

# e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**Education Funding  
Forum Draws Large  
Crowd in Newport;  
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**August 20, 2018**

## “A River Runs Through It...”

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—As the City is discovering once again this summer, road construction and an unusually wet August, fraught with torrential downpours, do not mix well. Heavy rains again on Friday and Saturday turned Main St., from the Square down past Leo’s Market, into a river Saturday morning, carrying with it dirt, small rocks and small chunks of old, broken pavement.

The City has undertaken a major reconstruction of the portion of Main St. from Opera House Square to Union St. This includes the roadway, all utilities, sidewalks and miscellaneous items. The project began in May



**A muddy mess poured down Main St. following torrential rains on Friday and Saturday, eating away at the exposed dirt and broken up pavement (Courtesy photo).**

(Continued on page A8)

## Multiple Local Individuals Sentenced for the Distribution of Controlled Drugs within County

NEWPORT, NH—Samantha Davis, 28, of Claremont was sentenced in Sullivan Superior Court on August 13 to serve a 5-12 year term of incarceration at the New Hampshire State Prison for a charge of being a drug enterprise leader, and possession with intent to distribute heroin in an amount greater than 5 grams.

Davis was further sentenced to 3.5-7 year sentence, on two charges of possession with intent to distribute 4-fluoroisobutyryl fentanyl

and a controlled drug analog, which were both suspended for a period of 12 years conditioned upon good behavior, and if imposed, would be served consecutive to the 5-12 year stand committed sentence. Davis had previously entered pleas of guilty on July 10 to the above referenced charges.

Davis was initially arrested on January 31, 2018, after an investigation into the illegal distribution of controlled drugs by the Claremont

Police Department, the New Hampshire Attorney General’s Drug Task Force, and the New Hampshire State Police Mobile Enforcement Team. A subsequent search warrant was executed at Davis’ residence, located at 12 Spofford Street, Claremont, NH. Law enforcement located a large quantity, approximately 630 bags, of the controlled drug heroin. Also located during the search, was a quantity of the

(Continued on page A2)

Multiple, from A1

controlled drug 4-fluoroisobutyryl fentanyl, approximately 16 grams of the controlled drug analog N-ethyl pentylone, a large quantity of United States currency, and various other indications of the distribution of narcotics.

Davis was subsequently released on conditions of bail from Sullivan Superior Court pending trial. Davis was arrested again, during the month of April 2018, as the result of a second investigation into the distribution of controlled drugs conducted by the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force, along with the Claremont Police Department.

A second individual, Johnnie Malik Kyles, 34, was also arrested in February 2018 in the State of Vermont. Kyles had been observed arriving at 12 Spofford Street on January 31, 2018, prior to a drug transaction.

On July 16, Kyles entered pleas of guilty to a charge for the sale of the controlled drug cocaine, a conspiracy to sell cocaine, conspiracy to sell marijuana, and for the sale of marijuana. Kyles received a 3-7 year term of incarceration at the New Hampshire State Prison for the charges of conspiracy to sell co-

caine and sale of cocaine. Kyles was further sentenced to a 3-6 year term of incarceration for the charges of conspiracy to sell marijuana and the sale of marijuana. Those sentences were suspended for a period of 10 years conditioned upon good behavior. If imposed, those sentences would be served consecutively.

On July 5, Destiny Rogers, 20, entered pleas of guilty to multiple charges related to the distribution of the controlled drug heroin. Rogers was sentenced to a 12-month period of incarceration, with six months of said sentences suspended, on two charges of conspiracy to sell the controlled drug heroin. Rogers was further sentenced to a consecutive 12 month period of incarceration, at the Sullivan County House of Corrections, on two counts of sale of heroin. Rogers also received a series of consecutive suspended state prison terms of 2-7 years and 3.5-7 years. Those sentences are suspended, conditioned upon good behavior, for a period of 5 years, and if imposed, will be served consecutively to the 18 month period of incarceration at the Sullivan County House of Corrections.

"The law enforcement community of Sullivan County is determined to stop the influx of dangerous drugs in this community, and the grave impact that they have on the people of Sullivan County," said Sullivan County Attorney Marc Hathaway. "The Sullivan County Attorney's Office is determined to prosecute these crimes in ways designed to keep the people of Sullivan County safe, meet the punitive, rehabilitative, and deterrence objectives of sentencing, while also addressing the dangerous influences of controlled drugs at all phases of the criminal prosecution."

The above referenced investigations were conducted by the Claremont Police Department,

the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force, and the New Hampshire State Police Mobile Enforcement Team, and the cases were prosecuted by Deputy Sullivan County Attorney Justin Hersh.

These investigations remain open and additional cases are pending, said Hathaway's office.

Motor Vehicle Stolen in New London

NEW LONDON, NH—The New London Police Department is investigating a theft of a motor vehicle that occurred in the overnight hours of August 10 – August 11. The motor vehicle was taken from a driveway on Everett Park. The investigation is currently ongoing. If you have any information about this incident, please contact Det. Buddy Rowe at 603-526-2626 or erowe@newlondonpd.us.

The New London Police Department would like to remind the public that you should lock your vehicle while it is unoccupied and do not leave keys or other valuables in the vehicle.

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NH Lottery Numbers

08/18/2018

NH PowerBall

24 34 52 61 67 16 3

Mega Millions 08/17/2018

1 31 32 47 56 3 2

Megabucks 08/18/2018

6 15 16 28 32 1

For more lottery numbers,

https://www.nhlottery.com/Homepage

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# Commentary

## NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

### How County Dollars Are Spent



In my July 16 column, I wrote about the various revenue streams funding the Fiscal Year 2019 Sullivan County Budget, which had been approved by the County Delegation on June 26. In this week's column, I will briefly elaborate on the present county budget's major expenditures, except for the slight adjustments made by the Delegation on Aug. 8, which I already described in my previous column.

The present County Budget as approved on June 26 totals \$33,210,127, not including the approximately total of \$2,835,638 in adjustments made on Aug. 8. The former total is broken down into the following listed expenditures either by department or function. The largest expenditure is an appropriated \$15,032,007 for SCHC (Sullivan County Health Care), more popularly known as the "county nursing home." The second largest expenditure is a projected \$5,177,616 for Human Services. More specifically, this expenditure includes \$3,417,227 that is slated to be spent for intermediate nursing care for Sullivan County residents, who qualify based on income, living in either private or other county nursing homes in New Hampshire. The remaining \$1,760,389 is designated to be spent on the Choices For Independence, a HCBC (Home & Community-Based Care) program for eligible Sullivan County residents.

