

The *Newport Times*

Newport's Good News Paper

Serving the Town of Newport, NH

May/June 2022

Est. January 2022

"We may not be able to prepare the future for our children, but we can at least prepare our children for the future."

~ Franklin D. Roosevelt



ACE student gets to experience the cockpit of KC135 from 30,000'

Taking to the Skies: Student's Heads are in the Clouds at Parlin Field

Molly Davis Shimko and Tim Renner

"Every one of our kids flies," Heath Marsden, senior airport planner and co-manager at Parlin Field Airport in Newport, states about the students at Parlin's Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy summer program.

Since 2015, Parlin Field's ACE Academy has provided students the opportunity to explore a wide variety of careers in aviation and to take to the skies with Parlin's team of dedicated volunteer pilots. After a two-year hiatus, the Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy returns to Parlin Field for its sixth year. Students at ACE get the chance to hear from guest speakers in diverse careers from aeronautical engineering to airport planning to piloting with ORBIS – the flying eye hospital; learn from pilots and other aviation professionals; take field trips to places such as NH Fire Academy and the Manchester and Boston-Logan Airports; and spend the week discovering the

many ways they can pursue a career in hundreds of available aviation opportunities.

The camp was first started in Newport by Marsden six years ago when he connected the local schools with the airport, something he had been wanting to do for some time. "We brought together volunteers from Parlin, the Parlin crew, and three high school science teachers to make the camp happen," Marsden said.

Students at ACE Academy are exposed to opportunities on board and "outside of the flight deck," instructor Tim Renner says. "It takes a lot to keep airports running and keep an airplane flying." The students also get to spend time in the air, learning firsthand from volunteer pilots.

The students at ACE are placed in one of three levels in groups of ten students (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced) based on their age and experience with the program. "There's a lot of hands-on experience and we try to make it progressive,"

Continued on page 22



Tech center interns Bryce Ashley, Riely Skarin, and Alicia Urista

Windows into the Real World

Mel Reed

Jennifer Opalinski (Ms. 'O' to her students), and Director of the Sugar River Valley Regional Technical Center at Newport Middle High School, says she had two goals when she started: "Establish Work-based Learning and getting approval for the renovation of our Career and Technical Education Center (CTE)." She has done both exceedingly well.

But let's hear about it from some of the students in her program...

Riely Skarin

Riely is confident, well-spoken, and engaging. She has a handle on where she wants her career to go and how to get there. She applied for and landed an internship at Ruger where she works in Human Resources focusing on marketing and business communications.

"I am working on an initiative called 'Better than Yesterday' she says with equal amounts of passion and joy. She goes on to explain that Ruger is aware that it has a one-dimensional reputation in the

Continued on page 18

Beth McAllister Patchworks Her Life Around Community Giving



Beth McAllister has been a Newport resident for over 40 years. She decided to move from her home in New London after she married her husband. Ever since Beth arrived in the Sunshine Town, she

has been planting seeds everywhere she goes.

Beth McAllister has been a crucial part of the Sturm Ruger team from the time she set foot in the building. Over the years, Beth started out by working on the floor doing shipping, moved to Customer Service, then to Human Resources, and is currently working as an Executive Assistant, which includes, arranging travel for her associates and planning events and gatherings. "This is my favorite place to be," McAllister said after being in this position for 15 years, "Best job I have had is being the Executive Assistant to the Sr. Vice President of Operations of one of the largest firearm manufacturers in the world."

Aside from her job at Ruger, Beth has been an active participant within the community. She was formerly a part of the Newport Chamber of

Commerce and The United Way of Sullivan County. She finds the most joy while volunteering around the holiday season to help the "Willey-Perra Community Giving Project," where she helps collect gifts, wrap, and helps the board members of Willey-Perra stay organized to ensure every kid receives gifts on Christmas Day. McAllister describes this event as being her favorite because she knows by helping, she is contributing to children in need during Christmas.

While Beth was an active member of The United Way of Sullivan County, she loved and always looked forward to helping out with their semiannual "Stuff a Cruiser" event. Police cruisers would be parked in the lots of Hannaford's and Market Basket in Claremont, as well as Shaw's parking lot in Newport. Locals would donate non-perishable items to help stuff the cars. This event is a way to help connect the communities with local Police Departments. All food collected would later be donated to food banks in the area.

Beth makes connections everywhere she goes. She and six of her other associates collect things at Ruger such as, toys and coloring books, to stuff stockings at the Claremont Soup Kitchen. "I like to see kids happy," as Beth explains why she participates in community service. When she was a part of the Chamber of Commerce, she would engage heavily in the annual event, 'Twas Just Before Christmas, including helping PJ Lovely with the Chili Walk.

"I enjoy seeing people happy," Beth McAllister says, "Doing things for people that wouldn't have as much if we didn't help them out, is a feeling like no other." The overwhelming number of people that want to help others and better this community is astonishing in this small town we call home. The groups of people that are a part of service organizations are all working towards one common goal, to help the Newport community in any way they can, "Being a part of that is a nice feeling," said Beth.

After 40 years of being a valuable part of the Ruger team, Beth is retiring at the end of June, alongside her husband, Kent McAllister, who has put in just over 46 years. After retiring, the McAllisters are looking forward to spending summers in Maine and traveling down to North Carolina for the winter months. They are eager to spend time with their family, including their grandsons, as well as travel. Beth, however, is an avid quilter. She loves to spend her time quilting and watching them turn into something amazing. Beth will gift the finished product to friends and family. "They are all given away." Beth will be missed dearly by both in the Ruger community and the Town of Newport.

~ Riely Skarin,
Newport High School Senior and
Sturm Ruger & Co. Inc. Work Based Learning Intern



Ruger employees, Beth McAllister and husband Kent, are retiring at the end of June. Beth's quilting is just one of the hobbies she'll enjoy.



RUGER is the proud sponsor of the Hometown Hero page

By focusing on our associates, our neighbors, and the town we all love, Ruger is committed to building a future Newport can be proud of.

Mural Reproduction Update

The reproduction of the train mural on Main Street is in full swing as the Library Arts Center works to raise \$40,000 for the endeavor. A quarter of this goal has been met, and Harold and Gerry LaValley have generously offered a \$15,000 match opportunity, so every community donation will be matched by them until \$15,000 is raised, which will complete funding needed for this project. To make donations, visit libraryartscenter.org, call the office, or stop by the gallery.

June 16, 10am-2pm, on the town common is the Mural Festival. This festival, complete with live music and food trucks, will host 30+ artists working on the mural for all to watch and enjoy as community history is made and painted all at once. The festival is the same day as the Chamber of Commerce's Brewfest on the other end of the common. Between both events, the common will be full of life and community.

Lead Mural Artist, Heidi Lorenz, is putting final touches on her full-color sketch of the piece. As the mural is in such disrepair, Heidi has worked from multiple reference photos to piece together enough information to fill in missing pieces of the mural with accurate depiction.

Lead Mural Carpenter, Nick Scalera, has finished building and prepping all 36, 4'x4' wooden panels that make up the mural. Due to the extreme damage the 25-year-old mural has endured, new and improved



replacement panels are necessary instead of restoring the current ones.

Pam LaFountain, our Lead Mural Historian, is finishing her research and writing on each of the

buildings and aspects depicted in the mural. All this information will be easily accessible on our website, and in a free booklet that will be made widely available once the finished mural is installed this fall. ■

Happenings at the Library Arts Center



April brought the Newport School System Exhibit to our gallery. This show has been a Newport tradition for generations and features artwork of all art students grades k-12.

The 11th annual Peeps Diorama Contest brought over 100 locally-made Peeps dioramas to the gallery and drew hundreds to see them. This tradition, where people of all ages make dioramas using Peeps (marshmallow Easter candy), is a quirky Newport favorite complete

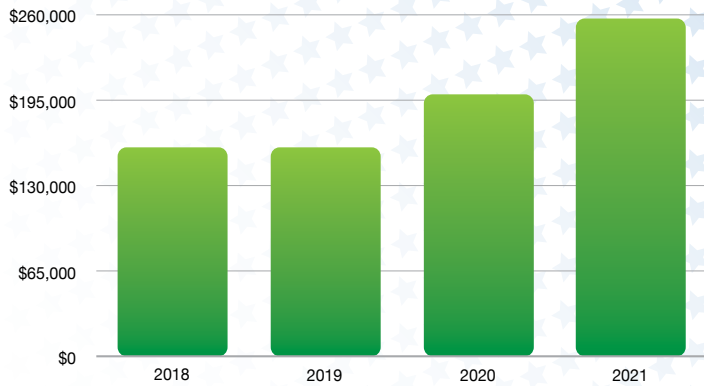
with Peeps and Pints, a 21+ evening in the gallery in partnership with the Old Courthouse Restaurant.

Application is open for the annual Juried Regional Art Exhibit which will start in June. This show features the artwork of around 70 local and regional artists. Applications for artists and crafts people interested in participating in Gallery of Gifts will also be open shortly, as well. Both applications can be found at libraryartscenter.org.

Gearing up for summer, we are planning our free weekly family drop-ins under the tent, our big free summer performances for kids in July, and a series of art classes in the studio for both children and adults. ■



NEWPORT ON THE RISE



The average home price in Newport rose to **\$257,453** in 2021 which is a **30% increase** from 2020! The continued high demand has led to homes selling in about **28 days** which is **51% faster** than 2020!*

CALL BUDDY HOWE AND CALL IT SOLD!

BUDDY HOWE
SALES ASSOCIATE

C: 603.454.4995 | Buddy@TheCBLife.com

BH BUDDY
HOWE

COLDWELL BANKER | LIFESTYLES
Office: 603.763.1271 Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.



PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Going Forward and Staying Back

As someone who doesn't live in Newport, but who has the privilege of getting to know different communities in very real and wonderful ways, I have to say that this town is both amazingly future-thinking and old-fashioned at the same time.

Franklin D. Roosevelt said it best: "We may not be able to prepare the future of our children, but we can at least prepare our children for the future." Just read the stories on the front cover. I had no idea the extent to which young people in Newport are supported. I was astounded to learn about the ACE program and that everyone involved is a volunteer who brings this incredible opportunity to Newport youth.

Then there are the schools. While going to a traditional liberal arts college is still a great option for many young people, having highly refined skills in the trades or actual hands-on experience in the "real world" through internships puts many young adults at an advantage in today's competitive marketplace. The incredibly vibrant and active Tech Center is a community anchor and will prove invaluable in the preparation of Newport's youth with each passing year.

The high-caliber arts community seems too good to be true in this sleepy town... yet it's not really a sleepy town when you read about all of the activities and events the Rec Center and the Chamber have going on in and for Newport citizens!

While the small-town values keep Newport "old fashioned" in a good way, how it prepares its children for the future and engages its citizens by offering myriad activities clearly reveals its future-thinking actions.

~ Jen MacMillen

NOISE "R" US!
FIREWORKS

Is Proud to Welcome Newport Times in With a BANG!



LIGHTING UP THE SKY SINCE 1965!

**206 John Stark Hwy
PO Box 43
Newport, NH 03773
603-863-4002
NoiseAreUs.com**

COME CREATE WITH US THIS SUMMER!

Art Projects Under the Tent | Studio Classes
Gallery Drop-ins | Newport Farmer's Market
Summer Performances for Kids
find out more at libraryartscenter.org
LIBRARY ARTS CENTER 58 N. MAIN ST. NEWPORT 603.863.3040

The Newport Times

is published bi-monthly by
GREATER GOOD MEDIA, INC.

Jennifer MacMillen, publisher: publisher@greatergoodmedia.net

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

Molly Shimko Mel Reed Tim Renner
And all of the community organizations featured

A special thanks to all who made this good news publication happen!
Christine Benner (former Economic Development Coordinator),
Hunter Rieseberg (Town Manager), and Roy Malool (Good Samaritan)

To contribute story ideas or to submit your organization's content, please email to
NewportNHTimes@gmail.com. Coming soon: www.newporttimes.net

The Newport Times is an independently owned publication. ©2022. All rights reserved.
No part of this paper may be reproduced without express written permission from the publisher.

Art Direction and Design by Julie L. Johnston, JohnstonGraphicDesigner@gmail.com



Printed by Stillwater Graphics in Williamstown, VT
on Accent Warm White with 30% post consumer fiber,
manufactured using biogas energy, with soy inks. Please share or recycle.



