20 Pine Street, Woodsville, NH 03785 Phone: 603-747-2887

MAY 12, 2020 VOLUME 11, NUMBER 16

11 12 1 10 Memorial

Monday,

Day

TIMES

Email: Gary@TrendyTimes.com Website: www.TrendyTimes.com

Next Issue: Tuesday, May 26 Deadline: Thursday, May 21

Riverside Staff Delivers Learning Materials Directly To Student Homes

Lyndonville, VT - The COVID-19 outbreak has forced unprecedented changes to education and like other schools throughout the country, systems are being updated to respond to an environment of "learning from home."

"We are starting to see opportunities to improve systems to keep our students and parents engaged during this time of stay safe and stay home," said Michelle Ralston, Head of School. "School cannot be all remote learning. We are defining this period at Riverside as "home-based learning" where we work on standards and content that encourages the entire family's involvement in their child's learning."

When the lockdown first started, parents where coming to campus to pick up materials to bring home. As the state

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increased the number of mandates for stay safe/ stay home, parents became more apprehensive to drive to campus.

During the school week, Riverside faculty prepare individual student folders with learning materials for the following week. The folders are placed on the front porch of the school every Friday. On Saturday afternoons, Michelle Ralston, Sarah Broome, Assistant Teacher in Pre-K, and Sean Fortier, Health and Wellness Teacher for Grades PreK- 8 and the Director of the Extended Day Program load the folders into large family resource bags and deliver them to the homes of Riverside families. They

also pickup completed student work to take back to Riverside to distribute back to faculty. Resource bags are delivered to families of students in grades Pre-K - 3, sometimes for families of grades 4 and 5 (they have a mix of hands-on and digital), and grades 6-8 are all digital. 44 families are being served within a 40-mile radius from the school. The entire process takes the drivers three hours to complete.

Students are still encouraged to interact with each other every day, but online instead of in-person. "Our elementary grades start the day with Morning Meeting, just like a typical school day. Our educational bags include

hands-on materials such as worksheets, magnetic letters, manipulatives, and puzzles. These are supplemented with digital resources, like videos and online games. We are also working with parents to incorporate hobbies and passions of family members into daily learning," said Ralston.

"This world event has become an experience where we all are managing change on a daily, if not hourly, basis. I am proud of our faculty, staff, and parents who are working together to ensure that this period in history is a safe, healthy, and positive learning experience for their children."



Riverside Head of School Michelle Ralston (left) is pictured with Sean Fortier and Sarah Broome as they deliver weekly educational resource bags directly to student homes. They also pickup completed student work to take back to Riverside to distribute back to faculty. 44 families are being served within a 40-mile radius from the school. The entire process takes the drivers three hours to complete.



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Trendy Dining Guide Update

by Gary Scruton

ADDITIONAL EDITOR'S *NOTE: The following article is* the same as the one published in our March 31 edition. I can only add that changes continue to happen. So please check with your local establishment to get full details. Also, when possible, and being sure to do so in a safe manner, please consider patronizing some of these businesses during this very tough time. They will all have a difficult time surviving this time and any assistance we can offer will undoubtedly be greatly appreciated.

I probably don't need to tell anyone that times have changed. Both Vermont and New Hampshire Governors have closed down all restau-

rants and bars, for in house serving, until some time to be determined. This means that every one of the advertisers here in the Trendy Dining Guide have needed to evaluate their business and make changes.

Those changes have varied depending on the particular business, and in a couple of situations, have changed since the first orders came down from government.

Though I can not possibly give full updates on all of our advertisers I will try to give at least some current information for your evaluation.

In alphabetical order:

Bliss Village Store:

The Bliss Village Store has been a staple on the Main Street of Bradford for

many decades and continues to be open. Their deli case will continue to operate with food to go. There is also a large number of coolers for beverages, a good variety of fresh baked pastries, and many other "staples".

Everybuddy's Casual Dining:

This establishment has changed their hours in order to better serve those who are coming to get take-outs. They are now open Monday thru Thursday from 11 am - 7 pm, and Friday, Saturday & Sunday from 9 am until 7 pm. They are also using some of their time to do some remodeling inside.

Gather Together Cafe: Though Gather Together

is a fairly new establishment, it has become a favorite of many. With many in house baked items and fresh made coffee available they have continued to have those offerings. They have also added freshly prepared meals to go to the menu There are also new extended hours at Gather Together, 7 am - 6 pm Tuesday thru Saturday and 8 am - 1 pm on Sunday.

The Happy Hour **Restaurant:**

The Happy Hour has been located on Main Street in Wells River now for generations. Just a few years ago new owners took over and have continued many traditions while making changes to keep up with today's patrons. With this current situation they have also needed to make some changes. Though they initially tried take outs, they have since decided to simply close down all together until some later date after the crisis.

Hungry Bear Pub & Grill:

The Hungry Bear is one of those establishments that has needed to make changes since the order first came down. They began with takeouts available. But they have now decided to close entirely and take advantage of this time to do some more renovations . Again, reopening date is to be determined.

Polly's Pancake Parlor:

Polly's is currently open for curbside take out. Their hours are Friday, Saturday & Sunday 8:00 AM - 2;00 PM They are also fillling orders on line, like always.

Room 111 at Victory Lanes:

According to the Facebook page this establishment has decided to close entirely. As with the other businesses their reopening date is yet to be determined.

Tuttles Family Diner:

Tuttles has had a deli counter in place for some time now. That counter remains open along with the new addition of some grocery items. They are also offering take-outs, curbside service and even some local deliveries. They have also changed their hours to Monday thru Saturday from 7 AM - 7 PM.



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Helping Those Facing Food Insecurity

LITTLETON, NH - The All Saints' Community Food Cupboard is open and continues to serve families, individuals, and seniors in the northern Grafton County and bordering Vermont towns during the Coronavirus emergency. It's especially important during this emergency that people have access to good, nutritious meals to help maintain their health. The community food cupboard is open three days a week on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9-10 a.m. and everyone is welcome.

"These are extraordinary times and many of our neighboring families and individuals are facing food insecurity. The All Saints' Community Food Cupboard is here to help. Our food cupboard is well stocked and has a good selection of food items, frozen meats, fresh produce, and personal care products. Registration is quick and easy. Households (individuals, couples, families) can access the community food cupboard any two times in a calendar month. The community

food cupboard is adhering to CDC guidelines for physical-distancing, masks and use of single use bags. Anyone from the area's northern Grafton County towns and bordering Vermont towns is welcome at the food cupboard," stated Rebecca Hill-Larsen, All Saints Community Food Cupboard Program Manager.

