

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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October 29, 2018

Claremont Candidates for NH House Share Their Views on Issues

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—With the General Election coming up on Nov. 6, the *e-Ticker News* asked the Claremont candidates for the NH House to answer some questions regarding their stand on issues of importance. They were asked the following:

One of the most serious challenges in NH is the high property tax. What can be done to ease this problem and offset the state's dependency on this type of taxation?

Adequate funding for education also remains a serious issue in NH. Do you support the growing coalition of communities and a possible new lawsuit calling for the state to better fund education to relieve the burden on property tax payers? How can education be better funded as a whole?

Name two other issues that you believe are on the minds of NH, and, local, voters this year.

Below are the responses we received.

District No. 4 (Claremont Ward 2)

Gary Merchant – Democrat

The foundation of my career was built on the education I received while attending public schools here in Claremont. This was made possible by the citizens of Claremont with their significant contributions to support our public
(Continued on page A6)

Parade Fun...

Maple Avenue School in Claremont held a Halloween Parade on Friday, Oct. 26. Students in their costumes paraded up Maple Avenue to the area of NFR, crossed the street and returned to the school while parents watched from the sidewalks and yards, many taking pictures and videos of the event. More photos on page A28. See page A17 for details for Halloween on Oct. 31 (Bill Binder photos).



Sullivan County Grand Jury Indictments

NEWPORT, NH—The Sullivan County Grand Jury released the following indictments on Oct. 24th:

Ruth Patterson, aka Ruth Chandler, 57, Charlestown, NH, indicated for Sale of Controlled Drug, Oxycodone, July 24, 2018; Sale of Controlled Drug, Oxycodone, Aug. 7, 2018, Sale of Controlled Drug, Oxycodone, Aug. 13, 2018; Sale of Controlled Drug, Oxycodone, Aug. 27, 2018; Sale of Controlled Drug, Oxycodone, July 24, 2018; Perjury, Feb. 14, 2018.

Ingrid Pacetti, 30, 103 County Farm Rd., Unity, NH, indicted for Escape, Sept. 18, 2018.

Edward Benoit, 53, Claremont, NH, indicted for Second Degree Assault, Aug. 24, 2018; Second Degree Assault, Aug. 24, 2018.

Aaron Quimby, 27, Claremont, NH, indicted for Burglary, on or between Sept. 25, 2018, and Sept. 30, 2018.

Alan W. Wirkkala, 51, Newport, NH, indicted for Felonious Sexual Assault, Jan. 3, 1996;

Aggravated Felonious Sexual Assault, Jan. 3, 1996.

Claremont Housing Survey

Come Share Your Thoughts and Experiences on Housing in the City of Claremont. Come visit us at upcoming events or fill out the Housing Survey at bit.ly/CmontHomeNH You might see the outreach team (or did) at the Claremont Fall Festival, Senior Center, Wellness Fair or Tree Lighting this Fall. This team is working to identify the most impactful and desired ways to support housing in the City. To do this, we need and appreciate your experience, opinion and ideas.

Power Outage Hits Several Communities

CLAREMONT, NH—A power outage affecting 1790 Eversource customers in Claremont, 517 in Cornish, 73 in Unity, 17 in Newport hit the area on Wednesday. The problem reportedly was tied to another utility's equipment connected to Eversource's distribution system. Traffic lights on Washington Street were affected, as were stores in many parts of town, including Walmart and Market Basket; Valley Regional Hospital was also affected, as were Disnard Elementary, SHS and the Superintendent's office. The other schools were left without internet access. Power was off for several hours.

Send news and photos to etickernews@gmail.com

SAU 6 Seeks Public's Input for Superintendent Search

CLAREMONT, NH—The SAU 6 Board is seeking the public's input in its search for a new, permanent superintendent. To that end, the board has released a survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VWZW3K6?fbclid=IwAR3cHAQOdVQCihu-KhniL8zRoOyfYrOt9gQgntiPb5iJnn0n_sDn-P8DkAleY.

There will also be future public forums to let people know what the results are from the survey. The completed survey has been designed to help the committee set the initial performance criteria for its search for the next SAU 6 superintendent.

Questions touch upon a number of areas, including which constituent group you represent (parent, community member, student, staff, etc.), strengths of the SAU 6, its most significant challenges, leadership experience the next superintendent should have, as well as expertise and personal qualities that the next SAU 6 leader should possess.

—Phyllis A. Muzeroll

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NH Lottery Numbers

10/27/2018

NH PowerBall

8 12 13 19 27 4

NH Mega Millions 10/26//2018

1 28 61 62 63 5

Tristate Megabucks 10/27/2018

7 11 16 21 37 4

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



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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"

Letter to the Editor

Supports Chad Rolston for Ward 3 State Representative

To The Editor:

On Tuesday Nov. 6, I urge you to elect Chad Rolston as the Ward 3 State Representative from Claremont. I have gotten to know Chad and am convinced that he is the best person to represent us in Concord. As someone who has held the position for the past 12 years, I know how important it is to elect someone who will not only vote in our best interests, but be an ambassador for our community to the rest of the State. Since Claremont and Sullivan County is not one of the more populated areas of N.H., it is important that the people we send to Claremont be capable of building coalitions and work as a team. Chad Rolston has the talent, energy and interest in working and building a coalition of positive-minded individuals that in the end will benefit Ward 3 and Claremont.

Chad Rolston has a background in banking and finance, as well as a thorough cutting edge knowledge of technology. These talents ensure that we'll have someone at the legislative table with the skills to ensure we remain financially solvent, as well as someone to put in place the policies needed to secure 21st Century professions and jobs.

On Tuesday, November 6, I am voting for Chad Rolston to represent me as the State Representative from Ward 3 in Claremont, and I hope you will, too.

Raymond Gagnon
Claremont, NH

NH and MA Delegations Applaud Award of Substantial Anti-Heroin Task Force Grant

\$2.95 Million Federal Grant Will Support Partnerships Between New Hampshire and Massachusetts Law Enforcement to Fight Trafficking of Heroin and Fentanyl

WASHINGTON, DC—U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), the lead Democrat of the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Edward Markey (D-MA) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH), along with Representatives Katherine Clark (D-MA), Richard Neal (D-MA), Jim McGovern (D-MA), Mike Capuano (D-MA), Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA), Niki Tsongas (D-MA), Bill Keating (D-MA), Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH), Joe Kennedy III (D-MA) and Annie Kuster (D-NH), the founder and co-chair of the Bipartisan Heroin and Opioid Task Force, applauded an award of \$2.95 million to the Massachusetts Attorney General's office in support of partnerships between Massachusetts and New Hampshire law enforcement to investigate and interdict narcotics, including heroin and fentanyl.

"Drug trafficking knows no borders which is why partnerships across state lines are so important to keeping drugs off our streets," said the New Hampshire and Massachusetts delegations in a joint statement. "We believe that these partnerships between law enforcement will undoubtedly save lives. This award is a vote of confidence in our law enforcement who do such a tremendous job protecting our communities and need all the help they can get as they fight on the frontlines of the opioid crisis. We will continue to do all that we can to secure resources and provide tools to those who are fighting to end this epidemic."

In July, the New Hampshire and Massachusetts delegations wrote to the Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services at the Department of Justice in support of the grant proposal submitted by the New Hampshire Attorney General Gordon MacDonald and Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey.

TPN is Shining a Light on Domestic Violence

CLAREMONT, NH—This October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Turning Points Network is partnering with local businesses throughout Sullivan County to promote the prevention of violence and support for survivors with their "Shine a Light" campaign. Businesses and service organizations are displaying purple lights in their windows for the month.

The purple lights represent the need to "shine a light" on domestic violence in Sullivan County. According to the CDC, an estimated one in four women and one in nine men in the United States are victims of domestic violence at some point in their lives. In the past year, Turning Points Network provided services to 909 individuals in Sullivan County.

Turning Points Network is Sullivan County's 24-hour task force against domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

To learn more about the agency or for more information about preventing domestic violence, please visit TurningPoints-Network.org, or call 603-543-0155.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10 Cornish Fire Association Holiday Bazaar

9am - 3pm
Cornish Elementary School
Cornish, NH.
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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
- Pharmacist and President of NH Board of Pharmacy

As your State Representative, I will support:

- Protecting our children's health and future by supporting legislation that safeguards our environment and strengthens public education
- Working with other communities and legislators requiring the state to adequately fund public education
- Advocating for the state to increase investments in economic infrastructure like roads, highways bridges, and broadband access
- Efforts by technical and community colleges to prepare students for great jobs that do not require a four-year education
- Protecting insurance coverage of pre-existing conditions
- Legislation to make prescription drugs affordable
- Ending all workplace discrimination while supporting equal pay for equal work
- Advocating for a government accountable to the people

I want to hear from you!

