

e-Ticker News of Claremont

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**Local Postal Facilities
Included in Investigation
Re: Mail Delivery
Delays; page 11**

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December 21, 2020

Be Patient, Claremont — First Night Is ‘Virtually’ Here

Parks & Rec and Rotary Release Plans for a Unique ‘Tele-bration’

CLAREMONT, NH—“Everyone wants 2021 to get here ASAP,” said Mark Brislin. “In this challenging year, when we have to stay distanced even on New Year’s Eve, we’ll bring First Night directly to everyone via television and social media.”

Brislin, Claremont’s director of parks and recreation, collaborated with members of First Night’s traditional organizer, Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club. They came up with a full evening of fun, family-friendly performances that folks can watch from the comfort of their homes on Claremont CCTV channel 8 or Facebook (TBA).

“But wait, there’s more!” — as the saying goes. Anyone eager to get a jumpstart on welcoming 2021 won’t have to wait for New Year’s Eve.

They can take part in the First Annual Claremont-Sugar River Rotary First Night Scavenger Hunt. The hunt will take place over three days, starting on Dec. 26 and ending at 5pm Dec. 30. It will feature outdoor locations for teams to discover and document. Teams can be any size with members of any age. Due to the global pandemic, however, all team members must be from the same household.

Forms can be downloaded from the Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Facebook Page, or picked up at the Fiske Free Library. Up to ten gift certificates will be awarded. Winners will be selected randomly from among the forms submitted with correct answers. Winners will

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Record Snowfall Buries the Region: Page 12

Brick by Brick, Beam by Beam

‘Controlled Demolition’ Brings Down Condemned Building



Story and Photos by Eric Zengota e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—“Of course, lots of people wanted the whole thing to come down at once, like what you see on YouTube,” said Mike Lemieux. “But 139 is right on Main Street, up against one building and only eight feet from another. We couldn’t do the usual knockdown, but took it down safely, in stages.”

(Continued on page 14)

First Night, from 1

be announced Dec. 31 as part of First Night, on the Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Facebook page.

New Year's Eve activities start at **5pm**, the perfect time to start a tour of Claremont's Holiday Lights Displays, which will be illuminated all evening. Visit Broad Street Park, with its thousands of lights. Drive through the city's neighborhoods as they show off their festive decorations.

At **6pm**, Claremont's **Off Broad Street Players** will continue their tradition of providing entertainment for First Night. Their 2020 show, **"Stories to Ring Out the Year!"** is a read-aloud on **CCTV** in the tradition of the Night of a Thousand Stars. A few of our OBSP "stars" will each read a story that was chosen to delight all ages.

Troy and Ariana Wunderle will present **Circus Wunder** on **CCTV** at **7pm**. The father-daughter team has been entertaining audiences throughout New England for 15 years. On First Night, they'll dazzle and delight young and old alike, performing acts of comedy and



feats of skill. Take part in the show as one of Troy's virtual participants, and cheer Ariana on as she attempts to cross a tightrope in high heels.

At **8pm** on **CCTV**, magician **Steven Charrette** will amaze and amuse you with his award winning **magic show**, full of surprises, right before your eyes. Steve performs his magic with a touch of comedy and audience participation.

Local **musician Brooks Hubbard** will perform on **CCTV** at **9pm**. Born in Enfield, Brooks started his live music career playing drums at his 3rd grade ice cream social with his dad's band. Picking up guitar at age 12 and writing songs at 15, Brooks was performing regularly right out of high school. He opened for blues legend Robert Cray and pop artist KT Tunstall while attending Keene State College.

Church bells throughout the city will ring for a full 5 minutes at **9pm** (St Mary Roman Catholic, Holy Resurrection Orthodox and St.

Joseph Roman

Catholic) and **10pm**; for 2 minutes at **11pm**; and at **midnight**. Also taking part are Community Congregational Church, and Trinity Episcopal Church and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

At **10pm**, there will be a dazzling **fireworks display** over the ski area at **Arrowhead Recreation Area**, which will also be televised live on **CCTV**, and on the **City of Claremont Facebook** page. Fireworks are always in fashion and Arrowhead's extravaganza will not disappoint.

Each year, Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club holds a contest in which local students submit artwork for the design of the **First Night Button**. This year's winner is Annabelle Torres, a 3rd grader at Maple Avenue School. First Night Buttons may be purchased (\$1 donation) at Golden Cross Ambulance, Arrowhead and Claremont Savings Bank Community Center. "Buy a button to show your community spirit!"

For more and updated information, visit the Parks and Rec Facebook page @ Claremont First Night or claremontparks.com.

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NH Lottery Numbers

12/19/2020

NH PowerBall
27 32 34 43 52 13

NH Mega Millions 12/18/2020
7 15 25 51 60 5

Tristate Megabucks 12/19/2020
1 9 23 30 35 4

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

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2 Pleasant Street, Suite 3, Claremont, NH 03743



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays
from the
e-Ticker News

(Photo by Phyllis A. Muzeroll)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24th 7PM

Experience a wonderful generations old tradition

A Traditional Community Service
Featuring Carols & Musical Guests

Online only at “Union Episcopal Church” on
YouTube, Facebook, and Claremont CCTV8.
Available on demand after airing.

Full info: candlelightchristmaseve.eventbrite.com

Union Episcopal Church
133 Old Church Rd. West Claremont, NH
(802) 738 - 0678

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Letters to the Editor

Thanks Councilor Kier for Her Work

To The Editor:
I want to publicly thank Abigail Kier for her conscientious and committed efforts for our city as a Claremont City Councilor. Her dedication to principled stands on racial justice and concern for our community's health through the months of the coronavirus have been heartening. She is an attentive listener at Council meetings and is visibly receptive to citizen comments and requests with a smile at the conclusion, which lets the speaker know that she has acknowledged their efforts. I wish her well in her new state and hope that she will continue to be involved in local government. She is an outstanding public servant.
Robin Hutchins, Claremont, NH

Thank you, Abigail Kier

To the Editor:
We gratefully recognize the contributions and appreciate the years of public service that Abigail Kier has given to Claremont. Some of her accomplishments as a public servant are helping with the Master Plan, participating on several city committees, and providing significant leadership as a Claremont City Councilor.
Abigail is not one to step away from controversy. Her recent leadership to repeatedly address public safety concerns regarding the coronavirus has been exemplary. Abigail presented an educational program in May that led to the City Council's support of a non-binding resolution for Claremont residents and visitors to wear a face mask when in public to help control the spread of the coronavirus. She also created a resolution that was passed in July supporting racial justice and condemning police brutality. Patrick Adrian of the Eagle Times reported, "The Claremont City Council passed a resolution in which it pledges to collaborate with city partners, including the Claremont Police Department, to stand against incidents of racial injustice and police brutality and strengthen community diversity, in part through education and violence-prevention programs." For the many hours Abigail devoted to our community to champion public safety and justice, we thank Abigail and wish her and her family the best in their new venture in D.C.
Rebecca MacKenzie, James Contois, Claremont, NH

Sen. Ward Urges Free & Reduced Lunch Signups

To The Editor:
This year has been one of tremendous disruption, especially to our school-aged students – that includes making sure our children are getting the food they need.
To ensure that school nutrition programs were available to any family in need, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issued universal waivers, allowing all school districts to be reimbursed for meals provided to any student’s family, regardless of income. These waivers have enabled schools and volunteer organizations to deliver millions of nutritious meals to students in every corner of our state. Because families were not required to verify their income to receive meals this year, some districts are having difficulty registering eligible families under the federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program (F&R).
If you are eligible but have not yet signed up for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program, I encourage you to do so. Just download a Meal Application from your school's website or request one from your district’s food service director. Only one application per household is needed and it takes less than ten minutes to complete. All information will remain private and confidential.
By signing your children up for F&R, you will help ensure that our schools receive the proper level of state and federal funding next year. Thank you.
Sen. Ruth Ward, District 8

Christmas, Holy Day Masses at St. Joseph’s Church

Submitted by Sharon Wood

CLAREMONT, NH—The parishioners of St. Joseph Church, 58 Elm Street, Claremont, wish everyone a blessed Christmas and a hope filled New Year! Our church’s founders would have said their greeting in Polish, so we extend the same to you! “Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia.”

The parish will celebrate Mass at 9am on Christmas morning. Covid-19 restrictions continue to be in place, as they have been since the church was reopened in June. Masks are required and seating will accommodate social distancing. Beginning at 8:30 AM, there will be a 30-minute musical presentation of Christmas meditations and traditional Polish Kolędy (Christmas carols). All music will be played by the organist and sung by the cantor in accordance with diocesan guidelines.

