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Daniel Rassi is shown in front of the restaurant he co-owns, Fire by Wicked Fresh, at the Settlers Green outlet shopping center in North Conway. (JAMIE GEMMITI PHOTO)

Wicked good
Local chef Daniel Rassi competes on TV’s ‘Chopped’ Nov. 17
**Thanksgiving Menu**

**Soup or Salad - Choice of one**
- Pumpkin Bisque
- Clam Chowder
- Cranberry-Walnut and Goat Cheese Salad
- Simple Salad

**Entree - Choice of one**
- Roasted Turkey
- Cauliflower Rissoto
- New England Style Baked Haddock
- Garlic-Rosmary Roasted Prime Rib

**Choice of Housemade Dessert**
- Beverages, tax and gratuity not included
- Includes entrée, dessert and kiddie beverage
- Dinner service 2–8 pm, Reservations only
- Limited seating

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By Margaret McKenzie

CONWAY — Daniel Rassi says he is blessed. The local chef says he’s doing what he loves (cooking), with people that he loves (his family).

His and his partners’ very first venture, Wicked Fresh Craft Burgers which opened in North Conway in 2017, was a hit right out of the gate. He has four

see RASSI page 3

Wicked Fresh/Fire owner: Did he cut it on ‘Chopped’?

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Chef Daniel Rassi is shown in Round One of the Burgers episode on “Chopped.” It was filmed in August and airs Nov. 17 on the Food Network. How did he do? Tune in. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Rassi from page 2

wonderful kids, a great wife and a nice home in Fryeburg, Maine. But Rassi has also been dealt challenges in his 37 years. Like when the former Everett (Mass.) High School football standout had to have back surgery, then got hooked on painkillers, then (with the help of God and his wife, Angel, he says) got off them.

Or when he and his Wicked Fresh Craft Burgers partners had just opened their new fast-casual pizza/salad/wings place, Fire by Wicked Fresh, in the former Brandi’s space at Settlers Green (2 Common Court, Unit A-28) last spring, only to be sidelined by the state’s COVID-19 shutdown. (It has reopened, but changes are afoot to take it up to the next level, Rassi said this week. See below … ) But this summer, Rassi found himself facing a challenge like nothing he’d faced before: competing on the Food Network reality show “Chopped.” “It’s my favorite show of all time,” Rassi told an audience of fellow business owners at the Chamber After Hours event he catered at Settlers Green on Tuesday. But while competing with talented chefs from all over the world, he confessed, “I was running around like a crazy man.”

If you’re not familiar with the show, it involves giving four professional chefs baskets of mystery ingredients and a time limit to cook three dishes that are then presented to a panel of judges (also professional chefs). One by one, the competitors are “chopped” until only one man or woman is left standing.

On most “Chopped” episodes, the winner takes home $10,000. But in the case of tournaments such as the one Rassi competed in, the Chopped Comfort Food Feud, the prize is the chance to compete for $25,000.

High stakes indeed. So when an email popped up one day in June in Rassi’s inbox, saying it was from a
Food Network casting agent and asking if he'd like to be on “Chopped,” his reply was, “Yeah, right.”

He certainly wished it wasn't a joke. “Chopped,” he said, is not only one of his favorite shows, it's one he watches regularly with his daughter, Isabella, 9. (His other kids are Amelia, 3; Lucas, 5; and Angel, 19.)

The email turned out not to be a joke. And in August, Rassi found himself in a forest in Maine competing on the “Burger” segment (the other three segments of the Comfort Food Feud are “Bacon,” “Pizza” and “Macaroni and Cheese.”

Due to the pandemic, however, unlike the “Chopped” shows he'd watched in the past, which were shot in a studio in New York City, the Comfort Food Duel took place in a forest in Maine.

Even though they were outside the whole time, Rassi was impressed by the safety protocols. “On set, we wore masks, right up until the moment they started shooting. The producers made us feel very safe. It was like a wall of protection,” he said.

Unfortunately, due to the network’s rules and regulations, Rassi couldn’t say who his fellow chefs were, except to say that they were from across the Northeast — New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania (one woman and three men) and most crucially, he can’t say whether he won or not.

But viewers won’t have to wait long to find out. The “Burgers” episode Rassi competed on is scheduled to air Tuesday, Nov. 17.

The description for the show says: “In a burger-themed battle of the $25,000 Comfort Food Feud, the chefs get a deep-fried surprise and a sloppy classic in round one. In the entrée round, they must figure out what to do with a bizarre canned product.” And for dessert? “Sweet creations made with mustard ice cream.” Yum!
sometime and say hello. “Oh my God,” Rassi recalled thinking. “Is this really happening?”

(If the “Bacon” episode, which debuted on the Food Network on Tuesday on Spectrum channels 57 and 162, is any indication, Rassi’s judges were chef/restauranters Chris Santos, Maneet Chauhan and Tiffani Faison.)

Besides shooting outside, other changes included not allowing the competitors to sit around a table and talk about the last round. “Instead, we shot selfies and talked straight to the camera,” Rassi said.

The question of how the Food Network came to invite Rassi onto the show is one he hasn’t completely figured out.

“I mean, a few years ago my sister, Kathy Iannuzzi, won ‘Cupcake Wars,’ which is also on Food Network, but I asked around, and they said, no, that had nothing to do with it.”

Yes, the White Mountain Cupcakery, which moved from North Conway Village to Settlers Green last year, did win “Cupcake Wars,” another Food Network competition show.

And that win is what actually brought Rassi from Florida to the valley.

But Rassi believes the more probable cause for getting picked for “Chopped” is all the social media he started doing to drum up business and exposure during the long months of the pandemic. He hired DriveBrand Studios, a public relations firm in North Conway, and did a lot of promotional videos with the help of Isabella Burnham.

After he confirmed his interest, several rounds of Zoom interviews with “Chopped” producers ensued. Talking with him recently, it became easy to see why he passed the audition. To use a word that isn’t very popular right now, Rassi’s enthusiasm for food and cooking is infectious.

The audition “was a lengthy process,” Rassi said. “But we finally got notice that filming would take place in late August.”

Naturally, that was at both Fire’s and Wicked Fresh Craft Burgers’ busiest time of year, after tourism rebounded when Gov. Chris Sununu opened retail and restaurants back up.

But he says, “My staff is awesome. Without them, I never could have done it.”

With months to prepare, Rassi says he practiced for the competition, creating burgers with whatever wacky ingredients his friends and family could come up with while the clock ticked down.

“I had a couple of chefs helping me here,” he says. They included Dan Curry, the new general manager of Wicked Fresh, and Chef Gary Sheldon, president of the White Mountain Chapter of the American Culinary Federation and a legend in the valley, whose daughter, Jamie Sheldon, is a manager at Fire.

And of course, other big influence are his parents, Iraida and Rafael Rassi, whose Puerto Rican heritage comes out in Rassi’s cooking, combined with the fine-dining influences of the aforementioned chefs and his brother-in-law’s Italian background.

“I’m not a classically trained chef, but my cooking, without a doubt is the culmination of all the teachers who taught me,” Rassi says.

Those teacher/mentors include Teresa Stearns, chef/owner of the renowned White Mountain Cider Co. restaurant in Glen; Clem and Shirley McAuliffe at the Vista Country Store in Intervale; and Chef Robert Krebs, food and beverage director at ChampionsGate Golf Club near Disney World in Orlando.

Working at ChampionsGate was his “culinary
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- garden salad carrot, cucumber, cherry tomatoes, red onion, nh maple balsamic vinaigrette

Second course choose one:
- citrus brined turkey whipped potatoes, haricot verts, maple glazed baby carrots, herb stuffing, house made cranberry sauce, traditional gravy
- wild mushroom & root vegetable risotto stuffed delicata squash cream sage sauce maple walnut encrusted atlantic salmon haricot verts, sweet potato ginger puree, citrus beurre blanc

Second course choose one:
- maple walnut encrusted atlantic salmon haricot verts, sweet potato ginger puree, citrus beurre blanc
- roasted sirloin whipped potatoes, haricot verts, au jus

Dessert choose one:
- individual apple pie sea salted caramel sauce, whipped cream
- individual pecan pie whipped cream
- whipped pumpkin mousse napoleon

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- wild mushroom & root vegetable risotto stuffed delicata squash cream sage sauce maple walnut encrusted atlantic salmon haricot verts, sweet potato ginger puree, citrus beurre blanc

Sides included:
- baby green salad roasted beets, butternut squash, cider poached golden raisins, shaved shallot, candied walnuts, creamy preserved lemon dressing
- herb roasted baby potatoes candied yam cranberries, toasted pecans classic green bean casserole crispy shallots bourbon & nh maple glazed baby carrots traditional stuffing
- house made cranberry sauce assorted baked breads & rolls with butter

Dessert choose one:
- individual apple pie
- individual pecan pie
- individual pumpkin pie

Orders must be placed by November 23rd at 3pm

Get Pick Up November 25th

Adults $50 Per Two Guests

Grace under pressure. Coming up with innovative dishes. If that sounds like “Chopped” is right in his wheelhouse, that’s because it is.

RASSI from page 5

awakening,” Rassi says. “I started out as an entry-level prep cook, and within a month, I was cooking on the line.” He picked up management tips along the way. “I learned how to treat people — not just the customers, that’s a given, but the vendors, your co-workers, your bosses ...”

He considers his restaurant staff and co-workers as a second family. “You put in so many hours in the restaurant, there are times you don’t get to see your family.”

In fact, he said when the COVID-19 pandemic closed the restaurant, the first thing he did with his PPP (Payroll Protection Program) funds was, “I paid our employees, then I paid our vendors.”

OVP Management, which owns Settlers Green, “was really great with the rent. They really helped us out by not pressuring us about it. They knew we’d come back, and we did.”

Of the shutdown, he said, “I hate to say it, but it came at the best time it possibly could. People were cooped up for months, and everything opened back up, it was crazy.”

Crazy good (they were busy again!) and crazy bad, sometimes. “We were on a learning curve. Suddenly we had to take orders online. People would get upset when the tickets were piling up. We had a few unruly customers. My staff was under a lot of pressure those first few months.”

Grace under pressure. Coming up with innovative dishes. If that sounds like “Chopped” is right in his wheelhouse, that’s because it is.
Plus, his mentors had his back. “Chef Sheldon gave me some great advice,” Rassi recalled. “Keep a clean station, keep it simple.”

Sister Kathy advised: “Don’t go out of your lane, do what you do best.”

But when it was crunch time, Rassi says he hewed to advice he often gives his kids: “You get what you get, you don’t get upset.”

He also realized he needed to remain focused. “Keep your head down, don’t focus on the other chefs, don’t focus on the clock, just focus on what you’ve gotta do,” he told himself.

Ultimately, he says, “I feel like I represented burger-themed dishes well.”

Burgers are obviously a passion for him. He and wife Angelys, sister Kathy and brother-in-law Marc Ianuzzi opened Wicked Fresh Craft Burgers next to HomeGoods at 19 Barnes Road in April 2017, and it was a hit right out of the gate, due in no small way to the innovative combinations of burgers and toppings.

“I’m feel very blessed and humbled by the success of Wicked Fresh,” Rassi says. “There are so many good places to eat in town. But the town needed a funky cool burger shop, and we delivered.”

Asked how he comes up with new ones, Rassi says, “Honestly, I just listen to others — staffers at the restaurant, customers, anybody. And I think about what I like and how I can present it.”

Such ruminations have led to the Hangry (Cajun smashed burger, cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickled jalapeño and special Cajun sauce), the BBQ Burger (cheddar cheese, house-made slaw, pickles, bacon and house-made honey barbecue sauce) and the BYO — Build Your Own Burger.

Marc is no slouch in the kitchen either, starting out at the Silver Fox in Everett at age 14, and working his way up.

The pair, as the website wickedfreshburgers.com notes, “went on to work in Florida where Marc became an executive chef and Danny a sous chef.”

Speaking of Wicked Fresh, Rassi had big news to share concerning his two empires — Fire pizza and wings and Wicked Fresh Craft Burgers. They are about to be joined.

“We are planning to open Wicked Fresh 2.0 at Fire,” he says, with the flagship store being converted to take-out-only in the winter months.

During the summer, he says, “the town was really great about allowing us to expand with tables out on the sidewalk.” But when the cold reality of winter sets in, he knows that won’t be possible.

“At Fire, we have plenty of room for social distancing in our dining room,” Rassi said. “In addition to our amazing pizza (try the fig, prosciutto and balsamic drizzle, you won’t believe it) and outrageous wings — and beer, wine and mixed cocktails — we’ll start by integrating our most popular burgers and eventually bring in the whole Wicked Fresh lineup,” including gluten-free options, he said.

It’s all available on their heated, outdoor patio, for indoor dining, or for takeout.

And those burgers Rassi innovated during those fast rounds on “Chopped”? There’s bound to be a place on the new menu for those. As they say on TV, stay tuned ... margaret@conwaydailysun.com

Chef/owner Danny Rassi delivers fresh-out-of-the-oven pizzas at Fire by Wicked Fresh in Settlers Green on Wednesday. (JAMIE GEMMITI PHOTO)
By Daymond Steer
The Conway Daily Sun

SOUTH PARIS, Maine — Oxford County commissioners have presented the Joneses of Fryeburg and the Bensons of Brownfield with the Spirit of America Award for 2020.

The commissioners annually present the award to “groups and individuals for their exceptional volunteer work within the county.” Winners are nominated by their respective towns, although commissioners this year nominated one of their own employees.

The award was announced in October. Commissioners, in a press release, expressed regret that they couldn’t meet with the recipients to present the awards due to the COVID-19 but said they will invite recipients to next year’s ceremony.

The town of Fryeburg provided the commissioners with a brief outline of the community service that Ed and Diane Jones had performed over the years. Ed, who died in May at the age of 80, was given the award posthumously. The town of Fryeburg had this to say about the Joneses:

“Ed and Diane Jones have always been at the heart of the town of Fryeburg. Together, they have been instrumental in public service, whether it be serving on the board of selectmen, preserving town history, or a construction project for the townspeople,” the nomination said.

“Their many years of dedication to our town represents the best in public service and has always set an example for others. Ed and Diane have both served as Fryeburg selectmen, as well as on various boards and committees, tackling issues that were important to the town. Installing new street signs, developing the new transfer station and clearing the way for historic preservation were only a handful of their accomplishments.

“Diane has been directly involved with historic preservation in Fryeburg, allowing townspeople to enjoy the rich history that our town has, whether it be exploring the historical society museum, or browsing through thousands of obituaries and family genealogies. Ed also helped build the new Harvest Hills Animal Shelter and the replica of the Fryeburg Horse Railroad, which can be seen rolling through town for special events. The town of Fryeburg dedicates this year’s town report to Ed and Diane and thanks them for their many years of service and dedication to the town. Ed passed away on May 13, 2019. Diane continues to reside in Fryeburg, where she continues her interest in local history.”

Diane Jones in an email to the Sun said, “It is quite an honor to have received.”

Meanwhile, Brownfield submitted the following about the Bensons: “Roger and Sharon Benson have run the local food pantry for many years. Sharon is also involved with the local girl scout troop.”

Roger Benson on Friday said they were in “total shock” as they didn’t know the award was coming.

“We are just doing our best to serve the people,” he said.

