

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**Mutual Aid Called for
Newport Structure Fire;
page A2**

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November 27, 2017

St. Mary Parish Looks to Open New School in 2018

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--If all goes according to plan, St. Mary Parish will be opening a new school, P-K to 12, next year on its campus. Rev. Father Shawn Therrien, pastor at St. Mary, announced the news on the weekend of the 19th.

"I am most overjoyed to publicly announce that our beloved Bishop Libasci had given his permission for us to reopen a Catholic school here at St. Mary's," said Therrien. "It will be a parish school under the governance of the pastor. There has been much work accomplished behind the scenes over the past few years, and now it is time to make it all happen. Under the guidance and assistance of our Catholic Superintendent, Dave Thibault, we will open in August of 2018."

Therrien added, "A small committee did some very good work in setting the foundation. It is time to enlarge that committee with more members to make a strong and lasting Catholic school. I find it very providential that for the third time in the parish history a school will begin here. In the early days of the parish there was a Catholic school which closed, and after a number of years, another was opened. We find ourselves again at that crossroads and it is exciting. It is also one of the Bishop's goals in reestablishing a strong Catholic identity in our Diocese."

The parish school building is being leased by the New England Classical Academy, which learned of the parish's plans last summer;

(Continued on page A13)



Santa paid a visit to Claremont Friday night to help turn on the Christmas lights in Broad St. Park. More photos on page A26 (Bill Binder photos).

Mutual Aid Called for Structure Fire in Newport

NEWPORT, NH--The Newport Police Department Emergency Communications Center received a call at 3:35 a.m. November 25th, from bystanders reporting a structure fire at 55 Belknap Ave with everyone reportedly out of the building. "Upon Arrival of First" arriving fire apparatus at 03:38 a.m. was greeted with heavy fire coming from the right side and rear of a two-and-half story wood frame; fire was on 1st and 2nd floor of the building, and there was also heavy fire on the backside porch. At that time, a 1st Alarm was requested.

A 2nd Alarm was requested at 03:39 a.m. Crews made entry with an attack line to the front door of the building. Personnel made an aggressive interior attack, but due to the heavy fire load and balloon frame construction, interior crews withdrew from the building at 4:00 a.m., said the Newport Fire Department in a release. Exterior operations were established. The fire went through the roof, and Newport Fire-EMS received assistance from mutual aid towns. Responding to the scene were Newport

Police, Water and Highway Departments and Sunapee, Goshen, Claremont, Lempster and New London Fire Departments. Golden Cross Ambulance stood by at the scene. Covering the Newport Fire Station were the Croydon and Newbury Fire Departments.

Two ladders were established on the exterior for extinguishment and multiple hand lines in operations. Extensive overhaul was required for several hot spots in hard to reach places in the roof area. Eversource removed power to the building.

The fire was deemed under control at 05:09 a.m. The residence was released to the building owner. All fire personnel were clear at 08:01 a.m. Two adults were displaced as the building was deemed unlivable. The building is owned by Thomas and Suzanne Connary, said the department.

A joint investigation was conducted by Newport Fire-EMS and Newport Police Department members. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation, and anyone with further information and/or questions is asked to contact Fire Chief Wayne Conroy at 863-1416.

Dec. 9, 5-6:30pm

At the Plainfield Community Church (new location) 1094 Rte 12-A

Buffet includes turkey, ham, lasagna, French meat pie & all the fixings; homemade pies, McNamara Dairy eggnog \$15/adults (2/\$25); \$5/children (5-12); free under 5 Take-out available.

Please use the front entry (with ramp) and enjoy music & eggnog in the sanctuary while you wait to be seated downstairs.

Lessons & Carols Service

Wednesday, December 13th, 7:00 PM Sacred Heart Church, Lebanon NH

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. In this service, we listen to 9 Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News. Each lesson is followed by a carol that reflects on the lesson's message and a brief prayer. A light reception will follow.

Cookie Walk

Saturday, December 16th, 9:00 AM until gone Sacred Heart/St. Charles Social Center, Bellows Falls, VT Cost: \$5 per pound.

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e-Ticker News reserves the right to reject any material submitted that is deemed inappropriate for our publication.

The opinions expressed in articles, Letters to the Editor or columns are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the e-Ticker News

Regional Holiday Events:

Festival of Lights

Our Lady of LaSalette Shrine, Enfield, NH

2017 Area Choir Christmas Concerts

Saturday, December 2nd, 7:30 PM Sunday, December 3rd, 3:30 PM and 7:30 PM South Congregational Church, Newport, NH Admission is free, offering will be taken.

Annual Christmas Traditions Dinner

Saturday,

NH Lottery Numbers

11/25/2017

NH PowerBall

8 13 27 53 54 4 2

Mega Millions 11/24/2017

16 36 54 61 64 22 3

Megabucks 11/25/2017

5 6 15 29 38 4

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

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fgauthier1776@gmail.com

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

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

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

Senate – Claremont

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

Washington, DC

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

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Phone: (202) 224-3324
<https://www.hassan.senate.gov/>

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

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

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

and click on "Who Is My Legislator"

Shaheen Meets with Realtors and Homebuilders to Discuss Impact of Republicans' Tax Legislation on NH Homeowners

