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

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ACT & Bath Farm Recipient Of First NH Farm Future Fund

Franconia – Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT) is excited to announce that in partnership with the Woods Farm in Bath, it has received funding from the new N.H. Farm Future Fund through the N.H. Association of Conservation Districts grants.

The mission of the N.H. Farm Future Fund is to provide funding for farm viability planning in concert with the conservation of important agricultural soils. This program will leverage the opportunity of conserving farmland and also invest in the future viability of the farm business. The goal of this fund is to ensure that farmland is conserved, productive, and available for future generations.

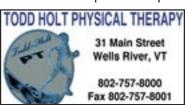
ACT will work with the



Woods Farm to do conservation planning for the land, and marketing, production, and future planning for the beef business. Technical assistance for the business will come through the N.H. Community Loan Fund and Land for Good.

This is the first year of the NH Farm Future Fund. A \$90,000 of awarded between five recipients including ACT. The other recipients are Southeast Land Trust of NH and Carlsen Farm in Farmington, Five Rivers Conservation Trust and Pletcher Farm in Merrimack, Upper Saco Valley Land Trust and Sherman Farm in Conway, Society for the Protection of NH Forests and Tuckaway Farm in Lee.

"We were proud to pilot



this approach of joining land conservation and farm business sustainability when we worked with the Robie Farm in Piermont," said ACT Executive Director Rebecca Brown. "This new fund, made possible through the generosity of private donors, will allow more farms and land trusts to do similar work. We're honored be working with Dan Woods at his farm in Bath."

Recipients of the N.H. Farm Future Fund will apply awarded funds toward offsetting the costs associated with farmland conservation projects, and for technical assistance to support farm business viability and succession planning. Selected farms from across the state will work in partnership with their local land trust and re-

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ceive technical assistance through the N.H. Community Loan Fund and Land Good to for achieve their goals.

The Farm Future Fund is a program grant that is privately funded and administered by the Cheshire County Conservation District on behalf

of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts. This program grew out of collaborations fostered by the NH Food Alliance. For updates on the NH Farm Future Fund's progress visit: www.cheshireconservation.org/nhfarmfu-

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turefund. For more information about ACT's work to protect farmland and support farm businesses, visit www.act-nh.org or call us at (603) 823-7777.



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Trendy Dining Guide Update

by Gary Scruton

Things continue to get back to "normal" in our area. That includes eating out. As of June 8th eateries in the State of Vermont will be allowed to serve indoors with a capacity of 25% of their normal allowed occupancy. Of course there will be plenty of restrictions on top of that. Tables will need to be six feet apart. Waitstaff will be wearing masks. Even patrons will be asked to wear a mask until they are seated. In regards to using the bathrooms at such establishments? I must admit to not knowing for sure how that will work. It may well differ from one place to another. I also understand that reservations may be required.

Meanwhile in New Hampshire there is a different set of rules. As of June 15th eateries in the six most northern counties (including Grafton) will be allowed to have up to 100% occupancy. Of course tables will still need to be six feet apart, which probably means that 100% occupancy will not "really" be available. It seems that many of the same regulations will be in place in the Granite State as in the Green Mountain State. Reservations, masks, etc. The best thing is to call ahead to your favorite eatery and ask a few questions. It's better to ask ahead of time and know what the rules are than to show up and be disappointed in what is expected.

As for Janice and me, we

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Outside

Tables

Anybody

craving Lobstah

Rolls because I

know we are!!!**

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like the idea of going out to eat. (You may have noticed that if you have ever read this column before.) Going out to eat should be an enjoyable, no hassle, experience. That is what I write about in this column. What was it like to drive up, walk in, sit down, order, have our food delivered, pay the bill, and leave. It's all part of what I refer to as eating out. Certainly many of our advertisers here in the Trendy Dining Guide, and many others, have done a fine job with working with the needed change in procedures. They have found a way to do take outs only, and then recently to include outside dining. And for many people that has worked fine. In fact we have ordered take out on

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more than one occasion dur-"Stay-at-home" this period. But it's not the same. And I don't think it's fair to judge these establishments. and write about them when they are not working as they were designed.

I very much look forward to getting back to "normal" very soon. In fact I am in hopes that for the next edition of the Trendy Dining Guide that Janice and I will be able to visit one of these advertisers. Walk in, sit down, order a meal, enjoy the meal, pay our bill, and then go home. I very much look forward to that occasion.

In the meantime, please continue to order take-out. Or perhaps go and sit outside. And very soon, if not already, go on inside and enjoy a meal. Remember these businesses are owned by our neighbors. They employ our neighbors and friends. They put a lot of money into the local economy. They support many other local businesses. So do what you can to help support them.

In the meantime our wish is that we all can staf safe and stay healthy as the economy, and our local establishments reopen with whatever changes need to take place so that we all can once again enjoy ourselves as well as the company of others.

One final note. Remember that in many cases your server is doing more than normal, and possibly has fewer people to serve. So please reemember to tip accordingly.









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Hello to all of our customers, we at the Happy Hour are excited to say that we have reopened. Although we still can not have

Grocery items now

available: Offering

a selection of can

goods, milk & dairy

products, hodemade

bread & Bagels and

paper products.

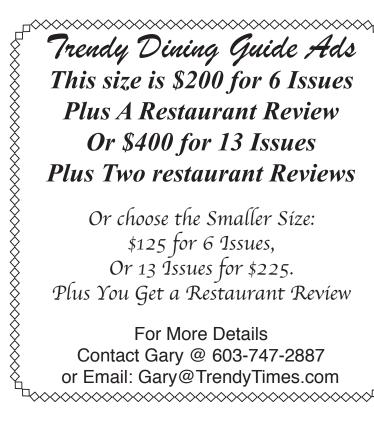
full dine in services, we will be offering takeout, curbside and delivery services.

