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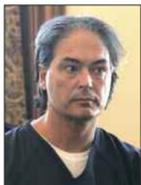


SUPERIOR COURT

WEST BURKE MAN GUILTY

Sentenced For
Breaking Into Ex-
Girlfriend's Home

BY JEN HERSEY CLEVELAND
Staff Writer



William Wray

NEWPORT CITY — A West Burke man who stalked his former girlfriend, broke into her home, and tried to force her to watch him kill himself while their 6-year-old child was home was sentenced to serve up to two years in jail.

In Orleans Superior Court-Criminal Division.

See **Wray**, Page A6

FBI HANDLING WHITE MARKET EMBEZZLEMENT

BY JAMES JARDINE
Staff Writer

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has entered an embezzlement case involving a former White Market employee in Lyndonville, according to Lyndonville Police Chief Jack Harris.

On Wednesday, Harris said that while he had initially begun a criminal investigation into an allegation of embezzlement against Debbie Williamson, formerly of Wheelock, the FBI has now stepped in. Williamson is a former store manager at the Broad Street White Market in Lyndonville.

Harris added that it appears Williamson left Vermont for Florida following the alleged embezzlement and that, as a result of her moving from Vermont to another state, she may have triggered a federal investigation.

A message left for FBI Senior Agent Daniel Rachek, with the Burlington, Vt., FBI office was not immediately returned. A spokesperson for the media office of the

See **Embezzlement**, Page A6

ST. JOHNSBURY

HANGING IN THE BALANCE

Town Races To Secure Easements For North Side Project; \$7 Million At Risk

BY TAYLOR REED
Staff Writer

ST. JOHNSBURY — Town officials are laying groundwork to complete the third and final phase of the \$15 million West Side Infrastructure Improvement Project, and the clock is ticking.

About \$7 million in federal stimulus money hangs in the balance if St. Johnsbury fails to finish in under three years.

The North Side Project phase — estimated at \$6 million excluding design and legal costs — is set for bidding in February. Work is slated to start in the springtime and last

two construction seasons.

The job will happen on the sections of Summer and Spring streets located between Church and Mount Pleasant streets, and on the section of Mount Pleasant Street located between Summer Street to just beyond Cliff Street, Rust said. Construction is slated for

Winter Street, Webster Street and Clinton Avenue too, he said.

St. Johnsbury must complete the effort by September 2015 or lose about \$7 million in federal stimulus money earmarked for the West Side Infrastructure Improvement

"It's imperative we use the grant money up."

— Jim Rust,
St. Johnsbury Select Board

Project. That means it's essential to move fast on the north-side phase, Rust said.

"The project has to be totally finished by September of 2015 or the funding goes away," Rust said Thursday. "The most important thing is getting people to understand the urgency. It's imperative we use the grant money up. If not, the federal government is going to take those grant monies and give them to another community... If we don't do the project now when we have grant money, we will have to do it in the future when it would likely be paid for on the [water and sewer] users' backs."

The North Side Project phase will deliver new water, sewer and storm-drain infrastructure.

See **St. Johnsbury**, Page A6

NORTH COUNTRY

NOT FOR SALE

Coos Landowner: Northern Pass Playing 'Head Games';
Company Says New Route Nearing Completion

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

Rod McAllaster has rejected several offers from Northern Pass.

But the company, he said, keeps coming back.

In 2011, Northern Pass began approaching him, initially with a deal for a land swap then with a \$4 million offer for land that has been in his family for generations.

"I sent word back that \$4 million or \$40 million, I wasn't interested," said McAllaster, of Stewartstown.

Now, in recent weeks, Northern Pass has returned, he said, and offered \$500,000 for another piece of land once owned by his uncle and in which he has a quarter interest.

McAllaster again said no.

As 2012 comes to a close, Northern Pass is maintaining that its new transmission route needed in Coos County is near completion and will soon be announced.

"Based on this schedule, we anticipate the permitting and construction processes to be complete in time for the line to be operational in late 2016 or early 2017," Northern Pass spokesman Martin Murray said Thursday.

Others, however, like McAllaster, who can see which tracts of land around him have been bought and which remain, are skeptical.

"They have a lot of problems," said McAllaster. "Most of what they are saying is propaganda. They are trying to convince people it's a done deal so they cave in. But it's not a done deal. The propaganda doesn't work on the ones left."

The Northern Pass Pitch

Northern Pass is the 180-mile hydroelectric transmission line being proposed by Hydro-Quebec and Northeast Utilities (NU), parent company of Public Service of



PHOTO COURTESY OF JERRY AND MARCY MONKMAN

Rod McAllaster, whose land in Stewartstown has been in his family for generations, is one of several Coos landowners refusing to sell to Northern Pass.

New Hampshire (PSNH).

The project, currently estimated at \$1.1 billion, would entail more than 1,000 steel towers at least 85 feet high and 40 or

See **Not For Sale**, Page A6

LOCAL TIES TO NASHUA GUNSHOT

Stolen NEK Gun
May Have Been
Used In Shooting

BY TODD WELLINGTON
Staff Writer

A hand-gun used in a weekend shooting in Nashua, N.H. may have come from a Northeast Kingdom break-in.

Two "potential witnesses" in the case, identified by authorities as Daniel DeGrace, 31, and Benjamin Mayberry, 30, were taken into custody by U.S. border patrol agents in Derby on Monday, near the U.S. Canadian border.

According to the Nashua Telegraph, DeGrace told investigators that he and Mayberry had stolen guns from a Vermont home and later sold one of the guns — a pink .22-caliber handgun — for \$60 to Nashua resident Billy Jo Parker, who accidentally shot himself with it while showing off Sunday night.

Parker is reported to be comatose and in critical but stable condition.

Vermont State Police are investigating two recent break-ins where guns were stolen. One is a residence in Ryegate and another a residence in Peacham.

State police said several items including a large amount of jewelry, several coin collections, a hunting bow and a .22 caliber handgun were taken from the Barnard

See **NEK Burglaries**, Page A6

VERMONT

SERIAL KILLER PLANNED TO STRIKE AGAIN

Authorities' Arrest Of Alaska Man Prevents Further Bloodshed



Israel Keyes

BY RACHEL D'ORO
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A confessed Alaska serial killer who targeted people across the country told authorities he planned to strike again in the state if he had gotten away with the murder of an 18-year-old Anchorage barista, the FBI said Thursday.

"He wasn't going to stop," FBI spokesman Eric Gonzalez said.

Israel Keyes, 34, prepared a body dis-

posal cache in the summer of 2011 for a future target, Gonzalez said. Murder kits also have been recovered in New York and Vermont.

In Alaska, authorities recovered the cache containing a shovel and two large

"He wasn't going to stop."

— Eric Gonzalez
FBI spokesman

bottles of Drano from Eagle River north of Anchorage. Gonzalez said the drain de-clogger would speed up decomposition of a body.

Keyes told authorities he killed barista Samantha Koenig and at least seven others over the past decade, including Bill and Lorraine Currier of Essex, Vt., in June 2011. The couple's bodies have not been found.

Keyes was found dead Sunday in his Anchorage jail cell after he killed himself by slitting a wrist and strangling himself with a rolled up sheet.

See **Serial Killer**, Page A6

INSIDE

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TODAY: Light snow or sleet,
later changing to rain



HIGH: 41
LOW: 26
Details on Page A2

NATIONAL DEBT CLOCK

\$16,370,388,723,434
Population: 314,009,755
Your share: \$52,133.38

"The budget should be balanced; the treasury should be refilled; public debt should be reduced; and the arrogance of public officials should be controlled." —Cicero, 106-43 B.C.

NATIONAL

US Economy Adds 146K Jobs; Jobless Rate Falls
To 4-year Low Of 7.7 Percent

Fiscal Cliff Ads Pick Up Where Election Campaign Stopped,
And With The Same Partisan Players

Page B5

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IMPORTANT PUBLIC MEETING FOR DANVILLE RESIDENTS
SCHOOL BUDGET DISCUSSION WITH DANVILLE SCHOOL BOARD AT THE DANVILLE LIBRARY
DECEMBER 17 AT 6:00 PM
JANUARY 7 AT 6:00 PM
JANUARY 21 AT 6:00 PM

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See Pages C4 & C5

FOR THE RECORD

CALEDONIA SUPERIOR COURT

EDITOR'S NOTE: Information is from Caledonia Superior Court-Criminal Division records unless otherwise noted.

In recent court cases, **Nathan Mitchell, 22**, Barnet, pleaded guilty to first offense drunk driving on Nov. 29 and was given a deferred sentence for six months. If Mitchell successfully completes the sentence, his drunk driving conviction will be expunged from his record. The Court added to the sentence a condition that states, "The Court, per statute, does not report this plea or conviction to the Vermont Dept. of Motor Vehicles unless or until his deferred sentence is revoked."

