# e-Ticker News of Claremont

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## District To Go Back To Block Scheduling; Page A14

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August 22, 2016

## Tragic Accident In Moody Park Claims Life Of Area Man Sunday

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

CLAREMONT, NH--The relaxation of a summer Sunday afternoon spent at one of Claremont's many beautiful parks was shattered for a family when a tragic accident took the life of an area man.

Claremont Police, Claremont Fire and Golden Cross Ambulance responded to a report that someone was trapped under a car in Moody Park off of Maple Ave. It was reported the vehicle was off the normal travel portion of the roadway going up into Moody Park. Upon arrival officers located the car and the person. Claremont Fire worked to lift the car off of the victim and remove him from under the car. He was removed but was unresponsive and had passed away prior to the vehicle being removed.

The victim was not publicly identified on Sunday, only his immediate family had been officially notified, said Claremont Police. The delay was to allow the family time to make notifications to the extended family; however, the name of the victim was released in an updated press release at noon today. The victim was identified by the police as 37-year-old James M. Dearborn of Charlestown, NH, said Capt. Mark Chase of the Claremont Palice Department. "There is no criminal aspect to this investigation." said

Claremont Fire, Police and Golden Cross responded to an accident in Moody Park Sunday afternoon that claimed the life of a 37-year-old man from the area. According to authorities, the man was working under his car when the equipment slipped and the vehicle fell on him (Bill Binder photo).

Police Department. "There is no criminal aspect to this investigation," said Chase.

It appears that the victim was working on his car at this location and while working under the car, the equipment that he was using became loose and the vehicle fell on him. The incident remains under investigation as an accident by the Claremont Police Department.

## **Council Meets To Set Compensation Rate For New City Manager**

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

CLAREMONT, NH--The City Council met Wednesday night to discuss what the compensation range will be for the next city manager. In addition to the councilors attending, Alan Gould of Municipal Resources Inc., (MRI), the consulting company hired to help the City find applicants for the position, participated in the meeting via a conference call. Gould suggested to the councilors that they "focus on a number" for the advertisement that will be going out to solicit applicants "and make it attractive. You will only get their attention for the first time once." Councilor Allen Damren asked if Gould had a number in mind to use. "Something reasonable," Gould answered, then saying that the range of up to \$125,000 to \$130,000 was in line with what's needed to get someone along the caliber of what the City is looking for.

Gould said that the present market for city managers is pretty tight and that there is a real shortage of qualified people to fill that position as well as police and fire chief jobs, too. He said many people are now retiring and that there are not a lot of other people coming along to fill those positions.

## New York Woman Arrested In Identity Fraud Case In City

CLAREMONT, NH--On August 18, the Claremont Police Department responded to US Cellular on Washington Street for a report of identity theft. On arrival responding officers spoke with employees at the retail store and learned that Ashley Vidal, 22 years old, from New York, had entered into US Cellular and requested to open an account and to purchase a phone to be attached to the account. As employees assisted Vidal, they grew suspicious and called the Claremont Police. Responding officers found that Vidal was in possession of a fraudulent Wisconsin driver's license depicting her photograph with a different name and date of birth. Vidal was also in possession of a credit card with the name applied to the card that was applied to the Wisconsin driver's license.

Vidal was arrested and charged with Identity Fraud which is a Class A Felony as well as Possession of a controlled drug which was filed as a Class A Misdemeanor. Vidal was processed at the Claremont Police Department

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Phyllis A. Muzeroll Publisher/Editor

<u>Bill Binder</u> Photographer/Reporter

<u>Les St.Pierre</u> Reporter/Columnist

> <u>Erin Collier</u> Reporter

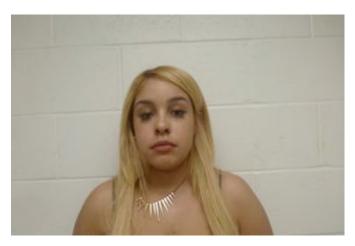
<u>etickernews@gmail.com</u>

Snail mail to: 6 Osgood Ave. Claremont, NH 03743 603-542-7319

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Member, Greater Claremont Chamber Of Commerce



**Ashley Vidal** 

and brought before a bail commissioner. Vidal was held at the Sullivan County House of Corrections after receiving a \$20,000.00 cash bail. Vidal was arraigned in the 5th Circuit-District Division-Claremont Court on Friday, Aug. 19. Bail was reduced at arraignment to \$1,000.00 cash.

Vidal is scheduled to appear in court for a probable cause hearing on August 29 at 1:00 p.m.

## Public's Assistance Sought In Local Criminal Mischief Incidents

CLAREMONT, NH--The Claremont Police Department is seeking the public's help regarding a recent string of acts of vandalism. Claremont Police Chief Alex Scott released a statement Wednesday saying, "There were a significant number of criminal mischief incidents late Sunday night into early Monday

morn-

## NH Lottery Numbers 8/20/2016

<u>NH PowerBall</u> 3 6 21 60 68 24 2

Mega Millions 8/19/2016 22 37 45 65 73 13 5

> Megabucks 1 20 33 34 39 2

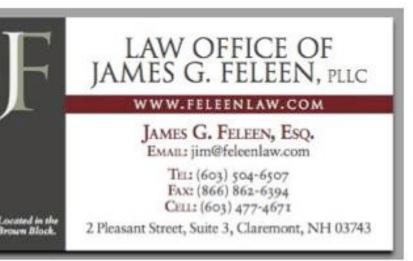
Hot Lotto 4 7 38 41 46 7 For more lottery numbers, https://www.nhlottery.com/Homepage ing, mostly involving tire slashing and damage to vehicles. The incidents occurred in the areas of Broad Street, North Street, Elm Street, Centennial Street, Main Street and Mill Road. Your readers are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to the Claremont Police Department, and anyone with any information concerning these incidents of criminal mischief is encouraged to call. We have a number of leads that we are currently working on and are looking for the public's assistance in identifying the perpetrators of these senseless acts. "

The number for the CPD is 603-542-9538.

#### **Free Admission At Saint-Gaudens**

CORNISH, NH--The National Park Service turns 100 on August 25 and it's inviting visitors of all ages to join in the celebration with special events across the country, and free admission to all 412 national parks from August 25 through August 28. That includes Saint-Gaudens National Historic site, New Hampshire's only national park, in Cornish. Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, a National Park for the Arts, features the sculpture of Augustus Saint-Gaudens and beautiful grounds.

