

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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Page A27**

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April 30, 2018

Arrest of Former Claremont Police Sergeant Announced

**By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News**

CONCORD, NH—On Thursday, Attorney General Gordon J. MacDonald announced the arrest of former Claremont Police Sergeant Ian Kibbe, age 30, of Springfield, VT, on one count of conspiracy to commit perjury, one count of attempted perjury, two counts of unsworn falsification, and two counts of obstructing government administration.



Ian Kibbe

On March 28, Attorney General MacDonald announced that he had initiated an investigation into the conduct of Kibbe and Mark Burch of the Claremont Police Department. That investigation was initiated based on information from Claremont Police Chief Mark Chase, which alleged that while acting in their capacity as police officers, Kibbe and Burch had falsified documentation related to a search that occurred in late February, 2018.

Kibbe has been released on \$5,000.00 cash
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Volunteer Drivers Wanted at SCS

**By Les St.Pierre
e-Ticker News**

The rewards far outweigh the negatives, so the Southwestern Community Services Transportation Division, along with its current eight volunteer drivers, is putting out the call for more, and much-needed, people to step up to the plate to help others in need.

While SCS currently is in good shape with its daily deployment of paid bus drivers who cover Charlestown, Claremont and Newport on a Monday through Friday schedule, the Volunteer Driver Program is extremely in need

of adding to its present roster of volunteers. Unlike the regular bus service's schedule, the volunteer program extends into the weekends and encompasses morning, afternoon, and evening requirements.

"We just can't seem to get enough volunteers," voiced Terri Daignault, who has led the VDP since 2012. "There has always been a need. We can't keep up with the demand for those needing to get to medical appointments and other needs."

The eight current volunteers range in age from 58 to 81 and reside in Claremont, Charlestown, Lempster, Grantham, Newbury, and Acworth. They include Alan Grigsby, Gianna Gregorutti, Kevin Pitkin, Patricia Moody, Cecilia Jeffrey, Marilyn Lyons, Jay Derderian, and Diane Clemons.

All volunteers were cordially invited to attend a Volunteer Appreciation Celebration last Wednesday at the SCS base at 6 Kinney Place in Claremont. Terri Paige, SCS Transportation Director, and Daignault welcomed the dedicated group of volunteers to express their sincere appreciation and gratitude for a job well done, not only for the past year, but also for their long-standing commitment over several years.

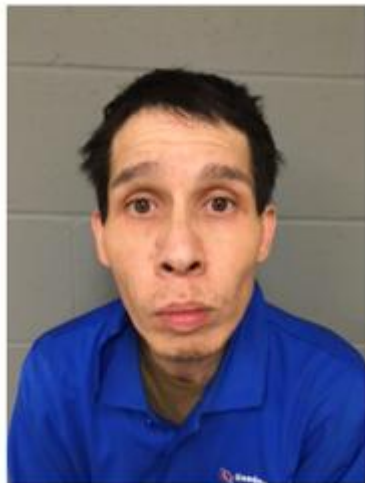
Communicating through phone calls, e-mail, or personal sit-down interviews, many of the
(Continued on page A8)



From left: Ruth McDonough, Marilyn Lyons, Jay Derian, Diane Clemons, Patricia Moody, Gianna Gregorutti, Terri Paige, Terri Daignault (Les St.Pierre photo).

Claremont Man Charged in DUI Drugs, Possession Case

On April 24, the Vermont State Police initiated a motor vehicle stop of a white Chevrolet van on VT RT 103 in the Town of Chester, VT, for erratic operation, said the VTSP in a statement. The lone operator, Myron G. Scott, 37, of Claremont, NH, was then given field sobriety tests. A search of Scott's vehicle was also performed and troopers allegedly located a small quantity of suspected fentanyl bags, Suboxone and Clonazepam pills. A Drug Recogni-



Myron G. Scott

tion Expert was requested for the operator and determined that Scott was allegedly under the influence of drugs.

Scott was arrested and charged with operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of drugs, possession of fentanyl and possession of regulated drugs. He was issued a citation for the above charges and was ordered to appear at Windsor County Superior Court on May 22.

Sullivan County Grand Jury Indictments Released

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

Steven Gagne, 46, Goshen, NH, indicted for Bail Jumping, Jan. 4, 2018.

Heather Bushway, 37, Claremont, NH, indicted for Simple Assault-Enhanced LE, April 20, 2018; Simple Assault-Enhanced LE, April 20, 2018.

Andrew A. Williams, 39, Claremont, NH, indicted for Felon in Possession of Self-Defense Weapon, March 18, 2018.

Dell E. Lord, 59, Acworth, NH, indicted for Receiving Stolen Property-Value \$1,500+, between June 1, 2014, and April 18, 2018; Receiving Stolen Property-Firearm, between Oct. 10, 2013, and April 18, 2018; Felon in Possession of a Firearm, between Oct. 10, 2013, and April 18, 2018.

Amy Robie, 31, Claremont, NH, indicted for Theft by Unauthorized Taking, March 31, 2018.

Jeremiah Greene, 30, Newport, NH, indicted for Habitual Offender, March 24, 2018.

Charles Gibson, 62, Newport, NH, indicted for Reck-

less Conduct with a Deadly Weapon, April 7, 2018; Reckless Conduct with a Deadly Weapon, April 7, 2018; Reckless Conduct with a Deadly Weapon, April 7, 2018; Reckless Conduct with a Deadly Weapon, April 7, 2018.

Jarad Briles, 33, Unity, NH, indicted for Assault by Prisoner, March 23, 2018; Assault by Prisoner, March 23, 2018.

Tyler Robbins, 24, Claremont, NH, indicted for Felonious Sexual Assault of a minor, between Jan. 1, 2018 and Jan. 31, 2018; Felonious Sexual Assault of a minor, between Feb. 1, 2018 and Feb. 28, 2018; Felonious Sexual Assault of a minor, Jan. 1, 2018, and Jan. 31, 2018; Felonious Sexual Assault of a minor, between Feb. 1, 2018 and Feb. 28, 2018; Felonious Sexual Assault of a minor, between Jan. 1, 2018 and Jan. 31, 2018; Felonious Sexual Assault of a minor, between Feb. 1, 2018 and Feb. 28, 2018.

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Member, Greater Claremont Chamber of Commerce

NH Lottery Numbers

04/28/2018

NH PowerBall

20 22 28 45 50 8 5

Mega Millions 04/27/2018

2 29 38 63 66 11 2

Megabucks 04/28/2018

10 16 18 26 31 3

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

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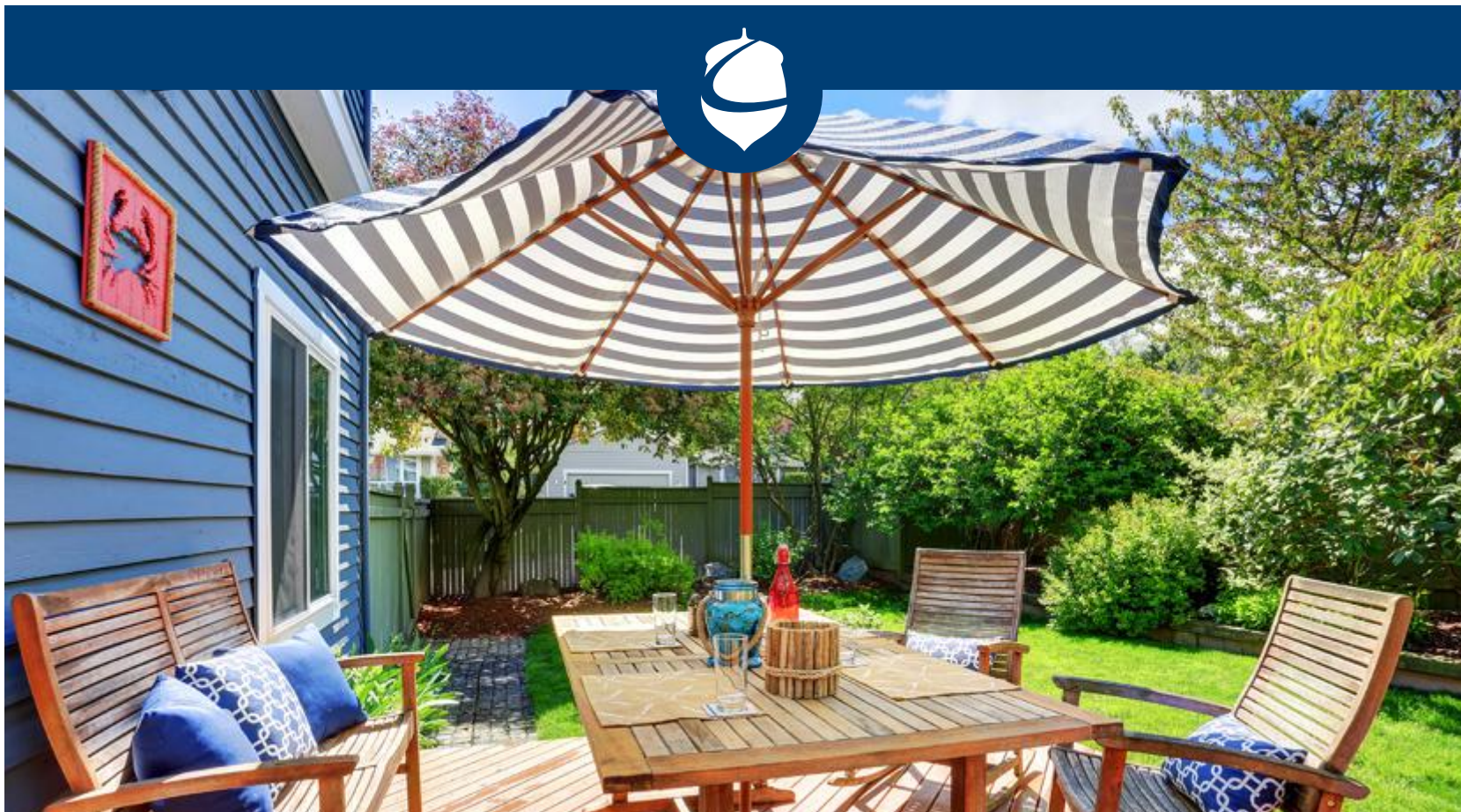
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Commentary

NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

House, Senate Vote to Eliminate Death Penalty



New Hampshire's House of Representatives last week joined the State Senate in voting to eliminate the death penalty for all capital murders.

On April 26 the House, by a 223-116 roll call vote, approved Senate Bill 593, which would abolish the death penalty and replace it with life imprisonment without parole. Presently, the death penalty only applies to people convicted of murdering police officers, judges, prosecutors, or those convicted of killings during kidnappings, robberies, or rapes. There is currently only one individual awaiting execution, an individual convicted of murdering Manchester Police Officer Michael Briggs in 2006. No one has been executed in New Hampshire since 1939.

Senate Bill 593 was approved after an emotional floor debate, which had followed a recommendation by a majority of the House Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee to pass the bill. Earlier the bill was adopted by the New Hampshire Senate on a 14-10 roll call vote March 15. The measure is sponsored by a bipartisan coalition of 18 legislators led by Nashua Sen. Kevin Avar, a Republican, as well as Hanover Sen. Martha Hennessey, and Stoddard Sen. Ruth Ward, both of whom together are the state senators for all of Sullivan County's 15 municipalities. The legislation now goes to Gov. Christopher Sununu for consideration, though he has promised to veto it.

Senate Bill 593 proponents like Manchester Rep. Richard O'Leary, a retired police officer, stated that the death penalty is no deterrent to murderers, who are often on addictive drugs and make rash decisions. Rep. O'Leary added that life imprisonment without any chance of parole would be a harsher and more effective punishment. Epsom Rep. Carol McGuire, said that executing convicted murderers is an expensive process for New Hampshire and other states. She estimated that the total cost for executing Officer Briggs' murderer, if he is ever executed, will be at least \$8 million as of now, versus an estimated \$1.5 million, if he had been sentenced to life without parole. Senate Bill 593 would not take effect until Jan. 1, 2019, and thus not apply in this case.

However, the most moving speech in support of Senate Bill 593 can from Hampton Rep. Robert Cushing, whose father and brother-in-law were both murdered. Rep. Cushing vividly recalled his father's murder approximately 30 years ago by an individual with whom the father had had a disagreement as well as the painful grieving process afterwards. But he declared that despite both his father's and brother-in-law's murders, he is in favor of eliminating the death penalty, which he described as "a failed public policy."

Nevertheless, Senate Bill 593 opponents such as Merrimack Rep. Jeanine Notter, said that New Hampshire's death penalty is a carefully limited form of punishment that has only been used about 24 times

since the 1700s. Rep. Notter added that the penalty is still needed for heinous murders like the 2009 homicide of Mont Vernon's Kimberly Cates, which she described in graphic detail. Franklin Rep. Werner Horn, stated that executions should actually be expanded to include other murders such as those of children, and that their high costs are worthwhile in order for our state to protect human life.

I not only voted for Senate Bill 593, but worked with other legislators like Rep. Cushing and Claremont Rep. Raymond Gagnon to help pass the bill. I voted "Yes," because I agree with Rep. Cushing that the death penalty is "a failed public policy" for several reasons. A failed policy because the death penalty is handed down to only poor and middle class individuals, also disproportionately to minority groups, who cannot hire the best lawyers. In fact, never in American history do I remember any wealthy or powerful individual ever being executed for any crime in our nation. Also, the entire process of prosecuting capital murders with their lengthy trials and appeals is costly to state governments and often very painful to the survivors of murder victims who must repeatedly relive the murders and watch convicted murderers become celebrities on the news. Better to require life imprisonment without parole, which is less costly, and creates less media attention to killers. Finally, there is always a slight chance of innocent individuals being convicted of a capital crime, and then executed. While state government can always apologize and make financial restitution to those wrongly convicted and incarcerated, putting innocent individuals to death is a final and irrevocable punishment.

Also, on April 26, the House, by an overwhelming 315-22 roll call vote, approved an amended version of Senate Bill 391. The original bill sponsored by a bipartisan group of four lawmakers led by Manchester Sen. Donna Soucy, a Democrat, would have codified the rights of sexual assault survivors into law as well as established a sexual assault survivors' rights commission. But the Senate on March 8 by voice vote adopted its amended version of the bill, which established only the study commission. However, the full House on the unanimous recommendation of the Criminal Justice Committee approved its own amended version of the same bill that among other provisions would eliminate the study commission. But a version that also puts a protocol regarding the rights of sexual assault survivors into New Hampshire law as well as include best practices for such survivors regarding medical treatment, evidence collection and evidence preservation. More specifically, survivors' rights would include the right to a free medical examination. Additionally, sexual assault evidence collection kits would have to be preserved for a specified period of time, and survivors would have the right to be informed of the kits' results. Also, survivors would have to be notified if the state intends to destroy such kits before their applicable expiration dates. Finally, survivors would have to be informed of all the above-listed rights. The House's amended version of Senate Bill 391 now returns to the Senate which can concur or non-concur with this amendment, or establish a joint committee of conference so as to work out a compromise.

I voted for Senate Bill 391 as amended by the House because it is such a worthwhile measure for sexual assault survivors.

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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”

Hassan Introduces Bill to Create National Study on Net Metering

WASHINGTON, DC—Senator Maggie Hassan Wednesday introduced the National Evaluation of Techniques for Making Energy Technologies more Effective and Resilient (NET METER) Act to create a national study on net metering to guide states interested in starting a net metering program or expanding an existing program.

Net metering allows consumers and businesses who generate some or all of their own electricity, particularly through wind and solar energy technology, to be compensated for the excess energy that they provide to the electric grid and other customers.

“Net metering plays a critical role in helping build a more innovative, affordable, and cleaner energy future for New Hampshire and for the country by helping lower the energy bills of hard-working Granite Staters and Americans and increasing energy independence,” Hassan said. “To help establish or expand existing net metering programs, I am proud to introduce the NET METER Act, which will provide valuable guidance and insight to states working to transition to more affordable, reliable clean energy and to combat climate change. I will continue working to move this measure forward and to support our growing clean energy industry that’s critical to spurring economic development and building a cleaner environment in which all of our people and businesses can thrive.”

The NET METER Act directs the Secretary of Energy to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to review the opportunities and challenges associated with net metering, which would conclude with a report. By establishing a national study on net metering, the legislation will assist policymakers and industry experts as they make decisions about investments around implementing net metering programs or expanding existing ones.

Senators Ed Markey (D-MA), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), and Bernie Sanders (D-VT) joined Senator Hassan in introducing the NET METER Act. Representatives Tony Cardenas (CA-29) and Alan Lowenthal (CA-47) introduced companion legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Shaheen Requests Detailed Timeline From Treasury on Effort to Honor Harriet Tubman, Women’s Suffrage and Civil Rights Movements on U.S. Currency

WASHINGTON, DC— Tuesday, U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) wrote to U.S. Department of Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and requested a detailed timeline for the Treasury Department’s plan to feature Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill by 2020, as well as other historical figures from the women’s suffrage and civil rights movements on the \$5 and \$10 bills – a plan that was announced two years ago. Shaheen’s letter requests that Secretary Mnuchin respond to whether or not the Treasury Department will meet the 2020 deadline, and if not, to explain why it cannot meet this goal. Shaheen also requested detailed responses about the Department’s plan to include images of heroes from the women’s suffrage and civil rights movements on the back of the \$5 and \$10 bills, and specifically, whether Treasury will continue with its plan for these notes.

