

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**Profile: Claremont
Youth Soccer
Association; page A23**

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July 1, 2019

Day One

New SAU 6 Superintendent Launches into Work Today

By Eric Zengota
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—This morning, Michael Tempesta is starting his first day as the new SAU#6 superintendent of schools behind his desk. But he doesn't intend to stay seated for very long.

"I've never had a strictly desk job until I became superintendent of the Saugus [MA] public schools in 2013. For most of my career I've been in the classroom. I believe it's critical for a superintendent to spend at least a third of the time directly in the schools." This way, he will observe classes and meet with staff, all with the goal of collaborating to give principals and staff what they need to preserve the instructional core.

Tempesta's approach makes perfect sense for someone who, in his words, wants "to meet all the students." His collaborative focus on education also extends beyond the classroom to, in essence, the entire Claremont/Unity community. That way, he says, "all of us can work together to ensure the best educational environment for everyone." He wants to meet as many "stakeholders" as possible — parents, elected officials, municipal employees, business and civic leaders. To get started, he's holding open houses every Monday in July, beginning today. (See notice on page A13).

Over the last few weeks, Tempesta has been having one-on-one meetings with teachers, advisors, principals and school board members. These interviews are not stiff, formal exercises, he points out, but two-way exchanges about the SAU's — as well as the educators' — values, norms and goals. What do you see as the SAU's main issues?, he asks. What are your accomplishments you look upon with pride? What needs to be changed, and what preserved? Even: What are your expectations of me as superintendent?

Also on his to-meet-with list are members of the Sugar River and Unity education associations, as well as district associations of secretaries, paraprofessionals, administrators, and maintenance and transportation employees.



New SAU 6 Superintendent Michael Tempesta. He discussed his "collaborative focus on education", amongst other topics (Eric Zengota photo).

(Continued on page A3)

Sullivan County Grand Jury Indictments Released

NEWPORT, NH—The Sullivan County Grand Jury released the following indictments last week:

Loretta A. Doxter, 42, Newport, NH, indicted for Bail Jumping, May 9, 2019.

Jennifer Hayden aka Jennifer Reed, 38, Claremont, NH, indicted for Acts Prohibited (Poss. Cocaine Less 1/2 oz., Intent to Sell, Subsequent), April 29, 2019; Acts Prohibited (Possession Buprenorphine, Intent to Sell, Sub.), April 29, 2019; Acts Prohibited (Possession of LSD, Subsequent), April 29, 2019; Acts Prohibited (Possession of Oxycodone, Subsequent) April 29, 2019.

Darcie J. Miller, 32, Claremont, NH, indicted for Acts Prohibited (Possession of Suboxone)-Committed on Bail, Nov. 30, 2018; Acts Prohibited (Possession of Suboxone)-Committed on Bail, Dec. 13, 2018.

James R. Perry, 31, Claremont, NH, indicted for Acts Prohibited (Possession of Fentanyl), Jan. 3, 2019.

Rhonda Whitaker, 50, Claremont, NH, indicted for Theft by Unauthorized Taking, the said property, subject of the attempted theft from Walmart having a value in excess of \$1,500, May 22, 2019; Theft by Unauthorized Taking, the said property (Walmart), having a value in excess of \$1,500, May 22, 2019; Theft by Unauthorized Taking, certain retail items belonging to Walmart, May 22, 2019.

Melvin Martin, 38, Newport, NH, indicted for Duty to Report, failed to register in the State of New Hampshire as required, failed to report a change of address to the Newport Police Dept. as required.

Steven Kitchen, 34, Claremont, NH, indicted for Possession of Controlled Drug, Subsequent Offense (Oxycodone), May 7, 2019.

Brandon Brymer, 32, Williamstown, VT, indicted for Receiving Stolen Property (shotgun), Dec. 7, 2018; Receiving Stolen Property, (semiautomatic rifle), Dec. 7, 2018; Receiving Stolen Property (.22 caliber rifle), Dec. 7, 2018.

Heather Lord-Hill, aka Heather Lord, aka Heather Pacetti, 36, Claremont, NH, indicted for Resisting Arrest or Detention, April 16, 2019.

Edward Madigan, 58, Brattleboro, VT, indicted for Welfare Fraud, between or about July 1, 2015, and April 30, 2017.

Kimberly Havlir, 58, Claremont, NH, indicted for Welfare Fraud, between or about Dec. 1, 2013, and Dec. 25, 2015.

Gunner Clow, 21, Claremont, NH, indicted for Assault by Prisoner, May 29, 2019.

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Please Use Elm St. Entrance at VRH

CLAREMONT, NH—As of July 1, 2019, the Dunning Street entrance to Valley Regional Hospital will be reserved for VRH staff. Everyone is encouraged to access the facility via the main entrance on Elm Street, which is fully staffed and able to direct patients and visitors to their destination. Having a single entrance makes it easier to navigate patients from a common location, said management.

The lobby will also continue to host vendors and other staff events.

Sunapee Rec Dept. Seeks Fireworks Sponsors

SUNAPEE, NH—Sunapee Recreation Dept. is seeking sponsorships for the Annual Fireworks Display scheduled for Saturday, July 6th, in Sunapee Harbor. All contributions can be delivered or mailed to Sunapee Recreation, 23 Edgemont Rd. Checks are payable to: Sunapee Recreation Dept.

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NH Lottery Numbers

06/29/2019

NH PowerBall

13 17 24 59 62 8

NH Mega Millions 06/28/2019

2 35 49 53 63 1

Tristate Megabucks 06/29/2019

5 7 20 21 27 4

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



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Located in the Brown Block.

Tempesta, from A1

The more people Tempesta has gotten to know, the more enthusiastic he has become about his position. "I have a good feeling about the community. I've met a lot of people who have gotten a very good education here and are leading successful lives. The school board members and principals have been great. I saw lots of enthusiasm and pride at the alumni parade. And Stevens High School is a beautiful facility. Its blend of history and modern makes it like a museum, full of charm and character."

Vital to Tempesta's vision is that "there is no better touchstone, no greater relationship, than that between teachers, students and the curriculum. After all, we're teaching students how to learn."

Personalizing the curriculum to match students' needs is of special interest. "I was excited to discover that the Special Education program had identified at-risk students and then determined that they would be educated here in this SAU. I will always strive to make sure that each student can access the right educational opportunities in their home district."

In doing so, Tempesta will be building on his experience as executive director of the Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative for the past four years. In that position, he spearheaded the development of business and educational strategic plans aimed to prepare students for their futures, and coordinated internships to help them transition into adult life.

He also draws upon the core values he has nurtured as an English teacher and a high school and high/middle school principal since 1993.

These values are a belief that education must focus on the academic core; all people, stakeholders, viewpoints and perspectives should be respected and shared; fostering a culture of collaboration is key to achievement; and all students need to have access to curriculum, community, and the best possible educational, vocational, social, emotional and extra-curricular experiences as possible.

Tempesta sees two major issues facing Claremont, allocation of resources as well as teacher recruitment and retention. Neither is unique to Claremont, he pointed out; all districts face them.

"Financial challenges require getting the right programs into the schools on a limited budget so we can maximize the educational environ-

ment for all students. We have to assess and see which baskets to fill. We also have to find the best possible teachers and staff. It's important to create an atmosphere where people want to work and live. People will stay if they feel valued."

Poised to leap into a lot of hard, practical work, Tempesta also maintains a clear vision for moving forward. "We want all our students to become critical thinkers. We're aligning them with the 21st century and the global community that ranges far beyond 'just' Claremont and New Hampshire and New England."

Claremont to Host July 4th Celebration

CLAREMONT, NH—The Claremont Parks and Recreation Department has announced its lineup for the Annual July 4th Celebration at Monadnock Park on Thursday, July 4th. The excitement will begin at 6 PM with many local vendors on hand selling food, drinks, and novelty items. "We are excited to have Last Kid Picked, a local band that is considered one of New England's best cover bands, playing a variety of musical genres. The band is great for dancing or listening to and provides an enjoyable experience for all audiences," said Mark Brislin, Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Claremont. "July 4th is a great time to bring the community together and celebrate," he added. "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 or like us on Facebook @Claremont-Parks for up-to-date schedules and announcements for the July 4th celebration.

