 must re-register to remain on the checklist. The Supervisors of the Checklist will hold public sessions at City Hall in the City Clerk's Office, to register, re-register, make corrections and change party affiliation, on:

Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00pm-7:30pm  
Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am-11:30am  
Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm-7:30pm

Voters may also visit the City Clerk's Office during normal business hours.



*Sugar River Regional*

# JOB & VOLUNTEER FAIR

Are you looking for a new career or summer job?

Looking for a new way to give back through volunteering in the community?

Visit us online to check out all the opportunities shared at this event at:

<http://bit.ly/6-17-21>

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT MADE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE!**

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# Calendar Of Events

## VFW Post 808 Events

JUNE 26 / 7pm to 10pm / Karaoke night. Come sing your heart out over at the VFW! DJ takes requests. Event runs from 7pm to 10pm. Bring a friend.

JUNE 27 / 9am to 12pm / Buddy Poppy Drive at the Market Basket on Washington Street. Come out and support your local Veterans of Foreign Wars as we hand out poppies to the public and let them know the significance of the Buddy Poppy Program for wounded veterans.

JULY 3 / 12pm to 4pm / Chicken Barbecue w/ sides & dessert. Reserve yours today! Limited number of half chickens available so reserve your spot and see why the VFW is the best chicken barbecue in town!

## All Out Trail Run at Moody Park, June 26

CLAREMONT, NH—The All Out Trail Run will take place in Moody Park on a 4.61 mile course. All proceeds go to The Parks and Recreation Department.

Start / Finish Location: Moody Park, 152 Maple Avenue, Claremont, NH 03743.

Race Start Time: 9 AM

Visit [www.runreg.com/all-out-trail-run](http://www.runreg.com/all-out-trail-run) to sign up for the race.

## Fiske Library Resumes Public Programs

We are starting out slow and as safe as possible so the programs will be outside and for times that we can't follow the six feet apart rule, we ask that anyone attending wear a mask, just to be safe.

**Our schedule at this time is as follows:**  
**Summer Reading Sign-ups begin**

**on Wednesday, June 23rd, and Thursday, June 24th- we will take sign-ups after that, but no sign-ups before the 23rd.**

On **Thursday, July 1, 2021 at 5:30p.m.**, Join us for a program based on a book by a local author Thomas Farnen from Unity, ***Bessie's Story: Watching the Lights Go Out***. The book is about the author's Chocolate Lab who gradually loses her sight from a rare disease. Bessie herself will also be there.

The program will be outside and is free. On **Monday, July 12, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.**, the **Squam Lakes Natural Science Center** will be at the library to present a program called **No Two Tails Alike** featuring 3 native wildlife ambassadors with different tails with their own unique function.

The program will be outside and is free. On **Monday, July 19, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**, **CLiF Program Speaker Marty Kelly** will be at the library to tell a story and hand out the FREE BOOKS which are made possible by the CLiF Grant which we received again this year. Each child will receive 2 books of their choice.

The program will be outside and will be free. On **Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.**, **Jerry Schneider** will return with a program on **Pollinators**.

Participants may bring their own t-shirt to paint after the program or Mr. Schneider will also have t-shirts for sale. The charge for the new t-shirts is \$4.00.

The program will be outside and is free.

On **Monday, August 2, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.**, Steve Blunt will return to present a program of **Tales and Tails**; the program will be outside and will be free.

On **Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**, Storyteller Sharon Wood will be here to present a story based on the Summer Reading Program theme of **Tails and Tales**. The program will be outside and is free.

Throughout the summer on Wednesdays when another program is not scheduled, there will be a craft program created by the library staff—all supplies will be provided free of charge. More information will be forthcoming.

Library staff will also be putting together craft kits which can be picked up by parents if their child can't make it to the craft program.

Please call the library at 542-7017 for more information.

All programs will be outside and when six feet of space is not possible, all attendees are required to wear masks. If you need a mask, one will be provided.

## REMINDER

### to all Owners of property in Claremont

– your 1st quarter  
property tax bill is  
due July 1!

Remember there  
are 2 coupons on  
the bill you received  
with the 2<sup>nd</sup> coupon  
due October 2nd!



