



Woodburn Charged. Steps Down As Minority Leader,
Stays On As District One Senator. See Page 4



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Woodburn Stays On As Senator

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Selectman Drop Action Against Landfill Owners

After a request by North Country Environmental Services, selectmen have dropped the enforcement action they filed in June at Grafton Superior Court against NCES in regard to a tax abatement the company seeks that would cut its landfill property taxes in half.

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Textile Artist Weaves Community

Wherever he goes, Steven Frost creates community through art. Community building was a skill he learned early on, during his days as a gay youth growing up in Monroe, N.H., and attending St. Johnsbury Academy (Frost graduated in the class of 2000).

See Coverage Page 16

FYI

Cumbies, Maplefields, Rumors, and Possibly More In Littleton

Littleton is booming and buzzing, as new businesses are set to open and others are rumored to be on their way. Two new gas stations with convenience stores, a Cumberland Farms and Maplefields, are set to open in the next couple of weeks.

As we reported in March, a new Maplefields is set to open at 390 Meadow Street where the old Sunoco station used to be. It will feature a beer cave, made-to-order and grab-and-go items, and a wide variety of coffee. With other locations in upstate New York and throughout Vermont, Littleton will be the company's easternmost store. Earlier in the year, Otto Hansen, Maplefields general manager said expanding east was interesting and this would be "a nice location for people to pull off and recharge and refresh."

The Cumberland Farms will be opening at 831 Meadow Street, just across from the Staples. According to the company's Instagram page, they are hosting a hiring event at the location next week on Saturday, Aug. 11.

These are just the latest examples of Littleton's economic development, which has welcomed several businesses throughout 2018. The success has not been lost on Nathan Karol, Executive Director of the Littleton Area Chamber of Commerce. "I can certainly say that I have noticed, as any small town is that's up-and-coming, we are somewhat in flux at certain times," he said. "But it certainly seems we're finding our footing, continuing to grow, and welcoming to the community those people that want to come in and thrive here and pick Littleton to be their home."

In addition to these new stores, there are also rumors circulating that two other chains may be coming to Littleton. A Starbucks coffee shop and Five Guys restaurant are said to be in the works, but, according to Littleton Planning & Zoning Clerk Joanna Ray, those rumors are currently unsubstantiated. She said neither franchise has entered an application with the Planning & Zoning Board. It is possible, however, they may apply in the future.

If these rumors materialize, we'll be sure to share. If you hear first or know of any other businesses news, please contact us at news@caledonian-record.com.

On The Cover



Matt Kelly of Littleton competes in a youth swim meet at Remich Park in Littleton on Thursday, Aug. 2, 2018. Teams from Bethlehem, Colebrook, Littleton, Lyndonville and St. Johnsbury took part. **See more on Page 14.** (Photo by Paul Hayes)

CLOSE TO HOME

Goal!

As the clock ticked toward the final minute of play, I worried we were in for the disappointment of a loss. My daughter had been asking for ages for the chance to watch her favorite soccer player – Alex Morgan – in a live game. Now here we were, in a sea of #13 jerseys, and the U.S. Women’s National Team was down 1-0 and almost out of time.

We waited anxiously amid the crowd of 21,000+, hoping for some last-second magic, yelling out to the players on the field just in front of us, hoping our cheers would inspire a goal.



BY Meghan McCarthy McPhaul

Three years ago, when the once-every-four-years Women’s World Cup was being contested in Canada, my husband and I considered making the drive to Montreal to watch the U.S. – the eventual winners of the coveted Cup – play. I’ve been kicking myself ever since that we didn’t load our then 6- and 8-year-olds into the minivan and head north for that. So, when I saw the U.S. Women’s National Team would be playing in Connecticut, I bit the bullet, bought the tickets, and headed south.

My kids have watched a lot of soccer games with me in the living room. They’ve seen me sitting literally on the edge of my seat, watched me jump out of said seat in excitement, and heard both mutters of discontent and loud shouts of triumphant joy. Like pre-teens everywhere, the kids have become adept at rolling their eyes at their mother’s weird antics. But now they get into the games just as much – and often as vocally – as I do.

Nothing compares, though, to being there live to watch the action – with several thousand soccer-crazed strangers.

First, there was a meandering drive through a labyrinth of parking lots until we were finally directed into a spot, followed by the long walk to the stadium, where everything – from a hot dog to a taco to a bottle of water – seemed to sell for the bargain price of \$5.

Eventually, we got to the good stuff. The official walk-in by the starting 11. A live performance of the National Anthem. Pre-game fireworks on the field.

The team huddling up before kick-off – just like the kids do before their games.

Naturally reserved, my kids weren’t quite sure about joining in the “U-S-A!” chant that erupted at various points throughout the game, but they eventually did. We rose up for the wave as it undulated through the stadium. And, of course, we watched soccer. We groaned when Australia scored mid-way through the first half and rode the rollercoaster of great plays, hard charges, and near misses.

Second half was the best, as the U.S. team controlled much of the play and attacked the goal at our end of the field. Alex Morgan was yards away. Megan Rapinoe took several corner kicks so close to our seats, she surely heard us cheering for her. Rose Lavelle, Crystal Dunn, and Tobin Heath dazzled us with their killer footwork. Carli Lloyd came on near the end of the game to a huge ovation.

It all feels different when it’s happening right there in front of you, life-sized, without a commentator dissecting every move and the distraction of instant replay. I could tell by the kids faces, they were soaking it all up.

As the minutes ticked up to 90, though, it seemed a lesson in disappointment was headed our way. And then, in the final minute of the game, on the last Rapinoe corner kick, Lindsey Horan timed her run and her leap just right and headed the ball past the Aussie goalkeeper.

The crowd roared and leapt to its feet – we along with it – in an eruption of triumphant emotion not easily replicated in a living room. In that moment, the lesson shifted from one of disappointment to one of keep-trying-to-the-very-end. A tie, stolen from what had seemed like a sure loss, felt like victory.

It was a little bit of soccer magic, more real because we were right there to see it – and feel it – happen.

Meghan McCarthy McPhaul is a freelance writer and former staff reporter for the Caledonian-Record. For more about her writing adventures, visit www.MeghanMcPhaul.com.

Lancaster Man Raises Money For PTSD Research

Last weekend’s downpour didn’t stop John Percey, who, for the seventh consecutive year - with four of them in the North Country - completed the 31 Miles for 31 Heroes walk to honor 30 servicemen and a military dog killed in Afghanistan and raise money for post-traumatic stress (PTSD) research.

“The event was a success,” the retired Air Force veteran said Sunday. “It was a soggy start, and rained the first few hours, but luckily it cleared up. Last check, I had raised \$1004. I had several different folks accompany me along the way.”

That way was 15½ miles up Route 3, beginning at Centennial Park in Lancaster, to about Stratford Hollow, where he turned around and headed back to Lancaster.

The rucksack walk event took place on Saturday, Aug. 4, at locations locally, nationally and across the world, was created to celebrate the lives of the fallen heroes, honor their sacrifices, and support their families.

This year, John W. Weeks VFW Post 3041, in Lancaster, sponsored the local North Country event and provided logistical support for participants.

Accompanying Percey for a segment of the walk were five at the start and then throughout the day another four adults and three kids join-

See PTSD, Page 10

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Woodburn Steps Down As Minority Leader; Vows To Stay In Senate

BY ROBERT BLECHL
 Staff Writer

New Hampshire state senator Jeff Woodburn, who was arrested last week on domestic violence charges, announced Monday he will step down as New Hampshire Senate minority leader but will not resign as state senator.

"I'm voluntarily stepping aside as minority leader to devote my full attention to clearing my name and representing my North Country constituents," the three-term state senator from Whitefield said in a statement. "As a father, my family comes first. Supporting them will be my priority during the difficult time ahead."

For elected officials on both sides of the aisle, his decision to relinquish his Senate leadership position might not be enough, as a number of Republicans and Democrats are requesting he fully resign his Senate District 1 seat immediately.

Woodburn's spokesperson, Lisa Meyer, said "He is stepping aside from his leadership position, but remaining in his seat."

In a statement issued after Woodburn's decision to relinquish the leadership post he has held since 2014, state Sen. Chuck Morse, R-Salem, the president of the N.H. Senate, said, "Senator Woodburn's decision to step down from his role as Senate Minority Leader is a prudent one at this time. It is clear that he is unable to uphold the duties and responsibilities of the Senate Minority Leader, but also as an elected official representing the communities of the first senate district.

"These acts, if found true, are reprehensible and are not representative of the kind of individual character required to hold public office," said Morse. "Out of respect for those he serves, Senator Woodburn should seriously consider resigning from his seat."

Morse said in the interim, he urges the Senate Democrats to squander no time coming together to fill the Senate's leadership role so that the Senate can continue conducting business as usual serving the communities of



CONCORD POLICE DEPARTMENT VIA AP

This photo provided by the Concord Police Department shows New Hampshire state Sen. Jeff Woodburn.

this state.

"I continue to believe that legislators should be held to a higher standard and there is no excuse and absolutely no room for domestic abuse and violence in our society," said Morse.

Woodburn faces a total of nine Class A misdemeanor charges, including four assault charges that accuse him of striking and biting his intimate partner.

He was arrested Thursday in Concord, released on \$10,000 personal recognizance bail, and is scheduled to be arraigned in Lancaster District Court on Aug. 20.

In a statement issued in the hours after his arrest, Woodburn said he intends to fully address the charges and defend against them in court.

Woodburn, who represents nearly 60 towns in Coos County and northern Grafton County, has no Democratic challenger on the ballot for the primary election on Sept. 11.

The New Hampshire Department Party Chairman has also called on Woodburn to resign his Senate office immediately.

See **Woodburn**, Page 6



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Selectmen Drop Enforcement Action Against Casella

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

BETHLEHEM - After a request by North Country Environmental Services, selectmen have dropped the enforcement action they filed in June at Grafton Superior Court against NCES in regard to a tax abatement the company seeks that would cut its landfill property taxes in half.

Since that time, however, selectmen and the company have "engaged in preliminary settlement discussions in an attempt to resolve the disputes between them," Walter Mitchell, legal counsel for the town, wrote the court in a July 18 motion stating the town agrees to voluntary withdraw the enforcement action.

