



Site work is underway at the location of the Margaret Pratt Community assisted living complex in Bradford.

## Margaret Pratt Community Assisted Living Project Underway In Bradford

BRADFORD — The Margaret Pratt Community project has been supported by a group of local Bradford community leaders since the closing of a nursing home in Bradford over 15 years ago. Margaret Pratt Community will offer Assisted Living and Assisted Living Memory Care for up to 50 residents, in a variety of apartment styles.

The \$11 million project is funded by a USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Direct Loan, a USDA guarantee loan with Wells River Savings Bank, and applicant contributions from members of Margaret Pratt's family. USDA Rural Development is a branch of the Department of Ag-

riculture charged with increasing economic opportunity and the quality of life in rural America.

Construction has begun on the site with preparations for foundation and underground utility work underway. A community pathway along Plateau Acres Road will be constructed this spring, connecting the commuter parking lot to the site. Utilizing modular construction, the building is expected to be fully constructed by this summer. The remainder of 2018 will be used to complete all the finish work on the interior and exterior, as well as landscaping.

### WHITEFIELD

## Northern Gateway Regional Chamber Of Commerce Holds Annual Meeting

Fitch Fuel Named Business of the Year

On March 22 the Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce hosted their Annual Chamber Dinner and Meeting at the Inn at Whitefield.

The evening began with hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and a silent auction. The new board was voted in by chamber members. James Weagle is the acting Chamber President, Ben Oleson Vice-President and Larry Meserve Sr. has joined the Board of Directors. The chamber recognized the outgoing president and vice president which included Julie Aldrich and Kim Doolan, who will remain as board members. Retiring from the board included Brian Bresnahan, Cindy Normandeau, Amanda Simino and Erik Becker. Jim Weagle touched on the chamber's accomplishments this year hosting chamber mixers, seminars on energy, merchant services and social marketing. The chamber was very busy with numerous ribbon cutting events, promoting local businesses and community events. Spotting Jefferson Elementary School during National School Choice Week with giving out over 85 scarves to students and staff. The Chamber is also working closely with the Whitefield Economic Development Corporation. The Chamber is working on developing a new website that will be easier to update and will give our chamber members more features to promote their businesses.

It was 95 years in the making, the Chamber awarded Fitch Fuel Business of the Year. This award was presented to a well deserving and extraordinary local company. Fitch Fuel's hardworking organization and strong sense of giving back to the community made them the perfect candidate for Business of the Year. A fierce supporter of the Col. Town teams supplying much needed uniforms and sports equipment, as well as donations to all local fundraising events. This winter they answered the call to over 125 new customers that were stranded

and in need of fuel oil. The new customers were told by their providers that they were unable to meet their fuel needs. Desperate customers reached out to Fitch Fuel. Without hesitation Fitch stepped up and took care of their community providing much needed fuel with a smile. The Chamber dedicated this award to the late Charles William Fitch II. Congratulations.

The Director's Award was given to Jean Oleson for her long career as a valued volunteer. Jean has spent her life helping others and living in Lancaster. Some of her accomplishments include Town of Lancaster Clerk for 30 years as an elected official. Jean is the co-coordinator for Project Homebound, volunteers with WMRHS Athletic Booster Club, Weeks Medical Center and owner of Oleson's Tree Farm. Jean also volunteered many hours at Col. Town with local baseball leagues of all ages.

Special thanks to Larry Meserve Sr., MOMS of Lancaster/Groveton, that hosted as guest speaker. His inspirational speech told of a plaque that was presented to Larry several times by MOMS' owner, Joel Wheeler, that said "Don't look back you are not going that way." Larry confessed that MOMS invested in the people of the North Country, not brick and mortar. The local community and their passion with a welcoming spirit drove MOMS to Lancaster. Larry's advice was to think outside the box, do everything with passion and be sincerity.

If interested in joining the chamber or becoming an active board member contact the chamber at northerngatewaychamber@gmail.com. Visit chamber Facebook page, Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce, where a weekly newsletter is posted highlighting our business and local community events. The Chamber's office is located at 25 Park St. in Lancaster. The telephone number is 603-788-2530.

## Future Tenants Reserving Spaces At The Summit In Whitefield

More Than Half of Summit by Morrison's Independent and Assisted Living Units Have Been Reserved

WHITEFIELD, N.H. — More than half of the available independent and assisted living units at Summit by Morrison, a first-of-its-kind senior living community in Whitefield, N.H., have been reserved by future residents. The independent and assisted living apartments are in the community's main campus building, Summit House, which also features apartments for those who may need memory support. The independent living cottages are just a short walk across the campus from Summit House. The senior living community expects to welcome residents in late spring.