According to the affidavit of St. Johnsbury police officer Aaron Rivard, on Oct. 20, Rivard and officer George Johnson heard a vehicle squealing its tires and subsequently stopped Mitchell at the intersection of Church and Summer streets. Mitchell's BAC level was measured at .163 percent at 11:40 p.m. on Oct. 20.

Kristen Pohl, 31, Danville, had a drunk driving charge reduced to negligent operation as part of a plea deal on Nov. 29. Pohl pleaded guilty to the reduced charge and guilty to a charge of leaving the scene of an accident. She was sentenced to three to 12 months to serve, all suspended except for 10 days to be served on the community work crew. She was also assessed \$382 in fines and surcharges and must complete the drunk driving reparative justice board and participate in substance abuse treatment as directed by her probation officer. She will be on probation for a term of two years. According to the affidavit of St. Johnsbury police officer George

Johnson, at 7:35 p.m. on July 2, Johnson responded to a report of a motor vehicle crash on Eastern Avenue. He learned a Volvo had struck several vehicles and left the scene. Johnson located the Volvo, driven by Pohl and determined her BAC level was .071 percent and that she was driving while under the influence. According to Johnson, the vehicles damaged by Pohl's car included a Subaru that sustained \$1,800 damage, a Toyota with \$600 damage and a VW Jetta with \$900 damage.

Eli Farrington, 38, Sheffield, pleaded guilty to a charge of driving with a suspended license and a charge of drunk driving on Nov. 29. Because he was charged with new offenses while under the terms of a one-year deferred sentence given to him on Dec. 7, 2011, for a charge of driving with a suspended license, Farrington had his deferred sentence struck by the Court. At the time Farrington was granted a deferred sentence for the suspended license charge, he had a charge of providing false information to a police officer dismissed by the state. On Nov. 29, in addition to having his deferred sentence struck, Farrington was given a new sentence on a third offense charge of driving with a suspended and another new charge of driving with a suspended license. He also admitted to violating his probation. Two more charges of driving with a suspended license were dismissed as part of the plea deal.

His new sentence is 44 to 45 days on preapproved furlough assigned to the community work crew. The driving with a suspended license charges were the result of a stop on May 16 by Senior Trooper Brian Tallmadge who cited Farrington for driving in the Miller's Run School in Sheffield on a suspended license. On May 15, 2012, Farrington was stopped by Caledonia County deputy Sheriff Steven Hartwell for driving with a suspended license on Hospital Drive in St. Johnsbury.

According to court files, Farrington has 10 felony convictions, 16 misdemeanor convictions, nine convictions for violations of probation

and two charges of escape.

Lisa Gendron, 19, Williamstown, pleaded guilty on Nov. 29 to charges of retail theft, possession of stolen property, disorderly conduct and failure to appear. A charge of violating a condition of release was dismissed as part of the plea agreement. She received a total sentence of three to 12 months to serve, all suspended except for 25 days to be served on preapproved furlough on the work crew. Gendron will be on probation for 16 months and must attend and complete the Reparative Impact Panel. According to court records, Gendron is already on probation. As part of the conditions of her sentence, Gendron is ordered not to enter St. Johnsbury Hardware, Ocean State Job Lot or J.C. Penney stores. The charges of failure to appear and violation of a condition of release both stem from Gendron's failure to appear in court on June 26. Her disorderly conduct charge is the result of an encounter in which Gendron pushed John Gebbie, the owner of St. Johnsbury Hardware on April 5, 2011 in an attempt to help her boyfriend, Michael Markham, 22, escape from Gebbie who was struggling with Markham over some stolen merchandise.

Anthony Albright, 25, St. Johnsbury, pleaded guilty to retail theft and was fined \$150. He must also pay restitution of \$7 as the value of some thermal pants Albright shoplifted from Family Dollar Store in St. Johnsbury on Oct. 7. Albright was charged by St. Johnsbury police officer Dustin Horne.

Gary Potter, 21, Albany, pleaded guilty to first offense drunk driving and was given a fine only sentence of \$400. According to the affidavit of Hardwick police officer Kevin Lehoe, at 1:13 a.m. on Nov. 10, Potter was driving a 2010 Chevrolet truck on Craftsbury Road in Hardwick when he was observed crossing the white line in the road three times. Lehoe cited Potter after Potter's BAC level measured .225 percent at 2:12 a.m.

NEWS BRIEFS

Newport City Paving Project Is Complete

NEWPORT CITY — The paving project in downtown Newport City is complete. Stephanie Barrett, public relations spokesman for the paving contractor, said that the last work is complete and the contractor has folded up his tent for the season. There could be some line striping touch up work after the winter is over in 2013, Barrett said.

Anyone who has any lingering questions or concerns can call 866-602-6868.

Two Vermont Air And Army Vets To Seek Top Guard Job

MONTPELIER (AP) — A former Vermont Army National Guard general is throwing his hat into the ring to become the top officer in the state's national guard.

The decision by former Army Guard Brig. Gen. Jonathan Farnham sets up a race for the adjutant general's post between him and Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Steven Cray.

Both men said Friday they would seek the post being vacated by the Adjutant Gen. Thomas Drew, who is not seeking re-election. The Vermont Legisla-

ture elects the adjutant general to a two-year appointment during a paper ballot vote of all 180 lawmakers. The vote is set for February.

Cray is an airline pilot and former F-16 pilot. Farnham left the military branch of the guard almost two years ago. He is now a civilian guard employee.

Vt. Leaders Hail Supreme Court On DOMA

MONTPELIER (AP) — Vermont's congressional delegation say they're glad the U.S. Supreme Court will hear a case challenging the constitutionality of a law barring federal rights and benefits to same-sex couples.

Sens. Patrick Leahy and Bernie Sanders and Rep. Peter Welch say they'd like to see the court scrap the Defense of Marriage Act.

The court also will review a federal appeals court ruling that struck down California's gay marriage ban, though on narrow grounds. The San Francisco-based appeals court said the state could not take away the same-sex marriage right that had been granted by California's Supreme Court. Leahy, Sanders and Welch say they're proud Vermont has been a leader in granting marriage rights to same sex couples, and want the same for other Americans.

POLICE LOGS

STATE — ST. JOHNSBURY

The driver of a 2002 Ford Escort that hydroplaned on Interstate 91 in St. Johnsbury Dec. 2 suffered mild pain to her face when an air bag deployed upon impact with a guardrail. Jane Ostrander, 64, of Sheffield, was wearing a seat belt when her vehicle crashed.

Police are looking for the driver of a GMC or Chevrolet truck that struck two parked vehicles off Route 2 at the Danville Service Station Thursday and then sped off. The color of the truck is either gray or tan. There is a red cap on the back. The incident happened about 3:05 a.m. Call police at 748-3111 or Crime Stoppers at 748-2222.

No injuries were reported in a crash on the Victory Road in Victory Thursday afternoon. Christian An-

derson, 18, Nantucket, Mass., lost control of a 2002 Ford Explorer on the icy roadway. The vehicle struck an embankment, causing severe front end damage to the Explorer.

STATE — DERBY

Police described the Willoughby Lake Road in Barton as snow and ice covered Wednesday when Patricia Alberghini-Young, 46, Brownington, lost control of a 2001 Dodge Durango. The vehicle left the road and

rolled. No injuries were reported. Damage was done to the Durango's front end, roof and hood.

Sometime between 2 and 6:30 a.m. on Thursday, someone stole a tan 2006 Subaru Legacy from the parking lot behind 346 Main St. in Derby. The vehicle belongs to Ryan Moore, 40, of Derby. The car was unlocked and the keys were inside it. Call the police at 802-334-8881 with any information about the crime.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

LYNDONVILLE

Trustees and Lyndon Select Board joint meeting, Monday, Dec. 10, 6 p.m. Water rate restructuring presentation, 2013 police budget discussion, LED, village orders, other.

WATERFORD

Select board, Monday, Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m., town clerk's office. Public input, highway topics, fire truck update, TransCanada update, new business, other.

