

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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*Historical Marker
Commemorating General
Lafayette's Visit to
Claremont Dedicated;
page 20*

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December 28, 2020

Area Hit with Rain, High Temps and Rapid Snow Melt A Week After Record Snow

Some Flooding, Road Damage Reported

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

It was only a week ago that the region saw a record snowfall, three feet and more in some communities. As daunting as all that was to deal with, residents were assured of a White Christmas at least. Or so they thought. On Christmas Eve, rain moved in as temperatures began to rise, causing the deep piles of snow to start melting suddenly, raising water levels. Yards were flooded, some culverts in neighboring towns were washed out, some homeowners had water in their basements and some power outages were reported as wires were downed. The National Weather Service in Gray, ME, issued a flood warning for the Sugar River in West Claremont for the possibility of minor flooding.

The Arrowhead Recreation Area in Claremont, having received an abundance of snow on the 17th, saw its bounty quickly melt away, and on Saturday, with temps back near freezing, the site's volunteer personnel were once again making snow, a week after that record snowfall. "We lost most on the main slope, and the tubing area is spotty so it needs a complete 3 days of snow making to fill it," Chuck Allen of the Arrowhead Recreation Club told the *e-Ticker News*. "Then we can start on ski/snowboard slope."



Sheets of ice were swept over the Sugar River sluice gate behind The Common Man in Claremont on Christmas Day as ice and snow were carried away by the suddenly-elevated water levels (Eric Zengota photo).

More photos, pages 6 and 7

Newport Man Arrested Following Sexual Assault Investigation

NEWPORT, NH—On December 19, an adult female reported to the Newport Police Department that she had been repeatedly sexually assaulted by a person that she had recently met on an internet dating application.

According to Newport Police Chief Brent Wilmot, Newport Police investigators worked collaboratively with the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center and the Turning Points Network to obtain services for the survivor, as well as to collect critical evidence.

Following an initial investigation, the following subject was arrested for Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault: Shaun Berge, 42 years old, Newport, NH.

Berge was transported to the Sullivan County House of Corrections pending arraignment in Sullivan Superior Court on December 21. At that hearing, Berge was ordered preliminarily



Shaun Berge (Newport Police Dept.)

detained without bail on the charges, which are being prosecuted by the Sullivan County Attorney's Office.

On December 23, Berge was indicted by the Sullivan County Grand Jury for fourteen special class felony counts of Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault, and three class B felony counts of Second Degree Assault.

Investigation into this matter continues with the assistance of the New Hampshire State Police, said Wilmot. Anyone with information about Berge is encouraged to contact Newport Police Detective Stephen A. Lee at (603) 863-3232 or slee@newportnh.gov, or New Hampshire State Police Trooper Michael Catalfamo at (603) 223-8494 or michael.p.catalfamo@dos.nh.gov.

Intro to Music Theory & Composition

CLAREMONT, NH—Introduction to Music Theory & Com-

position takes a fun approach to grasping the fundamental ideas and tools that are used to compose music that resonates with us. With a range of listening exercises and composition games, this Claremont MakerSpace course teaches the language of Western music from the most basic elements through to more nuanced expressions. Participants are encouraged to bring recordings, questions, and observations to class for discussion as we unlock the secrets of what makes music meaningful. This class will be presented via Zoom. After registration, a link to the class connection will be sent to the email associated with the registration. Space is limited. Please answer the registration question thoroughly and accurately.

Age 13+

Supplies required: None, other than an internet connected device.

Class schedule: Mondays, starting January 4th and finishing on March 22, 6 PM - 7 PM, with additional time to meet with the instructor. Visit <https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#!event/2021/1/4/introduction-to-music-theory-composition-virtual-learning>.

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NH Lottery Numbers

12/26/2020

NH PowerBall

10 24 27 35 53 18

NH Mega Millions 12/25/2020

17 23 36 69 70 19

Tristate Megabucks 12/26/2020

11 13 16 30 37 1

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

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REFLECTIONS OF FIFTY YEARS

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- 1 Andi Steel**
in 2008, the year she retired after an amazing 35-year journey with LSRVNA
- 2 Gail Matthews,**
Founder of the Women Who Make A Difference Luncheon, at the 9th annual luncheon
- 3 Sheff and Ginny Halsey**
enjoy the deeply personal Halsey Building Dedication in 2004
- 4 Steve and Loa Winter**
in the early 1980's, shortly after they introduced hospice care to our community
- 5 Tanya Wilkie**
as a young nurse, early in her stellar career with LSRVNA

These five “VIPs” were interviewed as part of our 50th Anniversary celebration in 2020, and their “reflections” will become part of the agency’s official historic documents. All interview videos will be posted on lakesunapeevna.org in early 2021 for anyone to enjoy!

*For more information please contact:
Cathy Raymond @ 603-526-4077 x231; craymond@lakesunapeevna.org...or visit LakeSunapeeVNA.org*

Sincere thanks to



for its generous support of our 50th!

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Shaheen Urges Trump Administration to Waive Late Filing Penalties for Taxpayers

WASHINGTON, DC—U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and a bipartisan group of Senators have sent a letter to U.S. Department of the Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Commissioner Charles Rettig urging the Trump administration to waive late filing penalties for taxpayers whose filing delay is caused by COVID-19. U.S. Senators Kevin Cramer (R-ND) and John Kennedy (R-LA) led the letter.

“Many taxpayers are facing economic hardships and business closures due to COVID-19,” the Senators wrote. “Taxpayers expect fair treatment from their government, and the current unwillingness to provide an expedited process for taxpayers and their advisors to request pandemic-specific relief places an undue burden on them. We ask that you move to address these issues immediately so the American people can receive the relief they urgently need.”

In the letter, the Senators urged the Trump administration to:

Create a special COVID-19 First Time Abatement option for taxpayers eligible for normal First Time Abatement where one can attest to filing difficulty directly caused by the pandemic;

Provide written guidance directing IRS Customer Service Representatives to grant reasonable cause and COVID-related abatement requests liberally;

Develop and advertise specific COVID-related examples that qualify for reasonable cause abatement; and

Create a dedicated telephone number, or dedicated prompt, for taxpayers and their advisors to call to request COVID-related penalty relief.

Kuster Leads Group in Calling on Leadership to Prioritize Long-Term Reauthorization, Infrastructure Funding for Community Health Centers

WASHINGTON, DC—Representative Annie Kuster (NH-02) led a letter to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, urging them to prioritize the long-term reauthorization for community health centers (CHCs) in any COVID-19 response legislation. While the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act extended funding for CHCs, these health centers operate on thin financial margins that have already been stretched due to coronavirus response efforts. In the letter, the Members discuss the critical role of CHCs in protecting vulnerable populations and urge congressional leadership to consider legislation that would reauthorize CHCs for five years.

“Community Health Centers (CHCs) are operating on razor-thin margins that, for most, have been stretched to the proverbial breaking point due to Coronavirus response efforts and lost revenues, as well as multiple attacks to 340B prescription drug discount funding, resulting in a major reduction in patient visits and loss of revenue,” the members wrote. “As such, the pandemic has had a dramatic economic impact on our health centers, many of which have been forced to implement safeguarding measures to ensure the long-term financial stability of their organization. This includes some having made difficult personnel decisions, including temporary reductions in staffing and closures of important healthcare delivery sites during this crisis, in fact 651 health centers across the nation are currently closed due to this pandemic.

“Given health centers’ fifty-plus years of dedicated service and vital role in protecting our nation’s most vulnerable populations, both in rural and urban areas, more must be done to ensure their long-term financial viability,” the members continued. “Ensuring long-term, robust health center funding is essential to health centers’ ability to recruit and hire providers, expand capacity and plan for dramatic increases in demand for services, particularly as this crisis evolves.”

In addition to Rep. Kuster, the letter was signed by David N. Cicilline, Abby Finkenauer, Emanuel Cleaver, II, Chris Pappas, Jan Schakowsky, Tony Cárdenas, Robin L. Kelly, Tom O’Halloran, G. K. Butterfield, Yvette D. Clarke, Peter Welch, Joseph P. Kennedy, III, Lisa Blunt Rochester, Kathy Castor, Doris Matsui, Nanette Diaz Barragán, Bobby L. Rush, John P. Sarbanes, James R. Langevin.