What issues matter to you?

Merchant4NHHouse@gmail.com

Vote for Gary Merchant
Ward 2, Claremont Middle School
Nov. 6

Paid for by Merchant4NHHouse,
Fiscal Agent Gary Merchant at 272 Pleasant Street,
Claremont NH 03743

Candidates, from A1

schools. WalletHub released a report this summer titled "2018 States with the Best and Worst School Systems" that ranked New Hampshire schools as the 4th best in country. A key factor in the "New Hampshire Advantage" is a highly educated workforce and any solution needs to sustain this outstanding achievement.

It is important to tackle both the cost to educate a student and how we fund education.

I support various School Administrative Units (SAUs) working together to find ways to share resources that will reduce the cost to educate a student. Examples of SAUs sharing resources to reduce costs are administrative services, hiring and sharing full time specialists, and collectively purchasing services and supplies.

Over the past 5 years, the state of NH has downshifted several of its obligations to local communities, many of them related to decreased school funding and not fully funding state educational mandates. For example, the NH State Board of Education, a regulatory agency, not legislators, creates rules that require schools to exceed federal educational requirements, however, the state legislature does not fully fund the additional cost to meet the requirements. The state is balancing its budget at the expense of local property tax payers.

As reported in the July 21, 2018 edition of the *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript*, Governor Sununu said - "I believe that we need to completely restructure how we fund our schools, that's the vast majority of property taxes". I agree with the Governor that our state needs to completely restructure how we fund public education and support placing all options on the table to adequately fund public education.

A key platform of my campaign is bringing together local communities, School Administrative Units, and legislators to work jointly to find a workable solution to fund public education that is appropriately shared between the state government and local communities. At the least, the state should fully fund all state mandates and increase support to schools that have a disproportionate share of students who require special needs or receive free and reduced lunch.

Another issue that is on the minds of local voters is healthcare. As a pharmacist and healthcare executive, I have first-hand knowledge of patients who experience the heart-

wrenching impact of health insurance that does not cover pre-existing conditions. We need to ensure that all patients, especially individuals who are self-employed, are protected from the emotional and financial devastation of having no coverage for pre-existing conditions. I will support legislation that mandates insurance policies for healthcare include coverage for pre-existing conditions.

Living wages are very much on the minds of voters. Voters want to be able to support themselves and their families without the need for public assistance. When a worker is paid less than a living wage it often forces them to receive public assistance such as food stamps and housing assistance to support themselves and their families. By paying less than a living wage, tax payers, through Federal, State and Local taxes, are being required to subsidize the low minimum wage. When an employee is paid less than a living wage, our various governments indirectly subsidize a business through this government assistance. Taxpayers should not subsidize corporate America, especially when they received a significant Federal tax cut this year. I support increasing the minimum wage to a living wage of \$15 per hour.

John O'Connor – Republican

What the state of New Hampshire needs is a new form of tax revenue. We tax, re-tax and over tax the same things over and over. I truly believe that it's time for NH to legalize marijuana. A recent study projects NH would receive between 60-80 million dollars in new tax revenue.

A lot of issues can find solutions with that kind of money and that brings me to your second question.

I would not be in favor of further litigation (regarding education funding in NH). Nothing was accomplished with the last lawsuit other than Claremont getting a bad name around the state.

Again, I feel the answer will come from new tax revenue. I have already discussed the benefits of the legislation of marijuana in my last answer, this new tax revenue could be used for educational funding as well.

Another option would be legalizing sports betting with all the new tax revenue going towards educational funding, similar to keno.

I am not in favor of an income or sales tax.

The most important issue I feel is getting control over this opioid epidemic. This needs

to be a joint effort between the criminal justice system and the medical profession.

Law enforcement needs to sound a loud and clear message that if you sell heroin, you will be caught and go to prison for a long time. For the addict, we need to expand and implement more in-house drug treatment facilities. The second issue, It will be important to keep our educated adult children in the state. We have an aging population and it is imperative that in the next decade we retain our college educated youth.

Attendance record

Editor's note: We also asked Rep. O'Connor about his legislative attendance record of 58% vs the average of 88% and a voting participation record of 53% vs 85%.

Thank you for the question. Last winter I suffered three flu related illnesses, which I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy.

All Representatives have the option of calling the Clerk of the House to have their absences excused, as if it never happened. I chose not to do that because I didn't feel it was honest. I wasn't there and the people should know that.

As far as representing my constituents: Each week we know before had what bills are going to be discussed on session day. If there was a bill that was going to directly effect Claremont, I made every attempt to be there. Being a first term representative has been an honor and an eye opening experience. You cannot learn from a book what goes on behind the scenes, you have to experience it. My advice to anyone seeking election for the first time is be prepared to serve two or three additional terms because that's how long you have to be there before you know who the real players are.

Without the support of leadership nothing can get accomplished and seniority is very well respected.

District No. 10 (Claremont All Wards)

John Cloutier – Democrat

New Hampshire is far too reliant on the property tax to help fund services, a tax which is antiquated, unfair, and hurts many rural property poor communities like Claremont. To ease high property taxes, I believe the state needs to do more fund Grades K-12 public education as well as stop the downshifting of many costs onto municipalities such as public

(Continued on page A7)

Candidates, from A6

employees' retirement costs. I am open to all methods of increasing revenue so the state can accomplish this task-including more broadly based taxes. Also, I am open to looking at ways to reduce the costs of government including state leadership in cutting the number of education Supervisory Administrative Unions or SAUs. The fact that our state now has 100 SAUs, a nearly 40 percent increase since 1979, and that Sullivan County, which has only 15 municipalities, now has 11 SAUs is disturbing. By cutting the number of SAUs we might be to reduce of the administrative costs of public education.

Personally, I am sympathetic to the growing number of New Hampshire communities, including Claremont, which are now discussing suing state government again over its funding of education. I don't blame them for such discussions. But if we in the legislature and the next governor would do our jobs and fully pay for an adequate education as required by the 1997 Claremont Decision, then the need would for another lawsuit would be unnecessary. Also I will vote "No" on any proposed constitutional amendments to overturn the Claremont Decision, regardless of which individual legislators or political parties sponsor such an amendment because removing the judicial pressure from the legislature and governor likely means that public education will never be adequately funded.

In addition to high property taxes and education funding, two other important issues I sense that are on voters' minds are the low wages of many Claremont residents, which often result in great stress for many individuals and families. To help deal with low wages, I first believe we should gradually raise the minimum wage currently set at only \$7.25 per hour to eventually \$15 per hour over a fixed period time. Second, the state needs to do more to support educational institutions of higher learning like the Sugar River Valley Technical Center and River Valley Community College which can help train interested students in careers that don't require a traditional four-year college degree. Finally, our state and national government needs encourage more workers to organize into labor unions, if the majority of workers so desire. I believe greater numbers of employees in unions should lead to higher wages and benefits as it did in the 1950s when union membership was

at its historic high.

The other important issue is to improve our transportation system, including the allocation of more money to fix and maintain our roads and bridges as well encourage the use of public transportation, especially reliable bus service in rural areas like Sullivan County. Improving transportation is vital for protecting highway safety, enhancing economic growth, and helping an aging population of drivers who will one day be forced to turn in their car keys.

Attendance record

Editor's note: Reviewing records regarding legislators' attendance and voting, we found that Rep. Cloutier has a legislative attendance record of 100% vs the average of 88% and a voting participation record of 100% vs 85%.

Conlin Smith - Republican

Did not respond to our invitation to answer questions.

District No. 5 (Claremont Ward 3)

Chad Rolston – Democrat

As State Representative for Claremont's Ward 3, I will be open to considering any and all potential options to address the issue of high property taxes. Chief among these related issues is the ongoing education funding crisis. The state has continued to cut support to local schools over the last five years, on average by 50%. Local property taxpayers have been required to bear the burden of this and are continuing to call for relief. The average cost to educate a child in New Hampshire is \$15,000.00 per year, yet state funding has decreased to an average of \$3,636.00 per year, creating an untenable situation.

A number of possible solutions are being discussed by candidates, from legalization and taxation of marijuana, to capital gains tax, to readdressing the calculations used to distribute funds, to cutting SAU administrative costs, and so forth. While I believe many of these ideas have merit and are worth investigating further, I do not believe there is any single answer that will resolve this issue. It will certainly require a multi-pronged approach. Many of these ideas would generate a significant amount of funds, but even with the rosier of projections, they may still fall short of being able to provide tangible property tax relief and adequate education funding.

