

A FREE PUBLICATION



Next Issue: Tuesday, February 25
Deadline: Thursday, February 20

TRENDY TIMES



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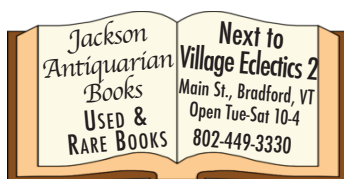
North Haverhill Fair Presents

It may only be February and feeling like the middle of winter, but plans for the 81st annual North Haverhill Fair are already underway.

The first big announcement in 2025 is that a Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band Tribute group will perform live on Friday, July 25. The Beautiful Losers was put together by Last Laugh vocalist, Devin Cordeiro. "I have always wanted to put together the most authentic Seger show but never had the time. Well I made time for it and as I planned for it all, top on the list was joining together the best musicians that the New England

music scene had to offer. I started at the top of the list talent wise and just went for it. I am sure that you will recognize these guys and the bands that they have recorded and toured with! The truth is I couldn't have assembled a more talented, dedicated and professional group for this project and as a result, it has exceeded all expectations." The concert will begin at 8:30, and there is no additional fee to

see this



with their great midway. Or visit all of the displays from vendors on the midway or in the Commercial Building and see all the exhibits by 4-Hers and others in the Arts & Crafts building.

27 at the Fred C. Lee Memorial Field, 1299 Dartmouth College Highway (Route 10) in North Haverhill, NH. Admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children 5-12, with those under 5 admitted free. Parking and all the shows and exhibits are free as well.

great group once you have paid your general admission.

Of course there is much more than just music at the North Haverhill Fair. Favorites like five days of animal pulling events, a demolition derby on Wednesday night, two days of tractor pulling, plus the 4x4 truck pull and even a big rig truck pull. Fanelli Amusements returns this year

The 2025 Fair will also have some newer favorites like a car show, mini-excavator rodeo, working steer show, draft horse show, racing pigs, and more including the return of Cirque Cyber, the show that pulled together great crowds in 2024.

A reminder also that the annual Fair Food Festival returns to the North Haverhill fairgrounds on Friday and Saturday, May 16 & 17. For the second year there will be a craft fair on Saturday. Admission is still \$5 per vehicle at the front gate.

The 81st annual North Haverhill Fair will take place from Wednesday, July 23 thru Sunday, July

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For More Details
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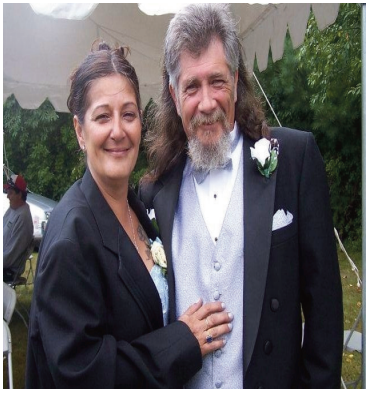
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OBITUARY:
Rose M.
(Haddad)
Smith

Rose M. (Haddad) Smith-Pike, NH - Rose M. (Haddad) Smith, 69, of Pike, NH, was reunited with her beloved husband on January 28, 2025.

Born in Weymouth, MA on March 4, 1955, she was the daughter of Noel Haddad and Esther Strang. Rose was raised and educated in Brockton, MA, attending local schools. On September 8, 1972, she married her beloved husband, Jeffrey Alan Smith, in Brockton.

In 1994, Rose and Jeffrey moved to Pike, NH, where she worked in customer service and restaurant management for several local businesses.

Rose had a passion for life and enjoyed a variety of interests. An avid reader, she was especially fond of Stephen King novels. She loved the thrill of riding Harleys with Jeffrey, the tranquility of gardening, the intrigue of true crime shows, and above all, cherished time spent with her grandchildren.

Rose was predeceased by her parents; her husband, Jeffrey Alan Smith; her three brothers, Al Gene, Robert, and Ken-

neth Patrick; her sister, Yvon Strang; and her grandson, David Alan Smith.

She is survived by her three children: Jeffrey A. Smith II and his wife Kathleen, Kerry Smith, and Devon Smith; her nine grandchildren: Christian, EmmaLee, Hayley, Noah, Olivia, Mia, Caitlyn, Dusty, and Austin; two sisters, Toni Scully and Dawn Newman-Williams; two sisters-in-law, Kathie Smith, and Susan Howland; she shared a special relationship with Aubree, Jeffrey, Nolan, and Kristanna, as well as, many great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and close friends.

Calling hours will be Monday February 3, 2025, from 5-7 PM at Ricker Funeral Home and Cremation Care of Woodsville, 1 Birch St. Woodsville, NH. There will be a graveside service in the spring at the Pike Cemetery on Tuesday May 13, 2025, at 1 PM.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

The Colonial Theatre
Welcomes
New Director of Marketing
and Communications,
Ashley Warwick



Bethlehem, NH – January 30, 2025 – The Colonial Theatre is pleased to announce the appointment of Ashley Warwick as its new Director of Marketing and Communications. With over 20 years of experience in the music and entertainment industries and a strong background in marketing and promotions, Warwick brings a well-suited blend of creativity and strategic expertise to this role.

