

BUSINESS: Kamen's iBot to get relaunch • B1

SPORTS: Gatsas family horse makes Kentucky Derby • B6

"There is nothing so powerful as truth"
DANIEL WEBSTER

NEW HAMPSHIRE UNION LEADER

UnionLeader.com UnionLeader @UnionLeader Monday, April 8, 2019 Vol. 157, No. 7 • 24 Pages • Price \$1.50

Now Hiring
HVAC Technicians
Well-established growing company in the Manchester area looking for qualified and experienced, highly motivated, hard working individuals with a NH Gas Fitters license. We are experts in maintaining, servicing and installing a broad range of heating and air conditioning systems.
Excellent pay!
HIGHLINE MECHANICAL INC Heating & Air Conditioning Residential & Commercial
(603) 669-1919

Homeland Security Secretary Nielsen resigns

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen resigned on Sunday.



REUTERS

■ **Conflict with Trump:** In charge since 2017, she oversaw policy of separating children from their immigrant parents at the border with Mexico.

Reuters

WASHINGTON — Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, who became best known for defending President Donald Trump's policy

of separating migrant children from their parents, said on Sunday she was leaving her position effective immediately. Nielsen's departure was

first reported by CBS News. A senior administration official said Trump asked for Nielsen's resignation and she gave it.

Trump said on Twitter: "Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen Nielsen will be leaving her position, and I would like to thank her for her service."

In another tweet, Trump

said Kevin McAleenan, the current U.S. Customs and Border Protection commissioner, would become acting DHS secretary.

Nielsen, 46, had been DHS secretary since December 2017. Her time overseeing the sprawling department included conflict with

► See Nielsen, Page A3

Friends recall Bobby Rivard

■ **Many talents:** Champion amateur boxer was a leader in state and local politics for decades.

By DOUG ALDEN and KEVIN LANDRIGAN, New Hampshire Union Leader

MANCHESTER — Funeral services are this week for Robert "Bobby" R. Rivard, a champion amateur boxer who was a leader in state and local politics for decades.

Friends and colleagues recalled Rivard as a gifted athlete and compassionate civic leader who inspired others to get involved in the community.

"He was a true statesman and a splendid human being," longtime friend Bobby Stephen said Sunday. "Bobby didn't preach. He acted."

Rivard died Thursday at age 79 after a period of deteriorating health, his family said.

A lifelong resident of Manchester, Rivard served for more than 25 years as Hillsborough County register of probate. Rivard also was a member on the Manchester Highway Commission for two decades and served a term as Manchester's Ward 8 alderman.

A fiscal conservative, Rivard was well known across southern New Hampshire as a political power broker — a Republican who could make deals with officeholders from both parties.

Stephen, a Democrat, said it was Rivard who first convinced him to make a run for office. Stephen was elected to the New Hampshire Senate in 1980 after defeating Paul Provost, who had held the seat for 24 years, in the Democratic

► See Rivard, Page A3

Youth Summit tackles tough issues



SHAWNE K. WICKHAM/UNION LEADER

Quincy Roy from Manchester Memorial High School leads a discussion at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Youth Summit on Friday in Concord.

'I hope we find some things to fix, and we find a way to fix it'

By SHAWNE K. WICKHAM, New Hampshire Union Leader

CONCORD — Anyone who harbors doubts about the younger generation — or the future of civil discourse, for that matter — should have gone to the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Youth Summit last Friday.

Nearly 350 teens from public, private and charter schools across New Hampshire spent the day talking about some of the most difficult issues they're facing today:

bullying, school violence, gender identity, race and addiction. And they did so with candor and compassion.

On his way in to the Grappone Center for the summit, Connor Gatlin, 15, from the Making Community Connections charter school in Keene, had a goal for the day: "I hope we find some things we need to fix, and we find a way to fix it."

They certainly made a good start. Over the course of the morning, students met in small groups to tackle their choice of topics. There were adults assigned to each group,

► See Summit, Page A3



SHAWNE K. WICKHAM/UNION LEADER

Emily Galeva, a sophomore at Lebanon High School, poses for a photo with Olympic gold medalist Hannah Kearney, who gave the keynote address at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Youth Summit on Friday in Concord. Kearney is a graduate of Hanover High School.

