

COVID Cases Cause Pinkerton Academy to Revert to Full Remote

CHRIS PAUL
NUTFIELD NEWS

A number of new positive results in COVID-19 cases has forced the staff at Pinkerton Academy to revert back to “Full-Remote Learning” for the next two weeks.

On Sunday, Jan. 24, Pinkerton Academy Headmaster Dr. Timothy J. Powers sent out a notice in regard to the decision.

That notice read, “Good afternoon, I apologize for the correspondence on a weekend, but this update was important to relay. Our Director of Health Services and I spoke with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human

Services (NH DHHS) today, and we were informed of a positive test that connects for a third cluster in our school community. With three clusters, our status will now be considered an outbreak. NH DHHS will post this on the COVID-19 School Dashboard as soon as they are able to, and we wanted to be sure the notification first came from us.

We asked what the next steps should be for our community, and NH DHHS said taking the two-week pause for all in-person classes, activities, and athletics is what they would have told us to do. According to NH DHHS, the decision that was made on Friday was the

appropriate action to take.

We may need to readjust our return date of Feb. 5 if other cases, tied to these clusters, come in. We sincerely hope that is not the case.

From the start of our communication regarding COVID-19 we have protected the anonymity of our community members, not even indicating when cases have been students or members of our staff. We will continue to take extensive lengths to protect our community members’ privacy, but at this time it is important for us to share that these clusters have impacted our staff, and therefore staffing our school is an

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Home Winery Gets Denied by Chester Zoning Board

HENRY GREENBAUM
NUTFIELD NEWS

CHESTER – The Chester Zoning Board of Adjustment met on Tuesday, Jan. 19, for their monthly meeting and the boards primary focus was the deliberation whether or not to grant a variance for a winery to be situated in a residential zone.

The plan had been discussed at prior meetings, but had been continued a few times.

William and Corinna Reishus submitted the application to the ZBA for a variance in the zon-

ing ordinance for their two-acre property, at 413 Lane Road, to add a shed type building, outdoor seating, and parking area that they wish to build for a wine tastings facility.

The felt feel that creating this space for a business called Triad Winery will bring in tons of tourism for the town and introduce new agricultural uses to Chester.

As part of the process, the Reishus’s had to answer five questions with an explanation as to why the variance would be beneficial to the public and keep the “spirit of the

ordinance” intact.

They felt that the winery would benefit the community by teaching residents how wine is produced.

Vice Chairman Kevin Scott felt that their answers were not specific enough. “In neither answer to [questions] one or two does the applicant indicate what the public interest or what ‘the spirit of the ordinance’ really is,” said the Vice Chairman. “Without an interpretation of this it is impossible to answer the question. Certainly, ‘the

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Hampstead voters will be presented Warrant Articles by the Hampstead School Board at this year’s Town Meeting to move forward with plans to renovate Hampstead Central School as well as the 60’s Wing.

Selectmen Get Central School Renovation Plan Preview

CHRIS PAUL
NUTFIELD NEWS

HAMPSTEAD - During the Monday night, Jan. 11 meeting of the Hampstead Board of Selectmen, Hampstead School Board member, David Smith, gave the

board a presentation on the latest version of a plan that would renovate the town’s elementary school.

Smith hoped to share with Selectmen and the community the need for the renovation at Hampstead Central School, pointing out

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Derry Town Council Urged to Oust Newest State Rep

CHRIS PAUL
NUTFIELD NEWS

DERRY - During the Tuesday night, Jan. 19 meeting of the Derry Town Council a lengthy discussion took place on whether to act on helping to remove a newly elected State Representative, Anne Copp, from her seat because she has yet to be sworn in to hold the seat.

The discussion began when resident Jim Foley spoke during public comment on his concerns regarding Copp, and the

fact that she had not been sworn in yet.

He said that because she has not been sworn in, she has missed a number of very important votes, caucuses and committee assignments. He added the feels Derry is being under-represented. "Derry is missing a vote in Concord," he added.

He said that for all intents and purposes "this seat is vacant," and the only way for this seat to be formally declared vacant is by through the Speaker of the House and a vote by the

house. Foley didn't feel that the Speaker, Sherman Packard, would take this upon himself and felt the Derry Town Council needs to step in. He asked that the council move forward with a petition to Packard, asking him to declare the seat vacant as quickly as possible.

He hoped that this action would prompt Copp into being sworn in, but if not the town should hold a Special Election to replace her.

Derry State Representative, David Love,

rebutted the request speaking as a resident of Derry. He said he knows that Copp was sick on Organization Day and was not able to make it there. She later went to the Executive Council, but was told that she needed an appointment, which she made, but they made it for Inauguration Day. He said that was not her fault, no one was there to perform the swearing in.

He told the Town Council that she has made several attempts to be sworn in at the Secretary of State Bill

Gardner can attest to that. Love finished by saying this state business and they should allow them to deal with it on their own.