During this pandemic, the obligation for Catholics to attend Mass in person has been suspended, so those who do not feel safe coming to the church are not required to do so. The 9:00 Christmas Mass and Sunday 9am Masses are livestreamed through YouTube, thanks to our dedicated tech team.

Go to YouTube.com and click on “Browse Channels.” In the Search line, enter “St. Joseph Catholic Church Claremont NH Livestream” and you should be able to find the YouTube channel where past and future recordings can be found. There are many other churches that share the name of St Joseph, so be patient and search for the correct one. The direct link for the Christmas Day Mass, which will begin streaming at 8:30am, is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CnOv-Ao7y-0A>

Our good wishes continue with the traditional “Happy New Year!” or “Szczęśliwego nowego roku!” Masses for the Holy Day will be held on Thursday, Dec. 31 at 5:30 pm and on Friday, January 1, 2021 at 9am. That Mass will also be Livestreamed on the YouTube Channel titled St. Joseph Catholic Church Claremont NH Livestream. The exact link will be created in the week between Christmas and New Year’s, and may be found on the Facebook page for Polish American Heritage Claremont NH.

Contributions to assist with church expenses are gratefully accepted. They may be

placed in the collection basket at the back of the church or mailed to St Joseph Church, PO Box 824, Claremont, NH 03743. Dziękuję bardzo! Thank you very much!

Notice from Town of Sunapee

The Sunapee Water Department is requesting residents’ help with shoveling out hydrants near their homes and businesses. Many thanks to the residents that have taken it upon themselves to clean out around the hydrants near their homes; it is greatly appreciated!

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Turning Points Network

OUR TURN: COVID Year, COVID Holidays

When was the last holiday we celebrated with family and friends without thinking about COVID? St. Patrick's Day? Now in our ninth month of this pandemic and even with vaccines in sight, we probably have another six-nine months to go for enough immunity to safely emerge from quarantine.

The impact on all our lives has yet to be totaled. Although many already feel totaled. Medical personnel are beyond exhausted. Front-line workers from cashiers to drivers are stretched to breaking as their ranks dwindle and coworkers fall ill. All of us are frustrated or scared or angry or sad. Or all of the above.

Households are in disarray like never before, with children of different ages trying to learn, remotely, teenagers unable to see their friends, parents carving out home offices at dining tables and kitchen counters, and Zoom meetings for everything from Board decisions to church to book club and teacher conferences. Conflicts are no longer over who gets the car. It's who gets the computer.

When tensions run this high, and life is this demanding of us, domestic abuse escalates. And, abusers are working from home, as well, meaning survivors have little or no opportunity to reach out for help. Many people have no work at all and bills piling up, everyone's schedules are disrupted, needs go unmet, and people hurt one another.


The holidays can be joyful and stressful, meaningful and burdensome, and often are a little of each. We've also never, ever done it quite this way before. Perhaps we can, this season, give one another a little slack, the gift of understanding, of extra thoughtfulness, shared hope and a smile. None of which has to be bought, schlepped, or wrapped.

Turning Points Network is the Crisis and Advocacy Center and Emergency Shelter for Sullivan County 24/7 with live coverage of its Crisis and Information Hotline. On a typical day we handle 200-400 calls, texts, emails, appointments and visits. From help with restraining orders, to accompanying a rape survivor to the hospital, to coping with homelessness and food insecurity, TPN provides support and safety, hope and independence to survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Our Emergency Shelter services include transportation to medical appointments, safe placement for family pets, financial empowerment classes, individual safety planning, encouragement of personal goals and strengthening the bond between survivor parents and children.

All of TPN's services continue to be available to all who need them during the holiday season. Our crisis, advocacy and information line is staffed 24/7; our direct services and community education programs and individual supports are accessible remotely, virtually and in-person.

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 24/7 or www.turningpointsnetwork.org or find us on Facebook



Claremont Democratic Caucus

January 7, 2021

7:00—8:00 pm
via Zoom

Join us to adopt new bylaws and elect officers!
E-mail Claremont.NH.Democrats@gmail.com

OPEN TO ALL CLAREMONT RESIDENTS REGISTERED TO VOTE AS DEMOCRATS



INVESTING TIPS

PART 2

IRA 101: Know the Facts

(Continued from last week's issue.)

If you own an IRA, then you should be as familiar as possible with the rules that govern your account.

Individual retirement accounts (IRAs) are one of the most common assets people rely on to save and invest for retirement. In fact, more than a third of households.¹ in America own an IRA. If you're thinking of opening an IRA for the first time, it's a good idea to review the rules. Even if you have had an IRA for years, note that laws change.

TAX DEDUCTIONS

How much income you make determines how much of your total contribution you can deduct from your taxable income¹ and whether or not your contribute to an employer sponsored retirement plan:

- **Qualifying Widower or Married Filing Jointly:** Filers who make \$104,000 or less can take tax deductions up to the full contribution limit. More than this up to less than \$124,000, people can get a partial deduction. Beyond this, there is no deduction.
- **Single or Head-of-household:** For total incomes of \$65,000 or less, the individual can take the full deduction. More than this up to less than \$75,000, there is only a partial deduction. Beyond \$75,000, there is no deduction.

- **Married Filing Separately:** There is a partial deduction for income up to \$10,000. After \$10,000, there is no deduction.

DISTRIBUTIONS

Like any retirement account, you do not need to wait until retirement to claim your distributions. Here's what you need to know:

- There is no penalty for traditional IRA withdrawals after reaching age 59 and a half.
- Traditional IRA distributions get taxed at the rate that is current at the time of withdrawal.
- Roth withdrawals are not taxed because taxes were already paid upfront.
- Roth IRAs do not have mandatory withdrawal rules, but traditional IRAs require distributions by April 1st of the year you turn 72 or there are considerable tax penalties.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution when it comes to choosing and funding a specific type of IRA account. This is why speaking directly with a financial professional at LPL Financial is so important. Contact us today at 603-542-2696.



Becky Vittum LPL Investment Advisor Representative
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¹<https://www.irs.gov/retirement-plans/plan-participant-employee/2020-ira-contribution-and-deduction-limits-effect-of-modified-agi-on-deductible-contributions-if-you-are-covered-by-a-retirement-plan-at-work>
Traditional IRAs are funded with tax-deductible contributions in which any earnings are tax deferred until withdrawn, usually after retirement age. Unless certain criteria are met, IRS penalties and income taxes may apply on any withdrawals taken from Traditional IRAs prior to age 59 ½. RMDs (required minimum distributions) must generally be taken by the account holder within the year after turning 72.
The Roth IRA offers tax deferral on any earnings in the account. Withdrawals from the account may be tax-free, as long as they are considered qualified. Limitations and restrictions may apply. Withdrawals prior to age 59 ½ or prior to the account being opened for 5 years, whichever is later, may result in a 10% IRS penalty tax. Future tax laws can change at any time and may impact the benefits of Roth IRAs. Their tax treatment may change.
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This material was prepared by LPL Financial, LLC



NH DHHS COVID-19 Update – December 20, 2020

CONCORD, NH – On Sunday, December 20, 2020, DHHS announced 947 new positive test results for COVID-19, for a daily PCR test positivity rate of 6.7%. Today’s results include 723 people who tested positive by PCR test and 224 who tested positive by antigen test. There are now 6,908 current COVID-19 cases diagnosed in New Hampshire. Of the results reported today:

12/15: 23 new cases today, for an updated total of 806 cases

12/16: 80 new cases today, for an updated total of 683 cases

12/17: 74 new cases today, for an updated total of 677 cases

12/18: 287 new cases today, for an updated total of 449 cases

12/19: 483 new cases

Test results for previous days are still being processed and the total number of new positives for those days are not yet complete.

Several cases are still under investigation. Additional information from ongoing investigations will be incorporated into future COVID-19 updates. Of those with complete information, there are one hundred and three individuals under the age of 18 and the rest are adults with 48% being female and 52% being male.

The new cases reside in Rockingham (209),

Hillsborough County other than Manchester and Nashua (147), Merrimack (121), Strafford (74), Belknap (39), Cheshire (33), Coos (18), Grafton (18), Sullivan (11), and Carroll (9) counties, and in the cities of Manchester (142) and Nashua (95). The county of residence is being determined for thirty-one new cases.

Community-based transmission continues to occur in the State and has been identified in all counties. Of those with complete risk information, most of the cases are either associated with an outbreak setting or have had close contact with a person with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis.

DHHS has also announced six additional deaths related to COVID-19.

