

# THE Messenger

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

Free ♦ Our 144th Year ♦ Issue 22 ♦ June 1, 2012



## Senator runs again

State Senator Bob O'Dell recently announced that he will run for reelection. Because of recent redistricting, he runs in a revamped district. He loses several towns but picks up the towns of Deering, Franconstown, Grantham, Springfield, Hillsborough, Windsor and Weare. See story on page 18.

## Irwin is Chairman

The Newport Selectmen have elected Virginia Irwin as Chairman and Gary



Nichols as Vice Chairman. Elizabeth Maiola was thanked for her many years of service

to the town, and new member Todd Fratzel was welcomed to the Board.



Lake Sunapee Bank employees deliver teddy bears made by Bank colleagues to Monadnock Community Hospital. From left, Dianne Nicol, VP, Lake Sunapee Bank Southern Regional Manager; from Monadnock Community Hospital, Laura Gingras, VP, Philanthropy and Community Relations; Maria Rosario, Director of Behavioral Health and Social Services; Karen Langley, Out-patient Therapist; and Roxanne Shedd, VP, Branch Manager, Lake Sunapee Bank New London Regional Manager.

## Bank employees aid hospitals

Each May, Lake Sunapee Bank holds an employee appreciation night to recognize colleagues who have reached milestones with the company and to promote our "team" atmosphere among those who work in the bank's many departments and branches. This year, with more than 200 employees gathered at the Newport Opera House in Newport, there was an added goal to the evening. The group made 75 personalized teddy bears to donate to designated hospitals in New Hampshire and Vermont.

The bears were made as part of a team

building exercise that had colleagues working together to stuff, dress with selected clothing, and place a felt "heart" inside each one. The bears also came with "birth certificates" listing the bear's name, hobbies and creators. The completed bears were placed in plastic bags decorated with ribbons and a Lake Sunapee Bank sticker. They were delivered in person to the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth in Hanover, NH, Rutland Hospital in Rutland, VT, and Monadnock Community Hospital in Peterborough, NH. The hospitals will distribute the bears to children who are patients.

## Auditors critical of Town Clerk/Tax Collector

The Hillsborough Selectmen met with Town Clerk/Tax Collector Deborah McDonald to review an auditor's report critical of her office procedures. Chair Russ Galpin stressed that there was never a question of theft or misappropriation of funds, but the auditors had expressed frustration at documenting the same procedural

errors for the last four years, without correction.

The auditors cited grouping of checks and failure to make daily deposits as critical items in their report. McDonald indicated that she had met with the auditors the day before and was instructed on the proper procedures which she is now following.



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# Use of income from Manahan Park Trust debated

Jim Bailey and Alan Kingsbury of the Park Board and Doug Hatfield of the Manahan Park Trustees faced off at Tuesday's Hillsborough selectmen's meeting. In sometimes animated exchanges, Bailey and Kingsbury complained that the Park Board was not receiving sufficient payment from the Trustee for the routine maintenance of Manahan Park as required by the Trust. Hatfield countered that although Manahan Park was a top priority of the Trust, it was not the only project the Trust could support.

At the conclusion of nearly an hour's discussion, the parties and the Board seemed to be in agreement that the Park Board should budget annually for not only its maintenance but also for a "wish list" of

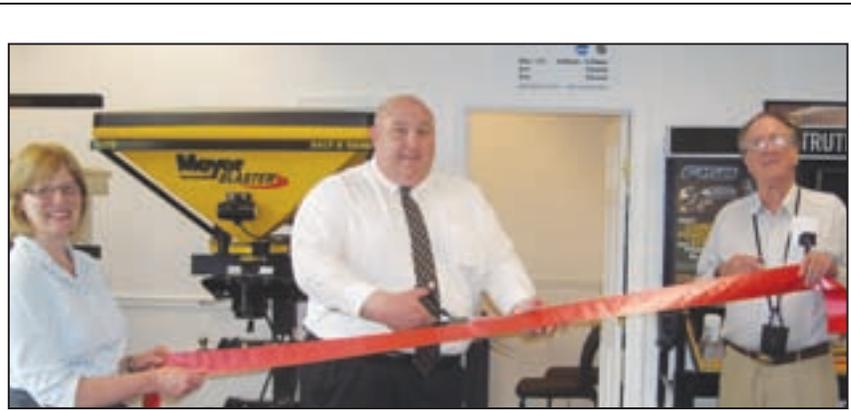
park capital improvements which could be funded should the Trust generate enough income.