The third largest expenditure in the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget is an allocated \$4,630,521 for the Sullivan County DOC (Dept. of Corrections). The DOC's main building is the House of Corrections located at the County Complex in Unity, along with SCHC. The House of Corrections serves two major criminal justice functions. First, it temporarily houses individuals awaiting trials for serious offenses, usually in Sullivan County. Individuals who either do not have enough money for bail, or do not qualify for bail because they are considered a flight risk, or too dangerous to other individuals. Second, it incarcerates inmates convicted of crimes, if their sentences run for less than one year. All other inmates sentenced to one year or more usually serve such sentences in one of our three New Hampshire prisons. These convicted inmates serving such sentences are then usually given the choice of serving them in the traditional manner at the House of Corrections, or by participating in the TRAILS (Transitional Reentry & Inmate Life Skills) Program. TRAILS helps participants deal with some behavioral problems like drug addiction, which resulted in their incarceration. It also helps prepare them for life outside prison by teaching them life and job skills as well as helping them to secure employment. Overall, TRAILS has been very successful in reducing the number of participating inmates, who later convicted of other crimes, and return to prison accord

ing to DOC Supt. David Berry.

The present county budget's other major expenditures in descending order include \$1,722,263 for cleaning and maintenance of the county's buildings and lands in both Newport and Unity. Then there is \$1,081,833 for the County Sheriff's Office, which among other law enforcement services, transports prisoners between prisons and courts, provides court security, protects some of our smaller who don't have their police forces, as well as serves legal papers on individuals involved in civil disputes. The office is currently headed by High Sheriff John Simonds, who was first elected in 2014. Next, \$1,189,185 is slated for County Administration including salaries and benefits for the three part-time County Commissioners, the full-time County Manager, as well as the Commissioners' hard working support staff at Newport's Woodhull County Building. Additionally, \$1,379,000 is designated for various capital improvement projects for several county buildings and lands. Furthermore, in a related expenditure \$933,548 is appropriated to help pay off the bonded debt, including principal and interest for the addition to the House of Corrections, completed in 2010 as well as the new Biomass Plant in Unity, completed in 2012.

Continuing in descending order, major expenditures for Fiscal Year 2019 include \$781,298 for the Sullivan County Attorney's Office. The office is currently headed by Sullivan County Attorney Marc Hathaway, who was first elected in 1986. It is responsible for prosecuting most criminal offenses against state law within the county, unless the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office decides to take over and prosecute such crimes. Second, the County Attorney Office's provides legal advice to the Commissioners, Delegation, and other elected county officials when requested to do so. Also \$333,647 is allocated to the Sullivan County Registry of Deeds in the present budget. It is currently headed by Registrar of Deeds Janet Gibson, who was first elected in 2016. The Registry records all real estate sales and transfers within the county, and actually generates revenue for our county and state thru the fees it charges for such work. Next, \$283,208 is designated as the county's share for the budget of the University of New Hampshire's Cooperative Extension Service. Cooperative Extension is an agency that provides valuable and practical help to farmers as well as families, among others. It is jointly funded by both our county and state governments.

Finally, a total of \$240,000 has been allocated in the present county budget for grants to eight non-profit agencies which provide much-needed human services in Sullivan County. They include in descending order \$65,000 to Turning Points Network, \$50,000 to Southwestern Community Services for public transportation, \$35,000 to Sullivan County Servicelink, \$35,000 to TLC Family Resource Center, \$25,000 to the Claremont Soup Kitchen, \$10,000 to the Fall Mountain Food Shelf, \$10,000 to Lake Sunapee Area Mediation, as well as \$10,000 to West Central Behavioral Health.

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## Letters to the Editor

### Environmentalists Urge Legislators to Sustain Governor's Veto of Senate Bill 365

#### To The Editor:

Working on Waste (WOW) is urging legislators to sustain Governor Sununu's veto of Senate Bill 365, legislation that provides subsidies for combustion facilities that generate electricity. Buried in the bill, and so far largely ignored by the media, is an \$8.1 million three-year subsidy for the Wheelabrator trash incinerator in Concord, NH. Senate Bill 365 also provides about \$56.1 million over three years to subsidize six tree burning facilities in New Hampshire.

It is totally unacceptable that ratepayers should subsidize a facility that turns valuable resources into air pollution and toxic ash. Senate Bill 365 sends a message to the public that burning trash is good for the environment. It is not.

Environmentalists have long challenged attempts to include Wheelabrator in any state policy that seeks to promote clean energy. Including Wheelabrator in this discussion ignores the fact that the Department of Environmental Services considers this facility a major source of air pollution, including greenhouse gas emissions.

WOW urges legislators to sustain the Governor's veto and keep Wheelabrator out of any future legislation that seeks to promote clean energy. Incineration is not "green."

**John Tuthill, Acworth, NH**

*WOW is a citizens' initiative that promotes "safe alternatives to waste incineration, supporting conservation, composting, and recycling as the best ways to manage materials that often get thrown away as "waste." For more information about incineration, go to [www.americanhealthstudies.org/wheelabrator-claremont.pdf](http://www.americanhealthstudies.org/wheelabrator-claremont.pdf) to access The Wheelabrator Incinerator in Claremont, NH: A Working on Waste Report.*

**We welcome Letters to the Editor**

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

### Claremont's Racial Incident, One Year Later

#### To The Editor:

As the first anniversary of the August 27, 2017, Claremont racial incident involving a group of white boys and an elementary school age biracial boy approaches, I write this letter to share what I have learned.

During the past year, and participating in several Claremont Racial Healing Working Group discussions, I realized, as a white person, how little I knew about race. This lack of awareness is not uncommon among white persons who are often raised in an environment where both children and adults seldom, if ever, speak about race.

Though parents today, as my parents did, make a sincere effort to convey the belief that race should not matter, a lack of discussion about race results in a lack of awareness. This unawareness is evident by our silence, or lack of response, when we experience racial messages, and behaviors. In other words, when racial incidences occur, they go unchallenged.

I recently concluded my tenure as SAU #6 Superintendent of Schools, and a 48-year career in public education. Reflecting back, I cannot over emphasize the critical importance that a school culture has for both students and adults when it is based on the belief, "Everyone has the right to feel respected, and the responsibility to treat others with respect."

The Claremont Racial Healing Working Group's vision compliments this belief: "Claremont will be a community in which people of all origins are treated with respect and civility, fostering an environment of wellbeing."

Each day we witness, or learn, of incidents involving children and adults who are not treated with respect, or civility. The Claremont Racial Healing Working Group is one opportunity for residents to step forward, and help Claremont become a community in which all persons are treated in the way each of us want to be.

Yes, this will take time. However, there is no quick strategy to change what has existed for centuries. In truth, all worthwhile change takes time, and, a commitment by all.

As a result, I invite you to consider joining the Claremont Racial Healing Working Group. The group's next meeting is Wednesday, August 29th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Moody Building, 2nd floor conference room, 24 Opera House Square, Claremont.

