

# e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**World Snow Day  
Fun at Arrowhead;  
Page B1**

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January 22, 2018

## Dancing With The Newport Stars Returns

NEWPORT, NH--The Newport Area Chamber of Commerce is excited and proud to partner up with its friends at the Newport Opera House Association as Dancing With The Newport Stars returns. "We have had the pleasure of working with the NOHA in the past during our six-year run of Dancing With The Newport Stars," said Chamber board member Steve Smith. "This partnership will make our show even better for all to see. Fifty percent of all the proceeds from Dancing With The Newport Stars will benefit the NOHA's upcoming capital campaign to raise funds for lighting inside the Opera House (entitled Light Up the Opera House). The NOHA, an independent non-profit dedicated to the Arts in Newport, owns all the lighting, sound equipment, props, and more inside the Opera House. They have been very gracious to the Chamber of Commerce over the years, donating their equipment, time and expertise and we are more than happy to return the favor and help kick start their fundraising efforts. The NOHA's lighting system is over 20 years old and is failing. Occasionally the lights fail, other times they blink or dim. The total cost of replacing the system is \$85,000 and they are looking at first to raise \$30,000 to replace the infrastructure to ensure the lights stay on, so we can all enjoy all the shows and programs inside the Opera House."

Dancing With The Newport Stars will return after a two-year hiatus with new stars, new and returning professionals, great exhibitions, loads of fun, and a great community spirit. Smith said the Chamber has had countless requests for the show to return ever since the final curtain call in 2015.

Tickets to the two-night show (January 26 & 27) are available at The Petal Patch, Main

**(Continued on page A2)**

## *Special Edition: A Look Back at 2017 and Some of the Stories We Covered*

### Senate Passes Legislation to Prevent Childhood Lead Poisoning

CONCORD, NH--By Concurring on House changes to Senate Bill 247 in a bipartisan 18-6 vote, the Senate has sent Senate Bill 247 to Gov. Chris Sununu for signature. Sen. Dan Feltes, the prime sponsor of Senate Bill 247, issued the following statement last Thursday:

"This is the most significant and comprehensive effort to date in New Hampshire to address the public health problem of childhood lead poisoning from paint and from water," said Senator Dan Feltes. "All of our children, regardless of their background or where they live, should have the opportunity to live free of lead poisoning, free of the disabling consequences, and free to reach their full potential. This bipartisan measure does exactly that, and I thank Democrats and Republicans, including Gov. Chris Sununu, for coming together on this."

"Today the legislature signaled that every family, regardless of their means, should have the opportunity to make sure their children are as healthy as possible," said Governor Chris Sununu. "SB 247 will allow every child in New Hampshire proper and prompt access to lead testing, and I applaud the New Hampshire Senate for concurring with the House on this bipartisan, commonsense compromise. I look forward to signing this significant legislation into law."

In a recent column, Claremont Mayor Charlene Lovett wrote, "On January 2nd, the Governor held a press conference and conveyed his support of Senate Bill 247, otherwise known as the lead bill. I had an opportunity to attend the event. During the press conference, Jessica Livingston spoke of how her two young children were poisoned by lead while living in an apartment in Concord. Her story reaffirmed why this bill is so important, and why so many people have dedicated themselves to resolving this very preventable public health issue."

"During his press conference, Governor Sununu mentioned the work that Claremont has done to address childhood lead poisoning. Though this is a statewide issue, it was rewarding to hear him speak of our efforts to be proactive in protecting the health of our children."

The following day, January 3rd, the House of Representatives held their first session of the year and voted to pass SB247. The support was overwhelming with a vote of 266 to 87.

"In December of 2016, the City Council and School Board voted to make childhood lead poisoning a community-wide priority," Lovett told the *e-Ticker News* over the weekend. "Our actions to protect our children's health, here at home, gained the recognition of the State and the Governor's office. I am so proud of our community, and the contributions that we have made to help move SB247 through the legislative process. I look forward to the day that Governor Sununu signs this bill into law."

---Phyllis A. Muzeroll

**Dancing, from A1**

Street, Newport. For information regarding Dancing With The Newport Stars, please call Chamber President Donna Mahair, 863-3833, or for information on the Newport Opera House's Light Up The Opera House campaign, call Executive Director Amy Bailey 863-2412.

Funds raised go to help support community events like Concerts On The Common, Twas Just Before Christmas, Newport Winter Carnival and much more.

The Newport Chamber of Commerce's mission is promote the growth and prosperity of the Newport area, promote the general welfare of the Newport area and foster commerce and trade in the Newport area.

**Fire Destroys 1st Baptist Church In Lebanon**



**Contract Negotiations With Johnston For City Manager Post Fail; Position Offered To 2nd Finalist, Ryan McNutt**

CLAREMONT, NH--It was back to the negotiation table for the City Council and its search for a new City Manager. The Council spoke in a unified voice when it announced the selection of David Johnston for the position of city manager, but it had been a very tough decision given the quality of the two final candidates, said the Council in a statement. The Council was not been able to negotiate satisfactory terms of employment with Johnston, said Mayor Charlene Lovett. So the Council has made a conditional offer to Ryan McNutt who is currently the Town Administrator for Lancaster MA, the 2nd finalist in the City's search for a new manager. The City hopes to finalize an agreement with McNutt by the end of the year with a starting date by February 1, 2017. During the interim and transition period, MRI management consultant Pat MacQueen will serve as the interim city manager.

**Rafieymehr Named Interim President Of RVCC**

**Chief Scott To Retire; Chase To Take Over As New Police Chief**

**Mt. Ascutney Hospital Announces Perras as New Chief Executive Officer**

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Member, Greater Claremont Chamber Of Commerce

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**NH Lottery Numbers**

**01/20/2018**

**NH PowerBall**

**26 28 47 49 58 3 4**

**Mega Millions 01/19/2018**

**3 17 23 49 66 23 3**

**Megabucks 01/20/2018**

**1 31 33 34 39 2**

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Located in the Brown Block.



## Ferland Resigns From School Board

CLAREMONT, NH--Claremont School Board member Brent Ferland submitted his resignation from the board Wednesday night, citing a need to spend more time with his business, Four Pines Quilting. In his letter to the board, he said he would stay on through the budget season, but he was not in attendance Wednesday night. He runs the business with his mother, Becky Ferland, who also served on the school board but resigned last fall in a dispute with board chair Brian Rapp and vice chair Chris Irish.

### Council, School Board Meet Again To Discuss Issues Crucial To City's Growth

## Fire Destroys WRJ Piano Business

## Burglary, Fire At Circle K Gas Station

ASCUTNEY, VT--On Feb. 1st, at approximately 2:30 a.m., the Ascutney Fire Department responded for a report of a structure fire located at the Circle K gas station in Ascutney, VT. The business was closed for the night when the fire started. When the Fire Department arrived, they found fire and heavy smoke coming from the west side of the structure.

At this time it does appear that the building was burglarized. The power, internet and cable lines was intentionally cut to the business at the utility pole. The front doors of the business were damaged where the person(s) entered the building. The business sustained substantial damage due to the fire.

A second business, the Sunoco gas station located across the street also sustained damage to the phone, internet and cable lines. The lines appear to have been intentionally cut as well, however no entry was gained into the business. The business was able to remain open on Wednesday.

## New Home For First United Methodist Church Announced

### Eight Lbs. Of Heroin Seized In ME, MA, Worth Over \$1.8 Million

## School District To Seek RFPs For Food Service Vendor

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The Claremont School District is moving forward with looking into going a different route with food service, opting to seek RFPs from third party vendors. The idea was explored two years ago when Fresh Picks Cafe did a presentation before the board and provided samples of its food. However, the project stalled due to the RFPs not meeting all the guidelines, according to the state, and is only now being resurrected.