Choice of state's poet takes on political bent

■ **Unresolved:** Gov. Chris Sununu and the Poetry Society of New Hampshire are at odds over the nomination.

By DAVE SOLOMON, New Hampshire Union Leader

CONCORD — The question of who will become the state's new poet laureate remains unresolved, as Gov. Chris Sununu and the Poetry Society of New Hampshire are still at odds over the nomination.

Sununu surprised the Poetry Society earlier this year when he nominated poet Daniel Thomas Moran of Webster to the honorary position. Moran, nominated by a Seacoast-area retiree, had read one of his poems at Sununu's second inauguration in January.

Moran was not the society's nominee, nor was he on its short list. The Poetry Society's nomination and selection process, which has been used to name poet laureates in the past, led to the recommendation of Jennifer Militello of Goffstown.

Both Moran and Militello have declined to comment on the process.

"We're trying to set up a meeting to meet with the board of the Poetry Society, we're working on a date there. I even offered to go to their next board meeting," said Sununu in a recent interview. "Everything's on the table."

Sununu referred to Moran, born in New York City in 1957, as a "young, engaging guy who really has done a lot. I'm not a poetry expert, but I'm a big fan and think he would do the state an immense service being the poet laureate."

The Poetry Society is standing behind its first choice, Militello. Poetry Society President Don Kimball describes her as an accomplished poet with a national reputation.

"A noted educator, she has an impressive publication history, is founder of the New Hampshire Poetry Festival, now in its fourth year, and is highly respected by the New Hampshire poetry community," according to her nomination.

Kimball says efforts to meet with the governor have so far been

► See Poet, Page A3



Today IN NEW HAMPSHIRE'S NEWSPAPER

INDEX

Abby.....A5 Notices.....A10, B4-5
Business.....B1-3
Classified.....A9 Obituaries.....A8
Comics / TV...B10-11 Opinion.....A11
Crosswords.....B9 Scene Setters.....A7
Lifestyles.....A5 Sports.....B6-8
Weather.....B12

New Hampshire Union Leader

©2019 Union Leader Corp., Manchester, N.H.



6 73247 00001 2

Today's Chuckle

The government has a way of pulling the rug out from under us; then they send us a bill for the rug.

A Small Prayer

May we place You, Lord, in our spotlight. Amen

White House: Democrats will never see Trump's tax returns

► **WASHINGTON:** President Donald Trump's tax returns will never be handed over to Democratic lawmakers, White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney said on Sunday, defying an effort in Congress to learn more about the real estate mogul's personal finances. • **Page A6**

Rivier University breaks ground on science facility

► **NASHUA:** Embarking on the next

phase of its Vision 2020 improvement plan, Rivier University on Friday broke ground on a new state-of-the-art science facility. • **Page A12**

Portsmouth continues to be a hotspot for condos

► **BUSINESS:** The condominium market in Portsmouth continues to boom, with Realtors saying they are seeing interested buyers from all over the country. Lower taxes have been cited as a reason buyers are relocating to the area. • **Page B1**

POLITICS



► **LONDONDERRY:** Democratic presidential candidate Cory Booker said during a Granite State campaign stop on Sunday that uniting the country is his life's purpose. • **Page A2**

Summit

From Page A1

but it was the students themselves who led the discussions and pushed for solutions.

Quincy Roy, a sophomore at Manchester Memorial High, led a session on school violence. While New Hampshire has not experienced a school shooting, students said the impact of tragedies in other states has been felt here.

Stephanie Flegal, a senior at Goffstown High, said talking about which rooms in schools would be safe if a shooter entered the building has become "normal lunch conversation."

"There's so much anxiety these days with kids in school, they can't even focus on the work they're doing," she said. "It's pretty scary."