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The Numbers
LUCKY FOR LIFE (Thursday, Dec. 7)
3-11-24-31-40; Hot Ball: 15
DAILY PICKS (Friday, Dec. 7)
Day Draw — Pick 3: 6-4-1; Pick 4: 8-9-3-5
Evening Draw — Pick 3: 5-7-3; Pick 4: 6-1-1-3

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Local Forecast
Today: Some light snow or sleet, perhaps a pocket of freezing rain ending. Cloudy with a chance of scattered rain showers later in the day. Highs 36 to 41. Winds light, tending to become south less than 10 mph in the afternoon.
Tonight: Scattered rain showers changing to snow showers, then tapering off. Gradual clearing later at night. Lows in the upper 20s to low 30s. South to southwest winds near 10 mph, shifting to the northwest overnight.
Sunday: Partly sunny, then increasing clouds late. Highs in the 30s. Winds from the northwest near 10 mph.
Extended Forecast:
Sunday Night: Cloudy with snow or a wintry mix developing. Some accumulation possible. Lows 25 to 30.
Monday: Cloudy, with any wintry mix changing to rain showers. Highs 40 to 45.
Monday Night: Rain showers changing to snow showers. Lows in the 20s.
Tuesday: Variable clouds and sun. Colder. Highs in the upper 20s to low 30s.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy and colder. Lows in the teens.
Wednesday: Partly sunny. Highs near 30.

Weather Discussion
After a chilly November, December's first week has been mild. It isn't unusual for the weather to pull back for a time after one type of weather, but after a promising start for those who like winter sports, it appears we'll have to wait for the weather pattern to change. It won't happen over the next several days, though some intervals of winter will alternate with thaws. The longer-term weather pattern shows signs of a more wintry look later this month.
Unsettled and mild conditions today can be expected with a weak warm front edging north, triggering scattered snow, sleet, or rain showers, mainly this morning. Later in the day, a rising chance of light rain showers develops ahead of a cold front approaching from the northwest. They will change to snow showers tonight, especially over the mountains, followed by partly sunny skies, and slightly colder conditions Sunday. The fair weather won't last, as a storm developing over the upper Midwest will slide northeast through the Great Lakes and to our north Monday. There will be a marginal amount of cold air Sunday night, so the storm should begin as snow, perhaps mixing with sleet or freezing rain toward Monday morning. However, the storm's track to our north means the warm air will win out, and any mix changes to rain showers. A cold front trails the storm, which means any showers end as snow showers Monday night. Tuesday should be partly sunny and seasonably cold, but there is an outside chance of a storm sliding by to our south. If the storm forms, and if it tracks close enough, a change in the forecast to some light snow Tuesday is possible. Either way, the balance of next week will be colder, says Mark Breen of the Fairbanks Museum weather station.
Average Daily Max40.6°
Average Daily Min24.9°
Extreme Max.....52°
Weekly Mean Temp.....32.7°
Weekly Precip.0.65"
Weekly Snowfall00.8°
Departure from Normal+04.5°
Departure from Normal+05.2°
Extreme Min.....6°
Departure from Normal+04.8°
Departure from Normal -0.06°
Departure from Normal-02.9°

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A World of Thanks
We would like to thank the community of Burke, Newark, Sutton and Lyndonville for the contributions we received toward the Giving of Thanks Dinner on November 22, 2012. The community and Kerrigan's raised \$849.00 in total, which works out to \$447.00 or the Area Boot Fund and \$447.00 for the Senior Meal Site. Kerrigan's Convenience & Deli donated all the cooking, prep and serving time.
Those who also contributed food donations were:
The Ramsays
Barbara Ritson
Cabot Creamery
Farrell Distributors
G Housen Beverages
Louise Allen
Margaret Schlup
Mark Podgwaite
Mike's Gas/West Burke Irving
N&R Dairy
Newark Fire Dept.
Pam & Bill Eddy
Rick Chesley
Robert & Shirley Elder
Ronald Pal
Scott & Amy Brill
Simpson Farms
Tammy & Brianna Smith
The Burke Cottages
The Lapointe Family
The Tetreault Family
Tom & Evelyn D'Ambra
Town of Burke
White's Market
Wise Worm Composting
Keri Carlson
Melanie Kerrigan
Lepage Bakeries
Thanks again,
West Burke Senior Meal Site & The Boot Fund

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LOCAL

SLAMMED IN THE PARKING LOT



PHOTO BY TODD WELLINGTON

Rescue workers tend to Concord resident Jennifer Hemond who was pinned in the door of her Chevy Equinox in the parking lot behind the Catamount Arts building at 115 Eastern Ave. Friday. Police said Hemond, 29, was buckling a young child into a car seat at 11:29 a.m. when a blue Jeep Wrangler driven by Tinalyn Caisse, 56, of St. Johnsbury lurched forward from a nearby parking spot striking the open car door and pinning Hemond against the frame by the legs and head. Caisse told police she had just started her parked jeep when she accidentally popped the clutch sending the Jeep forward into the car door. Police said the crash was an accident and no traffic tickets or criminal charges will be filed. Hemond was treated and released at Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital for leg injuries. The child was uninjured.

NORTHERN PASS

QUESTIONS REMAIN ON PROJECT INVESTMENT RISK

If Plans Fail, Is Hydro-Quebec 'On The Hook'?

BY ROBERT BLECHL
Staff Writer

In addition to not providing specifics on its right-of-way progress in Coos County, Northeast Utilities (NU) has also declined to say how much risk it is incurring in developing its proposed transmission line.

According to an October 2010 federal filing, however, Hydro-Quebec, partner with NU in Northern Pass Transmission LLC, has agreed to a reimbursement of up to \$12 million in project development costs.

It also states the parties, by mutual agreement, could increase that amount.

"That is no longer up to date and was certainly replaced with something, terms unclear, but probably a renewed commitment," said Christophe Courchesne, attorney with the Conservation Law Foundation, which opposes Northern Pass as it is currently proposed.

It is also undetermined if NU, which through a subsidiary has made nearly \$30 million of recorded property purchases in

Coos County, is incurring land costs pursuant to the agreement, he said.

A guaranty agreement, also entered into in October 2010 by Hydro-Quebec in favor of Northern Pass Transmission, reflects a total of up to \$55 million in guaranteed obligations.

Martin Murray, spokesman for NU and Northern Pass, was asked specifically how much NU has spent developing the Northern Pass project to date and if its recovery costs agreement with Hydro-Quebec has since been renewed, but declined to answer.

"The total project costs are expected to be about \$1.1 billion," Murray said Thursday. "We are within budget and the transmission service agreement on file speaks for itself."

NU has not said if it expects a revised transmission service agreement (TSA) with Hydro-Quebec to be filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) within the next year.

The existing TSA was approved by FERC in February 2011. As 2013 approaches, Northern Pass, according to FERC filings, still has at least two dozen permits and approvals to obtain before construction of the line can begin.

"The TSA requires that all approvals be obtained by the third

anniversary of the FERC approval of the TSA," said Courchesne. "Otherwise, the TSA needs to be reopened, amended by the parties and approved by FERC to reflect a later completion date."

Courchesne said, "Given the delays experienced, there is very little chance that the final federal and state approvals for the project can be obtained by February 2014. The TSA was clearly hard fought and there is at least some likelihood that changed circumstances for Hydro-Quebec - economics - will necessitate a renegotiation of some terms."

Courchesne estimates a 5- to 7-year permitting process.

"If Northern Pass gets through the regulatory process, there would be a subsequent arrangement that would allow the construction of the project to proceed without NU incurring that risk, he said.

And if environmental groups appeal, are successful and the project is canceled, Courchesne said, Hydro-Quebec would still be "on the hook" and NU would insist on it.

"I would say Hydro-Quebec continues to guarantee all project development costs," he said.

Hydro-Quebec executives have refused to comment on Northern Pass.

MONTPELIER

EOLIAN DEVELOPER, TOWN OF NEWARK, PRESENT AT GOVERNOR'S ENERGY SITING COMMISSION HEARINGS

BY AMY ASH NIXON
Staff Writer

The Governor's Energy Generation Siting Policy Commission, appointed this fall, has met several times in Montpelier, including Thursday, to continue taking testimony from the state's citizens, energy developers, utilities, and more.

On Thursday, the commission heard from Newark and considered a potential wind project with sights on Brighton-Ferdinand-Newark in the Northeast Kingdom.

The project, in its early stage with only four meteorological or MET towers, a precursor for a wind project, proposed at present and awaiting a decision for a Certificate of Public Good by the Vermont Public Service Board, has been filed by Seneca Mountain Wind, LLC, who is partnered by Eolian Renewable Energy, LLC of Portsmouth, NH and Chicago-based turbine manufacturer Nordex, USA.

Newark planning commission member Mark Whitworth attended the Commission's meeting in Montpelier, offering as his first slide the vision statement from the Newark Town Plan, recently amended and passed by a 3-1 margin to include language that states a majority of Newark property owners oppose industrial wind locating there.

The northernmost town in Caledonia County, population 581, has, Whitworth presented, an all-volunteer select board and planning commission, no full-time employees, one paved road and no commerce, no industry, no traffic lights. "We like it that way," a bulletted item at the bottom of the second slide made clear.

