



EPSOM

Clean water filters installed at school

The installations are part of the state's Get the Lead Out of Drinking Water program

By EMILIA WISNIEWSKI
Concord Monitor

On the first day of school at Epsom Central, water fountains that had been previously closed because of lead detected in the water will have new signage inviting students

to drink: "Bottle Filler Works." The elementary and middle school recently installed water filters at fountains and sinks that will provide clean water for its 380 students, becoming the latest school to embrace the state's Get the Lead Out of Drinking Water program. "It's what's best for everyone," Principal Patrick Connors said. "To keep everyone as safe as possible." Connors said the school tested around 80 water sources and in-

stalled 21 water filters for bottle filling stations and classroom sinks. Drinking water stations received both lead and PFAS filters while only lead filters were installed at hand washing stations. In 2018, the state required all childcare centers and schools, public and nonpublic, to test their water sources for lead and take action to mitigate the lead contamination. An overhaul of the law in 2022 lowered the threshold of lead from 15 parts

per billion to five parts per billion. Program Manager Ian Atwell said that, with the updated regulations, three-fifths of New Hampshire schools and one-fifth of child care centers had at least one water source exceed that limit. "Epsom is a great success story," Atwell said. "They really engage with the resources that we have both for... doing a really comprehensive

SEE SCHOOL A5

MADBURY

Mom killed husband, 2 kids

Couple and kids ages 6 and 8 were found dead from gunshot wounds on Monday

By SRUTHI GOPALAKRISHNAN
Concord Monitor

A New Hampshire mother shot her husband and two young children before taking her own life in their Madbury home, investigators said.

This is the second murder suicide involving a mother in New Hampshire this year, with the previous case taking place just three months ago in Pembroke.

On Monday, police discovered the bodies of Emily Long, 34, her husband Ryan Long, 48, their son Parker, 8, and their daughter Ryan, age 6, inside their Moharimet Drive home.

All four had suffered gunshot wounds. A third child, a toddler, was found alive and physically unharmed.

Autopsies conducted on Thursday confirmed that Ryan Long died from multiple gunshot wounds, with his death ruled a homicide. Emily Long died from a single gunshot wound to the head, and her death was ruled a suicide, according to the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office.

The two children each died as a result of a single gunshot wound to the head.

Investigators said all available

SEE KILLED A3

ALLENSTOWN

School to house new town hall

By JANE MILLER
Monitor staff

After purchasing the former Allenstown Elementary School building from the School Board for \$1 in January, Allenstown is moving ahead with plans to convert the space into town offices and eventually a community center.

The building has stood empty since the opening of the newly constructed Allenstown Community School in the spring of 2024, which marked a merging of the town's elementary and middle schools under one roof.

The Board of Selectmen voted to move town offices to the elementary school building at a meeting last

SEE ALLENSTOWN A5



The historic Concord signal tower was razed despite preservation efforts.

Signal tower torn down

Structure was listed on Seven to Save list but fire left it charred last month

By JONATHAN VAN FLEET
Concord Monitor

Demolition crews tore down the historic Boston & Maine Signal Tower near the Water Street Bridge in Concord Thursday morning, a property that was on the state's Seven to Save list.

The small brick building once helped to control railroad traffic throughout the region and Demolition crews tore down the historic Boston & Maine Signal Tower near the Water Street Bridge in Concord this week, a property that was on the state's Seven to Save list. The small brick building once helped to control railroad traffic throughout the region and was on the verge of being demolished for years.

Its owner, the CSX corporation, said the decision was made for safety reasons.

"The structure has been vacant for approximately 15 years and had become a site for unauthorized entry and encampment," company spokeswoman Sherree Bowman said. "A recent fire underscored the risks it posed to both the public and our employees. While we respect the interest of historic preservation-

SEE SIGNAL TOWER A0



File photos



The 800-square-foot brick structure was built before World War I by the Boston & Maine Railroad as part of the massive Concord rail yard, which was one of New England's major rail hubs for a century. It operated as the yard's signal tower until about 1980 and then served for a time as headquarters of New England Southern, a small local railroad firm, before falling into disrepair.

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