

e-Ticker News of Claremont

LED Upgrade for Community Center; Page A6

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January 29, 2018

www.etickernewsofclaremont.com

Chamber Presents Annual President's Awards

By Bill Binder e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH--The Greater Claremont Chamber of Commerce presented its 61st Annual President's Awards at the Common Man on Friday, Jan. 26. Awards are given for Young Professional of the Year, Non-Profit of the Year, Business of the Year, and Citizen of the Year; a new award, Model Youth of the Year, was also presented.

Young Professional of the Year was awarded to Sean Edward Roberts, the owner and director of the local theater company, World Under Wonder, in Weathersfield, VT. He works with youth in theater and has developed partnerships with area schools and the Claremont Opera House.

(Continued on page A13)



Award winners—L to R—John Manning from Southwestern Community Services, Chuck Allen, Jeff Barrette, Sarah Barrette, Prescott Herzog, Sean Edward Roberts (Bill Binder photo).

Sullivan County Grand Jury Indictments Released

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll e-Ticker News

NEWPORT, NH--The Sullivan County Grand Jury released the following indictments on Friday.

Thomas R. Gould, 30, Windsor, VT, indicted for 2nd Degree Assault-Domestic Violence, Dec. 19/20, 2017.

Henri Frechette, 62, Claremont, NH, indicted for Criminal Threatening, Deadly Weapon, Firearm, by Physical Conduct, Jan. 2, 2018;

Reckless Conduct-Deadly Weapon Firearm-Domestic Violence, Jan. 1, 2018.

Michael Norton, 48, Putney, VT, indicted for Bail Jumping, Sept. 5, 2017; Bail Jumping, Sept. 5, 2017.

Ethan Meyette, 27, County Farm Rd., Unity, NH, indicted for Theft by Unauthorized Taking (3rd Offense); Offense Committee While on Release, Jan. 11, 2018; Theft by Unauthorized Taking (3rd Offense); Offense Committee While on Release, Nov. 25, 2017.

Cassandra Grenier, 30, Charlestown, NH, indicted for Possession of Controlled Drug (heroin), Dec. 4, 2017; Possession of Controlled Drug (fentanyl), Dec. 4, 2017.

Melissa Palardy, 31, County Farm Rd., Unity, NH, indicted for Bail Jumping, Oct. 3, 2017; Criminal Contempt, between Aug. 28, 2017, and Jan. 22, 2018.

Christopher Wilson, 35, Claremont, NH, indicted for Conspiracy - Sale of Controlled

(Continued on page A2)

Indictments, from A1

Drug/School Zone (crack cocaine) Subsequent Offense-Special Class A Felony Offense, Oct. 11, 2017.

Jade Wilson, 30, Claremont, NH, indicted for Conspiracy - Sale of Controlled Drug/School Zone (crack cocaine)-Special Class A Felony Offense, Oct. 11, 2017.

Sarah Carr, 37, County Farm Rd., Unity, NH, indicted for Possession by Felons Prohibited (Electronic Defense Weapon), Jan. 23, 2018.

Robert Johnson, 27, Sunapee, NH, indicted for Reckless Conduct/Deadly Weapon (Toyota Scion), Dec. 26, 2017.

Tyler George Cook, 29, LKA: Claremont, NH, indicted for Conspiracy Controlled Drugs Act; Acts Prohibits, Dec. 11, 2017; Conspiracy Controlled Drugs Act; Acts Prohibits, Dec. 14, 2017.

Dustin Gabardi, 30, LKN: Claremont, NH, indicted for Possession of a Controlled Drug, May 31, 2017.

Cody Rowan, 22, LKN: Charlestown, NH, indicted for Principal/Accomplice Burglary, May 18, 2017; Bail Jumping, Sept. 11, 2017.

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Member, Greater Claremont Chamber Of Commerce

Zachary C. Hof, 39, Georges Mills, NH, indicted for Second Degree Assault-Domestic Violence, Dec. 24, 2017.

Michael A. Dolan, 19, Stowe, VT, indicted for Criminal Mischief, Dec. 30, 2017.

Justin S. Butler, 26, County Farm Rd., Unity, NH, indicted for Possession of a Controlled Drug (crack cocaine), July 13, 2016.

Frank D. Merrell, 36, Goshen, NH, indicted for Possession of a Controlled Drug (fentanyl), Oct. 13, 2017.

Kyle W. Costin, 29, Charlestown, NH, indicted for Convicted Felons (Possession of Metallic Knuckles), Aug. 21, 2017.

Anthony C. Lantas, 35, NH State Prison for Men, Concord, NH, indicted for Possession of a Controlled Drug Analog (alpha-PHP), Sept. 15, 2017; Possession of a Controlled Drug (fentanyl), Nov. 30, 2017; Possession of a Controlled Drug (methylphenidate), Nov. 30, 2017; Convicted Felon (Possession of Deadly Weapon), Nov. 30, 2017.

VT Man Faces Multiple Drug Charges Following Rockingham Arrest

Allegedly Found with 246 Bags of Heroin

ROCKINGHAM, VT--On Jan. 25, at approximately 1:00 p.m., Troopers with the Vermont State Police conducted a motor vehicle stop on Rockingham Road in Rockingham, VT, for numerous violations, said the VTSP. While speaking to the operator, Wayland Ray, 28, of Huntington, VT, drug paraphernalia as well as prescription pills allegedly were found on his

_____ person



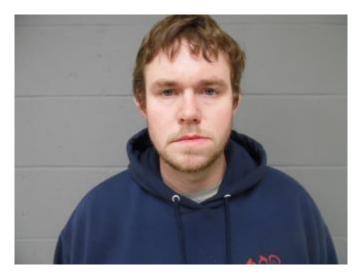
01/27/2018

NH PowerBall 17 21 26 47 54 7 2

Mega Millions 01/26/2018 10 16 27 38 43 1 4

Megabucks 01/27/2018 2 6 7 25 37 5

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



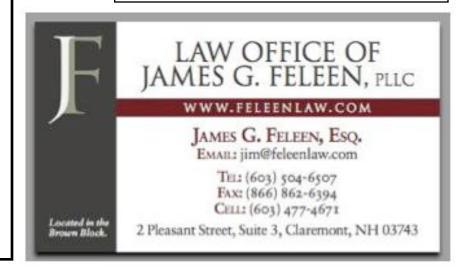
Wayland Ray

that were not prescribed to him, said the VTSP in a press release. He was taken into custody at that time.

During a search warrant of the vehicle, 246 bags of heroin, over two ounces of crack cocaine and a loaded .40 caliber handgun allegedly were located in the car, according to the VTSP. Ray was processed for the above mentioned offenses and lodged at the Southern State Correctional Facility for lack of \$20,000 bail.