Councilor Jim Morgan commented later in the on Foley's comments, saying that even though he felt that Foley is right, he didn't believe that was something that was in the Councils purview.

He suggested that the Town Council hold off on taking any action on the matter for at least two weeks and see if she follows through with being

sworn in.

When reached for comment earlier this week Copp stated that she had been officially sworn in Friday, Jan. 22, three days after the Town Council meeting.

She also verified that she had made a number of attempts to be sworn in prior to Friday.

Copp added that she felt that swearing in, which had been done through a ZOOM videoconference, was anti-constitutional and she still would like to be sworn in, in-person.

Budget Committee Moves Forward with School Board Plan

KAITLIN BEDELL
NUTFIELD NEWS

CHESTER - After a night of feedback from the Chester Budget Committee, the school board and committee reconvened on Jan. 19 to confirm a budget plan for 2022.

The Budget Committee had expressed their concerns about whether the budget should lean on the revenue side or surplus side, weighing the outcomes of both situations.

The School Board took the different perspectives into considera-

tion to create a new model and presented the updated version to the committee.

By modeling the changes made, they concluded that there would be a total school operating budget of \$13,483,256 with an estimated tax rate impact of \$1.10.

School Board Guest Royal Richardson said that the board increased the retained fund contribution to the revenue by \$100,000 which is a \$20,000 increase.

The budget was reduced after the school board removed health dollars on the 2320 line

for SAU (School Administrative Unit) in the amount of \$10,829 and dental insurance premiums worth \$459.

In addition to these changes, the board was also notified of somebody who no longer will be needing a family plan on the 2225 Line which reduces the health requirement by \$9,024 and dental by \$255.

Included in the plans was what was considered a risky decision to add \$100,000 in a disability fund for special education students which would cost an additional \$100,000 on the revenue

side.

School Board Member Dana Theokas said that she thinks by doing this they took too much away from the revenue side and that they should try to reduce those numbers by cutting the disability distribution funds to \$75,000. Despite her concerns though, she is still willing to pass the current plan.

"We were asked to try to take a risk in order to reduce the appropriation funds and this certainly is that risk," Theokas said.

Committee Chair Mike Wider said he agrees with Theokas that they are taking a bit of a chance but that he is comfortable with it as long as the School Board is too.

The Budget Committee has asked every department to do the best they can in cutting down costs this year in order to help prevent the tax

impact from rising dramatically.

"This is probably one of the best prepared budget plans we've seen in a few years," Wider said. "You cut it as close as you can, and I thank you for that."

Wider said Chester is a town that does not take many chances financially and that the School Board did their part in condensing their budget in trying to cut down costs for taxpayers.

"This is a bit of a risk on the school side, but I think we can manage it," Wider said. "I think you guys have a good team that can manage it as well so thank you on that part."

Although this plan was a challenge, he said that "we're all coming to a place where we can work through it."

Committee Member Paul Murphy said he is also comfortable with the

plan that the School Board has put forward and appreciates the effort that they have put into this budget.

As each member of both committees came to the same conclusion that they are confident in the plan that has been proposed, they began to talk about what the next steps would be.

The public hearing for the plan will take place on Feb. 8 followed by the School Board meeting on March 2.

Ahead of both meetings, Guest Sheryl Rich said that she would begin planning the warrant regarding the plan which needs to be signed by the School Board and the MS27 which needs to be signed by the Budget Committee. If there are any changes made at the meetings, the documents will have to be updated.

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Planning Board Sets Friendly Amendment for Commercial Developer

KAITLIN BEDELL
NUTFIELD NEWS

DERRY - A proposal set forth to build commercial land at 4 Peabody Road Annex next to the Summer Hill Apartments was under review at the recent Derry Planning Board meeting on Jan. 20.

At a previous meeting, the board had discussed several changes to the plan which detailed adding emergency exists,

line of specifications, hydrant installation requirement, and site details on lighting.

Engineer Doug McGuire came to the meeting with those changes incorporated in his plan with hopes of the board's approval.

Prior to making any decisions on the revised plan, board members opened a public forum where residents in the nearing Summer Hill

apartments voiced concerns regarding the new development.

Summer Hill Board President Kevin Curran spoke on behalf of his constituents and said people are worried about their privacy. The community hopes to see more of a tree line, shrubs, and fences to establish more separation between the two properties.

Gina Shannon, another resident of Summer Hill also voiced her concerns regarding the noise that will be permitted on the nearing property. The town of Derry does not have a noise ordinance which she said could disrupt her neighboring apartment.

In addition to the noise concerns, Shannon also wants clarification on the kind of businesses

that will be moving in and the traffic they will attract.

"We have a lot of concerns and don't seem to be getting a lot of answers from the owners," Shannon said.