Schedule of Events

6:00 PM Food Vendors Open
 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Street Magic with Dylan Tenney
 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM Last Kid Picked Performance
 9:30 PM Fireworks Presented by McGee Toyota of Claremont

Intro to Sewing: Make A Recycled Bag

CLAREMONT, NH—Want to help solidify your basic sewing skills while making a tough (yet pretty!) grocery tote? Using grain feed bags we will up-cycle these to reusable grocery totes! Many choices! And environmentally friendly. This is a great project to help you learn to sew, or practice your basic skills.

7/2, 6 - 8 PM

Location: Claremont Makerspace

To register, please go here:

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#/event/2019/7/2/make-a-recycled-bag>



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Commentary

NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier



County Budget Set, State Budget Vetoed by Gov.

Sullivan County has a budget in place for the new fiscal year, which starts today, July 1, but New Hampshire does not yet have a budget for the new two-year cycle, which also starts today, because Gov. Christopher Sununu has vetoed it.

On June 28 in Newport, the Sullivan County Delegation of New Hampshire's House of Representatives approved a Fiscal Year 2020 Budget totaling \$33,008,168 with \$13,605,228 of it to be raised by property taxes. The budget was approved by a unanimous bipartisan voice vote of the Delegation's 12 representatives present, with Unity Rep. John Callum absent. Approval came after no debate, and an earlier unanimous bipartisan recommendation of the Delegation's EFC (Executive Finance Committee) to approve the budget on June 21. While there was no debate, EFC Vice Chair and Acworth Rep. Judy Aron gave an oral presentation of the new revenue and spending plan that was illustrated with a slideshow. Additionally, at the same meeting which lasted just over one hour, the Delegation adopted some non-controversial housekeeping measures, which will allow county government to conduct its day-to-day business.

In contrast, one day earlier on June 27, both the House and New Hampshire Senate, the majority of whose members are Democrats, approved a two-year approximately \$13 billion operating budget and budget trailer bill, which was supposed to take effect today. Both the operating budget, House Bill 1, and trailer legislation, House Bill 2, were passed along party lines, with all Democratic representatives and senators in support, and all Republican representatives and senators in opposition. More specifically, House Bill 1 was approved by a 209-144 roll call vote in the House, and a 14-10 roll call vote in the Senate, while House Bill 2 passed on a 207-145 roll call vote in the House, and the same 14-10 roll call in the Senate. But in preparation for the Republican Governor's anticipated vetoes of both bills, the House and Senate beforehand by nearly unanimous voice votes adopted a continuing resolution which would fund state government at the same level as the previous Fiscal Year 2019 Budget for up to three months, or in other words up to Oct. 1 of this year. The House and Senate adopted the continuing resolution, which the Gov. Sununu did sign into law on June 28 after issuing his vetoes so as to keep state government running, and avoid a shutdown of all non-essential public services. Adoption of this resolution should allow enough time for House as well as Senate leaders to negotiate with the Governor on the budget, and come up with an acceptable compromise that would then have to be approved by both bodies by Oct. 1.

Nevertheless, during the June 27 floor debate on the operating budget and trailer bills, Democratic members of the House Finance Com-

mittee had strongly defended the House-Senate recommended versions of both bills as reasonable and worthwhile measures for our state, versions which were agreed upon by joint committees of conference for the two on June 20 after House and Senate Democrats made compromises on their earlier-passed versions in attempt to placate the Governor. These defenders included Finance Committee Chair Mary Jane Wallner, who is a Concord representative. Rep. Wallner declared that the recommended budget was a "balanced and fiscally responsible" spending plan "investing in the priorities" of a majority of our state's citizens. Among other points, she touted the budget's total of \$40 million in new and unrestricted revenue sharing to our state's municipalities as well as the \$138 million in additional funding for Grade K-12 public schools. More dollars that should result in some property tax relief to communities like Claremont.

Furthermore, Rep. Wallner stated that House Bills 1 and 2 would have helped combat New Hampshire's opioid and mental health crises in various ways. Among these ways was including more funding for Medicaid expansion, which would have helped citizens dealing with opioid addiction and mental health problems. Also, both would have created a 25-bed SPU (Secure Psychiatric Unit), an SPU that would have stopped the present housing of civilly-committed mental health patients at the Mens' State Prison in Concord. Finally, it would have created the first ever statewide mobile crisis and intervention unit for mentally-ill children, which should advance such children's health, while eventually reducing special education costs.

However, House Republicans, including Republican Leader and Merrimack Rep. Richard Hinch, criticized the recommended revenue and spending plans in a passionate floor speech. Among other points, Rep. Hinch said that that it would increase spending by an astronomical 13 percent. He added that this new and increased spending would wipe out all previous budget surpluses produced by Republican legislatures, tap into the Rainy Day Fund, and eventually lead to higher or new taxes like a capital gains, income, or sales tax within the next few years. Another Republican representative, Kingston's Kenneth Wyler, added that that the budget and trailer bills would retroactively increase business taxes, which was unfair, and possibly contrary to the New Hampshire Constitution. Rep. Wyler claimed that local school districts did not need or deserve the extra education funding because they are now spending too much money, too much money on school staff, the majority of whom are not longer teachers, but such unnecessary staff as guidance counselors and psychiatrists for elementary students.

For the record, I did vote for House Bills 1 and 2 as recommended by their House-Senate Committees of Conference. I did so because both were good revenue and spending plans that would have helped communities like Claremont, and begun to deal with some of our state's most important problems like mental illness and opioid abuse. I was disappointed the Gov. Sununu chose to veto both bills, and would not compromise, or beforehand offer alternative solutions to House and Senate Democratic leaders on such issues as education funding and high property taxes. Thankfully, the Governor did sign the continuing resolution to keep the government running for the next three months, which I'm glad we in the House and Senate passed in preparation for

(Continued on page A5)

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Rep. Cloutier, from A4

his veto. Hopefully, a compromise acceptable to everybody can be achieved by Oct. 1.

Finally, I, of course, voted for the new Sullivan County budget, and am pleased that it passed by a unanimous bipartisan vote. Overall, I believe the budget is a good one that enables the county to provide essential services, while limiting its property tax increase to 2.5 percent. I plan to write more about this budget in my next column.

Email: jocloutier@comcast.net

Letter to the Editor

Support Net Metering in New Hampshire

To The Editor:

We would like to submit an opinion about the veto of House Bill 365, Net Metering in NH. This legislation, originally passed by a Republican majority NH State legislature, would raise the the capacity for solar production in the State, from one Megawatt, to five Megawatts. The Governor vetoed the bill.

It is hard to imagine in this era of Global Climate Change, that anyone would not be in favor of expanding green energy. The Governor's disposition on this MAY rest with the fact that according to Catherine Corkery, of the NH Sierra Club, "the fossil fuel industry and utilities such as Eversource, have given more than \$100,000.00 to Governor Sununu's campaigns and his inaugural fund".

And so it is that politics works.

My wife and I installed solar energy last autumn here in Claremont. To date, our electric bill has plummeted, and according to our electronic tracker, the energy we have produced, used, AND sold back to Eversource, is the equivalent of 6,454 lbs of CO2 emissions prevented, and 163 trees planted, and we have just moved into the peak production months of the year. Our average bill for our home and an attached apartment used to be \$ 150.00 per month! Since February, the largest bill we have seen has been \$ 37.00, with two months of no bill at all --and again, this with an exceptionally cloudy April and May, and peak production in June, July, and August ahead.

It is unthinkable that the Governor would prevent people like ourselves, schools, communities, etc., from installing solar if they chose because....??? he takes money from the fossil fuel industry? He likes the idea of a warmer New Hampshire? Ignorance?

Please contact your State Representative, and ask them to override this veto.

Michael and Margaret Saracino, Claremont, NH

Shaheen, Rubio, Cardin Lead Legislation to Permanently Reauthorize Successful Programs to Encourage High-Tech Small Business Growth

WASHINGTON, DC—On Thursday, U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), a senior member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship (SBC), SBC Chairman Marco Rubio (R-FL) and SBC Ranking Member Ben Cardin (D-MD) introduced legislation to make permanent and strengthen the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. These programs award competitive contracts to small businesses to develop innovative technologies that keep the U.S. economy competitive and address national security needs. The SBIR and STTR Permanency and Improvement Act of 2019 would make the programs permanent across all participating agencies.

“New Hampshire invests millions of dollars from SBIR and STTR grant funding every year, boosting research and development opportunities at our companies and academic institutions throughout the state. These federal programs help ensure New Hampshire has a level playing field to stay at the forefront of innovation, which is why I’m excited to work with Senators Rubio and Cardin to see that the SBIR and STTR programs are permanently reauthorized,” said Shaheen. “The bipartisan support [of] SBIR and STTR speaks volumes to the success of these programs in unleashing the ground-breaking potential of America’s high-tech small businesses.”

