

Balloon accident kills pilot

BRADFORD—The longtime owner of the Post Mills Airport died last week after a hot air balloon accident over Bradford.

Brian Boland, 72, was piloting a balloon with four passengers that took off from the airport during the late afternoon of July 15, according to Vermont State Police.

At approximately 7:45 p.m., after traveling northeast from their airport, the balloon descended. It briefly touched down on the ground, tipping the basket, and forcing one of the passengers to fall out. Boland, meanwhile, got entangled in equipment affixed to the basket. When the balloon floated back into the air, Boland was trapped underneath the basket. He eventually fell into a field near the Bradford Regional Community Center on the Lower Plain. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The balloon continued north for 1.5 miles above the Connecticut River before getting ensnared in trees in Piermont. The three remaining passengers safely climbed down. All four passengers were uninjured.

Both the National Transportation Safety Board and the FAA were on the scene on the morning of July 16 to investigate.

Boland bought the airport in 1988. He was a world class balloonist and an avid flier and collector of experimental balloons and aircraft displaying some of them and other eclectic items at a museum at the airport.

Hearing scheduled on bridge replacement

ORFORD—Another red-listed bridge on a state highway in East Orford is set to be replaced.

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation will hold a public hearing on July 27 at 6 p.m. at the Orford Town Offices in Orfordville. The bridge, was built in 1922, and carries Route 25A over Baker Pond Brook exactly where the Appalachian Trail crosses the roadway.

The presentation will include bridge replacement options, changes to the roadway alignment and profile, construction duration, anticipated impacts to traffic, Appalachian Trail access and coordination with another project which will replace the redlisted bridge carrying Route 25A over Brackett Brook. That bridge is about 1,500 feet west of the Baker Pond Brook bridge.

Both bridges are in the vicinity of Camp Moosilauke and Camp Merriwood in Orford, and Camp Pemigewasset in Wentworth. During a preliminary meeting with selectmen last month, DOT officials said they were hopeful of scheduling to avoid summer camp.

The Baker Pond Brook bridge, 22 feet in length, has been on the red list since 2016. It carries about 740 vehicles per day, according to the presentation last month. Officials said the bridge is undersized and that replacement will likely be 40 feet in length.

Selectboard members said there concerned about Appalachian Trail access and whether the final construction would restrict or diminish the informal parking area along Route 25A next to the trailheads.

Construction has tentatively been slated for 2025.

The hearing will also be accessible via Zoom. Those details are available on the NH DOT website.



EVIDENCE OF THE HEAVY RAINFALL RECENTLY—The Falls across from the Mill Building on Bradford Main Street are picturesque with all the rainfall the area has received in the past couple weeks. This was taken Sunday in the middle of the rainy weekend.

COURTESY PHOTO BY DELORES DREW

Repairs underway after apartment fire

by Meg Trogolo
Community News Service

BRADFORD—Weeks after an apartment fire in Bradford, the building is under repair and some of its residents have returned.

The fire occurred on the morning of May 28 at the corner of South Main Street and Cobblestone Alley. No one was injured, but a family of four was displaced.

Two of the building's three units, including the apartment where the fire started, are currently undergoing renovations, while the third unit was repaired within two weeks of the fire, according to Downstreet Housing Facilities Manager Bernie Woolums.

Although the fire investigation report came back inconclusive, Woolums believes the most likely cause was an overloaded power strip.

Woolums said that he had to bring in contractors to completely gut the unit where the fire started and replace the electrical wiring in the bedroom where the fire occurred. The projected completion date for renovations is September, but Woolums said that he was unsure whether his team would be able to meet that goal due to supply chain issues.

"It's hard to source the things we'll need to completely fix and rehab the unit," Woolums said. "We've had pretty good luck so far, so hopefully that will continue."

The occupants of the two units that are currently being renovated were in the process of moving out when the fire occurred, and have since left Bradford, according to Louisa Olson, a compliance and occupancy specialist at Downstreet.

Olson said that Downstreet had been unable to conduct inspections over much of the past year due to restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, and such inspections can help prevent fires like the one that took place in May.

"Usually we've got eyes on those apartments at a minimum of twice a year, but we weren't doing that during Covid," Olson said. "That cause could've been potentially prevented."

Drew Shaw's family lived in the third unit at the time of the fire, although he does not live with them. He said that Downstreet put his family up in a hotel in Lebanon for two weeks while the apartment underwent repairs, mostly to his parents' bedroom.

"It sucked, all around," Shaw said. "You don't plan that that stuff will happen and that you'll have to drop everything and fix it."

Shaw also said that his family had looked into moving into a new mobile home at the Whistle Stop Mobile Park, but they have since returned to their apartment on South Main Street.

"We're all on hold with Downstreet, waiting on what they have to say," Shaw said.

The Whistle Stop Mobile Park is Downstreet's other Bradford property. It has 12 mobile homes, three of which were constructed recently using federal funding from the CARES Act of 2020, according to a Nov. 11 *Journal Opinion*

article. Olson said that the three new mobile homes are intended specifically for low-income households experiencing homelessness and disability, and that each of the three

See Apartment fire on page 5



There were no injuries after an apartment fire at 25 Cobblestone Alley on May 28. Two apartments are still undergoing repair.

JO FILE PHOTO

Community forums aim to better Bradford

by Linda Buermeyer

BRADFORD—An effort led by Bradford residents in collaboration with the Vermont Council on Rural Development will get underway next week with the goal of moving the town toward a better future.

It's all part of VCRD's Community Visit program. The first step, in a three-step process, is on July 28 when there will be a series of forums throughout the day and evening with a free community dinner open to all.

The Community Visit program has been around for two decades.

"The key message is that everyone is invited," said Jenna Koloski, community and policy manager at VCRD. "The more voices we hear from, the better we come together to find ways to kick off and go forward."

"We've worked with about 80 towns in about 20 years," she said. "The outcomes vary in all kinds of

ways. We start with brainstorming, help the community visualize the results, and help them with developing task forces and connections to resources."

At the conclusion of the process, the community forms action plans and VCRD helps connect Bradford with federal and state funding, technical or financial support.

Koloski said prior Community Visits in Montgomery, Johnson, and Burke focused on infrastructure and acquired significant funds for wastewater projects and street improvements such as sidewalks.

Other communities have worked on community connections and holding events that bring people together, such as weekly concerts or celebrations. Still others have cre-

See Forums on page 5

Board votes to pay off precinct debt

by Alex Nuti-de Biasi

WOODSVILLE—Selectmen narrowly approved on July 19 spending more than \$92,000 in municipal capital reserve funds that will be used to pay off debt held by Haverhill Corner precinct.

The vote came after town officials said state regulators and town attorneys signed off on the resolution to a thorny issue left after the newly formed town fire department absorbed the precinct's fire department earlier this year.

The Haverhill Fire Department was formed in March following votes on the issue at town and precinct annual meetings in 2020. On March 17, Haverhill Corner voters opted to relinquish control of the precinct fire department and most of its assets to the town and become part of the town fire department.

One of those assets transferred to the town included a fire truck that had more than \$92,000 left in outstanding payments. But, accord-

ing to Haverhill Town Manager Brigitte Codling, the March vote did not authorize the transfer of bonding to the town. She said the Haverhill Corner truck was the only firefighting asset in town that still had attached debt.

"We don't have money in the budget to pay for all of this stuff," said Haverhill Corner Precinct Commissioner Doug Dutile. "That's our concern."

He and fellow commissioner Mike Lavoie attended Monday night's meeting to discuss their predicament. They said they had a commissioners meeting scheduled for July 21 when they would discuss what to do with the truck if they did not receive the funds from the town.

"We'll have to do a special meeting," Lavoie said.

The funds will come from a fire equipment capital reserve fund that, according to discussion, had been set up in the 1970s to subsidize precinct firefighting equipment purchases.

Historically, selectboard member Steve Robbins said, the funds were distributed on a rotational basis to the town's three independent fire departments to help support equipment purchases.

Robbins, a Woodsville resident, said the next round of funding from the reserve fund was supposed to go to the Woodsville Fire Department, which remains independent from the new town fire department.

"My issue is once again Woodsville is getting screwed," he said. "That promise should be upheld."

Selectboard chair Fred Garofalo said, however, state regulators have said the town's capital reserve fund for the precinct fire departments violated state law.

"A promise made illegally is not a promise," he said.

Ultimately, Garofalo was joined by Howard Hatch and Matt Bjelobrk in approving the use of the capital reserve funds while Robbins and fellow Woodsville resident Michael Graham opposed the motion.

"Woodsville is going to question why they did not get any capital reserve fund money," Graham said.

One fire department-related asset the precinct retained is the fire station that the town department will lease from the precinct. A similar arrangement is in place in North Haverhill.

See Haverhill on page 5



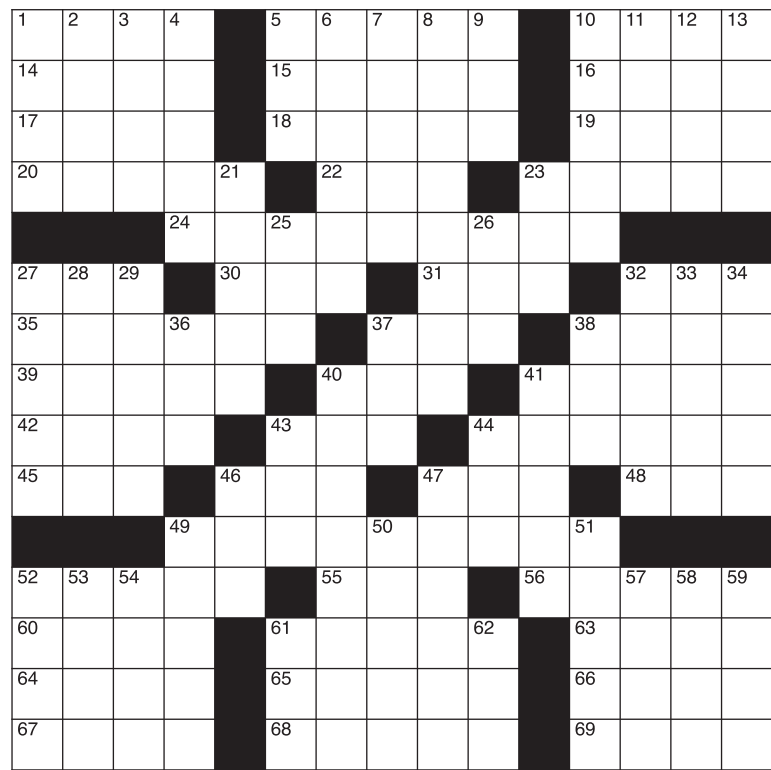
The 10-12 U CVNLL All Star poses for a photo on July 13 after taking home the state championship banner. Pictured (back row, l to r): assistant coach Jessica Osgood, manager Adam Osgood, Grace Griswold, Kaylee Hamlett, Braylee Phelps, Abby Longto, Mia Johnson, Brooke Osgood, Addison Murray, and assistant coach Mike Murray; front row: Maisy Frydman, Alexis Placey, Tori Florentine, Ava Kingsbury, Joselyn Williams, and Ella Putnam. For more information, see page 2.

