

Region

15,000th Ride Provided by The Blue Bus



Milford resident Mike Ploss was honored as the 15,000th passenger.

NASHUA – On July 18th, Souhegan Valley Rides (SVR), more commonly known as “The Blue Bus”, provided its 15,000th ride. To commemorate this milestone, Milford resident Mike Ploss was honored as the 15,000th passenger. Ploss, a regular rider on “The Blue Bus”, has needed to use paratransit services for over eleven years. In talking about the need for everyone to be able to get around, he noted that “Milford is a great town. I’m able to live here because of the bus service.”

Ploss was presented with a gift basket filled with local produce and gift cards donated by Lull Farm of Milford, Shaw’s of Milford, Walmart of Amherst and Longhorn Steakhouse of Amherst. Echoing the sentiments of the entire Souhegan Valley Transportation Board of Directors, Rebecca Crowther said “These businesses are very supportive of our efforts and we really appreciate all their help and interest.”

Souhegan Valley Rides is the regional dial-a-ride bus program that has served the communities of Amherst, Brookline, Hollis and Milford since 2008. Souhegan Valley Rides recently expanded to Mont Vernon and Wilton. Vehicle and call center operations are subcontracted from the Nashua Transit System. The bus service is available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 6 pm including travel time to and from

the Nashua Transit System garage. The focus for this service is on providing curb-to-curb transportation to non-emergency healthcare appointments and assisting those in greatest need – senior citizens, residents living with a disability, and residents who are unable to drive. Other residents may use the service on a space available basis. In addition to healthcare related transportation, rides are available within the six towns and to and from Nashua for access to social service appointments, local senior activity centers, town facilities and libraries, and shopping.

Availability of this regional transportation resource is the result of collaboration between the six participating communities, the Nashua Transit System and the Nashua Regional Planning Commission. Expansion to Mont Vernon and to Wilton was partially funded, respectively, by the Milford Hospital Association, and the Wilton Lions Club and Milford Rotary Club. For more information about the Souhegan Valley Rides bus service, please visit www.SouheganValleyRides.org; pick-up a brochure in the participating communities at the local town hall or library; email any questions to Info@SouheganRides.org; or call 673-8482 to speak with a SVR volunteer.

8th Annual Kelly Mann Memorial 5K and 3K Fun Run/Walk

NASHUA – On Saturday September 27th, 2014 the ninth annual Kelly Mann Memorial 5K Run and 3K Fun Walk will be held in Nashua, NH. This event is part of the Toyota of Nashua Gate City Series.

In July 2004, Kelly Mann was brutally murdered by her husband in her Nashua home, while her three children listened in a nearby room. On that day in July, Kelly’s three young daughters were forced to experience a trauma that has changed their lives forever.

With loving support of their family and friends, Kelly’s daughter’s Ashley and Lauren Mann approached Bridges: Domestic & Sexual Violence Support with the idea of a fundraiser in memory of their mother. Bridges: Domestic & Sexual Violence Support is honored to participate in this important event.

This extraordinary fundraiser will provide funding for Bridges:

Domestic & Sexual Violence Support; provide awareness to the community; allow the community to show it’s support in ending domestic violence AND most importantly, this fundraiser will help Kelly’s daughters to heal and allow them to celebrate her memory with others.

The race will be held at Sunset Heights Elementary School, 15 Osgood Rd., Nashua, NH.

Registration will begin at 7:30 am. This is a Flat, Fast, Certified 5K Course with Timing by Millennium Running. Great Raffle Prizes, Runner Bags and more!

All proceeds will go to Bridges: Domestic & Sexual Violence Support in their effort to eliminate domestic and sexual violence and to provide a safe and empowering environment for victims and survivors.

To register go to www.bridgesnh.org

Farm Exhibit To Open At Nashua Historical Society

NASHUA – The Nashua Historical Society is pleased to invite the public to attend the opening of a new exhibit, Settling the Lands of Old Dunstable: Farms and Agriculture in the Early Days of Nashua. Twelve farm properties are highlighted in this exhibit including the Hayward Farms property, where the Nashua Mall is now located.

“In the beginning, circa 1655, the General Assembly of Massachusetts began granting tracts of land along both sides of the Merrimack River, north from Chelmsford, Massachusetts to the Souhegan River. These grants were referred to as Farms and the total area comprised over 14,000 acres. The various individuals who received these exclusive right of ownership, by reason of status or high esteem, were known as Proprietors.”