Thank you and we hope to see you soon,

Now Open: **Monday - Sunday** 11:30AM - 8:00PM We will be posting the menu and some new items!



STAURANT The Happy Hour Restaurant.com





Now More Than Ever Is The Time To Join A Chamber of Commerce

Submitted by Wendy Hunt, President, Greater Merrimack-Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce & Board Chair of the New Hampshire Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives

Chambers of Commerce are membership organizations that advocate on behalf of local businesses. No other organization represents the business community like Chambers. In New Hampshire, there are approximately 50 Chambers of Commerce located throughout the state representing the business community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Chambers have emerged as a vital conduit of communication between state and federal officials our businesses. Chamber leaders are talking to our governor, state legislators, our congressional delegation and senators, commissioners and many others. We are advocating for the needs of the business community both at the state and federal level on an almost daily basis, bringing your real-time issues, questions and concerns to top officials. We have worked tireto provide lessly business community the most current information available and to assist them in navigating Coronavirus funding options, NH Employment Services, COVID-19 guidelines and more.

Chambers have had to become innovative in presenting our business education programming, and are now using applied technology to host webinars and virtual workshops. Chambers throughout the state have offered a range of topics pertinent to COVID-19 issues featuring legal and other professionals signed to help businesses emerge from this crisis. With COVID-19 and social distancing. Chambers have had to re-invent how we provide opportunities for our members to attend networking events. Offering virtual events has boosted morale during times of isolation and allowed our members to maintain important business connections. Chambers are also working closely with our business and government partners to secure the safety supplies and personal protection equipment they will need to reopen. As we flatten the curve in NH and

business sectors start to reopen, Chambers continue to work harder than ever for each business and for the future of our communities. As the "voice" of business on both state and federal levels, Chambers will be crucial during the recovery and over the months and years to come. No one ever predicted our lives would be so quickly impacted by a contagious virus, Chambers have proven themselves to be a lifeline for our businesses during COVID-19.

Are you wondering if joining a Chamber of Commerce is worth the investment? Wherever are you in the lifecycle of your business (i.e., just starting out, looking to take that next growth leap, or considering a sale of your business), Chambers have programs and solutions for all stages of business. Why now is the time to join:

Now is the time to get connected and build meaningful relationships. Chambers offer a variety of options to do this, including networking events, volunteer opportunities, ribbon cuttings to celebrate our member milestones. Even in times of social distancing and working from home the Chamber offers virtual events to continue the engagement of our members.

Now is the time to be seen. Chambers are a trusted source and by being listed in our membership directories you can increase your SEO to help customers better find your business.

Now is the time to promote your business. As a member you can submit your events, job opportunities and business updates to share with the community. Chambers offer different levels of mem-

bership and sponsorship opportunities to maximize your visibility.

Now is the time to advocate. Chambers advocate for your business every day at the local, state and federal levels. We help you navigate issues that you couldn't do on your own. When you are a member of the chamber you are not alone.

Now is the time to grow professionally. Chambers offer a variety of business education seminars on topics that are relevant to your business, giving you an advantage in business best practices, marketing, and technology.

Now is the time to educate. Many Chambers have strong partnerships with local school districts to help in developing tomorrow's work force through interactive programs and career exploration. Through us, find future employees by offering internships. Now is the time to invest in the future. Young professionals are the future of the business community. Through Young Profes-(YP) sionals programs, chambers can foster collective action among young business leaders and entrepreneurs by giving them the tools to mobilize and network.

Now is the time to join. We invite you to join your local Chamber of Commerce to help your business grow and thrive during the recovery. We think you'll find that becoming a Chamber member will be one of the best business decisions you'll ever make.

For a complete list of NH Chambers of Commerce, visit www.gmsvcc.org and click on the NH Chambers button at the top of the homepage.

NIK Chamber Asking usinesses To Submit Services For Extensive COVID Business Directory

NORTHEAST KING-DOM - The Northeast Kingdom Chamber has announced it will compile its most extensive listing of businesses ever in an attempt to more strongly promote Northeast Kingdom establishments during the Covid-19 situation.

The NEK Chamber is encouraging all interested businesses in the tricounty region to submit their contact information, hours and a short description to the chamber as soon as possible so that information can be compiled and widely distributed throughout the region.

"Hospitality establishments, stores and service businesses are starting to open up in the Kingdom and many are opening with different hours of operation and even new services they will now provide," said Darcie McCann, executive director of the NEK Chamber. "It is important to get this information out to consumers and residents, as we need them to keep their dollars local.

"One of the requests we have heard most from businesses during the outbreak is that they need a guide that represents our 'new normal,' what these companies now offer," said McCann. "People need to know not only what businesses are

open but their hours and services."

In addition to updates being immediately posted on social media, the business information will be included on a new web site, called, a cooperative effort of the Northeast Kingdom Collaborative, Northern Community Investment Corporation, Northeastern Vermont Development Association, economic development and financial enmunicipal tities, representatives and numerous chambers commerce, including the NEK Chamber. It will also be e-mailed to municipalities, economic development agencies and chambers in the area.

"We have been trying to include as many updates as possible on the NEK Covid-19 Alerts Facebook page, but it is apparent from feedback we have received from businesses that they want and need a far more extensive guide, and we are going to do our best to create that resource for the region. We are all in this together," said McCann.

Businesses are encouraged to send the information directly to as soon as possible. The directory will continue to be updated during the outbreak and into the foreseeable future.