In other business the Board approved

a request from Jim Coffey and Bob Hutchinson of Emerald Lake to remove several trees next to the Gould Pond Road Bridge.

## Weare policeman sues town

Undeterred when his Federal lawsuit against the Town of Weare was dismissed, former police officer Lou Chatel has filed a similar suit in the state's Superior Court. Chatel, who served as a sergeant with the Weare department from 2003 to 2010 claims he has suffered "extreme emotional distress" as a result of disciplinary action, being the subject of a child pornography investigation and eventual termination by the department. He is suing the Town, it's selectmen, Police Chief Gregory Begin and Lt. James Carney. Chatel claims the problems began in 2009 when he refused to alter a police report as requested by Lt. Carney.



Babette Haley of the Chamber of Commerce and Jack Wells of Hillsboro Pride help Branch Manager Jim Sutton conduct a Ribbon Cutting at his new Enterprise Rent-A-Car office at Hillsboro Ford.

## ConVal committee completes public forum visits

The ConVal School District's Model Study Committee has completed its series of public forums at district towns and will now finalize its recommendation to voters for the 2013 District balloting. Among the options being considered are closing some elementary schools, including those in Bennington and Antrim which has generated much opposition in those communities. Another option proposed consolidating all middle school students at South Meadow

School in Peterborough.

Committee members made it clear that residents want to maintain their own Elementary Schools, but Superintendent Richard Bergeron wanted them to know that he will be proposing additional staffing in the form of nurses in the elementary schools and a media specialist.

The next step is to develop a survey to send to voters, a draft of which will be presented at the next meeting.

# 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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Ellen Harbour celebrated the 31st anniversary of her 39th Birthday among friends at Hillsborough's American Legion Hall on Saturday.

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## Hopkinton man nominated for Judge

Governor John Lynch has nominated former Assistant Attorney General John Kissinger, 46, of Hopkinton to a seat on the Superior Court. Currently Kissinger is an attorney with the firm of Nelson, Kidder & Mousseau in Manchester.

## Pats Peak Ski Patrol gains recognition

Pats Peak is proud to announce that the Pats Peak Ski Patrol has been recognized by the Eastern Division New Hampshire Region of the National Ski Patrol as the 2012 Outstanding Ski Patrol. Pats Peak Ski Patrol also received two national certificates of Appreciation for hosting numerous Outdoor Emergency Care and Ski & Toboggan events this past season. Pats Peak Patrollers also received individual awards. Ben Durak received the New Hampshire Outstanding Alpine Patroller Award. The New Hampshire Outstanding Student Patroller was awarded to Kaitlin Henry. She was also selected Outstanding Student Patroller for the Eastern Division. She is now in the running, along with the winners from the other 9 divisions, for the National Outstanding Student Patroller Award announced in July. Since 1990, Pats Peak has had three National Outstanding Student Patrollers and two place runners up for this award.

## HDES students urge prom safety

Submitted by Mary-Rose Carter

Recently at the HDHS students attending the prom were asked to report to the gymnasium, where they were greeted by the entire population of the elementary school. The elementary teachers, staff and students, dressed in their best "prom" type outfits, came to the high school to present the HS Prom attendees with drawings and letters written by the young students asking them to be careful, make good decisions and have a fun and safe time at the prom. The students from grades one through five then lined up to present their letter to a member of the high school prom attendees. High school students received these letters in the spirit in which they were written and many of them read their letters to each other in the gym and hallways. The project was a suggestion of a planning committee at the ES to remind high school students that the young people in the district love and admire them and want them to be safe. Thanks go to all who participated. You can never have too many reminders about the dangers of bad decisions at this time of year.