Pianist-Vocalist-Composer Tim Kelly to perform at Library Arts Center

NEWPORT, NH—On July 18th, pianist-vocalist-composer Tim Kelly will give a performance at the Library Arts Center in Newport, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Newport Historical Society and the Corbin Bridge Festival.

The program will consist of instrumental and vocal jazz featuring music from Miles Davis, Dave Brubeck, Thelonious Monk, Al Jarreau, songs of the Great American Songbook, vocal impressions, Broadway pieces and some of Tim's original compositions honoring the Corbin Bridge and other New Hampshire original pieces.

Having started as a full-time performer in Boston, at age 14 and after serving in Vietnam, he then graduated from Berklee College of Music. Kelly has enjoyed a long and fruitful career as a much sought-after singer, pianist, composer and entertainer.

Currently with over 9,700 performances and counting, Kelly brings unmatched versatility

and experience, as well as masterful instrumental, vocal, comedic and entertaining skills to any performing situation. A Tim Kelly performance is remembered long after the last note has been played

He has performed for Presidents Bush and Clinton as well as shows at the top venues in Boston, New York, Las Vegas, Florida, the Caribbean and cruise ships while traveling to and performing in every continent.

Kelly has shared the marquee with such stars as George Benson, Patti Labelle, Jeffery Osborne, David Sanborn, Marcus Miller, Kool and the Gang, Gary Burton, Kurt Elling and many more during his 45+ year career as a full-time performing musician. Last year he produced, wrote, and headlined in his original show "One World" at the Las Vegas Convention Center for 5,000 people representing 98 countries.

Kelly is a resident of North Newport, NH, when he is not traveling to perform. The con-

cert on July 18th will be a rare opportunity to experience a world-class musical performance in the Newport area. Previous concerts that Tim has done in this area have been met with rave reviews.

Seating is limited as there is a 70 seat capacity at the Library Arts Center. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by contacting the Newport Library Arts Center at 863-3040 or at their website [www. http://libraryartscenter.org](http://libraryartscenter.org). For more information and videos of Kelly performing, please visit www.tkellypiano.com.



Tim Kelly

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Childcare Center Seeks Different Location Away from Proposed Transitional Housing Site

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—The owner of the Ready Set Grow childcare center was back before the Planning Board Monday night, seeking an amended site plan approval. It was only a few weeks ago that Farhan Yaqoob was before the Board and received approval for his application to relocate his center from 10 Royce St. to the former Bond Auto Parts building on Main St. However, it was shortly thereafter that he learned of the county's proposal to locate a transitional housing facility in the former Eagle Times building at 19 Sullivan St., not far from where he had intended to relocate the child care facility. Yaqoob has said he didn't think that parents would feel comfortable with the two facilities being so close to each other. The county has said that the facility would be for drug offenders who have successfully completed the TRAILS program and those convicted of violent crimes would not be housed in the Sullivan St. facility. The county is still in the early stages of the proposal to secure cost estimates of renovating the building.

Monday night, Yaqoob sought approval to move his business instead to 145 Charlestown Rd., where he would be leasing space for the center; the facility would accommodate a maximum of 70-75 children; there would be 9 parking spaces, six in the front and three on the right of the building. Yaqoob said he would be leasing the space, minus the two bays there, but was looking down the road with an interest to add classrooms.

Because the property is located in Zoning District B2, the request will have to go before the Zoning Board for a special exemption. The board requested that the issues of the traffic pattern, entering and exiting, as well as the parking and emergency lighting, be made part of its condition of approval for the site plan with amendments.

Yaqoob said that he was anxious to receive approval so that he could move forward with the location as soon as possible; he said he did not want to discuss publicly the reasons for moving from the Royce St. address. The Zon-



Eileen Skowronski reads to the children during the Claremont Elks Community Baby Shower. The Claremont Elks Lodge will be hosting another Story Time and free books for children on July 9th at 6:00 p.m. (Photo courtesy of Carrie Torney).

ing Board meets Monday, July 1st, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. No abutters attended Monday's Planning Board meeting to raise concerns or issues regarding the site plan for the center.

Public Reading of Frederick Douglass' Anti-Slavery Speech

CLAREMONT, NH— A public reading of Frederick Douglass' speech, "What to the American Slave is Your Fourth of July?", will be held on July 3rd at 6 PM in Moody Park at the Upper Pavilion at the top of the hill. Frederick Douglass, born a slave in 1818, escaped slavery in Maryland. See Wikipedia for information about his daring escape.

On July 5, 1852, Douglass delivered this address to the ladies of the Rochester Anti-Slavery Sewing Society. It was deemed by one biographer as "perhaps the greatest antislavery oration ever given." (McFeeley, 1991) Douglass became one of America's great orators and worked as a social reformer for the abolition of slavery and women's rights.

This reading is in solidarity with the 12 other towns in NH which are reading the speech on the same day to remind the public of the con-

tributions that generations of enslaved African Americans have given to the comfort and prosperity of our nation and her enslavers. This reading is part of the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire's Frederick Douglass Public Reading Project.

The 20 Africans who were posthumously awarded their freedom by NH Legislature 233 years after they petitioned the legislature for their freedom will also be acknowledged. A brief explanation of their petition as well as a reading of their names will honor these men who eloquently expressed their desire for freedom to government officials in 1779. The original petition was deemed inexpedient to legislate as it was submitted in the middle of the Revolutionary War. Eventually, six of the enslaved men were freed and 14 others died in enslavement.

Please bring something to sit on if the event takes place near the Pavilion instead of in the Pavilion. The reading will take about an hour. Participants may share in the reading of the speech.

This reading is sponsored by the Racial Healing Working Group and ACTS Now. For more information, please email racialhealing-workinggroup@gmail.com.



to find a workable solution. To all who have labored to bring the budget to this point, thank you. Should more effort be required, we are counting on you to bring this to a close.

Charlene Lovett is the Mayor of Claremont and welcomes your feedback. Please email questions, comments or concerns to her at clovett.ccc@gmail.com.

Editor's Note: Governor Chris Sununu did veto the vetoed the \$13 billion, two-year state budget Friday, stating that "it contained unsustainable increases in state spending and job killing tax increases." He signed a 90-day continuing resolution to keep government operating until a compromise can be reached later this summer.

Finalizing the State Budget

As we near the end of the budgetary process at the State House, there can be no doubt that our voices have been heard. In their proposed budgets, both the Governor and the Legislature recognized the local need for increased education and infrastructure funding, as well as support for childhood lead poisoning prevention efforts in Claremont and throughout the state. Because the approaches were different, the successful adoption of a budget for the FY20/21 has been a challenging process. However, finalizing that process and adopting a sustainable budget that meets the needs of municipalities is critical to the economic well-being of communities across the state.

This year, Claremont citizens travelled to Concord on multiple occasions to advocate for our community. Our voices were joined by those from many other municipalities experiencing the same issues resulting from annual reductions in state funding. Such reductions have resulted in rising property taxes, deferred maintenance, and a lack of financial resources to make the investments needed to spur economic growth. It has been especially hard on those communities that do not have the tax base to absorb decreased state funding or a household income that is lower than the state average.