In preparation for this meeting, the Claremont Racial Healing Working Group members will read to page 76 in the book *Deep Denial: The Persistence of White Supremacy in United States History and Life* by David Billings. This book is available on Amazon.

The Claremont Racial Healing Working Group is also using the study guide questions for Part 1 of the book. The link to that guide is: [www.cddbooks.com/public/DeepDenialStudyguide.pdf](http://www.cddbooks.com/public/DeepDenialStudyguide.pdf).

Feeling respected, as well as treating others with respect, requires each of us to step forward.  
**Dr. Middleton K. McGoodwin, Claremont, NH**

### Bailout Plan Will Cost Electricity Customers

#### To The Editor:

You and your readers who buy electricity from Eversource or Unitil, are in for a big surprise. The \$20 million/year bail-out planned for the corporate-owned wood-chip/trash-burning power plants would have been taken from everyday people through their monthly light bills. Each electricity customer could be assessed from \$60 - \$75 extra per year that would go to the wood-chip/trash plant owners. Electricity customers would not obtain more electricity for their money, or a share of stock or credit or an I.O.U. Customers would be making a gift or donation to the wood-chip/trash plant owners.

But, the governor has vetoed this bail-out plan, known as SB365, thus stopping this bail-out proposal in its tracks. But now, the wood-chip/trash plant owners have ramped up a loud campaign to force legislators to override the veto in a Sept. 13 vote. If the SB365 veto is overridden, Eversource and Unitil customers will be on the hook for \$20 million/year. I advise everyday people to call and ask their state legislators to support the SB365 veto. Save your money.

**William E. Gallagher, Cornish, NH**



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## Claremont Station Host Program Briefed at Vermont Rail Council



On May 25, 2018  
the Claremont Station

Host Association launched its station host program at the Claremont Amtrak Station. It is the first such program to be implemented along the Vermonter Line, and has been well received by the public. On August 15, a fellow station host, Jeffrey Albright, and I traveled to Montpelier, VT, to brief the Rail Council on the success of the program.

The Council advises the Vermont Agency of Transportation on statewide rail issues, to include rail passenger services and passenger station facilities. It also acts as a forum for those interested in rail-related issues. Since the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Claremont Amtrak Station in 2014, members of the Committee have occasionally attended the quarterly Rail Council meetings.

The last time that I and fellow Committee member, Scott Magnuson, briefed the Rail Council was in August 2015. At that time, the focus of the briefing was to inform the Rail Council what actions the Committee was taking to improve the Claremont Station and increase ridership. Since Claremont's access to Amtrak is funded by VT, it is important that the state's Transportation Agency is aware of the actions we are taking to improve the Claremont Station and ridership revenue.

Since that first briefing, many improvements have taken place at the Claremont Station. Property owner, John Lambert, upgraded security and lighting in the parking lot and supported landscaping efforts. In October 2015, we held the ribbon cutting ceremony for the post and beam Waiting Pavilion, a donation by local businesses and individuals valued at nearly \$23,000. As a result of these efforts, ridership increased from 2123 passengers a year in FY14 to 2560 in FY17, an increase of 17% over the past four years.

Further increasing those numbers by improving passengers' rail travel experience is the foundation for launching the station host program. Seven days a week, two station host volunteers greet passengers for both the south and north bound trains, answer their questions, and assist them with luggage as necessary. In speaking with the passengers, we are gaining a better understanding of which communities utilize the Claremont Station, how to better market points of interest in the area, and promote passenger rail as a travel option.

Relaying the experiences and successes of the Claremont Station Host Program at the Rail Council meeting was met with applause and enthusiasm. In fact, employees of the Vermont Transportation Agency are now investigating the possibility of replicating this program at other stops along the Vermonter Line. Their response and the increase in ridership reflect our community's commitment to improving passenger rail as a travel option in the region, and attaining our goal of 4000+ riders a year by FY20.

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

A new sign board, letters, and a tempered glass front were installed at St. Joseph's Church recently. This was made possible through a gift from a member of the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Assembly and restores the sign that was vandalized many years ago. According to the parish history, the original sign was a gift to St. Joseph's from the K of C 4th Degree Assembly in the early 1970's. Fr. Stanley Piwowar served as chaplain to the K of C 4th Degree Assembly for many years (Courtesy photo).



Fr. Stanley Piwowar served as chaplain to the K of C 4th Degree Assembly for many years (Courtesy photo).

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**River, from A1**

and is expected to continue into November. Unfortunately, rain nearly every day, and often storms producing heavy downpours, have caused problems for the torn-up road, ensnaring two vehicles in a month: On Aug. 3, a tracker trailer got bogged down in the mud, and on Friday, a pickup truck had a mishap on Main St. when the left front end sank into a large hole that opened up a short ways from the Bullpen. The driver was not injured. Reportedly, the rain washed out so much of the dirt and gravel that some of it reached the bridge at Union St.; for those who live or work in the area, the trials caused by the weather affecting the already ongoing construction project are getting old, affecting parking, business and foot traffic to needed destinations.

A drier forecast was predicted for the coming week, but with rain/storms Tuesday night and/or Wednesday possible.

**Views of the section of Main St. under reconstruction following the weekend washout (Bill Binder, courtesy photos).**





# Presentation on Education Funding Draws Large Crowd in Newport

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

NEWPORT, NH—The Newport School Board, joined by Claremont, Fall Mountain, and Unity, hosted a discussion on New Hampshire education funding Tuesday evening at the Richards Elementary School. An estimated 150-200 people attended the forum, which drew interested parties from a wide range of communities. SAU 43 Superintendent Cindy Gallagher opened the forum, saying, "Newport, like many of our surrounding towns, is in a budget crisis."

The evening's program was presented by Andru Volinsky and John Tobin, both lawyers in the original case that sued the state for adequate funding decades ago. Tobin recently did a presentation to the Claremont School Board, along with Tom Connair, a Claremont attorney and key player in bringing to fruition the Claremont lawsuit. They reviewed the property tax-based school funding system in the State of New Hampshire, a state in which the cost of educating a child is placed at \$15,000 but which only contributes about \$3,600 per child; providing the remaining funding falls to the communities, more and more of which are struggling to meet costs. Many are resorting to cutting staff and programs to meet the staggering cost of education.

"School funding is a math problem," said Volinsky. Towns with low property values are taxed at a higher rate than communities with higher property values. "Claremont has a tax rate ten times higher and raises half as much money," he said.

Claremont's average equalized valuation of property is \$412,000, vs. the state average of \$980,000. Newport is at \$480,000; Fall Mt., \$690,000, Manchester, \$660,000; Portsmouth, \$2.4 million. Berlin is the lowest, at \$282,000. Communities rich in water front properties, coastline and recreational mountain property fare the best. Franklin has a tax cap and with its low property values, sees layoffs regularly as its only way to deal with budget shortfalls. More than 60% of the cost of educating children in NH is paid by local property taxpayers at tax rates that are wildly disproportionate from town to town.