On slides titled "Our" Project, Whitworth told the Commission that "Newark, Brighton and Ferdinand (have been) targeted by an out-of-state developer," who has "leased land from out-of-state property owners," and that while the developer now seeks to erect four MET towers, they have their hopes set on the three communities to eventually install 35-40 500' high industrial wind turbines.

Whitworth noted the call by the Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) for a moratorium on industrial wind, and filing problems by the developer. Whitworth said there is not a need for electricity to be generated in Vermont, and said that in 2013, according to experts, the Northeast Kingdom will generate 35 percent

more electricity than it uses already.

"It serves no purpose other than to make the NEK a wind ghetto," said Whitworth. In his presentation, Whitworth told the Commission, "This project will enrich a few at the expense of many," including: "Wildlife habitat, tourism, public health, communities, property values, ratepayers, and taxpayers."

Whitworth asked for the Commission to recommend a suspension of wind applications "until legislature has a chance to act upon your recommendations."

At the Nov. 30 meeting of the Commission, a week earlier, one of the developers presenting to the Commission in Montpelier was John Soininen, of Eolian Renewable Energy.

Soininen, the co-founder and vice president of development for Eolian, said, "We have evaluated numerous sites in Vermont in detail over the last

and in our conversations with Vermonters directly," the firm stated.

"Energy is a necessary industry and siting generation facilities requires a state perspective," the Eolian presentation noted. "Local views should be considered, as is currently the case, but can not frustrate State goals and objectives," they stated for the record.

On the strengths and weaknesses of public participation, Eolian stated, "Public input is important but adds significant cost to the development process which adds to the cost to ratepayers."

A comment made by Eolian regarding environmental issues had locals in Newark balking this week, following Eolian's statement that, "Some environmental policies and regulations must be reviewed and re-evaluated," specifically, "preventing any impacts to bear habitat associated with renewable energy development while allowing bear hunting is a fundamental disconnect," the company.

Whitworth, of Newark's planning commission, was at the presentation, and said later, "I still can't get over the bear hunting thing. I guess we should let Eolian destroy our deer and moose habitat as well... we're just going to kill them anyway. And since fishing is permitted, why would we want to preserve our rivers and lakes?"

In response to some Newark residents' interpretation of the bear habitat comment entered into the record last week, Soininen on Friday, stated, "It is not our position that hunting of bears should cease - not at all. We recognize that hunting bears is important to Vermonters and we support continued hunting for all legal species on property that we lease throughout New England, including Vermont. For the Seneca Mountain Wind Project both the landowners and Seneca have stated publicly that the lands surrounding the wind farm would remain open for hunters as well as other activities. What the statement reflects is our belief that wind projects can be sited and operated with minimal impacts to bear habitat."

Citizen intervenors, in a presentation Nov. 30, noted that, "Participating in the PSB Section 248 process is an unbudgeted-for full time job that overwhelms small towns, volunteer boards and local residents," the citizens' portion stated for the Commission, stating further, "In the areas

"It serves no purpose other than to make the NEK a wind ghetto."
— Newark planning commission member Mark Whitworth

several years... To date we have not found any other sites that we believe to be suitable for development presently."

The company uses "superior desktop GIS analysis to prescreen project attributes," Soininen presented. They "focus on technical fundamentals to develop efficient projects," including: wind resource, land without conservation, zoning or other development restrictions; sufficient land area to provide appropriate setbacks; larger parcels; fewer landowners; proximity to existing infrastructure, he stated.

On a slide titled, "Eolian's Overview of Permitting in Vermont," the company stated the following: "We are encouraged by a clear articulation of the need for extensive new renewable generation in official documents."

They go on, stating, "We are encouraged by the clear public support that we see from the majority of Vermonters - both through surveys performed to determine public opinion

See Energy, Page A5

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Todd M. Smith, Publisher

OPINION

Dana Gray, Executive Editor

Editorial Comment ...
A Small Victory

The state dismissed unlawful trespass charges against Barton Chronicle Publisher Chris Braithwaite on Wednesday. It was the right decision, reached for the wrong reasons, far too long in coming.

The dismissal, without prejudice, came one year after Braithwaite was arrested while covering a protest against Green Mountain Power's wind project on Lowell Mountain. During that time he suffered the mentionable anxiety of fighting criminal charges and incurred over \$10,000 in legal expenses.

For doing his job of keeping the public informed.

The Orleans County State's Attorney office presumably decided to drop the case (a week before it was set to go to trial) after defense attorney Phil White secured GMP e-mails stating reporters were explicitly *not* to be arrested. The emails underscored legitimate company concerns that arresting a reporter would yield a public relations nightmare. GMP bosses instructed its people on the ground — led by employee David Coriell — to leave the press alone.

Those material exchanges left the state unable to make a trespassing case — GMP bosses clearly said, amongst themselves, that reporters could be on the mountain. The emails contrast Sheriff Kirk Martin's understanding, communicated at the time, that GMP wanted everyone arrested.

The weak link looks like Coriell. In a May deposition Coriell confirmed that he told authorities that anyone on the hill was to be arrested for trespassing — no exceptions. Later he demurred, but to no great effect. He was the ranking GMP employee on the hill, he knew of his company's directives and miscommunicated them to law enforcement.

As GMP feared, Braithwaite's arrest kicked off a flurry of discussions about the First Amendment rights of a free press versus property rights. White got astutely to the core of the issue. "A lot of people thought this was a simple trespassing case, but any time a journalist is arrested trying to cover the actions of government — arresting protesters on an important issue — it is a serious matter," he said.

Serious indeed. And wholly unavoidable. Braithwaite's arrest served absolutely nobody.

He is a talented and seasoned journalist who was on Lowell Mountain covering a story. His attendance there benefited everyone — police, GMP, the public and the protesters. His job, which he has done superlatively for decades, is to provide an objective third-party account, to document events and offer unbiased context for them.

At the time there was a delicate peace on the mountain, enforced by police and enjoyed by mutually distrusting parties. Forget about his unambiguous First Amendment protections and the essential role of the free press, for a moment. It just made sense for Chris to be there.

In the end, justice was served. Sort of.

Green Mountain Power should have come forward, long before they were compelled to by subpoena, to admit that a mistake had been made. Even without a forthcoming mea culpa from GMP, the state should have had the common sense to dismiss the charges. Both parties were complicit in perpetuating this travesty.

Ann Coulter

America Nears
EI Tipping
Pointo



I apologize to America's young people, whose dashed dreams and dim employment prospects I had laughed at, believing these to be a direct result of their voting for Obama.

On closer examination, it turns out that young voters, aged 18-29, overwhelmingly supported Romney. But only the white ones.

According to Pew Research, 54 percent of white voters under 30 voted for Romney and only 41 percent for Obama. That's the same percentage Reagan got from the entire white population in 1980. Even the Lena Dunham demographic — white women under 30 — slightly favored Romney.

Reagan got just 43 percent of young voters in 1980 — and that was when whites were 88 percent of the electorate. Only 58 percent of today's under-30 vote is white and it's shrinking daily.

What the youth vote shows is not that young people are nitwits who deserve lives of misery and joblessness, as I had previously believed, but that America is hitting the tipping point on our immigration policy.

The youth vote is a snapshot of elections to come if nothing is done

to reverse the deluge of unskilled immigrants pouring into the country as a result of Ted Kennedy's 1965 immigration act. Eighty-five percent of legal immigrants since 1968 have come from the Third World. A majority of them are in need of government assistance.

Whites are 76 percent of the electorate over the age of 30 and only 58 percent of the electorate under 30. Obama won the "youth vote" because it is the knife's edge of a demographic shift, not because he offered the kids free tuition and contraception (which they don't need because it's hard to have sex when you're living with your parents at 27).

In 1980, Hispanics were only 2 percent of the population, and they tended to be educated, skilled workers who got married, raised their children in two-parent families and sent their kids to college before they, too, got married and had kids. (In that order.)

That profile has nothing to do with recent Hispanic immigrants, who — because of phony "family reunification" rules — are the poorest of the world's poor.

More than half of all babies born to Hispanic women today are illegitimate. As Heather MacDonald has shown, the birthrate of Hispanic

See Coulter, Page A5

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



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THE CALEDONIAN RECORD

The State This Week

Blessed Are the Aged For
They Shall Prevail —
Thus Sayeth The AARP



BY GEOFFREY NORMAN

One of the great scientific insights of the last half-century is credited to the E.O. Wilson, a biologist who applied Darwin's principles to the behavior of species and, thus, created a new discipline called sociobiology. One of Wilson's most dramatic formulations was a Darwinian explanation for human self-sacrifice, as when a soldier tosses himself on a grenade to save the lives of his comrades. This impulse to altruism can be accounted for, Wilson theorized, by the claims of self-preservation of the species as opposed to the individual.