The board agreed that it was "time to make a decision". Currently, meals are prepared by in-house food service employees overseen by a director; while board members were quick to say they didn't want the employees to "feel insulted" and that the meals meet all the federal requirements, the issue has come up because, according to board member and vice chair, Chris Irish, "It's a quality issue, that's what I've heard. I've heard not so great things about the food. It was a better deal financially, what we saw two years ago, it seems like a natural progression."



# Commentary

## NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

### Public Hearings on Hate Crimes, Wild Goose Held



Two legislative measures of interest to many Claremonters had public hearings before two separate New Hampshire House committees last week.

The first measure was HCR(House Concurrent Resolution)13, which condemns hate crimes and any other form of racism in New Hampshire. HCR 13 was heard before the House Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee on Jan. 16. The resolution is sponsored by a bipartisan coalition of legislators led by Rye Rep. Mindi Messmer, a Democrat, and including Wolfeboro Sen. Jeb Bradley, who is a Republican, as well as myself. Among other statements it declares that in the past several years “violent crimes, threats of violence, and other incidents of hate-motivated targeting of religious, racial, sexual, or gender identity, and other ethnic minorities,” have increased across New Hampshire and the United States. It lists several recent hate-motivated incidents around our nation and state, including the Aug. 28, 2017, Claremont incident in which teen-aged boys allegedly attempted to hang an eight-year biracial boy.

Furthermore, HCR 13 continues by declaring that both the New Hampshire House of Representatives and Senate stand united in condemning “hate, discrimination, and evil in all forms” as a violation of current state law as well as rejecting “hate-motivated crime as an attack on the fabric of the society” of our state and the “ideals of pluralism and respect.” Additionally, the resolution calls on law enforcement to “expeditiously investigate all credible reports of discrimination, hate crimes” as well as “incidents and threats against minorities contrary to law in the state.” It also demands that law enforcement “hold the perpetrators” of all hate crimes and discrimination “accountable” for their actions thru the justice system.

Continuing- HCR 13 calls upon New Hampshire government to continue working “to improve the reporting of hate crimes and discrimination.” Also, state government is “encouraged to develop a task force led by the attorney general and appropriate state authorities to collaborate on the development of effective strategies and efforts to detect and deter hate crimes and discrimination in order to protect minority communities.” Finally, the governor and executive council are called on to offer any “state assistance that may be available for victims of hate crimes and discrimination,” as well as enhance security measures for all places of worship and religious institutions that have been or may be targeted because of their affiliation with certain religious, racial, and ethnic minorities.

Approximately seven individuals testified in favor of HCR 13 before the Criminal Justice Committee, including myself, with only one individual testifying in opposition. In my testimony, I stated that the Aug. 28 alleged attempted Claremont lynching shocked most residents because

up until that date we didn’t actually believe there was much racism and hate in our city. I added that while none of the alleged perpetrators of the attempted lynching have yet been criminally charged through our justice system, the Claremont area is attempting to deal with the underlying causes of the incident, including racism. Specifically, I mentioned the Claremont Racial Healing Working Group which has held several meetings since August, and hosted Claremont’s first Martin Luther King Holiday Celebration on Jan. 15.

The Criminal Justice Committee heard HCR 13 on the morning of Jan. 16. I learned later on the same day from a fellow representative who sits on the committee that it had decided by a 13-7 roll call vote that afternoon to recommend “Ought To Pass” on the resolution. It now proceeds to the full House where a vote is expected on Feb. 7.

The following day, Jan. 17, the House Public Works & Highways Committee heard House Bill 1706, which would appropriate \$2,075,000 in federal funds for the construction of a Lake Sunapee boat launch at Wild Goose Point, which is in Newbury. The bill is sponsored by two Republican state representatives--Amherst’s Peter Hansen and Grafton’s Duane Brown. Both representatives filed the bill after the same appropriation was removed in June 2017 from New Hampshire’s two-year capital budget, after the Senate adamantly refused to include the controversial project in the budget. Then in Aug. 2017, Gov. Christopher Sununu revoked the project’s State Wetlands Permit, and created a 14-member study commission charged with recommending alternatives to greater boat access to Lake Sunapee other than the Wild Goose Launch. The commission has until March 1st to issue its recommendations.

Among those testifying in favor of House Bill 1706 was Claremont Rep. Raymond Gagnon, who stated that many Claremonters have contacted him to indicate that they strongly support Wild Goose’s construction. Echoing Rep. Gagnon’s testimony was Claremont Mayor Charlene Lovett, who added that the Claremont City Council has twice passed resolutions, the most recent one in 2017, endorsing Wild Goose. Also testifying was Claremont’s Donald Clarke, a former New Hampshire Fish and Game Commissioner, who has supported the boat launch since it was first proposed in the early 1990s. Finally, Newport’s William Howard Dunn presented recent written endorsements of Wild Goose from the Newport Board of Selectmen and Sullivan County Commissioners. However, there were also several individuals peaking in opposition to Wild Goose, including several Newbury residents, Newbury Rep. Dan Wolfe as well as Sunapee Rep. Suzanne Gottling, who is a member of Gov. Sununu’s study commission. They expressed concerns about the project’s environmental impact to Lake Sunapee and Wild Goose Point. Some added that construction of the boat launch would result in more traffic entering and exiting its access road-Birch Grove Road, which is off Route 103, and does not have the best visibility of that busy state highway.

The Public Works & Highways Committee, of which I am a member, has until March 15 to make a recommendation on House Bill 1706. I support the bill in principle, though I believe Wild Goose’s highway safety should be improved by authorizing more safety improvements.

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**To find out who your local state  
representatives/senators are in Sullivan  
County, please visit**

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/members/wml.aspx>

**and click on “Who Is My Legislator”**

## **Shaheen and Hassan Announce Federal Grants to New Hampshire Homeless Assistance Programs**

WASHINGTON, DC--U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH) Tuesday announced the New Hampshire recipients of \$7.2 million in Fiscal Year 2017 Continuum of Care (CoC) Competition Program awards, a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program designed to help state and local governments and organizations reduce homelessness.

“I’m very pleased that there’s been an overall increase in funding through this program to prevent homelessness in New Hampshire,” said Shaheen. “These organizations are doing tremendous work to provide housing to those who need it most. Recent bitterly cold weather further underscores the importance that all Granite Staters have a roof over their head. And as New Hampshire battles the opioid epidemic, I so appreciate the resources these organizations are providing to help those with substance use disorders. Sufficient and adequate housing for those with substance use disorders continues to be a significant challenge and the federal government should do more to provide assistance to states like New Hampshire that are hardest-hit by this crisis.”

“Ending homelessness is essential to ensure that all people have the opportunity to live healthy, productive lives,” Hassan said. “Our communities are strongest when we look out for each other and support those in need, and I am deeply grateful for the efforts of those on the state and local level in addressing homelessness. Many of the organizations that have received these Continuum of Care Competition awards also do critical work to care for individuals struggling with substance use disorders, and this funding represents a positive step in our efforts to support Granite Staters who are committed to getting families off of the streets.”

## **Kuster Nominates 27 New Hampshire Students for Service Academies**

WASHINGTON, DC-- Tuesday, Congresswoman Annie Kuster (NH-02) announced that she has nominated 27 New Hampshire students for admission to four United States Service Academies. Of the 27 students, ten were nominated to the U.S. Naval Academy, seven to the U.S. Military Academy, nine to the U.S. Air Force Academy, and one to the U.S. Merchant Marines Academy.

“I’m thrilled to nominate these promising young Granite Staters to our nation’s service academies,” said Kuster. “These young men and women have demonstrated a strong commitment to public service, and I know they will make our country proud.”

The full list of students is included below.