All programs are sponsored by The Friends of the Fiske Free Library.

## Concerts on the Common

NEWPORT, NH—The Newport Area Chamber of Commerce has announced that it is presenting its Annual Concerts on the Newport Common June 27th-August 29th. These concerts are free to the public thanks to its generous sponsors.

Schedule:

June 27, 2021: From Now On

July 4, 2021: Cruisin

July 11, 2021 : In Cahoots

July 18, 2021: Sound Investment

July 25, 2021: Bel Airs

August 1, 2021: Party Crashers

August 8, 2021: The Flames

August 15, 2021: Just Can't Wait

August 22, 2021: JJ's Music

August 29, 2021: TBD

## COH Pop-Up Concerts Series

CLAREMONT, NH—As part of its reopening and updated Membership Program, the Claremont Opera House is kicking off the summer season with a series of smaller pop-up concerts outside at Arrowhead Recreation Area. These pop-up concerts have something for everyone, are geared to get you out of your seats dancing, and are part of increasing the membership support of the COH.

**July 17th: Woods Tea Co** is a musical mugful of folk, bluegrass, celtic, and a splash of fun. They are synonymous with New England folk music since the early 1980s. The group draws on a wide variety of musical experience and expression that truly is good for you! Are you ready to dance an Irish jig?

**Aug 6th: Latin Night with Cuarteto Cario-ca** brings the vibrant sounds of latin music to Claremont. Based in the Monadnock region, their infectious blend of Brazilian Sambas, Choros, and Boss Nova; Cuban boleros and rumbas; and Argentine Tangos bring smiles to faces. These talented musicians blend their individual skills with the voice of a classically trained mezzo-soprano. Get ready to practice your salsa dancing!

**Sept. 11 - Dixieland Jazz with the COH Orchestra**, led by Director Gerry Grimo and members of the East Bay Jazz, will take you back to the start of jazz in New Orleans. You'll want to tap your toes and sway to classic hits

from Louis Armstrong and other well known artists from the period.

Tickets for all summer pop-up concerts are \$15.00 for adults and \$8.00 for K-12 students. Silver and Gold Members receive free tickets in reserved pods according to their membership selection. Tickets and Member Program information is available online at [www.claremontoperahouse.org](http://www.claremontoperahouse.org).

All concerts run from 6-8PM. In the event of rain, the concerts will be canceled.

## Claremont 4th of July Events

### Schedule of Events

Monadnock Park

6pm — Food Vendors Open

6:30pm to 9:30pm — American Cheese Performance

9:30pm — Fireworks presented by McGee Toyota of Claremont

## 2021 Brownsville Independence Day Celebrations

The Independence Day Committee in West Windsor has announced that, "with cautious optimism, great enthusiasm and encouragement from the West Windsor Select Board, we're full speed ahead for a grand Brownsville Independence Day Celebration in 2021." This year, because the 4th falls on a Sunday, 2021 will see a combined celebration on one day, Saturday, July 3rd. Actually, until recent years as many will recall, the 4th of July celebration activities were all held on one day.

Once again, during the day from 8:30 AM – 3 PM, there will be a community breakfast, lively music, games, a bouncy house, diverse food vendors, crafts, a book sale, and a gala parade at 1:00 PM.

For the first time this year, we're excited to announce that the Mt. Sinai Shriners Clown Unit will be participating in the parade.

And then, in the evening, we will all enjoy music, food, family picnics (no barbecues, please), and of course, spectacular fireworks at dusk.

Participating organizations include many area volunteer fire departments,

the Windsor Police Department, the West Windsor Historical Society, the Mary L. Blood Library, Lucy McKenzie Humane Society, Brownsville Community Church, Ascutney Outdoors, Mt. Ascutney Hospital, the Moonlighters Snowmobile Club, the Albert Bridge School, members of our equestrian community and more.


## The Prouty Announces In-Person Participation for 2021

LEBANON, NH – The Friends of Norris Cotton Cancer Center announce a hybrid Prouty event, with in-person and virtual participation options available this summer. Registration is open at [TheProuty.org](http://TheProuty.org).