In its abatement request, NCES, a subsidiary of the Rutland, Vt.-based Casella Waste Systems, claims its tipping fee per ton (a waste disposal fee collected by NCES) is half of the \$92.19 figure on the town's equalized valuation summary for the NCES property.

In the now-withdrawn enforcement action filed June 26 at Grafton Superior Court, se-

lectmen had argued NCES seeks to use an assessment formula that is not the N.H. Board of Tax and Land appeals methodology the company and town agreed to in the 2011 settlement agreement filed at the superior court and that NCES's own expert promoted until recently.

The town had asked the court to define and enforce the assessment provision of the agreement, which voters approved in 2012 and had ended all previous litigation between the town and NCES and added 10 acres to the current 61-acre landfill district.

As part of the ongoing preliminary discussions, NCES requested that the town, in a showing of good faith, withdraw the action, he said.

The action was dropped without prejudice, meaning if negotiations break down, the town can file anew an enforcement action.

The court approved the motion on July 27.

After discussion of the abatement went to a public discussion in September, NCES requested selectmen sign a confidentiality agreement to keep non-public any discussions between them about the abatement.

During Monday's selectmen's meeting, Matt Angell, a certified public accountant from Manchester who was recommended to the town by Mitchell and the N.H. Municipal Assoc., went before selectmen, who asked him the best way to proceed to resolve the matter.

Angell is tasked with reviewing the NCES revenue, tonnage and other specifics to determine if they support the company's tax abatement request and if the request is reasonable.

He told selectmen he has received some basic revenue and tonnage information from the company, but, to date, that is about it.

Selectmen Martin Glavac asked Angell if a week is reasonable for him to review the information.

"A week is reasonable if the information is available," said Angell.

Board of Selectmen Chairman Mary Moritz said the town's legal fees and professional fees are budgeted for.

If NCES is successful, its abatement would reduce the assessments on three of its properties from a 2017 value of \$14.6 million to an aggregate value of \$7 million, according to the

company's abatement request filed Feb. 28 for tax year 2017.

According to the 2017 equalized valuation summary filed with the town, NCES has a total projected 2017 property tax payment to Bethlehem of \$430,762, a figure that could be halved to about \$200,000 if the abatement goes through.

A successful abatement for tax year 2017 could also set a precedent that could possibly reduce in future tax years NCES property assessments, and the amount of property tax it pays to the town.

As part of the BTLA methodology adopted by NCES's expert, the town and NCES agreed to a 3.5-percent annual increase in tipping fees, based on a market analysis of gate rates and a review of the consumer price index for the Northeast region, Mitchell wrote in the superior court petition.

The BTLA decision states the tipping fee was \$59 in 2004, and with the 3.5-percent annual increase promoted by NCES and adopted by the BTLA, was \$92.19 in 2017, said Mitch-

See **Casella**, Page 6

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Landaff In Talks With Lisbon Fire Dept.

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

LISBON - Discussions have resumed about a proposal for Landaff to contract with Lisbon for fire protection services, an idea that earlier in the year triggered push-back by some Landaff residents who want to keep their fire department.

During the July 23 Lisbon Board of Selectmen's meeting, the Landaff Fire Committee went before Lisbon selectmen with a list of questions, with committee member Doug Erb, a former Landaff fire chief, saying the group wants to "separate fact from fiction," according to the meeting minutes.

He asked if Lisbon is still interested in providing coverage for Landaff, and Lisbon selectmen replied yes and said it would be similar to the contract for fire services Lisbon provides to the town of Lyman.

A contract is based on the town's population in which they use the 2018 census numbers to determine a base fee, said Board of Selectmen Chairman Scott Champagne.

Landaff Selectmen Michael Ransmeier, a proponent of exploring a contract with Lisbon, asked if Lisbon would consider a contract longer than two years, such as four or five years.

Champagne said two to five years is a typical contract.

Landaff would also not be required to keep and maintain a fire station and equipment in its town, he said.

Lisbon, which currently has 16 firefighters with 10 of them level one certified or higher, has been providing fire service to Lyman for more than 35 years, said Lisbon Fire Chief Greg Hartwell.

If per call charges are applied for Landaff, Hartwell said rates of pay would be the firefighters rate of pay, ranging from \$12 an hour to \$27 an hour.

Champagne was asked if Landaff would incur costs related to capital investments, including interest payments, equipment or the new fire station going up in Lisbon. He said there has been capital improvement in Lyman, but that town has never been charged.

Lisbon selectmen said that Landaff residents and fire personnel would be welcome to join the Lisbon Fire Department.

Landaff is one of the few towns remaining in New Hampshire that has an all-volunteer fire department.

At town meeting in March, Landaff residents voted to keep their fire department alive by tabling several articles that sought to suspend it and authorize Landaff selectmen to contract with Lisbon for fire protection.

Landaff residents, some of whom said they felt Landaff selectmen did not have a public discussion about the proposal before the articles to suspend the department were put on the town meeting warrant, also unanimously authorized a committee to study the Landaff Volunteer Fire Department and the options for it going forward.

That committee could hold a presentation later this summer and Landaff selectmen could issue their recommendation by the end of the year.

Among those fighting to keep the fire department in Landaff is Landaff Fire Chief Jason Cartwright.

In February, before the town vote, he said it is an important department in the Twin State Mutual Aid Fire Association and Landaff firefighters are traditionally the first to respond to incidents in Landaff that are not within a closer distance to the Lisbon fire station.

The Landaff Volunteer Fire Department also manages community events, such as the town's Old Home Day, runs on a budget that can be reduced to a roughly \$23,000 annual range, provides a strong backup department to Lisbon, Sugar Hill, Bath and other towns, and provides quality service to Landaff residents, some of whom would otherwise have delayed response times if the Landaff department is dissolved, he said.

Woodburn

Continued from Page 4

If that doesn't happen, NHDP Chairman Ray Buckley has declined to answer if the NHDP will be finding a write-in Democratic candidate to challenge Woodburn in the primary election.

If Woodburn does not resign his Senate seat and proceeds to the November general election, he will face Republican challenger David Starr, a retired engineer from Franconia.

Arrested senator would stay on ballot even if he resigns

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Senate Democratic leader Jeff Woodburn's name will remain on the ballot next month, even if he resigns following his arrest on domestic violence charges.

Woodburn was charged Thursday with simple assault, domestic violence, criminal mischief and trespassing. He is accused of striking and biting a woman, and kicking in the door of her home.

Woodburn issued a statement saying he intends to fight the allegations in court. Though many officials say he should resign, his name will remain on the Sept. 11 primary ballot, even if he steps down.

The secretary of state's office says names can only be removed in limited circumstances, including death, serious illness or moving out of a district. Woodburn, who lives in Whitefield, doesn't face a primary challenger. David Starr of Franconia is the only Republican candidate.

Senate Democrats select interim minority leader

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — New Hampshire Senate Democrats have selected an interim minority leader after the previous minority leader stepped down amid assault and domestic violence allegations.

The Senate Democratic Caucus on Monday night selected state Sen. Donna Soucy, of Manchester, to serve as the Senate Democratic leader through Nov. 6.

Soucy says she's honored to be selected and looks forward to focusing on the issues that matter most to residents and on the midterm elections.

Earlier Monday, Sen. Jeff Woodburn, of Whitefield, announced he was stepping aside as minority leader to devote his attention to clearing his name and representing his constituents. Woodburn was charged last week with simple assault, domestic violence, criminal mischief and trespassing. He's accused of striking and biting a woman, and kicking in the door of her home.

Casella

Continued from Page 5

ell, who added the property taxes provision of the settlement agreement is "unambiguous."

CWS representatives have declined to comment on the abatement.

In CWS's recent quarterly earnings reports, Casella's top officer, CWS CEO John Casella, has said solid waste pricing continues to be strong.

In the company's second-quarter earnings call for investors on Friday, Casella said, "Strong operating performance continues to be driven by robust solid waste price and volume trends ... During the second quarter, we increased our average landfill price per ton by 6.7 percent and at the same time increased landfill tons volume by roughly 3.6 percent year-over-year."

CWS revenues for the second quarter of 2018 were \$165.6 million, up a \$11.6 million, or 7.6 percent, year-over-year.

CWS CFO Ned Colletta said, "We increased our reported landfill pricing by 4.1 percent year-over-year and more importantly we increased our average price per ton at the landfill by 6.7 percent ..."

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STK.#CCP885 – RT, BLACK, 3.6 V6, AUTOMATIC, 19,196 MILES

\$305

PER MO

SALE PRICE:

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News Briefs

Dalton Woman Arrested In Fentanyl/Heroin Bust

LANCASTER — A Dalton woman faces felony drug charges, including one count accusing her of trying to peddle narcotics, after an arrest on Friday by Lancaster police.

"It was a long-going investigation that led to a good drug seizure," Lancaster Police Chief Timothy Charbonneau. "It resulted from a motor vehicle investigation that started June 2 and led into a search warrant and arrest warrant. We put out a warrant and were able to catch her."

Michelle Lambert, 35, faces a felony count each of possession of a controlled/narcotic drug and possession of a controlled/narcotic drug with the intent to distribute.

On June 2, Lancaster police arrested Lambert

for various motor vehicle violations. After the arrest, a tow inventory was conducted on the vehicle she was in, during which the inventory officers found a substance that appeared to be heroin and fentanyl, said Charbonneau.

The Lancaster Police Department applied for and was granted a search warrant to search the vehicle.

"Subsequent to the search of the vehicle, an undetermined amount of suspected heroin/fentanyl and some pills believed to be Suboxone were found in a purse belonging to Lambert," he said.

The arrest warrant was then granted for the two felony charges.

On Friday, Lambert was seen walking along Elm Street in Lancaster and was arrested without incident.

More drug charges could come.

"During a search of Lambert, an amount of suspected heroin/fentanyl was found on her person," said Charbonneau. "This will be sent to the New Hampshire State Police Forensic Lab for testing an analysis."