Time to Buy Your Voluntary Hike Safe Card for 2021

CONCORD, NH – Hikers, snowshoers, cross country and back country skiers, climbers, and all other outdoor enthusiasts are encouraged to purchase their voluntary annual Hike Safe card for 2021. Card sales help ensure that NH Fish and Game Law Enforcement Conservation Officers, trained in wilderness rescue, are there to come to your aid if the unexpected happens.

Valid for the calendar year, the 2021 Hike Safe cards cost \$25 for an individual, or \$35 for a family, and are good for the calendar year ending December 31, 2021. The price is the same for both residents and nonresidents. You can purchase the card for someone else — they make a great gift for any adventurer.

Cards can be purchased online at www.wildnh.com/safe and at New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Headquarters, 11 Hazen Drive, in Concord.

Because of year-round unpredictable weather and the rugged terrain that characterizes the Granite State, the Hike Safe card has become popular among outdoor enthusiasts, and revenues raised through their sale go to the Department's Search and Rescue Fund to help defray the cost of training and equipment. As of November 30, 2020, the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department has sold 7,737 cards this year, which generated over \$150,000 for the fund. So far in 2020, Fish and Game Conservation Officers have responded to over 250 search and rescue calls. The card also exempts holders from certain liability for repaying search and rescue costs.

Purchasing a hunting or fishing license also provides you with the same protection as a Hike Safe card. In addition to Hike Safe card revenues, Fish and Game's Search and Rescue Fund is supported by a \$1 fee collected for each boat, snowmobile, and OHRV registered in New Hampshire.

"Whatever outdoor activity you enjoy — hiking, biking, paddling, cross country skiing, walking the nature trails in your town— the Hike Safe card is your back-up plan for the great outdoors," said Fish and Game Law Enforcement Chief Colonel Kevin Jordan. "Buying a card is also a great way to help support Fish and Game's search and rescue activities."

Jordan strongly recommends that hikers carry with them the top 10 essentials to be prepared for changeable weather conditions and unanticipated emergencies, especially during fall and winter outings:

Map

Compass

Warm Clothing:

- Sweater or Pile Jacket
- Long Pants (Wool or Synthetic)

- Hat (Wool)
- Extra Food and Water
- Flashlight or Headlamp
- Matches/Firestarters
- First Aid Kit/Repair Kit
- Whistle
- Rain/Wind Jacket and Pants
- Pocket Knife

Read more about safe hiking at www.wildnh.com/outdoor-recreation/hiking-safety.html. Always plan your journey in advance and include the essential paper map and compass in your pack along with a handheld GPS.



Claremont Democratic Caucus

January 7, 2021

7:00—8:00 pm
via Zoom

Join us to adopt new bylaws and elect officers!
E-mail Claremont.NH.Democrats@gmail.com

OPEN TO ALL CLAREMONT RESIDENTS REGISTERED TO VOTE AS DEMOCRATS

Weather, from page 1



A flotation tube is carried away down the Sugar River, marking the end of summer for sure.

Pet ducks at a home in Charlestown made the most of their flooded yard.



Chunks of ice being carried down the Sugar River on Christmas Day as the rising temperatures, rain and melting snow elevate river and stream levels throughout the region.

A view a week apart from the same doorway of a home in Claremont.

Photos by Eric Zengota
and courtesy





Left: There was plenty more westbound coming Claremont's way via the Lear Hill Waterfall in Goshen. Right: Twistback Rd. was closed due to a downed power line.



Weather, from pages 1 & 6

Horsey Park in Newport saw flooding taking place.



Left: Rushing water in Cornish Flat.

Right: Ice floes gathered around the Common Man Terrace in Claremont.



Photos by Eric Zengota and courtesy

FINANCIAL TIPS

>>>>>>>>> Paying Off Student Loans

There are many choices for repaying student loans. This checklist can help you weigh them.

Actively managing your debt is an important step, and your student debt may be one of the biggest financial obligations you have. There are many strategies that could help you manage student loans efficiently. Here is a checklist.

Choose a federal loan repayment plan that fits your circumstances:

- The Standard Repayment Plan requires a fixed payment of at least \$50 per month and is offered for terms up to 10 years. Borrowers are likely to pay less interest for this repayment plan than for others.
- The Graduated Repayment Plan starts with a reduced payment that's fixed for a set period and then is increased on a predetermined schedule. Compared to the standard plan, a borrower is likely to end up paying more in interest over the life of the loan.
- The Extended Repayment Plan allows loans to be repaid over a period of up to 25 years. Payments may be fixed or graduated. In both cases, payments will be lower than the comparable 10-year programs, but total costs could be higher. This program is complex and has specific eligibility requirements. See the Extended Repayment Plan page on the U.S. Department of Education website for details.
- The Income-Based Repayment Plan (IBR), the Pay as You Earn Repayment Plan, the Income-Contingent Repayment Plan (ICR), and the Income-Sensitive Repayment Plan offer different combinations of payment deferral and debt forgiveness based on your income and other factors. You may be asked to document financial hardship and meet other eligibility requirements. See the U.S. Department of Education's pages on income-driven repayment plans and income-sensitive repayment plans for more information.

Take an inventory of your debt. How much do you owe on bank and store credit cards? On your

home mortgage and home equity credit lines? On car loans? Any other loans? Consider paying extra each month to reduce the loans with the highest interest rates first, followed by those with the largest balances.

Free up resources by cutting costs. Consider eating out less, reducing snacks on the go, and carpooling or using mass transit instead of driving to work. You may also be able to cut your housing costs, put off vacations, and reduce clothing purchases.

Think about enhancing your income. A second job? A part-time business opportunity?

Consider jobs that offer opportunities for subsidies or debt forgiveness.

- Federal civil service employees may be eligible for up to \$10,000 a year for paying back federal student loans. See the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's Student Loan Repayment Program for more information.
- Nurses working in underserved areas may be eligible for loan assistance through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program.
- Service members in the U.S. Armed Forces are eligible for support. Check out the service-specific programs offered by the Air Force, the Army, the National Guard and the Navy.
- Teachers can consider programs such as Teach for America and the Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program.

Sign up for automatic loan payments. Many loans offer discounted interest rates for setting up automatic electronic payments on a predetermined schedule. A reduction of 0.25% per year may look small, but over the life of a 20-year loan, it can reduce your total interest cost by hundreds or even thousands of dollars.

A last resort is seeking loan deferment or forbearance. Students facing significant financial hardship may be able to put off loan interest or principal payments. To see whether you might qualify, look to the U.S. Department of Education's information on Deferment and Forbearance.



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NH DHHS COVID-19 Update – December 27, 2020

CONCORD, NH—On Sunday, December 27, 2020, DHHS announced 891 new positive test results for COVID-19, with a current PCR test positivity rate of 9.1%. Today’s results include 594 people who tested positive by PCR test and 297 who tested positive by antigen test. There are now 6,994 current COVID-19 cases diagnosed in New Hampshire. Of the results reported today:

- 12/20: 36 new cases today, for an updated total of 646 cases
- 12/21: 78 new cases today, for an updated total of 596 cases
- 12/22: 24 new cases today, for an updated total of 479 cases
- 12/23: 200 new cases today, for an updated total of 1,020 cases
- 12/24: 464 new cases today, for an updated total of 744 cases
- 12/25: 83 new cases today, for an updated total of 83 cases
- 12/26: 6 new cases

Test results for previous days are still being processed and the total number of new positives for those days are not yet complete. Updated case counts for prior days will be reflected on the COVID-19 interactive dashboard.

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 one hundred and eighteen individuals under the age of 18 and the rest are adults with 54% being female and 46% being male. The new cases reside in Rockingham (192), Hillsborough County other than Manchester and Nashua (140), Merrimack (99), Strafford (88), Belknap (44), Cheshire (35), Grafton (23), Carroll (11), Coos (11), and Sullivan (4) counties, and in the cities of Manchester (121) and Nashua (90). The county of residence is being determined for thirty-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 are either associated with an outbreak setting or have had close contact with a person with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis.