Among other worried residents, Shannon said the community feels they are losing a lot of their privacy with this new development and feels that her and her neighbors are going to be losing a lot of property value, and that the developers "owe" them some answers.

Another question asked by several Summer Hill residents was how the disturbed area will affect the drainage.

After the board closed the public hearing, McGuire responded to some of the concerns voiced by the residents.

McGuire first addressed the concerns regarding drainage. He said he feels very confident that they are handling the associated increases in drainage and that it will be handled better than the already existing site conditions. Due to the placement of the structure, there will be a diversion of some of the runoff which may even create a better situation for the development.

In response to the issues raised about noise pollution, McGuire said most of the sound will come from the front of the structure, meaning the building itself will act as a "natural buffer." This will prevent most of the noise from echoing back into the Summer Hill Community.

McGuire said that he

can recognize the concerns of the residents and that if the board has further questions, he would be happy to clarify.

After reviewing the request, the board advanced a waiver for the existing building. Alternate Dave Granese motioned for the grant which was seconded by Member Mark Grabowski and approved by the board.

In addition to the waiver approval, the board sets a motion for a friendly amendment on a few small details set by Grabowski and seconded by Granese.

McGuire will have 30 days to file any objections with the board and will have the authority to move forward after that time period.

OBITUARY

John Patrick Rheume



John Patrick Rheume, 55, of Derry, NH died Monday Jan. 18, 2021 in his Laconia, NH vacation home with his loving family by his side. He was born in Massachusetts on Sept. 7, 1965, son of Ronald and Noreen (O'Connell) Rheume.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, Nancy A. (Crowley) Rheume, daughter Devin Rheume and partner Mike Bride of Derry, NH, stepsons Bryan Hayward and wife Chelsea of Port St. Lucie FL, Brett Hayward of Manchester, NH, sister Brenda Rheume-Wilson of Londonderry, NH and brother Patrick Curtin and his wife Jennifer of Cranford, NJ. He is also survived by his granddaughters Gemma, Destiny and Brooklyn as well as several nieces, nephews and extended family.

John grew up in Salem NH, attended local schools and graduated from Salem High School. He had a very successful career in the propane industry for many years. He was highly skilled and his expertise was recognized by all. He loved spending his leisure time boating, fishing, motorcycling, playing guitar, visiting with his family and playing with his dog Harley. John was known as a very good-natured friend to all and he will be sorely missed by many.

A walk-through wake with masks, social distancing and limited interaction with the family was held on Friday, Jan. 22, in the Peabody Funeral Homes & Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to www.centralvna.org, www.dana-farber.org or the charity of one's choice.

Hampstead

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that the plan had gone before the voters five out of the last six years but felt there was now a dire need for the expansion. He said that forecast's the School Board has seen is predicting a spike in school enrollment.

Smith started by mentioning some things that are being done differently this year.

He said that this year, money has been built up in the school's Capital Reserve Fund, and the district will use that fund to pay for half of the con-

struction on the 60's Wing Renovation.

This will require voters to approve two articles at town meeting. One, they would need to vote to approve the overall budget, and they would also need to approve the article on using the capital reserve.

Smith clarified that the 60's Wing Plan would be separate from the School Renovation plan.

Selectman Joe Guthrie pointed out that the school budget will be up by about six percent this year, and

wondered if adding the cost of this project was the reason for that.

Smith said that salaries, retirements and benefits are what is driving the budget up.

Selectmen chair, Sean Murphy pointed out that there would \$1.16 million taken out of capital reserve, which is the current balance of the fund, and they would need an additional \$950,000 from next year's budget.

Smith stated it would be coming out of the school's maintenance

fund.

The second warrant article would be for the addition needs at Hampstead Central School. Smith said that they have outgrown the school, and areas of the school that were never meant as classrooms are being used, stressing safety as an issue.

They will be looking for a 10-year bond of over \$9 million for the renovation of Central School and the voters would need a 60 percent, plus one for the article to pass.

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Editorial

Calling All Residents To Make A Stand

Are you frustrated that nobody at town hall is listening to you? Do you feel that your town or school officials have an excuse for everything or justify decisions you don't agree with?

To all residents who stayed home or didn't offer suggestions during recent public hearings while elected officials crafted school and town budgets: Are you satisfied with the final budget numbers?

It's plain and simple- without asking questions, you'll truly never know what is being spent and why.

Some residents will lose their jobs or work without raises again, struggling to stay afloat, while town and school employees get annual raises, plus great benefits. Yet town and school budgets continue to go up every year, and so do our taxes to cover their spending.

Why are we allowing officials and department heads, despite current economic circumstances, to behave like spoiled children with platinum credit cards, paid for by taxpayers? When will taxpayers say "Stop!" Until then, its business as usual spending others' hard earned money, while getting well paid to do it.