A criminal check of Lambert also showed she has two other outstanding warrants for her arrest, one from Rockingham Superior Court for failing to appear on a pending charge of heroin possession, and the other from the Holderness Police Department for a charge of receiving stolen property and a charge of fraudulent use of a credit card.

Lambert was held for lack of bail and is scheduled to be arraigned at Coos Superior Court Monday on the Lancaster police charges.

New Life Could Be Breathed Into Historic Building

WHITEFIELD — A concept is being floated to turn a historic barn, once part of a large hotel property, into a town visitors center and a permanent home for the Whitefield Historical Society museum.

At the moment, however, the Whitefield Economic Development Corp. has no money, though future grants, if obtained, could turn the vision into reality.

The yellow structure sits behind Cumberland Farms, just off of King Square.

"The Fiske House used to be a very large, upscale hotel in downtown Whitefield," said Selectman and WEDC member Stan Holz. "It was booming in the 1880s and '90s, but burnt down in '23. What is left of the entire hotel is the barn, which was also livery. That barn goes back to the original construction."

Holz said he and a group went through the barn and the structure is intact, though it would need work to convert it to the 21st century purposes being envisioned.

"The idea came that it would be a great spot for a visitors center and the historical society museum, which is now in the basement of the bank," said Holz. "Plus, there's more than enough room for retail space and offices."

In January, the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority, a potential funding source, will begin hosting grant application workshops.

"The only way it could work if it was fully funded by grants," said Holz.

Although the building has electric, it currently has no water system, sewer hookup, or heat.

The first step would be writing up a purchase and sale agreement with the building's owner, Jim Gozzo.

The concept went to a discussion during the July 9 selectmen's meeting, when Whitefield business owner and WEDC member Bob Stiles, who toured the barn with the group, said WEDC is trying to do something with the property with Gozzo, and ideas also include a senior center and having an after-school space for youth and students.

Stiles, though, said Gozzo wants \$80,000 for the property, twice its \$41,500 assessed value,

and wouldn't negotiate. Stiles offered to pay him \$30,000.

At that meeting, Board of Selectmen Chairman Peter Corey said there is a lot of opportunity and the barn building would be a wonderful piece of town history to preserve.

While the building is solid and the main structure is concrete support beams, the structure does have missing pieces and there is rot in some places.

One idea is to pave the municipal lot and throw in the Fiske house as one project, the end result being there would be a paved lot with lights and an entrance to the visitor center.

Discussion at the July 9 board meeting also touched on the CDFA, which sells tax credits to investors to invest in a project.

Brian Bresnahan, North Country representative for U.S. Rep. Ann Kuster, D-NH, said it is also the type of project the U.S. Department of Agriculture, another potential funding source, would be interested in as well.

"If things fall into place, this could be a wonderful project for the town," said Holz. "We'd have a visitors center and a museum for the town. The question then becomes if this could be a self-funding project if we can rent commercial space."

Northern Border Grants Boost Community Projects

Christmas came early to a number of North Country municipalities when the Northern Border Regional Commission this week announced grant awards to Littleton, Whitefield, Lancaster, and other towns to help advance community projects.

Once completed, the projects are expected to create jobs, provide affordable housing and commercial space, help local farmers and educational centers, and more.

Littleton was awarded \$119,500 to go toward a 42-acre expansion of the Littleton Industrial Park.

The Coos Economic Development Corp. received \$250,000 to refurbish buildings surrounding King Square, the town common, to create some two dozen affordable apartment units as well as five or more commercial spaces.

Taproot Farm and Environmental Education Center in Lancaster was awarded \$156,260 to expand its local food store in the town that supports 88 local agricultural producers and artisan craftsmen.

Weeks Medical Center was awarded \$250,000 to build a patient care center in Lancaster.

On Thursday, the entities spearheading some of those projects gave some details about them and time lines.

For the Littleton Industrial Park, the money will go toward planning and design to prepare the property along Mt. Eustis Road for future development, said Greg Eastman, president of the Littleton Industrial Development Corp.

"It's important to develop this land," said Eastman. "It's some of the last land that's devel-

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News Briefs

Continued from Page 8

op-able in Littleton and some of the most expensive land to develop."

He called the NBRC grants a great program.

"We appreciate the Northern Border Regional Commission recognizing Littleton and this project," said Eastman. "This is a very positive and strong step for us."

He thanked Cathy Conway, of Northern Community Investment Corp., for writing the NBRC grant application.

"It's just another great partnership in the North Country benefiting the Littleton taxpayers and LIDC," said LIDC member Chad Stearns. "That's how we do economic development up here - through partnerships."

Of Whitefield's King Square housing and commercial project in Whitefield, CEDC Executive Director Mike Scala said, "We've been kicking it around for a while now and working out the particulars. This is the first large grant we've gotten to explore the possibility, and a portion of it will be used to do the feasibility."

The goal is to complete the comprehensive feasibility study that will examine costs, benefits, and requirements of the purchase and renovation of several properties in the next three or four months, then proceed with finding other funding sources for what would be an estimated \$4 million to \$5 million project, said Scala.

If the project does indeed look like it's doable, whatever money remains from the NBRC grant would be used for renovations, he said.

The project scope started off small and by necessity had to grow larger as the entities involved had to re-imagine the vision that is now 25 or so apartment housing units and at least five commercial spaces, he said.

"There is a desperate need for quality affordable housing and workforce housing," said Scala.

He thanked Gov. Chris Sununu and N.H. Department of Business and Economic Development Commissioner Taylor Caswell for their continued support of the plan.

"We are very appreciative of the Northern Border Regional Commission," said Scala. "This is great, essential seed money for this project ... We are looking forward to working with the selectmen and the Whitefield Economic Development Corp. and seeing what we can do."

The nonprofit Taproot Farm and Environmental Education Center is looking for a new home on Lancaster's Main Street, and the grant award will significantly help that effort along, said Kyle van der Laan, board member of the Taproot organization.

"We're going to be moving to a different place on Main Street that is larger," he said. "The money will be used to renovate it and get new equipment, and expand everything about the store."

Planned is a full kitchen that can be used to not only make food for the store, but also be used for classes and by the organization's vendors who need a commercial kitchen to make their products, he said.

The new Taproot home will also have more storage space.

The hope is to make the move by next summer, said van der Laan.

Of the NBRC grant, he said, "We are super-excited and thankful."

The NBRC, a federal-state partnership that serves communities in New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, and New York, was created by the 2008 Farm Bill to organize federal funding towards specific state economic and community development projects in rural parts of the Northeast.

Democratic Party Dinner Renamed Again

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — The New Hampshire Democratic Party is once again changing the name of one of its major fundraising dinners.

In 2016, the party switched the name of its fall dinner from the Jefferson-Jackson dinner to the Kennedy-Clinton dinner. In doing so, they joined several other state Democratic parties in dropping the names of Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson due to their histories as slave owners.

Now, instead of honoring former presidents John F. Kennedy and Bill Clinton, the next event will be dubbed the Eleanor Roosevelt Dinner. Chairman Ray Buckley says the honor is fitting given the party's commitment to electing women.

Last fall, Republicans criticized the Kennedy-Clinton dinner in light of Clinton's affair with an intern and allegations from other women about sexual misconduct.

Food Service Changes Coming To Plymouth State

PLYMOUTH, N.H. (AP) — Plymouth State University students will have more healthy options and a greater say in what they eat when they return to campus this fall.

The school has hired Chartwells Higher Education Dining Services as its new catering and dining service provider. Officials say the company will focus on increasing variety, quality, made-to-order food and sustainability practices. The company also offers an Interactive Student Choice program that allows students to choose the menus and food offerings.

The company plans to source products from New Hampshire farms and to address food insecurity in the greater Plymouth community.

Land Purchase Protects 783 Acres In Northern New Hampshire

STARK, N.H. (AP) — Hunters, hikers and horseback riders will have greater access to nearly 800 acres of land in northern New Hampshire thanks to partnership between the U.S. Forest Service and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The land — 180 acres in Stark and 603 acres in Milan — is located within and next to the White Mountain National Forest. Officials say the purchase will help connect the towns to snowmobile trails, rivers and hiking paths. Members of the state's Democratic congressional delegation helped secure funding for the program, noting the significant role outdoor recreation plays in the state's economy.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund uses money from offshore oil and gas royalties to protect natural resources and recreational access. It will expire this year unless Congress reauthorizes it.

Steel Plant To Be Used As Winter Shop For Cog Railway

BERLIN, N.H. (AP) — A 50,000-square-foot steel plant has partnered with the Mount Washington Cog Railway to be used as a winter shop for maintenance and construction of locomotives.

See News Briefs, Page 10



August 22-26, 2018

TUESDAY NIGHT AUCTION 6 PM

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 22

VAN & TEAM DEMOS 6:30 pm

THURSDAY, AUG. 23

FARM TRACTOR PULL - 11 am

FRIDAY, AUG. 24

4X4 TRUCK PULLING 6:30 pm

SATURDAY, AUG. 25

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News Briefs

Continued from Page 9

tives and passenger coaches.

The Isaacson Steel fabrication plant in Berlin was acquired by David Presby at an auction several years ago. His brother, Wayne Presby, is president of the Cog Railway and was exploring the idea of replacing or expanding its workshops at the base of Mount Washington.

The Cog Railway is starting to redo the entire line from the base to the summit. Presby Steel will be making tie plates and supplying steel for a new work car with lights, heat, a crane, tools, welders, and generators. Wayne Presby said work will now be done on the rail line all winter.

20 NH, Maine Firefighters To Battle Wildfires In The West

ALLENSTOWN, N.H. (AP) — Twenty firefighters from New Hampshire and Maine are headed west to battle wildfires.

The group departed from Allentown, New Hampshire, for Pennsylvania to join other firefighters this weekend. From there, they're headed to the northern Rockies coordination center in Montana.

Capt. Douglas Miner, of the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, tells WMUR-TV that the New England crew will be assigned to one of the 66-plus active fires in the western states.

Online Startup Seeks To Bridge The Political Divide

HANOVER, N.H. (AP) — Sean Graver and Keal Harter love to talk politics together. The recent Dartmouth graduates recall many late nights at the Tuck School of Business debating the political dramas of the day - often to the chagrin of their classmates.