Wilson, who is famously hardworking and productive, may have been too busy to familiarize himself with the workings of the AARP, an organization that is guided by the principle of selfishness over altruism. Every single time.

The organization is so routinely known by its initials that most people have forgotten that they stand for: American Association of Retired Persons.

Since one becomes eligible for membership at age 50, the enterprise is something of a scam right from the get-go. But a little duplicitous marketing is pretty much conventional behavior in the public sphere these days. After all, when President Obama argues for his agenda, he says that he is "asking the wealthy to pay a little more." There is, of

course, no "asking" about it. One of the beautiful and fearsome things about being the government is you never have to ask.

But, let that slide. The AARP fattens its rolls by offering a lot of price discounts. It has enrolled millions whom it claims to speak for and thereby made itself into one of the great lobbying forces in the land.

Here in Vermont, AARP membership runs to some 135,000 people. That is around 25% of the state's population, proving two things: Vermont is an old place and the AARP is a big organization.

The Vermont AARP has lately thrown the considerable muscle — or bulk, anyway — behind an effort to exempt its membership from any inconvenience associated with the nation's current financial difficulties. Everyone else may go over what is being called the "fiscal cliff," but the AARP's membership must be spared.

Seniors, it seems, are special. How special? Well, when it comes to reforming Medicare, the greatest single driver of the deficit and the engine of the nation's looming financial catastrophe, the Vermont state director of the AARP says, "Seniors deserve guaranteed coverage, not higher costs."

Okay. But there are going to be

higher costs. Everybody agrees on that. And it follows, logically, that somebody is going to have to pay them. The nation currently pays the bills it can't handle out of current re-

ceipts — about 40% of the total — by borrowing. Which is to say, by shifting the costs onto the next generation which doesn't have anything to say about it and, even if it did, would be steamrolled by the AARP.

The AARP's position on Medicare seems pretty unambiguous. Nothing about how some, higher-income seniors might be "asked" to "contribute" a little more through higher premiums or co-pays or, heaven forfend by means testing. Some seniors are pretty well fixed and don't need the AARP's help.

But one doesn't find anything of this nature when searching the language of the AARP's announcement. Only, "Seniors deserve coverage ..."

Oh, of course they do. And the young people, who don't, must pay for it. And have been for a long time now. Semi-seniors, people who are too young to enroll in Medicare but old enough to qualify for membership in the AARP, have been getting a free ride on the backs of young people for years. Since the days when then-Governor Howard Dean pushed through something called "Community Rating," for health insurance. Under this scheme, insurance companies must charge the

same rates for health coverage regardless of the insured's age. (This is crudely put, but close enough for government work.) So you have examples, like one I am familiar with, where a married couple in their 20's, both of whom are healthy, pay the same in premiums for health care coverage as one set of parents with a husband who has had a heart attack and a wife who has had cancer.

The young are plainly subsidizing the old, even before they get to Medicare age, when the subsidy gets pushed down onto generations unborn. And the AARP stands firm. Opposed to any changes because "Seniors deserve coverage ..."

Why? Have they lost Wilson's altruism gene somewhere on the path to their golden years? Or did the AARP somehow cleverly excise it from their bodies when they joined up to get those discounts.

Whatever the reason, the "seniors" whom the AARP claims to represent ought to get it back. And spare the children.

Geoffrey Norman is the founder of Vermontiger.com, a non-profit web enterprise which promotes environmentally sound economic growth and prosperity in Vermont. He is a former editor of Esquire magazine and is a regular contributor to the Wall Street Journal and National Review. He has authored more than 15 books and remains active shaping public policy discussions.

In My Opinion...

The Republican Party: Where To Go From Here

BY REP. HEIDI E. SCHEUERMANN

Imagine a political party that truly cares about Vermonters and their families — their struggles, their triumphs, their health and happiness, their economic success and prosperity; one that truly believes in individualism, individual liberties, and personal responsibility; and one that protects our children's welfare and best interests.

Imagine a party that believes government has an important role to play — a critical role of providing security and safety, of investing in infrastructure, and of ensuring programs and resources are in place to help those in need. But this same party also believes that such a role should be limited — that government cannot, and should not, do everything.

Imagine a party that truly cares about the careful stewardship of our environment; and one that puts the needs of Vermonters ahead of special interests and political supporters.

Vermont once had a political party that defined and lived all of these

characteristics. Not long ago, Vermont had a party that fought for these values.

That party was the Republican Party, and it's time to bring it back.

In recent years, proposal after proposal has been put forward that strip away our personal liberties and individual rights, and relegate personal responsibility to the back burner. At the same time, our state government has grown into something unrecognizable to our predecessors.

We need thoughtful, intelligent debate on the proposals put forward by others, yet instead of intelligent opposition, we sound lifeless and uninspiring — and sometimes idiotic, angry, and petty.

Of course, similar faults can be found in the Democratic Party, but that's not my focus. I am a proud Republican and am no longer content to watch our party drift toward oblivion, and become irrelevant in the discussions about the direction of our great state.

It is time we join together to reinvigorate, reinstate, and revive the Republican Party in Vermont.

These are important times, and we have serious issues to address. The Republican Party — and its traditional values of caring for those in need, believing in the free market system and individual liberties, caring about the environment, and ensuring all of our children have the best opportunities available — must be part of the discussion and solutions.

In order to do so, however, we need to change.

We need to understand that government is not the enemy of our ideas or of the people. Government is, and should be, an instrument of the people put in place to help those in need.

The other party has convinced Vermonters that their vision and ideas are better. I disagree.

Economic liberty and free enterprise, personal liberty and personal responsibility, and a limited, non-invasive government are the very ideals that help everyone, and are the ones proven to work.

Vermont Republicans have a proud and accomplished tradition. But it's time to embrace the 21st Century landscape.

It's time to start anew; to break down and rebuild ourselves around our core, timeless principles of liberty and responsibility.

It's time to acknowledge the demographic shift in Vermont; to understand Vermonters' priorities are different, and their needs more complex.

It's time to become leaders. Let's open our hearts and minds and listen to the voices of Vermonters. Let's speak out when we witness injustices. Let's work together, within our party, and with those in other parties, so that the very best policies for our great state are enacted. And, let's do it with compassion and understanding.

As a political party, we are down. But our voice is necessary and our ideals sound. This is not about the Republican Party. This is about the State of Vermont, and the needs of its people.

This is our moment. Let's embrace it.

Rep. Heidi Scheuermann is from Stowe.



Doonesbury



Coulter

Continued from Page A4

women is twice that of the rest of the population, and their unwed birthrate is one and a half times that of blacks.

That's a lot of government dependents coming down the pike. No amount of "reaching out" to the Hispanic community, effective "messaging" or Reagan's "optimism" is going to turn Mexico's underclass into Republicans.

Any election analysis that doesn't deal with the implacable fact of America's changing demographics is bound to be wrong.

Perhaps the reason elections maven Michael Barone was so shockingly off in his election prediction this year was that, in the biggest mistake of his career, Barone has been assuring us for years that most of these Third World immigrants pouring into the country would go the way of Italian immigrants and become Republicans. They're hardworking! They have family values!

Maybe at first, but not after coming here, having illegitimate children and going on welfare.

Charles Murray recently pointed out that — contrary to stereotype — Hispanics are less likely to be married, less likely to go to church, more supportive of gay marriage and less likely to call themselves "conservative" than other Americans.

Rather than being more hardworking than Americans, Hispanics actually work about the same as others, or, in the case of Hispanic women, less.

It seems otherwise, Murray says, because the only Hispanics we see are the ones who are working — in our homes, neighborhoods and businesses. "That's the way that almost all Anglos in the political chattering class come in contact with Latinos," he notes. "Of course they look like model Americans."

(Black males would apparently like to work more. Nearly 20 percent of black males under 30 voted for Romney, more than three times what McCain got.)

An article by Nate Cohn in the current New Republic argues, as the title puts it: "The GOP Has Problems With White Voters, Too." As proof, Cohn cites Jefferson County, Colo.; Loudoun County, Va.; Wake County, N.C.; and Somerset County, N.J., all of which went Republican in presidential elections from 1968 through 2004, but which Romney lost in 2012.

Smelling a rat, I checked the demographic shifts in these counties from the 2000 to the 2010 census. In each one, there has been a noticeable influx of Hispanics (and Asians, who also vote Democrat), diminishing "the white vote" that Cohn claims Republicans are losing.