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# **Customer Appreciation Day**

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## House of Representatives – Claremont

District 3/Ward 1: Andrew O'Hearne 603-558-1038 andrew.ohearne@leg.state.nh.us

District4/Ward 2: Larry Converse 603-542-2180 lcallcone@aol.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: David Pierce 603-271-3067 david.pierce@leg.state.nh.us

## Washington, DC

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

Sen. Kelly Ayotte 188 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 202-224-3324 http://www.ayotte.senate.gov/?p=contact

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/me mbers/wml.aspx

and click on "Who Is My Legislator"

## Kuster Statement On Additional Funding For High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas

CONCORD, NH-- Congresswoman Annie Kuster (NH-02) released the following statement on the announcement that the Office of National Drug Control Policy is allocating \$17 million in funding for High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas, including Hillsborough and Rockingham County. "The allocation of additional funds to fight drug trafficking in New Hampshire and New England is welcome news," said Kuster. "The opioid addiction epidemic is out of control in our state, and too many lives are being needlessly lost. Stemming the flow of these drugs into New Hampshire, in conjunction with robust treatment and recovery services, is how we're going to get a hold of this crisis. I look forward to working with the Office of Drug Control Policy and New Hampshire law enforcement to support their efforts to cut off the flow of illegal narcotics."

The HIDTA program was created in 1988 to coordinate among local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies operating in areas determined to be critical drug trafficking regions. Law enforcement organizations working within regional HIDTAs work to develop initiatives to fight the production, transportation, distribution, and abuse of illegal drugs. Currently, Hillsborough and Rockingham Counties in New Hampshire are designated as HIDTA.

The funds announced today will go toward important initiatives to strengthen interdiction and investigating efforts and support coordination between law enforcement and public health and education officials to reduce drug use. The funding will also go toward the creation of a Science to Action Coordinator who will work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to improve strategies and response to local opioid overdose hotspots.

#### Shaheen Discusses Her New Legislation To Provide Housing Protections For Survivors Of Domestic Violence And Sexual Assault

CONCORD, NH--U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) recently visited the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (NHCADSV) for a roundtable discussion on her recently introduced legislation to provide legal protections to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault who face housing discrimination. The Fair Housing for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Survivors Act of 2016, which has been endorsed by NHCADSV and more than 30 national organizations, would establish a nationwide standard that victims of domestic violence and sexual assault cannot be evicted or otherwise penalized solely for being victims of those crimes. During a discussion with the program's members, Shaheen highlighted the connection between domestic and sexual violence and homelessness, and the impact this legislation would have for survivors.

"Domestic violence and sexual assault survivors have so many obstacles to overcome – fair access to housing shouldn't be one of them," said Shaheen. "We need to continue working to change the culture surrounding domestic violence and sexual assault, and an important part of that effort is recognizing that survivors of violence and assault are victims of crime and deserve protections from discrimination. My legislation will put the law on their side."

### **Praise For Off Broad Street Players**

#### To The Editor:

I just spent a delightful afternoon at the Charlestown Senior Center! We had High Tea produced by Margaret Bemis and two one-act plays by the Off Broad Street Players. The tea was perfectly wonderful! Congratulations, the hard work was well spent and the results excellent.

We were announced and escorted to our seats by a very proper butler. The plays were both superior. One a spoof about a mix up with guests coming to dinner and the other a hilarious Indian folk tale. The second included some audience participation.

If you ever see an advertisement announcing the Off Broad Street Players, make the effort to go! They are entertaining and sincere.

Thanks all for a very good afternoon!

Priscilla Hull, Claremont, NH

# **Guest Commentary**

## Keeping America Safe, Secure, And Strong

#### By Governor Maggie Hassan

The most fundamental responsibility of any government is to keep our people safe and secure – because the safety of our communities is the bedrock on which all else is built.

In order for our children to have the opportunity to grow up and live out their dreams and for parents to once again be confident that the next generation will be better off than the last, we have to keep our people, communities, and country safe.

At every National Guard deployment ceremony I go to, I look at the faces of the brave men and women set to go off and defend our nation in some of the most dangerous places on earth. Seeing their faces is a reminder that nothing is more important than ensuring that New Hampshire and America forever remain safe, secure, and strong.

The United States has the strongest armed forces in the world, and we must maintain our military superiority. At the same time, we must remain the greatest force for good and ensure that the use of our military might is a last resort.

And we must demonstrate to all those who seek to do us harm that they can never defeat the resilience and spirit that defines New Hampshire and the United States of America.

As Governor, keeping our state safe has always been my top priority. I have worked to put more State Troopers on the road and instituted active shooter trainings to prepare hundreds of state employees and patrolmen for active shooter scenarios. I have fought to ensure that the men and women of our National Guard have the resources they need. And in the wake of terrorist attacks in our country and abroad, I have worked with local and federal officials to ensure that Granite Staters are safe.

In the Senate, I will continue working to protect America and our communities. And I will stand up to anyone, regardless of political party, to keep our country safe.

Last week, I outlined the national security priorities that I will focus on as Senator to bolster our national security. These priorities include destroying ISIS, protecting the homeland, strengthening our military, confronting aggression, and maintaining America's global leadership. These priorities are not exhaustive, but they are essential for keeping our people safe in the face of any threat, foreign or domestic.

I believe the United States and our allies must unite behind a comprehensive strategy to destroy ISIS that includes increasing airstrikes and the use of Special Forces, supporting moderate fighters in the region, supporting the military's request for a 50% increase in funding to fight ISIS, and surging our intelligence-gathering capabilities.

We must also double down on our efforts to prevent terrorists from entering our country and stop those who may be here already, including by strengthening security at our borders, improving vetting for all entryways into the country, preventing terrorists from buying guns, and upgrading our nation's cybersecurity.

Keeping our nation safe and secure also requires strengthening our military. As Senator, I will work to ensure that our military remains prepared to combat any threat by supporting modernization efforts, providing the military adequate resources to carry out critical missions, and reinforcing our commitment to our veterans, servicemembers, and military families.

America must also continue to demonstrate our strength in the face of aggression by those who would undermine our vital interests, threaten harm to us or our allies, or violate international law. In the Senate, I will fight to ensure that we prevent Iran from ever getting a nuclear weapon and crack down on its support for terrorism while strengthening our commitment to Israel. And I'll support efforts to ensure that China plays by the rules and to check Russia's expansionary efforts.

And as we confront aggression by our adversaries, we must maintain America's global leadership. I support efforts to bring countries together to address global challenges, fight back against any efforts to undermine our commitment to NATO, invest in humanitarian aid and international development to help fight the conditions that breed extremism, and stand up for our values around the world.

Maintaining our safety, security, and strength means remaining dedicated to the values of diversity, equality, and liberty and justice for all that so many brave Americans have fought and died for. In the Senate, I will serve by these values and I will always make America's security my top priority - just as I have made New Hampshire's security my top priority as Governor.