“As you know, the Department announced its intention to feature Harriet Tubman on the front of this note and stated its goal for unveiling the new designs by 2020, in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment to the Constitution, which granted women the right to vote... The Department of Treasury announced this decision in response to a grassroots campaign that engaged hundreds of thousands of Americans behind a common mission: placing the likeness of a woman who has contributed to our nation’s history on our paper currency. After more than half a million votes online, the campaign suggested that the \$20 bill feature Harriet Tubman, a trailblazing role model whose life of fighting for freedom and her country can inspire young girls across the country,” wrote Shaheen.

Shaheen continued, “This recognition is long overdue. Women have been a critical part of our nation’s history and values, and the lack of a woman on our American currency is glaring oversight. We handle paper currency every day, and the symbols on these bills represent American values and explain part of our identity as a nation. Unfortunately, the symbols on our paper currency have been reserved exclusively for men who have shaped our history. That’s why the time has come to honor the contributions that women have made to our society, and reaffirm that women will be an important part of our future.”

Kibbe, from A1

bail. He will be arraigned on the charges in the Sullivan County Superior Court in the near future.

The investigation was initiated based on information received on March 15, 2018, from Claremont Police Chief Mark Chase, said the AG's office at the time. The focus of the investigation concerned "allegations that while acting in their capacity as police officers, Kibbe and Burch falsified documentation related to a search that occurred in late February, 2018", said MacDonald in a press release.

A 14-page affidavit was released by the State detailing the investigation that led to Kibbe's arrest.

According to the document, Investigator Todd Flanagan said the case began on March 15 when the Office of the Attorney General was contacted by Chase and Capt. S. Alex Lee of the Claremont Police Department. Their concern was based on information provided to Capt. Brent Wilmot of the Claremont Police Department by NHSP Trooper Eric Fosterling about an arrest he had assisted Kibbe and Officer Burch with, that had taken place on Feb. 25, 2018. According to the affidavit, Fosterling told Wilmot that he believed the search subsequent to the arrest of Christopher Ratcliffe "had been unlawful". He also stated that he had reviewed the documentation regarding the search of Ratcliffe's room and had found Kibbe's and Burch's accounts to "be inconsistent with what had actually happened. Specifically, that he was troubled by the fact that he had not seen any of the items in Ratcliffe's room that Kibbe and Burch reported having seen in plain view. He did add, however, that he could not account for exactly what Kibbe and Burch saw or did not see. Later in the month, Burch, during his proffer interview, stated in substance that he and Kibbe had "lied when they had claimed in their reports that some of the items they had seized after they had re-entered Ratcliffe's room were in 'plain sight.'"

The police officers had gone to Ratcliffe's address in the early morning hours of Feb. 24 to arrest him for allegedly violating a protective order the previous day.

According to the affidavit, Flanagan wrote that based upon the foregoing information there is "probable cause to believe that on Feb. 26, 2018, Ian Kibbe did commit the crime of Conspiracy to Commit Perjury in that Sergeant Ian Kibbe of the Claremont Police De-

partment, with a purpose that the crime of Perjury be committed...agreed with Officer Mark Burch of the Claremont Police Department to commit or cause the commission of such crime and in furtherance of the conspiracy, at least one of the following overt acts was committed by at least one of the conspirators..." The instances cited included that on Feb. 24, 2018, Kibbe and Burch discussed the content of their written police reports and that Kibbe instructed Burch to write that all of the weapons that they had found in Ratcliffe's bedroom had been found in "plain view", a statement which was not true in that Kibbe [allegedly] had manipulated and opened a suitcase and a black bag in the room which had both contained concealed weapons; and/or that Burch had written in his police report that "Sgt. Kibbe told me he had noticed a Glock pistol magazine in the room, and it was known Ratcliffe may have been in possession of a stolen Glock pistol", a statement which was not true in that Kibbe had not previously seen a pistol magazine in the room because it was concealed inside a black bag and not plainly visible. Other items which were written up as being in plain view, but which Flanagan wrote were not, included ammunition and an extended capacity Glock magazine and a black expandable baton.

According to the affidavit, Kibbe submitted his "falsified" Affidavit in Support of Probable Cause to Arrest to a Justice of the Peace and Sullivan County Superior Court "for the purpose of having the court review the affidavit and make a determination as to whether there was probable cause for Ratcliffe's arrest."

Flanagan went to say in the affidavit that there was probable cause that Kibbe allegedly committed the crime of Attempted Perjury, Unsworn Falsification and Obstructing Government Administration.

The press release last week announcing Kibbe's arrest did not mention any action regarding Burch. However, the *Valley News* reported that "Assistant Attorney General Geoffrey Ward said an investigation into Burch remains active." He had been hired by the Claremont Police Department in 2016 and had graduated from the full-time police academy in 2017 and therefore had been a certified police officer for less than a year, according to the affidavit. The *Valley News* also reported that "Court records indicate Ratcliffe ultimately pleaded guilty to violating the protection order. The state dismissed five other charges, including four counts of a felon in possession of dangerous weapons."

This is not the first time that Kibbe has been placed under investigation. In 2016, he was investigated by the AG's office in an officer-related shooting which took the life of a 25-year-old Claremont man, Cody Lafont, following an incident at Lafont's home in which Kibbe reported that Lafont had been holding a gun and let his dog out, which ran toward Kibbe and then veered off. Following the state investigation, the AG's office released a 23-page report which concluded that Kibbe "... was legally justified in using deadly force against Cody Lafont, and no criminal charges will be filed against Corporal Kibbe as a result of Mr. Lafont's death due to Lafont's conduct [when] he presented an apparent imminent threat of deadly force to Corporal Kibbe when the two encountered one another outside of Mr. Lafont's residence." It was discovered during the investigation following the incident that Lafont's gun was not loaded. The AG's office is now reviewing the 2016 case.

The *Valley News* reported on Sunday that the CPD is reviewing and has "thrown out at least 20 arrest cases" that involved Kibbe and Burch, both of whom no longer work for the department. The county attorney, said the newspaper, is also reviewing felony-level cases that Kibbe and Burch had been involved with.

School Board Meeting to Address Head Lice Policy

CLAREMONT, NH—The Claremont School Board will meet on Wednesday, May 2, to discuss Policy JLCC (Head Lice Policy), as well as the school district's protocol involving head lice.

In preparation for the board discussion, Superintendent Middleton McGoodwin recently emailed material related to the topic to Claremont School District parents and staff addressing the depth and breadth of the head lice issue, he said.

As the issue has been one of concern to many parents in the district, the meeting will be held at the Stevens High School Auditorium in anticipation of a larger than normal turnout; the meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Childcare will be available in a classroom adjacent to the auditorium.

Newport Rotary Club 8th Annual Penny Sale Draws Near

With only a few weeks to go, Newport Rotary Club members are busy gathering prizes for the Club's 8th annual penny sale. This year's Penny Sale will take place on Saturday, May 12th. Doors to the Newport Middle High School Gym will open at 5:30 p.m., and the first prize will be raffled at 6:30 p.m. "Dan Cherry will emcee the event again this year, and we are grateful for his expertise as he sees to it that the evening moves rapidly with prizes being awarded every minute," said the event's Chair Bruce Jasper.

"Rotary members have been busy contacting area businesses asking for their support for several weeks now. The business community has very generously supported our penny sales in the past by donating prizes that draw a sizable crowd and this year will be no exception. In addition to the 300 prizes we will raffle that evening, Rotary members are also selling tickets for a cash prize we will award as the finale that night. One thousand dollars will be raffled that evening (\$1200 if you are present) as the first prize for this portion of the penny sale. A second prize of \$500 (\$600 if present) will also be given away." Jasper said.

The Newport Senior Center Building Renovation Project and the club's own Teacher Mini Grant Projects are the primary beneficiaries of funds raised. The event will draw three rounds of prizes Saturday evening and will give away 100 prizes in each round. Tickets cost \$1.00 each, \$5.00 for six, \$10.00 for 12, and \$20.00 for 25, and all tickets for each round will be placed in a tumbler. When a ticket is drawn the individual holding the ticket will win the prize for that numbered item and then the ticket is returned to the tumbler and is eligible to be drawn again. There will also be a swap table, and in addition to the three rounds of prizes, several large prizes will be drawn after the last round. Tickets from all three rounds will be placed back in the tumbler and large prizes will be drawn. Finally a cash prize will be awarded. Tickets for the cash prizes are available now from any Rotary member and will be on sale throughout the evening of May 12th. The price for those tickets is also \$1.00 each, \$5.00 for six tickets, \$10.00 for 12 tickets, and \$20.00 for 25 tickets.

Refreshments will be on sale through the Newport Senior Center, and all businesses contributing will be recognized that evening. For more information about the penny sale or Newport Rotary Club, visit www.newportnhrotary.org or Facebook at Rotary Club Newport NH.



