

# THE Messenger

"Your Local Weekly Since 1868 ♦ A Tradition Worth Keeping"

FREE ♦ OUR 144th YEAR ♦ ISSUE 9 ♦ MARCH 2, 2012



## New Dept Commander

Past Department Commander and current Department Parliamentarian Tony Rabbia installed Joseph W. Whelehan, Past Post Commander of Wilkins-Cloues-Bigelow-Pearson Post 39, in Warner, as the new District 5 Commander of the American Legion Department of New Hampshire on Tuesday, February 14. **See story and photo on page 11.**



## Stone Walls of NE

For more than thirty years Kevin Gardner has been a stone wall builder in a family business widely known for traditional New England stonework, particularly for historic restoration of antique structures. He will present "Stone Walls of New England," at the Nashua Public Library on Thursday, March 15, at 7 p.m.



Congratulations to the John Stark DECA team.

## John Stark DECA

### Five students finish in top 3

Eight John Stark DECA students along with their advisor, Tricia Macey, participated in the 55th annual DECA Career Development Conference held February 15th thru February 17th at the Radisson in Manchester. Students competed against over 300 other students from around NH. John Stark DECA is proud to announce that five students placed in the top 3 of their business category: Chandler Knowles placed 2nd in Accounting Applications; Nick Metcalf placed 2nd in Hotel and Lodging Management; Mike Metcalf placed 3rd in Principles of Hospitality and Tourism; Ashley and Courtney Ryan

placed 3rd in Team Decision Making Event for Marketing Communications; James Wilson received a competency award in his event Marketing Management and Brian Robichaud placed 3rd on the Automotive Services Marketing test.

The School-Based Enterprise, Generals' Store at John Stark Regional High School was among five school stores in the United States achieving Bronze Level Certification this year. Nick Metcalf worked on the certification, with his advisor Tricia Macey. For a report on the H-D DECA Team, see story and photo on page 3.

## Dollar General to open in Bennington

Fresh from its approval in Hillsborough, Dollar General has filed to build a store in Bennington. It will need several zoning variances to construct its standard 9,100 square-foot store. The store would be constructed at 169

Concord Street (Route 202), across from the former location for Plants Alive. The company has requested a joint public hearing with the Planning Board and ZBA, which will be held March 19th at 7:15 PM. at the Town Hall.

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# Nancy Egner Denu

## Hillsboro-Deering School Board Candidate



20 years experience working as social services administrator and mom of a 7th grader.

I respectfully ask for your vote on March 13th!

- Active community resident for the past 17 years
- Invested in Quality Education for ALL Students
- Experience working within the structure to achieve accountability & efficiency with fiscal responsibility
- "Big Picture" Thinker



Henniker Rotary Club President James Walsh thanks Marek Bennett for his return to the club to speak about his most recent comic book from his trip to Slovakia.

## Hopkinton teen fends off coyote attack

NH Fish and Game Department personnel are alerting residents of Hopkinton to the likely presence of a rabid coyote, following an attack on a local teenager on February 22nd. The young man was walking the family dog in a wooded area near his home when the coyote approached him. The dog ran away, at which point the coyote attacked the teenager. The teen defended himself, reportedly punching the coyote in the nose until the coyote left the scene. During the interaction, the teenager was scratched and possibly bitten by the coyote. The teen sought medical treatment, and is receiving a course of rabies shots as a precaution. If Hopkinton residents see a coyote behaving aggressively, they are asked to notify Fish and Game Law Enforcement dispatch at (603) 271-3361.

## Warner woman is new Executive Director

The New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence has announced the appointment of Kimberly France of Warner as the new executive director. France most recently was the interim executive director for the New Hampshire Retirement System, where she held many responsibilities throughout her tenure that included communications, human relations and working with the legislature. She also worked in human resources for the state judicial branch and was the public relations and marketing manager for the state economic development division.

## Newport delays 10% sewer rate increase

After review of the financial status of the Sewer Department, Newport Town Manager Paul Brown suggested that the selectmen could delay implementation of the expected 10% Sewer rate increase until the 2013-2014 year. The projected 10% Water rate increase would still apply this year. After a short discussion, the board unanimously approved the delay.

## Relay For Life volunteers still needed

Volunteers are still needed at the annual Relay For Life of Kearsarge Lake Sunapee, at the Relay Rally and Dinner Celebration set for March 7 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church. The evening will feature a celebration of survivors, caregivers, 2011 Relay pictures, Relay information, refreshments and other ways to get involved with the Relay. To find out how to volunteer, or to RSVP for the Relay Rally, please contact Wendy Davis at 763-9672 or walk4nh@yahoo.com.

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# Twelve H-D DECA Students off to Salt Lake City

The New Hampshire DECA 55th Annual Career Development Conference was held Feb.15 through Feb. 17 at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester.

The Hillsboro-Deering DECA chapter has a membership of thirty-six students with twenty-two attending.

Out of the 22 students who attended, 18 won awards of some special recognition and 12 are eligible to move on to compete at the International Career Development Conference in Salt Lake City, from April 27 – May 2.

The students attending the International Competition include: Robert Armstrong and Austin Conroy–Virtual Business Retailing – Second Place North Atlantic Region; Austin Brown, Aspen Dubuque, and Mollie Moore–Financial Literacy Promotion Project; Alyssa Bailey, Cassidy Snair, and Arthur Tuttle–School Based Enterprise; Rebekah Marin–Leadership Development Academy; Sarah Egner–State Officer Academy; and Second Place Hospitality and Tourism Professional Sales, Henry Glendinning – Second Place Principles of Hospitality Brandon Grano –

First Place Advertising Campaign.

Many other individual accomplishments were awarded to the students in the chapter and the chapter itself was recognized for Gold in the School Based Enterprise.

“I am very proud of their efforts. Each one of them worked hard individually and/or as a team. Out of the 12 going to Salt Lake only 3 are seniors, so there will be some veterans

on the team next year as students attempt to reach Anaheim, California in 2013!” said Marc Payeur, H-D DECA advisor. DECA students will be selling Little Caesar’s Pizzas as a fundraiser to assist in getting to Salt Lake. If you want to find out more about DECA or want to help these students make it to Orlando, contact Mr. Payeur at 464-1130 X3121.



Hillsboro-Deering DECA team shines again.

## PD needs eye wash faucet

The Department of Labor inspected the Bradford Police Station and they are required to put in an Eye Wash Faucet. An OSHA approved Eye Wash Faucet sells for \$1,300.00. The Department of Labor will be back to re-inspect the last of March or first of April. Emergency lighting in the Community Center was discussed and Cheryl Behr questioned if the lighting out back of the building could be checked as its rather dark there.