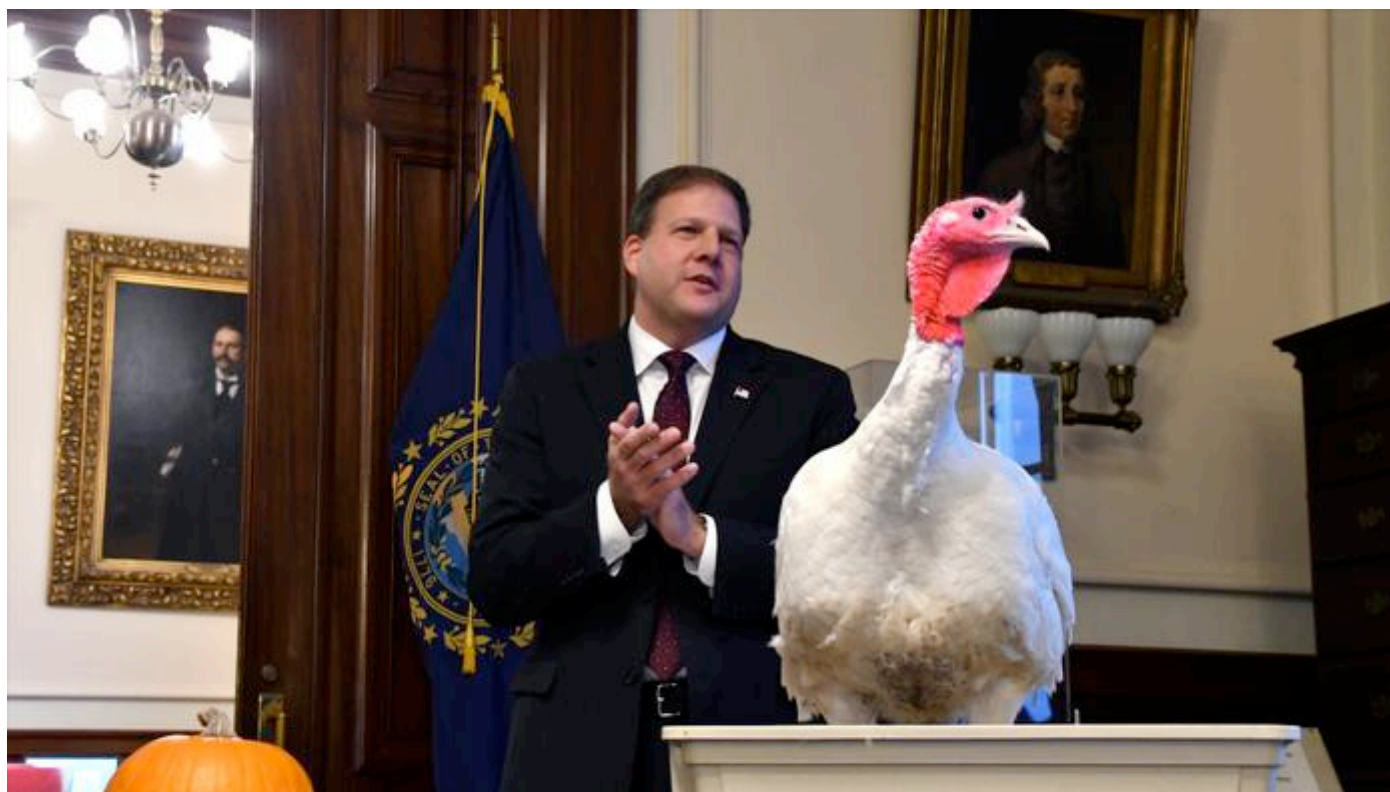
LONDONDERRY, NH--Tuesday, U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) held a roundtable with representatives from the National Association of Realtors, the New Hampshire Association of Realtors and the New Hampshire Homebuilders Association to discuss the Senate Republican tax bill's impact on New Hampshire homeowners. Specifically, the roundtable focused on the elimination of the state and local tax deduction (SALT), which 204,000 Granite State homeowners rely on to deduct property taxes, and other provisions that could harm homeownership.

"We need bipartisan tax reform that simplifies the tax code, bolsters the middle class, gives tax relief to our small businesses and creates jobs. However, the tax bill being pushed by Republican leaders in Washington fails to meet any of these goals," said Shaheen. "The repeal of the state and local tax deduction is especially damaging to the middle class here in New Hampshire. This will hurt homeownership and decrease home values. It is unfair to ask Granite State homeowners to pay for steep corporate tax cuts. I am eager to work with Republicans and Democrats to genuinely reform the tax code, but we need a bill that puts the middle class first and helps grow our economy."

According to a report by the nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation, the Senate GOP tax bill would increase taxes on Americans earning \$75,000 annually by 2027.

In addition, the Senate Republican tax bill would:

- Reduce the number of insured Americans by 13 million by repealing a key provision of the Affordable Care Act;
- Lead to a \$25 billion cut to Medicare;
- Prevent 80,000 Granite Staters with student loan debt from deducting interest on student loans;
- Significantly increase taxes on work-study students at colleges and universities which will make college even more unaffordable and discourage higher learning;
- And add \$1.5 trillion to the national debt to pay for permanent tax cuts for corporations.



Wednesday, Governor Chris Sununu brought before the Executive Council a pardon petition for Hale the Turkey, of Drown Farm in Webster, NH. Following remarks from Sununu and Attorney General Gordon MacDonald, the Executive Council unanimously approved the pardon of Hale the Turkey (Courtesy photo).

Two Charged in Animal Neglect Case Involving 14 Cats

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

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

Claremont Police have charged Dwaine Lord, 64, Claremont, NH, and Crystal Lamonda, 42, also of Claremont, in the case.

Lord and Lamonda were identified as the owners and caretakers of the cats, said Chase. They each have been charged with 14 counts of Cruelty to Animals, RSA 644:8. They were both given the court date of January 8, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in Claremont District Court.

Claremont Police Department continues to work with the Sullivan County Humane Society for the care of the cats in this case, said Chase.

According to Cheryl Bromley, president of the SCHS, "On Sunday, Nov. 12, we received a call from Lost My Way/Animal Control. She had been contacted by the Claremont Police, who had responded to a call of abandoned cats. The police needed someone to take these cats. The report was that there were at least 9 cats abandoned outside in crates for at least 24 hours. This was two weekends ago which was very cold with the lowest temperature being 17.2 F. Although our shelter is full, we could not turn our backs on these innocent creatures so agreed. Immediately, our volunteers rushed to the shelter to meet the police. Another volunteer immediately offered to open her home to these animals as their foster mom. As we rushed to the shelter, none of us were prepared for the nightmare we were about to see. The police arrived with one medium size dog crate." One crate with 14 animals packed in.

Bromley, in a lengthy post on Facebook, reported that the cats in the crate were covered in feces, blood and urine, and was one found to be deceased. A second was euthanized after it was determined that it was suffering from neurological damage and was not responding to medical treatment. Numerous volunteers stepped in to help take care of and clean the remaining animals.