Between the 2000 and 2010 census, for example, the white population of Jefferson County declined from more than 90 percent to less than 80 percent, while the Hispanic population more than doubled, from 6 percent to 14 percent.

In Loudoun County, the Asian population tripled from 5 percent to 15 percent and the Hispanic population doubled from 6 percent to 12 percent. Meanwhile, whites plummeted from 83 percent to 69 percent of the population.

Energy

Continued from Page A3

of East Haven, Londonderry, Sheffield, Albany, Craftsbury, Lowell, Georgia Mountain and Springfield, citizens have spent over \$1.7 million on PSB intervention."

Also presenting on Nov. 30 to the state Commission was Encore Redevelopment, LLC, of Burlington, who cited "over-reliance of public comment/intervention," as something that "can bog down process. They cited the Derby Line Wind Project as a case in point, stating that, the "Project (was) stopped by misinformation and unsubstantiated, non-scientific based claims from a few individuals before the full CPG process could be completed," and noting, "Smaller developers cannot withstand the time and costs of having to defend against misinformation (and non-scientific based claims)," and that the "Result is absence of smaller community-scale projects."

The Commission's final informational meeting is set for Dec. 19 at 1 p.m. in the Pavilion Auditorium in Montpelier, and will "pick up the discussion from the Commission's last session regarding other states' energy generation siting processes," according to a press release on the DPS website. All meeting times and information is posted on the Commission's website, www.sitingcommission.vermont.gov/home.

SANTA'S HELPERS



PHOTO BY TODD WELLINGTON
St. Johnsbury Firefighter Kevin Montminy, left, accepts a load of toys and \$425 in cash donations from Wes Ward Auto Repair shop proprietors Wes and Paula Ward Friday. The Santa Fund donations came from customers and staff at the Route 2 repair shop.

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St. Johnsbury

Continued from Page A1

structure. It also means roadway and sidewalk reconstruction.

St. Johnsbury, however, still requires 75 construction easements from property owners, out of more than 100 easements, Rust said. Town officials are working to secure remaining easements.

"We're sending letters, and have been sending letters," Rust said. "We're trying to contact folks."

He also explained the funding mechanism for the West Side Infrastructure Improvement Project.

St. Johnsbury secured around \$5 million in low-interest loans for construction, Rust said. That money had to be spent before the \$7 million in grant money was released, he said.

Loans were expended during the West Side's second phase, which was called the South Side Project, Rust said. That project reached substantial completion this year after two construction seasons, he said.

"You use your loan funds first, and grant funds second," he said.

Chad Whitehead, office manager at St. Johnsbury-based Dufresne Group, the town's engineer, stressed the importance of acting fast on the North Side Project. St. Johnsbury will lose millions of dollars in grants if work is not completed by the fall of 2015, he said.

That grant money will fund the north-side phase, he said.

"We're working in the grant money now," Whitehead said. "Any money town officials don't spend now will be sent back for another project [elsewhere]. . . The town already has loan payments for the West Side, that's not going to change. Now, it's just how much more work do you want to do?"

Whitehead talked about easements as well. The majority of them cover minor work, he said.

"Really, about 80 percent of the easements are for re-grading people's lawns to match sidewalk improvements," Whitehead said. "It's really in the best interest of the landowners to ensure their property drains correctly. It is not that invasive. . . If easements aren't signed, the town can do work in the streets, but sidewalks would not

be reconstructed. The old sidewalks would just be patched and no improvements would be made."

There are few complex easements required, Whitehead said. In some cases though, St. Johnsbury is seeking permission from property owners to route sewer and storm-drain lines beneath backyards.

"The stuff that's more complex, we've initiated conversations with those property owners already," Whitehead said.

The West Side Infrastructure Improvement Project's first phase included infrastructure upgrades on Hastings Hill. Construction cost about \$780,000, excluding design and legal fees, Whitehead said.

The second phase was the South Side Project in the Summer Street area between Western Avenue and Church Street. The two-year effort cost \$5,665,000 excluding design and legal fees, Whitehead said.

The North Side Project phase next year is set to run in conjunction with the yearlong, \$8 million infrastructure project residents approved last month on Election Day.

The \$8 million project means infrastructure upgrades and roadway reconstruction on Western Avenue, Eastern Avenue and Main Street. Impacted roadways are scheduled to be repaved on the state's dime, but only if the town's work is completed before the summer of 2014.

Whitehead during a meeting of selectmen this week fielded construction questions from residents.

Resident Pat Swartz who lives on Main Street asked how private landscaping features will be treated during construction.

Whitehead said crews will work around landscaping whenever possible. Some trees, however, will be removed, he said.

Whitehead pledged to work with property owners. "It's a case by case basis," he said.

Swartz said that side-street trees make St. Johnsbury very attractive. She would hate to lose them.

Whitehead said Main Street's aesthetic will not be impacted.

"Down Main Street, it will look the same as it does right now," he said.

Wray

Continued from Page A1

vision Thursday, William Wray, 48, pleaded guilty to a felony count of unlawful trespass, amended from burglary, and a misdemeanor count of reckless or gross negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

As part of the plea agreement, the state dismissed counts of reckless endangerment, domestic assault, and failure to register as a sex offender.

Wray was sentenced to a total of 20 to 24 months, with credit for time served. He's been in custody since March.

State's Attorney Alan Franklin said the victim, Diane Mansfield, is not happy with the sentence and wanted Wray sentenced to the maximum.

But public defender Jill Jourdan said the sentence is reasonable based on facts uncovered in a deposition.

Judge Howard VanBenthuyzen said he'd hoped to hear more from Mansfield during the sentencing, but she didn't appear or submit a statement to be read to the court.

He said it appeared to him that there was some factual doubt about the allegations, which led to the plea agreement.

VanBenthuyzen said Wray's record is not long, but includes some of the most serious charges in Vermont, including lewd and lascivious conduct with a child and prohibited acts.

Mansfield told Senior Trooper Callie Field that since breaking up with Wray in January, he has been causing her trouble.

On March 19, Mansfield said she had to drive directly to the Derby barracks because Wray was chasing her at high rates of speed.

Mansfield said she believed Wray was stalking her. "Mansfield was visibly upset, shaking, crying, and unable to put sentences together," Field wrote.

Earlier that day, she had pulled over to make a phone call on Route 14 when Wray pulled up beside her. Mansfield told Wray he was scaring her, but he got out of his vehicle and approached her.

Mansfield quickly drove away, but Wray followed, exceeding speeds of 65 miles per hour. Just after crossing the line into Newport, Wray blocked Mansfield's vehicle by passing her and then turning his vehicle sideways, Field wrote.

It was only after a driver in a white truck saw what

was going on and blocked Wray that Mansfield was able to escape him and make her way to the barracks, she told police.

On March 2, Wray broke into Mansfield's Pleasant Street home in North Troy, lying in wait for her return, she wrote in her statement.

He forced her upstairs, pulled out a gun, and told her he wanted her to watch him kill himself, she wrote.

Wray was delusional, and Mansfield told him they couldn't speak anymore because of "his kind of thinking."

On March 5, Mansfield wrote in her statement, while she was sleeping with her son, Wray appeared in her bedroom at about 8:30 p.m. and told her she needed to get their son out of the room.

Mansfield sent the little boy to his sister's room, told the children to stay put and then went downstairs to call 911.

Wray followed her downstairs, and while looking in a mirror, complained to Mansfield that "his knife wouldn't go far enough into his neck."

That night, Wray left Mansfield's house, and emergency personnel took him to North Country Hospital, transferring him to a mental health treatment facility in Berlin the next day.

After his release eight days later, Wray sent Mansfield messages and e-mails. On the day Mansfield reported Wray's actions, Wray had sent her 245 voicemail messages between 9 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.

On one of the nights in question, Wray cut phone wires so Mansfield was unable to call for help, Field wrote.

When Mansfield was leaving the barracks March 19, Wray was waiting for her in the lobby, Field wrote. He admitted using his vehicle to try to stop Mansfield because he wanted to talk to her, Field wrote.

Mansfield is in such fear of Wray that she has worked out a plan with her children in the event that he shows up, Field wrote.

At the time of his arrest, Wray was listed on the Vermont Sex Offender Registry, where it noted that he was compliant and not considered high risk. His name has since been removed from the registry.

Embezzlement

Continued from Page A1

FBI's Albany, N.Y. regional office stated that the FBI, as a matter of policy, does not provide information on possible pending cases and that the FBI would neither confirm nor deny the existence of an FBI investigation involving an embezzlement at the White Market store in Lyndonville.