There are four ways to participate in The Prouty this year. In-person options include: Golf (Friday, July 9 at Eastman Golf Links in Grantham, NH), 20-mile Cycle (Saturday, July 10 at Dewey Field Lot in Hanover, NH), 5k Walk (Sunday, July 11 at Dewey Field Lot in Hanover, NH). The Virtual Prouty and Prouty Ultimate will take place June 1-July 10, 2021, 40 days in honor of the 40th Prouty.

The Prouty is northern New England's largest family-friendly fundraising event combining cycling, walking, and more to raise funds and awareness for life-saving research and critical patient and family support services at Dartmouth's and Dartmouth-Hitchcock's Norris Cotton Cancer Center (NCCC).

In-person participation sign-ups will be open to pre-registered participants first. Space will be limited. Designated start times will be assigned to small groups to meet capacity restrictions and no large gatherings will take place this year. The Prouty will be following local health guidelines and enhanced safety protocols.



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— *64<sup>th</sup> Annual* —  
**PRESIDENT'S  
AWARDS**

**JUNE 29, 2021 | 3PM**  
**Monarch Farms**

*Recipients:*

**Model Youth:**

Gabby Savo

**Young Professional:**

Matthew Bean

**Citizen:**

Jeff Barrette

**Businesses:**

Joe's Family Car Care AND

Tremont House of Pizza

**Non-Profit Organization:**

Valley Regional Healthcare

**Ticket information available at**  
[www.greaterclaremontnh.org/Presidents-Awards/](http://www.greaterclaremontnh.org/Presidents-Awards/)

## Lake Sunapee VNA Offers Three Grief Support Groups

NEW LONDON, NH – Lake Sunapee VNA now offers three virtual grief support groups for the community. The “Newly Bereaved Widows Group” is for women who have experienced the loss of their husband within the last year and is held on the third Thursday of every month from 10:00-11:00am. The “Widow to Widow Group” is for women in all stages of grief and meets on the first Monday of every month from 3:30-5:00pm. Newly bereaved widows are welcome at this group as well, especially if they are feeling the need for more frequent support. In addition, a “Bereavement Check-in” group is available for men and women on the third Wednesday of every month from 4:00-5:00pm.

All of these groups provide an opportunity for participants to come together in a safe place of compassion and confidentiality. Attend once, multiple times or as needed. If interested, email your contact information to [loconnor@lakesunapeevna.org](mailto:loconnor@lakesunapeevna.org) and a member of the Lake Sunapee VNA bereavement team will call you with further details.

## Charlestown VFW Bingo Schedule

CHARLESTOWN, NH—Charlestown VFW Bingo schedule for the new year: Charlestown VFW Bingo is offering a weekly opportunity for some semblance of normalcy. Wednesday nights 5:00 for early birds and 6:30 for regular fun and games. Currently we play 12 regular and two 2 part games, as well as a 50/50 game, Winner–take-all game, Carry Over Coverall game and a Jackpot game. In Gov. Sununu’s most recent mandate request is that when moving about the hall, please wear a face covering whenever 6’ social distancing can’t be maintained. While seated at the tables, masks may be removed. Be mindful that in the Gov.’s mandate there are many reasons why someone may choose to not wear a mask – and they cannot be questioned or made to prove why they choose not to; nor will they be penalized for not wearing a mask. Please be respectful of others.

Attendance will be limited to 94. We do have some masks on hand as well as plenty of hand sanitizer for your use. To all our patrons that choose to attend, thank you for your patronage

during these turbulent times. For those who don’t feel comfortable attending at this time, we understand and wish you well until we can meet again.

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

## A Message from ServiceLink

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

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

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

Call 1-866-634-9412 toll free or find us online. Direct phone numbers and email addresses for each local office are listed on our website. Offices are located in Atkinson, Berlin, Claremont, Concord, Keene, Laconia, Lebanon, Littleton, Manchester, Nashua, Stratham, Rochester, and Tamworth.

## Claremont Senior Center News

It's beginning to look like the old days here. Now that we are open Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm, more seniors are coming in to pay their dues, chat a while, use the computer, pick up new books or puzzles and just enjoy the fact that we are on our way to being fully open.