The All Saints Community Food Cupboard is in Littleton and is located and best accessed from the rear of the Littleton Community Center parking lot at 120 Main Street. There is plenty of parking and the community food cupboard is handicapped accessible.

If an individual is not able to come to the community food cupboard in person due to health reasons then a friend, family member or caregiver can access the food cupboard for that person and complete the registration form and pick up food.

Food and nutrition are all part of good health. Stay safe and stay healthy! For more information, please call 603-444-3414.

Committed to Healing America, Braver Angels Expands NH Efforts

Political polarization, bitterness, and rancor are dividing Americans against each other in ways that threaten our republic. The divide between "reds" and "blues" has become so severe that we sometimes seem headed for a "civic divorce."

"I really wonder if our great nation can survive if we don't find a better way to listen to each other," observes Haverhill, NH resident Doug Teschner who was recently named as New Hampshire coordinator for Braver Angels, a national non-profit founded after the 2016 presidential election.

Braver Angels (formerly Better Angels) organizes workshops that teach skills on how to listen and speak to those with whom we disagree politically, including family members. The national non-profit brings together conservatives and liberals to find common ground – not to change their views of issues but to change their views of each other. Many continue

to meet, work together, and forge friendships despite initial tension and trepidation.

Braver Angels leaders from NH and ME are organizing an online documentary film screening of "Braver Angels: Reuniting America" on Thursday, May 28 from 7:00 pm to 8:45pm, which includes a post-film discussion. To RSVP for this no cost event, please use this link or contact Doug Teschner at dteschner@GrowingLeadershipLLC.com.

Teschner is a former NH State Representative who served as Peace Corps country director in West Africa and Ukraine. He currently does leadership training and consulting through his business, Growing Leadership LLC, and has also stepped up to take on this volunteer role with Braver Angels.

"I have been deeply con-

cerned about how political differences have become so personalized and divisive," Teschner observed. "I am excited to hopefully make a difference by helping people to embrace respect and learn ways to better communicate with each other."

Braver Angels is a membership organization led by a small staff and many volunteers. For more information, including the array of workshops, debates, book discussions, and online events, please go to https://braverangels.org/. You can also become a member for only \$12.

For more information:
Douglass Teschner
2100 Brushwood Rd.,
Pike, NH 03780 USA
(603) 989-5429
dteschner@GrowingLeadershipLLC.com



Cottage Hospital Is Ready To Serve After spending many We are continuing to limit ing tirelessly to ensure that

After spending many weeks to months preparing for a surge of Covid-19 patients, we feel that our staff are prepared to care for our community. At the same time, we want everyone to know that we are here for all of your health care needs.

Our clinics, including surgical services, orthopedics, internal medicine and podiatry are open and taking measures to provide physical distancing so that we may provide a comfortable and safe visit for you with your provider. Laboratory and radiology services are available.



We are continuing to limit visitation to protect our staff and patients. We ask you to notify your provider prior to your appointment if you have a fever or respiratory illness.

Our Chief of emergency medicine, Dr C. Chad Findley M.D., would like everyone to know that the frontline ED staff are work-

everyone presenting to the Cottage Hospital Emergency Department receives excellent care. They are prepared to care for anything from Covid-19 to any other emergency. He encourages anyone that feels they need to be seen to come on in. It is better to be safe than wait to long.







NOTICE

The Woodsville Fire District
Annual Meeting originally
scheduled for March 25th
is now scheduled for
Wednesday, May 20th
at 7pm in the
Ambulance Bay at the
Emergency Services Building.

Take care of yourselves
Per: Woodsville Precinct Commissioners



Carefully...Moving Forward

This past week, Saint Anselm released a poll surveying New Hampshire voters attitudes toward the COVID-19 crisis, the 2020 elections, and elected officials. Here is a quote from a WMUR article:

"Granite Staters overwhelmingly approve of the way Gov. Chris Sununu is handling the COVID-19 crisis and while most say their lives are being significantly impacted by restrictions prompted by the pandemic, they also strongly believe that public health concerns should take precedence over economic concerns when considering reopening the state."

In his message to the people of New Hampshire on May 1, the Governor said, "The people of New Hampshire have taken this epidemic incredibly seriously; we have all played a small part in flattening the curve and slowing the spread of COVID19. We all know you are healthier at home, and that continues to be true, but we are also taking steps to reopen our economy in a smart, step-by-step approach that is supported by facts, science and data." Universal Guidance has been issued for any business that is currently open, or will soon be opening, under carefully identified steps. The universal guidance plan will serve as the bare minimum standards that businesses must meet to maintain or begin operations. For specific industries with specific operational procedures, industry specific guidance has been identified. All applicable industries are able to start opening up in incremental phases as determined by Public Health. Information regarding NH's Universal Guidance 2.0 Plan can be found at:

https://www.governor. nh.gov/news-media/ stay-at-home/documents/20200501-universal. pdf

NH's previous "stay at home" order has been extended beyond May 4 as modified by the "Universal Guidance" plan just released. The Governor has arqued, and rightfully so, that given an ongoing outbreak in Massachusetts, New Hampshire can't risk becoming a destination for Bay Staters willing to cross border. Re-opening restaurants and retail outlets could raise the risk of spreading the pandemic in the Granite State. "You look at the maps county by county in Massachusetts; the hot spots are the North Shore," Sununu said. Massachusetts' hot spots border NH's Hillsborough and Rockingham counties. Although many individuals just want to open New Hampshire to the way it was, the Governor has indicated by doing so throughout May would be incredibly irresponsible, and according to the polls, most

people understand.

The annual event known as Laconia Bike week, which draws thousands of motorcycle riders to the state each June, has been postponed because of COVID-19. The Laconia City Council has voted to move the event to the week of August 22. Bike week is an economic driver for the state; it had been scheduled from June 13 to June 21. On a bright note, after a two-month hiatus, the first NASCAR race of the season will be held Sunday, May 17, at Darlington Raceway in South Carolina. I'll be tuned in! Even though the stands will be empty, we are cautiously on our way to a "new normal."

NH's legislature is gradually getting back into business. In the past week I have attended numerous remote commission meetings tasked to identify and recommend a new statewide school funding model that will better support all students regardless of local community disparities. Progress is being made.