"The strain this has placed on all of our resources is enormous," said Bromley. "The foster home is amazingly caring for these 12 cats with SCHS supplying their food, litter, etc. Our vet bill for these abandoned cats, after just three days, was over \$2,200. Once the cats are healthy enough we will need to provide for their routine care, including spaying and neutering. Three of them also need dental work done. The strain on our

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

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

"If anyone has any information about this incident, we would ask that they call Claremont Police at 603-542-9538," said Chase.

Donations to help this case can be made directly to the SCHS or its veterinarian, Springfield Animal Hospital. To donate to the society, mail checks to SCHS, PO Box 111 Claremont NH 03743 or via PayPal, using sullivanhumane@hotmail.com. To make a payment to the vet, please call 802-885-2505 or mail a check, denoting the SCHS abandoned 14 in the memo line, to Springfield Animal Hospital 346 River St. Springfield VT 05156. They also have a gofundme established to help pay for the care. Visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/abandoned-14-medical-fund>.



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




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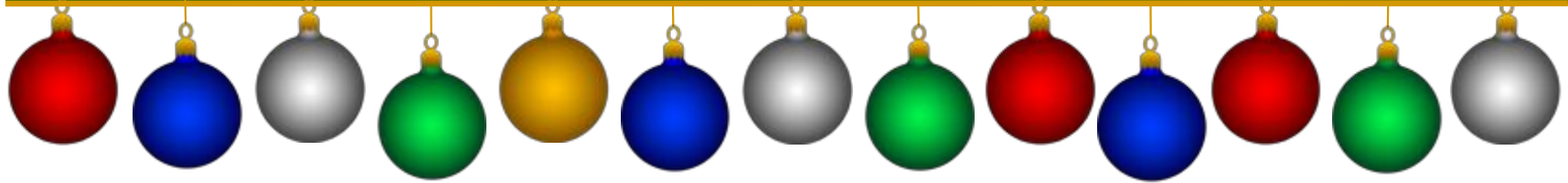
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OUR TURN

When A Child is Traumatized

When someone is concerned that a child may have been hurt, abused or neglected in any way, the situation must be reported to DCYF. Proof of abuse and neglect is not required and reporting can be anonymous. But parents who realize their child has been affected by any of the above traumas often fear that if they report their suspicions, the child could be taken from them. Or, that their child will be cross-examined and have to relate their traumatic experience to any number of people during the process, causing even more trauma.

These very real fears and concerns were instrumental in the forming of Child Advocacy Centers across the nation and in New Hampshire. Accredited by the National Children's Alliance, the Granite State Children's Alliance provides technical assistance, training and organizational resources to all Child Advocacy Centers in the state.

When abuse or trauma involving a child is reported, the child will be referred to one of New Hampshire's Child Advocacy Center (CAC). Four such centers serve Sullivan and Grafton Counties, the closest located at 24 Tremont St. Claremont.

The CAC provides a safe, child-friendly environment and a trained, forensic interviewer (neutral third party) who is experienced and who will make the child as comfortable as possible during the interview to find out what happened. A child is never forced to talk. This national model means that the child is interviewed by one person and is not subjected to being questioned by a number of different entities at different times. This approach has been cited as best practice in the investigation of child abuse cases and ensures that all aspects of the case are examined and efforts are coordinated between the multi-disciplinary professionals.

Turning Points Network (TPN) offers a staff advocate to accompany non-offending parents bringing the child to the interview. The TPN advocate is not part of the investigative team, but provides support, referrals and information

to the non-offending parents. For many parents, the allegation is a surprise and they are in shock. It can be difficult for parents and they may have questions. Though DCYF and the police are present, the experienced advocate can have a private conversation with parents.

CAC's team approach and Turning Points Network strive to make what can be an uncomfortable process streamlined and supportive for children and non-offending parents seeking justice and healing. TPN and CAC partner to help non-offending parents to sort out the options, determine next steps and begin healing.

Depending on the situation, TPN provides emergency shelter, connects the parent and child(ren) to resources they may need and provides support for every step of the healing process. TPN's wraparound services ensure

that each family receives what they, specifically, need to reach individual goals, to feel safe and empowered, transition to sustainable housing and feel that they are an integral part of their community.

If you or someone you know would like more information call Turning Points Network's Crisis and Support Line at 1.800.639.3130 anytime, 24/seven.

OUR TURN is a public service series made available by Turning Points Network in celebration of its 40th anniversary of providing violence-prevention education programs in our schools, services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and helping people 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.



Toys for Kids Ride...

The MA Trail Riders teamed up with the Sullivan County ATV Club and others on Sunday for the local group's second annual Toys for Kids Ride and Claremont. Riders were asked to bring an unwrapped toy to donate. The event was a huge success, and dozens of toys were collected for local kids and families in need this season (Courtesy photo).

TLC Family Resource Center Strives to Break Down Barriers for Families

CLAREMONT, NH--TLC Family Resource Center will be hosting a special fundraising day on Tuesday, Nov. 28, in conjunction with #GivingTuesday on their Facebook page, www.facebook.com/tlcfamilyrc. Visit the page for more information on how and when to make your dollars go further with matching funds from Facebook and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The funds raised will help TLC provide services to all families in Sullivan and Lower Grafton counties through the coming year.

"This year we celebrated our 25th anniversary. While we have made an impact in our quest to help all families for our first 25 years, we have much work yet to do," said Executive Director Maggie Monroe-Cassel. "Many families are still struggling and are facing a wide variety of barriers."

This is also the time of the year when TLC makes their annual appeal. Breaking Down Barriers is the focus of the request for donations this year.

"The funds we receive will help us work to break down the barriers that many families experience. Often times, these barriers prevent families, youth, and children from full participation in life and create challenges in accessing resources that can help them," Monroe-Cassel said.

"With your donation, as a community we can break down the barriers one block at a time, and you can make it possible for TLC to assist families in finding themselves on a healthy and productive path," she continued.

