

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**Meet the School
Board Candidates,
Part 1, A5**

etickernews@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/etickernews

March 5, 2018

Commission Supports Governor's Opposition to Wild Goose Project

CONCORD, NH--A commission put together to study the Wild Goose project for a deep water launch for public access on Lake Sunapee has endorsed the governor's opposition to the plan. In a seven-page report released on February 28, the commission's chair and majority of its members said, "We strongly recommend that the Wild Goose site be removed from consideration as a Department of Fish and Game boat launch site by way of CORD transferring the property to the Division of State Parks by the power granted to CORD in RSA162-C:6. This action will release the Department from its focus on the Wild Goose development and empower it to find a more acceptable alternative for a deeper-water boat access point on Lake Sunapee. The transfer of the property to the Division of State Parks is the right course. The Division has a strong and successful history of providing public access to public waters for recreational purposes as defined by RSA 271:20-a, I. Upon transfer, the Division of Parks should make its own determination as to the suitability of site's use, consistent with its mission to provide public access. This may include providing fishing, car top boat/canoe access, picnicking, or even camping opportunities at the Wild Goose site. The Commission anticipates that the Division will work closely with area communities in developing any plans to avoid the pitfalls of Department's Wild Goose experience. It should be fully expected that the Division of State Parks will charge fees to compensate for any expenditures at the site.

"After twenty-seven years of division, strife and ongoing traffic safety concerns, it is time
(Continued on page A2)

Structure Fire In Claremont On Saturday

(Bill Binder photo) More photos, page A24



CLAREMONT, NH--At 2:06 p.m. on Saturday, the Claremont Fire Department responded to 19 Fern Street for report of a structure fire. Engine 3, Ladder 2 and Engine 2 responded with four personnel. Heavy smoke was reported from Opera House Square, and the first due Engine Company requested a first alarm assignment, box 100. Companies arrived on scene and reported heavy smoke showing from a two and a half wood frame residence. Further investigation found heavy fire on the left/back (Bravo/Charlie) side of the structure. First due companies stretched an inch and 3/4 line, and applied water to the left side fire. A second line was simultaneously deployed and stretched to the front (Alpha) side, first floor front door. Crews were successful with an initial aggressive combined attack. The bulk of the fire was extinguished at 2:20 p.m. An additional crew was sent to the second floor to extinguish any remaining fire that had extended to the attic space. The fire was called under control at 3:09 p.m. Fire crews remained on scene to complete overhaul operations.

Additional mutual aid companies that assisted the Claremont Fire Department were: Cornish, Windsor, Newport and Charlestown.

A cause of the fire had not been released at the time of publication.

Fire, from A1

for the Fish and Game to be released of this site, so it can comply with its obligations under RSA 233-A.

“The New Hampshire Department of Fish and Game should be charged with and strongly supported by the state and local constituencies with finding an alternative site for compliance with RSA 233-A. The Department should immediately begin work on locating a new alternative. Towns and stakeholders, including many who served on this Commission, have stated their willingness to assist in this effort. In the short term, the Department should consider remedies that will help increase access to Lake Sunapee, such as free trailer parking in areas near existing boat launches.

“Ideally, the New Hampshire General Court should make the Department whole for expenditures relating to developing the Wild Goose site, so that the Department is in a stronger position to develop alternatives.

“Should the Division of State Parks seek to increase trailered boat parking at the State Beach, it is hoped that the state will approve necessary funding to make it possible.

This is the most viable solution to increased parking in the near term.”

The commission went on to say that “There are two considerable variables with these recommendations:



“That the Division of State Parks will be sufficiently motivated to comply with their stated commitment to create more boat access at Sunapee State Beach. That town, state, and recreational enthusiasts work closely with the Division of State Parks to advance the additional parking spaces outside of the existing parking lots;

“That the Department of Fish and Game is allowed to find and develop an alternative deep-water boat launch site on Lake Sunapee. In the strongest possible terms, the Commission recommends that the state and area communities assist the Department in this effort, so that the challenge of increased access is a joint effort.

“It is our hope,” concluded the commission, “that the stakeholders and elected officials in the future work to ensure that these recommendations be followed, so that, at long last, the pub-

lic’s right to increased boat access to Lake Sunapee be provided.”

In its overview, the report said that “The Department’s effort to construct the Wild Goose boat launch has been fraught with difficulty, high costs, safety and community concerns and litigation. The Fish and Game Commission and sporting/fishing groups, particularly in Sullivan County, have strenuously supported it. For almost three decades, the high impact plan to create a boat launch for trailered boats has been controversial, dividing people and communities. It has cost the Department, the state and constituencies hundreds of thousands of dollars. The result is a stalemate, the Department has not fulfilled its responsibilities under RSA 233-A and the public still does not have increased access to Lake Sunapee.”

The Work of the Commission

Executive Order 2017-06 outlined the two main charges of the Commission to develop a new plan for the development of the Wild Goose property and to plan for expansion of public boat access that will be amenable to and be supported by relevant public and private stakeholders.

According to the report, the commission looked at such issues as existing access, road safety, environmental impacts and the State Beach.

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Phyllis A. Muzeroll

Publisher/Editor

Bill Binder

Photographer/Reporter

Les St. Pierre

Columnist

Erin Rice

Reporter

etickernews@gmail.com

Snail mail to:

6 Osgood Ave. Claremont, NH 03743
603-542-7319

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Member, Greater Claremont Chamber Of Commerce

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NH Lottery Numbers

03/03/2018

NH PowerBall

13 17 25 36 40 5 2

Mega Millions 03/02/2018

24 28 42 60 64 8 4

Megabucks 03/03/2018

5 10 17 29 33 4

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

LAW OFFICE OF
JAMES G. FELEEN, PLLC
WWW.FELEENLAW.COM
JAMES G. FELEEN, ESQ.
EMAIL: jim@feleenlaw.com
TEL: (603) 504-6507
FAX: (866) 862-6394
CELL: (603) 477-4671
2 Pleasant Street, Suite 3, Claremont, NH 03743

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House of Representatives – Claremont

District 3/Ward 1: Francis Gauthier
603-543-6575
fgauthier1776@gmail.com

District 4/Ward 2: John O'Connor
603-504-6951
jwoconnor2014@yahoo.com

District 5/Ward 3: Raymond Gagnon
603-542-7286
raymond.gagnon@leg.state.nh.us

District 10/Wards 1, 2, 3: John Cloutier
603-542-6190
jocloutier@comcast.net

Senate – Claremont

District 5: Martha Hennessey
603-271-3067
martha.hennessey@leg.state.nh.us

Washington, DC

Sen. Jeanne Shaheen
520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2841
<http://shaheen.senate.gov/contact>

Sen. Maggie Hassan
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3324
<https://www.hassan.senate.gov/>

Rep. Anne Kuster
137 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
phone: 202-225-5206
<http://kuster.house.gov/contact>

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”

Letter to the Editor

Thank You for Supporting Stuff a Cruiser

To The Editor:

Wow, what an amazing day Feb. 23rd was in so many ways, from the items received to the stories of those willing and excited to contribute to our Stuff A Cruiser event, as well as the wonderful working relationship with Sheriff John Simonds and his deputies.

I am so pleased and proud of our accomplishment. In the span of six short hours, we were able to collect 1,375 items for the Claremont Soup Kitchen, including \$385.00 in cash collected. Thank you, United Way of Sullivan County Board of Directors and Sullivan County Sheriff Deputies who volunteered, for all your help. Each of us came away with a sense of pride and the immediate willingness to do it all again. This will now become our annual event, said Sheriff Simonds. We look forward to joining forces again because both agencies share a common goal: Both agencies are devoted to serving the people of our area.

Cindy Stevens, Claremont Soup Kitchen, expressed her gratitude for all the donations during this time of year. It really helps to replenish their shelves after the holiday season.

Thank you all again.