Sad to say, the hearings are over for the most part. Your next shot to participate in this democracy comes at the Deliberative Sessions and Town Meetings. It's not too late to offer your own well thought out, practical ways to save money, or your thanks if elected officials paid attention to the woes of taxpayers.

Of course, there's something else

you can do if you're passionate about fiscal and personal responsibility: you can run for elected office yourself.

The filing period begins at 8 a.m., Jan. 20 and ends at 5 p.m., Jan. 29, for open town and school district offices.

If you're willing to put in the considerable effort it takes, you can sign up for any open position on the school board, town council, as town clerk, or what ever is open.

If you love your community, want to make a difference, want to see change, are truly willing to listen to others, can ask the tough questions, can seek a middle ground among differing opinions, have really thick skin, and are willing to put in long evenings to serve your constituents, then put your name in the running. No personal agendas need apply.

You'll know what's really going on behind closed doors. You'll have a say in what happens in town, and you'll be responsible for helping your town move forward.

Don't let the apathy that brought out only a few to budget hearings continue into the election.

In a country founded on citizen participation, in a state where the voice of the individual is honored, and in towns that are still small enough to listen to individual citizens, elected office is a possibility for anyone who cares to make the effort.

Take a stand today to preserve the community you want tomorrow.

And make sure you VOTE!

Letters

Add Rule 68 to House Rules

To the editor,

Here are some results of the votes from the drive-in NH House session on Jan. 6, 2021. It should be noted that the Republicans are now the House Majority.

Amend House Rules to add Rule 68 to read as follows:

68. Required Trainings: All legislators, legislative officers, and legislative staff shall attend education and training, as determined by the Speaker, aimed at preventing, sexual harassment, preventing the creation of a hostile work environment, and identifying and eliminating, unconscious bias.

Roll call vote: Motion failed 133-188

Comment: The failure to pass this Rule against required training for sexual harassment speaks for itself.

Amend House Rule 63 to read as:

63. Deadly Weapons: No person, including members of the House, except law enforcement officers while actively engaged in carrying out their duties as such, shall carry or have in possession any deadly weapon as defined in RSA 625:11,V

while in the chamber, ante-rooms, cloakrooms, or House gallery.....while the House is in session.

No alcoholic beverages or illegal substances shall be consumed or used in the House Chamber, ante-rooms, cloakrooms, or House gallery.

Roll Call vote: 133-204 Motion failed

Comment: This vote that allows guns in the N.H. State House was passed the same day that a mob attacked the U.S. Capital. Draw your own conclusions. Additionally, there is the potential for guns be present while our school children are conducting their tours of the State House.

Comment: Members may now drink on the job while they are making decisions on the lives of NH citizens. Shouldn't we expect our elected officials to show respect and responsibility in performing their legislative duties?

QUALIFICATIONS TO SERVE

Motion to refer the question of the qualifications of the 6 Representatives who signed a "termination of state" petition to serve under the New Hampshire constitution, to the subcommittee on elections of the Legislative Administration Commit-

tee.

• The Representatives who signed the petition are: Rep. Jose Cambrils (R-Loudon), Rep. Anne Copp (R-Derry), Rep. Raymond Howard Jr (R-Alton), Rep. Dave Testerman (R-Franklin), Rep. Mike Sylvia (R-Belmont), Rep. Scott Wallace (R-Danville).

• This motion was not deemed in order, there was a vote to challenge the ruling of the chair. Roll call vote - 157-91, the ruling of the chair was upheld.

Rep. Kimball, Rep. Katsakiores, Rep. Prudhomme-O'Brien and Rep. Tripp records shows, not voting/not excused. The other Derry Reps voted to uphold the Chair's decision that the motion regarding these 6 Reps was out of order.

Comment: Shouldn't voters expect our elected officials to respect the voice of the voters and hold accountable those Reps who signed the petition by referring the question of their qualifications to serve for review?

All of the Derry Republican Reps voted against all the Rules listed, except for Rep. Anne Copp who does not show a voting record on file

Mary Eisner
Derry

Nutfield News welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, written by local residents, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Nutfield News at nutfieldnews@nutpub.net. All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification if needed; name and town of residence will be printed. Nutfield News reserves the right to reject or edit letters for content and length, and anonymous letters will not be printed.

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This service is provided free of charge to Londonderry residents who wish to announce the birth of their child or grandchild, marriage engagement, wedding or milestone event such as a Silver Wedding Anniversary. This is a great way to share your news with your local community. The Londonderry Times also accepts obituary notices. Please contact us at 537-2760 or e-mail to londonderrytimes@nutpub.net.

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Town Council Discusses Gerrymandering Resolution

KAITLIN BEDELL
NUTFIELD NEWS

DERRY – Corrinne Dodge called on the Derry Town Council to back a resolution regarding gerrymandering at the most recent meeting on Jan. 19.