"Excitement continues to grow as we put the final touches on the community," said Chad Dingman, Chief Executive Officer of Summit by Morrison and The Morrison Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing Care. "The strong response we've seen from prospective residents — and the many who have already reserved apartments or cottages — reinforces the need

for senior living communities such as Summit by Morrison in northern New Hampshire."

Summit by Morrison offers independent living apartments in one- and two-bedroom and bathroom configurations and two-bedroom independent living cottages; these units all feature full kitchens, large closets and washer/dryer units. For assisted living, each studio apartment is equipped with a private bathroom and kitchenette to help residents feel right at home. And for those who may need memory support, private rooms feature natural lighting, a private bathroom and a layout that promotes independence.

"We can see the enthusiasm from prospective residents on each tour," said Shannon Lynch, Director of Resident Services at Summit by Morrison. "Residents are choosing to join the Summit by Morrison community for different reasons, but they all appreciate our attention to details that will make sure everyone feels

welcome, comfortable and engaged with others in the community."

Those who have reserved a residence and will be among the first to live at Summit by Morrison hail from around the Granite State.

"We chose Summit by Morrison for many reasons," said Jessica Bunker of Franconia, N.H. Bunker's mother will move into an assisted living apartment when the community welcomes its first residents. "Finding a senior living community in the area, where my mom has lived for more than 40 years, was important to me. Because she's staying close to home, she'll be able to spend time with friends and family, continue to see her doctors and frequent her favorite restaurants, without the worry of maintaining her house. We also appreciate Summit by Morrison's layout and design; it feels welcoming, fostering a feeling of community and helping its residents live a full and active life."



Workers in a Littleton Coop booth stand ready to explain the benefits of the Granite State Market Match.

### LITTLETON

## Program Helps Coop Provide Healthy, Local Foods To Lower Income Shoppers

As general manager of the Littleton Food Coop in Littleton, New Hampshire, Ed King knows that it can be expensive to eat healthy and eat local. But King believes healthy eating shouldn't be an economic decision. "Any program that works to ease that burden is a good program," King said.

That's why the Littleton Coop stepped up to help deliver Granite State Market Match, a statewide program that helps make healthy, locally grown fruits and vegetables affordable for participants in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), New Hampshire's food stamp program.

Granite State Market Match (GSMM) allows SNAP customers to match the value of their benefits for fruit and vegetables dollar for dollar. That means \$10 in food stamps enables shoppers to purchase a total of \$20 worth of fresh, local food. The Coop staffs

the Market Match booth at the Littleton Farmers' Market every Sunday.

UNH Cooperative Extension Coos County is the regional lead organization serving the North Country for the N.H. Nutrition Incentives Network (NHNIN). Regional leads like Heidi Barker, a Coos County Cooperative Extension field specialist for community health, works with farmers markets to increase capacity for the GSMM program.

"Sam Brown of the Littleton Farmers' Market was spot-on when he engaged the Coop to support and staff this initiative," Barker says. "It's truly brought success to access and affordability in the North Country."

NHNIN, led by the New Hampshire Food Bank, brings GSMM to farmers markets in New Hampshire through support from Wholesome Wave and is funded by the USDA Food Insecurity Nu-

trition Incentives Program.

Helen Costello, program manager at the New Hampshire Food Bank, says the North Country program is successful for a number of reasons, including the strong partnerships between the community and lead organizers to support local farmers markets. "They have true cooperation, and it's helping citizens live better lives," she says.

The Littleton Food Coop was recently named GSMM's inaugural retail site. King points out that GSMM benefits the local economy. "We struggle with poverty in northern New Hampshire, and Granite State Market Match has drastically increased purchases of local foods by people who never bought local foods before, which directly helps local farmers."

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## Orthopedic Surgeon & Traumatologist Joins Littleton Regional Healthcare

Littleton Regional Healthcare announced the appointment of Jean Langevin, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon and Traumatologist to The Alpine Clinic in Franconia and Littleton, N.H.

Dr. Langevin comes to The Alpine Clinic with more than 15 years of experience as an orthopedic surgeon specializing in traumatology at Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops, BC Canada — a level 3 trauma center outside the Vancouver metropolitan area. Prior to his tenure at Royal Inland Hospital, Dr. Langevin served as an orthopedic surgeon at St. Jerome Centre Hospital in Quebec, Canada — a level 2 trauma center

where his clinical and surgical specialties focused on lower limb reconstruction, arthroplasty, and traumatology.

Dr. Langevin completed medical school at University of Montreal and his orthopedic residency at the University of Montreal Teaching Hospitals. He is licensed to practice in the Province of British Columbia, Canada and the State of New Hampshire.

"We are pleased to announce that Dr. Langevin recently joined The Alpine Clinic. Dr. Langevin's specialty in treating trauma injuries is an asset to Northern New Hampshire," stated Robert Nutter, President at LRH.



Dr. Jean Langevin