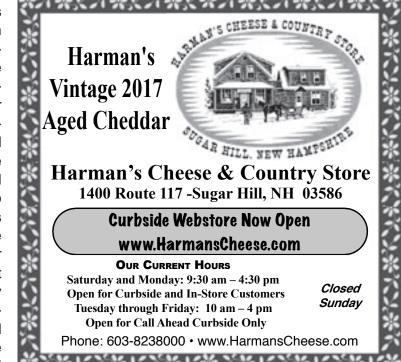


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Directory to find out where
(and how) to safely
support local businesses.

www.cohase.org/directory



Cohase Chamber of Commerce





The Health of Business is the Health of NH

more Center in Durham is best known as the arena in which the UNH Wildcats play so many thrilling hockey games against opponents such as the Black Bears of Maine and the Vermont Catamounts. On June 11, however, the center will host another installment of partisan politics, as approximately 400 members of the New Hampshire General Court will meet and conduct their first full House session in three months.

Speaker Steve Shurtleff (Dem – Concord) and the House Rules Committee comprised of a Democrat majority, are proposing to extend legislative deadlines in order to pass their legislative agenda. In accordance with House rules, extending legislative deadlines requires a two-thirds vote and to achieve passage, the majority will need Republican support. On the other hand, Republicans have countered asking the Speaker to allow a vote to

Perhaps the Whitte- freeze current business tax rates through January 2023. The Republican proposal is a result of COVID-19's impact on businesses. Legislation passed in the previous year included a condition or trigger that if tax revenue is 6 percent below previously established estimates at the end of this fiscal year on June 30, business taxes would be increased. During the past three months business revenues have plummeted.

At the Rules Committee this past week, Minority Leader, Dick Hinch, proposed a plan to freeze both the Business Profits Tax and the Business Enterprise Tax (a tax on payroll) at the current tax levels. His proposal was rejected along party lines. So, unless middle ground can be established, it looks like the upcoming legislative session at the Whittemore Center will be a one period game. Without an agreement, rules will not be changed and

the January 1 trigger to activate the enterprise tax will take place resulting in a 12.5 percent tax increase. The business profits tax will move from 7.7 percent to 7.9 percent.

Members of the majority indicate that it's only June and too early to make tax policy decisions without gathering more revenue information. Minority leader. Rep Dick Hinch responded, have the ability to ease the burden on our state's job creators by addressing the business tax rate triggers in law." According to the Department of Revenue Administration, more than 40,000 businesses in the Granite State pay one or both of the business taxes, while more than 30,000 businesses pay the business enterprise tax that is a levy on payroll, even if a business has no profit.

Businesses are struggling, and few can wait until next January for the legislature to make needed operational decisions and choices. We are at that junction where the legislature should be provided the opportunity to take a vote, either up or down. But, until that happens, business will be more hesitant to hire and more cautious in purchascapital equipment. Will calmer heads prevail? Time will tell.

Respectfully Submitted, Rep Rick Ladd

There Oughta Be A Law, Against Robocalling.

You know, the phone rings, you get up from your chair and answer it. Sometimes you get just dead air, followed by a hanging up click. Sometime you get a drug dealer urging you to pick up a free load of drugs. Sometimes it's the Microsoft scammer trying to talk you into loading malware onto your computer. Sometimes the scammer impersonates the IRS or social security, or your bank and tries to get your social security number.

Should I succeed in my bid for re-election this fall, I will introduce a bill to outlaw robocalling. First I would require the phone companies to tighten up security of the Caller Id system. It is too easily spoofed. Then define robocalling as a crime. Placing a cold call is robocalling if the caller uses the opportunity to sell stuff, advocate for causes or politicians, or impersonates the IRS, social security, your bank, or any other institution. Installing and servicing equipment used for robocalling is robocalling. Speaking

over the phone or making a recording that is played over the phone is robocalling. Or failure to answer after ringing your phone. And perhaps some other bad conduct that may occur to me over time.

After defining, and outlawing robocalling I would spell out penalties. Was it just up to me I could get really medieval and go for cruel and unusual punishment. But since I live in 21st century America penalties would be limited to jail terms of months or a year or two.

Now I understand that law enforcement may have a spot of bother catching robocallers, but you have to outlaw the activity before you can expect law enforcement to deal with it.

David J. Starr NH State Senator, District 1 Blog: http://www.newsnorthwoods.blogspot.com Facebook: Starr4NHSenate or Cannonskier 603 823 5319 22 Ridge Cut Road Franconia, NH 03580

Cathleen Fountain Steps Back From 2020 Race For NH State Senate, District #1

Cathleen Fountain has just announced her decision not to run for the District 1, NH Senate seat due to recently diagnosed medical issues. "After discussions with family, close friends, and associates, I have concluded that it would not be fair to local constituents to have a candidate run who might not

be able to fully engage in the process, even on a temporary basis. The people of Senate District 1 deserve a candidate who is fully engaged, ready to be their voice in the Senate, and representing them every day."

Cathleen Fountain noted that while filing for public office did not open until June 3rd, she will actively support the eventual Democratic Nominee for District 1 of the NH Senate. She went on to thank her supporters and asked North Country residents to continue to share their thoughts, concerns and suggestions. "Although the COVID-19 crisis makes communication difficult in some ways, our part of NH is not simply characterized by problems. We are a resilient community. I know that you, your families, friends, and neighbors will do what is needed. This is what we do in the North Country." Ms. Fountain plans to maintain the current North Country Forum on her website at (https://www.cathleenfountain.org/). Individuals can also communicate with her (fountainfornh@gmail.com)

or phone at (603) 998-8358.