You can watch the wall of barriers fall, one block at a time, on their website with every \$200 donated. For more information and to find out how to donate, please visit www.tlcfamilyrc.org/barriers-fundraiser.

Volunteer Orientation for TLC Family Resource Center Planned

CLAREMONT, NH--TLC Family Resource Center is looking for some reliable volunteers to assist in fulfilling their mission of providing support to the families and children of Sullivan and Lower Grafton counties. The organization will be holding a Volunteer Orientation on Tuesday, Nov. 28, from noon to 1:00 p.m., at its office, locate at 109 Pleasant St. in Claremont.

Are you interested in a regular schedule for your volunteering? Do you have up to three hours of free time each week? Do you have computer skills? Are you outgoing and like to talk to people? If the answer was yes to any of these questions then we may have an opportunity for you! We are looking for volunteers, ages 16 and older, to help with a number of positions for the agency, their children's thrift store, and Rural Outright.

To sign up to become a volunteer, please visit tlcfamilyrc.org/volunteer-opportunities. For more information, please email Neil at neil@tlcfamilyrc.org.

www.etickeernewsoclaremont.com

Next AARP Meeting is Dec. 14

CLAREMONT, NH--The next meeting of the Claremont AARP will be December 14 at 12:30 P.M. at the Imperial Chinese Restaurant on Washington Street in Claremont.

There will be a \$10 Yankee Swap of wrapped gifts and entertainment by singer and comedian Marie Allen.

SCHS Ski Ticket Benefit Raffle

CLAREMONT, NH--Win two single day ski passes for Mount Sunapee Resort good on any day but a holiday; \$186 value. Two dollars per ticket or three tickets for \$5. Drawing will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Dec 1. Winner does not need to be present to win.

Tickets can be purchased at the Sullivan County Humane Society located at 14 Tremont St. during any of its open hours or via mail to SCHS, PO Box 111, Claremont, NH 03743.

Please include a return address and phone number.

Send news and photos to etickeernews@gmail.com

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Ann Jacques

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Ashley Bergeron
Agent



This is a doll house! Low maintenance with the vinyl siding and standing seam roof. Two bedrooms, hardwood floors, updated kitchen, tiled bath, nice level back yard and small deck of the side of the home. **\$106,000**

Kinship Care Event to be Held in Newport

NEWPORT, NH--In the state of New Hampshire at least 8,000 children (3% of the population) live with a relative with no parent present. Nearly 18,000 (6.5%) children under 18 live in houses run by grandparents or other relatives. SAU43 is working to support these families.

If you have taken on the responsibility of caregiver for your grandchild, niece, nephew, or friend's child we want you to know you're not alone.

Please join us for coffee, community, and conversation with other caregivers like yourself on Wednesday, Dec. 5th, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the Towle School, 86 North Main St. Newport, NH.

This is part of a larger effort to create community supports. In January, SAU43 will be offering a training named PASTA (Parenting the Second Time Around). This curriculum was developed by Cornell University to support Kinship caregivers. Professionals wanting to develop resources in their community and kinship caregivers who would like to offer peer support are invited to register for the training.

For more information on this and other upcoming Kinship Care events, text, call or email the SAU43 Family and Community Coordinator 603-454-8271, shammerlind@SAU43.org.

Christmas Jumble in Lempster Dec. 3

LEMPSTER, NH--On Dec. 3, there will be a Sunday Christmas Jumble at the Miner Memorial Library in Lempster, corner of Rt. 10 and 2nd NH TPK from 11AM - 4PM. The Jumble will feature vintage Christmas decorations, a "Tiffany" sale of jewelry from various decades, craft items and a Cookie Walk. Don't miss this opportunity to experience a holiday sale in a unique historic setting of an 1800's chapel converted into a library. Parking at the Town Office.

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Craft Fall at Walpole Town Hall

The Orchard School and Community Center will hold a craft fair at the Walpole Town Hall on Friday, Dec. 8, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 9, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Hot soup and baked goods from the Orchard Hill Breadworks, live music. Juried, handmade crafts galore, local cider and hot drinks, silent auction.

Library Director - Part-Time

The Miner Memorial Library is seeking an outgoing and organized individual to provide library services in a rural community. Flexible hours, 10.00 -12.00 hr based on experience. Send resume with references to:

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CLAREMONT— This fully applianced Sky-line home has a great layout with bedrooms on each end and an eat-in kitchen and living room in the middle. New furnace, paved driveway, decent sized yard, shed, and a back yard patio. Seller will contribute \$1,000 towards the park entrance fee. \$21,300 (MLS#4665645)



CLAREMONT— Affordable commercial building with total of 27,976 square feet. This listing also includes the 0.49 acres across the street for the additional parking. Fresh exterior paint and a new roof. Formerly the home of Joe Scalfani Warehouse. \$170,000 (MLS#4665951)



CLAREMONT— Own a piece of history. This is the site of the first dam and mill built in 1767-1768 by Benjamin Tyler. This property includes lots at 350 Plains Road, 354 Plains Road and 0 Main Street consisting of a total of 13.5 acres. All being sold as one package. Formerly the Coy Paper Company \$100,000 (MLS#4665952)



CLAREMONT— NEW to Market and PRICED to sell! This property also includes addresses 162 Main Street and 166 Main Street. Both are additional land lots to allow for parking at 170 Main. All are being sold as a package. Many possibilities are here. Good location, attached building to the right is/was a 2 unit apartment. There's a new roof. Interior needs finishing. \$99,900 (MLS#4665955)



CLAREMONT— Located on 2.17 acres this property has to the right side a large 2 bedroom, 1 bath newly renovated apartment. Step out the back door to the nice sized deck which overlooks the river. To the left of the building are four 12x32 storage units. Basement has over 4000 sq. ft. with part of the space housing horse/cow stalls. This is the former Staples Veterinary Clinic. \$225,000 (MLS#4666070)



CLAREMONT— Reasonably priced is this 2 bedroom, 1 bath single-wide Manufactured Home in a nice park setting. Attached is a very nice, large 3 season porch. Nice open dining area and a wooded back yard. \$15,000 (MLS#4667836)