And it's not just gun violence. Maya Weil-Coolley, a junior at Inter-Lakes High, said there was a fight on the grounds of her school a few months ago. "Everybody stood around and videoed it," she said. "It was crazy to watch ... how normalized it was ... It felt scary to see people using it for entertainment and cheering them on."

The prevalence of vaping came up in a discussion about addiction. Students said schools should do more to help students who get caught drinking or using drugs instead of punishing them.

Danielle Santiago, a junior at Alvirne High, said she lost her best friend because of substance abuse. "She was drinking, vaping and smoking marijuana," she said. And when she tried to convince her friend she was hurting herself, she said, "she chose the drugs over me."

Many students said they think schools should address issues such as race, gender identity and healthy eating in classes. In a session on eating disorders, teens said advertising and other media present body images that negatively influence how teens see themselves.

Nika Mitchell from Concord High School said someone can be beautiful even if they're not "average" size. "I feel as though you should be teaching everybody it's not the size that matters," she said. "It matters how healthy you are."

But Estela Raya-Fouts, a junior at Trinity High in Manchester, said her



SHAWNE K. WICKHAM/SUNDAY NEWS

From left, Victoria Lindh and Mia Webber from Trinity High and Cassandra Corman from Dover High brainstorm some ideas about preventing bullying at the Youth Summit Friday in Concord.

school doesn't even offer health classes. A lot of girls "go on these crazy diets," she said. "They don't know what it takes to be a healthy person."

In a session on race and ethnicity, Jaeda Bastien from Raymond High, said there's a generation gap. "Our generation is very much about embracing diversity and our differences," she said. Her parents and grandparents, she said, "were raised in a very racist world."

But she said the only two things she ever learned in school about other races were negative: slavery and how Native Americans were mistreated.

Raven Strother from Lakes Region School District brought up a recent incident at a New Hampshire high school in which students wrote a song about the KKK for a class project. "That's a horrible situation that definitely made a lot of people in our state feel very uncomfortable and very alarmed," she said. "Something didn't go right with their education, with their family, their school, their friends, thinking that was an OK way to express history."

The idea for the Youth Summit came out of the work of John Broderick, the former Chief Justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court who is now senior director of public affairs at Dartmouth-Hitchcock. For the past three years, Broderick has visited high schools and community organizations

across the state and shared his own family's story to raise awareness of mental health.

Broderick was on hand for the duration of Friday's summit. And mental health was a frequent topic of conversation.

Kenney Paquette, a junior at Pelham High, said he has suffered from anxiety but he was reluctant at first to get help "because I didn't want the label."

"People are forced to hide their mental illness and not get the help they need, so they enter their jobs, law enforcement or the military with their mental illnesses untreated," he said.

One group talked about the pressures students feel, from school, parents, sports, but mostly from themselves. Students shared ideas for relieving stress: reading, playing music, going for a run, taking a bath.

Stella Hazelton, a junior at Salem High, said she's learning to keep things in perspective when something goes wrong, such as a bad grade on a test. "You're going to have a life in the future, and you can't put everything on this one test," she said.

The day's activities concluded with the Magnify Voices film and writing festival, featuring the top 10 winners of a student contest on the topic of mental health. First Lady Valerie Sununu, who hosted the ceremony, embraced the winners, clearly moved by their poems, essays and films.

The following high school teams created winning videos: Grace Lumley and Valerie Sacco; Emma Jane Tagliaferro; Colin Chau, Christian Pfeuti and Nate Caston; Griffin Hansen, Stephanie Flegal and Tori Flegal; Anna Carroll; and Bre Paquette, who also won the People's Choice award for her film. Winners of the writing contest were Ella Livengood, Destiny Brewer, Mia Flegal and Austin Klowak, all middle-schoolers.

The students will be honored at the Fisher Cats baseball game on May 5 in Manchester, and the winning films will be shown.

Sununu applauded the courage of the youngsters who shared their personal stories of struggling with mental illnesses. "I'm stunned by all of you, and all of your bravery," she said. "I really can't talk right now."