Protecting our national security should not be a partisan issue. As I did when I opposed President Obama's proposal to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay and when I spoke out to support strengthening vetting for all entryways into the country, I will always stand up to anyone, regardless of political party, to keep our country safe.

I will work with members of both parties to ensure that our military strength and our global leadership remain second to none. And in the face of any threat, I will do everything in my power to keep Granite Staters, and all Americans, safe.

Governor Maggie Hassan (D) is running for the US Senate seat currently held by Sen. Kelly Ayotte (R).

#### We welcome Letters To The Editor.

Send to etickernews@gmail.com.

Please include your name, address and phone number.



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"Parking will be very limited this year at Richards," said Gallagher. "The school parking lot has been redesigned to have 47 parking spaces and an additional two handicap spaces. Additionally, St. Patrick Church has graciously allowed the school to use the rear spaces of the parking lot it owns across from Assumption Hall, as well as the parking spaces along the tree line at Assumption Hall. These will be used for school staff. There will also be street parking along the school side of School Street, and some additional parking along the church side of the exit to Beech Street. The District is encouraging staff and parents to carpool wherever possible however, as there will be little excess parking capacity on or near Richards School."

#### Send news and photos

#### to <a href="mailto:etickernews@gmail.com">etickernews@gmail.com</a>

Newport Superintendent of Schools Cindy Gallagher announced Wednesday that the Richards Elementary School will be using a new procedure for the drop-off and pick-up of students riding to and from school (Courtesy photo).

## New Procedure For Student Drop-Off, Pick-Up And Parking At Richards School

NEWPORT, NH--Newport Superintendent of Schools Cindy Gallagher announced Wednesday that the Richards Elementary School will be using a new procedure for the drop-off and pick-up of students riding to and from school with their parents, guardians, or other adults approved by parents or guardians to transport their children. Vehicles dropping off or picking up children will be asked to no longer drop off or pick up their children on School Street, but rather to enter the Richards School main parking lot from School Street, drop off or pick up their child, and then exit to Beech Street, making a right turn to Sunapee Street. Buses will follow the same traffic flow after parents come through, entering from School Street and exiting to Beech Street, making a right turn to Sunapee Street.

In the morning, parents will be able to drop off their children beginning at 8:00 AM. Between 8:00 and 8:15, the buses will drop off grades Kindergarten through Grade 5 at Richards School and then continue to the Middle High School to drop off the Grade 6 students. In the afternoon, parents will be able to begin to pick up their children at 3:10, with buses picking up the sixth graders first and then arriving at Richards School between 3:20 and 3:35 PM to pick up the Richards' bus students.

More detailed information about this plan will go to homes in mailings and will be discussed at the Richards Back to School Night on August 25th at 5:00 p.m. Information will also be available on the District's website, <u>www.sau43.org</u>.

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## Sullivan County Among Those Designated As Primary Natural Disaster Areas

WASHINGTON, DC--The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack has issued a Secretarial Natural Disaster Designation August 17 for eight counties in New Hampshire as a result of "freeze and unseasonably warm temperatures" over the period of February 1, 2016, to April 30, 2016. Those counties are Belknap, Cheshire, Grafton, Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, Strafford and Sullivan.

"Our hearts go out to those New Hampshire farmers and ranchers affected by recent natural disasters," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "President Obama and I are committed to ensuring that agriculture remains a bright spot in our nation's economy by sustaining the successes of America's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities through these difficult times. We're also telling New Hampshire producers that USDA stands with you and your communities when severe weather and natural disasters threaten to disrupt your livelihood."

Farmers and ranchers in Carroll and Coos counties in New Hampshire also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous.

All counties listed above were designated natural disaster areas on Aug. 18, 2016, making all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the EM loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity.

"I welcome today's decision to designate eight New Hampshire counties as primary natural disaster areas," said Congresswoman Annie Kuster. "The Granite State is suffering from an historic drought, and many of our famers and communities are hurting as a result. As I've visited farms across our state, I have heard directly from New Hampshire farmers and agriculture leaders about the challenges the drought has created for them. I look forward to working with the USDA and Granite

State farmers to ensure they receive the funds they need quickly and efficiently to mitigate crop losses."

"I appreciate Secretary Vilsack's attention to this

The Claremont NH City Council wishes to conduct an operational assessment to analyze the City of Claremont's recreation facilities, identify factors, issues, and concerns within the facilities that need to be addressed, changed, altered or improved to increase the operational efficiency, public use and financial integrity of the facilities to ensure the Division is operating at a high level of efficiency and effectiveness.

For more information please contact the city manager's office or go to:

http://www.claremontnh.com/government/bids-and-public-requests. aspx

All proposals must be submitted in writing by 2 p.m. on Monday, September 19, 2016 to:

Dorée Russell City Manager's Office 58 Opera House Square Claremont, NH 03743 (603) 542-7002 <u>drussell@claremontnh.com</u> urgent matter that is deeply impacting New Hampshire's agricultural community," said US Senator Kelly Ayotte. "Going forward, I urge USDA to continue to work closely with New Hampshire's farmers to ensure that they are receiving adequate support during natural disasters."

Other FSA programs that can provide assistance, but do not require a disaster declaration, include the Emergency Conservation Program; Livestock Forage Disaster Program; Livestock Indemnity Program; Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program; and the Tree Assistance Program. Interested farmers may contact their local USDA Service Centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov.

www.etickernewsofclaremont.com

#### **REQUEST FOR DEVELOPERS**

Development of the former Claremont Junior Sports League Building Proposal Due Date: Friday, October 7, 2016

The City of Claremont invites Statements of Interest from qualified buyers/developers for the purchase and renovation of a 17,574 square foot two level building on School Street in Claremont, NH. The City is highly interested in receiving submissions proposing a use that would support economic development. Responses should describe proposed end use and information on the buyer or development team. Statements of interest and qualifications are to be received in a sealed envelope no later than Friday, October 7, 2016 by 2:00 p.m. at the City Manager's office, 58 Opera House Square, Claremont, NH 03743 with purchase price offered in a separate sealed envelope. Statements must be clearly marked 45 School Street Building. Specifications are available in the Planning and Development office at 542-7008 or by email at newbiz@claremontnh.com; specifications are also available at the city website

http://www.claremontnh.com/government/bids-and-public-request s.aspx. All responders are encouraged to meet with the Planning and Development staff and to visit the site. The City of Claremont reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Mascoma Savings Bank is pleased to now offer **Debit Card Guardian Alert Service**.



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annjacques1@comcast.net Sold over 5 million dollars in properties in 2013

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## Ann Jacques

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e-Ticker News of Claremont, Section A

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Numbered balls will be dropped from a fire truck at the Golf Classic August 26th. Max 200 balls will be sold.