COURTESY PHOTO



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CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

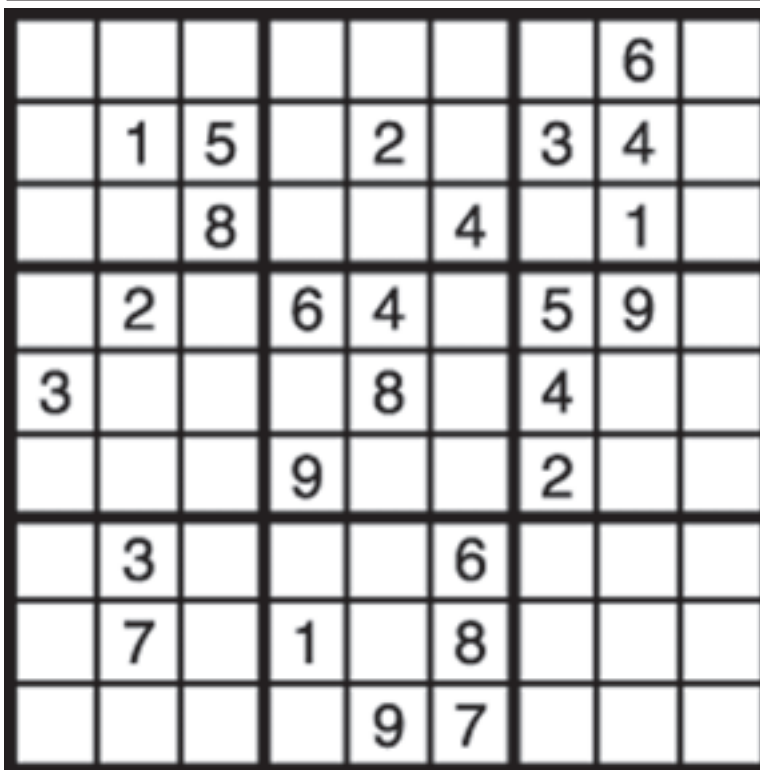
1. Fashion accessory
5. Subatomic particle
10. Ethnic group of the Philippines
14. Popular cookie
15. Fabric
16. Alcoholic liquor
17. Peter __, Dutch portrait painter
18. Longtime Chicago mayor
19. A famous "Lady"
20. Islamic calendar month
22. Rocky peak
23. Polio vaccine developer
24. Songs sung in open air
27. Military movements
30. Male parent
31. Beloved hot beverage
32. Female sibling
35. Tackled the QB
37. Set a dog on someone
38. Long live! (Spanish)
39. Porticos
40. Pouch
41. Smooth fabric
42. Enough (archaic)
43. Institute legal proceedings against
44. Scarred
45. Draw from
46. Brother or sister
47. Body part
48. Commercials
49. London soccer team
52. Satisfied
55. Surgical technique (abbr.)
56. Fencing sword
60. French industrial city
61. Intellectual property organization (abbr.)
63. Helps to carry food
64. "Rule, Britannia" composer
65. One-time Empress of the Roman Empire
66. Intestinal pouches
67. None better
68. "WandaVision" actress
69. Comedic actress Kathryn

CLUES DOWN

1. Fifth notes of major scales
2. Region
3. Your consciousness of your own identity
4. Georgetown athletes
5. They follow A
6. Spoke
7. Hairdressers' domain
8. Extravagantly theatrical
9. End-blown flute
10. Heroic tales
11. Member of a Semitic people
12. Members of a priestly caste
13. Southern Ghana people
21. Counsels
23. Body of water
25. Awesome!
26. Calendar month
27. Native of region in Caucasus
28. Indian city
29. Exclusive
32. Alaskan town
33. Covered with ivy
34. Loose granular substances
36. Native American tribe
37. Written American English
38. Holiday (informal)
40. Add up
41. Small brown and gray rails
43. Get off your feet
44. Express disgust
46. Surface of the ground
47. Put into a silo
49. Belief
50. British noblemen
51. Tennis game
52. Dry, protective crust
53. Swiss river
54. Large integers
57. La __ Tar Pits, Hollywood
58. Every one of two or more
59. "Deadpool" actor Reynolds
61. Earlier
62. Peter's last name

ANSWERS ON PAGE 7

SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

WORD SEARCH

D W M U E U O Q E J V J B J Y R F A S P
 G N I M M I W S O F S C S L E T U B F J
 K F I T N E S S O A C Q W J N D Q I E I
 A O B S E R V A T I O N P E O D P C S T
 Y R M J K Q S R T S T P M D P O R Y A W
 A D D Y Y D E O W R P Y A I Q E E C S Q
 K L S B D C I O H J O J M R T I S L M M
 S E K M V P T L R J C G E N K U E E L A
 Q I L R I K I C N H O M E E P H R Q T P
 N F U A S O L E U J I C N D B U V O S C
 O S H Q I Q I A W H S S V I D D A R E O
 T F I U T E C Q U T M S T Y D W T E R A
 I U A A O F A J R N T N C O V J I C V S
 C L D T R J F O Y C C M T E R V O R I T
 E D V I S H P R I I C H H U G I N E C A
 I U I C L S E I T I N E M A C D C A E L
 M K S T R A I L H E A D I J O U A T S Y
 P S O P Y I H J I G T E A C W I I I K F
 G S R S K R O W C I L B U P J N G O M Q
 O N Y S S E C W N Y P K B W Q H I N S M

- ADVISORY
- AMENITIES
- AQUATIC
- BICYCLE
- COASTAL
- ENJOYMENT
- FACILITIES
- FIELD
- FITNESS
- HISTORIC
- KAYAK
- LAUNCH
- MAP
- NOTICE
- OBSERVATION
- PARK
- PRESERVATION
- PUBLIC WORKS
- RECREATION
- SERVICES
- SPORTS CENTER
- SWIMMING
- TRAILHEAD
- VISITORS



Ann and Dick Fabrizio of North Haverhill have been awarded the Grafton County Conservation District Legacy Award for their work since they established Windy Ridge Orchard in the mid-1960s. It's a special award recognizing the 75th anniversary of the New Hampshire conservation districts. One is being presented in each NH county.

COURTESY PHOTO

Newbury United to wind down

NEWBURY—In March 2020, a group of Newbury residents came together in response to COVID-19 and formed Newbury United. The goal was to connect with and support neighbors during the pandemic, help with shopping and errands; share information about resources; and coordinate support in critical areas such as food security.

Now that Vermont's Covid transmission rate is low and Covid restrictions have been lifted, the need for support is much reduced. Newbury United will discontinue the helpline on July 31, but the State's 211 telephone helpline will continue to be available for people who need assistance.

Linda Ide and the Rowe Community Gardeners have agreed to sustain the expanded Share the Harvest table into the fall at the Baldwin Memorial Library in Wells River on Friday from 2 to 4 p.m., so food support will continue. Although many members will continue to volunteer for Share the Harvest, the Newbury United organization will cease.

The group thanks the many volunteers and deeply appreciates the financial and operational support provided by Royal Electric Company, Wells River Action Program, Wells River Savings Bank, the Newbury Woman's Club, the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund and the Vermont Community Foundation.

Fabrizios receive Legacy Award

NORTH HAVERHILL—Ann and Dick Fabrizio, the longtime owners of Windy Ridge Orchard, have been selected as the recipients of the Grafton County Legacy Award.

Grafton County Conservation District is celebrating its 75th anniversary with a special Legacy Award to recognize NH conservation district's shared mission to promote the conservation and responsible use of natural and agricultural resources with a sustained commitment to the stewardship of natural resources.

The Fabrizios purchased their North Haverhill farm and established Windy Ridge Orchard in the mid-1960s. They raised five children on the farm while working as educators—Ann taught at local schools and Dick served as the Grafton County 4-H Agent.

While developing the orchard, the Fabrizios committed to sustainable management of their natural resources through a conservation plan working with Soil Conservation Service (now Natural Resources Conservation Service) and installed many conservation practices. Fabrizio family members have expanded Windy Ridge Orchard operations including a gift shop, nature trails, choose and cut Christmas trees, pick your own blueberries and a café serving local fare. They have always focused on providing top quality fruit and a great farm experience for families.

The Fabrizio family has hosted workshops, tours and school groups where guests have learned about the importance of locally produced food, the economics of farming and marketing, and managing natural resources for future generations. Dick joined the Board of the GCCD Board in 1995. Dick and Ann's willingness to share their knowledge and experiences with farm visitors, and their service on Haverhill community boards and Grafton County Farm Bureau, has benefited countless farmers, and families for almost 60 years.

Legacy Award winners were selected in each of New Hampshire's counties. All were celebrated during a virtual session on July 20.

CVNLL wins state title

BRADFORD—A local softball team will continue its quest for a berth in the Little League World Series after winning the state championship last week.

The Connecticut Valley North Little League 10-12 all-star team featuring players from Bath, Blue Mountain, Bradford, Corinth/Topsham, and Piermont won the Vermont State Championship on July 13 after defeating Champlain 14-7 in Colchester.

This is the first 10-12 CVNLL softball team in the organization's history to advance to the regionals, which get underway in Bristol, Connecticut on July 24.

The CVNLL team will represent Vermont at the regionals. Games start on July 24 at 10 a.m. when they take on New York.

No matter the outcome, they will play their second game the following day. If CVNLL wins its opener, they'll take on Massachusetts on July 25 at 10 a.m. If they lose against New York, CVNLL will play an elimination game against Pennsylvania-Rhode Island loser on July 25 at 7 p.m.

All the regionals will be aired on ESPN+.

CVNLL got to the state championships after going undefeated in the state regional in Lyndonville. Several of the players have made the CVNLL all-star team for multiple years.

Manager Adam Osgood and assistant coach Jessica Osgood are from Bradford and assistant coach Mike Murray is from Blue Mountain.