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# Planning & zoning position first defeated then approved

The New London Selectmen conducted a well attended meeting to discuss filling the vacant Planning & Zoning position vacated by Peter Stanley. Chair Peter Bianchi began by explaining that the position of Zoning and Planning Administrator would be vacant as of May 31st and that the Board of Selectmen was seeking public input on how the position should be filled. He noted that the Board received some email responses from some New London residents, and it was fair to say that all of those responses were in favor of filling the position and some preferred a full-time replacement. Tina Helm said the first plan is to get input that night from those at the meeting. This will help the Board of Selectmen decide if they should hire full/half time for the planner, or not at all. She felt it would be a mistake to not hire a full-time Planning and Zoning Administrator. If they vote to hire, it would be her hope to get going on the search ASAP to reduce the time without someone in the position.

New Board member Janet Kidder felt as if she didn't have enough information to make this decision on whether to hire at full or part time. Several residents spoke in favor of filling a full-time position. Martin Gross said he has owned property in New London for 12 years. He was on town counsel of Sunapee for 10 years, and among other titles held, has also been the Mayor of Concord. He could not say strongly enough that effective land use programs require

full-time professional and skilled administration. He cautioned them not to wait too long; he felt they should move forward as soon as possible and he favored a full-time administrator be hired.

After lengthy discussion a motion to hire a full-time person failed 1-2 with Helm supporting and Bianchi and Kidder voting no. Immediately after hearing the failed motion, many people left the meeting showing signs of anger and frustration. They expressed that they were upset that they had attended the meeting, spoke their

mind in favor of a full-time position, made many good points why the position should be filled full-time, and the motion still did not pass.

After the room had cleared, Kidder said that she thought it might take more than one full-time person to do the job, so that is why she didn't want to vote in favor of Helm's motion. Helm felt they should have at least voted to fill the position as it stood currently. After further discussion, Kidder switched her vote and a new motion to hire a full-time person passed 2-1.



Bob and Pat Nash hosted GOP candidate for Governor Ovide Lamontaigne at a reception last Friday. Also in attendance were U.S. Congressman Charlie Bass and State Senator Bob O'Dell.

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Members of Wilkins-Cloues-Bigelow-Pearson Post 39, American Legion help fourth graders replace flags on veterans graves.

## Students replace flags on veterans' graves

Photo and text by Rich Dahlgren.

On a warm humid spring day, May 24, 2012, fourth grade students at Simonds Elementary School in Warner, NH, continued a tradition that goes back over 100 years. They walked to the Pine Grove Cemetery in Warner to assist members of Wilkins-Cloues-Bigelow-Pearson Post 39, American Legion, replace over 150 US flags on Veterans' graves. They were accompanied by their teachers, Mrs. Simpson and Mrs. Whitman and aides Renee Miller and Kathy Critch.

Each year, the fourth grade students go to the cemetery, split into smaller groups of students, each with an assigned leader, and each group takes new flags to place on the markers. They remove the old flags and return them to the starting point, where they are collected for future ceremonial disposal. Besides the teachers and aides, the students were assisted by Post 39 members Paul Violette, Don Wheeler, Ron Piroso and Rich Dahlgren.

Pine Grove Cemetery contains graves of veterans, the oldest dating back to the Revolutionary War. All conflicts and wars since then are represented with the newest being veterans who served during the Vietnam War.

Prior to the replacement of the flags, Past Post 39 Commander Paul Violette gave a briefing on why the flags are replaced just before Memorial Day; an overview of the flag markers for each of the wars and conflicts; and some historical facts about Pine Grove Cemetery and some of the veterans who are buried there. His presentation was at the grave of Lyman W. "Ted" Bigelow III, an Army Sergeant who died on the front lines in Korea in 1952.

## Hancock gazebo repairs underway soon

The Hancock Selectmen recently met with members of the Common Commission and builder Mark Schaal to finalize plans for the gazebo renovations. The school will soon be upgrading the electrical service by installing additional outlets and a ceiling light. The structure will feature white shingles, green trim and a grey floor. The project is funded by \$20,000 of town funds and a donation from the Hancock Improvement Association.