Brian Bona, on behalf of the ABFB Corporation filed a civil suit in Caledonia Superior Court-civil against Williamson on Aug. 23. The civil suit seeks to recover compensatory, consequential and punitive damages from her. Williamson, according to Bona, the president of the ABFB Corp., was employed by the White Market as a

store manager, beginning in January 1999. She was terminated by Bona on July 18, according to Bona's affidavit.

The civil suit was served on Williamson at an address in Florida, according to court files. Bona filed writs of attachment against Williamson. According to an affidavit Bona filed in his civil suit, Bona states, "My further investigation shows that beginning in at least Sept., 2010, Defendant had stolen approximately \$75,000 in cash from the money that she [Williamson] obtained from the cash registers."

NEK Burglaries

Continued from Page A1

Wetherbee residence on North Bayley Hazen Road in Ryegate sometime last week.

During the same timeframe, police reported, a burglary occurred at property owned by Eric Schwartz on Green Bay Loop in Peacham.

Multiple firearms were taken in the Peacham burglary.

According to the Nashua Telegraph and court documents, DeGrace and Mayberry told David Campbell, agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, that they stole dozens of guns from a home in Vermont. The pair are facing federal weapons charges. Nashua police said DeGrace told them that after Parker shot himself he took the gun because he worried it would be traced back to him and threw it in the Merrimack River in Manchester, according to court documents.

The pair then drove to Franconia Notch where they slept before driving to Vermont. They planned to dump the stolen guns in a lake somewhere and were prepared to escape to Canada if pursued by police, Mayberry said according to court documents.

Federal agents found a hunting license in the Toyota Avalon belonging to a resident from East Ryegate. Police also recovered 18 rifles and handguns from the Toyota Avalon that DeGrace and Mayberry were stopped in by U.S. Border Patrol agents. Jewelry and other items, which police suspect were stolen, were also in the car, according to court documents.

Both are scheduled to appear at a detention hearing at U.S. District Court in Burlington, on Monday, according to court documents.

Serial Killer

Continued from Page A1

to the FBI.

Keyes made a photocopy of the picture and typed a ransom note on the back demanding \$30,000 from Koenig's family. He then sent a text message to Koenig's boyfriend on her cellphone with directions to where he'd left the note at a local dog park.

Keyes dismembered Koenig's body and put it in a frozen lake north of Anchorage after drilling a hole in the ice with a chain saw, according to authorities.

He was arrested in Lufkin, Texas, in March after using Koenig's stolen debit card at ATMs there and in Alaska, Arizona and New Mexico. He was facing a March 2013 trial in Koenig's death.

Koenig's remains were found in April after Keyes told authorities where to look.

Keyes didn't identify any other victims or say where the remains were, other than to say four were killed in Washington state and one was killed on the East Coast, with the body disposed of in New York.

Shortly before his arrest, Keyes attended a sister's wedding in Texas, where he ranted in mid-ceremony about how he didn't believe in God, Keyes' mother's pastor told the Anchorage Daily News in an interview.

Jacob Gardner said Thursday that he was driving north with Keyes' mother and other relatives from their home in Wells, Texas, to Deer Park in northeast Washington state, where Keyes' funeral is planned for Sunday. Gardner said it was a convenient spot for family and friends. The pastor said he was preparing a sermon.

Gardner said some of the preaching at the Texas wedding was directed at Keyes.

"We were greatly desirous to see him saved, and greatly desirous to see him denounce his atheism, which he was steadfastly holding to and defending," Gardner told the newspaper. The wedding "ended essentially with Israel, you know, raging against the Gospel, against God and just breaking down into

tears, weeping.

"But he did not repent, and that was the last, what I would call, the last stand of God's grace."

The FBI released new details about the discovery of weapons and other items connected to Keyes at an upstate New York reservoir.

FBI spokesman Paul Holstein said an April 18 search in the Adirondacks town of Parishville turned up a bucket containing a silencer, .22-caliber Ruger frame, ammunition and a flashlight, all linked to Keyes. Divers on April 24 found the bolt and barrel of a gun used during the killings of the Curriers. Divers found a gun owned by the Curriers on June 5. Keyes owned property in the Adirondacks.

Gonzalez confirmed that Keyes buried a murder kit in the woods on the banks of the Winooski River in spring 2009 in Vermont, then dug up the cache two years later and used the weapons in the Vermont killings.

Keyes traveled extensively in the U.S., landing at one location and targeting victims randomly hundreds of miles away. Keyes told authorities he robbed several banks and used money he made as a general contractor to pay for his travels.

Koenig was an exception to the distance rule. Keyes had never seen the barista before but chose the coffee stand because of its location and because it stayed open later than other stands.

Anchorage police said Keyes also targeted others in Alaska before killing Koenig but always backed off before acting.

In May 2011, he focused on a couple at Point Woronzof, a popular park area along the Anchorage shorefront.

Lt. Anthony Henry, commander of the homicide unit, said Keyes backed off at the last minute after police inadvertently arrived during a routine patrol.

Not For Sale

Continued from Page A1

more miles of new right-of-way in Coos County.

Hydro-Quebec would lease the lines from PSNH in what would be the largest transmission line built since the existing HVDC line with Hydro-Quebec in the late 1980s, and in terms of dollars, one of the biggest in New England.

Northern Pass is pushing clean energy, competitively priced power and construction jobs as among the benefits.

Project opponents, many of whom are pushing for burial of the lines, argue Northern Pass as proposed would destroy the region's scenic resources, reduce tourism and property values and pose a health hazard to those living near it.

To date, Northern Pass, through its land-buying subsidiary, Renewable Properties Inc., has made an upward of \$30 million in known property purchases in Coos.

It was year and a half ago when McAllister said he began receiving calls from Brian Emerson, of Groveton, who works for Northern Pass.

"They've got this whole group of people they go through to see if they know anybody," said McAllister. "They work on people through other people. They treat each individual as an individual and profile them to see if they can buy their property for cheap. They go at it scientifically. . . Each one is given an offer according to what they think they can buy it for."

Some land Northern Pass has bought relatively cheap, he said, while other land was not so cheap.

Property records show some parcels roughly the same size were purchased anywhere from several hundred thousand dollars to several million.

"They offered me \$4 million and now they're denying it," said McAllister. "They find it's harder to buy land when they offer that kind of money."

McAllister said, "They offered me that in a round-about way, through several people, so it gives them deniability."

The company's pitch to prospective sellers, he said, has a common refrain.

"Since Day One, they said, 'You might as well sell and get the money because you will be looking at it on someone else's land.'"

Questions about the land-buying process were submitted to Murray, but he declined to say how the company is approaching landowners, who is contacting them first, if it researches prospective sellers before making an offer and how an offer for land is determined.

Emerson did not return a phone call seeking comment about the process and about how much of the route has been completed to date.

Phil Stearns, also of Groveton, who performs surveying work for Northern Pass, and Scott Mason, of Stratford, who likewise works for the company, referred all questions to Murray and Michael Skelton, the spokesmen for NU and the public face of Northern Pass.

Bob Goddard, of Berlin, who could not be reached for comment, works or worked for Northern Pass, said McAllister, and was part of the company's early land-buying successes.

"Now, they brought another man over from Manchester because the land isn't coming fast enough for them," said McAllister.

The Coos Route

Of the new right-of-way, Murray said, "The project has worked with willing landowners regarding the purchase of property or easements necessary to propose a new project route in the North Country where no transmission rights-of-way currently exist.

"We have been successful in that effort and we anticipate that by the end of the year we will have all of the property or rights necessary to announce a new proposed route," he said.

All the routes Northern Pass has tried so far come out of Hall's Stream in Pittsburg, said McAllister.

The latest attempt at a main route, he said, is Northern Pass's third attempt, and despite what the company says publicly, it is facing difficulties.

"Bear Rock Road has been a nightmare for them," said McAllister. "They bought up five properties, bang, and they thought the rest would be easy pickings. But they

haven't picked up anything since. The property in between they can't buy."

Throwing a wrench in the route, according to project opponents, is the New Hampshire Forest Society's Trees Not Towers blocking action. The \$2.5 million campaign seeks to put several key parcels under perpetual conservation easements and stop the Pass - or any similar line that might be proposed in the future - from going through.

The largest parcel slated for conservation is the 967 acres owned by McAllister and his family, who operate a dairy farm and tree farm.

McAllister was one of four Coos landowners signing agreements with the Forest Society.

The others are Green Acre Woodlands, which owns 500 acres; Lynne Placey, of Stewartstown, who owns two smaller parcels flanking Holden Hill; and the Lewis family, who own 300 acres that link the southern boundary of The Balsams with the northern boundary of Nash Stream State Forest.

In November, the Coos County Registry of Deeds posted a notice of ground lease agreement between Renewable Properties and Bayroot LLC.