A longtime advocate for the arts and a familiar face in the community, Warwick is known for her engaging performances as both a jazz vocalist and as the bandleader of her country and western band, Ashley Jane's Hootenanny. Beyond her artistic endeavors, she has spent more than a decade helping musicians, entrepreneurs, and small businesses develop impactful branding and marketing strategies to grow their audiences and careers. She also taught courses in branding and promo-

tion for musicians at Vermont State University-Lyndon, equipping students with tools to navigate the intersection of artistry and business. Since moving to Bethlehem in 2017, Warwick has been deeply involved in the local arts scene, and she is eager to further strengthen community connections through her new role.

"The Colonial is such a special place—a historic gem that serves as a cultural and entertainment hub for Bethlehem and beyond," said Warwick. "I'm excited to showcase our incredible events and films, highlight the stories behind the magic, and build deeper connections with our audience. This role is bursting with potential for creative storytelling and engagement, and I'm eager to celebrate our history while bringing fresh ideas to life."

As Director of Marketing and Communications, Warwick will oversee The

Colonial Theatre's brand storytelling, digital and print marketing, and social media strategy to ensure The Colonial continues to thrive as a cornerstone of entertainment and culture in the North Country.

About The Colonial Theatre

The mission of the Friends of the Colonial is to inspire and invite participation in the cultural conversation by preserving and improving its historic landmark theater, providing high-quality film and performing arts programming and quality family entertainment, and offering a vision of small-town revitalization based on the arts.

To learn more about The Colonial, or to become a member or volunteer, please visit BethlehemColonial.org. While you are there, sign up for email updates and follow The Colonial on Instagram (@bethlehemcolonial) and Facebook (Facebook.com/BethlehemColonial).

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OBITUARY: Thomas Lloyd Rich,

Thomas Lloyd Rich, 66, of Woodsville, NH, passed away peacefully at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center on January 30, 2025. Tom was born on May 28, 1958, at Laconia Hospital in Laconia, NH, the youngest child of Nancy Graham Rich and Paul W. Rich Sr. He grew up and attended school in Laconia, where he developed a passion for skiing at a young age. Tom was a member of the Gunstock Ski Club and the Laconia High School ski team, enjoying many days on the slopes with family and friends at the Gunstock Ski Area.

Tom had a deep appreciation for music and cherished memories of his musician friends. After graduating from Laconia High School in 1976, he proudly served his country as a Specialist in the Infantry Division of the 1st Army Security Division until October 1981. His wife, Nancy, worked as a travel nurse which allowed them to travel and experience different parts of the United States, fostering his love of exploring new areas and cultures.

Tom is survived by his spouse Nancy Burbank of Woodsville, NH; his brothers, Paul Rich Jr and wife Elizabeth Rich of Gilman Iron Works, NH, and Robert Rich of Laconia, NH, and his sister Susan Hildreth-Brown of Meredith, NH. Tom had many wonderful memories of holidays and camping with his brothers and sister. He is also survived by Nancy's daughters, Shari Sarris and husband George Sarris of Manchester, NH, Lisa Desautelle of Tilton, NH, Cortney Campbell of Alhambra, CA,

and Ashley Reagan of Laconia, NH. Tom also had a special relationship with Jon Stanley of CA. Grandchildren include Alyssa Bergeron and husband Blake Bergeron of Tilton, NH, Bryant and Brady Desautell of Tilton, NH, Lyla Medina, Victoria, Naomi and Dulce Gomez of Alhambra, CA, Rory Campbell and Wesley Reagan of Laconia, NH. Tom had one nephew, Paul Rich and wife Melissa Rich of PA, and three nieces, Julia Pothen and husband Randy Pothen of Bow, NH, Jessica Hildreth of Gilford, NH, and Katherine and husband Jonnie of CA. Tom also had niece Kimberly Tripp and daughter Madahson Glodgett. Christine Bill. Loki and Roxie will miss Tom very much. Loki, our dog, was always at Tom's side. Tom was predeceased by his mother Nancy Graham Rich of Laconia, NH, his father Paul W. Rich Sr. of Laconia, NH, June Rich, wife of Robert Rich and Christine Bill, stepdaughter of Robert and June and Matthew Desautelle, husband of Lisa Desautelle.

There will be a celebration of Tom's life at a later date. Thank you to the staff at Cottage Hospital and Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center for your excellent care and respect for Tom's life.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.



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Saturday, March 29 - 9am-3pm

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For information, please contact Tracy Puffer at tracypuffer@oesu.org or call (802) 222-5212

Calendar of Events

EVENTS FROM LOCAL NON-PROFITS, SCHOOLS AND TOWNS. *PRESENTED FREE BY TRENDY TIMES.*

EVERY FRIDAY

SHARE THE HARVEST TABLE

NOON - 7:00 PM

Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River.

EVERY SUNDAY

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2nd Wednesday monthly

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3rd Friday Monthly

NEKCA Mobile Food Shelf,

Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River

WEEKLY EVENTS AT:

CLIFFORD MEMORIAL BUILDING

South Court Street, Woodsville

PICKLEBALL

Tuesday & Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM

Saturday mornings at 9:00-10:30 AM

LINE DANCING every Wednesday evening

6:00 - 7:00 PM

ANTIQUÉ STROLLERS WALKING PROGRAM

Monday – Friday from 11:00-12:30

Clifford Building, North Haverhill

FOLK MUSIC JAM - 1st and 3rd Saturdays at

10am, Pope Library (Community Center) in

Danville, VT.