Since only a few settlements had been made in this region, “...it be-

came necessary, therefore, to consolidate all the grants into one Plantation and to secure to the inhabitants all privileges and immunities of an incorporated Township.”

Following a petition to the General Assembly, Old Dunstable was granted its charter of township on October 26, 1673. determinate upon a number of conditions: that a competent number of actual settlers (20 or more) be living on the Farm, that a Meeting House be constructed and a minister obtained, and that each settler have a house lot of 10 acres minimum on the Plantation to clear, fence, turn the soil, build a house, live upon and cultivate land within three years from the date of the charter of Township.

...and farm they did! Come and visit Nashua’s earliest farm history exhibit.

34th Annual Fall Festival and Nature Art Show at Beaver Brook

HOLLIS – Beaver Brook Association turned 50 this year and is inviting the public to our 34th Annual Fall Festival and Nature Art Show. Artwork by dozens of regional artists will be on display at Maple Hill Farm and the featured artist this year is Howard Muscott of Amherst.

Howard Muscott has photographed landscapes and wildlife for more than 30 years. Grounded in his early years of hiking and backpacking, Howard’s love for landscape photography is fueled by the exquisite beauty of the natural world and the wildlife residing there. Self-taught, Howard has had more than 10 individual and 25 group shows highlighting among other things autumn colors, Southwestern peoples and light, the mountains of Alaska, Colorado and the Pacific Northwest, and wildlife. Howard’s work has been published on the cover of national journals in education, in newspapers, and used on educational and other websites. He has won awards for both wildlife and portraits.

“The best photography combines one’s vision for the image with the best natural light and requires both persistence and opportunity. That’s why I’m always chasing the golden light.” Howard is a lifelong special educator and retired professor who directs the New Hampshire Center for Effective Behavioral Interventions and Supports at SERESC in Bedford, NH. His work can be found on his website at www.chasingthegoldenlight.com and at various stores and galleries around NH.



The photograph above depicts the wonderful vibrancy of fall and all its glorious colors. This is just one example of Howard’s work that will be on display.



Beaver Brook Annual Fall Festival and Nature Art Show
Where: Beaver Brook, Maple Hill Farm at 117 Ridge Road Hollis
Submissions of artwork accepted: September 19th Noon – 4pm
September 20th Noon – 4pm
September 22nd 9am – Noon
Fall Festival Dates: September 27th & September 28th 11 am – 5 pm
Cost: Free
Call: 465-7787
Visit: www.beaverbrook.org and info@beaverbrook.org



Milford Rotary Club Organizes International Water and Sanitation Project

MILFORD – The Milford, New Hampshire Rotary Clubs are pleased to announce that The Rotary Foundation has approved a Global Grant which, when completed, will improve the health of 425 families – including many children – by providing them with clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education. This project will serve nine dispersed, remote communities in the rural municipality of Trojes, Honduras, located along the Nicaraguan border, about three hours northeast of Danli. The total cost of the project is \$188,000, of which \$138,300 was funded by Rotary Clubs, Rotary Districts and The Rotary Foundation. The remaining funds will be provided by a Native Energy carbon credit program.

The goal of the project is to virtually eliminate water borne diarrheal disease in the communities by providing practical, simple sustainable tools, including appropriate point-of-use filtration technology, toilets; hygiene and sanitation training to individuals, teachers and communities; and on-going monitoring and follow-up.

In addition to the Milford Rotary Club, five other New Hampshire Rotary Clubs supported this project – Nashua, Nashua West, Souhegan Valley, Monadnock and Jaffrey-Rindge as well as the District Foundation Committee. Fourteen other Rotary Clubs from Maine, New York, New Jersey, Montana, Oregon and Washington also partnered on this project.

Milford Rotarian, Doug Rupert, who spearheaded this project, said “In a country where 80% of all known illnesses are caused from drinking contaminated water, this project will help address that issue for 425 families. We are pleased that Rotary, and the Milford Club in particular, can be part of the solution.”

For more information about the project, contact Doug Rupert at DogRupert@TDS.net. The Milford Rotary Club meets on Wednesdays at the Community House in Milford. For more information about the Milford Rotary Club, please visit the club’s website at Milford-NHRotary.org.

New Hampshire Historical Society Receives Grant from National Endowment for the Humanities

CONCORD – The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded the New Hampshire Historical Society a \$350,000 Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections grant. The Society, a non-profit organization that operates NH’s only statewide historical library and museum, will use the funding to rehabilitate its National Register-listed headquarters building at 30 Park Street in Concord in order to enhance the safety and longevity of the collections that it holds and exhibits while respecting and preserving the architectural attributes of the historic structure.