Dawn Ranney

Executive Director United Way of Sullivan County

Shaheen, Hassan Call on Health Insurers to Step Up Response to Opioid Epidemic

WASHINGTON, DC-- U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan joined a group of 13 of their colleagues in calling on the nation's top health insurers to do their part to combat the opioid epidemic. In an effort to hold the insurance industry accountable, the Senators asked the companies to both review their existing policies in light of the epidemic, and to take additional steps to make sure they are doing their part to help curb addiction.

“Unfortunately, it is often much harder for an individual to seek non-addictive pain medications or non-pharmacologic treatment options at the outset of treatment than it is to get a prescription opioid,” wrote the Senators in their letters. “In order to effectively address this ongoing epidemic, we believe insurance companies must take additional steps to ensure they are playing a more active role in addiction prevention and treatment and providing beneficiaries full access to the range of clinically appropriate services available.”

In light of the opioid epidemic, the letters ask the insurance companies to review old policies that could unintentionally be contributing to the substance use disorder crisis. For example, policies like prior authorization – where a patient's doctor must get prior approval from an insurer before prescribing a more expensive or non-formulary medication – have been in place long before today's opioid epidemic and are well intentioned to keep costs down. But when thousands are dying each day, insurance algorithms that default to the cheapest opioid alternative could miss opportunities to turn the tide against the epidemic, said the Senators.

The letters also ask the companies what policies they have in place to make sure patients can access less addictive or non-addictive pain treatments, non-pharmacological treatments like physical therapy, and medication-assisted therapy. The Senators also pressed the companies to disclose whether they use internal controls to identify alternative therapy for patients struggling with chronic pain, and how they identify a patient who might be struggling with substance use disorder.

The letter also asks for industry input on other factors Congress should be aware of as it considers additional legislation to address the nation's opioid epidemic.

The Senators wrote to Aetna, AHIP, Anthem, BCBS, CareSource, Centene, Cigna, Humana, Kaiser, Molina and UnitedHealth.

School Board Candidates Share Their Thoughts, Viewpoints, Part 1

Editor's Note: *We invited all the Claremont school board candidates to answer a series of questions and introduce themselves to voters as the annual school board election approaches. Thus far, we have heard from six of the 10 candidates.*

Jason Benware

Hello, My name is Jason Benware and I am running for one of the three vacant three-year seats on the Claremont School Board. Let me begin by telling you a little bit about where I come from and who I am.

I grew up in Cornish, NH, and went to high school in Hartford, VT. While there, I was a student athlete and when I graduated I went to the University Of New Hampshire where I studied biology and spent four years competing as a hammer thrower in a Division 1 Track and Field program. After graduating with a Bachelors Degree in Biology I bounced around a bit before meeting my wife and settling down in Claremont. I worked as a Driver Education instructor for nine years and owned my own driving school for four of those years. I currently own my own small business selling antiques. I have two children at the elementary school level and a lovely wife that works as a social worker here in town. We've lived in the same home in the Bluff area for 18 years and I see great potential in the town. I'm not someone that easily sits on the sidelines and watches others and that's why I'd like to serve on the School Board. I often hear people voice their complaints about various problems in the City, but rarely do I see these people doing anything about it. I'm not wired that way, I'd like to see more action take place. I've had experiences working with kids on various levels, from coaching 8U softball to teaching High School students to drive, so I certainly like and understand children. I'm also somewhat analytical and believe in doing my research before making decisions about things. I'm honest and although my candor may make some people uncomfortable, I can assure you that I will put great thought into the decisions that I make. After all, I'm invested in this town and the success of the schools.

I think that there are many things that we can be proud of in our schools. We have some really top rate teachers and have had some great successes in our extra curricular

and sports teams. We are also improving on test scores throughout the district. And don't let me forget the great new food service provider that we added this year. Pretty much everyone that I've spoken to is very impressed with the quality of the lunches that are getting fed to our kids. The district has some struggles as well, though. We have some serious funding issues as can be seen from the recent school budget discussions. We have a large budget, over \$34 M for the coming year, and I think that it is important that we try to balance a quality education with fiscal responsibility. The unfortunate part about this is that we continue to lose State funding. Every year we lose an additional 4% of adequacy funding and this will continue for the next 20+ years until we no longer receive any. So, every year we start off \$270,000 or more in the hole. We need to take this back to Concord. Twenty years ago the Supreme Court ruled that the way the State was funding education was unconstitutional. We need to bring the State back to court because as far as I can see they are in contempt right now. Another issue that I see in the district is that for some reason when children enter the Middle School there appears to be a certain disconnect that occurs. I've heard many anecdotes about students that thrive at the Elementary School level and then when they hit CMS the wheels seem to fall off. I don't know the reasons for this but I'd like to find out. Another issue that I think goes back to our funding issues is our teacher retention rate. We often hire bright young teachers that work in the district for a couple of years, get experience and then leave for jobs at other schools. I would like to see our teacher retention rate improve over the next several years. I'd like to see our test scores increase each year in relation to other students in the State. Let me say this about test scores though. I feel that they are important in order to assess students in a quantitative manner, but I do not believe that educational success should be determined by scores alone. Our ultimate goal in the education of a child should be to produce a functional adult that possesses not only technical skills but also the "soft skills" that are needed to succeed in the workplace and in society.

We have a wonderful CTE facility in this city and I feel that it is being underutilized at the present time. It has become apparent over the

last decade just how important technical training is for Claremont and the surrounding communities. Currently there are over 300 good paying manufacturing jobs that are unfilled in our area. I've had quite a bit of involvement in regards to the SRVRTC in the last few months and I see that it has some great potential. At the present time I believe it only has four programs and the vast majority of the students are male. There are some great instructors over there, but all but one of them will be retiring at the end of this school year. So it's a bit of a rebuilding time as we hire a new Director as well as three new instructors. I'd like to see some new programs added over the coming years and with these programs hopefully some more female students will also enroll. There is a preschool program in the Tech Center right now. Why can't we bring back the Early Childhood Education program and have it work in conjunction with the preschool program? I'd really also like to take a look at bringing back embedded credits into the CTE programs. I recently had the opportunity to tour the Manchester School of Technology as well as The Springfield Tech Center and I was impressed by the diversity of programs and students at both facilities.

There has been a quite a bit said about the negative image of Claremont that is reflected on sites such as Zillow. I think in order to combat these negative images we need to continue to work toward increasing our test scores on all levels. We also need to figure out exactly what metrics and assessment criteria these sites use in order to rank our city and then do whatever it takes to feed them the most accurate yet flattering data that we can. Perhaps we just need to pepper these sites with favorable reviews? I can honestly say that I don't have the answer yet but it certainly could use some more research.

It's a lot easier to find problems in our society than it is solutions. I'm going to make one suggestion to help ease our funding issues. We currently spend around \$1.9 million for students that are placed out of our district. Of that money, we spend roughly \$300,000 per year transporting these students to those placements. The Brattleboro retreat would like to open a satellite school in Claremont. We should jump on this opportunity because if we do, we could bring back a significant portion of

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Candidates, from A5

those out of district students and keep them in town. We wouldn't save any money on tuition but we'd probably save \$150,000 on transportation. That's not an insignificant amount of money that could be spent on education rather than bussing. This would also better the quality of life of these students, essentially giving them back two hours of their day. As I see it, this would be a double win for our district.

To close, I'd like to say that I believe it is the responsibility of the School Board to give our children the best education that we can without breaking the backs of the tax payers. I think that there needs to be a balance between the two. I believe that I bring a lot to the table. I'm level headed, a hard worker, and somebody that will do the work in order to find the answers needed to make the best decisions possible for our children and town.

Alex Herzog

Alex Herzog will not be running although his name will still be on the ballot. He has withdrawn his name since accepting the post of new director at the Tech Center.