We have put some clipboards out at the desk for activity sign up. We have pretty much decided to have Corn Hole on Wednesday afternoons, 4pm-6pm. Cribbage needs a sign up to determine what day and time you would like to play. The Wednesday Bingo is still lacking two or three volunteers to call back numbers and tend to card sales. Call 543-3998 to help once a month. Anyone for Mexican Train, Chess? Let us know what you would like to see as an activity.

It's coming! It will be here soon! Our Gigantic Penny Sale will be on Sunday, July 18. Doors open at 11am. Drawings start at 1pm. 300+ Prizes, Special Raffles, Door Prizes, Food, Fun, Laughs. The bags are ready for you to carry out all your winnings. Come one! Come all!

The last Foot Clinic for June will be on Wednesday, June 23. Call 748-1731 for an appointment.

Sometimes it is a little difficult to reach down and clip without cutting yourself. Let us help you. They will look and feel much better.

Those footsies will look good tapping to the music at our concerts. Two concerts will be presented for your musical pleasure. On Saturday, July 3, the East Bay Jazz Band will grace our backyard. Crown Point Cabinetry is sponsoring this fabulous band. Thank you, Crown Point. Strawberry Shortcake will be available. Our second concert will be the Firehouse 6 on Friday, Aug.6. Thank you to Roz Caplan for sponsoring this entertaining band. Ice cream sundaes will be available. Both concerts will be from 6:30-8:00pm. Bring a comfortable lawn chair, join friends, visit between songs, and enjoy a music filled evening.

As we present the menu for Tuesday and Thursday, we want to say Thank You to Ken and the volunteer crew for keeping us fed during this time. As usual, they have provided us with another two days of good eats.

Tues. June 22-Chicken Cacciatore, Rice, Vegetable, Dessert.

Thurs. June 24- Mac & Cheese, Ham, Vegetable, Dessert.

Take out only. Pick-up: 11:45am-12:15pm. Members-\$4, nonmembers-\$5. Call 543-5998 to reserve your meals.

Well, that's it for this week. So nice to see people moving around and staying safe.

Thought of the Week: You never achieve success unless you like what you are doing.

Laughter and good conversations always welcome here. Pet jokes welcome too.

Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights Rd, Claremont, NH. 543-5998. Mask rules posted.