### **U.S. Naval Academy**

Mr. Joseph L. Aiello, Nashua  
**Ms. Caitlin D. Beneat, Charlestown**  
Mr. Mark D. Borak, Bow  
Mr. Martin H. Bulanowski, Bow  
**Mr. Luc F. Gauvin, Grantham**  
Mr. Zachary J. Jankowski, Keene  
Mr. Patrick J. LaRoche, Peterborough  
Mr. Samuel D. Lick, Warner  
Mr. Richard Chapman Lyons, Plymouth  
Mr. Nicholas J. Spargo, Hudson

### **U.S. Military Academy**

Mr. Alec M. Bonvouloir, Litchfield  
Mr. Seth A. Bonvouloir, Litchfield  
Mr. Vedin A.H. Fowler, Weare  
Mr. Aidan M. Horne, Hopkinton  
Ms. Eleanor McDonough, Northwood  
Mr. Richard W. Tarpey, Pelham  
Mr. John L. Tellifson, Bow

### **U.S. Air Force Academy**

Mr. Hyo-Hyang V. Carty, Keene  
Ms. Jacklyn A. Gaumer, Thornton  
**Mr. Jake R. Licht, Hanover**  
Mr. Benjamin M. Olmstead, Plymouth  
Ms. Taylor D. Rutstein, Salem  
Ms. Elizabeth F. Saucier, New Boston  
Ms. Claire D. Van Houten, Jaffrey  
Ms. Sarah E. Wagner, Weare  
Mr. Grant Kirby, Hebron

### **U.S. Merchant Marines Academy**

Mr. David J. Hume, Windham



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## Week Of Storms Piles Up The Snow Throughout Region

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--For those who love snow and outdoor winter activities, the last week has been golden, in the form of snow. For the rest of us, well, we're counting the days to spring. Multiple storms have dumped what feels to many like endless amounts of the white stuff, including the state's second Nor'Easter in a week that arrived on Sunday. School superintendents have had the unenviable task of deciding when to call off, or not, school. Claremont City offices closed early on Thursday as heavy snow fell, allowing employees to head home before roads conditions worsened, and the City Council meeting that was scheduled for that night was rescheduled to next Wednesday, the 15th. Many businesses also closed early on Thursday. Monday, today, was another day off from school for students in the area. By 8:30 p.m. Sunday, WMUR had received more than 900 closings or delays from throughout the state.



## DPW Fixes Water Main Break During Sunday Nor'Easter

CLAREMONT, NH--The Claremont Public Works Department was asked to do double duty on Sunday. "The Water Department was called out to a water break on Whitcomb Lane midday Sunday just as the winter storm was starting," Asst. DPW Director Victor St.Pierre told the *e-Ticker News*. "Chris, the foreman, quickly found the valves to shut down this section so only a few houses were affected. Roger brought in the hydraulic hammer attachment on 'little excavator' to break through about 1 1/2' of frost in the road. Then Kelly in the backhoe dug down to the break while the pump tried to keep up with the water coming in. Shane trucked off two loads of very muddy soil and brought back clean backfill. Richard located the pipe and the leak with a shovel. He cleaned the the pipe around the 'flex break' and attached a wrap-around clamp onto the 4" long crack. Chris and Rich brought the pressure up slowly while releasing all the air through the upper hydrant. The whole job took about four hours. After a short rest they are ready to man the snow plows."

## NH Ranks 50th In School Breakfast Participation

CONCORD, NH--New Hampshire ranks second-to-last place in the nation for school breakfast participation according to the annual School Breakfast Scorecard Report released Tuesday by the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC).

The new FRAC Report highlights federal, state and local strategies for increasing participation in the national U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA] School Breakfast Program. The Report also measures the reach of the School Breakfast Program in the 2015-2016 school year, in each state, based on a variety of metrics and impact. The National School Breakfast Program makes it possible for all school children to receive a nutritious breakfast in school.

## Sullivan County Dept. Of Corrections Seeks Property For Sober Housing

UNITY, NH--Following an initial pitch to create sober transitional housing for released offenders in Claremont, Sullivan County has released a request for proposals seeking property in Claremont or elsewhere in the county to pursue that program. The request for proposals invites property owners and community partners to offer property that may be developed, renovated, donated, purchased, or leased for the Department of Corrections' proposed use.

## Newport Historical Society Receives Award

NEWPORT NH--On October 22, 2016, the Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire awarded Newport Historical Society with two awards. First, the Historical Research and Documentation Award was given to the Newport Historical Society for the research and writing of the "The Sunshine Peddler" book by Jayna Hooper. The book celebrating "Newport's Honorary Mayor" Billy B. Van and his many outstanding accomplishments that have borne continuous contributions to our American culture.

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**Decides To Establish Policy First**

**City Considers Naming Pedestrian Bridge After Former City Manager**



The Claremont Fire Dept. was called to 206 Pleasant St. for a car fire on Friday. Upon arrival, the crew found the vehicle heavily involved in fire. A 1 3/4" line was stretched and the main body of fire was knocked down. The crew overhauled the hot spots and they were under control shortly after 1:00 p.m. The investigation as to the cause was ongoing Friday afternoon. Due to power lines overhead and the intensity of the fire, the power company was called to check lines. A neighbor reported that "My house is in the back, all the wires were burnt going to my house." She added that the "power



A Claremont Police vehicle was involved in a motor vehicle accident on Sunday afternoon, March 5, at approximately 4:40 p.m. Officers were responding to an emergency call at Valley Regional Hospital, said Chief Mark Chase. The accident occurred in the area of Leo's Market. Claremont Police requested that NH State Police conduct an investigation into the

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## Healthier Living With Chronic Conditions Program

SPRINGFIELD, VT-- Springfield Medical Care Systems is hosting a free Healthier Living with Chronic Conditions program. This class is open to anyone who lives with a chronic condition, or anyone who supports a person living with a chronic condition.

Healthier Living with Chronic Conditions is a self management program led by trained leaders. Topics covered include disease management, exercise, appropriate use of medications, communicating effectively with family, friends, and health professionals, nutrition, decision making, and evaluating treatment. Classes are participative, where mutual support and success build participants' confidence in their ability to manage their health and maintain active and fulfilling lives.

Class begins Monday, February 5th at The Whitcomb Building, 1 Mineral Street, Springfield, VT. from 2 - 4:30 pm. If you would like to join this free class, please call the Community Health Team of Springfield Medical Care Systems to register: 802-886-8946 or email [cht@springfieldmed.org](mailto:cht@springfieldmed.org)

## Rural Outright to Talk About Social Change

CLAREMONT, NH--The next Let's Talk program for Rural Outright, a program of TLC Family Resource Center, will feature Freedom NH's Linds Jackow. They will be talking about social change and the reintroduction of the transgender equality bill. The event will be held on Monday, Jan. 22, at 6 p.m., in the Teal Lantern at Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center, located at 111 South St. in Claremont, NH. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Jackows will be talking about social change and HB1319, the transgender equality bill that is being brought before the NH House of Representatives, and what you can do this legislative session to help protect transgender Granite Staters. They will share the history of last year's bill, the organizing work planned for this year, messaging, and what to expect in this year's bill.

For more information, please email [ruralNHoutright@gmail.com](mailto:ruralNHoutright@gmail.com).

## March Madness...

### Nor'Easter Keeps Voter Turnout Low On Tuesday

### Revocation Of Bail In Murder-For-Hire Case Sought By Prosecutors

NEWPORT, NH--Prosecutors are seeking to revoke the bail of a woman charged in a murder-for-hire case.

Monique Earle, 20, has been charged with conspiracy to commit murder and criminal solicitation to commit murder for allegedly trying to hire a hitman to kill the girlfriend of her then ex-boyfriend. Earle has been out on bail, one condition of which was to have no contact with the boyfriend. Prosecutors, in a motion to have bail revoked, said that Earle and the boyfriend have been in regular contact and that they are now engaged. Earle is pregnant and also has another child by him. Prosecutors said they believe she is a flight risk and asked to have her bail revoked. She was scheduled



### Charlestown Fire Destroys Trucking Co. Building

### Unity Volunteer Fire Department Resigns Following Town Meeting

### Sullivan County Names Claremont Native As N

NEWPORT, NH – The Sullivan County Board of Commissioners has selected Derek Ferland as the next County Manager. Ferland, a Claremont native who graduated from Stevens High School, recently retired as a Colonel after serving nearly 22 years in the United States Air Force. Ferland rose to the top of a pool of more than 35 candidates who applied to succeed Jessie Levine, who will step down in May due to illness.