## Weare man arrested in Florida after being "Googled"

A former Weare man sought in connection with the sexual assault of a nine-year-old city girl was arrested in Florida after a new acquaintance "Googled" him and contacted police.

Gerald Wilson, 45, most recently of 32 Hoit Mill Road, Weare, was arrested Friday in Ormand Beach, where he had been staying at a hotel. Authorities had obtained warrants for the arrest of Wilson on two

counts of felonious sexual assault and one of criminal threatening, but he was not at the Weare address and police suspected he was staying with friends in an effort to avoid being arrested.

Wilson, who was acquainted with the girl's mother, allegedly assaulted the girl in September and threatened to physically harm her if she told anyone about it.




# Welcome New Readers!

This issue of The Messenger is being mailed to you to introduce you to our weekly newspaper which has been published continuously since 1868. On page 13 you will find a list of the locations where you can pick up a FREE copy of The Messenger each Friday or you can read the entire paper FREE on line at

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The Monadnock Healthy Teeth to Toes Tooth Fairy visited Antrim Elementary School sharing information regarding healthy dental habits, keeping teeth clean, and good nutrition.

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**Please note that it is for  
the veterans' memorial.**

### Public witnesses Sunapee timber harvest

The Webb family of Harding Hill Farm in Sunapee partnered with the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust on Feb. 4th to offer a tour of a timber harvest in progress on the Webb property located on Stagecoach and Harding Hill roads.

The tour was led by licensed forester and certified logger, Van Webb, and certified logger and arborist, Tyler Webb, along with licensed forester, Tim Fleury, of the UNH Cooperative Extension Services. Nearly 50 people participated in this field trip that highlighted the value of having a professionally written forest management plan when considering a timber harvest on your property and the importance of creating a contract with your logger prior to commencing work. Van, Tyler and Tim guided the group through a patch cut, a red oak thinning and a white pine harvest. They shared the importance of focusing on the quality and future growth of the trees and saplings that would be left after the harvest, as well as protecting the soil and wet areas from erosion during the harvest.

### Peterborough woman guilty of fraud

A Peterborough woman is serving 5 months in jail after being convicted of defrauding the NH Department of Health and Human Services. Kelly Pujue, 38, pleaded guilty to felony welfare fraud and misdemeanor theft by deception charges. She stole more than \$75,000 in welfare benefits by failing to disclose all of her income and financial resources and by stating that her husband was not a member of her household while he was residing with her. Pujue was sentenced to one to three years in state prison, all suspended, on the felony welfare fraud charge. She was also sentenced to a year in jail, with seven months suspended, on the misdemeanor theft charge. She must pay restitution of \$75,138.95 to the Health and Human Services within 10 years, or face revocation of the suspended sentences.

### Bradford Ice Fishing Derby winners

The Bradford Fish and Game Club sponsored another successful Kids Ice Fishing Derby on Lake Todd on Sunday. The winners include: Jacob Fisher of Warner who took the prize for the biggest fish of the day, a 23 inch pickerel, Brandon Cayer of Contoocook caught the biggest pickerel; Jared Choiniere of MA caught the biggest crappie, and David Audet of Newport caught the day's biggest perch.



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# Mark Christensen resigns - paid settlement

As reported in last week's Messenger, Mark Christensen, suspended Newport High School principal will not resume his duties in Newport. He resigned his position effective June 30, but will continue to be paid in full including benefits through June 30th. Christensen will then receive a lump sum payment covering three months, totaling an additional \$22,750. In his letter of resignation Christensen wrote, "I regret to inform you that I will be exploring other career opportunities and will resign my position as principal as of June 30, 2012." Interim Superintendent Donna Moyer released a joint statement from the Newport School District and Christensen stating: "The Newport School District and Dr. Mark Christensen are pleased to acknowledge that the recent legal matter involving Dr. Christensen has been resolved, without a finding of wrongdoing on the part of Dr. Christensen. Both Dr. Christensen and the Newport School District are pleased that

the matter has been brought to a close. Criminal assault charges against him were placed on file for one year, pending good

behavior, and he was required to complete anger management classes before returning as Newport principal.

## Library Trustees propose cost savings

After receiving the Architects' estimate of \$75,000 to reconstruct the rear stairway and \$153,000 to install sprinklers in Hillsborough's Governor Smith Mansion, the Fuller Library Trustees informed the selectmen that they could complete both projects "in house" eliminating a general contractor and having the work done by local craftsmen.

The back stairs can be done for

\$48,000, an amount the Trustees have on hand. The sprinkler installation will cost only \$95,000 with local labor. The Trustees have \$15,000 on hand and have received a \$40,000 LCHIP grant. Voters will be asked to support a \$40,000 Warrant article to complete the project. A third project, to install a fire escape from the second floor will be deferred to another year.

## Hancock Election Forum

Candidates for Hancock town offices will meet voters at a forum on Sunday at 2 p.m. at the town library.

itzarth and Jim Mose face off for a seat on the Selectboard, the only contested race on the ballot. Both small businesses owners, they are running for the seat held Chairman Roberta LaPlante, who is not seeking re-election.



Fuller Library Trustee Chairman Robert Woolner and Librarian Tammy McClure briefed the Hillsborough Selectmen on renovation projects at the library.

# WINTER CLEARANCE!

## Yellow Tag Sale

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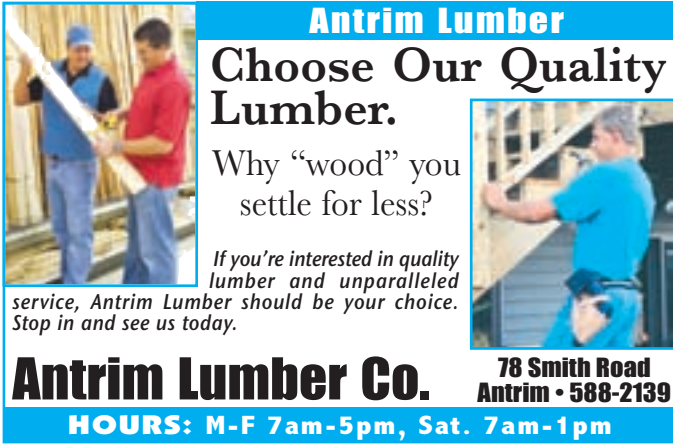


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Roxana Smith (left), Vice-Regent of the Mercy Hathaway White Chapter NSDAR presents Angie Lavoy (right), Regent of the Mercy Hathaway White Chapter NSDAR with a Centennial Pin to wear on the Regent's Ribbon. This year marks the Centennial for the Mercy Hathaway White Chapter NSDAR.