"Back porch style", sit in a circle and take turns choosing a tune/song. Listeners welcome.

For more info or to confirm date contact (library) 802-684-2256 or (Vicki) 802-535-6069.

Upcoming Events

Haverhill Rec

Acoustic Music Jams The jams are once per month, held at the Clifford Memorial Building 65 South Court St. Woodsville from 12-3.

March 2

April 6

May 4

June 1

July 6

August 10

September 7

October 5

November 2

December 7

The Cobleigh Library's annual Bake Sale will be held at the library

(14 Depot St, Lyndonville) this year on Friday, February 14th from 10am to

5pm and on Saturday, February 15th

from 9am to 12pm. Baked goods can

be dropped off at the library on Thursday,

February 13th from 12pm to 7pm

and on Friday, February 14th from 9am

to 10am. Anyone interested in vol

unteering for the Bake Sale or in do

nating baked goods can contact Andrea

Chiesa at vettech7197@gmail.com.

FMI, call 802-626-5475.

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Susan Culp to be speaker at the WRAP Annual Meeting

Susan Culp, Chair of Newbury Select Board and Chair of the Newbury US 250th Celebration Committee, and member of the Tucker Mountain Management Committee will be the guest speaker at the WRAP (Wells River Action Program) Annual meeting to be held on February 16th at 4pm in the vestry of the Wells River Congregational Church at 76 Main St. N, Wells River. Susan has lived in Newbury since 2018.

The annual meeting includes a short business meeting, election of board members and an annual report presentation plus a catered dinner served buffet style by the Hatchbox consisting of spice rubbed pork tenderloin, herb marinated chicken thighs, roasted butternut

squash, homemade macaroni and cheese and a garden salad with carrot cake for dessert.

Reservations are required and the cost is \$30 per person and must be made by Thursday, February 13th. Reservations may be made at the Baldwin Memorial Library, by placing a check in a sealed envelope along with your name(s) and telephone number or email address and dropping it off at the library. Reservations may also be made at LC Design Concepts, made on-line by using or by mail at WRAP, PO Box 538, Wells River, VT 05081.

For more information email WRAP at wrapwr@gmail.com or call Kelsey at 802 757 0101. The meeting is open to all. You do not

have to be a member of WRAP to attend.

Annual Dues are only \$5.00 per person and may be added to your meal reservation or mailed to WRAP at PO Box 538, Wells River, VT. 05081

The mission of WRAP is to enhance the quality of life in Wells River Village and its immediately surrounding villages and towns by supporting affordable housing, business, and economic development and, tourism and recreation. Preserving the rural and historic character, of Wells River Village. Membership in WRAP is open to all who are interested in improving and preserving the Wells River Area whether or not they reside in the Wells River area.



OBITUARY: Barry Demers,

Barry Demers, 52, of Franconia, NH, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 31, 2025, at Lafayette Nursing Center in Franconia, NH. He was born on October 10, 1972, the son of the late Charles and Lorraine Demers of North Haverhill, NH. Barry was also predeceased by two brothers, Bruce Demers and John Demers, as well as his sister, Elaine Vorce. He enjoyed spending his time giving back to the community volunteering for Littleton Hospital, the Morrison Nursing Home, and the Lafayette Nursing Center. Barry's hobbies included skiing, Tae Kwon Do, and watching Lassie and the Walker Texas Ranger. He was the Sergeant of the Arms at the Lafayette Nursing Center and was a proud supporter of the Military Veterans.

His loving family includes his brother Wayne Demers and wife LeeAnne Demers, of Whitefield, NH, brother Brian Demers of

San Diego, CA, his sister Diane Paquette and husband John Paquette of Dalton, NH and many nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews.

Calling hours will be Saturday February 8, 2025, from 9:30 to 10:30 AM at Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville, 1 Birch St. Woodsville, NH. Fr. Ryan Amazeen will celebrate a Mass of Christian Burial on Saturday February 8, 2025, at 11AM at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 21 Pine St. Woodsville, NH. Interment will be in the spring at Horse Meadow Cemetery Annex on Friday May 2, 2025, at 10 AM.

To offer the family an on-line condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com

Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.



Male Cardinal

By: Tom Thomson

WELLS RIVER ACTION PROGRAM Annual Meeting & Dinner

Sunday, Feb. 16 at 4 PM

Wells River Congregational Church
76 Main Street, Wells River

**Guest Speaker
SUSAN CULP**

Newbury Selectboard Chair

Agenda:

Brief Business Meeting, Elections of Board Members,
Brief Annual Report Presentation

Reservations Required by Feb. 13

Dinner \$30 per person

Buffet Style featuring: Spice-rubbed pork tenderloin, herb-marinated chicken thighs, roasted butternut squash, homemade macaroni & cheese, garden salad, carrot cake

Mail payment to:

WRAP, PO Box 538, Wells River, VT 05081

or Leave check in a sealed envelope
at the Baldwin Library

For more information, email wrapwr@gmail.com
or call 802-757-0101

MEMBERS AND PUBLIC INVITED

Woodsville High School News



Woodsville High School and Haverhill Cooperative Middle School are proud to spotlight Mrs. Lori Taylor, the Athletic Director at both schools. With a deep passion for empowering students through athletics, Mrs. Taylor is committed to providing every student-athlete with the opportunity to grow both on and off the field.