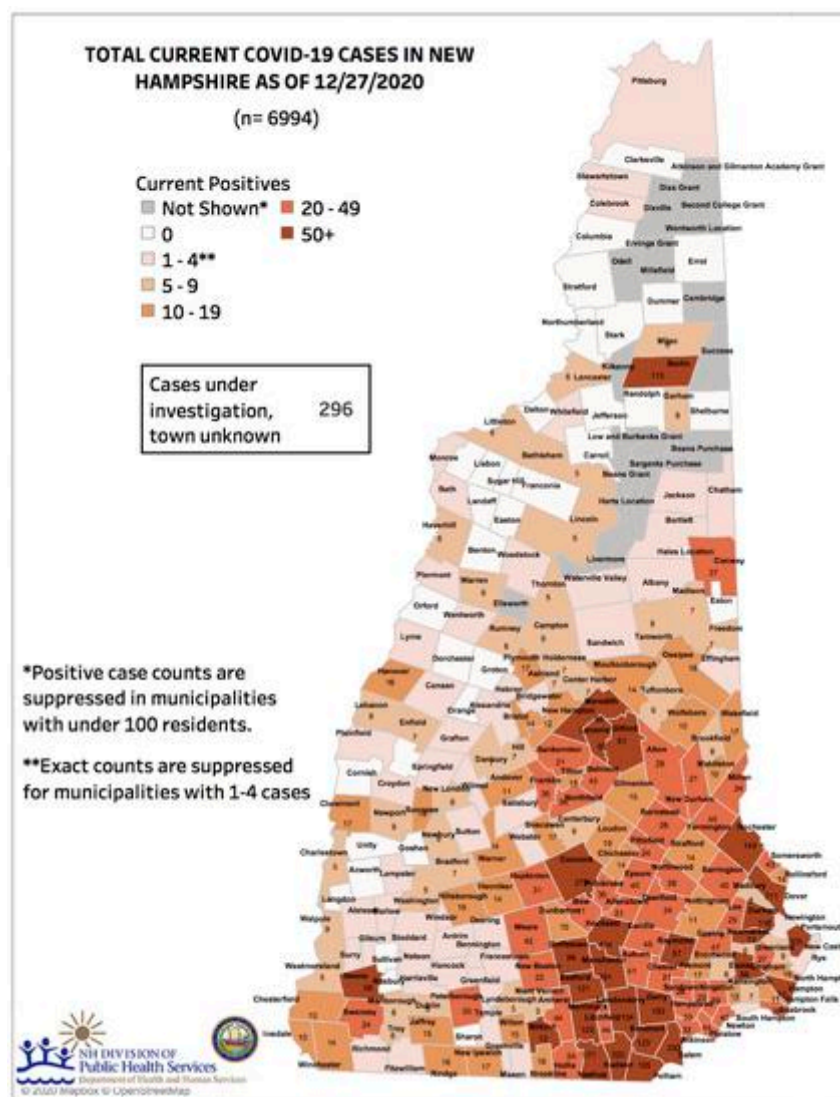
DHHS has also announced seven additional deaths related to COVID-19. We offer our sympathies to the family and friends:

- 1 female resident of Hillsborough County, 60 years of age and older
- 2 male residents of Hillsborough County, 60 years of age and older
- 1 male resident of Merrimack County, 60 years of age and older
- 1 female resident of Rockingham County, 60 years of age and older
- 1 male resident of Rockingham County, 60 years of age and older
- 1 female resident of Strafford County, 60 years of age and older

There are currently 270 individuals hospitalized with COVID-19. In New Hampshire since the start of the pandemic, there have been a total of 40,809 cases of COVID-19 diagnosed with 895 (2%) of those having been hospitalized.

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.



Geographic Distribution* of COVID-19		Infections		Hospitalizations		Deaths	
		Persons	% of T..	Persons	% of T..	Persons	% of To..
Belknap	Total	1,774	4.3%	24	2.7%	42	5.9%
Carroll	Total	819	2.0%	18	2.0%	3	0.4%
Cheshire	Total	1,192	2.9%	14	1.6%	6	0.8%
Coos	Total	586	1.4%	5	0.6%	15	2.1%
Grafton	Total	1,058	2.6%	12	1.3%	8	1.1%
Hillsborough	Manchester	6,317	15.5%	233	26.0%	165	23.3%
	Nashua	3,683	9.0%	111	12.4%	50	7.1%
	Outside Manchester and Nashua	6,457	15.8%	161	18.0%	195	27.5%
	Total	16,457	40.3%	505	56.4%	410	57.9%
Merrimack	Total	4,389	10.8%	71	7.9%	60	8.5%
Rockingham	Total	10,195	25.0%	209	23.4%	136	19.2%
Strafford	Total	3,189	7.8%	31	3.5%	23	3.2%
Sullivan	Total	388	1.0%	6	0.7%	5	0.7%
Unknown	Total	762	1.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grand Total		40,809	100.0%	895	100.0%	708	100.0%

Data as of: 12/27/2020

Classified Ads



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PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Claremont, Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet on
Monday, January 4, 2021 7:00 PM
Via ZOOM

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting is being conducted via Zoom.
The public is invited to join the Zoom meeting online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83651598472?pwd=bXk5Wnc5ZkNNNEtKZFIBWHI6eHdhdz09>

Passcode: 546849 By Phone: 1-646-558-8656 US (New York) Webinar ID: 836 5159 8472
If there is a problem getting through to that number, please call 603-504-0341.

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

- A. **ZO 2020-00029 Michael & Sheila Satzow, 13-14 Fisher Place** – Application for a variance from Sect. 22-513 of the Claremont Zoning Ordinance to permit an accessory dwelling unit in a detached building at 13 Fisher Place. Tax Map 143, Lots 152, 153. Zoning District: R-1
- B. **ZO 2020-00028 Jonathan Nelson & Berkley Heath, 31 Myrtle Street** – Application for a variance from Sect. 22-387.2(2) of the Claremont Zoning Ordinance to permit a 370 SF dwelling unit at 31 Myrtle Street. Tax Map 119, Lot 289. Zoning District: CR-2
- C. **ZO 2020-00030 Brun-Gardner Properties LLC, 221 Broad Street** – Application for a variance from Sect. 22-387 of the Claremont Zoning Ordinance to permit an Air BnB at 221 Broad Street. Tax Map 132, Lot 44. Zoning District: PR

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

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

In person at the hearing, or

In writing at 14 North Street, Claremont NH 03743, or

By email at cityplanner@claremontnh.com.

Michael Hurd, Chair

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A record-breaking snowfall — a mere 43” — was no match for kids who wanted to drop off letters to Santa Claus in the special mailbox in Broad Street Park.

~ Eric Zengota

e-Ticker Business News

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health Employees Inspire Historic Multi-Million Dollar Gift

LEBANON, NH – Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health (D-HH) Trustee Bill Conaty and his wife, Sue, have made a \$5.25 million gift commitment to help expand D-HH's ability to meet the critical needs of the region's most seriously ill patients. The gift, which is the second-largest in Dartmouth-Hitchcock history, will support the new five-story Patient Pavilion currently under construction at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) in Lebanon.

"This is an extraordinary gift and we are deeply grateful to Bill and Sue for their generosity," said Joanne M. Conroy, MD, CEO and President of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health. "The new Patient Pavilion is critical to our ability to effectively serve the health care needs of our region, now and in the future. Philanthropy is key to the success of this project, and to the path we are charting for Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health. Bill and Sue's extraordinary leadership in supporting this vision makes the impact of their generosity all the greater."

The Patient Pavilion, set to open in 2023, will provide 64 patient rooms to help address the increasing needs of patients from around the region who require the high-level tertiary and quaternary care provided at DHMC, the state's only Trauma I Center. Nearly 300 critically ill patients are turned away every month due to lack of bed capacity at the hospital. The Pavilion will allow DHMC to provide high-quality

care, close to home, and the Conatys' gift will ensure that each of these new patient rooms is a welcoming space for patient families and their loved ones.

"Dartmouth-Hitchcock is a critically important resource for the Upper Valley, and it's vital that those of us who have the ability to do so help to sustain it through our charitable giving," said Bill Conaty. "As a trustee for the past nine years, I've been truly inspired by the skill and

dedication of Dartmouth-Hitchcock's workforce. Sue and I are making this gift in support of the Patient Pavilion project in honor of all Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health employees and the high standard of professionalism and care that they bring to their work every day."

"As operating margins get tighter in healthcare, philanthropy is becoming even more critical to sustaining our work and with it the ability

to serve our region," said D-HH Chief Financial Officer Daniel P. Jantzen. "Bill and Sue Conaty's investment in Dartmouth-Hitchcock is a recognition that community support is an essential component of the care we provide."