Steven Horsky

Sales/Lead Project Estimator at Flat Rock Tile & Stone

I was born in Claremont, NH, in 1982. I went to North Street School prior to moving to Lempster, NH. I attended college at Golden West College in Huntington Beach, CA, for a short time prior to my return to Claremont in 2001.

I have decided to run for the three-year term at this time because of my children and tax bill. My wife and I bought our first home in May and will have children in the high school, middle school, and elementary school for the 2018-2019 school year. I feel that the children are not getting the best education for the dollars being spent. I want to work as a team with the other members of the board, the administration, the students, and the taxpayers to find common ground and financially sound ways to operate the district more efficiently. We need to look to the future and I believe that the near-sightedness of previous boards have made impacts to the standard of education the children of Claremont receive and also have left the taxpayer holding the bag due to failed or

poor planning.

My job and personal life requires sound financial decisions, which is what the district and taxpayers need. On a daily basis I have to find ways to write contracts with my customers that are win-win. I also have to manage my family's budget as the cost of living continues to go up between cost of goods and taxes, and for a family of six this is not an easy task. I have the ability to communicate effectively which requires the ability to listen. While everyone may not agree, there is always a way to find a compromise and the answer is usually found if you listen carefully and can effectively devise the right questions to find out what is the most important issue from the other side. I have worked from the bottom up in the flooring trade and can help relay what the real needs are of the labor force by employers. The point of the educational process is to create intelligent young women and men who are ready to enter the work force or college. I believe this has been lost due to the push and false beliefs that you will not go anywhere in life without a college education, and I am living proof that this belief is not true.

The issues with the district are opinion based and I believe some of it is financial management. We need to rein in the district spending to alleviate the tax burden. This can be done and I truly believe that we can do it without cutting teachers and programs. It does not have to be done with a machete either, if we look closely and use a scalpel, there are ways to save. I also believe there is a lack of transparency from the administration. While we do see the emails from the SAU offices about events, we do not see answers to many of the issues parents or taxpayers have addressed. If an email blast can go out about community events, one can also go out about responses to issues brought up by parents and taxpayers alike. Instead, lips are sealed and the general public is left in the dark. We hear the preaching of engaging the community, but we do not see the efforts of follow through. The district is fortunate to have the teachers, para-educators, and schools level staff that we have. I truly believe that most of above mentioned really truly care for the success of the students. We need to recognize the daily situations and different needs of students that they encounter and commend them for being there trying their best to educate our children. Sadly, the teachers are the ones who pay the constant price of balancing the budget and maybe we need to look at the top.

Based on the labor shortage in the trades, we can definitely promote and better utilize this amazing resource, the Tech Center. I attended the plumbing and heating course in 1997-1998, definitely a career path I should have gone into since my father owns his plumbing company in California. I see and hear it every day that there is a shortage of electricians, machine tool, CNC operators, mechanics, and other trade-related labor needs. College is not the answer for everyone and vocational and technological schools are going to be the future of our country. We have a great resource and it is time to capitalize on the opportunities it will create. I am hoping that Dr. Alex Herzog can get the tech center to see the glory it can become.

We have accepted and expected mediocrity, and the results have had a negative impact [on sites such as Zillow]. We need to expect to continually raise the bar and not accept less. This will help rid the negative over time.

Carolyn Towle

I am a 71-year-old, now a receptionist for a legal office, for the last four years. Why do I work full-time? To pay my almost \$9,000 in taxes each year. I want this house to be my last. The occupation is new to me as I spent 25 years in retail. I am really fortunate to be working and full time because I was sick up until 2014 when I received a new "heart". I am very lucky and it speaks to why I try to give back.

I was born in Claremont. Graduated from Stevens in 1965 and in 1998 I moved to Florida for 10 years. I could never get over missing the change in seasons and the miles being away from my grandchildren and children.

I am running for the school board because I have always, while serving on the Council, been honest, with no political swaying, for the taxpayers of Claremont. I have received a great number of calls from the elderly of Claremont close to losing their homes after living there all their lives, crying on the phone and always asking what could I do to help them. I do my research and try to always demonstrate Roberts Rules.

During my session on the Claremont City Council, we had several combined meetings with the SAU6 Board. I always felt even though we were trying to move together for the benefit of the City, there was so much left un-

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Candidates, from A6

said or left to work on.

I am running after I retired from the Council because I am type of person that can't complain if I don't step up and completely understand the issues. I can't complain about the taxes, can I.

I would like a more thorough study done with an Ad Hoc group to dissect this year's budget to write a strategic plan for the next five years. I am not aware of this being done or a CIP program being put together for five, ten and 15 years, raising the question of a "Capital Improvement Budget" line item. This will give a much larger picture for everyone as to where we hope to be going. The fact that teachers feel threatened every year around budget time has to stop.

The tech center visit I did with Scott Pope and Chris Irish two years ago was to me full of developmental ideas for the future, with a lot of increased programs to be added. We need to be the conduit for employers and employees ready to be hired. Along with this, a junior or senior in good standing at the Tech Center may be eligible to make some money while under an apprentice program from the many employers that are "crying" for help. Money is a "motivator".

Kelly Mulloy

I'm a stay-at-home mother with four children ages 12, 9, 5, and 3. As my youngest enters school I plan to re-enter the workforce.

My family moved to Claremont in May of 2017, so we have been here just under a year. We moved here for work and to be closer to family. Though we looked at many surrounding towns and areas, in the end we chose Claremont because we loved the heart and character of the people in this community.

I am running for a 3-year seat on the Claremont school board.

High quality education is one of my highest priorities. I am invested in seeing our school district do well! My husband and I both attended public schools and I am a parent of four children attending Claremont schools. High quality education is important for developing critical thinkers who grow up to live healthy and productive lives and give back to the community. I stay in regular contact with my children's schools and teachers and I have been impressed by the dedicated and caring staff in this district. I volunteer and assist as

the need arises. But I would like to do more for our schools and our community.

I'm also a homeowner and taxpayer in this community. My family considered the tax rate before we purchased in Claremont, and I can understand the concerns people have expressed about the tax rate going up. State aide to the school district is decreasing each year, which makes the challenge of not increasing the budget even more significant. I think we need to develop a long-term plan on how to get ahead this challenge. In addition, I think we need to start considering creative solutions and alternative funding sources to meet some of the needs in our district.

I think the One-4-All center is a wonderful example of a creative solution that the school district has participated in. It is a grant funded, donation based program that is supported through the Claremont School District (from SAU 6 website). Outside of the normal budget it meets many needs of our students (homework space, access to computers, clothing, childcare to help student parents stay in school, mentoring, and much more), as well as providing resources for our community. If we are going to improve our schools on a limited budget, we need to carefully plan so we can consider, create and support initiatives such as this that provide the biggest impact for the least amount of taxpayer money.

Finally, I have seen a division in our community that I would like to see mended. Those that want to improve education and those that want to lower taxes are not on "separate teams". Though we go about it in different ways, I think we all want our community and our students to prosper. I think it is reasonable to want high quality education and lower taxes, but it will take hard work and creative problem solving to achieve that. There will be different opinions about how we achieve that, but the greatest thing about democracy is when all those differing voices come together - they can achieve something great. Working together will help us achieve the outcomes that are best for our students, our staff, and our community.

I believe I have a personal and professional background that would be well suited to the challenges faced by our current school board. I grew up in a rural working class community in Missouri. I learned early the value of hard work and investing your time into things of importance. By eighth grade I knew I wanted to attend college, but was aware that it was not in my families finances to pay for my education. I made my goal to work, save, and

do well academically in order to provide for my own education. I became the first college graduate in my family with a B.S. in Psychology from Truman University. My public education was a springboard for living a better life. When I look at the Claremont community, I know the schools provide that same "springboard" opportunity for many students. I think understanding that, and using that knowledge when making decisions would be a valuable asset to our school board.