Respectfully Submitted, Rep Rick Ladd

Let's Get Back To Work In New Hampshire

by David J. Starr

Most of us need our paychecks. And we need the food, lumber, paper, and a zillion other products we used to produce. We have been living off inventories and those inventories are running out. Check out your grocery store. They are out of toilet paper and paper towels, pork, beef, Quaker Oats, lotta stuff. We have plenty of hospital beds.

By all accounts the Corona virus is not terrible dangerous for the young, (under 50) and the healthy. They ought to be allowed to get back to work, they need the money, and we need the production. Those of my age are at higher risk. Yet I am fully prepared to take that risk just to enjoy eating something besides my own cooking for once. We ought to let manufacturers, retailers, barber shops (I NEED a haircut), restaurants, motels, campgrounds, just about everything to open. We ought to allow anyone who feels going back to work is too dangerous to stay quarantined at home and draw their unemployment. Businesses should be able to require their customers and employees to wear face masks. We should protect local businesses from predatory lawsuits. Workers or customers should not be allowed to sue businesses just because they came down with Corona virus.

Many of us in New Hampshire make our living supporting the tourist trade. We cannot give our tourists from Massachusetts the cold shoulder. It's reasonable to ask them to wear face masks, it's reasonable to take their temperatures. It is not reasonable, not is it polite, to drive them back to Massachusetts.

David J. Starr
Blog:http://www.newsnorthwoods.blogspot.com
603 823 5319
22 Ridge Cut Road
Franconia, NH, 03580

Cathleen Fountain Kicks Off Campaign For NH State Senate District #1

our future depends on in-

Cathleen Fountain recently declared her candidacy for New Hampshire's District 1 State Senate seat. As a Navy veteran service has been the cornerstone of her life, whether volunteering in multiple capacities in the town of Dalton, assisting folks with disabilities to manage their finances, and now stepping up to run for the State Senate. As with most veterans, service is not partisan and does not end when they leave the

Cathleen has deep roots in the North Country. Her husband's family has called Dalton home since the mid 1800's, and she and her husband are continuing this legacy by living on the family land. Her record of community service is extensive, including assisting in building the Town of Dalton's website and partnering with John Tholl to offer a computer café to local citizens. Cathleen understands that

vesting in the North Country and its people. "While our infrastructure includes roads, bridges and rail service, reliable Internet access, broadband, and cellular service are increasingly crucial, especially as students rely on online learning opportunities and medical practitioners connect with their patients via telemedicine technology."

As a Supervisor of the Checklist, Cathleen sees

As a Supervisor of the Checklist, Cathleen sees the importance of "a safe, accurate and secure voting process." She emphasizes that, "All deserve to have access to voting, and we must plan now for the upcoming Primary and General elections, especially given the current Covid-19 situation."

As an honors Business Administration graduate of SNHU with over 30 years of experience in business accounting, Cathleen will bring unique skills to address issues such as educational funding. Cathleen states, "Our current support for local education is hurting our communities. We cannot adequately support education by shifting costs to local taxpayers. This structural reliance is problematic, especially in the North Country and we can't live beyond our means."



Cathleen believes that "North Country issues, concerns, and strengths are quite different from southern NH. We need a strong and independent voice in Concord." Although COVID-19 crisis makes communication difficult in some ways, Cathleen believes, "the North Country is not simply characterized by problems. We are a resilient community. I know that you, your families, friends and neighbors will do what's needed. This is what we do in the North Country. I would like to hear from you, regardless of party affiliation." Cathleen is running to be the North Country's State Senator because "I believe I can be an effective voice for you in Concord, and hope you will honor me with your support." You can contact Cathleen via her website (https://www.cathleenfountain.org/), email (fountainfornh@gmail.com), or call her at (603) 998-8358.

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NEW TIRES TOO!!!

Colonial Theatre Introduces The Colonial (a) Home

The Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem has opened for the season...virtually. The Theatre was originally scheduled to open for the season May 2, however in light of the current health crisis a physical opening was not possible. Instead the Theatre has devised a work around and launched The Colonial@Home streaming the best of independent films, documentaries and world cinema. New films will open every Saturday, additionally there are special member's discounts on a host of other digital entertainment opportunities. Executive Director, Stephen Dignazio explains, "While nothing will replace the experience of seeing a movie with friends at The Colonial, we're excited to offer high caliber programming to our audience, wherever they may be. Purchasing a ticket to The Colonial@Home films is just one way you can help support The Colonial Theatre as this crisis continues to unfold. The Colonial@Home revenue is split between film distributors and The Colonial - 50% of ticket sales directly supports our nonprofit Theatre."

Current streaming features include Saint Francis, which approaches an array of weighty issues with empathy, humor, and grace -- and marks star and writer Kelly O'Sullivan as a tremendous talent to watch. Currently scoring a 98% on Rotten Tomatoes. Once Were Brothers: Robbie Robertson and The Band. A confessional, cautionary, and occasionally humorous tale of Robbie Robertson's young life and the creation of one of the most enduring groups in the history of popular music. Fantastic Fungi, A consciousness-shifting film that takes us on an immersive journey through time and scale into the magical earth beneath our feet, an underground network that can

heal and save our planet. This id the first of The Colonial's Wild Thing Film Series presented in partnership with Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT). "Zoom" in on Friday, May 8 at 6 PM to get all of your burning fungus questions answered with an informative presentation and Q&A with New England's forest pathologist for the U.S. Forest Service, Dr. Isabel Munck.

And finally, for opening week, The Best of Cat VideoFest: The Creature Comfort Editions. Rated TC (for Too Cute) Long-time Cat-VideoFest curator extraordinaire, Will Braden, has crafted a brand-new, 40-minute "cat treat" of a reel that includes the very best and most hilarious videos from CatVideoFest's illustrious history.

Live performances for the 2020 Season are provisionally scheduled to begin in July. All LIVE! @ The Colonial ticket purchases will be fully refunded in the event of cancellations or postponements. Tickets purchased for a show that has been rescheduled will be automatically honored for the new date or refunded should the ticket holder be unable to attend

For more information about 2020 season plans and events visit The Colonial website at BethlehemColonial.org. While you are there sign up for regular email updates or follow the Theatre on Instagram (bethlehemcolonial), Facebook (Facebook. com/BethlehemColonial) or Twitter (@ColonialNH).

Weathervane Theatre Delays Season Opening to August 1

Whitefield, NH - Producing Artistic Director Ethan Paulini and the Weathervane Theatre, a professional, award-winning, equity theatre in Whitefield, NH, announce that due to COVID-19 the summer season will start Saturday, August 1 as opposed to the originally announced Friday, July 3.