NEWPORT—Nestled on a beautiful lot is this 1988 2 BR, 1 ¼ bath Manufactured Home with a 1 car garage, landscaped lot, and a 10x30 deck. Updates include lower kitchen cabinets, counter tops, kitchen sink, bathrooms, updated gas stove, and real wood paneling in the living room. Motivated seller. \$28,000 (MLS#4668301)



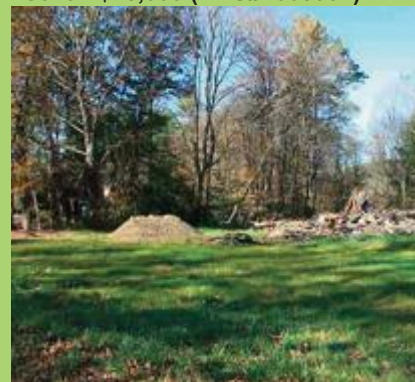
CLAREMONT—Very spacious 4 bedroom Colonial with a bath and a half on a 0.61 acre lot with many current updates. Nice hard wood flooring and a full basement with lots of possibilities in a great neighborhood. \$115,000 (MLS#4668601)



CLAREMONT—2 family home with a 3 bedroom unit and a 2 bedroom unit in a convenient location with off-street parking. Tenants pay their own utilities. Currently both units are rented. Property is in need of repairs and work \$49,900 (MLS#4668605)



CLAREMONT— Small house on a small lot that could be an ideal first home for someone. Replacement windows, vinyl siding, and dryer hookup. \$29,900 (MLS#4668607)



CLAREMONT— This 1.36 acre lot was formerly the site of a 3 bedroom home. Private septic and city water with power at the street. \$19,900 (MLS#4668618)



CLAREMONT—In-town Duplex housing a 1 bedroom and 2 bedroom unit with a nice-sized deck in the front and a covered porch in the back. Exterior is vinyl sided for ease of maintenance. \$60,000 (MLS#4668620)

School, from A1

NECA is currently looking at options, including staying in Claremont; however, nothing has been decided. That school has about 100 students currently attending.

Therrien said he sees the new school as being “totally Catholic”, a place where families can participate and that its offerings be classical, excelling in math and science. He added that he thought competition created by opening a new school, “is good, competition is a good thing.” Work to open a new school began some three years when the parish conducted a survey to see if there was sufficient interest. Since then, much work has been done behind the scenes to make the idea a reality. Interest in the school is coming from surrounding communities as well as Claremont.

A meeting was held on the evening of Nov. 20 on short notice to invite those who might be interested to serve on an expanded committee; Therrien said 15 people attended, a promising turnout, he said.

St. Mary School closed more than a half dozen years ago; it served students up to grade 8. St. Mary High School, which is now Disnard Elementary School, closed in the early 1970s.

Employee Arrested for Assault at Assisted Living Facility in Lebanon

LEBANON, NH--On November 18, the Lebanon Police Department received a report of an assault against a patient at Genesis ElderCare Center. The investigation determined that a Licensed Nursing Assistant working at Genesis ElderCare Center had allegedly assaulted an 88-year-old



Karen McGregor

female patient by pouring water over her head and face, and then placing clothing around her head and neck to impede her breathing. The investigation led to the arrest of Karen McGregor, age 50, of Lebanon, on a warrant. McGregor was arrested and charged with Second Degree Assault, a Class B felony, and Simple Assault, a Class A Misdemeanor. She

was released on \$7,500 personal recognizance bail and is scheduled to appear at the Grafton County Superior Court for arraignment on December 4.

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e-Ticker Business News

Mt. Ascutney Hospital names April Lyman as Employee of the Month for October

WINDSOR, VT – Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center (MAHHC) has announced that April Lyman has earned Employee of the Month honors for October, 2017. Lyman is a Billing Patient Accounts Representative at the Hospital.



April Lyman

As a Billing Patient Accounts Representative, Lyman is responsible for follow up of all accounts billed to insurance companies, ensuring accuracy of all information and forwarding rebills to the proper payer in a timely manner.

According to Lyman's supervisor Bonnie Paquette, "April always goes out of her way to help others, from patients to coworkers. She's a total team player." Paquette explained, "if another biller is out for the day, April will be the first to go into that person's assignments and start working on their accounts to keep the office and the Hospital caught up. She does this without being asked, and continues to complete her own work accurately, and on time. She's a role model for the department and a credit to the whole organization."

Lyman joined the MAHHC staff in 2014. She resides in Hartland, VT.

Send Business news, photos to

etickernews@gmail.com

VNH's Rowntree Appointed to Nurse-Family Partnership Innovations Advisory Committee

WHITE RIVER JCT, VT – Kim Rowntree, RN, CLC, Nurse Home Visitor, has been appointed to the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) Innovations Advisory Committee (IAC). The IAC is a collaboration between the NFP National Service Office and the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Prevention Research Center for Family and Child Health. It is a group of NFP nurse home visitors and supervisors that represent NFP nurses

across the United States and meet on a regular basis via conference calls to provide input and feedback related to current NFP program initiatives and to provide recommendations for future program innovations.

"My position as an NFP Nurse Home Visitor allows me to live out my passion for supporting mothers, babies, and families," said Rowntree. "I am honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with other NFP nurses in order to develop and support new innovations that would help NFP be even more effective in meeting its goals."

NFP has three goals and they are as follows:
(Continued on page A15)

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e-Ticker Business News

NFP, from A14

1.) Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women engage in good preventative health practices, including through prenatal care from their healthcare providers, improving their diets, and reducing their use of cigarettes, alcohol, and illegal substances; 2.) Improve child health and development by helping parents provide responsible and competent care; and 3.) Improve the economic self-sufficiency of the family by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education, and find work.