The other honorees were Everett W. Benson, Knights of Columbus Council No. 5515, Norway Grange No. 45, Jim and Mary Hannaford of Hiram, Hugh “Cubby” Swan of Greenwood, Roxbury Swift River Valley Extension, Mark Irish of Peru, Bruce Pierce of Newry, Raymond Broomhall of Mexico, Dorothy Adams of Hanover, Scott Bennett of Dixfield, Canton Cemetery Ladies (Carole Robbins, Purdy Adams, Anne Chamberlain, and Robyn McClintock), Donald and Cheryl Bennett of Bethel, Freeman Farmington of Andover, Sterling and Irene Mills of Woodstock, Ben Conant of South Paris Oxford County Regional Communications Center.

Diane Jones, and her late husband, Ed, of Fryeburg, Maine, were honored this year with the Spirit of America award from Oxford County commissioners. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Roger and Sharon Benson of Brownfield, Maine (left) hold their Oxford County Spirit of America Award. At right is Brownfield Selectman Bill Flynn. (COURTESY PHOTO)
CONCORD — The state Fish and Game Department’s Law Enforcement Division’s K-9 Team has a lively new recruit.

Fin is a 14-week-old chocolate Labrador retriever donated by Wes and Belinda Reed of Rise and Shine Retrievers in Barnstead. This is the third generous donation made by the Reeds to the Department through the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of N.H.

Fin was first presented to his new partner, Fish and Game Conservation Officer Kenneth St. Pierre, earlier in September.

“Fin will work on basic obedience, tracking, and exposure to both evidence and fish and wildlife daily,” said St. Pierre.

Along with Fish and Game’s other canines and handlers, Fin and St. Pierre are expected to attend basic training at the Vermont K-9 Academy and “boot camp” at the 37th Basic Canine Patrol School next summer. The program is a 544-hour commitment for the team and runs from July until November. Upon completion of the course, Fin and St. Pierre will receive certification in tracking, evidence detection, and fish and wildlife detection.

Learn more about Fish and Game Law Enforcement’s canine conservation teams at tinyurl.com/yx9dxu6.

Fish and Game currently has three other K-9 teams in addition to Fin and St. Pierre: Moxie, 3-year-old yellow Labrador, is partnered with Conservation Officer Eric Fluette; Cora, a 4-year-old black Labrador, who is partnered with Conservation Officer James Benvenuti; and Ruger, an 8-year-old black Labrador, who is partnered with Conservation Officer Robert Mancini.

Fin is the state Fish and Game Department’s newest canine enforcer. (COURTESY PHOTO)
CONWAY — This is a grave story — literally — and a good one for the gloomy mid-November days of autumn.

The Gibson/Woodbury Charitable Foundation this week announced a new, multi-year “Carroll County Reverence for the Departed Project” to repair broken gravestones in public cemeteries in Carroll County.

Mark Butterfield, executive director of the foundation, has formed a small working committee chaired by Maryellen Szetela of Arthur’s Memorials in Redstone.

Butterfield is related to the late North Conway benefactor Harvey D. and Helen Gibson and the late Evelyn Smith Woodbury and Wendell Woodbury. The organization was founded by Evelyn Smith Woodbury and Butterfield in 2010 to carry on their civic-minded legacy.

“This idea came to me three years ago,” the 58-year-old Butterfield said Thursday. “I have always had a strong belief and reverence for the people who came before us.

“I have been in a bunch of cemeteries and see the broken gravestones on the ground,” he continued. “Some are marble stones that have probably been lying on the ground for 100 years. I am on the board of the North Conway Cemetery — we take care of ours when we see them down and Jackson does a great job, too. I felt it was a very worthy project, and I think if I don’t try to spearhead it now, it may not happen in the future.”

He said a committee has been formed and Szetela will chair it.

“Maryellen will be the contact person for people to provide the location of each broken gravestone on the ground,” he continued. “Some are marble stones that have probably been lying on the ground for 100 years. I am on the board of the North Conway Cemetery — we take care of ours when we see them down and Jackson does a great job, too. I felt it was a very worthy project, and I think if I don’t try to spearhead it now, it may not happen in the future.”

He said a committee has been formed and Szetela will chair it.

“Maryellen will be the contact person for people to provide the location of each broken gravestone in cemeteries in their respective towns. The first step is creating a working list of gravestones that need repair,” said Butterfield.

Butterfield added that once the list is compiled, he will contact 501 (c) (3) non-profit cemetery associations or historical societies that oversee each cemetery arrange to transfer the necessary funds. After receiving the funds, each association or historical society will contract with Arthur’s Memorials to complete the work.

He encouraged anyone with knowledge of broken gravestones in Carroll County to call Szetela at (603) 356-5398.

For his part, Ken Rancourt, president of the Conway Historical Society, said: “This is a very impressive thing for Mark and the Gibson-Woodbury Foundation to do. Mark has the interests of the valley and the departed at heart, and I am sure many of these markers are those of veterans, so that is worthy to note as well.”

In 2015, Ken was part of the town’s sesquicentennial and worked with his wife Jane Rancourt and 250th co-chair/Conway Historical Society Vice President Brian Wiggins on a book, “The Cemeteries of Conway, New Hampshire.”

The book lists 56 cemeteries in Conway, but Jane Rancourt said since its publication they have been told of another small private cemetery in South Conway that they have yet to find.

Wiggins led a reporter on a tour of the Center Conway Cemetery on an overcast November afternoon Thursday, a day that reminded one of the Beatles’ song, “Eleanor Rigby” with its brown leaves, bare trees, fog and melancholy mists.

The tour revealed many toppled or broken tombstones, including the broken marker for Sarah Porter, who was the first person buried there after she died in 1810. She was wife of the Rev. Nathaniel Porter, Conway’s first full-time pastor.

Other early settlers buried there include Judge Joel Eastman, builder of the Smith-Eastman Covered Bridge that burned in 1975 in Center Conway; Richard Odell (selectman from 1797-1815); Leander Morton (proprietor of the chief general store in the Upper Saco Valley); H.B. Cotton (builder of the mill at the head of Walker Pond — now where the town beach is located on Conway Lake); and Elijah Farrington, selectman from 1825-43.

“You can see where many of the
stones have cracked and broken in half, with the tops of the stones fallen down below the still standing halves,” said Wiggin, a resident of nearby Conway Lake and a former social studies and history teacher in local school systems in Tamworth and Conway. “In some cases, you can reach down into the grass and with a little clawing back of the turf, find the other parts of the tombstone.”

Like Jane and Ken Rancourt, Wiggin saluted Butterfield for his civic spirit, noting, “This is a wonderful thing to honor those who came before us. He has done so much for the town.”

Wiggin added, “This is going to be quite the monumental undertaking, all puns intended, but good for Mark. This will be much appreciated throughout the country.”

In a follow-up stop at Arthur’s Memorials, Szetela and employee Zack Smith said they are looking forward to the work at hand. They will be assisted by Ben and son Forrest Falcey.

“It will take us a few years but it will get done,” said Szetela. “It’s really something for Mark to be doing this. We have already been in touch with a few of the cemetery associations and non-profits, and they are all quite thrilled to hear the news about this project and I am sure we will be hearing from more.”

“I think this is a great thing. It will be perfect to get the stones back together,” said Smith, who has been working for Arthur’s for 15 years, starting out under Szetela and now once again working for her. Szetela recently reacquired the business after an interim period of ownership by someone else.

“There are many things we can do,” said Smith, adding, “Sometimes the marble is in such a state there is no way you can get it back to its original shape. There are a few different options — you can epoxy them or get metal framework and stack them back up, depending on the route you want to do.”

Tom Holmes, Conway’s town manager, said he was unaware of the Gibson-Woodbury project but agreed it was a positive project. He said he will discuss the project with John Eastman, director of Conway Parks and Recreation, which oversees the town’s abandoned cemeteries.
• Serving Dinner— Thursday-Tuesday from 5:00 to 8:00 pm, Friday and Saturday to 8:30 pm
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• Prime Rib Saturdays— Prime Rib with potato and vegetable $22.95 while it lasts
  • Reservations required

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MONTPELIER, Vt. — Vermont Gov. Phil Scott on Friday banned multiple household social gatherings, suspended recreational sports, closed bars and social clubs effective Saturday and took other strong measures to curb COVID-19 as the surge in cases continues.

New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu didn’t immediately respond when asked about the Vermont measures. At a press conference Thursday, he warned that worst days are ahead for the state, but not bad enough to take additional actions.

On Thursday, New Hampshire’s new cases rose to 323, with three deaths and the state now limiting contact tracing. New Hampshire is the only New England state without a statewide mask mandate.

Scott’s amended executive order Friday stated: “Attendance at all public and private social, recreational and entertainment gatherings, indoor and outdoor, including large social gatherings incidental to ceremonies, holiday gatherings, parties and celebrations, shall be limited to participation with only members of a single household.”

This doesn’t prohibit the gathering of members living in the same residence. Individuals who live alone may gather with members of their immediate family residing in a different household.

All restaurants must be closed to in-person dining at 10 p.m., but may provide food and beverage alcohol through curbside pick-up, drive-through, and delivery services after 10 p.m. They must maintain a log of all employees, customers, members and guests and their complete contact information for 30 days.

Vermont Gov. Phil Scott (left) is shown at his Friday news conference in Montpelier. In addition to limiting multiple household gatherings, he also closed bars in the state. (SCREENSHOT)

Reopening Dine In Service

Wednesday, November 18

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Second COVID case is reported at Kennett High

BY LLOYD JONES
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

CONWAY — The Conway School District announced its fourth positive test for COVID-19 in the past 37 days, and second case at Kennett High School, on Friday.

The first case at the high school was announced Oct. 8. As a result, about 10 students and staff had to quarantine for two weeks.

Superintendent Kevin Richard alerted all SAU 9 students, families and staff via email and on the SAU website about the positive case Friday morning.

“It seems like it’s happening every two weeks,” he told the Sun. “This one is a little different at the high school because of the number of transitions.”

He was referring to the times students and teachers have to transition in and out of their classrooms during a typical day. Usually there are just two per day, but this week, the Eagles had as many as four as the school calendar went from the first to the second quarter.

Richard and staff are still determining the number of people who will need to

see KENNETT page 3a

see VERMONT page 3a
Lockdowns return to Oregon and New Mexico

(NY Times) — As the United States shatters record after record on coronavirus cases and hospitalizations, more warnings have emerged from officials across the country urging residents to adjust their behavior and prepare for more possible changes on the horizon.

In New Mexico on Friday, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham announced the nation’s most sweeping statewide measure of the fall season, issuing a “stay at home” order to begin Monday and last two weeks. She asked people to shelter in place except for essential trips and nonessential busi-nesses and nonprofits must cease in-person activities.

Gov. Kate Brown of Oregon issued orders Friday to place the state in a partial lockdown for two weeks, shuttering gyms, halting restaurant dining and mandating that social gatherings have no more than six people. Brown, along with the governors of California and Washington, urged residents to avoid all nonessential interstate travel.

In Virginia, Gov. Ralph Northam tightened several restrictions aimed at slowing the spread of the virus, but stopped short of issuing a lockdown.

New Mexico emerged from official warnings about the spread of the virus, but stopped short of issuing a lockdown.

In Oregon, a lockdown for two weeks, shut-ting gyms, halting restaurant dining and mandating that social gatherings have no more than six people.

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quarantine for 14 days, but he said the number is close to 50.

“This is all the more reason we aren’t doing more transitions (during the school day),” he said.

Richard said he could not disclose whether the diagnosed person was a student or staff member. He said it’s unknown how the person contracted the virus.

The group that will quarantine was sent home with Chromebooks and will spend their school days until Nov. 30 doing remote learning.

“They will only miss six actual days of face-to-face learning,” Richard said, as next Friday is a planned remote learning day and due to the upcoming Thanksgiving recess, there will be classes only Monday and Tuesday the following week.

The second case across the district was at Conway Elementary School and was announced Oct. 20. A teaching staffer had to self-quarantine until Nov. 3.

The third case, at John H. Fuller Elementary, was announced Oct. 29.

“We’ll quarantine that cohort — 10 students and three adults,” Richard said by phone Thursday, “and the good news is at this point in time, it doesn’t appear any of the clusters are connected. They all appear to be singular cases.”

He said the John Fuller students and staff were scheduled to return to school Friday.

“Overall, we’ve been very fortunate,” Richard said, both in number of cases and ability to curb the spread of the virus. “If you had asked me in July where we would be on Nov. 12, I think I would have hoped we’d be where we’re at but I wouldn’t have been certain of that. We’ve been very fortunate.”

Richard said he was on a conference call with North Country superintendents earlier this week, and they are seeing cases on the rise. At the Coos County Nursing Hospital in West Stewartstown, 26 residents and 33 staff members have tested positive for COVID-19, said state officials.

Berlin, which is considering a COVID-19 moratorium, said city officials that up to 50 people will have to quarantine for 14 days, but he said it’s “a number right now,” Richard said. “And I know people would like to have that. But it’s kind of arbitrary to say it’s 2 percent or 3 percent of the population. I would say if it’s over 5 percent, we’re closing down for a period of time.”

Due to an increase in school-related cases, the online COVID-19 Schools Dashboard was down for repairs this week.

According to the state Department of Health and Human Services, as of Thursday, there have been 13,470 confirmed coronavirus cases overall in the Granite State, including 495 deaths. A record 923 new positive tests included 13 in Carroll County.

Of towns contained within SAU 9, Albany has a total of 1-4 cases, zero active; Bartlett has 10 cases, 1-4 active; Chatham, 1-4 cases, zero active; Conway, 44 total cases, seven active; and Eaton, Hart’s Location and Jackson all report zero total cases, none active.

lloyd@conwaydailysun.com

VERMONT from page 1a

Customers must agree to be contacted by Vermont’s public health contact tracers, provide complete information and comply with recommended quarantine and testing or they could face referral to the attorney general for enforcement.

Friday’s order also included the following directives:

All students returning home from a college or university, in-state or out of state, must quarantine at home for 14 days, with a test for COVID-19 strongly encouraged, or quarantine for no less than seven days at which time they must be tested for COVID-19.

All businesses, not-for-profit entities and municipal governments in the state shall reinstitute to the maximum extent possible telecommuting or work from home procedures. The order expires at Dec. 15 at midnight.
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Remembrance Garden integral part of Wright Museum of World War II

WOLFEBORO — At the Wright Museum of World War II in Wolfeboro, many individuals have contributed to making it one of the region's most visited museums, including John Thurston.

“John owns The Green and Granite Landscaping and has played an integral part in beautifying our grounds over the years,” said Mike Culver, executive director of the museum.

He said Thurston’s most recent work, however, might represent his most lasting contribution to The Wright.

“He completed our walkway to the Remembrance Garden, which transforms the space and invites all people who live here or passing through to come and visit us,” explained Culver. “We are very appreciative for all the projects he has completed at the museum.”

Facing Center Street in Wolfeboro, the Remembrance Garden is a public space with plantings, granite benches and flagpoles framed by the exterior wall of the museum upon which hundreds of memorial bricks are affixed.

“Everyone can now walk around the front of the museum and take advantage of this spectacular setting and spend thoughtful time remembering those who have served,” said Culver.

The region's leading resource for educators and learners of all ages on World War II, The Wright features more than 14,000 items in its collection that are representative of both the home front and battle field.

According to Thurston, his involvement at The Wright resulted from his association and friendship with Founder David Wright.

“One of my first jobs was working for David at his home in Tuftonboro,” he said. “David called their home ‘her house,’ which meant his wife Carole, and he called the Wright Museum ‘his house.’”

Thurston, said David wanted “his” house to be better looking than “hers.”

“He asked me to come work at the museum,” he laughed.

