



Littleton students Angelina Shafer, Christian Shafer, and James MacIver.

JUSTIN ROSHAK



Lowes employees Karen Bickel and Melissa Wheeler mulch a tree outside Littleton High School.

JUSTIN ROSHAK

Lowes and Littleton partner for spring school cleaning

BY JUSTIN ROSHAK
Contributing Writer

LITTLETON—Students, teachers, administrators, and more than a dozen Lowe’s employees joined together Saturday morning for the second annual Great School Cleanup. The volunteers were hard at work by 8 a.m., though vehicles, equipment, and supplies continued to cycle in and out all morning.

The volunteers raked fresh mulch onto garden beds and trees around the perimeter of the school, trimmed vines and shrubs, and raked away winter rubbish. They also planned to paint the pillars at the main entrance with the school’s colors, once the weather permits it. Although the morning was cloudy and cool, the rain held off for the duration of the project. A barbecue lunch was served to those who stuck it out until the end.

The Cleanup was organized by administrator Elizabeth “Bibbet”

Haney, who first proposed the collaboration with Lowes last year. This April, Ms. Haney was recognized as the North Country’s Administrative Assistant of the Year. At the time, Principal Joanne Melan-

son praised Ms. Haney’s “what-can-I do-to-help attitude.”

Haney also helps organize student council, and several of her young colleagues were present on Saturday morning. LHS student council

holds food drives, and in the past has organized care packages for troops overseas.

Littleton requires that its high school students complete fifty hours of community service prior to graduation.

They fulfill that through many different activities, including refereeing games at Lakeway Elementary, reading to young children at the library, and volunteering with Meals on Wheels. “We came together

as a community,” said eighth-grader Christian Shafer, who started work alongside professional landscapers and school leaders at 8 a.m. sharp.

Also on the job was
CLEANING, PAGE A16

Longevity and sustainability at the Colonial

BY ANGEL LARCOM
Contributing Writer

BETHLEHEM — April 29 marked opening day of the 104th season at Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem, and it’s no secret the entire facility has been an extended labor of love for Executive Director, Stephen Dignazio. It was with great hope and excitement that Dignazio recently discussed renovations at the well-respected Bethlehem landmark, and what those renovations mean when looking at the bigger picture.

With Phase One of the expansion project nearly complete, Dignazio notes they are now able to usher in a new era at the



Renovations taking place at the Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem will provide a pathway for bigger and better things to take place at the well known local venue.

ANGEL LARCOM

Catherine Harnden, North Country dynamo

BY ANGEL LARCOM
Contributing Writer

BRETTON WOODS — Many patterns are circular, and Catherine Harnden’s life is no exception. Originally from Ontario, Canada, Harnden spent her formative years learning how to ski on the slopes of Bretton Woods, returning multiple times each winter throughout her youth. Today, Harnden is a pro skier, an elite downhill and cross country mountain bike racer, and one of the resort’s ski racing coaches.

When asked how deep her roots are in the North Country, Harnden said, “I prefer to think of myself closer resembling Tillandsia (air plants) than trees since I do love to stay transient. However, I have come to love these white mountains



COURTESY

Pro athlete Catherine Harnden of Bretton Woods pops a wheelie on her mountain bike while on her travels.

and consistently find myself returning - more permanently now. When asked where ‘home’ is I confidently and proudly declare it is here.”

Harnden’s name is recognizable for many reasons. Her voice could be heard on the FM dial as co-host of both WLTN’s Morning Mix

and Chicks Dishing programs over the last couple of years, and she has made two appearances on WMUR’s “New Hampshire Chronicle.”

Last summer, she was featured in Outside Magazine, and over the winter, she could be found on many of Boston’s television stations,

as the “Face of Bretton Woods.” Whatever the case, there is no doubt this young woman is someone to watch.

Chasing her older brother through all walks of life, Harnden took to the snow at the age of two, began ski racing at the age of six, and

HARNDEN, PAGE A17

Colonial. The addition of more than 970 square feet of modernized green room areas, offices, and backstage facilities now guarantees that a higher

caliber of performances will be able to take the stage at the Colonial. The changes will allow for larger groups, more
COLONIAL, PAGE 15

Lincoln takes on new waste disposal challenges

BY JUSTIN ROSHAK
Contributing Writer

LINCOLN—In a policy change, Lincoln’s Solid Waste Facility will now accept commercial light bulbs alongside other forms of hazardous waste, including refrigerators, the Lincoln Board of Selectmen reported out last week. However, broken light bulbs and refrigerators with broken pipes will still not be accepted.

According to law, the facility can process up to 11,000 pounds of waste at a time. The change comes partly as a result of state guidance. Town

Manager Butch Burbank said the state had advised him that the change would bring Lincoln into coordination with other towns.

Board Chairman O. J. Robinson opined that the change in policy could affect the operations of dozens of businesses. While supportive of the expansion, he emphasized the importance of widely publicizing the decision, and recommended that the solid waste facility adopt a written statement of policy on private and commercial waste.

WASTE, PAGE A16

Littleton, N.H., 36 pages
16 Mill Street



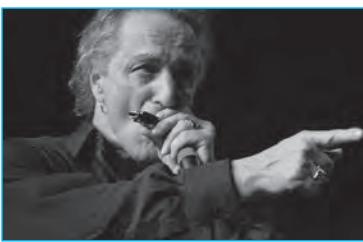
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The Rest of the Story

COLONIAL

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well-known acts and a younger vibe will now be possible.

According to Dignazio, "This allows us to bring a whole new level of artists to the theater. We would turn people away because we just didn't have the facilities to handle their needs. And now, with acts like Aimee Mann, who is coming this year, it's tremendously exciting."

One remarkable achievement throughout the renovation project has been the team's ability to preserve and reuse the historic elements of the theater. The original flooring was removed and reinstalled over stabilized foundations, both on the stage and on the theater floor itself. The entire theater has been repainted a lighter color, making it seem larger than before, and custom sound panels are being created by the Appalachian Stitching Company.

Dignazio mentioned the importance of supporting local business in the North Country, a

topic important to many people in this area of New Hampshire. He pointed out that the entire expansion project has so far been achieved by contracting with area businesses.

"We are trying to get the facility up so that no matter what happens, we will be able to handle more traffic and somebody will be able to run it as a full-fledged performing arts center," Dignazio said.

He went on to discuss the impending arrival of a new sound system that will make a marked difference in the quality of live performances.

"Everyone says you've got to get more young people. It's hard to get more young people if you don't have opportunities for them to come," Dignazio said, discussing this season's lineup and mentioning that they have booked Gangstagrass, an Emmy-nominated group who can be heard on the hit FX drama, *Justified*. Gangstagrass seamlessly fuses together the unlikely genres of rap and

bluegrass.

With hip and youthful groups like Gangstagrass guaranteed to get people up and dancing, it seems like the perfect time to have newly reinforced floors.

With a \$600,000 price tag, phase one, the private stage of development, was made possible almost exclusively through grants, business sponsorships and private donations. Phase two, the public stage of development, is just around the corner, and it will bring even more robust amenities to Bethlehem's landmark theater. Dignazio mentioned that the theater windows will soon be filled with information about the Colonial's Capital Campaign. There is no question that with every step from planning and fundraising to expansion and programming, the Colonial is being set up to last for countless decades as an active destination and cultural landmark.

Lastly, Dignazio said, "What's been really sat-

isfying to me is the number of people from the towns around here that are announcing Bethle-

hem as a place to invest in. They see it as a part of their universe. And it's not just the Colonial,

it's everything that's happening here. Now Bethlehem is a place they want to go to."

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