 **Alma Marter**

Eastern Connecticut State University student **Thomas Vickers** '13 of Henniker, NH, was named to the Dean's List. Vickers is a full-time student majoring in Business Administration.

**Curtis J. Parker** of Hillsboro, a freshman majoring in mechanical engineering, was named to the Dean's List at Clarkson University.

**Alina P. Michelewicz** of Nelson, **Olivia H. Krommes** of Peterborough, and **Lila T. Trowbridge** of Peterborough, were named to first honors on the Clark University Dean's List.

**Juliana D. Spahr** of Contoocook, has been named to second honors on the Clark University Dean's List.

**Gary Butler**, class of 2012, of Washington, was named to the Wells College Dean's List. Gary graduated from Hillsboro-Deering High School and is now majoring in Environmental Studies.

**Rebecca Miller** '14 of New London, has earned recognition as a Honors Scholar at Elmira College. Rebecca is majoring in Childhood Education and English Literature and is the daughter of Eric and Kathryn Miller.

**Erica-Lynn Wesoly** of Greenfield, was named to the Becker College Dean's List.

**Cadet Brandon J. Gillett**, USMA Class of 2013, has been named to the Dean's List at the U.S. Military Academy. Gillett is majoring in United States History (with Thesis) in the Honors Program. He graduated from Hillsboro-Deering High School in 2009 and will be commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army upon graduation at West Point.

**Kirby B. Lynch** of New London, bachelor of science in biology, psychology and Emerson H. Fitch of Peterborough, bachelor of science in mechanical engineering graduated from Clarkson University in December 2011.

**Alexander Beckwith**, and **Kathryn Jackson**, residents of Contoocook, and **Claire Briggs**, a resident of Peterborough, and **Lindsey St. Louis**, a resident of New London, were named to the Roger Williams University Dean's List.

**Ian P. Smith** received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Boston University.

**Shayne A. Begin**, a member of the Class of 2012, is the son of Stephen and Elizabeth Begin of Hillsboro, majoring in economics-mathematics who attended Salisbury School was named to the dean's list at Colby College.

**Elizabeth Grisafi**, of Peterborough, a member of the Class of 2015 and is majoring in Environmental Science/Policy Emphasis was named to the Dean's List at Marist College.

**Morgan Dunn** has been named to the fall 2011 Dean's List at University of the Sciences. Dunn is from Henniker and is a biology student.

# Triple Installation at Hillsborough Legion

**Photo and text by Richard L. Dahlgren.**

Young-Richardson Post 59, Hillsboro, The American Legion, held its installation of officers on February 21, 2012. Over 60 members and friends witnessed the triple installation: Legion Post 59, Auxiliary Unit 59, and SAL (Sons of American Legion) Squadron 59. Joseph Whelehan, District 5 Commander served as "Master of Ceremonies" and introduced the installing officers for the Auxiliary and Squadron.

Past Department Auxiliary President Shirley Cook, installed Auxiliary Unit 59 president, Margo Bean and her officers.

Richard Pond, SAL Detachment Commander, installed Keith Murdough as Commander of Squadron 59 and his officers.

District 5 Commander Joseph Whelehan, a member of Post 39 in Warner, installed Post 59 Commander David Tucci and his officers.

District 5 Sgt. at Arms Tony Rabbia served as Sgt at Arms for the installation and District 5 Service Officer, Fred Richards as Chaplain. Other members of District 5 attending were: Richard

Dahlgren, Public Information Officer. Tony is also a Past Department Commander of New Hampshire and currently serves as Department Parliamentarian. Following the installation, visiting dignitaries,

Tony Rabbia, Ernie Henry, Department Vice Commander, Gerry Bernard, Department Vice Commander, and Charles Cook, Vice Commander of the SAL, made brief remarks.



(L to R) Keith Murdough, Margo Bean, David Tucci.

## Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum Summer Day Camps registration

Registration is now open for Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum's Turtle Island Day Camp. The summer day camp on 10 acres of fields and forest in Warner offers boys and girls ages 6-12 outdoor activities, crafts, games, storytelling, music and art based on Native American culture, all with an environmental awareness component. Each week-long session includes visits

from special guests and/or Native American tradition bearers. This year's weekly sessions are "Games and Challenges," "Archaeology Week," "The Powwow is Coming!" "Survival Week," "Land, Lore, and Animals," "Spin a Story Web," and "Weave a Story Web." The camp runs June 25-Aug 3, Monday - Friday, 9am - 3pm. Extended care is available mornings and afternoons.

Space is limited to 12 campers each week. Sign up for one week or as many as you like. Turtle Island Day Camp is completely accessible and is licensed by the State of New Hampshire. Financial aid is available. Turtle Island Day Camp accepts State of NH Childcare Assistance funds. For registration forms or more information visit [indianmuseum.org](http://indianmuseum.org) or call 456-2600 x226.

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All sorts of goodies were available at the Washington Indoor Yard Sale last Saturday.

**Henniker Youth Hockey Association results**

**The Henniker Huskies PeeWees** in front of goalie Jamo Bourque allowed just 1 goal over two games this weekend. Jon Doss's hat trick and Bridget Pope's goal, assisted by Cam Bourque, powered the Huskies' win over Keene. Doss' 2nd hat trick in as many days led the Huskies over Lakes Region. The trio of Pope, Palmer Timmons and Cam Bourque carried the defensive responsibilities for the weekend.

**The Henniker Huskies Squirt 1** team, went 2-0 over the weekend, winning back to back games against the Back Bay Squirts and the Hanover Squirt 2 teams. The Huskies fought hard for a 5-4 win against Back Bay on Saturday. Gunnar Senatore and Paul Molnar each tallied two goals, with another goal added by defenseman Jacob Cole. The Huskies dominated on Sunday, shutting out the Hanover Squirt 2 team 5-0. Matthew Strickland was solid in net. Paul Molnar and Cooper Nadeau each scored two, and Jacob Cole added another. Gunnar Senatore contributed three assists in the winning effort

**Henniker Huskies Squirt 2 team** played a hard battle against the Monarchs House team today but lost 8-2. Mac Timmons scored for the Huskies, assisted by Nathan Firman and Zach Urban. Tyler Scordo also scored for the Huskies with an assist from Andrew Nordstrom. A strong defense was played by Reece Protzmann and Noah Urban. Ainsley King stood tall between the pipes.