"It is my belief that everyone deserves access to quality, professional theatre, said Paulini. "The North Country is an amazing place to create live theatre. I am working around the clock, with my incredible and dedicated staff, to try and deliver on those expectations."

With so much still to be determined, the individual safety, health, and well-being of Weathervane's patrons, staff, and all of the North Country has to come first. This delayed opening and modified season was made based on all available information from national and local health experts and officials. Weathervane will continue to monitor and adapt under their guidance with North Country's best interest in mind.

In addition to a delayed start date Weathervane will also be reducing capacity by 50% to ensure social distancing guidelines for seating. Post show Meet and greet has been eliminated for the season and hand sanitizing stations will be placed throughout the building.

The modified 2020 Sum-

mer season featuring four productions in alternating rep Aug 3 - Sept 4 is DI-SASTER!, BUYER & CEL-LAR, HELLO, DOLLY!, and a title to be announced featuring the Weathervane Intern Company. BUBBLE & SQUEAK, the free opening night musical revue sponsored by Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare, will kick off the season on August 1. Previously and highly anticipated titles (Kinky Boots, The Addams Family, Amadeus, and Green Day's American Idiot) have been postponed to Season 56 in 2021. The previously announced special event Classic Whitney: Alive! starring Kevin Smith Kirkwood has also been postponed.

The 2020 Fall season is still planned to be produced as originally announced. LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, MIRACLE ON SOUTH DIVISION STREET, and THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND will run in alternating repertory September 5 - October 11th.

At this time Weathervane is putting the finishing touches on its Patchwork Players, theatre for young audiences, season. Further updates to be announced in the near future.

Current subscribers will be contacted regarding their subscription packages and exclusive booking period. Subscription packages and group sales are currently available. There is no financial risk for any ticket buyer for Season



2020. For more information call 603.837.9322 or email boxoffice@weathervanetheatre.org. Single tickets will be on sale for subscribers on Tuesday, May 12th and for the general public on Tuesday, May 19th. Tickets range from \$19 - \$39. Additional information will be available on our website - www.weathervanetheatre.

The Weathervane Theatre was founded in 1965 by Gibbs Murray and the late Tom Haas and is under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Ethan Paulini. For over half a century, it has presented high quality professional productions of plays and musicals. One of the few remaining alternating rep companies in the United States, the Weathervane is recognized as a historical institution nationwide, boasting among its alumni Elizabeth Stanley, Tally Sessions, four-time Tony nominee Judy Kuhn and recent Tony Award Winner Ari'el Stachel.

Weathervane can be found on Facebook at / weathervanetheatre and all other social media platforms @weathervanenh.

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Thanks in Advance, Winston Oakes



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Why Should You See a Financial Advisor?

The social distancing and stayat-home orders necessitated by the coronavirus have led many of us to feel isolated. Still, we've fought back through social media, "virtual" gatherings and walks in the neighborhood, where we could greet friends and neighbors (from 6 feet away). But when you're dealing with the financial effects of the virus and you're investing alone, you could encounter some problems that may prove costly.

Of course, with so much investment-related information available online, on television and in any number of periodicals, it's not surprising that some people feel they can invest without any assistance. But the volatility of the financial markets over the past few months has also pointed to the dangers of going solo in the investment world. And you might find that a professional financial advisor can help you in several ways, including the following:

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Taking emotions out of investing. During this period of marturbulence, many self-guided investors are letting their emotions drive their investment decisions. As a result, they sell investments when their price is down, "locking in" their losses. Furthermore, if they then stay out of the financial markets, they will miss out on the eventual recovery - and some of the biggest gains in market rallies usually occur right at the beginning. But if you work with a financial advisor who has helped you develop a personalized investment strategy based on your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, you will be far less likely to react to extreme market conditions by making ill-advised decisions.

Maintaining perspective. When you're putting away money for the future and you suddenly have a lot less of it, you might start to wonder if that future is somehow in jeopardy. But if you've been working with a financial advisor and following your investment strategy, you'll know that you don't have to immediately cash out those investments that have lost value. and you may not need to liquidate them for decades if they were designed for a long-term goal, such as retirement. By the time you do need to sell them, their value may well have appreciated significantly. And if you've got a well-constructed portfolio, you'll also own shorter-term, less volatile investments to help meet your current cash flow needs.

Understanding the history of investing. The recent market instability is unique in the sense that its cause - a worldwide pandemic is so highly unusual, and it hopefully will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Typically, prolonged market downturns are triggered by explainable financial or economic factors, such as the bursting of the "dot-com" bubble in 2000. However, market drops of 20 percent or more - generally referred to as bear markets - are not at all unusual and have happened every few years over the past several decades. Financial advisors are well aware of this history and share it with their clients. And for many people, the knowledge that "we've been here before" is reassuring and makes it easier for them to continue following their investment strategies.

The road to your financial goals is a long one, with many twists and turns. So you might like to have some experienced company along the way.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

irginia

by Elinor Mawson

Sometime during the seventies I was in a group antique shop with a few friends. One of them, Louise, (of whom I have written in the past) announced one day that her friend Virginia had invited her to visit for the weekend. "And," she announced, "I can invite 3 friends to go too!" Virginia lived on mid-coast Maine and the invitation sdounded like a good release from cabin fever. So Louise invit-

ed me as well as two other friends, Ron and Roger, and we got ready and started off.

All during the 3-hour ride, Louise regaled us with stories about Virginia. Virginia lived in a very large house, her husband had died and left her well off, she had a lot of friends, her kids were grown up and gone, she was well-known in town, she had another house in a nearby town near Andrew Wyeth's home--and on and on.

When we got nearer to Viirginia's house, Louise told us that if she wasn't home, one of us would have to climb in through a window in her barn and let the rest of us in. "Strange" we thought. And of course Virginia wasn't home and Ron was elected to do the climbremarked on how cold it was inside. We looked around for a coffee pot or tea bags, but all we could find was a nearly empty jar of instant coffee with the price of 59 cents stamped on the cover. And even in the 70's that was cheap.

Virginia finally came home and announced that she was hosting a dinner party for all of us that evening. We dressed in party clothes and came downstairs to greet her friends, all of whom had covered dishes in their hands. Virginia played hostess and

we were served family style. There was just enough food to go around, and when the guests left, they took their empty serving dishes home with them. The four of us did the rest of the dishes.