While I would support the growing coalition of communities calling for a possible new lawsuit for the state to better fund education and provide relief to tax payers, if it becomes necessary, I would hope that it doesn't reach that point. The 1997 lawsuit, famously known as the "Claremont Decision" has already mandated that the state address this. It has not done so. Personally, I encourage every single voter to demand action on this issue from their representatives. And if citizens demand a broad based tax of some type, as a means of achieving property tax relief and adequate education funding, then I think law makers must consider it and stop ignoring the elephant in the room. It is absolutely the responsibility of every elected official to be a voice and advocate for the citizens in their districts.

Other topics that I believe are on the minds of local voters this year are business and economic development, and the minimum wage. We must build coalitions with educational institutions, state and local government, and businesses to generate next generation jobs and improve our local economies. This will require innovative thinking, investment in technologies, and most importantly resolving the education funding crisis. Education is critical to any local workforce to attract businesses and lift up our local economies, and to generate opportunities for our youth and working families. Going hand-in-hand with this, we must develop a plan to gradually increase the minimum wage from the paltry \$7.25 per hour to a livable wage of \$15.00 per hour, over a defined period of time.

Walter Stapleton – Republican

Property Taxes: Claremont has the highest property taxes in NH! We home-owners certainly feel the pinch paying our annual tax bills! Some have suggested broad-base sales or income tax to "spread the load". I don't believe that's the best answer. Connecticut and some other States have tried, only to find the other taxes never went away nor got reduced! Another problem, is that sales and income taxes are payable to the State and then have to be back-filled to the community on some formulation. But even with a separate "City Tax", just how much money can we raise from 13,000 residents plus shoppers and at what rate to make it compensatory without imperiling our shopping advantage? In the meantime, continuing to make our City attractive,

(Continued on page A8)

Candidates, from A7

solicit industry and jobs, promote housing and home ownership -- all would help increase our total community property value to dilute the burden on individuals. Since we have a significant number of renters, marginal income, and unemployed that do not contribute directly to the property tax base, growth in business and home ownership is critically important. Claremont is also currently searching for a qualified full-time Tax Assessor to replace our current 2-days-per-week contractor. I believe that is in our best interest to do so commensurate with the forthcoming re-valuation mandated by state law. That position would also enable a tighter rein on defaults and better handling of abatement issues, like we just experienced with the Topstone building. The efficiencies gained in full-time productivity would greatly exceed the salary expense, which would be only marginally more than the current contractor assessor costs. Efficiency and cost audits of city resources and services might also enable meaningful budget savings.

In summary, there's just not a single "magic bullet"! Instead, I see us as having to work for efficiencies on a number of fronts simultaneously and incrementally.

School Funding for Adequate Education: This issue has been going on between the Claremont lawsuit towns, legislature, and NH supreme court for some 27 years and still is not resolved! Without rehashing the details, we're still uncertain about what constitutes an "adequate education", and how taxing and distribution is to be "proportionately fair" in compliance with the court! Because a constitutional amendment to void the state funding mandate -- turning funding completely back to local communities -- had failed under Gov. Lynch, other options need to be developed. In the meantime, what we need to do is fully restore the stabilization funding (\$241,000 annually to Claremont), and some measure of building/infrastructure aid already gone. That would provide some incremental measure of relief to our property tax burden. Next, the legislature needs to finally develop the definition of "adequacy" including the relevant standards to measure it as the court has ruled. Without adequacy resolved, we will simply continue to spin wheels without ever satisfying the court, regardless of funding/distribution schemes formulated. Additionally, we should explore other revenue sources that could be earmarked for education like the lottery and the

recent Keno (for funding Kindergarten) have done. Keno revenue should grow as more communities vote it in. Other sources might include natural resources user fees, some measured increases in utilities and business taxes (last year Business Tax was cut that was more of a perk than a need!), the addition of a capital gains component within the NH Interest and Dividends Tax (applying to upper income investors), and, if gaming should ever be expanded, or marijuana "legalized", regulation and tax on those.

Safe and Secure Schools: By some counts there's been 36 shooting incidents in American Schools this year! There is no single magic solution, and outlawing guns or certain types of guns is not going to instantly eradicate this violence since it is first a human behavioral problem, and also, because there are still millions of guns out there, legal and illegal. Earlier in 2018, Governor Sununu commissioned a "School Safety Preparedness Task-force" which delivered its report in July, after a short 90 days of intensive work, with some 59 "practical and actionable" recommendations to strengthen school safety with security measures, training and resources. He also increased funding for school safety by \$10 million, bringing the total to \$30 million! I support that great start to comprehensive school security. What remains now is to timely accomplish those recommendations to attain a high degree of protection for our children and grandchildren in all our schools!

Healthcare: The Affordable Care Act has not attained its namesake goals. Even before it was signed into law, insurers were raising their rates ahead of the anticipated rate caps. While some subscribers saw slight reductions in premiums, most are still very high and the huge five-figure deductibles still remain! Obamacare had over-reach mandates such as the contraceptive coverage resulting in Little Sisters of the Poor and Hobby Lobby suing for violation of First Amendment religious conscience rights! Hobby Lobby went to the Supreme Court and won. And then there were the "special deals" and "carve-outs" made to get the law passed, like the "Second Louisiana Purchase" and the Nebraska "Corn Husker Kickback". The bill was so huge that we were simply told to "pass the bill so we can see what's in it"! Obama made promises to Rep. Bart Stupak and the 30 "Blue Dog Democrats" to remove abortion coverage from the bill, in exchange for their vote. The votes were delivered, but the promises got watered down and

work-arounds made through Medicaid. Well, like it or not, ACA is here and we need to deal with it, but it definitely "needs fixin' "! An outright repeal is likely not practical nor maybe even possible, so we have to work together, keeping what's good like coverage for pre-existing conditions, portability, and some kind of baseline "stop-loss" or safety-net for the several million lifted out of non-coverage. And then on the other hand, cut some of the red tape and let the market function to level premiums. Nix the taxpayer fines for not having coverage, or otherwise, channel them into a Medicaid uninsured reserve fund.

Living Wages: More and more companies have realized that to retain good help, fill vacancies, and prevent costly turnover, they need to pay hourly's over the Fed. minimum wage of \$7.25/Hour (Rate since 2009!). I've heard that the two new businesses in town, Harbor Freight and Hobby Lobby are paying employees in the teens. Effective in Jan. 2018, Pres. Trump raised the minimum wage paid to workers under federal contracts to \$10.35/hour under Exec. Order. There are now 31 states that have minimum wage laws for 2019 averaged to \$10.12, including Vermont which recently enacted a \$10.50 rate with a COLA in 2019, and Maine at \$11.00. We've just heard that Amazon.com has decided to pay all of its employees, including seasonal and part-time \$15/hour effective November 1st, 2018. Other large companies have done similarly. If we can't make improvements here in such a time of economic recovery and prosperity, when can we do that? I would support a New Hampshire minimum wage law to help those low-wage earners have some heft and lift in their paychecks! As to what figure? We can work that out!

District No. 3 (Claremont Ward 1)

Francis Gauthier - Republican

Responded saying he was not doing interviews at this time due to a family matter.

Editor's note: We had also asked Rep. Gauthier to comment on his legislative attendance record of 61% vs the average of 88% and a voting participation record of 53% vs 85%.

Andrew O'Hearne – Democrat

Did not respond to our invitation to answer questions.

Annual Reminder to Replace Batteries in Smoke, CO Detectors

CLAREMONT, NH—With Daylight Savings fast approaching on Nov. 4, the City of Claremont Fire Dept. officers and firefighters would like to remind residents that it's a good time to replace the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms. Smoke and CO alarms are your first line of defense when the unfortunate event of a fire or CO incident occurs.

"Seconds count when you and your family's life depend on those devices," said Claremont Fire Chief Bryan Burr.

If you need assistance with battery replacement, please contact the Fire Department headquarters at 542-5156 and they will provide help with the replacement.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 Santa is coming to town!

He will be at the Claremont Rent-A-Center in the Market Basket Plaza on Dec 8th from 10-2. Kids, families and pets welcome to visit with Santa and get their picture taken. Photos will be printed while you wait-or you can have the electronic version e-mailed to you! Prices are as follows: 4x6 \$5, 5x7 \$7, e-mailed image \$7. Yummy treats will also be available. To benefit Sullivan County Humane Society.

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Supporting affordable healthcare for all

Supporting sound energy policy that makes sense for a clean, healthy self-sufficient New Hampshire

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Claremont - This 11-room home with attached barn/garage is all on nearly one acre! Conveniently located and within walking distance to town and its amenities. See MLS# 4724693 for more info and photos. \$149,900.



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Ann's Property Of The Week

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42 Summer Street, Claremont, NH
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603-542-7766

Multi-Million Dollar Producer!