The lease is for 20 miles of transmission line right-of-way on land in Dummer, Dixville, Dix's Grant and Millsfield that is owned by Bayroot and managed by Wagner Forest Management. No lease cost figure was given.

"The Bayroot property is kind of a scam," said McAllister. "They can't get to the Bayroot property. It's not news, but it is news to people who don't know what's going on."

McAllister also said Northern Pass appears to have bought properties it doesn't need, perhaps as a smoke-screen.

"Nobody knows what they're doing," he said. "They play head games."

But with the Forest Society easements and other conservation easements farther to the east, McAllister said Northern Pass is being blocked in its third attempt at a route that doesn't seem like it will come together.

"This route here would require them to go clear around me," he said. "They would have to go five miles to start over."

He also said Northern Pass would have to go into Vermont to get around the Forest Society block.

"They are attempting to find a way around and not being particularly successful, and certainly not within the time frame they have been very public about," said Forest Society spokesman Jack Savage.

It's undetermined if Northern Pass is making progress with another property-buying subsidiary.

All of the 42 recorded parcels purchased by Renewable Properties are in Pittsburg, Stewartstown, Colebrook, Clarksville and Columbia, with no other parcels recorded south of those towns.

Murray declined to answer specifically if Northern Pass is having trouble finding a route beyond Bear Rock Road, is having difficulties acquiring new land and how many miles it still has to go before reaching Groveton, where a new transmission route would tie in with PSNH's existing right-of-way.

Northern Pass was given the opportunity to clear up the route debate by providing a map of its land acquisitions to date. It declined. Murray said a map of the route will accompany the announcement of that route.

"They are running behind," said McAllister. "They haven't been able to buy the land they wanted to or thought they could. There is the possibility they will lose investors if they don't honor their time frame. . . They have been putting in extra work this last month and are scrambling hard now because they promised the route."

But the land that's left will come hard, McAllister predicts, and by the end of the year or early next the company still won't have a complete route.

"Most of the ones left are pretty staunch and their idea is they don't want it," he said. "The easy ones they already have."

McAllister said he doesn't know if Northern Pass will ultimately go through.

"If it does go through, it won't be on my land," he said. "That's one thing I do know."

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ST. J MAN ACCUSED OF IDENTITY THEFT

BY TODD WELLINGTON
Staff Writer

A St. Johnsbury man has been accused of stealing a roommate's identity so he could steal his public assistance EBT card.

Michael R. Eynon, 23, pleaded not guilty to felony identity theft and a misdemeanor count of petit larceny in Caledonia Superior Court Monday. Eynon was released on conditions including an order to report to his probation officer.

Police said Eynon used the card intended for his girlfriend's cousin to make two purchases totaling \$28.75 on Oct. 10.

Caledonia Superior Court
According to an affidavit filed by St. Johnsbury Police Officer Joshua Molleur, Daniel Taylor, 17, reported that his new Electronic Benefit Transfer card had been activated and used by another person while he was staying with his cousin and her boyfriend Michael Eynon at 10 Eastern Ave., Apt. 416.

Taylor told police the card had been mailed to him while he was in



Michael Eynon leans in to talk to his attorney, Doug Willey, Monday at Caledonia Superior Court.

Albany, N.Y., at the Military Entrance Processing Station for the National Guard. Police said further investigation showed the card had been loaded with \$200 in benefits and that it had been used at an unknown location on Oct. 10 for a \$9.04 purchase and then again that day at the Shaw's Supermarket in Lancaster, N.H., for a \$19.71 purchase.

Police said Eynon admitted under questioning to stealing and using the card.

"Daniel lived at my apartment for about a month," said Eynon in a statement to police. "He is my girlfriend's cousin. I retrieved the card

from Daniel's mail which was sent to my apartment. It was inside a sealed envelope. I used Daniel's information from another piece of mail, including his name, date of birth and the last four of his social security number to activate the card on an automated phone line."

At the time of his alleged crime Eynon was on probation serving a three-year deferred sentence after being convicted of felony burglary, petit larceny, and unlawful mischief in Rutland in 2010.

If convicted of the felony identity theft charge Eynon faces a possible sentence of up to three years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

BURKE

MANY VISITORS, NOT ENOUGH BATHROOMS

Group Of Volunteers Looking At How To Add Facilities

BY AMY ASH NIXON
Staff Writer

BURKE — A frequent topic of discussion in East Burke is how to get more public restrooms in the center of this quaint, picturesque village.

It is a sign of a good problem: many people come here for recreation and to take in what the area has to offer. Those visitors need public restrooms, and the handful of porto-potties put up around town to help out in the summer and fall months with the influx of mountain bikers who come to ride the nationally-acclaimed Kingdom Trails help a bit, but aren't the solution that many in the tourism business here would like to see.

A group of town officials, from planning commission members to Chamber representatives and representatives of the town's major tourism draws, including Kingdom Trails and Burke Mountain, have been putting their heads together for some time to try to find a place where a public restroom building can be built.

Al Ducey, chair of the Burke Planning Commission, said he is one of those researching what may be possible, but said his effort is not a plan-

ning commission project. "I volunteered personally to do some research regarding the state regulations for a public restroom," explained Ducey.

According to Ducey, "It is believed that a public restroom would make Burke more inviting for visitors and reduce the burden on the few businesses in town that have public restrooms."

"The state regulations are pretty onerous so there are a lot of obstacles to overcome and issues about cost and ongoing maintenance," Ducey said.

The issue was also on the agenda of the Burke Area Chamber of Commerce recently, when Clamer discussed how he has talked to some Village businesses about participating in the solution and some businesses offered financial contributions. Clamer said he later spoke with Gloria Bruce, executive director of the Northeast Kingdom Travel and Tourism Association based in East Burke, and she said to collect funds, the committee looking at the restroom issue needs to come up with a plan first.

Bruce said Tuesday, "Having facilities that are public, accessible and well maintained is certainly a primary concern to ensure the comfort of our visitors while they are in

the area." According to those involved, there are site challenges with a septic design, considering the proximity of the river in the Village.

According to the Chamber of Commerce's minutes of its Oct. 17 meeting, two years ago the same issue had come up "with several business owners taking up a collection to show that this was a serious proposal."

"The movement ended with no agreement on location, design and funding," according to the minutes. "The laws have changed considerably since this time, especially the requirements for a leach field. Tim McGuire (general manager and vice president at Burke Mountain) is interested in helping and is actively researching and processing information," the Chamber minutes noted. "Grants are available but we would need town/municipal land to make it possible."

The Chamber minutes go on, noting, "There was discussion about putting the facilities at the park but (Chamber members) established that it would not meet the needs of the folks in town. Al Ducey sent word that there may be an opportunity to connect to Village water and sewer at some point."

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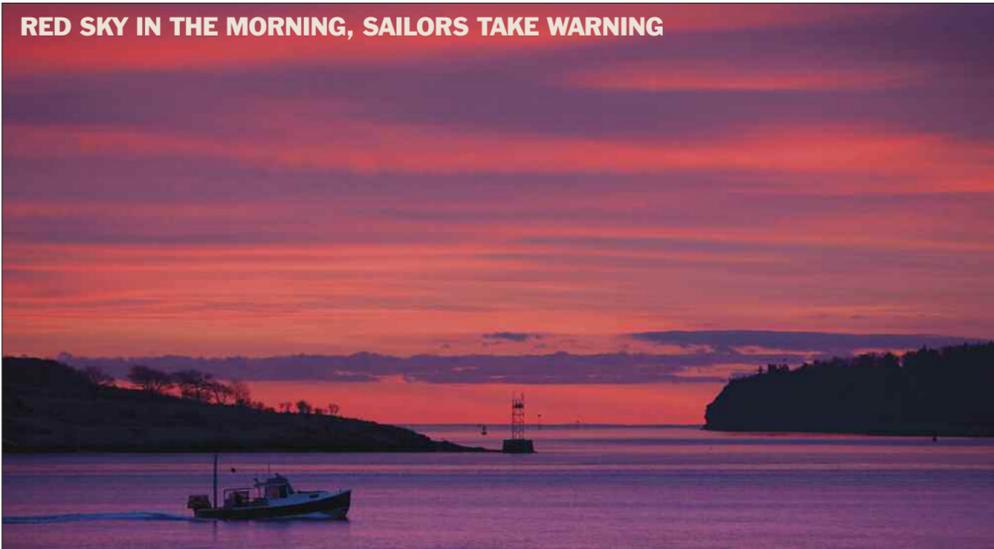
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AP PHOTO

A lobster boat heads out to sea at dawn, Friday, Dec. 7 in South Portland, Maine. A red sky in the morning often indicates a storm system is moving east. Weathermen were calling for showers by afternoon.

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