In the mid-1990s, Claremont started a process against the State of New Hampshire,

challenging the constitutionality of the New Hampshire allocation of school funding. The Claremont lawsuit was brought on behalf of five school districts that could not afford to properly fund their schools based on local property taxes. This was the second suit of this nature against the State of New Hampshire. The first suit was brought in the early 1980s and was settled when the State agreed to contribute 8% of the cost of education to a fund targeted to aid poor districts. The formula by which the money was distributed was designed by Professor John Augenblick and was called the Augenblick formula.

The State never fully funded its promise and by 1989 Claremont's high school, Stevens High School, had lost its accreditation because the district could not keep up with needed repairs. The then chairman of the Claremont school board, Tom Connair, caused the parties to reinstate their lawsuit and three lawyers were hired, including Volinsky (The school is now fully accredited).

In 1993, the New Hampshire Supreme Court interpreted Part II, Article 83 of the New Hampshire Constitution to guarantee students a right to a public education. In 1997, the New Hampshire school funding system was found unconstitutional and the legislature and governor were ordered to define the components of a constitutionally adequate education, cost them out and pay for them with taxes that were equal across the state. Four governors and their legislatures refused to comply with the Court's orders leading the Supreme Court to again find the school funding system unconstitutional in September, 2006, leading Gov. John Lynch to try, unsuccessfully, to amend the state Constitution.

Volinsky shared a photo of an Allenstown school taken in the 1990s, where a desk was set up in a school bathroom, used as space for a special ed student. "It's a profoundly unfair system," said Tobin.

Although much is made of NH Lottery money going to edu-

cation, it contributed only \$76 million last Fiscal Year, out of some \$300 million-plus that came in. Total expenses were over \$228,000. The FY 17 NH Education Budget was about \$3.1 billion.

Although Tobin said there may be a third suit, right now, they are encouraging people to get active during this campaign season and challenge candidates as to how the issue can be resolved, address property taxes and ask them if they are willing to fix stabilization aid which is being cut yearly and destined to be gone in 25 years. Claremont is losing some \$241,000 annually as a result; Newport, \$140,680. Building aid is gone as well.

Tobin said that communities that wrestle with high property taxes and struggling schools are facing flat or decreasing populations. "If we want to have an economy, we ought not to have a system that discourages people from coming in," he said.

This meeting may be viewed on the [nctv-nh.org](http://nctv-nh.org) site.

## Wacky Wednesdays at the Fiske

CLAREMONT, NH—On Wednesdays throughout the summer, the Fiske Free Library is having Wacky Wednesdays where they will have a different activity every week—rock painting, tissue paper craft, sponge craft and Makey, Makey or Lego activity; the Wacky Wednesday programs is on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.

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# Classified Ads

## New WorkReadyNH Class Scheduled in Claremont

CLAREMONT, NH—The next class of the WorkReadyNH Program will be held at River Valley Community College in Claremont, August 27th - September 17th, Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

It is quick and easy to register, simply contact [workreadyrvcc@ccsnh.edu](mailto:workreadyrvcc@ccsnh.edu) or call 603-542-7744, ext. 5485.

For more information, visit [www.ccsnh.edu/workreadynh](http://www.ccsnh.edu/workreadynh) or [www.facebook.com/workreadynh](https://www.facebook.com/workreadynh).

"What a fantastic helpful experience," exclaimed River Valley Community College WorkReadyNH grad, Ross Pursell, who showed that determination to improve himself paid off as he worked full-time in the evenings while attending the WorkReadyNH Program during the day, Monday - Friday from 9:00 - 3:00 for three weeks. His previous employer recommended the WorkReadyNH program during layoffs at the company he had worked at for several years, and although he found a new job quickly, he said he still wanted to learn and grow professionally.

The tuition-free WorkReadyNH Program is for NH residents who are 18+ years old and dedicated to their professional growth.

## Dog Owners Cautioned to Keep Eye on Pets

Following a reported attempt in Grantham to steal dogs, area pet owners have been cautioned by local police to keep an eye on their animals. A red, two-door Honda Civic with Connecticut plates was identified as the car involved, and residents in a number of area towns have reported seeing the vehicle. A man in Grantham reported to the police that a passenger in the suspect car tried to lure his pit bulls into the car with some food and whistling to the animals. Pit bulls are often targeted to be used in dog fighting in other parts of the country.

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## Sullivan County Fugitive of the Week

AMANDA BATEMAN  
DOB: 07/14/1987  
LKA: 5 Westside Ave. Apt. 1, Claremont, NH 03743  
Description: White female, height: 5'05", weight: 145 lbs., eyes: brown, hair: brown  
Reason: Failure to appear in court  
Original charge: Delivering of Articles Prohibited (2 counts), Class B Felony



On June 20, 2018, and June 23, 2018, the Sullivan County Grand Jury indicted Amanda Bateman on Delivering of Articles Prohibited (2 counts), a Class B Felony.

On August 9, 2018, Bateman failed to appear in Sullivan County Superior Court for a Dispositional Conference.

As a result, an arrest warrant was issued for Failure to Appear by the Sullivan County Superior Court on August 14, 2018.

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

## Classified Ads

### Full Time Teller – Springfield, VT

One Credit Union is currently seeking a **Full-Time Teller** to join our Springfield, VT team.

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# e-Ticker Business News

## Sullivan County Health Care Aces Third Straight Annual NH State DHHS Survey

UNITY, NH—Sullivan County Health Care (SCHC) recently had a deficiency-free Health Care and Life Safety Survey conducted by New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

“This is the third year in a row that SCHC has achieved this amazing result,” Ted J. Purdy, SCHC Administrator/Dir. Health Care Services, said.

“It is especially noteworthy since new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Requirements of Participation came into effect in November 2017 and the July visit was the first survey under the new survey process. The new standards require nursing home staff to evaluate processes and policies relating to infection control, antibiotic stewardship, quality improvement, resident rights and grievances, and dietary services among other things to create a resident-centered environment. Additional standards pertain to emergency preparedness and life safety.

“The survey team was impressed by the attitudes of nursing home staff, cleanliness of the facility, and the ultimate proof—a facility full of happy residents,” said Purdy. “It takes all departments and individuals to provide appropriate care and services to our residents, and SCHC staff work collaboratively to meet resident needs, supporting the County’s motto of ‘All Day Every Day We Make Life Better,’” he added.

## New England’s Top Dairy Farmers will be Honored at Big E

### Claremont Farm Included

Each year, one dairy farm from each New England state is nominated as Outstanding Dairy Farm of the Year. The farmers get together at Big E for an invitation-only banquet to honor their awards.