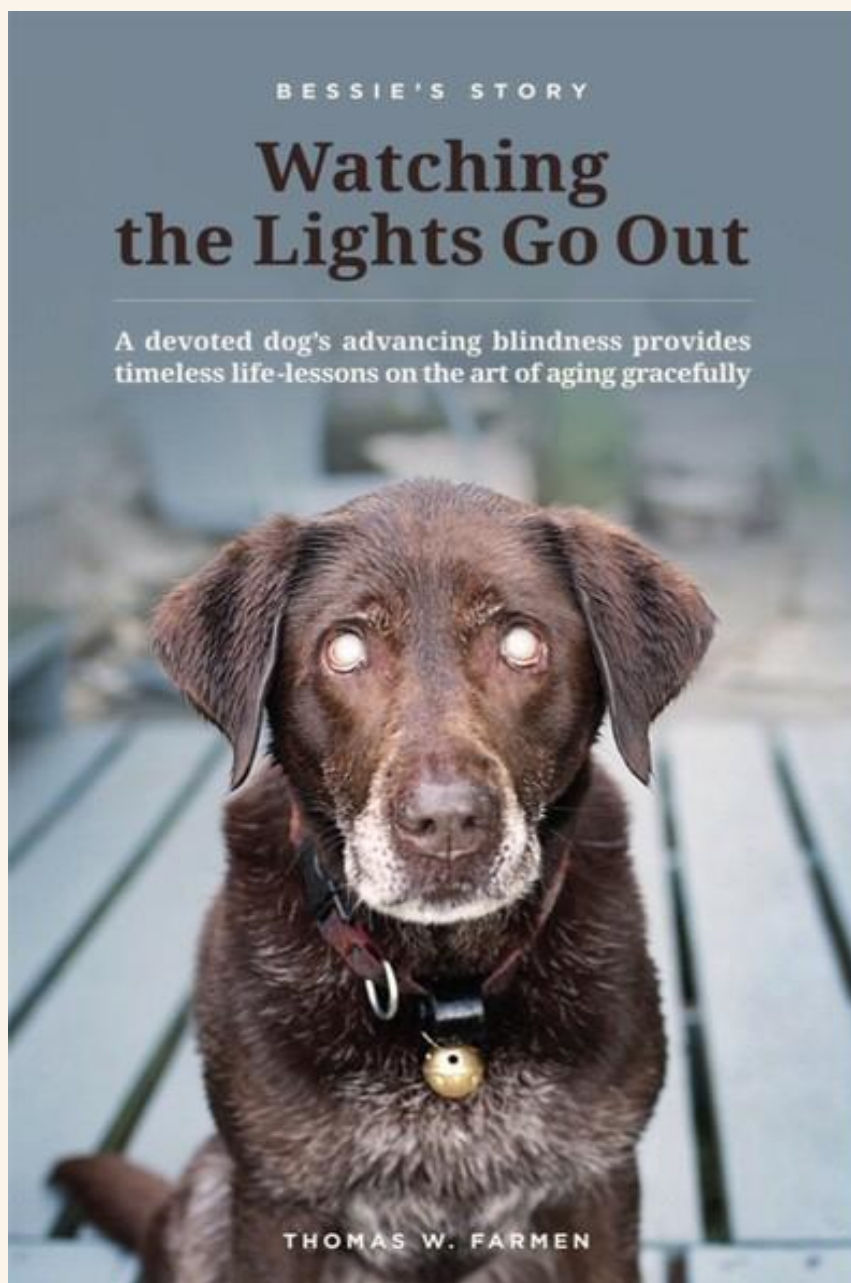
## Through JUNE 27 EXHIBITION AT SAINT-GAUDENS

Marietta Hoferer's show Interweave will be at the Picture Gallery at Saint-Gaudens National Historical Park from May 29 - June 27.

For more information, please contact Susan Piccoli, Exhibitions Coordinator, at: [sgmemorialexhibitions@aol.com](mailto:sgmemorialexhibitions@aol.com).

# DISCUSSION & SIGNING

with  
Thomas Farmen and his dog Bessie



**BESSIE'S STORY - Watching the Lights Go Out** is an inspiring story about a charming, brave, chocolate Lab who gradually loses her eyesight. The author leads the reader from the unexpected diagnosis of terminal blindness for his beloved four-year-old pet through the two-and-a-half year transition to sightlessness. In the process, Bessie unwittingly becomes an expert mentor and teacher for the high-wire act of growing older with grace and optimism.

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

**Thursday, July 1 @ 5:30 p.m.**



**Fiske Free Library  
108 Broad Street  
Claremont, NH**

**The Claremont City Council will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. PLEASE NOTE: Different Day.**

**AGENDA**

6:30 PM 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

6:32 PM 2. ROLL CALL

6:34 PM 3. AGENDA CHANGES

6:35 PM 4. CITIZEN'S FORUM (Comments on Non-agenda Items Limited to 5 Minutes per Speaker (Council Rule 23))

6:45 PM 5. OLD BUSINESS (BUDGET)

8:55 PM 6. CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

9:00 PM 7. ADJOURNMENT

**PLEASE NOTE: Claremont City Council's next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall and via Zoom. Public Hearing and Vote – 2022 Budget will be Wednesday, June 23, 2021.**

