



“The Hungry Heart” is an intimate look at the world of prescription drug abuse. It will be shown in Andover on Wednesday, June 10, in the AE/MS gym, with a reception and booths of information at 5:30 PM, the film at 6 PM, and a panel discussion with key officials and healthcare providers from around the area following the film.

Documentary on Prescription Drug Addiction to be Screened

June 10 event includes panel, resources

Christine Frost, for the *Beacon*

In January, I had the opportunity to attend a showing of the documentary *The Hungry Heart* at the Red River Theater. The film is an intimate look at the world of prescription drug abuse through Vermont Pediatrician Fred Holmes’ experience with his patients. It was a very provocative film as well as overwhelmingly relevant in our communities.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), drug-related deaths associated with prescription opioids have remained stable since 2012. However the mortality rate associated with heroin increased for the third year in a row. It is believed that the increase in fatal heroin overdoses are attributed to users of prescription opiates substituting or supplementing with heroin, an opiate that is less expensive and contributes to the progression of their addiction.

Having a loved one 10 years in recovery, and being a healthcare representative in this community, I felt an overwhelming obligation to bring the same event home to my community. I am in the process of planning a community forum in Andover. I am extending this event to the towns that are served by the Merrimack Valley School District, Kearsarge School District, Franklin and Winnisquam.

My hope is that this will increase awareness and open up conversation to promote prevention, intervention, treatment options, and long-term recovery. Increasing awareness will have a significant impact on reducing stigma and hopefully increase access to care for those struggling with addiction.

The community screening will take place at the AE/MS gym on Wednesday, June 10. This film is appropriate for adults and high school students.

A reception will start at 5:30 PM, with refreshments and partner booths from a diverse number of agencies throughout New Hampshire. Information regarding family and youth serv-

es, prevention, recovery, intervention, and treatment will be available.

The film will start at 6 PM and will be followed by a panel discussion for question and answers. Some members

See Heart on page 24



Vic Phelps (right) is living at Pleasant View Center on Pleasant Street in Concord now. He was in good spirits when Charlie Darling stopped by last month with a copy of the *Beacon*. They flipped through many of the pages together and enjoyed discussing the latest news from Andover, with Vic providing some very interesting historical context for many recent events.

Laura Young Receives Art Award at Colby-Sawyer College

Laura Young was recognized with one of 13 Tomie dePaola Whitebird Paper awards at an annual art exhibit at Colby-Sawyer College. Laura is a freshman graphic design major.



★ Dr. Peter Doane ✦ Martha Moorehead, APRN ✦ Dr. Carolyn Crosby ✦ Carolyn Brown, APRN ◆ Dr. Mark Aronson

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