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Granite State keeps a weather eye on Sandy

A worker from Mayer Tree Service of Plaistow cuts through a large tree in Atkinson Thursday as part of Unital's efforts to clear trees that could pose problems for electrical lines in a storm. JASON SCHREIBER



◆ **Gargantuan storm:** Utilities, emergency officials are bracing for flooding, power outages.

By JASON SCHREIBER
Union Leader Correspondent

HAMPTON — All eyes are on Hurricane Sandy and an unusual track that could bring the powerful storm into New Eng-

land, but forecasters say it's too early to know what the impact will be.

"Wherever this thing makes landfall, there are going to be some serious issues," said Tom Hawley, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Gray, Maine.

Forecasters said the hurricane could strike anywhere from the Mid-Atlantic to New England as a strong tropical storm or even a minimal hurricane, bringing heavy rain, winds gusting over 60 mph and in-

land and coastal flooding.

Sandy is expected to zigzag off the East Coast, making a turn to the east before likely curving back to the west and nailing the coastline in the Monday to Tuesday time frame, forecasters said.

Even if the storm were to make landfall in New Jersey, Hawley said New England will still see some wind and up to 3 inches

► See **Sandy**, Page A3

Nurse: Fatal dose stopped suffering

◆ **Report:** CMC nurse told Derry police she injected brother-in-law with insulin.

By MARK HAYWARD
New Hampshire Union Leader

The Derry nurse under investigation for the death of her brother-in-law told police she injected him with 300 milliliters of insulin so he would no longer suffer, according to documents on file with the state Board of Nursing.

Five days after the Oct. 9 death of Randall Percival, Catherine George appeared at the Derry Police Department and reported she killed her brother-in-law, according to an emergency order issued Tuesday to suspend her license as a registered nurse.

Nursing authorities said they are also investigating George for possible drug diversion, or theft of drugs, from her employer.

George was a longtime nurse at Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, said Alex Walker, general counsel for CMC. He said the hospital found out about the matter through po-

► See **Nurse**, Page A3

Plane crash kills 2 on I-93



A tarpaulin covers the fuselage of a single-engine plane that crashed Thursday on Interstate 93 North in Hooksett, killing two.

DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER



Rescue personnel work behind a blue tarp while investigating a small plane crash on Interstate 93.

DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER

Highway plane crash



MAP DATA ©2012 GOOGLE

Pilot crash-landed same craft at Nashua's Boire Field in 2010

By MARK HAYWARD
New Hampshire Union Leader

and DAN SEUFERT
Union Leader Correspondent

HOOKSETT — A Rhode Island couple died Thursday when their single-engine plane clipped a light pole and crashed on Interstate 93. State police identified the victims

as Herman and Doris Hassinger, both 83, of Block Island, R.I.

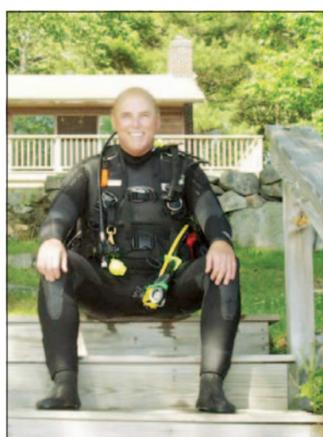
Herman Hassinger was a trustee emeritus at the New Hampton School and was on his way to a board meeting with his wife.

"Herman and Doris were some of the greatest supporters of New Hampton School," Peter Galletly,

► See **Plane crash**, Page A3

Brad Swain of Glastonbury, Conn., an avid scuba diver and instructor, found a class ring in Lake Winnepesaukee about 50 years ago, and after searching for decades for its rightful owner, has found her.

COURTESY



50 years after it was lost in lake, ring returned to owner

◆ **Reunited:** Now 68, man who found ring is happy for part he played.

By LARISSA MULKERN
Union Leader Correspondent

TUFTONBORO — Last December at his 50th high school reunion, Brad Swain thought of the class ring he found as a young man snorkeling in

Lake Winnepesaukee.

"Knowing 2012 would be the 50th Beverly High School reunion, I said to myself, 'Wouldn't it be neat to get the ring back to the owner before the reunion,'" the 68-year-old said.