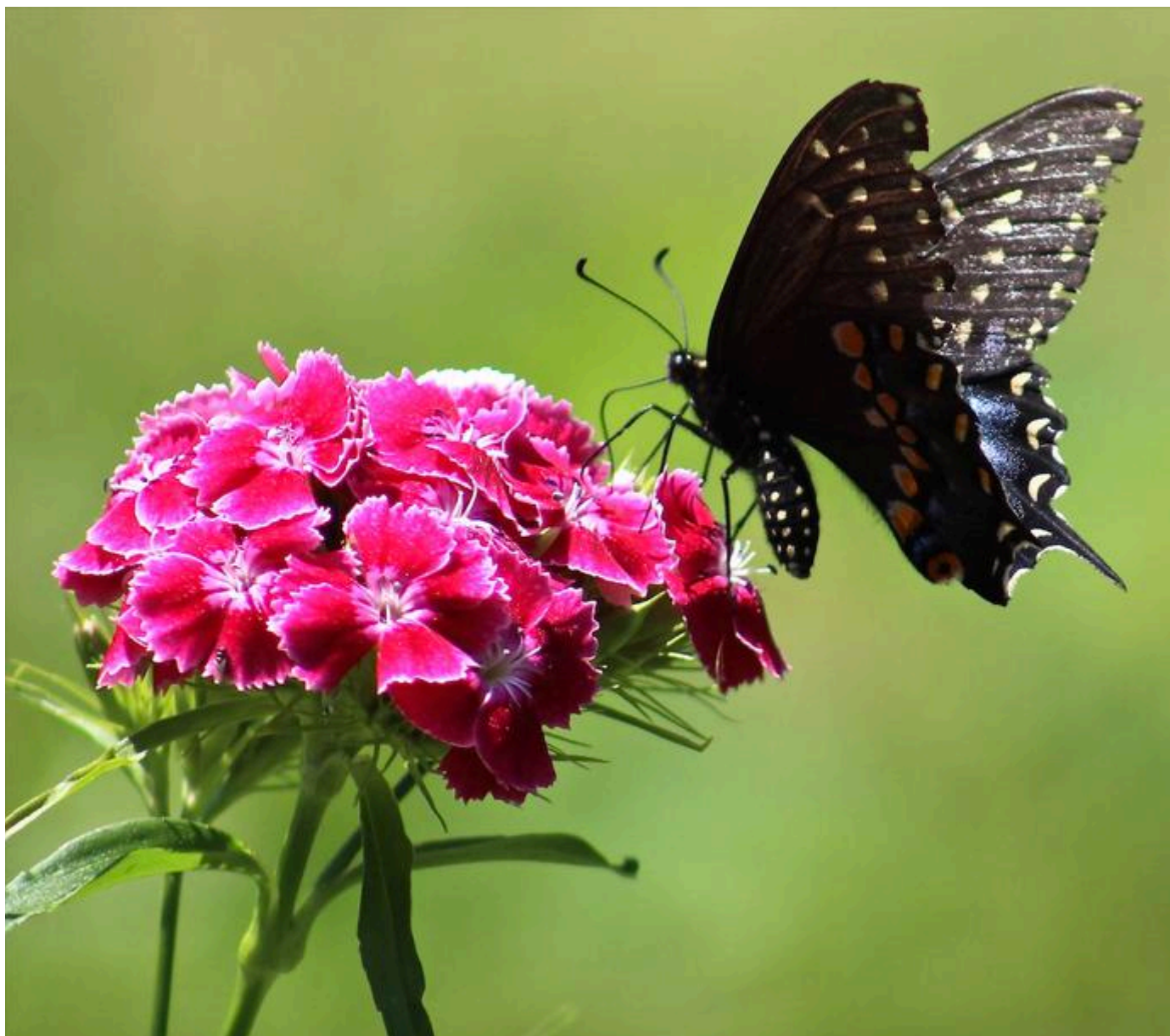
In fact, it is not sustainable. Should the Governor veto the budget, it will signal that the compromises made during the process were not sufficient to reach an agreement. Whatever the reasons may be, the focus must be on finding a solution sooner rather than later. Like many other NH communities, Claremont cannot afford to wait. State funding at the continued level will not equip us with the resources we need to move forward. In fact, it will ensure further stress on the property owner as municipalities account for inflation, and increased costs in health care and construction.

Should Governor Sununu veto the budget, I hope it will only create a greater determination

City Manager Search Narrows Field Down to Five Candidates

CLAREMONT, NH—Reading from a prepared statement provided by Asst. Mayor Allen Damren who was unable to attend the Wednesday night Council meeting, Councilor Jonathan Stone reported that the City Manager Search Committee had narrowed the number of candidates down to five. Thursday, the committee was to discuss and "agree upon" three essay questions to be sent to each of the five candidates. The committee will also be working on arranging personal interviews, with the goal of conducting them over the next two to three weeks. The end goal of that is to select the three final candidates who will then be advanced to the City Council for consideration. Some 56 applications were originally received for the position.

—Phyllis A. Muzeroll



A swallowtail stops to check out Sweet William blossoms on a summer day (Phyllis A. Muzeroll photo).

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ACWORTH— Quaint country home on 8+ private acres, consisting of 3 bedrooms and a two car garage with a deck leading to an enclosed front porch. Living room has a fireplace with a wood stove insert looking up at a cathedral ceiling. Abundant flowerbeds and nice landscaping in the open acre. The wooded portion leads to many walking and snowmobile trails! \$99,000 (MLS#4755285)



NEWPORT— This vinyl sided 2 bedroom home has been taken back to the studs and partially wired. Home sits on 4.6 acres and is anxiously awaiting your finishing touches. \$40,000 (MLS#4756262)



NEWPORT—Great location just out of town! Two family home with large barn and a lovely lot with plenty of outdoor space to enjoy. Two bedrooms and a bathroom on each level. Standing seam roof, updated windows, and vinyl siding. Looking for a new owner to show her some love! \$49,900 (MLS#4757542)



BOMOSEEN, VT—2 bedroom Cottage/camp close to Lake Bomoseen VT. Located off a private road, this handyman special with a drilled well and public sewer has great potential. \$85,000 (MLS#4758211)



SPRINGFIELD, VT—This is a huge village home with 15 rooms on a big 1.9 acre level lot with a 3-car detached garage and a new roof. It does require some updating. Great location! \$125,000 (MLS#4758899)



CLAREMONT— This home includes a wonderfully updated kitchen outfitted with black appliances and a custom rolled hood vent. Updated baths, windows, and electrical panel. Brand new roof and furnace. Beautifully landscaped lot with seasonal flower beds and a greenhouse to start your flowers and plants from seedlings. Heated garage, small shed, and a location in a great neighborhood! \$165,000 (MLS#4759313)



CLAREMONT—Classic 3 bedroom New Englander with 1 full bath, eat-in kitchen, dining room, enclosed front porch, and a bonus room on first level. Newer roof, vinyl windows, parking for 2 to 3 cars, and an easy to care for lot in the heart of town. \$110,000 (MLS#4759774)



CHARLESTOWN— This 2 BR, 2 bath 1987 Holiday Manor home is move-in ready with bedrooms at the opposite ends and a family living space in between. Has been freshly painted throughout and upgraded with a newer furnace. Nicley landscaped lot with pretty plantings, a partial fence for privacy, and a paved driveway. \$21,900 (MLS#4759841)



CHARLESTOWN— This Cape Cod sits in a rural setting. Inside you'll find an open concept kitchen, dining, and living room. Slider door from dining area to deck. 2 bedrooms on the first floor, with the second floor all ready for refinishing should you need more rooms. Also has an attached 1 car garage. \$135,000 (MLS#4760933)



CLAREMONT—Spectacular property with magnificent views and frontage on the Connecticut River! Amazing 4BR house with 3 finished levels, 3 car garage plus boat storage space, dock, and a gazebo all on 25+/- mostly open acres. The kitchen is a cook's dream. Dine overlooking the river. Formal dining room and open concept living room, and first floor master bedroom suite allowing stair-free living. Drastic reduction to \$499,000 (MLS#4761774)



CLAREMONT— Updated 3BR home PLUS a BR in-law unit over the garage. Bluff area home with metal roof, new windows, beautiful wood floors, exposed beams, 1st floor laundry, 2 baths, large eat-in kitchen with ceramic tile floors and sliders to the private back yard and a screen house. \$189,900 (MLS#4761833)



CHARLESTOWN— Open concept post and beam Ranch with a soaring vaulted ceiling through the living room area. The large bath includes a custom built in corner dresser. The back yard is open for your garden, family get-togethers, and much more. Brand new furnace last winter. Rural location with easy access to amenities. \$132,500 (MLS#4761964)

Classified Ads

2.69 ACRES IN TOWN



CLAREMONT - The new addition will make you say "WOW" when you walk in the Great Room and see the spectacular fireplace. This home has a great floor plan. Enjoy summertime entertaining in the 11x35' screen porch. If you like the out- doors, enjoy nearby ATV and snow-mobile trails, explore the outdoors! See turkey, deer, and more! **See MLS# 4744400** for more photos. Price reduced to **\$210,000**



Bonnie Miles



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Ann's Property Of The Week

**1103 Blood Hill Rd.
West Windsor, VT**



**Century 21/Highview Realty,
42 Summer Street, Claremont, NH
03743**

603-542-7766



Privacy, but still close to amenities.

Looking for privacy? This 4 bedroom 2 bath home is located on 10.89 acres. Make this your 2nd home or year round home. This property has a large deck with nice views of the mountain, field-stone fireplace and garage. Privacy, but still close enough to all amenities. Move in Ready! This home is being sold fully furnished, with the exception of few personal items.