1 male resident of Hillsborough County, 60 years of age and older

1 female resident of Hillsborough County, 60 years of age and older

3 male residents of Merrimack County, 60 years of age and older

1 female resident of Rockingham County, 60 years of age and older

There are currently 261 individuals hospitalized with COVID-19. In New Hampshire since the start of the pandemic, there have been a total of 36,542 cases of COVID-19 diagnosed with 889 (2%) of those having been hospitalized.



Dartmouth-Hitchcock nurse practitioner Hillary Way received the first COVID-19 vaccination at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) on Thursday, Dec. 17. Way has been caring for COVID-19 patients in DHMC’s Medical Intensive Care Unit throughout the pandemic. DHMC vaccinated approximately 60 high-risk health care staff Thursday, as part of the total 885 doses of the Pfizer vaccine DHMC received in this first phase of vaccine distribution by the state of New Hampshire (Courtesy photo).

Hanover Terrace reported on Sunday that “68 residents tested positive, current census is 65, of the 65, 5 remain negative, 55 residents are considered to be recovered. We have had 7 deaths, and our thoughts and prayers go out to those family members. We had one hospital transfer and 1 recovered resident discharge home. We have had 35 staff members test positive, 26 have recovered. The 2 essential vendors that tested positive have also recovered. We continue to have 3 residents who remain seriously ill. We had 1 positive staff last night.”

On Sunday, NH DHHS reported that there were currently 14 positively identified cases in Claremont and 53 in Sullivan County.

For those not familiar with our Facebook page, we post the DHHS daily COVID update every evening when it becomes available. That feed is also available on our website.

COVID-19 Hotline

211NH has been mobilized to handle all COVID-19 related calls from New Hampshire residents. All residents with questions or concerns regarding COVID-19 can call 2-1-1.

New Hampshire 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Summary Report (updated December 20, 2020, 9:00 AM)	
NH Persons with COVID-19	36,542
Recovered	28,978 (79%)
Deaths Attributed to COVID-19	656 (2%)
Total Current COVID-19 Cases	6,908
Persons Who Have Been Hospitalized for COVID-19	889 (2%)
Current Hospitalizations	261
Total Persons Tested at Selected Laboratories, Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)2	484,956
Total Persons Tested at Selected Laboratories, Antibody Laboratory Tests2	34,292
Persons with Specimens Submitted to NH PHL	N/A
Persons with Test Pending at NH PHL3	1,246

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fitting to say
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and to Wish you
**A Happy Holiday
Season.***



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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Brownsville 2020 Holiday Happenings

Outdoor Christmas Eve Service

7:00 PM

On Thursday, December 24, there will be a Christmas Eve Service outside at Brownsville Community Church. The 7:00 PM service will include special music from guest, Ben Fuller, and more. The service will also be live-streamed on the church's FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/brownvillecommunitychurch/>.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PLANNING BOARD HEARING

Monday, December 28, 2020 7:00 PM

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Join the Zoom Webinar Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84861585828?pwd=dFdKcXFabmtJZXYvUk-ZUTkpBVUx3dz09>

Passcode: 151368 By Phone: 1-646-558-8656 US (New York) Webinar ID: 848 6158 5828

If there is a problem getting through to this number, please call 603-504-0341.

Notice is hereby given that public hearings will be held concerning the following applications:

- A. (PL 2020-00020) **Monadnock Mills, Newmarket, NH** – Application for Site Plan approval for 83 apartments at 29 Water Street. Tax Map 120, Lot 3. Zoning District: MU
- B. (PL 2020-00021) **Jonathan Nelson & Berkley Heath, 31 Myrtle Street** – Application for a conditional use permit for the addition of a 3rd dwelling unit at 31 Myrtle Street. Tax Map 119, Lot 289. Zoning District: CR-2

The Planning Board will also begin review of the 2022-2027 Capital Improvements Plan.

Interested parties may review the applications at the City of Claremont's Planning and Development Department, 14 North Street during normal business hours. Comments may be submitted in person at the hearing, or in writing at 14 North Street, Claremont NH 03743, or by email at cityplanner@claremonthnh.com.

Richard Wahrlich, Chair

USPS Releases Report on NH Mail Delivery Delays

Local Postal Facilities Included in Investigation

WASHINGTON DC—The Inspector General for the U.S. Postal Service last week released the findings of an investigation that Senator Maggie Hassan requested after she heard from Granite Staters about mail delays.

USPS Inspector General Investigated Mail Delays at 10 NH Sites: Andover, Bradford, Campton, Enfield, Laconia, New London, Newbury, Newport, Spofford, and West Lebanon.

The investigation included site visits to 10 postal facilities: Andover, Bradford, Campton, Enfield, Laconia, New London, Newbury, Newport, Spofford, and West Lebanon. Delayed mail was identified in all of the facilities except for Laconia in December 2019 and January 2020, and unreported delayed mail was identified in Bradford, Enfield, Laconia, Newport, and West Lebanon in July 2020. The investigation determined that the delays in mail deliveries occurred because of a lack of adequate staffing at these facilities.

“This independent report confirms what constituents told me – that they are experiencing delayed mail, and that facilities need additional staff to ensure that mail is delivered on time,” said Hassan. “Granite Staters depend on mail deliveries for medication, business supplies, and other necessities, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. I will continue to push for additional funding and oversight of postal facilities to reduce mail delays, and I want to express my gratitude for the postal workers and letter carriers who are working so hard amid the pandemic to get Granite Staters their mail.”

The report discusses findings from the USPS site visits, including details on mail delays and improper package scanning. It also discusses recommendations to improve mail delivery, including addressing staffing issues through attracting and retaining employees

and developing a plan to monitor and ensure compliance with package scanning procedures. The USPS Northern New England District has received the findings of this report. Hassan is working across the aisle to negotiate a bipartisan COVID-19 relief package, and led negotiations on including \$10 billion for the Postal Service as part of the package. Her office said that she is also working to address the “harmful changes to the Postal Service that

were made under Postmaster General Louis DeJoy’s leadership that have resulted in further mail delays. During a Homeland Security committee hearing in August, Senator Hassan questioned the Postmaster General on the other harmful changes that he made to the agency that slowed down mail delivery for Granite Staters.”

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www.coldwellbankernh.com

White Christmas? Oh, Yeah, No Worries There! Record Snow Dump Buries the Region

By Phyllis A. Muzeroll
e-Ticker News

CLAREMONT, NH—The forecast for the area Wednesday night into Thursday had been 6 to 10 inches of snow, with higher numbers further south of the Upper Valley. And that might have been fine for those who love snow. The rest of us, meh, just as happy without it. But no one could have predicted that the storm would stall over central New Hampshire, dumping massive amounts of light, fluffy snow. In roughly 15 hours, some communities saw more than three feet of snow. Plow trucks out to help others got stuck and had to call for towing services for themselves. Door exits were blocked off by the feet of snow, trapping people inside their homes for a while. Dogs needing bathroom trips outside disappeared into the deep piles of snow, if they dared to venture out at all. Shovelers and snow removal services had to figure out where to move so much snow, and talk of “Who remembers the blizzard of ’78?” soon hit social media. And a few people remembered that winter had not even officially started yet (Today, Dec. 21, is the beginning of winter).

To say snow totals were impressive is an understatement. A few of them were:

Sullivan County, NH

- Croydon 44”
- Claremont 43”
- Grantham 38”
- Newport 38”
- Sunapee 36”
- Plainfield 31”
- Charlestown 23”
- Cornish 20”

Windsor

- County, VT**
- Springfield 41”
 - West Windsor 40”
 - Windsor 39”
 - Hartland 37”
 - Weathersfield 32”
 - Woodstock 24”

Newly hired Claremont DPW director Alex Gleeson got quite a baptism of sorts for only being on the job a few days. “This was definitely a big welcome gift!” he told the *e-Ticker News* on Friday. “The department view is good. I was here with the team at 3:30am yesterday and we’ve been trying our hardest to get things cleared and cleaned off. I couldn’t have asked for a harder working team of dedicated professionals! They deserve a standing ovation, from the office crew fielding the phone calls to the crews on the roads and here in the yard repairing trucks and getting them back out the door to get on the road again.”

Clockwise: A car somewhere under multiple feet of snow and a poor pup looking bewildered; snow well past the top of a yard stick; the new Claremont Savings Bank parking lot mountain range; don’t open this sliding door! Thank you to everyone who shared photos.



e-Ticker Business News

A Chat with Claremont Savings Bank President & CEO, Reggie Greene

Editor's Note: Claremont Savings Bank President & CEO, Reggie Greene recently was interviewed by Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston for its digital publication. Reprinted with permission.