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To Mail or Not to Mail

On May 29th the Caledonian Record published an editorial supporting my and my town clerk's position on S.348, the bill proposing that every registered voter be mailed a ballot for the general election in November. Rather than spend money on mailing ballots to every registered voter, we contend it would be better to spend money on post cards advising voters that they could request absentee ballots if they were concerned about showing up at the polls during the current COVID-19 pandemic. On May 30th Secretary of State Jim Condos replied to that editorial. He took the Caledonian Record to task for supporting our position.

Secretary Condos and I agree it is imperative that voters are safe if there is any chance the current pandemic is still a threat come November. The only issue between us is his idea that live ballots should be mailed to every currently registered voter as the way to achieve that safety.

For ten years now the citizens of the Caledonia Senate District have honored me with the ability to serve as one of their state senators. Whenever presented with a legislative proposal, I have endeavored to distinguish whether that proposal is actually "necessary." I have also done my best to think ahead on what might unintended consequences. Traditionally I oppose legislation that is either unnecessary or contains a potential mine field of negative unintended consequences.

It is for the above reasons that I have problems with S.348's plan to mail a live ballot to the household of every currently registered

voter, which some estimates place in the range of two hundred thousand. Is this necessary in order to keep voters safe? If the rationale for doing so is to allow the voter to avoid a polling station, the answer is: "no." Why? Vermont already has a system called "absentee voting," which does exactly the same thing. Any voter who wishes can request that a ballot be mailed to them. They, in turn, can mail it back. Town clerks already know how to do this. They need no special training. There is no reason to re-invent this wheel.

Are there also potential unintended consequences with S.348? Several. Contrary to those who would seek to couch this discussion as a battle between political parties, the reality is these unintended consequences are the result of simple human behavior.

As a long standing member of Lyndon's Board of Civil Authority, I've spent many hours helping to purge our checklist of voters who have moved or died. Despite our best efforts, we always miss people. It is not humanly possible for a small handful of people to know every single voter in town. Blindly unleashing a couple hundred thousand live ballots statewide guarantees some of those ballots will end up in places where a presumed voter no longer exists. By itself, this dilutes election security.

Does this mean I contend there will be widespread fraud? No. I tend to believe Vermonters will do the right thing. However, after almost 37 years as a criminal defense lawyer, I also know sometimes they don't. It only takes one nefarious individual to stain an election.

Former Representative Sarah Buxton and now de-Representative ceased David Ainsworth are proof that some elections are decided by only one vote. With absentee balloting, the ballot is specifically requested and sent to a known entity, which provides at least some measure of security. Why eliminate that security?

There are other legitimate questions. Politicians and special interest groups are kept a specific distance away from you. Why? Fear of undue influence. Armed with specific addresses of every live ballot, they now have strong motivation to pay each such household a visit. What happens when they get there? Did the voter fill out the ballot? Although attestations with signatures are required for returned ballots, there are no signatures on file at the town clerk's office to cross check them. Even if it was filled out by the actual voter, who was sitting next to them and what were they saying when the check mark was applied? Who is it that carried the ballot to the mailbox? Did they put it in? It is impossible to know. S.348 does not address these concerns.

At the end of the day, this bill is unnecessary because we already have a secure system in place that enables voters to be and feel safe when exercising their right to vote. Potential unforeseen consequences that could dilute the sanctity and security of our election cannot be dismissed. For those reasons, I cannot support this bill.

Joe Benning State Senator & Minority Leader Caledonia District 802-274-1346

603-259-3244

MSecond Chance 1517 Meadow Street Littleton, NH 03561 animal rescue "we care when there's no one there" www.secondchancear.org



Curbside Loans Continue At Baldwin Library; **Cautious Reopening Planned**

According to guidelines from the Governor's Office and the VT Department of Libraries, the Baldwin Library in Wells River is planning how to safely re-open for limited services.

Since mid-March when the building closed to help the spread lessen COVID-19, Baldwin Memorial Library has been doing curbside loans during regular library hours, and this will service continue. Anyone may call 802-757-2693 or e-mail the library at librarian@baldwinlibraryvt.o to request books, audiobooks, movies. magazines. The items are bagged, labeled, and placed outside on the table near the front door for pick-up. Returned items come back through the book drop and are surface-sanitized and quarantined before going out again on loan.

Library hours are Mon. 10-5, Wed. 12-6, & Fri. 12-7. If the public health landscape remains hopeful, the library expects to open the building on July 1 for timelimited browsing as well as computer use by appointment. Masks and social distancing will be required, and the State's maximum capacity guidelines (1 person per 200 sq. ft.) will be observed. Although the library has always been proud of its role as a community gathering spot, for now congregating within the building must be discouraged. As an additional safety measure, all children visiting the library must be accompanied by an adult.

On a brighter note, interlibrary loan services are slowly resuming, and some exciting virtual programming is coming up, including a ZOOM presentation on owls by Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) on June 25 at 6:30 pm. Details will be published soon and may also be obtained by contacting the library.





Calendar of Events

A Full Page of Events from Local Non-Profits, Schools and Towns. Presented FREE by Trendy Times.

With the current state of able to follow. emergency in both New Hampalso been shut down.

shire and Vermont our Calen- lations to those organizations charge. dar of Events has temporarily and groups that have found new ways to continue in some ting everything back to "nor-With this issue of trendy fashion. To those we offer this mal" when possible. In the Times we are, however, back to space to get the word out meantime, please stay safe full physical publication, and about those new style events. and healthy. hope all events will soon be As before they will be listed

with date, name of event, time In the meantime congratu- and location, and there is no

We look forward to get-







Dinosaur...almost!

by James Taber, M.S., HS-BCP, Veteran.