It wasn't that they always agreed, or that they enjoyed disagreeing with each other. They liked knowing that the person on the other side of the table came to the debate with an open mind and a fact-based perspective, something Graver feels the country seems to be losing.

"It's really scary to see the way in which we're interacting with each other," Graver said. "And I think a lot of this stems, certainly from ideological differences, but just an inability to understand why

someone might have a different perspective and empathize with that person."

So together, they've created a place on the internet that they hope will inspire more informed debates, rather than, as Harter puts it, an "emotional place for people to mudsling at each other."

The Skeww is a website, newsletter, and occasional podcast that uses a combination of machine learning and Graver and Harter's own nonstop news consumption to give users a sense of the big issues of the day from all political perspectives. Each day, users are presented with summaries of what the right and left are thinking about a particular issue, as well as a list of news articles about that topic, arranged on a color coded spectrum from very liberal to very conservative.

Graver said he realizes their new startup won't solve all the country's problems, but he's hoping at the very least, it can be a small step toward a future where "we can understand each other a little better."

Fire crew boss Brian Charland said the work will be challenging with firefighters working 16-hour days in steep mountains while wearing 40 pounds of gear.

Consolidated Workers In ME, NH, VT Voting On Contracts

Voting is underway on proposed contracts for about 1,000 Consolidated Communication workers across Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

The unions and the company expect an announcement by the end of Friday.

Negotiators announced tentative agreements over the weekend. One covers the International

Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the other the Communications Workers of America.

Workers had authorized a strike if there was no agreement. Workers said they're especially concerned about job security, and are worried about the possibility of call center jobs leaving the region. Consolidated operates in 21 other states in addition to Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

These were the unions' first negotiations with Consolidated, which purchased FairPoint Communications last year. Workers' last contracts were preceded by a four-month strike against FairPoint.

SNHU To Debut Varsity eSports Program This Fall

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Southern New Hampshire University is launching a varsity esports program this fall.

New Hampshire Public Radio reports SNHU's team will provide scholarships, a practice computer lab and housing for student gamers.

SNHU will join over 40 other schools that participate in varsity gaming competitions. The gaming team will compete in League of Legends, Overwatch, Hearthstone and Fortnite.

Esports director Tim Fowler says the university is giving students the space "to do what they love."

Tryouts for the remaining 16 roster spots are scheduled for this fall. SNHU is considering building an esports arena next year.

Man Accused Of Aiding Roommate's Suicide On House Arrest

NORTH HAVERHILL, N.H. (AP) — A judge says a New Hampshire man accused of aiding in a roommate's suicide has violated bail conditions.

Parker Hogan, of Plymouth, is charged in connection with the May 8 suicide of 19-year-old Michael Buskey. Police said in court documents that the 20-year-old Hogan brought a gun, notebook, and pen to the scene of Buskey's death and instructed his friend on holding the gun at the correct angle to his head. Hogan pleaded not guilty.

WMUR-TV reports prosecutors said Hogan attempted to contact a key witness in the case

and was found carrying knives. The judge increased Hogan's bail from \$5,000 to \$15,000, and placed him on house arrest.

Jury selection for Hogan is scheduled in October.

Sticky In Maine, NH, But No "Heat Wave" Status Yet

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — It's hot, it's sticky, and it's not really letting up any time soon.

That's the forecast from the National Weather Service in Gray, Maine, which says the heat in parts of Maine and New Hampshire has approached record levels, but not broken them. The service has a heat advisory in place until 7 p.m. Tuesday.

The National Weather Service says a heat wave would take three straight days above 90 degrees, and temperatures are expected to stay in the 80s on Wednesday.

The combination of heat and moisture is making it feel much hotter than it actually is. The Portland temperature was 93 on Tuesday by late morning, but the service says it felt like 99. There's also an ozone advisory in place.

PTSD

Continued from Page 3

ing in here and there, he said. Former state Rep. Leon Rideout, R-Lancaster, joined him for the first nine miles.

The Washington D.C. 31 Miles for 31 Heroes walk drew several hundred participants.

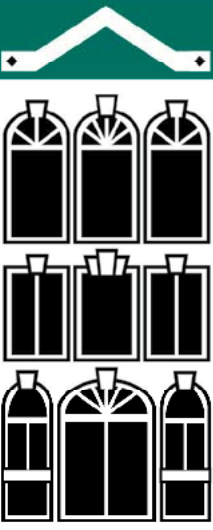
"It's going in the right direction," said Percy, who added he plans to continue the annual local events.

All the money raised benefits the nonprofit 31 Heroes Project, which funding for PTSD research and treatment and helps the families of the fallen when they are in need.

On Aug. 6, 2011, a Chinook helicopter was shot down by enemy fire in Afghanistan, killing all of the 30 service members and the dog on board.

The incident is considered the worst loss of life in a single incident during the Afghanistan campaign.

Percy's fundraising page is at www.classy.org/fundraiser/1386844.



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Triathletes Slog Through Rain, Mud

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

FRANCONIA — They knew what they were getting into when they woke up.

Torrential rains pounded the early August morning, making for mud at the bottom and fog at the top.

But some 300 of the region's triathletes were undeterred and pumped up for the challenge Saturday morning as they set off for a 6½ mile bike ride (mostly uphill and once off road through the sludge), a ½-mile swim across Echo Lake, and a 2½-mile slog up a steeper-than-steep mountain slope to the mist-shrouded top of Cannon Mountain, the terminus of the Top Notch Triathlon.

In all, from start to finish, it's a total vertical gain of 3,320 feet.

"I want to thank you all for having grit and toughing it out in the rain," Lafayette Recreation Director Kim Cowles, a chief coordinator and a founder of the event, said before the top triathletes were honored with awards at the new Iron Furnace Brewery.

Clinching the top spots this year for the women's individual 30-39 age group were Laura McCarthy, 37, of Franconia, who placed first with a time of 1:49:53; Sarah Vital, 35, of Bethlehem, finishing second with 2:02:13; and Caitlin Riviere, 33, raised in Lancaster and now living in Park City, Utah, who placed third with 2:03:43.

Saturday was the third Top Notch Triathlon for the trio and each has placed first in their age group in that time.

"We're keeping it going," said Riviere, who came back to the North Country to participate.

For McCarthy, a language speech pathologist and ski team coach at Littleton High School, the hardest part was the run up the mountain at the end.

While the morning began with a heavy downpour, there was no wind like last year, making Saturday's swim across Echo Lake far less withering.

"It was better than last year," said McCarthy. "Last year, it was all whitecaps."

Saturday's competition also marked her best time yet.

McCarthy, Vital, and Riviere plan to be participants at next year's race, and in the ones after.

"We're committed until we can't," said McCarthy.

Saturday's triathlon was the 26th annual.

"There were no records set today, but I think everyone can be proud," said Cowles.

The Top Notch Triathlon is a community event involving volunteers and first responders at the ready, and it benefits local recreation with funding, draws athletes into the community, and promotes fitness and a healthy lifestyle.

The race was launched in 1993 when Kim and Tim Cowles, who then ran the Franconia Sport Shop, teamed up with friends to spearhead the effort.

Since then, money generated from the annual events — to date, they have raised more than \$100,000 — has boosted recreation in town and the Lafayette Recreation Center of Franconia, Easton

and Sugar Hill by helping to pay for soccer, paving of the ice skating rink, improving athletic fields on Dow Field and the town gazebo, getting Christmas tree bulbs, and funding other department projects, and has raised funds for the Franconia Life Squad. The event is sponsored by numerous local groups and businesses.

"Money goes to the Life Squad because those guys are awesome and they're here to help," said Cowles.

Some of the money generated last year will help fund a permanent pavilion on Dow Field, the construction of which is expected to begin this week, she said.

The 30-by-60-foot structure will replace the large tents that have been used at past events and will have a concrete floor, electricity, and water.

This year's triathlon competition saw a sizable share of local winners.

The members of the 2018 winning youth team, with a time of 1:51:41, were Owen McPhaul, 11, of Franconia; Jackson Clough, almost 11, of Franconia; and Wyatt Lawton, 11, of Easton.

Their team name was also another form of equal partnership — it was called McCloughTon. All three will be entering sixth grade at Lafayette Elementary, where the Top Notch triathlons begin.

Other local winners included Brent Trail, 31, of Littleton, placing first in the men's individual 30-39 age bracket with a time of 1:20:37, and Danny Balentine, 35, of Sugar Hill, placing third in that age bracket with 1:31:27.

Placing second in the men's individual 50-59 age group was Aaron Solnit, 57, of Bath, at 1:33:25.

In the men's individual 60-64 group, Christopher Nicodemus, 61, of Franconia, placed third with a time of 1:45:23.

In the men's individual 65-69 bracket, Gene Girdwood, 65, of Bethlehem, finished first with a time of 2:08:06, and Jim David, 65, of Franconia, placed second at 2:19:54.

Peggy Fischer, 13, of St. Johnsbury, clinched the top spot in the individual female 19 and under bracket with a time of 1:53:54. Emma Bogardus, 19, of Littleton, finished second in that age group, with a time of 2:07:35.

In the woman's individual 40-49 age group, Danica Rolfe, 42, of Lyndonville, placed second at 1:53:10, and in the woman's individual 50-59 bracket, Betty Dobbins, 51, of Easton, placed third with a time of 1:59:28.

This year's male overall winner was Keith Lundquist, 32, of Contoocook, N.H., with a time of 1:13:05, and the overall top female winner was Julia Kern, 20, of Waltham, Mass., with a time of 1:26:07.



Under a moody sky, Brent Trail, of Littleton, emerges from Echo Lake, after completing the swimming portion of the Top Notch Triathlon on Saturday. Trail, 31, won first place for the men's individual 30-39 age group. (Photo by Robert Blechl)



AUG. 11 - PROHIBITION TEA PARTY 5-6PM During the Golden Era the Mount Washington Hotel quietly served guests alcohol in a hidden speakeasy, The Cave. Enjoy music of the decade by The Speakeasy Trio, plus sample 1920s inspired appetizers and cocktails. **21+, fees apply; reservations recommended (603) 278-8989. brettonwoods.com/calendar.**

AUG. 13 - SUMMER LAWN PERFORMANCE 3-5PM Spread out a blanket and enjoy classic rock, motown and rhythm & blues by "Ricky & the Giants".