Referring to The Wright as “one of (his) first clients and probably one of (his) last,” Thurston said he has seen many changes through the years.

“The museum wasn’t always so busy,” he said. “Now, the parking lot fills up — even with a pandemic. So many people want to go back. They can’t see enough and appreciate it all.”

He said the museum especially appeals to him because it focuses on the home front.

“One of its focuses is on what people did at home to help during the war,” he said. “All the history is rewarding, though, just reliving...”
Paying respects in Schouler Park to our veterans

By Tom Eastman
THE CONWAY DAILY SUN

In these challenging times, Wednesday’s Veterans Day ceremonies presented by American Legion Post 95 of North Conway and Post 46 of Conway in North Conway’s Schouler Park were a godsend.

After the tumult of the still (for some) contentious election, it made you feel proud to be an American, standing together but safely apart — despite our political differences it is what unites us that we hold dear.

On a partly cloudy November day, a warm breeze blowing across the park, against the backdrop of the suddenly bare tree branches and Cranmore in the distance, 100-plus people gathered to pay tribute to our veterans who have fought to protect our freedoms — including the right to vote.

And yes, people maintained safe social distancing and everyone this reporter saw wore a mask (except when they were speaking at the microphone), including a veteran standing near me, Air Force Vietnam veteran Michael T. Gilmore of North Conway, whose patriotic mask depicted the Stars and Stripes of the American flag.

He told me he had served from 1964 to 1968. He said there is a lot more to that story — but that will have to wait for a later day. As a reporter always in search of a good story, and who grew up in a military family, I am always amazed at the stories I come upon, especially on Veterans Day.

Close to us was a man wearing an Army cap and a dark green T-shirt that read, “U.S. Armed Forces Vietnam Veterans.” He was Ron Siraco, 72, formerly of North Conway and now of South Berwick, Maine (where I went to high school at Berwick Academy, Class of ’75).

As the crowd sang “You’re a Grand Old Flag,” Ron told me he served in Vietnam from 1967-68, and in the Army from 1966-69, which overlaps with the time my late brother, helicopter pilot Capt. David L. Eastman (1943-2019) served in the Army.


Given that we lost Dave a year ago at age 76 to a combination of frailties caused by Agent Orange exposure and other issues, my eldest brother was definitely on my mind as I listened to Maj. Frank McCarthy (USMC-Ret.) deliver his keynote tribute to the “Brothers in Arms” with whom he served in Vietnam.

As I wrote in a Veterans Day piece I did for the Sun in 2017, I was in Cub Scouts as a 9-year-old in Portsmouth when Dave was serving as a 23-year-old in Vietnam. I'd write him, telling of the merit badges I attained — kind of like my own service to country (or so my young mind thought at the time). Then he was awarded the Silver Star for his heroic exploits with crew...
In Loving Memory

ERNEST W. SMITH
May 28, 1929 ~ November 16, 2018

Always in our hearts.
Rest well dear one,
you deserve it.

Warm memories of you are like sunshine to our souls.

Loving you always,
Your family

Laconia theater named to National Register of Historic Places

BY MICHAEL MORTENSEN
THE LACONIA DAILY SUN

LACONIA — The Colonial Theatre complex has been named to the National Register of Historic Places.

The designation was announced Thursday by the New Hampshire Division of Historic Resources.

“The Colonial Theatre complex in Laconia has been honored by the United States Secretary of the Interior with placement on the National Register of Historic Places for both its architecture and for its role as a center of entertainment and commerce from the time it was built in 1914 into the 21st century,” the announcement said.

The Colonial is currently in the final stages of a $15 million restoration, and the 750-seat theater is expected to open sometime next year.

“It’s an honor, a sign of more progress for downtown,” said Justin Slattery, executive director of the Belknap Economic Development Council, which sponsored the request for the historic designation, and is overseeing the restoration project.

Applying for the designation was required as part of the financing for the 51,000-square-foot restoration, one of the largest rebuilding projects ever undertaken in the state. Being named to the National Register is a required step for a property to be eligible for federal tax incentives.

Built in 1914, the Colonial Theatre complex is the largest of several mixed-use blocks built in downtown Laconia in the first quarter of the 20th century, according to the Division of Historic Resources.

Benjamin Piscopo, the original developer of the complex, was a stone cutter from Italy who emigrated to Boston. He became a successful real estate developer and moved to Laconia, where he developed a number of the city’s business buildings and was an investor in the Tavern Hotel

The complex has undergone several reversible changes, including a conversion into a five-screen multiplex in the 1980s and alterations to the layout of the office and residential spaces on the second and third floors of the Piscopo Block.

With its primary entrance on Main Street, the complex is made up of the Piscopo Block, Colonial Theatre and Canal Street Annex.

Storefronts in the Piscopo Block and Canal St. Annex maintain their original recessed entries and are flanked by glass display windows. Prism glass transoms above the entrances to the storefronts and the theater, patented by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1897 and made by the Luxfer Prism Company, enhance the entrance of natural light.

The complex’s most prominent feature is the 1930s marquee over the main entrance of Piscopo Block, which is topped by a two-story blade-style sign that spells out “Colonial.”

The theater’s entrance and lobby retain a majority of their original historic finishes and decorative details. The theater space still has its original layout, with an overhanging balcony, orchestra pit and two-tiered box seating at the front of the auditorium.

Restored details include the original gilded plaster ornaments, frescoes, high coffered ceiling decorated with images of high arts and floral designs, woodwork and a “1914” medallion centered above the stage.

see COLONIAL page 13a
Nov. 7-13, 2020

DIGEST OF STORIES IN THE SUN THIS WEEK

Saturday, Nov. 7
• As the community prepared for Veterans Day and the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, local veterans Earl Luther “Smitty” Smith and Dwight A. Smith looked back at their wartime service.
• Veterans Day ceremonies were planned for Tuesday and Wednesday in North Conway, and the Wright Museum of World War II in Wolfeboro, though closed for the season, offers an extensive online tour at wrightmuseum.org.
• Ossipee police warned people not to leave keys in parked cars after a couple allegedly stole three vehicles with keys in them over the course of 24 hours.
• Gov. Chris Sununu lauded N.H. Secretary of State Bill Gardner for a successful election and said he would support him for another term.
• State epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan reported the state averaged 150 new cases of COVID-19 per day. Gov. Sununu said he had no immediate plans to change restrictions or impose a broader mask order.
• Daniel “Bud” Brooks, 90, of Freedom was recognized by Secretary of State Gardner for his 56 years of service as supervisor of checklist in the town.

Tuesday, Nov. 9
• Bartlett resident and Saco Canoe Rental Co. owner Peter Gagne advocated for the town and state to address an erosion problem at the old town dump, which is putting metal and other debris into the Saco River. The town has hired a firm to come up with a solution.
• Assistance Canine Training Services is looking for volunteers to help raise puppies for six months on their way to becoming service and therapy dogs.
• Marty the Cat, who lived on the summit of Mount Washington for 12 years, died over the weekend due to a sudden illness.
• Many local towns scaled back or canceled their Veterans Day observances due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Wednesday, Nov. 10.
• Dot Seybold announced that she will be moving on after 31 years as general manager of Settlers Green to become the executive director of the Ham Charitable Foundation.
• New Hampshire experienced an Indian summer over the past week, with record-setting highs in the mid to high 70s, as much as 20-25 degrees above normal.
• Conway selectmen met at their new offices at the former Bank of New Hampshire building in Conway Village for the first time this week.

Thursday, Nov. 12
• Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Veterans Day was celebrated in North Conway’s Schouler Park with over 100 citizens gathering for the hourlong ceremony.
• For the first time since World War II, students in the Conway School District won’t take part in the Eastern Slope Ski Club’s Junior Program, which introduces kids in grades 1-6 to skiing one afternoon a week in winter. Other school districts in SAU 9 and 13 still plan to participate in the program.
• The 19th annual Vaughan Community Food Drive will be held outside the new Vaughan Food Pantry in North Conway 6 a.m.-6 p.m. on Nov. 18, but it will accept only checks or cash-only donations due to coronavirus safety concerns.

Friday, Nov. 13
• The first draft of the Conway school budget reflected a $2.1 million increase over last year, not including warrant articles, one of which could add another $1 million to replace all the windows at Kennett High School. Superintendent Kevin Richardson said the biggest increase is for salaries.
• Attorneys argued over evidence Tuesday in the capital murder case against Armando Barron, 30, of Jaffrey, charged in the death of Jonathan Amerault in Rindge, who was allegedly having an affair with Barron’s wife, Brittany.
• The state reported a record 323 new COVID-19 infections Thursday, three new deaths, outbreaks at three nursing homes and possible exposure at the polls in at least four different locations.
• The Rotary Club of North Conway’s annual Radio Auction will not take place this year. Club President Kelly Drew said that because of COVID-19 and the challenging year that local businesses have had the club did not feel comfortable in soliciting donations.
• The state reported a record 323 new COVID-19 infections Thursday, three new deaths, outbreaks at three nursing homes and possible exposure at the polls in at least four different locations.

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IN REVIEW

IN REVIEW

IN REVIEW

IN REVIEW

IN REVIEW

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IN REVIEW

IN REVIEW
WASHINGTON — This city and this country, are, in a word, exhausted.

The velocity of news in the Trump era has been unprecedented. The passions expressed in this period have few peers in history. The election left the country weary — and left just under half the voting public embittered. The United States, quite simply, wore out.

There have been multiple explanations for the failure of President Donald Trump to win a plurality of the popular vote: Some analysts believe it was young people, some say minorities. Others argue it was urban residents, or maybe it was AOC-style progressives, or Americans with college degrees, or perhaps it was suburban women. Maybe it was the virus, and the constant drumbeat of infection rates and death tolls.

Maybe it was a smattering of those things, or maybe all those things conspired to boost former Vice President Joe Biden to an apparent Electoral College victory to match his popular vote triumph.

But here is a separate explanation: Trump simply sapped a country that teetered on exhaustion before he began his presidential campaign.

Indeed, it is not simply Trump fatigue that plagues the country, and though the election is the indicator that historians will note, it is not the only one.

Americans are, of course, tired of hearing about politics. But they are also tired of their mobility being restrained, they are tired of their options being limited, tired of putting off or constriciting, even the sort of simple family gatherings that were unremarkable only 12 months ago. And a lonely Thanksgiving beckons, and eating alone even the sort of simple family gatherings that brings new developments that fill people with feelings of fear, sadness, anger and anxiety.

It’s not only an American condition, and it is not only election-oriented. Hans Kluge, a regional director of the World Health Organization, warned in October that what he called “COVID-19 fatigue” was rampant in Europe.

Political fatigue itself is difficult to measure, but the Pew Research Center has been trying — starting long before the campaign moved into fourth gear. Its October findings showed that about three-fifths of Americans felt worn out by the news, a rate that had not moved much since 2018. And the study included a surprise: Journalists, too, were exhausted with the news cycle.

“All of us, no matter what network or news outlet, have been working around the clock to get it right,” said Gloria Borger, the chief political analyst for CNN.

This exhaustion is both cause and consequence of contemporary political polarization. James Campbell, a conservative-leaning political scientist at the University at Buffalo, devoted the last chapter of his book, “Polarized: Making Sense of a Divided America,” to political exhaustion. It was published four years ago, but the phenomenon hasn’t faded. In fact, it has intensified.

“We are exhausted,” he said as the votes still were being counted in a handful of states. “We are also inflamed. We need a breather from all this, and we may take that breather. But we may find that all this fighting is reigned in the not too distant future.”

“We all talk about polarization and divisiveness — it’s a mantra,” said Peter Stockland, a former editor of The Montreal Gazette who now produces a web magazine on the arts and culture called convivium.ca. “It’s like you in the United States are on a 17-hour car trip. You get snappish. You say things you ordinarily would not. The constant bombardment of politics that comes at us just wears us down. We get to the point where we just aren’t capable of making ordinary discernments.

“We have reached a level where this is a long journey through the night.”

Trump did not originate this sentiment. He only intensified it, sowing rage among his opponents, passion among his supporters.

“We’ve had politics up to our ears, are gorged with it,” the presidential chronicler Theodore H. White wrote of the campaign between Ronald Reagan and Jimmy Carter 40 years ago. As

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Wrote that “Americans live in a constant cycle of crisis,” adding: “As the coronavirus pandemic continues to sweep across the globe, each day brings new developments that fill people with feelings of fear, sadness, anger and anxiety.”

see SHRIBMAN page 9a
Do you agree with Conway schools’ decision not to participate in the Junior Ski Program?

The Conway School District announced this week that for the first time since World War II, students at the three elementary schools in Conway won’t be taking part in the Eastern Slope Ski Club’s Junior Program due to COVID-19 pandemic safety concerns. In a letter sent home to families, principals at Conway Elementary, John H. Fuller and Pine Tree schools outlined such concerns as having to share use of the warming stations and bathrooms with the public at local ski areas; supervision of students in an off-site, public place; and teaching kids to ski while maintaining social distancing. Some parents were not happy with the decision, school officials said. And elementary schools in Bartlett, Jackson and Madison are going ahead with participation in the program.

This week’s TeleTalk question: Do you agree with Conway schools’ decision not to participate in the Junior Ski Program?

Call (603) 733-5822 Saturday and Sunday and leave your comments on our machine. You may email your responses to news@conwaydailysun.com. Comments can also be posted on The Conway Daily Sun’s Facebook page. Results will be published Tuesday.

Reagan used to say: You ain’t seen nothing yet.

There is no imminent antidote to this exhaustion. Campbell believes if the notion the 2020 election was “stolen” takes hold, Trump supporters “may be exhausted, but will also be very angry.” The Pew survey showed that substantially more Republicans than Democrats described themselves as “worn out by the news.”

That could change if Trump makes headway in suits to overturn apparent Democratic advantages in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Nevada and Arizona.

What to do? Wickham, the Mayo behavioral specialist, suggests Americans eat healthy diets, exercise and get enough sleep. Then she adds one more: “Practice mindfulness to engage in the present moment.” All good advice — for the present moment.

David M. Shribman is the former executive editor of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. He can be reached at dshribman@post-gazette.com, or follow him on Twitter at ShribmanPG. The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist has a vacation home in Kearsarge.

Chief was transferred to our shelter from another shelter who was overwhelmed from a hoarding case. Chief was rescued with 17 other dogs. Although Chief has suffered in his short life, he is still FULL of love. He is a charming boy who is somehow more loyal than he is handsome! He takes time to warm up to people, but once he trusts you he will be your shadow. He loves to curl up on the couch, eat cookies by the truckload, and butt scratches are his absolute favorite! He is still learning to walk on a leash, but does not pull. He gets along great with other dogs, and needs a home without children.

Due to the COVID-19 concerns, CAHS will operate by APPOINTMENT ONLY until further notice.

Please call 603-447-5955 before visiting the shelter.

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We all feel the loss of Marty, the summit cat

To the editor:
Marty, the Mount Washington summit cat, has passed on. The black, long-haired cat liked sitting in the seat of the supervisor of the Mount Washington summit park, Mike Pelchat.

Having spent months and years doing stone work on the summit I knew that Marty was in charge and if he was sitting in Mike’s captain’s chair you did not disturb Marty.

When Mike climbed the wall of Tuckerman Ravine to retrieve a dying hiker and hook him to a Black Hawk helicopter, Marty, the cat, was there to greet Mike on his return.

Marty is known for standing on the summit sign at the end of the trail I was commissioned, by the state of New Hampshire, to build from the Adams building to the summit sign — the Callis connector.