Like most young kids I was always fascinated by dinosaurs as a child and equally as fascinated by what I call the modern day dinosaurs in my native habitat of Vermont and New Hampshire, that being turtles, reptiles and amphibians,etc.

Turtles have always especially interested me my whole life and as an outdoor photographer I made a point of always being on the lookout for them and have seen pretty much every species available in this area out in the field.

I even discovered a nesting population of fairly rare yellow spotted turtles on one of my field journeys! I have had a few pet turtles over my lifetime but now prefer to view them in their natural habitat.

One of the things that I really hate to see are turtles and really any creature, squished after getting hit by a car on the roadways. Turtles are especially susceptible to this because they are very low to the ground generally and as we know not very fast and seem to have no fear of traffic at all.

Without putting myself at risk or your self for that matter, if I see one in the road I will generally try to pull over in a safe manner and help them across the road. The spring time and breeding seasons are an

especially dangerous time for them as they wander about looking for mates or a good place to lay their eggs.

I have also found out one of their favorite places to make a nest is on the shoulder of roads where there is some good sand or gravel facing the sun.

It is also a good idea to be cautious when attempting to handle some turtles especially snapping turtles as they can be very large, very aggressive, and have a powerful bite.

The one in the picture accompanying this article was

crossing a very busy road and decided to take a rest break right in the middle of it and was causing a traffic jam so instead of trying to scoot him across the road I went in with both hands and as you can see he was not very happy!

After a few tense moments of struggle the turtle was placed by the pond he was heading towards and he and I both went our separate ways unscathed.

So if you see a turtle in the road and can do so safely give him a hand across but also be careful of yourself and do not get bit or run over.

About the author:

James Taber has an MS in Psychology and is a US Navy veteran who was raised in the wilds of rural Vermont, counts and reading, writing, fly-fishing and lasagna as his passions in life.

Now Accepting New Patients Ally Noble, East Corinth



"I have been a Family Nurse Practitioner providing care across the lifespan to families of the Upper Connecticut Valley for the past 13 years. I have Bachelors Degrees in both Social Work and Nursing and a Masters of Science Degree in Nursing. I am currently completing my post-graduate certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing.

Prior to coming to Little Rivers Health Care I worked as a Family Nurse Practitioner at Ammonoosuc Community

ealth Services in Woodsville, NH and at Upper Valley Pediatrics in Bradford, VT. As a Family Nurse Practitioner I have been trained to treat the whole family from infancy to the elderly. My passion lies within women and children's health. I am focused on teaching patients about maintaining a balance for optimal health as well as collaborating to develop a plan of care that focuses on the patients'



Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting of Surfaces Doing it Safely to Lower the Risk of COVID-19

By Mary Saucier Choate, UNH Cooperative Extension Food Safety Field Specialist



Trying to stay well and protect our homes and businesses from infection with COVID-19 can be nervewracking. The precautionary steps we need to take can be confusing and sometimes seem conflicting. Understanding the difference between cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting can help make these important precautionary steps easier and safer.

SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has SARS-CoV-2 on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the primary way the virus spreads.

Cleaning and sanitizing or disinfecting surfaces can lower this risk even more and also prevent the spread of other bad bugs we are familiar with such as E. coli and Salmonella and viruses such as norovirus and hepatitis A.

Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting Are Different Do you know how cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting are different, which one you must do first, and what are the best and safest ways to do it? Many people do not, and that can be dangerous. A report from the Centers for Disease Control showed a surprising 16% to 20% increase in poison center calls related to cleaners and disinfectants during January—March 2020; compared with the same period in 2019 and 2018.

That is not actual proof that cleaners, sanitizers and disinfectants are being misused in potentially dangerous ways, but there is the possibility of improper use. These chemicals can be dangerous if more is used than specified on the label, different chemical products are mixed together, protective gear is not used, or it is applied in poorly ventilated areas.

Each step, cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting has its own guidelines for safety and effectiveness. Some online guidance has used these terms interchangeably which can add to confusion. In all cases, reading the label carefully and following the directions is key to its safe use.

To decrease the risk of spreading infection with COVID-19 or other dangerous bugs, understand the difference and when and how to use these sanitary precautions safely and effectively.

Cleaning

Cleaning is the physical removal of soil and/or food matter from a surface using soap or detergent, and water. In this step, cleaning, with scrubbing as needed, physically removes dirt, germs and other debris, such as dried food and grease from surfaces. This

lowers the risk of spreading COVID-19 infection.

Sanitizing and disinfecting will work best if the surface has been cleaned first. Dirt and debris that remain on surfaces interfere with the effectiveness of these processes.

Sanitizing

Sanitizing lowers number of germs on previously cleaned and rinsed off surfaces or objects to a safe level, as judged by public health standards or requirements. Some sanitizers may be used on food-contact surfaces such as countertops, cutting boards, or children's highchairs. Sanitizers for food-contact surfaces are formulated in a way to be used without rinsing. They usually must remain on the surface to air dry.

Note: Some sanitizers can be used only for non-food contact surfaces like toilet bowls and carpets, or in the air.

For safety, it is important to read and follow the label directions and to use the sanitizer for the stated purposes only.

Did You Know?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates antimicrobial products to be used on surfaces, such as sanitizers and disinfectants, as pesticides. If a product shows "EPA" anywhere on the label, you know it is a pesti-







cide and NOT meant for use on the body.

It is illegal to use a pesticide in a manner that is inconsistent with the label instructions. So reading and following label instructions is essential.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates antimicrobial products for people and pets as drugs/antiseptics.