Move-in condition!

Nice ranch style home located on a dead end street, is this 2 bedroom bath & a half, with gorgeous hardwood floors, newer vinyl siding and windows, full basement and an attached direct entry garage with attached carpet, paved driveway, totally fenced in back yard. This home has been nicely maintained and is in move in condition.

MLS # 4711138 \$139,000

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Ashley Bergeron
Agent



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TURNING POINTS NETWORK IS HIRING!

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NEWPORT DIRECT SERVICES ADVOCATE

This position works out of the Newport office providing crisis intervention and support services including individual peer support counseling; group facilitation; legal, medical, law enforcement, and court advocacy; personal advocacy; transportation; shelter and safe home placement; safety planning; and, referrals and follow-up.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

This position is responsible for developing, promoting, and maintaining a wide range of volunteer opportunities within the organization. The Volunteer Coordinator trains and supervises volunteers and provides direction, coordination, and consultation for all volunteer functions within Turning Points Network.

Please email a cover letter and resume to amanda@turningpointsnetwork.org.

For more information about our agency, complete listing of job opportunities with full position descriptions, visit our website at www.turningpointsnetwork.org.

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CLAREMONT, NH —2 Story Cape, 3 Bed 1 Bath. 2 detached garages. Large backyard. MLS # 4713299 \$99,900



UNITY, NH —LAND 40+ acres. Quiet and level lot. Power close by. MLS # 4723148 \$65,500



CLAREMONT, NH —1 Story Ranch 3 Bed 2 Bath. Many upgrades, including windows, doors and insulation. 2 garages, one attached, one detached. MLS # 4724228 \$209,900



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CLAREMONT— Come and see this 1985 Skyline Manufactured Home nestled on a double lot. Many updates include a standing seam roof, enclosed porch, newer carpets, and almost all new replacement windows. A small shed in the back yard for your gardening equipment and a brand new larger shed/garage for a workshop or storage. \$67,500 (MLS#4721370)



LEMPSTER—This year 'round or seasonal recreation and relaxation retreat is waiting for its new owners to make memories here. This thoughtfully-built home sits across the street from one of the private accesses to Lempster Long Pond. Lovely open concept offers a soaring living room ceiling to an open loft area suitable for extra guests. There is a cozy sitting area by the woodstove for those chilly nights. \$199,500 (MLS#4721895)



CLAREMONT—3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath multi-level home on 1.37+/- acres. Large master bedroom suite with a sauna, 3-sided fireplace in the living room with sliders out to the deck, and a 1st floor family room. Open kitchen, formal dining room, and an ADT security system. This house also has a separate 0.98 acre building lot included. \$142,500 (MLS#4722468)



CLAREMONT—This modest 3 bedroom Cape is located just down the road from Maple Avenue School and a short distance from Moody Park. Partially finished basement with a wet bar and natural stone floors is great for entertaining or just relaxing after a long day. There is even a brick pizza oven on the enclosed porch. \$130,000 (MLS#4722497)



CHARLESTOWN—This clean and bright home has a spacious pantry and a large eat-in kitchen equipped with a double wall oven. The master bedroom has its own bathroom, exposed beams, and cathedral ceiling. A large, level back yard and a sunny front porch give everyone a place to relax and play. An oversized 2-car garage and shed provide ample storage. \$129,900 (MLS#4722663)



CHARLESTOWN— Six acres on a country road with walking trails on property! Home is open and spacious with fireplace to enjoy in living room and dining area plus sliders to the rear deck and level back yard. Large kitchen, skylight, kitchen island, desk, woodstove hook up, and a wonderful 28 foot long covered porch. Oversized two car garage as well as a shed. \$129,900 (MLS#4723516)



LEMPSTER—This property offers a foundation, underground electric, drilled well, and a 2-bedroom septic all in place. There is a nice sized shed as well for your storage or guest house and comes complete with a woodstove. Seller is a local builder and will build on foundation to suit you if you wish. \$86,000 (MLS#4724384)



CHARLESTOWN— Two bedroom Skyline home located in a park just off Route 12. Nice outside entry deck roomy enough for furniture, garden boxes, shed, and a level lot. Sellers are including stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, washer, and dryer PLUS central AC! Updated windows and a great layout with a bedroom and bath on opposite ends with an open concept middle living room and oak cabinets in kitchen. \$25,500 (MLS#4724488)



UNITY— Wonderful and private 8.6 acres with walking trails and lots of woods. Land has stone walls and a brook. The fully applianced Manufactured Home has been well-maintained and has additions which offer plenty of living space. \$95,000 (MLS#4724714)



CLAREMONT— Southbrook Woods Condominium located in the heart of Claremont. Close to schools, recreation areas, and many fine restaurants. Stunning end unit with two bedrooms with baths, open concept main level with an updated kitchen and stainless steel appliances, balcony, and a powder room. Master suite has its own balcony. Private deck in the rear. \$149,900 (MLS#4719182)



NEWPORT— Solid 2-family building with a good rental history. Vinyl sided and replacement windows installed. Easy access to Newport amenities and major routes for commute. Also offered as a package with 43 Laurel St—see MLS #4718809 \$89,000 (MLS#4725280)



CLAREMONT— Updated home in a co-op park! Living room entrance & back door have updated storm doors. Cute center kitchen with a corner hutch, a broom closet, plus 2 pantries. 2 bedrooms on opposite ends of the home—one with a quarter bath and the master with a full bath. There are even two sheds and a generator. \$17,500 (MLS#4725473)

Red Cross Offers Tips to Help Keep Trick or Treaters Safe this Halloween

CONCORD, NH & BURLINGTON, VT— Halloween is just days away, one of the most popular holidays in this country. Little witches, ghosts, pirates and super heroes will soon take to the streets for trick or treat fun, and the American Red Cross of NH & VT has tips to help everyone stay safe while enjoying the festivities.

“Halloween is a fun time for everyone and we want to make sure you all stay safe while enjoying it,” said Maria Devlin, Regional Executive, “Here are the top ways for parents to keep the kids safe while getting ready for Trick or Treat.”

—Make sure trick-or-treaters can see and be seen.

—Use face makeup instead of masks.

—Masks can make it hard to see.

—Give kids a flashlight to light their way.

—Add reflective tape to costumes and trick-or-treat bags.

—Have everyone wear light-colored clothing.

—Use flame-resistant costumes.

—Plan the trick-or-treat route in advance – make sure adults know where their children are going. A parent or responsible adult should accompany young children door-to-door in neighborhoods.

—It’s not only vampires and monsters people have to look out for. Be cautious around animals, especially dogs.

—Walk, don’t run.

—Only visit homes that have a porch light on. Accept treats at the door – never go inside.

—Walk only on the sidewalks, not in the street.

—If no sidewalk is available, walk at the edge of the roadway, facing traffic.

—Look both ways before crossing the street, and cross only at the corner.

—Don’t cut across yards or use alleys.

—Don’t cross between parked cars.

—Use extra caution if driving. Make sure a grown-up checks the goodies before eating.

—Make sure to remove loose candy, open packages and choking hazards.

—Discard any items with brand names that you are not familiar with.

And finally, for those welcoming trick-or-treaters to their homes, follow these safety steps:

—Light the area well so young visitors can see.

—Sweep leaves from your sidewalks and steps. Clear your porch or front yard of obstacles someone could trip over.

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Mayoral Notes

by
Charlene Lovett



Will You Participate?

It's hard to believe that we are heading into the last two months of 2018, and winter is right around the corner. Preparations for the colder weather, elections and holidays are already occurring across Claremont. The active participation of the community will only serve to make this a more joyous and rewarding time for all.

One of the organizations already preparing for the colder weather is the Arrowhead Recreation Club, a non-profit comprised of volunteers dedicated to providing low-cost winter recreational activities. Because of their work spanning nearly two decades, Arrowhead is a popular spot for locals and a destination point in the region. Skiing, snowboarding and tubing are available at a much lower cost, making these activities much more affordable.

In preparation for this season, Club volunteers are making upgrades to the lodge and improving methods to protect equipment. The slope side deck will be replaced with a patio, and structures to protect the two lifts will be installed. However, the Club also has other areas that need to be addressed to include the roof, windows and doors.

To help do these improvements, Arrowhead Recreation Club has partnered with Hannaford to raise funds. During the month of October, \$1.00 of every Community bag purchased will go towards Arrowhead operations. Hannaford Community bags cost \$2.50 and can be found on the dedicated reusable bag rack. Please be sure to look for the Community bag as there are other recyclable bags available. With the support of Hannaford and your help, the Arrowhead Recreation Club will acquire the funds they need.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6. This year's state elections not only give voters an opportunity to choose their representatives, but also answer two questions concerning amendments to the New Hampshire Consti-

tuition. If you will not be in Claremont on Election Day, please consider voting via absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are available at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall. If you prefer the online method, please visit the City Clerk's webpage and email or mail a request for an absentee ballot. The City Clerk will then email or mail a ballot to you; however, you must mail the completed ballot to the City Clerk. Because there are not many days until the election, please act promptly.