Her leadership focuses on fostering teamwork, sportsmanship, and discipline, which has made her an invaluable member of both WHS and HCMS. Mrs. Taylor's dedication to student success and wellness is evident in all of her work, and her positive influence continues to shape the student-athletes she mentors.

"Mrs. Taylor's dedication to our student-athletes is evident in everything she does. Her ability to inspire teamwork and discipline has a lasting impact on our students, and we are proud to have her on our team," says Mr. Hayden Coon, Principal of Woodsville High School.

Mrs. Taylor's exceptional work in fostering a strong athletic program at both schools has contributed greatly to the overall development of student-athletes. Her leadership is not only shaping sports programs but also instilling important life lessons that will benefit students long beyond graduation.



Woodsville High School is proud to recognize Mr. Glen Page for his dedication to hands-on learning and student success. As the teacher of Architectural Design, Woodworking, IT Essentials, and Wilderness Technology, Mr. Page provides students with valuable real-world skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

Whether guiding students in designing structures, crafting wood projects, troubleshooting technology, or teaching outdoor survival skills, Mr. Page ensures that learning is



engaging and practical. "Mr. Page's classes provide students with real-world experiences that set them up for future success," said WHS Principal Hayden Coon. "His ability to engage students in hands-on learning is a huge asset to our school."

Woodsville High School thanks Mr. Page for his dedication to education and for inspiring the next generation of builders, innovators, and problem-solvers.

Engineering a better future by inspiring our students to become independent, life-long learners.



The Woodsville High School (WHS) and Haverhill Cooperative Middle School (HCMS) Cheer Team is bringing enthusiasm, dedication, and school spirit to games and events this season.

This talented squad includes:

🔥 Front Row: Morgan Gaffey, Ivory Dube, Totem Larochele

🔥 Back Row: Jaquelyn Marston, Cochlea Larochele, Jordan Brown, Emma Thompson

Coach Morgan Kingsbury is proud of the team's commitment and energy, stating, "This team has worked incredibly hard to build strong routines and keep the crowd engaged. Their passion and teamwork make them a special group, and I am excited to see them continue to grow this season."

The WHS & HCMS cheerleaders are leading the charge in school spirit, motivating both athletes and fans alike. Be sure to catch them at upcoming games as they showcase their skills and enthusiasm for the Engineers and Hawks!



Woodsville High School is proud to recognize Ondrea Rainville for her positive energy, leadership, and enthusiasm for learning in both academics and extracurricular activities.

Ondrea has made a lasting impact in the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program, where she is known for her welcoming attitude and kindness. WHS JAG Senior Career Specialist Mrs. Nichols commended Ondrea for her ability to uplift those around her:

"Ondrea's kindness and positivity create such a welcoming environment in JAG. I can't wait to see all the great things she will accomplish!" - Mrs. Nichols

In addition to her contributions in JAG, Ondrea's academic success in Spanish has been exceptional. Nominated by Mrs. Nickles, she has demonstrated a passion for language learning, eagerly sharing her Spanish skills with her parents at home and assisting her classmates with enthusiasm.

"Ondrea's energy and passion for learning make her a joy to have in class!" - Mrs. Nickles

Woodsville High School is proud to celebrate Ondrea's achievements and looks forward to seeing her continued success.

Congratulations, Ondrea!

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Home Health Aide sought to provide daily compassionate support, care and assistance to a local female farmer in her late 60's living with multiple sclerosis with limited ability. Assistance is needed at the start of each day for 2 to 3 hrs.

Responsibilities include daily grooming, meal prep, light housekeeping, appointments, ability to monitor vital signs a plus.

Requirements are prior experience in caregiving, valid driver's license and ability to lift 50 lbs, How to Apply: Email resume or letter of interest to teamkimmeg@gmail.com, along with two references.

Applications will be reviewed and interviews will be scheduled on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

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OBITUARY:
Barbara G. Thornton,

Barbara G. Thornton, 86, of Woodsville, NH, passed away peacefully on January 26, 2025. She was born on February 24, 1938, in Newbury, to Rex P. and Alice (Ricker) Burroughs.

Barbara graduated from Newbury High School and went on to earn both a bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Vermont. She dedicated her life to education, teaching for 25 years in Vermont at various schools including Boltonville, Newbury, Shelburne, Hartford, Blue Mountain Union, Brownsville, and Peacham Elementary. She also shared her passion for teaching in Virginia, where she taught for three years in Norfolk and Virginia Beach.

Beyond her career, Barbara was an active member of her community. She served as a past district and local president of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, was a member of the Oxbow DAR, and a devoted member of the West Newbury United Congregational Church. She was also a past member and 7th Degree Granger. Her commitment to public service extended to her role on the Newbury Board of Education for three years, where she served as budget clerk. Ad-

ditionally, she held the position of chairman of the Newbury Bicentennial Committee.