**The Henniker Husky Mites beat Kearsarge 9-1** The offense was led by Aidan Pope with a Hat trick and two assists, Camden Hilton had a hat trick, Ethan Molnar (2 goals) and Evelyn Izrazy (1 goal, 1 assist). Levi Jones had an assist and played well at both ends of the ice. Preston Briggs played well in goal.

**The Henniker Husky Bantams** recorded a 2-1 win over Rochester. Kyle Kohlemanian and Peter Sawitsky scored goals, Ashley Thompson had 2 assists. Justin Bowen and Teddy Ernst played well defensively.

**The Henniker Huskies PeeWees** came up on the short end of a 0-1 game this weekend against Rochester. Rochester's goal came early in the 1st period. Cam Bishop and Keith Lehrman led the offensive effort and Jake Boucher had a strong performance on the blue line.



# Deering's Hedgehog Mountain fully preserved

Over the past year, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests has added another 492 acres to its 607-acre Hedgehog Mountain Forest in Deering, bringing the total reservation to 1,100 acres.

Not only is the Hedgehog Mountain landscape visible from many vantage points in the area, including Route 202 between Hillsborough and Antrim and a nearby rail trail, but it also offers outstanding views of that landscape to the explorers who venture up the mountain's slopes.

Comprising five separate properties that all directly abut the Hedgehog Mountain Forest, the recent acquisitions complete the permanent conservation of the entire Hedgehog Mountain ridgeline, including the mountain's northern summit. It is this prominent ridgeline that offers many over-looks of the Contoocook River Valley and the Quabbin-to-Cardigan highlands.

Both the Forest Society and the Deering Conservation Commission have conducted a sustained long-term effort to conserve this ecologically rich area, which is also a conservation priority of the Quabbin-to-Cardigan Partnership. As a part of the Contoocook

River watershed, the forests and wetlands on and around Hedgehog Mountain provide a natural buffering system that helps preserve water quality in the streams feeding the Contoocook River.

Much of the \$757,000 needed to purchase the land was generously provided

by a private local foundation and through the support of many individuals. However, the last piece of the puzzle was generously donated by Mark and Marcia Lewis of PA. A grant through the Quabbin-to-Cardigan Partnership helped to cover transaction costs and staff time.



Congressman Charlie Bass and State Senator Bob O'Dell hosted a well attended Town Hall Meeting in Newbury last week.

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Washington School Board will hold their Annual School District meeting on Saturday, March 10, 2012, at 2:00 pm in the Washington Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room.

## PUBLIC NOTICE HILLSBORO-DEERING SCHOOL DISTRICT

To the residents of the School District in the towns of Hillsboro and Deering qualified to vote in District affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet in each town, on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, to vote, by official ballot, on the election of officers and on all warrant articles. Voting shall take place at the following locations and times:

For Deering Voters:  
Deering Town Hall — 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

For Hillsboro Voters:  
Hillsboro-Deering Middle School Gym — 7:00 am to 7:00 pm



James Coffey (l) and Bob Hutchinson (r).

## Emerald Lake improvements projects

Emerald Lake Commission Chairman Bob Hutchinson and Administrator Jim Coffey briefed the Hillsborough Selectmen on several projects underway in the District. The Hummingbird Lane bridge has been removed.

Its replacement will be going out to bid and Hutchinson asked the town replacement of the Gould Pond Road bridge be delayed until Hummingbird has been replaced. Coffey also reported that an extensive replacement of waterlines is underway and should be completed by November. The Village district is paying for the engineering study on the Inlet Project but would like the selectmen to agree to pay a portion of the cost of dredging and repair.

## New London & Hopkinton artists at NEC

Two local artists are featured in the exhibit of The Resilient Landscape at The Gallery at New England College from March 20 to April 19, 2012. The public is invited to a reception to meet the artists on Thursday, March 29 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Grace Cooper is from New London.

Her work is inspired by nature and the varying aspects of light, color and atmosphere. She paints in her studio, using photos and sketches as a starting point, and then the process takes on a life of its own, revealing an emotion more than a literal interpretation of a scene. Byron Carr is from Hopkinton.

He paints outside on location. The changing light conditions limit his observation time to capture the scene and impression. He uses many of these works as reference for larger pieces that he creates in his studio.

## Newport's \$2.2 million phosphorus bid

Town Manager Paul Brown informed the Newport Selectmen that he received three bids for phosphorus removal at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The lowest was by Penta Corporation of Moultonborough for \$2,253,000, including installation of a \$6,500 crane inside the facility.

After they received the bids, the town's engineers asked Penta if there were other potential savings and were told the bid could be reduced by \$41,000. This is only a part of the project. Testing and solids handling and a %5 contingency will raise the total cost to \$3,438,000 but 30% will be paid by the EPA, leaving Newport with \$2.4 million to pay.



BY SARAH CHAPIN

## TAKE YOUR MEDICINE

**A meta-analysis—an overarching analysis of past studies—reported in the *Journal of Clinical Hypertension* found that treatment with coenzyme Q10 supplements significantly reduced blood pressure.**

**Patients often take drugs to lower stomach acid and reduce the chances they will develop ulcers from taking their anti-inflammatory drugs for conditions such as arthritis, but the combination may be causing major problems for their small intestines, according to a study published in the medical journal *Gastroenterology*. The extent of the hard-to-detect damage caused to the small intestine has only recently been discovered through the use of small video cameras swallowed like pills.**

**New research published in *Neurology* suggests brain tumor patients who take the seizure drug valproic acid (Brand names: Depakene, Depakote, Epilim, Stavzor) on top of standard treatment may live longer than people who take other kinds of epilepsy medications to control seizures. Seizures occur in up to half of all people with glioblastomas, the most common and most malignant brain tumor in adults. For those patients with seizures, treatment with one of several epilepsy drugs is highly recommended. After surgery, standard treatment for patients with newly diagnosed glioblastoma is radiation therapy together with the chemotherapy drug temozolomide (brand names Temodar and Temodal).**

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# Warner Legionnaire is District 5 Commander

**Photos and text by Rich Dahlgren.**

Joseph W. Whelehan, Past Post Commander of Wilkins-Cloues-Bigelow-Pearson Post 39, Warner, Department of New Hampshire, The American Legion, was sworn in as the new District 5 Commander of the Department of New Hampshire on Tuesday, February 14, 2012.

The ceremony took place at the NH Telephone Museum in Warner at a regular meeting of Post 39. Past Department Commander and current Department Parliamentarian Tony Rabbia did the honors.