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Obituaries

Alice Evelyn Bigelow

Alice Evelyn Bigelow, 87, of North Haverhill, N.H., died Sunday, August 5, 2018, at her home following a brief illness.

She was born in Haverhill, N.H., Oct. 24, 1930, a daughter of Edward and Beatrice (Eastman) Smith, and was a life-long resident.

Over the years, Alice worked at the Lake Tarleton Club in the laundry before moving on to Haverhill Academy and the James R. Morrill School working for the hot lunch program. She worked at Cottage Hospital cleaning the operating rooms. She also worked at Forest Hills in North Haverhill and continued her employment at the Ames Department Store in both North Haverhill and Woodsville before retiring as the detail clerk.

Alice was a long-time member of the North Haverhill United Methodist Church where she belonged to the Methodist Women Club. She was an active member of VFW Post #5245 Auxiliary, North Haverhill, and was a former Supervisor of the checklist for the Town of Haverhill.

Alice and her husband "Lucky" spent many years camping in their motor home.

Alice married Maurice L. "Lucky" Bigelow on Oct. 10, 1947, and he predeceased her on Sept. 16, 2010. She was also predeceased by a granddaughter Heather (Bigelow) Poor on Jan. 31, 2010, her son in law Michael "Doc" Belyea on June 30, 2018, along with her siblings Margaret Sawyer, Madeline Fortier, Carl Smith, Lenward Smith, Clyde Smith, Lyle Smith, and James Smith.

Surviving family members include her three children: Jean Belyea of Monroe, N.H., Russell



Alice Bigelow

Bigelow and Marie of Haverhill, and Barry Bigelow of North Haverhill; four grandchildren: Shawn and Lori, Nikki, Jen and Jim, and Chad and Loni; six great-grandchildren: Kyle, Luke, Meghan, Mason, Lauren, and Nicholas; four great-great-grandchildren: Abbey, Arya, Isabella, and Barrett; along with several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

There will be no calling hours.

The funeral service will be on Friday, Aug. 10, at 3 p.m. at the North Haverhill United Methodist Church, 2900 Dartmouth College Highway, North Haverhill, with Pastor Clint Brake officiating.

Burial will follow in Ladd Street Cemetery, Haverhill.

Memorial contributions may be made to the North Haverhill United Methodist Church, c/o Althea Page, P.O. Box 2900, North Haverhill, NH 03774.

For more information or to sign an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com

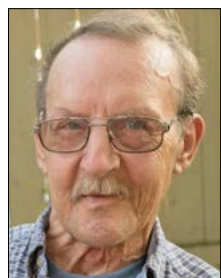
Ricker Funeral Home, Woodsville, NH is in charge of arrangements.

Stephen W. Ruggles

Stephen W. Ruggles, 71, died Aug. 1, 2018, in Manchester, N.H., at CMC after a long battle with diabetes.

Mr. Ruggles was born June 29, 1947, in Woodsville, N.H., to Herbert and Lillian (Emery) Ruggles.

His favorite pastimes included woodworking, hunting, fishing, hiking, reading and movies. One of his favorite spots was Palmer Brook. He also loved his cats. After he attended school in Littleton, Stephen went on to serve two years in the U.S. Army, stationed in It-



Stephen Ruggles

aly. Upon return home, Stephen remained in the area, eventually settling in Littleton. He worked at Hitchiner Manufacturing for many years, and in his spare time spent many hours in his woodshop.

Mr. Ruggles is survived by his wife of 33 years, Florence Ruggles of Littleton; son John Ruggles of Dalton; stepchildren and their spouses, Louise and Steve Nichols of Littleton, Jennifer Marsh-Crowe of Lisbon, Carl and Patience Marsh of Lisbon, and Lavender Marsh and Ryan Albert of Austin, Texas. He leaves behind grandchildren: Cierra Robinson, Stephanie Cogswell, Krystal Marsh, Kyle Marsh, Jacob Marsh-Crowe and Charlotte Albert, and great-grandchild, Hunter Cogswell; sister-in-law Sharron Ruggles; and niece Stacy Davis.

He was predeceased by his parents Herbert and Lillian Ruggles, son Jeffrey Ruggles, and brother David Ruggles.

A celebration of life will be held Aug. 9 at the American Legion, 2400 St. Johnsbury Road, Littleton, N.H., from 6-8 p.m.

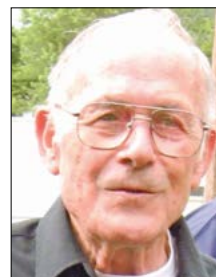
Clifford Justin Ashford

Clifford Justin Ashford, 86, of Ralston Road, Woodsville, N.H., and formerly a long-time resident of Groton and Wells River, Vt., died on Sunday, Aug. 5, 2018, at his home, surrounded by his family.

Cliff was born in Groton on April 21, 1932, to Justin H. and Mary Gertrude (Emery) Ashford. He served in the US Army during the Korean Conflict. He worked for 11 years for the former East Ryegate Paper Mill and for Wells and Lamson Granite, before retiring in 1994 as a truck driver for Rock of Ages Corporation, following 34 years of service.

Cliff was a member of the Ross-Wood Post #20 of the American Legion in Woodsville, and the VFW Post #5245 in North Haverhill, N.H. An accomplished musician, who could play nine instruments, Cliff had his own bands, the Ranch House Boys and the Rhythm Wranglers. He played with the White Rose Band and most recently, The Boyz. He also played with Bob Benjamin at the Horse Meadow Senior Center. Over the years, Cliff volunteered countless hours playing music at area nursing homes and senior centers.

On Dec. 24, 1952, he married Thelma R. Dar-



Clifford Ashford

ling and she predeceased him on Jan. 6, 1991. He was also predeceased by a son, Clifford E. Ashford and two siblings, John Ashford and Betty Wilson.

He is survived by his wife Mary Ann (Mansfield) Dellinger Lewis Ashford of Woodsville, to whom he was married on Oct. 5, 2013. He is also survived by a son, Kim A. Ashford and wife Pam of Newbury, Vt.; a daughter, Kristy M. Davis and husband Jason of Wells River; three grandchildren, Heather Beckley and husband Jeremy, Brandon Darling and Alicia Whitcomb, and Trevor Darling; two great grandsons, Lukis Darling and Jarred Beckley; two sisters, Charlotte Sanville of Groton and Ellen Roy of Claremont, N.H.; a brother, Seth "Pete" Ashford and wife Donna of South Ryegate, Vt.; nieces, nephews, and cousins; along with four step children, Deborah Russell of California, Peg Wahl of Fair Haven, Mass., and Walter and Chris Dellinger both of North Haverhill and several step grandchildren and step great grandchildren.

Calling hours will be on Thursday, Aug. 9, from 6-8 p.m. at Ricker Funeral Home, 1 Birch St., Woodsville, N.H.

A graveside service will be on Friday, Aug. 10 at 11 a.m. in Pinehurst Cemetery, South Ryegate, Vt. with Pastor Earl Brock officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Woodsville Ambulance Service, PO Box 191, Woodsville, NH 03785, or to the North Country Home Health & Hospice, 536 Cottage Street, Littleton, NH 03561

For more information or to offer an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com.

Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is in charge of arrangements.

Sister Juliette Pepin

Juliette was born in St. Johnsbury on March 16, 1927. She was deceased at age 90.

She was the daughter of George and Alma (Heon) Pepin. One of ten children, all predeceased except Maurice. Siblings included: Emile of Claremont, N.H., Armand of New Brunswick, N.J., Roland of East Hartford, Conn., Paul of St. Johnsbury, Vt., Addie of Claremont, N.H., Bertha of Littleton, N.H., Irene of St. Johnsbury, Vt., Germaine of Ridgewood, N.J. and Maurice of St. Johnsbury, Vt. Along with many nieces and nephews.

A graduate of Mount St. Joseph's Academy



Juliette Pepin

in St. Johnsbury in 1946. She went on to join the Sisters of Providence of Montreal, Canada and later served in parishes in St. Johnsbury, Burlington and Winooski, Vt., for 72 years.

Services will be held in Winooski at the Sisters of Providence Convent Chapel on Monday, Aug. 6, at 3 p.m. with burial to be in Winooski.

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PHOTOS BY PAUL HAYES

TOP LEFT: Members of the Crocodiles, from left, Mallory Chessman, MacKenzie Norman, Taryn Tremblay, Alexis Duranleau and Abbie McCusker celebrate after winning a scrimmage during the final day of the Kangaroo Clinic field hockey camp at Remich Park in Littleton on Friday, Aug. 3, 2018. Twenty-nine players attended the four-day camp run by Australian professional players and coaches. TOP RIGHT: Mallory Chessman wards off defender Kennedy Overhoff during a scrimmage. BOTTOM LEFT: Goaltender Emily Tholl of Littleton takes a seat during halftime of a scrimmage.





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Youth Swim Meet

PHOTOS BY PAUL HAYES

Josie Bryant of Littleton, top left, Merrick Devlin of Bethlehem, top right, Colleen Louis of Littleton, center right, and Morgan Kelly of Littleton, bottom right, compete in a youth swim meet at Remich Park in Littleton on Thursday, Aug. 2, 2018. Teams from Bethlehem, Colebrook, Littleton, Lyndonville and St. Johnsbury took part.

Concert In The Park

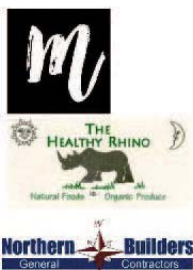
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Wyatt Woods of Bethlehem , top left, Summer Guilmette of Colebrook, top right, and Taytum Adams of Littleton, below, compete in a youth swim meet at Remich Park in Littleton on Thursday, Aug. 2, 2018. Teams from Bethlehem, Colebrook, Littleton, Lyndonville and St. Johnsbury took part.





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Textile Artist Weaves Community

BY LEAH CAREY
Staff Writer

TOP: Steven Frost leads a workshop and performance at the Denver Art Museum in March 2018. (Photo by Supernova Photography/ Jay Schubert) BOTTOM: Steven Frost teaches students to make a clay cast of a record. (Photo courtesy of Steven Frost)



Wherever he goes, Steven Frost creates community through art.