It wasn't the first time the Connecticut man had tried to reunite ring and owner.

In the 1970s, he said he called Beverly High School, but because he was a "strang-

er," officials at the Massachusetts school declined to give him any information about a student from the class of 1962 with the initials DRD.

"They didn't even want to look in the yearbook for me," he said

This time he started his search at the Beverly High School class reunion web site and confirmed that two men and one woman in the class of 1962 had the initials

DRD. Because of the smaller size of the ring, Swain was convinced it belonged to a woman. With the help of alumni, he tracked down the name. But then he hit a dead-end because he could not find the woman's married name.

After reading a newspaper article in his local paper about a man who found a

► See **Ring**, Page A3



This Beverly (Mass.) High School Class of 1962 ring was returned to a Florida woman. COURTESY

REGULAR FEATURES

Abby.....B7	Lifestyles.....B7
Business.....B3-4	Lotteries.....A4
Classified.....E3,5-6, F5-6	Notices.....C1-7, D7
Comics/TV.....D8-D9	Obituaries.....B5
Crosswords.....D7	Opinion.....A9
Editorial.....A8	Sports.....D1-6, E2
Entertainment.....C8	Weather.....D10

A Small Prayer

May we strive to have a warm and friendly attitude toward everyone, Lord. Amen

Today's Chuckle

If you learn a new word every day, in no time you'll be completely incomprehensible to everyone.

New Hampshire Union Leader

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Today IN NEW HAMPSHIRE'S NEWSPAPER

BUSINESS

New Hampshire and Canada

Business leaders gathered in Nashua to emphasize the importance of the high-tech trade relationship between Canada and the United States. ► Page B3

NEW HAMPSHIRE

AG blocks murder questions

The state Attorney General's Office is fighting a request by several media outlets seeking to unseal warrants and affidavits relating to the murder of Elizabeth Marriott. ► Page A4

Lessons learned from hepatitis C

Health care providers from across the state were given a lesson in how to avoid a public health pre-

dicament similar to the hepatitis C outbreak at Exeter Hospital. ► Page A6

SPORTS

UNH gears up for weekend

University of New Hampshire's football and hockey teams have matching No. 12 rankings in a couple of national polls and will try to live up to those marks. ► Page D1

AVENUES

Keeping your home sale on track

According to the Greater Manchester/Nashua Board of Realtors: "There is not one person 'in charge' of your home sale, but there is a finely tuned machine at work. If you have questions about how to make sure your engine arrives on time, consult your Realtor." ► Page F3

Today's Letters:
Pages A9, E4, F4

MONARCHS



At home for 2 games

The Manchester Monarchs host Worcester Saturday and play Binghamton Sunday for Canadian Heritage Night. ► Page D1

Plane crash

chairman of the New Hampton School board of trustees, said in a statement Thursday night. "Herman was the longest-serving trustee on the board and he contributed in so many ways. Herman was the architect for many of our buildings on campus. He was incredibly generous with his time and thoughtful of the student experience at New Hampton. Our hearts go out to the Hassinger family."

State Police Lt. Christopher Wagner said that the preliminary investigation reveals the plane had been flying south and struck a DOT utility light pole about 1 p.m., then smashed into the passing lane and shoulder of the highway.

Police said the crash happened in the northbound lane near mile marker 26.2 at the ramp for Interstate 293 and the Everett Turnpike southbound. The ramp from I-93 north to 293 south was closed and I-93 north restricted to one lane of traffic for hours. All lanes were open by 9 p.m.

2010 crash

FAA Registry information indicates that the fixed-wing, single-engine Beechcraft A36 is registered out of Block Island, R.I. The same plane crashed at Nashua's Boire Field in August 2010, when Hassinger, who is listed as the owner of the plane, skidded along the runway as the plane's landing gear malfunctioned. A report from that crash indicated an initial inspection showed a bent rod prevented the left landing gear assembly from locking in the down position.

The National Transportation Safety Board is leading the investigation of Thursday's crash and the FBI was on scene as well.

Wagner asked that any witnesses contact state police at 271-3636.