Q. Can you please describe your market area and how it affects your overall operations and strategy?



Reggie Greene

We are based in the City of Claremont, New Hampshire, which is located just across the Connecticut River from Vermont, and have branches in Claremont and Charlestown, New Hampshire and Springfield, Vermont. We also have a Loan Production Office in Lebanon, New Hampshire. Claremont and Springfield are older mill towns that are transforming into employment centers for manufacturing, tech and services. We are about 35 miles south of the "Upper Valley," home to both Dartmouth College and Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, as well as many other vibrant employers.

Like most of northern New England, we have an aging population and part of our mission as a mutual is to provide banking services in the way preferred by our customers. This means maintaining our high level of in-office and telephone service while providing state-of-the-art electronic banking. We are also proud of Claremont Financial Services, our wealth management office.

Q. How has Claremont Savings Bank adjusted its policies in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

We have been fortunate to have had few cases of COVID in our markets but are taking the necessary precautions. We closed our lobbies for a time and have been back to full operation since June but have noticed a de-

crease in lobby traffic. Our residential and commercial lending staffs have been almost all working from home since March. We were pleasantly surprised with how well we were able to conduct business in a remote environment, especially in a year with record mortgage volume and a high participation rate in the SBA's Payroll Protection Program (PPP).

So far, our customers appear to be faring well. Our unemployment rate is among the lowest in the state at 4.8%. Home values are rising, and the problem now is not enough inventory for interested buyers. We are seeing some in-migration as people look for a more rural setting. Many of our local businesses are doing well but we are concerned for those most affected by the pandemic.

Q. How have your customers' needs changed given the current environment?

After we closed our lobbies, many of our customers became more comfortable with using the drive-up and doing business online. We used the opportunity to educate our customers on the different ways they could access their deposits and apply for loans. We are seeing a significant decrease in overdrafts, probably due to people being more careful with their money and the government stimulus, offset by a large increase in debit card usage.

The PPP program provided relief to our business borrowers who were unsure of their financial future. Our delinquency rates are low with few borrowers still in forbearance.

Q. What challenges has the low interest-rate environment presented to your bank?

The most significant change for our customers and the bank is the drop in interest rates. Our CD customers have seen a drop of almost 2% in some CD rates, and more than a few count on interest income to supplement other income sources. Obviously, the low rates have helped to drive the mortgage volume and have been beneficial to borrowers.

The low-rate environment will be a challenge for the bank for the next few years. Our net interest margin has fallen by almost 25 basis points, which will make budgeting hard for 2021. Our loan growth of 12% through Sep-

tember has helped offset the decreased margin, but we do not expect as much growth in the next two years.

Q. Claremont Savings Bank uses FHLBank Boston's Mortgage Partnership Finance® (MPF®)* program. How has this program benefitted your bank?

We really began taking advantage of the MPF program in 2020. The program fits our business model, as we are able to service the loans, which is important to our customers. In this low interest-rate environment, we want to manage the amount of long-term fixed-rate loans we keep in portfolio and the MPF program helps us do that. We encourage all borrowers who qualify to go the MPF route so they can get the best rate. Our gain on sale income has been strong year-to-date and has helped offset the loss of net interest income due to low rates.

Q. What other FHLBank Boston programs or products does Claremont Savings Bank use and why?

We also offer the Housing Our Workforce and Equity Builder Programs. The Housing Our Workforce program allows us to be able to offer down-payment assistance to qualified median income borrowers. This program offers a two-to-one match of the down payment made by the borrower. It has been a great program for those with not quite enough to put 20% down and the match gets them to the 20% mark so that they do not need to carry private mortgage insurance. The Equity Builder Program is another great program with down-payment and closing cost assistance for qualified borrowers. It aims to aid lower-income earning households and first-time homebuyers.

We use the FHLBank Boston for term advances to support our growth. We have taken, and are considering, advances with call or put features to help manage our interest-rate risk. We pledge enough collateral to support a commitment from the FHLBank to enhance our liquidity position.

*"Mortgage Partnership Finance" and "MPF" are registered trademarks of the Federal Home Loan bank of Chicago.



Top left: Sunday. The roof was removed as the first stage of reducing the weight of the entire building. Top right: Monday. A brick, worth \$2 if salvageable, falls to the ground, Right: Monday. As early sunset approaches, Mike Lemieux (left) plans the next day's tasks with his team.

Demolition, from page 1

Lemieux is owner of Pine Hill Construction, which was awarded two contracts for the project by the City of Claremont. (The City is not the building owner, but it had condemned it and gotten a court order to level it.) One contract was for stabilization of the abutting building. "My men had to be a destruction crew before they could be a construction crew," he said. "We spent two weeks building a building

in that building according to a very detailed plan. We put a steel framework against the outer walls, threaded rods through all the floors, and erected a wall to hold the roof up." Taking 139 down to the ground took three and a half days last week. The crew — harnessed into boom lifts and wearing regulation hard hats and safety glasses — chipped away at the mortar as bricks plummeted down one by one. Each brick is worth \$2, Lemieux noted, so as many as possible are salvaged for re-

use on future projects. Some go to a mason's yard for sorting.
Metal debris goes to a recycling site, wood and debris to a transfer station.
Some wooden beams, however, can be salvaged. "Here's something interesting," Lemieux remarked as he stood on one. "This and some others have mortise and tenon joints, worked by hand. They must have been brought in from earlier structures, because by 1880, when this building went up, sawmills were doing this kind of woodworking."
By Wednesday afternoon, with a major snowstorm in the forecast, the crew shoveled what material hadn't been hauled away into
(Continued on page 15)





OF CLAREMONT

CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM
OF
CLAREMONT

CHRYSLER DODGE Jeep RAM

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General Civil Practice in Claremont since 1931
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Demolition,
from page
14

the cellar, now a gaping hole. They'll return after Christmas to truck away the remaining rubble.

They'll also return in February, "or whenever the owner of the abutting building finishes the rehab and restoration work it needs," said Lemieux. At that stage, Pine Hill crews will remove the temporary shoring elements — steel framework, rods and wooden beams. They'll also pour a concrete foundation wall against the other building.

As for the site itself, there are no definite plans for its use. Lemieux remarked, "Our last part of this project is to regrade the surface and plant grass."

Top left: Tuesday. Pine Hill stabilized the abutting building with a steel framework on the walls and beams to hold up the roof. **Top right: Wednesday.** Some rubble is left as a firm base for the long reach excavator pushing debris into the cellar, from which it will be eventually removed. **Center: Wednesday.** The small structure, which had been the entrance to an exterior staircase, is moments away from being downsized into individual bricks. **Bottom: Wednesday.** An excavator clears off the sidewalk; other workers will lug the concrete traffic barriers off Main Street. Mike Lemieux reported that Main Street was completely blocked for only five hours the entire week. "Otherwise, it was one- and even two-lane traffic," he said. "Plus, we respected Leo's Market right across the street and tried to minimize disruptions for their customers."



Happy Holidays from
the e-Ticker News

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Mayoral Notes

by
Charlene Lovett



Council Vacancy Announced

At our last City Council meeting on December 9, Councilor Kier announced her resignation, effective January 3, 2021. It was a bit of a surprise, but a decision she had to make as her husband recently accepted a position in Rockville, Maryland. As a result of her resignation, the Council must now turn its attention to filling this vacancy before the deadline. According to our Charter, a Council vacancy shall be filled at or before the second regularly scheduled Council meeting. In this case that deadline is January 27.