NFP is and will always be a work in progress. As the environment in which the program is implemented changes, the program and approaches to implementation, being informed by various research methods, must change as well. Proposed NFP innovations need input at the beginning from nurses who will use them in practice. Innovations need to be piloted and feedback provided with an honest, realistic, and solution focused approach. And, we need to hear from those closest to the clients about what is needed to improve the program in the short and long term. The IAC does the following:

- Collaborates with various entities and people developing NFP innovations
- Informs alignment of innovations with current practice
- Assists in development of innovations
- Pilots innovations
- Informs and supports realistic introduction and implementation goals
- Enhances acceptance and uptake of innovations
- Informs program innovation needs – both short and long term



Kim Rowntree, right, Jane Pray, left (courtesy photo).

Nurse representatives communicate with the nurses on their teams and in their region on a regular basis through a structured approach and gather and disseminate information related to proposed NFP innovations. Nurse representatives actively participate in IAC meetings providing input and feedback to innovations and at times piloting innovations.

“I am thrilled that Kim is a member of the IAC this year and will give voice to the unique insights, challenges and lessons learned from providing NFP to Vermont families so that we can continue to improve the experience for both the clients and the nurses,” said Northeast Nurse

Consultant for the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office Jane Pray, MSN, RN.

Shop Claremont for the Holidays, Through Dec. 31st

1) Pick up a red stamp card in any of the 53 participating businesses in Claremont's City Center.

2) Buy local! Make purchases at participating businesses and receive stamps on your card in increments of \$5.

3) Enter to win prizes! Place full cards (all 20 \$5 are stamped) at in a drawing at any of the participating businesses.

Spread the word! Take pictures while you shop and tag #ShopClaremontNH.

Drawings will take place on January 2 at each of the participating businesses.

For a list of the participating businesses, visit our website at www.etickernewsclaremont.com and click on the Current Issue tab at the top of the Home page.



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This Year is Different

Coping with Grief through the Holidays

The loss of a loved one changes our lives in unimaginable ways. As we approach the holidays we wonder if we can get through them when we feel the burden of grief within us.

This workshop explores normal grief reactions during the holiday time and presents specific coping strategies we can utilize to help us navigate through them. Open to anyone who is grieving, those who are concerned about the bereaved, or anyone who would like to know about grief.



**Mt. Ascutney Hospital
and Health Center**
Dartmouth-Hitchcock



Register for our FREE workshop

Sunday, December 3 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm – Hospital Boardroom

Call Ann LaRocque at (802) 674-7054 to register.

289 County Road, Windsor, Vermont 05089 | (802) 674-6711 | MtAscutneyHospital.org

Catholic Daughters Education Contest Opens

CLAREMONT, NH--Art, Essay, Computer Art, Poetry, Music and Photography are the categories included in the Education Contest sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Any student, boy or girl, in grades 4-12 is eligible to enter the contest. There are three divisions according to grade level, and a student may enter more than one category. Awards are given for each division in each category. The 2017 themes are "The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with joy" Psalm 125 or "Finding joy in my life."

Here is an opportunity for students to apply their talents, their lively imagination and freedom of thought.

Applications and rules may be obtained from Arline Marro, CDA Education Chair, (603) 542-5933.

December 4th Friends of the Philip Read Memorial Library Volunteer Recognition Celebration

The PRML Friends are hosting the 1st Annual Volunteer Recognition Celebration to be held on Monday, Dec. 4, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Philip Read Memorial Library. The evening will include entertainment by a KUA chorus, light refreshments, and a brief program recognizing 2017 contributions to the library and the volunteers who helped us throughout the year.

Please RSVP to prmlfriends@gmail.com or 603-675-9123.


LUAS Holiday Bazaar at Valley Regional Hospital

CLAREMONT, NH--The LUAS (Ladies Union Aid Society) is holding their annual Holiday Bazaar at Valley Regional Hospital, Dunning Street Entrance on December 1st from 8:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. The bazaar will have crafts and baked goods available for purchase. Also available is a silent auction and raffle items. We can accept cash, check and credit cards.

Funds raised through the bazaar will benefit Oncology and Infusion services at Valley Regional Healthcare.

Send us your news and photos

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Team NH BootyCamp ran to benefit their hearts and the Sullivan County Humane Society on a brisk Thanksgiving morning; the event was held at Moody Park in Claremont. Goods collected benefit the SCHS's Pet Food Bank (Courtesy photo).

In the Spirit of Giving...

The Claremont Soup Kitchen received two great donations on Monday, Nov. 20. The Claremont Middle School students collected and donated over 800 articles of food to the Soup Kitchen. The Student Council and the Builders Club organized the drive and helped off load the items at the Soup Kitchen.

That same afternoon the Stevens High Key Club donated 124 frozen turkeys (over 1,700 lbs.) to the Soup Kitchen. The Key Club used some money from their treasury and sold paper turkeys to raise the money for the birds.

Photos – Top: Students from Stevens and the Middle School unload the 124 turkeys at the Soup Kitchen. Bottom: Stevens and Middle School students gathered for a photo after delivering their food items to the Soup Kitchen (Bill Binder photos).

Claremont Holiday Transfer Station Schedule

Open Saturday, December 23, 2017

Closed Tuesday, December 26, 2017

Open Wednesday, December 27, 2017

Open Saturday, December 30, 2017



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Take Action on 'Giving Tuesday'... and Beyond

You probably already know about the two big shopping days – Black Friday and Cyber Monday – that follow Thanksgiving. But did you know that Giving Tuesday is observed on Nov. 28? By showing your generosity on this day and throughout the holiday season, you can benefit charitable organizations and your loved ones – and your gifts can even provide you with some potential financial advantages.

So, what sort of gifts should you consider? Here are a couple of suggestions for the charitable organizations you support:

Give cash. Any charitable group will welcome cash contributions. And if the charity has 501(c)(3) status (named after the section of the Internal Revenue Code that governs such groups), your gift can offer you a tax deduction. So, for example, if you are in the 25 percent tax bracket and you give \$1,000 to a qualified charity, you will be able to deduct \$250 from your taxes. (You will need to itemize deductions to gain this tax benefit.) Generally speaking, your maximum deduction is limited to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income.

You might be able expand the reach of your cash gifts through your workplace. Some companies will match some of your contributions to charitable organizations. Also, your employer may allow you to apply for larger grants to support nonprofit groups, especially those in which many employees are actively involved.