Louise and I shared the guest room, which was COLD. We put on our night clothes and a couple of sweaters to sleep in. It wasn't much warmer when we woke up the next morning, and we dressed warmly to go out to breakfast. I don't recall the rest of that day or where we had our meals, but they weren't at Virginia's house.

The following morning we were awoken by Virginia's happy voice. "Wake up everyone! I 'm on my way to Machu Pichu! You can let ing. When we all got in, we yourselves out when you're ready to go home. Have a nice day!"

We were flalbbergasted! She hadn't mentioned she was going traveling! We got dressed and ready to go, knowing that we would be having breakfast on the road. We spent the next 3 hours discussing our visit. It had to be one of the strangest visits of our lives.

As odd as it sounds, this is a true story. And it doesn't end here. We returned to Virginia's for another visit a year later, and I will write about it next time.



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Thank you for your understanding.



RENDY A Free Publication

Acceptance Topics

Disability and Aging by Cyndy Wellman

Motivation

I just don't get it. Generation gaps, kids, young adults have no desire to do much. They want things for free. Not unless you're in a family. Maybe likes to do outside activities. Including go places in a structure atmosphere!

What went wrong? I get it's not easy being a parent/ guardian. But where is the discipline/structure? Wondering why the younger generation has no desire. Could it be from split families? Or parents who didn't take the time? Perhaps dysfunctional living situation. These children n' young adults know no different.

These young people have no ambition and will end up in a Nursing Home/Jail before they know it. Last year I tried to get a young child/ approx. 10 years old to aarticipate in Bocce "a game of Italian origin like lawn bowling played on a long narrow usually dirt court." I even said, "no pressure, you can watch." To my disappointment this child was playing video games on his phone. It was beautiful out. And he was laying down on the couch. (He was feeling



fine.) I don't know about you but when I was growing up. I couldn't wait to be outside. Friends, bike rides, swimming, hiking, kick the can, to frisbee football. Maybe walk through a corn maze. As a young adult I had a social life and jobs. To this day, I still get up. I love the fresh air/ comfortable a.m. Do what the day has planned for you, and feel great about it. Don't waste it away. Like the younger generations do!!

Another example: Last year I rented temp. with a 23 yr. old man who very much acted like a teenager. No job, social life and nobody came to visit him. He would take a shower once a week. His laundry was only half washed. He would go to Walmart for groceries only. My husband and I would ask him to join us for supper and hiking. He always had an excuse. Totally a bum in a small bedroom. Playing video games! Before we moved he finally got a job through Amazon. Still no people contact and no social life. True example of how Millennium life is!





What About Ma?

by Kellie Quackenbush

All About **Mother's Day**

This year Mother's Day was very different, COVID-19 and social distancing has assured that. We have not seen Ma since February and Mom has been waving from her window at us since the first part of March. The want is great but safety is a priori-

Many people have had to make a hard choice, practice social distancing or "sneak a hug", do we believe that one visit could cause our loved one to get infected and sick? You are reading this after Mother's day, you have done what you thought was best in your situation. Father's day is coming soon and you will know by then if "someone" had gotten your mother sick by "sneaking a hug".

This past Wednesday CNN weighed in on the question, "Travel and un-

certainty will make not only the day itself unsettling, but for the two weeks afterward every sneeze, every cough and every ache experienced by anyone will spark panic and regret. The visit is simply not worth the risk -- however small -- of exposing Mom to the virus that causes Covid-19." www.cnn. com/2020/05/06, The article goes on to discuss the sad state of senior care in nursing homes with a truly sad comment on the New Jersey shocker (hiding bodies in a storage shed), "So for a Mother's Day gift this year, in addition to the scarf or picture frame or home-drawn greeting card, consider making noise. Call someone -- a President, a senator, a governor, a mayor, a hapless Cabinet member, anyone and everyone -- to deliver

one loud message: The cru-

el and unusual punishment of the elderly, who raised us, loved us, and protected us for our entire life, simply cannot continue."

Of course, keeping visitors out of the nursing homes, checking on staff and making sure that everybody, especially the aids and food workers, are getting enough rest to be safe from illness will help keep our senior population safer. As family and friends of people in assisted living, people in nursing homes or rehabilitation centers and any other institution, we have a duty to be vigilant and call them frequently. It would be hard for a facility to not address your concerns if you are regularly calling your loved one.

Gram, Gramps, mom and dad are all important people who brought us into this world. In this time of social distancing, taking a moment to call someone or writing a guick note and mailing it would be a kindness. Sometimes, the smallest act of kindness can be the difference between a good day and a bad.

Be safe and send someone a note.

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Paddle the Border -Spring Sunday, May 17th Is CANCELED due to COVID-19 **PANDEMIC**

Paddle the Border - Fall Sunday, October 4th Is still being planned.



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New Hampshire's Public Higher Education Colleges and Older Americans Month 2020: 9 **Universities Plan to Open to Students in Fall 2020**

CONCORD, N.H. - The 18 locations of the University System of New Hampshire (USNH) and the Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) intend to welcome students back to campuses for the fall term and are working closely with state leaders and health professionals to develop guidelines and criteria that institutions will follow to support a safe return. As the institutions plan for a return to campus, internal task forces are also preparing for scenarios along a spectrum of on-campus, socially distanced and online learning components in the event that some forms of remote learning may need to continue. The institutions are making investments over the spring and summer to improve technology and support their teaching and learning environments as they further develop high quality, blended learning capabilities. These new capabilities will allow the colleges and universities to more seamlessly include remote learning elements, if necessary, and provide students with options to meet their individual needs.

In addition, the institutions of the Community College System are making plans to bring students back into labs this spring and summer to complete the required hands-on components of their coursework in technical programs.

"We are pleased to speak as one voice for public higher education in New Hampshire to say that we will be here to serve students this coming academic year," said Susan Huard, Ph.D., interim Chancellor, Community College System of New Hampshire. "This Spring has shown us how adeptly our faculty, staff and students can adjust to changing circumstances. Higher education supports strong communities and our state's economy in so many ways through fulfillment of our public mission, and we will continue providing the opportunities that our residents rely on to sustain a high quality of life in the Granite State."

"The vibrance, creativity, talent, and impact of our students, faculty, and employees who inspire our mission to the state of New Hampshire are missed, and we are working diligently to restore safe frameworks that will enable the return of our communities and their impact on our local economies," said Todd Leach, Chancellor, University System of New Hampshire.