#### **Compensation, from A1**

"It's kind of a generational gap," he said. "It's become very competitive right now."

Councilor Bruce Temple asked if they should consider what the health package would be, but Gould said, "Not at this point..."

Damren then said he favored raising the compensation to a range of up to \$135,000. "This is the heart of the hiring season," he said, adding that the higher figure gives them some "wiggle room." Lebanon is also looking for a new city manager. Temple said a full package including compensation along with benefits such as a car allowance, health insurance, and retirement could reach "\$150,000, \$160,000, as long as we understand what a package is." Gould said that everything would be negotiable "when it comes down to the end....I will tell candidates, it's all money, how do you want it."

Current city manager Guy Santagate, who has worked for the City for 15 years, came on board at a salary of \$90,000. It is now \$100,000.

With Gould's assistance, the council agreed on the wording of the advertising for the position and settled on offering "compensation of up to \$135,000" and passed a motion to set the process in motion.

"This is just the beginning," said Mayor Charlene Lovett.

## District To Go Back To Block Scheduling For This Year

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

CLAREMONT, NH--Change is in the air again at Stevens High School as the district moves to going back to the old block scheduling format.

"Pat Berry and I met with the SREA and their UniServe Rep to discuss schedule options on Monday," Claremont School Board chair Brian Rapp told the *e-Tlcker News*. "I also met with a group of teachers to listen to input on the schedule debate. Feelings were mixed on the AB schedule, but across the board, teachers, administration, parents, and students felt the flex time was a benefit for our students." Flex time is an intervention block, during the school day, where students get help with subjects they need help in. Teachers, guidance and the student schedule the time at the beginning of each week.

Rapp added that "The administration had been working to be prepared for either schedule since late June while waiting on the labor board's ruling. There were a couple of classes lost because of the change, but they did a great job of minimizing the impact on the kids. We agreed on the schedule for just this year. The board already voted unanimously to bring the challenge to the NH Supreme Court to settle the issue on scheduling rights."

Tammy-Lynn Yates, president of the Sugar River Education Association, released a statement saying, "The SREA is very pleased with the schedule. We appreciated that the school board sat down with SREA members to come to a resolution for the 16-17 school year. It is still our understanding that the school board intends to pursue the Supreme Court regarding the schedule issue. The SREA hopes that the Claremont School Board will reconsider its decision to go to the Supreme Court. Further litigation will only cause everyone to live under a cloud of uncertainty for months, if not years. Both sides need to put the scheduling dispute behind us so that we can all move forward and focus on our mission of educating the students of Claremont."

The new A/B Schedule was put into place by the district to replace block scheduling, but several rulings found that doing so violated the collective bargaining agreement with the union.

# *Jenkins Dance & Gymnastics Center* ANNOUNCEMENT

We are excited to be adding Piano Instruction to our list of offerings this year and would like to welcome David Chaves to our program.

## **Private Piano Lessons with David Chaves**

David Chaves has been giving private piano lessons for 30 years in the Upper Valley. He is the Music Director of the Area Choir of Newport, and is a faculty member of the Upper Valley Music Center in Lebanon, and is the Accompianist for the West Claremont Center for Music and Arts. He has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music Theory and Composition from Long Island University. FOR INFORMATION CALL 603-542-9413 or 603-763-4435 8 Tremont Street, Claremont, NH

# e-Ticker Business News

## Elks Lodge Shares Survey Results Of Charitable Work Done Nationally

CLAREMONT, NH--The Elks Lodge #879 has announced that The National Elks Association has completed their Survey of Volunteer, Youth, Charitable and Community Programs for Fraternal Year April 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016 and has determined that Elks Volunteers are making a significant difference nationally, within their State Chapters and in their individual communities. In the State of New Hampshire alone, there were over 24,000 Elks and associates working in various programs and over 65,000 hours of volunteer hours recorded. The federal government has determined that the work done by charitable organizations like The Elks would average out to \$21.79 per hour if performed by social care and government agencies. Based on these calculations, the volunteer hours contributed by The New Hampshire Elks Association amounts to a total contribution of \$1,432,736.08 to State and local communities. Other contributions and donations to these various programs by New Hampshire Elks members accumulate to over \$375,000, bringing the grand total to \$1,965,012.83. Nationally,

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has made a total contribution of \$282,160,455.00.

If you would like more information regarding The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the programs which they sponsor, or information regarding membership please stop by Elks Lodge #879, 56 Summer Street, Claremont, NH. All are welcome.

## Two Windsor Area Students Attend National Summit On Teen Tobacco Prevention

WINDSOR, VT – This July, two Windsor High School students who have participated in anti-tobacco programs administered by Mt. Ascutney Hospital attended the weeklong National Summit on Youth Activism in Orlando, FL. The summit was sponsored by the youth anti-tobacco group Truth Initiative, an organization dedicated to preventing tobacco usage among teens.

Brianna Diggs, 16, of Windsor, and Rand Frazer, 16, of Weathersfield, joined 68 students from across the country for meetings, workshops, and training designed to help them become more effective anti-tobacco activists in their communities. The teens also learned to use traditional and new media to develop projects that can help their generation end the tobacco epidemic.

Both Diggs and Frazer have a strong interest in tobacco prevention and have participated in anti-tobacco programs since middle school. In

Orlando, they focused on developing a website for families to educate parents on the ways tobacco is marketed to young people through video games, websites and other media. According to Rand, he and Brianna are focusing on tobacco marketing because even though most people "know the harms of the products ... tobacco companies can still manipulate you."

The two students first joined the Vermont Kids Against Tobacco (VKAT) program when they were middle school students. At Windsor High School, they engaged in several anti-tobacco projects through VKAT including the creation of tobacco-free recreation areas in Weathersfield. They have also participated in educating local select boards and community groups about the impact of tobacco marketing on youth through a presentation they created called Down With the Wall. They've also served as mentors for local VKAT students.

To qualify for the summit, students were required to submit essays detailing their ideas and plans for how they would implement youth anti-tobacco programs in their local communities.

The Windsor region VKAT and Our Voices Exposed (OVX) are programs for students led by Rachel Williams, Youth Outreach Coordinator for Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership. Funded by the Vermont Department of Health, these two local programs are administered by the Hospital, which is thrilled that two students from the Windsor community were chosen for the summit. Williams praised Diggs and Frazier for their strong commitment to the cause of tobacco prevention.

"In addition to their work in the youth groups. Brianna and Rand have been involved with the (Continued on page A16)



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# e-Ticker Business News



### Back-To-School Supplies...

National Field Representatives has donated 216 backpacks to the Claremont School District's Annual Back to School Festival which will be held on Saturday, Aug. 27th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Monadnock Park. Employees gathered on Friday to fill the backpacks with notebooks, file folders, crayons, colored pencils, a bottle of water and more (Bill Binder photos).