"It's truly a privilege to work with community members like Bill and Sue who are so committed to supporting our mission," said Matthew Haag, Vice President of Development & Alum-
(Continued on page 14)

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e-Ticker Business News

Gift, from 13

ni Relations, Dartmouth-Hitchcock/Geisel School of Medicine. “Thanks to them and so many others who have given generously during this past year, we will remember 2020 not just as a year of challenges but as a year filled with tremendous caring for others.”

The Conatys’ generosity over the past 10 years includes a 2015 gift commitment of \$1 million that launched the Conaty Institute for Transformational Health Care Leadership, a program for current and future executive leaders to learn about the constantly evolving state of health care delivery, and how to inspire and manage teams with vision, inspiration, and emotional and social respect for others. The Conatys were also among the first to support D-HH’s COVID-19 response fund, with a \$100,000 donation. These and other gifts bring their total giving to Dartmouth-Hitchcock to more than \$6.6 million.

“On behalf of D-HH and its employees we are immensely grateful to Bill and Sue for their landmark gift,” said Edward Stansfield, chair of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health Boards of Trustees. “Bill is someone who leads by example, and with this gift he continues to do so. Bill and Sue’s philanthropy should inspire all of us. I hope others will join them in supporting an organization that is so critical and vital to the health of Northern New England and whose employees have labored tirelessly not only throughout the pandemic but always. We are privileged to have his partnership in this initiative.”

Bill Conaty served 40 years with General Electric, leading the global company’s human resources strategy, talent recruitment and development and has served as chairman of the board of Bryant University for the past decade. He has been a member of the D-HH board for nearly nine years, and currently serves as a senior advisor

ry partner at Clayton, Dubilier & Rice, a leading private equity firm based in New York City. He is also the co-author, with Ram Charan, of “The Talent Masters: Why Smart Leaders put People before Numbers” (2010). Sue is a committed volunteer working with youth in the public schools in Riviera Beach, FL, and the Newport NH Food Pantry.

They have made their home in the Upper Valley for more than three decades.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health (D-HH) Trustee Bill Conaty and his wife, Sue, have made a \$5.25 million gift commitment to help expand D-HH’s ability to meet the critical needs of the region’s most seriously ill patients. The gift, which is the second-largest in Dartmouth-Hitchcock history, will support the new five-story Patient Pavilion currently under construction at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon. Photo credit – Rob Strong.





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NH Schoolyard Action Grant Applications Now Being Accepted

CONCORD, NH – Are you an educator with an idea for a project that involves students in enhancing their schoolyard for wildlife habitat, connects them with the outdoors, and integrates nature into learning that aligns with curricula? Whether remotely or from the classroom, has the COVID-19 public health emergency made you think about how to get your students learning outside more? The New Hampshire Partnership for Schoolyard Action is now accepting grant applications for schools with students from pre-kindergarten through grade twelve to help fund nature-based learning projects.

Schoolyard Action Grant applications are being accepted through January 31, 2021. Grants of \$500 up to \$2,000 will be awarded to top applicants. For more information and a grant application, visit <https://wildlife.state.nh.us/education/grants.html>.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service New England Field Office, New Hampshire Project Learning Tree, the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, and New Hampshire Audubon have partnered to support Granite State schools through the New Hampshire Partnership for Schoolyard Action Grants. This partnership was created to make it easier for educators to apply for a grant to enhance their schoolyards to support nature-based studies. The common grant application works for all four of the partner organizations and greatly simplifies the application process.

Students of all grade levels benefit from learning outdoors. Some examples of projects that have been funded by the partner organizations in the past include the establishment of pollinator gardens, the creation of outdoor learning areas, installing solar-powered bird baths, and replanting of school grounds with native plants that enhance wildlife habitat. Other types of projects eligible for support include trail or pond creation, citizen science activities, and bird feeding or watering stations.

Projects or items not eligible for funding include vegetable gardens, staff time, field trips, school grounds landscaping, or purchase of educational supplies unless they



are directly related to the project.

Both student and community involvement in planning and on-site work is strongly encouraged. Professional consultation is available for project planning. The Partnership Team will be available throughout the entire process to help schools implement their projects.

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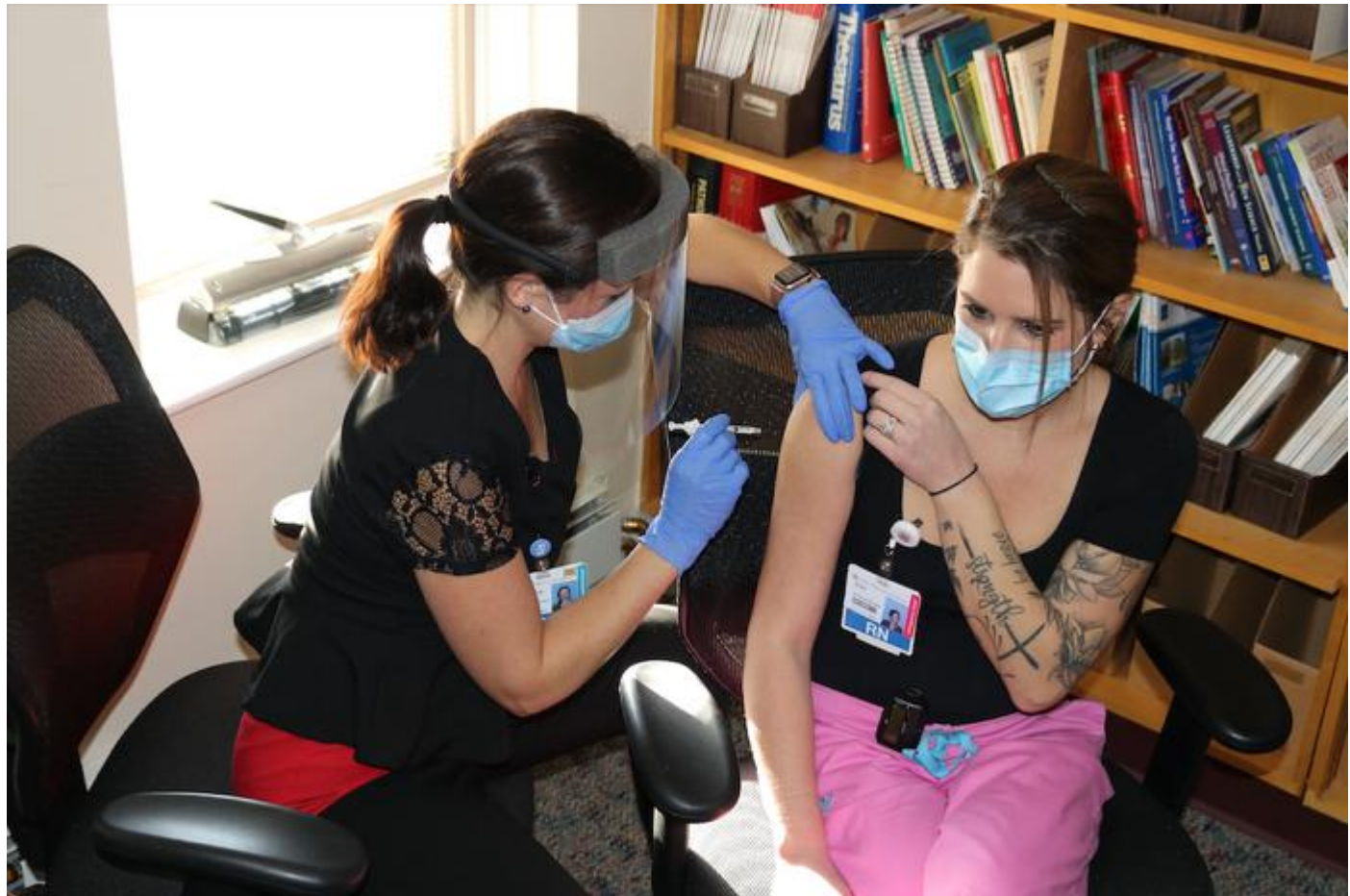
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VRH Begins Administering COVID-19 Vaccine to First Line Workers

CLAREMONT, NH—On Friday, December 18, Valley Regional Hospital began the process of administering the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to their high-risk health workers and first responders. The Pfizer vaccine is the first approved by the CDC and provided under Emergency Use Authorization, with the Moderna vaccine soon to follow.

“This virus has had such a profound, pervasive impact on so many lives, in our own community and worldwide,” stated Valley’s CEO Dr. Jocelyn Caple. “We’re very excited to finally be at a turning point in the nearly year-long fight against COVID.”