# Weare efforts to preserve Clinton Grove Academy

Helene Kurk and Sherry Burdick met with the Weare Selectmen to discuss the Clinton Grove Academy in hopes that the Board will support the rehabilitation of the Academy. Burdick explained that they have been awarded the NH Preservation Alliance Grant which the Weare Historical Society will match and the engineer who assessed the Academy will be paid \$2,250. The architect finished his report in December, which talks about the building historically, physically, and the rehabilitation and preservation of the building. The report states that overall the building is sound. The building is pristine, but needs plaster work, painting, and the stairs are not compliant with today's standards. The engineer discusses stairs, kitchen, and installation of bathrooms in his report. The building is sound and useable, is on the state registry, important to the town and state, in a beautiful location, and is a relatively easy project. A Friend at Clinton Grove Fund has been established to help raise the \$500,000 needed for the preservation and restoration work. Several people in town have offered donations of in-kind services for free; they

would need to pay for supplies, but the services would be free. They will also be applying for more grants once they have approval to move forward. The Weare Historical Society has \$56,000 to put towards this project and there is \$50,000 in the Mildred Hall Fund designated specifically

for Clinton Grove. Chairman Clow thinks that the next step is to visit the Clinton Grove Academy as a group to stimulate discussion. The Board will meet at Clinton Grove Academy on June 4th at 6:30 p.m. and make an official request to the Heritage Commission to join them.



HDHS students recently conducted a Prom Dress indoor soccer game at the high school. Photo by Sue Hofstetter.

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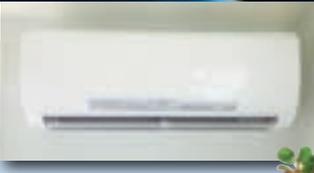
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Recently the Mercy Hathaway White Chapter donated a flag that had been flown over the U.S. Capitol to Havenwood-Heritage Heights in Concord. Pictured on the left is Mildred Rice a member of the chapter and a resident of the facility making the presentation to Michael Palmieri, President of Havenwood-Heritage Heights.

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### Newbury Selectmen review Vet's Hall bids

The Newbury Selectmen discussed bids for septic and interior plumbing for the Veteran's Hall. They received three septic bids. The first was from Stoneface Excavating, who gave a bid for \$9,126.60, H. Thomas Jr. Building and Excavating gave a bid for \$9,125.00 and Gray Rock Farm gave a bid of \$10,317.15. It was decided to take more time to look at all the bids to make sure all the bids were comparing the same. Two bids were received for wells for the Veteran's Hall. The first was from Capital Wells in the amount of \$8,800 minus a 5% veterans credit. Wragg Brothers gave a bid of \$6,800. The board agreed to accept the lowest bid given by Wragg Brothers. Carpentry bids for the Veteran's Hall were then reviewed. Three bids were given. The first bid was given for \$4,200 by Lawsen. A bid was also given by Rene Remodeling for \$6,500. H Thomas Jr. Building and Excavating gave a bid of \$8,000. A bid from Marty Newell in the amount of \$11,000 was received for the electrical work. The board will review this bid. Wright showed some information regarding the cabinets he would like to purchase for the kitchen. The board agreed to purchase these cabinets in oak. The board agreed to give Administrator Dennis Pavlicek authorization to sign all the contracts with all the vendors discussed pertaining to the Veteran's Hall.

### Hopkinton senior to perform at recital

Concord Community Music School will present several June recitals of graduating seniors in the Music School's Recital Hall, 23 Wall St., Concord. The recitals will feature Betty Wallingford (saxophone and voice) of Hopkinton, on June 2 at 7 p.m. Wallingford, a senior at Hopkinton High School, has been a member of the Music School's Scholarship Vocal Ensemble for the past two years. She has participated in five music festivals in the past three years, including New England Music Festival, New Hampshire Jazz All State, and New Hampshire Classical All State. She received the top score for alto voice in the 2012 NH Jazz All State Festival. Betty has been writing music since she was young and started performing her original music during high school. Besides voice, she plays saxophone and euphonium and is studying trombone. She plans to major in music at Wellesley College and hopes to become a professional singer/songwriter.

## TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



BY SARAH CHAPIN

An oral anti-clotting drug, when added to standard medical treatment for acute coronary syndrome, lowered the risk of death, heart attack or stroke an average of 16 percent, according to a report in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The drug, rivaroxaban (trade name Xarelto), proved effective in preventing the formation of thrombin, the enzyme that promotes the formation of blood clots, particularly after the placement of stents used in the treatment of ACS, an umbrella term for heart attacks and chest pain known as unstable angina—conditions in which the heart's blood supply is suddenly blocked.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved Erbitux (cetuximab) for use with chemotherapy to treat patients with late-stage (metastatic) head and neck cancer. Combined with chemotherapy, Erbitux extended the lives of those receiving the treatment combination compared with those receiving chemotherapy alone. Erbitux already is FDA-approved for certain types of colon cancer, and has been approved since 2006 for treatment of non-metastatic head and neck cancer in combination with radiation therapy (first-line) or as a single agent (following standard treatment). According to the National Cancer Institute, head and neck cancers account for 3 percent to 5 percent of all cancers in the United States. These cancers typically develop in the nose, throat or mouth and they are more common in men and in people older than 50.

For men diagnosed with low-risk, localized prostate cancer, being treated with the drug dutasteride (Avodart) delays disease progression and initiating active treatment, and also reduces anxiety, show the results of a three-year international clinical trial published in *The Lancet*.

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## Former Selectmen Buker and Rousseau critical of Galpin

An agitated Lou Ann Rousseau attended this week's Hillsborough Selectmen's meeting to blast Chair Russ Galpin for suggesting a conspiracy to disrupt the investigation into allegations of sexual harassment by Town Administrator John Stetser and demanding an apology from this newspaper for reporting it. Shortly after denying that she was the source of rumors slandering Galpin, she admitted that fellow former selectman Rob Buker and another, as yet unnamed individual, had approached her with the rumor and she urged them to repeat it to Investigator Emily Rice while Buker relayed it to Selectman Steve Venezia. Following

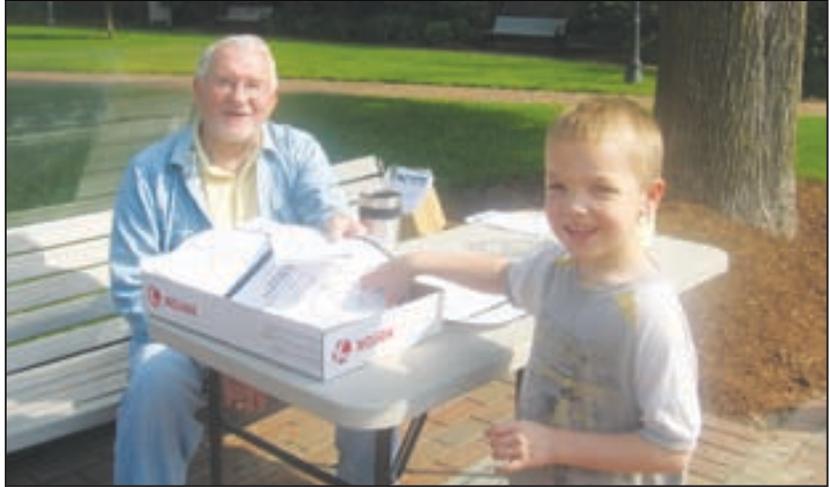
the meeting, Rousseau approached this reporter to request a meeting on Wednesday, but as of press time Thursday, she has not shown up.

Buker and Rousseau, when on the

Board, had a history of opposing Galpin. They both voted against Galpin's request for a 2% COLA for town employees, and also opposed Galpin's efforts to discipline Statser.

### Sunapee woman busted inVT

Vermont State Police have arrested a Sunapee woman for possession and distribution of cocaine. Felicia Young, 24, was one of five people arrested after a traffic stop last Tuesday. While making the stop, authorities spotted drug paraphernalia and upon subsequent search found "felony amounts" of powdered cocaine.



Herm Weigleman of Hillsborough Pride hands a map of yard sales participating in Hillsboroughs town-wide yard sale to Blake Drew.



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John Stark General Football Coach Jim O'Rourke, Press Box Construction Coordinator David Hewey, football players Carson Dunn, Jacob Sawyer, Nic Simeone, Cody Lavallee, Jack McGrade, and Boosters President Tony Sawyer.

**General's Boosters install Press Box**

Thanks to the dedication and drive of the John Stark General's Football Booster Club and other committed volunteers, a new press box stands watch over the John Stark Regional High School football field in Weare. The three-story structure dramatically improves coaches' view of the field. The second floor will house the public address announcer, game officials and scoreboard operator. The first floor boasts a concession stand and storage space. The frame has been erected, but the Boosters still need to raise an additional \$10,000 in monetary and in-kind donations to complete the project. If you can help, please contact Tony Sawyer at ktmj@comcast.net or send a check to JSRHS Football Boosters, PO Box 494, Weare, NH 03281.