#### Mt. Ascutney, from A15

prevention department at MAHHC in many different ways," said Williams. "For instance, Brianna attends conferences on marijuana with our coalition to give a youth perspective. And although it's not connected to tobacco prevention, she has also been part of the Daring to Care program, the healthcare volunteer and career exploration program for teens here at MAHHC." About Truth Initiative

Truth Initiative is America's largest nonprofit public health organization dedicated to making tobacco use a thing of the past. Their goal is to speak, seek, and spread the truth about tobacco through education, tobacco-control research, policy studies, and community activism and engagement. The group has helped bring teen cigarette use down from 23 percent in 2000 to 7 percent in 2015.

www.etickernewsofclaremont.com



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Care Coordinator Lauren Boreham, RN-BC

Accepting most insurances, including the Anthem Pathways Network, purchased through the NH Insurance Marketplace (The Exchange).

## Hassan Makes Claremont Stop At Dems Regional Office

CLAREMONT, NH--The Sullivan County Democrats, as part of the New Hampshire Democratic Party Coordinated Campaign "New Hampshire Together", opened a regional office at 8 Sullivan St. on Thursday of last week. Governor Maggie Hassan stopped by to thank the SCD and to encourage all Democrats "to work hard to get out the vote." This is one of four regional offices across the state.

Also on Thursday, Hassan visited Hypertherm in Lebanon to discuss what she referred to as her "Innovate NH 2.0 economic plan", which outlines the priorities she will focus on as a United States Senator "to foster innovation, support job-creating businesses and expand opportunity for hardworking families.

"As a New Hampshire company that started in a garage and has grown to employ over 1,000 Granite Staters, Hypertherm embodies our state's strong entrepreneurial spirit," said Hassan. "As Governor, I've worked to create a business-friendly environment that allows innovative companies like Hypertherm to thrive and grow, and my Innovate NH 2.0 economic plan outlines the priorities that I will take to the United States Senate to continue working to support job-creating businesses and expand economic opportunity."

Hypertherm is a 100% associate-owned company, and Hassan's Innovate NH 2.0 plan calls for encouraging more companies to explore this type of employee profit-sharing. Companies such as Hypertherm have been leaders in demonstrating that profit sharing can work for employees and employers – boosting productivity while providing employees with shares of the company to give them an ownership stake.

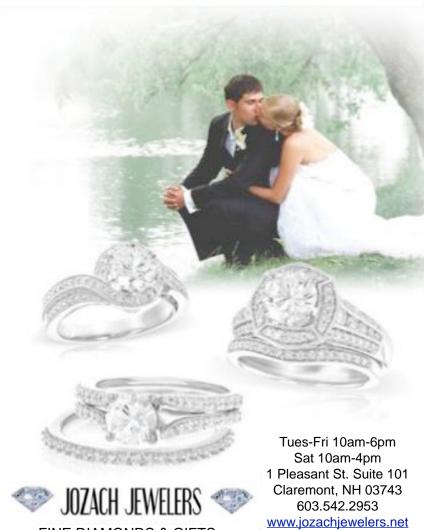
Innovate NH 2.0, said Hassan, includes specific proposals in five key areas to ensure that "hard-working families and small businesses have the opportunity to get ahead and stay ahead: encouraging business innovation and growth; developing a 21st century workforce; helping middle class families make ends meet; building a cleaner, more affordable energy future; and fixing our roads, bridges and other infrastructure systems."

On Thursday, Governor Maggie Hassan, campaigning for the US Senate seat now held by Sen. Kelly Ayotte, stopped in Claremont at the opening of the new Sullivan County Democrats' office on Sullivan St. (Bill Binder photo).

REGISTER NOW ! for Fall Dance & Gymnastics Tuesday August 23rd & Wednesday August 24th 10:00 am to 12:00 noon and 6:00 to 8:00pm \* RETURNING STUDENTS: CALL NOW TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE Jenkins Dance & Gymnastics Center 603-542-9413 or 603-763-4435 Their success is our joy!







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## Local Health Agencies Collaborate To Manage School-Based Flu Immunization For Local Children

NEWPORT, NH – The Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network has announced that nursing staff from Valley Regional Hospital, New London Hospital, and Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice will collaborate to bring school-based flu immunization clinics to potentially thousands of local students in the fall of 2016.

"Lake Sunapee Region VNA and Hospice has carried this entire program in the past, and we are very excited about the additional support from the two hospitals," said Kirsten Vigneault, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network. "Not only does this give the hospitals an expanded presence in the communities they serve, but it's also a great opportunity for the nurses themselves to have a change of scene and interact with children in a proactive way. We couldn't be happier about this collaboration."

Through a grant from the NH Department of Health and Human Services, the Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network has been overseeing school-based flu clinics since 2013. In 2015, nurses from the Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice vaccinated 729 elementary school children, up from 531 children in 2014 and 200 in 2013. In 2015, the program immunized children across 21 elementary and middle schools in Alstead, Acworth, Bradford, Charlestown, Claremont, Cornish, Croydon, Langdon, Sutton, New London, Newport, Unity, and Warner.

In 2016, thanks to the addition of nursing staff from the hospitals, the program will also be offered to high school students in the school districts that the program currently touches. The Public Health Network credits the school nurses and administration for their help in making these clinics happen.

## Conservation Commission Updated On Forest Management Projects

CLAREMONT, NH--Recently, the Conservation Commission met with Department of Public Works Assistant Director Vic St. Pierre and Dennis McKenny from New England Forestry Consultants. The Commission was updated on several forest management projects that will be implemented in the near future.

Two small harvests will be undertaken to remove hazardous and other tall trees; one at the Transfer Station and the other at the Claremont Municipal Airport. The final phase of the Rice Reservoir harvest contains 12 acres on the east side of the reservoir. This parcel abuts Rte.120 and residents may recall that the preliminary phase was completed in 2011.

The largest harvest is a 26-acre lot near Winter St. The Conservation Commission has suggested that a buffer zone of trees remain standing on the Winter St. side, to help maintain the visual character of the area. The forester will provide video documentation as the harvest proceeds.



Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center The Claremont Preschool Center 111 South St. Claremont, NH 03743 543-4294 x254 gmattice@sau6.org

### **Free Access to Preschool!**

The Claremont Preschool Center, located at the Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center, is now offering free access to preschool for all children ages 3-5 years old residing in Claremont, NH, for the 2016-17 school year. All three-yearolds will be provided with two days a week, 9:00-11:30 and four year olds will be provided with three days a week, 12:30-3:00. Classes will be in operation on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Preschool is due to begin on September 13, 2016, and will follow the Claremont School District calendar for attendance throughout the school year unless otherwise noted. If you are interested or know someone that is interested in participating in this exciting new opportunity, please contact Genine Mattice, Preschool Coordinator at 543-4294 x254 or <u>gmattice@sau6.org</u>.