The most recent supervisor is named Patrick and he has a tattoo of Frankenstein and Mary Shelley on his forearm. I met him while doing volunteer work on access to Tip Top House this summer. We all feel the loss of Marty the black cat and wish Patrick and the summit personnel all speed in finding another special cat.

Michael Callis
Eaton

Humbled to return to Concord as your rep

To the editor:
I am humbled and thrilled to have the opportunity to return to Concord and carry the valley’s voice and concerns.

The community support and encouragement was and continues to be overwhelming. As I did last term, I’ll continue the policy of putting my votes on substantial issues as well as the reason for those votes on my Facebook.

For issues, concerns or suggestions please call me at home or email me at stevewoodcock.rep@gmail.com. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, I look forward to serve you again as your representative.

Rep. Steve Woodcock
Center Conway

New community center opened 5 years ago

To the editor:
Five years ago this week, the community gathered to hear speeches and to cut the ribbon on the North Conway

Letters should be no more 300 words. Anonymouse letters, letters without full names and generic letters will not be published. You may email your letters to news@conwaydailysun.com. or submit on the Sun’s website: conwaydailysun.com. See submit at bottom of the front page.

Jonna Carter

Gone to the dogs

There’s been quite a hullabaloo from high-level Republicans about widespread mail-in voting fraud, and I’m inclined to agree with their assertions. What rational, intelligent person wouldn’t have voted for Donald Trump, this man of magnificent brilliance? Trump has long been alarmed by large-scale absentee voting and its potential for fraudulently skewing the numbers. During his campaign, as the pandemic found more and more people opting to vote by mail, Trump stated on FOX “News” that “ballots (are) being sent to everybody and their dogs, OK? Dogs are getting them.” Since dogs had the option to mail their ballots, could they possibly have decided the election? OMG, that’s the answer! It was the dogs! How else could Trump have lost?

I’ve been considering the very stable genius’ insight on this issue of dogs voting. It’s widely known that dogs are not Trump voters. The president has actually been very insulting to dogs. In addition to multiple others, he called Omarosa “a dog.” No wonder dogs are upset! Who wouldn’t be offended by being compared to Omarosa? And take it from me, dogs hold grudges.

Did FBI Director Christopher Wray investigate the dog voting bloc prior to testifying before Congress that there had been no evidence of “any kind of coordinated national voter fraud effort” seen in Utah’s southwestern corner from whence she came. Cooper, a Mississippian who once lived on the streets and ate from garbage cans, has been all over Pizzagate. Anything having to do with pizza, actually. And rounding out the pack is Scott, a born and bred Granite Stater who ... oh, never mind. He’s the husband. In his 2024 bid for the White House, Donnie would be well-advised to rethink his position on dogs. Presumably by then he will be long-divorced (I predict papers will be filed Jan. 21), and he might consider filling the loneliness in his house — or his cell — with a canine companion. That might go a long way toward repairing species relations.

And certainly he ought to be sensitive to the feelings of dogs before he insults them with indelicate comparisons to unsavory people. Then again, you can’t teach an old dog new tricks. Bye, Felicia!

Jonna Carter lives in South Conway with her husband and five crazy rescue dogs.
Bring-a-friend promotion deplorable during pandemic

To the editor:
I am a lifelong resident of this wonderful Mount Washington Valley we are blessed to live in.
I have always had great respect and admiration for Dot Seybold and her expertise at retail development. Her apparent thoughtfulness of layout, aesthetics, marketing and profitability is matched by few.
This past weekend, the Settlers Green (of which she is the top manager) annual promotion of the “Bring a friend” Shopping Weekend(s) yet again took place.
The arrogance, irresponsibility and greed in not canceling this promoted event is a true testament of the absolute fist to the face of all residents of this area.
Promoting hordes of out-of-state people to come here in this pandemic, of which the surge of infection rate was announced in the beginning of this COVID-19 outbreak, is simply deplorable.

Michele Mead
Conway

Della Valla has all the qualities for the John Bruni Award

To the editor:
Recently, when the Mount Washington Economic Council was requesting nominations for the John Bruni Award, my first thought was to nominate Jessica Della Valla, the director of Project Succeed in SAU 9.
Although, there’s an age limit, (sorry Jess), the qualities for this award describe Jess to a T.
• An unwavering commitment to the valley and a deep desire to make it a better place for businesses, families and individuals.
• A person of unquestionably strong personal character. Someone who has earned the unqualified respect of his/her peers as an effective leader among profit or non-profit organizations.
• Has proven to be a strong and consistent mentor, leading others to higher achievement and greater success.
• Has demonstrated the capacity to solve complex challenges with courage, creativity, humor and enthusiasm.
• Is generous of spirit giving freely of time and energy in support of multiple causes and organizations.
• Is recognized as much for their humility as their personal achievement.
As a current enrichment instructor and previous site coordinator at Conway Elementary, I’m grateful we have such a powerhouse to lead us and create such a caring and safe environment for our kids and parents to rely on for both before and after school enrichments.
Our community thrives when we commit to our little people and support their growth in so many ways. Thank you, Jess, for shining your light, guiding us and creating these opportunities to make a difference in this next generation.

Anjali Rose
North Conway

Testing free for President Trump, why not the rest of us?

To the editor:
I am going to Florida tomorrow to help my brother recover from a fall. He was a bartender and has learned that during his hospital stay almost all the employees and many customers have contracted the virus.
I contacted CVS to see what is needed to qualify for their drive-through testing. They said it would require an appointment, and it would cost $150 per test (some insurances will pay some of the cost but not all). Why? Testing should be free to everyone.

Mr. Trump, I’m sure it was free for you.

Mary Kohanke
Glen

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**LETTERS**

**Bring-a-friend promotion deplorable during pandemic**

To the editor:
I am a lifelong resident of this wonderful Mount Washington Valley we are blessed to live in.
I have always had great respect and admiration for Dot Seybold and her expertise at retail development. Her apparent thoughtfulness of layout, aesthetics, marketing and profitability is matched by few.
This past weekend, the Settlers Green (of which she is the top manager) annual promotion of the “Bring a friend” Shopping Weekend(s) yet again took place.
The arrogance, irresponsibility and greed in not canceling this promoted event is a true testament of the absolute fist to the face of all residents of this area.
Promoting hordes of out-of-state people to come here in this pandemic, of which the surge of infection rate was announced in the beginning of this COVID-19 outbreak, is simply deplorable.

Michele Mead
Conway

**Della Valla has all the qualities for the John Bruni Award**

To the editor:
Recently, when the Mount Washington Economic Council was requesting nominations for the John Bruni Award, my first thought was to nominate Jessica Della Valla, the director of Project Succeed in SAU 9.
Although, there’s an age limit, (sorry Jess), the qualities for this award describe Jess to a T.
• An unwavering commitment to the valley and a deep desire to make it a better place for businesses, families and individuals.
• A person of unquestionably strong personal character. Someone who has earned the unqualified respect of his/her peers as an effective leader among profit or non-profit organizations.
• Has proven to be a strong and consistent mentor, leading others to higher achievement and greater success.
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**SCOTT from page 10a**

Community Center’s new $2.4 million building.
After almost a decade of frustration, the new center was a monument to community cooperation, remarkable generosity and perseverance on the part of the volunteer board of directors.

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**Our Little “Pot Stirrer Extraordinaire”!**

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**ERROL SIMON SMITH**

November 16, 1974
Pine Tree student wins Lions Club peace poster contest

CONWAY — Giovanna Cook-Buell, a sixth-grader at Pine Tree School in Center Conway, has taken the first step to becoming an internationally recognized artist by winning a competition sponsored by the Conway Area Lions Club.

Giovanna’s poster was among more than 600,000 entries submitted to clubs worldwide in the 33rd annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest.

The Peace Poster Contest was created in 1988 to give young people the opportunity to creatively express their feelings for world peace and to share their visions with the world,” the Lions Clubs website, lionsclubs.org, states.

“Approximately 600,000 children from 75 countries participate in the contest annually. Lions clubs sponsor the contest, open to children ages 11-13, in local schools or organized, sponsored youth groups, such as Scouts and Boys and Girls Clubs,” it said.

“The contest provides Lions with the chance to interact with young people in their communities, introducing the youth to international understanding, as well as giving Lions a vehicle for obtaining positive publicity for their clubs.”

Pine Tree School Principal Dr. Aimee Frechette said 10 students participated in the contest at the school. All of the entries were displayed on Friday as part of World Kindness Day.

“World Kindness Day is a global day that promotes the importance of being kind to each other, to yourself, and to the world,” according to the Inspire Kindness website.

“The poster contest is all about peace through service,” said Frechette. “That’s a message we strive to share with our kiddos every day.”

The posters, according to Frechette, were blind-judged by the entire school staff (meaning the artists were not identified), and then photos of all 10 entries were sent to Kathy Barry of the Conway Area Lions Club, whose members also weighed in on the top choice.

“Giovanna really did an amazing job,” Frechette said. “We think her poster is an excellent representative for our school.”

Posters were judged on their originality, artistic merit and portrayal of the contest theme, “Peace through service.”

“Giovanna’s poster will advance to face stiff competition through the district, multiple districts and international rounds of competition to declare a grand prize winner,” said Conway Area Lions Club President Alicia Gildea.

The grand prize includes a cash award of $5,000, plus a trip for the winner and two family members to an awards ceremony. The 23 merit award winners will receive a certificate and cash award of $500.

“Our club is cheering for Giovanna as her amazing poster advances in the competition, and we hope that her vision will ultimately be shared with others around the world.” Gildea said.
By Teddy Rosenbluth
CONCORD MONITOR

CONCORD — After a two-month closure in March, dentists are still seeing the economic impact on their businesses and health impact on their patients. And during the current surge of COVID-19 cases, they don’t plan on closing their doors again.

When the first wave of COVID-19 spread through the country, about 80 percent of practices in New Hampshire voluntarily closed their doors to everyone but emergency patients.

For many practices, many practices lost their incomes entirely — about half of practices in the state said they lost their incomes entirely — about 15 percent of practices in New Hampshire are operating between 85 and 95 percent of their normal capacity, according to a report from the American Dental Association.

“New Hampshire dental practices opened, not just to keep practices financially afloat but to avoid an oral health crisis. Even though New Hampshire dental practices opened sooner than much of the rest of the country, they had already seen the oral consequences,” said Joshua Ososky, president of the New Hampshire Dental Society, at his practice several patients heard upon hearing

“The biggest concern right now is catching up. Dentists are working 10-12 hour days sometimes, just to manage the volume.” — Joshua Ososky, N.H. Dental Society president

Furthermore, the pandemic created a new shortage of dental hygienists, many of whom have stayed home to care for their kids while child care remains in flux.

Dental practices aren’t unique in their financial strain — hospitals in the state have already lost hundreds of millions of dollars due to COVID-19 — but Auerbach said dentists, many of whom own their own small businesses, are especially vulnerable.

“I know it negatively impacted every practice in the state really, really dramatically,” he said. “Dental offices are small businesses, and they pay for these supplies out of pocket. That is challenging, especially when recovering from a two- to three-month hiatus.”

Early in the pandemic, Auerbach had urged officials to help keep dentist offices open, not just to keep practices financially afloat but to avoid an oral health crisis. Even though New Hampshire dental practices opened sooner than much of the rest of the country, they had already seen the oral consequences.

Joshua Ososky, president of the New Hampshire Dental Society, said at his practice several patients have had compounded dental problems because they waited to come in for care — what should have been a simple filling turned into a root canal, a patient with a cracked tooth that could have easily been mended with a crown showed up with half their tooth missing.

“Time is a factor in everything in medicine,” Ososky said.

Despite new cases surging past the numbers from March — the two-week average for new cases is higher than it has ever been in the state — Auerbach doesn’t expect dental practices to close again.

He said since March, scientists have learned enough about the best safety precautions in clinical settings to continue safely accepting clients into their offices.

Patients haven’t been deterred by the peaking numbers, either. While the number of patient visits isn’t entirely back to where they were pre-pandemic, most facilities in New Hampshire are operating between 85 and 95 percent of their normal capacity.

“The biggest concern right now is catching up,” he said. “Patients are complaining they have to wait for an appointment. Dentists are working 10-12 hour days sometimes, just to manage the volume.”

“Other practices, like Concord Family Dentistry, are still struggling to get their usual amount of patients.”

Nowadays, the dentists see about three patients an hour, down from an average of five an hour pre-pandemic.

Shannon Anderson, a receptionist at the practice, attributes it to two factors: fear of the virus and financial hardship. “A lot of patients don’t have money right now,” she said. “They’re neglecting dental work to put money elsewhere.”

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This week in the valley brought back memories of Memorial Day. Daytime temperatures in the 70s and nighttime temperatures in the 40s. Most Veterans Day weeks are icy cold, and two years ago we had snow on the ground. Mother Nature sure can keep us guessing.

Trout season in rivers, streams and designated trout ponds ends Oct. 15. There is a loophole for those who like to pursue trout. Any non-designated trout pond can be fished for trout from “ice-out to ice-in.” Here in the valley, we are fortunate to have an assortment of these ponds.

In another stroke of fortune, some of these ponds are stocked by New Hampshire Fish and Game for the upcoming ice fishing season. Fish and Game takes the brood stock trout that are no longer needed in the hatcheries and puts those fish in ponds around the state. A wise use of trout that no longer can deliver prodigy.

All the planets aligned this week. Unseasonable warm weather, brood stock trout stocking, and the majority of anglers gone to deer camp (New Hampshire firearms gun season started Nov. 11). Perfect timing for a trout fishing adventure.

There was no surprise when I arrived at the pond. The parking lot was empty. There was a lone loon at the north end of the lake. The surface of the water was smooth as glass. With a loon at the north end of the lake, I was wondering if this water had been stocked yet. Loons love to eat hapless hatchery fish.

Sitting on the tailgate of the truck and lacing up the wading shoes, I heard a splash. Looking out on the water, a rise ring had broken the see FISHING page 16a
Madison Boulder is more than a big rock

Getting outside this winter is going to be essential as we double down in various levels of seclusion. Short walks will help keep you open to the wide world. The other day, I started to drive down Route 113 from Conway toward Madison and decided to visit the Madison Boulder. I hadn’t been there in 15 years.

I soon turned right on Boulder Road and followed the signs. I parked in the small dirt parking lot. There were four cars already there, half hunters and half visitors to the boulder. I put on hunter orange, passed a gate and walked 10 minutes to the boulder, passing an extended

Madison Boulder located off Route 113. (ED PARSONS PHOTO)
family on their way back out to their two cars.

The mansion-sized boulder came into view, a gray monolith. I paused at the new kiosk to read about the geolog-
y and then walked around the boulder, touching it occasionally if lichen or stains from water caught my attention. I took some photos, and had to stand back in front of it to get the whole boulder in the frame.

I looked at the older State Park sign on the back of the kiosk, and walked back to my car.

I could end my column here, but the experience was really the tip of the iceberg. I called my friend Brian Fowler, geologist and friend of the White Mountains. A resident of Madison in the late 2000s, he was instrumental in raising money to rejuvenate the Madison Boulder property, partly from private individuals and partly from federal funds — the Madison Boulder being a National Natural Landmark — one of two in the state along with Franconia Notch State Park.

Work began with the staff of the White Lake State Park sandblasting graffiti off the boulder. A gate was put up to block the older larger parking lot. From a smaller parking lot, the road was improved for handicapped access, now an easy 10 minute walk in. A new kiosk was built by a carpentry class at Kennett High School. Lee Wilder of the New Hampshire Geological Survey wrote a brochure and information poster for the kiosk.