Donate appreciated stocks. If you have stocks that have grown significantly in value, you may want to donate them to a charitable group. You will be allowed a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the gift on the date of the transfer, even if your original cost was only a fraction of today's value. Furthermore, you will avoid the capital gains taxes you'd have to pay if you sold the stock, provided you've held the stock for at least a year.

You don't have to restrict your giving to charitable groups. If you have children or grandchildren, you might want to provide them with the gift of higher education by contributing to a 529 college savings plan.

A 529 plan offers several benefits. Contribution limits vary from state to state, but are generally quite high – you can accumulate more than \$200,000 per beneficiary in many state plans, although special gifting provisions may apply. And you can typically invest in the 529 plan offered by any state, even if you don't live there, although you might not receive the tax benefits – such as deductions or tax credits – you'd get if you invested in your own state's plan.

Also, all withdrawals from 529 plans are free from federal income taxes, and possibly from state income taxes, as long as the money is used for a qualified college or graduate expense of the beneficiary you've named – typically, your child or grandchild. (Withdrawals for expenses other than qualified education expenditures may be subject to federal, state and penalty taxes.) Be aware, though, that 529 plans may affect financial aid, particularly if you've set up a plan for your grandchild, so you might want to consult with a college's financial aid office before the child heads off to school.

Through your gifts to charitable groups and your family members, you can take the spirit of Giving Day and extend it throughout the holiday season – and even beyond.

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Photos with Santa

CLAREMONT, NH--Santa will be at the Claremont Rent-A-Center in the Market Basket Plaza on Dec. 9th from 10:00 a.m.--2:00 p.m. 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.

Community Meal Schedule

Community Meal Schedule for seniors 60+, Nov. 29; (seniors may bring guests of all ages): Reservations required - call VIA at 802-674-5971; 12:00 noon, Mt. Ascutney Hospital-Board Room. Menu: Turkey dinner, mashed potatoes, squash, salad, dessert (suggested donation \$3.00). Coordinated by: Volunteers In Action (VIA), sponsored by: Senior Solutions. Please note: If you need to cancel please call as each meal ordered is paid for by Senior Solutions (who sponsors the meals).



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It's About Food

By Johnny Navillus



Report

I said I would let you know how things went on Thanksgiving. Last week I spoke about some things I read about online. Slow cooker mashed potatoes, not rinsing the turkey and not basting the turkey. So here is how that went.

The slow cooker mashed potatoes were a disaster. I followed the recipe in detail. Once the potatoes were in for four hours I removed them from the cooler and mashed them up with melted butter and warm milk. They seemed good and creamy with no lumps and I was happy. I put them back in the cooker for another two hours on warm. When I spooned them out they had formed lumps throughout. Ok, so I got the hand mixer out and started in on those pesky lumps. No success. These were the worst mashed potatoes in the history of the world. I have to believe the low temperature caused them to coagulate. Disappointed was not the word. I resorted to pouch potatoes. I won't try that again. Actually, if I had not put them back in the cooker, they probably would have worked.

Not rinsing the turkey. It was never my intention to follow this advise. It seems so bizarre and downright disgusting. So I rinsed it as always and no one got sick.

Not basting. The advice was to just tent the bird with foil and not baste it at all. It saves time and doesn't let the heat out of the oven. On the surface it seems OK, but I didn't have the nerve to try it on Thanksgiving with guests. But I did monitor the oven temperature when I removed it for basting and replaced it. Having a digital oven really helped. I lost two degrees when I took it out but one degree came back while I basted it. Two more were lost when I replaced the bird for a net loss of three degrees. It took less than two minutes for the heat to build back up. I opened the door, removed the turkey to the stove top, closed the door, basted it, open the door and replaced the bird. If you just bring the bird out to the oven door to baste it you are going to lose more heat, obviously.

I use apple cider in my roasting pan instead of water. It seems to add a pinch of flavor, and the sugar in the cider caramelizes the skin a bit, too. Basting again.

I made my gravy from scratch. I add ground sage and flour to the pan juices. I gradually add the flour, stirring constantly to break up the lumps. Once it boils and thickens to where I want it, I pour it into a colander to remove any lumps, and there are a good number. It turns out to be a flavorful and lump free gravy. I always hear "My gravy is always lumpy." Well. mine is too, but I just don't serve lumps. If your gravy is lumpy, strain it.

Remember, anything you make may not come out tasting quite like you wanted, but your guests don't know what you were striving for. So keep your mouth shut.

Play with your food. The Food Police will never find you. Maybe.

Write to Johnny at etickernews@gmail.com.

DEC. 2&3

DEC. 16

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“The Beyond the Unicorn Christmas Craft Fair” in Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, VT--Kick off your Christmas shopping at Springfield's version of a super mall with 95 vendors showcasing their unique and unusual creations at “The Beyond the Unicorn Christmas Craft Fair” at Riverside Middle School, Route 11, in Springfield on Saturday, the 2nd day of December. The show will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and will host a large array of artisans and crafters from all over New England, New Jersey and New York.

Vendors are selected based on the diversity and quality of their creations and include bath and body products (honey, bees wax and goats' milk), candles, hand painted items including glass, slate, canvas and wood, fused, stained and etched glass, pottery, lighted objects, ceramics, country crafts, deerskin gloves and accessories, photography, postcards, cards, wooden toys, clocks and jewelry, including glass beads, precious stones, dichroic, silver, coral, pearl, semi-precious and other unusual items.

There will be Christmas decorations galore as well as knit or crocheted scarves, hats, mittens, hand warmers and sweaters, tote bags, purses, baby items, locally produced wool and alpaca yarn and wool felted items. Also, primitive and folk art, turned wood items, repurposed antiques, Vermont rocks, candles and many specialty foods.

Also available are quilted bags, quilts, tree skirts, and miscellaneous fabric, cashmere, wool and fleece items, coasters, hand turned pens, stone-works, theorem paintings, marbled scarves and candles, stone candles, cloth sewn animals and dolls, mermaids, doll clothes, wooden toys, wood and gourd bird-houses, clocks, cutting boards, wood burning, furniture, note cards, photography, tote bags, pet treats/personalized apparel and more. An author with her mystery books and related items as well as locally created cookbooks. Children's specialty items such as hair bows and ties, tutus, and pewter animals will abound. New this year are metal, copper and stainless steel garden ornaments as well as window hangings and sculptures.

