

HERALD SUNDAY

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Towns see forests for the trees

North Hampton
Forever blazes trail to save open space

By **Larissa Mathers**
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NORTH HAMPTON — Buy it or lose it.

The success of a local group's land conservation efforts last year ignited a trend throughout the state as voters and officials alike seek to protect what's left of open space in their communities by passing big ticket bonds.

"One of the things people realized is if you want to protect something important, there's no substitute to either buying it or buying the development rights to it," said land use expert Cliff Summitt, executive director of the Rockingham Planning Commission.

According to an unofficial summary compiled by The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire

Forests and independent data, approximately 19 communities approved funds towards land or historical preservation efforts during this season's town meetings. Among the heaviest was a \$3 million bond approved by Stratham voters this March, and a \$2 million bond for permanent land conservation in Newfields. Voters in Newmarket will decide on a \$2 million bond at the May 14 town meeting. Local and state officials alike give credit to the successful efforts of North Hampton Forever, a subcommittee of the town's Conservation Commission that achieved overwhelming voter support last year for a \$4 million bond to be spent towards things like conservation land, easements and development rights.

"We made a deliberate effort to reach out to other towns," said NHF co-chair Phil Wilson, who also chairs the town's Planning Board.

See CONSERVATION, Page A8

Katerin happy and healthy in Guatemala

Hampton man
visits 8-year-old girl who underwent leg surgery

By **Susan Nolan**
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QUETZALTENANGO, Guatemala — Eight year old Katerin Gonzalez was wearing a red white and blue bandanna on her head as she came rushing home from school recently.

That she was wearing the symbol of the United States on her little head was a surprise for her visitor from New Hampshire.

Brad Whipple, father of Hampton's Barbara Whipple, had not announced his visit to the little Guatemalan girl and her mother. He had simply arrived unannounced, knocked on the door of the wedding shop where Katerin and her mother and sister live in a condensed old section of the shop in the city high in the Sierra Madre. "She had a bandanna with stars and stripes on it and had no clue it was coming," said Whipple.

"She must be wearing it every day," he said.

"When her sister came home, she was carrying the American

Airlines travel bag that her mom must have gotten on the flight. She was using it for a book bag and carried it obviously with pride," said Brad.

The last time Katerin had seen Brad Whipple was Christmas of 2000 at Barbara Whipple's Hampton home. Brad had carried the little one into Bethany Church of Greenland for Christmas services that year. The little girl was still recovering from leg lengthening surgery at Exeter Hospital.

Katerin and her mother Mercedes had come to the United States that year for the surgery performed by orthopedic surgeon Dr. Josh Sogel and Dr. Jesse Kuhn of Portland.

When Katerin first arrived, the then six year old dragged one foot along because, the sole of her heavy black left shoe was several inches thicker than the sole on her right shoe.

See GIRL, Page A9



N.A.S. Air National Guard members in chemical suits approach a bus that simulates NASA's shuttle, which could potentially land at Pease if a launch were aborted.

Deb Coakley/airnationalguard.com

The final frontier

New Hampshire on NASA mission

By **Nicholas Fireback**
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Three... two... one... liftoff. Four minutes after Blastoff a space shuttle is reporting instrument failure. An aircraft carrying six astronauts is inbound to Pease Air National Guard Base for a launch abort landing in 20 minutes on runway 3-4.

Pease air space is closed to all aircraft. The shuttle's telemetry and position is conveyed to New Hampshire Air National Guard Col. Carolyn Protmann, on scene commander via a direct line to Hester's Johnson Space Center.

Ten minutes and counting. Pease Fire Chief Eddie Alvarez and Capt. Terrance McDonnell advance the runway with four engines, an ambulance and safety teams to assume control of the manual operation upon final the shuttle's descent.

See SHUTTLE, Page A6



Spacewalking under the stars for Hubble

Granite State astronaut aids in last month's space telescope repair mission

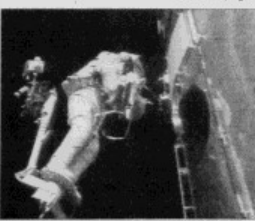
By **Richard Linneman**
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Rick Linnehan is among an elite group of Americans to have earned the title of spacewalker, and he recently served in one of the longest and most challenging NASA missions to date.

Linnehan, 44, was part of last month's mission that sent space shuttle Columbia and its crew of seven to the Hubble space telescope. It was his third shuttle mission, giving him a total of 43 days in space.

During a record 36 hours of spacewalking, astronauts improved the Hubble so it could peer deeper into the universe than ever before, almost to the beginning of time. Columbia logged nearly 4 million miles during the 11-day journey.

See LINNEMAN, Page A7



Above, astronaut Rick Linnehan, who grew up in New Hampshire, attaches eight shields to the Hubble space telescope during a shuttle mission last month.

At top right, Linnehan is helped with his launch and entry suit prior to Columbia's take-off for last month's mission to repair the Hubble telescope. Linnehan is a 1980 graduate of the University of New Hampshire.

INSIDE

Sports

Stick with it

A season preview of the local high school boys and girls lacrosse teams.

Page B1



Lotteries

Saturday, April 13, 2002

60 State Daily 1,011,536,3

Mass. Daily 1,195

60 State Megabucks: 8,521,329,341 Bonus 29



Today's weather

Page B6

SUN AND CLOUDS

High 66°

Index

Rainbows	.....	B1-4
Clearfields	.....	B3-20
Crossword	.....	B5
Entertainment	.....	F2
Entertainment	.....	B3-10
Exeter/Hampton	.....	A2
Letters to the Editor	.....	F2
Market News	.....	B9-9
Obituaries	.....	B7
Sports	.....	B3-6
Tv	.....	Inside
Weather	.....	B6
Words/Puzzles	.....	C1-6

Creek Farm cottage to stay

Owner, SPNHF agree to deed conditions for preserving house

By **Karen Dooler**
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PORTSMOUTH — Portsmouth historians said they are thrilled to learn a way to preserve Creek Farm Cottage may have been found.

"I think it's wonderful," said Portsmouth Advocate John Gossneau. "On the surface, the conditions seem very reasonable, and I am glad there seems to be a way to preserve this property."

Members of the Society for the Preservation of New Hampshire Forests announced on Friday the deed giving them the land after the death of the owner had been revised. The revision offers six conditions that if met, will allow the state's 1887 house to remain on site. The original deed would have required the SPNHF raise or remove the cottage on the death of owner Lillian "Billie" Noel.

The decision was announced almost a year after an advisory committee was put together to study the problem that proved land preservationists against historical preservationists.

In an earlier interview, before the announcement was made, James Garvin, state architectural historian for the N.H. Division of Historical Resources said he hoped the house would remain.

"We have been hoping that some recommendations might be forthcoming that would make the property of value to the Society for the Preservation of New Hampshire Forests," Garvin said, "while still allowing the historic house to remain a part of the legacy of the area."

Garvin said the house easily qualifies for the National Registry of Historical Places.

The SPNHF reached an agreement this week with Noel on conditions under which the main building could remain on the Creek Farm reservation.

See CREEK FARM, Page A10