The story of the boulder itself is fascinating. As the Late Wisconsin Ice Sheet moved southeast, it moved smoothly up the northwest slopes of the mountains and plucked rocks from the southeastern slopes.

The Madison Boulder was originally part of Whitten Ledge on the shore of today’s Whitten Pond, a mile and a half away. This was proved by geologist Wallace Bothner, who took samples from both Whitten Ledge and another nearby ledge called B & M (railroad) Ledge. The sample from Whitten Ledge matched exactly, while the other did not.

Technically, the boulder is called a glacial erratic because it moved from one rock type to another. It now sits on a rock called Concord Granite, different from Whitten Ledge, which is Conway granite. Taking into consideration that 10 feet of it is underground, it is 23 feet high, 37 feet wide and 85 feet long, and weighs an estimated 5,963 tons.

This spring, geologist Thom Davis did a unique measurement using cosmogenic dating. With permission, he chipped a piece from the boulder and measured how long it has been exposed to the sun, or uncovered from glacial ice. The result was 13,500 plus or minus years, yesterday in geologic time.

It has been a decade since Fowler’s involvement in restoring the Madison Boulder site, but today he remains involved with the New Hampshire Division of Parks and their six geological wayside parks, including Madison Boulder, the Old Man of the Mountain Memorial Park in Franconia Notch, Chesterfield Gorge in Chesterfield, Sculptured Rocks in Hebron, Mount Pisgah in Swanzey, and Plummer’s Ledge in Wentworth.

Steve Angers, a native to the Conway area, is the author of the book “Fly Fishing New Hampshire’s Secret Waters” and operates the North Country Angler.
New England Musicians Relief Fund launches new funding drive

New England Musicians Relief Fund has launched a new fundraising drive and hopes to distribute $200,000 to musicians in need in time for the holidays.

NEMRF was created in 2020 to help musicians dealing with the financial strain that the pandemic has put on the entertainment industry. Any musician in New England and New York’s Upper Hudson Valley facing financial difficulties can apply for a grant at NEMRF.org/apply.

The crisis is deepening for professional musicians across the region. Money from the CARES Act has run out and additional government support doesn’t seem likely anytime soon. The financial strain has many facing difficult choices.

“Eight months in, push is coming to shove. For some of us, it is already ‘game over.’ For others, it is a struggle to redefine what we do. For all of us, it is a question of who we are and what we serve,” said violinist and single mom Katherine Winterstein. “It is no longer a question of endurance as much as it is a question of whether or not we can meaningfully adapt to the limited set of options in this new world. It’s hard to even consider those questions when basic survival is still on the line.”

“We’re facing a winter, and possibly longer, of no work and no income. I’m very concerned,” says legendary vocalist Wanda Houston of the Berkshires.

“The future seems so bleak that I’m just trying not to think about it,” said Boston based violinist Zoya Tsvetkova. “I hear a symphony on the radio or TV and I start to cry. If I didn’t have a 2-year-old, I’d consider getting another job, but we can’t afford childcare on my husband’s salary alone.”

Winterstein, Houston and Tsvetkova’s stories are like those of countless other professional musicians across New England. Many are freelance workers who count on the holidays to make the bulk of their yearly earnings, but this year, COVID restrictions mean that concert halls, theaters, see NEMRF page 19a

SHOOTING MATCH

EATON — The 11th annual law enforcement appreciation match will be held Friday, Nov. 27, noon until dusk, Saturday, Nov. 28, from 9 a.m. to dusk and Sunday, Nov. 29, from 9 a.m. until dusk at a popular site in Eaton, the shooting range at Eugene Long’s house.

All law enforcement officers, fish and game rescuers, firefighters and ambulance rescue drivers will compete free, at no charge. Friends of those who defend and protect us will pay a $10 fee. The general public is invited to compete.

see SHOOTING MATCH page 19a

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Cook Library to organize winter wear share

In the last couple of weeks, there has been both wintry weather, with a snowstorm in some locations on Election Day, and incredible summer-like weather for several days in the wake of a safe voting in-person experience.

When I arrived at the K.A. Brett School on Election Day, I waited in line for a few minutes and then was greeted by the Moderator Chris Canfield and was speedily guided through the process by the election workers. Thanks to everyone who worked tirelessly to make voting safe and easy. Congratulations to everyone who ran for office regardless of the outcome and thanks for speedily removing all the signs.

Veterans Day was warm and sunny and a substantial crowd of masked participants and observers gathered at The Veterans’ Memorial at the Four Corners. A short ceremony that included an explanation of how Veterans’ Day began with a change from Armistice Day from the end of World War I to Veterans’ Day with an executive order by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Thanks so much to the Boy Scouts and especially to Library Director Mary Cronin for making this event possible.

Cook Memorial Library will be organizing a winter wear share for Saturday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m. to noon outside the library. All donated items will be set aside to quarantine for at least 72 hours before the share. Come find coats, hats, mittens and other clean, warm winter outerwear donated by neighbors. Please observe CDC precautions and use the provided hand sanitizer before making any selections.

If you missed the drinking water workshop on Nov. 10, Green Mountain Conservation Group’s Tara Schroeder has made a recording available. Go on tamworthlibrary.org for information.

Beginning, Wednesday, Nov. 4, the Transfer Station Hours changed to 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday.

Looking for tips on how to identify some common shrubs and trees during the winter months? Without their leaves, trees can seem daunting to identify, but with a little practice and some tips on what to look for, identification can be easier than you think — and winter twigs and buds are beautiful up close!

Tamworth History Center’s beautiful 2021 calendars are available for sale at The Other Store. If you haven’t purchased one yet, get one before they’re gone.

On Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 7 p.m. join the Chocorua Lake Conservancy for “Winter Trees in Your Forest,” a live online presentation via the Cook Memorial Library in Tamworth. Lynne Flaccus, Chocorua Lake Conservancy stewardship director and naturalist, will use twig samples and photos in this Zoom program to explore twigs, bark and tree silhouettes to help with identification. To access the talk, go to chocorualake.org or go to the Chocorua Lake Conservancy Facebook events.

Many local churches are live-streaming events to keep our community spiritually connected. St. Andrew’s in the Valley is offering Sunday worship services via Facebook. For more information, go to standrewsinthevalley.blogspot.com. If you prefer to join via Zoom, email the Rev. Caroline Hines at rectorsait@gmail.com for link and password. The Rev. Ann Cady sings for the services. Online Sunday Worship Services via Zoom. Go to uufes.com for the calendar.

ArtWorks Gallery is open Monday, Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment Call (603) 323-8041 or go to chocorua.artworks@gmail.com for more information.

Batter Up Bakery: Open Wednesday through Sunday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for takeout and two inside tables by reservation; offering baked goods, sandwiches and beverages. Call (603) 986-3326 for more details.

Chocorua Public Library: Open Sunday 1 to 5 p.m., Monday 1 to 7 p.m. and Thursday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Computers are available with 30-minute limit. The library’s Stash-busters computer lab meets on Mondays at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Runnells Hall. Please enter through the library, wear a mask. Free WiFi access on patio or in parking lot.

The Community Food Center is open Sunday through Sunday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. with seniors 60 and over with delivery to their homes; menu is posted on The Tamworth Facebook events. For more information, email: tamworthlibrary.org or call the office at (603) 323-8510.

Highland House is offering meals to go this fall and winter, schedule varies. For more information, email: highlandhouse@gmail.com.

Kittie’s Antiques is open Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Email glp@nhland.com for more information.

Ossipee Concerned Citizens: Dining room closed; take-out meals are available Monday through Friday for seniors 60 and over with delivery to the Tamworth Town House on Mondays. Call (603) 539-6772 for details.

New Hampshire Mushroom Co. is open. Contact Stephanie for hours and/or more info at nhmcsales@gmail.com or call (603) 323-0097.

The Other Store: Open for curbside pickup 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Cafe takeout orders are now available Monday through Friday for seniors 60 and over with delivery to the Tamworth Town House on Mondays. Call (603) 539-6772 for details.

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Rosie’s Restaurant: Dining room open, takeout available. Open 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily (except Sunday until noon). Call (603) 323-8611 for more information.

Scandinavian Baking: Open Tuesday through Saturday. Call (603) 323-2021 for more information.

Steele Farm: Call Helen at (603) 323-8787 for product availability.

Tamworth Community Nurses Association: Now open to inside patient visits via the back door of the town office. Call the office at (603) 323-8511 or go to tamworth-nurses.org/post/reopening-announcement for more details.

Tamworth Community School: To-go meals and local beef products in the farmstand. Giving Thanks Meals, holiday pies and wreaths available for pre-order. Contact lianne.prentice@gmail.com for more information.

Tamworth Distilling: Open for shopping and special events Thursday noon to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Thanksgiving pies and spirit pairings available. Go to tamworthdistilling.com for more information.

Tamworth Economic Development Commission’s website provides resources for businesses and the public. Go to tamworth-edc.com.

Tamworth Farmers’ Market is open in the K.A. Brett School parking lot every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon, outside. Call Bob Streeter, market manager, at (603) 323-2368 for more information.

Tamworth History Center: Go to tamworthhistorycenter.org.

Tamworth Police Department: There is currently no public access. Call (603) 323-8581 or dispatch at (603) 539-2284 for assistance.

Tamworth Recreation Department: All recreation activities are suspended until further notice. Please send items for this column to annimac419@gmail.com.

This year, prizes will be American-produced firearms: The Glock model 44 (made in USA), the Ruger Security 9, from a N.H. company, the Sig 367, a N.H. company, and the S&W EZ .380 made in New England. So if you know a cop, firefighter, ambulance driver, or Fish and Game officer, call him or her and thank them for defending us and invite them to the match.

They will be honored that you appreciate them and you will give them to opportunity to compete for first class made in America products.

There will be three types of matches, handgun, rifle and shotgun.

The date selected will not be beholden to weather conditions, as our defenders do not get to choose the weather when they fulfill their obligations. A good shot can shoot in rain, hail, sleet, or snow.
Barbara Clark Denyer passed peacefully away at the Poet’s Seat Health Care Center on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020, after a period of failing health.

She was surrounded by loving family and caregivers.

Born in Austin, Texas, in 1925, she soon found her calling as an artist, studying at the University of Texas and the Arts Student’s League in New York City.

Later in life, she worked tirelessly on historical preservation projects in Irvington, N.Y., where she lived for 58 years, while producing a substantial body of art work. She loved the search for knowledge and had an endless questioning mind.

Her sense of humor was an integral part of her and nothing was beyond its range. A generous mother and grandmother, friend and mentor, her inventiveness, warmth and engagement will be missed by her family and all who knew her.

A devoted daughter, she cared for her mother until her death in 1996. She loved her Great Danes, Baskerville, Zeus and Luna, and her Shar-pei Hu.

Barbara is survived by her daughters, Lauri Marder, Stephanie Denyer and Anne Detzer; grandchildren, Gabrial, Darius, Ursa, Ben and Abe Marder; and Emerson Clarke; Cosmo and Gus Diener; and great-grandchildren, Asa and Ezra Marder and Nova Marder; and her brother Fred, Jr. Burial was at Valleau Cemetery in Ridgewood, N.J., on Oct. 31. Officiated by Smith-Kelleher Funeral Home of Greenfield, Mass.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to the American Civil Liberties Union.

To read more about Barbara, go to thehudsonindependent.com/irvington-icon-barbara-denyer-honored-for-decades-of-service.

There will be a memorial to be arranged at Barbara’s house when the bans have been lifted.

In reflecting on his years at The Wright, Thurston said he cannot help but remember times spent with David, whom he described as “a gentleman.”

“He was a little man who smoked a cigarette and ate hot dogs everyday for lunch,” he recounted. “He wore his baseball cap with the Wright Museum written on it. We’re all fortunate because he was here.”

Culver agreed and said The Wright is equally fortunate for the work performed by Thurston over the years.

“The Wright would not be what it is today without the support of many people, including John, who has gone above and beyond the call of duty on many occasions,” he said.

Thurston added, “The places I have created around town are from the heart … I love my town and want it to be beautiful.”

As for the future, he said he is not sure what it will bring, as he said things in life build on each other in Wolfeboro.

“I will read a lot and continue to educate myself and learn from other people,” he said.

To learn more about the Remembrance Garden, made possible by financial contributions from Dan Marrene, Meredith Village Savings Bank, Northeast Delta Dental and John Warner, visit wrightmuseum.org.
Bartlett Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Albany Ave/Bear Notch at US 302
603-374-2718
Rev. Andy Jepson • Ellen Hayes, Music Ministry

YOU'RE WELCOME HERE
No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are On Your Life Journey

Physically distanced worship service Sunday at 10 am at the church.
Please wear a mask.

JOURNEY church
Pastor Trevor Skalberg
15 Hutchins Drive | Conway

MEETING ON-SITE
Sundays at 8:30 & 10:30 AM
or join us ONLINE at 10:30 every Sunday
www.conwayjourney.com
603.447.5068

The Conway Village Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
132 Main Street, Conway, NH 03818
603-447-3851
www.thebrownchurch.org
Minister: Rev. John G. Hughes II

Sunday, November 12th
Worship Service 10:00 AM

Scripture:
1 Thessalonians: 1:11; Matthew 25:14-30;
Psalm 123

Sermon:
“Hoarding for God?”

Sunday Service will be held in a Zoom Meeting format. If you wish to connect, please email
cvccwebteam@gmail.com
to access our meeting number and password.

The Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays, 9am to 1:00pm by appointment only. Please call to schedule 603-447-3851.

Glen Community Baptist Church
38 US Route 302, PO Box 279, Glen, NH 03838
603-383-9223
Pastor Thomas J. Bard

Sunday, 10:00am: Sunday School
11:00am: Morning Worship
6:00pm: Evening Service
Wednesday, 7:00 pm: Prayer Meeting

Preaching Christ Crucified ~ Risen ~ Coming Again

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
North Conway

SUNDAY ZOOM SERVICE
10:00 AM

All are Welcome!
Please leave a request for Zoom invite with your name, phone, and email at 603-356-3062 by Friday.

www.christchurchnorthconway.com

St. Margaret’s Anglican Church
85 Pleasant Street, Conway
447-2404
www.stmargaretconway.org
Rev. Brad Mathias, Rector
Tracy Gardner, Deaconess, Organist & Choir Director

A Orthodox, Evangelical Anglican Parish Family
“To Preach the Gospel, To Teach the Gospel and To Live the Gospel”

SUNDAYS 10:00 AM - HOLY EUCHARIST
THURSDAYS - HOLY COMMUNION AND FELLOWSHIP MEAL 4:30 PM
SUNDAY SERVICES ARE ALSO ON OUR WEBSITE
WWW.STMARGARETCONWAY.ORG

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL
Live stream service via our website and Facebook page.

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

Sunday, November 15
Sermon:
“Look to an Acorn” by Rev. John Hogue

Special Veterans Day Recognition Sunday

Special Music:
Solo by Richard Goss, “In Flanders Field”.
“Taps” played by special guest, Dana Russian on the trumpet. Recognition of the anthems for each branch of the Military.