The individual selected for the seat will serve out the remainder of Councilor Kier’s term which expires on December 31, 2021. Recently, the City published the vacancy notice and guidelines for applying. Since Councilor Kier served as a Councilor-at-Large, individuals who are, at the time of application, registered voters from any of the three wards may apply. However, in accordance with state law, there are circumstances that would prohibit someone from serving on the City Council. An individual cannot serve as a Council member while holding the position of treasurer, moderator, trustee of trust funds, tax collector, auditor, supervisor of the checklist or who is a city employee. Additionally, no person may be a candidate for or hold public office who has been convicted of bribery or corruption in obtaining an election, or who has been sentenced for a

felony until the sentence is discharged. Eligible individuals are invited to submit their applications to the City Manager’s Office at 58 Opera House Square, Claremont, NH 03743 no later than 5pm on Monday, January 4, 2021. An application packet should include a completed application form used to serve on boards, committees and commissions, as well as a resume and letter of interest. All application packets received by the deadline will then be forwarded to the Council for review. The Council will then hold interviews on Wednesday, January 13, at 5:30pm. Those interviews will be conducted via Zoom. However, if an applicant prefers to go to the Council Chambers for the interview, accommodations will be made for the applicant. Once the interviews are completed, the Council will vote that evening. The applicant with the greatest number of votes will then be sworn in and take his/her seat at that

evening’s Council meeting. If for any reason the application/interview process needs to be extended, the Council will still have time before the January 27 deadline to fill the seat. It is my hope that we will have many individuals who are interested in serving on the Claremont City Council. In my experience, public service is very rewarding, but it does require a lot of time and energy. The Council, on average, meets twice a month. In addition, members are asked to serve on committees and attend community events. If you are interested in serving the City of Claremont, please consider submitting your application before 5pm on January 4, 2021. For additional information, please contact the City Manager’s Office at 603-542-7002. *Charlene Lovett is the Mayor of Claremont and welcomes your feedback. Please email questions, comments or concerns to her at clovett.ccc@gmail.com.*



FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOUR HOUSE
WARMEST WISHES FOR A SAFE AND PEACEFUL HOLIDAY SEASON.
MAY 2021 BE HEALTHIER FOR EVERYONE
REP. GARY AND JOELLA MERCHANT

Mooshian Announces Bid for Open City Council Seat

CLAREMONT, NH—Community leader and 2018 GCCC Young Professional of the Year Matt Mooshian has announced his bid for the open City Council seat being vacated by Councilor Abigail Kier. Mooshian submitted his application to the City Manager’s Office. “I want to serve on the Claremont City Council because I want to be part of writing the next chapter for Claremont—a chapter of revitalization, prosperity, and equity. Claremont already has so much to offer, and there are so many new and exciting things on the horizon. This is only the beginning,” said Mooshian.

Mooshian’s platform centers community collaboration to keep Claremont moving forward. His priorities - outlined on his website - include fostering a forward thinking, leading community; advocating for the wellness of our community; and increasing the transparency & accessibility of our local government.

Along with the announcement, Mooshian released a list of early supporters:

- Abigail Kier, Outgoing City Councilor
- Brian Rapp
- Bruce Denis
- Emily Deane
- Gary Merchant, State Representative
- Jack Hurley
- John Cloutier, State Representative
- Jonathan Nelson
- Josh Lambert
- Matt Bean
- Paige Lambert
- Prashanna Sangroula
- Prescott Herzog
- Ray Curren
- Ray Gagnon, Former Candidate for County Commissioner
- Rebecca Matson
- Sam Killay
- Shelly Hudson
- Sushila Dangal
- Trish Killay

Mooshian is the Co-Founder and Program Coordinator of Rural Outright, a mental health professional, and community organizer. For more information about Mooshian and his bid for the open At-Large City Council seat, visit MattMooshian.com.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29
How To Laser Cut A Box (Free Virtual Learning)
4PM

<https://claremontmakerspace.org/events/#/event/2020/12/29/learn-how-to-laser-cut-a-box>

In this free virtual learning class, learn how to use a laser cutter to cut a small wooden box. We will look at a variety of resources and watch the Claremont Makerspace laser cutter in action and give a demo of Corel Draw. This will be a great overview for anyone who has not laser cut before or is looking for some possible new tricks.

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John Stark Hwy, Newport

*Federally Insured by the NCUA. APR is annual percentage rate. Rates quoted "as low as," subject to credit approval. Rate may vary based on your credit history. Maximum loan amount is \$2,000. Maximum term is 12 months. A \$2000 loan is 12 monthly payments of \$171.20. Offer valid November 16, 2020 through January 31, 2021.

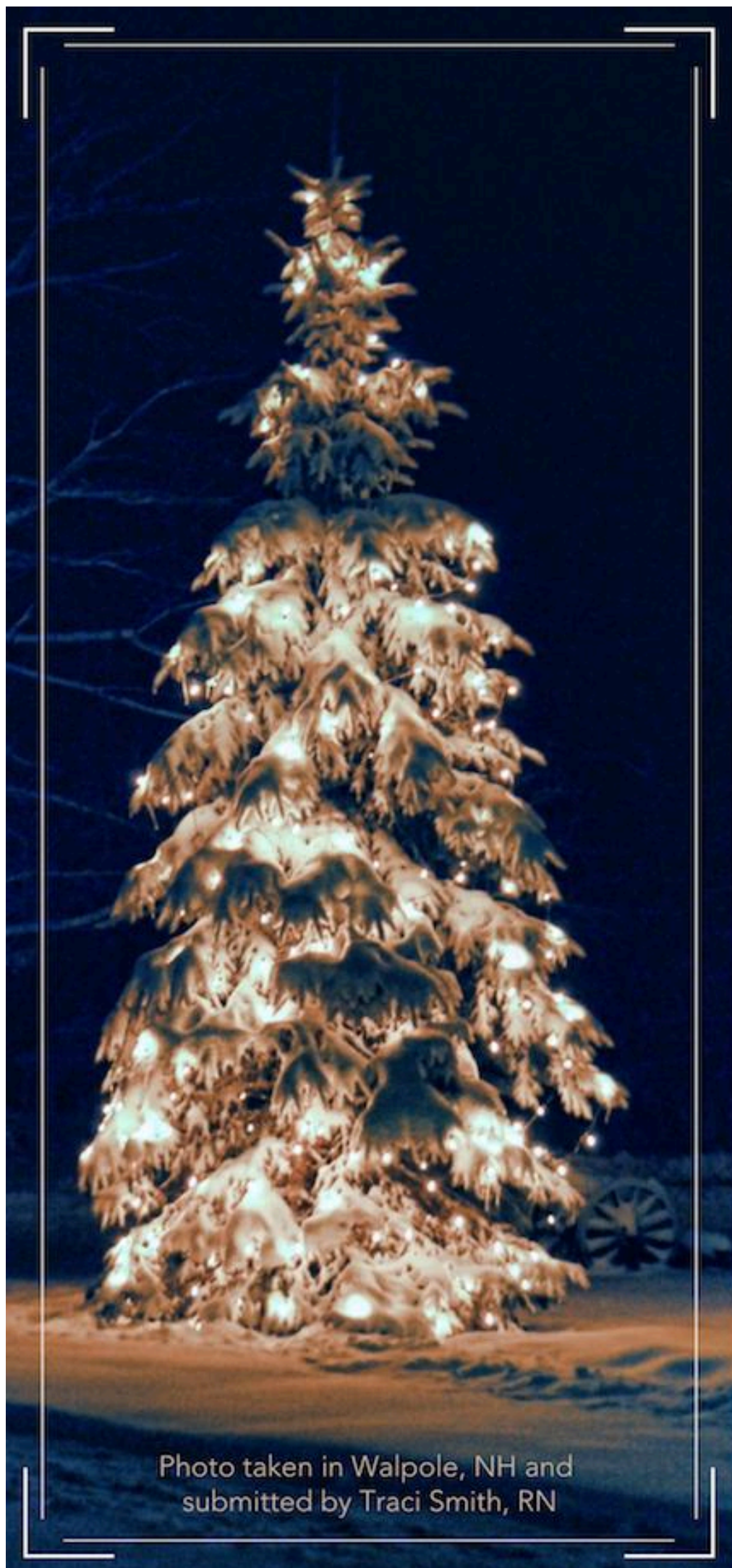


Photo taken in Walpole, NH and
submitted by Traci Smith, RN

SEASON'S *greetings*

Since 1907, our dedicated team of clinicians has traveled through the mud and the snow, along rural backroads and over mountainous terrain, rain or shine. The support of our community enables us to continue our longstanding tradition of excellence in home health and hospice care, delivering services where patients are most comfortable and safest – at home.

**Warmest wishes for happiness
and health throughout the
holiday season and the
coming New Year from
your friends at VNH.**



Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health

Investment Lessons from 2020

As the year draws to a close, it's fair to say that we've all learned something about the social, political, physical and environmental forces that have affected everyone. And, in some ways, our lives will be changed, perhaps permanently. But as an investor, what lessons can you learn from 2020?

Here are some to consider:

- *The markets look ahead.* Here's something many investors discovered in 2020: Investment prices don't always move in the same direction as the overall economy. This might not have seemed apparent right after the COVID-19 pandemic struck in mid-February, as the overall economy and the stock market took big hits. But just about five weeks later, the markets began a rally that lasted several months. During this time, the economy also recovered somewhat, but still remains on weak footing.

What can explain this discrepancy between the markets and economic activity? Essentially, economic numbers, such as the unemployment rate and gross domestic product (GDP), reflect what's happening today, but the markets are always looking toward tomorrow, which means they are anticipating a stronger economic recovery and the results that come with it, such as greater corporate earnings in 2021. No one can say for sure what the future holds, but you can usually know the market's opinion by its performance.