After graduation I worked as a full time Residence Director on the campus of Plymouth State University, gaining skills in budgeting for the overall maintenance and operations of several buildings, working with parents and students, supervising staff, and providing educational programming. I also worked as a member of the community service center, working with and advising programs such as Alternative Spring Break, Habitat for Humanity, March of Dimes, and Angel Tree.

After Plymouth State University I moved on to become the first staff member for a local nonprofit housing agency. I worked with the board of directors on budgeting, administration, fundraising, working with contractors, helping families in need connect with area resources, and pretty much anything else that needed to be done. We regularly worked with low cash flow high need situations.

Currently, I am a stay-at-home mom for a family of six. We live on one income that has varied widely in my time as a mother. Our budget has survived a major accident, soaring oil prices, a failed septic system, trying to sell a home during a real estate market crash, and much more. I excel at tight budgeting and finding free and creative ways to address issues.

Challenges for the district:

- Keeping budget increases low while meeting students needs
- Dealing with decreasing state funds for the district in a community struggling with the tax rate
- A significant portion of the student population that deals with problems like poverty, homelessness, and drug abuse in their homes - making it difficult for them to come to school prepared to learn.
- High staff turnover
- Bullying

Strengths:

- Devoted hardworking staff that work hard to impact the lives of students

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Candidates from A7

- A community that is well invested in it's students
 - A desire to move each student forward (school district goal), regardless of where their starting point is
 - A long history of creative problem solving
- Doing better:
- Planning to get ahead of decreased state funding
 - Focusing on long term goals with measurable outcomes (where do we want to be and how do we measure if we are making that progress?)

I am of the mindset that almost everything has room for improvement. When I look at the tech center, I see some strong programs doing great work in the community. I also believe it has room to grow and expand to provide more opportunities for Claremont students.

These days automation is impacting almost every industry. Automated self-checkout, robotic manufacturing, robotic surgery, and machine learning are changing the landscape of jobs. The needed job skills are changing globally and locally. This is impacting almost every industry. I would love to see program offerings expanded to include things like computer science and other polytechnical classes that can help students get started on a path to a successful career in a rapidly growing field. In addition, there is job growth in fields that are not easily automated - such as nursing and human care.

I think it would be a good start to research what are the best paying and fastest growing careers for our students. Then consider how we could work with area businesses and schools to help provide students with programs in these areas.

Low school scores (based on standardized testing) on sites like Zillow, Trulia and other sites are of definite concern. My husband and I extensively researched these sites before deciding to accept a job here and move to this community. Though school scores were low, and that was an initial worry, we took the time to research the schools and get to know the community and people here. We discovered that Claremont is a wonderful community and a great place to raise a family.

Research has shown that standardized test scores generally tell us more about community demography (income level) than about actual school performance (- Valerie Strauss). Mean-

ing that standardized test scores are not a particularly effective way to gage the quality of education in a school district. Unfortunately, the only data point being used in NH is standardized test scores. There is so much more to our schools and the community than what is communicated through these sites. The individual sites like Zillow will not accept data directly from schools so we would need to advocate at the state level to increase data reporting to the state.

In addition, if you want higher test scores, you need a school system that is attractive to families that demand outstanding schools. New Hampshire ranks third in best states to raise a family. And Claremont is a great community for families. I think if we market the strengths of this community and offer an outstanding educational experience, we will also pull in families that value and work towards good education, which will in turn improve our school.

Extra Note from Kelly Mulloy:

My husband Josh works as the Technology Director for the school district. Before attempting to run for school board, I checked to make sure that would not be considered a conflict of interest (it is not). Past members in similar positions were required to recuse themselves (remove) from voting on any matters relating directly to their spouse (for instance, if elected, I would not participate on any votes on technology). I am invested in this school district and this community. If

elected I would work with the school board to represent the desires of the community as a whole.

Brian Rapp

I'm a Lieutenant with the Claremont Fire Department. I've been with the Department almost 13 years and lived in Claremont almost 12 years.

I'm running again for a three-year seat because we still have a lot to do. When I first got on, there was plenty of room for improvement. We've worked to increase the rigor of our curriculum. Students that graduated were very vocal that they weren't being challenged enough. That showed up when they went to college. My fear now is there is a distinct group that would be happy to undo our progress just

(Continued on page A9)

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to slash the budget. We spend less than comparable districts and do so with fewer staff and administrators. We've cut so much that we have to put off maintenance and we've reduced field trips. Our technology is also starting to fall behind again. This isn't fair to our student nor our staff. Obviously funding is a sensitive issue, but we still have to educate our kids even if the state doesn't want to help.

In addition to my role of Lieutenant with the Fire Department and my time on the school board, I'm now entering my fifth year on the Board of Directors for the NH HealthTrust. HealthTrust is the risk pool that provides most of the health insurance for municipalities in the State of NH. We deal with over \$300 million in claims each year. Health insurance is a huge cost for people and employers along with municipalities. In my time there I've developed a clear understanding of the public risk pools.

Top problem, in my opinion, is bullying. Whether real or just perceived, there's something going on there. I've heard from, and continue to hear from, people that have described experiences that I would call problematic. We've made so much progress in other areas, but this one area can and should be handled differently. A child who doesn't feel safe in school isn't going to be able to learn. Frankly, that shouldn't be a hurdle they need to clear just to achieve in school.

[One of our strengths] is the use of IReady, [which] is a great tool for teachers and students. While data is used by the state for assessing, our staff uses it to identify, in real time, areas where students are performing well or struggling. They can then direct attention to certain areas. There's an educational part to it as well. Students can engage the program-

ming which then acts as an instructional tool. IReady can also be accessed at home by the students. It's a great tool for us. Full Day Kindergarten is another strength. It really is making a difference.

Communication can always be better. It's frustrating to see so much information put out, whether online or with handouts coming home with kids, to then hear that people didn't know about something. I don't know the answer, but there has to be a way to get info out to the public better.

The Tech Center can absolutely be better utilized. It's a travesty that we don't have more programming that can be used for multiple tracks. Technology is something needed in most areas these days. Some of these courses could be used as electives. Scheduling has complicated the problem of getting the center used more, but I'm hopeful that staff can figure it out.

There are two ways [the district can do a better job of combating a negative image seen on sites such as Zillow], one of which we have no direct control over. The state posts data to an organization called GreatSchools.org who then become the source for places like Zillow. The data that gets seen is only for grade level results. If the state gave them more data, like actual student growth, an area we are doing very well in, that could be on these sites. The other thing that can be done is have people write reviews on the sites like Zillow. Reviews and the scores are seen by prospective home buyers. While we have our challenges that we discuss openly, it's also important for people to speak about their

positive experiences.

Women's Suffrage Discussed in Children's Reading Series

CLAREMONT, NH-- Maple Ave. Elementary School, will host "I Could Do That" by Linda Arms White for School & Community Reading Day. The reading is part of the Understanding Diversity and Inclusion through Children's Literature series and will be held on Thursday, March 8, at 3:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

"I could do that" says six-year-old Esther as she watches her mother making tea. Start her own business at the age of 19? Why, she could do that, too. But one thing Esther and other women could not do was vote. Only men could do that. This picture book biography shows how one girl's gumption propels her through life filled with challenges until, in 1869, she wins the vote for women in Wyoming Territory — the first time ever in the United States.

Other readings will also be held at: All-4-One Family Space, 169 Main St. in Claremont, at 10:30 a.m.; River Valley Community College Charles P. Puksta Library, 1 College Pl. in Claremont, at noon; TLC Family Resource Center, 109 Pleasant St., at 3:00 p.m.; Disnard Elementary School, at 4:15 p.m. Fiske Free Library, at 6:00 p.m.

For more information, please email ruralNHoutright@gmail.com.