The University System of New Hampshire (USNH) enrolls 32,000 students and consists of four public institutions: Granite State College, Keene State College,

Plymouth State University and the University of New Hampshire. USNH strives to ensure the availability of appropriate and accessible higher educational opportunities throughout New Hampshire and addresses critical state workforce needs. A 29-member Board of Trustees is responsible for overseeing the University System.

The Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) consists of seven colleges, offering associate degree and certificate programs, professional training, transfer pathways to four-year degrees, and dual-credit partnerships with NH high schools. The System's colleges are Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth and Rochester; Lakes Region Community College in Laconia; Manchester Community College: Nashua Community College; NHTI - Concord's Community College; River Valley Community College in Claremont, Lebanon and Keene; and White Mountains Community College in Berlin, Littleton and North Conway. The seven community colleges in the system are committed to working with businesses throughout the state to train and retain employees to develop a robust workforce across all sectors and embraces the "65 by 25 Initiative," which calls for 65% of NH citizens to have some form of postsecondary education by 2025 to meet future workforce demands.

Make Your Mark

Around the nation, older adults in the Northeast Kingdom make their marks every day as volunteers, employemployers, parents, grandparents, mentors, and advocates. They offer their time, talents, and experience to the benefit of our communities.

Every year for 57 years, Older Americans Month (OAM) has been a special time to recognize these contributions. OAM also provides resources to help older Americans stay healthy and independent, and materials to help communities support and celebrate their citizens.

This year's OAM theme, Make Your Mark, highlights older adults' unique and lasting contributions to their communities-everything from sharing a story with grandchildren to leaving a legacy of community action. In the spirit of this theme, the NEK Council on Aging is highlighting special volunteers, partners, and staff who Make Their Mark in support of elder and disabled NEK residents. Look for our stories in your area newspapers, blogs, and on social media. Here are a few ways to Make Your Mark this May and all year long:

Volunteer your time. Local schools, shelters, meal sites, and hospitals always need support. Help a neighbor by prepping a meal, picking up groceries, or giving them a ride. Or, take time to pass on your knowledge. Lead a wellness class. Call a friend with a friendly hello.

Share your story. There are so many ways to do this, from showing your grand-



kids around your old neighborhood to writing a book. Take a class and learn how to express yourself with the arts! Or, assemble a photo album of important moments in your life.

Get involved in your neighborhood. Join a local historical association or service organization or sign up for a book club or other social group. Have a green thumb? Small projects like planting flowers in your yard or cleaning up the community park have a big impact. Create a portable garden for the porch of your senior neighbor.

When we address the needs of older Vermonters, we improve the lives of all Vermonters. Please join us in our mission to provide the tools for communities to age well. We continue to welcome volunteers and donations. If you have a desire to share your time or treasure with the NEK Council on Aging, call us at (800) 642-5119. Thank you for your support.

Meg Burmeister **Executive Director NEK Council on Aging**

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Woodsville Wells River 4th of July Celebration Cancelled For 2020

very heavy heart, but I do it would need to extend much, these events. With the curwith the knowledge that this much further than just those rent state of the economy too will pass and that better times will return.

The Woodsville Wells River Fourth of July Committee has made the determination that we shall not host a 4th of July celebration in 2020. There will be no parade, no field activities and no fireworks display.

Allow me a brief explanation on these three decisions.

First: the parade. This interstate spectacular brings thousands of people to Route 302 (Central Street in Woodsville and Railroad Street & Main Street in Wells River) to watch the entertainment roll by. In order to maintain any type of "social

I write this letter with a distancing" the parade route two villages.

Second: the field activities on the Community Field in Woodsville. Again thousands of people normally attend and there is no easy way to keep social distancing and sanitary conditions in effect.

Third: the annual gigantic fireworks display. Though we had suggestions about moving the display, we still had the same issue. There is no way to make sure that those attending will maintain social distancing for themselves and for the others attendina.

A final note is that this committee normally raises and spends in excess of

\$20,000 per year to put on we feel it is not reasonable to ask our local businesses to make their annual contributions when their very livelihood may be at risk.

Therefore we are canceling the events now with the hopes that in 2021 we will be able to return with new inspiration to make things bigger and better. We hope you understand. We also want to wish all a very happy 4th of July and hope you all remain safe and healthy.

Gary Scruton, President Woodsville Area Fourth of July Committee PO Box 50 Woodsville, NH 03785

1937 NH-Vt Bridge Named to National Register of Historic Places

The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources has announced that the Lyme-East Thetford Bridge has been honored by the United States Secretary of the Interior with placement on the National Register of Historic Places for its role in interstate transportation and as one of only two bridges of its type in New Hampshire.

Built in 1937 in the midst of the Great Depression, the Lyme-East Thetford Bridge connects the towns of Lyme, N.H., and East Thetford, Vt., across the Connecticut River, which forms the border between the two states.

The site's long history as a crossing between the two communities was first documented as a ferry landing in 1780. An 1840s bridge provided Lyme residents with access to the railroad in East Thetford; a second bridge, built in the mid-1890s, was destroyed during a flood in 1936 when large cakes of ice knocked out its middle section.

At 471 feet, the Lyme-East Thetford Bridge is the longest two-span Parker Truss bridge in New Hampshire.

Charles H. Parker's original design for metal bridges incorporated a bowstring arch. The arch on Parker truss bridges is variation of flat-topped Pratt truss bridges, commonly used for railroads. Most moderate- to long-span highway bridges built in New Hampshire during the 1920s and 1930s adopted the Parker truss design.

Begun in February 1937, the Lyme-East Thetford Bridge was built when changes in steel rolling technology made it possible to use sectional beams, making truss bridge construction faster and less expensive. Steel components and other elements for the bridge were shipped by rail to East Thetford.

American Bridge Com-

pany, a subsidiary of J.P. Morgan's United States Steel Company, fabricated steel components for the bridge. The company was the contractor for the original Memorial Bridge between Portsmouth, N.H., and Kittery, Maine, and worked on projects nationwide, including the Oakland Bay Bridge and the Empire State Building.

A mid-river reinforced concrete pier as well as the bridge's abutments rest on 12-foot steel piles driven into the river bottom. In an effort to avoid the destructive flooding that destroyed earlier bridges at the site, each is higher than substructures on the previous bridge.

The engineer who designed the substructure, Gordon Whittum, was also a construction engineer on the Cannon Mountain Aerial Tramway.