## **Consider All Aspects Of College Savings Options**

It's almost back-to-school time. If you have young children going to public schools, your biggest expenditures may be on pens, pencils and notebooks. But if you want those same kids to go to college someday, you'll eventually face considerably larger costs – so you may want to start preparing soon.

College is costly. For the 2015-16 school year, the average expense (including tuition, fees room and board) was nearly \$20,000 at a public, four-year school, and more than twice that amount at a four-year private school, according to the College Board. Of course, cheaper alternatives are available – your children could go to a local community college for two years at a very reasonable cost, and then transfer to a four-year school.

Still, if your child does go on to get a bachelor's degree, those big bills will eventually arrive. As you consider how you can best deal with these costs, ask yourself these questions:

- How much can I afford to contribute? As much as you'd like to help your children pay for college, you also have to think about your own needs specifically your retirement. Think very carefully before reducing contributions to your retirement plans, such as your IRA and 401(k), to help fund a college savings plan. After all, your children may be able to get scholarships and grants, and even if they have to take out loans, they'll have many years in which to repay them but you can't postpone saving for retirement without jeopardizing your ability to enjoy a comfortable lifestyle. When it comes to prioritizing your financial goals, putting yourself first is not necessarily a selfish act.
- What college savings plan should you consider? A number of college savings options are available. For example, you could contribute to a 529 plan which offers potential tax advantages and high contribution limits.

You might also consider a custodial account, such as an UGMA or UTMA, although when your children reach the age of majority, they are free to do whatever they want with the money – and their plans may not include college.

What will be the effect of a college savings plan on financial aid? When colleges determine financial aid packages, they will evaluate your child's assets differently than your assets. Your child typically would be expected to contribute 20 percent of his or her assets, while you are only expected to contribute up to 5.6 percent of your assets. Consequently, you may be better off saving for college in your name, rather than your children's. Under the federal financial aid guidelines, an UTMA/UGMA account is classified as a student asset, while 529 plans are counted as parental assets if parents are the account owners. (The rules on financial aid are not always so clear-cut, however, so it might be worth your while to contact a financial aid officer at a local college or university to ensure that your chosen method of saving will still allow for the greatest possible assistance.)

As you can see, you've got several factors to think about when it comes to helping your kids meet their higher education goals. Study up on these options, so you can find the right answers for your family's needs.

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



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

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## **City Manager Search Update**

On August 17th, the City Council held a special meeting to decide upon the compensation amount to be included in the advertisement for the city manager position. Alan Gould, the president of Municipal Resources Incorporated and the company we hired to conduct the city manager search, attended the meeting via teleconference. Knowing the advertisement was critical to attracting high-caliber candidates, citing the right amount was critical to the process. Balancing the need to attract highlyqualified candidates with affordability was the challenge. In the end, the Council voted to cite "up to \$135,000" in the advertisement.

Understanding what this really meant was the focus of much discussion during the Council meeting, and it may be a concern of yours. When compiling the data of other city managers in NH, Mr. Gould provided an excel spreadsheet comparing base salary, financial incentives and retirement contributions along with a combined total. Other components of a benefits package such as health and dental insurance, and vacation were not included in the comparisons. Currently, our city manager has a base salary of \$100,256 and an annual vehicle stipend of \$6000. The City's contribution to his retirement this year is \$43,110 making the total of these three components

\$149,366. Therefore, the Council agreed that offering "up to \$135,000" satisfied both the need to attract the right candidates and affordability. Of course, the next city manager's salary, financial incentives and retirement contributions will be negotiated based on gualifications and experience.

Since the Council meeting, MRI finalized the advertisement content and published it the next day on August 18th. The advertisement will be open for 30 days and has been posted on a number of venues to include the City's website. Now that the advertisement is completed, the next step is to create the candidate profile and challenge statement. Public input is critical in developing the candidate profile for the next city manager. Mr. Gould has invited Claremont residents and businesses to submit comments via email at

claremontcm@mrigov.com or call him directly at this office number at 603-279-0352, extension 320. In addition to these venues, Mr. Gould will also be available at the next City Council meeting on August 24th to answer questions and receive public input.

Charlene Lovett is the Mayor of Claremont, and welcomes your feedback. Please send comments, guestions or concerns to her at char lovett@hotmail.com.

> We welcome news and photos.

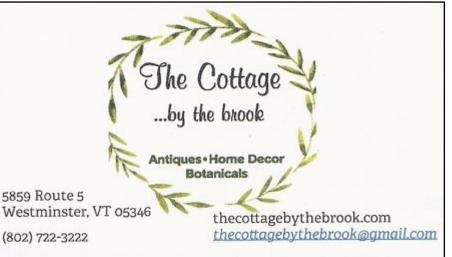
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THE CLAREMONT TRANSFER STATION WILL BE CLOSED ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2016, FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY

Scott W. Sweet Director of Public Works







## **Annual Senior Center Car Show**

CLAREMONT, NH--The 5th Annual Claremont Senior Center Car Show will be held on Sunday, Aug. 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 135 Maple Ave. Claremont. Rain date is Sept. 18th.

Event includes 29 Spectator Choice Trophies, nine Classes, DJ, food, door prizes, 50/50 Raffle. Show cars-\$10 driver +1

Visitors-\$5, children 12 and under, free.

Car registration from 9:00 a.m.-noon. Trophies

awarded at 2:00 p.m. This show benefits the Claremont Senior Center, Inc.

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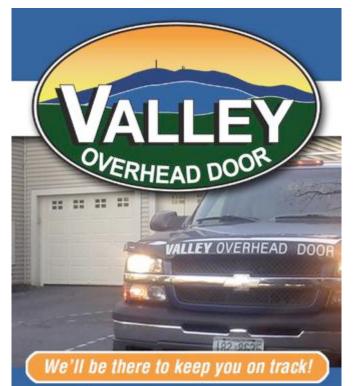
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## Tote Bag Sale At Mt. Ascutney Hospital

WINDSOR, VT--Bag Ali will be returning to Mt. Ascutney Hospital on Tuesday, Aug. 30th, from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Conference Room A with their "fabulous collection of handbags and accessories. New fall styles will be featured. The Bag Ali collection includes the hottest handbag styles made from buttery-soft leathers and fashion materials." Also being featured is chic metallic and prints, all in the latest bold colors and shapes. There will be briefcases, scarves, wallets and small leather goods for women and men. Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express welcome. A portion of the sales will benefit Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center.