2521 Main St., No. Conway • 356-2124
churchoffice@firstchurchme.com
Home of Vaughan Community Service, Inc.
Gear up, gather ’round or grab every day essentials at Settlers Crossing. Foliage season is the perfect time to enjoy the best of fall. Try out a stunning new dark color at Katie’s Nails or indulge in a pumpkin spiced latte from Starbucks. Settlers Crossing is also home to Books A Million, Black Cap Grille and Spectrum.
DEAR ABBY: Ten months ago, my aunt’s 66-year-old live-in boyfriend died unexpectedly. She has no children and is left with a four-bedroom, two-bathroom house to take care of by herself. She has always been in debt (I think), and his final expenses only made it worse.

Since his death, she has expected my family (mostly me) to complete things are acceptable and naturally when you don’t expect you to change your mind, let alone change it three or four times, but some things are acceptable and naturally when you’re finding your way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You get inspiration from multiple sources — the passing clouds, a picture that triggers a memory, the song on the radio, all channeled into sorting your feelings about someone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Are you the most qualified person to assess your current situation? The jury is still out. An outsider will either help you understand something you didn’t before or validate your own view of it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). In games of cat and mouse, the mouse needs to disappear sometimes, thereby stopping the chase and creating in the cat an excited sense of anticipation for the next surprise appearance.

TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 14). Often you don’t know what to do next, so you act on impulse. Sometimes, it’s hard to think of the right ways to coach. Make the effort to figure it out though because progress depends on consistent self-encouragement.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). An exercise: Let your mind do funhouse mirror trickery on a situation and some scary, interesting, hilarious and creative ideas come of it. Then leave the funhouse and the mirrors, and see it in the light of day.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You’ve been known to think about what would be the most attractive move, and there are other times when you just don’t worry about it and do only what you want. Either way works now, but you have to commit fully to it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22). When you’re in it, telling yourself to do the next correct move, courage naturally flows. It is not until later, when you look back, that you will realize just how brave it is to live admirably in daily life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21). Being supportive to yourself might not be your first instinct. Sometimes, it’s hard to think of the right ways to coach. Make the effort to figure it out though because progress depends on consistent self-encouragement.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are typically so steady that people around you don’t expect you to change your mind, let alone change it three or four times, but some things are acceptable and naturally when you’re finding your way.

Go for Gold by Daniel Larsen and The Wave Learning Festival Crossword Class

ACROSS
1 Drift, as an aroma
2 Dr. Holm who played Bibi
9 Site once called AuctionWeb
12 Turn like a Rocket
15 Smartphone
16 Predecessor, for short
17 Lower limit for a product’s cost
19 Assistant
20 Fortune-telling deck
21 Hoppy beer
22 Avid annex official
23 "Emergency seed bank in Norway
27 Easy target in hockey
29 Seaport (L.A.)
30 Green legumes
31 Usually unrelated sisters
32 Fiber—— cable
33 Sub, for some immigrants
35 Ray that ancient

1 Greek's believed drew water into the sky
4 Water that's in the sky
42 Cocktail with cranberry juice, informally
44 Mark for life
45 European mountain
47 Praise exaggeratedly
49 *Hershey's treats
50 Tree branch
56 "Mr. Robot" network
57 Bellwether state in many elections
61 Olympic sport suggested by the starred answers' ends
64 Olives
66 Tones for a black-and-white image
67 Purple hibiscus
68 Blit's "I'm off!
69 Signing implement

6 Equitable agreements
7 Magnates
8 UV-blocking letters
9 Olive product
10 Steer clear of
11 Troopa (ruminant)
13 Male enemy
15 Download for a certain tablet
16 French farewell
18 2020 French Open winner Rafael
20 Calorie stack
21 Shipped
22 English boy's school
23 List of course offerings
25 Leaves speechless
26 Fina-—— (appealing quality)
27 Grp. that includes Iran and Iraq
28 Mexican money
29 Network behind Peacock
30 Bobby who co-founded the Black Panthers
31 Response to good news
32 "Obie" of the-—— Black music
33 Unaccompanied

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I bought a house and moved in literally the day COVID was announced as a national emergency. I had planned to go around to our new neighbors and introduce ourselves, perhaps with a small gift (I'm a professional baker). That obviously hasn't been possible. We've had some over-the-fence interactions with a couple of neighbors, but I feel bad I haven't reached out to the others.

My husband and I are private, introverted people, but I still want to make ourselves known as approachable. Is it too late? What's the protocol on introducing yourselves to neighbors? Given that everything is in flux and we still don't know if it's safe, I don't want to let that become an excuse to put it off indefinitely. — NEIGHBORLY IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR NEIGHBORLY: It is not too late. A charming way to introduce yourselves would be a deliver — or have delivered — a small plant to each of your neighbors, with a short note explaining that you are new to the community, you are a professional baker and you regret that the quarantine makes it impossible to reach out in a more personal way. Be sure to include your address and phone number.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I love my aunt, and she has done a lot for me over the years. I really need to do something for her. Of course, she should run the idea by her attorney or accountant now too much for her to handle alone, it might make sense for her to others frame the situation for you. If you or feature instead of a problem.

Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 1, 13, 20 and 6.

Those who survived the fall would learn to call first.
POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Equipment Operator/Laborer
w/snow removal experience preferred
Must be reliable

Contact L. A. Drew, Inc.
603-356-6351 or
email info@ladrew.com

‘Float’ Registered Nurse
Conway School District

The Conway School District is seeking a licensed Registered Nurse for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, substituting for school nurse staff as needed as well as supporting our school nurses with the current COVID-19 protocols and contact tracing.

This is a contracted position w/o benefits. The ideal candidate will be available to work 5 days/week, 7 hours/day (M-F) from now until June 2021 (schedule flexibility available). Proper training and PPE equipment will be supplied. Must complete and pass a criminal background check. Pay is $250/day.

To apply, please send Letter of Interest, Resume, License and Certificate of insurance to:

Conway School District
Attn: Mr. Kevin Richard, Superintendent of Schools
176A Main Street | Conway, NH 03818
Contact Pam Stimpson, Director of Special Services at p_stimpson@sau9.org or 603-447-8951 with questions.

STATE LINE STORE
is a locally owned small business looking to hire a
Cashier Associate.
FULL/PART TIME - ALL SHIFTS AVAILABLE

BENEFITS:
Flexible Schedule - Competitive Pay - Cash/Fuel Bonus -
Holiday Pay - Matching Funds for Retirement

TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
• Interacts with our customer base, providing outstanding customer care.
• Receives customer transactions, records sales, payment, and invites the customer to return.
• Stacks shelves, coolers and other areas with merchandise.
• Maintains floor area of the store which includes cleaning, dusting, mopping.
• Maintains a neat and clean personal appearance.
• Maintains a positive attitude
• Other duties as assigned

PHYSICAL: Position requires bending, standing, and walking the entire workday. Must have the ability to lift 10 pounds frequently and up to 30 pounds occasionally.

EXPERIENCE & SKILLS: Enjoy working with people. Understands and follows all company procedures. Possesses a strong work ethic and is highly dependable. Demonstrates above average customer service and a team player.

Come Join our Fantastic Team 😊

APPLY IN PERSON AT 3274 E MAIN ST, CT. CONWAY
OR SEND RESUME TO SCRIB33@GMAIL.COM

GREEN MOUNTAIN
Rifle Barrel Co. Inc.

We are one of the biggest independent barrel manufacturers in the country and we are looking to add to our team. Accepting applications for the following positions:

Entry Level Machine Operators
Experienced CNC Machine Operators
Quality Control Inspectors
CNC Technician/Maintenance

Please contact the company via email at the address above or by phone to schedule a time to come in.

EOE

To apply contact Kerry Smith at
603-447-1095 ext. 318 or
ksmith@gmriflebarrel.com

WAU#9 Career Opportunities

Conway School District
• Bus Driver—Free training
• ECE Sp. Ed. Teacher (50%)
• School Psychologist
• Kenneth High School
• French Teacher (50%)*
• Special Education Teacher
• Program Aide *2 openings
• JV Baseball Coach
• Josciah Bartlett Elementary
• Technology Coordinator
• MS Basketball Coach (Girls)
• Classroom Aide
• Long-Term Sub Grade 2/3
• Baseball Coach (Girls)
• Pine Tree Elementary School
• Long-Term Substitute
• Kindergarten/Gr. 1 Teacher
• Long-Term Substitute
• Elementary Teacher
• Title I Aide (50%)

John Fuller Elem. School
• Art Teacher (60%)
• 1:1 Special Education Aide
• Kenneth Middle School
• Music Teacher (50%)
• Long-Term Sub Counselor
• Custodian 2nd Shift
• 1:1 Special Education Aide
• Basketball Coach (Girls)

Jackson Grammar School
• Long-Term Sub Teacher

FMI and to apply: sau9.org and click on the “Careers” icon. EOE

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
FOR DEPARTMENT CLERK

Seeking to hire a positive, motivated individual interested in working on the retail floor to join our team. This person must be dependable, have good organizational skills, phone and person to person communication skills and can provide customer service using established retail standards.

The position requires assisting customers with product knowledge and selection, weekly ordering, stocking and merchandising.

We offer a clean work environment and a regular weekly schedule. We are interested in hiring to fill part time and full time year round positions. The full time position has benefits of paid vacation, holiday pay and a simple IRA plan.

If interested, please send a resume to Lucy Hardware.

Lucy Hardware
Jess Spaulding
PO Box 810, Interlaken, NH 03845
or email: jess@lucyhardware.com

NO phone calls please.
Help Wanted

Nordic Village Resort
Full time and part time housekeeping positions available. Reliable transportation needed, willing to train. Please stop by and fill out an application at our rental office located on Route 16, Jackson.

Help Wanted

HELP WANTED Plumbers, Heat Techs, Laborers Call Federal Piping Co. Inc. 207-924-7826 or 603-539-5826

Are you looking for a fun place to work? Do you want to be more involved in your community? The MSAD 72 School District in Fryeburg, ME has a variety of anticipated and current positions available! We are an E.O.E. See our website www.msad72.org for specifics and to learn how to apply.

AUTOTECHNICIANS WANTED
Job opportunity all skill levels busy automotive shop looking for auto techs full time five day work week weekends off pay - tbd send resume to: denuto@71m.com call for an interview 207-935-3883 *or just stop in Dennis Automotive Fryeburg, ME.

CRANMORE FOOD AND BEVERAGE
Now hiring hosts, cooks, cashiers, food servers and supervisors for the winter season. Great work environment and ski for free! Call 603-356-5543 x239 or email sabrina.rennie@centerplate.com for more information.

Help Wanted

EXPERIENCED EVENING SERVERS
The Inn at Thorn Hill in Jackson is recruiting experienced evening servers. Please contact paub@innathornhill.com or stop by and submit an application or resume.

Growing limousine service looking for part-time positions. Offering structured and flexible hours. Must have a clean driving record and able to pass drug test as well as enjoying working with people in a professional environment. Please contact Chuck at 603-989-1486.

MAISON
Commercial experience need only apply. Steady work through winter in N Conway, NH. Reliable, team player, pay commensurate with experience, quality, and production. Call office (603)383-9740 or email stani@tds.net.

Mason Tender/ Laborer
Experience preferred but not necessary. Must have license and transportation, be reliable, team player, willingness to listen and learn. Year round work for right individual willing to work. Some travel required. Pay commensurate with experience. Call office (603)383-9740 or email stani@tds.net.

PEACH’S RESTAURANT
EXP COOK FT, GREAT PAY
Looking for full or part time bussiness host. Call 603-396-5560, or stop by, or email: stapinski31@yahoo.com.

SIDING INSTALLATION
Installers needed. Wood, vinyl, will train. Must have transportation. Part time $16/hr starting. If interested call Josh 603-986-9274

SMALL CARPET INSTALLATION
13x19 replacement needed in Glen. Quick cash job. 850-505-2033.

Home Improvements

All-Star BUILDERS, LLC

PAINTING/HANDYMAN
Painting and odd jobs around the house. Full time job. Call 207-880-6778 ask for Corey.

Help Wanted

TRUCK DRIVER
Wanted at Redden Trucking to haul chips & logs. Offering paid holidays & vacation. To apply call 603-939-2492.

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN
Our low cost spay/neuter clinic in Conway, NH is seeking to expand our team. We are looking for an experienced technician to join us. Applicants should be motivated, positive, enthusiastic self-starter and a fast learner. Must have experience working with other farms and are have experience in the veterinary field. We are willing to train a strong base. Part or full time. Please email terricon@roaddrunner.com or call 603-356-9176

ECHO Group
Echo is one of the best employers in the Mt. Washington Valley and we are growing! With nearly 40 years of success in developing behavioral health software applications, ECHO provides the industry's finest software.

REVENUE CYCLE SPECIALIST
Join our Revenue Cycle Management team! Revenue Cycle Specialists are responsible for billing, accounts receivable, and payment tasks throughout the revenue cycle. Previous medical and/or behavioral health billing experience a plus but not required.

Visit echobb.com/careers for a detailed job description. Email your resume: kendall.donaldson@echobb.com

Help Wanted

ON SEMESTER BREAK OR TAKING CLASSES ON-LINE?
JOIN OUR TEAM!

We are hiring self-motivated and enthusiastic team members to join our Resort Housekeeping Departments.

Flexible Day & Evening Shifts available for Full-Time/Part-Time Room Attendants

Competitive Wages

Benefits include holiday pay, use of resort amenities, and winter activities.

*** Housing Available ***

Contact Vicki Chase, Human Resource Manager
603-356-6321 x6432 vickichase@easternslopeinn.com

Our Resorts adhere to the CDC and NH State guidelines for safe practices due to COVID-19.

Help Wanted

TRUCK DRIVER
Wanted at Redden Trucking to haul chips & logs. Offering paid holidays & vacation. To apply call 603-939-2492.

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603-356-6321 x6432 vickichase@easternslopeinn.com

Our Resorts adhere to the CDC and NH State guidelines for safe practices due to COVID-19.

Help Wanted

Hannaford

We have the recipe for success, and you’re the main ingredient!

Whether you’re just looking to earn a little extra cash money, or start a promising career!

Hannaford in North Conway, NH, is currently hiring Front End Cashiers & Service Associates, starting at 15 years of age.

Also multiple positions available for 16 years of age & older throughout the store.

$2.00/hr site premium will be paid to all Front End & Hannford To Go Associates at the North Conway location only through December 2021.

Email: timothy.french@hannaford.com

Apply at hannaford.com/careers

Search zip code 03860

Hannaford is an equal opportunity employer.
Established and expanding CPA firm is looking for an Administrative Assistant to join its customer service team. Qualified candidates must be able to multi-task, exhibit strong interpersonal skills and have a working knowledge of Microsoft Office applications. Part-time applicants will be considered. Position offers a competitive salary and a pleasant work environment. Send resume to Katelyn Quint, 481 White Mountain Highway, Conway, NH 03818.

TOWN OF FREEDOM HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Highway Department is seeking a qualified individual in road maintenance. Applicant must have a CDL Class B, experience with snow plowing and operating equipment. This is a full-time position with a competitive benefits package including health & dental insurance, eye care, paid holidays, vacation, sick time, and uniforms.

We are also seeking to fill a part-time position from November 15, 2020 to May 1, 2021. The qualified individual must have experience in snow removal.

Applications are available at the Town Office, 33 Old Portland Road, PO Box 227, Freedom, NH 03836 or can be emailed to towadm@freedomtown.net.

Both positions will be open until filled.

The Town of Freedom is an equal opportunity employer.