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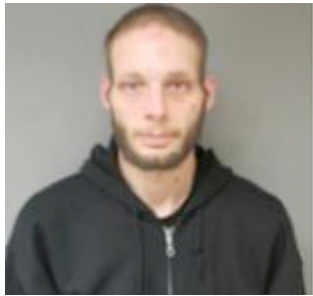
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Two Arrested in Crack Cocaine Case

Street Value put at \$10,000

LEBANON, NH--On February 26 at approximately 12:00 p.m., Lebanon Police Officers investigated a suspicious vehicle parked at the Walmart Plaza, located at 285 Plainfield Rd. The vehicle was occupied by two people and indications of alleged recent drug use were observed by the officers, said Lebanon Police Chief Richard Mello. "The two individuals initially provided false identities to the investigating officers, but were ultimately identified as Matthew Horton, age 28, of Cavendish VT, and Nichole Wentworth, age 35, of Epping, NH," said Mello.

According to the Lebanon Police Depart-



M. Horton



N. Wentworth

ment, Horton was allegedly found to be in possession of approximately 31.5 grams of crack cocaine, with the approximate street value of \$10,000, said Mello. Horton was also wanted on a probation violation stemming from a felony theft charge out of Sullivan County. Horton was charged with Possession of a Narcotic Drug, crack cocaine, With the Intent to Distribute, a Class B Felony; Possession of a Controlled Drug, Alprazolam, a Class B Felony and False Reports to Law Enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor. He refused bail and was transported to the Grafton County House of Corrections to await arraignment in the Grafton County Superior Court.

Wentworth was wanted on a warrant out of Rockingham County for failure to appear on a previous charge for allegedly possessing heroin, said Mello. She was transferred to the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department to await her arraignment.

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Governor's School Safety Preparedness Taskforce Formed

SAU 6 Schools Among Those Assessed

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CONCORD, NH--Last week, Governor Chris Sununu, New Hampshire Director of Homeland Security Perry Plummer, and Department of Education Commissioner Frank Edelblut announced the formation of the Governor's School Safety Preparedness Taskforce, a group of state and local officials that will work together in the coming months to develop stronger safety protocols for New Hampshire's schools. The taskforce will be composed of State leaders, representatives from law enforcement and schools, and local officials. They will meet regularly to ensure that New Hampshire's schools are the safest in the nation.

These efforts will run alongside the new Public School Infrastructure Fund, which is investing nearly \$20 million in state funds directly to communities by making long overdue infrastructure and security upgrades. Some \$16 million has already been allocated to schools from across the state for critical security improvements, including reinforced windows and doors, state-of-the-art exterior door locking systems, and early detection systems.

This newly-created taskforce will build upon the critical work that New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management Officials have done since 2012 to protect our schools:

NH HSEM subject matter experts have worked with all schools (i.e., public and private) in the state to develop and enhance school emergency preparedness by conducting in-person physical security assessments, including the review of:

- Access control
- Early detection and notification
- Emergency alerting

Out of New Hampshire's 668 schools, 481 have received an assessment, including 52 schools who have received re-assessments.

Last session, legislation was passed requiring each school to develop a site-specific school emergency plan that addresses both natural and human caused hazards and re-

quires plans to be submitted to the Department of Education.

"Three years ago each SAU 6 school was assessed by the State of New Hampshire De-



partment of Safety: Division of Homeland and Security," Superintendent Middleton McGoodwin told the *e-Ticker News*. "This information was invaluable to acquire over one-half million dollars in School Infrastructure Funds to improve both security and safety. For the past year the Claremont School District administrators have been revising each school's Emergency Operation Plan.

"Though an updated version of these plans was submitted to the NH Department of Education last fall, we are continuing to work on these plans. This revision work began in October 2017, and will be completed by June 2018."

McGoodwin added, "The Claremont School District continues to appreciate the support from the Claremont Police Department, Claremont Fire Department, and Claremont Department of Public Works. This support has been invaluable with maintaining the safety of all students and staff."

Among Warrant articles Claremont voters will be voting on will be Article 3: Security Up-

grades, \$141,000. According to the warrant article, "The importance of safety and security of our schools cannot be overstated. As a result, three years ago the Claremont School District schools participated in a Homeland Security Assessment through the offices of State of New Hampshire Department of Safety Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

"It is very important for school officials to be able to observe danger, and potential threats. In addition, surveillance cameras assist with deterring dangerous behavior, play an important role in evidence collecting, and can be invaluable when used to locate victims or perpetrators.

"Further, the ability to prevent unauthorized persons from entering a school facility is vital with protecting everyone in the school.

"The Claremont School District, because of the 2015 Homeland Security Assessment recommendations, received funding from the Public School Infrastructure Fund to improve school security, and safety, for the benefit of all students, staff and visitors.

"The total cost of this safety and security upgrade will be \$702,475.00.

"However, with the approval of Article 3, the Claremont School District will receive an 80% reimbursement from the state. This following represents the cost breakdown:

--- Claremont's share of the safety and security upgrade: \$140,495.08

--- Public School Infrastructure Fund's share of the safety and security upgrade: \$561,980.32."

A number of safety and security upgrades will occur at Bluff, Disnard and Maple Avenue Elementary Schools as well as at the Claremont Middle School, Stevens and the Tech Center with the approval of Article 3.

For more details on the March warrant, visit our website at www.etickernewsclaremont.com and click on Current Issue at the top of our home page. There you will find a PDF of the warrant articles to be voted on this year.

e-Ticker Business News

Community Development Block Grant Application Workshop

The Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) will be conducting workshops for organizations interested in applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in 2018 or learning more about the program.

The workshop is encouraged for grant administrators, grantees and any projects that intend to apply for the following programs in 2018: Housing, Public Facilities, Economic Development, Emergency or Feasibility.

Interested applicants should register for only one of the following events as space is limited and the same content will be covered at each workshop:

- **CONCORD** – Wednesday, March 28, 2018 – NH Audubon McLane Center – Register here.

Deadline to register for Concord workshop is Friday, March 23, 2018.

- **LITTLETON** – Thursday, May 24, 2018 – Mt. Eustis Commons – Register here.

Deadline to register for Littleton workshop is Friday, May 18, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact Meena Gyawali, Director of Community Development, at 603-226-2170 or mgyawali@nhcdfa.org.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program awards funds to support economic development, housing and community-based initiatives that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income persons or households.

Funding for the CDBG program is provided to New Hampshire through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. New Hampshire's statewide CDBG program has been administered by CDFA since 2003.

Eligible applicants for CDBG funds include most New Hampshire incorporated counties,

cities, and towns. A nonprofit agency may also apply through its municipality or county as a sub-recipient of CDBG funds.

Please note the federally-designated entitlement communities of Dover, Manchester, Nashua, Portsmouth, and Rochester are ineligible to apply as they receive CDBG funds directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

All applications must be received by CDFA through its online grants management system (<https://nhcdfagrants.org>). Additional information on the CDBG Program, including application information and resources, can be found

by visiting

<http://nhcdfa.org/block-grants/cdbg-resources>.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs and services are invited to make their needs and preferences known to CDFA, 14 Dixon Ave., Concord, NH 03301 (phone: 603-226-2170; fax: 603-226-2816; TDY/TDD Access Relay NH: 800-735-2964), prior to the meeting. This notice is provided as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

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e-Ticker Business News

March is Red Cross Month

CONCORD, NH / BURLINGTON, VT--March is Red Cross Month and the New Hampshire / Vermont region of the Red Cross is asking people across our two states to become a hero by giving blood, becoming a volunteer or making a donation to #help1family on Giving Day – March 28.

“The Red Cross is powered by our volunteer heroes who give of their time, talents and compassion to fulfill our vital humanitarian mission of preventing and alleviating human suffering,” said Maria Devlin, American Red Cross CEO in New Hampshire and Vermont. “They are people from your neighborhood who donate blood, who teach First Aid and CPR classes, who support those in need at what may be the worst time in their lives. We honor them during Red Cross Month and ask you to consider joining us and making a difference.”