If you still need to register to vote, there are two options. The Supervisors of the Checklist will meet at the City Clerk's office from 7:00-7:30pm on October 31. This is the last time that you can register before Election Day. If you are unavailable on the evening of October 31, you can always register at the polls. Given the decisions that voters will be asked to

make, it is critical that we all take the time to vote.

Finally, Veteran's Day is Monday, November 11. This year's celebration not only gives communities the opportunity to honor veterans, but also marks the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. While Thanksgiving and Christmas are the holidays that receive much of our time and energy, please consider making an effort to celebrate Veteran's Day this year. While we will be home celebrating the holidays with family and friends, there will be service members who are deployed far from home.

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

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e-Ticker Business News

River Valley Community College Staff visits Claremont MakerSpace

If you like to make things, check this out. The Claremont MakerSpace has many fascinating tools to use in the renovated Sawtooth Building on Main Street in Claremont. There's a cool vibe happening that includes music and community events, too. For more information, go to <https://claremontmakerspace.org/>. River Valley Community College staff recently toured the facility led by MakerSpace Director Josh Busheuff and included Jo Ann Clifford, RVCC Professor and MakerSpace user; WorkReadyNH Director Martha Mott; RVCC President Alfred Williams; Administrative Assistant to the President, Anna Battye; and Workforce Development Coordinator, Dan Osborn (Courtesy photo).



Community Input Sought for County Transit Services

Southwestern Community Services (SCS) is in the process of developing a short-range transit operations plan, for the public transportation services that it started operating in October of 2016. SCS currently operates demand response and/or route deviation services in Charlestown, Claremont, and Newport and facilitates a volunteer driver program throughout Sullivan County.

As part of the plan development, the study team is looking to engage the community in a discussion of transportation needs; uses, and or users of public transportation; the role of public transportation in economic development and job access and overall how public transportation can best fit into the fabric of the community now and into the future. This is being accomplished by holding some public meetings in the region and by widely distributing surveys that have been created for specific audiences.

To participate in a new survey, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SullivanCommunityTransitSurvey>.

Project Partners: Southwestern Community Services, Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission, City of Claremont, Sullivan County, UNH Cooperative Extension, New Hampshire Department of Transportation, and Community Transportation Association of America.

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e-Ticker Business News




Wellness Fair...

Valley Regional Hospital held its annual Community Wellness Fair at the hospital on Saturday, Oct. 27. Free health screening and flu shots were available and many community organizations were on hand to showcase their products and tell community members about their agencies and what they can offer to the community. Members of the hospital departments were also available to answer questions about the services they offer (Bill Binder photos).

Ford Recall Announced

WASHINGTON, DC — Ford Motor Co said Thursday it will recall nearly 1.5 million cars in North America to address a faulty part that could lead to engine stalls.

The automaker said it is calling back 2012 through 2018 model-year Ford Focus cars with 2.0-liter GDI and 2.0-liter GTDI engines for a malfunctioning canister purge valve.



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Rockingham Health Center (open 7 days)
1 Hospital Court, Bellows Falls, VT 802-463-9000

Springfield Health Center (open Mon-Fri)
100 River Street, Springfield, VT 802-886-8900

The Ludlow Health Center (open 7 days)
1 Elm Street, Ludlow, VT 802-228-8867

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Hallowesta Fun Set for Oct. 31

CLAREMONT, NH—The Claremont Parks & Recreation Department is gearing up for another Halloween celebration! Ghosts and goblins of all ages: Get your costumes ready and join us for trick-or-treating on Pleasant Street, followed by a parade to Broad Street Park where we will be handing out trophies for the best costumes in Claremont!

When: Oct. 31

Trick or Treating on Pleasant St.: 3:30–4:45 PM

Parade line up at Daddy's Pizza: 4:45 PM

Parade leaves for Broad Street Park: 5 PM

Where: Pleasant St. & Broad Street Park; Cost: Free





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Fall Food Festival Planned for Nov.

CLAREMONT, NH—The West Claremont Center for Music & the Arts is hosting its first annual Food Fall Festival and it is actively looking for vendors.

The 1st Annual WCCMA Fall Food Festival was created to showcase local, homemade food items. All types of homemade goods are welcome including (but not limited to): Pies, cupcakes, cookies, quick breads, jams, maple syrup, fudge, honey, savory treats, etc.

The festival will be held Saturday, Nov. 17th, from 10:00am-2:00pm at the Union Episcopal Union Church Parish Hall in Claremont.

If you are interested in vending (or know someone who is), please email to get an application. Applications are due Nov. 9th.

Please email fallfoodfestival@wcc-ma.org with any questions or for more information.

Send us your news, photos

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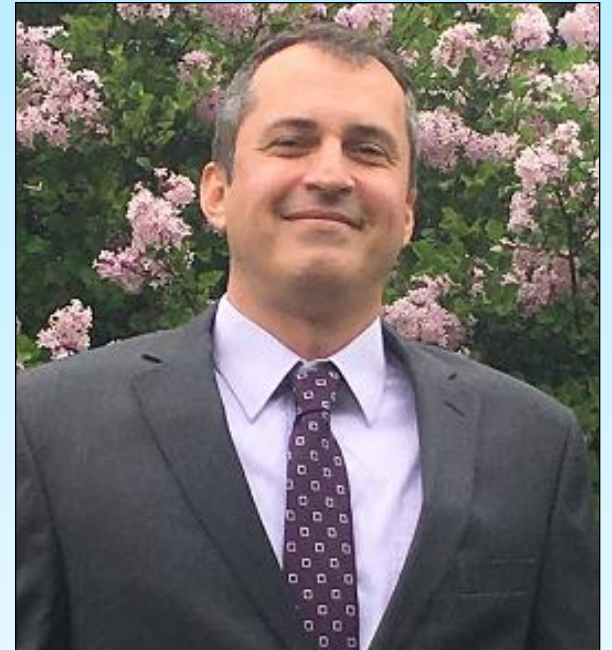
- **Protecting pre-existing conditions in healthcare insurance;**
- **Protecting New Hampshire's bipartisan Medicaid expansion so all New Hampshire families can afford healthcare coverage;**
- **Forcing big pharmaceutical companies to put people before profits and reducing the cost of prescription drugs;**
- **Continuing support for women's health.**



Rep. John Cloutier



Gary Merchant



Chad Rolston

**Vote for Cloutier, (Claremont, all Wards), Merchant (Claremont Ward 2),
Rolston (Claremont Ward 3)**

Nov. 6

Paid for by Campaign to Re-elect State Rep. Cloutier; John R. Cloutier, Fiscal Agent; 10 Spruce Ave., Apt. #1, Claremont, NH 03743

Consolidating Accounts Leads to Clear Financial Strategy

None of us can completely control all the things that happen to us. Yet, when it comes to achieving your long-term financial goals, including a comfortable retirement, you do have a great deal of power – as long as you follow a clear, well-defined financial strategy. And one way to help build and maintain such a strategy is by consolidating your financial accounts.

Over the course of their lives, many people pick up a variety of financial accounts from multiple sources. They might have a few IRAs from different providers, a couple of old 401(k) plans from past employers, an insurance policy (or two) purchased many years ago, and a scattershot of stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit and other investments.

If this picture describes your situation, you may want to think about consolidating. For one thing, having a variety of accounts can run up a lot of fees. Furthermore, you'll have lots of paperwork to keep track of all your accounts, including several different tax statements. Plus, just by having so many accounts, you risk forgetting about some of them – and if you don't think you'd ever forget about your own money, consider this: Well over \$40 billion in unclaimed cash and property, including 401(k)s, pensions and IRAs, is awaiting return to the rightful owners, according to the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators.

But beyond reducing your possible fees, paperwork and potential for lost assets, consolidating your accounts with one provider can give you a centralized, unifying investment strategy, one that can help you in the following ways:

Diversification – If you own several different financial accounts, including IRAs, 401(k)s and online accounts, you might have many similar investments within them. You might even own a cash-value insurance policy containing investments that closely track the ones you have in the other accounts. This type of duplication can be harmful, because if a market downturn primarily affects one type of asset, and your portfolio is dominated by that asset or similar ones, you could take a big hit. But if you have all your investments in the same place, a financial professional can review your holdings and recommend appropriate ways to diversify your investment dollars. (Be aware, though, that while diversification can reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio, it can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses.