Gerard Leduc, District 5 Junior Vice Commander, was sworn in as District 5 Senior Vice Commander that night.

Whelehan, a New York transplant, has lived in New Hampshire for the past 23 years and resides in Lempster with his wife Emily and three daughters. He is a Navy veteran and has served District 5 as Chaplain, Junior Vice Commander, and Senior Vice Commander before being sworn in as District 5 Commander. He will be responsible for 12 Posts in his District.

Leduc, a New Hampshire native is cur-

rently the Commander of Elwood O. Wells Post 112 in Epsom. He resides in Pittsfield with his wife Jane and has two sons and

two daughters and six grandchildren. He is also a Navy veteran and one of Pittsfield's Selectmen.



(L to R) Joseph W. Whelehan and Gerard Leduc.



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**Joyce Bosse:** Editor

**Christi Macomber:** Advertising Design

**Gail Stratos:** Publications Design & Layout,  
Advertising Design, Production & Website

**Deborah Belanger:** Sales Rep.

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We will print signed letters to the editor on a space available basis. Letters should be no more than 250 words, typed or e-mailed. Letters must be signed but names may be excluded upon request.

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Also from the The Granite Quill:

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### NH Homes & Home Improvement

*A Guide for NH Home Owners & Home Seekers*

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## Publisher's Perspective *by Leigh Bosse*



### Preserve a piece of Hillsborough history

On page 5 you'll find a story of the Library Trustee's efforts to preserve and maintain the Governor John Smith Mansion. They are to be commended. Faced with huge estimates to replace a rear stairway and installing a sprinkler system in the historic Governor Smith Mansion which houses the Library, they devised a system utilizing local labor which has dramatically cut the costs. Tom McClure has volunteered his time and talents to supervise the work.

The Trustees currently have the \$48,000 needed for the stairway, so no

tax dollars are needed. Of the \$95,000 required for the sprinkler system, The Trustees will contribute \$15,000 and have secured a \$40,000 LCHIP Grant. They are asking taxpayers to support a \$40,000 warrant article to complete the project. I congratulate the Trustees on their efforts and urge Hillsborough voters to support this modest investment in the town's history and character. Above all other buildings in town, the Governor Smith Mansion reflects our historic roots and current identity. We owe it to future generations to preserve it.

### Taxpayers deserve more than just a bill

On page 5 you will read the story of former Newport High School principal Mark Christense who "RESIGNED" to pursue other options. That phrase has a familiar ring to it. It is virtually the same language used for principal Dixie Tremblay's recent "RESIGNATION" from Hillsboro-Deering High School. There are other similarities too! Both Tremblay and Christensen were given generous taxpayer funded severance packages to enable them to "pursue other

interests."

Christensen, who was suspended in late September and criminally charged with assaulting a 16 year old student, had been on paid administrative leave since then. He will now continue to receive his \$100,000 in salary and benefits thru June 30th, and then be paid an additional \$22,750. Dixie Tremblay, whose tearful resignation came amid a cloud of unconfirmed rumors was paid over \$60,000 to leave. In each case,

taxpayers deserve more than just the bill. If Christensen or Tremblay did something wrong and don't deserve to lead our schools - fire them, without any severance package.

If they truly want to terminate their

contracts to "pursue other interests" - let them go, but without any payment. The only way departing officials should be given severance is if school officials did something offensive TO them. In which case, who did what and why weren't they fired?



## OPINION Letters to the Editor

### Dear Editor:

On February 18th and 19th the Washington Fire Dept. held its annual Ice Fishing Derby, an event that helps fund training, equipment and other items essential to a well run department. Here on Island Pond in Washington, the Washington Lake Association has had a long tradition of opening our private boat launch and parking area for derby participants. However, with this year's unusually mild weather we had concerns regarding safety, and in particular with vehicles being driven out onto the ice.

I discussed this with the event organizer and the decision was made that while we would still open the WLA parking area, the chain would remain up at our boat launch so that no vehicles could access the ice from our property. Unfortunately this was not communicated to derby participants and on Friday myself and several other association members had to turn away disappointed anglers who had arrived at our parking area with their bob houses, ATVs and equipment in tow. Those we spoke with were polite and understanding.

Unfortunately on Saturday morning several other derby participants decided that if they couldn't use our launch area, they would simply drive their ATVs and snowmobiles across our beach area. When approached they were belligerent in their response, and I subsequently contacted the Washington Police Dept.

Chief Marshall was unaware our launch was not opened for this year's event, and apparently contacted Chief Brian Moser of the Washington Fire Dept. who then called me and said that the ice was safe and we should take the chain down if we didn't want them going across our beach. I didn't want to risk damage to our beach area (the sand was not snow covered or frozen) so against my better judgement I opened the chain at our association launch.

We should not have been put in this situation, and our concerns for safety were legitimate.

There are numerous areas of open water all over the lake and we should have received the back up and support from the various town departments.

The vast majority of derby participants are polite and responsible, but unfortunately there will always be a few "bad apples." I strongly urge a system of close monitoring and supervision on the part of event organizers and the Washington Police Dept. be implemented for next year's derby weekend. A lot of people use the WLA parking lot and boat launch, and unless our concerns are addressed our membership may decide to rethink it's generosity.

**Heidi Butcher, President  
Washington Lake Association**

\*\*\*\*\*

### To the editor:

We are Weare voters who will be voting for John Lawton for selectman. John is a thoughtful, hard working person who will take seriously the responsibility of being a Weare selectman. He has and will take the time and expend the energy to research and ask questions that are necessary to think independently and make wise decisions that will benefit Weare residents.

John is a long-time resident and has served the town in many capacities. He was a member of the Weare School Board. He was on the town's cable committee when it was in its infancy. He was a volunteer firefighter. He served on the parks and recreation commission and the town finance committee. As a member of the Weare Athletic Club, he coached basketball and football.

Vote for John Lawton on March 13th. Weare will be a better town for it.