<u>Index</u>

Commentary	A4-A5
Classifieds	A9-A11
Business News	A14-A15
Les St. Pierre	B1
Sports	B1-B2
Inspiration	B3
Calendar/Events	B4-B9
Obituaries	B11-B13
City Council Agenda	B14
Claremont Fire Dept. Log	B14





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Commentary

NH House Happenings

By Rep. John Cloutier

Bills to Tackle Gender Identity, Medicaid, Renaming Columbus Day

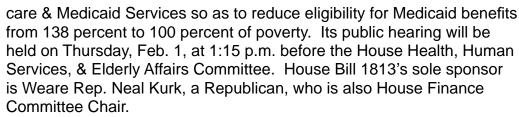
New Hampshire's House of Representatives is considering approximately 800 pieces of new legislation this year, but the public hearing on one of its most important measures will be held this week in Concord.

On Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 1:00 p.m., the House Public Works & Highways Committee will start taking testimony on House Bill 2018, which is Gov. Christopher Sununu's proposed biennial update to New Hampshire's 10-Year Plan. The bill, if usual custom is followed, will be formally introduced by Freedom Rep. Mark McConkey, who is also the new Public Works & Highways Chair, succeeding Bartlett Rep. Gene Chandler, who left after being elected House Speaker in Nov. 2017.

The updated 10-Year Transportation Plan would cover the Fiscal Years 2019-2028 (Roughly from July 1, 2018-June 30, 2027, in calendar years), and includes new as well as ongoing highway, turnpike, rail, bus, and airport projects. As required by state law, the plan was submitted by Gov. Sununu on Jan. 16. But it is mainly based on the recommendations of the GACIT (Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation) which is the five-member New Hampshire Executive Council and Department of Transportation. These are recommendations that GACIT shifted out from among transportation improvement suggestions made by our state's regional planning agencies such as the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Planning Council, which serves Claremont. GACIT also received similar suggestions from citizens in numerous local transportation hearings held throughout New Hampshire, including an Oct. 23, 2017, hearing in Claremont. I plan to write more about the 10-Year Plan in future columns.

Another important and more controversial bill will also have a public hearing on the same date as well as same time, but before the House Judiciary Committee. This legislation is House Bill 1319 which would prohibit discrimination based on gender identity. The popularly-called "transgender bill" would ban discrimination against transgender individuals in employment, housing, and public accommodations. It also defines 'gender identity" as a person's current "gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology, or assigned sex at birth." House Bill 1319 is sponsored by a bi-partisan coalition of 15 legislators led by Harts Location Rep. Edward Butler, a Democrat. This bill was filed for the 2018 House Session after a similar gender identity anti-discrimination measure was tabled during the 2017 Session under pressure from House Republican Leadership.

Yet other controversial legislation to be heard this week is House Bill 1813. This bill would require New Hampshire's Health & Human Services Commissioner to seek a waiver from the federal Centers for Medi-



Speaking of our state's Medicaid program, there is a contrary measure presently being considered by the House. This measure is House Bill 1811, which would permanently continue Medicaid Expansion at its current poverty levels, and allow the use of state funds to help pay for what is officially known as the "New Hampshire Health Protection Program." Medicaid Expansion first allowed in New Hampshire under the federal Affordable Health Care Act was begun in 2014, and continued in 2016 by then Gov. Maggie Hassan, a Democrat. But the popular health insurance program faces an uncertain future under Republican Gov. Sununu as well as Republican legislature. Nevertheless, the bill's bipartisan coalition of 12 sponsoring legislators led by Nashua Rep. Cynthia Rosenwald, a Democrat, will tryt to continue such expansion.

Additional 2018 legislation certain to spark partisan controversy is House Bill 1433. This bill would require all presidential and vice presidential candidates to publicly disclose their federal tax returns to the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Office. Otherwise, they would be ineligible to receive any of our state's four Electoral College votes for president or vice president. It is sponsored by Hebron Rep. Suzanne Smith, and four fellow Democratic lawmakers, including Hanover Sen. Martha Hennessey, who is Claremont's state senator. House Bill 1433 comes in response to President Donald Trump, who won the White House in 2016, despite the fact he did not publicly disclose his tax returns. It is being examined by the House Election Law Committee.

The Election Law Committee is also examining House Bill 1224. The bill would authorize town moderators to postpone and reschedule town elections because of weather emergencies. The measure is sponsored by a group of four Democratic legislators led by Bennington Rep. Jonathan Manley. It was filed after opinions by New Hampshire Secretary of State William Gardner and Gov. Sununu stated several towns and school districts did not have the current legal authority to postpone their elections on Town Meeting Day in March 2017 because of a blizzard.

Another timely piece of legislation being considered by the House Education Committee in 2018 is House Bill 1415. The bill would establish a \$100,000 death benefit for all school employees killed in the line of duty. It is sponsored by a bi-partisan group of nine legislators led by Manchester Rep. Mary Heath, a Democrat, and including Lempster Rep. James Grenier, a Republican. It was filed in response to the continuing and awful wave of school shootings throughout our nation, though thankfully there hasn't yet been a school shooting in New Hampshire as of the date of this column.

Finally, yet another controversial measure is House Bill 1604. The bill would rename the Columbus Day holiday, "Indigenous Peoples' Day" in honor of our Native Americans. Sponsored by three Democratic representatives led by Durham's Timothy Horrigan, it is now before the House Executive Departments & Administration.

Email: jocloutier@comcast.net

House of Representatives - Claremont

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

<u>Senate – Claremont</u>

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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"

Bipartisan Legislation Cosponsored by Senator Hassan to Bolster Veteran Peer Specialist Services Passes U.S. Senate

WASHINGTON, DC--On Thursday, the Senate passed bipartisan legislation, cosponsored by U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan (D-NH), to expand veterans' access to peer counseling specialists to better combat the risks of suicide and treat associated mental health conditions. The Veteran Partners' Efforts to Enhance Reintegration Act (Veteran PEER Act) was first introduced by U.S. Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Roy Blunt (R-MO).

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) currently employs peer specialists to assist veterans in treatment for mental health and substance abuse disorders. Peer specialists support fellow veterans and encourage recovery by helping veterans access health services and navigate the VA healthcare system; and teaching coping and positive health-affirming behavior. The VA was instructed by a 2012 Executive Order to hire and train 800 peer counselors by December 31, 2013, to treat the estimated 1.5 million veterans requiring mental health services.

The Veteran Partners' Efforts to Enhance Reintegration Act (Veteran PEER Act) would expand veterans' access to peer specialist services by specifically targeting shortcomings in the current program, including peer specialists' restricted participation in primary care services; persistent stigma attached to seeking treatment for mental health disorders; and under-promoted proven successes of the peer specialist program in veteran reintegration.