Teen Center has new director

BRADFORD—Bradford Teen Center welcomes Christiane Carroll as interim director at The Hub, following Patrick Peters in that role. Carroll will be at The Hub to welcome area teens, overseeing ongoing activities such as the food and nutrition program, STEM education, and magic club.

Carroll, former director of Blake Memorial Library in East Corinth, is looking forward to working again with youth in a new setting.



CHRISTIANE CARROLL

"The Hub is a wonderful thread in the fabric of our rich community," she said, "and I'm pleased to have the opportunity to give back to and work with our youth, as well as collaborate with other local organizations."

The Hub, located at 9 Barton Street in Bradford, is open Tuesday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. (hours will change after school starts). The Hub serves Bradford and surrounding towns, welcoming 7th-12th grade youth, and offers video games, pool table, air hockey, music, crafts, computers, and free snacks.

OCT returns next month

BRADFORD—"Alice in Wonderland" will be presented by Old Church Theater on Aug. 13-15 and Aug. 20-22 at the Bradford Academy auditorium on North Main Street in Bradford.

Directed by Melissa Mann and Robin Keith and featuring a large cast of youth and adults, this adaptation of the Lewis Carroll tale was written for the stage by William Glennon and has all the familiar and beloved characters of the original story. The show is fast-paced and fun and marks Old Church Theater's happy return to the stage since the pandemic began in the winter of 2020.

Reservations will not be necessary due to large seating capacity. Shows will be at 7 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and on Sundays at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12, \$10 for senior citizens and \$6 for children. Season tickets from 2020 will be honored.

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Moving Forward Together | Bradford Community Forums

Wednesday July 28 Step 1

Childcare Special Storytime during forums @ The Library

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<https://bit.ly/BradfordTogether>

FORUMS HELD AT
Bradford Academy Auditorium or Upstairs (Rm. 26)
172 N. Main St., Bradford, VT

2:30-4 PM “Creative Economy: Arts & Entertainment” in Auditorium
 “Infrastructure & Connectivity” in Rm. 26
 4:15-5:45 PM “Youth & Recreation” in Auditorium
 “Housing & Lodging” in Rm. 26
6-7 PM FREE COMMUNITY DINNER at
Grace United Methodist Church
featuring local musicians
 7-8:30 PM “Inclusivity & Welcoming” at Grace United Methodist Church
 “Economic Development, Workforce & Jobs” in Rm. 26
7-8:30 PM Virtual Zoom Forum
 Register here: <https://bit.ly/BradfordTogether>

ALL ARE WELCOME!
 For more information, go to <https://bit.ly/BradfordTogether> or call 802-223-6091 or email info@vtrural.org

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Alice in WONDERLAND

By Lewis Carroll / Adapted by William Glenz

August 13-14-15
August 20-21-22

Fri/Sat 7pm & Sun 3pm
No reservations needed!

All performances at Bradford Academy, 172 N. Main St, Bradford

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July 17, 1928–December 19, 2020

Saturday, August 7, 2021
12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM
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Joe’s Wish: “I want a big party with all my friends and family. I want there to be music, food and lots of laughter.”
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Tunbridge, VT | \$940,000 | MLS# 4871122
 Marin Haney | C: 540.272.268
 Penny Loschiavo | C: 802.299.7738



New Offering

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This cherished antique must have had lots of visitors and you will enjoy sharing with your visitors too! Spacious rooms feature exposed beams and wide plank floors.

Corinth, VT | \$285,000 | MLS# 4873008
 Debra Kingsbury | D: 802.333.3145



New Offering

REVEL IN THE HAVERHILL HILLS

Offering a private driveway, attached two-car garage with storage space above, and a lovely four-season porch.

Haverhill, NH | \$389,900 | MLS# 4872240
 Dale Bromley | C: 802.356.3083
 Darren Sherburne | C: 802.598.4584



New Offering

WINDROSE

This two bedroom, two bath Cape is surrounded by 21 acres with stone walls. Includes custom workshop/studio and gardens. Enjoy the sounds and sights of the valley!

Chelsea, VT | \$399,000 | MLS# 4870789
 Debra Kingsbury | D: 802.333.3145



New Offering

ENJOY COUNTRY LIVING

This three bedroom, one bath home sits on a level in-town lot. Outside a large three story barn provides the perfect place for storage and woodworking.

Haverhill, NH | \$189,500 | MLS# 4872995
 Annette Hartley-White | C: 802.299.7157
 Laurie Kirkpatrick | C: 802.222.7791



New Offering

WAITS RIVER CAPE

This home sits in the heart of the scenic town of Waits River, many recent updates in this three bedroom, one bath Cape. Relax on the large deck or in the pool.

Topsham, VT | \$259,900 | MLS# 4872764
 Laurie Kirkpatrick | C: 802.222.7791
 Annette Hartley-White | C: 802.299.7157



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Corinth, VT | \$325,000 | MLS# 4864168
 Debra Kingsbury | D: 802.333.3145



Experience the Outdoors

This Cape has been renovated inside to create a truly beautiful home. Entertain using the large kitchen, watch deer graze in the yard, or work on your cars in the garage.

BRADFORD, VT | \$475,000 | MLS# 4869655
 Dale Bromley | C: 802.356.3083
 Darren Sherburne | C: 802.598.4584

Viewpoints . . . Yours and ours

The opinion page of the Journal Opinion is devoted to editorials, commentary and letters. The editorial under the heading editorial is the only column that expresses the opinions of the *Journal Opinion*. All others are the views and opinions of the authors only.

Letters

The saga is not even close to the end

To the Editor:

To quote Dick Guy, "It's funny how folks often only publish the facts that support their cause and disregard facts that don't." That is exactly what he and his Good Ole Boys have been doing for decades.

The "Road Money Saga," (July 7) is what has brought about some discoveries that have resulted in multiple investigations by various state of NH departments where fraud has occurred or questionable practices amongst the "lay people" who have controlled Woodsville Fire District for decades. Many of these investigations came about as a result of the audits WFD has been forced to endure.

I sat through the hours of the 2015 audit findings, and so far the most glaring issue was the "lack of segregation of duties in several key areas. A lack of segregation of duties increases the opportunity for fraud and errors to occur and remain undetected. It gives an employee the ability to perpetrate and conceal fraud or errors in the normal course of their duties." And stated "In the Woodsville Fire District, a single individual is responsible for preparing checks and reconciling bank accounts, the individual is also a signatory on the payroll bank account, and maintains custody of funds within that account." Same stated for ambulance, same for Woodsville Water & Light. The audit also noted how poorly the Woodsville Fire District Board Of Commissioners meetings were documented.

Also found in the audit was proof that funds were being transferred amongst the various WFD departments, which is illegal. Past WFD Commissioners testified in front of the Senate Board that there was absolutely no transfer of funds.

Dick Guy states "the audits have shown no malfeasances" ... "except for the 'lay person' mistakes." The audits do show a retired WFD employee who was pulling retirement pay, immediately went back to work for WFD full time, yet was classified as part time in reporting hours to the state. Based on the submitted figures, he was paid an hourly rate of \$90 per hour. This went on for 11 years and is being investigated for defrauding the retirement system. The commissioners, including Dick Guy, signed-off on this illegal conduct for 11 years.

It's unfortunate more years aren't being audited. From the adverse findings of the audits so far, it's pretty clear that this is how WFD "lay people" had been doing their "duties" for years. This is a decades-old issue; the illegal practices of management of WFD by the GOB's and the rift between Woodsville and Haverhill.

Dick Guy states the town divide "started very shortly after the employment of TM Brigitte Codling and might possibly be related thereto." Seriously!?! Woodsville leaders have been threatening to secede from the Town of Haverhill for decades. The divide has widened because we don't have a Town Manager that either looks the other way or abets illegal activities. The "red flags" that our TM has dug into, and brought to the selectboard's attention, have the GOBs worried and they've been doing all they can to divert attention from their activities by getting their constituents all riled up with misinformation.

So, the saga continues. The "lay people" have brought in Kevin Shelton, a "professional administrator" who, since his hire, violated electioneering laws and he publicly pled ignorance of the law. I thought that was the "lay people's" excuse?

Marilyn Blaisdell
North Haverhill, NH

Signs

by Rebecca Farley

On the road there are stop signs, and signs that tell you where to turn. There are ones that tell you enter or not, don't touch or you'll get burned.

There are signs warning of hairpin turns where you could take a bad spill. These signs we read every single day, even if we need a headache pill.

Why haven't we been reading His signs? They are everywhere every day, but these signs to us have no meaning. We don't care what they have to say.

Well the Lord is putting out these signs to tell us of His future return. Warning signs of His wrath to come, listen we must pay attention and learn.

The weather is changing everywhere, the Earth shakes more and more. Our world is preparing herself. His return is forthcoming for sure.

We are blessed He is giving warnings. He could annihilate in a blink of an eye. I tell you people, ready yourselves. He is coming, He is coming, no lie.

###

The author resides in Wells River.

CORRECTION

Due to a labeling error, a photo caption incorrectly identified a pickleball player at Clifford Memorial Building as Dick Lang. The player in the photo is Ted Thompson. We regret the error.

ABOUT THIS PAGE

The opinion page of the Journal Opinion is devoted to editorials, commentary and letters. The editorial on the left side under the heading editorial is the only column that expresses the opinions of the *Journal Opinion*. All others are the views and opinions of the authors only.

We encourage readers to comment on matters of interest and will publish letters regardless of their politics providing they are in good taste. We ask that you limit letters to 400 words or less and write no more than twice per month. All letters must be signed with contact information given for verification.

The publisher reserves the right to verify the accuracy of letters, edit letters for clarity, space and content, and limit the number of letters from any writer to two a month. Anonymous letters or letters judged to be libelous will not be published.

The deadline for letters and commentaries is Monday at noon. They may be mailed to the *Journal Opinion*, PO Box 378, Bradford, VT 05033, emailed to editor@jonews.com or faxed to (802)222-5438.

SB26 in allegory

To the Editor:

I have been asked by citizens of Haverhill to provide a less complicated explanation of Haverhill's highway funding and the premise behind SB26. So, after much thought, I took a shot at explaining it with this analogy:

- You move into a rental unit within a multi-unit apartment building.
- When you move into the apartment, it is in good condition, and all the walls are painted white.
- The landlord keeps buckets of white paint on-hand for touch-ups as needed.
- However, you don't like white; you want purple paint on the walls.
- You ask for permission to paint the walls purple.
- You are told yes, but that you will need to pay for the paint and paint the walls yourself.
- The landlord has already paid for buckets of white paint and has it on hand.
- The landlord is not obligated to pay for painting the walls a color the renter prefers.
- The renter is still obligated to pay rent for the unit they occupy in the apartment building.