Board of Commissioners Chair Jeff Barrette said that the Commission is pleased to welcome Ferland on board. "I was thrilled to find such a highly-qualified candidate with local ties," Barrette said on Tuesday. "His management experience and local knowledge will be a great asset to our county. He will fit very well with our talented management team and will

Levine said that the hiring process was lengthy and thorough, with interest from as far away as the west coast.

She said that the process was slowed by the coinciding search for a Facilities Director and the fact that



Derek Ferland



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## Ann's Property Of The Week

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[annjacques1@comcast.net](mailto:annjacques1@comcast.net)

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## A Real Treasure!

**A Real Treasure!** This 3.72 acre property includes a beautiful, elegantly & tastefully restored 11 room 4 bdrm 1900's era New Englander, another home 2 bedroom 1 bath ranch home with attached garage for rental or guest house & a magnificent 3 level garage w/elevator, the garage has 2 levels that are showroom finished with a party and currently an exercise room, & a heated basement workshop. Property is beautifully landscaped & abuts the golf course on 2 sides. **MLS# 4635355 \$399,990**

**Ann Jacques**

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**Ashley Bergeron**  
Agent



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## Vacation Week Activities at the Fiske

CLAREMONT, NH--The following activities/programs will be available at the Fiske Free Library during the week of February 26-March 2.

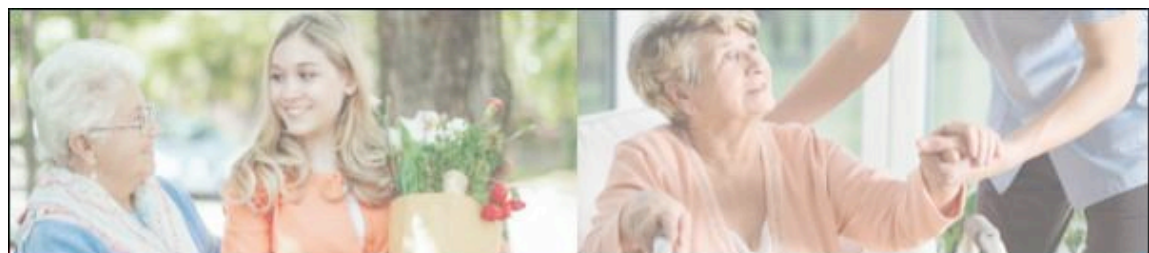
### Free Play Activities:

Monday- Keva Blocks and a marble run will be set up and ready.  
Tuesday- Puzzles and board games will be out for all to play!  
Wednesday- Experiment with Snap Circuits and a gravity maze.  
Thursday- Puzzles and board games.  
Friday- Keva Blocks, Legos and Zoob Builders.

### Structured Activities:

Monday-Straw Letters- 2:00  
Tuesday: Lego car building and racing- 2:00  
Thursday: String art- 2:00

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



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## Returning Olympian Gets Hero's Welcome, Brings Home Bronze

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--Several dozen people turned out Monday night to welcome home Eric Lemieux from his recent trip to Austria to compete in the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games. He was selected to compete



## TLC Family Resource Center Chosen for Pilot Program

### School District, City Working Together to Craft Lead Policy

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The City Council and School Board held another joint meeting Thursday evening as the two boards continue to work together to craft ideas and policies to move the community forward. A major issue addressed Thursday night was that of lead poisoning and the need for testing children; the outline of a new policy, the first of its kind in the state at the district level, would start testing children at pre-K or Kindergarten.

### Two Arrested in Armed Robbery Case Saturday

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--In the early morning hours of Saturday, April 15, Claremont Police units were dispatched to Trinity Street for a report of an armed robbery. Through the investigation, the police learned that a food order had been placed with Dominos, and that the suspects, both of whom were allegedly brandishing weapons, attacked the delivery driver when he arrived at the apartment. During the attack, the victim was stabbed several times and a small amount of money was stolen from his possession, said the police.

### Owner of NFR Passes Away Following Accident

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

NEWPORT, NH--Steve Cossingham, 65, of Newport, NH, founder and president of National Field Representatives, passed away on Sunday, April 2nd. On March 9th he was involved in a serious accident while riding a horse at his home, Full Circle Farm. Following the accident he was transported to DHMC in Lebanon, in critical condition. Cossingham had remained in a coma since the accident occurred and passed away Sunday afternoon (April 2nd), said NFR in a statement released to the media.



## Settlement Reached in Unity Elementary School Lawsuit Against Facility's Architect



## SMCS Building New Health Care Facility in Charlestown

CHARLESTOWN, NH--Local citizens gathered at The Sumner House Restaurant recently to learn about the new Charlestown Health Center. This 8,200-square-foot building on Ceda Road will be home to Charlestown Family Medicine, one of the nine community health center locations operated by Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS), which has outgrown its current location at 125 Main Street, Charlestown. The new space will increase health care services by adding an occupational health specialty, walk-in care and on-site x-ray services. There will also be expanded access to obstetrics and gynecology as well as behavioral health services.



First responders in Claremont were called to the area of Beauregard St. Friday afternoon for a vehicle rollover into the Sugar River. There were no reports of injuries, and a relative of the driver said that mechanical issues with the vehicle were responsible for the car going off the road (Bill Binder photo).

## Positive Report Given On County Transit Service by SCS

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The City Council received an update at Wednesday night's meet-

ing regarding the county transit system and by all accounts things are going well since it was taken over by Southwestern Community Services.

Keith Thibault, Chief Development Officer for

SCS, told the council that they had hit the six-month mark and that he was pleased to report "that many good things are happening. We're in it for the foreseeable future."

(Continued on page A16)

## Report Released on NEASC Visit to High School

## Drug More Dangerous Than Fentanyl Now Present in NH

## Rogue Robots Learning What it Takes to Start a Business

By Sarah Schaier  
NH Cooperative Extension

CLAREMONT, NH--Five middle-schoolers from 4-H Rogue Robots club met with Ian Grant, director of the Peter T. Paul Entrepreneurship Center, on April 24, to learn how to turn their product prototype into a thriving small business and income stream for their 4-H club.

Community, Volunteers Gearing Up for Annual Steppin' Up to End Violence Event



# e-Ticker Business News

## Kristi Cote Obtains ACSR-PL designation

Clark-Mortenson Insurance has announced that Kristi Cote in Claremont, NH, has obtained her Accredited Customer Service Representative – Personal Lines (ACSR-PL) designation. This is an international designation developed by the Independent Insurance Agents of America to recognize the professionalism of customer service personnel in the industry. Recipients must complete five courses in personal insurance and pass exams for each course.

Cote is a resident of Walpole, NH, and has been employed by Clark-Mortenson for six years but has been in the insurance industry for 19 years. She gives back to the community by supporting the United Way.

Clark-Mortenson Insurance is one of the largest insurance agencies in Northern New England, with five office locations throughout the Connecticut River Valley, employing over 40 employees.

## SMCS Clinics Receive Highest Level of Patient Centered Medical Home Recognition

SPRINGFIELD, VT--Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) has announced that all six of its primary care locations have earned Level 3 recognition from the National Center for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

Level 3 is the highest level of Patient-Centered Medical Home recognition. To earn this honor, clinics must meet rigorous national  
**(Continued on page A15)**

**(L to R) Linda Bickford, Director, Mountain Valley Medical Center; Kim Austin, Director, Chester Health Center & Ludlow Health Center; Anila Hood, Director, Charlestown Health Center; Alex Gleeson, Director, Springfield Health Center; Moira Ennen, Director, Rockingham Medical Group; Lori Twombly, Director of Primary Care Practice Operations (Courtesy photo).**



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# e-Ticker Business News

## SMCS, from A14

quality standards emphasizing a high level of care management, integration of behavioral health screenings and treatment into primary care practice, and engagement of patients in their care. The Level 3 designation is granted to primary care practices that ensure access, communication, and shared responsibility across the entire healthcare team, with the ultimate goal of improving health outcomes. Partnerships between patients, physicians and families are essential to this care.