- *Opportunities will always exist for investors.* Although the coronavirus seems unprecedented, the equity markets have rebounded from many crises before it. From war to global financial meltdowns, the market has seen it all. But even at the height of these events, when the markets might be most affected, individual segments or industries can do well.

For example, in the current environment, when many people have been forced to work and shop from home, and get their entertainment online, it's probably not surprising that some parts of the technology sector have seen their economic activity grow, along with their stock prices. Here's the key point: Investment opportunities always exist, especially in times of market stress – and smart investors will find them and incorporate them into their portfolios in a way that's appropriate for their goals and risk tolerance.

- *Patience and discipline can pay dividends.* As mentioned above, the stock market dropped sharply in the weeks immediately following the pandemic, but then gained steadily for months afterward. Investors who tried to "cut losses" and exited the market likely did so at the wrong time and missed out on the beginning of the upturn. Unfortunately, this is not uncommon – investors who overreact to market declines often find themselves on the investment sidelines just when a new rally begins. Rather than being reactive in this way, you may be better off sticking with a long-term investment strategy, and buying and selling investments only when it makes sense for your situation, such as when you need to diversify your portfolio.

For many reasons, it's unlikely that we'll see anything exactly like 2020 again. But some of the investment lessons we learned are applicable in every year – so keep them in mind for 2021 and beyond.

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



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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVENT IN THE PARK AT CORY TABER
MEMORIAL FIELD PLAINFIELD, NH
7pm

We want to keep our traditional Christmas Eve Service going although we cannot meet in- doors. Please consider joining us at Cory Taber Memorial Park on Christmas Eve, 12/24, at 7pm, for carol singing and reading to her Nativity narrative from the book of Luke.

Masks are required and social distancing will be observed. There will be a large screen with the Caro lyrics projected and, if the weather cooperates, ice skating following the service.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
6:00PM

Trinity Church, Windsor, VT

In-Person at 44 Main St. Windsor, VT - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trinity-church-worship-gathering-tickets-121531709615>

Or attend online: <http://www.trinitywindsor.com/>



Public Notice

The Claremont School Board will be holding a Public Hearing for donation acceptance on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at 6:30pm, with a Claremont regular Board Meeting to immediately follow.

This meeting will be in person, audio broadcast, hybrid and streaming.

Location Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center, 111 South Street, Claremont, NH.

Open to the Public (in person) - limited seating

Due to Covid-19 and the health and safety of our residents, only a limited number of citizens are allowed to attend. Those in attendance will need to adhere to safety rules which include: temperature check, hand sanitizer, wearing a face mask, social distancing, and others deemed necessary. To reserve your seat, please call Melissa Small at 603-543-4200 ext. 6009

Audio Broadcasted on CCTV Channel 8 - Citizens without access to CCTV 8 may call in to listen by dialing 1-929-436-2866 ID 927 2550 5617 Passcode 692 250

Streaming by using this link <https://zoom.us/j/92725505617?pwd=QnhUMHhkWjUwdk0y-MEMyVlRYeEZmQT09#success>

Please visit our website: www.sau6.org under School Boards to review agenda.



St. Mary Roman Catholic Church
Central St., Claremont, NH

MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS

Thursday, Dec. 24 — 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 25 — (Midnight Mass)

Friday, Dec. 25 — 10:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S

Thursday, Dec. 31 — 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 1 — 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Church, 58 Elm Street, Claremont, NH

Wesołych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia
Merry Christmas

Friday, December 25
9am Christmas Mass

The church is open. Covid-19 restrictions will be in place as they have been throughout the pandemic. Masks required. Seating will accommodate social distancing.

The Livestream on YouTube will begin at 8:30am and will be available for viewing afterwards.

YouTube Channel: "St. Joseph Catholic Church Claremont NH Livestream"
Christmas Day link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CnOvAo7y-0A>



Szczęśliwego nowego roku!
Happy New Year

Thursday, December 31
5:30 pm Mass for the Holy Day

Friday, January 1, 2021
9am Mass 9 am Mass

(also livestreamed on the YouTube Channel named above; the link will be printed on the Facebook page for PolishAmericanHeritageClaremontNH)

Contributions may be placed in the collection basket or mailed to St Joseph Church, PO Box 824, Claremont, NH 03743.

Inspiration

Celebrate Light!

By Priscilla Hull

Three days till Christmas!! Or if you're counting nights, four nights! I chose Christmas for today because it is probably the widest celebrated holiday in these parts, but I don't mean to, or want to exclude all the other holidays which are celebrated between the general time of the end of November through the end of December, and early January. I believe there are around forty. I can't begin to name them all, or explain them. I'm glad to see that Claremont is a town that is broadminded enough to allow people to share their holiday with all. Congratulations!

I guess the oldest is the winter Solstice. Primitive people celebrated the Solstice, not because it was the longest night/shortest day, but because on the day following (now settled on December 22) the days begin to get longer. The cold and snow of winter begins to reverse its effects on the frozen world. At this time, though still a long way off, the seeds and bulbs, hidden beneath the snow and frozen ground begin a strange stirring towards a renewal of life. Little brown, plain seeds, pods, bulbs all have that little bit of life hidden away and that little morsel of life begins to stir with the urge to grow into beautiful plants of all kinds. Plants that nourish, plants that flower, plants that hold the earth together.

So, whether we celebrate Bodhi Day, Las Posadas, Yule, Hanukkah, Solstice, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Festivus, or any other holiday that I've neglected to mention, we all know that this time of the year, while fraught with snow, ice and cold, leads to a better season. During the dark days of December, find a little light that will shine and illuminate the Hope of the World. In the Christian tradition, this light comes about each year in the form of an infant who came to bring us light and life.

All these holidays are somehow connected and mean something important to the celebrants. So whatever your particular holiday is (and I'm not meaning to leave anyone out) I wish you a happy holiday!

To those who celebrate the birth of Jesus, a time to renew your Christian roots, I wish you a very Merry Christmas.

To all I wish a New Year where Peace rules and the Joy of Life is yours, where Justice is the common root for life.

"And there were in the same country, shepherds keeping watch over their flocks by night..... And the angel said, 'Fear not for I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all people; for unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.'"
Luke 2. Selections. Linus' part.

Priscilla Hull is the Lay Leader of the First United Methodist Church in Claremont, NH.



There will be a dedication of the newly erected Lafayette Trail marker in Opera House Square on Monday, Dec. 28, at 10:00 AM. Due to COVID-19 precautions, the public is encouraged to enjoy the ceremony live on the City of Claremont Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Claremont-NH-Government-109899900577117>).

The Lafayette Trail is an effort spearheaded by the American Friends of Lafayette and the Consulate of France in Boston to memorialize the footsteps of General Lafayette during his momentous tour in 1824-1825 in preparation for the Bicentennial of the Farewell Tour in 2024. Currently focused on the New England portion of the tour, the Lafayette Trail is poised to expand west and south to encompass all of the 24 states that Lafayette visited during his tour. The Trail brings together history, cartography and computer science in an education program whose principal goal is to raise awareness about Lafayette and the ideals he stood for throughout his life (Courtesy photo).

Calendar
Of Events

Claremont Democrats Hold
Virtual Caucus January 7

CLAREMONT, NH—The 2021 Claremont Democratic Caucus is scheduled to take place on Thursday, Jan. 7, at 7:00PM to adopt new bylaws and elect officers for a two-year term. Elected officers are automatic delegates to the NH State Convention.

“We need to reboot our local organization,” said State Representative John Cloutier (Sullivan County District 10). “As Claremont Democrats, we have a great deal of work ahead of us to reclaim majorities in the NH House, Senate, Executive Council and County offices. It is also vitally important to recruit successful candidates and win City-wide elections this

March. Caucusing locally is the first step to electing candidates who will make sure working families in the Granite State have a strong voice here in Claremont, as well as in Concord and Washington.”

The hour-long caucus will be held remotely. Any resident of Claremont registered to vote as a Democrat may participate. Email claremont.NH.Democrats@gmail.com to obtain an agenda, along with proposed bylaws and a zoom link for the meeting.

Membership in the NH Democratic Party consists of all Democrats registered to vote in the State and is open to all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national or ethnic origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, economic status or philosophical persuasion.



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LANDSCAPING
SNOW PLOWING**



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Need Some Extra Space for Your Next Project/Business/Creative Experiment?

CLAREMONT, NH—Need some extra space for your next project/business/creative experiment?

The Claremont Makerspace has Personal Studio Spaces that provide personal work areas for dedicated users to call their own. Personal studio spaces are made up of 48” dividers and come in sizes of 60 sq/ft and 100 sq/ft, with each studio including 2 power outlets and an Ethernet jack.