A sampling of prizes collected by Newport Rotary Club members to be raffled at their 8th annual penny sale on May 12th (Courtesy photo).

2018 SEASON OPENING NIGHT - MAY 4



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BARRETT-MASSE-SONTAG-BARNEY-BLEAU-FOURNIER-COLLINS
PATNODE-ROBIE-CARROLL-DEMERS-RAMSTROM-ADAMS-DIAS
TRAYNER-FREES-KIEVMAN-SILK-MEDEIROS-PITKAT-ROSE
BOLTON-SKORA-CANTARA-KOCHENASH-WILLIS-HERSEY
AND MANY MORE!**

MAY 26

Volunteers, from A1

volunteers came forward to discuss their time driving others around to get to scheduled medical appointments or grocery shopping or any other vitally important stop.

Claremonter Alan Grigsby has been a volunteer driver nearly 10 years. In an e-mail correspondence he wrote, "I have met a lot of fascinating people and look forward to driving. Helping people makes what you are doing in life relevant. Our clients are very appreciative. I believe if more people, especially retirees, knew that they could help so many people in our community they would step forward to volunteer."

Grigsby got involved in the program when he needed to get to an appointment at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon but was prohibited to drive due to his doctor's orders. Fortunately, a friend of his was able to step in with only a day's knowledge and Grigsby was able to make the appointment. The rest, as they say, is history. He was the need then, and now he is paying forward helping others to meet their needs.

Gregorutti, also from Claremont, was a regular bus driver for Community Alliance Transportation and then Southwestern Community Services totaling 19 years. Now, she has become a volunteer driver and takes pride in her service to others. "It fills the empty spots," she reported at the celebration on Wednesday. "You've gotta stay active, you know. It's nice to see how happy it makes them (the riders) to have someone willing to take them to appointments."

The former bus driver now drives her own Chevy Impala and has gone to Lebanon, Hanover, Concord, and Springfield, VT. and White River Junction, VT.

Marilyn Lyons began driving as a volunteer in 2012 after driving several years for the Disable American Veterans organization. She drives a Toyota Rav IV. "Working for Terri (Daignault) is A-plus plus," she pointed out. Lyons was not alone in lauding Southwestern Community Services and its employees. "It's a good company to work for," she said, and all others agreed.

Pat Moody, who lives in Lempster, reported she enjoys the fact she can pick and choose when she can drive. "If they need me to pick someone up at 5 a.m. I can say, 'No, that's not for me' and I can go when something else comes up."

Moody admits she is trying to get back into helping people on more occasions simply because she loves helping them out. When she first started she was logging in 1500 miles a week but now is down to less than 100. That is understandable since she also works as a volunteer two days a week for the Lake Sunapee Visiting Nurses Association and its homemaking services.

"I am a recruiter," Moody stated. "I am always telling others about the company (SCS). It's a good company to work for. They are awesome. I work with them, not for them."

Diane Clemons, an Acworth resident, has been a volunteer driver since 2010. "I have made one real good friend out of it driving her around to medical appointments and getting groceries," she quipped, noting her Subaru Forester has been wonderful getting her through the snow during the winter season.

Jay Derderian of Newbury is a tax preparer and the month of April has been especially busy for him in that realm. Now he is ready to take on his voluntary driving commitment full force. "I am a man of many hats," Derderian exclaimed at the celebratory gathering. "I like to keep busy. Now that tax season is over I am ready to do more driving."

Naturally, not everything is roses for the drivers as they do cite wear and tear on their automobiles as, perhaps, one reason for the difficulty in getting new volunteers. The drivers are paid 54.5 cents per mile, their only remuneration for their volunteerism.

"The reward isn't big enough for the vehicle," is how Gregorutti put it.

Other factors contributing to non-volunteerism include the amount of time away from home, commitment, and putting up with riders' idiosyncrasies. There is a non-smoking policy in place on the part of each rider.

"The price of gas keeps going up, and that isn't good," Clemons stated. "I wish sometime we would get paid for the time instead of the miles," Moody chipped in, to which Gregorutti added, "The driving part is easy; it's the waiting time that is the toughest. Once you get there, sometimes you have to wait four or five hours if it's for a dialysis treatment."

Lyons went on record to mention, "Some people just don't want to be tied down and then not be able to do anything else," she stated, but went on to say that has not been a problem for her. The pick and choose strategy comes in handy in those cases.

Still, they all agreed, it is the reward of aiding those in distress that is so heartwarming in their willingness to volunteer to deliver the riders where they need to go. By putting themselves in the place of those who are disabled, sick, or just not having the want or ability to drive, the volunteers have acquired a strong sense of what it must be like to be on that other end and have come to be a family, a family dedicated to helping their disadvantaged comrades. They welcome others to join them.

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Residential Solar Forum May 3rd

CLAREMONT, NH—The City of Claremont and the Action Collaborative for Transition to Sustainability Now (ACTS Now) are collaborating to offer a solar education program for residents. This program is the Residential Solar Forum, on the evening of Thursday, May 3rd, at the Goodrich Community Room in the Sugar River Valley Technical Center, 111 South St., from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The program will begin with a light meal at 5:30 p.m. The educational program will begin at 6:15 p.m. and end about 8:00 p.m. There will be solar contractors tabling before and after the program. The evening will end at 8:30 p.m.

This program is designed to help area residents learn more about the big picture and basics of solar energy and about what they can do if they are interested in home-based renewable solar energy to augment or replace their fossil fuel consumption.

The forum will have a panel of experts who will provide guidance about finding a good site, financing a solar installation, share information about community solar and how to purchase solar energy credits if a home site is not solar-ready, and give residents the opportunity to meet local contractors who specializes in this work. These programs are funded by a New England Grassroots Environment Fund Grow Grant.

Admission is free with registration either through Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/residential-solar-forum-tickets-45115911907> or by calling 603-504-2851 and leaving your name(s) and how many will be coming to the Forum to ensure we have food for all.

For more about the forum or ACTS Now, contact Mike McCrory at mmccrory@claremontnh.com or call 603-504-0374; or Rebecca MacKenzie at reb178@myfairpoint.net or 603-504-2851.

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NEWPORT—Large 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath home with over 2,000 square feet of living space. The yard is tiered with a rear deck. \$90,000 (MLS#4684122)



CLAREMONT—Cute Cape with hardwood flooring throughout the first floor, front to back living room, formal dining room, and a half bath in the master bedroom. Updated windows and newer architectural shingled roof. One car garage with a screen porch off the back, nice level yard, and easy access to downtown and major routes. \$72,500 (MLS#4684145)



CLAREMONT—3BR, 1 1/2 bath home close to downtown, Monadnock Park, Arrowhead Ski Area, our new community center, vocational high school, middle school, and Stevens High School. This is a handyman's dream with great bones! \$89,900 (MLS#4684146)



UNITY—Immaculate, beautifully landscaped home on one of the best lots around Shorewood Estates. Joining the Association permits your use of the Crescent Lake Beach and boat slips. A wonderful family room is situated above the two car garage with automatic door openers and a work bench. Basement has the possibility for another finished room with sliders out to the level back yard. Two out buildings for extra storage will safely store your toys! \$225,000 (MLS#4684344)



CHARLESTOWN—Bright and sunny 1900 home on a level corner yard ready for gardens and family fun. Large living room opens to the dining room. Working pantry, porch, wood floors, and a full basement. Sidewalks lead the way to all town amenities. \$110,000 (MLS#4684972)



ASCUTNEY, VT—Immaculate 28'x60' 2012 Modular Home with attached carport on a dead end street in a well-cared-for Ascotney park. Spacious room layout with 2 bedrooms, office, 2 baths, and a large detached storage shed. This low maintenance living may be just what you are seeking! \$149,000 (MLS#4685052)



CLAREMONT—Large 4 bedroom, 2 bath home situated off Maple Ave in Claremont. Modern kitchen, vinyl sided exterior, detached one car garage, and 1600 square feet of living space with curb appeal! \$109,900 (MLS#4685229)



WASHINGTON—Bring your house plans, your boat, and your fishing gear. Lovely waterfront lot located near the end of Washington Drive on Island Pond in an area of fine homes. Ideal spot offering 100 feet of your own waterfront to enjoy on your lot, and the private community beach is just moments away. Year 'round recreation includes fishing, snowmobiling, cross country skiing, and hiking. \$176,000 (MLS#4685774)



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SPRINGFIELD—Nice large home located in the community of Eastman. Stunning kitchen with incredible storage space, wood floors, plenty of natural light, and a 2-car attached garage. Situated on over 5 acres of peaceful land. There is nothing to do here but move in and enjoy. \$219,900 (MLS#4686937)



CHARLESTOWN—This sloping wooded 0.37 acre lot is located on a paved road in Charlestown just 1/2+ mile from the Charlestown/Langdon town line. Perhaps it's the right spot for your summer campsite! \$7,500 (MLS#4687007)

e-Ticker Business News

Delores Barbeau, MD, to be Honored

SPRINGFIELD, VT—Delores Barbeau, MD, MPH, will be the recipient of the George F. Leland Community Health Award from Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS). The award ceremony will take place at this year's Apple Blossom Cotillion on Friday, May 4, at Riverside gymnasium.