“Making high-quality primary care readily accessible for patients is a core component to our healthcare transformation strategy,” commented Tim Ford, Chief Executive Officer for SMCS. He continues, “This requires commitment from staff throughout our organization and we are extremely proud of the work they perform every day. Achieving this designation is truly an honor, and recognizes our team’s dedication to making high-quality, well-coordinated and convenient health care available for our patients.”

About Springfield Medical Care Systems  
Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) is a not-for-profit, community-based health care system that includes nine community health center locations. Through its integrated health system, SMCS offers care that is patient-centered and emphasizes quality, access, and affordability for all, with financial assistance available based on a sliding fee scale. Services include primary and preventative health care for people of all ages, health screenings, nutrition counseling, mental health counseling, dental care, vision care, access to discounted pharmaceuticals, diagnostic lab and radiology services, and a broad array of acute hospital, inpatient psychiatric care, and specialty services.

For more information about SMCS and its subsidiaries, please visit [www.springfieldmed.org](http://www.springfieldmed.org).

## D-H Chosen for Research Network

DALLAS, TX-- The scientific teams that will lead a new American Heart Association-funded research network charged with unlocking

some of the mysteries behind vascular disease have been selected.

Four major institutions are banding together for the next four years to leverage the strength of basic, clinical and population research to prevent, treat and ultimately improve outcomes in vascular disease, specifically peripheral artery disease (PAD) and aortic diseases.

The Association’s Vascular Disease Research Network will fund four centers. Each will receive \$3.7 million over the next four years. The centers include:

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH; “Understanding Pathobiology and Predictors of Limb Ischemia to Improve Out-

comes in Peripheral Artery Disease and Diabetes”: This research will seek to learn what causes critical limb ischemia, severe obstruction of the arteries which markedly reduces blood flow to the extremities (hands, feet and legs) and has progressed to the point of severe pain and skin ulcers or sores. Researchers will also seek new ways to help identify people at risk by using practical risk tools that could be delivered on a website or phone; and personalize the application of intensive medical therapies to the highest risk patients to reduce the burden of critical limb ischemia and amputation in patients with diabetes.



The advertisement features a woman in the bottom left corner, looking thoughtfully to the side. The background is dark with a subtle starry pattern. A large, ornate necklace with three concentric circles hangs from the top. To the right, two matching earrings are displayed. The text 'JOZACH JEWELERS' is prominently displayed in a serif font, with 'FINE DIAMONDS AND GIFTS' underneath. A diamond icon is positioned above the brand name. At the bottom, the text 'GOLDEN MOON' is written in a stylized font. Contact information and social media icons are located at the bottom right.

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# SHS Granted Full Accreditation

## Thefts From Motor Vehicles Reported, Arrest Made

NEWPORT, NH--The Newport Police Department announced the arrest of Ryan Gobin, age 18, of Newport, NH. The arrest comes after the Newport Police Department Emergency Communications Center received several calls during the night of May 2nd and the early morning hours of May 3rd reporting that vehicles had been entered and items removed. Initially, all of the calling parties were from the Maple, Laurel, South Streets and Woodland Ave areas.

## Dispute Between Brickers, Plaza Continues

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The disagreement over parking in the plaza on Washington St. where Brickers, as a separate entity, is located remains unresolved, and Planning Board members urged the parties Monday night to figure out a solution. Sandra Holl has been working on plans to reopen the restaurant but needs a site plan that keeps her patrons from parking anywhere in the plaza; years ago an easement allowed shared parking between the restaurant and the plaza, but that expired in 2013 and plaza owners have no interest in renewing it. The restaurant has been granted a variance by the Zoning Board to have 20 parking spaces instead of the 25 needed for a restaurant occupancy of 100. Sur-

## First Responders Called to Airport for Plane with Landing Gear Problems

CLAREMONT, NH--At approximately 1345 hours on the afternoon of May 3, the Claremont Fire Department intercepted aircraft radio traffic from an airplane in distress. The pilot had announced an emergency condition with regard to an inability to lower the aircraft's landing gear. The duty shift responded to the airport with two engines, a utility with foam and a command car. The apparatus stood by the runway while the pilot remained aloft, attempting to overcome the problem with the plane's landing gear. After exhausting all possible



## Ink Factory Wins Preservation Achievement Award

## RVCC Announces Plans to Reduce Staff at Three Campuses

## Road Woes and How to Pay for Them is Council's Budget Dilemma

## Restoring History...

By Bill Binder  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--Restoration of the Claremont Opera House's "Grand Drape" is underway. The grand drape was first hung in 1897. It is a large panel of cloth, hand painted, which hung at the front of the stage between other curtains to hide the stage before and during the show. Claremont's drape is 17'6" high by 33'2" wide. The drape has been in storage for over 35 years and is in rough shape due to creases, water damage and being handled and stored. It is being reconstructed by the non-profit organization, Curtains Without Borders. Project Director Chris Hadsel, paint conservator MJ Davis, and Mary Richardson started working on the item last week by unrolling the curtain and vacuuming and cleaning it. From there, they have been repairing the rips, tears, holes and torn edges of the curtain. Faded or badly creased areas are getting a paint over. The process essentially is preserving painted historic scenery.



## SHS Graduates March on to Their Future



## Sullivan County Plant Sale Now Underway

UNITY, NH--The Sullivan County Conservation District Plant Sale is now underway, featuring a variety of quality plants at good prices. The money raised from the sale supports conservation activities throughout the year, including workshops, programs and projects aimed at promoting and conserving the county's natural resources. All of the plants offered are hardy, healthy, and adapted to our growing conditions. Most are native, and none is invasive. New items this year include an assortment of pollinator plants and wildflowers for wetlands, forest edges, and gardens and local seedless straw for mulching and growing food.

For more information or to order, visit <https://sullivancountynh.wixsite.com/educationandoutreach/plant-sale>.

The order deadline is Sunday, March 4th.

Plant pick-up will be on Saturday, May 5, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Ahern Building garage, Sullivan County Complex in Unity, NH.

If you would like a catalog and order form mailed to you, please contact Dawn Dextraze at 603-542-9511 x269 or [ddextraze@sullivancountynh.gov](mailto:ddextraze@sullivancountynh.gov).


Catalogs and order forms can also be found at the Grantham Public Library next week and Claremont Community Center.

## Public Invited to Participate in Focus Group at Saint-Gaudens for Planning Process

CORNISH, NH--Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site invites you to participate in our upcoming visitor services and education planning process. The site will hold a public focus group in the upstairs meeting room at the Cornish Town Offices (488 Town House Road Cornish) on Thursday, Feb. 1st, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., for the citizens of Cornish, Claremont, Plainfield, and Windsor.

Share your thoughts and ideas about the park's visitor services, interpretive programs, and educational offerings. RSVPs are appreciated but not required. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information or to RSVP, contact: Stephanie Kyriazis, Chief of Interpretation, Education, and Visitor Services, 603.675.2175 ext 151, [stephanie\\_kyriazis@nps.gov](mailto:stephanie_kyriazis@nps.gov), [www.nps.gov/saga](http://www.nps.gov/saga).

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## Time for Your Pre-retiree Checklist?