The Works Progress Administration provided most of the funding for the Lyme-East Thetford Bridge. The WPA had little handson involvement with New Hampshire flood bridges but did require compliance with minimum standards such as right-of-way width. By October 1936, more than 200 WPA flood projects in New Hampshire were completed, nearing completion, had received approval or were ready to start.

The Lyme-East Thetford Bridge was placed on the N.H. Department of Transportation's "red list" of bridges in 2013, requiring it to be inspected twice a year.

Administered by the National Park Service, which is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior, the National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of historic resources worthy of preservation and is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate and protect our

COVENTRY LOG HOMES historic and archaeological resources.

Listing to the National Register does not impose any new or additional restrictions or limitations on the use of private or non-federal properties. Listings identify historically significant properties and can serve as educational tools and increase heritage tourism opportunities. The rehabilitation of National Register-listed commercial or industrial buildings may qualify for certain federal tax provisions.

In New Hampshire, listing to the National Register makes applicable property owners eligible for grants such as the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program or LCHIP (Ichip. org) and the Conservation License Plate Program (nh. gov/nhdhr/grants/moose).

For more information on the National Register program in New Hampshire, please visit nh.gov/nhdhr or contact the Division of Historical Resources at 603-271-3583.



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Kenneth "Beau" Johnston: **OBITUARY**

Kenneth "Beau" Johnston, 67, of Norton, VT passed away Saturday, May 2, 2020 at Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook, NH. Beau was born September 19, 1952 in Greenville, Maine.

He worked for 30+ years at the St. Johnsbury Correctional Facility until he retired.

Beau leaves behind his loving wife, Julie Johnston of 30 years, his daughter, Ali Dunham and son-in-law Ernie Dunham of Bradford, VT, and his daughter, Ila Goodspeed and her husband, Ed Goodspeed of Canaan, NH. He also leaves behind his four grandchildren, Cayden and Layla Dunham, and Holly and Jeremiah Goodspeed, and many other family and friends.

On top of being a great husband, father, grandfa-



ther and friend, he was a great sports fan. He loved the New York Yankees, and the New York Giants, and always loved to fish. He will be missed by us all more than he could ever imagine.

At his request, there will be no funeral. Instead, there will be a Celebration of Life at a later date. Arrangements are by Hale Funeral Home in Bradford, VT.

Norman Francis Surprenant: OBITUARY

Norman Francis prenant, 93, passed away on May 1, 2020 at Wheelock Terrace Assisted Living Community in Hanover, NH. Norman was born December 4, 1926 in Fall River, MA. He was the oldest son of Francis X. and Bertha Ann (Kennedy) Surprenant, who resided in Newport, RI at the time of his birth.

Norman graduated from Rogers High School in Newport, RI in 1944. He served with the United States Army Air Force from 1945 to 1946. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1949 with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He was employed as a Chemical Engineer with Arthur D. Little, Inc. in Cambridge, MA from 1950 to 1966. A highlight of his career was a research trip to Iceland to study Surtsey, a newly formed volcanic is-



land. He thereafter worked for a number of consulting firms in MA, including Brunswick Corp., GCA Corp. and ENSR, Inc., focusing on the development of pollution control technology related to chemical and petroleum emissions. During his last year and a half he was an active and involved part of the Wheelock Terrace Assisted Living Community, receiving exemplary care and support.

Norman retired in 1993, and returned to Newport. He enjoyed spending time with his many friends and relatives in the Newport area, and visits from family and friends from afar. He benefitted from the hospitality of his niece Nancy Young and her husband Frank Young of Newport, RI. He spent many hours at the Redwood Library and the Newport Public Library. He loved to travel. His many trips included treks to Alaska, the Yukon Territory, Britain, Scotland, and Ireland, New Zealand, Labrador, Vancouver and

many destinations in the United States.

Norman is survived by three daughters: Beth Gaetz of Corinth, VT, Ann Surprenant of Orono, ME and Frances Selkirk and her husband Paul of North Reading, MA; seven grandchildren: Glenn K. Gaetz and his wife Joanne Chang of Vancouver, BC, Joshua Gaetz and his wife Shannon of Corinth, VT, Jedidiah Gaetz of Sleepy Hollow, NY, Joseph Gaetz of Philadelphia, PA, John Robinson of Orono, ME, Paul Robinson of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Kylie Selkirk of North Reading, MA; five great-grandchildren: Gabriel and Alexis Gaetz, Jonah and Margot Gaetz, and Simone Chang-Gaetz; sister-inlaw, Elizabeth Surprenant of Newport, RI, and several nieces and nephews, grand nieces and nephews. He was pre-deceased by his exwife, Mary (Kirk) Surprenant of Orono, ME, his sister Kathryn Butterworth and her husband Arthur Butterworth of Bonifay, FL, his brother Raymond Surprenant of Newport, RI and his sons-inlaw, Brian Robinson of Orono, ME and Glenn W. Gaetz of Corinth, VT. The funeral will be pri-

vate. Arrangements are by Hale Funeral Home in Bradford, VT.

Nancy Bradley Chandler,: OBITUARY

Warren, NH - An amazing woman, Nancy Bradley Chandler, 85, died on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at her home, with her beloved husband and children by her side. The oldest of seven children of Helen and G. Edward Bradley, she was born on March 13, 1935 in Somerville, MA.

She attended St. Teresa School and graduated from Somerville High School. A scholarship student at Boston College, she received her BS in Nursing. As an RN, she worked at Bellevue Hospital in New York City, Boston City Hospital, and Peter Bent Brigham Hospital before receiving her MS in Nursing from Boston Col-

After BC, she taught nursing at Mt. Auburn Hospital, Lawrence General Hospital School of Nursing, and became its Director of Nursing. At St. Anselm College and NH Technical Institute, she taught many of our present day nurses.

A pioneer in childbirth education, she taught classes in Boston, Laconia, NH and Franklin, NH. She established Prenatal Programs at Concord and Franklin Hospitals after continuing her education at Downstate SUNY.

Later in life she found great joy as a school nurse in Winnisquam and Warren schools and then as a camp nurse at Camp Walt Whitman and Camp Moosilauke.

She was an avid adventurer, hiker, skier, and cyclist, hiking the Appalachian Trail at age 60 and skiing at Cannon Mountain until the age of 84.



A music lover, she sang for many years with the NH Music Festival and the Pemigewasset Choral Society.

She found time to be an avid quilter, making a special gift quilt for each grandchild at their graduation from high school. A founder of the Warren Quilter Guild, money was raised annually for the Prouty fund.