This year’s winners are Fairholm Farm, Woodstock, CT; Hilton Farms, Norridgewock,

ME; Rogers Farm, Warren, MA.; **LeClair Acres, Claremont, NH**; Melissa and Matt Jordan of West Greenwich, RI; and Karie Atherton and Aires-Hill Farm of Enosburg, VT.

The story of LeClair Acres Farm in Claremont, New Hampshire, goes back to 1926 when Gary LeClair’s grandfather Harry purchased the farm with 120 acres of land. He had registered Guernseys at the time.

When Harry LeClair died, his son Henry, Gary LeClair’s father, continued farming until 1976 when the farm was auctioned. The farm was idle for two years before Gary and Jean LeClair purchased the 120-acre farm in 1978.

The LeClairs came from farming backgrounds and had a vision for the farm. They had 22 cows and purchased an additional 36 cows soon after the farm purchase. After that, they never made a giant leap to expand the herd, but rather allowed a slow internal growth to increase the herd size over time.

Additional land purchases of 290 acres followed. Today, the farm includes 410 acres and 250 milking cows. The cornfields have a nutrient management plan — soil samples are taken and analyzed on an annual basis — which is used for manure and fertilizer application of

**(Continued on page A14)**

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# e-Ticker Business News

## Farm, from A13

25-tons-per-acre production.

This year, Gary LeClair planted 260 acres of corn and 45 acres of alfalfa. Each year, approximately 60 acres of corn are planted to winter rye cover.

Over the past 40 years, the LeClairs have employed local high school students as occasional help.

"After all these years, it is nice to see these kids coming back grown up with their families. Some of them have their own businesses and some of them chose agriculture or animals as life careers," Jean LeClair says.

The farm currently has a few part-time employees. All the full-time labor comes from family members who contribute to the daily management with responsibilities informally divided.

In addition, there are two full-time employees who share daily chores. Gary LeClair manages the cow herd and crops while Jean LeClair runs the business side of the farm daily, feeds the calves and milks the cows every morning, seven days a week.

Recently, Jean LeClair has ventured into the direct customer marketing side of farming and started operating a small vegetable stand that sells sweet corn and a variety of vegetables. Their son Jason manages the feed, nutrition, equipment and day-to-day employees. Jason LeClair's wife, Tonya, helps Jean to feed the calves.

Another son, Tim, and his wife, Cory, have off-farm jobs, although Cory bakes bread, cookie and muffins for the farm stand.

Source: UNH Cooperative Extension.

## First Lactation Pod Donated at a VT Health Center

SPRINGFIELD, VT – A freestanding lactation pod is now installed at Springfield Health Center, thanks to the generous contributions of MVP Health Care, Mamava, and Konrad Prefab.

The Mamava lactation pod provides breastfeeding women with privacy, cleanliness, and a quiet space designed just for them to nurse an infant or use a breast pump. Its daily presence

is also an ongoing reminder of the importance of breastfeeding and the good it does for the health of babies, women, and families.

The suite is a self-contained, mobile pod with comfortable benches, a fold-down table, an electrical outlet for plugging in a breast pump, and a door that can be locked for privacy. The 4-foot by 8-foot pod is meant for individual use, but can fit more than one person, as well as mothers with babies and other children. The Mamava suite at Springfield Health Center is located on the ground floor in the main lobby area.

The pod was underwritten with a financial contribution from MVP Health Care of Schenectady, NY. Mamava, a national firm located

in Burlington, VT, donated the unit, which was installed by Konrad Prefab, of Springfield, VT, where the units are designed and produced.

"We are grateful for the generosity of MVP Health Care, Mamava, and Konrad Prefab whose collaborative efforts made it possible for Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) to introduce the first Mamava lactation suite in a health center setting in Vermont," said Larry Kraft, Director of Development for SMCS. "We are pleased to support nursing mothers in the community, and at work."

"MVP Health Care is committed to creating healthy communities and we know that encouraging mothers to breastfeed their babies  
(Continued on page A15)

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# e-Ticker Business News

## Pod, from A14

is an important first step for good health,” said Ellen Sax, MVP’s vice president of community engagement. “We’re pleased that we were able to help Springfield Health Center bring the lactation pod to the community. What’s most important is that this pod will make it easier for nursing mothers to have a comfortable, safe and clean space in a public setting.”

## Springfield Medical Care Systems Receives Clinical Quality Grant

SPRINGFIELD, VT—Springfield Medical Care Systems (SMCS) was recently awarded \$86,553 in grant funding by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). HRSA’s announcement states, “This grant award recognizes the highest performing health centers nationwide, as well as those health centers that have made significant quality improvement gains from the previous year. The Quality Improvement Awards support HRSA’s strategic goal to improve access to quality health care and directly supports the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service’s goal of moving toward a value-based payment system by improving the quality, efficiency, and overall value of primary health care delivered by health centers.”

SMCS is continually working to achieve high quality clinical performance,” commented Timothy Ford, President and Chief Executive Officer of SMCS. He continues, “This level of achievement requires teamwork by many dedicated health care professionals.”

## D-H Ranked #1 Hospital in New Hampshire by US News & World Report

LEBANON, NH – Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) has been once again ranked as New Hampshire’s Best Hospital for 2018-19 by *U.S. News & World Report*.

DHMC was also nationally ranked in the top 50 in Gynecology, and was recognized as “high performing” in 14 clinical specialties and procedures: abdominal aortic aneurysm repair,

aortic valve surgery, cancer, colon cancer surgery, diabetes and Endocrinology, Gastroenterology and gastrointestinal surgery, Geriatrics, heart bypass surgery, heart failure, hip replacement, lung cancer surgery, Nephrology, Orthopaedics, and Urology. Additionally Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center was awarded the Best Regional Hospital Honor Roll badge for Northern New Hampshire.

## SBA Summit in Claremont

The SBA and City of Claremont are hosting a Small Business Summit on September 18 at

the CSB Community Center. This event will include two separate panel discussions on how the new Foreign Trade Zone can impact your business and how energy improvements like solar projects can increase your bottom line and sustainability. The summit will also include a resource fair of business assistance partners available to discuss their individual programs and benefits that can assist you in starting, growing or expanding your small business. Free event. You can register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/small-business-summit-claremont-tickets-48800318065>.