#### Absentee Ballots Available In Sunapee

SUNAPEE, NH--Absentee ballots for the State Primary are now available at the Sunapee Town Clerk's Office.



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## It's About Food

**By Johnny Navillus** 



It's been a strange week. We hosted my wife's sister and her husband for a week. Steelers fans. My wife wanted to get away from the traditional burgers and dogs type of menu.

I was presented with a page torn out of some magazine. Slow cooker Beef Stroganoff Pot Roast. I read it through and thought that this didn't seem quite right. It looked like someone had skipped a step or two. Looking at the pictures showed that it was correct as written. I really had misgivings but figured that there was always Drive-through just in case.

When you read the recipe you'll notice that the roast gets floured but not browned. Also, there is no liquid put in the cooker, not even enough to coat the bottom to prevent sticking. Here it is:

#### **Beef Stroganoff Pot Roast**

- 3 tbsp flour
- 2 tsp Instant Beef Bouillon Granules
- 1 boneless beef chuck roast
- 2 tsp chopped fresh thyme divided
- 34 lbs mushrooms, steamed, sliced (or a can of mushrooms)
- 1 jar prepared mushroom gravy
- 1 16 oz pkg egg noodles, uncooked
- <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup Sour Cream

Combine four and bouillon, rub on all sides of the roast. Place in slow cooker. Sprinkle with 1 tsp thyme. Cover and cook on low 8 to 9 hours At the end of cooking time add mushrooms to cooker, covering roast. Pour gravy over mushrooms. Cover and cook on HIGH for 30 minutes Remove and transfer to cutting board. Leave gravy in cooker. Meanwhile cook noodles. Let the roast stand about 10 minutes Plate the noodles. Slice the roast and place on noodles. Top with gravy and a dollop of sour cream. Sprinkle with remaining thyme.

Sprinkle with remaining thyme.

This is the most tender pot roast I have ever had. Got great reviews, and it was so easy to put together. I cheated a bit and use some fresh chopped dill with the thyme. Really. I had all that dill still hanging around from last week.

The next time I do this I'm going to add the sour cream to the gravy for a more traditional Stroganoff.

Much too good for Steelers fans.

Next week I'll tell you about the Nantucket Cod. What does someone from Pittsburgh, PA, know about fresh cod?

Play with your food. Steelers fans will never know. *Write to Johnny at <u>etickernews@gmail.com</u>.* 

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2016

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## **Pizza And Football**

Pizza and football. They go together like Abbott and Costello, Lucy and Desi, Michael Phelps and the Olympics.

Claremont's Troy Waterman has taken the pizza-football combination to another level. Not only does he manage the bar at Ramunto's here in Claremont, he also finds time to manage a fantasy football league in the city.

Asked how he got into the fantasy football mania currently sweeping the nation, Waterman, during an interview at his pizza domain on Broad Street near the Charles Puksta Memorial Bridge, explained, "I'm just a sports fan, in general, just a die hard sports fan. I watch ESPN and all the sports commercials. Fantasy football is awesome. I run a bar and I know a lot of people. I know a lot of football fans and it is easy for me to get people to build a league. We have a lot of fun with it."

Waterman has been manager at Ramunto's nearly nine years and admits to having had fantasy football fever for the last 10 to 12 years and has managed to claim championship rights four times. He currently has a league under his management for the last three years consisting of 10 players, nine of whom are Claremonters, with the other participant hailing from Lebanon. James Ward, an employee of Competitive Computers, and his Honey Badgers team won the championship last season while Steve Nemi was the first year champion recipient. This year Waterman vows to capture the bragging rights championship belt awarded to each season's top player. To do so, in addition to Ward and Nemi, he will have to fend off other Claremonters in his league, including Dave Riel, John Scheiner, Chris Huttar, Tim Chapin, Gabe Ferland, and Todd Woods.

"We have a lot of fun with it," Waterman confessed. "There has never ever been one controversy in our league. The guys enjoy it a lot. There are bragging rights and a lot of friendly banter. There is a lot of competitiveness and the guys do take it seriously, They do their homework." Homework consists of following daily reports of suspensions, injuries, both on and off the field activity, and working up impending draft strategies, all based around the professional National Football League.

Modern fantasy football, according to Wikipedia excerpts, can be traced back to Wilfred Winkenbach, now deceased, an Oakland, CA, businessman and limited partner in the Oakland Raiders.

After developing a system of organization and a rulebook, Winkenbach used his home as the first site of the first fantasy draft in 1963. For years, the popularity of fantasy football grew slowly but eventually took off like a house afire. Fantasy football is now the single most important marketing tool for the NFL. Today, it

is estimated over 19 million people compete in public and private leagues online nationally. In 2011, the NFL directed teams to show fantasy statistics during games on the stadium video boards.

There are many different methods of organizing fantasy football leagues. The two most popular league types are headto-head and total points leagues. Each season leagues



Troy Waterman has taken the pizza-football combination to another level. Not only does he manage the bar at Ramunto's here in Claremont, he also finds time to manage a fantasy football league in the city (Les St.Pierre photo).

have a draft which can be conducted in live or automatic formats. A typical live draft will find players using strategy to acquire quarterbacks, running backs, wide receivers, tight ends, placekickers, a good defense, and, hopefully, a deep bench.

Waterman reported, "When I first got into fantasy football, running backs were the ones you kinda wanted to get into. Now the strategy has changed to wide receivers. They are the best bang for your buck because the ball is thrown 50 times in a game so these guys tend to score the most points. But people do things crazy at times. I don't ever pick a kicker until the last round because I don't really care. They four and eight o'clock games."

Statistically, it is estimated 41 million people play fantasy sports, (football, baseball, golf, etc.) every year with an average age of 34. Over 80% of all users say they are likely to continue playing for at least the next 10 years and more than 40% say they will play for life. Waterman, who has just moved to Springfield, VT, concluded the interview with, "Right now I don't see us breaking up anytime soon. People are all the time saying they want to get in, but we having such a good time, I don't see anyone getting out."

The name of Waterman's team? "Brew Crew", of course!

are interchangeable. I'm not saying they aren't important, but they are not game changers."

Never having played football at Stevens High, Waterman still enjoyed the coaching of Ralph Silva and Mike Hatt on the baseball and basketball surfaces. The 1995 graduate claimed, "I was a gym rat. I loved shooting hoops. I also enjoyed being around Ralph Silva. He was always telling stories about Carlton Fisk. I just enjoyed picking his brain. I liked to hear him tell those stories."

But that was 21 years ago, and now it is fantasy football which engulfs the mind of Waterman. He has scheduled his league's draft for September 6, two days prior to the start of the 2016-17 NFL season.