**Heleen and Neal Kurk, Weare**

\*\*\*\*\*

# THE Messenger

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**Antrim:** Antrim Marketplace, T-Birds, Rick & Diane's

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**Claremont:** Market Basket, Hannaford's

**Contoocook:** T-Bird, Colonial Village, Dimitris

**Deering:** Derring Town Hall

**Francestown:** Country Store

**Goffstown:** Sully's Superette

**Greenfield:** Delay's Store

**Hancock:** Fiddleheads, Country Store

**Henniker:** Harvester Market, Country Spirit, Edmunds, Pharmacy, Pop Schultz, Simon Center, St. Georges Cafe

**Hillsborough:** Sweet Expressions, Shaw's, Diner, Williams' Store, The Corner Store, Irving, Lake Sunapee Bank, Sovereign Bank, Beauford's, Najib's

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**Jaffrey:** Belletete's

**Newbury:** Marzelli's, Mobil, Out Spoken, Lake Sunapee Bank, One Mile West

**New London:** Hannaford's, McKenna's, Colony Marketplace, Gallery, Pizza Chef

**Newport:** Shaw's, Irving, T-Bird, Country Kitchen, Lake Sunapee Bank, Sugar River Bank

**Peterborough:** Belletete's, Agway, Shaw's

**Rindge:** Market Basket, Hannaford's

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**Sutton:** General Store

**Warner:** Evan's Expressmart, Irving, Market Basket, Foothills

**Washington:** Washington General Store

**Weare:** Lancots, Couburns, Dimitri's



# HONORS

## Hopkinton Middle-High School

### GRADE 12

**High Honors:** Hannah Durant, Nathaniel Greabe, Tess Hamilton, Susanna Keilig, Matthias Marklin, Emily Meister, Breanna Ostrander, Samuel Ruderman, Rachel Salzberg, Rachel Sawyer, Emma Vance, Elizabeth Wallingford, Edward Yonkers.

**Honors:** Anthony Andrew, Kendall Benson, Madison Cairns, Elizabeth Chesley, Heather Coen, Peter England, Daniel Fletcher, John Hastings, Elijah Herman, Oliver Josephson, James Knight, Killian Miller, Joseph Montore, Claire Nee, Lauren Reidy, Hannah Steff, Julian Taranow, Griffin Yianakopolos.

### GRADE 11

**High Honors:** Lucas Arruda, Elizabeth Bernier, Maya Bloom, Emily Bogart, Austin Cowan, Slaterry Donohoe, Kaitlin Dougherty, Nina Gagnon, Nathaniel Hunt, Zoe Jantzen, Caroline Levy, Ian McCluskey, Henry Merrow, Edward Metcalf, Marysol Newton, Colin O'Keefe, Benjamin Olimpio, Benjamin Thesing.

**Honors:** Ahmad Abo, Al Borgol, Katherine Allen, Megan Allen, Steven Auger, Emma Bairstow, Charles Bartlett, Aaron Beckwith, Murrigan Bernier, Maria Booth, Thelian Zora, Cameron DeBrusk, Madeline Donahue, Carter Eitrem, David England, Emily Geiger, Tess Guilmette, Elizabeth Hancock, Katherine Irwin, Alexander Locke, Jessica Mellen, Brian Morgan, Bennett Mosseau, Shannon Nadeau, Nathan Robertson, Samuel Smith.

### GRADE 10

**High Honors:** Madison Bergethon, Marissa Bohlman, Chelsea Bonollo, Victoria Bonollo, Wesley DeBrusk, Brian Hauschild, Megan Hemmerlein, Thomas Knight, Sonja Leavitt, Catherine MacDonald, Gordon MacDonald, Jordan Rose Mack, Brittany Marshall, Laura Masinick, Hannah Needleman, Jacob Nelson, Paige Scammon, Amy Sharpe, Caroline Sweny, Emily Vallari, Olivia Wilson.

**Honors:** Katherine Andrew, Meagan Bailey-Bourque, Courtney Benson Brancato, Dominic Andrew, Clay Nicole Cullinan, Emma Donahue, Matthew French, Bethany Glanville, Katherine Irwin, Emily Jones, Sydney Kerbyson, William-Andrew Lalancette, Liam McNicholas, Jacob Mechaber, Sabrey Montore, Emma Ridinger, Joshua Salzberg, Kelly Scammon, Colby Tawney, Benjamin Thompson,

Katherine Wasserman, Abigail White, Jordan Young.

### GRADE 9

**High Honors:** Erik Backe, Callie Chase, Jamison Crouch, Madeline Cudmore, Cyr Cooper, Isabel Gesen, Mary Hardenbergh, Cydonia Hubicki, Luke Luneau, Simeon Marklin, Evan O'Keefe, Nolan Quinn, Caitlin Reidy, Zachary Rouleau, Evan Schindewolf, Sorel, Madison Christine Spaulding, Sloane White.

**Honors:** Austin Brehio, Emily Calder, Grace Givens, Luke Greabe, Eric Hauschild, Kyle LaPage, Justin Madore, Michael McGrath, Emma Ouellette, Evan Ruderman, Jessica Santis, Adam Scala, Sierra Schuster, Rebeca Scordo, Rebecca Shatney, Elizabeth Zanes.

### GRADE 8

**High Honors:** Isadora Ackerman, Jonathan Arruda, Hannah Bassett, Kendall Bergethon, Duncan Calder, Conall Cronin, Julia Friberg, Henry Johnstone, Owen Kanter, Abigail Meister, Lauren Metzger, Lily Mitchell, Bowman Ridinger, Lily Scammon, Kyle Tworek, Jacob Walling, Abigail Winslow.

**Honors:** Kenneth Andrew, Sierra Bickford, Samantha Brewer, Declan Campbell, Samuel Chase, Ellie Coe, Courtney Crouch, Zachary Drotos, Nicholas Fleury, Caroline Flood, Owen Geary, Felicia Gordon, Timothy Jones, Gedrek Jorgensen, Phoebe Josephson, Megan Mullins, Sarah Nadeau, Colin Noonan, Lillian Price, Emmaleigh Sabol, Cheyenne Sholik, Ireland Tawney.

### GRADE 7

**High Honors:** Matthew Baronas, Alexis Blanchette, Emily Campbell, Michael Ciance, Madison Clark, Cameron Cyr, Sagenay Dubois, John Durant, Patrick Earley, Grace Gauthier, Phoebe, Jantzen, Isabel Layne, Kevin Mackenzie, Nicholas Mayo, Benjamin McManus, Timothy Meserve, Emily Mitchell, Aidan Molnar, Kayl Murdough, William Rhynhart, Jacob Rockwood, Emily Santis, Joseph Spalding, Isabel Tobin, Alexandra Wheeler, Parker White, Lillias Whitehead, Henry Yianakopolos.

**Honors:** Derek Amoth, Hayden Benson, Joseph Cullinan, Aaliyah Curley, Brianna Curley, Ivanna Doval, Noah Kerbyson, Alin Leeming, Matthew Lewis, Timothy Sawitsky, Keegan Sorel, Caleb Taylor.