March was first proclaimed Red Cross Month in 1943 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to raise awareness of the organization and its humanitarian mission. President Roosevelt’s last radio talk to the nation on March 20, 1945 was in support of the Red Cross War Fund. He died 23 days later, on April 12, 1945.

This year the Red Cross salutes all the heroes who make a difference in their communities by:

- Donating blood or platelets
- Volunteering to help people impacted by a disaster
- Taking a first aid or CPR class to help in an emergency
- Providing comfort to a member of the military, a veteran or their family

Home fires are the most common disasters that the Red Cross responds to each year. Here in New Hampshire and Vermont, Red Cross volunteers respond to a disaster – most usually a home fire – on average every 17 hours. Volunteers drop everything – at any time of the day or night – to help people who have lost everything. “These are the moments when I can witness strangers helping other strangers in their greatest moments of need,” said Red Cross volunteer Cindy Huge. Read more about why Huge leaves her home in the middle of the night to her others:

<https://redcrosschat.org/2017/12/05/compassion-after-a-home-fire/>.

WHAT WE DO: The Red Cross has been helping people in need for more than 130 years. And much of our work is accomplished through the work of our volunteers. The Red Cross:

- Responds to nearly 64,000 disasters across the country providing hope and comfort to people in need.
- Trains and provides information to nearly 5.9 million people in first aid, water safety and other skills that help save lives.

- Collects nearly 4.9 million units of blood from more than 2.8 million volunteer donors to meet the needs of patients at hospitals and transfusion centers across the country.

- Provides nearly 391,000 support services to military members, veterans and their families.

- Helps more than 181 million people outside the U.S. through disaster management and disease prevention efforts.

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The advertisement for Jozach Jewelers features a black and white photograph of a woman with long, wavy hair, looking thoughtfully to the side. Overlaid on the image are several pieces of jewelry: a necklace with three concentric circles and a diamond ring, and a pair of earrings with the same concentric circle design. The background is dark with a subtle crescent moon and stars.

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Grab 'n' go Fuel Up! Kickoff Assembly at SHS

CLAREMONT, NH--The Stevens High School Student Voice team is hosting an official Kick-Off assembly to showcase a new Grab-N-Go Breakfast Cart which will become an important part of the school's daily meals. Breakfast Carts allow students to grab easy-to-access, nutritious foods at the start of, and throughout their school days. Prescott Herzog, a freshmen, helped to secure funding for the school through the health and wellness program Fuel Up to Play 60, as well as AdVenture Capital (AdCap). Together with staff and administration, and his fellow Student Voice members, he has coordinated a Pep Rally-type event to introduce the Breakfast Cart and create excitement throughout the school and business community. Students will hear from Student Voice leaders, along with staff and administration, with a surprise celebrity keynote speaker, with plenty of fun giveaways and swag for those who are present.

The assembly will be held on March 9th, from 12:45-2:06 p.m. and will include Stevens High School Student Voice members, a surprise New England Patriot Alumnus, Food Service Director Debra Belanger, Dairy farmers John and Robin Luther and administration, students, staff and faculty.

The new Steven's High School Breakfast Cart was made possible by Fuel Up to Play 60 funding provided by the New England Dairy & Food Council, as well as AdVenture Capital. Fuel Up to Play 60 is an in-school nutrition and physical activity program launched by National Dairy Council and NFL to help encourage today's youth to lead healthier lives.

The project was started at the school after student Prescott Herzog won the Domino's Transformation Experience through AdVenture Capital, where he was able to travel to the Domino's World Headquarters in Ann Arbor, Michigan for 3 days as well as receiving \$2,000 to start the project.

About New England Dairy & Food Council


New England Dairy & Food Council (NEDFC) is a non-profit nutrition education organization staffed by registered dietitians. NEDFC is a state and regional affiliate of the National Dairy Council (NDC).

About AdCap

AdVenture Capital is a program that inspires, empowers, and motivates creative, curious, and brave student entrepreneurs who wish to make changes in school and community health and wellness.

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What kind of lifestyle do you hope to have in retirement? Do you have a strategy to get there? If you don't have confidence in your plan, it may be time to engage a financial professional. But how do you choose the one who's right for you?

These days, you have more options than ever – including so-called robo-advisors. Robo-advisors typically use algorithms to assemble investment portfolios, with little to no human supervision, after customers answer questions online. Generally, robo-advisors are fairly cheap, and their recommendations are usually based on sound investment principles such as diversification.

However, when considering a robo-advisor, you should determine if an algorithm can address your needs as well as a human being – someone who actually becomes familiar with your life and all aspects of your financial situation. Furthermore, a robo-advisor can't really handle the new wrinkles that will inevitably pop up, such as when you change jobs, and you'd like to know what to do with your 401(k) from your previous employer – leave the money in that employer's plan, transfer the account to the new employer's plan or roll it over to an IRA. You probably couldn't receive a personalized evaluation of your options, based on your individual goals and circumstances, from a robo-advisor.

So, if you decide to work with an individual financial professional, what should you look for from this person? Here are a few questions you might want to ask:

Who is your typical client? By asking this question, you may get a sense of whether a particular financial advisor has experience working with people in your financial situation and with goals similar to yours.

What's important to you? The quality of your relationship with your financial advisor is important – after all, you may be working with this person for decades – and he or she likely will be involved with many of your most personal decisions. Consequently, you'll want to work with someone you connect with on an individual level, as well as a professional one. So, if an advisor seems to share your values and appears to have good rapport with you, it could be a positive sign for the future.

How will we communicate – and how often? If you're interviewing candidates, ask them how often they will meet with you in person. At a minimum, an advisor should see you once a year to review your progress and suggest changes. Will they also call or e-mail you with suggestions throughout the year? Are you free to contact them whenever you like? Will you get a real, live person every time you call? Will they send out newsletters or other communications to update you on changes in the investment world? If so, can you see some samples of the communication vehicles they send to clients?

How do you get compensated? Some financial advisors work on a fee basis, some on commissions, and some use a combination of both. Find out how your advisor will be compensated, when you'll need to make payments and how much you'll be expected to pay.

By asking the right questions, you should get a good sense of whether a particular advisor is right for you. And since this likely will be one of the most important professional relationships you have, you'll want a good feeling about it, right from the beginning.

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



Leaving Your Employer? Understand Your 401(k) Options.

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Cone Automatic Machine Co. Charitable Foundation Scholarship Program Announced

The Cone Automatic Machine Company Charitable Foundation scholarship program will continue for the coming school year 2018-2019. This scholarship is available to the children or grandchildren of former employees of Cone-Blanchard Machine Company having a minimum of five years of continuous service with Cone-Blanchard Machine Company who meet the eligibility requirements.

Eligibility Requirements, Terms of Award Payments, and Applications may be obtained by writing to Cone Automatic Machine Company Charitable Foundation's mailing address: P.O. Box 65, Claremont, NH 03743.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than May 10, 2018. Scholarship awards will be announced in June 2018.



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It's About Food

By Johnny Navillus



From Oops to Success

The zucchini was sliced and ready for the skillet. The shrimp was thawed and cleaned. The rice was cooked and then I couldn't find the sweet and sour sauce.

Me: Don't we have any sweet and sour sauce.

She: I saw it in the fridge recently.

Me: I'll keep looking.

I found it finally. There was only about a teaspoon left. Some knothed (me probably) had put an almost empty jar back in the fridge. I do that a lot.

I had some curries she won't eat and soy sauce that the shrimp wouldn't like. The goal was sweet and sour and I'm up the creek.

Way back on a pantry shelf was a jar of apricot Greek fruit preserves. Perfect! I didn't care that it was Greek. I would have settled for Martian at that point. Luckily, it worked out nicely. I've gotta stop putting essentially empty containers back in the fridge. Like that's gonna happen soon.

Stuffed French Toast

Want to make an impression? Try this: prepare some strawberries by cutting them up into chunks. Put aside. Wash some blueberries. Make French Toast batter. (Actually it's a custard---egg and dairy).