HASSINGER

"We have not identified any witnesses at this point who actually saw the plane in flight or prior to the crash," he said.

School mourns

According to New Hampton School officials, Hassinger and his wife routinely flew to the four annual board of trustees meetings, one of which is scheduled for Saturday. New Hampton's Head of School Andrew Menke said Hassinger was "a wonderful presence and a consistent voice on the board of trustees."

"Herman and Doris were wonderful people," said Menke. "He was instrumental in our adoption of the International Baccalaureate program, and as an outstanding architect, he was a strong supporter of campus capital improvements. His committed stewardship has helped the school reach unprecedented health."

Hassinger was the owner of Herman Hassinger Architects of Moorestown, N.J., and was a Fellow of the American Insti-

tute of Architects. His daughter Elizabeth graduated from New Hampton School in 1977; his son John graduated in 1978. He was the lead architect on several buildings at the school, including Alumni Hall and the Academic Research Center.

He held a bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Pennsylvania and a Chandler Graduate Fellowship. He was a past president of the Philadelphia chapter of the American Institute of Architects, a Lutheran church council member, and a trustee at Upsala College in East Orange, N.J.

He was a member of the International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians, and he was the chairman of the Block Island Historic District Commission, according to school officials.

Union Leader Staff Writers Paul Feely, Dale Vincent and Tim Buckland contributed to this report.

mhayward@unionleader.com
dseufert@newstote.com

Sandy

of rain with some flooding.

"I don't think there's any question we have an impact and a significant impact. It's going to be a gargantuan storm," NECN meteorologist Matt Noyes said Thursday.

Hampton-based Unitil Corp. has already contacted outside crews to assist in the event of significant power outages, according to Alec O'Meara, Unitil spokesman.

PSNH said it has secured a number of local contractor crews as well, and the company is working to retain additional line workers and support staff.

"We may be looking at a decent amount of tree damage and

we should be in the mind set of extended power outages," said Noyes, who urged homeowners to trim back tree branches around their homes, clean the leaves from their gutters, clean the leaves from their patio furniture, and have a preparedness kit with supplies on hand.

The storm comes just a few weeks after Unitil launched a new program in southern New Hampshire that involves creating approximately 10 feet of clearance on either side of 15 miles of electrical line in Atkinson, Newton and Plaistow this fall.

Seabrook Fire Chief Jeffrey Brown said he shares the con-

cerns about coastal flooding in low-lying areas at Seabrook Beach and power outages.

"If we get enough wind, it's going to knock anything over," he said.

Fall vacationers camping at the Hampton Beach State Park were watching Sandy's track Thursday, but they'll have to leave by Sunday because that's when the park closes for the season.

Bob Bossey, 63, of Meredith, arrived in his 36-foot camper Thursday morning for the weekend. If the storm comes in sooner than expected, Bossey said he'll be gone.

"The wind would do too much

damage," he said.

Rick Johnson, 59, of Manchester, and his wife, Cheryl, have been camping at the park for the past week. They like to camp at the beach in the fall, but they know the weather is unpredictable. They left early last October when a surprise nor'easter delivered snow for Halloween.

Johnson said he is preparing for a power outage when he gets home.

"We usually lose power," he said. "I'm ready to go south."

For detailed emergency preparedness information, visit the state's emergency preparedness website, www.nh.gov/readynh.

jschreiber@newstote.com

Nurse

lice and when George called to say she would not be coming to work.

"We are in the process of conducting our own internal investigation into this matter to get to the bottom of what happened," Walker said.

Meanwhile, the Attorney General's Office said part of its criminal investigation will include whether George took similar measures against others, including hospital patients.

"That would be part of the scope of the investigation, but at this point we have no evidence of that," said homicide prosecutor Jane Young. She said a criminal investigation

into the matter has been going on for 10 or 11 days.

According to Percival's obituary, he died at his Raymond home surrounded by family.

The obituary lists no cause of death, but it asked for donations for a foundation established to combat cholangiocarcinoma, or cancer of the bile duct.

Percival, 55, worked in optical engineering, had two sons, a grandson, siblings and in-laws. Cathy George is listed as a sister-in-law in the obituary.