GOOD COOKING

A favorite dessert at The Old Courthouse...

COCONUT CREAM PIE

In a medium sauce pan, combine:

- 2 cups half + half
- 4 egg yolks
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup cornstarch

Cook over medium heat, whisking constantly until thickened, about five minutes.

Remove from heat and add:

- 3 Tbl Butter
- 1 tsp Vanilla
- 1 Cup coconut

Stir until mixed and pour into baked pie shell. Chill.

To serve, garnish with whipped cream and toasted coconut.

The Old Courthouse



GOOD THINGS HAPPEN HERE

May 25

Annual Awards Ceremony Newport Opera House

The Board has decided to combine our Spring Salute Breakfast with our awards ceremony to honor the prestigious Citizen, Students, Non-Profit and Business of the Year.

June 16

Mural Festival and Brewfest 10am-2pm

On the town common is the Mural Festival. This festival, complete with live music and food trucks, will host 30+ artists working on the mural for all to watch and enjoy as community history is made and painted all at once. The festival is the same day as the Chamber of Commerce's Brewfest on the other end of the common. Between both events, the common will be full of life and community.



June 25

Newport Wings and Wheels Car Show Parlin Field Airport

The Chamber of Commerce has teamed up with the Parlin Field Airport to host their 2nd Annual Newport Wings and Wheels Car Show on June 25, with a rain date of the 26. Cars, trucks, motorcycles, food vendors, a DJ and airplanes! Whether you bring your vehicle, or attend as a spectator, you will not be disappointed!

In July

Library Arts Center Drop-ins libraryartscenter.org

Gearing up for summer, we are planning our free weekly family drop-ins under the tent, our big free summer performances for kids in July, and a series of art classes in the studio for both children and adults.

Mondays

Cardio Drumming Classes 7:30-10:30am, NPT Senior Center Bring a 65-centimeter exercise ball.

We know there's lots of great stuff going on in our community!

And we would love to list your event for free in the next edition of the Newport Times Community Calendar.

Email the publisher at newportnhtimes@gmail.com.



We have been a part of the Newport, NH community since 1982.

If you are looking for a new opportunity, come join our team!

We offer 3 shifts to choose from, a new wage scale, great benefits, 401(k), and a positive environment to learn and grow!

www.eichenauerusa.com

As we celebrate 40 years in business, we want to recognize those employees who have been with us through it all for more than 10 years

Donald Campbell	1992
Steve Hebert	1997
Mike Kinsman	2007
John Grady	2007
Clayton Martin	2008
Alyssa Gosselin	2009
Darlene Clow	2009
Christopher Chamberlain	2011
Jonathan Hagar	2011
Michael Sorette	2011
Charlotte Rankin	2012
Don Reynolds	2012



Library: Coming to You

The Library is not just a place that you have to come in to visit. It's also a place that can come to you!

With our homebound services, you don't have to come into our building to check out our great materials. You can request to have books, movies, audiobooks, magazines, music, puzzles, games, and other items from our Library of Things. Our Outreach Librarian will work with you to check out, drop off, and return your items for you, so that you can still take advantage of our services without coming in.

The library delivers books to individuals who may not have the ability to come into the library for temporary reasons (such as an injury), as well as those who are homebound on a more permanent basis. If something is hindering you from coming in, please consider reaching out to our Outreach Librarian! She would be happy to speak with you about possible options.

Janice Brehio is the Outreach Librarian at the RFL. You can reach her at outreach@newport.lib.nh.us or leave her a message at the library: 603)863-3430.

Janice makes deliveries Fridays. She is also available to read aloud by appointment, so that large groups of those homebound can share in the same story.

In addition to our outreach services, The Talking Books Program exists to meet the reading needs and interests of New Hampshire residents who are unable to see, handle or process printed material comfortably. Our Outreach Librarian can bring you a form to fill out and apply for access to this program.

If you are interested in accessing any of the Libraries virtual services (Hoopla, Kanopy, Universal Class, Novelist, Historic Newport Newspapers, etc.) but don't know how to get started, feel free to ask. Our Outreach Librarian can help!

For those walking by the library, you may notice signs with the pages of children's books along our walkways. This is a Storywalk, an outdoor reading experience whereby a children's book is deconstructed and the pages of the book are laminated and placed in increments to be followed



and read. The RFL will have a new book featured each month through to October.

Coming late June, be on the lookout for the children's Summer Reading Program "Oceans of Possibilities." If you are registered to our email newsletter, you'll be the first to hear about special

programs for the summer! We expect that registration will be necessary for some programs.

We send weekly new book lists and monthly "what's happening" emails to our subscribers! To subscribe, visit newport.lib.nh.us and look for the "subscribe to the newsletter" box. ■

RFL STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Karen

FAVORITE POET:
Billy Collins

PET PEEVE:
Looking for missing/misplaced books on the shelves - I can't stop looking until it's located! (But I am pretty good at it!)

PROVIDED SERVICES:
Knitting Group
Poetry Group
one-on-one computer help

RFL STAFF HIGHLIGHT

Janice

FAVORITE BOOK:
The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George

FAVORITE THING ABOUT RFL:
I think it's awesome that we have the Hale Award, to honor Sarah Josepha Hale

PROVIDED SERVICES:
Home Bound
Delivery Person

Lively Spirits and a Youthful Outlook

Don't be fooled by the name Newport Senior Center. The people inside have lively spirits and a youthful outlook on life. Our members and participants are still highly active and have a lot of energy to burn. Our guests continue to think and act like young people.

Studies are showing that people who feel younger than their chronological age are typically healthier than those who feel older. Individuals who feel younger tend to perform better on memory tasks and are at lower risk of cognitive decline.

One way to feel younger is exercising. If you love music, we have the latest exercise craze program just for you. It's an exercise ball, it's a bucket and drumsticks, all mixed with loud music, fun and laughter that blows the roof off. It is called Cardio Drumming.

According to Livestrong, cardio drumming burns an average of 252 calories per hour. Cardio drumming raises your heart rate, improves the ability to focus and strengthens your arm and core muscles.

In addition, cardio drumming has a positive effect on anxiety, grief, fatigue, and depression. According to Royal College of Music, a 10-week cardio drumming program can reduce depression up to 38% and anxiety up to 20%.



Further studies show that if you like your exercise program, the more likely you are to continue with it. If you are looking for a fun exercise program, a means to connect with others and an opportunity to be inspired by others or inspire others or both, consider joining us at the Newport Senior Center each Monday morning from 9:30 am-10:30 am.

Please bring a 65-centimeter exercise ball, if you have one, any exercise balls are available. Drumsticks

can be purchased at the center for a one-time fee of \$5. Classes are \$2 per class. If anyone has 65-centimeter yoga exercise balls that they are no longer using, consider donating them to the Newport Senior Center Cardio Drumming class.

Hopefully, spring has sprung by the time you receive your *Newport Times*. As you begin your spring cleaning, keep the Newport Senior Center in mind. The center will be accepting working condition items for their annual yard & bake sale to be held on Saturday, May 28, 2022, from 8 am-1 pm.

If you have items you would like to donate, call 603-863-4422 to arrange a time for drop off. We will not accept electronics, television, mattresses, box springs, books, clothing, or shoes. If you do not have items to donate, stop by, say hi and see if there is anything you can't live without. As the saying goes, one man's trash is another man's treasure. ■

MJ HARRINGTON Jewelers Since 1948 & Co.

WWW.MJHARRINGTON.COM
OPEN TUESDAY - SATURDAY
10AM - 3PM

(603)863-1662
35 Main Street, Newport, NH

It all began with Michael Harrington. While serving in the U.S. Navy during WWII, Michael taught himself the art of watch repair at a time when all timepieces had gears, balance wheels and mainsprings. Shortly after the war, he married Phyllis Lantz and together they opened MJ Harrington Jewelers on June 20, 1948.

By 1970, the Harrington's decided it was time to retire and sold the business to Phyllis's brother, James E. Lantz, and his wife Louise. Like Mike Harrington, Jim was also a veteran of WWII having served in the U.S. Army. Following the war, he graduated from Western Pennsylvania Horological Institute in Pittsburg on the GI Bill receiving training as a watchmaker and hand engraver.

Jim and Louise continued to grow MJ Harrington Jewelers as well as their family which eventually included six sons, all of whom learned the fundamentals of the family business early on. The Lantz family increased the range of services they offered to their customers by means of a highly skilled staff of jewelry designers, bench jewelers, and gemologists.



David Lantz, their second son, purchased the jewelry store from his father in 1992, coincidentally 22 years after Jim Lantz bought the business from Mike Harrington, who manned the helm for 22 years prior to that.

David continued his higher education in the jewelry industry and earned the titles of Certified Gemologist Appraiser from the American Gem Society and Certified Bench Jeweler from Jewelers of America. David is part of an exclusive group of jewelry professionals in the U.S. to be awarded both of those esteemed credentials.



AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY
Continued Protection Since 1918

MJ HARRINGTON JEWELERS
PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE NEWPORT TIMES



STOP SEARCHING START LIVING

MARIE LOVELL
SOMEONE YOU CAN TRUST & COUNT ON

My extensive experience in the real estate market can guide you in your decision-making process and make your real estate investment a success. Whether buying or selling your home, land or commercial property, I can help!

CALL ME TODAY
TO GET STARTED!

MARIE LOVELL REALTOR

C: 603.558.8393

Marie@TheCBLife.com

COLDWELL BANKER LIFESTYLES
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated. Office: 603.763.1271



Risking All for Defense of The Homeland: A Newport Story



André Chéronnet-Champollion
(1880-1915)

Expanded from an article in the April, 2022 Newport Historical Society Newsletter.

On February 24 of this year, the world was shocked as the Russian army invaded a country at peace, Ukraine.

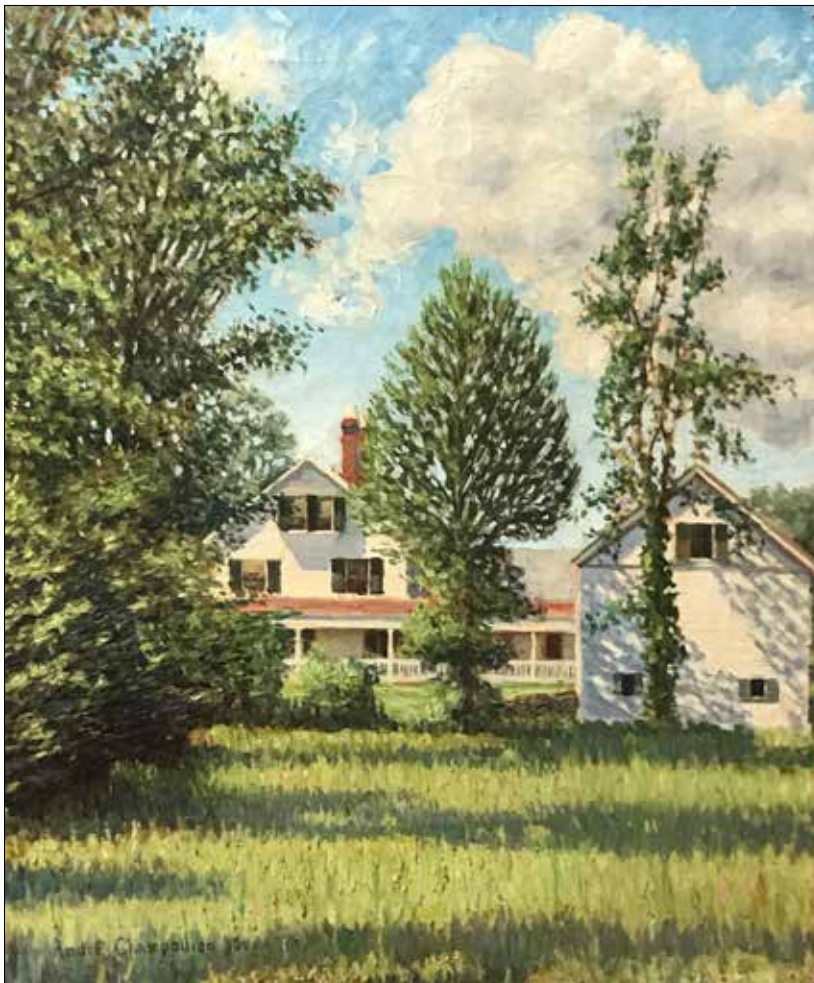
The invasion sparked a veritable river of refugees fleeing Ukraine – numbering in the millions, a sight not seen in Europe since World War II. But not all crossing the border were leaving Ukraine: less apparent was the substantial flow of Ukrainians and those of Ukrainian descent from across Europe and the world – those returning to fight to save their homeland. By March 7, over 140,000 had returned to join the struggle, a high percentage of them enlisting with the Territorial Defense Force to literally join the battle.