The first phase will continue until all front line employees who want the vaccine are inoculated, followed later by moderate and low risk staff. The vaccine is not currently mandated by the CDC or the State of New Hampshire. Valley continues to follow the guidance of the FDA, CDC and The New Hampshire Hospital Association.



Angelica Sindelar, Infection Preventionist, administers the first Pfizer vaccine to Kim Harrison, ED Nurse Manager (Courtesy photo).

Scam Alert From Attorney General’s Office: COVID-19 Vaccine

CONCORD NH—New Hampshire Attorney General Gordon J. MacDonald is encouraging consumers to be on the lookout for scams related to the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The first COVID-19 vaccines have arrived in New Hampshire and are being administered initially to directly impacted groups, including at-risk healthcare workers, residents of long-term care facilities and first responders. The general public should monitor the Vaccination Planning website for information about future distribution announcements: <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/vaccination-planning.htm>

Due to high demand for the vaccine, scammers may take the opportunity to attempt to fraudulently obtain money or personal identifying information from consumers by representing that they can provide fast access to a COVID-19 vaccination.

Any telephonic or email representation that a COVID-19 vaccination can be provided quickly in exchange for money or personal identifiable information is a scam.

If you receive a call like this, you should hang up immediately. Do not open or engage with emails from unknown sources.

The COVID-19 vaccine will be available to the American people at no cost regardless of insurance status. Contact your healthcare and insurance providers for specific information about how you may receive the COVID-19 vaccine and if there are any office-visit related costs. Additional information regarding distribution is available here: <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/vaccination-planning.htm>

In order to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in New Hampshire, you will NEVER be asked:

- For payment in any form to reserve a vaccine for you or another person;
- For payment in any form to schedule an appointment for yourself or another person to receive the vaccine;
- To provide confidential personal information, including a social security number, bank or credit card information, to reserve a vaccine or an appointment; or
- To provide cash, money orders, gift cards or another form of payment to secure your access in any manner to a covid-19 vaccine.

Protect yourself from COVID-19 vaccine scams:

- Hang up the phone if you are uncomfortable or do not recognize the person calling. Call 2-1-1 for information about the vaccine or call the Attorney General’s Consumer Protection Hotline to report any suspected scam calls or emails:

Phone: 1-888-468-4454

Email: DOJ-CPB@doj.nh.gov

Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center Emergency Department Addresses Opioid Crisis with Medication Assisted Treatment and Narcan

WINDSOR, VT – In order to save lives from the opioid crisis affecting Windsor County, Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Care Center (MAHHC) is offering rapid access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for people who arrive in the Emergency Department after an overdose or simply seeking help for an opioid use disorder. To provide this care—a process known as MAT Induction—MAHHC is working with Connecticut Valley Addiction Recovery (CVAR), an addiction treatment center in Windsor. In addition, MAHHC and CVAR are collaborating with the Vermont Department of Health to distribute the nasal-spray naloxone (Narcan) for free to the public.

Narcan is a life-saving drug that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose when administered in time, while MAT is the use of medications such as Suboxone in combination with counseling to help people sustain recovery from substances. As opioid-related deaths are on the rise nationwide during the coronavirus pandemic, Vermont has had 100 opioid overdose fatalities between January and August, 2020. Windsor County, with 21 deaths, has experienced the highest number of any Vermont county.

Qualifying patients receive their first dose of Suboxone in the MAHHC Emergency Department. The E.D. takes on the referral process and connects these patients with next day follow up care at CVAR. These efforts are grant funded. MAHHC has received an Overdose to Action grant from the Vermont department of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP). CVAR received a Rural Communities Opioid Response Program grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Dr. Rick Marasa, Medical Director of Emergency Services at MAHHC, collaborates closely with Dr. Clifton Lord, an addiction medicine specialist and Medical Director of CVAR, to ensure patients receive seamless care from the time they arrive in the Emergency Department, through their release from the hospital, as well as the critical period afterward.

Dr. Marasa said he and his colleagues have seen increasing opioid-related issues in the MAHHC Emergency Department in recent months. He and his staff are trained to identify people who need rapid access to treatment and to communicate with them about their dis-

order. Dr. Marasa explained, “If we see anybody who has a potential for needing any kind of drug or alcohol treatment, but especially now, opioid treatment, we engage in motivational interviewing. We get an idea of where they are with recovery, and make some suggestions.”

If patients are willing, Dr. Marasa’s team provides the first dose of Suboxone in the Emergency Department. “But in order for people to really recover and have long term success,” he added, “they need close follow up with an addiction specialist.” That is when he reaches out to Dr. Lord and the team at CVAR who provide continuing Suboxone, case management, and counseling. Dr. Lord hopes the Emergency Department’s MAT Induction will lower the barrier to treatment and save more lives. “We make sure that when a patient is seen in the ER, it becomes clear to them that we’re glad to see you, we’re here to help,” he said.

Dr. Lord of CVAR stressed that substance use disorder is a chronic illness, just like high blood pressure and diabetes: “I daresay anybody who thinks that dependency on opioids is a choice, and thinks that somebody could just stop, would never put up with the discomfort these patients deal with when they stop.” He emphasized that recovery includes medical, behavioral, and social aspects (the latter encompassing employment, housing, and financial issues).

“Yes, there is a crisis,” he said. “Yes, there are people dying. This is a terrible disease. But there are good people out there who are trying really hard to take care of people. I always think that there isn’t often very much room for optimism in this work, but there’s always room for hope. I have a lot of hope that we can make a difference with this.”

MAHHC’s program and its arrangement with Connecticut Valley Addiction Recovery began in 2019, and grew out of the Hospital’s initiative to address the opioid issue, spearheaded by CEO Dr. Joseph Perras. In 2018, the Hospital held two summits, organized by MAHHC Director of Community Health Jill Lord, which included area providers, social service agencies, legislators, and educators to identify their perceptions of the situation and establish priorities for addressing it, including MAT and free Narcan distribution.

Of the increase in overdoses in Windsor County, MAHHC’s Jill Lord said, “My heart breaks. This is not where we want to be. We identified we had a problem several years ago, but COVID-19 has had an impact.”

Free Virtual Learning Series - Math Art For Kids

CLAREMONT, NH—In this 3-part Claremont MakerSpace series, kids will create art projects that reflect math principles. We’ll explore geometry, patterns, symmetry and more through activities such as paper quilting, string art, or Escher-like tessellations. This series is designed for ages 10 and older. Family members are welcome, but please note younger kids will need assistance. Instructor will provide templates and a materials list prior to each class. Registration includes attendance at all 3 sessions.

This class will run Wednesdays, January 13, 20, and 27 beginning at 4 PM.

For more information, visit <https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#!event/2021/1/13/math-art-for-kids>.

Free Virtual Learning Series - Math Games For Kids

CLAREMONT, NH—In this 3-part Claremont MakerSpace series, kids will learn dice and card games for reinforcing computation. Have fun while practicing computational fluency. This series is designed for kids ages 8-12; family members are welcome to come play along. Instructor will provide templates and a materials list prior to each class, and a hand-out of the games at the end of the series. Registration includes attendance at all 3 sessions.

Please note: There is a \$10 instructor fee to cover the cost of specialty dice mailed to each family. Details provided upon registration. Dates: Mondays, January 11, 18, and 25, starting at 4 PM.

For more information, visit <https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#!event/2021/1/11/math-games-for-kids>.

United Way of Sullivan County Awarded State of NH Set Aside Funds

NEWPORT, NH—United Way of Sullivan County has been awarded State of NH Set Aside funds under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

United Way of Sullivan County (UWSC) was chosen to receive \$13,942 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county, announced executive director Dawn Ranney.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from the American Red Cross; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA; The Salvation Army; United Jewish Communities; and United Way of America. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A local community board representing American Red Cross, UWSC, church organizations, government agencies and area social services will determine how the funds awarded to UWSC are distributed amongst applying emergency food and shelter programs.

Under the terms of the grant from FEMA National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must 1) be private voluntary non-profits with voluntary boards, 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice non discrimination, 4) have demonstrated capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply.