If this was not enough, she was elected multiple times to the Warren School Board, was a Warren Library Trustee, and Supervisor of the Checklist.

A true renaissance woman, she loved the outdoors, especially waterfalls and rainbows. She frequently said a prayer of thanks for the beauty of her surroundings, living in the shadow of Mt. Moosilauke.

With her husband, Char-

lie, she traveled all over the USA and Canada on their touring motorcycle, including five cross-country rides.

Survivors include her best friend and husband of 49 years, Charlie Chandler and their four children, Michael and wife Carolynne of Santa Fe, NM, Sean Chandler and his fiancé` Debbie Tessier of Northfield, NH, Mara O'Shea and husband Dan of Cumberland, ME, and Zachary and wife Kristin of Palo Alto, CA. Four brothers, Jim, Larry, Jack, and Bob along with one sister, Maureen, survive her. She was predeceased by a brother, Ed.

She has eight beloved grandchildren: Zoe, Casey, Megan, Kyle, Molly, Kerry, Patrick and Eli; and two great grandchildren: Lilah and Angel.

A gathering at the Warren Town Hall with relatives, friends, co-workers, and anyone else, will be deferred until a later date, hopefully in August. "Love That Smile!"

For more information as it becomes available, or to offer an online message of condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com

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

Patricia C. (Carlson) Larson: **OBITUARY**

Chester, VT - Patricia C. (Carlson) Larson, 89 passed away peacefully with her family by her side on April 25, 2020 at her daughter's home in Bradford, VT.

Patricia enjoyed reading, knitting, and traveling. She drove a school bus for the Chester, VT. public schools. She was a superb waitress working for many years at the County Girl Diner, Howard Johnsons, and many other local restaurants. She enjoyed playing shuffleboard in her retirement in Bushnell, FL.

She was born in Brooklyn, NY, daughter of Carl and Gladys (Smith) Carlson. She was a graduate of Keyport, NJ High School. She married Robert (Bob) H. Larson and lived for many

years in Holmdel, NJ. In 1969 Pat and Bob with their four children moved to Chester, VT. Patricia later married Wendell Burton.

Patricia is survived by her four children Linda Wilson (husband Gary), Robert Jr. Larson, Lori Moore (husband Ronald), Keith Larson (wife Barbara), eleven grand children, nineteen great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, two sisters, husbands, and grandson.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Pleasant View Cemetery in Chester at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are by Hale Funeral Home in Bradford,







Porcupine Meatballs

Hello hello my fellow chefs. Well I have had a really bad time since 2020 began with being terribly sick for 90% of the time. It's not the Corona virus. I've had my fill of not feeling well with internal issues. I'm on some new medications and for the past week they are finally working. I hope you are all doing well and using your face masks and social distancing. This pandemic has taken all of us to a new way of life. Anyway let's get started with today's recipe.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Ingredients

- 1 lb. Hamburg
- 1\2 teaspoon Garlic powder
 - 1 Teaspoon salt
 - 1\2 Teaspoon black pep-

1\2 Cup long grain white rice uncooked

be a little loose but as they cook they will get firm.

Mix the tomato soup with 2 Cans water and the Worcestershire sauce. Put meatballs in baking dish and pour the tomato soup mixture over them. Cover with foil and bake for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Remove foil and spoon some of the sauce over them. Bake for another 10 minutes.

meatballs. The mixture will

That's it! Simple and easy peasy. They will have the rice sticking out all around, hence the porcupine name. I served a nice salad with



1 Small onion chopped small

1\2 Cup water

- 1 Can condensed tomato soup
 - 2 Cans water
- 2 Tablespoons Worcestershire sauce

In bowl combine hamburg with garlic powder, salt, black pepper, onion, 1\2 cup water and the uncooked white rice. Mix well and make medium sized

mine. Everyone will say that they are "Delicioso". A nice red wine goes well with your dinner like Carlo Rossi Paisano. Remember to drink responsibly.

Well folks, it's good to be back and if you have any questions please contact Gary and I will help you out. Stay healthy and I hope you enjoy this recipe. I am signing off until next time. Sincerely, Cin Pin.

Anybody Got A Towel?

by Maggie Anderson

I had to make a run to the fabric store today, and for those of you who don't think that's a necessity let me correct you.

People who are used to cranking up their sewing machines when the kids' ruckus rises to 1200 decibels are even more determined to drown out some of that noise these days, besides who's going to make the kids' quilts for them when a fabric-starved woman snaps and sends them all into the backyard to sleep?

I had to purchase a finetipped marker for the signs I need to make for an online doll and teddy show. Show promoters all over the country are scrambling to keep artists, dealers, and collectors connected since all the usual shows have dried up and blown away like last Autumn's leaves.

I ran to the bathroom mirror and wrestled my hair into some kind of order only to be tousled into a do that looked more like a crow's nest than a serene beehive. I was good until I had to wrangle Hank's concentrator into the backseat and crawl into the front with the wind whipping things into a froth.

On the way to town I realized one of the best things about having to wear these idiotic masks is that even when you have a really bad hair day nobody knows it's you anyway.

It reminded me of the words of wisdom from my eighth grade PE teacher. One day she told us that if

the fire alarm should chance to ring while we were all in the showers we just needed to throw our towels over our heads and join our classmates on the baseball diamond. Her reasoning being, how'd you guess, nobody would know who was who.

I'm telling you right now you would have a better chance of winning a wrestling match with an agitated grizzly bear than you would getting me onto that ball field wearing nothing but a towel over my head. Even then we were beginning to think Mrs. Morey's cheese had started to slide off her cracker.

The whole ordeal got me thinking about other good things surrounding these idiotic yet life-saving masks. People can eat all the stinky cheese, garlic, and onions they want because this may be the only time for the rest of their lives nobody can get close enough to smell their dog breath.

And for those who have just about had it with all the regulations for, in one door, out the other, one direction in the grocery aisles - no matter how close they might be to exactly what they came in for but are forced to walk clean around a stinkin' city block to get back to it, and then find the person who shopped up the aisle in the correct direction took the last one in the store, nobody will be able to read their lips when they begin to rant about it and nobody is allowed to stand close enough to hear them.

Everybody wins.



NOTICE

The Haverhill Cooperative **School District Annual Meeting** originally scheduled for Saturday, March 21st is now scheduled for Saturday, May 30th at 9:00 am in the **Haverhill Cooperative Middle School Gymnasium**



BEEZWAX