Sununu Skis at the New England Winter Sports Clinic for Disabled Veterans

CONCORD, NH--On Wednesday, Governor Chris Sununu joined the Department of Veterans Affairs and the New England Handicap Sportsman Organization for the New England Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic at Mount Sunapee.

"This is what New Hampshire is all about," said Sununu. "Recreational therapies such as these open doors and expand opportunities for our heroes. I was proud to do my part today by participating in this awe-inspiring clinic."

"Thousands of Veterans receive 'recreational therapy' from VA, when I arrived at Manchester VA we identified there was a gap in outpatient recreation therapy for Veterans; and we are addressing that," said Alfred Montoya, Acting Director, Manchester VA Medical Center. "At the medical center, we are excited to be expanding our Recreation Therapy Services to include our outpatient population. Manchester VA is piloting a Sled Hockey Clinic and proud to be at the 2018 VA New England Winter Sports Clinic here in Sunapee. The benefits of recreation therapy for Veterans include improving physical well-being such as weight management and controlling diabetes and hypertension. The therapy can also improve social functioning and help Veterans develop new leisure skills."

"We don't know them all, but we surely owe them all," said Tom Kersey, Executive Director of New England Healing Sports Association. "It has been my pleasure to introduce so many Veteran and their families to the wonders of adaptive sport -no one should be left inside, nothing is impossible, and this is especially true for those who have served. What a great trade we get to make with our veterans, we teach them a little about adaptive sports and they teach us about the triumph of the human spirit."



Gov. Chris Sununu on the slopes at Mt. Sunapee (Courtesy photo).

Community Center to Get LED Lighting Upgrade

CLAREMONT, NH--The Clty Council approved a resolution Wednesday night to accept and expend a Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) Clean Energy Fund's Municipal Energy Reduction Fund grant in the amount of \$51,730. The funding will be used for the installation of LED lighting and related monitoring equipment at the Claremont Savings Bank Community Center. The loan funds are payable over 39 months at an interest rate of 2.5%. The total upgrade cost is \$70,000, with the remaining \$18,270 coming from off-setting grant revenue from Eversource.

Parks and Rec Director Mark Brislin told the council that the upgrade would save the center some \$14,000 annually in energy costs.

---Phyllis A. Muzeroll

Updated Masterplan Approved by Planning Board

CLAREMONT, NH--The Claremont Planning Board approved an updated Masterplan last Monday night, bringing to fruition work that had taken two years to complete.

The document, which is some 250 pages, includes three new pieces--an energy chapter as well as a public health one and an implementation chapter. The City is the first community in the state to have a Public Health chapter in its masterplan, which is designed, said board member David Putnam, to help the community do a better job and focus on how those services are offered and carried out

City Planner Mike McCrory said that the process had gone well, with a significant amount of community interest and involvement during the earlier months of the project, which also included a community survey. The survey drew some 250 participants, which he described as being "one of the higher responses to masterplan surveys that I have seen."

The board said it would like to see an increase in community input and would look at ways to increase interest down the road.

"This is a very good document," said Putnam, during the discussion Monday night.

---Phyllis A. Muzeroll

Program on Teen Behavior

CLAREMONT, NH--Curious about teen behavior? Come to the presentation, Teen Be-

havior: Myth vs Reality, on Feb 1, 6:30 p.m., at the Stevens High School auditorium. They will discuss the difficulties teens face on a daily basis and to learn how to help them navigate the challenges.

Open to the public. Food will be provided. Use event entrance. Questions? Please contact Kara Toms at ktoms@sau6.org.



Newport Winter Carnival Photo Contest

Saturday, February 10, 2018 Photos on Display: 10:00am-1:00pm Contest winners will be announced at 1:00pm Location:

Library Arts Center--Annex Location 15 Main Street Newport, NH Admission is free

Calling all Photographers --Amateur & Professional: Enter your photos in the Newport Winter Carnival Photo Contest sponsored by the Library Arts Center. Photographs may be old or new, framed or unframed—just get creative! You may enter 1-2 photographs in the contest. This year's theme, in keeping with the theme of the Carnival is "Something Sweet." Contest Photos will be on display during Newport's Winter Carnival festivities on Saturday, Feb. 10th at the Library Arts Center's annex location at 15 Main Street in downtown Newport.

Drop off your photos on Tues-Fri., Feb. 6th-9th, during gallery hours 11:00am-4:00pm at the Library Arts Center Main Gallery at (58 No. Main Street, Newport), or drop them off on Saturday, Feb. 10th 9:00-10:00am at the Library Arts Center's annex location at 15 Main Street in downtown Newport where the photos will be on display.

Winners will be announced on Saturday at 1:00 pm. The back of each photograph must be labeled with the photographer's name, address, phone number, and a photo title. There is no entry fee to enter the contest, but please be sure to turn in the completed entry form with your contest entries. More information and contest entry forms may be found at libraryartscenter.org.

Cornish Man Honored by Lake Sunapee VNA for Service in National Guard

CORNISH, NH--On January 11, Melvin O. Clark was honored by Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice (LSRVNA) at a "We Honor Veterans" ceremony in his Cornish home. Members of the LSRVNA caregiving staff acknowledged Clark for his service in the Army National Guard, where he voluntarily enlisted in 1953. With his son, Alan J. Clark, and grandson, Cullen A. Clark, by his side, Clark



Melvin Clark with son Alan and grandson Cullen (Courtesy photo).

was presented with a plaque and pin honoring his service, as well as a commemorative memory book to help document stories, facts and special life moments. At the time of his final Honorable Discharge ("Awarded as a testimony of honest and faithful service") in 1961,. Clark was a Corporal Grade E4 in the 4th Howitzer Battalion of the 197th Artillery based in New Hampshire. In addition to being a skilled marksman. Clark drove a Howitzer tank. Son, Alan, recalls how much his father loved driving the Howitzer and was reportedly seen chasing an occasional wayward deer or driving through a river just to see if he could get to the other side. Rumor has it that he was also usually the first in line for dinner!

As a civilian, Clark was an expert and highly regarded stone mason, even building a fire-place for Guy Lombardo. Said Alan, "Lucille Ball loved that fireplace so much that she had Melvin build one for her home in the White Mountains." His expertise can be seen in the unique almost three-story hanging chimney at the Hopkins Center. Schools, state parks, stone churches all give testament to his mastery. He is the only person who knows where time capsules are in stone church foundations. "And when he wasn't working, he always loved to dance!" shared Alan.