Agencies interested in applying for EFSP funds must contact Ranney at United Way of Sullivan County, 543-0121 for an application. Completed applications must be received by January 20, 2021 for consideration.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

How To Laser Cut A Box (Free Virtual Learning)

4PM

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#!/event/2020/12/29/learn-how-to-laser-cut-a-box>

In this free virtual learning class, learn how to use a laser cutter to cut a small wooden box. We will look at a variety of resources and watch the Claremont Makerspace laser cutter in action and give a demo of Corel Draw. This will be a great overview for anyone who has not laser cut before or is looking for some possible new tricks.

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Time for New Year's Financial Resolutions

Many of us probably felt that 2020 lasted a very long time. But now that 2021 is upon us, we can make a fresh start – and one way to do that is to make some New Year's resolutions. Of course, you can make these resolutions for all parts of your life – physical, emotional, intellectual – but have you ever considered some financial resolutions?

Here are a few such resolutions to consider:

- **Don't overreact to events.** When the coronavirus pandemic hit in mid-February, the financial markets took a big hit. Many people, convinced that we were in for a prolonged slump, decided to take a "time out" and headed to the investment sidelines. But it didn't take long for the markets to rally, rewarding those patient investors who stayed the course. Nothing is a certainty in the investment world, but the events of 2020 followed a familiar historical pattern: major crisis followed by market drop followed by strong recovery. The lesson for investors? Don't overreact to today's news – because tomorrow may look quite different.

- **Be prepared.** At the beginning of 2020, nobody was anticipating a worldwide pandemic and its terrible consequences, both to individuals' health and to their economic well-being. None of us can foretell the future, either, but we can be prepared, and one way to do so is by building an emergency fund. Ideally, such a fund should be kept in liquid, low-risk vehicles and contain at least six months' worth of living expenses.

- **Focus on moves you can control.** In response to pandemic-related economic pressures, some employers cut their matching contributions to 401(k) plans in 2020. Will some future event cause another such reduction? No one knows – and even if it happens, there's probably nothing you can do about it. Instead of worrying about things you can't control, focus on those you can. When it comes to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, put in as much as you can afford this year, and if your salary goes up, increase your contribution.

- **Recognize your ability to build savings.** During the pandemic, the personal savings rate shot up, hitting a record of 33% in April, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economy Analysis. It fell over the next several months, but still remained about twice as high as the rate of the past few years. Of course, much of this surge in Americans' proclivity to save money was due to our lack of options for spending it, as the coronavirus caused either complete or partial shutdowns in physical retail establishments, as well as dining and entertainment venues. But if you did manage to boost your own personal savings when your spending was constrained, is it possible to remain a good saver when restrictions are lifted? Probably. And the greater your savings, the greater your financial freedoms – including the freedom to invest and freedom from excessive debt. When we reach a post-pandemic world, see if you can continue saving more than you did in previous years – and use your savings wisely.

These aren't the only financial resolutions you can make – but following them may help you develop habits that could benefit you in 2021 and beyond.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.
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City Center Boasts New Historical Marker



Left: Mayor Charlene Lovett and Julien Icher unveil the new marker in Opera House Square; right: Icher says a few words about the red, white and blue marker, colors of both the US and France; he noted that all of the marker's information is based on contemporary historical sources (Eric Zengota photos).

**By Eric Zengota
e-Ticker News**

CLAREMONT, NH—A historical marker commemorating General Lafayette's visit to Claremont on June 27, 1825, was unveiled this Monday morning in Opera House Square. Mayor Charlene Lovett noted the "critical role that the general played in our fight for independence from the British crown." The marker is the third in New Hampshire to honor the general for his military and philosophical support of the colonists, beginning in 1777 when he arrived from France and joined the Continental Army. (The other two are in Newport and Cornish.)

Julien Icher, a French citizen who started the Lafayette Trail project some years ago, spoke about Lafayette's dedication to the American Revolution, as well as the adulation he received when he toured the United States in 1824 and 1825. In Claremont alone, 4,000 to 5,000 gathered to welcome him in front of the long-gone Stevens' Hotel.

The Claremont City Council had voted to approve the erection of the marker. Icher is looking forward to the one soon to be set up in Hopkinton, and hopes to add Portsmouth and Greenland by 2024, the bicentennial of Lafayette's visit. So far, the project has erected 28 markers in several states. All told, Icher envisions 175 markers along the general's trail from Maine to Louisiana.

A full story on the Lafayette Trail project and its history in Claremont will appear in the Jan. 4 edition of *e-Ticker News*.

Inspiration

How Long Is Christmas?

By Priscilla Hull

On the day following Christmas, I saw trees at the side of the curb waiting to be picked up and taken to the dump. They won't even be going to feed the hungry goats! (I just recently heard that goats love Christmas trees and wreaths.) What a statement those trees make to me about the meaning of Christmas. We've lost what Christmas was intended for. It is just a day to give as much, no, more, than we can afford. Credit cards will take months to pay off and for what? In some cases the toy will be broken before its paid for. Sad, isn't it?

In Britain, the day after Christmas is called Boxing Day. It is a time, not to box up Christmas and put it out of the house, but to take gifts to the poor, the sick, the oppressed. The thesis is well explained in the story of Bob Cratchit and Ebenezer Scrooge. I won't take the space to tell it, chances are that you know the story well. If not, find it and read it. Ebenezer Scrooge is made vividly aware of what will happen to Bob Cratchit's son, Tiny Tim, if he doesn't change his thought process from miser to benefactor.

We should read that story every year so that the spirit of Christmas lasts through the year. The charity that receives a check for Christmas (take advantage of those tax credits) needs help year round. People aren't hungry just at Christmas, but in May and August and September and times between. Our work to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, visit the oppressed is a year-round thing. They don't come around at Christmas because we're in a giving mood. They are with us year round.

The boxes collecting Toys for Tots, the kettles collecting coins for those in need, have been stashed away, waiting for next year, but the mother still needs food for her child, the veteran's pocket is still empty, the sick still need gas cards for trips to the doctor or treatment. Those needs don't go away. Like Tiny Tim, the need is real and unrelenting.

Christmas is a season covering time before the day and not ending until Twelfth Night. Hence the Twelve Days of Christmas when my true love gave me hoards of presents. The need is eternal. We always have many around us who need help, a hand to reach out and help someone to safety. Many have been on both sides of the abyss.

So leave a candle in the window, brighten someone's world with a gift, with a kind word, with a moment of your time. Little things count for much. Make your Christmas last until next December and then start again!

"Give from your heart to those in need and then everything will be parsecs for you."
Luke 11:41

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



Calendar Of Events

1st Night Activities in Claremont

CLAREMONT, NH—"Everyone wants 2021 to get here ASAP," said Mark Brislin. "In this challenging year, when we have to stay distanced even on New Year's Eve, we'll bring First Night directly to everyone via television and social media."

Brislin, Claremont's director of parks and recreation, collaborated with members of First Night's traditional organizer, Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club. They came up with a full evening of fun, family-friendly performances that folks can watch from the comfort of their homes on Claremont CCTV channel 8 or Facebook (TBA).

"But wait, there's more!" — as the saying goes. Anyone eager to get a jumpstart on welcoming 2021 won't have to wait for New Year's Eve.

They can take part in the First Annual Claremont-Sugar River Rotary First Night Scavenger Hunt. The hunt will take place over three days, starting on Dec. 26 and ending at 5pm Dec. 30. It will feature outdoor locations for teams to discover and document. Teams can be any size with members of any age. Due to the global pandemic, however, all team members must be from the same household. Forms can be downloaded from the Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Facebook Page, or picked up at the Fiske Free Library. Up to ten

gift certificates will be awarded. Winners will be selected randomly from among the forms submitted with correct answers. Winners will be announced Dec. 31 as part of First Night, on the Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Facebook page.

New Year's Eve activities start at **5pm**, the perfect time to start a tour of Claremont's Holiday Lights Displays, which will be illuminated all evening. Visit Broad Street Park, with its thousands of lights. Drive through the city's neighborhoods as they show off their festive decorations.

At **6pm**, Claremont's **Off Broad Street Players** will continue their tradition of providing entertainment for First Night. Their 2020 show, "**Stories to Ring Out the Year!**" is a read-aloud on **CCTV** in the tradition of the Night of a Thousand Stars. A few of our OBSP "stars" will each read a story that was chosen to delight all ages.

Troy and Ariana Wunderle will present **Circus Wunder** on **CCTV** at **7pm**. The father-daughter team has been entertaining audiences throughout New England for 15 years. On First Night, they'll dazzle and delight young and old alike, performing acts of comedy and feats of skill. Take part in the show as one of Troy's virtual participants, and cheer Ariana on as she attempts to cross a tightrope in high heels.