Just over a century ago, just such a call of patriotism for the Motherland, a call which can bring a person to leave their comfortable home and risk their life in a far-away war zone, inspired a

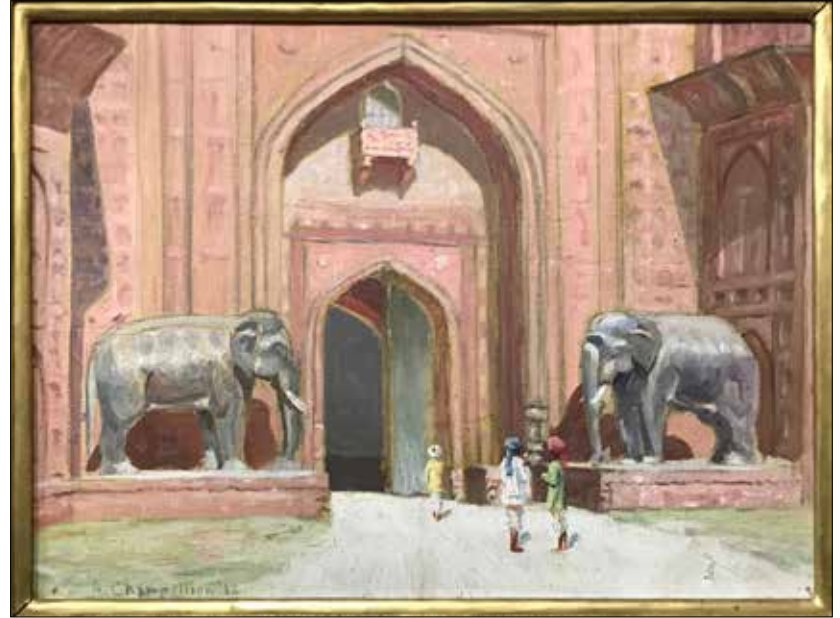
Newport resident to return to France to defend against the Germans in World War I.

André Chéronnet-Champollion was born in Paris in 1880, a great grandson of Jean François Champollion, the person who deciphered Egyptian hieroglyphics on the Rosetta Stone and ushered in the modern study of Egyptology. André's father, Count René Chéronnet-Champollion, was married to Mary Corbin, the daughter of Austin Corbin. They maintained residences in France as well as their home here in Newport, just north of town on Route 10. Still standing, "Sugar River Farm" was a wedding gift from Austin Corbin. After both René and Mary had passed away by 1892, the 12-year-old André came to Newport to live with his grandparents, the Corbins.

An avid hunter and outdoorsman, young André frequented the "Blue Mountain Forest" – the Corbin Game Preserve established by his grandfather. Later he camped and hunted on multiple continents, and an article by him on hunting grizzly bears in Alaska was published in *Forest & Stream* in 1908.



Sugar River Farm, his Newport home, by André Chéronnet-Champollion



The Red Fort, Delhi, by André Chéronnet-Champollion, 1912

He graduated from St. Paul's school in Concord and then Harvard in 1902. Then, following art school, he did extensive world traveling, painting as he and friends toured both the Near and the Far East,

In 1904, he became an American citizen, and in 1905 he married Adelaide Knox. The two of them toured Russia, Siberia, China, and India and in 1909 their son, their only child, René, was born.

When war broke out in Europe in 1914, André felt a compelling patriotic duty to return to France to help defend his homeland. His writings show that he was torn between this noble call versus safely remaining here with his wife and 5-year-old son: he finally chose to join the fight in France.

Quoting from a letter to his friend Anton Schefer on November 12, 1914, André wrote: "I often wonder if I will ever come back to see René grow up, to be his first guide in the Park, and to watch his progress through St. Paul's School and Harvard. When I compare my attractive New Hampshire home to the terrible gloom of the barracks and cantonments (camps), and I see the

Park in all its splendor and loveliness, even New York, which I used to curse at a good deal, now seems like a paradise of everything desirable that is out of reach. Never has America seemed so beautiful."

Sadly, in March 1915 André was killed completing a volunteer mission in the trenches in France. He is buried there, along with 16 of his comrades, and was posthumously awarded the Croix de Guerre medal. He was the first Newport resident to volunteer for The Great War, and the first Harvard graduate to die in it.

A bronze tablet commemorating him is in the Austin Corbin family plot at Woodlawn Cemetery in New York City. Some of his lovely paintings of Newport and India can be seen, together with his artist's paint box and other Champollion family memorabilia, any Sunday at the Newport Historical Society Museum.

The majority of his papers and paintings reside at the Peabody Museum at Harvard, and his letters to his friends while serving in the French military were privately published in 1915. ■

André Chéronnet-Champollion was the first Newport resident to volunteer for The Great War, and the first Harvard graduate to die in it.



André's marker, Woodlawn Cem'try, NYC

Newport Area Chamber of Commerce

Rockin' and Rollin'

The Newport Area Chamber of Commerce has been rockin' and rollin' lately... quite literally! The 2022 Dancing with the Newport Stars was a HUGE success! Thanks to the organizers, sponsors and participants, the Newport Opera House came alive with local "stars" and their pro partners. Thank you to the Newport Opera House Association for partnering with us to create a weekend full of fun, and thank you to Megan Mavor, owner of the Newport Ballroom, for producing a spectacular show.

Speaking of spectacular, we have been pleased with the return of our Business After Hours. It is wonderful to see area professionals out and about, mingling at various businesses. There have been familiar faces in attendance, as well as the many new faces of Newport's business community. We are on schedule to host one 'after hours' per month, giving businesses a chance to showcase new employees, products, renovations and more.

We are pleased to announce that we will hold our Annual Awards Ceremony on May 25th at the Newport Opera House. The Board has decided to combine our Spring Salute Breakfast with our awards ceremony to honor the prestigious Citizen, Students, Non-Profit and Business of the Year. There will be a



Left and right: The Wings and Wheels Car Show. Center: Brewfest organizer Steve Smith with Brandy Waterman.

limited number of tickets available. More information can be found on our website at newportnhchamber.org or by calling the Chamber Office at (603) 863-1510.

Spring Into Summer

The Newport Area Chamber of Commerce is excited to spring into summer! We kicked off the season with our Tri-Chamber Job/Volunteer Fair on the Newport Town Common on May 4th. Working with the Lake Sunapee Region Chamber and the Greater Claremont Chamber of Commerce, we will have dozens of local employers looking to fill full-time, part-time, seasonal, and volunteer positions. Not to worry if you are unable to make it, a list of participating businesses will be listed on our website, newportnhchamber.org.

The events hosted by the Chamber are designed to bring tourism to our region and promote the well being of our businesses and community, and that's exactly what we plan to do! We are kicking off the summer with our eighth Newport Nano Brewfest on

the Newport Common on June 18th. Featuring some of the best small batch, local Nano Breweries that New Hampshire has to offer, we have had people from all over New England attend this event. Our Animal Plop Bingo fundraiser and the Library Arts Center Mural painting will be hosted on the Common during Brewfest for a day full of fun!

We are thrilled to announce that we have teamed up with the Parlin Field Airport to host our 2nd Annual Newport Wings and Wheels Car Show on June 25th, with a rain date of the 26th. Cars, trucks, motorcycles, food vendors, a DJ and airplanes will fill the grass runway of Parlin Field. Whether you bring your vehicle, or attend as a spectator, you will not be disappointed!

Concerts on the Common begin June 26th and run through the end of August! For more information about events, please visit our website newportnhchamber.org or call the Chamber Office at (603) 863-1510. ■

~ Shannon MacMichael
Chamber Executive Director

Local Lending at Your Hometown Bank.



NEWPORT
Neal P. Meagher
VP, Senior Retail
Loan Officer
NMLS #1049365
603.477.3017

nmeagher@sugarriverbank.com



**NEWPORT/
CLAREMONT**
Tor Stenberg
Loan Originator
NMLS #2139989
603.680.9069

tstenberg@sugarriverbank.com

**HOME MORTGAGES • LAND LOANS
CONSTRUCTION LOANS
HOME EQUITY LOANS**

**NEWPORT | SUNAPEE | NEW LONDON
WARNER | GRANTHAM | CONCORD**

603.863.3000 • 800.562.3145

sugarriverbank.com

Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender



Apply online: sugarriverbank.mortgagewebcenter.com



Start a New Season at Summercrest

Spring is in the air! If you're looking for a fresh start, we invite you to take a tour of Summercrest and see for yourself why life is so good here. Our residents enjoy:

- Game room
- Outdoor patio
- Sun-filled solarium
- Library
- Beauty salon
- Café and market
- Chef-prepared meals
- Pets welcome
- Planned social, fitness and recreational activities
- Scheduled local transportation
- Pharmacy delivery service
- Weekly housekeeping
- Laundry service
- Washer and dryer on each floor



Call us: 603-863-8181

www.summercrest.net • Newport, NH

Independent Living | Assisted Living | Memory Care



From the Selectboard

A long, long time ago in a galaxy far, far away, a small group of 5 selectboard members joined forces with an experienced and learned manager, working on remedies to cure the ills of a small community called Newport. The following is a brief overview of some of the challenges faced by this small band of stalwarts featuring a few current projects, current status and future status (if known). At the end of this article, you will find an updated list of grant funding secured for the town and the projects associated with each. It must be noted that each of these sums is achieved by dedicated and hardworking members of our town staff and most come with monitoring and reporting requirements to maintain access to the funds. All of this is accomplished by our staff, behind the scenes, if you will.

#1 Maple Street Repairs Road and sidewalk are scheduled for repair and resurfacing, however Grant List # 7{\$870,000} is an ARPA award for Maple St. infrastructure repairs. This is for drainage, pipes, and ground work which will need to be done before the resurfacing is done. Patience is the key word for this as work progresses.

#2 Sidewalk Repairs See Grant List #15--TAP award for 2800' of sidewalk on South side of Sunapee St., sidewalks on Laurel to be completed and smaller repairs to be done as required.

#3 Opera House Repairs See #5 {\$7,500} Roymal donation for Opera House Equipment, See Grant List #12A-- LCHIP {\$47,000}, Grant List #14--CDBG {\$430,730}, #32 LaValley {\$3,000}. This will repair the rear entrance and provide handicap access and needed repairs to rear of Opera House. Going out for bid June/July—anticipate construction to start late Fall '22/spring '23. Interior repairs are complete.

#4 Downtown/Common Benches ECON donation {\$16,000} Benches and dedication plaques are in. Ruger helping with mounting of plaques and benches will be placed late Spring early Summer.

#5 Dog Park/Victory Garden See Grant List #2 Pet Safe award {\$25,000}, #3 Oleander Trust award {\$10,000}, #4 NH Charitable Newport Fund {\$5,000} Currently in the planning stages; construction to begin late Summer/early Fall 2022, with completion anticipated 2023.

#6 Unity Rd Waterlines See Grant List #7 Northern Borders {\$600,000}, currently in engineering phase; construction expected to start early 2023.

#7 Sand Hill Bridge Currently in bid phase; construction begins late 2022/2023 with completion hopefully in 2023. Please expect delays/detours with this bridge replacement project as the work progresses.

#8: Communications Equipment Upgrade Town-wide communications upgrade is well underway and with new antenna and updated equipment, each town department will have uninterrupted coverage over 95-98% of the town and inter-department communication as well. Slight delays in equipment delivery hoping for completion early Summer.

Many other projects will be on-going, along with the normal projects that pop up. As required by state law, there will be a town-wide re-evaluation of properties this summer. This is called a statistical evaluation which is accomplished mainly through reviewing values of sold properties of comparable size. Please read article in this issue concerning this process.

Additionally, our Highway crews, Bldgs. and Grounds and Water Dept. staff have been working long hours through this challenging mud season to provide the citizens of Newport a quality product. Maintenance is just that – maintain what we have. Things wear out with use and need repair or updating, including roads. Be patient and, if you get a chance, let the guys know you appreciate it. A kind word to let them know you notice can go a long way.

