

WHEN YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, WE ARE THERE WITH YOU.

By ANNETTE VOGEL
InterTown News Service

NORTH SUTTON – It's amazing to see the strength of the citizens of these great United States as we come together to fight the public health crisis known as coronavirus or COVID-19.

As the publisher of your local newspaper, I want you to know you are not alone. We are here for you, with you. Vice President Pence said last Friday, "We are all in this together."

The InterTown will continue to provide information about the Kearsarge-Sunapee region and how this is affecting its citizens to the best of

our ability. We will continue to inform you about events and cancellations, keep you up to date on COVID-19 and how it's affecting the residents here; and we will share positive stories amidst the sadness and anxiety.

New Hampshire Senator Jeanne Shaheen said, "This is an all-hands-on-deck situation and there needs to be urgency at every level of government. Every Granite Stater plays a part in this by helping to mitigate the spread of the virus. This is one of those times in history when all Americans need to unite and do what's best for our communities and our country."

New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu issued an emergency order mandating the closure of all non-essential businesses and requiring New Hampshire residents to stay at home. There is an extensive list of essential services that can be found at <https://www.governor.nh.gov/news-media/emergency-orders/documents/emergency-order-17.pdf>. This will continue until May 4.

Essential business sectors include: law enforcement, public safety and first responders; food and agriculture; health care, public health and human services; energy; electricity industry, petroleum workers,

natural and propane gas workers, steam workers, waste and wastewater; transportation and logistics; public works; communications and information technology; other community-based essential functions; manufacturing; hazardous materials;

financial services; chemical; defense industrial base.

All businesses and other organizations that do not provide essential service were ordered to close their physical workplaces and facilities to

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Warner, neighbors respond to coronavirus crisis with spirit and generosity

By RAY CARBONE
InterTown News Service

WARNER – Sometimes it seems like this small town is both the center of the coronavirus crisis in the Kearsarge-Sunapee area, and a reflection of how area towns are responding to it.

On Friday, March 13, the day President Trump declared a national emergency due to the coronavirus,

the typically busy Friday afternoon Market Basket parking lot started to resemble the night before Christmas or Super Bowl Sunday, as shoppers flooded into the store for sanitizers, wipes, and, of course, toilet paper.

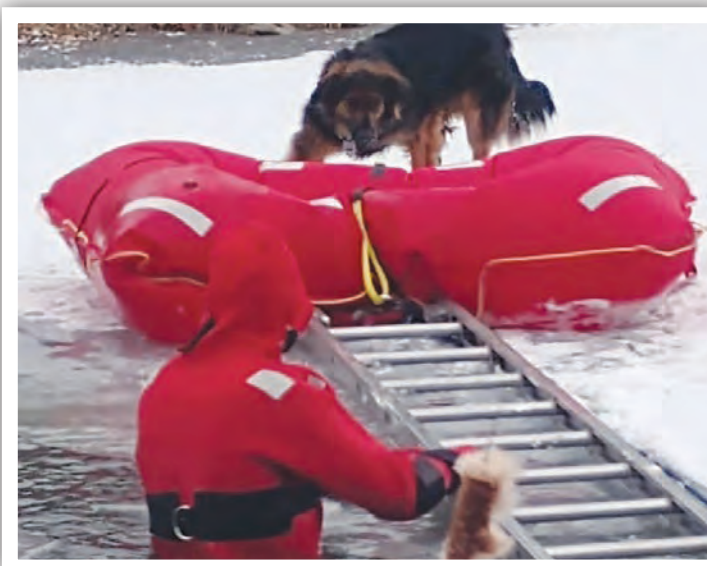
Then last week, Gov. Chris Sununu issued the stay-at-home order and the Warner Pharmacy sent out a recorded message notifying its customers that COVID-19, the dis-

ease caused by the coronavirus, is "active in our community."

The rush continued nearly non-stop for a week and finally seemed to be slowing down a little until Governor Chris Sununu issued the stay-at-home order last week.

Despite the problems associated with the crisis, residents of Warner

(Continued on Page 3)



LAKE SUNAPEE DOG RESCUE – Lt. Tim O'Neil of the Newbury Fire & Rescue Department helps save a frightened dog that got stranded on ice about 50 feet off shore Monday, March 23. The dog's owner called firefighters after the animal was unable to get back to shore on its own. See story on Page 2. (Courtesy Photo)

Social Distancing STREET TALK
What is a hobby you have learned during quarantine?
Photostory by Abby Peel



"Baking brownies."
Sterling, Springfield



"Baking bread and practicing keyboard and guitar."
Ed, New London



"Playing Battleship."
Matthew, Newbury



"Virtual time with my grandson!"
Missy (with Bailey), Sunapee

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Outside Insides

By PETER ST. JAMES

Funny how our perception of time can change. Earlier this month when the snow first went away, people were scrambling to get their yards raked and were looking to get the gardens started. And then COVID-19 started coming into focus. Now that it's become a big part of our daily lives, it's kind of surprising to me that tomorrow is only April. Seems like we should be further along on the calendar if the weather was our only guide. But, sadly it's not.

April 1 is the opening of salmon season. Landlocked salmon are stocked annually in 15 waterbodies in the state, including Lake Winnepesaukee, Squam, Newfound and Sunapee. Don't forget even though the salmon are present in Pleasant Lake, you can't fish for salmon until the fourth Saturday in April as that body of water is managed as a trout fishery.

The ice is really close to going out on Sunapee. There are some wind-blown areas of ice in Newbury, Sunapee Harbor and Blodgett's Landing, but those should be gone at any time, especially considering the weather outlook. The last time ice out on Lake Sunapee was on April 1 was back in 1945. Wonder if history will repeat itself? If not, it was April 3 in 2006, April 4 in 2010, April 5h

in 1903 and 1953 and April 6h in 1910, 1922 and 1949. Any bets?