At **8pm** on **CCTV**, magician **Steven Charrette** will amaze and amuse you with his award winning **magic show**, full of surprises, right before your eyes. Steve performs his magic with a touch of comedy and audience participation.

Local musician **Brooks Hubbard** will perform on **CCTV** at **9pm**. Born in Enfield, Brooks

started his live music career playing drums at his 3rd grade ice cream social with his dad's band. Picking up guitar at age 12 and writing songs at 15, Brooks was performing regularly right out of high school. He opened for blues legend Robert Cray and pop artist KT Tunstall while attending Keene State College.

Church bells throughout the city will ring for a full 5 minutes at **9pm** (St Mary Roman Catholic, Holy Resurrection Orthodox and St. Joseph Roman Catholic) and **10pm**; for 2 minutes at **11pm**; and at **midnight**. Also taking part are Community Congregational Church, and Trinity Episcopal Church and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

At **10pm**, there will be a dazzling **fireworks display** over the ski area at **Arrowhead Recreation Area**, which will also be televised live on **CCTV**, and on the **City of Claremont Facebook** page. Fireworks are always in fashion and Arrowhead's extravaganza will not disappoint.

Each year, Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club holds a contest in which local students submit artwork for the design of the **First Night Button**. This year's winner is Annabelle Torres, a 3rd grader at Maple Avenue School. First Night Buttons may be purchased (\$1 donation) at Golden Cross Ambulance, Arrowhead and Claremont Savings Bank Community Center. "Buy a button to show your community spirit!"

For more and updated information, visit the *Parks and Rec Facebook page*.



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Claremont Democrats Hold Virtual Caucus January 7

CLAREMONT, NH—The 2021 Claremont Democratic Caucus is scheduled to take place on Thursday, Jan. 7, at 7:00PM to adopt new bylaws and elect officers for a two-year term. Elected officers are automatic delegates to the NH State Convention.

“We need to reboot our local organization,” said State Representative John Cloutier (Sullivan County District 10). “As Claremont Democrats, we have a great deal of work ahead of us to reclaim majorities in the NH House, Senate, Executive Council and County offices. It is also vitally important to recruit successful candidates and win City-wide elections this March. Caucusing locally is the first step to electing candidates who will make sure working families in the Granite State have a strong voice here in Claremont, as well as in Concord and Washington.”

The hour-long caucus will be held remotely. Any resident of Claremont registered to vote as a Democrat may participate. Email claremont.NH.Democrats@gmail.com to obtain an agenda, along with proposed bylaws and a zoom link for the meeting.

Membership in the NH Democratic Party consists of all Democrats registered to vote in the State and is open to all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national or ethnic origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, economic status or philosophical persuasion.

Need Some Extra Space for Your Next Project/Business/Creative Experiment?

CLAREMONT, NH—Need some extra space for your next project/business/creative experiment?

The Claremont Makerspace has Personal Studio Spaces that provide personal work areas for dedicated users to call their own. Personal studio spaces are made up of 48" dividers and come in sizes of 60 sq/ft and 100 sq/ft, with each studio including 2 pow-

er outlets and an Ethernet jack.

Learn more about CMS Personal Studio Spaces at <https://claremontmakerspace.org/studio-space/>.

As well, they are currently offering tours of CMS. Tours are scheduled in advance and participants must follow our COVID-19 policies. To schedule a tour, please email info@twinstatemakerspaces.org.

Virtual Grief Support Available Through Lake Sunapee VNA

NEW LONDON, NH – Lake Sunapee VNA is offering two virtual grief support groups, since its in-person support groups are still on hold. To help anyone grieving during this pandemic and time of social distancing, a Virtual Bereavement Check-in is available on Wednesdays every three weeks from 4:00-5:00pm.

In addition, a Virtual Widow to Widow group is held on the first Monday of every month from 3:30-5:00pm. Anyone interested in participating in these free groups should email their contact information to Lori O'Connor at loconnor@lakesunapeevna.org and a member of the bereavement team will call with further details.

Charlestown VFW Bingo Holiday Schedule

CHARLESTOWN, NH—Charlestown VFW Bingo is taking time off for the holidays. At this moment in time we plan on bingo as usual in 2021. If plans change, we will update you here in the *e-Ticker* and through our Facebook page. To all our patrons, thank you for your patronage and we wish you a happy, safe holiday season.

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

REMINDER

to all Owners of property in Claremont

– your 3rd quarter property tax bill is due January 8th by state law.

The 3rd quarter bill is calculated using the new tax rate.



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.

Area Grocery Store Hours Reserved for High Risk Population

HANNAFORD - Most stores reserve 7 AM – 8 AM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. In Massachusetts, those special hours are 7 AM – 8 AM daily

MARKET BASKET 6 AM - 7 AM EVERY DAY Claremont

CO-OP FOOD STORES 7AM - 8 AM EVERYDAY WRJCT, Lebanon & Hanover

PRICE CHOPPER 6AM - 7AM EVERYDAY-Windsor & West Lebanon

SHAWS 7AM - 9AM TUES & THURS West Lebanon

WALMART 6 AM - 7 AM TUESDAYS ONLY Claremont & West Lebanon

PLAINFIELD COUNTRY STORE Call ahead for curb side pickup, 709-7055. Prepared meals, grocery items.

Claremont Senior Center News

ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

We hope we have your attention! We are proud to announce the winners of the “Ugly Sweater Cookie” contest.

First Place: Sue Pare, Second Place: Penny Mann, Third Place: Sandra Parshall, Honorable Mention: Lorraine Frizzell. Congratulations to all the winners and a big Thank You to all who participated. We will try to get pictures in the January Newsletter for all to see.

NOTICE!! There will be NO MEAL on the 29th. The kitchen elves are taking a vacation to replenish their energy. We wish them all the peace and quiet they deserve. Energy

restored, they will be back in action on Jan. 5th. See you then!

We want to thank you all for the support you have given us during our Take-Out Program. Your support and participation make us feel good about what we are doing. We will see you all on Tues. Jan. 5th with a great monthly menu.

The blood drive was very successful. Again the community got a gold star for participating and sharing the precious gift of life. We have another drive on Jan.11th. Noon-5PM. Again Thank You all.

As we come to the close of this year, we have to realize that we saw things through 20-20 vision. We have seen a pandemic, the needs of others, either hunger, ill or out of work. But we have also seen the endless love and generosity of others toward mankind. We know, looking forward, the next year-2021, will be better. The kindness and generosity we learned will be carried forward to make 2021 a fabulous year.

We wish you all a very Happy and Healthy Year. Stay safe. Stay well.

Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights Rd., Claremont, NH. 603-543-5998.

Claremont Fire Dept. Log

Sunday 12/20/20

0740- Engine 3 responded to Washington St. for a vehicle fire

1135- Engine 3 responded on Pleasant St. for an odor investigation

1157- Engine 3 responded on Grandview St. for a medical call

1202- Utility 1 responded on Winter St. for a medical call

1903- Engine 3 responded on Grandview St. to assist the ambulance

1911- Engine 3 responded on Franklin St. for a public assist

Monday 12/21/20

0242- Engine 3 responded on Sullivan St. for wires down

1026- Engine 3 responded on Heritage Dr. to check well being

1316- Engine 3 responded on Broad St. for wires down

2315- Engine 3 responded on Elm St. for a medical call

2321- Engine 1 responded on Gambier St. for a lift assist

Tuesday 12/22/20

0128- Engine 3 responded on Severance St. for a medical call

1132- Engine 3 responded on Bible Hill for a medical call

2252- Engine 1, Engine 3 responded to Rock Pl. for a chimney fire

Wednesday 12/23/20

0020- Engine 3 responded on Goyette Ave. for a medical call

0042- Engine 3 responded on Pleasant St. for a medical call

0957- Engine 3 responded on Main St. for a motor vehicle accident

1121- Engine 3 responded on Mulberry St. for a Box alarm

1629- Engine 3 responded on Main St. for a motor vehicle accident

1700- Engine 3 responded on Washington St. for a medical call

1814- Engine 3 responded on Washington St. for a motor vehicle accident

2325- Engine 3 responded on Sullivan St. for a Box alarm

Thursday 12/24/20

0128- Engine 3 responded on Pine Ave. for a medical call

0816- Engine 3 responded on Broad St. for an odor investigation

1048- Engine 3 responded on Central St. to check well being

1306- Engine 3 responded on Washington St. for vehicle leaking fluids

Friday 12/25/20

0344- Engine 3 responded on Leslie Ave. for possible CO problem

1413- Engine 3 responded on Hanover St. for a tree on a house

1701- Engine 3 responded on Charlestown Rd. for a fuel spill

1743- Engine 3 responded on Bellevue Ave. for a medical call

1848- Engine 3, Utility 1 responded on Twistback Rd. for wires down

2031- Engine 3 responded on Hanover St. for a flooded basement

Saturday 12/26/20

1128- Engine 3 responded on Sullivan St. for a Box alarm

1207- Engine 3 responded on Stone Ave. for a flooded basement

1924- Engine 3 responded on Sugar River Dr. for a medical call

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

Tammy L. Simms, 52

Tammy L. Simms, 52, of Alstead, NH, passed away on December 20, 2020 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, NH.