This award is named in honor of George F. Leland, the community leader who served as the first president of Springfield Hospital, under whose leadership the Hospital was opened in 1914. His extensive involvement in the health care community inspired the memory and spirit of this award.



Delores Barbeau, MD

The award recognizes an individual who represents outstanding contributions in the field of health care and exemplifies the highest ideals of community health care. Recipients include Eileen Austin Neal RN, Dr. Sherb Lovell, Edgar May, Glenn Corder, and Dr. Eugene Bont. It has been the tradition to present this award at the Apple Blossom Cotillion.

Barbeau's efforts and energy have been felt at the community level in many ways. She has participated in the Community Health Care Center network, working to develop care management of patients living with serious health conditions, and in the Children's Dental Health Program, working to bring dental services to families in need. She has worked with Neighborhood Connections, in Londonderry, Vermont, has had a close relationship with West-

on Priory, and was previously Medical Director for the Rutland Free Clinic. Her influence has also had an international focus through her work over the years in the Nicaraguan and the

Barbeau was previously named Physician of the Year by the Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians to recognize her long-standing reputation as "an outstanding physician and humanitarian." As of November 2017, Barbeau has served as Medical Staff Quality Officer for SMCS.

Send Business news, photos to

etickernews@gmail.com

SMCS Plans Regional Dental Center Expansion in Chester

SPRINGFIELD, VT—Springfield Medical Care Systems, Inc. (SMCS) is moving forward with plans to expand dental services at Chester Health Center located on Route 11 in Chester, VT.

The SMCS Community Health Needs Assessment revealed strong demand for increased dental services, particularly for prevention and care for the underserved, since many lower income residents have limited ac-

(Continued on page A14)

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e-Ticker Business News

Dental, from A13

cess to needed dental care.

In response to this need, plans include expanding dental services in Chester with the addition of another dentist and two dental hygienists. To accomplish this, Robert Schwartz, MD, will continue his practice at Rockingham Health Center as of June 1st, improving access for his patients to expanded services including walk-in care seven days a week, and on-site x-ray and lab services. Gerald Drabyn, MD, moved his practice to Springfield Health Center effective April 2nd. Jean White, LICSW, will move to Rockingham, and Heidi Lowe, LICSW, will offer appointments at Ludlow Health Center, Springfield Health Center and Mountain Valley Health Center in Londonderry, after June 1st. All Chester Health Center staff will be employed at other SMCS clinic locations after June 1st.

An analysis of patient utilization revealed Chester residents prefer to receive their primary care at other SMCS locations. Convenience is an important consideration in healthcare choice, and currently less than 20% of Chester residents are choosing to receive care in Chester. These transition plans respond to patient choice — and allocate resources where they are needed to meet patient demand. All SMCS clinic locations are welcoming new patients and health records will be available at other clinic locations as requested.

“It is our honor to serve the healthcare needs of Chester area residents,” commented Tim Ford, Chief Executive Officer of SMCS. He continues, “Dental care plays an important role in overall health, and we look forward to continuing our relationship with our patients and with the Town of Chester as we expand services and develop a greatly-needed regional center for dental care.”

About Springfield Medical Care Systems, Inc.

Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) is a not-for-profit, community-based health care system that includes nine community health center locations. As an integrated health system, SMCS offers

patient-centered care 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, pediatrics, health screenings, nutrition counseling, behavioral health counseling, dental care, vision care, and access to discounted pharmaceuticals. Springfield Hospital offers a broad array of acute hospital services including diagnostic lab and radiology services, Springfield Area Adult Day Service, Orthopaedics, Women’s Health, General Surgery, ENT, Urol-

ogy, Cardiology and Oncology. The Windham Center for Psychiatric Care, located in Bellows Falls, VT, offers inpatient psychiatric care.

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In Claremont, Kuster Discusses Efforts to Strengthen Workforce Development Programs

CLAREMONT, NH—Last Monday, at the Common Man Inn in Claremont, Congresswoman Annie Kuster (NH-02) joined with local city and business leaders to discuss the employment landscape in the city and the types of programs that can expand economic competitiveness and opportunity in the region. Kuster was joined by Claremont Mayor Charlene Lovett, State Senator Martha Hennessey, and senior staff at Red River Computer Company, among others who outlined best practices and initiatives in workforce development. As of February, Claremont had an unemployment rate of 2.7%, which underscores the need for apprenticeship and workforce development programs to generate the workforce necessary for available jobs. Kuster also discussed and received feedback on her upcoming Workforce Development and Opportunity agenda, which will include legislation advancing workforce skills, infrastructure development, export promotion, and college affordability.

“While Claremont, and New Hampshire as a whole, has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country, that doesn’t mean there isn’t more to be done to improve economic opportunity for Granite Staters,” said Kuster. “We need to be investing in programs that bring together employers and educators to expand training or provide apprenticeships so that businesses can fill available jobs with workers in their region. These partnerships are already having a positive impact in Claremont and communities across the state and are a win-win-win for employers, workers, and the local economy.”

“Congresswoman Kuster has been a strong advocate of economic development for NH,” said Lovett. “She has worked closely with the Claremont community in emphasizing the importance of rail to trade and tourism, and successfully spearheaded legislation in the House to expand rail to Montreal, Canada. We look forward to working with her for the continued expansion of new economic development opportunities in the region.”

Kuster has introduced the Workforce Development Investment Act, which would create tax incentives to encourage companies and educators to partner in training programs to help workers gain the skills needed for careers in the 21st Century economy. Kuster was joined at the discussion by Lovett; Hennessey;



Rep. Annie Kuster held a roundtable discussion, on workforce shortages, at the Common Man Restaurant in Claremont on Monday, April 23. Meeting with city officials and business leaders, they discussed the workforce shortage and the challenges they face to acquire a viable workforce (Bill Binder photo).

Kim Vacca, Sales and Event Manager at Red River Computer Company; Jon Nicholas, Director of Federal Sales at Red River Computer Company; Nancy Merrill, Director of Planning/Development at the Claremont Development Authority; Phil Pryzbezewski, Director of the NH Sector Partnership Initiative; Dr. Bonnie Ackerman, Director of the Career Technical Center at Newport Middle/High School; Joshua Molloy, Director of Technology at SAU #6-Claremont; Reggie E. Greene, Jr., President and CEO of Claremont Savings Bank; Josh Bushueff, Assistant Director at TwinState Makerspace, and Dan Osborn, Workforce Development Coordinator at River Valley Community College.

Diversity Reading Series to Discuss Living in Homeless Shelter

CLAREMONT, NH—On Thursday, May 3, at

3:30 p.m., come listen to and discuss the children's picture book, "Still A Family," by Brenda Reeves Sturgis as part of the Understanding Diversity and Inclusion through Children's Literature series. The reading will be held at Maple Avenue School, 210 Maple Avenue in Claremont. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available.

In "Still A Family," a little girl and her parents have lost their home and must live in a homeless shelter. Even worse, due to a common shelter policy, her dad must live in a men's shelter, separated from her and her mom.

Other readings will also be held on May 3 at: All-4-One Family Space, 169 Main St. in Claremont, at 10:30 a.m.;

TLC Family Resource Center, located at 109 Pleasant St. in Claremont, at 3 p.m.;

Disnard School, 160 Hanover St. in Claremont, at 4:15 p.m.;

Fiske Free Library, 108 Broad St. at 6 p.m.

For more information, please contact Liza Draper at liza@tlcfamilyrc.org.



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Farmers Market Accepting Vendors

CLAREMONT, NH—The new Claremont Farmers' Market is open for business. Organizers are actively searching for vendors for the following: Farmers with fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, flowers, baked goods, homemade crafts, and food trucks. They are also looking for entertainment. The market will be held on Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Visitors Center Green beginning May 26th and running each Saturday through September 8th.

Please visit the market website at: <http://www.claremontnh.com/residents/departments/parks-and-recreation/farmers-market.aspx> to download a vendor application or for more information.

WorkReadyNH at RVCC Program

CLAREMONT, NH—Ask any employer what skills they want their employees to have and consistently you will hear that they want people who have a good attendance record, can communicate well, resolve conflict and work as a team. In response to business roundtables in 2011, WorkReadyNH was started in NH's Community College System in an effort to strengthen NH's workforce. Since then, over 3,500 NH residents with varying levels of education from no high school diploma to Ph.D.'s, no work experience to those with 50+ years of experience, ages 18 - 80 years old, have graduated.