Please notice the following list. These funding sources are all monies that the taxpayers of Newport are not paying with property taxes. This is a staggering number enabling the town to do a lot of projects that would probably be out of reach financially. Our hope is to have more good news in the near future...stay tuned.

~ Herb Tellor, Newport Selectman

The Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 1st, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, 15 Sunapee Street, Newport, NH regarding the acceptance and expenditure of, and in accordance with RSA 31:95-b, a GOFER Grant in the amount of \$665,617, and others listed below constituting unanticipated revenues since June of 2020.

Source	Purpose	Amount
1) RoyMal	Pilot – Community Newsletter	\$25,000
2) Pet Safe	Construction of Dog Park	\$25,000
3) Oleander Trust	Construction Dog Park/Community Garden	\$10,000
4) NH Charitable Newport	Community Garden	\$5,000
5) RoyMal	Purchase of Opera House Equipment	\$7,500
6) American Fire Act.	Covid 19 – Purchase PPE	\$6,520
7) Northern Borders.	Unity Road, water main replacement	\$600,000
8) Jay Lucas	Funding for Econ. Dev. Coord. Position	\$15,000
9) RoyMal	Funding for Econ. Dev. Coord. Position	\$15,000
10) ECON	Funding for Econ. Dev. Coord. Position	\$15,000
11) Newport School District	Funding for Econ. Dev. Coord. Position	\$15,000
12) LaValley Building Supply	Funding for Econ. Dev. Coord. Position	\$15,000
13) ECON	Purchase of new park benches on Common (NTE)	\$16,000
14) CDBG	Opera House Improvements/Rear Entrance	\$430,730
15) TAP	Replace 2,800' sidewalks on S. side Sunapee St.	\$574,400
16) GOFER/ARPA	Replace River Bend pump station/N. Newport well dev.	\$665,617
17) Moose Grant	Replacement of Old Court House roof	\$9,900
18) LaValley Building Supply	Assistance to construct Maple St. Tot Lot	\$500
19) State of NH	Intelligence Liaison Officer	\$29,696
20) State of NH	Emergency Management Program, PD	\$19,738
21) State of NH	NH Aeronautical, new hanger roof	\$30,000
22) State of NH	NH Aeronautical, runway lighting, etc.	\$32,000
23) State of NH	Emergency Management Program, PD	\$12,295
24) RoyMal	New defibrillators for ambulances	\$50,000
25) FEMA	FD, new radio equipment	\$2,000
26) State of NH	Drug Task Force	\$17,145
27) NH Charitable Trust	FD Assistance, operations	\$10,000
28) NH Charitable Trust	PD Assistance, operations	\$10,000
29) PECAN	Scholarships/Rec. Dept. local day camp	\$4,000
30) AARP Comm. Challenge	Trail Signage and Kiosks	\$3,400
31) CARES Act	Election Aid, equipment and materials	\$7,100
32) LaValley Building Supply	Opera House cabinets	\$3,000
33) Fire Prevention Act	Town wide address sign project	\$22,800
34) AFG Grant	Power lifts for ambulances	\$112,459
35) ECON	Trail Study (new Sugar River trail)	\$20,000
36) Moose Grant	State Library – Document preservation	\$7,255
37) ECON	Community Newsletter (NTE)	\$10,000
38) Eversource	Energy assessment of Town Offices	\$2,450
Sub Total:		\$2,856,505

More Recent Grants (Since November 2021):

1) Cong. Directed Grant	Airport Runway Improvements	\$660,000
2) Cong. Directed Grant	Town Office Energy Improvements	\$250,000
3) Cong. Directed Grant	Wastewater Treatment Plant Improv.	\$1,936,000
4) State/ARPA	Wastewater Treatment Plant Improv.	\$2,000,000
5) SRF Planning Grant	Dorr Mill Lagoon Study	\$75,000
6) ARPA	N. Newport Well Development	\$948,000
7) ARPA	Maple St Infrastructure	\$870,000
8) GOFERR	Emergency Equipment	\$50,000
9) DOJ	Intel. Liaison Officer Grant	\$33,000
10) CDFA/CDBG	Childcare Fac.	\$12,500
11) CRDC	Childcare Fac.	\$5,000
12) LChip	OH Repairs	\$47,000
13) O. Jameson Trust	Sunshine Makers	\$20,000
14) O. Jameson Trust	VoTech. Programming	\$5,000
Sub Total:		\$6,911,500
GRAND TOTAL:		\$9,768,005

Pending (Not Public Yet)

15) US RDA	Wastewater Treatment Plant	\$10,000,000
------------	----------------------------	--------------

Updated: 4/1/21 ■



2022 Annual Meeting: It's That Time of Year!

A Short History Of Early Newport, N.H. Town Meeting:

The first Town Meetings in New England were in the 1630s in Massachusetts. New Hampshire's traditional Town Meeting Day was the 2nd. Tuesday in March. Newport's Town Charter was written on October 6th of 1761 near the end of the French and Indian War. The first settlers came to Newport in 1765, cleared some land, planted a crop and returned to Killingsworth, Connecticut. In 1766, eight men and their families came to stay and made Newport their home.

What are the essential elements of a successful town? Since the people of the day were predominantly farmers they needed rich soil, a water source, a sawmill and a grist mill to grind their grain. Newport was the perfect location, it had the Sugar River that flowed through town with elevation drops, the soil was rich and there was a forest of pine trees. Looking through the Town's Documents from the 1700s, I find the Proprietors, settlers in today's terms, had a meeting in Killingsworth CT in October of 1766. At that meeting, it was voted to give Benjamin Giles of Groton CT 100 Acres of his choice in Newport NH if he would come and build a Sawmill and a Gristmill. He selected the section of land in what is now known as Guild due to an elevation drop in the Sugar River that would allow for a dam to form a mill pond and the closeness to a large stand of Pine trees.

The first Town Meeting in Newport was on October 13, 1767 at the home of Jesse Wilcox. At that meeting Benjamin Giles was elected the clerk which would equate to a Town Manager today. Samuel Hurd, Charles Avery and Zepheniah Clark were chosen as Assessors. I assume these would equate to a tax collector today.

So, as one can see from the very earliest times in the history of the Town, Newport has participated in the Town Meeting form of governing. Today Newport has the SB2 system where the budget is proposed and a Deliberative meeting where the Town's People have input on the Warrant Articles before the budget goes to a vote by the Town's People.

To the inhabitants of the Town of Newport in the County of Sullivan in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote on Town affairs:

You are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Newport High School Gymnasium, 245 North Main Street in said town of Newport on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 6:00 PM for the first session of the Annual Town Meeting (the "Deliberative Session") which shall be for the transaction of all business, other than voting by official ballot, and shall consist of explanation, discussion and debate of the following Warrant Articles.

Further, you are hereby notified and warned to meet on Tuesday, May 10, 2020 at the Newport High School Gymnasium, 245 North Main Street in said town of Newport between the hours of 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM for the second session of the Annual Town Meeting to elect officers and vote by official ballot upon the following Warrant Articles, which may be amended by the Deliberative Session:

ARTICLE 1 To elect two Selectmen for three (3) year terms.

ARTICLE 2 To elect a Moderator for a two (2) year term.

ARTICLE 3 To elect a Supervisor of the Checklist for a six (6) year term.

ARTICLE 4 To elect a Trustee of Trust Funds for a three (3) year term.

ARTICLE 5 To see how the Town will vote on the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance adding the following section regarding sheds in all zones:

Article IV – General Provisions

Section 421 – Sheds (200 square feet or less)

A Shed must be a minimum of 5 feet from side and rear property lines. Required front yard setback for specific zone still applies. No shed can be greater than 14 feet maximum height, measured from ground to peak and a single story. This applies to only one shed per parcel. All other sheds or accessory buildings must comply with all requirements for their specific zone subject to Article 5 Special Provisions.

ARTICLE 6 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,651,000 to pay for the design, construction and equipping of a proposed new community center on Meadow Road (Map 114 Lot 158). \$4,651,000 to come from private donations, public and/or private grants, and other sources aside from municipal taxation, and the remaining \$4,000,000 to come from the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate said bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest and time period thereon, and to take other such action as may be necessary to affect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town; and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend such monies as become available from the Federal and/or State governments for use in connection with said project and pass any votes thereto. This is a non-lapsing article per RSA 32:7 III and will not lapse until the project is completed or by June 30, 2027, whichever is sooner in accordance with RSA 33:8-f. (3/5ths majority vote required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee.) *Note: There is no current tax impact from this article. Repayment of this debt expected to come from general taxation and is anticipated to be budgeted in the 2024 Fiscal Year, with an estimated tax impact that year of \$.74.*

ARTICLE 7 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to \$75,000 for the costs related to the development of a management plan for the Dorr Sewer Lagoons. Said sum to come from the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate said bonds or notes and determine the rate of interest and time period thereon, and to take other such action as may be necessary to affect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town; and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend such monies as become available from the Federal and/or State governments for use in connection with said project and pass any votes thereto. This is a non-lapsing article per RSA 32:7 III and will not lapse until the

completion of the project. (3/5ths majority required) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee.)

Note: There is no tax impact from this article. The article will make us eligible for reimbursement of funds expended on the plan development via 100% forgiveness of the amount by the State of NH.

ARTICLE 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the posted budget with the warrant, or as amended by the first session of the annual meeting, for the purposes set forth therein totaling \$10,200,969. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$10,264,495, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only (*The tax rate of the operating budget is anticipated to be \$12.00 and the default budget is anticipated to be \$12.03.*) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee.)

ARTICLE 9 To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items of the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Town and the Police Union for the four year period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025, which calls for the following annual increases in salaries and benefits:

Estimated Increase

Year 2021-2022 \$ -0-

Year 2022-2023 41,865

Year 2023-2024 37,859

Year 2024-2025 40,937

and to further raise and appropriate the sum of \$41,865 to fund the increases in salaries and benefits for the second year of the agreement, in addition to the appropriation to maintain current funding levels already contained in the operating budget. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Advisory Committee.) (*Second year tax impact \$.09*)

ARTICLE 10 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be transferred to the Communications Capital Reserve Fund. (*Tax impact \$.01*) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee.)

ARTICLE 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be transferred to the Recreation Facilities Capital Reserve Fund. (*Tax impact \$.02*) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee.)

ARTICLE 12 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 to be transferred to the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund. (*Tax impact \$.14*) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee.)

ARTICLE 13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be transferred to the District Court Capital Reserve Fund. (*Tax impact \$.02*) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee.)

Continued on page 12

ANNUAL MEETING - continued from page 11

ARTICLE 14 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH. (By petition) (Tax impact \$.01) (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee.)

ARTICLE 15 To see if the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,370 for support of West Central Behavioral

Health. In fiscal year 2021 – from July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021 – West Central provided 14,535 services to 235 Newport residents, including 107 children. (By petition) (Tax impact \$.01) (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee.)

ARTICLE 16 To see if the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of supporting the federal match requirements for the Sullivan County Transportation Program, operated by Southwest Community Services. (By

petition) (Tax impact \$.02) (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Recommended by the Budget Advisory Committee.)

ARTICLE 17 To see if the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$85,000 to be added to the Fire Department budget for the purpose of modifying the current shift schedule that would allow for two career firefighters per shift. This would allow the department to increase day to day staffing without having to hire new personnel. This change is vital to continue to provide safe

and effective response to the community. (By petition) (Tax impact \$.19) (Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen or the Budget Advisory Committee.)

ARTICLE 18 To transact any other business which may come before this meeting.

/ss/

Jeffrey F. Kessler, Chairman
John H. Hooper II, Vice Chairman
Barry J. Connell, Selectman
Keith M Sayer, Selectman
Herbert R. Teller, Jr, Selectman ■

2022 Town-wide Revaluation Explained

Starting in July 2022, you will see the Avitar Municipal Services vehicle in town as they begin their town-wide property revaluations. Every community goes through this process at least once every five years, as required by law, RSA 75:8-a and this is the year for Newport.

The purpose of the revaluation is to bring property assessments to market value as of April 1, 2022. The Town has opted to require a bond and we have proved a copy to the DRA with a copy of the contract and insurance certificate.