**The Claremont City Council will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.**

*AGENDA (Revised)*

- 6:30 PM 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 6:32 PM 2. ROLL CALL
- 6:34 PM 3. AGENDA CHANGES
- 6:35 PM 4. REPORT OF THE SECRETARY  
Minutes of June 5 and 9, 2021, City Council Meetings
- 6:37 PM 5. MAYOR'S NOTES  
A. Retirement Proclamations for Peggy Watson and Mary Walter
- 6:42 PM 6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
- 6:45 PM 7. CITIZEN'S FORUM (Comments on Non-agenda Items Limited to 5 Minutes per Speaker (Council Rule 24))
8. OLD BUSINESS
- 6:55 PM A. Legislative Update
- 7:00 PM B. Ordinance 586 Water Rates – *First Reading*
- 7:15 PM C. Ordinance 588 Sewer Rates – *First Reading*
9. NEW BUSINESS
- 7:30 PM A. Resolution 2021-34 Encumbrances – Public Hearing (City Manager)
- BREAK
- 7:50 PM B. Budget Hearing and Vote (City Manager)
- a. Resolution 2022-1 Tax Anticipation Note – Public Hearing
- b. Resolution 2022-2 To Adopt the 2022 General Fund Budget for the City of Claremont – Public Hearing
- c. Resolution 2022-3 To Adopt the 2022 Water Division Budget for the City of Claremont – Public Hearing
- d. Resolution 2022-4 To Adopt the 2022 Sewer Division Budget for the City of Claremont – Public Hearing
- e. Resolution 2022-5 To Adopt the 2022 Downtown Tax Increment Finance District Budget for the City of Claremont – Public Hearing
- 8:50 PM C. Change Street Name - Old Sewer Plant Road to Vineyard Valley Place – Public Hearing (City Manager)
- 9:00 PM D. Ordinance 584 Remove No Parking on Charles Street - Pleasant to Highland – First Reading (City Manager)
- 9:15 PM 10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND DIRECTIVES
- 9:20 PM 11. CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
- 9:25 PM 12. ADJOURNMENT

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



Remembering Loved Ones...

## Life Tributes

### Obituaries May Be Found On Our Website

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

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

### Lucille Richards

Lucille Richards passed away Monday, June 14, 2021. The first child born to Louis and Gertrude (Donovan) Lemieux, Sr. on December 22, 1931.

She was predeceased by her parents, Husband of 57 years, Chester Richards, her son Chad Richards, one sister Lois Barton, and two brothers: Louis Lemieux Jr. and Leon Lemieux.

Lucille held various manufacturing and retail jobs throughout her working career. She found her true calling at the Sullivan County Nursing Home, where she retired as the Director of the Environmental Department, which brought her great pride and satisfaction.

She loved life, laughter, friends, and above all family. She spent many days hosting cookouts by the pool at her home, and the more the merrier was her motto. She had a great many friends and taking her shopping was a testament to that. Every other person she ran into would stop for hugs and extended conversation.

She was a communicant of St. Mary Parish and St. Joseph's Parish and had spent numerous hours at the Adoration Chapel on a weekly basis.

She is survived by her son Karl Richards of Newport, NH, one grandson Kraig Richards of Newport NH, her daughter-in-law Gail Richards of Avon, CT, and one

daughter Karen Howard and her husband Rick, as well as several nieces and nephews. A private service will be held for the family at a later date as well as a celebration of life this summer.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23 Cornish Conservation Commission Meeting 7PM

We will meet at the top of Dingleton Hill, just south of 28 Fitch Drive. The meeting will take place outside, please bring your own chair. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will take place at 28 Fitch Dr, drive down the driveway and look for the barn.

Meetings are open to the public. All are welcome.

### PUBLIC NOTICE For a meeting of the CLAREMONT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

### FULL BOARD

To be held on  
Thursday, 24, 2021 at 7:30 AM

At the  
Visitor Center, 14 North Street, Claremont NH

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE For a meeting of the HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

To be held on  
Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 6:00 PM  
in Council Chambers, Claremont City Hall  
58 Opera House Square, Claremont NH

This meeting will be a workshop to benefit new members to the Commission.

David Messier, Chairperson

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

“The true primary-care provider is Mom.”

-Dr. Sam Given

Most of the time, a doctor can't help anything until Mom decides something isn't right. She makes the first move and calls the doctor. Dr. Sam attributes any success he and his staff have with kids to that vital first step. Yay, Mom.

DOCTOR **SAM'S**  
EYE CARE



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



SHS Class of 2021 Graduation, Thursday, June 10th, Monarch Farms

Photos and collage by Stacy Bathrick