In 2011, LSRVNA was the first home care agency in New Hampshire to become a national "We Honor Veterans" Partner. Partners must meet specific requirements to enhance care for patients who served in the military during their lives. For more information please call 603-526-4077.

Claremont Man Arrested in MA Robbery Case

ORANGE, MA--A Claremont man was arrested in Orange, MA, following a robbery that was reported on South Main Street at the Stop & Save Market, Jan. 19 at 1:21 p.m., and was described as a "masked, armed robbery by knife". According to the Orange Police Log, Joshua A. Pelton Sr., 32, of Lilac Lane, Claremont, NH, was arrested and charged with robbery, armed and masked assault, assault with a dangerous weapon, larceny over \$250.



Canine Rescued with Support from Local Businesses

<u>Dog Lodged Beneath Car,</u> Released to Owner After Vet Check

LEBANON, NH--On the evening of Tuesday, January 23, Lebanon Police responded to a report of a motor vehicle collision. Upon arrival, it was discovered a vehicle had struck a canine when it jumped out of another vehicle.

The canine did not appear to be injured but became lodged underneath the vehicle and the people and officers on scene were not able to free it, reported Lebanon Police Chief Richard Mello. Lebanon Police reached out to Midnight Auto Recovery Services, which responded to the scene and was able to assist in freeing the canine. The canine was then transported to the Stonecliff Animal Hospital where



This dog was successfully rescued from beneath a car (Courtesy photo).

Dr. Dan Kelly examined the canine; it was later released back to its owner.

"Lebanon Police would like to acknowledge the generosity and cooperation provided by Midnight Auto Recovery Services and Stonecliff Animal Hospital, who both provided their

services free of charge," said Mello. "This was truly a community effort with a successful conclusion."

Train Worlds Art Camp in Newport

February 26 -Mar. 1st, 9:00 am-12:00 noon Location: Library Arts Center Annex Location, 15 Main Street, Newport



Fee: \$45 (includes all four sessions)

In this art camp for kids ages 5+, create a whole winter world built around scale trains! Build mountains, tunnels, bridges, buildings and and more.

Register by calling the Library Arts Center at 603-863-3040, or register online at libraryartscenter.org.

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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)





CHARLESTOWN— Lots of room to spread out in this Manufactured Home with an addition added in 1985! Open kitchen, dining and living room, 3 bedrooms, 8x40 porch, detached garage, and a location close to all of the amenities in Charlestown's village! \$119,700 (MLS#4671123)



CHARLESTOWN—This beautiful and spacious 4 bedroom Cape with an attached oversized garage is just waiting for new owners to breathe new life into it. Gorgeous hardwood floors throughout with ample closet space and a bath on every floor. The 2 car garage also has overhead storage above. A true must see! \$119,900 (MLS#4673045)



WINDSOR, VT—3 bedroom, 1 bath Ranch style home situated on a lowmaintenance corner lot. Aluminum sided exterior, shingled roof, and a full basement. \$79,900 (MLS#4668662)



CLAREMONT—2 bedroom Ranch on a corner lot with a 1 car attached garage. Fireplace, vinyl siding, and a fantastic location in a nice well-established neighborhood! \$64,900 (MLS#4672141)



SUTTON—Spacious and bright log sided home in a country location on a generous 12+ acre lot. Front to back living room, formal dining room, architectural roof, rear screened porch, and nice sized front farmer's porch. Less than 10 minutes from Kearsarge schools, and an easy drive to Mount and Lake Sunapee. \$249,900 (MLS#4673395)



CLAREMONT— Very spacious 3BR
Raised Ranch on 5+ acres with a detached 2 car garage and large outbuildings for animals and equipment.
Immaculate home features a nicely
applianced kitchen with a dining area,
3-season porch, and view of your
pond and acreage. \$229,000
(MLS#4670096)



CLAREMONT—Country setting! Newer three bedroom home with an even newer Great Room equipped with propane heating unit and a pellet stove. Nice open concept living, master bedroom suite, large deck that is begging for a hot tub off of the Great Room. Large family room with separate propane heat on the lower level adds even more living space. \$125,000 (MLS#4672383)



NEWPORT— 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with a nice large 1.7 acre yard! Wood floors, enclosed porch, and a beautiful stone chimney. This one is affordable and ready for you to apply your finishing touches. \$36,000 (MLS#4674107)



CLAREMONT—Large 2 unit multifamily home situated on ½ acre corner lot not far from downtown. The home currently houses 3 kitchens, so it could possibly be a 3-unit with City approval. Enclosed porches, attached barn, and lots of space. This property will need a complete rehab. \$46,000 (MLS#4670610)



HARTFORD, VT— Large 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath home located near the center of Wilder waiting for you to add your personal touches. Vinyl sided exterior, front porch, and a nice level 1.75 acre lot. \$69,900 (MLS#4672557)



CHARLESTOWN— 3+ acres of picturesque rugged terrain with a brook running through the middle of it. Solar exposure and possible Connecticut River Valley views with cutting. Country location with access to trails but within walking distance of town. Paved road frontage and a driveway cut in. \$12,500 (MLS#4674278)

Classified Ads

CLAREMONT





BIBLE HILL AREA - Conveniently located 3 bedroom ranch. Hardwood floors, family room in basement, new Buderus boiler and new roof about 15 months old. Maple Ave School district. See MLS# 4672559 for more photos. \$89,900.

www.bonniemiles.com



Bonnie Miles

COLDWELL BANKER 5

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bonnie@coldwellbankernh.com





Ann's Property Of The Week

75 Charlestown Road Claremont, NH



Century 21/Highview Realty, 42 Summer Street, Claremont, NH 03743

603-543-7720

annjacques1@comcast.net

Multi-Million Dollar Producer!

A Real Treasure!

A Real Treasure! This 3.72 acre property includes a beautiful, elegantly & tastefully restored 11 room 4 bdrm 1900's era New Englander, another home 2 bedroom 1 bath ranch home with attached garage for rental or guest house & a magnificent 3 level garage w/elevator, the garage has 2 levels that are showroom finished with a party and currently an exercise room, & a heated basement workshop. Property is beautifully, landscaped & abuts the golf course on 2 sides. MLS# 4635355 \$399,990

Ann Jacques

Greater Claremont Board of REALTORS

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What a beautiful home! 4 bedrooms, newly renovated baths and kitchen, wood floors, large rooms, fireplace with detailed molding, family room, enclosed screen porch, standing seam roof, deck with a two-car garage. \$148,500

Classified Ads

Vacation Week Activities at the Fiske

CLAREMONT, NH--The following activities/programs will be available at the Fiske Free Library during the week of February 26-March 2.

Free Play Activities:

Monday- Keva Blocks and a marble run will be set up and ready.