There will be face painting by Springfield High School students, and "Clown Purple" will turn her balloons into adorable little creatures for the children. Outside you will find fresh balsam wreaths and a kettle korn popper will

fill the air with the aroma of freshly popped corn!

You're sure to find gifts for everyone with 95 crafters selling their wares all in one location. This event provides you with the opportunity to purchase a one-of-a-kind gift and save time

and travel; you can finish your shopping all in one convenient location. Continental breakfast and lunch are served by the Alumni chefs and two raffles will be on-going throughout the day with over 95 chances to win. or mgelineau@vermontel.net.

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Claremont Confidential

By Les St.Pierre



Welcome to Claremont

He's been here since June 9 of this year, yet many, still, do not know who he is. They see him walking up and down Elm Street on his way to and from Valley Regional Hospital. The 37-year-old man with the darkened skin and collar about his neck only make for a guessing game from the locals.

Who is this man? Surely, he's new in town, but where does he reside? What does he do?

His name is Arockia Antony. That is, the Rev. Arockia Antony, and he is the new resident at 58 Elm Street, otherwise known as the rectory at St. Joseph's Church.

Father Antony, not the pastor at St. Joseph's, but the parochial vicar at St. Mary's parish, has had the good fortune, in his mind, to have had the Very Rev. Shawn Therrien, pastor of St. Mary's Church and Dean of the Upper Valley in the Diocese of Manchester, to guide him in his very first assignment out of his native country of India.

"As priests, we have no decision in where we are to go," reported Antony in a sit-down interview at his Elm Street abode. "The bishop makes that decision. Father Shawn has been taking good care of me. He is a good person. I am totally entrusted to him."

To come to an unfamiliar territory, and alone, is by no means an easy transition and Antony has turned to a much higher power for guidance and strength to make his vocation and his mission a much easier one.

"My Lord, you do good things for me!" Antony confessed when he learned it would be Father Shawn who would lead him through all the trials and tribulations accompanying his relocation to a far designation. "I am ready to stay here because of God's grace...and Father Shawn's guidance."

Antony well remembers that fateful day he came to Claremont.

"I came here and he (Father Shawn) said to me 'You are to be alone in this house,'" Antony recalled. "Oh, my goodness," he cried out. It would be the first time Antony would have to live alone and learn to cook and clean. "But Father Shawn helped me to get adjusted. I am happy now. I don't know how long I will be here. Everything is up to the bishop and the need of the ministry."

Antony, who lived in India with his parents and two brothers, both of whom are now married, is the youngest in the family. He was introduced to the Roman Catholic religion from the very beginning of his existence and would go on to serve in youth ministry and as an altar boy. He belongs to the Heralds of Good News



Rev. Arockia Antony (Les St.Pierre photo).

missionaries, missionaries of compassion, founded in 1984 and given pontifical approval by Pope John Paul II in 1999.

It was the people in India who prompted Antony to go into the priesthood. "They all said I had a priestly look," Antony laughed. "Why don't you become a priest? They all encouraged me."

It was in 2011 Antony became ordained as a priest. Six years later, after obtaining his masters degree in theology, he accepted a calling to arrive in Manchester, NH, and Bishop Peter A. Libasci assigned him to serve as a parochial vicar in St. Pious X Parish in Manchester. Soon after he found himself at the Elm Street doorstep here in Claremont.

"I was really feeling anxiety and nervous wondering if the people of Claremont would be accepting of me because I was new here and had a bit of trouble communicating. In the beginning it was difficult for me because the actions here in St. Joseph's Parish were different, but as the days went on I was able to learn their traditions and they have accepted me, I think. I'm not Polish, but I tell them to keep up the traditions. I'm learning, too! We should never change the things in the church. We should continue with the normal things."

Father Antony is more than pleased with the help he has received from the parishioners at both churches. "Whenever I ask for help, everybody is willing to help out," the new person in town stated. "They are good to me."

The reason Father Antony can be seen walking back and forth to the hospital is that he has no driver's license and Father Shawn has arranged to that matter as well. It is anticipated that license will be obtained in a relatively short time.

"Father Shawn is such a kind and wonderful person," Father Antony said of St. Joseph's temporary administrator, a position the St. Mary pastor has held since October 3, 2016. "He doesn't consider me as his associate, but as his brother. He gives me a lot of opportunities to offer Masses. I like his knowledge of things."

So, as Father Antony becomes more acquainted with those around him and adapts to living alone in a place he is unfamiliar with and tries to master the art of vacuuming, to name just one of a boatload of new responsibilities, he admitted to falling into a comfortable status in his sort

stay here thus far.

"My impression of the city is good," Father Antony revealed. "There is no violence and there is beautiful scenery. It's a safe place. You can walk around, even at nighttime. I feel secure in this city."

Up next for Father Antony is his nervousness and anxiety towards the oncoming winter months.

"The cold winter will be a new experience for me, too," Antony blurted out. "I have never seen snow or felt the cold. It is with God's good graces I will continue to grow. I need his grace and assistance."

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'Tis The Season...

...for caroling, visiting Santa and Christmas lights, which were officially turned on Friday night in Broad St. Park in Claremont....upper right: Skyler Wise, 5, tells Santa what he wants for Christmas.

**Photos
by
Bill Binder**



Christmas can be the longest night....



If you are alone, or sad, or sick, or sick-at-heart,
You might not feel much like celebrating at this time of the year.

There is a place for you.
There is a space where you can come and be quiet with your thoughts
and prayers.

First United Methodist Church on Summer Street
in Claremont will hold a "Blue Christmas" service on
Sunday, December 17 at 3:00 p.m. We will quietly
pray, sing, light candles in honor/memory of loved
ones, and soak in God's comforting presence.

Come as just as you are. Listen to the comfortable
words of the One who left everything to come down
among us: the lonely, sad, and sick-at-heart.

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