WorkReadyNH includes 60 hours of professional level soft skills training that addresses the skills that employers want and need in the workplace including Communication, Problem Solving, Decision Making, Conflict Resolution, Employer Expectations, Team Building, Ethics and more. Upon completion, participants receive a WorkReadyNH Certificate from the Community College System of New Hampshire and ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate(r) that assesses and documents workplace reading, math and graphic literacy skills.

Sign up now for the upcoming class that runs May 7th - 25th, Monday - Friday, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at RVCC in Claremont: workreadyrvcc@ccsnh.edu; Martha Mott, 603-543-4585.

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Rasmussen Named First Place Winner in Four Way Speech Contest Sponsored by Newport Rotary Club

NEWPORT, NH—Olivia Rasmussen, a senior at Newport Middle High School, was named first place winner in Newport Rotary Club’s Annual Four Way Speech Contest. Rasmussen will now advance to the Rotary District’s semi-finals, which will be held in Henniker on Sunday May 6th. The winner at that level will advance to the finals which will be held in Burlington Vermont in early June.

Rasmussen was one of four finalists for this year’s event. Michele Caccavaro, Chair of the English Department, and James Faulkner, English Teacher coordinated the event at the school level. All seniors and honor students from the junior class participated in the initial process, with outside judging narrowing the field to the final four contestants. Students were required to incorporate the Rotary 4 Way Test into their presentation: Is it the Truth? Is it Fair to all Concerned? Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships? Will it be Beneficial to all Concerned?

In addition to Rasmussen other finalists this year included Kaitlin Carroll (2nd place), Victoria Burroughs (3rd place), and Alex Whipple (4th place). Each student received a signed certificate and cash award from Newport Rotary Club.

According to Peter Martin, Newport Rotary Club’s President “These presentations are one of our members’ favorite programs each year. Students are extremely well prepared, have thoughtful and meaningful presentations, and are wonderful representatives of their school. We appreciate the efforts of Mrs. Caccavaro and Mr. Faulkner as the program is successful in large part to their efforts. A lot of work occurs at the school level before the finalists present to our Rotary Club and we understand this program is very popular with students. We wish Olivia well in the semi-finals and know she will represent our Rotary Club and Newport Middle High School very well.”

Peter Martin, President of Newport Rotary Club, with finalists. From L-R: Victoria Burroughs, junior, third; Alex Whipple, also a senior, fourth; Kaitlin Carroll, also a junior, second; senior Olivia Rasmussen, winner of this year's event (Courtesy photo).



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Here's a Checklist for Changing Jobs

A few generations ago, it was not uncommon for workers to stick with a single job for their whole careers. But for many of us today, frequent job changes are a fact of life: The average employee tenure is just over four years, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. So, assuming you're going to switch jobs a few times, you'll want to be prepared. Here's a checklist of things you can do to smooth these transitions and help your financial situation:

__Build an emergency fund. Some of your job changes may be involuntary, so you'll want to have a cash cushion handy – just in case. One smart move would be to build an emergency fund, containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account.

__Consider your options for your former employer's 401(k) plan. If you had a 401(k) plan with your former employer, you have three main options: You could leave your money in the plan, if the employer allows it; you could move the money into your new employer's plan, if permitted; or you could roll the funds over to an IRA. You'll want to weigh the "pros" and "cons" of these choices carefully before making a decision.

__Choose investments from your new retirement plan. If your new employer offers a 401(k) or similar plan, you'll need to choose the investments within the plan that are most appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. Contribute as much as you can afford to the plan, and consider increasing your contributions every time your salary goes up.

__Make sure you've got health insurance. The health insurance offered by your new employer may not begin the minute you start your job. Given the high costs of medical care, you'll need to make sure you are protected until your coverage kicks in. So, for that interim period, you may need to consider the federal health insurance marketplace, COBRA continuation coverage or private medical insurance. You might also be eligible to be covered under your spouse's health insurance. And you may want to learn what your options are for health savings accounts (HSAs), if available.

__Review your new benefits package – and take steps to fill gaps. Your new benefits package may include life and disability insurance, but these group policies may not be enough to fully protect you and your family. A financial professional can help you quantify your protection and insurance needs and offer guidance on how much coverage you may require.

__Understand your income tax considerations. Getting a new job may involve income tax implications, such as changes in your tax bracket, severance pay, unused vacation and unemployment compensation. And if you are thinking of exercising stock options, be aware that this, too, can be a taxable event. Finally, if you have to move to take a new job, you may incur some relocation and job hunting expenses that could be deductible. You will need to discuss all these issues with your tax professional.

Starting a new job can be exciting – and challenging. But you may be able to make your life easier by putting the above suggestions to work.

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



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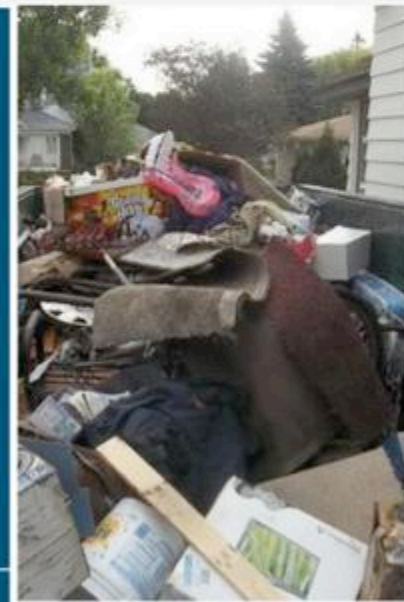
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Ukulele Meeting In Newport

Location: Upstairs in the Richards Free Library, 58 N. Main St. Newport NH

Dates: The first and third Tuesday of each month, starting Tuesday, May 1.

Time: 5:30-6:00pm Beginners

6:00-8:00pm Regular Meeting


Contact: Bob Naylor:

SugarRiverUkes@gmail.com

Description: Join in this community of local ukulele players! All levels are welcome, including true beginners. Spare ukes are available for those who want to try their hand at this fun (and relatively easy) instrument. This inclusive group will pick tunes, share music and learn together in a community setting.

Please contact Naylor at SugarRiverUkes@gmail.com if you have any questions about participation.

Send news to etickernews@gmail.com



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It's About Food

By **Johnny Navillus**



Dining Out

I really enjoy having someone else do the cooking and being waited on. Don't we all? The biggest drawback is my wife's expectations. If she has something that really strikes her fancy, she expects me to be able to produce the exact dish at home. Riiiiight. Doesn't happen. I get it about 20% of the time. If I find out before we leave the parking lot, I may be able to ask the chef. If I don't know until we get home, the chances are slim to none, especially if I haven't tasted it.



Recently we were in a restaurant and my wife ordered the scallops wrapped in bacon as an appetizer. Safe. I do them at home no problem. These were served with a light brown sauce over them and around on the plate. She loved it. I tasted the sauce and it was amazing. Very chic. Not only that, but I picked up on the flavors and knew I could do this at home.

A few days later I was browning a couple of chicken breasts and thought that the sauce would be good on this. I made up the sauce and served it over the chicken with Jasmine rice and green beans. Excellent. This sauce worked on the scallops as well as the chicken. My wife agreed that I had "nailed" the sauce. You can probably find many more uses for it. It seems to have universal applications.

Maple syrup and honey mustard salad dressing. That's it. Stir them up and adjust to taste. Don't tell anyone I told you. It's our secret.

Springtime and spices. Take all your spices out and line them up on the counter. If you haven't touched some in a decade, discard them. The rest should be evaluated for freshness. If they have changed color or lost their aroma, discard them. They won't poison you or anything, they just will not work as well as expected. Buy spices in small amounts so you won't throw expensive spices away in ten years.

Now look at all the extra space you have in your cabinet.

Some of the more dedicated foodies are re-thinking non-stick utensils. You may have noticed that high heat and non-stick surfaces don't do well together. It all comes back to cast iron. As you use it, the surface becomes very non-stick at any temperature. The more you use it, the better. And cleanup is a breeze. They wash as easily as a brand new non-stick. And they don't get scratched if you use metal utensils. And look at all the muscles you develop.

One of my favorite "go to" meals is sausages and peppers. Quick, easy and tasty. I usually use chicken sausages, but sometimes all I have are hot Italian. So when I cook up the bite-sized sausages, I spritz them with basil glaze. It really tones them down. I have many uses for this versatile glaze with more coming all the time.

Play with your food. No one is looking.

Write to Johnny at etickernews@gmail.com.

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Claremont Confidential

By Les St.Pierre



Moving Forward

The news there will be a new Catholic school here in Claremont has many townspeople buzzing with elation. Nervous excitement, if you will.

The biggest question out there is "Why?", especially when history reminds us prior decades eventually led to the downfall of such an undertaking.

