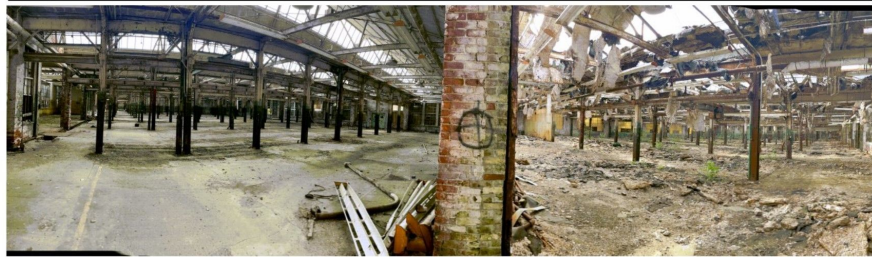


# Springfield Reporter

Continuing a Century-Old Hometown Tradition October 12, 2021 • Vol. 47 No. 40



## After Decades of Idle Deterioration, Plant One Demolition Begins Planning Underway for Potential Uses of What Remains of Former Machine Tool Plant

By Larry Kraft

Demolition of the Jones & Lamson Plant One building, which has been the focus of remediation and redevelopment efforts since 1986, is currently underway thanks to the project's receipt of \$3.7 million in state funds.

Other than the perimeter fencing that is already in place, however, the demolition work will not be visible from Clinton Street until the end of project, scheduled for late November or early December when the building's brick facade will be torn down.

"Until, then, people won't even know we're here," says Bill Finn of Costello Dismantling Company, Inc. the company that, along with Stone Environmental, is

overseeing the project.

Also, as a result of the entire building being condemned because it is structurally compromised as well as contaminated, no one is allowed on the site during the demolition. All workers will be required to wear HAZMAT suits and respirators.

So far, the work has focused on brush clearing and erosion control, especially because of the proximity of the Black River. Also, a temporary road has been constructed behind the building for trucks to haul away material.

Because of the high level of contaminants on the site, including asbestos and PCBs, not only will there be a constant spray of water on the building during

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Springfield Reporter

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

### SAPA TV Schedule

October 13 - 19, 2021

Send COVID-19 news to psn@sapatv.org

Public (Comcast 1077, VTel 160)