The landlord = The Town of Haverhill; the renter = the Woodsville District; permission = the NH Legislature; the white paint = the Town's Highway Department; the purple paint = the Woodsville District Highway Department; the rent = The taxes paid by taxpayers.

If you still have questions, please feel free to contact the Town Administration Office. We welcome your visit, email, or phone call.

Brigitte M. Codling
Haverhill Town Manager

In normal years ...

To the Editor:

We are very fortunate to live in an area where organizations, businesses and individuals help each other in times of need.

In normal years, mentors, mentees and board members of The Mentoring Project would gather upstairs at Colatina Exit and prepare our Annual Appeal letter for bulk mailing followed by pizza. Covid has prevented us from doing that for the past two cycles, but we've been assisted in this very labor-intensive endeavor by the very kind staff at Copeland Furniture and the Bradford branch of the Wells River Savings Bank.

We are very grateful to Copeland Furniture for the use of their big machine to print our Annual Appeal letter, which went out to postal patrons in Bradford, Newbury, Fairlee and Corinth. We are also grateful to the staff of the Bradford branch of the Wells River Savings Bank, who when not assisting bank customers, prepared those letters to be mailed out. And we are extremely grateful to the donors who have responded to those letters by giving generously.

In normal years, TMP would conduct a variety of fundraising activities to support various activities that we provide for mentors and their young mentees. Our Annual Appeal has been the sole local fundraiser going on two years, and the support we've received has been most gratifying.

TMP has resumed in-person mentoring after over a year of "virtual mentoring." We are seeking new mentors who can spare at least five hours per month to spend with a young person engaged in enriching activities. If you would consider becoming a mentor, call (802)222-1624 and request an application.

Nancy Jones, program coordinator
The Mentoring Project of the Upper Valley

Bradford community forums need your voice

To the Editor:

To all those who live, work, and play in Bradford, on July 28, the Vermont Council on Rural Development will help the greater Bradford community in a forum process that is being titled, "Moving Forward Together."

The process will start at 2:30 p.m. with six different forums throughout the day focused on Creative Economy, Infrastructure & Connectivity, Youth & Recreation, Housing & Lodging, Inclusivity & Welcoming, and Economic Development, Workforce & Jobs. The goal of these forums is to hear from as many people as possible—your thoughts, your concerns, your experiences, and your dreams.

Whether you are very involved or not; you are brand new to town or your family has been here for generations; you are just starting your career or are well into retirement; you have resources to spare or are in need of them; you know very much about what goes on in town or very little; you spend every day in town, or it serves as the place you shop and play. Your voice is needed—and the community will be stronger with your contributions. There are no ideas too tiny or too massive to share.

Do you have children who want to share their hopes, too? Please bring them. We need as many voices of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities, as possible to help shape the future of our community. There will be a free community dinner with music at 6 p.m. If you need assistance with transportation, accessibility accommodations, or child care, VCRD has you covered (info@vtrural.org or 802-223-6091).

Traveling or unable to make it in-person? There is a Zoom forum at 7 p.m. This first event is Step 1 of the 3-Step Community Visit process. Following the brainstorming event, the community will vote on priorities, resulting in two to five projects.

Over the next three months, VCRD will work with the community to form action teams and will bring in state and federal resources to help accomplish project goals. For more information on the VCRD Community Visit process, visit <https://www.vtrural.org/programs/community-visits>. Please share your voice on July 28.

Monique Priestley
Bradford, VT

ON THIS DATE

On July 21, 2011, 135th and the last space shuttle flight of American Space Shuttle program took place. ###

Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the Moon on July 21, 1969. He stepped on the Moon's surface almost seven hours after Apollo 11, the spacecraft that carried them, landed on the Sea of Tranquility on the Moon. After stepping on the Moon, Armstrong uttered his famous words, "one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind." ###

In the first major battle of the Civil War on July 21, 1861, Confederate forces defeated the Union Army along Bull Run near Manassas Junction, Virginia. The battle became known as Manassas by the Confederates, while the Union called it Bull Run. ###

On July 21, 1865, Wild Bill Hickok killed gunman Dave Tutt in Springfield, Missouri, in what is regarded as the first formal quick-draw duel.

The Outside Story

—How flowers get their color—

by Frank Kaczmarek

To quote the French dramatist Jean Giradoux, "The flower is the poetry of reproduction. It is an example of the eternal seductiveness of life." Flowering plants fill our summer fields and gardens, bring bright spots of color to our woods, and—since their arrival on the scene some 130 million years ago—have evolved along with animal life to become an essential part of the food web.

There are approximately 300,000 species of flowering plants—about 80-90% of all known plants—and scientists estimate that 85% of these rely on insects, birds, or bats to reproduce. Many of these pollinators seek out flowers in part by distinguishing their colors. A hummingbird, for example, may hone in on red flowers. A nectaring bat will seek out pale, night-blooming flowers that glow in the moonlight. Bees are attracted to "bee's purple," a color that combines yellow and ultraviolet light and is outside the range of human vision.

Flower color mostly comes from pigments, molecules that selectively absorb some wavelengths of light while reflecting others. Those reflected wavelengths are what we see. While the color produced in a few species stems from a single pigment, most result from a mixture of pigments. Generally speaking, structurally simple flowers usually display a single color, while flowers exhibiting a greater degree of structural complexity will often display more color combinations.

The most abundant family of pigments involved in the production of flower color is flavonoids, from which anthocyanins and anthoxanthins are derived. Flower colors in the indigo to red range, such as blue delphiniums and red geraniums, are formed from anthocyanins. Yellow and some white flowers—daffodils, for example—get their color from anthoxanthins.

Flavonoids aren't only in flower tissues. These water-soluble pigments are dispersed throughout the cell sap, and along with carotenoid pigments contribute to autumnal color, as the masking green of chlorophyll empties from leaves. They're also dynamic. The intensity and hue of flavonoid flower color may change depending on such factors as acidity, temperature, and metabolic activity.

Another major family of color pigments is the carotenoids. These pigments are localized inside cell structures called plastids and produce rich, vibrant yellow and orange colors such as those in sunflowers and the



California poppy. Carotenoids also serve as accessory pigments aiding in photosynthesis and in protecting the plant cell from light damage.

Other floral pigments include tannins, which give rise to browns and blacks, betalains, and chlorophyll. Betalains are found in a limited number of plant families, primarily the cacti and related species, and produce a range of colors. Chlorophyll, the ubiquitous green pigment in plant foliage and the key player in photosynthesis, can color a flower green as well.

A flower's color is typically most intense when the pollen is ready for release. Pigment molecules have a limited lifespan, however, and after fertilization, or simply because of aging, they begin to break down. As the degraded molecules accumulate, flower color fades.

As with birds, some flowers also owe their appearance to structural color. While some white petal flowers derive their color from pigments, the pure white petals of most flowers, such as the common water lily, are actually color-

less. They appear white due to air spaces interspersed within their petals' tissue. These spaces reflect back all the visible wavelengths of light causing the petals to appear bright white. Another example is that of the common butterfly flower. The flower's glossy, highly reflective yellow color is due to a unique interaction of light with three different tissue layers within its petals.

Pigments and structure are the main sources of flower color, but the ways that flowering plants combine these elements and respond to environmental factors such as sun, rain, wind, and soil, is endlessly complex. Although not completely understood, flower color production remains a fascinating aspect of plant biology and a pleasing aesthetic that continues to nurture the human spirit.

###

Frank Kaczmarek is a photographer and retired biologist and author of "New England Wildflowers: A Guide to Common Plants." He lives in Lyman, New Hampshire. *The Outside Story* is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

NH gov signs bill to boost nursing home staffing

by Christian Wade

(The Center Square)—Nursing homes and long-term care facilities in New Hampshire will have access to a larger employment pool under a bill signed by Gov. Chris Sununu.

The measure, which passed the Legislature earlier this month, allows EMTs, paramedics, and those with military experience to forgo the required training courses expected of nursing assistants and apply for a professional license from the state.

The changes are aimed at addressing a chronic shortage of nursing assistants and were included in a package of pandemic-related emergency regulations that have been extended.

Sununu signed an executive order last year easing requirements for nursing assistant licensing during the height of the pandemic, but the temporary rules have expired.

Some lawmakers raised concerns that easing the qualifications for becoming a licensed nursing assistant might compromise elderly care. Others noted that nurses licensed under the new requirements would be coming to the job with previous experience in emergency medicine and could help with future outbreaks in nursing homes.

Exactly how many workers will take advantage of the new law remains unclear. Only 35 individuals applied for a nursing license under the emergency orders last year, according to the state Office of Professional Licensure and Certification.

Like most states, New Hampshire's nursing homes were hit hard during the pandemic with large numbers of COVID-19 infections and deaths.

Even before the pandemic, New Hampshire's policymakers struggled with staffing shortages at nursing homes. The state has lost more than 1,200 nursing assistants in recent years, according to the New Hampshire Health Care Association.

Low Medicaid reimbursement rates in the state make it difficult for long-term facilities to retain workers and keep salaries competitive, the association has noted.

Another executive order signed by Sununu provided \$300 per week stipends for nursing home workers during the pandemic, but the federal funding for the stipends has expired.

VACCINATIONS

ORFORD—Free COVID-19 vaccinations will be available from noon to 3 p.m. on July 27 at the United Congregational Church of Orford, Route 10, Orford. Choice of Moderna, Pfizer or Johnson & Johnson. Sponsored by the Upper Valley Public Health Network. Bring an ID with name and date of birth. The vaccine is also available for children ages 12 and up.

Rambling Reflections

When the world turns against you

by Nessa Flax

The jar will just *not* open. You get a paper cut opening a bill (which is especially cruel).

Rushing to an appointment, you drop your car key into that tight crevice between the front seats, where no human hand can reach.

The pill you tried to swallow does not go down properly, leaving you choking for breath. You fear the Heimlich maneuver is called for, but you are home alone. You imagine being found dead on the floor, killed by a pill. (That is almost funny, but not while you can't breathe.)

You inexplicably knock your funny bone on the edge of a cabinet that has always been right where it is. Ouch. Nothing funny about that. (We'll come back to this.)

As if each such painful and frustrating incident is not bad enough, they often happen in multiples on the same day. What is going on? You feel like the world suddenly conspires against you.

