

**Town Report from page 15**

Our EMS team launched our new Mobile Integrated Health Service to visit patients in their first 24 to 48 hours after discharge, ensuring that patients' needs are being met at home, thus reducing unnecessary readmissions.

The Meditronic O-arm provides a real-time image of a patient's anatomy during minimally-invasive spine surgery to ensure unparalleled safety and accuracy.

The BioFire FilmArray TORCH cuts test result wait times from days to just two hours. Precise treatment can start more quickly, with better outcomes.

The high health station in our main lobby allows guests to "own their own health" by checking and tracking their "numbers" in many categories, including weight, BMI, pulse, and blood pressure.

Our D-HH membership has increased revenue by improving the availability and quality of the medical services we offer. We benefit from joint purchasing and from better investment, audit, and refinancing services. The result is a strong balance sheet, improved cash position, stronger revenue growth, and reduced expenses in some areas.

The support of the community throughout the year has humbled us, from Hospital Days to the Annual Benefit to the 100th Anniversary Concert. We are truly appreciative of people's engagement and participation.

**Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition**

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition (SRKGC), founded in 1993, is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization to promote hiking and land conservation. The 75-mile

SRK Greenway (SRKG) links Mount Sunapee, Ragged Mountain, and Mount Kearsarge.

Hiking trails are an important benefit to the community, with associated recreational, economic, and health benefits. Much of the SRKG passes over private property and would not exist without the generosity of many landowners.

The SRKG extends through ten towns, with 9.4 miles in Andover. In September 2018, the SRKGC posted a detour of the Greenway while Ever-source is working on the power line which crosses Dawes Road.

SRKGC, Ragged Mountain Fish and Game Club, and Proctor Academy reconstructed a trail bridge between Proctor and Balancing Rock in 2018. Thanks to the many volunteers and to the Quabbin to Cardigan Partnership for materials!

In January 2018, the SRKGC sponsored an intensive two-day Wilderness First Aid course at Colby-Sawyer College. Over 100 people participated. The SRKGC hosted a trail maintenance day in the spring to clear and re-mark the SRKG from Proctor, over Ragged, to New Canada Road.

Anne Hewitt and Sooze Hodgson are Andover's members on the SRKGC board. Many individuals help keep Andover's portion of the SRKG repaired and blazed, and we are always looking for more help: e-mail us at SRKGC@srkg.com.

SRKG.com has maps of the entire Greenway, hike schedules and events, landowner information, re-routing of trails, membership details, and links to other hiking trails in New Hampshire.

**Mushing from page 21**

to see other dogs that are off leash on the Rail Trail. They want to go play with the other dogs they see down the trail.

AB: How do you react to a day on the trail?

ML: There is a lot of instinct that kicks in on the trail. First, I'm anxious about what could go wrong. But I'm often smiling ear to ear when everything is going smoothly.

I just love how happy the dogs are when they are running. I love how they press up against me during breaks, and all those slobbery husky kisses!

I love when the snowmobilers stop and ask about my pups. Almost always, one rider has had a husky in their life.

What is hardest physically is breaking trail, and being dragged. I have to be quick on my feet to grab the sled before they are gone without me. It would be a long walk back to the truck.

Emotionally, what's hard for me is fear. Fear that something awful will happen to my dogs. My dogs are scared of snowmobiles, so I always stop my team when they approach. Sometimes I will go stand next to the dogs.

I also worry very much about dogs

not on leashes. That stresses me the most. I don't want to have any dog fights or severe entanglements.

AB: Where do you enjoy mushing around Andover?

ML: The Rail Trail is excellent, as it is near my house and it goes on for miles and miles! Musers are losing trails all over New Hampshire for various reasons. It would be a dream to have places just for mushers to run, like they do in Alaska.

AB: Any interest or experience in competition?

ML: Right now, I do not have interest in competition. The main reason is my dogs are still a bit too young to do a 25-mile mid-distance race. I need good weather conditions for the whole winter to train the team.

AB: Can we root for you in the Iditarod in March? Someday?

ML: I would have to leave New England in December just to get to Alaska, train, and then race 1,000 miles, and then get home! If the Iditarod ever does end up on my bucket list, then it's safe to think I've been divorced!

For more information about Michelle and her dogs, visit Ragged Mountain Mushing on Facebook.

**"Singin' In The Rain"  
To Feature Actual "Rain"**

March 28-31 at Franklin Opera House

**Press release**

Franklin Footlight Theatre has taken on some challenges over its 23 year history, but this month's production of "Singin' in the Rain" is unprecedented. The actors performing at the Franklin Opera House will be singing and dancing in real rain on stage. Director Karielle Anzaldi says she had only one strong desire for this show... real rain. So set designer and technical director Chris Schroeder is making it happen.

The "Greatest Movie Musical of All Time" is faithfully and lovingly adapted by Broadway legends, Betty Comden and Adolph Green, from their original award-winning screenplay in "Singin' in the Rain." Each unforgettable scene, song, and dance is accounted for, including the show-stopping title number, complete with an onstage rainstorm! "Singin' in the Rain" has all the

makings of a Tinseltown tabloid headline –the starlet, the leading man, and a love affair that could change lives and make or break careers! In silent movies, Don Lockwood and Lina Lamont are a hot item but, behind the scenes, things aren't always as they appear on the big screen! Meanwhile, Lina's squeaky voice might be the end of her career in "talking pictures" without the help of a talented young actress to do the talking and singing for her. Filled with every memorable moment from the film and a downpour of unforgettable songs, "Singin' in the Rain" is a "can't miss" production.

Performances are March 28-30 at 7:30 PM., and two matinees March 30-31 at 2:00 PM at Franklin Opera House, located in historic Franklin City Hall at 316 Central Street. Tickets are \$14 and \$16, available online at [www.FranklinOperaHouse.org](http://www.FranklinOperaHouse.org), or by calling (603) 934-1901 during office hours.

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**Cheryl Wheeler**  
 March 9 7:30 pm  
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