Wednesday, October 13  
7:00 PM The Gerry Grimo East Bay Jazz Ensemble - 8/13/21  
8:30 PM CMUHS Boys' Soccer at Otter Valley - 9/24/21  
10:00 PM Thomas Crane Public Library - Black Oscars  
Thursday, October 14  
7:00 PM Marital's Travelogue - Valenciay  
8:00 PM Puggy's Corner - Springfield on the Move, Sept. 2021  
9:00 PM Northshire Live - Peter Canellos  
10:00 PM 6 Feet Apart Open Mic - October 2021  
Friday, October 15  
7:00 PM The Gerry Grimo East Bay Jazz Ensemble - 8/13/21  
8:15 PM CMUHS Boys' Soccer vs Brattleboro - 9/29/21  
10:00 PM Music Mondays  
Saturday, October 16  
2:30 PM CMUHS Boys' Soccer vs Brattleboro - 9/29/21  
4:00 PM Thomas Crane Public Library - The Traveling Librarian  
6:15 PM The Suffragist Reenactment Society  
7:00 PM Marital's Travelogue - Valenciay  
8:00 PM Puggy's Corner - Springfield on the Move, Sept. 2021  
9:00 PM CMUHS Boys' Soccer vs Brattleboro - 9/29/21  
Sunday, October 17  
3:00 PM The Business of Cultivating Mushrooms  
3:30 PM Good Shepherd Church  
4:30 PM Science Cafe NH - Sept. 2021: Mushrooms  
5:30 PM Music and the Spoken Word  
6:00 PM Sunday Mass  
6:30 PM The Gerry Grimo East Bay Jazz Ensemble - 8/13/21  
8:00 PM Northshire Live - Maggie Smith  
9:00 PM EEE - Maple Production in Vermont  
10:00 PM Thomas Crane Public Library - Black Oscars  
Monday, October 18  
8:00 PM Marital's Travelogue - Valenciay  
9:00 PM Puggy's Corner - Springfield on the Move, Sept. 2021  
10:00 PM Music Mondays  
Tuesday, October 19  
7:00 PM The Gerry Grimo East Bay Jazz Ensemble - 8/13/21  
8:30 PM CMUHS Boys' Soccer vs Brattleboro - 9/29/21  
Gov. & Ed. (Comcast 1087, VTel 161)  
Wednesday, October 13  
7:00 PM Springfield School Board Meeting - 10/4/21  
10:00 PM Chester Select Board Meeting - 10/6/21  
Thursday, October 14  
7:00 PM Springfield Select Board Meeting - 9/27/21  
10:00 PM Chester Select Board Meeting - 10/6/21  
Friday, October 15  
7:00 PM Weatherfield Select Board Meeting - 10/4/21  
9:00 PM Springfield DRB Meeting - 9/14/21  
Saturday, October 16  
2:30 PM Thomas Crane Public Library - Restorative Yoga, Part 4  
4:00 PM GMAA Lectures - The Better Angels  
5:00 PM EEE - Maple Production in Vermont  
6:15 PM Aging Insights - 100 Prescriptions and Pills  
7:00 PM Springfield School Board Meeting - 10/4/21  
Sunday, October 17  
1:00 PM Energy Week - 9/30/21  
2:00 PM Racial Disparities Advisory Panel - Act 65 Working Group  
3:30 PM Press Pass - Kyle Madura 9/17/21  
4:00 PM Current Topics in Science - How Microchips Are Made  
5:00 PM Puggy's Corner - Springfield on the Move, Sept. 2021  
6:15 PM Chester Select Board Meeting - 10/6/21  
7:00 PM Springfield DRB Meeting - 9/14/21  
Monday, October 18  
7:00 PM Springfield School Board Meeting - 10/18/21 (LIVE)  
9:00 PM Chester Select Board Meeting - 10/6/21  
Tuesday, October 19  
7:00 PM Weatherfield Select Board Meeting - 10/4/21  
9:00 PM Springfield DRB Meeting - 9/14/21  
Be sure to check listings on air and online for any changes to these schedules at [www.sapatv.org](http://www.sapatv.org)



One of the boilers in the Boiler House, which is being demolished, may be the last photo of these (installed in 1931) before they are dismantled and disposed of in the next few weeks.

### Razing of J&L Plant One Has Begun Continued from Page 1

demolition, Finn says, but trucks and personnel will go through decontamination spray before leaving the site every day. All water will be filtered before being returned to the system.

The roof, much of which has already collapsed, contains asbestos and will be sent to a landfill out of state to be buried. One of the first tasks now underway is the asbestos remediation of the boilers which date back to 1931 before the demolition of both the Boiler House and the Power House that contained the plant's turbines.

When the entire demolition is complete, all that will remain is the concrete slab, which will then be analyzed to determine if it also needs to be removed.

In addition to the current J&L Metrology at the south end of the property, only the former J&L office, a 10,000 square foot area at the north end, that faces the parking lot and still has the Jones & Lamson sign above its door, will remain.

Bob Flint of the Springfield Regional Development Corporation, which has owned the property since 2003 following the bankruptcy of Goldman Industrial Group, says that "The portion that will stay is intended to serve as offices for SRDC as well as a

place to create a museum-type area to honor the machine tool industry's heritage."

Flint adds that "As part of our agreement with the Division of Historic Preservation, we will be reaching out to the Springfield Art & Historical Society in the

coming months to discuss this further."

At a September press conference that announced the state funds and the beginning of the demolition project, Flint had said that "We will always honor the legacy of what this building has meant to Springfield and to

our history."

He also said then that "Today we can transition to cleaning up this site for the health and safety of our community and also for the economic opportunity this iconic property will once again represent for Springfield and for the state of Vermont."



This interior view, and the front page photo, were provided by Costello Dismantling.



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