Gov. Chris Sununu opened the Youth Summit by calling on the students to carry the work of the day forward into their schools and communities. "Your voice means a lot," he said. "You wouldn't be here if you didn't believe it."

Beyond the Stigma, a series exploring solutions to the state's addiction and mental health challenges, is sponsored by the New Hampshire Solutions Journalism Lab at the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications and funded by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, NAMI New Hampshire, and private individuals. Contact reporter Shawne K. Wickham at swickham@unionleader.com. To read previous stories in this series, visit: unionleader.com/stigma.

Rivard

From Page A1

primary.

"It was all on account of Bobby," Stephen said. "He'd push me to go out — rain or shine. He always wanted to go door-to-door."

Former Manchester Mayor Ted Gatsas said he first met Rivard playing softball for Rivard's Manchester Tire and Battery business team five decades ago.

"He will truly be remembered because everyone has an individual story about Bobby Rivard and it always started with someone going to Bobby for some help and he always figured out a way to say 'yes,'" said Gatsas, elected last year to the state Executive Council. "I can never remember him ever saying no to somebody who came to him for help."

At the close of that career as a register of probate Rivard tangled with court administrators who for years tried to convince the Legislature to strip the registers of probate of their administrative powers.

After 13 terms in the office, Rivard did not seek reelection.

After Rivard's departure, court administrators in 2011 convinced lawmakers to complete that reorganization, which reduced the two-year elected term of registers of probate in all 10 counties to a department head in name only.

A U.S. Army National Guard veteran, Rivard was past chairman of the New Hampshire State Fire Control Board.

Before stepping into the political ring, Rivard was an accomplished boxer who won New England Golden Gloves titles in the late 1950s and served on the New Hampshire State Ath-

letic Commission.

Stephen recalled Rivard as the best "pound-for-pound" fighter in New England, winning titles as a middleweight and light-heavyweight as an amateur. In 1959, Rivard advanced to the semi-finals at the Golden Gloves of Chicago, losing a split-decision and a spot in the championship bout that was won by a young fighter from Louisville named Cassius Clay — who won an Olympic gold medal the following year and went on to become Muhammad Ali.

"I boxed one more year, but I realized I didn't have the discipline for it," Rivard recalled to the Union Leader for a column in 2003. "Going into training was like going into jail. It was lonely."

Rivard worked with Stephen to bring many boxing matches to New Hampshire while Stephen had chaired the state Boxing and Wrestling Commission.

"Bobby Stephen was the finesse fighter with all the footwork," Gatsas said. "Bobby Rivard had hands of steel that could drop you with one punch."

Stephen, who last spoke to his longtime friend a few weeks ago, said Rivard was "received with respect" throughout the Granite State and beyond.

"He was well liked. He was a gentleman. He had high principles and a solid character," Stephen said. "He gave of himself freely to people and asked nothing for himself. That was Bobby."

Services for Rivard are Wednesday at 10 a.m. at St. Pius X Church on Candia Road in Manchester.

dalden@unionleader.com

Poet

From Page A1

unsuccessful.

"There was a meeting scheduled for the governor and the Selection Committee at the end of March, but the governor's office had a conflict and we've been trying to reschedule with them," he said.

"We understand they are very busy but the Selection Committee still hopes to meet with them soon. We do urge the governor to nominate Ms. Militello, whose name emerged after a rigorous and time-honored selection process."

Poetry Society members have flooded the executive council with emails and letters in support of their choice, while Moran has his supporters as well. One showed up at the last council meeting with a sign on her back that read "I'm an N.H. Dan Moran Poetry Fan."

"I don't know the governor's reasons for choosing his candidate over the committee's recommended poet (or the three other finalists)," writes New Hampshire author Rebecca Rule, in a letter to her councilor, Ted Gatsas.

"I do know that to ignore this recommendation sends a message to the arts community that our hard work and expertise are not valued. The title Poet Laureate will be tarnished because the process was circumvented. The Poet Laureate program will be undercut

and diminished."