Tuesday- Puzzles and board games will be out for all to play!

Wednesday- Experiment with Snap Circuits and a gravity maze.

Thursday- Puzzles and board games. Friday- Keva Blocks, Legos and Zoob Build-

Structured Activities:

Monday-Straw Letters- 2:00

Tuesday: Lego car building and racing- 2:00

Thursday: String art- 2:00

Please call the library for more information at 542-7017.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Claremont, **Zoning Board of Adjustment** will meet on Monday, February 5, 2018 Council Chambers, City Hall at 7:00 p.m. Notice is hereby given that public hearings will be held concerning the following applications:

A.(**ZO 2017-00022**) James & Ellen Feleen, 203 Mulberry Street: Application for variances to permit construction of an addition to the garage within the front setbacks at **203 Mulberry Street**. Tax Map 143, Lot 33. Zone: R1 (Cont. from 1/2/2018)

B.(**ZO 2017-00023) Thomas Hutchins, 2 Stewart Avenue:** Application for a variance to permit construction of a garage within the front setback at **2 Stewart Avenue.** Tax Map 159, Lot 10. Zone: RR (Cont. from 1/2/2018)

C.(ZO2018-00001)Matthew Brady, WhiteRiver-Junction, VT: Application for a variance to permit a pawn shop in the MU district at 40 Pleasant Street. Tax Map 120, Lot 79. Zone: MU D. (ZO 2018-00002) Matthew Brady, White River Junction, VT: Application for a variance to permit two commercial signs at one location at 40

Pleasant Street. Tax Map 120, Lot 79. Zone: MU Interested parties may review these applications at the City of Claremont's Planning and Development Department, 14 North Street during normal business hours.

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Seasonal February & April Vacation Camp Staff Parks & Recreation

Enjoy earning cash while having fun? If you like working with children, enjoy participating in camp activities, you may be the person we are looking for! If you are responsible, reliable, and dependable we may have a challenging and rewarding position for you. The Claremont Parks and Recreation is now accepting applications and resumes for Seasonal February & April Vacation Camp Staff. The hours are generally 8:00 am through 5:00 pm, Monday's through Friday's; February 26th to March 2nd, 2018 & April 23rd to April 27th, 2018. Applicants must interact well with children, parents, and staff personnel as well as being courteous, kind, and friendly. If this sounds like you...don't hesitate as employment opportunities like these do not last long...Apply today to: Human Resources Coordinator, City of Claremont, 58 Opera House Sq., Claremont, NH 03743.

The City of Claremont is an equal opportunity employer. All offers of employment are contingent upon a successful completion of pre-employment requirements that include a physical, drug screen and criminal background check.



1970 April, IGA Grocery Store ~ Structure Fire













Courtesy of Merle Boardman





Governor's Citation Presented...

On Wednesday, Jan. 24, former Fire Chief Rick Bergeron was honored with a citation from NH Governor Chris Sununu, presented to

him by City Manager Ryan McNutt. The citation was in recognition of Bergeron's 40 years of service to the citizens and the City of Claremont. He joined the Claremont Fire Dept. in 1977 and advanced through the ranks, becoming Chief six years ago. As Chief, he was also responsible for the airport. Left: City Manager Ryan McNutt's presents the governor's citation to former Chief Rick Bergeron; right: Bergeron poses with members of the Claremont Fire Department (Bill Binder photos).

Awards, from A1

Roberts grew up in the Greater Claremont area and is a 2006 graduate of Newport Middle High School. His nomination letter stated that he "teaches and guides these young people...by allowing them a safe place to learn."

The award for Non-Profit of the Year went to Southwestern Community Services (SCS). The many services they provide to local communities make this award well deserved. John Manning accepted the award on behalf of the organization.

Southwestern Community Services, one of New Hampshire's five community action agencies, has served the needs of citizens in Cheshire and Sullivan Counties since 1965, They were cited in particular for stepping forward last year to save local transportation services. "Their intervention last year to rescue the bus service plus this year's focus on building a sustainable public transportation system serving the entire community could merit the award alone; however, that is just one of several services they provide Claremonters."

The 2017 Business of the Year was The Ink Factory, owned and operated by Jeff and Sarah Barrette. The Ink Factory is located in a building on Water Street that the Barrettes bought and renovated in the Claremont historic mill district, going to great lengths to renovate the building that reflects and enhances its history.

The Ink Factory is a full service custom apparel decorator and promotional products distributor. Until 2016, the business was located on Pleasant St. The Ink Factory was noted for making the decision to move to the mill district. "Having a company choose to expand in Claremont's Center City enhances the image of Claremont and the area as a growing dynamic community..."

A new award introduced this year was the Model Youth of the Year award. Prescott Herzog, who received the award, is a Freshman at Stevens High School and is involved in the Fuel UP To Play 60 Organizations that teaches and empowers young people to be more health conscious. While attending his first FUTP60 Summit, he won the Power of Persuasion speaking contest, which allowed him to go to Washington, DC, and speak to the USDA on why school meals matter and met

then Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. He is also involved with student government as Freshman Class Vice President and Stevens Student Council Treasurer, Key Club, Quiz Bowl, JV Soccer Team and Life Scout in Boy Scout Troop 38 in Claremont.

The 2017 Citizen of the Year is Arrowhead's Chuck Allen. After retiring, Allen joined his son, Spencer, in clearing the ski trails on Arrowhead with a future plan to reopen the area. In 2000, Allen and others formed the Arrowhead Recreation Club and volunteers now operate the Arrowhead area for tubing, skiing, skating and much more. Allen tracks the volunteer hours and realized that he had 1,775 hours volunteering at the recreation site.

"One of the reasons I wanted to become part of Arrowhead was my belief and passion to the mission statement of providing low cost winter recreation to the region," he said.

Cornish Budget Public Hearing

CORNISH, NH--The Public Hearing for the Town of Cornish Budget will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 7th, at 6:30 p.m. at the Cornish Town Office Building. All residents are encouraged to attend.

e-Ticker Business News

Windsor Smiles Program at Mt. Ascutney Hospital Receives \$7,734 Grant

WINDSOR, VT--The Windsor Smiles program at Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center (MAHHC) has been awarded a \$7,734 grant by the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation. Windsor Smiles, a collaboration between MAHHC, the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation, Windsor Elementary School, and Alice Peck Day Hospital, is designed to serve local children who have very limited access to regular dental care.

"Providing children with effective dental health services is a reason for all of us to smile," said Jill Lord, RN, MS, Director of Community Health and Patient Care Services at MAHHC. "We know that dental health is closely linked to overall physical health and self-esteem for people of all ages, and it's important to start early. But for some local families, dental insurance is out of reach. The Windsor Smiles program provides children in need with preventive health treatments and, if needed, referrals for follow-up care."