Replacement of the century-old building’s heating and mechanical systems will improve climate control within for the benefit of the collections and for reduced energy consumption. A combination of invisible thermal barriers and artificial lighting will make the building’s skylights more energy efficient

while eliminating the damaging effect on the collections from the ultraviolet radiation that is present in natural daylight. By pursuing these conservation measures, the Society will reduce its carbon footprint by 75%, and its annual heating and cooling expenses by approximately 50%. These savings will be reinvested in the independent nonprofit’s programs, services, and staff in order to fulfill its mission to collect, preserve, and share New Hampshire’s history.

The New Hampshire Historical Society maintains the most comprehensive collection of the materials of the state’s history. Assembled since 1823, when the Society was established to mark the 200th anniversary of the settlement of New Hampshire, the collections represent an unequalled breadth of subject matter and media. Including two million pages of manuscripts and 250,000 photographs as well as

innumerable printed materials, the collections grew during the 20th century to embrace an unparalleled representation of New Hampshire fine and decorative arts.

Designed by Boston architect Guy Lowell, the Society’s 1911 headquarters building was technologically advanced for its time, providing fireproof storage and exhibition space while embodying the language of classical architecture in an inspiring and instructive composition. The building has stood undiminished for more than a century, but its mechanical and lighting systems need to be updated to

further safeguard both collections and improve energy efficiency.

The building rehabilitation project is part of the Society’s ongoing capital campaign, which to date has raised \$5.6 million toward a \$9 million goal. In addition to the improved energy and climate-control systems, the campaign is expected to result in growth of the Society’s endowment, digitization of its collections to make them widely available on the internet, and launching of a new internet-based network to allow local communities from around the state to share their historical collections more broadly.

Join in The Fun of Girl Scouting!

BEDFORD —Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, serving New Hampshire and Vermont, is inviting girls and adult volunteers to join Girl Scouts, the country’s preeminent leadership development organization for girls. As families plan their school-year free time, Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) has released data showing benefits to girls and volunteers.

Results of a summer 2014 pulse poll conducted with over 3,500 volunteers and parents of Girl Scouts in the K-5 age range show positive effects. Ninety-seven percent of parents agree that Girl Scouts has been a positive activity for their daughter, that she has had fun and exciting new experiences (95 percent), and that she has learned or tried something new (96 percent). In addition, 94 percent of parents say that their daughter feels special, has more friends (95 percent), and is happier (89 percent).

The data shows it is not just girls who benefit: 94 percent of volun-

teers have made new friends, 88 percent believe their life is better because they volunteer with Girl Scouts, and two-thirds believe their volunteer experience has helped them professionally. Ninety-five percent of Girl Scout volunteers are happy knowing they are making girls’ lives better.

Girl Scouts is open to all girls from K-12, but we need more volunteers. Girl Scout volunteers come from all walks of life; they are men, women, young professionals, retirees, college students, and more. There are many options that fit your schedule. We provide training and support; volunteers never go it alone. To join or volunteer, please visit: www.girlscouts.org/join, or call 888-474-9686.

Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains has offices in Bedford and Portsmouth and serves more than 10,000 girls across New Hampshire and Vermont, thanks to 5,000 trained and dedicated volunteers.

Lawrence Lessig Comes to Milford

MILFORD – Lawrence Lessig, the brilliant Harvard Law School professor who is working to get money out of politics and corruption out of Washington, DC, founder of The New Hampshire Rebellion and Mayday PAC, presents his plan to elect legislators who will commit to legislating for campaign finance reform. Granny D was his inspiration; Aaron Swartz was too. Lessig and supporters walked from Dixville Notch to Nashua in the middle of our record-cold winter, starting and ending on the birthdays of these two inspirational people. The movement begun by Granny D is now called The Coalition for Open Democracy, and this coalition now includes The New Hampshire Rebellion. It’s a great joining of forces.

Wadleigh Library is sponsoring this event on Wednesday, September 24 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at The Amato Center in Milford. It is free and open to the public on a first-come, first-seated basis. You will want to put this event in ink on your calendars. You will want to bring your young adults.

And one more thing, Lessig has already endorsed two candidates from New Hampshire, one from each party: Republican, Jim Rubens, is running for the Senate; Democrat, Carol Shea-Porter, is running for the House of Representatives. Lessig’s endorsement indicates he believes these are candidates who will work hard in Washington for campaign finance reform. This is a bipartisan movement we can all support.