In her free time, Barbara was an avid fan of car racing. She enjoyed cheering on local drivers like the Faddens, Aldriches, and Olsens, and was a devoted fan of Dale Earnhardt Sr. in the NASCAR Cup Series. She also held dear the memories of wreath making and of a special trip to Ireland with her sisters.

Barbara was predeceased by her husband, Donald Thornton; two infant sons, Daryl Albert Thornton and Michael Scott Thornton; a stepson, Barry Ronald Thornton; her parents; two brothers, Richard and Dale Burroughs; and a sister, Cynthia Ann Burroughs.

She is survived by her son, Phillip Thornton; a stepdaughter, Diane Wright; a brother, Roland Burroughs; four sisters: Virginia Rose Fuller, Elizabeth Fay Ackroyd, Deborah Eileen White, and Valerie Louise Massey; five grandchildren: Carrie Gentile, Marshia Provencher, Ashley Linnane, Linnea Werner, and Kenneth Thornton; great-grandchildren: Atley Epping-Thornton, Hannah Linnane, Ryan Zeno, and Cohen Provencher; and a

great-great-grandchild, Bailey Brace-Delorme. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, January 30, from 6-8 pm at Ricker Funeral Home and Cremation Care of Woodsville, 1 Birch St., Woodsville, NH. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, February 1, at 3:00 pm at the West Newbury Congregational Church, Tyler Farm Rd. West Newbury, VT. The interment will be in the spring on Friday, May 23, 2025, at 1 PM at Town House Cemetery, Scotch Hollow Rd, Newbury Center, VT.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Barbara's memory to West Newbury United Congregational Church, Tyler Farm Rd. West Newbury, VT. The family would like to thank the Grafton County Nursing Home for their loving care.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com

Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

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OBITUARY: Kevin Bruce Fuller,

Kevin Bruce Fuller, 67, passed away on Sunday, February 2nd, 2025, surrounded by family, after a very long and determined fight against kidney disease.

Kevin was born on February 15, 1957, in Woodsville, NH to Kenneth Eugene Fuller and Marilyn Ruth (Thompson) Fuller. He grew up on the family dairy farm on Fuller Road in Newbury, VT. He spent his youth helping with the daily farm chores, including milking, haying, and seasonal maple sugaring. He participated in 4H and showed dairy cows at the local fairs. He attended Oxbow High School.

After school, Kevin worked at Ken's Texaco, owned by his father, and at the Alger Farm. He moved to Massachusetts for work where he met and married Darlene Trumbull, who became his wife of 36 years. They raised their family in Westfield MA, where he worked as a logger and then as a very skilled board sawyer at Green Meadow Lumber for many years. Upon retirement, he returned to the family camp on Round Pond in Newbury, VT to care for his mother.

Kevin had an irreverent sense of humor and loved to play pranks, to the amusement and exasperation of his family and friends. He was a grill man and homemade french fry maker. He loved hosting BBQs for family and friends, especially on Independence Day when he would put on his own fireworks display. He loved watching war movies and westerns. He was a long-time Patriots fan. He loved snowmobiling and watching motor sports. He was the 1975 Demolition Derby

Champion of Vermont. He was a lifetime DIY'er.

Kevin is survived by the love of his life, Darlene of Newbury, VT, three children from a previous marriage, Heather Giurlando (Paul) of Epping, NH), Melissa Fuller (David), of Corinth, VT, Kevin Fuller II (Jennifer) of Newbury, VT, and 4 children from his marriage with Darlene, Joshua Fuller, of Southwick, MA, Karen Fuller, of Hot Springs, VA, Kenneth Fuller II (Calista) of Springfield, NH, and Evan Fuller of Springfield, MA, seven grandchildren, Hailey, Aiden, Brayden, Leah, Gracelynn, Madeleine, Jacob, his siblings, Glenn Fuller, of MA, Karen Wallace, of VA, Keith Fuller, of FL, Timothy Alger, of NV, and many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends, and his dog, Lady.

Kevin was predeceased by his father in 2012 and his mother in 2024.

Graveside services will be held on May 22nd, 2025, at 10:00am at the Newbury Town House Cemetery followed by a celebration of life in the Town House. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Kidney Fund Contributions@kidneyfund.org

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

ROONEY STRIKES AGAIN

By Maggie Anderson

Well I woke with a spring in my step this morning. Then I cracked open the shade. Snow! Not much, but not welcome either.

So I cranked up my computer and five seconds later, Andy Rooney was screaming in my ear. Again.

So much was vying for my attention I decided to hurl a wide net, offer some things to ponder, and let the reader sort it all out.

New Jersey's Tweedledee and Tweedledum (aka Governor Murphy and Senator Beach) have reached the pinnacle of intellectual asininity.

Governor Murphy has signed A 1669 into law. Passed in the Senate by a vote of 34-2, it became effective on January 1, 2025.

Senator Beach said " We need more teachers. This is the way to get them."

The bill waives the requirement for teachers to pass the Praxis Core Test. Which is a basic skills test for reading, writing, and mathematics.

New Jersey's powerful teachers' union (NJEA) stated the testing requirement was an unnecessary barrier to entering the profession.

There are a couple of things about that.