Staying on track – With all your accounts in one place, you'll find it easier to keep the big picture in mind and make the moves necessary to help you progress toward your financial goals. Two main actions include buying or selling investments and adjusting your portfolio to make it more aggressive or conservative, depending on your situation.

Avoiding mistakes – If you own several separate accounts, you could see a loss in one or more of them and overreact by selling investments that could still be valuable to you. But with a consolidated investment platform, you can see more clearly that the impact of a loss may be small, relative to the rest of your holdings.

As we've seen, consolidating your investment accounts with a single provider can have several advantages. So think carefully about bringing everything together – you may find that there's strength in unity.

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



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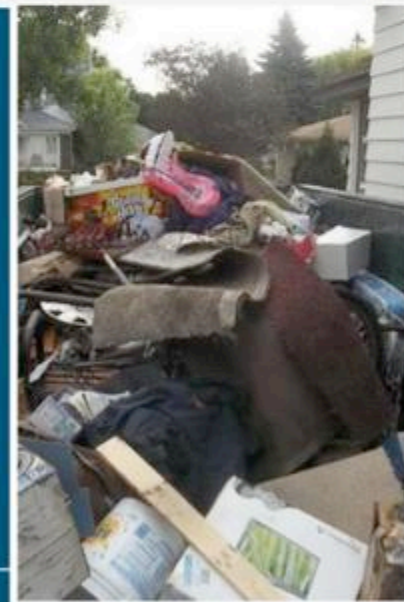
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Newport Families Clothing Closet Announced

NEWPORT, NH—Newport Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center has created a Clothing Closet for Newport families. This new resource is housed at the Towle School/SAU43 Administrative offices, 86 N. Main St. and offers gently worn clothing, newborn to adult. Since opening mid-September, 59 children from 18 families have received 204 items of clothing.

If you are looking for seasonal clothing or have clothing to donate or, please contact the SAU Family and Community Coordinator at 802-478-0844 or shammerlind@sau43.org to schedule a time for pick up or drop off.

SRVRTC is also developing a Dress for Success Program, that provides attire for job interviews and new employment needs, as well as their ongoing Cinderella's Workshop which will provide free prom dresses, suits and accessories for students to attend prom affordably.



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It's About Food

By Johnny Navillus



Party Season

With Halloween upon us, we are now in the holiday season. According to my favorite Party Animals, this season extends through until Labor Day. Then it starts again on Halloween. I love this thinking.

The next holiday is Veteran's Day, which is close to the date of the Marine Corps Birthday, Nov. 10. So, thank a Vet and wish a Marine "Happy Birthday". Once a Marine always a Marine. And don't forget the Lady Vets. They served, too.

Veteran's Day falls on Sunday this year. If you cook for a Vet, make their favorite dinner. This day is not just about sales. It's about those who gave up a part of their lives to wear the uniform. The Viet Nam Vets still are not used to hearing "Thank You". There's been a big change in our society since they came home.

One of the great things about living in this great country is that you are exposed to so many different cuisines. One of the truly great dishes from German cooking is Sauerbraten. This was always time consuming until this slow cooker recipe came along.

Slow Cooker Sauerbraten

1 boneless beef chuck roast or rump roast about 3 to 4 pounds
4 cups water
3 bay leaves
1 14 oz bottle of ketchup
1 large onion chopped
3/4 cups packed brown sugar
3/4 cups vinegar
1 tablespoon mixed pickling spices
30 gingersnap cookies crushed
gravy
2 tablespoons cornstarch 1/4 cup cold water

Cut roast in half. Place in 5 qt slow cooker, add water and bay leaves.

In a large bowl combine ketchup, onion, brown sugar and vinegar. Pour over roast. Place the pickling spices on a piece of cheese cloth. Tie the corners of the cheesecloth together with a string to form a bag.

Add the spice bag and cookie crumbs to the cooker. Cover and cook on low 6 to 8 hours.

Remove roast and keep warm. Discard bay leaves and spice bag. For gravy, strain the cooking juices. Transfer 4 cups to a large saucepan. Combine cornstarch and water until smooth. Stir into cooking juices and bring to a boil. Cook and stir until thickened. Slice the roast and serve with the gravy.

Serve with dumplings, egg noodles or spaetzle. Get out and vote. All the foodies do.

Play with your food. Real Foodies do.

Write to Johnny at etickernews@gmail.com.

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OUR TURN Alyssa's Story

Alyssa thought she had it all, a beautiful house, two great kids, a husband that provided them with everything they needed, and she was a popular teacher who was working on her master's degree in education.

Alyssa and her husband had a great relationship for a couple of years. By the time their second child was born, her husband had become psychologically and emotionally controlling, isolating her from family and friends. He began to be physically and sexually abusive and he even drugged her on several occasions before sexually assaulting her.

Throughout these years, Alyssa maintained her job, participated in the community and the children's activities, all the while keeping a smiling face. The final straw for her was when she found out that her husband had also been sexually abusing their children.

Her husband was eventually found guilty of child sexual abuse, convicted and incarcerated. During the months-long court process, her friends and family finally realized what had been going on and rallied around her. This was also Alyssa's opportunity to pack up and move north to be with family and away from him. A friend in this area told Alyssa about Turning Points Network, and she came in to talk to an advocate.

Alyssa's advocate provided peer counseling, emotional support, and coaching. She helped Alyssa learn about power and control in relationships and to understand why it is so hard to leave. With TPN's advocacy, Alyssa was able to let go of her guilt, and was connected with other community agencies that could help her, including NH Wish-list, Southwestern Community Services, Baby Steps and New Hampshire Legal Assistance.

The next step was to enroll Alyssa in

TPN's Transitional Housing Program, helping Alyssa find an apartment of her own for herself and her children. In addition to regular meet-

ings with her advocate, Alyssa participated in TPN's Financial Empowerment Training with
(Continued on page A24)

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Working for Our Interests, Not the Special Interests!

Let's Talk ...

We have a lot of work to do to keep Claremont a good place to live, work and play! Representing You and Our interests in the NH House is how I would like to help do that!

My wife Claire of 50 years and I have raised our family here since 1983. Claremont has been good to us and our three sons, who all got a great start at their trades here! Let's keep Claremont growing!

I've retired my railroad consulting and insurance business in 2017, so now I've full-time to work for us in Concord and am all-in for legislative service!

I am running on the Republican ticket but I can and will work with everyone, regardless of party affiliation. We're all in this together and our common community interests are a true incentive for cooperation.

In visiting neighborhoods, I've heard from you and about your concerns -- especially about taxes! I too am a residential home owner, so I feel the angst! That's indeed a prime focus! Keeping Claremont growing and prosperous is one of the ways to increase our overall city value and lessen the burden for each taxpayer.

Safe Schools and Quality Education are essentials, and that begs to resolve the educational funding crisis which has gone on for decades without satisfactory resolution. We need to fix that!

Keeping families secure and prospering is key to community success. Good jobs, living wages, social services, and faith-based ministries are all critical components to foster and protect Our Interests!

Ward 3 Neighbors, Vote for Walt on Nov. 6th at Disnard School



Paid for by Walter Stapleton, Fiscal Agent, 90 Veterans Park Road, Claremont NH 03743.

Our Turn, from A23

the goal of supporting herself and her children not only physically and emotionally, but financially as well. As part of her plan, Alyssa utilized referrals and resources to get back on track with finishing her master's degree. Alyssa stated, "I don't know how I ever would have done all of this without Turning Points' help."

Alyssa wants to petition the court to change the boys' last name to hers and work with the corrections system to stay updated on any changes in her husband's incarceration. TPN will assist Alyssa every step of the way.

Together, Alyssa and her boys are now working hard to put the years of abuse behind them. No one knew what Alyssa was enduring at home. Domestic violence is hard to talk about and disclose, even to family and friends who care. And, Alyssa's story is a prime example of how domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of socio-economic status, education level or standing in the community.

Alyssa is sharing her story with all of us to shine a light on domestic violence. Most of us know someone who has experienced domestic violence. The more we hear about it, the easier it might be for all of us to find a safe way to ask someone we are worried about if they are okay.

TPN joins with businesses in Sullivan County who are helping to Shine a Light on Domestic Violence during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

OUR TURN is a public service series by Turning Points Network (TPN) serving all of Sullivan County with offices in Claremont and Newport. We provide wraparound supports for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and human trafficking and we present violence-prevention education programs in our schools. For more than 40 years, TPN has helped people of all ages move from the darkness of abuse toward the light of respect, healing and hope. For information contact 1.800.639.3130 or www.turningpointsnetwork.org or find us on Facebook.