MLS # 4735171 \$230,000

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**131 Broad Street
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Office: 603-287-4856
Fax: 287-4857
Cell: 603-477-1872**



Ashley Bergeron
Agent



This stunning farmhouse is ready for you. Gorgeous gourmet kitchen with center island and new stainless steel appliance, open floor plan from the formal dining room to living room with an inviting fireplace. Three bedrooms with two baths, enclosed sun room with antique barn boards. Hardwood floors and tile throughout the home. Attached over-sized garage on an acre of land. **\$231,500**

Classified Ads

Sullivan County Fugitive of the Week

**SHAWN
CARDI**

DOB:
01/14/1986

LKA: 10 Ram
Brook Road,
Newport, NH

Description:
White male,
height: 5'9",
weight: 150
lbs., eyes:
blue, hair:
blond



Reason: Violation of Probation

Original charges:

Attempted Theft 3rd Offense, Class B Felony
Possession of the Controlled Drug Focalin,
Class B Felony

On Oct. 21, 2015, Cardi was indicted by the
Sullivan County Grand Jury on one count of
possession of a controlled drug and one
count of attempted theft 3rd offense.

On May 6, 2016, Cardi pled guilty in Sullivan
County Superior Court to one count of pos-
session of controlled drug and one count of
attempted theft 3rd offense. As part of Cardi's
sentence, he was placed on probation.

On June 6, 2019, the New Hampshire Proba-
tion Department filed a violation of probation
against Cardi in the Sullivan County Superior
Court. it was alleged that Cardi had violated
the terms and conditions of his probation.

On June 14, 2019, the Sullivan County Supe-
rior Court issued a warrant for the arrest of
Cardi for violation of probation.

*The Fugitive of the Week is provided by Sher-
iff John P. Simonds of the Sullivan County*

CLAREMONT, NH

2 Story Cape 3 Bed 2 Bath

* Insulation, wiring, and doors updated

* 3 season screened-in back porch

MLS # 4747039 \$109,900



CHARLESTOWN, NH

1 Story Ranch 3 Bed 2 Bath

* Good sized bedrooms on main floor

* Basement can be In-law apartment or
guest quarters

MLS # 4736089 \$177,500



CLAREMONT, NH

1 Story Ranch 3 Bed 2 Bath

* Spacious bedrooms with views

* Workshop plus seasonal room

MLS # 4749382 \$239,000



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*Sheriff's Office. if you have any information regarding the whereabouts of this fugitive, please
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Classified Ads

Full Time Communications Specialist Springfield, VT

One Credit Union is currently seeking an experienced Full-Time Communications Specialist to join our Springfield, VT Contact Center Team.

The ideal candidate will have:

- Minimum of (2-3) years in customer service
- Consumer Lending experience is a plus
- Minimum of (3) years financial services experience
- Strong phone communication, verbal and listening skills
- Familiarity with the Windows Operating System with proficiency in basic computer skills(Internet, Email, Word Processing & Spreadsheets)
- Understanding of regulatory environment
- Strong TEAM player
- Ability to perform simple math such as interest calculations, percentages, multiplication and division.
- Demonstrated time management and prioritization skills

The Full-Time Communications Specialist reports to the Contact Center Supervisor

Requirements:

- Education Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent combination of education & experience.
- Wages commensurate with experience and skillsets.
- Benefits offered: Health Care, HRA, FSA, Dental, Vision, Life & Disability, 401k plan, Holidays (10), Paid Time Off (PTO)

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Silsby Library News

Our beautiful building, designed by C. C. McAlpine, is a wonderful small scale example of Romanesque Revival design sporting round arch windows, porch arches, steep gables, hip roofed dormers, and a round tower. Completed in 1894 and opened in 1896, it has been serving residents of Charlestown for 123 years. Ten years ago we began planning for restoration of the brickwork. This summer the project will begin. It will be a two year project of skilled and painstaking work, but when finished this jewel in our community will be standing strong and ready to serve the people of Charlestown for another century. Thank you Charlestown for funding our capital reserve fund and thank you LCHIP for your grant. Your combined generosity have made this project possible.

Museum passes are available for check-out. We hope you will take time this summer to visit VINS, Billings Farm and Museum, New Hampshire's State Parks, and the Fort at Number 4. All passes may be reserved in advance by calling the library or stopping by to sign up. Passes go out as an overnight circulation.

Children of all ages are welcome on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am for Grafton Nature Museum's summer programs. Dates and topics are:

7/3 Raptors

7/10 Busy Beavers

7/17 Who Eats What?

7/24 Righteous Reptile and Awesome

Amphibians

7/31 Who's Swimming in the Water?

8/7 The Abenaki and Nature.

We are getting ready for the Annual Library Book Sale on July 20, better known as Town Wide Yard Sale Day. Books will be set up in the library for browsing. We will have lots of fiction, non fiction and children's books available. Because we are in the library this year, we will have limited library services on Friday July 19 when we are setting up and we will have no library services July 20 during the book sale. We apologize for the inconvenience, but we should be back to normal by the time Monday rolls around.

Our Children's Literacy Foundation Summer Reader Program will be held on Tuesday July 23 at 10:30 am. Author, illustrator and storyteller Michael Daley will be here to entertain all. Join us for stories and free books! Each child from infant to teen will be able to choose

two books to take home and add to their personal library.

Keep up with all the library's special events by following us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SilsbyLibrary> or check our web page at <http://www.silsbyfree.org>.

Summer Activities at the Fiske Free Library

CLAREMONT, NH—Summer Camp out of your price range, want to take arts & crafts classes but the prices are too high, gas prices keeping you home this summer? Well we have a solution for you--camp out at the library this summer!

Every week there is a Wacky Wednesday program with crafts or painting and the program is free and all supplies are provided free of charge! There are many special programs over the summer and all are free. We have at least one program a week and sometimes more. There is still time to pick up a calendar of events-- There is magic, music, nature, puppets and much more! Since our theme this year is a Universe of Stories in honor of the 50th anniversary of the moon landing, there will also be a space theme to most of the programs.

When you sign up, you will get a free bracelet and pencil and at each milestone of a certain number of hours of reading, there will be an in-

centive or raffle ticket which goes into a drawing at the end of the summer for a chance at many great prizes. Come in and sign up, pick up a calendar so you don't miss any of the great programs!

P.S. If you don't live in Claremont you can still come to the programs or even better, check out the library in your home town--they will be having programs as well!

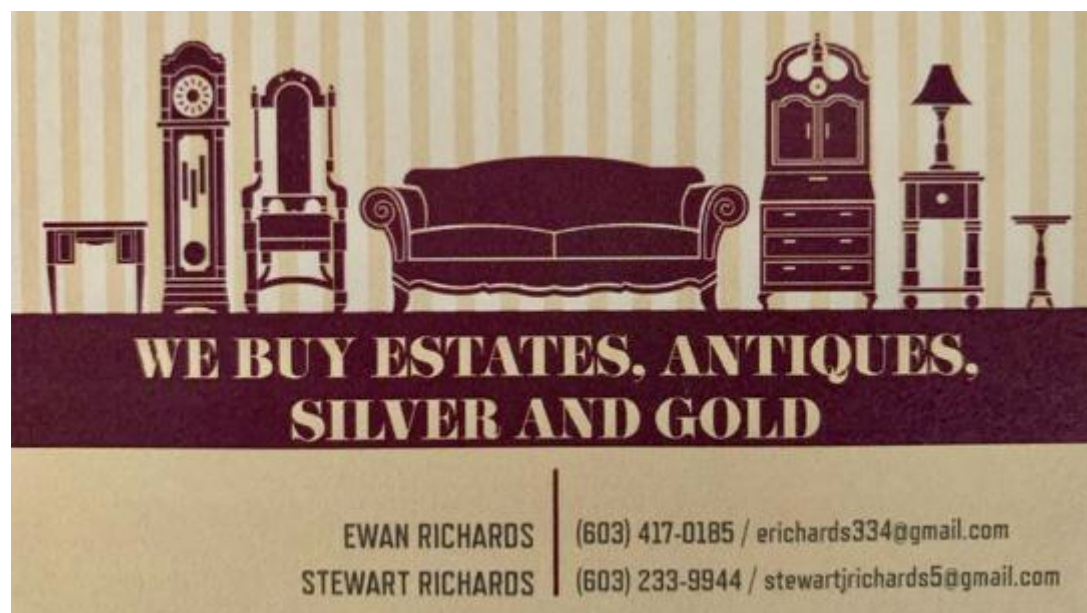
THURSDAY, JULY 4

Captain America: The First Avenger (PG-13)

Summer movie in Cory Taber Memorial Park behind Plainfield Community Church on 12A.