Learn more about CMS Personal Studio Spaces at <https://claremontmakerspace.org/studio-space/>.

As well, they are currently offering tours of CMS. Tours are scheduled in advance and participants must follow our COVID-19 policies. To schedule a tour, please email info@twinstatemakerspaces.org.

Gallery of Gifts: Handmade for the Holidays Through Dec. 23

Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Tuesday-Friday: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Library Arts Center
58 N. Main St.
Newport, NH 03773
Admission: Free

This annual favorite show features the work of more than 100 artists and crafters from the region, and is a perfect place to find unique handmade gifts like pottery, woodworking, artisan baskets, metalworking, stained glass, wool applique, soaps, ornaments, and so much more. The show is open for in-person shopping in the gallery with health safeguards in place. **Please note that a limited number of shoppers will be allowed in the gallery at a time, and masks are required inside the Arts Center at all times.

No appointments are necessary any time during the normal gallery hours.

Individual private shopping appointments are available after the opening for anyone who is considered vulnerable or at-risk, or who would feel more comfortable with a little more space when

shopping. See libraryartscenter.org for more details, or for updates throughout the duration of the show.

Virtual Grief Support Available Through Lake Sunapee VNA

NEW LONDON, NH – Lake Sunapee VNA is offering two virtual grief support groups, since its in-person support groups are still on hold. To help anyone grieving during this pandemic and time of social distancing, a Virtual Bereavement Check-in is available on Wednesdays every three weeks from 4:00-5:00pm.

In addition, a Virtual Widow to Widow group is held on the first Monday of every month from 3:30-5:00pm. Anyone interested in participating in these free groups should email their contact information to Lori O'Connor at loconnor@lakesunapeevna.org and a member of the bereavement team will call with further details.

Charlestown VFW Bingo Holiday Schedule

CHARLESTOWN, NH—Charlestown VFW Bingo is taking two weeks off for Christmas. At this moment in time we plan on bingo as usual

in 2021. If plans change, we will update you here in the *e-Ticker* and through our Facebook page. To all our patrons, thank you for your patronage and we wish you a happy, safe holiday season.
Tom St.Pierre, Commander, Charlestown Memorial VFW Post 8497

A Message from ServiceLink

NH ServiceLink offices across the state are open via phone and email during the COVID-19 pandemic. In this time of social distancing it's easy to feel alone and isolated. ServiceLink is a phone call away! Trained, nationally and state certified staff is available via phone during normal working hours.

ServiceLink staff is here to listen, answer questions, problem solve, and link you to resources and services.


In addition, ServiceLink helps individuals connect to long term services and supports, access family caregiver information and supports, explore options and understand and access Medicare and Medicaid. We are, as always, confidential, unbiased, and free to the public.

REMINDER

to all Owners of property in Claremont

– your 3rd quarter property tax bill is due January 8th by state law.

The 3rd quarter bill is calculated using the new tax rate.



Call 1-866-634-9412 toll free or find us on-line.
Direct phone numbers and email addresses for each local office are listed on our website. Offices are located in Atkinson, Berlin, Claremont, Concord, Keene, Laconia, Lebanon, Littleton, Manchester, Nashua, Stratham, Rochester, and Tamworth.

Area Grocery Store Hours Reserved for High Risk Population

HANNAFORD - Most stores reserve 7 AM – 8 AM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. In Massachusetts, those special hours are 7 AM – 8 AM daily
MARKET BASKET 6 AM - 7 AM EVERY DAY Claremont
CO-OP FOOD STORES 7AM - 8 AM EVERYDAY WRJCT, Lebanon & Hanover
PRICE CHOPPER 6AM - 7AM EVERYDAY- Windsor & West Lebanon
SHAWS 7AM - 9AM TUES & THURS West Lebanon
WALMART 6 AM - 7 AM TUESDAYS ONLY Claremont & West Lebanon
PLAINFIELD COUNTRY STORE Call ahead for curb side pickup, 709-7055. Prepared meals, grocery items.

Claremont Senior Center News

Well, hello everyone!! It's so nice to be back with you all. We hope you are all well. As you know, we are closed right now because of the “spike”, but you have not been forgotten. We have a few things going on as you will see. Before we forget it, if your dues are due, do mail them in. Ha! We will send your card to you. OK. Let's see what's going on.
“Deck the table with turkey and gravy. Fra La La La La La La La” Whew! Ken and the kitchen elves are ready to serve you on Tuesday, Dec. 22nd, with a complete Turkey Holiday Dinner—Turkey, Homemade Mashed Potato, Gravy, Squash, Cranberry Sauce and a Special Holiday Dessert. Cost: \$10. Pick-up is from 11:45AM-12:15PM. Call early to reserve your meals. Purchase extra meals for Christmas. Tel. 543-5998. La La La.
We will be closed Thursday, Dec. 24th, and will be offering our next meal on Tuesday, Dec. 29th. Being served will be: Soup, Baked Chicken Leg and Thigh, Baked Potato w/Sour

Cream, Veggie and Dessert. Pick-up- 11:45AM-12:15 PM. Members-\$4, Non -members-\$5.
Again, we will be closed Thurs. Dec. 31st.
Don't forget the “footsies”! They need a little love, too. VNA FOOT CLINIC-Wed. Dec. 23rd. Call for an appointment-603-526-4077.
Just because we are closed does not mean we have forgotten all our senior readers and puzzlers. If you call 543-5998, we can make a time to come in on Tuesday and Thursday to do your exchanges and pick-ups.
Thought for the Week: You give someone something special everyday-the gift of you.
We wish all a very, Safe and Warm Merry Christmas.
Claremont Senior Center, 5 Acer Heights Rd., Claremont, NH. 603-543-5998. Smoke Free, Masks Required.

Claremont Fire Dept. Log

Sunday, 12/13/20
0017- Engine 3 responded to Heritage Place for a medical call
0703- Utility 1 responded to Windsor Rd. to assist Police
0826- Engine 3 responded on Bonmark Dr. for a medical call
1112- Engine 3 responded on Myrtle St. for an odor investigation
1950- Engine 3 responded on Mulberry St. for a medical call
Monday, 12/14/20
1509- Engine 3 responded on Winter St. for a Box alarm
1551- Engine 3 responded on Winter St. for a Box alarm
2009- Engine 3 responded on South St. for a medical call
2110- Engine 3 responded on Stewart Ave. for a medical call
Tuesday, 12/15/20
0038- Engine 3 responded to Plains Rd. for a motor vehicle accident
0108- Engine 3 responded on Bonneau Rd. for a suicidal subject
0442- Engine 3 responded on Myrtle St. for an alarm sounding
1720- Engine 3 responded on Broad St. for a motor vehicle accident
Wednesday, 12/16/20
0736- Engine 1 responded on Washington St. for an odor investigation
1223- Engine 1 responded on Washington St. for a motor vehicle accident

1552- Engine 3 responded on Walnut St. for a medical call
1706- Engine 3 responded on Thrasher Rd. for a medical call
1723- Engine 3 responded on Bowen St. to check the well being
2246- Engine 3 responded on Dartmouth St. for an alarm sounding
Thursday, 12/17/20
0558- Ladder 2, Engine 1 responded on Elm St. for a Box alarm
0846- Engine 3 responded on Main St. for a motor vehicle accident
0946- Engine 3 responded on Maple Ave. to assist Golden Cross
1014- Engine 1, Engine 3 responded on Main St. for a vehicle fire
1128- Engine 3 Responded on Spruce Ave. for an alarm sounding
1143- Engine 3 responded on Highlandview Rd. to assist Golden Cross
1216- Engine 3 responded on Winter St. for a medical call
1306- Car 2 responded on Madison Pl. for a service call
1446- Engine 3 responded on Walnut St. for a medical call
1513- Utility 1 responded on Bank Ave. for a service call
1526- Engine 3 responded on Sullivan St. for a vehicle smoking
2103- Engine 1 responded on Potvin St. for a possible CO issue
Friday, 12/18/20
0857- Engine 3 responded on Dane Ave. for a medical call
0925- Engine 3, Utility 1 responded on Chestnut St. for a public assist
2241- Engine 3 responded on Union St. for a medical call
2315- Engine 3 responded on South St. for a medical call
Saturday, 12/19/20
0341- Engine 3 responded on Walnut St. for a medical call
0518- Engine 3, Ladder 2 responded on Hanover St. for a Box alarm
0752- Engine 3 responded on Myrtle St. for a hazardous condition
1320- Engine 3 responded on Washington St. for a motor vehicle accident
1424- Engine 3 responded on Winter St. for a transformer smoking
1617- Engine 3 responded on Front St. for a water problem
1755- Engine 3 responded on Broad St. for a medical call



Let Sullivan County Humane
Society help wrap you in
warmth this winter!