The real estate market is constantly changing. If the market has appreciated then values, on average, will go up. The state tracks the market changes from year to year through the annual equalization process. For instance, your EQ ratio for 2021 was 68.7%, which indicates, on average; assessments were at 68.7% of what they were selling for in 2021. The reference point for that ratio is the last revaluation 5 years ago.

However, not all classes or types of properties change at the same rate. For example, vacant land may not have appreciated at the same rate as single family dwellings. Sales are the basis for the new

values, so it is important that we verify the physical data for those sales and verify the transaction to know that each one is a sale that represents market value. We plan on using sales going back 1 year unless circumstances require further research.

Taxpayers should also be aware that, if their assessment increases for example by 30% percent that does not mean their taxes are increasing 30%. If the town, school & county budgets stay the same and the town's total value increases 30% as a result of the revaluation, the tax rate would come down proportionally. The wild card there is the current year's budgets. If any or all of them go up, then the tax rate will not drop by the percentage that the total value increases. It is important to note that, in that scenario, the tax rate would have gone up without the revaluation being done this year. That being said, as I have indicated previously, not all types of properties have seen the same market change over the past five years.

Once we analyze the sales and develop preliminary values, there will be a field review of the entire town, which is just a drive-by parcel by parcel of every

property to verify location, site characteristics, quality and so forth to be consistent as possible. Just be aware, that during this time you may get calls stating, "they just drove by my house and didn't even get out" or "They are just doing drive by assessments." Just know the cycled inspection process has been done over the prior period and there was an attempt to measure and list every property during that time.

When that process is complete, we will send out the preliminary notices. That notice gives the property owners a chance to setup an appointment, if needed, to talk with the assessor, go over sales and ask any questions they may have. We plan to start the field review in July and the preliminary notices and hearings in late August.

After the hearings are over and values have been finalized the town will be provided with the USPAP (Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice) report that describes the entire process, what we did, sales used and so forth. The contract has a completion date of October 1, 2022.

~ Evan Roberge Avitar Assessor Supervisor
Avitar Associates

BIKE • HIKE • PLAY NEWPORT

Newport Garden Club: Watch Us Grow



Have you noticed the whiskey barrels with colorful flowers along Main Street? Have you seen the day lilies at Meadow Park? Have you noticed perennials next to the large rock at Volunteer Park (Corbin Road)? All of this is made possible by the green thumbs of the Newport Garden Club. These volunteers make the Sunshine Town look cheery and bright through the spring, into the summer and stretching into the fall.

Working together with students from the SRVTC Horticulture class from Newport High School, the Newport Garden Club maintains the whiskey barrel project by using plants grown in the school's greenhouse. We also shop at local nurseries to get the

best variety of flowers and greenery to display. The Garden Club has also enlisted the help of a few local business women who have volunteered to water and weed the planters located next to their establishments. Occasionally, you may see some Newport Rec Day Camp kids out watering and maintaining the plants. All of these folks enjoy working with plants and love making downtown look nice, and together they make up the Newport Garden Club. Does this sound like something you could do? Would you like to help out? Afraid of commitment? That's okay, we aren't asking for one. Just call the Newport Recreation Department to find out how you can get involved. (603) 863-1332. ■



Hidden Gems

Pinnacle Disc Golf Course

Newport's most popular hidden gem is the Pinnacle Disc Golf Course. Unless you are familiar with this up-and-coming sport, you may not have even heard of it. The course is located in the Newport Town Forest (a hidden gem for another issue) and can be accessed through the parking lot by the Newport High School softball field.

What is disc golf? It's basically played like regular golf, except you throw a frisbee into a wire basket instead of hitting a ball with a golf club. Most courses are 18 holes, and you walk from hole to hole throwing discs toward the basket/target. What once was an obscure West Coast sport in the '70s has turned into one of the most participated-in outdoor recreation sports in the USA. In 2007, Newport was lucky to have a teacher named James Beaulieu who taught earth sciences at the high school.

Jim initiated a plan to put 18 holes of disc golf in the town forest in 2007. He was an avid player and played out west before moving to Newport. His forward thinking enabled Newport to obtain one of the most popular (and free) disc golf courses in New Hampshire. Newport has been host to many tournaments and even has a couple local Pro Disc Golf Association athletes! Edwin Bedell and Mike Habets (also students of James) are local legends who play the Pinnacle Course and compete regionally on the PDGA circuit.

The Newport Recreation Department helps oversee the course, while the maintenance is a grassroots effort led by The Pinnacle Disc Golf Club members. If you'd like to give disc golf a try, discs can be borrowed from Newport Recreation Department...stop by and grab some! If you have a minute to check out the course, it is open to the public from dawn to dusk and we are sure you won't be disappointed. Also, look for disc golf leagues for all abilities starting up in the late spring and early summer months. ■



PJ's Pointers

Live Local

There are many slogans out there about supporting locals. I like "Live Local." As much as I personally like to travel and see new places and things, I try to keep my business and personal life local. We have cool stuff locally. Just

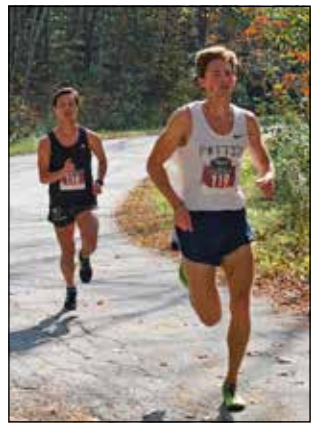
look around. We have a bunch of great places to eat, 2 new places in the last 3 months.. Port City Pop ups, and Mi Jalisco. Both complement the already fine establishments we have in town, old town Pizza shops, an Irish Pub (salt hill), the Courthouse restaurant, and quite a few other places to grab a bite. All within \$1 gas ride from your home.

Run/Hike Local is another slogan. Within a 30 minute drive, we have a slew of local running events and hikes you can do. There is a WNHTRS trail running series that highlights some of the best trails in the Western NH/Eastern VT area. The events are put on by local Recreation Departments and they keep the cost low, while raising a bit money for their local projects. Sunapee, Newport, Goshen all have these events right in your backyard. Also 5k's are making a comeback after covid, and you can hit at least 8 events within the 30-minute driving window. Newport itself has 3 this year. The Sunshine 5k (May 7th), Save a stray 5k (June 25th) and an additional 5k that is working on logistics.

Local events? Heck ya, we have many to choose from locally. The Newport Chamber of Commerce has exploded with one awesome event after another. You don't have to leave town to go camping. Stay right here and have yourself a ball at a local event. What is upcoming? June 18th is the Newport Brewfest held on the common, where they will also be working on painting a mural to replace the one on Newport Fitness' outside wall. Six in the Stix trail run in the town forest will be held the same day if you want a little exercise, as well. Keep an eye out for The Wings and Wheels car show the following weekend (June 25) at the Parlin field airport, as well as the Save a Stray 5k.

Concerts on the common will be up and running as well as the Farmers Market. More events and festivals will happen in the fall and winter months as well.

Live Local. We have some great stuff going on around here! Don't be afraid to dip the toes in the water and live a little more local this year. ■



Terrific Tiger Tales



The Power of STEAM

In the 1950s, education shifted to include what most families now know as STEM learning. STEM, or Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, is a concept embedded into schools to encourage students to explore through hands-on learning experiences with different technologies and ideas. Not really relevant, but a fun fact: the acronym reportedly was originally SMET, but “SMET” didn’t have the marketing power people could get behind.

Over the last decade there was a push to expand STEM education to include the Arts therefore creating STEAM. STEAM projects increase engagement by allowing students to connect things they like (like drawing and music) with more technical tasks that may seem overwhelming at first.

At Richards School, STEAM education encourages students to be curious and experiment as lifelong learners while also promoting critical thinking and innovation. Students as young as kindergarten engage in STEAM projects and often report it as their favorite part of the day.

Recently, Miss. Haynes fifth grade classroom took to the sidewalk on a cold and windy spring day to use Science to create a piece of art. Each student was given a small cup of vinegar, a plastic bag, some baking soda, a piece of paper, and their choice of food coloring. Students lined up, holding their paper down with their feet, and predicted what was going to happen next as Miss. Haynes and Ms. Couitt quickly distributed the supplies.

“I think it’s going to explode a rainbow all over the sidewalk,” one student guessed. “No, it’s going to tie-dye the paper and splatter” another responded. “I’m just going to mix and run,” a third giggled.



Miss Haynes called the class back to order and students finalized their predictions as a class. Once again she reminded them of the expectations: mix the vinegar in your bag, seal it up quickly, put it on the paper and step back to observe. Suddenly, the whole class was moving, giggling and watching. Some bags were quickly filled and closed growing larger and larger on the paper, some bags were filled but not sealed well enough so they fizzled on the paper, and other bags just sat there.

Miss. Haynes walked along checking in on students and, seeing some of the results, yelled out “Is Science perfect 100% of the time?” to which there was a resounding “No!” yelled back. Students, along with Miss. Haynes, got to work getting new supplies for those that didn’t have a reaction and set to starting again.

Back in the classroom, students debriefed about what just happened. They looked at their still-wet artwork and shared the reactions their experiments had, as well as those of their neighbors. Students were engaged and applying real experiences and observations to their learning. Today’s workplaces are creative and require staff to work collaboratively, share ideas, and be willing to take observations and make adjustments. At Richards School, we believe our classrooms should help build those skills.

Supporting Tiger Nation Overseas

In early March, Mrs. Paula Johnson got her next brilliant idea. For those of you who don’t have the pleasure of knowing Mrs. Johnson, she is the secret behind a lot of great community ideas at Newport School District. You can often find her running from building to building helping support our students and staff however they need. Her passion for Tiger Nation isn’t limited to our buildings, though. She keeps connected with the successes and ventures of our students beyond graduation. So, it was no surprise when Mrs. Johnson reached out to us at Richards School with the idea of care packages for two former students on active duty overseas.

The Richards staff, students, and families jumped in with enthusiasm. Miss Brown, school counselor at Richards, organized a collection of requested supplies and comforts for the two former students, Reuben Relente, class of 2020, and Caleb Turgeon, class of 2021. Three different packages, to be spread out throughout the spring, will be sent to each former student. Classrooms have the option of signing up to “sponsor” a specific student with supplies for the package and/or cards and pictures for support.

Mrs. Benoit, grade 2 teacher at Richards School, shared that “my class has been working very hard at collecting items for our soldier, Caleb. They did not want to stop at the care package though! They also wanted to make letters, pictures, and a sign.” While working on their project, students got to see a picture of our former graduate and learned a little bit about him and his service for our country. “Huge kudos to the kids, but also to the families who sent in supplies. There was NO hesitation from families to help him out,” Mrs. Benoit said.

To all of our staff, students, and families who have helped send some of Newport’s sunshine to these dedicated servicemen, we thank you. You are what makes Richards School and Tiger Nation so special. ■

*Patrice Glancey Brown
Interim Principal, Richards School*

Finishing the Year Strong

It's hard to believe we only have a few short weeks of school left! The Middle School is working hard to finish the year strong. We will be having a District wide Step Up day in June where every grade will spend some time in their classrooms for next year. Our 8th graders are getting excited for their transition to the High School and we are getting ready to welcome the incoming 6th graders. The 8th grade will also be having a class trip, graduation and semi-formal dance to wrap up their time at NMS.

Our after school groups have been very busy!

Tiger Cafe has had amazing success in improving many students' grades. The 4H Youth Community Club has been busy helping the community. We have submitted Peeps dioramas to the Library Arts Club

and we baked cookies for the Newport Police Department. Please take some time to look at the Library Arts Center Peeps Diorama Contest in town!

The students from Educational Talent Search took a trip to Plymouth State University. They enjoyed the campus and the food in the dining hall! The staff at PSU were very impressed with their inquisitive questions and responsible behavior. The school counselor also took 6th and 8th grade on a field trip to local colleges. Sixth grade went to River Valley Community College, and eighth grade went to New England College. ■

Miranda Collins,
Family and Community Liaison
mcollins@sau43.org



BRIGHT FUTURES: SUGAR RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER

Highlighting Excellence

Sugar River FFA Makes a Proud Showing at the NH State Convention

March 31st to April 2nd was a big weekend for FFA students from SRVRTC in Newport. Students and advisors worked for months in advance to teach, train, practice for forestry, floral, creed, demonstration and employability competitions. Liela Irwin, President of the Sugar River FFA, was the Grand Champion and first place winner in the Hall of Chapters display with Bryce Bahara. Liela was Grand Champion and first place winner of the Floral Arrangement competition. Aura Parker, Emily Peckham, Liela Irwin, Evelyn Marino brought home a blue ribbon, first place in Floraculture. Bryce Bahara, Luke Bartlett, Gabe Merritt and Aura Parker earned a second place win in their forestry competition. Emily Peckham was second in demonstration. Evelyn Marino ranked third in Impromptu speaking. Hailey Michaud took second place in Creed. Bravo!! What an amazing trip and experience for our Newport students. We're so proud of you. Special thank you to Deborah Stevens and Sam Nelson for all the hours of hard work to get the students prepared for so many rigorous events. Thank you, again, to Mr. Malool, Steven's Excavation, and Beaver Pond Farm for their continued support of the FFA. Congratulations to all.