If I had a child enrolled in New Jersey's public school system, I would be focused on getting the best teachers,

rather than just getting more teachers. It would help assure that the students' new superpower is not just learning to read and write in cursive, but learning to read at all.

And if I'm having brain surgery, I want the doctor who was top of the class, not just one who happened to think, maybe I'll try that, the entry requirements seem doable.

And the cheers from the NJEA are in direct response to the tally of dues-paying members the new bill will welcome on-board.

The only ones short changed are students relying on qualified teachers to give them a decent education.

And so they don't feel forgotten, all those folks who've been complaining about books depicting nudity in the elementary school libraries across the country need to pay attention.

If no one is around who can teach the children to read, they're going to need books with pictures so they'll know what the book's about.

Asinine, start to finish.

Then PETA got my goat again with the stupidity of offering to provide some vegan goodies at Punxsutawney Phil's annual party.

Just a note, they don't grill the groundhog, no matter his

predictions for the following six weeks.

And, as some of us know, there are many other problems for animals all over the country; problems PETA could help to solve.

But PETA is well aware those other problems don't have the publicity Punxsutawney Phil's big day generates.,

Finally, I love tea, have so many varieties I'm often still trying to decide which bag to hang over the side of my cup by the time the the kettle's screaming.

And though I love tea, I really prefer coffee - if whoever prepares it knows what they're doing.

Still it does not stop me from trying new tea flavors. I find myself reading about some exotic combinations that often sound better than they turn out to taste.

But this morning I caught an ad in the side bar on my computer screen, and I kid you not, it was called Butterfly Pea.

And, although they spelled it with an a at the end, there is no chance whatsoever I'll pay for something called Butterfly Pea, much less actually drink it.

It reminded me of a soft drink sold in Tokyo.

It's called Calpis.

I'm not buyin' that either!

Time to put the kettle on.

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LETTERS

(and even some real words)

From The Editor

Profile School Board, we're listening!

To the Editor,

The tide has turned! The 'Federal Well' is dry! No more ARPA money!

With an ongoing and growing Federal US debt, the American taxpayer owes \$36.5 Trillion dollars due to reckless and foolish spending throughout the last few decades. Reckless spending during the recent Biden days include unaccountable expenditures. Take for example the millions of dollars spent on condos for HAMAS, only to find out the condos were being used as bombs! Another example is the recent ongoing and ever-present infiltration of illegal aliens who we now need to feed, house, clothe, educate, and for whom we need to provide free health-care, credit cards, phones, and hotel rooms to mention a few more. Much of this debt is due to Liberal, Democrat spending.

This astounding spending and accrual of enormous debt has hit its high-water mark, and now, not only affects the Federal level of government and its employees, but is trickling down to state, county, and local entities (towns and schools).

The Town of Littleton has foregone its implementation of building a

new elementary school and other Grafton County towns are considering putting off infrastructure projects. Littleton's situation is also complicated by tax reassessment of Moore Dam by its parent company.

Weighing heavily upon local building projects is the County's building of a new Courthouse to replace the 52-year-old Grafton County Courthouse whose cost is projected to be an approximately \$50 - \$60 Million dollar project. This cost will be paid by local Grafton County taxpayers over 30-years with interest in their annual tax bill. The County Commissioners, the Courthouse Building Committee, and the Executive Committee are moving "full-steam-ahead" in accomplishing this task. The only way, we, the Grafton County taxpayers, can stop this is to tell your NH District Representative to vote, "NO!" Surprisingly, we have no direct vote in this process of spending millions of our taxpayer dollars!

The Profile School Board is cognizant of our economic times, and seems to be doing its 'due diligence' on behalf of all Profile taxpayers. Over the recent years, we have built a brand-new school to house and educate the "Profile Patriots" (for which we

are still paying off the bond), we have constructed additions, roofs, a new state-of-the-art Buderus boiler, and solar panels, all the while giving ongoing raises to teachers and staff. I think consecutive series of Profile school board members have been fair, and we, the taxpayers, have been correspondingly equally fair for the return of a respectful quality of education for our students.

The current demand for circumventing staff cuts by "community members" should be seen as "a sign of our times." In light of the overwhelming burdens the Profile taxpayers must endure to survive this outlandish spending and deleterious debt encumbered by our federal, county, and local entities, the high inflation, the high interest rates, high gas prices, the high price of home heating fuel, high electricity rates, high insurance rates, fiscal frugality and fiscal conservatism should rule this day!

"Low taxes are the result of low spending!" New Hampshire Governor Meldrim Thompson wisely once said.

The members of the Profile School Board should now follow his astute advice.

Nick De Mayo,
Sugar Hill, NH

To the Editor

Like so many of us in our waning years, you went to pay your 'fair share' of the public school extortion fees today, I'll bet. 'Cause if you don't you know what they'll do: they'll throw you out of your homes or starve you to death. So, you older people on fixed income who are being bankrupted today and probably displaced tomorrow, I'm writing this for your benefit and comfort. Because, really, it's okay, anything for our neighbor's kids. After all, these kids need to learn how many genders there are and how to have homosexual sex safely, and how America bad and Communism good, and a place to play sports. Don't they? And anyway the parents need babysitters you need to pay for. They have a right to it, don't they, so, buck up Granny and pay your fair share. Shouldn't it be painful for everyone - good things always require pain? And, absolutely, it should cost

Paul,

I will agree that prices keep going up. Especially in Haverhill with the reassessment of property last year, and the over spending oof the town's budget, our tax bills went up considerably.