To make this even weirder, you talk with a friend who has the same types of things

simultaneously happening to her.

What twist in the Universe is this? I do not have the answer, but have coined a phrase for the phenomenon: Inanimate Objects Fighting Back.

Recently I shared this terminology with a friend experiencing a similar set of incidents and she broke out laughing ...

... And I realized the value of my creation. By naming these phenomena, I feel less victimized by them.

The power of naming is a concept in history "that occurs in many different forms in numerous cultures" whereby "knowing the name of something or someone gives one power over that thing or person," as Loren Graham wrote in "The Power of Names."

From Genesis wherein God gives Adam the authority to name the animals and thus dominion over them, to fantasy literature where one's real name is kept hidden for protection, the power of names and naming spans eras from ancient times to the present.

Now when such irritations arise, I say to myself, "Inanimate Objects Fighting Back!" Instead of feeling that the world has turned against me, I smile.

Back to the funny bone, which is not actually a bone. The humerus is the bone connecting the shoulder to the elbow. The ulnar nerve passes over the end of the humerus, barely protected by skin and fat making it vulnerable to bumps. When you hit your funny bone, you are actually hitting the nerve or hitting it against the humerus and compressing it.

The resulting tingling pain is funny in the strange (vs. ha-ha) sense, which may be where the name comes from. The term first appeared in the mid-19th century, and may also have arisen from the similarity between "humerus" and "humorous."

Now that you know this, maybe the next time you hit your funny bone, instead of yelling a swear word, you can exclaim, "Oh, my ulnar!" And by naming it, perhaps the pain will be soothed, having less power over you.

JOURNAL OPINION

AN AWARD-WINNING INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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•Forums

(continued from page 1)

ated arts councils, trails and other recreation improvements.

“There is a whole range of different projects. This is all about ideas coming from the community,” she said. “We are simply a neutral facility providing a platform for discussion.”

Officials in Bradford sought VCRD’s help several years ago, but the pandemic halted things.

“We submitted the application for this back in 2019,” said selectboard chair Ted Unkles.

To be selected was exciting, he said, as it took several months to complete the process.

“By the time Bradford came up on the ‘to-do’ list, COVID-19 stopped everything,” he said.

Now that things are moving again, Unkles added, “Our goal is to bring the community together to discuss housing, economic development and the future of Bradford and see if we can develop a common vision.”

He believes the timing is good. “There are a lot of groups wanting to do things but they are not coordinating their efforts.”

He hopes working through VCRD will remedy that.

Step 1 will start with, “Moving Forward Together: Bradford Community Forums” on July 28 when anyone with a connection to the town can join a session of interest.

In the Bradford Academy auditorium from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., Creative Economy: Arts and Entertainment will be held. At that same time, an Infrastructure and Connectivity discussion will take place in Room 26 at the BA.

From 4:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., those interested in Youth and Recreation will meet in the auditorium and in Room 26, the forum on Housing and Lodging.

A community dinner at the Grace United Methodist Church from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. will take place with local musicians providing entertainment.

Resuming from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., a forum on Inclusivity and Welcoming will be held in the church and Economic Development, Workforce, and Jobs discussions will be in Room 26 of the Academy building.

Also during the 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. timeframe, there will be a Zoom forum. To register for that, interested persons can access <https://bit.ly/BradfordTogether>

According to Koloski, Step 2 will involve a community meeting in August when “all residents will be invited to champion action ideas, set priorities, and have the option to sign up for task forces to take on each priority initiative.”

In September, Step 3 will launch the Moving Forward Together Resource Day, when a visiting resource team of Vermont leaders will help support the work of the new task forces with technical and financial resources as they create action plans to move their priorities forward.

A visiting team of more than 20 Vermont state, federal, business, non-profit, and philanthropic leaders will be present to listen to and reflect on the challenges and opportunities for action that residents identify.

“VCRD is excited about working with Bradford residents to set and advance priorities for the future,” Koloski said. “We believe strongly in the power of local leadership and in engaging the full voice of the community in setting direction forward. Everyone in the community is invited to share their ideas and we’re eager to help connect to support and resources to help the community move forward.”

The Moving Forward Together: Bradford Community Visit is funded with support from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development and Northern Borders Regional Commission.

Email: lbuermeyer@jonews.com.

FUN FACTS

Hawaiian pizza was created in Ontario, Canada, by Greek immigrant Sam Panopoulos in 1962.

•Apartment fire

(continued from page 1)

has an applicant pending final approval from the Vermont State Housing Authority.

Downstreet works with the state housing authority to provide subsidized housing, and Olson said that the company’s waitlist for subsidized units, particularly in Bradford, is long.

“I’ve had a lot of turnover recently in Bradford. There is a strong demand,” Olson said. “Right now there are 21 households on the list for a two-bedroom, and that’s just in Waits River [Housing].”

NH acquires wildland fire vehicles

CONCORD—The New Hampshire Forest Protection Bureau has acquired six surplus vehicles from the Federal Excess Personal Property Program that will be loaned to local fire departments to assist with wildland firefighting efforts. This is the largest FEPP acquisition by the bureau to date.

FEPP makes former Department of Defense-owned property available for loan to state foresters through this U.S. Forest Service program at no cost; the vehicles then may be loaned to rural and wildland fire protection programs.

Items loaned through FEPP may be used for fire protection purposes and emergency service only. Trucks acquired through the program are often suitable for conversion to tankers or brush trucks.

NH Forest Protection acquired three five-ton and three 2.5-ton Stewart-Stevenson vehicles that can be retrofitted to hold 1,000-gallon tanks of water and 500-gallon tanks of water, respectively. Typically, vehicles used by local fire departments are limited to 100- or 250-gallon capacities.

While fire departments receive the vehicles at no cost, any retrofitting and maintenance is their responsibility. Additionally, the vehicles must be housed indoors, be inspected every two years by the Forest Protection Bureau and clearly display the NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources logo.

•Haverhill

(continued from page 1)

Board members were unanimous, however, in their decision to not pursue any acquisition of Blackmount Trail in an effort to reopen the rail trail to ATV traffic.

The vote came after an appraisal of Blackmount Rail Trail by George Sansoucy of Lancaster assessed the 4.3-mile rail trail at \$233,000.

The trail’s use has been subject to debate since 2016 after federal and state authorities ordered the town to prohibit ATV use on the section of trail the town owns between North Haverhill and Woodsville.

The town purchased the trail with federal funds in the 1990s under a program designed to increase non-motorized outdoor recreational opportunities for pedestrians, according to a narrative provided in the appraisal. Nevertheless, snowmobiles and ATVs used the trails regularly until a similar situation was flagged in Claremont.

Not long after, the board approved a local bypass trail allowing ATV riders to travel along town roads between Clark Pond Road and Central Street. Nevertheless, local ATV club members, town officials, and business leaders have hoped the trail would reopen to ATV use.

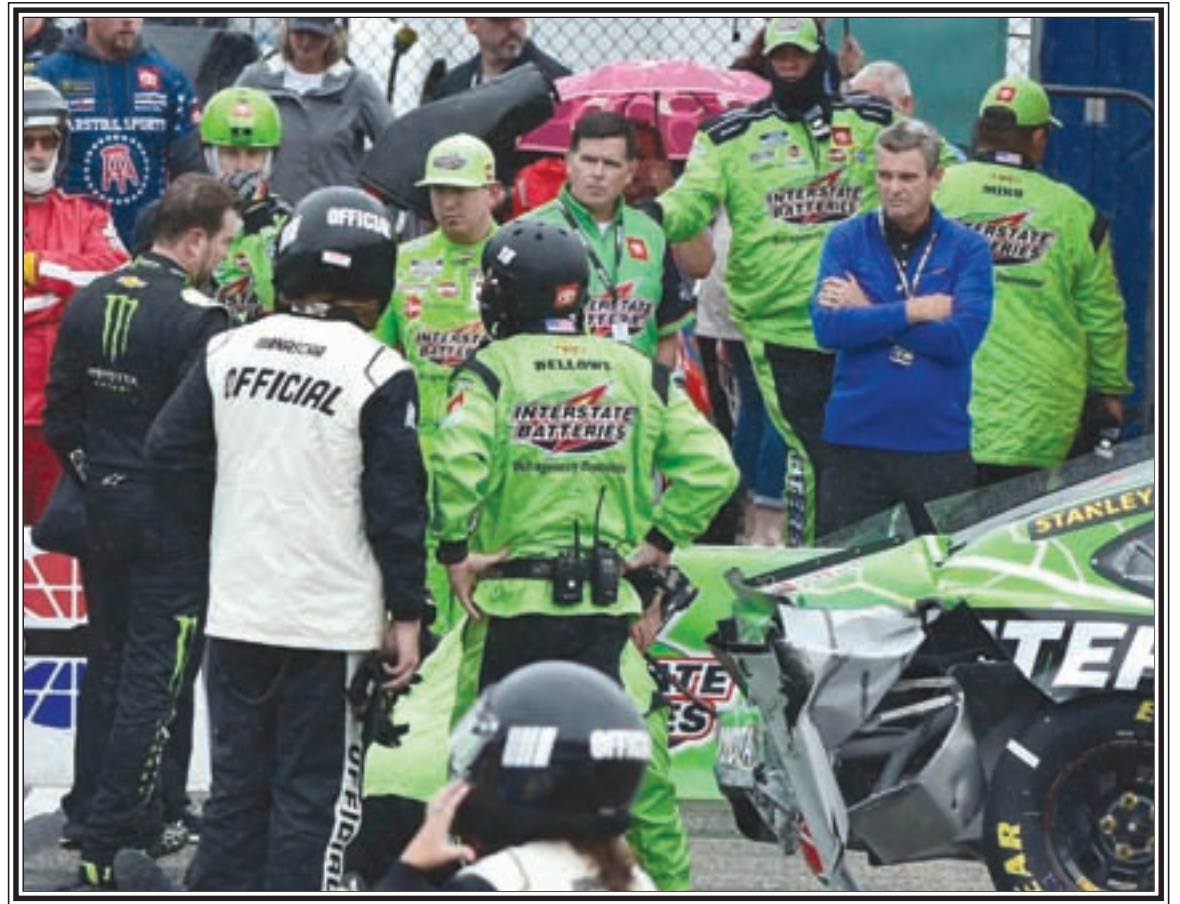
Board members said that, for now, they were content with the status quo as the bypass trail on town roads has proven popular.