## Jenkins Dance & Gymnastics Center

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## Decision on Relocating Needle Exchange Program Put on Hold

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll  
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—Plans to relocate a needle exchange program to the hospital were put on hold at Wednesday’s School Board meeting. The program had been located at the Claremont Soup Kitchen but had to be moved when it was brought to the City’s attention that it was within 1,000 feet of a school, violating state law as schools are designated drug-free zones. SB 357 has since been amended, allowing such programs to operate within drug-free school zones with permission of the school district. VRH’s CEO and president Peter Wright has agreed to house the program at the hospital, in the Urgent Care Center, the board was told Wednesday night. However, the school board would have to approve the

proposal with Disnard Elementary School being nearby. Following a brief presentation by Laura Byrne, executive director of the HIV/HCV Resource Center in Lebanon, the board decided to invite Wright to its Sept. 6 meeting to hear more. The Resource Center operates needle exchange programs in White River Junction and Springfield, VT. The programs give out clean needles and takes back the used ones, and supporters say that such programs help to cut down on diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis C and can encourage drug users to seek treatment and help them with referrals.

Board Vice Chair Rebecca Zullo said she was not comfortable with such a program being near the elementary school, and Board member Steve Horsky also said he did not support the plan. “We have needle exchange programs and opioid use is up,” he said. “That’s all I need to say.”

Byrne said the program would only be open two to three hours, once or twice a week, and would operate on a small scale. Board member Jason Beware wondered if the hours could be held early evening, after school is out for

the day. Byrne said hours would be dependent on what they could get for staffing.

While Disnard School Principal Melissa Lewis did not take a stand on the proposal either way, saying that much of what she had heard that evening was new information to her, she did say she had a dedicated staff who would watch out for the children and that the school had a good relationship with the Claremont Police Department and Valley Regional Hospital. An area of concern that was raised was the wooded area between the school and the hospital, but Lewis said she did not think that it needed to be. She added that in this day and age, “We’ve had children who have watched parents overdose.”

Board member Michael Petrin wondered if they could consider trying the program for a short period of time, such as six months or a year, “instead of five or 10 years,” he asked aloud.

It was then that the board decided it wanted to invite Wright to the early September meeting to address the issue and to get more information prior to making a decision.

## FRIDAY NIGHT - AUGUST 24 (RAIN DATE-AUGUST 25)

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### 2018 EVENT SCHEDULE *\*subject to change*

Aug. 24	REGULAR CARD - BIG WHEEL RACES Supers, Street Stocks and Wildcats
Aug. 31	STREET STOCK TWIN 25'S EVENT Supers, Street Stocks and Wildcats
Sept. 8 Saturday	OPEN MODIFIED EVENT - 100 LAPS ** Supers, Street Stocks and Wildcats
Sept. 14	FOUR CYLINDER FUN WEEKEND 4-CYLINDER NATIONALS for NEMST RED NECK ENDUROS PLUS 4-CYLINDER RADAR RUN Supers and Street Stocks
Sept. 21	RACE AGAINST CANCER EVENT - BIKE GIVEAWAY Supers, Street Stocks and Wildcats
Sept. 28	CHAMPIONSHIP NIGHT - TOP 10 RACES Supers, Street Stocks and Wildcats

GATES OPEN AT 4 PM  
RACING STARTS AT 7 PM  
\$ 10 AGES 6 AND UP  
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## St. Mary's Announces Dates to Accept Items for Gigantic Indoor Yard Sale

CLAREMONT, NH—The Annual Gigantic Indoor Yard Sale at St. Mary's Gym, will be held on Saturday, September 8, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Proceeds will benefit St. Mary's Parish.

Donations for the yard sale will be accepted in the gym during the following dates/times:

- Monday, August 20, 2018 (3 pm – 7 pm)
- Wednesday, August 22, 2018 (3 pm – 7 pm)
- Saturday, August 25, 2018 (9 am – 1 pm)
- Monday, August 27, 2018 (3 pm – 7 pm)
- Wednesday, August 29, 2018 (3 pm – 7 pm)
- Saturday, September 1, 2018 (9 am – 1 pm)

The following items will be accepted: Tools, small furniture, small appliances, glassware, china, dishes, pots/pans, Christmas items, crafts, toys, jewelry, pictures/frames, tapes/movies/CD's, puzzles, linens to include drapes & bedding, home decorative items, etc.

The following items will **not** be accepted: Books, large appliances, large furniture, televisions (except flat screen), mattresses, luggage, car seats, broken items, rugs/carpeting, clothes, shoes, exercise equipment, ski's/poles, ski boots, typewriters and computers. Please contact Norma Limoges at 542-2916 for additional information.

### MakerSpace Workshop: Make Your Own Duffle Bag

Come learn how to make your own versatile, stylish and super-durable duffle bag! Students will be given all of the parts needed to make their own bag and will work step by step through completion. Some of the skills that will be used are part layout, straight stitching, webbing and zipper installation, binding raw edges, and bag customization.


When: Wednesday, August 22nd, 5:30pm-9pm

Where: The Claremont MakerSpace, 46 Main Street, Claremont

Info & RSVP (required): [www.ClaremontMakerSpace.org/events](http://www.ClaremontMakerSpace.org/events)

Contact: [info@twinstatemakerspaces.org](mailto:info@twinstatemakerspaces.org)

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**Farm-to-Table Dinner**  
**Saturday, August 25, 2018**  
**5:00 pm - 7:30 pm**  
**The Old Courthouse Restaurant**  
**30 Main St.**  
**Newport, NH**

Price: \$35.00 —\*ticket price does not include gratuity  
 The annual favorite Farm to Table Dinner will take place under the big tent at the Old Courthouse Restaurant, featuring foods found weekly at the Newport Farmers Market.  
 Saturday, Aug. 25th  
 5:00pm—Bar opens \*with live music and appetizers  
 6:00pm—Buffet Dinner Begins  
 This event benefits the Library Arts Center and sweetly concludes the Apple Pie Crafts Fair—with a special “apple dessert a la mode” Tickets: \$35.00 each  
 Tickets are available at the Library Arts Center or online at libraryartscenter.org.

**Apple Pie Crafts Fair -- The 45th Annual**  
**Sat. Aug. 25th, 9:00am-3:00pm**  
**Newport Town Common**  
**N. Main St.**  
**Newport, NH**  
**Free admission. Rain or shine event.**



This year marks the 45th Annual Apple Pie Crafts Fair—one of New England’s longest running craft fairs on the Newport Town Common.;130+ booths of handmade crafts, including pottery, woodworking, glass, fiber arts and more. The Fair also features live music, an apple pie contest & sale, and the Firemens’ Famous Chicken Barbecue.Special apple desserts a la mode, including apple cider floats are available in the big tent in the middle of the Common.

In addition to all of the festivities on the Town Common, fairgoers will also enjoy the Richards Library Festival that features an outstanding book sale, cookie walk, crafts for kids, a children’s tent, and lunch on the library porch.

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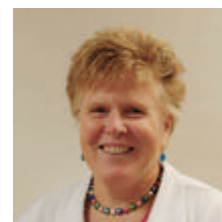
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**Katherine A. Silta, PA-C**

## Have You Planned for Long-term Care?

If you are fortunate, you will retain your physical and mental capacities throughout your life and can always live independently. But there are no guarantees for any of us. If you ever require some form of long-term care, will you be prepared?