## Weare Middle School

### GRADE 8

**High Honors:** Kayla Archambault, Victoria Bamford, Lindsey Beahm, Jacob Blanchette, Kyle Clements, Kierstin Collanzo, Timmi Compagna, Madison Costa, Jacob Dionne, Hunter Eastman, Karle Erf, Jared Fisher, Ryan Gordon, Caitlin Haynes, Jason Innerfield, Leandra Jimmo, Hazel Johnstone, Savannah Labounty, Samantha LaLiberte, Sawyer Lemay, Sara Lyons, Emma Maciolek, Ethan Maskiell, Megan McNally, Hannah Nelson, Egan Nickerson, Amanda Nikias, Andrew Porter, Alexander Sokoloski, Ethan Tew, Benjamin Trumble and Katherine Waligura.

**Honors:** Lucas Anderson, Joseph Boucher, Roland Bowie, Lindsey Brown, Kimberly Byam, Edward Carr, Joshua Chapman, Emily Edwards, Hannah Erskine, Jackson Fellows, Courtney Flaherty, Cassandra Gibbs, Margaret Gordon, Abbey Greene, Zachery Hamilton, Mackenzie Hoover, Jackson Housman, Madeline Ishak, Kendall Keim, Devon Lizotte, Brandon Loiselle, Mykala Luk, Sarah Merrill, Alora Orifice, Sophia Palangae, William Pineault, Shawn Polasko, Aaron Sigrist, Hanllah Sizemore, Emilee Stenger, Kierstyn Tower, Alexis Thurner, Karleigh Waldron, Madelyn Widger, BellaRose Zarrella and Brandon Zogopoulos.

### GRADE 7

**High Honors:** Jeremy Aubin, Eryn Benetter, Robert Blouin, Justin Bowen, Jessica Carette, Griffin Caswell, Mikayla Caterino, Timothy Currier, Jocelyn Dimond, Jacob Fitts, Erin Gagne, Noelle Galligan, Melanie Gardiner, Molly Guay, Dane Hallee, Kaden Hirschenhofer, Julie Huston, Samuel Jones, Abigail Kuzma, Chloe Labrie, Austin Laquerre, Courtney Loiselle, Taylor McDonald, Karen Morgan, Mackenzie Nase, Kacie Palmacci, Noah Payeur, Taylor Pike, Molly Pinard, Warren Quinlan, Garrick Roy, Erin Scott, Brooke Shatney, Alexa Silva, Alycia Silva, Jennifer Sokoloski, Lauren Sokoloski, Lauren Spooner, Daria Testino, Adam Tower, Amanda Wood, Robert Yelle and Kayleigh Zervos.

**Honors:** Madison Allard, Jessica Bedard, Christie Benoit, Cody Bodner, Kyle Booker, Cameron Bourque, Georgie Bunwn, Sarah Clark, Winter Cocuzzo, Michael Couturier, Paul Dimond, Amber Dudley, Benjamin Flanders, Theodore Flanders, James Gervais, Moses Greene, Hannah Hagan, Jack Hanlon, Griffin Higginbottom, Christopher

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## GRADE 6

**High Honors:** Michael Bamford, Matthew Benetter, Evan, Caswell, Jacob Couture, Cara Easter, Troy Gamache; Luke Gorski, Bryce Johnson, Jeffrey Johnston, Alesha Kimball, Gregory, Labrie, Cadence Loos, Laura Martin, Julia Meisser, Kathleen Miller, Natacha Ngiabprakhon, Jillian Palmacci, Logan Pouliot, Justin Purington, Jake Reynolds, Victoria Rizzitano, Brett Schranke, Jake Silva, Cameron Smugereski, Christian Thibeault, Sarah Wagner, Rachael Wrzeszcz and Nicole Yelle.

**Honors:** Bradley Akerly, Ashley Audet, Jack Baumann, Jalen Beliveau, Meghan Blanchette, Makenna Bruno, Sarah Btirke, Daniel Cera Jr., Jordan Darrah, Janelle deRochemont, Jillian Douzanis, Lydia Eriksen, Trevor Filleul, James Hallice, Morgan Hawkes, David Hewey, Alex Johannisson, Lauren Lachance, James LeBrecht, Megan Newhall, Michael Norris, Mia Paveglio, Mackenzie Pelkey, Tyler Restuccia, Lillian Ruoff, Anthony Salisbury, Jacob Ward, Cameron Welch and Kurtis Wilson.

## GRADE 5

**High Honors:** Alexa Archambault, Kasey Arnold, Katherine Barnes, Cameron Bishop, Kyle Bowen, Kaitlyn Brown, Lindsey Brunelle, Christopher Burke, Hannah Desrosiers, Joseph Desrosiers, Madison Duclos, Halley Erskine, Jackson Flanders, Lucas Guerrette, Tyler Hazzard, Kayla Jackson Antle, Jason Johannisson, Kali Kolehmainen, John Labounty, Abigail Larkin, Courtney Lavigne, Molly Leuci, George Lord, Christopher Mann IV, Sophia Mayville, Parker McQuarrie, Autumn Nelson, Sara Nikias, Hunter Oesterreich, Owen Payeur, Alexandra Proulx, Harrison Purdue, Jonathan Rizzitano, Olivia Sohl, Glen Spooner, Liam Sullivan, Emma Trumble, Haleigh Villemaire, Alison Wright and Riley Zanella.

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Lucas Benson, Aalon Bergeron, Olyvia Bergeron, Dylan Bernard, Ashley Blodgett, Jameson Bourque, Autumn Breedlove, Giuseppe Brown, Ali Burkhamer, Justin Coidakis, Kayla Crosbt, Garrett Dee, Tyler Descoteau, Elizabeth Drake, Mackenzie Drouin, Kyah Eaton, Alex Farris, Nathan Firman, Madison French, Noah Gamache, Megan Goudreault, Devon Hallee, Kayla Ifoule, Anna Ishak, Tyler Jasinski, Rylie Johnson, Delainey Lapointe, Antoine Leary, Hannah Marquis, Allison Mason, Lucy McGrade, Paytra Murphy, Shawna Nichols, Nathan Osborne, Chaeleigh Ouellet, Noah Peacock, Matthew Piscina, Samantha Porter, Aaron Robertson, Samuel Russell, Eamon Scott, Benjamin Stogner, Blake Waldron, Sebastian Winsor and Nicolas Zerbinopoulos.