With the state's "Stay-At-Home" order in effect, now is a great time to get outside. Maybe that is raking or getting the garden ready. It could be a walk in the woods or maybe, as the ice recedes, a kayak, canoe or boat on the lake. Spending time outdoors helps strengthen the immune system as it allows your body to naturally convert vitamin D from sun exposure. But don't turn your outdoor time into a block party. I hear that's why they closed the state beaches on the seacoast. Apparently one day last week, the beaches looked like Hampton Beach on the Fourth of July. Kind of defeats the purpose of self-distancing now doesn't it?

"Fresh air and being in nature are important for our mental health and people are encouraged to recreate safely, responsibly and close to home," said Colonel Kevin Jordan, chief of law enforcement at New Hampshire Fish and Game. "This is not the time for epic hikes or backcountry adventures. We encourage people to enjoy nature in their backyard or neighborhood and to stay a safe distance from others while doing so."

"As we know, social distancing is an



important step to slow the spread of COVID-19, so people should continue to practice social distancing if they are around other people while outside," said Jordan. "When people are outdoors, they should avoid groups and maintain at least 6 feet of distance from anybody they pass."

The whole concept does take some getting used to ... but we will. And with fishing and turkey hunting almost upon us, it makes being out there a lot more palatable.

Please see graphic on Page 10.

(Peter St. James, host of the N.H. Wake Up Show on WTPL 107.7FM in Concord is a member of the New England Outdoor Writers Association, Outdoor Writers Association of America and is a licensed N.H. Fishing Guide.)

Pet rescued in Newbury

By RAY CARBONE
InterTown News Service

NEWBURY – In light of mightier contemporary issues, it wasn't much. But for one town resident, seeing members of the Newbury Fire & Rescue department show up at her house last Monday, March 23, was a welcome sight.

The firefighters came to rescue the woman's pet dog after it had crawled out onto an iced portion of a small fire pond near her home off Old Province Road. Once there, the animal was cautious about going back onto the ice, so it was trapped, unable to return to its homeland.

"The dog walked out and he broke the beginnings of the ice, and it got spooked so he wouldn't get back," said Hank Thomas, fire chief. "The owner ran out and called him, but he wouldn't move, so she called us."

Around 12:45 the firefighters showed up with assistance from the Newbury police department. They estimated the dog was about 50 feet offshore, so they decided to use a small inflatable water rescue boat to coax the pooch back to the shore.

Lt. Tim O'Neil donned a survival suit and began carefully walking out, breaking through the thin ice as he walked, and pushing a ladder and the inflatable boat along with him. At the time, both O'Neil and the boat were tethered to the firefighters on the shore with rescue lines. (Another firefighter on shore was also wearing a survival suit in case O'Neil needed as-

sistance.) When he was about 30 feet out from shore, he pushed the boat close to the ice where the dog stood.

"When we got out there, he hopped into the boat, and stayed onboard on its own," Thomas said. "We didn't have to tempt him with biscuits or anything like that." O'Neil worked to keep the dog calm as the other firefighters pulled him and the rubber vessel on its short voyage to the land.

When the pair reached the land, the animal jumped out of the boat and immediately ran to its owner, the chief said. "It was like nothing happened."

The adventure took about three-quarters of an hour and involved eight firefighters.

In addition to the local adventure, the town's fire department is also

pleased about the return of Smokey Bear.

Last month, an 8-foot high plywood version of the iconic bear went missing from the front of the safety services building where it was attached to the fire danger sign. Thomas put out a call to the public but the image, which had been outside the building for almost a decade, was never found or returned.

Recently Lt. Kenneth Burnell, with the help of Dave Smith, assistant chief, was able to recreate Smokey. The image is actually a decal attached to the plywood, Thomas said.

Two rescues and the promise of a new fire stationhouse from the town meeting voters. Not a bad month for the firefighters.

We are there with you (Continued from Page 1)

workers, customers and the public and cease all in-person operations.

All New Hampshire citizens should stay at their place of residence with the following exceptions, following social distancing recommendations: leaving home to get fresh air, exercise, outdoor recreation, essential errands such as going to the grocery store, laundromat or fulfilling any other errands an individual determines to be essential for everyday needs; to visit a spouse, parent or child; to provide care for another person; to go to the gas station; to order and pick up takeout food; receiving deliveries; to receive essential medical care or essential medical services; and to go to work at an essential business or organization.

This order does not apply to any K-12 schools within the state and does not apply to state government, local and county government, local and county legislative bodies, the general court or the judicial branch; church, synagogue, mosque or other house of worship.

The list of industry sectors that provide essential services can be found online at: <https://www.governor.nh.gov/news-media/emergency-orders/documents/emergency-order-17.pdf>.

If the function of your business is not listed above, but you believe that it is essential or it is an entity provid-

ing essential services or functions, you may request designation as an essential business. Requests by businesses to be designated an essential function should only be made if they are not covered by the guidance. These requests should be submitted to essential@nheconomy.com and include basic contact information and a brief justification.

Do you have an uplifting story to share? Please send your story to us at: info@intertownrecord.com. Send us your letters to the editor, ideas for a story you would like to see us cover or information to let people know what is going on with your business.

Remember, we are all in this together and we will get through this. Better days are ahead.

Correction

A story in the March 17 edition of the *InterTown Record*, "Wilmot: No to raising the floor; Yes to lowering the water," contained some incorrect information. Three proposals were considered for the renovation of the town hall; the third was estimated to be \$434,761 without the financial assistance of a grant from the NH Land and Community Investment Program (LCHIP). If the town wins the grant, the money could fund up to half of the renovation's costs.

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