Disinfectants

Disinfectants are generally stronger than surface sanitizers. They are used to kill germs on clean surfaces or objects. These solutions are generally too strong to be used on food contact surfaces as they leave a residue that could contaminate food. If a food contact surface must be disinfected, (say, if a person known or suspected to be infected with COVID-19 sneezes on a food preparation table) the surface should be rinsed after disinfection, following label directions. According to the Institute for Food Safety at Cornell University, if the water is not sterile (tap water is clean but not sterile), the surface must be sanitized after the disinfectant residue is rinsed off and before food is placed on the surface.

To be effective, both sanitizers and disinfectants must remain wet on surfaces for the complete contact time stated in the directions. If a sanitizing wipe is used, this might mean using additional wipes if the surface starts to dry off before the required contact time is finished.

Did You Know?

Sanitizers and disinfectants are meant for surfaces and not designed for use on hands. Hand antiseptics (also known as hand sanitizers) are not designed for non-body surfaces.

Mary Saucier Choate is a Grafton County Food Safety Field Specialist on the UNH Extension Food and Agriculture team. She supports consumers, farmers, food processors, and food service businesses with science-based food safety outreach in classes, on-site visits and online resources.

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Before joining Little Rivers Health Care as a Family Nurse Practitioner, I served at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center for 9 years in critical care units,

surgical/trauma/neuro ICU. My FNP clinical hours were completed at Upper Valley Pediatrics, Newbury Health Center, Little Rivers Health Care, and Kendal at Hanover. I travelled to four countries to provide free health care clinics in Australia, New Zealand, Kenya, and Costa Rica. I am a Reiki Master and Teacher and love music, kayaking, traveling, meditating, and my Chihuahua named "Pickles"."



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What About Ma?

by Kellie Quackenbush

All About The Hair

I recently read a quote from a resident at Sullivan County Healthcare, "I need a hair cut and so does my roommate."

The recent "rules for opening" for New Hampshire hair salons is seven hair dressers per 1000 square feet. I have never been to a hair salon that had 1000 square feet of space. That is like ten 10' x 10' rooms with one hair dresser in 7 rooms, What do you do with the remaining 300'? The hair dresser must wear gloves, a mask, eye protection and a face-shield. How very uncomfortable, plus sanitize all hard surfaces in between customers?? (Oops, they did that part anyway!)

On top of that, the best part of getting your hair done is having the blow dry and styling, business men would not understand, but to be able to walk out of the salon with an excellent new doo. knowing you look great -- it is bliss. I have never been one of those people that get my hair done on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, but Ma did. Every week she would go get a set and trim, her hairdresser and the girls at the

salon would make her feel amazing every week. When she had to live on what she got from Social Security, she cut her trips to every other week but it was still very important to have that "Oh. so beautiful" feeling.

> Since February, Ma has been living at the healthcare facility without visits from family and friends, she has not had her hair done because (along with everyone else in the state) the hairdressers are not allowed to do hair. The nursing homes, the assisted living facilities, the hospitals and skilled nursing facilities have also cancelled hair care to keep people as safe as they can from the COVID-19 virus and the flu. Now we are coming to an end of the Flu season and possibly the end of the Corona Virus, for the summer, we need to restore some of the creature comforts that make life good.

It is time to let Ma get her hair done, time to see our beauticians in their glory and return beauty to our lives. Should we still wash our

hands and use sanitizer -- of course! There are a lot of germs in the world and do you really think that the gas pump is clean?

I would like to think that this period of isolation has raised our consciousness about taking care of ourselves and the planet. The images of the beach after Memorial Day weekend proved that wrong. Images of overflowing trash cans and beaches strewn with masks, gloves and garbage proved that many people are still thoughtless slobs. It makes me sad to know that many people did not use the time apart for reflection of what can be good in the world.

This is why, more than any man can comprehend, we need our hair salons back. We need to trust in the rules that were in place before and let these fine people (hair dressers) do what they do best. Let go of the COVID-19 paranoia and let them be free to beautify the world, one head of hair at a time. If you want to share your feelings about the reopening of New Hampshire, write to Governor Christopher Sununu, 107 N Main St #208, Concord, NH 03301. In Vermont, Governor Phil Scott, 109 State St, Montpelier, VT 05609. Ma is still waiting for a set and curl.

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Nearing Retirement? What Questions Should You Ask?

The recent market volatility has affected just about everybody's financial and investment situations – so, if you were planning to retire soon, will it still be possible?

Of course, the answer depends somewhat on your employment situation. With so many people's jobs being affected by the coronavirus pandemic, your retirement plans may also have been thrown into confusion. But assuming your employment is still stable, what adjustments in your financial and investment strategies might you need to make for your retirement?

Here are a few areas to consider, and some questions to ask yourself:

- Retirement goals – Now is a good time to review your retirement goals and assess your progress toward achieving them. You may want to work with a financial professional to determine if the

current environment has materially affected your goals or if you need to make modest adjustments to stay on track.

- Retirement lifestyle - You probably created your investment strategy with a particular type of retirement lifestyle in mind. Perhaps you had planned to become a world traveler when your working days were over. Of course, in the near term, extensive travel may not be possible, anyway, but once we move past the pandemic, your freedom to roam will likely return. But if your investment portfolio is not where you thought it might be, can you (or do you want to) adapt your lifestyle plans? And can you accept the same flexibility with your other lifestyle goals, such as purchasing a vacation home, pursuing hobbies, and so

- Tradeoffs – Based on your retirement goals and your willingness to adjust your retirement lifestyle, you'll want to consider your options and tradeoffs. For example, would you be willing to work more years than you had originally planned in exchange for greater confidence in your ability to enjoy a comfortable retirement lifestyle? By working longer, you can continue adding to your IRA and 401(k) or similar retirement plan, and you may be able to push back the date you start receiving Social Security to receive bigger monthly benefits. You might also review your budget for opportunities to reduce spending today and potentially save more toward your retirement goals.