Bring you own chairs or blankets and snacks.

Movies start at 9:00 p.m.



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SAU#6

Superintendent

Open House

Every Monday in the month of July 2019,

SAU#6 Superintendent of Schools, Michael Tempesta,

will be holding

Open House receptions at the

Teal Lantern Room at

SRVRTC 111 South Street, Claremont N.H., from 4:00pm to 7:00pm

Light refreshments will be served

The public is highly encouraged to attend

(July 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29)

Giving to those who give back.

Congratulations to the 2019 Claremont Savings Bank Foundation grant recipients, whose dedication to the communities we serve inspires us every day.

Arrowhead Recreation Club	Gallery at the VAULT	Springfield On The Move
Ascutneyville Cemetery Association	Got Lunch Newport	Springfield Supported Housing Program
Bellows Falls Historical Society	Harbor Homes, Inc.	Sullivan County 4-H Leaders Assoc.
Black River Action Team	Headrest	Sullivan County Humane Society
Caring Animal Partners	HIV/HCV Resource Center	Sullivan County Nutrition Services
Charlestown Children's Fund	Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice	Sullivan County Sheriff's Office
Charlestown Senior Center	Library Arts Center - Richards	The Fort at No. 4
Claremont Cool Cats Special Olympics	Main Street Arts	TLC Family Resource Center
Claremont Fire Department	Meeting Waters YMCA	Trinity Episcopal Church Weekend Backpack Program
Claremont Learning Partnership	Muckross Day Camp	Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield, VT
Claremont NH Historical Society	New England Healing Sports Assoc.	Turning Points Network
Claremont Opera House	New England Kurn Hattin Homes	TwinState MakerSpaces, Inc.
Claremont Senior Center, Inc.	Newport Area Association of Churches/ Food Pantry	Valley Regional Hospital
Claremont Soup Kitchen, Inc.	Newport Opera House Association	Veterans Education & Research Assoc. of Northern New England
Community Access Television, Inc.	REMIX Coffee Bar & Social Club	Volunteers In Action
Community Dental Care	River Theater Company	West Central Behavioral Health
CT River Valley Special Olympics	River Valley Community College	West Claremont Center for Music and the Arts
Council on Aging for Southeastern VT	Riverside Middle School	WISE
Crescent Lake Regional Sno-riders,	Saint Gaudens Memorial	World Under Wonder Playhouse
Daniel Webster Council, BSA	Silby Free Public Library	
Edgar May Health & Rec. Center	Springfield Art & Historical Society	
Fall Mountain Friendly Meals	Springfield Community Players	
Food for Kids Backpack Program- Charlestown	Springfield Family Center	
Friends of the Fiske Free Library	Springfield Humane Society Inc.	



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e-Ticker Business News

Hypertherm Partners With COVER to Build a Ramp in Claremont

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VT—COVER Home Repair, a White River Junction-based nonprofit working to repair homes and build community, is celebrating the successful completion of a new accessibility project. With help from volunteers, COVER added a new wheelchair ramp to a home in Claremont. In addition, Mayor Charlene Lovett also volunteered on the job and thanked all the volunteers and the homeowners for the opportunity to work together.

The homeowner was a victim of an accident and requires a powered chair for mobility. However, the house needed an accessibility ramp so he could get in and out safely—the kind of urgent home repair that COVER has done many times before.

COVER, a nonprofit organization, coordinates more than 325 volunteers per year to undertake urgent home repair and weatherization projects in the Upper Valley.

Hypertherm has been a long-time supporter of COVER. In addition to encouraging its Associates to volunteer on urgent home repair projects, the company's HOPE Foundation also provides financial support to help pay for the cost of building materials, tools, and professional oversight.

COVER Director John Heath has designed and supervised the construction of more than 50 accessibility ramps that comply with the American's with Disability Act. According to COVER Executive Director Bill Neukomm, "COVER projects are really not about the ramp. We believe that when families experience a housing crisis, it's important for them to know that there are neighbors willing to work with them as partners on the project—in the spirit of neighbors helping neighbors."

Hypertherm volunteers on this job included Hypertherm CEO Evan Smith, along with Associates Travis La Haye, Zeb Mushlin, Mike Scheller, Kim Cooper, and Dick LaPlante in addition to COVER staff Jay Mead and Eliot Crow.



Mayor Charlene Lovett and Evan Smith, CEO of Hypertherm, at work on the ramp in Claremont (Courtesy photo).

Springfield Medical Care Systems and Springfield Hospital file for Chapter 11 - Reorganization

SPRINGFIELD, VT—On June 26, Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) and Springfield Hospital filed for Chapter 11 – Reorganization bankruptcy protection in Rutland, US Bankruptcy Court for the District of Vermont. The hospital and health centers will remain open and operating as usual while the organizations work through the Chapter 11 process, which is expected to last approximately 12 months, but may be longer depending on a number of factors.

Filing for Chapter 11 - Reorganization protection and debt restructuring "enables the hospital and health centers to continue provid-

ing high quality health care in local communities and to keep jobs in the region," said SMCS in a statement released late Monday afternoon.

Administrators expect minimal impact on operations and staff during the Chapter 11 process. All employees will be paid and no layoffs are planned. "Restructuring debt will allow both organizations to emerge from Chapter 11 protection on better financial footing," said a spokesperson.

"The health centers and hospital are not closing. Patient health and safety remain our
(Continued on page A16)

Got Business News?

e-Ticker Business News

SMCS, from A15

top priority and we will continue to provide excellent health care to the region during the reorganization process," said Joshua Dufresne, MBA, Acting Chief Executive Officer of SMCS. Over the past year, "in spite of the numerous steps SMCS and SH have taken to operate more efficiently, a combination of local and national factors have contributed to conditions that have made Chapter 11 reorganization a necessary step, including high levels of charity care and bad debt, large claims against the self-insurance pool, inadequate reimbursements, high-cost temporary providers, and a payer mix that includes increasingly fewer people covered by private insurance," said SMCS in the statement.

"The situation here is dynamic and we intend to keep our staff, patients, and the broader community informed of our progress," said Interim Springfield Hospital CEO Mike Halstead.

"The one thing we know for sure is we need the community's support. If you need hospital services, come see us."

SMCS and Springfield Hospital are planning community meetings throughout July in Springfield, Ludlow, Bellows Falls, Londonderry and Charlestown. All meetings are open to the public and dates will be published on www.springfieldmed.org.

"Springfield Medical Care Systems and Springfield Hospital medical staff will continue to provide excellent health care and our dedication to our patients will not change," said Chief Medical Officer, Cecil Beehler, II, MD. "Our doors are open and we are here when you need us."

Mosaic Mural Created by Local Students Unveiled at Ottauquechee Health Center

WOODSTOCK, VT – Following months of tile art creation by local students, glazing, kiln firing, and installation, Ottauquechee Health Center (OHC) in Woodstock, Vermont has unveiled a large mosaic mural on the wall facing Pleasant Street. The unveiling took place at a brief public ceremony on May 20 held outside

of OHC, which is part of Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center (MAHHC).

More than 30 community members and scores of students from the Prosper Valley and Woodstock Elementary Schools attended the unveiling, which featured opening remarks from MAHHC CEO and Chief Medical Officer

Dr. Joseph Perras. Perras welcomed the attendees and described the mural as a community engagement project involving 247 students and other community members in the creation of decorated ceramic tiles.

The tiles were created in the fall of 2018 under the direction of Robert Rossel, of Symmetry Tile Works in Epping, New Hampshire. A two-minute video of the mural's creation can be viewed at mtascutneyhospital.org/mosaic. 396 hand-decorated tiles now make up a 9-foot by 11-foot mural adjacent to OHC's main entrance.

The project was funded by local sponsors including community members, businesses, and non-profits, and the Trustees and staff of MAHHC. Top level sponsors included Ottauquechee Health Foundation, Laurance and Mary Rockefeller/Woodstock Foundation Fund, Woodstock Pharmacy, Woodstock Rotary Club, Hawk Gate Farm, and Mt. Ascutney Hospital Auxiliary.