But let me point out that there is the opportunity to dispute the assesment through the town administration of-fice. Let me also point out that the education dollars that Haverhill receives from Concord are, and have been for many years, well under what can be difined as "adequate" fundings. There is a bigger issue, I believe, than just at the local level. Certainly we pay for it in the end, but be careful as to just who you are blaming for the situation.

Gary Scruton, Editor

more and more every year cause that's progress. Teachers have to keep up their standard of living don't they? You dear old fogies can always go to food pantries and the dump to keep ends together, and patch up your leaking roof instead of replacing it. Everyone knows that an education that only gets half of the kids up to proficiency in math and reading is better than no education at all, don't they? You had a fifth rate education; why shouldn't everyone else have the same opportunity? Your kids need a place to be groomed and if the schoolyard bullies running the place steal your lunch money to make it happen that's just the way it'll have to be. Smile, don't be miserable; if you're old it isn't anyone's fault but yours. Just get out of the way of progress, after all you're living in God's country, wonderful Haverhill, New Hampshire.

Paul Ingbretson,
Haverhill

Nick,

I can certainly not argue with Governor Thompson's statement. Of course with the approach of town and school meetings, we all have the opportunity to let our voices be heard. This is our chance to be educated and then vote for the best interest of ourselves as well as our com-

munities. Sometimes that choice is very difficult and sometimes it is very straight forward. I will simply urge all registered voters to participate. It might be difficult, but is is your right and even your obligation to yourself, your children and your community.

Gary scruton, Editor

♥ HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY ♥

To the Editor,

Your response to my letter to the editor concerning the Wells River Water situation missed the entire point of my letter. My point was that, other than a few notices posted along Main Street, there was NO Communication with the public as to what was being done. They may have been doing what was required by law, but the public should have been notified using the Village website, the listserves and press releases as to what was being done.

The village charter states what the duties of the village clerk are. The village clerk does not work for the trustees.

Richard M Roderick
Wells River, VT

Richard,

My apologies if I did not meet your expectations in my previous response. For any group of elected officials to make public what they do and how they do it, can be difficult. There is a line between too much information, causing unwarranted stress, to not enough information, causing undue uncertainty. At this point it appears that no contamination of the village water supply occurred, so that is good news for all.

Yes, a village, or town clerk is an elected position and therefore not an employee. Duties should be well spelled out. However, in any well run organization, some duties are changed in order to better utilize the abilities of those in such positions.

I do hope that Wells River Village continues to move forward in a manner that best serves its citizens.

Gary Scruton, Editor

N.H. Republicans received a Mandate

On Nov. 5th, 2024 Republicans received a "Mandate" from the Voters of New Hampshire by electing Republican Governor Kelly Ayotte, a Republican super majority in the Senate, while adding 21 more Republican Members to the House than Democrats and four Republicans were elected to the New Hampshire Executive Council and one Democrat.

Today, I will focus on one of the most important mandates that will make New Hampshire the most prosperous State in the entire Northeast by simple passing HB 238 the "Right to Work" Law this year.

Our Governor, Kelly Ayotte has said she will sign "Right to Work" into law if it comes to her desk. Recently HB 238 came out of the House Labor Committee, with a Vote ought to pass.

This is good news the "Mandate" is working and if we are successful and HB 238 gets to the Governor's desk to sign into law, New Hampshire will be the envy of the entire Northeastern States.

New Hampshire's North country would really benefit from passage of HB 238, manufacturing companies would flood across the borders of Vermont, Maine and Canada into the North Country and enjoy the hardworking labor force there while enjoying a Right to Work State that's has No Sales or Income Tax.

If HB 238 becomes law in N.H. we will see highly paid Manufacturing jobs pour into our State, which I believe will make N.H. one of the most prosperous States in the Northeast and beyond.

Today, thousands upon thousands of hardworking N.H. men and women that work in Union Jobs are forced to pay Union Dues or be fired. We know that a large per-

cent of the Union Dues are given by the Unions each Election Year to guess who, the Liberal Democrats to elect more "Woke" Democrats like our former President, Joe Biden. How did that work out for the past four years?

Let's look back to 2011 when both the House and Senate passed the "Right to Work" bill and sent it onto Governor John Lynch's desk only to be Vetoed. Today, we have a Governor who has said she will sign the "Right to Work" into Law. But it was recently reported that the newly elected President of the Senate Sharon Carson (R) of Londonderry who has in the past has joined with the Democrats on two occasions and voted against "Right to Work".

I hope her fellow Republicans remind her how important the "Nov. 5th Republican Mandate" is and join together with other Republican Senators to help move HB 238 to Governor Kelly Ayotte's desk for signing.

I encourage all Republicans, Independents and there are still some Conservative Democrats left in N.H. to call and write your State Representatives, and State Senator and encourage them to support HB 238 as soon as you can. If you are not sure who they are, Google my N.H. State Representative and my State Senator (a map comes up, just click onto your town and the name of both come up with address) if you want the "Live Free or Die" State to prosper. Don't forget to encourage your family members and friends to do the same. By doing this we will be much closer to fulfilling the Nov. 5, 2024, Republican Mandate.