Community building was a skill he learned early on, during his days as a gay youth growing up in Monroe, N.H., and attending St. Johnsbury Academy (Frost graduated in the class of 2000).

“Vermont can be both very progressive and very conservative — the Northeast Kingdom particularly is a little more conservative than the rest of the state,” he said during a recent phone interview. “It wasn’t necessarily a place where I felt safe to be myself when I was younger ... When you’re a gay teenager or a queer teenager, there’s an element of safety involved.”

Even though he was still closeted at the time, he found connection and companionship through a weekly gathering at Umbrella, the women’s crisis center in St. Johnsbury.

“Umbrella had an after-school open counseling, drop-in thing once a week where gay or queer or questioning teens could come,” Frost said. “Even though I wasn’t out until I was 20, I was able to go to that and see adults who were well-adjusted and cool. We hung out and watched Drew Barrymore movies. I was very lucky to find that.”

The friends he made in that space helped him to navigate school and life. “We weren’t outcasts, we were just all weird together.”

Art Isn’t Made In Isolation

That ability to find companionship around the edges of a community has informed much of Frost’s work as an artist and

See **Frost**, Page 17

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Victoria from Australia, 17 yrs. Enjoys spending time with her family and younger siblings. Victoria plays volleyball and is excited to learn new sports while in America.



Giorgio from Italy, 16 yrs. Loves to play baseball and spend time with his dogs. Giorgio also plays the guitar, and his dream is to join a drama club at his American high school.

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Frost

Continued from Page 16

teacher.

“I’ve always shown up in these places, or moved to these cities, and the community you want for yourself isn’t there. So you develop strategies to look for that community,” he said. “Let me put out some hooks and see if they want to come make some art with me!”

Today, Frost is an interdisciplinary artist living and working in Boulder, Colo.

“For the most part my work is in fiber and textiles,” he said. “A lot of the history of fibers and weaving and sewing — it’s not done in isolation. A lot of times it’d one in community, from quilting bees to the idea of factory workers. Even a shirt isn’t just one person, it’s many people collaborating on one thing.”

He prefers art projects where he can spend an extended period of time with participants, building skills and interpersonal connections at the same time.

For instance, his friend Carole Francis Lung began a project called the “Sewing Rebellion,” which Frost brought to his new community as the “Colorado Sewing Rebellion.”

Every few weeks, people come together to learn basic skills like mending, and more complicated processes as well.

“We’ve had anywhere from 20 to 50 people come in on a Sunday afternoon,” Frost said. “It could be as simple as making a tote bag, or it could be something more complicated like turning a modern men’s shirt into a shirt from the early 1900s to reflect concepts of the Triangle Shirtwaist Rebellion.”

He also created the Boulder Bike Cap Project, where he teaches people to create a touring cap using recycled materials.

“Through the process of making something complicated, you have to get to know the other people there and they get to know me,” Frost said. “Through making, we build community.”

“Some people think of artists as people who come in and do a project, like make

a garden or something. But for me, it’s actually much more like working for a long period of time with a group of community members and helping them build stuff and make projects that mean something to them,” Frost continued. “So it’s not just — here I am, I’m the artist, I’m going to make these things and leave in a week.”

Teaching The Next Generation

Frost is a full-time media studies professor at the University of Colorado at Boulder in the Media and Public Engagement program.

“It’s a brand new college,” Frost said. “Two thirds of the faculty were hired in the last three years. For a college to have that, while also being connected to an established university like CU, there’s just tons of ideas and impressive colleagues and people.”

Frost is working on the curriculum for a class he will begin teaching in the fall studying memes and online viral culture.

Currently his favorite class to teach is Gender, Sexuality, Race, Class and Culture.

“I watched a lot of Nickelodeon and the Simpsons and TV when I was young,” Frost said. He worried that perhaps he had been wasting his time. “But now I’m teaching culture classes — all those comic books I read have come into my professional life! It’s so cool!”

And as always, he’s using art projects to bring students together.

“CU Boulder is like UVM — it’s a giant school,” Frost said. “With these kinds of projects, finding people to share interests together, that’s how we’re able to build community in a big school like CU Boulder.”

You can more of his work at www.stevenfrost.com.

Leah Carey is meeting people in other parts of the country who have ties to northern New Hampshire and Vermont and are doing interesting things with their lives. Do you know someone she should meet? Email Leah at ontheroad@leahcarey.com to share why they’d make a good profile and their contact information.



ABOVE: This woven composition, *Having a Cocktail in the Garden with Aunt Helen and Alice*, was based on an image of a chair in Frost’s great Aunt Helen and her partner Alice’s yard. The weft includes shirts that belonged to hima and his husband. The material and design of this piece reflect the generations of queer people who worked hard for the rights they have today. BELOW: “We’re Strangers Until We’re Not” represents the experience of walking in the 2017 Denver Pride Parade with the Secret Love Collective. Many of the materials were salvaged from banners and costumes at the event. The pink and white lines moving down the center of the composition represent the path the parade took.



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To submit for this calendar and for event descriptions, visit www.caledonianrecord.com/calendar/

Friday, Aug 10

COMMUNITY

Strangefolk Garden of Eden Festival: 12 a.m., Jay Peak Resort, 830 Jay Peak Rd., Jay. <http://jaypeakresort.com>.

Fridays on the Common: 12-6 p.m., Lunenburg Common, Route 2, Lunenburg. Diane, 802-892-1154.

Indoor Performance: 7:30 p.m., Bread & Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd., Glover. <http://breadandpuppet.org>.

ENTERTAINMENT

Patchwork Players Present: 11 a.m., Weathervane Theatre, 389 Route 3, Whitefield. <http://wvtheatreplayersnh.org>.

Classic Albums Live: CCR: 7:30 p.m., The Flying Monkey, 39 Main St., Plymouth. <http://flyingmonkeynh.com>.

Our Town: 8 p.m., Weathervane Theatre, 389 Route 3, Whitefield. <http://wvtheatreplayersnh.org>.

MUSIC

Sounds in the Sanctuary Presents the Borowsky Trio: 5-6:15 p.m., Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation Synagogue Sanctuary, 39 Strawberry Hill, Bethlehem. Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation Synagogue, martink1937@gmail.com, 1-202-744-4647. <http://www.bethlehemcongregation.org>.

Three Doors Down, Collective Soul and Soul Asylum: 7

p.m., Bank of NH Pavilion, 72 Meadowbrook Ln., Gifford. <http://www.banknhpavilion.com>.

DJ & Karaoke: 8 p.m.-12 a.m., Fraternal Order of Eagles 2629, 793 Main St, Bethlehem. Charlene Virge, cg_v@roadrunner.com, 603-444-5126.

Saturday, Aug 11

COMMUNITY

Strangefolk Garden of Eden Festival: Jay Peak Resort, 830 Jay Peak Rd., Jay. <http://jaypeakresort.com>.

14th Annual August West Festival: The Green, Jay.

7th Annual Bethlehem Art-Walk: Bethlehem.

Bethlehem Summerfest: Downtown Bethlehem. <http://bethlehemevents.org>.

All You Can Eat Breakfast at the Lake View Grange: 8-10 a.m., Lake View Grange, 4770 Garland Hill Road at West Main Street, West Barnet Village. Charles W. McAlpine, cmcalpine3@gmail.com, 802-633-3014.

Lancaster Farmers Market: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Centennial Park, Lancaster. <http://www.lancasterfarmersmarket.org/>.

St. Johnsbury Farmers Market: 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Pearl Street, Pearl Street, St. Johnsbury. <https://sites.google.com/site/caledoniafarmersmarket>.

32nd Annual Toy Run: 9:30 a.m., Maplefields, St. Johnsbury. <http://www.unitedmotorcyclists.org>.

Littleton Historical Museum: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Littleton Area Historical Museum, 2 Union Street, Littleton. 603-444-6052. <http://littletonnhmuseum.com>.

ALUMNI SHOW AT WEATHERVANE THEATRE

It Shoulda Been You, a Broadway musical set on a wedding day, complete with lovers, mothers, and others, will be performed on Aug. 12 by the Weathervane Theatre Alumni. For more info see story on Page 12 or visit [at weathervanetheatre.org](http://weathervanetheatre.org).



Bethlehem Farmers Market: 10 a.m.-12 p.m., WREN Bethlehem, 2011 Main Street, Bethlehem. Ruth Ann Hacking, WREN Farm & Food Program Manager, farmandfood@wrenworks.org. <http://wrenworks.org/programs/farmers-market/>.

10th Annual Burke Bike N' Brew: 4-9 p.m., Burke Mountain, East Burke. <https://skiburke.com/events-and-activities/event-calendar/burke-mountain-bike-brew/?date=2018-08-11>.

Lee Stetson performs as John Muir: 4-7 p.m., St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 1171 Main Street, St. Johnsbury. <http://www.stjathenaeum.org>.

ENTERTAINMENT

Chicago: 2 & 8 p.m., Weathervane Theatre, 389 Route 3, Whitefield. <http://wvtheatreplayersnh.org>.

Get Out

Arts & Entertainment In The North Country

sans.com.

The Grasshopper Rebellion Circus and Pageant: 2:30 p.m., Bread & Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd., Glover. <http://breadandpuppet.org>. **BYP:** 6-8 p.m., Bethlehem Gazebo, Corner of Main and Prospect, Bethlehem.

MUSIC

North Country Chamber Players: 4 p.m., Mountain View Grand Resort, 101 Mt View Rd, Whitefield. <http://northcountrychamberplayers.org/>.

Whiskey Shivers: 4 p.m., Dog Mountain, Spaulding Road, Saint Johnsbury. <http://concerts.levittamp.org/stjohnsbury>.

Monday, Aug 13

COMMUNITY

Open House & Watermelon Picnic: 6-7:30 p.m., Caledonia Christian School, 54 Southard Street, St. Johnsbury. Mary Knott, knotthere@myfairpoint.net, 802-748-1971.