Send us your news and photos

etickernews@gmail.com

Road Construction in Lempster in November

LEMPSTER, NH—The Town Clerk's office announced that Lovejoy Road in Lempster will be closed November 5-30 for road reconstruction.

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Paid for by Rolston for New Hampshire
 Fiscal agent, Justin Sweeney, P.O. Box 322, Claremont NH 03743



Bluff School students gathered on the front steps of the school to show their support for the Red Sox in their quest to win the World Series, on Thursday, Oct. 25. Apparently it worked! (Bill Binder photo).

On Friday, Oct. 26, the United Way of Sullivan County held its annual Free Coat Friday giveaway. Hosted at the Claremont Savings Bank on Broad St., coats, hats and gloves donated by the community were free for anybody that needed warm clothing for their family. A similar program was offered in Newport as well (Bill Binder photo).



SAVE THE DATE



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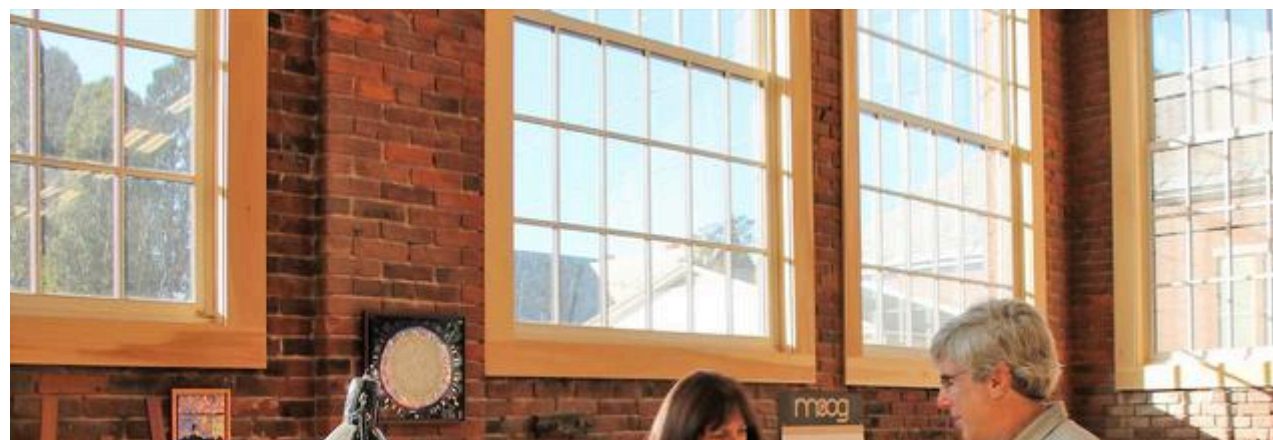
LIVE MUSIC SMOKE & MIRRORS
CATERING FARRO DELI
DRINKS SWEET FIRE BBQ



Saturday, Oct. 27, was designated as National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Drop off locations in Claremont, Newport, New London and Sunapee accepted all unused or extra prescription drugs. In Claremont, the drop off location was the parking lot of the CVS Pharmacy where a police officer accepted the drugs and put them in special containers which will be picked up and destroyed by the DEA. Photo: Lt. Stan Andrewski braved the cold and rain to assist anyone bringing their unused drugs to be taken care of. Andrewski also wanted to remind everyone that there is a drop box at the Police Dept. that is available 24/7 to drop off any unused prescription drugs.



Congresswoman Annie Kuster visited Claremont on Friday and toured the new North Country Smokehouse facility and the TwinState MakerSpace building. At the North Country Smokehouse plant, she visited with employees and discussed trade and her efforts to streamline travel and trade between the United States and Canada. Kuster helped to secure a \$250,000 grant from The Northern Border Regional Commission to support the TwinState MakerSpace project. She received an update on the project from Steve Goldsmith (right), a founder of the project and discussed the importance of federal resources for economic development. The TwinState MakerSpace is a communal workspace in Claremont which fosters entrepreneurship, innovation and creative projects. Left: Kuster visits with MakerSpace member John Lambert in the woodworking area as Steve Goldsmith and his wife Michelle look on.



Photos by Bill Binder



Maple Avenue School Halloween Parade

Photos by Bill Binder



A Hole in One for Violence Prevention

On August 16th, 2018, The Eastman Women's Golf Association held their 5th Annual Turning Points Network Charity Golf Tournament and Luncheon. With perfect weather and a sense of purpose, a full field of 27 teams took the green that day to raise money to end all forms of personal violence in Sullivan County. The event was followed by a luncheon where participants had the opportunity to learn more about the agency, thus gaining a closer understanding of the importance of TPN's work.

"I am so happy that Eastman Women's Golf Association has chosen a local charity to support. Since we have begun an annual event for this cause, I have learned so much about domestic violence from the speakers and survivors that join us for our luncheon. I am surprised and saddened by the high statistics of women, children and men who have been victims of domestic violence. Good thing we have Turning Points Network to help those in need." – Tournament Participant.

TPN serves over 750 survivors annually across Sullivan County, as well as provides youth education, teaching healthy relationships skills to over 2,000 youth annually. All funding is used to further their mission, supporting programming, advocate services, and their shelter, all with a focus on creating a community that is responsive to all victims and survivors of domestic and sexual abuse.

"I didn't know TPN existed until I signed up to play in the tournament and received some pamphlets on the day of the event. I didn't know that so many people in our region use their service. There is definitely a need in our state for domestic violence education." – Tournament Participant.

In their most successful year yet, the tournament raised over \$11,000 on behalf of TPN. "TPN is grateful and excited to be the beneficiary of this fun and sold out event every year. Last year's proceeds helped nine survivors heal, find safety, and realize their dreams, including financial independence by going back to school, participating in job training, or finding a career. This was months long work and each of these women is no longer receiving state assistance, are really happy, and are not looking back. As well, violence prevention education was taught to youth in grades 2-6 in two communities. TPN plans to provide for similar successes this year."

"Congratulations! It's a terrific event for a very worthwhile cause. Nice job!" -Tournament Participant.

For more information on Turning Points Network, visit www.turningpointsnetwork.org or call 603-543-0155.

ST. MARY PARISH Old-Time Penny Sale

Saturday, November 10, 2018

Doors open @ 5pm. Drawings start @ 6pm.

WELCOME

Buy your tickets **NOW**



<p>Grand Prize to be given away @ the Penny Sale By St. Mary Parish, Claremont, NH Grand Prize – \$1500 CASH <small>(if present the night of the drawing) or \$1200.⁰⁰ if not present</small></p>	<p>Series 1 for \$ 1</p>
	<p>Tickets 6 for \$ 5</p>
<p>On Sale 12 for \$10</p>	<p>25 for \$20</p>
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To Benefit St. Mary Parish

*Refreshments from start to finish @ the
Concession*

Thank You for joining us this evening !!

Wild Goose Supporters Remain Hopeful But Realistic At Same Time

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

Supporters of the Wild Goose public boat access remain cautiously hopeful that the project will one day come to fruition, but they know the odds are not necessarily in their favor.

Sullivan County Sportsmen Club member Don Clarke addressed the Claremont City Council regarding the matter at Wednesday's regular meeting.

A meeting on Sept. 26 in Weare drew a crowd of area sportsmen to discuss the public boat access issue in Sunapee and the long-suffering Wild Goose project. The plan was shut down by Gov. Chris Sununu following a commission's report on the controversial issue that has for years plagued the various parties with an interest in the project: Local boaters, those opposed to Wild Goose location and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, the state's largest proponent of the proposal.

The meeting, which was by invitation only, was set up by the Governor, who was also in attendance. According to one sportsman, there has been "a lot of dissatisfaction" between Sununu and sportsmen when it comes to NH Fish and Game issues, of which Wild Goose was a top concern.

A discussion of Wild Goose led off the evening, and an idea, one which has reportedly arisen in the past, was floated, calling for the Lake Sunapee Protective Association and Fish and Game to work together for two years to come up with an acceptable alternative site to Wild Goose. Should that not succeed, then Wild Goose would then be revisited. According to an attendee of the meeting, Sununu appeared to "support" the idea.

The challenge now for those seeking to move forward with the concept is to get it "cast in stone" Clarke said recently, and getting the word out to help drum up publicity for the plan.

Wednesday night, he told the council that the governor said that the proposal to give the plan two years to find a suitable public boat access or reconsider Wild Goose was a "reasonable thing and he seemed to support it." While Clarke doesn't own a boat and has no personal stake in the issue, it is a matter that as a Sullivan County Sportsmen Club member he remains passionate about.

Joining Clarke Wednesday night was Bruce

Temple, the Sullivan County representative to the NH Fish and Game Department. He told the council that the matter was in a "stall pattern" and that Fish and Game has taken a vote in support of Wild Goose "and this is very clear in our directive," he said. "...We voted last month in unanimous support to continue to pursue whatever we can pursue at Wild Goose."