Dodge created a petition in an attempt to protect the redistricting process in NH from being subject to political manipulation. The petition detailed a solution to define rules which would make the redistricting process more “transparent” to the public eye.

After going directly to state legislators multiple

times at the state house and not gaining any traction, Dodge is now calling on the Town Council to help her pass a resolution to stop gerrymandering.

While Dodge said she thinks her petition is non-partisan, she has no objection to changing the wording of the preamble if that is what is necessary for her to gain the council’s support.

“This resolution isn’t about protecting either political party,” Dodge said, “It’s about the Town Council representing and protecting the people of Derry.”

Among those who came to the meeting in support of Dodge’s resolution asking the council to back it was Derry Resident Erin Spencer.

“Even if we work on the assumption that there is no gerrymandering going on right now, I don’t see why we wouldn’t want to ensure it with this resolution just in case,” Spencer said. “Why wouldn’t that be a good

thing?”

In response to the resolution proposed by Dodge, Councilor James Morgan delivered a speech to the board which identified the political division in the nation and the responsibility of elected officials to protect their people.

“We are elected to make decisions that impact our life,” Morgan said. “We have been given the greatest honor to carry out

your trust, but occasionally we place politics into something that is supposed to be a nonpartisan board.”

Morgan said that the resolution “wrongfully suggests” that redistricting in 2010 assisted one political party over another with no evidence to support that claim. As a result, he would need to see the wording changed in the resolution in order to support it.

In addition to Morgan’s fears of partisanship, he also thinks that this petition is out of the authority of the Town Council and that Dodge should go straight to legislators and other elected officials.

Several councilors including Councilor Richard Tripp, Councilor Brian Chirichiello and Councilor at Large Phyllis Katsakiores agreed with Morgan’s concerns of putting the council in a partisan position and would need to see some kind of alternatives in order to get behind a resolution.

While most of the council was in agreement, Councilor Joshua Bourdon contested.

“We need to take a stand and say look what’s right is right, and redistrict-

ing should not be partisan,” Bourdon said. “If we don’t say something, we lose our voice.”

Section 3.1 of the Town Charter allows for submission of petitions to the council. They are required to receive all petitions addressed to them but may act on them in their own discretion.

As the council faced disagreement with how to proceed on the resolution, Morgan suggested a compromise to draft a letter stating the issues at hand.

The letter would state concerns which could be signed by any councilor who agreed with Dodge’s message, but anybody on the council who did not want to be associated with the resolution did not have to be.

After long discussion, the board reached a consensus that a letter would be an efficient way of remaining nonpartisan while bringing attention to the issue.

The council determined that they would create a draft of the letter which will be brought before the council and discussed further at their next meeting on Feb. 2.

OBITUARY

Georgianna M. Lekas



Georgianna M. Lekas, 72, of Derry, passed away peacefully Tuesday Jan. 19, 2021 surrounded by her family. Georgianna was born in Methuen MA on May 6, 1948, a daughter of Rita (Buglione) Chahanovich and the late George Lekas.

She had been a resident of Derry, NH for the past 40 years, formerly living in Methuen, MA. Georgianna had been recently employed as a customer service representative for Salem Ford in Salem, NH. She had worked over 27 years at Sears Service Center in Danvers, MA.

In addition to her mother of Salem, NH; she is survived by her daughter, Lisa Coombs and her husband Brian of Derry, NH; her son, Kenneth Lafond and his wife Julie of Sandown, NH. She is also survived by five grandchildren Ryan, Nick, Joey, Annabella, and Anthony; her brother, Robert Chahanovich of Salem, NH; her sister, Jean Marie Sullivan of Lake Worth, FL; as well as several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Michael Chahanovich.

Georgianna’s greatest joy was being a mother, grandmother and aunt. She enjoyed quality time with everyone that knew her. She had a wit about her that was contagious. She enjoyed cheering and watching her grandchildren play sports from football, lacrosse, baseball, basketball, and softball. She was so proud of the young adults they were becoming. Her passions were gardening and decorating. She enjoyed the summertime, having family pool time and going to the beach. Her family was everything to her. She will be sorely missed by all who came to know and love her.

Following cremation, a celebration of Georgianna’s life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to Merrimack Valley Hospice. The Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry is assisting the family with arrangements.

OBITUARY

Joseph C. Matarozzo



Joseph C. Matarozzo, 89 of Derry, NH died Tuesday Jan. 19, 2021 at his home. Joseph was born in Boston, MA on July 1, 1931, a son of the late, Michael and Celestina (Colorusso) Matarozzo. He had been a lifelong resident of Derry. Joseph served with the US Marine Corp during the Korean Conflict. He was employed in service and delivery for Wells Oil in Derry. His great joy was growing plants with his wife Phyllis as owners of Matarozzo Greenhouses.