If Moran is nominated, it won't be due to any shared political philosophy with the governor, as the poet's twitter feed is well-populated with anti-Trump tweets like these @DanielThosMoran:

"The important question is how many Americans have become fat or alcoholic, or clinically insane because @realDonaldTrump became President?"

Trump is loved by his supporters for being a tough guy. He is not a tough guy. He is a thin-skinned wimp who whines like a 14-year-old girl."

Moran's nomination may be more a matter of social, rather than political, connections. He and the governor's wife Valerie both serve on the board of the New Hampshire Humanities Council.

Militello has some Democratic-leaning political content on her Twitter feed as well, with a handful of posts or retweets like this one around the 2016 election.

@JeniferMilitello: My Twitter feed feels like a big, happy #DNC family right now. I love it! #ImWithHer.

dsolomon@unionleader.com

Nielsen

From Page A1

Trump and overseeing a policy of separating children from their immigrant parents at the border with Mexico.

Trump has made a clampdown on illegal immigration a centerpiece of his 2-year-old presidency, as he has sought to cut back on the number of newcomers, especially Mexicans and Central Americans, entering the United States without proper documentation.

Nielsen's departure was announced two days after Trump abruptly said on Friday he was dumping his own nominee to be the top official at U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Ronald Vitiello, saying he wanted someone "tougher."

ICE is under the jurisdiction of DHS.

Repeatedly subjected to tough questioning by Democrats at congressional hearings, Nielsen became a lightning rod for criticism of Trump's poli-

cies. She was confronted by protesters last year at a Mexican restaurant in Washington.

As leader of DHS, Nielsen was responsible for carrying out some of Trump efforts such as his battle to build a wall on the border with Mexico, stepped-up deportations and treatment of migrant children, as images of children being held in cages were spread around the world.

Trump insists that the arrival of immigrants across the southern U.S. border constitutes a national emergency so important that he sidestepped Congress' refusal to provide him with several billion dollars he requested to build the border wall.

Representative Bennie Thompson, the Democratic chairman of the House of Representatives Homeland Security Committee, said Nielsen's tenure at DHS "was a disaster from the start."

He said in a statement,

however, that she should not serve as a scapegoat, blasting Trump for "terrible and cruel policies." Noting that the department now has neither a permanent secretary nor deputy secretary, he called on the administration to work with Congress in good faith to keep the country safe.

The Trump administration adopted the policy of separating migrant children from their parents early last year as part of its "zero tolerance" approach to illegal immigration, intended to deter families from leaving home in the hope of entering the United States.

After domestic and international criticism, Trump signed an executive order in June ending family separations, but a government report last month showed that more than 200 children had been taken from their families since that time.

Trump recently threat-

ened to close the border with Mexico, or parts of it, if Congress did not change U.S. laws to fix what he called immigration "loop-holes."

Nielsen's departure has been rumored repeatedly. News reports said Trump had belittled her in Cabinet meetings, unhappy with her efforts to tighten immigration.

The New York Times reported nearly a year ago, in May 2018, that Nielsen was close to resigning after Trump berated her in front of other Cabinet secretaries over increases in the number of immigrants crossing illegally from Mexico.

Before she was nominated as secretary, Nielsen worked as a deputy to former Marine General John Kelly, who headed DHS before becoming White House chief of staff.

Kelly resigned as chief of staff on Jan. 2 amid reports of a strained relationship with Trump.

NHWeekend

Your guide to what's happening!
Every Thursday in the New Hampshire Union Leader

WINDSHIELDS
Manchester Auto Glass Co.
1225 Hanover St.
Manchester
622-6737

\$20.00 OFF
ANY SERVICES OR REPAIR OVER \$100
Senior Citizens Receive an Additional \$5 OFF!
*Offer cannot be combined. Service department only. Expires 4/30/19
BETLEY.COM
Please call or visit our website to schedule an appointment.
Betley CHEVROLET
By Pass 28 • Derry, NH 03038
50 North Main Street
1-800-472-1546
Service Hours:
Monday-Friday 7:00 - 5:00 pm,
Saturday 7:00 - Noon
We service ALL Makes!