So what is the risk of needing long-term care services? According to the Department of Health & Human Services, about 40% of individuals over age 65 receive some form of paid in-home care, with an average care period lasting less than one year. However, about one-third of the population receives care in a nursing home: Of those individuals, about half stay less than one year, 30% stay between one and three years, and 20% stay longer than five years.

And, unfortunately, this care can be expensive. For example, it costs \$97,500 per year, on average, for a private room in a nursing home, according to the 2017 Cost of Care Survey produced by Genworth, an insurance company. In some major metropolitan areas, the cost is much higher. Furthermore, Medicare typically pays only a small percentage of these expenses.

So, how do you protect yourself against these potentially catastrophic costs? Essentially, you have four options:

**Self-insure** – You can try to build enough financial assets to cover the costs of a long-term care event. However, you would need to accumulate an extremely large sum to fully protect yourself, and you'd be diverting assets that could be used to help fund your retirement.

**Long-term care insurance** – A traditional long-term care (LTC) insurance policy will pay for qualified long-term care costs. The younger you are when you purchase your policy, the lower your annual premiums are likely to be. Keep in mind, though, that a basic LTC policy offers no death benefit or cash value – your premiums are only paying for a nursing home stay, home health care or other type of long-term care service. (Also, even a good LTC policy will include a waiting period before the insurance kicks in and a maximum amount of coverage, such as three years.)

**Hybrid/linked benefit insurance** – Because of some concerns about paying for insurance but never needing care with traditional long-term care insurance, this type of insurance provides a death benefit plus long-term care coverage. You can accelerate the death benefit to help pay for long-term care costs, and you can also choose to create an additional pool for these costs after the death benefit has been exhausted. But if you don't need long-term care, you still have the life insurance death benefit. Due to the death benefit, your premiums will be higher than those of a traditional long-term care policy.

**Life insurance with long-term care/chronic illness rider** – By choosing a permanent life insurance policy with this rider, you can accelerate all or part of the death benefit to pay for long-term care costs. (Your death benefit will then be reduced.) This option generally provides more flexibility in paying premiums than a hybrid policy, which may require a larger dollar commitment. Similar to hybrid, you still have the life insurance benefit if you don't need care.

Which option is best for you? There's no one "right" answer for everyone, but a financial professional can help you choose the method that's most appropriate for your situation. And from an economic standpoint – and possibly an emotional one, too – you may be better off by taking action sooner, rather than later.

*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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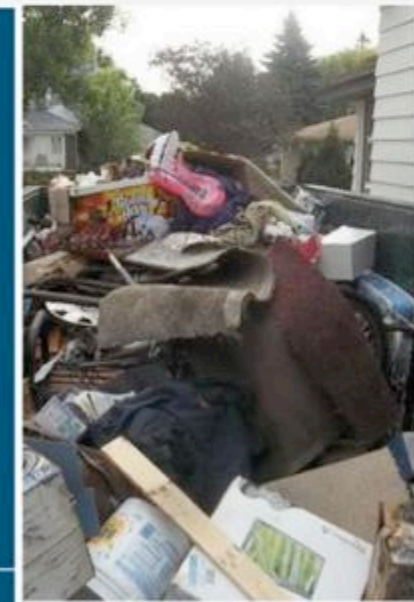
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## VRH Beneficiary of Hannaford Reusable Bag Program

CLAREMONT, NH—Valley Regional Healthcare has been chosen by the Claremont Hannaford as the latest beneficiary of the Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag Program. Every time the reusable Community Bag is purchased at the Claremont Hannaford during the month of August, VRH will receive \$1.

**Friday, August 24**

### CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES SALE

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8/21, 8/22 & 8/23, 9:00 am-4:00 pm



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By **Johnny Navillus**



### Memories

Talked with an old friend recently...not that he's that old, we've just been friends for a long time....he was recalling the days his grandmother made soup, raviolis, great food like that. "Holiday" dishes, too, only served on special occasions.

This started me thinking. I vaguely remember one of the ladies in my neighborhood making something similar. Can't remember if it was for the Feast of San Genaro or King Victor Emanuel's birthday. Seriously, it seems like every Italian family had a Victor or a Victoria. One had one of each. That generation of my friends' grandparents had some kind of deep loyalty for him. As a kid I didn't understand or care. Politics was for grownups. Understanding came later.

One of the most important parts of my education was interacting with the neighbors and my friends' families. My friends were mostly first and second generation born here, so their roots were never far away. Most had a grandmother living in the same house or within walking distance.

My mother cooked for seven kids every dinner. She was never real sure which seven would show up. One of us usually had a friend to replace a sibling "dining out". At least once a week (except Sunday) we ate at a friend's house. You never asked what was for dinner because you knew it was going to be good.

The neighborhood was made up of Italians, Jews, Poles, Germans, Irish, Filipino, French, Hungarian, Mexican and Guatemalan. You grew up exposed to the world on a dinner plate.

We were very much divided. Not based on color, creed or nationality but on sports. Some guys played baseball and some played basketball and a few played both. You never called a basketball diehard to play baseball. Never happen. We were all "up" for riding bikes and other things, but your sport was your sport.

We had all heard about the horrors of the war and acknowledged it. It was history and never discussed with adults. We saw the tattoos and tried to ignore them. But one day we all grew up a bit. A Hungarian family moved in and one of the boys was in my class. This was in the 50s or early 60s. These folks had fled the Hungarian Uprising and had seen too much and suffered too much. He would start to cry even in class. We did what we could and accepted him. We all became Anti-Communists from that point on.

His grandmother made the BEST Goulash. I wish I had her recipe. This was my basic education. On the street. On the baseball diamond but never on the basketball court. No interest.

All this is because food impacts our lives in many ways. The greater the exposure to different cuisines, the better our understanding of our neighbors.

Play with your food. Grandma did.

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

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## Claremont Woman Sentenced for Falsifying Physical Evidence

NEWPORT, NH--Kasey Decato, 29, of Claremont was sentenced in Sullivan Superior Court on August 14 to serve a 12-month term of incarceration at the Sullivan County House of Corrections. Decato received a 12-month term of incarceration for falsifying physical evidence. Decato was further sentenced to 2-5 years at the New Hampshire State Prison for a probation violation, which was suspended for a period of 5 years conditioned upon good behavior, and if imposed, will be served consecutive to the 12-month sentence at the Sullivan County House of Corrections. Decato, as part of the 12-month sentence at the Sullivan County House of Corrections, will be evaluated for the Sullivan County TRAILS Program, which is an intensive incarceration based treatment program.