Like everyone, you want to enjoy a comfortable lifestyle when you retire. But a successful retirement doesn't just happen – it requires a lot of planning. And that's why it's a good idea to draw up a "pre-retiree checklist." Such a checklist might look like this:

**\_\_Twenty years before retirement:** Try to estimate a "price tag" for your retirement, incorporating a variety of factors – where you might live, how much you might travel, what activities you'll pursue, and so on. Then, assess if your retirement savings are on track to help you meet your expected costs. From this point, monitor your progress every year.

**\_\_Fifteen years before retirement:** Although you're still fairly far away from retirement, you'll want to bring your goals and challenges into a clearer focus. For starters, try to establish a firmer target goal for the assets you'll need during retirement. Also, consider your legacy goals and start developing your estate plans, if you haven't already done so. You might also explore methods of dealing with potentially enormous long-term care costs, such as an extended stay in a nursing home. Solutions to long-term care may become much more expensive later in life.

**\_\_Ten years before retirement:** At this stage, in addition to reviewing your target asset and spending levels, you'll want to get more precise about how much income you can expect as a retiree, whether through your investments or retirement accounts (such as your 401(k) and IRA), or through some type of part-time work or consulting. Maintaining an adequate income flow is extremely important, because you could spend two or three decades as a retiree, and some of your expenses – health care in particular – will likely rise during the later years. It's important to plan for health care and long-term care, given the costs and ability to qualify for coverage later in life.

**\_\_Five years before retirement:** Re-evaluate your investment mix to help reduce the risk of having your portfolio vulnerable to a market downturn when you plan to retire. Generally speaking, stocks and other growth-oriented investments are more volatile than bonds and other income-producing vehicles. So, you may want to consider shifting some – but certainly not all – of your investment dollars from the "growth" portion of your portfolio to the "income" side.

**\_\_Two years before retirement:** This close to retirement, you'll want to pay particularly close attention to health-care expenses, so you may want to investigate Medicare supplemental policies. You'll also want to ensure that you have an adequate emergency fund to cope with unexpected costs, such as major home repairs. In addition, you'll want to think about whether you should take Social Security right away or if you can afford to wait until your monthly checks will be bigger.

**\_\_One year before retirement:** Now it's time for some key decisions: How much can you withdraw each year from your 401(k), IRA and other retirement accounts without running the risk of outliving your money? Have you lined up your health care coverage? And, finally, are you really set on retiring in a year or could you delay retirement to improve your financial picture?

This checklist isn't exhaustive – but it can give you a good idea of the various issues you'll need to consider on the long road to retirement. And the sooner you start planning for that journey, the better.

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



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## Claremont MakerSpace Workshop: Intro to 3D Printing


CLAREMONT, NH--Intro to 3D Printing is a fun, beginner level workshop that will provide an overview of 3D printers and the printing process – covering everything from the way 3D printers are built and the different types, through the ways we use them to create objects and how 3D models are designed. Participants will be introduced to free, easy-to-learn software tools to create and prepare models for printing, and will print an object that they design themselves!

When: January 27th, 10AM - Noon

Where: The Claremont MakerSpace, 46 Main Street, Claremont RSVP (Required by 1/24):

[www.ClaremontMakerSpace.org/events](http://www.ClaremontMakerSpace.org/events) Contact: [info@twinstatemakerspaces.org](mailto:info@twinstatemakerspaces.org).

Send news and photos to  
[etickernews@gmail.com](mailto:etickernews@gmail.com)



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## It's About Food

By Johnny Navillus



### Random Thoughts

I like glazing various dishes. My “go to” glaze is balsamic glaze; It comes in a small plastic bottle that doesn't last anywhere near long enough. I use it on stir fried vegetables, slow cooker pot roast, meatloaf and whatever strikes my fancy. It gives a dark glaze and a subtle taste that compliments whatever it touches.

I used to glaze my meatloaf with ketchup. However, I've tried the balsamic glaze and it works very well. My personal favorite for meatloaf is BBQ sauce. That really gets me going. Unfortunately, not everyone I cook for is adventurous.

But by far my very favorite is Maple Syrup. You could put it on a bumper from a '62 VW and it would taste good.

There are two words I see used incorrectly by people who should know better. They are marinade and marinate. Marinade is a liquid that you put something into. A noun. Marinate is a verb that describes the act of having something in a marinade.

Back to the Slow Cooker...

#### **Braised Short Ribs**

3 lbs short ribs cut up  
2 onions sliced  
1 bay leaf  
½ teaspoon whole allspice  
1 cup beef broth

Combine all ingredients in slow cooker. Cook on low 8 to 10 hours. Before serving, remove bay leaf and allspice. Serve with egg noodles or mashed potatoes.

For an exceptional finish, about an hour before serving, glaze the meat with BBQ sauce or whatever pleases you. Keep on low until serving.

Here is where the slow cooker really excels. Stew beef is very tough if not braised in some way.

#### **Beef Cubes, Curried**

2 lbs stewing beef cut into 1 ½ inch cubes  
1 large onion sliced  
1 clove garlic minced  
2 8 ounce cans tomato sauce  
2-3 teaspoons curry powder

Combine all ingredients in cooker. Cook on low 8 hours.

#### **Sweet and Sour Beef Stew**

2 lbs stewing beef cut into cubes  
1 cup chopped onion  
6 large carrots cut in ¾ inch pieces  
¼ cup brown sugar  
½ cup vinegar  
1 tbs Worcestershire sauce

Place carrots in bottom of cooker. Add meat and onions. Combine remaining ingredients and add to cooker. Cook on low 8 hours.

Play with your food. It's too cold to go outside.

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



## Council Approves New Budget

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--It took until about 10:30 Wednesday night for the City Council to pass the FY18 municipal budget; councilors passed a \$16.37 million budget, adding money back in for one full-time library position that the city manager had originally proposed cutting. The budget will add 17 cents to the tax rate, bringing the city portion to \$15.04 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Using the average of a property assessed at \$140,000, that would add about \$23 a year to the tax bill, or 44 cents a week, said the city manager. Councilors were torn between funding the library position, which had drawn strong support from residents, and a business development position that had been funded for this year but not filled; it is hoped that such a future position will help to increase economic development. The

## Eagle Block in Newport Sold

NEWPORT, NH--The Economic Corporation of Newport, Inc (ECON) has sold the Eagle Block, located at 58 Main Street, to Tuohy Holdings, LLC—owned by brothers Joe and Josh Tuohy. The Tuohys have operated Salt Hill Pub in the historic building since 2007, creating a destination restaurant that helped rejuvenate downtown Newport.

## Site Plan for Bricker's Approved by Planning Board

## New Ford Dealership Planned For Charlestown Road

## School District Picks The Abbey Group as New Food Service Vendor

## Concerns Over Library Staffing Resolved; Smith to be New Children's Librarian



### Looking Good...

The track at Monadnock Park was closed last week for a resurfacing program. According to employees of Cape and Island Tennis & Track, the same company that made the track 12 years ago, this track has an asphalt base with six layers of rubber and glue on top of the asphalt. That is topped with two layers of pellets which are spread evenly on the track and

## Variances Approved for Goddard Block Renovation Project

## Claremont Speedway Rule Changed to Allow Overnight Parking for Racers

### A Splash of Color and Fun!

Over 100 fun seekers showed up on Saturday in Claremont to participate in the 5th annual Go For Food Color Run/Walk 5K. Food was collected for the Claremont Soup Kitchen, and proceeds from the event will benefit programs at the Parks and Recreation Department and the Soup Kitchen. Runners, walkers and volunteers once again enjoyed the popular event and soon headed home for a shower when it was over. More photos, page A26 (Bill Binder photo).





## **Mother, Son Arraigned in Murder for Hire Plot in Plainfield**

**\$30M to Towns, Cities for Road Improvements; City Slated to Receive \$277,379**

**Work on New Hangar at  
Claremont Airport Continues**

## **Bergeron Announces Resignation from Council**

**Claremont MakerSpace to Hold Ground-Breaking Ceremony**

## **City Gears Up for Growing Back to School Festival**

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--Assistant Mayor Victor Bergeron announced his resignation from the Claremont City Council Wednesday evening at the Council meeting. He and his wife are moving to Florida to retire. Bergeron said they had sold their house sooner than they had anticipated and that he had intended to stay on until the end of his term this year.