Monday night’s meeting was initially plagued by what appeared to be technical difficulties prompting a 10-minute recess as Codling attempted to rectify the problems. But as the session resumed, it became clear that anonymous online participants were attempting to sabotage the meeting.

Board members held an impromptu vote to terminate the livestream via Zoom which had attracted as many as 40 participants at one point. The vote came shortly after one participant who requested to speak to the board used a vulgarity to refer to Codling while another posted a racist epithet over the chat.

There were six members of the public attending the meeting in person at the Clifford Memorial Building.

Email: editor@jonews.com.



LOUDON SCENES—Despite a rainy weekend, New Hampshire Motor Speedway got some racing in over the weekend. But not everyone had a fun time in Loudon. Pictured is Kyle Busch speaking with his brother Kurt Busch in the pits after Kyle crashed on lap 6 knocking him out of the Foxwoods Resort Casino 301 race.

JO PHOTO BY TOM NEUBELT

FUN FACTS

Pound cake got its name because the original recipe required a pound each of butter, flour, sugar and eggs. That’s a lot of cake—but it was meant to last for a long time.

FUN FACTS

The difference between jam and jelly is that jam is made with mashed up fruit while jelly is made with fruit juice.

FUN FACTS

Preserves are like jam but made with more whole fruit. Marmalade is preserves made from citrus fruit.

New exhibit open at Catamount Arts

ST JOHNSBURY—After a year of closure due to COVID-19, Catamount Arts announces the reopening of the Fried Family Gallery in its St. Johnsbury arts center.

From July 1 - Sept. 26, “Open to Landscape,” a four-person exhibition of paintings, photographs and works on paper, will be on view and feature works by Keith Chamberlin, Terry Ekasala, Anni Lorenzini and Elizabeth Nelson.

The exhibition explores a range of artistic response to Vermont’s dramatic landscape, from observed to imagined, in ways that touch upon the psychological and spiritual. Photographer Keith Chamberlin interconnects organic and abstract form; Terry Ekasala creates vibrantly colored dreams; Anni Lorenzini expands upon tonalist painting; and Elizabeth Nelson contemplates natural and geometric form in response to the I Ching Book of Changes.

Taken together, the 35 paintings and nine photographs in the exhibition present numerous opportunities for viewers to contemplate landscape as a way to understand the self-imposed isolation and unprecedented change of the past year.

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On the Common, Rte. 10 Orford, New Hampshire
 Any Questions, email: ovfdinc@gmail.com or call 603-353-4855

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OBITUARIES

Shirley Demetrules

CORINTH—Shirley Long Demetrules, 90, of Corinth, passed away peacefully on June 18, 2021. She was attended by the quiet calm and professional care of The Jack Byrne Center in Hanover. Birds were singing through the window.

Shirley's formative years were spent with Ralph and Luvia Emerson, her maternal grandparents, on their farm nestled in the hills of Topsham. Shirley graduated from Bradford Academy with high honors. While working at The Chimes Restaurant in Bradford she met the love of her life, William "Bill" Demetrules.

Shirley was blessed with a brilliant mind and attended the University of Vermont. She graduated *magna cum laude* with a bachelor's degree in education, focusing on French and Latin. Shirley was the highest ranked woman in her class. Upon graduation, she was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and offered a chance to study at La Sorbonne in Paris, France. Shirley went on to teach French and Latin and spoke often of how much she loved to teach.

Shirley worked with her husband at Bill's Restaurant in Bradford. She also worked for the Vermont Department of Education for more than 20 years. After she retired, Shirley and Bill made a memorable trip to Greece, Bill's homeland, a highlight of their years together.

Whether friend, family or stranger, one was always assured of a hearty warm welcome and a cup of tea from Shirley. She would stop whatever she was doing to visit. She was known for delicious homemade bread, pies, baked beans and peanut butter fudge. You might find her doing almost anything, she might be on the roof of the barn patching a hole, working in her beautiful flower gardens or if there was a spot anywhere, she would dig a hole and plant a tree. She was never without a project, be it crocheting, knitting, sewing, rug braiding, quilting, painting, lace making, cooking, gardening, food preserving, or anything else that caught her eye. Shirley loved animals and nature and rescued cats and dogs too numerous to count, she was a lover of wildlife and befriended many a wild animal as well. She was above all a kind person and bestowed that kindness on family and friends throughout her life.

Shirley is survived by her daughter, Eleni Demetrules; sisters Grace Viens, Luvia Callahan, Hope Emerson, and Heidi Gardner Peyton; brothers Robert Long and Stephen Gardner and their spouses; and her many adored nieces and nephews and their families. She was predeceased by her husband, Bill Demetrules; her mother, Sophronia "Betty" Gardner and husband Harold; father Earl Long and wife Hazel; brother Earl Long Jr.; and sister Sandra Gardner.

Memorial contributions in Shirley's name may be made to The Upper Valley Humane Society, 300 Old Route 10, Enfield, NH 03748.

Calling hours are July 31 from 5-7 p.m. at Hale Funeral Home, 187 Upper Plain, Bradford. Burial will be private.

Shirley quietly practiced random acts of kindness, and with that her family offers this anonymous quote. "Parfois les miracles sont les gens aux cœurs gentils — Sometimes miracles are people with kind hearts."

MEMORIAL SERVICE

WASHINGTON, VT—A graveside memorial service for John G. Perdue, 75 who died on Jan. 25, 2021 will be held July 25 at 2 p.m. at the Maple Hill Cemetery in Washington, VT. The Boardway and Cilley Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



Russell Pearl
1929 - 2021

MCINDOE FALLS—Russell Elmer Pearl, 91, of Academy Lane, died on July 18, 2021 at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon.

Russell was born in East Ryegate on Aug. 22, 1929 to Glen William and Mildred (Edmunds) Pearl. He was a graduate of McIndoe Falls Academy in 1947. He then attended the University of Vermont, graduating in 1953.

Russell enlisted in the US Air Force, serving from June 13, 1954 through June 12, 1956, having attained the rank of First Lieutenant.

Following his honorable discharge, he worked with Soil Conservation from October 1956 through May 1958. On April 29, 1960, he was appointed as the Postmaster in McIndoe Falls and served until his retirement on April 26, 1996.

Russell enjoyed carpentry and loved cutting wood. Over the years, he raised over 1,500 chickens.

On June 26, 1976, he married Hazel Isabelle (Williams) Kendall, and she predeceased him on July 17, 2014. He was also predeceased by his mother-in-law, Ethel Woolson; brother- and sister-in-law, Merwyn and Eva Pearl; brother- and sister-in-law, James and Sylvia Patten; brothers-in-law, James Davidson and Richard Williams; and nephew, Paul Pearl.

Survivors include Hazel's five children, Richard Kendall of Monroe, Linda Peak of St. Johnsbury, Roger Kendall and partner Sheila Dodge of McIndoe Falls, William Kendall and wife Sandy of Wells River, and Susan Blaisdell and husband Steven of McIndoe Falls; seven grandchildren, Kathy Kendall and partner Jason Sanville, Bethany Hale and husband Jeff, Kevin Kendall and wife Tiffany, Chris Kendall and wife Johnna, Nick Kendall and wife Clarissa, Stacy Fadden and husband Tom, and Kim Buxton and husband Levi; 16 great grandchildren, Paige Hale, Kendall Hale, Alaina Kendall, Alivia Kendall, Kaeson Kendall, Declan Kendall, Kellan Kendall, Ainsley Kendall, Casey Kendall, Elliott Kendall, Bailey Kendall, Cayden Kendall, Brantley Fadden, Blane Fadden, Lila Buxton and Hazel Buxton; a nephew, William Pearl and wife Gwen; two nieces, Elouise Pearl and Jane Burrill and husband Rodney; two sisters-in-law, Dorothy Davidson and Grace Williams; and many more nieces, nephews, cousins, and their families.

Calling hours will be held July 22 from 5-7 p.m. at Ricker Funeral Home, 1 Birch Street, Woodsville. A graveside service will be on July 23 at 2 p.m. in McIndoe Falls Cemetery with Melissa Gould serving as Funeral Celebrant.

Memorial contributions may be made to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, Cardiac Care Unit, One Medical Center Drive, Lebanon, NH 03756.

Ricker Funeral Home and Cremation Care of Woodsville is in charge of arrangements. For more information or to offer an online condolence, visit www.rickerfh.com.

Mobile vaccine van launches

CONCORD—The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, in partnership with ConvenientMD, announces the launch of the NH Mobile Vaccine Van, a new initiative to increase access to COVID-19 vaccines in New Hampshire. The NH Mobile Vaccine Van is available upon request for groups of all sizes, and will provide free vaccination clinics in communities across the state.

The van began operation on July 15 and will run throughout the summer. It is available to organizations, such as businesses, religious organizations, and community groups, as well as community events such as festivals, neighborhood block parties and farmers markets. There is no cost to entities hosting a vaccine clinic conducted by the NH Mobile Vaccine Van.

To request the van, go to vaccines.nh.gov and click on the van icon in the upper right corner. All three FDA authorized vaccines will be available. Translation services will also be available.



CLASSIC CHRISTIAN FAITH

by Dr. Dennis Prutow

The classic Christian confession is simple. "If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

Jesus died and rose again. He died as a sacrifice for sins. He rose from the grave as proof His sacrifice was acceptable to His Father. "When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high" (Hebrews 1:3).

The risen Christ appeared to Paul on the Damascus road. From personal experience, the apostle understood, "Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13). This is a quote from the Old Testament, Joel 2:32. It is a reference to Jehovah. The apostle Paul has no hesitation. He applies to Jesus a verse in the Old Testament that specifically refers to Jehovah.

Some consider this blasphemy. When Jesus made this claim people assaulted Him. "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God" (John 10:33).

The claim of Classic Christianity remains the same. Jesus is Lord. He is not simply a good man. He is not simply a divine being. He is The Divine Being. He is Immanuel, which means "God with us" (Matthew 1:23).

Senior center named Hannaford bag beneficiary

BRADFORD—Orange East Senior Center has been selected by the local Hannaford store leadership as the benefiting nonprofit in the Hannaford Fight Hunger Bag Program for the month of August.

The Hannaford Fight Hunger Bag program is an easy way for shoppers to give back to the local community and the environment as part of the regular shopping routine. Every \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag sends a \$1 donation to a nonprofit local to the Hannaford in which it was purchased.

As part of this ongoing program, every month at every Hannaford location a different local nonprofit is selected to benefit from the sale of the reusable Fight Hunger Bag Program. Orange East Senior Center was selected as the August beneficiary. Orange East Senior Center will receive a \$1 donation for every \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag purchased at this location in August.