He is survived by three sons, Joseph M. Matarozzo and his wife Irene of Derry, Peter J. Matarozzo of Londonderry, and Daniel W. Matarozzo and his wife Cathy of Derry, seven grandchildren, Michael, Gina, Angela, Jessica, Joelle, Danny and Calli, two brothers, James Matarozzo, and Ralph Matarozzo, three sisters, Rita Raiche, Lillian Kennedy, and Kathy Leaman, as well as nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, Phyllis K. (Joiner) Matarozzo in 2018, and also by his siblings, Michael and John Matarozzo, Teresa Hersey, Carmela Chase, Antoinette (Anne) Staples, Marie (Chickie) Thurston, and Silvia Costello.

Calling hours was held on Sunday Jan. 24, in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday in St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 26 Crystal Ave., Derry. Burial with military honors will follow in Forest Hill Cemetery, E. Derry. Due to State of NH guidelines, all guests are required to wear masks, minimize contact and maintain social distancing. Memorial donations may be made to the charity of one’s choice.

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Conservation Commission Opens Sealed Meeting Minutes

HAMPSTEAD - The ongoing saga on the installation of a parking lot to access conservation land near a new development on Hanley Road in Hampstead was discussed, maybe for the last time, at the Hampstead Conservation Commission meeting on Wednesday night Jan. 20.

The saga began a number of years ago when the Commission asked that the developer of a new project install a parking lot at the end of Hanley Road in order for residents to access trails in the area. The developer agreed to the request, but area residents objected to the addition at the time, saying it would create an area people to hang out after hours and disrupt the neighborhood.

Because of this, the developer did not build the parking lot, but later it was determined by the Conservation Commission to go ahead with the project, without holding a public meeting on the project.

That decision prompted a few residents of the area to appear at several Conservation Commission meetings as well as Selectmen meetings to object to

the way the project was created. They stated that there was a clear violation of the "Right to Know law being violated.

At the Jan. 20 meeting, Selectmen's Administrative Assistant, Sally Theriault, began the meeting by reading the findings from the town's attorney.

Theriault said, "When I spoke with Town Counsel, there were two statutes that were discussed, one was the Right to Know law and another that had to deal with planning. Town Counsel said that when people request meeting minutes, usually cases will go to court if the minutes are not provided. The remedy would be for the court to ask for those minutes to be released."

She added that on the second statute, Town Counsel did not believe that the installation of the parking created a "substantial" change in the area. If there is such a change, notice would need to be given to both the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen.

Theriault added that they did not feel that a Public Hearing was required for the parking lot, therefore the town is not liable

for any legal action on the subject.

The commission then voted to unseal the meeting minutes on the discussion that took place on July 17, 2019 regarding the building of the parking lot. They would make public the portion of the meeting that had to do with the building the lot.

Later in the meeting, during public comment, resident Carl Cote of Collins Drive thanked the commission for unsealing the minutes and hoped that everyone could move forward from this with a better understanding of the Right to Know laws.

He also asked that the town hold a public hearing as a courtesy to all involved in the project,

saying that it would be a benefit to the entire community.

He brought up a number concerns that may come up due to the parking lot and wondered what may be added to the lot, such as gates, lights, signs and overflow parking.

He urged the town to open a discussion for residents to express their needs with the lot.

Conservation Chairman, Tim Lovell, responded that he wanted to keep the lot very rural and felt most people felt the same way.

Cote had concerns that there wasn't a barrier preventing people from driving into the trails and felt a public hearing would remedy any concerns. He felt

that the lot will disrupt the flow of the neighborhood and hoped the board would consider the idea of a public hearing.

Resident Carl Schumacher also urged the board to hold a hearing, he added, "It's the peoples land, so hopefully the peoples input will have some say."

Also at the meeting, the commission discussed some the projects members would like to see done.

Member Dave Treat brought up the overwhelming amount of invasive

plants on conservation land and hoped something could be done to combat them. They discussed coming up with a plan for treatment throughout the town.

They also discussed harvesting trees and milling lumber to build and repair some trail bridges. Trail mapping signage will also continue.

Lovell also mentioned that he would like to reconstruct a bridge near the trailhead at West Road. He was hoping to remove the old one and work on the foundation before April 1.

OBITUARY

Samuel L. Parten



Samuel L. Parten, 79, of Derry, passed away Tuesday Jan. 19, 2021 at Wentworth Douglass Hospital in Dover, NH. He was born in Sylvester, GA on Jan. 5, 1942, a son of the late Edward and Lizzie May (Rogers) Parten. Samuel was a graduate of Moultrie High School and Southwest Georgia Technical College.