Tom Thomson
Tree Farmer
Orford, NH



NH Right to Work Vote,

Thursday, February 13

By: Rick Ladd

Under current law, New Hampshire statute allows unions to collect mandatory agency fees from employees in unionized workplaces even though some workers would opt not to join the union. Those not wanting to join the union, believe that all workers should have the right to decide whether to financially support a union or not.

Recently, the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Janus v. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, essentially shifted the workplace landscape by affirming that public-sector employees cannot be compelled to pay union fees, citing violations of First Amendment Rights. This 2018 ruling emphasized the importance of individual choice in the workplace, a constitutionally sound tenet of the legislative process. Based upon the Janus decision, public-sector employees in New Hampshire enjoy this right and cannot be forced to pay union dues; however, private-sector employees are not granted the same protections.

I believe that all employees, public or private, deserve the same level of fairness and equal treatment regarding their right to work, and to decide whether to pay union

fees or not. For this reason, it is unacceptable that some workers are still required to submit a portion of every paycheck to the union while others are not. Based upon this principle, HB238 was submitted to the Labor, Industrial, and Rehabilitative Services committee for consideration this past month. The bill prohibits collective bargaining agreements from requiring employees to join or contribute to a labor union. It is my belief that independent workers should have the right to work without having to pay a mandatory fee supporting the union's collective bargaining efforts.

HB238 will be acted upon by the full House on February 13. The bill recognizes the values unions provide in terms of wages, benefits, and training, but balances those attributes with the rights of all employees, union or non-union members, to have the freedom to choose union membership or the right not to join the union. For these reasons, the majority of the Labor Committee has recommended Ought to Pass, 10-9.

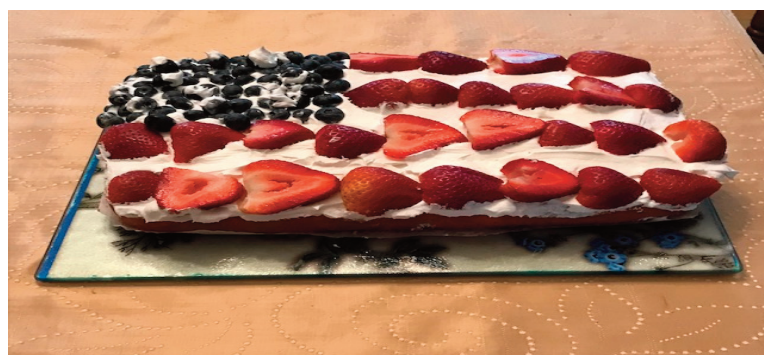
Respectfully Submitted,
NH Rep Rick Ladd, Chairman,
House Education Funding





TRENDY KITCHEN

by **Cindy Pinheiro**
to contact **Cindy**
(aka **Cin Pin**)
write to the owner/publisher at
April@trendytimes.com



American Flag Jello Cake

Hello hello my fellow chefs. How are you all doing today?

I'm doing okay and enjoying the beautiful weather we've been blessed with. The 4th of July is quickly approaching and this cake is so refreshing and delicious I'm re-running this easy peasy dessert from last year because it is so perfect for the holiday. You can show off your creative skills by decorating our great flag. Everyone will love it and you will be a star showing up with your masterpiece. If you don't have a white cake mix you can substitute a yellow cake and you can also use your choice of Jello. The white cake with the strawberry Jello looks really good but they are all good, so if you have to use what you have. Let's get started with today's recipe and how to

make it.

- Ingredients**
- 1 box of classic white cake mix
 - 1 small box of strawberry Jello
 - 1 cup of very hot water for jello
 - 1 cup cold water for jello
 - 1 16 oz container of fresh strawberries
 - 1 pint of fresh blueberries
 - 8 oz container of Cool Whip topping

Make your cake as directed for a 9x13" cake. Remove cake and cool on wire rack. When cooled return to the pan you baked it in lined with parchment paper. This is so you can lift it out and put it on a tray. Make jello according to the package then make fork holes in cake and pour liquid jello over top. It will seep in and go into the holes. I used a 2 prong fork so the holes go to the bottom. Refrigerate

cake for 4 hours so jello will firm. Now it's time to decorate. Spread the cool whip over the cake. Slice the strawberries in half or quarters. I think it's better to cut the strawberries smaller than I did in the picture, it will be easier to decorate and to cut for serving. Use the blueberries for the stars and the strawberries for the stripes. Carefully lift the cake out of the pan with the parchment paper and place on your tray. Voila you are done. You have designed the flag. Now if you want I think you can lift the cake out put it on your tray then decorate. Actually I wish I had done that it's a lot easier to lift out and to decorate. Refrigerate until ready to serve. When you cut the cake you will see the jello designs. It's moist and so "Delicious".

Well folks that's it for today's recipe. Please give it a try and be creative. Good luck and enjoy. I hope you have a wonderful 4th of July. Stay safe and healthy my friends.

Until next time I am signing off.

Sincerely,
Cin Pin

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