There are concerns, however, that the New Hampshire Council of Resource Development (CORD), which has the authority to get rid of "surplus property" could sell the Wild Goose property, thereby ending the project once and for all. "CORD could easily transfer this property to somebody else and we're working diligently behind the scenes to make sure that somehow it doesn't move in that direction," said Temple who described such an action as one that would be "unprecedented...Right now we are just trying to hang on to Wild Goose..."

In an interesting twist this year, there will be two proposed amendments to the New Hampshire Constitution on the November 2018 ballot. If passed, the first amendment would allow taxpayers to have legal standing to challenge a governmental action in court without having to prove they were personally affected, something that would benefit the efforts of those who have been fighting for years to make the Wild Goose project a reality. Supporters say that this presumption of taxpayers having standing was the practice until the NH Supreme Court in 2010 ruled that "without an injury or an impairment of rights" to an individual, simply being a taxpayer is not enough to confer legal standing to bring court action. Opponents have expressed concern that the amendment would create frivolous lawsuits, clogging the courts and costing taxpayers money, in spite of court rules and systems already in place to prevent frivolous suits.

The existing access sites to the lake are bogged down with several problems for boaters, including access sites that are restricted to town residents only, sites that charge a fee and that are not available certain hours, and sites that are in disrepair as well as inadequate or

have remote parking issues. The Wild Goose public boat access site was purchased in 1990 by the State of NH under the Land Conservation Investment Program, a bi-partisan multi-party state program to purchase lands of public significance.

The council passed a motion Wednesday night reaffirming its support for the Wild Goose project and agreed to send a letter of support to NH Fish and Game prior to a Nov. 8, 1:30 p.m., CORD meeting in Concord. Leading off that agenda is the Lake Sunapee Public Boat Access, with an "opportunity for comment from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department and the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation concerning Recommendation 1 of the report of the Chair and Majority of the Lake Sunapee Public Boat Access Development Commission."

The council in the past, along with the Newport Selectboard and County Commissioners, has voted in support of the Wild Goose project. The Public Water Access Advisory Board (PWAAB) also supports the project.

The proposed project area encompasses approximately 3.1 acres of land with approximately 803 linear feet of lake frontage. This site is currently owned by NH Fish and Game and is located off Route 103 across from the Mount Sunapee State Park property owned by the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED).

With a total area of approximately 4,090 acres (approximately 6.4 square miles), Lake Sunapee is the fifth (5th) largest lake situated totally within the borders of New Hampshire, located in both Merrimack and Sullivan counties.



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Some Claremont City employees, members of AFSCME Council 93 who have been without a contract since December, showed up in quiet protest again on Wednesday, Oct. 24, prior to the start of the City Council meeting. Contract talks for DPW and clerical staff, are at an impasse, in the words of AFSCME, and the members said they will show up before every Council meeting until talks are underway again. The sticking points include health insurance, a “fitness for duty” clause, and biweekly pay. Chris Kilmer, a staff rep with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, addressed council members Wednesday evening during Citizen’s Forum, saying the administration was showing the unions “very little respect” during the contract process and that they were asking to be treated “fairly and with respect.” He said the wage package was tied to the insurance package and that the City has told them that because 2018 is done, it will start negotiating for July of 2019. Kilmer did say there had been a “minor amount of movement” between the parties.

For a Worthy Cause...

Claremont firefighters held their annual donation collection for the Muscular Dystrophy Association at WALMART on Sunday, October 28. All funds collected will benefit MDA and their programs. The firefighters would like to thank all who donated to this great cause.

Photos by Bill Binder



Newport School Board and Newport Teachers Association reach Impasse in Contract Negotiations

NEWPORT, NH—In a statement released Monday morning, SAU 43 superintendent Cindy Gallagher announced that “The Newport School Board ratified a negotiated contract with the Newport Teachers Association (NTA) for the 2018-19 academic year and this contract failed as a warrant article in the March 2018 school district budget vote. The failure of a community to adopt a ratified contract has a negative effect on the School District. In the education profession, it is typical for a teacher to receive a year of service for each year in the profession in the form of a ‘step raise’ that provides a guaranteed raise through the collective bargaining agreement. In Newport, we have teachers who have gone seven years without a raise and are ‘seven years off step.’ This results in low morale among the staff.”

Gallagher went on to say, “The Newport School Board has heard many of the concerns of the citizens regarding the teacher contract, including difficulty hiring beginning teachers because of low pay, concerns about teacher retention, ‘off-step’ salary schedules, and health insurance premiums. Because of these shared concerns, Newport School Board requested the opportunity to negotiate with the NTA in August, 2018. After several opportunities to negotiate and a day long meditation, the Newport School Board and Newport Teachers Association were unable to agree upon contract terms.

“The Newport School Board presented a set of proposals that addressed all of the priority issues voiced by the Newport community and teachers alike. The Newport School Board realizes that having salaries that are not competitive with other districts in the region causes further erosion of our educational programming and services for our students. The Board provided a salary schedule that brought salaries in line with regional median values to entice new teachers and corrected the step concern to retain our current teachers. The Board pursued a contract that would ensure that resources were allocated in a manner to best meet the educational needs of all students. The proposal was designed to promote working conditions that would attract and then retain the best possible faculty for our children. The Newport School Board and the Newport Teachers Association reached an impasse af-

ter mediation.”

According to Gallagher, the next step after a declared impasse is a fact-finding process, and the Newport School Board and NTA have set dates to move forward with this process in mid-November.

“The Board and the NTA are also able to continue negotiations to work an agreed resolution prior to the formal fact-finding hearing,” said Gallagher. “The Newport School Board is committed to ratifying a contract that best meets the needs of our children, our teachers and our community.”

Sullivan County Announces Inaugural Community Partner Award Winner

NEWPORT, NH—The Sullivan County Board of Commissioners has announced that Sturm, Ruger & Company has won the inaugural Sullivan County Commissioners Community Partner Award for 2018. According to Chairman Jeff Barrette, “This award recognizes the outstanding and generous contributions Sturm Ruger has made to Sullivan County for many years. As we revamped our employee recognition program this past year, we thought it was appropriate to also include our community partners and say thank you to them as well.”

Ruger’s contributions include supplying the Sheriff’s Department and Department of Corrections with duty weapons and they have conducted armorer’s training free of charge for County personnel. Additionally, they supported the 2018 New Hampshire Association of Counties Annual Conference, which was hosted by Sullivan County, by donating two weapons for a fundraising raffle and helping the town of Newport put on a shooting demonstration for conference guests.

Barrette continued, “Sturm, Ruger & Company is a pillar in our county and has been for many generations. I don’t know that we’ve taken time to appropriately thank them over the years for what they mean to our community. This award is Sullivan County’s way of saying thanks for what they do for our employees and our taxpayers.”

The Community Partner Award was formally presented at the Sullivan County Service

Awards dinner on Friday at the Common Man Restaurant in Claremont.

Heart Centered Mediumship with Lauren Rainbow Comes to the COH

CLAREMONT, NH—Experience tears of joy, lots of laughter and the feeling that we are all supported by those when know in Spirit, as Lauren Rainbow brings you an evening of heart-centered messages from Spirit, on Friday, Nov. 16, 7:00 p.m.

This will be an opportunity to witness an evidential medium connect with departed loved ones and bring validation and messages to some audience members.

An evidential medium dedicated to bringing healing messages from loved ones in spirit to those here in the living, Rainbow brings forward validating, evidential connections with Spirit to some audience members through her own unique style of mediumship.

A happy medium, spiritual teacher, and sacred journeyer, who is dedicated to Spirit, Healing and Love, her work with Spirit has brought her all over the world. As a medium, she has toured the US and Canada. As a Spiritual Teacher, she has empowered many to develop their intuitive gifts and been featured at Omega Institute, Kripalu Yoga.

Rainbow is a spiritual medium with over a decade of experience communicating with the other side. Working with the energy of joy and heart-centeredness, she says she has learned that delivering messages to loved ones left behind brings them peace and closure.

Rainbow has been a featured guest on Radio Stations around New England, including WZID, WOKQ and WLNH. She has been a regular guest on Hay House Radio and appeared on FOX News. She has opened her own space, the Centered Heart Studio, dedicated to the exploration and development of spirit communication.

Tickets are \$25.00 and are available online at <http://www.claremontoperahouse.info/>, by calling 603-542-4433 or in person at 58 Opera House Square. PLEASE NOTE: Purchasing a ticket to this event does NOT guarantee you a reading.

Send news and photos to

etickernews@gmail.com