ENTERTAINMENT

St. Johnsbury Band Final Concert: Melissa Jenkins Scholarship Benefit: 6:30-8:30 p.m., Court House Park, Main St., St. Johnsbury. <http://stjohnsburyband.org>. **Our Town:** 8 p.m., Weathervane Theatre, 389 Route 3, Whitefield. <http://wvtheatreplayersnh.org>.

Tuesday, Aug 14

COMMUNITY

Shape Note/Sacred Harp Songs: 7:30 p.m., Bread & Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd., Glover. <http://breadandpuppet.org>.

ENTERTAINMENT

Bingo: 6-8:30 p.m., FOE Aerie 2629, 793 Main St, Bethlehem. Charlene Virge, cg_v@roadrunner.com, 603-444-5126.

Monty Python's Spamlot: 8

p.m., Weathervane Theatre, 389 Route 3, Whitefield. <http://wvtheatreplayersnh.org>.

Wednesday, Aug 15

COMMUNITY

Orleans County Fair: 12 a.m., Orleans County Fairgrounds, 278 Roaring Brook Rd., Barton. <http://orleanscountyfair.net>.

Littleton Historical Museum: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Littleton Area Historical Museum, 2 Union Street, Littleton. Richard Alberini, alberini@roadrunner.com, 603-444-6052. <http://littletonnhmuseum.com>.

Summer Author Series presents Dan Szczeny: 6:30-8 p.m., Littleton Public Library, 92 Main St, Littleton. Meagan Carr, litlib@gmail.com, 603-444-5741. <http://www.littletonpubliclibrary.org>.

ENTERTAINMENT

Patchwork Players Present: 11 a.m., Colonial Theater, 2050 Main Street, Bethlehem.

Always .. Patsy Cline: 8 p.m., Weathervane Theatre, 389 Route 3, Whitefield. <http://wvtheatreplayersnh.org>.

MUSIC

Summer Concert Series: 5-7 p.m., Mountain View Grand Resort, 101 Mt View Rd, Whitefield. <https://www.mountainviewgrand.com/summer-concert-series.htm>.

Thursday, Aug 16

CALENDAR

Orleans County Fair: 12 a.m., Orleans County Fairgrounds, 278 Roaring Brook Rd., Barton. <http://orleanscountyfair.net>.

Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat: 8 p.m., Weathervane Theatre, 389 Route 3, Whitefield. <http://wvtheatreplayersnh.org>.

COMMUNITY

Peacham Farmers Market: 3-7 p.m., Peacham Farmers Market, 555 Bayley-Hazen Road, Peacham. Diana Senturia, dianas@fairpoint.net, 802-592-3989. <https://www.peachamfarmersmarket.com/>.

Un-Common Concert Series: 6 p.m., Whitefield Bandstand, King's Square, Whitefield.

TOPS - Monroe: 6-7 p.m., Alice Frazer, alice.frazer@yahoo.com, 603-638-2358.

Hike the Appalachian Trail: 7-8 p.m., Weeks State Park, 200 Weeks State Park Road, Lancaster. Weeks State Park, smasciencels@yahoo.com, 603-788-4004.

ENTERTAINMENT

Impact Free Live Family Theatre: 9:30 a.m., Rialto Theatre, 80 Main St., Lancaster. <http://www.lancasterrialto.com>.

Learn and Play Mah-Jong: 1-4 p.m., The Littleton Community Center, 120 Main Street, Littleton. Wendy S Clark, littletoncommunitycenter@gmail.com, 603-444-5711. <http://LittletonCommunityCenter.org>.

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Non-Profit Brings Summerfest To Bethlehem On Saturday, Aug. 11

Bethlehem Events, a 501(c)3 non-profit formed earlier this year by passionate Bethlehem residents, is set to bring a plethora of fun, family-friendly activities to town for the 1st annual Bethlehem Summerfest on Saturday, Aug. 11. Summerfest is the fusion of Old Home Days and Bethlehem ArtWalk into one cohesive, community-wide celebration.

Activities kick off at 10 a.m. with vendors setting up ad hoc art galleries and booths along Main Street. The Bethlehem Parade returns to Route 302 at 2 p.m., followed by a beer garden at 3 p.m. and a community dinner and dance starting at 4:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Gazebo. The ReMax hot air balloon will be offering tethered rides to the public from 5-7 p.m. at the first hole of Bethlehem Country Club. Live music will be performed by The Barnyard Pimps, starting at 6 p.m.

Through a partnership between Bethlehem Events and Above the Notch Humane Society, all funds raised at both the beer garden and the community dinner will go directly to the animals rescued and cared for by Above the Notch Humane Society. Tasting samples will be made available by Moat Mountain and Woodstock Brewery, additional beers will be available for sale.

Last year, members of Bethlehem Events brought the parades back to Bethlehem for the first time since the 1980s. This year, the board of directors has chosen to bring back the old-fashioned Beanhole. Similar to a clambake, beanholes originated in Maine lumber camps and the tradition has continued today in various New England communities. Back in the day, Bethlehem used to have so many beanhole suppers they built a permanent beanhole in the ground near the gazebo. The beans will be made available alongside barbequed chicken dinners. Dinners are available for \$20, and kids eat free. All proceeds will go directly to Above the Notch Humane Society.

Composed of Jack Anderson, Phil Bell, Casey Bonilla, Heidi Vaughn, and Angel Larcom, Bethlehem Events is a completely volunteer non-profit organization that works year-round planning and scheduling events that are fun for the whole family. The mission of Bethlehem Events is to promote pride and community spirit among residents, enhance Bethlehem's image, attract new residents, businesses and visitors, and improve the social and economic well-being of residents of Bethlehem. They choose to accomplish the goal of strengthening the vibrancy and activity of the Bethlehem community by recommending, overseeing, and

organizing an annual portfolio of cultural and recreational special events, programs and activities such as Summerfest, Bethlehem ArtWalk, Christmas in Bethlehem, Make Music Day, Light it Up Blue, First Fridays, and various town beautification projects.

To learn more or get involved, visit www.bethlehevents.org

Lunenburg To Hold Fourth Open Mic Of Season On Saturday

Lunenburg's fourth Open Mic of the warmer season will be on Saturday, August 11, beginning at 6 p.m. It will be held at the his-

toric Old Congregational Church building at the top of the Lunenburg Common. The Common is located on Route 2, in the center of town. This building is accessible with a portable restroom nearby.

Music lovers will find a family friendly, relaxed, small town atmosphere at this gathering. Bring your instruments, voices, and dancing feet or plan to sit and enjoy the evening in the beautiful historical setting. Please bring a finger food to share; beverages will be provided. A door prize drawing will take place during the evening. Proceeds benefit the restoration project of the Top of the Common Committee.

For more Open Mic information visit www.topofthecommon.org.

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Barnstorm
 - 5 Brake parts
 - 10 Just scraped by
 - 14 It turns litmus blue
 - 15 Languor
 - 16 Loathsome
 - 17 Farm building
 - 18 Call forth
 - 19 Movie lioness
 - 20 Too aggressive
 - 22 Rookie
 - 24 What we have
 - 27 Faction
 - 28 "His Master's Voice"
 - 32 Xanadu name
 - 36 S&L offering
 - 37 Canine, maybe
 - 39 Wobbled, as a rocket
 - 40 Chalky mineral
 - 42 Bottom line
 - 44 Emerging magma
 - 45 Globe substitute
 - 47 Aches for
 - 49 Just barely win
 - 50 Pet shop buy
 - 51 Difference
 - 53 Ocean motion
 - 56 Game plan
 - 57 Bone connector
 - 61 Cleans a counter
 - 65 Admit openly
 - 66 Uplift
 - 69 Wide valley
 - 70 Prefix for "trillion"
 - 71 Elbowed
 - 72 "Cope Book" aunt
 - 73 Glimpse from afar
 - 74 Keeps afloat
 - 75 Balance

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

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- DOWN**
- 1 Cook's meas.
 - 2 Island near Kauai
 - 3 Consumes
 - 4 Glowing, as embers (hyph.)
 - 5 Poor grade
 - 6 Mdse. bill
 - 7 Stuck-up person
 - 8 Future pickles
 - 9 Attack on a fort
 - 10 Occurring someday
 - 11 Potter's oven
 - 12 So what — is new?
 - 13 High-priced
 - 21 Nomad dwelling
 - 23 Viscid
 - 25 Tree's anchor
 - 26 Single-masted boat
 - 28 Essential
 - 29 Steamed
 - 30 Kind of lily
 - 31 Top story
 - 33 Safari leader
 - 34 Tee partner
 - 35 Modify
 - 38 Asian capital
 - 41 Marooned one
 - 43 Opposite of borrow
 - 46 Thin wedge
 - 48 Fret
 - 52 Oakland football player
 - 54 Ocean trenches
 - 55 Finance
 - 57 Like many a train
 - 58 Currier's partner
 - 59 Trail mix
 - 60 "Kon- —"
 - 62 Remove the rind
 - 63 House shades
 - 64 Kind of belt
 - 67 Not masc.
 - 68 Fabric meas.

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Borowsky Trio Appears In Bethlehem Aug. 10

Music lovers look forward to the next Sounds in the Sanctuary concert featuring the Borowsky Trio at 5 p.m., Friday, Aug. 10, in the Bethlehem Hebrew Congregation sanctuary. Hailed by the international press as "American virtuosos," the Borowsky siblings Frances, cello, Emmanuel, violin, and Elizabeth, piano, have won their way into the hearts of audiences throughout North and Central America, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. The trio has delighted listeners of all ages with their interpretations of standard repertoire and dazzling original compositions. Each began music studies at the age of four.

The Heidelberg Rhein-Neckar Zeitung praised cellist Frances Borowsky as "very courageous...marvelously colorful." A dedicated citizen of the world, Frances embeds her memories of Norwegian fjords, Venetian artists, Parisian chocolates, and friendly Belgian cows into her rich interpretations.

Violinist Emmanuel Borowsky has been hailed by audiences and media worldwide. He has performed as soloist with symphony orchestras in China, Jordan, Lithuania, and Poland, among others. He teaches privately in Baltimore and is a frequent adjudicator of competitions and festivals.