"I normally try to get it in a week prior to the

start of the season, but I have fallen behind this year," Waterman stated. "This (Ramunto's) is a great place to work. It's awesome here on Sundays. There are huge football fans around here. Claremont is a pretty good sports town. The crowd here is pretty much good all day on Sundays, and that is for the one,

## Local Partners Train Together To Simulate Public Health Emergency

NEWPORT, NH – The Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network, with assistance from local partners and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, recently conducted a public health emergency preparedness drill. The drill, which took place in Newport and Claremont on August 5-6, 2016, was part of a coordinated statewide exercise that simulated a large-scale infectious disease outbreak and the deployment of the Strategic National Stockpile.

In the event of an outbreak of an epidemic disease, residents in the Greater Sullivan County Public Health region would be directed to a Point of Dispensing (POD) location to receive a vaccine. For this exercise, the Claremont Middle School served as the POD location, allowing the public health response team to simulate the process.

Kirsten Vigneault, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network, said that the exercise was critical in testing access to the Strategic National Stockpile, which has medications and medical supplies available to states in the event of a disaster. These resources are provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and are located at undisclosed sites throughout the United States. The exercise confirmed that the public health response team will know how to activate, secure, and inventory the assets in a timely manner.

Claremont Fire Chief Richard Bergeron was involved with the planning and implementation of the drill. "Exercises like this may only be scratching the surface of the operational needs of an actual POD opening, but I feel that it served us well in that it brought us together at the actual site to walk through the basic steps that will be required of each of us in the event of a real incident," said Bergeron.

The Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network appreciates the time and efforts of its state and local partners in this event: Claremont Fire Department, Claremont Police Department, Claremont School District, Town of Springfield (NH), Valley Regional Hospital, Sullivan County Sheriff's Office, Sullivan County Department of Corrections, NH DHHS, Homeland Security Emergency Management, Sullivan County Medical Reserve Corps, Community Emergency Response Team, Civil Air Patrol, NH Disaster Behavioral Health Response Team, NH National Guard, Metropolitan Medical Response Team, the NH Hospital Association, and the other 12 regional public health networks.

Vigneault commended the teamwork shown among the agencies involved. "One entity cannot tackle a large-scale outbreak alone, and thanks to state and local partners, we won't have to. This drill provided a unique opportunity for us to train together," Vigneault said. "I am confident that we are prepared."



The Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network, with assistance from local partners and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, recently conducted a public health emergency preparedness drill (Courtesy photo).



The Claremont Fire Department held a badge pinning ceremony on Tuesday, Aug. 16. Firefighter Kyle Lizotte had his badge pinned on him by his Dad, retired Firefighter Steve Lizotte, with his family and fellow firefighters in the audience (Photo courtesy of Meg Lizotte).

## New Transgender Policy Goes Before School Board

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

CLAREMONT, NH--A first read of a new policy to address transgender and gender nonconforming students was held at Wednesday night's school board meeting. The purpose of the policy, said the draft, is as follows: District policy requires that all programs, activities, and employment practices be free from discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation or gender identity. This policy is designed in keeping with these mandates to create a safe learning environment for all students, and to ensure that every student has equal access to all school programs and activities.

The policy sets out guidelines for schools and district staff to address the needs of transgender and gender non-conforming students and clarifies how state law should be implemented in situations where questions may arise about how to protect the legal rights or safety of such students.

Superintendent of schools Middleton McGoodwin said that he did not write the policy but rather turned to what is recommended by the NH School Board Association; he also gleaned a bit from policies other schools are already using, he said.

McGoodwin said that a few years ago he and then principal Frank Sprague had "a somewhat similar situation" with which to deal and that there had had been no "appropriate information in place to do that." He reminded school board members that the draft he was presenting Wednesday night was just a first read.

The draft includes definitions of gender issues, privacy matters, official records, use of nouns and pronouns, gender-segregated activities, restroom and locker room accessibility, dress codes and other related areas of concern, such as sports participation and harassment. Board chair Brian Rapp said that Sandborn follows NHIAA guidelines, and the board agreed that the district should defer to the league it's playing in so as not to be disqualified. McGoodwin said there was additional information that he wanted to check regarding issues relating to school sports. The policy as a first read was passed by the board.

A policy on background investigation and criminal history records check was also presented to the board on Wednesday as a first read. This would replace the policy adopted on November 5, 2014.

The revised policy draft reflects the passage of Senate Bill 152 that was passed this summer to improve background checks on potential school employees. An incident in 2014 at Stevens High School involving a teacher and a student, for which the teacher was later arrested--he pled guilty to felonious sexual assault charges and is now serving time in state prison-- led to the new legislation. Court records not available to the district showed that he had had a criminal record that included theft and the resale of "federal equipment". SHS principal Pat Barry recently attended a private signing of the bill. "We have a community that was able to take a really negative thing and attack it and turn it around into a positive change," said Barry. "We're better able to protect our children...The governor had a lot of positive things to say about Claremont."

McGoodwin told the board that Diana Fenton, an attorney with the NH Department of Education, recently stated a number of recommendations regarding the new law, saying she thought the law "was okay" but was also putting out an advisory as she interpreted it. One area of concern is a line under Felony Record, which reads that the "Candidates for employment who have committed a felony may be considered for employment, at the discretion of the superintendent." That, said McGoodwin, should be at the discretion of a judge, not a superintendent. He said that someone could apply in court to have a felony expunged from his/her record, and if granted, a superintendent would not be privy to that information. "A judge would know, a superintendent would not," he said.

The revised policy draft will come before the board for a second reading at a future meeting.

## Corbin Bridge Damaged; Driver Fled Scene

NEWPORT, NH--At approximately 1:45 p.m. on Saturday, August 20th, The Newport Emer-

 xtensive damage to the Corbin Bridge in

Extensive damage to the Corbin Bridge in Newport can be seen following an accident on Saturday; the driver fled the scene (Courtesy photo).

gency Communications Center received several calls that someone had struck the side of the Corbin Bridge, causing extensive damage and fled the scene. Officers responded and found extensive damage to the façade of the bridge and vehicle parts; however, the bridge remains structurally sound, said Newport Police Chief James Burroughs. The vehicle that struck the bridge was traveling east and will have extensive damage to the passenger side of the vehicle, he added.

At this time the Newport Police Department is asking anyone who may have witnessed the accident or who has information to come forward. Information about this incident can be reported anonymously by contacting the Connecticut Valley Crime Stoppers at ctvalleycrimestoppers.org or by contacting the Newport Police Department at (603) 863-3232.



## Sweet Hunting...

This hummingbird has its eye on a gladiola blossom as it prepares to search for nectar.

Photo by Phyllis A. Muzeroll