L-R: Sam Nelson, Deb Stevens, Emily Peckham, Christina Cameron, Hailey Michaud, Violet Cameron, Evelyn Marino, Liela Irwin, Gabe Merritt, Dominic Dukette, Aura Parker, Liam Almstrom, Gabe Nerenburg, Bryce Bahara, Luke Bartlett

SRVRTC Business Teacher Sarah Forreth Ramps up FBLA

March 31 was the first time in recent years that SRVRTC took a Future Business Leaders of America chapter to the NH FBLA State Leadership Conference. Over 100 students from around NH gathered in Manchester to attend this spectacular event. Sugar River's future business leaders represented Newport extremely well in a sea of schools including Salem Career & Technical Center, Concord, Pinkerton Academy and more. Ms. Forreth is very proud of the hard work her students put into this conference. Everyone had a fabulous time and are already preparing for next year. Way to go! ■



L-R: Sarah Forreth, teacher, Shihannah Toliver, Tanya Sanchez, Amelia Fischer, Annalee Hall, Riley Skarin, Alicia Urista, Rachel LeFrancois



NHS Shout Outs



All-State Band Congratulations!

Congratulations to Stephen Emery and the New Hampshire all-state band, who performed to a standing ovation on Saturday at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord. Thank you for representing Newport, Stephen. We're proud of you!

Stephen Emery and his mother Tammy outside the Capitol Center for the Arts last Saturday after Stephen performed with the NH All-State Band. Congrats, Stephen!

Summer Programs

Hypertherm Summer Program: This program is for rising juniors and seniors. Join Hypertherm this summer for a series of week-long STEM camps. Participants will learn about careers in manufacturing and engineering and complete projects that explore Hypertherm's operations and technologies. These programs are free! For more information or to

register go to hypertherm.com/shapeforstem.

New Hampshire Academy of Science STEM Summer Program for middle and high school students. This is an applied scientific research program. Sessions range between one and three weeks beginning June 13th and ending August 19th. Visit nhacadsci.org for more information.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: This is a virtual twelve day program for upcoming juniors and seniors. For more information go to info.rpi.edu/pre-college-initiatives/preface2022-rensselaer-summer-engineering-design-program.

Community Service Opportunities

We have so many ways that you can volunteer both in school and out of school. Learning to help others is a foundational building block of being a contributing member of society.

Stop by the school counseling office to find out about all the opportunities we have available.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."

Elizabeth Andrew

Life of a Tiger

Some Life of a Tiger members went to the Kearsarge Professional Development Center on Tuesday to attend Kearsarge Regional High School's CARE Conference. This was a leadership conference at which our students worked in small breakout groups with students from other schools and also listened to a guest speaker discuss the power of vulnerability. Students worked together to answer the essential question: How can a group of individuals work together to create a more positive and successful community? Students had a fun and successful day! ■



Newport Middle School and High School's first annual career day was a HUGE success! This is due in large part to our amazing community members who volunteered some or all of their day to talk to our students. If you would be interested in participating next year please email Hannah O'Connell at hoconnell@sau43.org to be added to our list of potential volunteers! Thank you all so much!

Christopher O'Connell,
Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical
Center Lebanon

Rebecca Segelhurst & Kayla
Croteau,
New Hampshire Fish & Game

Malarie Starcher & Haley
Morin,
Carroll Concrete

William D Farley,
New Hampshire Food Bank &
AmeriCorps VISTA

Brent Wilmot,
Newport Police Chief

Nicole Wakeman,
New London Hospital

Anthony DiPaola, Timken
Aerospace

John Lunn, NCTV & John
Lunn Flutes

Laurel Jackson,
Endyne Laboratories & New
Hampshire Water Works

AJ Giglio,
The Refinery Restaurant/
Brothers BBQ Catering

SSG Courchesne,
the Army National Guard

Maryann Allen, associate
professor at Colby-Sawyer
College

Tyler Minnick,
McGee Family Automotive

Kimberly Dunn, Belletetes
Building Supply of Andover

Katherine Greenlaw,
Moxie Barber Shop
in New London

Shannon Ryan,
Becket Family of Services
community based counseling,
Plymouth

Amanda Couitt, professor at
River Valley Community
College

Michael Waszeciak &
Alyssa Rodriguez,
Colby-Sawyer College
Athletics

Chrissy Fratzel & Crystal
Robertson, Claremont Savings
Bank

Melody Johnson, Hypertherm

Ashley Theberge,
Good Enough Farm

Patty Kober,
One Credit Union

Mary Ann Gaschnig,
Apprenticeship
New Hampshire

Newport Fire Department

Heather Wells, SRVRTC

Graham Scott, SRVRTC

Deborah Stevens, SRVRTC

And last, but certainly not least, all of the wonderful Newport Middle School & High School staff! ■



Shannon Miller,
Principal



Sean Robinson,
Assistant Principal



Jeff Miller,
NHIAA Athletic Director of the Year

Shannon Martin, Principal: "One of the best ways of enslaving a people is to keep them from education... The second way of enslaving a people is to suppress them sources of information, not only by burning books, but by controlling all the other ways in which ideas are transmitted." Eleanor Roosevelt

Sean Robinson, Assistant Principal: "No matter what anybody tells you, words and ideas can change the world."

Robin Williams, Dead Poets Society

The Local Crowd Upper Valley

Building Regional Prosperity and Resilience

Locally owned businesses are the lifeblood of a community, paying local salaries, taxes, and material costs, and supplying the goods and services every community needs. That's why support for local businesses is one of the pillars of the work of Vital Communities, a nonprofit dedicated to making the Upper Valley more vibrant, resilient, and equitable. Vital Communities brings businesses together to problem solve and offers them technical support, and encourages residents to spend their dollars locally.

Vital Communities also helps new local enterprises start or expand through its local crowdfunding platform, The Local Crowd (TLC) Upper Valley, which it launched in 2019. Crowdfunding is the practice of sourcing small contributions from a large number of people to provide funding for a particular venture. TLC Upper Valley directs the power of crowdfunding specifically at projects that will make the community better and fairer for all.

Unlike commercial crowdfunding platforms like Kickstarter and Indiegogo, TLC Upper Valley nurtures the campaigns it agrees to undertake, giving the campaign teams the tips and resources they need to design and execute a successful fundraising campaign.

An example is Aurora Bakery in Newport. Only four years old, Aurora is already a treasured community asset. Located on Main Street in Newport, and part of the nonprofit Road To Independence, Aurora offers teens and adults with differing abilities the chance to learn critical life and work skills while making and selling mouth-watering treats. This April, TLC Upper Valley agreed to partner with Aurora on an expansion project.

"Within the bakery, we run a program for individuals with differing abilities," said Elaine Frank,

Road To Independence Board President. "These individuals are taught everything from safe food handling to how to properly mix a batter or dough to customer service and social skills. Everything is baked from scratch in-house by our students, volunteers, and staff."

The TLC Upper Valley campaign will allow Aurora staff to add more seating for customers, expand their menu to include savory items such as sandwiches, soups, and salads, and provide more varied work experiences for their participants. Learn more about [Aurora Bakery's campaign](https://bit.ly/aurorabakery) at bit.ly/aurorabakery.

Another example was last summer's TLC Upper Valley campaign for the Sunapee Region Arts Atlas. The atlas was core project of the Arts & Business Alliance, a coalition of area arts organizations, businesses, and community leaders (including Newport's Library Arts Center) focused on creating arts and business partnerships to boost the local economy. Their campaign raised over \$32,000 to create a hand-illustrated cultural asset map and a powerful, complementary interactive website that is helping the alliance promote a sense of place and spur community and economic development through the powerful lens of the arts.

"It is no secret that the Sunapee Region is absolutely teeming with incredible arts and cultural assets," said Fran Huot, Library Arts Center Marketing Coordinator. "The reality is that many of these cultural institutions are under-represented, under-resourced, and working independently, as islands of greatness, but their efforts are often overshadowed by the cultural pillars in the regions just to our north and south. The variety of galleries,

museums, music venues, theaters, libraries, and historical institutions we have here are phenomenal. They just need to be amplified." ■

Check out their progress at sunapeeartsatlas.org. Since TLC Upper Valley launched, 13 crowdfunding campaigns have collectively raised over \$320,000 from 2,190 supporters. Join the crowd by supporting one of TLC Upper Valley's campaigns – and help grow healthier and more prosperous communities.



Located on Main Street in Newport, and part of the nonprofit Road To Independence, Aurora offers teens and adults with differing abilities the chance to learn critical life and work skills while making and selling mouth-watering treats.



You know those favorite local businesses that are there when you need them?

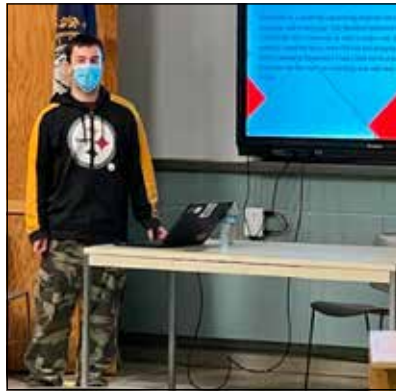
They need you.
Buy local. Eat Local. Live Local.



Find open Upper Valley businesses & farms by searching the Vital Communities Guide — vitalcommunities.org/guide

Bringing people together to cultivate the civic, environmental, and economic vitality of the Upper Valley

Thank you for supporting everything local



Tommy giving internship presentation



Riely Skarin



Tommy Spiker



Alicia Urista



Bryce Ashley

community. "Everybody knows they make guns," Riely says. "That is all most Newport folks think about them." In reality, firearms is just one of many industries they provide castings for.

"They also do a lot for the community and their employees," says Riely. "During Covid, students at the Richards School could not drink water from the school water fountains so Ruger donated hundreds of water bottles. They handed out turkeys and hams to employees during the holidays and they're involved with the Willey Perra Christmas Giving Program. In my internship, I spend time writing about the good things that Ruger does so people hear about this other side of them."

Riely is in the process of gathering detailed data from townspeople to explore how to improve the perception of outsiders and the actions of insiders to change those perceptions. "I created a QR code for the *Newport Times* that visitors could click on to fill out a questionnaire."

Riely hopes to attend Bentley University in the Fall where she plans on majoring in Marketing.

Tommy Spiker

Tommy is a Junior at Newport High, a quiet and determined young man who is planning on a career in industrial engineering/welding.

This is not just some kid thinking it would be fun to play with fire and wear a welding hood. When asked about his future in welding, Tommy points out: "The US currently is suffering from a 400,000 welder shortage. It is a huge career path." When pressed, he does admit to liking to play with fire, but he offers much more than that.

During his internship at Eichenauer, when challenged to reduce production costs, Tommy redesigned the production process, identified new and better tools, and delivered a 90% time reduction. "The tool is more expensive than what they were using," Tommy apologizes, "but in a short time, it pays for itself." Tommy wants to pursue further education in welding after his high school courses.

Alicia Urista

Alicia is buoyant and soft-spoken. When she took on the Internship at LaValley Building Supply in Newport, she wanted to explore the possibility of being an interior designer. She wanted to work with someone who designed kitchens and bathrooms, and she got her wish.

"The best thing I learned," she points out, "is that I wanted to expand beyond kitchens and baths and design all types of rooms. By working with Paul Lewis at LaValley's, I realized that there are many components that go into designing the interior of a home, and I want my career to encompass all of them. I learned a lot and am now certain that this is what I want to do." Alicia plans to major in Business at Lakes Region Community College next year. She'll then join the workforce and hopes to pursue a degree in interior design including whole-building design.