Who better to go to than the Very Rev. Shawn Therrien, V. G., current pastor at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Claremont and Dean of the Upper Valley Deanery? Sitting at the kitchen table in the rectory for an interview to discuss the upcoming opening of the new Catholic school, Father Shawn wasted no time in answering the "Why?" so many are asking.

The answer is simple...there is a need, and a strong desire to move forward.

"This was not our idea," Father Shawn pointed out. "I was approached by the Superintendent of Catholic Schools four years ago about reopening the school. There is a recognized need and it is part of the bishop's vision in terms of Catholicity in our diocese. There is a great need. Schools can be an evangelizing tool. I think we have to go forward. It is my hope, in terms of the school, we can really change people's attitudes in terms of us moving forward. Period!"

A study was made three years ago and the returns of the survey indicated there was much need for an alternative to public schools. The go-ahead for the new school was given last November and it has been full-steam forward since then.

The new school in town, to be located at the present campus at Pearl and Central Streets, now leased to New England Classical Academy, will be named St. John Paul II Academy. Why that name and not St. Mary's?

"Because it is a new start," Father Shawn voiced. "I came up with the name and suggested it to the working committee and the people all came on board. John Paul was ded-

icated to education and he was dedicated to the young. He is probably the most brilliant Pope we have ever had."

John Paul II served as Pope from 1978 to 2005 when he died at the age of 84. He is known as Saint John Paul The Great by some Catholics.

"Our plan right now is for the school to be run by the parish," the St. Mary's pastor stated, "but there is a possibility it will become a diocesan school with shared governments. I think local control is very important. We have a very fantastic superintendent of Catholic schools (Dave Thibault), but he won't always be there."

The school will include kindergarten through high school senior status and there are plans to have pre-school and after school programs, as well. To date, there has been no principal selected and the selecting of a teaching staff is on-going.

"They will all have degrees," Father Shawn emphasized. "It will be a professional staff. We have had lots of applications to fill jobs."

An exceptional Liberal Arts curriculum, a challenging math and science program, and a Great Books program to inspire critical thinking is foremost in the upcoming challenge, in accordance with the handout brochures currently circulating in the area. Enrollment is not limited to just Claremont children and teenagers, but to anyone in surrounding communities and beyond.

As far as taking in special needs children, there should be no problem. The first floor of the school building is handicapped accessible, and participating in title programs will be in accordance with diocesan policy.

"So long as we can adequately provide for

the needs of the students, we will take them," Father Shawn said.

Tuition will range from \$5600 per school year at the pre-school to kindergarten level and bump to \$5900 at the k-5 level, then to \$6900 from grade 6 to 8, and end at \$7900 at the high school stage. There is, however, means to apply for help via scholarships and/or payment assistance plans by going on the parish's website at

www.stmaryparishn-h.org or via the registration site at STMARYPARISHN-H.ORG/JP2SCHOOL.

"We will take anyone who wants to go to school here, but there are not special programs for atheists," Father Shawn reported. "We are unapologetically Catholic. You don't have to believe in it, but you are going to learn it."

Continuing his assessment of getting the new school off the ground, Father Shawn said, "One thing I want to make perfectly clear is we are not opening a drop-off school where you drop your kids off in the morning and pick them up in the afternoon. We are building a community. That means families

who put their kids here had better be ready to actually participate in that community and its school. That means engagement, not activism!"

None other than John Paul II himself said it best, perhaps, when he once expressed, "As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live."

"We live in such a precarious time in our world that we cannot let the naysayers get in our way," Father Shawn closed.

My take on all this? Don't go where the path may lead. Go where there is no path...and blaze a mighty trail.



Very Rev. Shawn Therrien, V. G., current pastor at St. Mary's Catholic Church with a photo of the late John Paul II (Les St.Pierre photo).



The Claremont Police Dept., as part of the National Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 28, was set up in the CVS parking lot collecting unused or out of date prescription drugs and needles. They collected eight large boxes that will be picked up and disposed of by the DEA (Bill Binder photo).

Fugitive of the Week...

Heather M. Lord
 DOB: 02/20/1983
 LKA: 24 Meadow St., Claremont, NH
 Description: White female, 5'04", 130 Lbs.,
 brown eyes, brown hair
 Reason: Failure to Appear

Charges: Possession of a Controlled Drug, Class B Felony

Operating after Certification as Habitual Offender, Class B Felony
 Bail Jumping, Class B Felony

On October 25, 2017, Lord was indicted by the Sullivan County Grand Jury on one count of Possession of a Controlled Drug, Buprenorphine, one count of Operating after Certification as a Habitual Offender and one count of Bail Jumping.

On February 11, 2018, Lord pled not guilty in Sullivan County Superior Court.

On April 13, 2018, Lord failed to appear in Sullivan County Superior Court for a dispositional hearing. As a result of Lord's failure to appear, the court issued a warrant for her arrest, on April 17, 2018.

This information is provided by Sheriff John Simonds of the Sullivan County Sheriff's Department. Anyone with information regarding this subject is asked to contact their local police department or the sheriff's office.



Conservation District Puts the Culture Back in Agriculture

UNITY, NH—Claremont and Newport Middle and High School students submitted art to Sullivan County Conservation District's (SCCD) Seed Packet Art Project this spring. The art will be displayed on Native Pollinator Seed Packets sold through the SCCD Spring Plant Sale, their annual fundraiser. Local residents who ordered the native pollinator seeds, collected from the SCCD Pollinator Garden in Unity are supporting conservation education in Sullivan County. Many local teachers requested free seed packets to get their students involved in improving pollinator habitat in their schoolyards. This project has increased awareness about the importance of pollinators and the role of native plants in our community.



You can check out the seed packet art in an online gallery at www.sccdnh.org. Shown: Artwork by Jason Demars, CMS, Grade 6.

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Learning Outdoors Builds Confidence and Community

By Dawn Dextraze
Education and Outreach Specialist
Sullivan County Natural Resources and
Conservation District

CHARLESTOWN, NH—There is more to learn outdoors than science, literature, and social studies. Students and teachers from Charlestown Middle School use their outdoor classrooms as places to build community and empower students.

This was evident when 2nd graders from Keene took a field trip to Charlestown Middle School and joined the 7th graders for their bi-monthly Clay Brook field day. The 2nd graders were partnered with 7th graders who were to look out for their safety and learn with them at each rotation. This was a great opportunity for them to mentor others, practice kindness and take on more responsibility.

Some of the 7th graders even taught the 2nd graders and their peers. Kathleen and Abby led a kinesthetic activity focused on how sap movement in trees is based on the air and ground temperatures. The 2nd graders were tuned into details, so they helped the 7th graders see things that may not otherwise have noticed like a small patch of fur on the snow or a chipmunk tunnel in a stump.

These students know there is more to learn outdoors than science, literature, and social

studies. They learn how to interact peaceably with each other and the earth, fostering a mindset of stewardship. They get physical exercise and time to be in nature, which research shows improves mental health. They see each other and their teachers with a new perspective as they all become teachers and learners.

Charlestown Middle School teachers and administrators have been instrumental in providing these kinds of opportunities for their students to connect with one another, the curriculum, their communities, local organizations, and students in other communities in genuine ways.

When the 6th grade teachers noticed the sense of community the 7th grade had created, they made plans to identify and visit their own field site. So once a month, they head down to the Connecticut River to observe and explore the area.

They start every site visit by sitting in their own special spots, recording observations through writing and drawing.

One day, when there was still snow on the ground, a group of boys found a hollowed out log and crawled inside for warmth. This naturally attracted the attention of other students, so the next month there were more students leaning up against the log or sitting on top of it, claiming a piece of the tree for themselves. A woodcock had the same idea and was flushed from a pile of leaves under the tree during the April visit. This hollow log, which had previously gone unnoticed, has become a place of community for these students, a place of excitement and laughter, a place of learning and discovery.

“Establishing a connection with ‘place’ is a life lesson that can stay with us forever,” Kathy Olsen, a 6th grade teacher, reflects. “It can compel us to return, to share our place with others, and to foster a broader sense of community, hopefully resulting in community involvement on a larger scale in their future. I can see evidence of this happening now with these sixth graders in their writings and their conversations.”

When asked what they have learned from their monthly outings, the students wrote the following:



Christopher Masure (l), Evan West (c), Ayden Watrous (r) found a great place to explore and work (Courtesy photo).

“I live not so far away so I can come down here -- that tree is MY place, and a place of happy.”

“There are amazing things waiting out there to be discovered like the tree I could go inside or the tree that I could lay on.”

“Before we started going to the boat landing this year, I’d never been before. I love seeing the river and all of the nature. My favorite thing to do is to just sit there and draw.”

“When we were drawing it made it feel like I can draw anything.”

Kathy Olsen noticed that their trips to the river allow the students to, “strengthen as a community, ending in just life inspiration, for everything.”