**SPORTS High School Results**

**SOFTBALL**

**#1 Gilford 17 #18 Newport 1 - Division III Preliminary** The Tigers gave up 12 runs in the fourth and couldn't recover.  
**#10 ConVal 3 #7 Plymouth 0 - Division II Preliminary** Courtney Fisher fanned 10 Bobcats on her way to the win.  
**#6 Franklin 13 #11 Hopkinton 1 - Division II Preliminary** The Hawks couldn't fly in a Golden Tornadoe as Franklin dominated play.  
**#4 Portsmouth 3 #13 John Stark 0 - Division II Preliminary** The clip-pers scored all 3 runs in the second and were held scoreless after that. Brit-tany Hardy gave up 5 hits in that inning and only one the rest of the game.

**BOYS' LACROSSE**

**#7 Hopkinton 13 #10 Kingswood 3 - Division III Preliminary** - With Sam Ruderman scoring 4 goals and 3 from Ned Metcalf, the Hawks advanced to the quarterfinals.

**GIRLS' LACROSSE**

**#2 Kearsarge 12 #7 Kingswood 5 - Division III Quarterfinals** The Cougars wasted no time in amassing a 9-1 lead to take control. Hat tricks by Libby Brooks and Paige Newman led the way.  
**#3 Plymouth 14 #6 John Stark 2 - Division III Quarterfinals** Clarissa Foote made 13 saves but the Bobcat defense blanketed the Generals all day.  
**#5 Hopkinton 6 #4 ConVal 5 - Division III Quarterfinals** Tessa Garlow recorded 10 saves and Maria Booth netted a pair of goals in the victory, Bailey Coen had the hat trick for ConVal.

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# THE Messenger

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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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We encourage individuals and groups to submit photos of their events or activities, either by mail or e-mail.

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## Publisher's Perspective *by Leigh Bosse*

### Chapter One

At a recent Hillsborough Selectman's meeting Steve Venezia confronted fellow Selectman Russ Galpin with an accusation that he was trying to influence the testimony of certain employees in the investigation into complaints of sexual harassment against Town Administrator John Stetser. Venezia brought the subject up in public session, based solely on a rumor given to him by an undisclosed "source". He later told Galpin the "source" reported that a certain town employee had witnessed Galpin's transgression, which that employee strongly denied.

Messenger readers will remember that this paper endorsed Venezia's election to the board and we still support him as an intelligent, thoughtful board member. However, his actions in this instance were totally inappropriate. No one should be publicly confronted with allegations of misconduct, based solely on unsubstantiated rumors from an undisclosed "source". Venezia later justified his actions saying when serious allegations are made against a public official, they need to be aired in public. We agree completely but only when the allegations are based on some credible evidence. Furthermore, following that reasoning, it is time for Venezia to reveal the identity of the "source" who is so intent on smearing Galpin. We attribute no evil intent to Venezia, but believe he is being played as a pawn in a serious plot to disrupt the Stetser investigation.

P.S. At Tuesday's selectmen's meeting Venezia told me that his "source" was former

selectman Rob Buker, which takes the conspiracy theory to another level.

### Chapter Two

This story took another twist at Tuesday's selectmen's meeting when Lou Ann Rousseau again showed up to blast Galpin and this reporter for suggesting she might be the source of the slanderous rumors about Galpin, and demanding an apology. No sooner had she made the denials than fellow former selectman Rob Buker, who also blasted Galpin reported that he heard from another unnamed "source" so they approached Rousseau with the rumor although neither was still on the Board. That's when Buker spread the rumor to Venezia and Rousseau urged the "source" to tell Stetser investigator Emily Rice. The facts will show that Buker was responsible for initially hiring Stetser and that both he and Rousseau refused to discipline him for past transgressions including signing unauthorized checks. Their split with Galpin goes further in that both refused to back Galpin's proposed 2% COLA, which led directly to the unionization of our employees.

For Buker and Rousseau to chastise Galpin for defending himself from these vicious, baseless rumors is hypocritical in light of the fact that it was Buker and Rousseau who either initiated or intentionally spread the rumor.