## Hillsboro-Deering Middle School

### GRADE 8

**High Honors:** Bryce Barbour, Jordyn Conroy, Julius Desrochers, Leah Dunhar, Emma Moore.

**Honors:** Holy Anderson, Danielle Armstrong, Bryce Berrocales, Troy Bloom, Barbara Brake, James Bruno, Cailynn Carter, Michael Carter, Casparro Maxim, Emeri Cilley, Ciara Coleman, Deviroux D'Errico, Jeffery Dagesse, Natasha Dahood, Samuel Dice, Anthony Dupont, Ryan Edsall, Zaida Eller, Galatas Panagiotis, Colton Gregg, James Griffin, Alissa LaChance, Connor Lane, Brianna Murdough, Kelsi Nadeau, Kbyasa Negron, Connor O'Malley, Katherine Ort, Cameron Parris, Karaline Pelchat, Nicholas Peterson, Zachary Petrin, Allison Pletcher, Julianna, Porter, Natasha Richard, Zachary Rioux, Tyler Rowell, Breauna Savoy, Alexis Secore, Meridyth Smith, Logan Snow, Abbey Stafford, Devon Stafford, Rhiannon Talotta, Devon Tarbox, Katelynn Wilson, Madisyn Winters.

**Honorable Mention:** Savannah Beard, Cody Brien, Brighton Carley, Sudney Carter, Gage Cassidy, Morgan Cook, Dominic Downs, Kierston Gardner, Joseph Goodale, Elizabeth Hall, Thomas Irving, Melissa Kelly, Shane Kelly, Lindsey Lacz, Sydney Lobins, Violetbrooke Minard, Jacob Perez, Chance Tellier, Paytne Walker

### GRADE 7

**High Honors:** Maggie Atkins, Satnantha Audette, Gina Costello, Andrew Edwards, Kaitlyn Keane, Alicia Lester, Shannon Thomes.

**Honors:** Tabitha Basha, Dylan Beard, Stephen Bik, Christopher Boufford, Jordan Caldwell, Joshua Carmen, Shannon Caron, Nicolas Casavecchia, Kiersten Clough, Jacob Cole, Meredith Denu, Carl Desfosses, Grant Desmarais, William Dubuque, Jacob Engelhardt, Abigail Gagnon, Erica Gamache, Emily Gibson, Morgan Greene, Ryan Hays, Chloe Kozdra, Tyler Lester, Nicole Mooney, Matthew Moriarty, Cody Mundy, Caitlyn Nadeau, Matthew Nalor, Rylee O'Regan, Megan Pushee, Kayleigh Sigman, Kylee Soears, Alexandra St. Laurent, Kristina Stevens, Amanda Swenberg, Alex Tarbox, Samuel Taylor, Jade Temple, Amber Wallgren, Dakota Wyahe, Bridgette Winters, Madison Wood.

**Honorable Mention:** Amy Alber, Mason Connor, Shelby Cooper, Reed Cullen, Bryanna Doucette, Jacob Dyer, Sarah Ingalls, Joel Johnson, Fared Kendall, Gina Morrisette, Indira Palmer, Rachel Pelletier, Joshua Peny, Brandon Dupont-Plante, Brandon Power, Brady Sampson, Jade Sprague, Melissa Veitch, Marshall Yanis.

## GRADE 6

**High Honors:** Nathaniel Bridges, Alexandra Buciak, Kianna Carter, Arthur Coy, Mariah Cuddy, Malloy Fraser, Mara Grady, Teah Johnson, Nicholas Lester, Madeline Parisi, Pia Pellicano, Lydia Powell, Logan Putnam, Ruth Robinson, Gabriela Sermones, Tia Smith, Kaelyn Snair, Nicholas Wheeler, Colby Wilkens.

**Honors:** Dylan Anwar, Sidney Basha, Skylar Bell, Heather Cavender, Kayleigh Clancy, Alan Clark, Tyler Davy, Mercedes Edle, Thomas Ferguson, Amelia Gamache, Sabrina Gatlin, Samantha Grondin, Caylin Kozlowski, Justin Learn, Markus Lyons-Cooksey, Tyler Markle, Catherine Montanez, Faith Phelan, Kyle Shaw, Matthew Sokol, John Thomas, Calli Washburn, Hannah Weldon, Emil Wightman.

**Honorable Mention:** Ethan Blevins, Angelee Boyl, Bryanne Bustead, Lucas Dominick, Shania Gauthier, Christopher Gerbert, Eric Leblanc, Garrett Miller, Dylan Parker, Cassie Pelletier, Lily Putnam, Holly Snow, Amber Summers.

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Ad #3	Page #	Ad #4	Page #
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Mailing Address			
Town & Zip			

**Answers for week of February 17, 2012:**

- Barns of Bradford - Page 5
- Candidates Night - Page 15
- American Legion - Page 22
- Naughton & Sons Recycling - Page 24

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# Independent Council to investigate Stetser complaint



John Stetser

On February 14th, Larry Baker, husband of town employee Wendy Brien-Baker came in to speak with the Hillsborough Selectmen and asked for a non-public session.

Mr. Baker asked if he could record

the session, and that Town Administrator John Stetser not be included in the session. When the board voted to go into non-public session, Baker again asked if he could record the session and if not, could Iris Campbell take minutes. Stetser said if he was not allowed to be present then Mrs. Campbell should also not be present as she had been prompting Baker. When the board returned to public session, Chair Russ Galpin said each Board member had received four suggestions from town council, Michael Donovan, on how to handle the investigation. Members preferred suggestion four, an independent, outside attorney, to do the investigation. Stetser then asked if Attorney Donovan had received a copy of the signed letter that was presented

to the Board last Tuesday, as no one has presented him with any allegations against him, and was told he had not.

When Stetser again asked what type of investigation, as there have been no allegations against him. Selectman Steve Venezia said "sexual harassment generally, I believe". To which Stetser replied "it isn't written down anywhere, it has not been presented to the Board", but Venezia said he didn't know if it is required to be written down. "There is an allegation of sexual harassment and the creation of a hostile work environment and that is what we are investigating. It is our responsibility as employers if something is brought to our attention like that to make sure it is investigated, both for your benefit and for anybody who is allegedly a victim of that behavior. It is our duty to protect our employees, both you and anybody accusing you of that or victims of that alleged behavior."

On February 28th the board interviewed three attorneys and selected Emily Gray Rice of Orr & Reno to conduct the investigation into the allegations against John Stetser. Earlier in the evening Stetser handed the board a letter that said that as he has never been told the identity of his accuser and has not been informed of what he is accused of, he might not cooperate with the investigation until he has.

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 Kitchen open 5:00-8:00<sup>PM</sup>

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