Mechanic Position Mt. Washington Auto Road

The Mt. Washington Auto Road is looking for a mechanic. Applicants must work well with others, adapt to new circumstances quickly and have a strong mechanical aptitude. Duties include but are not limited to: maintaining our fleet of stage cars, working on small engines, keeping our roadways safe, repairing and maintaining tracks on snow coaches, and working on our snowcats. You will work at a variety of businesses in a beautiful location and you will never be bored. If you think you are up to the challenge, fill out an application on our website

Contact Kevin Devine at kevin@mt-washington.com

Looking for a fantastic place to work? Currently we are hiring for the below listed positions! Maintenance Associate • Cook

If you are the candidate we have been looking for, please contact the individual below for more details.

**MAINTENANCE:**
Mr. Chad Dagleymple
EMAIL: cdagleymple@greenmounntreatment.com
PHONE: 603-730-2749

**COOK:**
Mr. Chris Ciardella
EMAIL: cciardella@greenmountauntreatment.com
PHONE: 781-367-3410

Our positions are FULL-TIME employment, offer competitive salaries and include a complete health benefits package. Please be sure to include your current resume and best contact information for immediate consideration.
members on Easter Sunday March 26, 1967, when they airlifted downed South Vietnamese (Army Republic of Vietnam, or ARVN) and American troops in a “hot LZ (Landing Zone)” surrounded by Viet Cong in the Mekong Delta.

Dave passed on Nov. 18 last year after experiencing health difficulties the night of Nov. 11 — yes, Veterans Day night. He never regained consciousness.

But as everyone sang “God Bless America” in the park Wednesday, as I was thinking of my naturalist, helicopter-flying brilliant-minded brother, I gazed up and saw a group of starlings darting about overhead, high above the American flagpole, almost in military precision that any group of Blue Angels or Thunderbird pilots would be happy to emulate.

It made me think not only of Dave but of all the 58,000 who never made it back home from Vietnam, and all of those who have served in our other conflicts to make this country great — truly great (not great again).

I spoke later with other Army veterans, including Vietnam veterans David L. Patch of Bartlett and Peter Fresco of West Ossipee. David is a member of the Honor Guard. As I reported in Thursday’s Sun, David said as he has gotten older, he realizes even more how great were the sacrifices of those young men who fought in Vietnam, and all of whom have come before and since.

He also reiterated a comment he shared with me a year ago following my brother Dave’s death, noting that “for those of us who were there, his ‘Outlaws’ book was the most accurate depiction of what it was like.”

Pretty high praise. I wish I could let Dave know — but somehow, I am sure he does.

I recently visited his resting place at the New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, a beautiful cemetery. Dave’s headstone has the Celtic cross and bears the inscription, “CPT US Army, Vietnam, Silver Star, Beloved Father, Friend, Brother; Free to Fly.”

My other late brother Steve always felt the book—which is available on Amazon—would have made a great movie. Friend Suzanne Westhall (who is a television producer) says she would still like to make that happen — now, wouldn’t that be something? We’ll see.

I also hope that my friends at WMWV 93.5-FM will honor Dave’s passing with a playing Nov. 18 of one of his “Country Ecology” radio essays to remind his many followers of what we lost when he passed.

At the conclusion of Wednesday’s ceremonies, I spoke with 10th Mountain Division two-tour Afghanistan veteran Capt. Ray Gilmore of Bartlett, who recently ran an unsuccessful but honorable race as a Republican for state rep. Ray shared that after you’ve seen combat, it puts everything in perspective and that disagreements are just that, politics, not war.

And that’s the spirit with which I left the park — that despite our differences, we are Americans and the things that bind us far outweigh our differences. Here’s to an America that stands united, committed to overcoming this virus and the challenges before us, ever-striving for that more perfect union.

And yes, “God Bless America.” Mask up; everyone; stay safe; and rest in peace, Brother Dave, this first anniversary of your passing.

SEE YOU at the Eastern Slope Ski Club’s 50th sale today, and at the Mount Washington Radio Group-Vaughan Food Drive 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Nov. 18 — remember, no food this year, only checks and cash as that will enable Vaughan to purchase food at the N.H. Food Bank on a 2-to-1 ratio for five local food pantries. Tune in to WMWV 93.5-FM for the live coverage.

IN HAPPY BIRTHDAYS this week, we salute one and all, including Cannell’s Country Store’s Kristen McGonigle Santuccio (today); New England Ski Museum downhill diva Vicki Johnson MacDougall (11-15); Tamworth’s Gail Farrell Marrone (11-16); Mud Bowl Hall of Famer and Jen’s Friends volunteer Mike Lynch and Stephanie Pavao Madden (11-17); gifted singer and minister Mary Edes and Minuteman Press’ curling-loving Pat Kittle (11-18); Red Sox fan MaryAnn Dunfey (11-19); and HEB’s community-serving civil engineer Josh McAllister, Kristen Charest and Laura McGinty Blundo (11-20); and all others.

Kennett High graduate Abby Lyman (left), 18, performed taps on her bugle at Wednesday’s Veterans Day observances in North Conway’s Schouler Park. She is shown with American Legion Post 95 Honor Guard member David L. Patch, 74, of Bartlett, a U.S. Army Vietnam War veteran. (TOM EASTMAN PHOTO)
When I moved to New England in 1977, there were no cross country centers or groomed trails near Keene. Friends introduced me to Nordic skiing by taking me out on backroads and snowmobile trails. The idea of paying to ski seemed ludicrous!

Since then, I’ve come to appreciate what goes into running a cross-country center and why it’s necessary to charge the trail users. The amount charged is minimal compared to downhill ski areas, and it all goes to a good cause. It supports grooming, trail maintenance, land agreements, and staff that make a cross country ski area operate smoothly.

As it states on Jackson Ski Touring’s website, “When you commit to Jackson XC with a season pass your dollar goes further for yourself, for the Touring Center and for your fellow skiers. Season pass purchases let Jackson XC plan our business operations over the course of a season instead of day-to-day/hour-to-hour. Each dollar earned through season pass sales, trail passes and more goes back into Jackson XC. This helps us continue to maintain, grow and improve our trail network.”

Mount Washington Valley Ski Touring and Snowshoe Foundation urges people to support them “by purchasing a season pass, daily memberships, participation in our events or make a tax-deductible donation online. Your support is needed to help us continue to achieve our goals.”

Cross-country centers need money for grooming, equipment, and trail maintenance. Operating their centers and paying their staff takes revenue. There are fuel, electricity and other bills to be paid, too. Season and day pass sales help pay the bills.

Many of the local Nordic centers are nonprofit organizations or family-run operations. Their goals are not to make huge profits, but to make enough money to support themselves while providing quality ski experiences. I don’t think anybody gets rich running a cross country area.

Day pass or season pass? If you like to ski at a particular touring center most of the time, a season pass might be the best and cheapest alternative. Once you have the pass, you can go anytime you want. Many local centers offer special “early season” discounts if you buy your pass either at the end of the past season or just before the start of the new season.
Because of COVID-19, this year it makes even more sense to purchase a season’s pass early and save money. Many Nordic centers have online purchasing so you don’t have to go to the centers. Once you have your season’s pass, access the trails from any point and avoid crowds near lodges. It gives you the freedom to plan your “social distancing.”

If you like to ski at different Nordic centers, you might opt to buy day passes. Many of those will available online, too, so you can avoid going inside touring center buildings. You can choose where you go depending on conditions, time, and convenience. Some years, snow is good in some spots, but thin in others. This option gives more flexibility.

Factors to consider when buying a season’s pass: 1. Where do you like to ski, what kind of trails do you prefer, and how much terrain do you need? Do you want to take your dogs or children? 2. How much can you pay? 3) What’s convenient to you or how far do you want to drive? 4) Are there any extra benefits to the pass — ski shop, clinic or lesson discounts, guest passes or reciprocal passes at other areas?

Once you’ve considered these factors, either go online or to the center to purchase your pass — the earlier the better and cheaper!

In Mount Washington Valley, we are fortunate to have six Nordic centers. Each one is unique and offers its own blend of cross country ski and snowshoe experiences.

Below, I’ve listed them all and given information about their adult and senior season ski ticket prices, and early season specials, as well as additional benefits to season pass holders I found on their websites.


Bretton Woods Nordic Center. Website: tinyurl.com/tcvozw4. Call (603) 278-3322. Terrain: 100K. According to its website, “Bretton Woods has currently suspended all season pass sales for the 2020-21 winter season.” I’ll try to get more information about this and will add it to a future article. In the meantime, check with them about season passes.

Great Glen Trails in Pinkham Notch. Website: tinyurl.com/upgdty4. Call (603) 466-3988. Terrain: 45K. Adult (ages 18-61) season pass is $125, before Dec. 1, $150 after Dec. 1. Senior (62-plus) season pass before Dec. 1 is $75, $100 after Dec. 1. First-time pass-holders get a 50 percent off deal — adults, $75, seniors, $50. Benefits include unlimited use, with no blackout dates, to the Great Glen trail system for skiing, snowshoeing, and fat biking (condition dependent), 10 percent off all in-stock, non-sale items at Great Glen Outfitters, free use of showers, discounts on events and races and one 50 percent off ticket for the Mt. Washington SnowCoach. In addition, season pass holders can ski at Jackson Ski Touring Center in Jackson for just $5 until Dec. 31.

season pass and ski for only $5. This cooperative arrangement is valid from opening day through Dec. 31. Tentative for 2020-2021: 50 percent off day passes at many New Hampshire cross-country ski centers, including Great Glen Trails, Eastman (in Grantham) and more. (Gunstock, Bear Notch, Bretton Woods not included). Invitations to special apres-ski parties and potluck dinners. Discounted rates on seasonal programs such as Friday Gliders, Easy Sliders and Ski School clinics. Valid any operating day of the season.


Town of Conway resident/nonresident taxpayers get free seasonal passes with a $15 processing fee for the first issue, $5 for each renewal fee. Resident passes will be available at the touring center at Ragged Mountain Equipment in Intervale after Dec. 1.

Annual memberships allow unlimited access to the trail network during the season and discounts at the Touring Center as well as free parking, touring center facilities, wax room and programs.

Purity Spring XC and Snowshoe Reserve in Madison. Website: tinyurl.com/tvcvgs3. Call (603) 367-8896. Terrain: 20K. Last year’s Adult season pass was $80. I’m waiting to find out this year’s season pass price.

Many Nordic centers are still working out the details for this new season. COVID-19 guidelines and concerns about guest and staff safety dictate things will be different this year. Check with each center to see what their offerings and restrictions will be.

Winter and snow will still come, despite the virus. People are eager to be outside cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and fat biking. Once they have their passes, they’re all set to go. Get yours now, save some money, support your local areas and avoid the crowds!

Sally McMurdo is currently a cross-country ski instructor at Jackson Ski Touring Foundation. For almost four decades, she has explored New England’s groomed and ungroomed trails on all kinds of skis.
I read this morning that Marty, the Maine Coon cat that lived atop Mount Washington, passed away.

Since a mountain-top feline has been a tradition since the observatory’s beginnings in the 1930s, they will find a replacement in the coming months.

Mount Washington is one of my favorite mountains to play. The winter’s inclement, nearly prohibitive, weather makes it all the more exciting for folks like me.

In the spirit of the home of the world’s worst weather, it is time to talk about selling your home in winter. Let’s dig in to some of the things you should avoid as well as some solid recommendations to keep those buyers streaming in.

First and foremost, do lots of stretching and get busy with that shovel or snow blower of yours. I trust you are not one of those morons who only clears a small pocket of their windshield before heading off to work, so give the same “full” treatment to your driveway and all walkways.

Chances are good that those potential buyers will not be entering through your garage. Make sure there’s a clear path to the front door and don’t be shy with the ice-melt either. The last thing you want is someone slipping and falling while trying to get to your home. I also strongly recommend you clear any branches from the shrubs or trees lining the walkway. If this includes some trimming of those branches, so be it.

Next, now that you have cleared a path and created an inviting entryway, take some new photos. While your backyard may be glorious with its flowers and blooming shrubs in mid-summer, your home is still beautiful throughout all the seasons.

Let’s be real. People are not interested in buying your home unless they are aware of (and interested in) the idea of living in a climate with all four seasons. Don’t be shy about showing off your home year-round.

This week’s property is located at 244 Ettowah Cove Road in Fryeburg, Maine. The list price is $250,000. (COURTESY PHOTO)

**Charm, comfort in Fryeburg**

This week’s property is located at 244 Ettowah Cove Road in Fryeburg, Maine.

Soak in a crisp, starry night around a warm fire pit on a shared sandy beach with all the simple pleasures that go along with lakeside living.

Built in 1985 with love and pride, this property will welcome you with its charm, warmth and comfort. This is an excellent primary or an ideal vacation home with 10 miles to Fryeburg (Academy) and 15 to Bridgton, Maine, or North Conway.

The bright U-shaped kitchen features solid wood cabinets. (COURTESY PHOTO)
One mile down a quiet country road, you are not far from the abundance of year-round recreation and amenities of both western Maine and Mount Washington Valley. Enter a large covered front porch with its breezy screen room then step inside where the warmth of a woodstove will welcome you home.

Beautiful pine wood floors and natural wood finishes accent the living room with cathedral ceilings that soar above you. Open to a bright U-shaped kitchen with solid wood cabinets that leads to full bath with laundry and first-floor bedroom facing backwoods privacy.

An open staircase with skylights overlooks the living room enhanced by exposed beams and a lofty den/office. A large master bedroom has its own half bath and a gable end glass door.

Outside, above the carport, is a second-floor sundeck “as is” with recommended repairs. This lovely level, sunny yard is perfect for gardening and family gatherings, located directly across from association tennis court and a 1/10th mile walk to the beautiful sandy beach on Lower Kimball Lake.

The list price is $250,000. The MLS numbers are 1469559/4829688.

Listing agent Bernadette Donohue of Badger Realty is hosting a public open house this weekend 10 a.m. to noon, both Saturday and Sunday, Nov.

Ettowah Cove Road on left at the bend in the road. Travel 1.1 mile and house on left directly across from association tennis courts.

COVID protocol and sign-in required. If you prefer a privately arranged showing, contact bernie@badgerrealty.com or (207) 542-9967.
OPEN HOUSE • every Friday thru Monday in November • Time: 11 to 4 pm

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- Walk-out proximity to the slopes
- Excellent Amenities
- Be here this winter
- Ask about the fantastic owner benefits

Masks are required, Tuesday thru Thursday by appointment.

BARTLETT, NH - Enjoy the best of single floor living in this spacious, well built 3 bed, 2.5 bath ranch. Gorgeously wide plank flooring, crown molding, cedar closets and 2 fireplaces make this sun-filled home a must-see. Convenience abounds with a 2 car garage, 1st floor laundry and large level yard, while a sought after Intervale location means easy access to everything the MWV has to offer. (4831594) $479,900

BARTLETT, NH - Minutes from Attitash Ski Resort, the National Forest, and the Saco River in beautiful Bartlett. 15 year old, quality built 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2600 square foot custom home with a large level grassed back yard, chefs kitchen, cozy family room with gas fireplace and stone work and a 3 car garage. This is a great home to enjoy life in the mountains. (4831210) $645,000

NORTH CONWAY, NH - 1983 Ward Log Home in North Conway opposite Conway’s Green Hills Preserve/Pudding Pond Conservation Area trailhead. Tucked away and handy to all valley activities, this home has an open living area, beautiful sunroom with radiant heat. 2 BRs/1 bath on the main level and 2 BRs/1 bath on the lower level. Office, laundry/utility room. This home and the cottage next door are part of a 2-unit condominium. This log home at 120 Thompson Road has a .45 acre exclusive use area with a

BROWNFIELD, ME - Cozy camp on a level one acre lot. Close to Saco River Canoe put-in, yet off the beaten path. Home is in tough shape, but has many features of days gone by including a hand water pump and wood cookstove in the kitchen. 3 bedroom septic design available. Close to Fryeburg and North Conway. (4830539) $50,000

MADISON, NH - The “Hobbit House” showcases custom woodwork craftsmanship and “Cordwood” style walls. This unique property has a soaring cathedral ceiling with an open floor plan, sleeping loft, cozy woodstove, warm electric heat, nice wood floors and a composting toilet (no running water!) “Glamping”, its the new thing close to skiing, Silver Lake, hiking and shopping. (4837462) $145,900

What’s Happening in the Mt. Washington Valley
This past week… 11/5/20 thru 11/12/20 (Residential Properties)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Type</th>
<th>Properties</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Condominiums</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Mobile Homes</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Single Family Homes</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 of these homes are priced under $340,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Homes are already Under Agreement</td>
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22 Properties Closed this Week
- Bartlett
- Chatham
- Conway / North Conway
- Freedom
- Jackson
- Madison
- Tamworth

16 of these SOLD Homes were on the Market 8 Days or Less
12 of these Homes Sold for Asking Price or More!