**Sullivan County Sportsmen Takes Legal Action to  
Address Renewal of Wetlands Permit for Wild Goose Project**

## **Solar Eclipse Fever Hits Fiske Free Library**

***St. Mary's Parish Gears  
Up for Some Gigantic Fun  
with its Annual Yard Sale***

**"Time for Reflection" Gathering  
Being Organized Following Report of  
Alleged Racially-Based Hate Crime**

**RI Man Arrested For Allegedly Killing His Mother During Shooting at DHMC**



## Mayoral Notes

By  
Charlene Lovett



### A Community of Character

Every community has its challenges and blemishes, but what sets a community apart is its willingness to address them. Last week was a demonstration of Claremont's commitment to examining the issues and finding resolution. It is a testimony of our character.

The week began with the celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. It was an opportunity to not only reflect on his life, but also on his vision of a world without racism and discrimination. Though 50 years have passed since his death, it is a vision not yet fulfilled and we are reminded that we need to make a greater effort if this is to become reality.

Many in our community are dedicated to this vision. In recognition of the federal holiday, those belonging to the Racial Healing Working Group organized a luncheon for the public. After the luncheon, attendees were invited to read and discuss Dr. King's 1964 Nobel Prize acceptance speech. One of the attendees was Representative Cloutier who informed the group that House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 13, a bill condemning hate crimes and any other form of racism in NH which he co-sponsored, would be heard the following day.

On January 16th, area citizens traveled to Concord to attend the hearing on HCR13. The hearing was well attended, and passed the House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee 13 to 7. It will go to the full House for a vote, probably in the next few weeks. To read more about the bill, please go to the NH General Court website at [www.gencourt.state.nh.us](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us). Go to "Find a 2018 Bill" tab and type in HCR13.

January 18th marked the final step in the legislative process for SB247, the bill pertaining to the screening and prevention of childhood lead poisoning. On that day, the Senate voted 18-6 to concur with the bill as amended by the House. It is now on its way to the Governor's desk for signature.

This legislative victory was the result of years of work and a multitude of people working together for the benefit of our children's health. When we committed to making the screening and prevention of childhood lead poisoning a

community-wide priority in December 2016, we publicly acknowledged the fact that Claremont was one of the 21 highest risk communities in the State and we took action.

As a result, our efforts at the local level gained recognition throughout the state and region. We discussed them during the Governor's visit in 2017, and he referenced them in his press conference on January 2nd. Our actions impacted the legislative process, and we will soon have a law that gives us a state-wide policy that further enhances our work.

On January 19th, the week ended with a Creative Expressions Exhibit at the John D. Bennett Atrium Gallery. The exhibit, which will last through February 17th, showcases student artwork created for No Name Calling Week and is centered around the theme of #KindnessInAction. As its name suggests, #Kind-

ness in Action is a movement that not only recognizes the importance of kindness, but also the necessity of actively adding kindness into our everyday lives. It is one of the many actions that Claremont is taking to address bullying.

These are just a few of the examples that demonstrate our character as a community to address and resolve even the most challenging and complex issues. In the year ahead, there will be other issues that will need our energy and attention. However, I have no doubt that we are up to the task, and I look forward to working with you to find solutions.

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

## Customer Service Tips and Tricks

Customer service is a great job if you enjoy working with people, are a great problem solver and have the ability to diffuse seemingly unpleasant situations. Companies spend millions of dollars a year to provide and improve the service they present to their customers. Clients and potential customers base their opinions of an establishment heavily on the service and attention they receive. These are sure fire ways to be top rated in customer service:

**Smile, no matter what!** A smile or the bright sound of a representative's voice can change the entire direction of a call. When working with a customer, try to smile. Even though your customer can't see it, it will have a positive effect on the message you are trying to communicate to the caller.

**Know your goals.** It is important that you are aware of the company's goals and how you plan to achieve them before starting each day. It will help you better evaluate your position, job performance and the future expectations of the hiring company.

**Become an expert.** Have a deep understanding of the products or services you will be representing. Be prepared to discuss competitor offers and products. This will be very useful when you are asked questions by the calling customer.

**Be prepared to handle unhappy customers.** When faced with an unhappy customer on the other end of the phone or in person, remain positive and respectful during your entire interaction with them. All customers must be handled with dignity and respect at all times.

**Listen to your customer's needs or concerns.** Allow the customer to fully explain why they are calling before providing a solution or alternative. Even though you may know the answer, give the customer the opportunity to fully express their feelings before acting.

**Always go the extra mile.** When working with any customer, always strive to go the extra mile to ensure their satisfaction and happiness. It will be appreciated!!



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## Claremont Couple on TLC's "90 Day Fiancé"

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The TLC program, "90 Day Fiancé", returns to the air on Oct. 8 at 9:00 p.m. and will include the story of Evelyn Cormier, 18, of Claremont, and David Vazquez, 27, from Granada, Spain. They met when he came across her social media page--Cormier is an aspiring singer--and they began messaging. After they met, their encounter began a "fairy-tale romance, according to the TLC promotion. Tune in to find out, as they say, to see how the young couple is doing!

## Central Fire Station Marks 100th Year Anniversary



### Fire Dept. Receives Donation of Oxygen Masks for Pets

## Council Passes Resolution for Solar Array at Wastewater Treatment Plant

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The City Council voted Wednesday night to pass a resolution for a supplemental appropriation for a solar array at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to reduce electricity costs at the facility. The vote follows studies done on various locations. The resolution, which was passed unanimously, gives the City the approval to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$320,000 to the 2018 Sewer Division Budget to install a 151 KW solar array system at the treatment plant. The funding will come from the Sewer Enterprise Fund with no impact on the tax rate.

### Rockin' The House!

Recycled Percussion, the band known for its use of trash cans, ladders, power tools and any other household items that will make noise when hit with drumsticks, rocked Stevens High School to the rafters on Tuesday, Sept. 26. Started in Goffstown in 1996 and based in Las Vegas now, the band came to Stevens to film an episode of their television show, "Chaos and Kindness", which shows the band visiting cities and towns to promote acts of kindness and play their special brand of music. They visited classrooms to talk with the students, set up a slip and slide on the second floor for the students and then invaded the gym for a loud and fast-paced concert. They also visited other schools in Claremont before heading back to Las Vegas.



## North Country Smokehouse Celebrates New State-of-the-Art Facility

By Bill Binder  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--On Sunday, on a beautiful Fall day, state representatives, local city officials, business owners and over 150 interested citizens attended the ribbon cutting and Open House at the new North Country Smokehouse state-of-the-art facility in the Syd Clark Industrial Park in Claremont. The event featured a community barbecue with some Smokehouse favorites, a ribbon cutting ceremony and tours of the brand new 65,000-square-foot facility.

After eating lunch, Mike Satzow welcomed the crowd and told them how "proud and happy" he was to have the facility up and running. He thanked everyone that had been involved in the project and then introduced Vincent Breton who introduced the owners of Les Specialites Prodal, the company that bought North Country Smokehouse in 2015. Breton told





## Claremont Sets 2017 Tax Rate; About \$5 Million in Values Restored

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The NH Department of Revenue Administration has set the 2017 tax rate for Claremont, City Manager Ryan McNutt announced Tuesday afternoon. The 2017 rate was set at \$42.66, which was \$.19 less than anticipated, he said. The average assessed home in Claremont is \$127,000, and the average tax bill for a residential property is \$5,417.82 for 2017, which covers all services delivered by the city, school and county, said McNutt.