Dr. Clare Drebitko, a pediatrician at OHC, spoke next, saying "What a pleasure it is to take care of so many Woodstock-area elementary school students, many of whom added their creativity to this project. And

how lovely it will be for both our staff and our patients to be greeted by this mural when they arrive here. Thank you to all of the students for their role in helping to create this amazing mural." Dr. Drebitko formally dedicated a tile

(Continued on page A17)

e-Ticker Business News

City officials, right, joined the Knowlton family, owners of the new Eclipse Float Center (35 Crescent Street, Claremont), for its Grand Opening recently. The business provides pods in which people float in a quiet, relaxing atmosphere designed for “stress reduction, muscle recovery, digital detox and pain management”. The water temperature is kept at 93.5 degrees and contains a high amount of Epsom salt to facilitate floating (Courtesy photo).



We post breaking news and updates on our website and Facebook page



Mosaic Mural Created by Local Students Unveiled at Ottauquechee Health Center in Outdoor Public Ceremony (Courtesy photo).


Mural, from A16

sponsored by the OHC staff to Dr. Michael Kilcullen for his 38 years of taking care of the pediatric patients of Woodstock and surrounding towns.

Woodstock Elementary School Principal Maggie Mills delivered remarks about the mural project’s impact on the school, and how it had captured the imaginations of the students. She introduced art teachers Brooke Piana and Lisa Kaija, who commented on the student’s involvement. Tile artist Robert Rossel then described the process of collaborating with the students, processing the tiles, and preparing them for permanent installation before ordering the mural’s unveiling.

To sponsor a tile by credit or debit card, or by PayPal, visit mtascutney-hospital.org/mosaic. Readers can also call Charles Clement at (802) 674-7321 or email mahdev@mahhc.org. The cost to sponsor each tile is \$100.

Send Business news and photos to etickernews@gmail.com



Sugar River Pharmacy
Claremont

Carl Bannon RPh
Chad Beane RPh
SRPClaremont@gmail.com

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Monday Morning Children's Theater Returns to Claremont Opera House

CLAREMONT, NH—At 10:00 a.m., Monday mornings from July 8 through August 12, five professional adult actors from Jean's Playhouse Children's Theater Company from Lincoln, NH, will perform original musical adaptations of popular fairy and folk tales on the air conditioned, historic stage of the Claremont Opera House. Shows run approximately 40 minutes. IMPACT (Imagination and Music – Professional Artistry in Children's Theatre) is the professional children's performance company of Jean's Playhouse. The company writes and performs eight children's musicals every summer; each is different and all promise a good time for both you and your kids! Children will love the catchy original songs and wacky characters, all performed by the professional IMPACT actors.

The performances finish with a cast meet and greet with autograph signing and picture taking immediately following the performance.

Show titles and descriptions: July 8, "The Little Mermaid" - Under the sea magic follows

a young mermaid as she looks to discover a world beyond the ocean walls. With the help of an evil sea witch, she is able to cast off her fins for a pair of legs, but she might be in over her head when she realizes the sea witch's true intentions!

July 15, "The Wind in the Willows" - Mr. Toad's zany personality leads him and his friends into a wild adventure full of music, mayhem, and one unpleasant weasel! Beyond the comfortable river bank is a giant scary world just waiting for this motley crew, but in the end, true friendship can help them through anything.

July 22, "Tom Sawyer" - For Tom Sawyer and his best friend, Huck Finn, Lazy days of fishing and swimming are constantly interrupted by Aunt Polly's list of chores. But on this particular day, Tom and Huck decide to skip white washing the fence so they can go on an old fashioned treasure hunt!

July 29, "Lost in Wonderland" - Following a white rabbit leads Alice on a very strange ad-

venture. In a place where up means down and right means wrong, Alice discovers a world filled with a strange smiling cat, a wild tea party, and a Queen whose temper is as red as the hearts on her dress!

August 5, "The Frog Prince" - A spoiled princess learns the importance of keeping promises after accepting the help of a nearby frog. In a kingdom filled with magic, not everything is what it seems, and no one should judge a book by its cover ... or a frog by its webbed feet!

August 12, "Jack & The Beanstalk" - Young Jack is heartbroken when he must sell his best friend, a cow, at the market. But when a mysterious man trades magic beans for the cow, it opens up a world larger than life where Jack can go on adventures beyond his wildest dreams.

Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased at the door the day of the show at the Claremont Opera House. Seating is general admission. Groups are advised to call ahead and ask for a section to be reserved for them. More information at www.claremontopera-house.org. Phone: 603-542-0064.



Work Toward Your Own Financial Independence Day

Once again, it's time for fireworks, picnics and parades as the nation celebrates Independence Day. Collectively, we enjoy many liberties, but some freedoms can be elusive – and financial freedom is one of them. What actions can you take to help yourself eventually declare your own financial independence?

For starters, you'll want to determine what financial independence means to you. Is it the liberty to meet all your cash flow needs? The freedom to retire comfortably, at the age you choose? The ability to set up the kind of legacy you'd like to leave? If any or all of these things are important to you, consider the following suggestions:

Liberate yourself from oppressive debts. The cost of living is certainly not cheap, so it's hardly surprising that so many people incur significant debt. Yet, the higher your debt load, the less you'll have available to invest for the future. Debt might be one of the biggest barriers you face on the road to your financial independence. To avoid piling on too much debt, live within your means. Take steps such as saving for a vacation, rather than putting it all on your credit card, and getting just one more year out of that old car. Look for bargains everywhere – and find out what you can live without. And if you have sizable debts, see if you can consolidate them and lower your interest payments.

Free yourself from chaotic investing. The financial markets can be unpredictable – but that doesn't mean your investment moves have to be chaotic. So, for example, instead of responding to a sudden plunge in stock prices by selling stocks that still may be fundamentally sound with strong growth potential, you might be much better off by holding your ground. And you'll be in a better position to do nothing during periods of market volatility when you've already done something – namely, built an investment portfolio that reflects your goals, time horizon and risk tolerance. With this type of portfolio in place, you'll be in a good position to overlook the day-to-day fluctuations in the market and keep your focus on your long-term goals.

Unleash the potential in your retirement plan. Your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan is a great way to save for retirement. You can contribute pre-tax dollars, so the more you put in, the lower your taxable income, and your earnings can grow tax deferred. (With a Roth 401(k), you put in after-tax dollars, but your withdrawals are tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions.) But despite these tax advantages, your 401(k)'s full potential won't be realized unless you fund it adequately. Try to contribute as much as you can afford each year and increase your contributions as your salary goes up. Another way to uncap your 401(k)'s potential is by choosing appropriate investments. Your 401(k) likely contains a dozen or more investment options, so you'll want a mix that offers the greatest possibilities for growth within the context of your personal risk tolerance.

Gaining your financial independence requires time and commitment. But once you've achieved this freedom, you'll know it was worth the effort. And who knows? You might even want to wave a sparkler or two to celebrate.

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



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To learn more, call or visit your financial advisor today.



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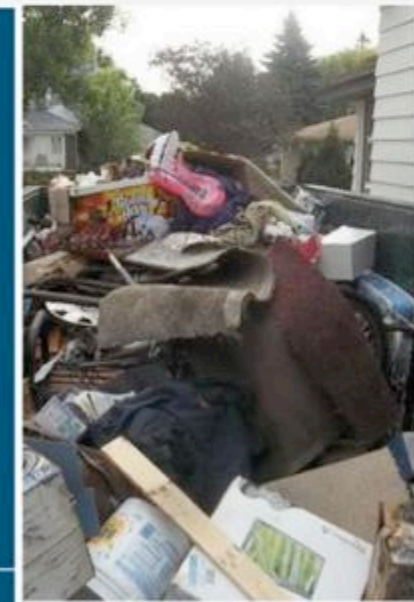
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Upcoming Cyanobacteria Monitor Training

SPRINGFIELD, VT—The Black River Action Team is hosting a cyanobacteria (toxic blue-green algae) monitoring training session on Thursday, July 18th, from 5:30 - 7:00 PM in Springfield VT. Directions and parking information will be given upon registration with Angela Shambaugh by emailing [an-gela.shambaugh@vermont.gov](mailto:angela.shambaugh@vermont.gov), or by calling BRAT Director Kelly Stettner and leaving your contact information at (802) 738-0456.

If you or anyone you know goes swimming, boating, fishing, tubing, wading, or otherwise recreating in a lake, pond, or even slow section of river, you need this information. If your dog goes in the water, you need this information. A cyanobacteria bloom can be harmful to your health and your pet's health.

Everyone is welcome, information is not limited to just Vermont.