She was born in Claremont, NH, on August 19, 1968, the daughter of Robert and Gloria (Fisher) Simms.

She graduated from Stevens High School in the class of 1986.

Tammy loved crafting, jewelry making, house plants and was a good cook. She had a big heart and enjoyed helping others; she also gave people shelter when they needed it. She was witty and loved to make people laugh.

She is survived by her two sons, Kaleb and Dalton Hutchinson; her fiancé, Greg Bacon of Alstead; her sisters, Wendy Leahy of Westmoreland and Christine Scranton of Claremont; her brother, Robert Simms III of Charlestown; nieces and nephew and special family friend, Sean Anderson.

She was predeceased by her parents.

A graveside service will be held in the West Claremont Burying Ground in Claremont on Tuesday, Dec. 29th, at 11AM with Priscilla Hull officiating.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the funeral home and Simms family ask all attending the to abide with all regulations and please wear a mask and use social distancing.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Harold M. Chase Jr., 82

Harold Montague Chase Jr, 82, of Lebanon, NH, passed away on December 19, 2020, at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon.

He was born in La Grange, IL, on December 28, 1937, the son of Harold and Frances (Bear) Chase.

He was in the US Army. In the Army Reserves from 1956 – 1965, then going active duty from 1965 – 1983. He did a tour in Vietnam and retired as a Lt. Colonel in 1983. Harold had his Bachelors' Degree in Nursing from Mt Sinai University. He was a nurse working in the operating room for 1983 – 2003 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.

He was very active in many organizations. He was a 3rd Degree Mason and past Master of Hiram six times, Order of Eastern Star and Past Grand Patron, member of the 32nd Degree Scottish Rite, York Rite, the Bektash Shriners, Commandery, The Grange, Lunch

Bunch and Knights Templar and a supporter of International Order of Rainbow for Girls. Harold enjoyed fishing, cooking, researching ancestry, crossword and jigsaw puzzles and spending time with family and friends.

He is survived by his daughters, Debra Eliassen and her husband, Robert of Westminster, CO, ReBecca Hackett and her husband, Jon of Cornish and Stacey Gatto and her significant other, Joseph Dubuque of Lebanon; 11 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; sisters, Sally Kokes and her husband, Carl, Joellen Kuhl and her husband, Paul and Mary Moreau and her husband, Michel; his beloved dog, Miss Holly; his best friend, Lisa Carter White and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents, his wife, JoAnn (Usko) Chase whom he married on January 21, 1967 and she passed away on July 6, 2016 and his daughter, Jennifer Dyer.

A Memorial Service was held on Dec. 23 at the Stringer Funeral Home with the Masons, then Rev. Father John Loughnane.

In Lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the Masons. At Hiram Lodge #9, 40 Maple Avenue, Claremont, NH 03743.

“Eye doctors shouldn't have fine print.”

-Dr. Sam Given

At Doctor Sam's Eye Care, everything is right up front. From eye exams to glasses to contact lenses to whatever treatment you need, our prices are as comfortable as our chair-side manner. Visit Doctor Sam's and see for yourself.

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



Alice A. Sombric, 74

Alice A. (Kendall) Sombric, 74, passed away Thursday, afternoon, December 17, 2020, at the Sullivan County Health Center in Unity, NH.

Alice was born in Gassetts, VT, on June 26, 1946, and moved to Charlestown, NH, in 1969 and lived there until moving to Sullivan County Health Center, Unity, NH, in June 2020.

Alice was predeceased by her parents Edward and Ada (Baker) Kendall, and siblings Jim Kendall, Everett Kendall, Fred Kendall, Ned Kendall, Flora (Kendall) Mack, Vera (Kendall) Magoon, her beloved four-legged companion, Razzle, and her former husband Walter P. Sombric Jr.

She is survived by her children Penny Seymour (and her husband James), Mary Calabro (and her husband Stephen), and Donald Sombric, her grandchildren Brett Hull and Autumn Sombric and her sister Dorothy (Kendall) Haynes, many nieces, nephews, five step-granddaughters Elizabeth, Victoria, Christine, Grace, Catherine and six step-great grandchildren Mya, Nicholas, Noah, Liam, Sophia, and Olivia.

Alice worked for many years at Grobet File in Charlestown, NH, and then changed careers and worked for West Central Services a group home in Claremont, NH. She enjoyed the companionship of her special little poodle, Razzle. She enjoyed caring for her plants, socializing with friends, exercising, water aerobics and walking at the Claremont Savings Bank Community Center.

Per Alice's request there will be no viewing or services. She will be cremated, and a small private service will take place in 2021.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Vermont Film Series

The Billings Farm & Museum's 11th Annual Woodstock Vermont Film Series features *The Woman Who Loves Giraffes*, a tale of science, gender and giraffe conservation.

In 1956, before anyone, man or woman, had made such a trip, 23-year-old Canadian

biologist, Anne Innis Dagg, made an unprecedented solo journey to South Africa to become the first person in the world to study animal behavior in the wild on that continent.

In this film, an older (now 85), wiser Dagg takes us on her first expedition back to Africa to retrace where her trail-blazing journey began more than half a century ago.

The film is available for streaming in the comfort of your home December 31-January 3. The Woodstock Vermont Film Series is produced by Billings Farm & Museum with generous support from local sponsors. Lead sponsors include the Woodstock Inn & Resort and the Ellaway Group. For a full list of films, to learn how to view the films, and to purchase tickets and passes, go to billingsfarm.org/film-series or call 802-457-5303.

Public Notice

The Claremont School Board will be holding a Public Hearing for donation acceptance on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at 6:30pm, with a Claremont regular Board Meeting to immediately follow. This meeting will be in person, audio broadcast, hybrid and streaming. Location Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center, 111 South Street, Claremont, NH.

Open to the Public (in person) - limited seating

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

Audio Broadcasted on CCTV Channel 8 - Citizens without access to CCTV 8 may call in to listen by dialing 1-929-436-2866 ID 927 2550 5617 Passcode 692 250

Streaming by using this link <https://zoom.us/j/92725505617?pwd=Qnh-UMHhkWjUwdk0yMEMyV1RYeEZmQT09#success>

Please visit our website: www.sau6.org under School Boards to review agenda.



City Council Vacancy (Revised)

The Claremont City Council is seeking applicants to fill a vacant At-Large Council seat. This is to fill the remainder of a term which will expire on December 31, 2021. All applicants must be registered voters in the City of Claremont as of the date of application. Applicants may be a resident of any Ward in the City. Letters of interest, resume, and City Boards and Commissions Application must be received at the City Manager's Office, 58 Opera House Square, Claremont, NH 03743, by Monday, January 4, 2021, no later than 5 p.m.

Boards and Commissions Application may be found at Application to Serve on Board or Commission (claremontnh.com)

Applicants will be interviewed by the City Council on Wednesday, January 13, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Selected candidate will be sworn in via Zoom.

Pursuant to state law, no person may serve as City Councilor while holding the position of treasurer, moderator, trustee of trust funds, tax collector, auditor, supervisor of the checklist or who is a City employee. Additionally, no person may be a candidate for or hold public office who has been convicted of bribery or corruption in obtaining an election (NH Constitution, Article 96), or who has been sentenced for a felony until the sentence is discharged (RSA 607-A:2).



The roaring Sugar River, shooting up an afternoon mist, caught and scattered white light into a split-second rainbow.

~ Eric Zengota