This is the fourth consecutive year that the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation and MAHHC have partnered to bring dental services to local children. Lord added, "Another tremendous partner is the Windsor school system, which understands the importance of efforts to improve oral health for children in our area. We strive to reach more children every year, and we're grateful to the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation, Windsor schools, and all who share our goal."

"The hard work is paying off," said Lord.
"Year after year, we're seeing improvements in the dental health of young people in our communities, with fewer students showing signs of tooth decay. This demonstrated effectiveness is why Northeast Delta Dental has continued its investment in helping us provide children with preventive and protective care. And participation from families continues to be strong, as once again 100 percent of families we contacted gave permission for their children to receive screenings."

Kathleen Walker, Treasurer of the Northeast Delta Dental Foundation stated, "School-based oral health programs are important for Vermont children because of the preventive aspect and early education about the importance of oral health. Working with community partners like Mt. Ascutney Hospital is a great opportunity to make a real difference for families and the communities where they live."

In addition to sponsoring Windsor Smiles, MAHHC also provides its pediatricians with special training in dental risk assessment, oral health education, and fluoride treatment. For more information, on Windsor Smiles at MAHHC, please visit

www.mtascutneyhospital.org or call (802) 674-6711.

Eversource Recognized Among Nation's Most Green Companies

HARTFORD, CT, and BOSTON, MA--Eversource Energy is once again being nationally recognized for its leadership in corporate sustainability and environmental performance, placing 20th among 500 U.S. companies in Newsweek Magazine's annual Green Rankings list.

"Eversource has been a consistent high performer in the annual survey. The 2017 list represents Eversource's best overall performance (Continued on page A15)

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e-Ticker Business News

Eversource, from A14

to date among U.S companies, and it also placed fourth among U.S. utilities," said the company in a statement.

"It's very rewarding to see our commitment to environmental sustainability be recognized in this way," said Eversource Chairman, President and CEO Jim Judge. "With the support of our employees, we will continue to build on the #1 ranking of our energy efficiency programs, grow our clean energy portfolio, and partner with our customers and communities as stewards for our environment."

The Newsweek Green Rankings are one of the world's most recognized assessments of corporate environmental performance. Companies are compared against their industry group peers and scores are based on factors including levels of greenhouse gas emissions, water and waste productivity, as well as the transparency and objectivity of their environmental performance data.

Eversource had the highest score of any utility in the category of "carbon productivity" which is a measure of greenhouse gas emissions from 2013-2015 as determined by Newsweek. The company reduced its carbon footprint during this period through reduced emissions from generation, and operational and infrastructure enhancements.

WORKREADYNH Program

CLAREMONT, NH--WorkReadyNH is a tuition-free workforce development program tailored to meet the needs of job seekers and career builders, and provide training in the skills employers are seeking in their current and future employees.

The next WorkReadyNH program in Claremont will be held at River Valley Community College from February 5th to 26th Monday - Friday, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. This tuition – free program will cover:

- * 60 hours of soft skills training including communication, problem solving, conflict resolution and more
- * Testing in reading, math and critical thinking
 - * Interview practice

- * Resume building Graduates will earn:
- * WorkReadyNH Certificate
- * National Career Readiness Certificate It is quick and easy to sign up:
- Email <u>workreadyrvcc@ccsnh.edu</u> or call 543-4585. For more information, visit: <u>www.ccsnh.edu/workreadynh</u>.

VTech Recalls Infant Rattles Due to Choking Hazard

This recall involves Vtech Shake and Sing Elephant rattle with model number 80-184800.

The rattle has a purple elephant with yellow and blue ears at one end and a black and white plastic teething ring at the other end. VTech is stamped on the elephant. The rattle sings when a button is switched on.

Hazard: The ears on the elephant rattles can break off, posing a choking hazard to young children. Remedy: Refund. Recall date: January 25, 2018. Units: About 280,000

Consumer Contact: VTech at 800-521-2010 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. CT Monday through Friday or online at vtechkids.com and click on Support for more information or at https://www.vtechkids.com/support/support for m.





OUR TURN: Saying Goodbye for Good

"You know how there are certain moments that change everything forever? At the time, they seem simple, minor, unnoticeable. But they are not; it is only months, years, or even weeks later that we begin to blame those moments. For me, it was something as simple as accepting an invitation to a party. The party itself was nothing spectacular, but it was a spark with a flame that would burn everything.

"We became friends, inseparable. At times, we stayed up until 4:00 in the morning talking about everything, yet nothing. I was in love. I loved myself when I was around her. I loved having someone to talk to. I loved her.

"And then, I fell out of love. Instead of sharing laughter and lightness and fun she shared her depression and cigarettes and alcoholism with me. I believed I could 'cure' her, but I was completely out of my league. Ultimately, my good intentions produced the most disastrous results. Together we had created a monster.

"In the end, she was the one who broke up with me. I was shocked, torn inside out; yet filled with a kind of euphoria, which was quickly followed by fear. While our break-up was inevitable, she would not let me go. I began picturing myself, a lost swimmer drowning in the ocean. Every time my head was above water, she would reach out and pull me under. Contacting me through Facebook, texts, and email, she was determined to find me just as I was determined to abandon her.

"Sometimes at night I would wake up, sweating, believing that there was a figure outside my window, sometimes real, sometimes imagined—but always her. Then one day, she followed me home from work and waited for one of my housemates to let her inside. They did, accidentally. She then stood outside my door knocking for what felt like hours. That was the moment when something clicked. I filed a restraining order.

"Who knew what she was capable of? Anything, probably. To this day, I still see her, in random strangers and passersby. I take precautions and vary my routine."

Since January is Stalking Awareness Month, this is an opportune time to discuss the facts. According to the Stalking Resource Center, approximately 7.5 million people are stalked in one year in the United States; that is larger than the population of Los Angeles and Chicago combined. Interestingly, most stalkers choose to stalk someone they know and will contact their target at least once per week

(Stalking Resource Center). For some people, it seems like their nightmare will never end, approximately 11 percent of stalking victims are stalked for 5 years or more (Stalking Resource Center).

Stalking is illegal in all 50 states and U.S. Territories. If you or someone you know has been affected by stalking, Turning Points Network is here to help you at 1-800-639-3130.

OUR TURN is a public service series by Turning Points Network (TPN) serving all of Sullivan County with offices in Claremont and Newport. We provide wraparound supports for survivors of domestic and sexual

violence, stalking and human trafficking and we present violence-prevention education programs in our schools. For more than 40 years, TPN has helped people of all ages move from the darkness of abuse toward the light of respect, healing and hope. For information contact 1.800.639.3130 or

<u>www.turningpointsnetwork.org</u> or find us on Facebook.