Not only will I not apologize, It's time for Buker and Rousseau to BACK OFF and let this investigation proceed. And, oh yes, It's time for them to reveal their unnamed "source."



## Guest Editorial *by Grant Bosse*

### Monitor endorsed cartoonish views of conservatives

Back in the pioneer days of the Internet, Mike Godwin coined a phrase that now bears his name. "As the length of a Usenet discussion grows longer, the probability of a comparison involving Nazis or Hitler approaches one." By custom, whoever plays the Nazi card ends the discussion and loses the argument.

Over the past two weeks, Representative Steve Vaillancourt and the Concord Monitor

have lost the argument.

At the end of a fight over parliamentary procedure with Speaker Bill O'Brien, Vaillancourt summed up his objections by saying "Sieg Heil". This week, the Monitor ran a cartoon from Mike Marland with a caricature of O'Brien with a Hitler mustache under the caption "if the mustache fits..."

In defending the Monitor's decision to run this hateful and stupid cartoon, Felice Belman writes, "The point of an editorial cartoon is to get your attention and make



## Guest Editorial *by Grant Bosse*

you think. In that, for sure, Marland has succeeded.”

The only thing that Marland got anyone thinking is that the Monitor likes to insult Republicans. It's hardly the first time Marland has equated Republicans with murderous thugs. In February 2002, Marland penned a witty little picture showing President Bush flying a plane into twin towers labeled “Social” and “Security”. It's funny because it's true! The Bush budget was just like Al Qaeda!

I can't comment on Mike Marland as a person. Maybe he volunteers at an animal shelter on weekends and sings in his church choir. But his work is hateful and stupid. His cheapens political discussion in New Hampshire, and hurts the credibility of the Monitor editorial page.

I'm sure some readers feel the same way about my columns.

Editorial pages should seek out contrary opinions. The Monitor often runs editorials and letters countering my columns. The Union Leader gives a weekly column to Kathy Sullivan, and no one thinks she speaks for that paper. But the Monitor doesn't just print Marland's work as an occasional glimpse into the lunatic fringe. It provides a daily forum for his bile. It's not unreasonable for readers to assume that the paper shares Marland's cartoonish beliefs about conservatives.

That's a shame, because the Monitor has shown a commitment to rational debate. The day after running Marland's offensive cartoon, it ran four letters bashing it. The Monitor is giving me this space to criticize it. I asked Belman if they would run a column if I started it with “I'm not saying John

Lynch is a Nazi...” She said, “Try me!”

If I ever submit such a column, the Monitor should spike it. They wouldn't be censoring me, since I'd be free to express myself on own dime. They would be making a responsible decision not to waste their scarce space on hateful and stupid ideas.

I'm not overly concerned that the Monitor won't apologize for its bad decision. Apologies are a devalued currency in modern politics. Those calling for an apology rarely want to accept them, and those giving apologies rarely mean them. The answer to bad speech isn't an apology. It's always more speech. The Monitor Editorial Board was wrong to run Marland's cartoon, and right to welcome the avalanche of criticism it generated. But the paper needs to understand that this episode has undermined its credibility as an honest, if liberal, broker.

No one in modern American politics is the nascent equivalent of Hitler, Stalin, or Bin Laden. Joe Biden loves Amtrak and Mussolini made the trains run on time. I'm just saying. Anyone attempting to make that connection can be safely ignored by those seeking honest and thoughtful debate. The Monitor was wrong to amplify and legitimize such a comparison.

The next time this paper admonishes Republicans for their tone or calls for more civility in politics, it will ring hollow. The Concord Monitor can continue to criticize Bill O'Brien for his leadership style, but through its own actions, it has already lost that argument.

*Grant Bosse is Lead Investigator for the Joseph Bartlett Center for Public Policy, a free market think tank based in Concord, NH.*

# THE Messenger

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## Hopkinton Recreation Department summer programs starting

The feeling of spring is finally here and the Hopkinton Recreation Director is very busy preparing for the upcoming summer programs. The Summer Day Camp program is now accepting applications and there has already been an increase in requests for partial or full scholarships to help defray the cost of camp. Some Hopkinton families are still struggling through the downturn in the economy and are being faced with the financial burden of providing a safe and affordable child care option during the summer vacation while they are at work or looking for employment.