- Social Security - You can file for Social Security benefits as early as 62, but you can get 25% to 30% more each year if you wait until your full retirement age, which is likely between 66 and 67. As you created your retirement plans, you likely also calculated when you would take Social Security, but you may need to review that choice. If you postpone retirement a few years, what effect will that have on when you choose to take Social Security and, consequently, the size of your benefits? You won't want to make a hasty decision, because once you start taking Social Security, you can't undo your choice.

This is certainly a challenging time to be entering retirement, and you'll have some questions to answer. But even in the midst of uncertainty, you still have many choices. Consider them carefully and make the decisions that work for you.

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

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Woodsville High School Senior Parade

The year 2020 will go down in history as being an unusual year, without a double. But from unusual years come many things. One may be new traditions. Every tradition starts with the first time.

So, not knowing if this will become a tradition, or just a one time occasion, it has ben announced that the Class of 2020 of Woodsville High School will have a Senior Parade on what would have been their planned graduation day.

Saturday, June 13th at 11:00 am, the senior class will be coming together once again. This time it will be in vehicles, and it will be at the Woodsville Community Field which is just off Route 135 (South Court Street).. They will be lined up and sent north on Rt. 135 to the junction with Central St. (Route 302) next to the Opera Block. From there the parade will head west and

disband at the Woodsville Elementary School at the junction with Route 10 (Dartmouth College Highway).

The request has been made that for those who wish to come out to cheer on these departing students, to please practice social distancing.

Another possible one time only occurence in Haverhill recently was the drive thru voting for the Annual Haverhill Cooperative School Meeting. Due to the current pandemic ruling, and with the knowledge that the school year will end at the end of June, the Haverhill School Board followed the path set by some other NH towns and allowed voters to check in, vote in their cars, then hand the ballot to the moderator. Some 138 voters took part. A number higher than some years, but less than others. All article passed close to unanimously.



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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor: **Dangerous Lies**

In the May 26th edition of the Trendy Times, State Senator David J. Starr tried once again to perpetuate a dangerous lie about the Covid-19 virus – that it was released by the Chinese into the world. Nothing could be further from the truth. Regardless of what we hear from the current Administration in Washington, there is no proof whatsoever that this virus was man-made or was purposely released by anyone. When a virus is created in a laboratory, it contains certain unmistakable markers showing that it was "built". According to the CDC and other worldwide scientists, this virus does not have any of these markers and, therefore, could not possibly have been created in a laboratory. I understand the complexities of science. I know to trust the experts in their fields and not politicians trying to create a scapegoat to cover their own mishandling of the reaction to this virus. The cur-Administration rent Washington is desperate to make people forget that

Rachael,

When the American way of life is challenged Americans rise to defend that way of life. There is no questions that our way of life has changed since the current pandemic got started early this year. It is my opinion that the only way we will win this battle is to work together. Whether that is asking everyone to wear a misk. Or perhaps stay home to cut down on the distribution of this virus. And in

they sat on information from their own experts for three months warning of the seriousness of this coming pandemic. They did nothing but claim it was some sort of Democratic hoax, that it would magically go away in a few weeks and that Americans didn't have to worry about it. Their horrible mismanagement of the response to this virus has now resulted in the deaths of over 100,000 Americans, more than were killed in the Vietnam war, many of which would arguably not have died if this had been taken seriously at the start and our country was prepared for it.

Words have consequences. By propagating the lie that the Chinese are somehow willfully responsible for this worldwide horror, Americans perceived to be of Chinese descent are now at risk of physical harm by misinformed, frightened citizens. People who believe the president and his followers like Mr. Starr are looking for anyone to blame for the shuttered businesses, the quarantining, the loss of wages and the loss of their perceived rights. They are lashing out at innocent Americans because they're being told there is someone to blame for this natural disaster anyone but the people in our own government who exacerbated this suffering in our country because of their own mismanagement and inaction.

Everyone wants to go back to work. Everyone wants businesses to open. Everyone wants things to go back to normal. But as bad as this is, if we don't handle it properly now, it will come back with a vengeance even worse the second time around. This virus is not a hoax; it was not created in a laboratory by anyone; it is deadly serious and is killing Americans of all ages.

Where is the feeling that "we're all in this together" for which Americans are so famous? It is gone with the lies of incompetent people in our government trying desperately to shift the blame to anyone but themselves. And we are a poorer country for it.

Shame on you, State Senator Starr for helping to divide Americans with proven misinformation.

Rachael Booth Landaff, NH

many cases businesses, including Trendy Times, have needed to shut down or drastically change their way of doing business.

Political disagreements will always happen, no matter what else is going on. But even now those discussion need to stay civil. Both sides need to be willing to talk with the other side to come up with the best plan for all citizens of this country.

Gary Scruton, Editor

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CONTRIBUTING WRITERS MAGGIE ANDERSON, ELINOR P. MAWSON, MARIANNE L. KELLY, ROBERT ROUDEBUSH, CINDY PINHEIRO, KELLIE QUACKENBUSH

VAUGHAN SMITH, RICHARD RODERICK. JESSICA EMERSON, GARY SCRUTON EDITOR / PUBLISHER......GARY SCRUTON WEB MASTERPAUL HUNT

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Thank you for your understanding.



Letter to the Editor

Editor,

Many people are focusing their attention and comments on the property damage and vandalism that has occurred at some of the demonstrations and protests that have occurred these past few days because of the murder of a black man at the hands of the police.