"It's more important than ever to help reduce single-use plastic in the environment," said Vicky Chaffee, Executive Director of Orange East Senior Center. "Nonprofits at the local level, like us, are in need of community support. This program offers the perfect solution to multiple issues of the world today. We hope you'll support us in August by purchasing one or two."

NH approves contracts for residential treatment

CONCORD—On July 14, Gov. Chris Sununu and the Executive Council approved contracts with nine organizations to provide behavioral health services in residential treatment settings to children, youth and young adults whose behavioral health needs cannot be met safely in the community without intensive supports.

The contracts total \$145 million over three years and have renewal options for six following years. Most of the settings are in the southern portions of the state, but additional contracts with remaining residential treatment providers will be submitted for consideration in the coming weeks, according to a news release from New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.



LOUDON SCENES—There was plenty of rain in New Hampshire over the weekend and that prompted at least one rain delay during the Foxwoods Resort Casino 301. Pictured is New England Patriots wide receiver and return specialist Gunnar Olszewski receiving a return pass from a fan as he and NASCAR drivers Bubba Wallace and Corey LaJoie tossed footballs into the stands during the delay.

JO PHOTO BY TOM NEUBELET

Back Porch News...

Good, Local News.

Student achievements

Corinne Evelyn Lyndes of Fairlee graduated May 13 from Saint Michael's College with a bachelor's degree in media studies and digital arts.

The following students all graduated from the practical nursing program at Vermont Technical College: **Jacqueline Greenberg** of East Thetford, **Cassidy Lewis** of Strafford, **Rosy Sansom** of Thetford Center, **Jill Billiau** of Thetford Center, **Noah Sanville-Perry** of East Thetford, **Catherine Bailey-Partlow** of West Topsham, and **Rachel Cleveland** of Chelsea.

Morgan Gaffney, a native of Thetford Center, has been named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the spring 2021 semester. Gaffney is majoring in journalism and is a member of the Class of 2024.

Jenna Gilbert of Orford was named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the spring semester. Gilbert is in the biomedical engineering program.

The following local residents were named to the Dean's List at Hamilton College for the spring semester: **Lilian MacVeagh** of Thetford, a graduate of Thetford Academy; and **Gregory Varney** of Bradford, a senior majoring in Hispanic studies and world politics. He is a graduate of International Baccalaureate.

Unknown illness affecting songbirds

CONCORD—The U.S. Geological Survey National Wildlife Health Center recently confirmed the presence of sick or dying birds in groups of mid-Atlantic and Mid-western states.

No conclusive causes of either illness or death have been determined, but state wildlife agencies are working with diagnostic laboratories, federal agencies, and other partners to track reports of the disease and bird mortality.

Symptoms consistent with this ongoing disease event include crusting, swelling, discharge of the eyes or neurologic symptoms such as head tilt, rapid eye movement, impaired vision, lack of coordination, and the inability to fly. To date, the majority of affected birds include fledgling common grackles, blue jays, European starlings, and American robins, but other species of songbirds have been reported as well.

According to the USGS report, no human health or domestic

livestock and poultry issues have been reported. No signs of this unknown illness have been detected in New Hampshire, but residents are asked to take precautions to prevent it spreading in case it does appear. Birds congregating at bird feeders and bird baths can transmit diseases to one another.

Therefore, the USGS and state wildlife agencies including New Hampshire Fish and Game recommend cease feeding birds until this morbidity/mortality event subsides. Clean feeders and bird baths with a 10% bleach solution (one part bleach mixed with nine parts water), rinse with water, and allow to air-dry.

Avoid handling birds unless necessary. If you do handle them, wear disposable gloves.

If picking up a dead bird, place an inverted plastic bag over your hand to avoid direct contact with the bird. To dispose of dead birds, place them in a plastic bag, seal, and discard with household trash or alternatively bury them deeply.

Keep pets (including pet birds) away from sick or dead wild birds as a standard precaution. Anyone who observes sick or dead birds with symptoms consistent with this new disease in the Granite State should report the incident to New Hampshire Fish and Game by visiting www.wildlife.state.nh.us/nongame/index.html or contact the Wildlife Division at (603)271-2461 or wildlife@wildlife.nh.gov. Additional information will be made available as diagnostic results are received.

DRUMS ALIVE
NORTH HAVERHILL—On Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to noon, Drums Alive takes place under the tent at Horse Meadow Senior Center. Reservations are needed. Call 603-787-2539.

BREAKFAST
WEST BARNET—Breakfast (inside/sit down) will be served at Lake View Grange Hall in West Barnet on Aug. 14 from 8 to 10 a.m. Menu includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, home fries, sausage, bacon, white, wheat, rye, challah toast, coffee tea and juice. Adults \$8, Over 60-\$7, under 12-\$4

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4. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross and rose from the grave.
5. Pray and invite Jesus Christ to come into your heart and control your life through the Holy Spirit (receive Him as Lord and Savior). Amen.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Town of Corinth ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Pursuant to the Corinth Flood Hazard Area Bylaws Section VI. D., a hearing is scheduled for August 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Corinth Town Hall to consider the application for a Conditional Use Permit by Corinth Sno-Scrambler Snowmobile Club for bridge work along the Meadow Brook in Corinth Corner.

Karen Galayda
Administrative Officer

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H.P. Cummings promotes two

WOODSVILLE—H.P. Cummings Construction Company has announced the promotion of Travis Hulbert and Calvin Russell to vice presidents, a move that will bolster the company's leadership team with two more seasoned professionals who bring a wealth of experience and expertise from all facets of the business operations.

With 15 years at HP as project manager, Hulbert has grown through the ranks to become one of the most talented managers in construction management and preconstruction services. He has an associate's degree in construction practice and management from Vermont Technical College and lives in Williamstown with his wife and two children.

Similarly, Russell has been with the company for 12 years as project manager and brings knowledge and experience in all stages of construction. He has a bachelor's degree in construction management from Central Connecticut State University and lives in Randolph Center with his wife and three children.

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Historical Society News

Haverhill Historical Society

HAVERHILL—With a grant from NH Humanities, the Haverhill Historical Society will offer "Votes for Women: A History of the Suffrage Movement," presented by Liz Tentarelli of Newbury, NH on July 27 at 7 p.m. at Alumni Hall, 75 Court Street, Haverhill Corner. Admission is free and open to the public and the venue is handicapped accessible. This event was postponed from last year which was the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote.

The campaign for women's right to vote was a long one, from the 1848 Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York to ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920. Using historic photos and documents, Tentarelli will guide attendees on the journey.

She is president of the League of Women Voters NH, a non-partisan organization that is the direct descendant of the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

For more information, contact Roger Warren at (603) 787-2446 or wroger825@gmail.com.

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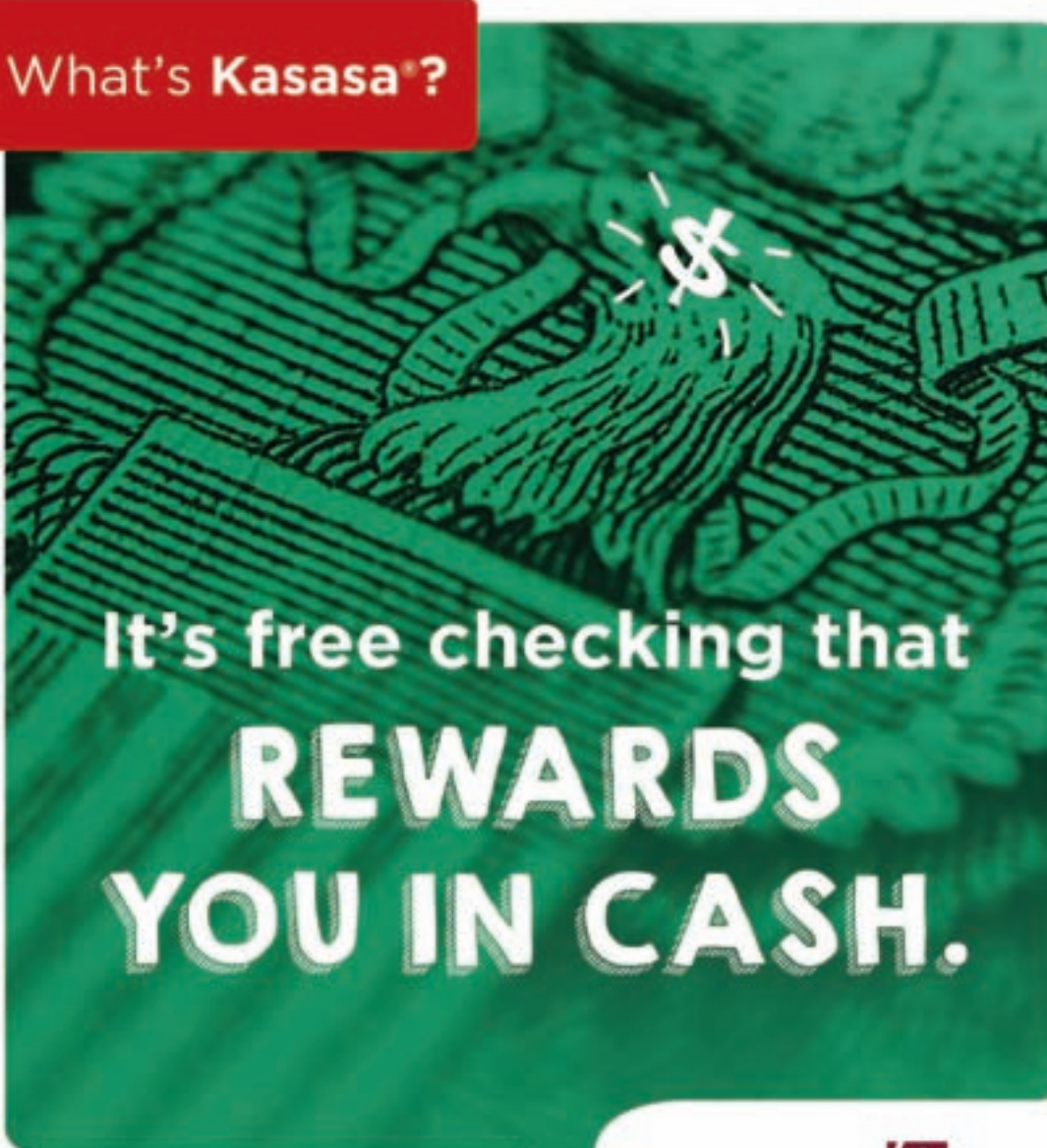


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Dr. Laurie Melanson, Superintendent
SAU #23
2975 Dartmouth College Highway, Suite #1
North Haverhill, NH 03774
Email: lmelanson@sau23.org

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #23
BATH – HAVERHILL COOPERATIVE – PIERMONT - WARREN
SUBSTITUTES NEEDED

We are currently accepting applications for the following substitute positions:

SCHOOL NURSE
(FULL TIME & PART TIME)

All applicants must be fingerprinted and pass a background check. Applications may be picked up at the SAU #23 Office or any of our schools. (Applicants may note preference in schools.)