By the Light of the Moon...

The New Year's super moon dramatically illumined this Claremont neighborhood. The full Snow moon on Jan. 31 will be not only the third consecutive super moon, but also "blue" as the second full moon to shine down this month. Readers, are your cameras ready? (Eric Zengota photo).

Sullivan County Plant Sale Now Underway

UNITY, NH--The Sullivan County Conservation District Plant Sale is now underway, featuring a variety of quality plants at good prices. The money raised from the sale supports conservation activities throughout the year, including workshops, programs and projects aimed at promoting and conserving the county's natural resources. All of the plants offered are hardy, healthy, and adapted to our growing conditions. Most are native, and none is invasive. New items this year include an assortment of pollinator plants and wildflowers for wetlands, forest edges, and gardens and local seedless straw for mulching and growing food.

For more information or to order, visit

https://sullivancountynh.wixsite.com/educationandoutreach/plant-sale.

The order deadline is Sunday, March 4th.

Plant pick-up will be on Saturday, May 5, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Ahern Building garage, Sullivan County Complex in Unity, NH.

If you would like a catalog and order form mailed to you, please contact

Dawn Dextraze at 603-542-9511 x269 or

ddextraze@sullivancountynh.gov.

Catalogs and order forms can also be found at the Grantham Public Library next week and Claremont Community Center.

Public Invited to Participate in Focus Group at Saint-Gaudens for Planning Process

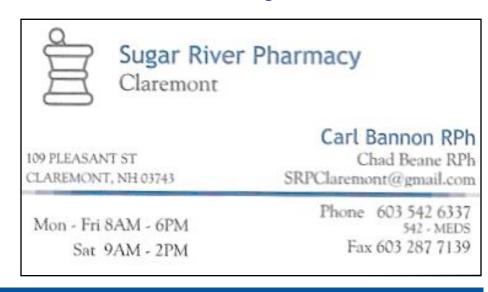
CORNISH, NH--Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site invites you to participate in our upcoming visitor services and education planning process. The site will hold a public focus group in the upstairs meeting room at the Cornish Town Offices (488 Town House Road Cornish) on Thursday, Feb. 1st, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., for the citizens of Cornish, Claremont, Plainfield, and Windsor.

Share your thoughts and ideas about the park's visitor services, interpretive programs, and educational offerings. RSVPs are appreciated but not required. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information or to RSVP, contact: Stephanie Kyriazis, Chief of Interpretation, Education, and Visitor Services, 603.675.2175 ext 151, stephanie kyriazis@nps.gov, www.nps.gov/saga.



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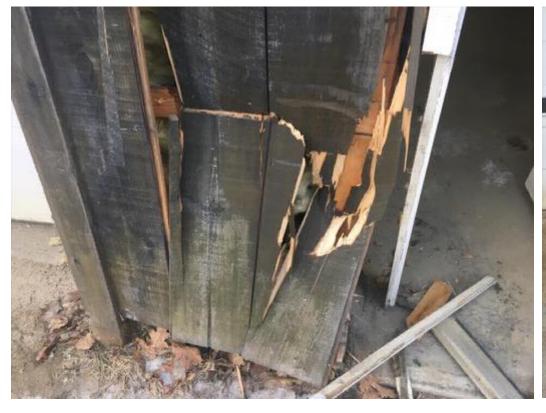
* Includes all applicable factory rebates, incentives and discounts.
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Spelling Bee...

Bluff School held its annual spelling bee on Thursday, Jan 25. Winners of the contest will be attending the State Spelling Bee to be held in late February or early March. The overall winner was Lily Eagan with Davin Boehle as 1st alternate and Nikki Bouchard as 2nd alternate. Congratulations to the winners! Left: Crowd shot watching the contest. Right: L to R—Lily Eagan, Davin Bouchard, Nikki Bouchard (Bill Binder photos).





Cornish Rescue Squad Building Damaged in Hit-and-Run Incident...

On Saturday morning, the Cornish Police Department responded and investigated a motor vehicle accident, hit and run, involving the Cornish Rescue Squad building. "Significant damage was done to the building and both access doors," said Cornish Police Chief Doug Hackett. "At this point it appears the suspect vehicle was also involved in another hit-and-run accident farther down Center Road. We have been able to establish a timeline of between 12:30 and 7:30 a.m. Anybody with information is asked to contact the Cornish Police Department at (603) 543–0535 or by email at cornish.police@comcast.net." (Courtesy photos).

Put a Trusted 'Quarterback' on Your Financial Team

On February 4, the eyes of most of the country – and much of the rest of the world – will be on Minneapolis, site of the most-watched football game in the U.S. As a fan, you can admire the way quarterbacks in the Big Game direct their teams. But as an investor, you can learn something from the big game by putting together your own team to help you achieve your financial goals – and you may find it helpful to have your own "quarterback."

Who should be on your team? Your financial strategy will involve investments, taxes and estate planning, so you will likely need a financial advisor, a tax professional and an attorney. Ideally, your financial advisor – the individual with the broadest view of your financial situation – should serve as the quarterback of this team. And, just as a quarterback on a football team must communicate clearly with his teammates, so will your financial quarterback need to maintain consistent contact with the other team members.

Let's look at a couple of basic examples as to how this communication might work.

First, suppose you are self-employed and contribute to a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) IRA. Because your contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, the more you put in, the lower your taxable income. (In 2018, the maximum amount you can contribute is \$55,000.) Your financial advisor can recommend investments you can choose from to help fund your SEP IRA. Yet you will want your financial advisor to share all your SEP IRA information with your tax professional. When it's near tax-filing time, your tax professional can then let you and your financial advisor know how much room you still have to contribute to your SEP IRA for the year, and how much you

need to add to potentially push yourself into a lower tax bracket.

Now, let's consider the connection between your financial advisor and your attorney - specifically, your attorney handling your estate planning arrangements. It's essential that you and your financial advisor provide your attorney with a list of all your financial assets – IRAs, 401(k)s, investments held in brokerage accounts, insurance policies and so on. Your attorney will need this information when preparing your important legal documents, such as your will and living trust after all, a key part of your estate plan is who gets what. But it's imperative that you and your financial advisor convey some often-overlooked details that can make a big difference in the disposition of your estate. For example, your financial advisor might suggest that you review the beneficiary designations on your IRA, 401(k) and life insurance policies to make sure these designations are still accurate in light of changes in your life – new spouse, new children and others. These designations are meaningful and can even supersede the instructions you might leave in your will or living trust. Consequently, it's important for you and your financial advisor to share this information with your attorney.