I suggest that people refocus their attention and indignation, as to why people are in the streets in the first place. In case anyone has forgotten, another black man was murdered by police, last week in a long line of black children, women and men who have been

murdered by the police either upon arriving at a scene or while in their custody. This latest case, George Floyd in Minnesota, was murdered in daylight by one police officer with the help of 2 others, while another one stood by and did nothing. This was calmly done while it was being filmed and bystanders were pleading for the man's life. The man was murdered all because he allegedly used a counterfeit \$20 bill.

This is where the focus and indignation should be,

Richard M Roderick Wells River, Vt.

Richard,

I agree with you wholeheartedly. The reason for the demonstrations is to bring light to the actions of some members of the police force. Let me also pointout that there are many, many more members of our varied police forces that act in the best interest of the entire public.

In regards to the demonstration themselves, it appears to be the very few who show up in order to cause problems that are also deserving of contempt.

Gary Scruton, Editor

EIDTOR'S NOTE: Richard is a salesperson for Trendy Times. His letter was not requested, but we are happy to post it.

Letter to the Editor

To The Editor -

This Too Shall Return

Welcome back TRENDY TIMES. Your loyal readers know that you never actually left, that out of need you were available for a number of weeks only electronically. But for me it was not the same. Just yesterday (5/26) when I walked into ALDRICH'S store and saw a generous stack of your fine small regional newspaper, flashing it's welcome green headliner, it was a pleasent sight.

TRENDY TIMES and I go back some time. I have been listed as a Contributing Writer for some years, and have often also counted on your paper to like my letters, some do not. Such is the lot of folks who put their thoughts onto paper and avail them for others to read. You print them with fair moderating comment from you in all

cases. Plaudits always go to communication bases like TRENDY TIMES for providing a platform for public opinion.

In this, your most recent return to the printed form -May 26, Volume number 17, I found some good stuff for consideration. Oliver Brooks from Ross-Wood Post 20 of the American Legion and his tribute to Memorial Day. Elinor Mawson's tale - VIR-GINIA 2 - regarding that nearly unbelievable story of the never-to-be Black Pearl restaurant. "And here I thought some people I know were weird.

And pie-loving me, flipping back to your last page, TRENDY KITCHEN, with CIN-PIN tempting me with give air to my Letters-To- her good Old-Fashioned The-Editor. Some people Apple Pie. Yes, I bake, and yes I eat, good pies.

> Welcome back TRENDY TIMES.

Robert Roudebush Mountain Lakes, North Haverhill

Robert,

Thank you for the kind words about Trendy Times. I'm certainly thrilled that you find so many sections of the paper of interest to you. We hope to be able to continue with all of those contributors as well as continue to look for new writers. We also very much look forward to hearing from the large number of seasonal events that happen in this area. So many have needed to be cancelled, but when the time comes for them to be allowed I trust they will send us their information to be distributed to our many readers. In the meantime I wish all the best of health and ask that all stay safe.

Gary Scruton, Editor



Sweet And Sour Chicken Dinner

Editor's Note: Once again we needed to go back in the files and find a previously published recipe for our Trendy Kitchen. Yes, that is because Cin Pin has taken a bit of a step back in her continued attempt to get a solid diagnosis of her ailments. We wish her the best and hope to have a new recipe with the next issue.

Hello hello my devoted fellow chefs! This weeks recipe only has 4 ingredients. It's super easy and I did something a little different. I included the side dishes to go with the chicken. This recipe was given to me in the 1990's from a co-worker and it's delicioso.

SWEET AND SOUR CHICKEN DINNER. Preheat oven to 350 degrees

1 cup of Apricot preserve or jam

1 cup of Russian dress-

1/3 cup of soy sauce 3/4 to 1 pound of Bone-



less skinless chicken breast (It's less expensive than chicken tenders plus you can slice it thicker and I found it works best, the breast I used was under a pound, it was a bit more than 3/4 of a lb.).

In medium bowl whisk together the apricot preserve, the Russian dressing and the soy sauce. Cut the chicken about 3/4" thick and put in bowl with sauce to marinade about 15 minutes. This gives the chicken a beautiful reddish color. In baking dish place the chicken in side by side but not touching. You don't need a big baking dish, use your

For the rice I found this new flavored rice called Jasmine rice by Carolina. Cook rice according to package. It cooks in 15 minutes and the flavor is great. Spoon some sauce over the chicken and the rice. This is a quick and healthy recipe and makes a great dinner.

cook another 5 minutes.

small spoon of minced garlic

(I use the one in a jar) cook a couple of minutes, add salt

and pepper to taste, mix

around, then put broccoli

back in pan and toss to coat.

That's it! I hope you enjoy cooking and eating this recipe. Well my friends till next time I'm signing off -Cin Pin.

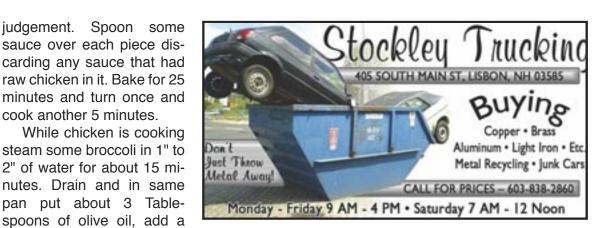
Try some Pinot Grigio wine

with it. Please drink respon-

sibly and don't drink and

drive.







Thomas W. Mayo

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"I am a Family Nurse Practitioner who has lived in northern Vermont for the last 6 years. I received my Bachelor's Degree at Middlebury College and completed my Masters of Science in Nursing at Simmons College in 2018. I worked for many years as a registered nurse in women's health.

I am thrilled to be part of the Little Rivers Health Care team caring for members of the community of all ages and through all stages of their lives. Outside of work I enjoy spending as much time as possible outdoors with my family and dogs."

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