The Hopkinton Recreation Department is asking you for your help to send one or more children to the Summer Day Camp. Tax deductible donations will be accepted in any amount; \$110 sends one child to Summer Day Camp for one week. Last year we received an outpouring of support and were able to provide scholarship funds to each financial qualifying family that requested it.

Please make checks payable to "Town of Hopkinton" and put in the memo "camp scholarship program." Please mail to: 330 Main Street, Hopkinton, NH 03229. Thank you for supporting this worthy program.

## NOST continues summer program plans

Despite losing out on a state grant, NOST, the Newport Out of School Time program will continue plans for its summer program.

NOST has \$11,000 in its budget and believes it can host a 12-week summer program by charging \$50/week for 50 students.

## Search begins to replace Assessor Norm Bernaiche

The town administrators, Donna Nashawaty (Sunapee), Dennis Pavlicek (Newbury) and Kim Hallquist (New London) will review the resumes of six applicants for Norm Bernaiche's position. They will then interview the top two or three candidates and bring their recommendation to the Tri-Town Assessing Board who will make the final decision.

It was asked if the tri-town assessing model was working and Hallquist said that

she has heard positive remarks from the citizens. Peter Bianchi said that they were told they would be assessed 20% per year for five years but that this wasn't being done. Ms. Hallquist agreed that this was something that has not been followed and said that the assessors have noted that perhaps they could use another staff member to help with data collection measuring to free up the time of the assessors so they could accomplish this task.



COMING SOON: Dennis Roberts, Jr. reports that the new Hillsboro Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram dealership will be opening soon as evidenced by the installation of signs on the building.

## Warner town & school officials discuss busing issues

The Warner Selectmen and Simonds School officials met to share the Town's ideas for the bus traffic patterns at Simonds School. Chairman Clyde Karrick said the selectmen are in agreement that the busses should be removed from the field and returned to a full playground; the problem is how to accomplish that. There was one idea to stage the busses on Kearsarge Mtn. Road, but that proved to have too many issues with traffic pattern problems. Another thought was having the busses stage on Church Street and a third proposal is to have the busses stage in the main parking lot of the school.

Jim Hand said he attended a recent meeting with the Transportation Committee; he said the bus company is willing to do anything that is needed, but the company does like the current staging area on the playground.

The bus company's only concern is parking on a hill. Ken Bartholomew said from the School Board perspective getting the buses off the field is a big concern so the full field project can be completed; the primary concern is the safety of the students. Superintendent Jerry Frew feels the busing

suggestions are worthy of consideration but he is interested in what the Police Chief has to say about safety access. Frew asked if the Kearsarge Mtn. idea is off the table. Chief Chandler said in his opinion that idea is off the table because of traffic issues; he feels this opens additional safety issues. Mr. Frew asked the Police Chief if Kearsarge Mtn. Road would be viable if a lane was cut in along the fence. The Police Chief said if all the buses fit between the Masonic Lodge and the next property's stone wall in one line, the scenario could work. Selectman David Hartman said at this time he sees the most reasonable option is the double staged busing on Church St., this can be done with the money that is in the school budget (\$100K); he feels the cost for Kearsarge Mtn. Road bus lane will be higher.

Selectman Carson asked how to move onto the next step. Ken agrees with Selectman Hartman, if the school wants to continue and look at the other options that is going to take time, a solution needs to be found that does not cost that much. The Parking Study option will take a warrant article to fund but he does feel it is an option that should be explored.

## Newbury Selectmen discuss regional planning

Christine Walker from the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission gave a presentation to the Newbury selectmen regarding current happenings with the commission. She said that 48% of households will have a population of 65 and older by the year 2030. She went over the

regional plan and what the big picture is on the federal level. The commission would like to know what the public feels is important to include in the master plan, and what the needs of the communities are. Powell asked what the annual budget is and Walker said next year's budget is \$1.3 million.

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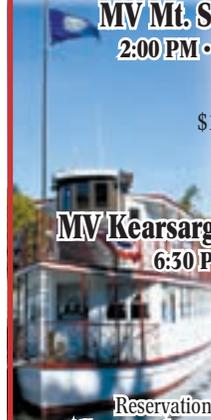
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