Proceed making French Toast as usual. When the first slice is done, place it on a plate, put strawberries and blueberries on top, some whipped cream, add the other slice of the toast. Top with more whipped cream and serve with a side of Maple Syrup. Garnish with a strawberry. This is picture perfect.

This does not take much more time than usual. The berries and cream add a touch of elegance for about 3 minutes of additional work. The Hero Points are huge!

It's all in the presentation. A couple of extra seconds and a cheese sandwich can look special.

A point about strawberries. I read recently that they lose their nutritional value within 15 minutes of being cut. I can't be sure if that's true, but I have been watching my times. They taste the same after 15 minutes or so but if the health benefits are gone, why take the chance? Frankly, when it comes to strawberries, they don't last more than 5 minutes after being cleaned if I'm around. It's my mission to consume as many berries as possible in a lifetime. Any kind. It's a tough mission, but I can handle it.

The topic of eggshells came up this past week. To remove bits of shells from cracked eggs, just wet your fingertip with water and you can just slide the pieces out. It must have something to do with surface tension, but it works every time.

If you are going to beat eggs, pierce the yolks first with a fork; it's easier than chasing whole yolks around in a bowl. I always crack eggs in a bowl first to check for bits of shells and it's easier getting them in a skillet.

Play with your food. Presentation is everything.

Write to Johnny at etickernews@gmail.com.

Mayoral Notes by Charlene Lovett



The Week in Review

While many have been home fighting the flu or other forms of illness this season, the business of government continues to march forward without interruption. This past week was no different. Although two Councilors were absent due to illness, the Council met to address a number of items. The following is an overview of some of the items covered during our meeting on February 28th.

As you may recall, in 2017 the Council reaffirmed its position in support of creating a public boat launch at the Wild Goose site on Lake Sunapee, an issue that has been debated for more than 25 years. The Claremont City Council, Newport Board of Selectmen and the County Commissioners all signed resolutions supporting the construction of this site. Because of ongoing opposition from communities abutting the lake, the Governor created a Commission to study the issue. About the same time, Representative Peter Hansen introduced House Bill (HB) 1706 which supported the construction of the site at Wild Goose. Two things have recently occurred. The Commission released its report, which was due on March 1st, and a House Committee voted 19-2 to kill HB1706. Given its recent release, time will need to be spent on digesting the report's content and developing an appropriate response. Representative Hansen will continue his efforts in the House. In the meantime, the public still does not have access to a free public boat launch, open 24/7, on Lake Sunapee which is required by law enacted in 1992.

Another piece of legislation of concern to municipalities is HB1485 which proposes increasing the maximum amount of a security deposit from one to two month's rent. The bill went to the House Judiciary Committee, and members voted 10-8 Inexpedient to Legislate. Due to the nature of the close vote in committee, there is a likely chance that representatives will pose arguments, both for and against, on the floor prior to the upcoming

House vote. The concern to the municipalities is that a requirement for higher security deposits will create an additional hardship for people who are trying to find a place to rent. Affordable housing is a challenge throughout the State, and the concern is that this may only exacerbate the issue and push people towards welfare assistance. Given that welfare assistance is supported by taxpayer dollars, an increased need for assistance equates to an increase in the municipality's welfare assistance budget.

The City Administration has begun the budgetary process, and City Manager McNutt has tasked his departments with creating two budgets – one that does not raise the tax rate and one that is reflective of what each department needs to fully execute all of its responsibilities. At our next meeting on March 14th, the Council will discuss its funding priorities with the city manager. Once Mr. McNutt presents the budget to the Council on May 1st, the Council will then review, obtain public input, and vote on changes, if any, that need to be made.

Finally, the Council adopted its goals and objectives for 2018. The goals focus on actions that will ultimately increase revenue, recapture city valuation, broaden the tax base, and lessen the pressure on taxpayers. The goals also include actions that will improve local governance, thereby creating better outcomes. I have no doubt that 2018 will be a productive year, and we will continue to improve the vibrancy and desirability of Claremont as a place to work, live and play.

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

“Dear Friends” to be Presented in Newport

NEWPORT, NH--The Newport Opera House Association and Off Broad Street Players will present “Dear Friends”, a gripping drama by Reginald Rose, on Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17, at 7:30 p.m. and a 2:00 p.m. matinee on Sunday, March 18. Tickets are general admission; \$12, seniors \$10. They will be available at the door (20 Main Street, Newport) or may be purchased in advance at www.newportoperahouse.com or by calling the box office at 603-863-2412. Doors open one half-hour before show time.

While the play may not be familiar to modern audiences, it caused quite a stir in 1967 when it debuted as a live performance broadcast on CBS Playhouse. Acclaimed film and television writer Reginald Rose was well-known for using drama to showcase controversial social and political issues. His powerful 1950s jury room drama, “Twelve Angry Men”, was first presented as a teleplay and then adapted for stage and film.

This show was a daring venture at a time when divorce was not a topic for polite conversation. The plot revolves around four couples, each managing to hide their own marital problems from the others until one couple does the unthinkable by separating and planning to divorce. An intervention is staged by the others in an attempt to bring them back together. As the evening unfolds, each couple's own failings are revealed to the audience. Tension builds and hidden antagonisms erupt in a story that remains relevant even fifty years later.

“Dear Friends”, directed by Arthur Vidro, is produced by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York, NY. Cast members are Scott Magnuson and Leslie Peabody as the estranged couple, with Mary Carter, Mike Cirre, Bob Tourangeau, Sharon Wood (all from Claremont), Ali Wood, Newport, and Brian Bevacqua, Bradford, VT, as their well-meaning but misguided friends. A brief juvenile role will be played by Alani Andino.

River Valley Animal Protection League Annual Potluck Dinner

Sat., March 24, 5:30 p.m.
VFW, Lovers Lane, Charlestown NH

Everyone is welcome to join us for an evening of fun. Please come and support the animals at this fundraiser! Raffle, cake auction and door prizes. Please call 603-826-3061 for more information.

Black + White Film Fridays

NEWPORT, NH--To celebrate the Black + White Exhibition currently on display in the Library Arts Center's gallery, the Center is presenting a series of classic Black and White films on the big screen. Films will be shown on Friday nights, March 9, 16, and 23, at 7:00 p.m. Free admission and popcorn. To see a listing of each week's featured film, visit www.libraryartscenter.org/films/.

D-H Providing Bridge Funding for HOPE for NH Recovery Center in City

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--At Wednesday night's Council meeting, Mayor Charlene Lovett reported that Dartmouth-Hitchcock is providing \$20,000 in funding to bridge any transition for the City's HOPE for NH Recovery center as it seeks to find a path to stay open.

HOPE for NH Recovery recently announced its plans to close its satellite centers, including the one in Claremont. Its main location in Manchester will remain open. Funding all five centers absent local and state support since July 2017 has put "a tremendous financial strain on HOPE's largest center in Manchester", said the organization. The board of directors has voted to close the satellite centers in Franklin, Concord, Claremont, and Berlin by the end of last month. The Claremont site opened in the summer of 2016; space was leased in the former Diana Love building on the corner of Elm and Main Streets and was the organization's 4th recovery community center in New Hampshire. With funding being cut, the last day of operation for the Claremont Recovery Community Center had been set to be March 3rd.

Lovett said that a meeting with various stakeholders had been held on Tuesday and was part of a process to put a leadership group together to address the issue of the center closing. "A lot of people are working hard to ensure the service will continue," said Lovett.

Farmers Market Likely on Hold for a Year

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--It appears that the Claremont Farmers Market will be put on hold for a year while the program apparently transitions from being run by the market's association to the Parks and Recreation Department.