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It's About Food

By Johnny Navillus



Playing

Recently, my wife invited one of her friends to have dinner with us. No problem. Except this lady's husband is a chef. This is tantamount to making Sauerbraten for a visitor from Germany. Not the time to experiment with something different. I know better.

I can't remember the entree, but I was making zucchini as one of the sides. No brainer. My usual, which is widely accepted, is to slice the zucchini into rounds and saute in a skillet with salt, pepper, onion powder and garlic powder or minced garlic cloves. Proceed as usual.

The slices were just starting to cook and as I was flipping them around, I thought that I would like to try something different. Bacon came to mind. So I grabbed a slice and threw it into the skillet.

Sanity broke through. What was I thinking? Wasn't thinking at all. Just playin'.

So here I am cooking for a chef's wife and having no idea if this is going to work. Thought thought that since I was cooking three zucchinis maybe I should toss in a second slice. Sanity returned again and I splashed cold water on my face. One was bad enough. Restraint.

Served it up and the wife and her guest both remarked on how good the zucchini tasted. They liked the "secret ingredient". The chef's wife said she detected a hint of "something with bacon". Wow, I got away with it.

I do not recommend experimenting on guests, especially if their spouse is a chef. I further don't recommend trying Jambalaya for the first time on someone who grew up in New Orleans. I got away with it this time.

I admit that I basically ignored the "Dump" craze that was popular a while back. It seems to be a lazy way to throw something together quickly. I've seen it as a craze like the fondue days or the Sangria fad.

I have had a Blueberry Dump Cake. All the berries were on the bottom, the cake, unfrosted, was on the top and came with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. The whole thing disappeared quickly, but I was left with the impression it was thrown together quickly, shoved in an oven and cooked in the bowl it was served in. The cake without frosting tended to be dry, but the berries and ice cream were very good. But then berries and ice cream can never be bad. Ever.

Suddenly one day, without any previous discussion, what should appear but a cookbook devoted to dump cakes "and more". This little sample of 21st Century American Literature comes with recipes already flagged. How wonderful. Instant denial from the only other occupant of this household. Amazing. Must be elves or trolls.

Glancing through this it is a bunch of dessert recipes that basically come in single serving sizes. This was obviously an attempt to get me involved in baking. I don't bake. Too restrictive. No room for last minute playing. Will more than likely break down and do it to keep the peace, some day. The UN has nothing on a married man for peacekeeping.

The fad may have run its course by now; it certainly will have by the time the mood hits me to try one myself.

Play with your food. You might impress someone.

Write to Johnny at etickernews@gmail.com.

Students Art Exhibit Promotes Bee Conservation

By Dawn Dextraze
Education & Outreach Specialist
Sullivan County Conservation District

UNITY, NH—Over 200 species of bees live in New England. Many people are familiar with honeybees and bumblebees, but most of our native bees are solitary ground nesters. Bees are vital to our food supply, as they pollinate 87 of our agricultural crops, accounting for 35% of our current food production. The pollination services they provide to native and agricultural plants make bees extremely important and beneficial to humans.

Middle and High School students in Sullivan County had the opportunity to learn more about these native bees and their ecological importance this spring through the Sullivan County Conservation District's (SCCD) Seed Packet Art Project. The theme this year was Busy Bees. Students from Newport Middle School, Claremont Christian Academy, Allison Veto Artist Studio, and New England Classical Academy submitted 52 colorful works of art. Their art was showcased on the front of the Native Pollinator Seed Packets sold through

the SCCD Spring Plant Sale and given to local educators to plant with students to increase pollinator habitat in their school yards.

These students are spreading the word about native bee conservation through their art work. Planting wildflower gardens and creating bee hotels are other ways individuals can support bee diversity. A bee hotel is simply a collection of sticks suitable for bees to live in. Bee hotels can vary in size, style and composition, depending on what type of bees you are hoping to attract and the number of guests you wish to entertain. Bee hotels are usually constructed near wildflower gardens, so the bees have food nearby. When planting gardens for pollinators, the goal is to have some kind of flower blooming the whole growing season. You can see an example of a native pollinator garden and bee hotel at the SCCD Community Garden located at the Eco Ag Center, part of the Sullivan County Complex, in Unity.

The students' original art work is currently on exhibit at Saint Gaudens National Historic Park in the Caretaker's Garage and will be on display for the entire month of July. Make sure to plan a visit to Cornish to view the art exhibit and maybe even observe a bee at work in the many gardens there.



Clockwise: Lanie Goodwin, 7th grade; Emily King, 9th grade; Grayson Sanders, grade 6; bee hotel at the SCCD Community Garden (Courtesy photos).

Recreation Roundup



Goooooooooals!

The FIFA Women's World Cup games have sparked enthusiasm - if not fanaticism - of viewers around the world. We're happy to say that you can enjoy live-action soccer excitement right here in Claremont, Monday through Thursday evenings and Saturdays through July. Plus, it's free, with just an easy walk or drive to Monadnock Park.

Almost 300 boys and girls ages 5 to 13 from Upper Valley towns are participating in the Parks & Recreation Department's summer youth soccer league. Some are just starting out. Others have been playing for years. Many of them have their sights set on making it to their school teams, winning Olympic Gold or celebrating a World Cup championship.

Jason West is president of the Claremont Youth Soccer Association. As a youth, he played on the program's Roughnecks team and continued in the sport as an adult. Four years ago he began coaching for CYSA, three years ago he joined the board, and now he coaches two teams and monitors others. In short, he says, he's "always there." We asked Jason to tell us all about CYSA. In his words:

Claremont is fortunate to hold the only summer youth soccer program in the Upper Valley. We're open to anyone willing to travel here. Our players come from Acworth all the way to Hanover.

After registration is finished, we hold an evaluation session of all players who are available to attend. Generally this is run by the CYSA board. We also have high school players help, which allows them to earn community service hours. They also grow as individuals, because they see a different aspect of the game, much like coaches.

We have four grade-based divisions: K/1 (an introduction to our league), 2/3, 4/5 and 6/7/8. Each team gets to play about 9 to 10 games during the regular season, which this year ends on August 2, then one playoff game. Winners in the three oldest divisions advance to championship games, which are played on



the varsity field in Monadnock Park. Championship night is very exciting, since the lights and the scoreboard get turned on, and Steve Lizotte, a big supporter of our program, generally provides game commentary.

As for team names, we give options for each division. K/1 features animals such as Panthers, Vipers and Tigers. Our 2/3 division



brings back some nostalgia from Claremont's famous teams back in the day. Currently we have Rowdies, Cosmos, Nets and others along with new era team Fury. For 4/5 we look to Major League Soccer for Revolution, Impact, Fire and Dynamo. Our 6/7/8 names come from national soccer teams. USA, Germany, Argentina, Brazil, Italy and Mexico rule the fields this summer.

Our team shirt color selection allows for coaches to have some say but within the workable aspect of the league. Our older divisions generally receive a color fitting to the team name. These shirts are all possible because of our very generous sponsors. We

have 23 local businesses sponsoring the summer season, some of whom have been supporters for years. We're already set for the fall with another 20 sponsors.

The board and coaches are all volunteer positions, and we greatly appreciate all the time they put in to make this program operate. Our referees are paid, and we've started to use younger talents here and with our coaches. This allows them to gain another angle to the game, including how to handle a great deal of pressure!

The youth soccer program honestly helps many within our community. Our sponsors' names and businesses are advertised daily as players wear the uniforms all the time. Our players have something to do aside from watching a screen all day. They grow as individuals and become part of a team at the same time. Many of them genuinely look forward to the summer season, as it provides a lifetime of memories. Many of our coaches fondly reminisce about the hard-fought battles they had as a child. Playing under the lights on championship night adds to the rivalries that develop. Just ask anyone who played in the Rowdies vs Roughnecks games.

Looking ahead to our fall program, registration deadline is Friday, Aug. 9. Practices begin the week of Aug. 26 and the season ends Saturday, Oct. 26. Cost is \$38 for Claremont residents, \$48 for non-residents. For more information, call 603-542-7019 or register online at claremontparks.com. Anyone interested in becoming a coach or referee can email me at jasonwest2208@gmail.com.

You can also visit our Facebook page for the latest posts, photos, etc.

Mark Brislin, Director, Parks & Recreation
— 603-542-7019 —

mbrislin@claremontnh.com



“On top of ...” Well, not Old Smokey — but Mount Ascutney, Saturday, June 29, 2019, 10:24 a.m., from the top of the road in Claremont’s Moody Park.

Photo by Eric Zengota