## Claremont City Council will Have New Look Come January

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--Twenty percent of eligible voters went to the polls on Tuesday to cast ballots for candidates for the City Council and election officials. Voters also were asked whether they wanted to approve to allow Keno in the City. As it turned out, they did, 866 to 440.

Mayor Charlene Lovett, Asst. Mayor Allen Damren and Ward 2 Councilor Scott Pope all ran unopposed, keeping their seats with votes of 1197, 1149 and 486, respectively. Andrew O'Hearne beat out Francis Gauthier for the Ward 1 seat, 222 to 113. Jonathan F. Stone defeated Patrick Howe for the Ward 3 seat; Howe ran as a write-in candidate. Stone received 295 votes while Howe collected 114. Both were newcomers to running for council.

The top finishers for the four At-Large Councilor seats were Nick Koloski, who gave up his Ward 3 seat to run as an At-Large candidate, 930; Jeremy Zullo, 841; Abigail Kier, 720; and Claire Lessard, 693. Zullo and Lessard are also newcomers to the council. The remaining

## Council Passes Resolution Supporting Wild Goose Boat Launch

## Playground Upgrade For Monadnock Park

## St. Mary Parish Looks to Open New School in 2018

## Two Charged in Animal Neglect Case Involving 14 Cats

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--On November 12, the Claremont Police responded to a report of animal neglect on Tremont Street. "Upon arrival, Claremont Police located 14 cats that were in a small pet carrier," said Chief Mark Chase. "The cats were outside and the health and welfare of the cats was very concerning for the officers." The officers seized the cats and investigated who the owners of the cats were. The cats were then transported to the Sullivan County Humane Society to be fed and cared for. The health of all the cats was also evaluated. One of the cats located in the carrier was found to have died, and one other cat had to be transported for emergency treatment.

Claremont Police have charged Dwaine Lord, 64, Claremont, NH, and Crystal Lamonda, 42, also of Claremont, in the case. Lord and Lamonda were identified as the owners and caretakers of the cats, said Chase. They each have been charged

resources is nothing compared to the emotional toll it has taken on our volunteers. We will never forget the horrific sights, sounds and smells of that evening.

"We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the caring individual who reported this atrocity, as well as to the Claremont Police department for investigating this case. We will keep you posted on the state of these cats as well as the progress

## Chocolatier Application Seeking 79-E Tax Relief Incentive Approved

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The City Council unanimously passed a resolution Wednesday night following a public hearing approving an application for the RSA 79-E Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive for the "substantial rehabilitation" of 40 Union St. The property has been purchased by Deglace, LLC, a Kentucky-based chocolatier that plans to open a test kitchen in the former Esersky Hardware building. Deglace plans to invest about \$159,700 to rehabilitate the property into a business use, featuring commercial space and storage. The tax relief incentive would be for a period of five years, beginning upon the completion of the property rehab and the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy.



This crate contained 14 cats and was abandoned on Tremont St. (Courtesy photo).



## Kuster Joins VRH Officials to Announce \$19.4 M Rural Development Loan

CLAREMONT, NH--Last Monday, Congresswoman Annie Kuster joined Peter Wright, President and CEO of Valley Regional Hospital, and other senior hospital and U.S. Department of Agriculture officials to announce that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development has approved a \$19.4 million Community Facilities Loan to Valley Regional Hospital in Claremont. This loan will provide the hospital with significant savings

## Pedestrian Bridge to be Named After Former City Manager Santagate

## Robbery Reported in Weathersfield

WEATHERSFIELD, VT--On Friday, Dec. 8, at approximately 4:00 a.m., two males wearing masks followed an older female employee into the Downers Corner Store prior to opening. Upon entering the store, they pushed the employee, June French. The two males stole a variety of cigarette packs and cigars. The employee was transported to the Springfield ER for evaluation. The State Police is asking that anyone with knowledge of the incident or who

## City Needle Exchange Program in Need of New Location if It's to Continue

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--If the City wants to continue having a needle exchange program, it will have to find a new home for the project, which has been operating out of the Claremont Soup Kitchen; it has been determined that the space is located within 1,000 feet of a school and therefore is not permitted to be there.

The topic was presented during the City Manager's Report at Wednesday night's council meeting.

## Two Suspects Sought in Armed Robbery of Convenience Store

CLAREMONT, NH--On Nov. 29, at approximately 2:30 a.m., the Claremont Police Department responded to a report of an armed robbery at the Cumberland Farms convenience store located on Pleasant St. in Claremont.

According to the Claremont Police Department, the initial investigation at the scene revealed that two male subjects wearing masks entered the store, threatened the clerk with a weapon and left with an undisclosed amount of money from the cash register. No injuries were sustained during the incident.

## Chief Rick Bergeron to Retire Following 40-Year Career

## Keno Comes to Claremont

## Plainfield Man Found Not Guilty in Murder-for-Hire Case

NEWPORT, NH--A Plainfield, NH, man was found not guilty Tuesday in an alleged murder-for-hire plot. Maurice Temple had been accused of hiring someone to kill his ex-wife. His mother, Pauline Chase, also arrested and charged in the case, was found incompetent to stand trial. According to prosecutors, Temple and his mother had allegedly hired an acquaintance, Mark Horne, to "get the job done" for a price. The de-

## Challenges Remain As School Board Reviews Future Budget Considerations





Valley Regional Hospital held its annual meeting at the Claremont Savings Bank Community Center on Tuesday, Jan. 16. Exhibits from all of the hospital’s departments were set up, and refreshments were supplied by the hospital’s culinary department. A short business meeting was held and awards were handed out to honor outstanding partners of VRH. Receiving these awards were: Outstanding Trustee—Sherwood Moody, Outstanding Non-Profit Partner—West Central Behavioral Health, Outstanding Volunteer—Dawn Sartofelli, and Outstanding Business Supporter—Claremont Savings Bank. After the business meeting, CEO and President Peter Wright (right photo) talked about what the hospital has accomplished in the past year and what they were looking forward to accomplishing in the coming year (Bill Binder photos).



### Claremont Man Arrested Following Weathersfield Crash

WEATHERSFIELD, VT--On Jan. 18, at approximately 7:10 p.m., the Vermont State Police responded to the area of VT Route 12 and Route 131 in the town of Weathersfield, VT, due to the report of a truck crashing into a house and leaving the scene of the accident. The truck involved was a 2007 white Dodge 3500 and it was located at the Sunoco Gas Station on Route 131. The VTSP reported that the operator was Jeffery Morin Sr., 52, of Claremont, NH. Morin denied crashing into the house, but his vehicle had significant damage, said VTSP. The investigation along with surveillance video revealed that Morin allegedly did significant damage to a residence on RT. 12 with his truck and left the scene immediately. After further investigation, Morin was arrested for suspicion of DUI, Gross Negligent Operation and Leaving the Scene of an Accident. Morin was transported to the Vermont State Police barracks for processing and then released.

**Please note: voters cannot sign in at the Deliberative Session unless they are registered voters. As a result, residents who are not registered voters will need to register to vote at the Claremont City Hall Clerk's Office no later than January 23 to be on the checklist for the February 7th Deliberative Session. Supervisors of the checklist will be meeting at the City Clerk's Office on January 23rd, 7:00 - 7:30 p.m., to register voters who are unable to register during normal business hours.**



## DELIBERATIVE SESSION

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2018

#### 6:30 PM

### STEVENS HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

#### What’s a deliberative session?

A deliberative session is for explanation, discussion, debate and amendments to the proposed operating budget and warrant articles. In order to vote on any proposed changes being made you must **ATTEND & BE A REGISTERED VOTER** of Claremont.

#### Register to Vote:

**City Clerk's Office | 58 Opera House Square | Claremont, NH**

Join Us!

Childcare Available!

Upcoming Dates:

**Jan. 24- Feb. 2**  
Claremont School Board Candidate Filing

**Monday, March 5**  
Claremont School Board Candidate Forum

**Tuesday, March 13**  
Voting Day

Live Feed Anticipated