Discussion regarding the market's future came up during a vote on a resolution to ac-

cept a New Hampshire Charitable Foundation Grant for the Farmers Market. The City had applied for, in conjunction with Vital Communities, a grant from the Thomas W. Haas Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation in the amount of \$8,000. At Wednesday night's Council meeting, Parks and Rec Director Mark Brislin said that he would be out of office for the next four to six weeks due to surgery and wanted to put the market on hold until next year due to his absence. The money would be applied to hiring a seasonal market manager and help with marketing. Brislin said that the new season for the market would be its first year to be operated under the domain of his department and that he felt it would be better to put it on hold due to his expected extended absence. He said he would look into whether the money could be held for a year instead of being spent this year. He added that the Parks and Rec Department running the market would be similar to a model being used in Lebanon. He also said that they thought they had an individual ready to accept the seasonal manager

position but that the person did not take the job in the end and that without that position being filled, along with him being out of work for several weeks, the gaps would make it difficult to go forward with a market this year.

Ideally, planning for a new season's market begins in January, said Mayor Charlene Lovett. With most vendors wanting to commit to the entire season, the idea of starting the market in late summer or fall was not deemed feasible, either, said Brislin. Councilor Claire Lessard said it would make for a smooth transition from the association to the Parks and Rec Department by waiting until next year, giving everyone time to make the necessary changes.

"People want to see a Farmers Market and they want to see it be successful," said Brislin.

A definitive answer on whether a market will be held this year or not was not determined by Wednesday night, and the Council voted to accept the grant in the hopes that if the market is delayed, the funding can be put into reserve fund.



Noticing on social media that the TLC Family Resource Center in Claremont was low on diapers, REMIX founder Jimmie Neilsen (left) and a group of volunteers from REMIX started collecting diapers during the month of February. At the end of the month they had collected 2,500 diapers. The REMIX board of directors voted to match the donation, and on Friday, Feb. 2nd, Neilsen and the REMIX (REMIX is an all volunteer nonprofit coffee bar and social club) staff presented Jo-Ann Kleyensteuber (right), Financial Director of TLC, and Neil Allen, staff member at TLC, with over 5,000 diapers and over 3,000 baby wipes (Bill Binder photo).

Sexual Abuse Prevention Unit to be Presented to Elementary School Students

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--Claremont elementary school parents received a reminder last week from the school district about the schools partnering with Turning Points Network (TPN) to deliver a sexual abuse prevention unit to students in second through fifth grade. The district will be using the We Care and Care for Kids curricula developed by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont, said Superintendent Middleton McGoodwin. The NH Department of Education now requires specific curriculum on sexual abuse prevention.

Care for Kids teaches children in second grade protective factors such as self-esteem; identifying and expressing emotions; the ability to name all body parts, using correct names; a good understanding of the child's role in the family and healthy boundaries.

The We Care program is similar to Care for Kids but is for students in third through fifth grades. Some of the topics covered are communication, understanding feelings, personal boundaries and recognizing boundaries in others.

This unit will take place for four weeks as scheduled by TPN.

To provide parents and guardians with an overview of the program and answer questions, school counselors from all three elementary schools and TPN will be hosting an informative evening on March 7 at 5:30 p.m. The event will be held at the Maple Avenue school. Parents and guardians may also request an appointment to view the program materials at their child's school until March 16.

If parents or guardians do not wish their child to participate, they may request an opt-out form from the child's school counselor, said McGoodwin. Any student who is exempt under this policy may be given an alternative assignment sufficient to meet state requirements for health education per Claremont School Board policy.

Fire crews fought both flames and heavy smoke on Saturday while on scene at this structure fire on Fern St. in Claremont.



Photos
by
Bill
Binder



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To celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Claremont Savings Bank Community Center, the Claremont Savings Bank sponsored a week of special events and programs at the CSBCC. The center also entered the names of every person who purchased a three-month or more membership between Feb. 1 and March 2nd to win prizes donated by local businesses for a drawing on Friday, March 2nd, the anniversary of the CSBCC Grand Opening. CSBCC Director Mark Breslin (left photo, left), with an assist from staff member Maddie Vaine (right) drew the names of the winners on Friday evening. The Grand Prize of an outside hybrid bicycle, donated by the Cycle Depot, was won by Rob Berry (right photo). Other winners included: Fitness basket—won by Diane Traegde, signed picture of Patriots Rob Gronkowski—won by Cheston Lawrence, pool party rental—won by Linda Dolan, fitness class—won by Barbara Fontaine, youth swim lesson—won by Mary & Isabelle Lord, five day passes to the CSBCC—won by Nancy Lee, two 18 hole rounds of golf—won by Ruth Bassette, one body fit training session—won by Fred Weber, half hour massage—won by Shawn Duhamel and one personal training with Fitness Thyne—won by Ken Scully (Bill Binder photos).



Claremont Woman Arrested Following Motor Vehicle Accident in Lebanon

LEBANON, NH--On March 4 at approximately 12:48 a.m., Lebanon Police and Fire units responded to a report of a motor vehicle accident, involving a roll-over, just north of the Centerra Parkway entrance on Route 120 in Lebanon.

"Upon arrival, it was learned that a female driver had driven her vehicle over a snowbank on Colburn Hill and traveled for approximately 30 feet in the air before striking the ditch and ending up on its roof," reported Lebanon Police Chief Richard Mello in a press release. "This was a single vehicle accident."

According to Mello, Jensie Pliego, age 31, of Cindy Avenue in Claremont, was arrested and charged with Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated with Serious Bodily Injury, a Class B

Felony; Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated – Passenger Under the Age of 16, Class A Misdemeanor and Reckless Conduct, a Class A Misdemeanor. Pliego was taken to the hospital from the scene with possible serious injuries.

Two passengers also sustained serious bodily injury. An adult male, age 56, also of Claremont, suffered a broken back, and a 10-year-old juvenile suffered possible fractured fingers. The adult male had to be extricated from the vehicle by Lebanon Fire. Both were transported to DHMC for treatment of their injuries.

Pliego was released on \$5,000 Personal Recognizance Bail and will be arraigned in the Grafton County Superior Court on March 19.



A Claremont woman was arrested and charged following an accident early Sunday morning in Lebanon (Photo furnished by the Lebanon Police Department).

Homicide Case in Royalton Being Investigated

ROYALTON, VT--Sunday morning, at approximately 9:58 a.m., the Vermont State Police responded to a 911 call reporting a female who was shot at a residence located at 479 Happy Hollow Road in Royalton. Upon arrival officers discovered an adult female deceased subsequently identified as Wanda Sanville, age 48. An adult male at the scene identified the alleged shooter as the victim's estranged husband, Frank Sanville, age 70. The witness reported that he struggled with Sanville after the shooting and was able to take the gun away from him. The police reported that Sanville fled the scene prior to arrival of law enforcement. Sunday afternoon at approximately 2:00 p.m., Sanville was located in a barn on Deerhaven Lane near the residence where the shooting took place, said the VTSP. Sanville was taken into custody without incident and transported to the State Police barracks in Royalton. Sanville was subsequently transported to Gifford Memorial Hospital for treatment of injuries he sustained prior to being taken into custody.

Detectives with the Major Crime Unit and Bureau of Criminal Investigation are currently investigating this homicide. The scene was secured and is being processed by detectives with the Crime Scene Search Team.

This investigation is active and in its early stages. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Vermont State Police at (802)234-9933.

Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site Young Adult Focus Group

Saint-Gaudens NHS is hosting a Young Adult Focus Group for those in their 20s, 30s and 40s. The site is curious about how those in these age groups decide what to do with their free time, how they use the National Parks in the Upper Valley (or why they don't), and what types of events interest them. They recognize that

many of them value outreach opportunities that unite recreation, the outdoors, art and history.

You are invited to join organizers on Monday, March 12th, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Newberry Market in White River Junction to share ideas and provide feedback on how they can

serve you and our local community. Food and drinks will be provided.

Please RSVP at saga_interpretation@nps.gov or call 603-675-2175 ext 128.

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