Home Heating Raffle

\$500 credit to the company of your
choice towards oil, propane, kerosene,
pellets or wood

\$5 per ticket or 3 for \$10

Stop in to purchase your tickets today!

14 Tremont St, Claremont NH

Hours:	Tuesdays	5-7pm
	Wednesdays	4-7pm
	Thursdays	10am-2pm & 5-7pm
	Fridays	10am-2
	Saturdays	3-5pm

Visit our website for
additional locations where
tickets can be purchased.

sullivancountyhumanesociety.org

Drawing to be held on

December 28, 2019 @ 9AM

Be sure to follow us on Facebook as we'll be
announcing the lucky winner on our page!

Remembering Loved Ones...

Life Tributes

Obituaries May Be Found On Our Website

We post obituaries on our website to make them available in “real time,” as they are released by funeral homes. We will continue to publish them here weekly, as well, for your convenience if you wish to print out any of them.

www.etickernewsclaremont.com

John O’Sullivan

John “Jack” O’Sullivan lost his battle with cancer on December 14, 2020.

Born to John and Rita (Koen) O’Sullivan on July 3, 1947.

He leaves behind his beloved wife, Nancy; his three children, Margaret, Michael, and Carolyn from his first marriage; a stepdaughter, Angela Coster; five brothers and sisters.

He was predeceased by his brother, Philip.

Jack was proud of his Army service during a time it was not appreciated.

For most of his life, he worked in Medical Imaging and found a second career in real estate with Century 21 Highview.

During his time in real estate, he served several terms as President of the Greater Claremont Board of Realtors and was chosen Realtor of the Year, twice.

He was a member of the Springfield Church of Christ in Vermont.

There will be no viewing or services.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to The Kane Oncology Center at Valley Regional Hospital, 243 Elm Street, Claremont, NH 03743.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Got news?
Send us your news and photos

Albert Lepitre, 83

Albert Lepitre, 83, of Marcotte Ave. in Claremont, NH, passed away Tuesday evening December 15, 2020, peacefully at home.

He was born in 1937 at Claremont General Hospital to Henry and Alice (Provencher) Lepitre. He was predeceased by his siblings: Edward Lepitre, Irene Lassonde-West, and Germaine Devenger, and his grandson Bradley Valenzuela. His sister, Doris McCusker currently lives in Tennessee.

After graduating in 1954 from Stevens High School, Albert entered the Navy where he served for four years. At the age of 29 he married his lovely wife, Angela Giacobbe, with whom he shared 54 years and had three children.

His favorite thing in the world was playing golf. After retiring from Vermont National Bank, he spent much of his time with friends at the Claremont Country Club. He was a skilled carpenter and filled his home with beautiful, hand-made furniture. He had many interests, the greatest of which were cooking, reading, and learning. Before the internet came along,

there was always a dictionary next to his chair and a batch of encyclopedias nearby. He had a quick wit which he shared with us until the very end.

He is survived by his children Ken Lepitre (and his wife Terri), Jennifer Barden, and Judy Walcott as well as his grandchildren: Angela Bean (and her husband Josh) and their two daughters Sam and Charlie, Allison Kelloway (and her husband Tim) and their son Sawyer, Emma Walcott, Rachel and Isabella Barden, Sarah Lepitre and Sean Valenzuela.

There will be a Memorial service at The Stringer Funeral Home, 146 Broad Street, in Claremont at 11:00 am on Wednesday, December 23rd, with a viewing hour 10 to 11 one hour prior to the service. Burial will follow a St. Mary Cemetery. Mask wearing and social distancing will be required.

No reception will follow at this time due to COVID.

The family suggests donations to be made in his memory to the Claremont Soup Kitchen, St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, Lake Sunapee VNA or Alzheimer’s research.

“Eye doctors shouldn’t have fine print.”

-Dr. Sam Giveen

At Doctor Sam's Eye Care, everything is right up front. From eye exams to glasses to contact lenses to whatever treatment you need, our prices are as comfortable as our chair-side manner. Visit Doctor Sam's and see for yourself.

DOCTOR SAM'S EYE CARE

(603) 543-2020
9 Dunning St, Claremont
(we're right there by the hospital)

Matthew A. Rivard, 91

Matthew Albert Rivard, 91, formerly of Francis Street in Claremont, NH, passed into eternal life on Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020, at Fairview Nursing Home, Hudson, NH, from Alzheimer's. He was a native and lifelong resident of Claremont, New Hampshire, born on June 9th, 1929, the son of Alcide & Madora (Rivard) Rivard. He deeply loved his Catholic faith and was a communicant of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Claremont. He was a graduate of St. Mary's High School in the Class of 1948. Matthew retired in 1984 from Joy Manufacturing Company where he worked as a machinist for thirty-three and a half years. He enjoyed working around the house and taking care of his family.

He was predeceased by: his wife, M. Gloria Joyal Rivard of Claremont, whom he married on June 26, 1950; his youngest daughter, Patricia "Patti" Rivard Dorman of Caribou, ME; and his four brothers and one sister – Isidore, Aime, Gerard, Norbert, and Irene.

Surviving family includes two daughters, Antoinette "Toni" Drouart & her husband, Eric of Nashua, NH; Catherine "Cathi" Rivard and her husband Konstantin "Nick" Bakal of Simsbury, CT; and son-in-law Galen Dorman of Caribou, ME. Also surviving are five grandchildren: Albert Drouart, Alexandra Drouart Conrad, Matthew Dorman, Suzanne Dorman Stacey, and Victoria Dorman Wakana, and seven great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated in St. Mary's Church, 32 Pearl Street, Claremont, NH, on Saturday morning, December 19th, with Rev. Father Shawn, M. Therrien, Pastor officiating. Interment followed in St. Mary's Cemetery, Plains Rd., Claremont.

The family wishes to express a heartfelt appreciation to all the staff and nurses of the Inn At Fairview Memory Care for their continued help & support during his six years there, as well as to his caretakers while he was at home in Claremont.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to MA/NH Chapter Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverley Oaks Rd., Waltham, MA 02452. Web site: www.act.alz.org/site/donation.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

www.facebook.com/etickernews

Claire F. Ryan

Claire Flora (Ferland) Ryan, went into the arms of our Lord on December 9, 2020 at The Villages at Cedar Hill in Windsor, VT, after a period of declining health with her loving husband, Harry, by her side.

She was born on September 4, 1929, in North Troy, VT, the 4th child of Emery and Antoinette (Arel) Ferland. Claire attended St. Mary schools, and on October 2, 1948, she and Harry W. Ryan were married in the St. Mary Church in Claremont. Claire was a stay at home mom for her children and did child daycare for others. She also worked retail and waitressed. Claire and Harry resided in Claremont until 2003 when they moved into a new home in Charlestown. In Charlestown they were both very active in the Charlestown Senior Center and they attended the St. Catherine Church. They moved to the Villages at Cedar Hill in 2017.

Claire was a skilled seamstress and she loved to quilt, knit, and crochet. She knitted hundreds of caps for preemie babies for Dart-

mouth-Hitchcock Hospital, and many family members and friends have quilts that she made for them. She was a loving wife and mother and in addition to the love of her life, Harry, she leaves to cherish her memory her daughter Linda Brown and her husband Earl of Murrells Inlet, SC, and her son William and his wife Cheryl of Claremont. She is also survived by three grandsons, Jeffrey Brown and Sue of Ellington, CT, Kipp Ryan and Tammy of Claremont and Tim Ryan and Stacey also of Claremont and four great grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings Simonne Wojtowicz, Henry Ferland, and Donald Ferland, and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents she was predeceased by her brother Alfred and sisters Rolande St. Pierre, Rita Fleury, and Annette Tebo.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions in Claire's name may be made to a charity of your choice.

The Stringer Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Sparrows found solace in being together during the heavy snowfall a few days ago (Phyllis A. Muzeroll photo).



Due to the pandemic, the worshipping congregation of Union Episcopal Church Claremont, and St. Luke's Episcopal Church Charlestown will not have an in-person service this year. However, they will be producing a digital version of this community service for worshipers to enjoy together from the safety of home. The service will be available at 7pm on Christmas Eve on YouTube, Facebook, and Claremont CCTV8.

This traditional service was historically the first gathering by candlelight in the area. The community service is held in the historical church which is decorated with boughs of ever-green and lit by the warm glow of real candles. The service includes the readings of the Christmas story, special music, and carols. Shown: Rev. Susan Eibner and reader Cody Butson temporarily remove their masks to record a short part of the Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (Courtesy photos).