He proudly served his country in the US Navy from 1962-1966 on the USS Albany guided missile cruiser. He was a self-employed diesel field mechanic and was well known and respected for Detroit engine repair.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 55 years, Priscilla (Newton) Parten, two sons, Edward Parten and Ethan Parten, one daughter, Delora Power, three grandchildren, four brothers, Cpt. Aaron E. Parten, Ret., WC Parten, William R. Parten, and Mike Parten as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a brother, Jack Parten.

Calling hours was held on Saturday Jan. 23, in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry, NH. Funeral services will be private. Please contact the family for further details if you wish to attend as numbers will be limited. Due to State of NH and MA guidelines, all guests are required to wear masks, minimize contact and maintain social distancing. Memorial contributions may be made to the oncology and palliative care nurses at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, MA.

OBITUARY

Dana Marie Wyman



Dana Marie Wyman passed away peacefully at home in Georgia surrounded by her family on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021 at the age of 46. She was diagnosed with adenocarcinoma of the lung (non-smokers lung cancer) in Nov. 2016 which metastasized to her brain in Nov. 2017. She fought bravely for four years.

Dana was born in Decatur, GA on Aug. 14, 1974. She grew up in Derry, NH & graduated from Pinkerton Academy.

She is survived by her beloved daughter, Kailey Ann Wyman; husband of twenty-five years, Todd Wyman; parents Gary and Corinne Safron; brother Nathan Safron; sister Laura LeBorgne & brother-in-law Jason LeBorgne.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Cancer Society. There will be no services. Central Savannah River Crematory is in charge of cremation.

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TOWN OF CHESTER PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, February 8, 2021 7:00 pm
84 Chester St, Chester, NH, via Zoom
Agenda Proposed 21-22 School District Budget
Warrant articles containing an appropriation.

All Chester residents are urged to attend.
Zoom link can be found on the town web site.

Sandown to Proceed With Deliberative Session on Saturday

JOHN SEIDENBERG
NUTFIELD NEWS

SANDOWN - The town of Sandown will have its Deliberative Session on warrant articles as scheduled on Sat., Jan. 30.

Executive Order 2021-1, Emergency Order 83 that New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu (R) issued Jan. 22 had given the town pause to consider whether to delay the session, Town Administrator Lynn Blaisdell noted at the Board of Selectmen meeting Jan. 25.

That measure provided temporary provisions for response to timing challenges related to the enactment of Senate Bill 2 in the 2021 Legislative Session as part of the state's response to covid. It also addressed the processing of absentee ballots, similar to steps taken in the past

election, that would allow ballots to be counted at an earlier time.

The governor's action would specifically allow the ability to postpone Annual Town Meetings if individual towns concluded such a decision was in the public interest.

Despite speculation that Sandown might delay the Deliberative Session, a decision that's up to the governing body in consultation with the town moderator's recommendation, the selectmen decided to proceed on the scheduled date.

Board members thought the necessary procedures will be in place to keep the meeting as safe as possible.

The location is being moved to the Sandown North Elementary School. There will be a separate

designated area for those who for medical or other reasons are unable to wear masks.

Anyone not wearing a mask must park in a different area of the school and go in through an entrance at the back of the building marked Door Number 6, Blaisdell explained.

Those without masks will be directed to the music room attached to the cafeteria which is still part of the meeting area though separate.

There may be pauses at points in the meeting in allowing people in that room to comment, pose questions, or make motions, the administrator told the selectmen.

Outside the doorway will be a microphone with an assistant moderator present managing that room which will also have

a television for viewing the proceedings.

If anyone without a mask needs to use the restroom facilities they will then be required to put on a mask inside the building to do so. Facilities will be available off of the gymnasium or in the front hallway.

Members of the general public wearing masks will come in through the school's main entrance. Supervisors will check people in who will be required to get a voting card. A supervisor will do the same for those without masks.

Everyone seated inside the gym will be required to follow social distancing procedures. Couples will be permitted to sit together though others will have to maintain distances in the seating.

The cafeteria area will have tables and chairs for elected officials, including the budget committee, the selectmen, moderator and town counsel.

Due to technical difficulties with audio equipment, it is unlikely the deliberative session can be lived streamed, Blaisdell said.

Article 2: Town Operating Budget of \$4,549,159 and a Default Budget of \$4,413,414.

Article 3: Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town and the Police Union.

Article 4: Special Meeting if Article 3 fails.

Article 5: State Highway Block Grant of \$162,576.

Article 6: Establish a Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund of \$375,000.

Article 7: New Salt Shed Construction for \$150,000.

Article 8: Salt Shed Capital Reserve Fund for \$75,000.

Article 9: Add \$100,000 to Bridge Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 10: Add \$13,700 to Revaluation Capital Reserve.

Article 11: Raise \$46,820 for Phillips Pond Treatment.

Article 12: Add \$10,000 to Stormwater Management Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 13: Add \$50,000 to Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 14: Add \$7,500 to the Government Building Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 15: Raise \$38,469 for a per diem Firefighter.