As students connect to other people and the world around them, they build bonds that support their mental, physical, and spiritual well-being. They become more resilient people, able to better bounce back from the struggles and trials of life and better able to celebrate the joys and successes. And as we know, most students these days have many struggles and are looking for a place to belong and find moments of peace in a busy world. A hollow tree might just be the perfect place to ground oneself in the present and find joy in life despite the many trials.

The Sullivan County Conservation District supports learning in outdoor classrooms and conservation education. Please contact Dawn Dextraze at ddextraze@sullivancountynh.gov or 504-1004 if you are interested creating opportunities for building community.



Jerakiah Emerson ponders the view during the field trip (Courtesy photo).

Pleasant Street Gaming Shares The Proceeds With Non-Profits

By Bill Binder
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—Pleasant Street Gaming, LLC is a licensed charitable gaming hall that hosts Texas Hold 'em poker tournaments to benefit local nonprofits, giving more than a third of all proceeds to these local nonprofits. On Tuesday, April 24, they gave their first check in the amount of \$2,441.25 to the Claremont Senior Center. Co-owners Berkess “Chuck” Carroll and Carla Prinn presented the check to Claire Lessard, executive director of the center, and Judy St. Pierre, chair of the board of directors for the center.

The gaming center is regulated by the NH Racing and Charitable Gaming Commission which oversees all operations for all licensed centers. The gaming center gives 35% of proceeds to non-profit organizations and 15% to the State of NH. Applicants must be registered non-profits to receive payments. They can apply through the NH Racing and Charitable Gaming Commission and must be approved through the state before they can receive a payment.

Pleasant Street Gaming has two cash tables and five tournament tables which allows them to host 45-player tournaments. Future plans are to add blackjack and roulette and to connect to the Pleasant St. Restaurant for drinks while playing. The gaming center is open Tuesday through Saturday from 2:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Buy-ins to play have a range of prices, and payoffs vary in amounts.

The gaming center has a few charities already signed up but needs five or six more to fill out their calendar. For more information on applying for a payout, call Carla Prinn at (603) 558-2086. For more information on game schedules call (603) 504-6065.

Photo—L-R—Carla Prinn--co-owner of PSG, Judy St. Pierre--chair of the Board of Directors of the Senior Center, Claire Lessard--Executive Director of the Senior Center, Berkess “Chuck” Carroll—co-owner of PSG (Bill Binder photo).



Lead Testing for Pets...

The Sullivan County Humane Society held a low-cost rabies clinic on Saturday, April 28, at the Claremont Senior Center. There was also free lead testing of household pets. Testing pets for lead can be an indicator of others in a household who may be exposed to lead. KUA science teacher Mike Van Dolah worked with Isabel Perez, a student at KUA who had chosen this program as an elective. They enlisted Stonecliff Animal Clinic veterinarian Dan Kelly and vet technician Alex Lahood to do the blood draws on the pets for the lead testing. Photos: Left—Isabel Perez prepares the samples for testing; right—Dr. Dan Kelly draws blood from Lily as vet tech Alex Lahood holds her steady. Eponine waits with owner Matt Kier for her turn (Bill Binder photos).





Spring Breakfast...

The First Congregational Church on Pleasant St. held its 108th Spring Breakfast on Saturday, April 28. The buffet type breakfast had something for everyone, including pancakes, North Country bacon or sausage, scrambled eggs, muffins, doughnuts, juice, coffee or tea. Door prizes were also given out every 15 minutes. Proceeds will benefit programs at the church. Bottom: Steve and Sharon Wood got lucky and won a door prize!



Photos by Bill Binder



Community Engagement Makes the Difference

While every community has its challenges, those that overcome them have citizens who are engaged. In an era when everyone seems to have more to do than hours in a day, finding time to make a difference is often a challenge in itself. So, a collaborative approach is often the best way to make the most impact, whether environmentally or culturally.

In celebration of Earth Day on April 22nd, residents and organizations worked together to clean up the City. The Conservation Commission collected 4 tires and 11 bags of trash at Ashley's Boat Landing. They were assisted by a neighbor in the area who offered to deliver the tires to the Transfer Station. Ward 2 Team Leaders, Councilor Pope and I, were joined by members of the Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club and collected 18 bags of trash along Grissom Lane. Ward 3 Team Leaders, Councilors Stone and Zullo, led an effort to collect trash along Hewitt, Paddy Hollow and Windy Hill Roads. They were assisted by youth and young adults and, together, collected 8 tires and filled a one-ton dumpster with trash.

In one weekend, these groups filled 29 contractor bags and a one-ton dumpster with trash, and removed 12 tires from alongside roads. On Tire Day, residents disposed of 644 tires at the Transfer Station. It was an amazing, collaborative accomplishment over a brief period of time.

As we move into May, the clean-up projects will continue as residents and organizations work together to address other "hotspots" to improve the City's appearance. Ward 1 will be focusing on the Park Ave, Mulberry and Bluff area on May 22nd, and all are invited to participate. If there is an area that you or an organization would like to address, please contact your Council representative and we will work with the City Administration to provide the appropriate support.

April is also the month dedicated to raising awareness of sexual assault. Turning Points

Network (TPN) is the organization leading the effort on this issue and is dedicated to helping victims of sexual abuse. With an annual budget of \$747,000 and more than 50% of funding coming from foundations, fundraising and revenue generated from the Changes Thrift Store, community engagement is critical to their operations. On May 5th, TPN will hold its annual fundraiser, the Steppin' Up 5K walk/run. The goal is to raise \$100,000. Collectively, we can help them reach that goal so that they can continue helping those who have experienced domestic or sexual abuse.

If a 5K walk/run is not for you, please consider helping in other ways. Volunteers, working from home, are needed to staff the crisis and support line. They are also needed to work with survivors in TPN's offices, as well as on committees or with the Green Dot program. If a retail environment is more attractive, volunteers are also needed at the Changes Thrift Store to help sort, tag and create window displays. If your schedule limits your ability to donate time, please visit their website at www.turningpointsnetwork.org for a current wish list.

Though the challenges we face may seem overwhelming at times, together we are making a difference. Since Tire Day began three years ago, the number of tires collected annually at the Transfer Station has decreased significantly. Every year that TPN has held their Steppin' Up fundraiser, they have surpassed their fundraising goals. It is evidence that this community understands the power of engagement.

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

Celtic Music Guitar and Harp Duo to Perform

NEWPORT, NH—Celtic music guitar and harp duo Keith Murphy and Maeve Gilchrist will present a concert with a truly unique sound at the Library Arts Center Gallery in Newport this Friday, May 4th, at 7:00 p.m. The concert is the second installment of the Center's "Three Bridges Traditional Music Series" that runs throughout 2018. The series is a celebration of traditional music, and is a refreshing sequel to the Center's successful concert season last year. The series is coordinated by musician Eric McDonald, and features concerts on the Arts Center's stage each month from April – September. McDonald joined fid-

ler Ryan McKasson and bagpiper Jeremiah McLane to present the first concert in the series in early April.

Described by one critic as "a phenomenal harp player who can make her instrument ring with unparalleled purity", Gilchrist has taken the Celtic harp to new levels of performance. She was born and raised in Edinburgh, Scotland, and currently is based in Brooklyn, New York. She is as at home as a soloist with an internationally renowned orchestra as she is playing with a traditional Irish folk group or using electronic augmentation in a more contemporary, improvisatory setting. Maeve has released five albums to date.

A native of Newfoundland, Murphy's traditional song repertoire is based in Eastern Canada and Quebec as well as his current home, Vermont. His direct and intimate style of traditional singing in English and French infuses old ballads and songs with a powerful immediacy while his rhythmic and percussive finger style of guitar playing brings new shape and color to his songs. For more information about the show, the Three Bridges Music Series, or to purchase advance tickets, visit www.libraryartscenter.org/threebridges. Tickets are \$16 in advance/\$20 at the door. The doors to the gallery will open shortly after 6:30pm, and seating is open. The performance will begin at 7:00pm.

Newport Historical Society Program

NEWPORT, NH—Newport Historical Society will present the Living History Performer, Tracy W. Messer, as Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President of the United States, in his first-person presentation, "Calvin Coolidge: The Monadnock Region as I've Known It". The program will be held on Tuesday, May 8, at the (handicapped-accessible) ballroom of the Richards Free Library, 58 North Main Street, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This free event is open to the public. Light refreshments will be served, as always.

Nearly one hundred years ago, Coolidge passed through Newport and the Monadnock region on the way from his birthplace in Plymouth Notch, VT, to the summer White House in Swampscott, MA. Portraying "Silent Cal", famous for his blend of Yankee wit and wisdom, Messer will share some fascinating stories about Calvin Coolidge's classmates, relatives, and road trips in the area. Coolidge had surprising connections to many towns in southwestern New Hampshire.