Bryce Ashley

Bryce is a confident, attentive, and earnest young man. He was headed into the military and knew that taking the EMT course would help ease his way: more pay, faster promotion, and

fewer weeks of training. It was all worked out. Until he started Interning at the Fire Department. All of a sudden, he was working with people and that changed everything for him.

"Now I am headed to DePaul to study Biochemistry. Then I want to go to medical school to become a surgeon." He pauses and grins, "Of course, I will continue to work with the EMTs. I love it."

Getting Started

There are many ways for students to connect with an Internship at SRVRTC. All students meet with Ms. 'O' or Hannah O'Connell, the school's College and Career Counselor, to discuss what they are looking for and to get suggestions about companies and strategies. Then each student interviews with a selected company. If both parties are positive, a contract is drawn up and the internship is scheduled. Internships basically run 3 to 5 months.

Given that, every student's experience is unique. Riely saw a listing for an internship that featured marketing and initiated the process herself. Alicia saw a banner outside LaValley's advertising interior design, and jumped at the chance. Bryce followed his carefully laid out plan to leverage EMT certification to improve his initial placement in the military. Tommy was approached by Ms. 'O' and recruited into his internship. "I saw him looking bored and asked him if he wanted to spend his time doing something more," says Opalinski. The rest, as they say, is history.

Director Opalinski firmly believes that whatever works, works. She is

exceptional at seeing where a student's passion lies and connecting that passion with an experience that can nurture it. The selected company may not know they can nurture it at the time, but Ms. 'O' is a change agent to be reckoned with. "I just love this so much!" She cares deeply about her students, their goals, their strengths, and their struggles...and she cares equally about the community and the businesses that keep it vibrant.

Larry Huot President of LaValley Building Supply commented on the internship experience:

"Work is a social experience. School is a social experience. Social experiences of all kinds create a community. At LaValley Building Supply, we see internships as opportunities to inspire young people to acquire the 'hallmarks' of good citizens of a community. We are here for a purpose. Part of that purpose is to enable the next generation to hone their talents so they can contribute to their communities."

The Future

"As you know, we have gotten funding to expand and renovate our Tech Center. But we are not only building a space, we are building a new direction in education," says Opalinski. "Multi-functional paths that mirror the reality of the world of work: curricula, internships, social organizations, links to community businesses and people, and work-based learning – all which can encourage students to follow their passion."

She and her CTE students really do love what they do...and do what they love. "And best of all," says Bryce, "we are having fun doing it!" ■

"You can't beat the work-based experience...being in a real workplace...being able to test things out with real workers in real time. It gives you a leg-up when it is time for you to go out there."

~ Riely Skarin

"The whole CTE program is helpful to any student – not just those choosing to go on to further education. And it can help you discover what you really want."

~ Alicia Urista

"I thought I had it all worked out. I was going to become an EMT and join the military. Then I started working as an EMT and it changed my whole perspective. Now I want to go into medicine."

~ Bryce Ashley

"The internship program lets you experience what a real job is like. It's real world learning. It increased my self-worth and gave me a lot of confidence to pursue my dreams."

~ Tommy Spiker

A Can-Do Kind of Company

Mel Reed

The main building at LaValley Building Supply in Newport looks and feels very much like the kind of place one might see in a Norman Rockwell painting...a treasure trove of solutions to any problem a customer might have peopled by friendly faces and helping hands. The Newport "Homebase" began here 60-years ago. Its floors have been polished by thousands of footsteps from 6 decades of service to the Newport community.

It is the ideal place to find solutions – a place where customers come first. That sounds trite – but at LaValley's, it is the simple truth. Their goal is to serve the customer no matter what that takes. The end result is a place where enduring relationships are built that can last a lifetime.

Larry Huot – son-in-law of co-founders Harold and Gerry LaValley – serves as president of LaValley operations. When asked how and why the company has, and continues to thrive, he says: "If it is good for the community, then it will be good for business."

He started out as a delivery driver in 1975. He explains that he had to think for a day or two before he accepted the job. "I studied forestry management in college, but all the jobs in forestry were out West and I didn't want to leave New England. When I finally accepted the offer, I told Harold I wasn't sure where I could be of help but just make sure I was always challenged." Larry smiles as he tells this tale. "Harold certainly kept that part of the bargain!" After a moment's pause, he added: 'Actually it was something Gerry said that sealed the deal. She said,



'If it doesn't work out, it won't kill you!' She was right and I'm still here."

When asked about his success guiding LaValley's operations, Larry's first thought is for his wife, Nancy. "I am blessed to have married my best friend, coach, and ally of 47 years." He then goes on to give credit first to the values he calls 'Hallmarks' of execution that he learned from his parents and were reinforced by Harold and Gerry: such things as responsibility for one's actions, reliability, trustworthiness, ownership, a thirst for learning, and doing the right thing.

Then he credits LaValley employees. Every employee at LaValley's 'owns' their job. Every employee is unique and has unique skills. "Our goal," says Larry, "is to create a workplace where workers excel not because they are told to, but because they want to." Nurturing those hallmarks creates a passion for the job. When opportunities to grow and learn new things are added to the mix, a vibrant, continuously growing workplace community is created. "You can be whatever you want to be here – you just have to work at it, be committed," says Larry.

Larry is not averse to risk. "If a person, or a business, or a community stops changing, it withers and may eventually die," Larry says. He takes ownership of decisions related to risk and future direction. But, even there, he stresses the need to seek input from others, especially employees. "Everyone needs a voice and needs to be heard," he says, "and we need to listen."

"Employees are the ones facing the customer, dealing with suppliers, running machines, and solving problems," he says. "Sure, someone has to set the direction, call the shots – but when it comes down to it, some of the best creativity, innovation, improvements, and solutions come from those people on the front line."

However, he admits that sometimes things must change and doing the 'right thing' can be hard and often not seen as the 'best' thing. Sometimes, those 'hard things' relate to choosing which requests for support will be accepted.

"We get requests for assistance every day... there is so much need. But we cannot support them all." After due consideration and some soul searching, it is Larry who delivers those decisions. "We do our best. We try to choose causes that are going to benefit the greater community where LaValley's operates. We have a responsibility to help citizens in the whole region."

You can find lists of projects and events that LaValley has supported on their Facebook page (and see sidebar).



Harold LaValley helped build a recreation complex on town-owned land adjacent to the high school in 1974.

"There are many ways to participate other than money or materials," he says. "Sometimes the presence of LaValley's is as helpful as financial support."

In Episode V of *Star Wars*, Yoda admonishes Luke Skywalker: "Do...or do not...there is no 'Try.' "

One feels that for Larry Huot, there is only 'Can... or decide not to...there is no Can't.' "Doing the right thing takes time," he says. It might not happen this week, or this month, or even this year." But it is obvious that if it is the 'right thing,' Larry will find a way to get it done.

"Business success is all about caring and a Can-Do attitude," says Huot. "And Newport is a 'Can Do' kind of community. We, here at LaValley's, feel blessed to be a part of that community." ■

A Legacy of Commitment

Two of the many contributions that LaValley's has made to Newport are the Athletic Recreation Complex (ARC) and Student Work Internships.

Internships for local high school students are often unpaid, although it does "cost" time and effort from an employee. Larry Huot says: "Internships are an opportunity to inspire students to get real world experience while acquiring the hallmarks LaValley's is based on."

The Athletic Recreation Complex (ARC) was envisioned in 1974. Harold and his daughter Lori led the effort to build tennis courts, a football field and a track on public lands next to the high school. Two years later, he helped bring a 30-meter ski jump from Lake Placid to the Complex.

Since then, the complex has grown to include basketball courts, a hockey rink, a football field, a disc golf course, a ski jump complex, a skate park, soccer fields, and a tennis court.

In describing the paramount importance of the ARC project to his fellow business associates and citizens of Newport, Harold wrote: "ARC is not simply a field for competitive athletics and recreation, but an investment in our citizens." He went on to implore his fellow business associates and citizens to "aid us in assuring the community of Newport continues to provide a healthier tomorrow for our citizens." ■



Photos of LaValley's community giving throughout the years as described in the publication celebrating their 50th anniversary

Richards Afterschool 4-H



Wonderful things often do not happen without volunteers. The Richards Afterschool 4-H groups, for example.

We want to take the opportunity to thank all the amazing people who give their time so generously to the students. *We could not do it without you!*

Thank you to our volunteers: Samantha Chalmus, Allysa Driscoll, Gay Gawron (a.k.a. "Granny G"), Ann-Marie Griffith, Kim Kapteyn, Justin Lord, Robin Maguire, Kayliegh Plante, Savannah Reed, and Hayley Richardson. ■

To learn more or to volunteer for 4H programs, please contact The Sullivan County 4-H Project Manager, Laurie Field, by emailing Laurie.Field@unh.edu, or calling (603) 863-9200.

To learn more about the Richards Afterschool 4-H groups, contact Family and Community Coordinator, Stacey Hammerlind, at SHammerlind@sau43.org or 802-222-0865.



Newport Montessori School

Have you ever wondered what exactly is Montessori? For more than a century now, the child-focused approach that Dr. Maria Montessori, an Italian physician, developed for educating children has been transforming schools around the globe. Montessori is an innovative, child-centered approach to education, developed a century ago by a woman ahead of her time.

As soon as you enter a classroom, you know that something different is afoot. Montessori classrooms are immediately recognizable. You will see children working independently and in groups, often with specially designed learning materials; deeply engaged in their work; and respectful of themselves and their surroundings.

The Montessori Method fosters rigorous, self-motivated growth for children and adolescents in all areas of their development – cognitive, emotional, social, and physical.

Montessori multi-ages classrooms at all levels. In our school we have two primary classrooms (prekindergarten I, prekindergarten II, and kindergarten), one lower elementary classroom (grades 1 and 2), one upper elementary classroom (grades 3, 4, 5) and two middle school classrooms (grades 6, 7, 8). Each classroom is lead by teaching pairs (with two full time teachers assigned to each room). We offer a 1:10 teacher to student ratio prekindergarten through grade 5, and a 1:15 teacher to student ratio in middle school.

The Newport Montessori School opened in 2005. For 16 years now, we have welcomed students ages 2.5 thru 14. Some students start with us as young preschoolers, while others transition to our school at older ages and grades. We welcome you to arrange a tour/visit of our school by calling us at 603-863-2243. ■



A kindergarten student working on the sensory olfactory matching lesson.



A 4th grade student using items found in nature to diagram and label plant cells.



Class celebrating their Easter Egg Hunt success

NCT in Action: Salvation Army

One of the three organizations that provide help through the Newport Community Trust is the Salvation Army. Since the Newport Salvation Army does not have an office or building, calls for help come directly to Bernice “Bunny” Perry at her home. This time it was a young man on the phone.

His story was unfortunately not that unusual. After a difficult and argumentative separation from an abusive wife, he had been granted custody of his three children: two boys – seven and three – and a baby girl – one. Homeless at the time, he got himself a job and found a tiny apartment. He had precious little else: hardly any clothing for the children, virtually no furniture – only an air mattress to sleep on, and no supplies at all for an infant.

Bunny remained positive. After getting the family’s details, she made an appointment to meet the young father at the thrift shop.

The thrift shop trip resulted in several outfits for the little girl, a small bathing tub, some towels, and two toy trucks for the boys. They did not have correct

sizes for the boys, but the inventory changes daily so they will keep trying.

The Salvation Army process is quite simple. A call for assistance comes in. Bunny or one of her team talks to the person in need. They prioritize what is most needed and what they can help with. Then they make an appointment to meet with the client, hopefully the next day. At that time a voucher for a business that best meets some of the needs is filled out. The client takes the voucher to the identified business. When the service is completed, the business sends the voucher to the bank which then issues a check to the business.

In reality, it is never quite that simple. Each client is only given one Salvation Army voucher, and the amount of that voucher is strictly limited. A single voucher is almost never enough. Bunny and her team – Bonnie Wheeler and Dan Herner – search for what else they could do for the family. Options include : Newport Community Trust – NCT is flexible in terms of how much financial aid can be provided to any single client and monies from NCT help increase the

number of vouchers the Newport organization can create; The Teaching Learning Center – TLC has two locations in Newport and might be able to provide diapers and other infant/toddler essentials; The Program for Emergency Church Assistance in Newport – PECAN helps local people in need of immediate financial help; Church Bulletin Boards – where requests for help and needed “in-kind” donations can be posted.