It can be challenging to meet all your financial objectives. But with the right team in place, and a quarterback to help lead it, you can keep moving toward those goals – and you might cut down on the "fumbles" along the way. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your estate-planning attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

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



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Watercolor Class in Newport

Thursdays, February 1, 8, 15 & 22, 6:00-9:00pm

Location: Library Arts Center Annex Loca-

tion, 15 Main Street, Newport

Fee: \$45 (includes all four sessions)

This watercolor class with instructor Becky Bense is designed for a wide range of everyone from those who have never painted before to those who taken a class or two and consider themselves intermediate painters. This class will focus on classic watercolor techniques through the use of themes; for example, using the wet on wet painting technique to explore how to render clouds or using a masking technique to assist in creating trees. The class decides which themes we will explore and then the instructor designs technique lessons around those themes. Sign up, bring a friend, have some fun painting and learning this winter.

Register by calling the Library Arts Center at 603-863-3040, or register online at libraryartscenter.org.



It's About Food

By Johnny Navillus



Quick

Actually, a better title for this week should be "Panic", but it really wasn't. Close but not a real panic.

Have you ever had one of those days where you never thought about dinner until you got home? I hadn't thawed anything out and I had about 45 minutes before my spouse got home. She would be expecting dinner to be close to ready and here I was with the closest thing to dinner being my phone. I didn't want to go out again or have delivery and time was running short.

Nothing in the fridge and everything frozen. Except that I had a half bag of raw jumbo shrimp in there. Out it came and to the sink. Filled the bag with lukewarm water. Put on some rice and checked for a veggie. OK. Have sugar snap peas. The problem: What to do with the shrimp? Got about 1/3 bottle of BBQ sauce. Bingo. Change water in shrimp bag. Break Time! Quick drink.

Shrimp aren't quite thawed yet, but I start cleaning them anyway. Rice still hasn't boiled. Bag of veggies in microwave waiting.

Rice is boiling, Reduce heat. Cover, simmer for 20 minutes. Set timer. Finish cleaning shrimp. Break again. When timer says 8 minutes left, start stir frying shrimp. When half done, pour on BBQ sauce. When timer says 4 minutes and 30 seconds, start the veggies.

All comes together at once. Plate. Rice, shrimp on top, pour some sauce over all. The pea pods won't look good on same plate. Side dish. Serve.

Very good review. Been working over hot stove all afternoon to make the best for you. She ain't buying that. Oh, well. Mission accomplished anyway.

Slow Cooker Chicken In Sour Cream

2 large chicken breasts split

1 ½ teaspoons salt

3/4 teaspoons pepper

14 teaspoon paprika

½ cup dry white wine

1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup

½ pound mushrooms sliced

1 cup sour cream

Rub chicken with the salt. pepper and paprika. Place in cooker.

Mix the next 3 ingredients together and pour over chicken. Cook on low 6 to 8 hours. Remove chicken from cooker. Stir sour cream into liquid in cooker. Heat through. Return chicken to cooker for additional 20 to 30 minutes.

Play with your food. Even if time is short.

Write to Johnny at etickernews@gmail.com.

Old Fashioned New England Baked Bean Supper



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Handicap Access

February 10, 2018

5-6:30pm

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\$10.00 Adults

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For more information please

call (603)542-5783

Parking along side of church and Century 21 next door.

FREE church cookbook while supplies last!

TEA-ching Etiquette and Building Character at New England Classical Academy

CLAREMONT, NH--"Remember, gentlemen, to rise upon the entrance of our guests, and to stay standing until they are seated." These last-minute instructions were part of an important lesson in etiquette taught by the teachers at New England Classical Academy in Claremont, NH on Friday, Jan. 26, for their first school-wide Fancy Friday Tea Party. Third and fourth grade teacher, Theresa Norman, proposed the idea to the faculty as an activity for National School Choice Week, an event that celebrates private, charter and homeschool groups across the U.S.

When first announced, there were some puzzled looks from the students, but they quickly became excited for the event. They had a practice session on Monday, going over the table manners, dress code, and discussion about how proper etiquette not only makes a good impression but can be fun, too. The students discovered having a guide for behavior builds confidence for future events, like weddings, job interviews, business lunches and meetings and even visiting other cultures.

Lots of questions were asked: "Do I keep my pinky up?" (Actually, no.) "How many cookies should I take at one time?" "Where do I put my tea bag when I'm done? "What if I don't like something that's being served?" They got to practice with cups and saucers and proudly brought in their family tea sets. The boys dressed in suits and ties, dress shirts and vests, and the young ladies donned lovely dresses, skirts and dressy outfits.

A team of teachers, parents and students transformed the third floor auditorium into a giant tea room, with tablecloths, tea sets, dishes of clotted cream and napkins on all the tables. A buffet table of teas, punch, finger sandwiches, Russian tea cakes, tarts, scones, cookies and muffins was a spread fit for a queen. Hot water urns were stationed around the room, ready to serve the students, teachers and guests, which numbered over one hundred people. Before the first bell rang, students were polishing silver, washing tea cups, fetching extra chairs and asking "What can I do to help?"

Executive Director and Headmistress Elizabeth Wilber, joined by the juniors and

seniors, greeted Claremont Mayor Charlene Lovett and City Manager Ryan McNutt who were the guests of honor. They enjoyed a tour of the school before entering the tea room. Upon their arrival, the young gentlemen stood and the guests were escorted to their table of honor. The preschool students and kndergarteners were invited to the tea table first. Without prompting, several older students leaped to help serve the younger students.

Norman then recognized students who had been there for nine years as part of the "longest members of our NECA family" to serve themselves first, along with. Lovett and McNutt. She then recognized and invited subsequent students by their attendance year to the table. She warmly recognized the first year students with an enthusiastic "Welcome to our **NECA family!**"

With classical music playing in the background, the feasting



began. Students' excellent manners were noted, and they received house points and praise for their behavior. The first and second grade shared poems that they had written, and everyone was thanked for their contributions of time, food and help, and Lovett and McNutt shared their thanks as well.

When it was all over, like a big family, the NECA students then all helped clear the tables, bussing teacups, tidying up and moving tables and chairs. The school culture encourages responsibility in getting jobs done and as always, the students rose to the task with enthusiasm.

"When can we do this again?" one excited young man asked before heading back to class. Another NECA tradition seems to have been born and one that supports the character-building mission of the school. One day these seeds of courtesy and etiquette will reap the students big rewards, accompanied by a sweet memory of "taking tea" with their school community.

Top: Claremont Mayor Charlene Lovett and City Manager Ryan McNutt at the tea party; bottom: Tea party saucers up – L to R: Logan Bascom, Emily King and Corinne Linderg (Courtesy photos).