Article 16: Add \$50,000 to Plowing Trust Fund.

Article 17: Raise \$4,500 for Fireworks.

Winery

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spirit of the ordinance' involves keeping R1 zones commercial free."

The town's R1 zones are areas that only permit single family homes to be built and they are meant to be free of any commercial use by businesses. The application for Triad Winery's variance is in one of these R1 zones.

Scott believed that the

Reishus's did not fully understand what is meant by that. They claim to be introducing agriculture into the area, but it is not in line with the "spirit of the ordinance" because involving their business defeats the purpose of R1 zones.

Scott ultimately felt that granting the variance to Triad Winery would be contrary to public interest, but Board member Jack Cannon almost disagreed with that sentiment.

"Granting the variance would not be contrary to public interest because I don't necessarily believe that a small boutique winery will create a terrific set of issues in the neighborhood for the public," said Cannon.

Cannon made the point that making wine and attending wine tastings are a particular taste and not a lot of people would go out of their way to pursue such activities. The concern is that by

approving the variance for Triad Winery may disturb the public, but the chances of that could be slim due to the small demographic the winery would be serving.

Cannon felt that the variance could be approved but certain conditions must be met. Since the Reishus's were not clear enough on some of the answers to the questions, he could not approve the variance

either.

Zoning Board Chairperson, Billie Maloney, made the argument that people answering the five questions do not fully understand the arguments put forward by them. There have been many applications for variances submitted in the past and many of them gave bad arguments. There was even one business that had the worst application that the chairman had

ever seen and the ZBA still approved their variance. For those reasons, Chairman Maloney does not see why they should not approve the variance.

The board voted three to one to deny the variance requested by Triad Winery to build an area to hold wine tastings within an R1 zone community.

The Chester Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet again on Tues. Feb. 16.

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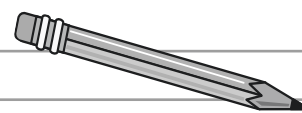


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Nearly 200,000 Granite Staters Sign Up for Vaccination

According to the state in a press release, since Friday, just under 200,000 citizens signed up for the vaccination as part of Phase 1B, and over 60% of those have already scheduled a location and time for their first shot.

"The rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine is one of the largest logistical undertakings our state has ever faced," said Governor Chris Sununu. "Our teams are working around the clock and our systems have worked as designed and ahead of schedule. New Hampshire is ready to administer the vaccinations as fast as the federal government supplies it."

The state currently

receives an average shipment of 17,000 doses per week. Should production and shipments increase, the State will move up appointment slots as quickly as vaccines become available.

"All eligible individuals within Phase 1B are guaranteed to be scheduled for an appointment time," said Perry Plummer, who has been appointed to manage vaccine rollout. "While appointments are currently being made into March and April, we urge folks to take the earliest appointment slot available and to remain patient."

Following registration on vaccines.nh.gov, indi-

viduals will receive an email within 3-5 days to schedule their vaccination appointment. Medically vulnerable individuals must be referred by their primary care physician, and will receive an email within 3-5 days of the referral having been made.

The 2-1-1 Call Center continues to field a high volume of calls, having processed 27,327 calls since Friday, January 22. Callers are asked to remain patient and expect wait times.

The first vaccinations for those within Phase 1B will be administered tomorrow, Jan. 26.



Governor Chris Sununu toured the state's fixed vaccination site in Londonderry as the first vaccinations were administered to individuals within Phase 1B. Courtesy photo.

Pinkerton

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issue. Even when teachers are able to teach from home, we need to have adults supervising the students in the classrooms. As we have communicated before, schools were impacted by a shortage of substitutes even before the pandemic.

With the quarantines required in addition to just regular faculty absences, we simply do not have the coverage to

open school at this time.

Because our campus is closed at this time, the PSAT scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 26, has been cancelled. We will have a fall date for our students.

Food services will continue remote meal pick-up on Mondays and Wednesdays. Details can be found on our website.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Dr. Timothy J. Powers Headmaster

That notice was a follow up to the email that

was sent out on Friday, Jan. 22, by Powers.

In that notice, Powers said, there were 25 new positive cases of COVID-19 in the school and all close contacts had been notified.

With those recent positive cases it was determined that PA had two clusters (three or more individuals confirmed with COVID-19). In order for PA to maintain the health of our community, we are pausing all in-person activities for the next two weeks.

Local American Legion Senior Oratorical Winners



Valerie McDonnell



James Inamorati

The District 4 American Legion Senior Oratorical Scholarship ceremony was held on over the weekend, on Saturday, Jan. 16, at the Londonderry Middle School and the first place winner

was Valerie Mc Donnell from Salem High School.

The second place winner was James Inamorati from the Founders Academy and both were awarded certificates as well as prize

money.

The First place winner win now go on to compete in the state level at the American Legion Department of New Hampshire Oratorical.

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