Decato was taken into custody by the New Hampshire Department of Corrections on May 3, 2018. After further investigation, it was determined that Decato had orally consumed a quantity of the controlled drug marijuana in the presence of the New Hampshire Department of Corrections, Probation/Parole, which had responded to a residence in Claremont to conduct a home visit relative to their Probation Supervision of Decato.

"The law enforcement community of Sullivan County is resolute in the efforts to stop the influx of dangerous drugs in this community, and the impact that they have on the people of Sullivan County," said Sullivan County Attorney Marc Hathaway. "The Sullivan County Attorney's Office is determined to prosecute these crimes in ways designed to keep the people of Sullivan County safe, meeting the punitive, rehabilitative, and deterrence objectives of sentencing, while also addressing the dangerous influences of controlled drugs at all phases of the criminal prosecution."

The New Hampshire Department of Corrections, Probation/Parole, conducted this investigation, and the case was prosecuted by Deputy Sullivan County Attorney Justin Hersh.

## Connecticut Man with Claremont ties Sentenced to NHSP

NEWPORT, NH—Tommy Edwards, 54, of Connecticut was sentenced in Sullivan Superior Court on August 9 to serve a term of incarceration at the New Hampshire State Prison of 7.5-20 years. Edwards was sentenced after entering an Alford plea for two counts of first degree assault, witness tampering, and criminal solicitation to commit perjury. Edwards received a 5-15 year term of incarceration for witness tampering, which will run concurrent to one count of first degree assault. Edwards was further sentenced to 10-20 years at the New Hampshire State Prison for a second first degree assault conviction, which was suspended for a period of 20 years conditioned upon good behavior, and a second 5-15 year suspended sentence for criminal solicitation to commit perjury, which was also suspended.

Edwards was arrested in the city of Man-

chester in April 2017. The arrest occurred as a result of a lengthy criminal investigation conducted by the Claremont Police Department into the violent sexual assault of a juvenile. Captain Stephen Lee and Captain Colby Casey further uncovered Edwards subsequent attempts to manufacture an alibi for his whereabouts on July 22, 2016. Lee and Casey were provided assistance in the investigation by Sullivan County Sheriff Lieutenant Denis O'Sullivan.

The law enforcement community of Sullivan County remains steadfast in its efforts to stop dangerous physical and sexual assaults, said Sullivan County Attorney Marc Hathaway. "The Sullivan County Attorney's Office is determined to prosecute these types of crimes in ways designed to achieve justice for those impacted individuals, to keep the people of Sullivan County safe, and to meet the punitive, rehabilitative, and deterrence objectives of sentencing."

The Claremont Police Department conducted this investigation, were provided assistance by the Sullivan County Sheriff's Office.

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# Vote for Larry Converse

## State Representative Claremont Ward 2, District 4

- **Married to Janice A. Converse for 54 years**
- **Adult children, Christmas and Aaron, and four grandchildren and great-grandchildren**
- **Elected to the state legislature in 1982 in Claremont, Ward 2, and 2004, 2006 and 2014 in Claremont, Unity and Lempster**
- **Have served on the House Labor, Human Resources, and Rehabilitation Committees.**

**I would appreciate your vote in 2018**

Paid for by Larry Converse for State Representative; Fiscal Agent: Aaron Converse  
100 Sugarwood Lane, Gratham, NH. 03753



## Moving Day...

The Stevens High School Alumni Association has moved its office from the Moody Building to new space located at 50 West Pleasant St. On Thursday, Aug. 16, a group of alumni members and volunteers gathered all the records, year books and memorabilia that have been collected over the years, filling a large moving van, transferring it all to the new office. Photos: The old space, the new location on West Pleasant, the workers who got the job done, Phil Osgood moving some boxes into the truck. Alumni officer Carolyn LeBlanc said that “We have been looking for new office space for a while and when this was offered at a reasonable rent we can afford, we took it. It is clean and pleasant with plenty of parking and visibility. We can have our meetings there, and it’s easily accessible.” (Bill Binder photos).





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## Reaching the Peak of Mud, Mess and Fun!

The Claremont Parks & Rec. Dept. held its annual Reach The Peak 5K at Arrowhead Recreation Area on Saturday, Aug. 18. Despite the heavy rains Friday night and Saturday morning, the course, designed and built by Blanc & Bailey Construction, Inc., was in good shape. The runners had to combat the slippery conditions as they made their way through numerous obstacles, including three mud pits, climbing walls, balance beams, an ice pit and more. The course also had the runners climbing Arrowhead twice, once right up the face of Arrowhead. Arrowhead's Chuck Allen reported that they got "a little wet in the morning doing final preparations. The rain did stop by race time, so the course was wet but no rain. We had a good size group for the kids' race and an average number of participants for Reach the Peak. The course was slightly different this year, with a couple of new obstacles, and people found it challenging and for the most part, they like it," he said.



Overall winners were:

Kids Race—Kasey Morin, 9 (photo)

Men's Overall: 1st—Michael Day, 2nd—Brian Lashway, 3rd—Andrew Diviney

Women's Overall: 1st—Michelle Roy (photo), 2nd—Lucy Lawlor, 3rd—Emily Fahey.

For a list of official results, go to <http://www.barttiming.com/summer/results18/reach18-1.pdf>.

On Tuesday, Gov. Chris Sununu visited Newport and Claremont, spending part of the day in the Sunshine Town doing a downtown Main St. business walk. He also visited the Sturm Ruger site in Newport. Photos: Sununu stops by a shop



in Newport; center: Sununu on a business tour in Claremont Tuesday with City Manager Ryan McNutt and Planning and Development Director Nancy Merrill where he visited Preferred Building Systems and Crown Point Cabinetry; bottom: On Friday, U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen visited West Central Behavioral Health's (WCBH) Substance Use Services Facility in Claremont. Shaheen learned about WCBH's Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment programs and their recently expanded SUD treatment services that respond to the state's opioid crisis. She met with WCBH's leadership team, clinicians, and an individual who is receiving treatment (Courtesy photos).

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Gary Merchant

**MERCHANT**  
FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

- Born and raised in Claremont
- Graduate of Stevens High School
- Married to Joella "Nurse" Merchant
- Serves on "Healthy, Vibrant Claremont" to protect our children from lead
- Commissioner NH Board of Pharmacy

**As a State Representative, I will support:**

- Protecting our children's health and future by supporting legislation that safeguards our environment and strengthens public education
- Working in collaboration with other communities to build a coalition that requires the state to adequately fund education
- Legislation that lowers drug costs
- A government accountable to the people

**I want to hear from you!**

What issues matter to you, the constituents, the voters?

[Merchant4NHHouse@gmail.com](mailto:Merchant4NHHouse@gmail.com)

**VOTE**  
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Paid for by Merchant4NHHouse,  
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