Elizabeth Borowsky, pianist, enjoys a vibrant career as a solo and collaborative pianist, composer and educator. Her performances in distinguished venues and festivals in over 30 countries include appearances in Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Beethoven House, and the Penderecki European Music Center among many others.

In 2004, the trio received the Erick Friedman Prize for outstanding Young Musicians which led them to their Carnegie Hall debut. Since then, they have toured the US, European countries, Vietnam, China, Mexico, and Cuba, and they have been featured performers

as part of American Tribute to Chopin celebrations.

Respected composers, they have been commissioned to write for the German Society of Pennsylvania, the Lithuanian Day of Mourning and Hope, and the Madrona Viola Duo. They direct the International Music Institute and Festival in Maryland and music programs for young musicians.

With the motto "Music: The Best Bridge for All People," the Borowsky Trio is committed to serve as ambassadors and promoters of great music around the world.

Their program features programmatic works by contemporary composers: Harmonic Etudes by Jody Nagel, Othmar by Maria Newman, and Spanish Rhapsody by Jaroslav Vanacek. Original Borowsky Trio compositions on the program are Postcards from Dillberg, Hardy, Life An Impromptu, and Resurrection from Trio No. 3.

Colonial Celebrates Yellow Submarine At 50

The newly renovated Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem, NH, continues its 2018 Anniversary Film Series with the Beatle's Yellow Submarine Friday, Aug. 10, at 7:30 p.m.

At 50 years old this joyful, phantasmagoric blend of colorful animation and the music of the Beatles is still delightful family fare. This animated meandering journey filled with puns and dry British humor, where psychedelic music videos take precedent over any linear story. The swirling animation is a mixture of pop-culture images and modern artistic styles brought loosely together with a

naïve antiwar message and some clever political commentary. The Blue Meanies take over Pepperland, draining it of all its color and music, firing anti-music missiles, bonking people with green apples, and turning the inhabitants to stone by way of the pointed finger of a giant white glove. As the only survivor, the Lord Admiral escapes in the yellow submarine and goes to London to enlist the help of the Beatles.

The evening's festivities will include trivia contest, door prizes (original art work by Matt Bassett, Yellow Submarine movie post-

er, movie tickets and more) as well as a signature cocktail — a Blue Meanie, of course.

General Admission tickets for the 7:30 showtimes are available at the door or on line at www.BethlehemColonial.org. Concessions include beer and wine, organic popcorn, fine chocolates coffee and tea.

For more information about this or upcoming live and special events and feature films find The Colonial on Facebook ([Facebook.com/BethlehemColonial](https://www.facebook.com/BethlehemColonial)), follow The Colonial on twitter (@ColonialNH), or visit the Colonial on line.

Weathervane Theatre Alumni Show, 'It Shoulda Been You,' Set For Aug. 12

It Shoulda Been You, a Broadway musical set on a wedding day, complete with lovers, mothers, and others, will be performed on Aug. 12 by the Weathervane Theatre Alumni. The show also happens to be the result of a Weathervane "meet cute" story, the creative "match" between composer Barbara Anselmi and book writer-lyricist Brian Hargrove. Anticipating the show's one-day revival, Barbara and Brian laughed together as they shared their story in a phone interview.

Barbara came up with the concept for It Shoulda Been You at a moment in her life when she was attending lots of weddings. At a particularly colorful event, she was seated at a table with an engaged couple. She knew that one of them was having a secret affair with a someone at the next table. And another chair was empty

because a guest stepped away for a romantic encounter with a valet! Barbara thought to herself, "What is going on at this table?" That's when the idea came to her. "I want to write a musical about the guests at the wedding." It Shoulda Been You began as a collection of songs, but soon realized she needed a book writer.

Brian had already had a career as an actor when he became a successful television writer—but he had always wanted to write a musical. After agreeing to return to the Weathervane to perform in the fortieth anniversary alumni show, he rehearsed his song with Barbara, who was serving as musical director. He found her funny, she enjoyed their banter—they hit it off. Brian mentioned that he wrote for TV, and Barbara thought, "Oh, he's a writer." Barbara men-

tioned working on a musical, and Brian said, "Oh, do you compose?" Based on their instant rapport, Barbara remembered, "It took every piece of restraint I had in me not to go running out of the door and say 'Oh, I want to work with you! Here's my demo!'" She then confided in her mother. "I met this guy tonight. I think I need to work with him." Her mother told her, "Well, you have to ask him." Every week she would say, "Did you talk to him yet? Did you talk to him yet?"

When the weekend of the alumni show arrived, both Barbara's mother and Brian were staying at the Mountain View. While Barbara rehearsed nonstop, Brian wound up driving her mother around the North Country. Barbara says, "he was such a mensch, and my mother fell in

love with Brian." After the show was over, Barbara recalls that Brian came over to the piano and said, "Barb, let's meet, let's write something." And she said, "Yes. Definitely!" Laughing at her own memory, Barbara said, "I'm telling you, I ran to my mother! 'Mom! He said let's write something!' And my mom said, 'Oh, that's so good Barb!' And she hugged me!"

Brian had been in love with musical theatre since childhood. His memory differs only slightly from Barbara's. He remembers standing on "that big rock" outside the theatre, and saying to her, "Hey, do you want to write a musical together?" When she said yes, he was excited by the prospect. Amusing with his own self-depre-

See **Alumni**, Page 23

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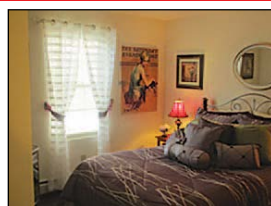
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'Trashgrass' Kings Whiskey Shivers To Rock Dog Mountain On Sunday

Austin's official number one Country/Bluegrass band Whiskey Shivers will make their way up north to Dog Mountain on Sunday as part of the Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Live Music Series produced by Catamount Arts. With special guests The Backyard Incident, Whiskey Shivers plays a gritty brand of high-octane Americana, playing "banjos, fiddles, and washboard at breakneck speeds," reports the Washington Post, "while singing high lonesome harmonies about love and video games."

Barefoot, sleeveless, and sweaty, frontman and fiddle master Bobby Fitzgerald never stops grinning onstage. "All right!" he barks. "Let's kick this thing in the face!" Whether playing a backyard house party in rural Texas, a punk-rock dive bar, or a sprawling country music festival, crowds take notice of Whiskey Shivers' rowdy showmanship and sizzling strings. When they take the stage, people put down their phones, pick up their drinks, and start dancing.

"Whiskey Shivers isn't just the five of us onstage; it's everybody in the room," Fitzgerald says. "We're all here to have a good time." Featured on The Daily Show, Anthony Bourdain's No Reservations, and the NBC drama Revolution, the band also appears in the upcoming feature film Pitch Perfect 3, where they play a mash-up of Avicii's "Wake Me Up" and the Cranberries' "Zombie," showcasing their capricious versatility. The band's Dog Mountain appearance is sandwiched between dates in the UK and Germany, not to mention two dozen shows all over the U.S.

Alt-country favorites The Barnyard Incident will open for Whiskey Shivers on Sunday, featuring frontwoman Deb Sullivan, bassist Perry Williams, fiddler and guitarist James Sullivan, and Barry Moore on everything from dobro to mandolin. The Barnyard Incident traverses a sonic landscape that includes country, bluegrass, Celtic music, and the blues, playing original tunes and covering the likes of the Be Good Tanyas, The Steel Drivers, Bonnie Raitt and Doc Watson.

The 2018 Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Music Series runs Sunday evenings from 4-7 p.m. through Sept. 9 at Dog Mountain or, in case of rain, the Fenton Chester Arena across from Lyndon Institute. There will be no concert Sunday, Aug. 18. The concerts are free, family-friendly, and dogs are welcome. Parking is on-site (with handicapped parking available), and carpooling is encouraged. Food and drink is available for sale thanks to Kingdom Taproom, providing beer and wine, and local food vendors such as Genuine Jamaican, Back Road BBQ, and Chez Mami. No outside alcohol is permitted.

The Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Music Series, produced by Catamount Arts, is supported in part by the Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation, a private foundation that empowers towns and cities across America to transform underused public spaces into thriving destinations through the power of free live music. Levitt's 2018 concert season is in full swing, with nearly 500 free Levitt concerts taking place in 26 towns and cities coast to coast. With an eclectic mix of talent on every Levitt stage, there's something for everyone to enjoy, from acclaimed emerging artists to seasoned musical legends. For more details, visit www.levittamp.org.

Alumni

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cation, Brian said that after not having sung for about twenty years, he thought, "Even if I fail miserably at singing the song, at least I've started something!" And indeed he had.

Brian had performed at the Weathervane in 1976 and 1977, and he reflected on the unexpected role the theatre has played in his life. "Weathervane for me has always been ... it's amazing when I think of it ... it's the beginning of every career I've ever head. Or a lot of them. I think I became an actor at Weathervane and I met Barbara at the Weathervane so it's been a real launching place for me." Not having written lyrics before, Brian says, "I got all of the knowledge by just working with Barbara." He added, "That is the essence of the collaborative process. you take it and you go, 'okay, this works or doesn't work, and that's when two people are better than one in the sense that if you're really collaborating, you'll come up with something that pleases both."

Barbara likened the collaborative relationship to a marriage. "I got to say, it's so great to be in something together that you're both thinking about and that you both contribute to. You fight and you laugh and you cry, and you share. It's really a relationship." Brian, continuing their banter, said, "Well it is kind of like a marriage. You get together, you do it, and then at the end you have to split your assets 50/50." They laughed together again, evidence of their happy partnership.

It Shoulda Been You will be performed on Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Weathervane Theatre - 389 Lancaster Road, Whitefield, N.H. This special concert performance, directed by Diane DiCroce will feature Weathervane Theatre alumni Leah Hocking, Kirsti Carnahan, Laura Hall, Simon Fortin, Tim Breese, Shinnerrie Jackson, Monica Rosenblatt and other returning alumni. The performance will support the Weathervane Theatre Alumni Association. Call the box office at 603/837-9322 or purchase your tickets online at weathervanetheatre.org.

Submitted by Rosemary Malague, Weathervane Theatre Alumna and Director of the Theatre Arts Program at the University of Pennsylvania.

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