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"There is nothing so powerful as truth"
DANIEL WEBSTER



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THIS TIME, CURIOSITY SAVED THE CAT

Hattie the goldendoodle's dogged search of a storm drain leads to Luna's rescue in Exeter



Luna is resting comfortably at home after she was recently rescued from a storm drain in her Exeter neighborhood.

By Jason Schreiber
Union Leader Correspondent

HATTIE the goldendoodle is being hailed a hero in one Exeter neighborhood after her curious nose led her to a storm drain where she located a cat trapped between a heavy steel grate and a concrete slab.

The dog's recent discovery brought a happy ending to the search for the cat, Luna, who had been missing from her Coach Road home for several days.

Luna was found while 11-year-old Hattie was out for one of her regular neighborhood walks recently on nearby Liberty Lane with owner Colby Glass and her husband, Matt Davis.

Glass said they were walking along when Hattie, who was on her leash, suddenly darted over to a storm drain and began sniffing.

"She was just going absolutely wild on this grate. She was obsessed," she said.

Realizing that Hattie wasn't about to give up and continue on her walk, Glass and her husband made their way over to see what all the fuss was about.

"Usually you can tug her



JASON SCHREIBER/UNION LEADER CORRESPONDENT

Hattie and her owners, Colby Glass and Matt Davis, recently found Luna, a missing cat that had become stuck in a storm drain.

a little bit and she'll keep going, but this time she kept sniffing around. That's when we looked in and saw that there was a cat," Davis said.

A frightened Luna was found sitting quietly on the

edge of the concrete just beneath the grate.

"If she jumped off she would have gone into the water," Glass said.

It's unclear how long Luna was stuck in the storm drain

or exactly how she ended up there, but Glass speculated that something may have chased her into a nearby culvert and that she even-

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CLAREMONT

Schools open despite big deficit

Superintendent placed on paid leave like business administrator; athletics director "optimistic" about starting fall sports season.

By Zachary Marano
Union Leader Staff

The Claremont School District had its first day of school on Thursday, despite auditors recently finding that it has millions of dollars of debt, casting doubt on whether the schools could open.

Shortly after classes started, the district issued a news release stating that Superintendent Christopher Pratt has been placed on "non-disciplinary, paid administrative leave."

SAU 6 Human Resources Director Patrick O'Hearn will fill Pratt's position as acting superintendent, the release states.

Executive Assistant Chelsea Weatherford said Pratt was placed on leave after meeting in a nonpublic session with the SAU 6 School Board on Tuesday.

The meeting agenda cited Right-to-Know Law exemptions for "dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee

► See **Claremont**, Page A12

Even at 100, last living member of Nashua Dodgers has a lot on the ball

THE GUEST of honor, a tall, slim man with a perpetual smile and an unmistakable gleam in his eye, stood behind his assigned chair in the middle of a long, narrow series of tables covered in

white linen. It was the ideal vantage point from which to enjoy what passed as the entertainment of the evening: a gaggle of

boisterous children racing through the room, bouncing off one another and patient adults, seemingly engaged in a contest to see who could shriek the loudest.

Perhaps the scenario, which played out in one of the function rooms at Nashua Country Club earlier this month, triggered a few childhood memories that go back to the Roaring '20s, the Great Depression, World War II and, eventually, America's national pastime,



DEAN SHALHOUP/UNION LEADER CORRESPONDENT

Some of the family members of Fred Guthertz, who gathered at Nashua Country Club to help him celebrate his 100th birthday, surround him for a group photo.

the beloved game of baseball.

The guest of honor that evening was Frederick "Fred" Guthertz, who by all accounts thoroughly enjoyed being the "birthday boy," the center of attention around whom a couple dozen family members and some friends revolved as they joined him in celebrating his 100th birthday.

Native Nashuans, or at least folks of longtime residence, may recognize the name as belonging to the young short-

stop who played for the former Nashua Dodgers, who called Holman Stadium home for their relatively brief existence from 1946-49.

One of many Major League Baseball farm teams scattered throughout the country back in the day, the Dodgers were one of eight teams that made up the former New England League, which was formed in 1886 and lasted until

► See **Guthertz**, Page A12

Ayotte: State will help district but won't bail it out

By Kevin Landrigan
Union Leader Staff

Gov. Kelly Ayotte said state education officials were offering support to Claremont in dealing with a school budget deficit, but she stopped well short this week of endorsing any financial bailout for the cash-starved school district.

"Clearly there has been some serious financial mismanagement at the local level," Ayotte said.

Ayotte made the comments Wednesday after a meeting of the Executive Council and hours before Claremont school officials confirmed that Claremont Savings Bank had agreed to extend a \$4 million loan to the school district so that it can begin the school year without further restrictions.

The School Board announced Monday that it was cutting \$1.25 million in staff. Officials also plan to reduce costs by canceling all non-required extracurricular

► See **Ayotte**, Page A12



Kelly Ayotte

No newspaper Monday

The New Hampshire Union Leader will not publish Monday in observance of the Labor Day holiday. Monday's puzzles and comics will appear in Tuesday's newspaper.

Coming in this weekend's **NEW HAMPSHIRE SUNDAY NEWS**

In Manchester, over 175 city employees earn six figures • Spotlight: Manchester West football • Outside etiquette

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Today's Chuckle

If only there were a speed limit on the road to ruin.

A Small Prayer

Lord, let the light of your face shine on us. Amen

New Hampshire Union Leader

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