Price Reduced $24,900 - Bartlett, NH - Natural light abounds in this immaculately appointed home featuring a spacious open floor plan, high performance cedar log siding and vaulted ceilings. From the stunning wood floors to the indoor inverced cedar, this Intervale beauty shines in the details. exquisite landscaping or just relax in front of the fire while you soak in the sweeping views. Plus, Bartlett taxed (4830635) $699,000

ALBANY, NH - Exceptional Privacy. 33.4 acres bordering the National Forest on 2 sides with mountain views, southern and western exposure. 1200 feet of road frontage. 15 minutes to N Conway Village. This is a unique opportunity to own a larger parcel of land and subdivide into multiple building lots. (4838311) $255,000

MADISON, NH - Enjoy the views & privacy in this newer and exciting neighborhood. Only minutes from shopping, skiing, Silver Lake and all Mount Washington Valley activities. 5 Lots Left. Private cul-de-sac, underground utilities, paved association road. Seller to supply a State of NH 3 bedroom septic design. (4867459) Starting at $99,900

DENMARK, ME - Come build your home and settle your family on this nicely wooded 1.13 acre lot w/ 209 +/- road frontage. Let your children have fun & explore the small brook that borders the North boundary line, and attend school in the highly sought after Fryeburg Academy School District. Conway is w/in 30 mins and Portland w/in 1 hour. (4761532) $24,500

FOLLOW US:
Home Front

Withstanding the test of time

Fads and trends come and go. Many homeowners can remember when avocado-colored kitchens were all the rage or when pastel paint dominated design thinking. While it is tempting to look at what’s trending when renovating your kitchen or bath, our showroom advises selecting products, styles and color schemes that can withstand the test of time.

There’s a good reason why more than 50 percent of kitchen renovations feature white cabinets. White cabinets offer a blank canvas for the remainder of the kitchen. They provide a classic, clean look and match any design motif from European modern to traditional and everything in between.

White kitchens are timeless; their reflective qualities can make a smaller space appear larger, and, due to their popular appeal, they help increase the value of your home at sale time.

Clean lines are another feature that can withstand the test of time. A contemporary kitchen offers a clean, stylish and uncluttered look and feel. Contemporary motifs pay homage to practicality because they focus on maximizing the use of available space and light, and that also can make a smaller space appear larger.

When we design a contemporary kitchen, almost all appliances, even smaller ones such as coffee makers, are built into cabinetry. Countertops are

While bright colors can be tempting when designing a room, white, blue, gray and cream tones remain timeless options. (COURTESY PHOTO)
Affluent homebuyers from out-of-state flocking to N.H.

BY ADAM URQUHART
GRANITE STATE NEWS COLLABORATIVE

Realtors in some sections of the state are experiencing significant increases in buyer activity as out-of-staters look to New Hampshire to purchase properties amidst the ongoing pandemic. The Granite State, like many others, experienced a shutdown early on when COVID-19 infiltrated the country and forced people to co-opup indoors. When the shutdown was lifted, Realtors in New Hampshire began seeing an uptick in activity, which has continued into the fall season.

TEST OF TIME from page 19

left uncluttered, and many homeowners in appreciate the fact that contemporary kitchens are easy to clean. A well-designed kitchen is an organized kitchen. Lack of customized storage solutions is one of the most common regrets of homeowners after renovating their kitchen. We cannot emphasize enough the need to develop a storage plan for your new kitchen that addresses how often you cook, entertain, hold gatherings and use the space. A great kitchen must not only look out of this world, but it also must incorporate the best functionality that meets your needs.

An almost endless array of options is available to store cookware, food, utensils, countertop appliances, recycling containers and so on. A professional kitchen designer can custom design trays to exacting specifications that account for your kitchen equipment’s actual dimensions. Specifying trays for drawers to hold cutlery and kitchen gadgets to match the drawer helps avoid movement and keeps what you want in its place.

Customized storage solutions are not confined to a kitchen to make a home look, feel and function superbly. Bathrooms, laundry rooms, mudrooms and entryways all can make a home much more enjoyable if they are outfitted with storage solutions that meet your family’s needs and lifestyle.

Homeowners in often ask us about colors. While splashes of purple, turquoise, yellow or green can become a focal point in kitchens and baths, we tend to favor palettes that can withstand the test of time. In addition to white, these include blue, gray and cream tones.

If you are interested in creating a dream kitchen and bath, call give Country Cabinets, etc. a call at (603-356-5766) or email (ccetc@countrycabinetsetc.com) to make an appointment to visit the showroom.

Silver Lake - There aren’t enough words to describe this camp on Silver Lake once owned by the poet e.e. cummings family. There are 80 acres with an 11 acre pond and over 2000’ of frontage on Silver Lake. The 3 story stately camp sits high on the hill looking west and enjoys the magnificent sunsets. The camp just exudes history. There is a private sandy beach for bathing. This is a one of a kind property. There is a separate rustic cabin on the hill overlooking Danforth Pond (a/k/a Qualey Pond). Secluded location.

ML# 4838066...$2,000,000

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Silver Lake - There aren’t enough words to describe this camp on Silver Lake once owned by the poet e.e. cummings family. There are 80 acres with an 11 acre pond and over 2000’ of frontage on Silver Lake. The 3 story stately camp sits high on the hill looking west and enjoys the magnificent sunsets. The camp just exudes history. There is a private sandy beach for bathing. This is a one of a kind property. There is a separate rustic cabin on the hill overlooking Danforth Pond (a/k/a Qualey Pond). Secluded location.

ML# 4838066...$2,000,000
“We’ve sold more homes over $800,000 here in the last three months than I’ve seen in the last probably five years,” said Josh Brustin, owner and principal broker at Pinkham Real Estate in North Conway. “So, it’s a lot of cash flooding the market. Almost every decent property that comes on now is in a multiple-offer situation and that just never happened here before.”

According to the New Hampshire Association of Realtors, state-wide pending sales in August 2020 were up 30.7 percent from August 2019.

“This is the most active market that we’ve seen in this section of the state ever, and I’ve been doing this for 28 years,” said Andy Smith, owner of Peabody and Smith in Franconia.

The only thing that could slow down sales is more Granite Staters holding tight to the properties they own, Realtors said.

Buyers from Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, southern New Hampshire and primarily Massachusetts are shopping for homes in North Conway, Bartlett, Jackson and Madison, Brustin said. Being in a four-season resort area, there are multiple amenities to offer people, from major ski areas to local resources for retirees, he said.

“So, there’s a lot going on up here and it’s a really nice place to escape to if you want to get out of the city, especially with (the COVID pandemic), or if you want to guarantee that you’ve got a place to go if something maybe happens again down the road,” Brustin said.

As people adjust to the new circumstances the pandemic has brought about — such as options for remote learning and remote work — Brustin believes people are seeing that they can live and work here in New Hampshire, and they’re choosing to do just that.

Since June, when the office started opening back up, Pinkham has seen an incredible amount of buyer activity, Brustin said.

“Now we’re at the point where we are breaking records left and right up here,” he said. “We’ve never seen anything like the activity that we’re getting.”

Smith said when the business restrictions were lifted, there was an influx of business from the three months that business had been restricted.

Smith noticed a very strong demand from people just not in their normal market area. Typically, customers are

HOMEBUYERS from page 20

Thinking of Selling Your Property?
The market is buzzing with activity and Buyers are waiting for homes and condos. There are not enough properties for sale to meet the demand. Some properties are receiving multiple offers! Is it time to find a lot in a location you love and build exactly what you want? We have wonderful lots all over the Valley. 1.5 acres on Town Water in the Intervale section of low tax Bartlett for $69,000; Lots near Cranmore in North Conway at $79,000 & $85,000; Mt. Washington View lots in Conway with access to 5 beaches at $49,900 & $54,900; 31+ acres close to Saco River & Conway Lake for $125,000; 9 acres in Fryeburg for $38,000, & more. Come explore!

Voted First for General Excellence for daily newspapers in New Hampshire last year, the Sun has a penetration percentage of 49 percent, meaning nearly half of Mount Washington Valley residents read the paper regularly, which, by media standards, is very high.

Less visible than the printed edition, the Sun’s website receives 700,000 page views a month and about 3,000 people read the full-page e-paper daily.

To receive the digital paper in your email go to “sign up” at conwaydailysun.com. To inquire about advertising rates contact Joyce Brothers at 733-5808 or joyce@conwaydailysun.com
Ask a Broker

**Evaluating credit score vs. income**

**Question:** We are among those who have actually done well during the pandemic. We have been able to work at home, but our spending has been considerably reduced. A lot of the things we used to do we no longer do, things such as restaurants, weekend trips, etc. The result is that we have paid down bills and bulked up savings.

Feeling good about our finances, we went to our mortgage lender and asked about refinancing. The loan officer offered us refinancing at a rate that was much higher than expected. When we asked why he said our credit scores made it impossible to offer a lower rate.

Does this mean that a lower credit score is more important to lenders than a good income, savings, and fewer debts?

**Answer:** You’re going to get different responses from different lenders, so it will pay to shop around. That said, a lot of lenders are likely to have the same view as your loan officer.

The problem is that a high income and savings are not especially valuable to lenders if borrowers are not making payments or payments are late. Think about it this way: Smith earns $400,000 a year and has a 600 credit score. No and no. The income is great, but the 600 credit score tells lenders that payments are likely to be late or missed, and the debt is a lot riskier than financing with a borrower who has a score of 780 and above.

Another problem for borrowers with low scores is this: with lender pipelines clogged with applications, why take on a borrower who might not get past underwriting?

The information posted in 2016 at MyFico.com found that about 1 percent of the people with 800+ credit scores were likely to become delinquent. With scores ranging between 580 to 669, about 28 percent of all consumers were expected to be delinquent — that’s 28 times as many delinquencies.

The good news — and there is good news — is that you are among the lucky portion of the population to have jobs. You have spent and saved wisely in recent months.

- Fewer debts reduce monthly costs, and that improves your debt-to-income (DTI) ratio.
- Having less debt will help build-up your credit score.
- You’re enlarging your reserves. That’s a plus for underwriters.
- Having reserves makes it very easy to pay debts in full and on time and avoid late fees and credit dings.
- Bigger reserves will reassure lenders that you have the financial capacity to repay your debts. This can be a compensating factor to help off-set a low credit score.
- The better your credit score, among other things, the more likely lenders are to covet your business and offer lower rates.

You now have a chance to change your finances positively. Start a budget. Keep a payment calendar. Pay bills upon receipt rather than toward the end of grace periods. Get free copies of your credit reports at AnnualCreditReport.com. Make sure credit reports do not include errors or out-of-date items that can knock down your credit score.

Email your real estate questions for Peter Miller to peter@ctwfeatures.com.
I particularly love pictures of New England homes on the sunny day after a storm. The snow is still perfectly white and the sun’s rays simply make everything shine. Tidy up the driveway and walkways and get out your camera. One unintended consequence of those bright, sunny days is the exposure your windows will get. It’s amazing to experience that bright blue sky and powerful sunlight streaming in your home. I often feel like a cat just seeking out a warm spot to enjoy. But it also highlights how much you have neglected your windows all fall.

The combination of the sun’s rays reflecting off the snow and the lack of trees to hide the smudges both point to your need to work on your windows before the next showing. The beauty of this is you should only have to do this once before spring. Just pick a warm weekend and get busy.

While we’re talking about warm spots to cozy up with a book or a nap, let’s talk about your thermostat. To all the dads in the room, please skip this paragraph. If you are having a showing today, crank up the heat!

We keep our home between 70 and 72 all winter long. Part of that is because the solar panels cover the AC costs all summer, so it sort of balances out. The other part of that is, we enjoy being warm. If people are coming to view your home, bump up the heat a bit. It gives the impression that your home is warm and energy-efficient. It also simply makes it more comfortable for everyone and they might even linger a bit longer.

Now that your windows are clean and your home is warm, how about you actually make it available for those interested buyers.

“I encourage my sellers to give the hustle and bustle of the holidays a back seat during the coming months.”

The Wolfeboro-based Dow Realty Group at Keller Williams is dealing primarily with out-of-state buyers, said CEO Adam Dow. The traffic on his website alone is showing many more people from outside of New Hampshire looking to the state to buy. From May 1 through Sept. 30 of this year, Dow had 38,150 people on his website from just Massachusetts. During that same time period in 2019, the number was 13,000.

“The people with money that used to travel are now securing their recreational house in New Hampshire so they’re not stuck in Massachusetts if this quarantine thing happens again,” Dow said. “If another quarantine happens, they don’t want to be the neighbor that doesn’t have a lake house looking at their other neighbors empty driveway.”

Despite the demand, Peabody and Smith hasn’t sold more houses this year than in 2019, in part because inventory is low. However, more homes are becoming available for sale, and Smith believes that by the end of the year both sales and revenue will be up compared to 2019.

Brustein, however, said that people who have a property in New Hampshire are holding on to it, so that they have a place to go if the pandemic becomes worse and stay-at-home orders take effect again.

With not a lot on the market, there is a lot of pressure in the pipeline but not a lot to offer buyers. In some cases, houses are selling more quickly. It’s not unusual for home to come on the market on a Thursday, and have five or six offers by Sunday, Smith said.

“That’s created a real lack of inventory in our market, and so we’re finding that folks who may have otherwise taken vacations to Colorado or planned two or three trips a year somewhere else, I think they’re seeing that’s probably not going to happen for a while,” Brustein said.

“So, I think they’ve decided to instead of doing that, they decided to purchase properties in this area.”

Frank Roche, owner and principal broker of Roche Realty Group in the Lakes Region, is also facing an inventory shortage. He said that people are considering their second homes a safe haven, so are keeping them. In addition, there has not been enough new construction.

“I think overall sales for next year could be lower unless we can increase the inventory supply,” Roche said.

Roche said the pandemic alone doesn’t explain the interest from buyers: low interest rates and civil unrest in more urban parts of the country are also causing people to look at moving to the Granite State, he said.

“How could you not fall in love with New Hampshire?” Roche said. “It’s got so much going for it and in an age of severe turmoil, social unrest and uncertainty in this country, it’s definitely a slice of heaven in terms of offering something for everyone in a small state, with very low density and tremendous natural resources for everyone to enjoy.”

This article is being shared by partners in The Granite State News Collaborative. For more information, go to collabora-tivenh.org.
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