Any questions, please call
Dawn Burleson at the SAU #23 Office
603-787-2113 Ext. 116
Email: dburleson@sau23.org



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Shannon Perkins, Health Facilities Cleaner Supervisor
393 High Street, PO Box 76, Glenclyff, NH 03238
(603) 989-5221
Shannon.J.Perkins@dhhs.nh.gov
Applications can be completed and benefits reviewed online at:
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PIERMONT VILLAGE SCHOOL
INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT POSITIONS
FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Applications are being accepted for **two full-time and one part-time one-on-one positions** as an Instructional Assistants to assist with the implementation of IEP goals and objectives pertaining to social, emotional and behavior development. Previous experience is a plus but willing to train the right applicant.

Applications are also being accepted for an Instructional Assistant for a preschool student for the 2021-2022 school year. This would be mornings, five days per week.

To apply please send a cover letter, resume and references to:
Bruce Labs, Principal
Piermont Village School
131 Route 10
Piermont, NH 03779
Email: blabs@sau23.org

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 3rd Shift: 11pm-7am

LNA I 2nd Shift (Differential included) Annual: \$30,430.40-\$35,068.80 Hourly: \$14.63-\$16.86 3rd Shift (Differential included) Annual: \$30,742.40-\$35,380.80 Hourly: \$14.78-\$17.01		LNA II 2nd Shift (Differential included) Annual: \$32,718.40-\$37,814.40 Hourly: \$15.73-\$18.18 3rd Shift (Differential included) Annual: \$33,030.40-\$38,126.40 Hourly: \$15.88-\$18.33
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Direct Care \$5.00/wk. (\$260.00/year)


Requirements: High school diploma or high school equivalency credential. Must possess and maintain a current license for Nursing Assistant as approved by the New Hampshire Board of Nursing. Valid driver's license required if responsible to transport residents to appointments. LNA I, no experience required. LNA II, two years of experience required.

State of New Hampshire benefit package
Health/Dental/Vision/Prescription Plan
Single \$22/2-person \$44/Family \$66 (Bi-Weekly)

Michelle Booker, Director of Nursing
393 High Street, PO Box 76
Glenclyff, NH 03238
(603) 989-5226
Michelle.Booker@dhhs.nh.gov
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FSW I 1st Shift Annual: \$24,169.60-\$27,081.60 Hourly: \$11.62-\$13.02 2nd Shift (Differential included) Annual: \$26,374.40-\$28,329.60 Hourly: \$12.68-\$13.62		FSW II 1st Shift Annual: \$25,604.80-\$28,579.20 Hourly: \$12.31-\$13.74 2nd Shift (Differential included) Annual: \$26,852.80-\$29,827.20 Hourly: \$12.91-\$14.34
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FSW I Requirements: Completion of eight years of grammar school or its equivalent, with no experience required.
FSW II Requirements: Completion of eight years of grammar school or its equivalent. Each additional year of approved formal education may be substituted for one year of required work experience. Six months' experience as a waiter/waitress, dining room attendant and/or food service worker.

State of New Hampshire Benefit Package
Health, Dental, Vision and Prescription Plans
Single \$22/2-Person \$44/Family \$66 (Bi-weekly)
Jim Cormiea, Director of Food Services
393 High Street, PO Box 76, Glenclyff, NH 03238
(603) 989-5220
James.E.Cormiea@dhhs.nh.gov
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Direct Care \$20.00/wk. (\$1,040.00/year)

To provide professional nursing care to residents within an assigned unit and provide and support medical care as directed by medical staff and pursuant to objectives and policies of the nursing department and Glenclyff Home. Must possess and maintain a current license as a RN/LPN in NH. Salary and Position determined by years of experience and certification.

State of New Hampshire benefit package
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393 High Street, PO Box 76
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SAU 23 is requesting Bids for the replacement of the doors and framing of the middle entrance at the Woodsville High School.

The bid submittal deadline will be 2:00 p.m., August 6, 2021. Bids will be accepted via email to the address listed, or sealed bids marked "WHS entrance" delivered to the SAU 23 office.

To obtain a copy of the job specifications and schedule a walk through contact Bert Vines, SAU 23 Facilities Maintenance Manager at bvines@sau23.org or 603-787-2113 Ext. 125.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #23
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SUBSTITUTES NEEDED

We are currently accepting applications for the following substitute positions:

TEACHERS & INSTRUCTIONAL AIDES

All applicants must be fingerprinted and pass a background check. Applications may be picked up at the SAU #23 Office or any of our schools. (Applicants may note preference in schools.)

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POLICE BLOTTER

Ex-trooper enters plea agreement

by Mike Donoghue
correspondent

CHELSEA—A former Vermont State Police detective from Bradford has received an 18-month deferred sentence for attacking his fiancée over five months.

Nicholas J. Cianci, 25, agreed to plead guilty in Vermont Superior Court on July 14 to an amended charge of simple assault on Monica Welch.

Under the plea agreement a final relief from abuse order also was issued, according to prosecutor Doug DiSabito. Cianci is to stay away from the woman and her young son, who had shared a home with him on Fairgrounds Road.

Cianci, who was a trooper for three years, will face immediate court action if he fails to follow the terms of his deferred sentence or the relief from abuse order, according to DiSabito, who is the Grand Isle County State's Attorney.

Unlike state probation, which can often have the supervision time cut in half, deferred sentences must be fully completed, DiSabito said.

The deferred sentence will allow for the assault conviction to be wiped off Cianci's criminal record if he stays out of trouble in the interim.

When asked if Cianci could become a police officer again, DiSabito said he believes the newspaper accounts of the criminal case, along with the state police news release will live on the internet.

The ongoing assaultive behavior happened on June 12, 2020 to Nov. 30, 2020, according to the domestic abuse charge initially filed by DiSabito.

Vermont Superior Court Judge Thomas A. Zonay also ordered Cianci to face a local Restorative Justice Committee.

Welch spoke at length during the sentencing and to the media after the hearing.

Former Orange County prosecutor Will Porter, noting a working relationship with Cianci, asked DiSabito to handle the case to avoid a possible conflict of interest.

Vermont State Police had announced they had placed Cianci on paid leave on Dec. 7, 2020 following a complaint about his conduct at an off-duty party. He was later moved to unpaid leave as of March 3 when the domestic abuse charge was approved. He eventually resigned effective May 27, Major Kevin Lane has said.

The case developed after an ugly sweater party at the couple's home in Bradford on Dec. 5 and the woman applied for a relief from abuse order against Cianci a few days later.

The incident with Welch, who

was a member of the Orange County Sheriff's Department, was outlined in a 10-page single-spaced affidavit by VSP Det. Sgt. Jesse Robson.

Several current and past employees for the state, South Burlington, Williston, Berlin and Hartford Police and the Orange County Sheriff's Department were interviewed as part of the case, records show.

Cianci had spent his entire state police career in Caledonia and Orange counties.

Cianci was a detective trooper assigned to the Bureau of Criminal Investigations based in St. Johnsbury when arrested. He was assigned as a road trooper to the St. Johnsbury barracks following his graduation from the Vermont Police Academy in July 2018, then transferred to the position of detective trooper in August 2020.

VERMONT STATE POLICE

BRADFORD—On July 10 at 2:13 p.m., VSP responded to a report of a motor vehicle vs pedestrian crash at the intersection of Parker Road and Chamberlain Hill Road in Vershire. Troopers arrived on scene and determined that Christopher Eaton, 53, of Vershire was operating his 2016 Mercedes CS4 on Parker Road when he approached another vehicle that had been parked in a manner to obstruct traffic. Torrey Fifield, 37, of Fairlee was standing next to the parked vehicle and was in the middle of the road wielding a crowbar. Troopers learned that there had been an incident of road rage between Fifield and Eaton prior to Fifield obstructing the roadway. Eaton attempted to turn onto a road next to the obstruction but struck Fifield while doing so. Eaton continued off the roadway and eventually struck a tree. Fifield and Eaton were both transported to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center for the treatment of serious but not life threatening injuries. This incident remains under investigation. ***

On June 27 at 8:30 a.m., VSP responded to a motor vehicle crash in West Topsham. The vehicle was unoccupied when Troopers arrived. After an investigation, the operator was later identified as Noah Lincoln, 31, of Hinesburg, VT, who had active conditions of release not to operate a motor vehicle with a suspended license. Lincoln was issued a citation for the offense, along with Vermont civil violation complaints for multiple vehicle equipment violations. ***

On July 17 at 1:56 p.m., VSP was notified of a single vehicle rollover crash on I-91 in Newbury. Troopers responded and all three occupants were out of the vehicle. All three occupants were transported to Cottage Hospital for evaluation and treatment of minor, non-life threatening injuries. A 17-year-old was the operator. A vehicle transmission malfunction and road surface condition were contributing factors of the crash. ***

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POLICE BLOTTER

BRADFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

BRADFORD—The following is an activity log for the Bradford Police Department for the period from June 27 to July 3: suspicious; citizen assist; traffic hazard; juvenile problem; trespassing; citizen dispute

The following is an activity log for the Bradford Police Department for the period from July 4 to July 10: alarm; vandalism; four VIN checks; theft; parking problem

The following is an activity log for the Bradford Police Department for the period from July 11 to July 17: two citizen assists; citizen dispute; threatening

NH panel releases homelessness plan

CONCORD—The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services announced the release of the Council on Housing Stability's three-year Strategic Plan, which provides a roadmap to meet the housing needs of New Hampshire residents.

The plan sets a goal of 13,500 new units across the state by 2024 to ensure that homelessness in New Hampshire is rare, brief and one-time whenever possible.

Addressing the lack of affordable housing is critical for New Hampshire's future. The plan includes a three-year framework to address homelessness across the state, with emphasis on the need for an increase in inventory of affordable housing. Recommendations outlined in the plan include promoting new housing development; reducing barriers to affordable housing; and using a data-driven approach to understand regional needs.

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