Most importantly, though, there is Bunny and her team. Real people that work together to help real people who find themselves in real trouble. Bunny and her team don’t give up. They keep working at it until they have exhausted every possible avenue of assistance.

“I still have many contacts and knowledge of what might assist members of our needy community,” says Perry. “I feel very blessed to be able to still do this for our families.”

It is that personal commitment that makes all the difference to their clients. ■

ANIMALS RULE

Wags and Wiggles

Kyro has spent a large portion of his young life in a shelter setting. A Texas native, Kyro found himself at Wags and Wiggles Rescue at the beginning of 2021. He was large, untrained, and needed our help. We reached out to Paws in Motion after failed adoption attempts; we wanted to give him the best possible chance at a forever home. Affectionate and willing to please, Kyro has come so far under the guidance of trainers Tim and Sandy Radford. He loves to hike, swim, and eat. Kyro would do best in an active home where he is the only dog. The biography for Kyro can be found on our website at www.wagsnwiggles.org. ■

Christiane Dionne, MBA, Executive Director
Wags and Wiggles Rescue; 51 John Stark Hwy., Newport



Marsden says, citing how the students grow from planning a flight and flying in the Microsoft flight simulator to piloting a plane from Parlin to nearby airports in Laconia or Rutland.

Beginner students, taught by instructor Robert Mitchler, receive basic instruction in the dynamics of flight, learn aircraft phraseology, get to fly simulated flights on one of Parlin's flight simulators, and complete projects and activities that introduce them to aviation. Students participate in pylon races with balsam airplanes they've built and experiment with the four forces of flight. Mitchler's favorite part of the camp is the smiles on the kids' faces when they get to fly. "Hopefully they come away with a passion for the aviation industry," he says, "A lot of kids don't come in necessarily thinking about [a career in aviation] but lots of them do when they leave."

Intermediate students, led by Tim Renner, refresh their basic knowledge and learn in-depth workings of an airplane, how to plan and prepare for a flight, and deeper knowledge of becoming a pilot or seeking a career in aviation. Growing up immersed in aviation, Renner says he "caught the bug" and has spent 15 years in the aviation field and is now passionate about sharing what he has learned and teaching the students.

Bill Sanborn, a Newport native and graduate of Newport High School, teaches the advanced students who complete projects including building their own aircraft wings, flying drones, planning learning about programs such as the Civil Air Patrol that can help them continue their training, and flying their own flights. Sanborn attended an ACE camp which led him to a career in aviation tech: "My hope is that the kids have fun, enjoy themselves, and learn something. And if they want to go into a career, they get a wealth of information!"

The highlight of the week for many



ACE student looks on at a KC-135 refueling boom operator at work



All ACE students will get a chance to experience flying

students comes Thursday when the NH Army National Guard typically fly their HH-60 Blackhawk helicopters to Parlin. Students get to explore the aircraft and every participant gets a chance to ride, soaring over Lake Sunapee and around Mt. Sunapee and Mt. Kearsarge.

The total for the camp is \$100 which covers all material, equipment, and travel costs for the week. The low cost is due to the incredible generosity of all involved, Marsden says, from the instructors to the pilots to the crew. "The pilots at Parlin are amazing and give everything," Renner says, "They volunteer their time, aircrafts, and fuel to the camp with no expectations." The program has benefitted from the experience of a diverse group of knowledgeable pilots at Parlin over the years, from retired commercial airline pilots to former military pilots to private pilots.

Marsden says the dedication of our current instructors is also what makes the camp extraordinary. "They're all willing to take lessons learned from previous years and improve upon what we have now."

The camp provides benefits beyond exposing the students to quality careers in the aviation field. Renner says his favorite part of the camp is "seeing how much the camp can change students. There's a real change in terms of confidence and focus. We see them grow and evolve and this can give

them a path forward. They might find something and say: 'I want to do this.'" Former students have gone to join the Civil Air Patrol and become volunteer firefighters.

Parents of students are able to see the positive effect the camp has on their children. "Amazing experience! I'm so glad it's back for the kids of Newport" says Chrissy Fratzel, a parent of former ACE program student Timmy Fratzel who attended all three years of the program.

Nick Heacock, whose son Brian graduated from the program and is intending to return this year as a volunteer, says it's exciting to be a parent of a student and recalls watching the Blackhawk helicopter fly over his backyard with the students inside: "If kids are thinking about a career in aviation, are curious about how flight works, or even just enjoy flying drones, I'd recommend it. It's a great program and we're lucky to have it here." His son states his favorite parts of the camp were mapping his own flights, getting to fly in the Blackhawk helicopter, drone races, and learning to fly.

Marsden says that in addition to having a positive impact on students, making a connection with the community is important to him: "We realize not everyone in the community uses the airport, and the camp is something everyone in the community can benefit from."

Parlin Field, first established in 1929 and nearly 100 years old, has a rich history of community involvement including the annual Wings and Wheels events, fly-ins and open houses, hosting fireworks displays on the main runway, the Easter Candy drop and hunt and, most recently during the COVID pandemic, hosting the NMHS Senior Prom inside of an open aircraft hangar. Bob Davis, a Parlin pilot who works with ACE Academy, has also opened his hanger to the Newport High wrestling team for winter practices and donated computers to the program.

The Newport Schools have also been a great partner, Marsden says, providing buses and drivers for the program field trips. Many of the ACE students are from the Newport area and when Marsden flies his small plane over football games in the fall, he gets a kick out of the fact that some of his students are out on the field. Some graduates of the ACE Academy are now going through the school's technical education program.

The ACE Academy continues a long tradition of supporting the youth of Newport through engaging activities, and introduces students interested in aviation to professionals, past and present, who help guide them on their own aviation journey. Renner says, "ACE is a fantastic camp for everyone involved and is always very much worth it. It's one of the best opportunities for kids interested in aviation. We hope to help kids follow their dreams of being in aviation and show them what the world of aviation has to offer."

After two years, the volunteers and pilots are excited: "I'm looking forward to getting back into it," Mitchler says, "The kids are going to have a lot of fun!" ■



Experienced aviators imparting knowledge to the next generation

Registration for the ACE Academy opened on April 15th, and the program runs from August 8th through the 12th beginning from 8:30am - 4pm Monday through Thursday and 8:20 am - 12pm on Friday. Interested students can find out more about the program and register by visiting ace.recycledpilots.com. For more information, please reach out directly to Parlin Field Managers Heath Marsden and Rick Kloeppel.

Job Openings in Newport

Universal Physical Therapy

Physical Therapist, Licensed in NH (FT or PT); Competitive Package; Small, Outpatient, Primarily Orthopaedic Practice; Come and Join our Amazing Team. Sandy or Myrtle at 603-863-3260 or universaltpt@yahoo.com

West Central Behavioral Health

Residential Specialist (2nd and 3rd shifts Full Time, Part Time & Per Diem). Arbor View provides clients with round-the-clock supervision and therapeutic services, with a focus on wellness, stress reduction, self-esteem, life skills, and community living skills. www.wcbh.org/careers-2

Bar Harbor Bank & Trust

Customer Service Specialist (Call Center) - Customer Service Representatives Looking for enthusiastic, customer focused team members. Competitive salary, medical/dental/vision/life insurance, paid holidays, 401(k) plan, paid time off, incentives, continuing education benefits. barharbor.bank/about-us/careers.

Cinnamon Street Early Education & Childcare Center

Full Time Toddler Teacher -Part Time Into Full time Teacher for After School Program

Participate in all phases of planning & implementation of developmentally appropriate experiences for ages 6 weeks to 12 years. Contact Alicia Pepin, Director, at cinnamonst1994@gmail.com or 603.863.4543.

Dominos Pizza

Full time or Part Time Shift Leaders, Drivers, and CSRs
Apply at nolimitdominos.efficientapply.com (Newport NH)

Eichenauer Inc.

Assembler (All Shifts) Do you enjoy the ability to develop skill at a task? Contact Tech Needs, 603-328-1212. **Machine Operator** (All Shifts) Help keep our wire machines running and keep our assembly line supplied with critical parts. Contact Tech Needs at 603-328-1212. **Quality Professional** We're looking for someone with manufacturing and quality expertise! Contact Tom Desrosiers at 603-863-1454 ext. 116.

LaValley Building Supply

Truss Assembler - Wall Panel Framer - Mitek Truss Designer - Sales Counter/Cashiering - Paint Specialist - Outside Sales - Professional - Commercial Sales Professional - Boom Truck Operator - Crane Truck Operator Flexible scheduling; Competitive pay; 401k & Profit Sharing; Health Savings & Co-pay Health Insurance; lavalleys.com; Lavalley's on Sunapee St, or Bridget at hr@lavalleys.com.

Newport School District

Math Teacher (Middle) • **Library/Media Specialist** (Middle/HS) • **Special Education Teacher** (Elementary, Self Contained) • **Para Educators** (All Levels, help to become Para II certified) • **Bus Drivers** (will train!) • **Substitute Teachers for All Schools**
sau43@org; schoolspring.com;
Sally, shooper@sau43.org.

Sturm, Ruger & Co. Inc.

Production Assoc. (1st/2nd/4th/5th shifts) • **Warehouse Assoc.** (1st Shift) • **Electronics Tech** (1st Shift) • **Svc.** (2nd Shift) • **Mfg. Engineer- Product Design Engineer - Supplier Dev. Engineer**
Competitive Pay; 401k/Profit Sharing; Medical, Dental, Vision, Flex Spending, SLTD, Supp. Life Insurance. ruger.com/careers.

Sugar River Bank

Audit/Compliance Officer - Sr. Retail Loan Officer - Loan Servicing Clerk - Float Teller

Our extensive benefit package includes 401K; Health, dental and life insurance; Short-term and Long-term disability; PTO; Paid holidays. sugarriverbank.com/about/career-opportunities.

Town of Newport

Truck Driver/Equipment Operator (Full Time) • **Utilities Technician, Water & Sewer** (Full Time) Visit NewportNH.gov and click on Job Openings.

Town of Newport Police Department

Patrol Officer (full time - 2 openings) Applicants can find more information about the hiring process at policeapp.com/Entry-Level-Newport-NH-Police-Officer-Jobs/2556/?Preview=1

United Construction

Hiring for the start of the Spring season: **CDL truck drivers, construction laborers, paving roller operator.** Pay aligns with experience. UnitedConstruction.biz or at the office, 250 North Main Street, Newport. NH

RUGER NEWPORT: PROUD TO CALL THIS HOME

Partner With a Payer Program: Bear Den Study

On March 7th, six employees from Ruger Firearms were invited by the US Fish & Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program to participate in their Partner with a Payer Program. On this day-long event we met up with Ben Kilham (owner of Kilham Bear Center), Tom Decker (USFWS), Andrew Timmins & Jake Debow (NH Fish & Game Bear Biologist) and a handful of other folks who were invited to see exactly how the Pittman-Robertson excise taxes are being used. For this particular Bear Den Study, NH Fish and Game were to sedate the black bear sow, as they needed to change the battery in her collar, and to weigh and tag her cubs. While Andrew Timmins and Jake Debow sedated that sow, Ben Kilham and Tom Decker took this opportunity to educate Ruger employees on the black bears in the state along

with the Pittman-Robertson Act. This act provides funding for the selection, restoration, and improvement of wildlife habitat and for wildlife management research through an excise tax on firearms, ammunition and archery equipment. A few of the accomplishments of the PR Act have been:

- 776 ranges for firearms and archery have been designed, renovated and opened to the public
- 1.3 million students have received their hunters education training
- 46.9 million acres are maintained for public access or habitat management

To learn more you can visit www.partner-withapayer.org. ■



We want to know what you think!

Take our Community Survey today!

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WRJ, VT
Permit Number 71
ECRWSS

Newport Times
Newport, NH 03773

Local Postal Customer

LaValley
BUILDING SUPPLY

PROUD SUPPORTER
of the NEWPORT TIMES



Committed to Quality



Weber Grills



6 FT
\$129.00

Picnic Tables



Celebrating Our People

- PREFAB PANELS • ROOF TRUSSES • CUSTOM DOOR SHOP
- FLOOR SYSTEMS • PAINT & STAIN • DRIVE-THRU LUMBERYARD

12 LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT NEW HAMPSHIRE & VERMONT

LAVALLEYS.COM