According to the Nursing Board report, George "gave the police a large syringe and a glass vial of Novolog insulin stating that her brother-in-law

didn't need to suffer anymore."

Novolog is a fast-acting insulin and dispensed in vials of 10 milliliters for individuals. Three hundred milliliters represents what a Type 1 diabetic would receive over several months.

An insulin overdose would prevent the body from processing sugar, and lead to hypoglycemic shock, seizures, coma and death, according to several websites.

George has been a nurse since 1994 and has never had a licensing problem, according to the Nursing Board. The Board reported that George told police she brought the medicine home by mistake in

July and forgot to return it to CMC. According to websites, Novolog should be kept refrigerated.

Walker said CMC can't confirm any insulin is missing and won't be able to do so unless it sees the vial with its lot number.

"CMC takes great care and uses best practices when it comes to medical management of both controlled substances and prescription medicine," Walker said.

Like Young, he said there are no indications that George introduced drugs to CMC patients outside normal protocols.

mhayward@unionleader.com

Ring

Norwalk (Conn.) High School ring with a metal detector and tracked down the owner, Swain contacted the Beverly Citizen. He asked the editor if she'd run a story about his search and she obliged.

"A reader called and said he knew who this person was, and had her phone number," said Swain, who called the woman in Florida with the news of his find.

"She said, 'Thank you, thank

you, thank you.' She was thrilled to get it back. She couldn't believe I took the time, after 50 years, to hunt down the owner," said Swain, who for privacy reasons would identify the woman only as "Donna."

She told him she had lost the ring while swimming a couple of weeks after she got the prized piece of jewelry.

In a phone interview from his home in Glastonbury, Conn.,

Thursday, Swain said the ring's owner told him her daughter will wear the class ring with its gold band and blue stone at her wedding, in the tradition of wearing "something borrowed, something blue and something old."

Swain said his family has been visiting Lake Winnepesaukee for decades, renting a cottage at Lane's End Camp in Melvin Village from 1948 to 1965. Today,

Swain owns a summer home of his own on the lake and visits from May to September.

"My love of the water turned into my becoming a SCUBA diver," he said.

SCREENS
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Derry group seeks public help to scoop up dog poop

By ADAM SWIFT
Union Leader correspondent

DERRY — For a short time, this week's Conversation Commission discussion went to the dogs.

"Go Green Derry has been looking at what to do to help scoop up poop, to put it bluntly," said Conservation Commission chair Margaret Ives.

According to Ives, the Go Green conservation group has been researching "poop containers" for use at the town's conservation properties.

"Their suggestion is that they try one at Broadview Farm. Having recently scooped up dog poop at Broadview, I am in favor of this," said Ives. "I'm going to encourage Go Green to get us a cost, go ahead and try it."

Conservation Commission member Dennis Wiley said the container likely to be chosen by Go Green is similar to one used in a number of conservation areas in Maine.

"It's a box that has bags that are dispensed, and then the bags are put in the box," said Wiley.

Once the unit is in place, Ives said she is confident that commission members, or the town's volunteer land stewards, will regularly empty the containers.

Conservation Commission member Peg Kinsella noted that there are some local towns that use similar containers in their downtown areas.

"We can pass the idea on to (parks and recreation director) Eric Bodenrader once we find out what the cost is," said

Ives. "There is also the possibility that someone locally could make one modeled after the ones in Maine."

Until there are containers in place at town conservation properties, Ives said she wanted to urge everyone to do their part to keep the properties clean.

"Sometimes the dog poop is left on the paths, and that's not very nice," she said. "We are asking dog owners to take plastic bags with them and put the poop in the bags. That makes it much better for everybody."

aswift@newstote.com

Increasing recycling focus of Derry schools

DERRY — School business administrator Jane Simard has been working with the district's waste management company to look at ways to increase recycling and cut costs.

"We are recycling, but we are not doing as much as we could," said Simard.

She said a representative from Casella Waste Management will be attending an administrative meeting early next month and bringing more information about how the district can recycle more, especially in the cafeterias.

"Everything there is recyclable except for food," said Simard.

Increasing recycling will be a great service for the community and cut costs for the district if it recycles more and can move to using smaller dumpsters, she said.

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