

THE Messenger

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

Free ♦ Our 144th Year ♦ Issue 39 ♦ September 28, 2012

1941 school's future?

Dan Wolf, Chair of the Kearsarge Regional School District Board met with the New London Selectmen to discuss the future of the abandoned 1941 School Building. Both boards agree it is time to "do something" as the facility is deteriorating. See story on page 7.



New London's Top Doc

Jeffrey Powell, MD, an Internal Medicine primary care physician at New London Hospital (NLH), has received the 2012 New Hampshire Hospital Association Medical Staff of the Year Award. The award was presented at the NH Hospital Association's Annual Meeting on September 24. Dr. Powell recently celebrated his 34th year on the NLH Medical Staff. Over the years Dr. Powell has served as President and Vice President of the Medical Staff, Vice President for Medical Affairs of the hospital, Chairman of the Department of Medicine, a delegate to the House of Delegates of the NH State Medical Society, and an Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at Dartmouth-Hitchcock.



Henniker police made a major marijuana bust recently.

Marijuana seized

Henniker Police raid campground

The Henniker Police Department served search warrants on lots located at the Rock n Birch Campground in Henniker, as part of a lengthy investigation into marijuana growing operations in the area.

As a result of the search, marijuana plants and marijuana growing paraphernalia were seized. After a brief foot pursuit, the suspect

was arrested with the assistance of the Hillsborough Police Department dog. The suspect is identified as 31 year old Justin Douglas of Henniker. He was arrested on charges of Resisting Arrest and Acts Prohibited. He was ordered held on \$7500.00 cash bail. The Henniker Police Department was assisted by Hillsborough and Bradford Police.

Speed bumps not needed on Newport streets

Responding to a citizen's request that speed bumps be installed on Laurel Street, the Newport Selectmen asked the Police Department to monitor traffic in that area to determine if speed bumps were necessary. At Monday's meeting the Board received the results of the monitoring which found that the vast majority of vehicles traveling on Laurel Street are following the posted speed limit. This area of Laurel Street has a number of residences. The speed survey

indicates that approximately 1% of vehicles are traveling at speeds 6+ mph above the posted 30 mph speed limit. The majority of these are traveling at these speeds in the morning hours between 6 a.m. and 8 a.m. when school aged children may be on their way to school. As a result, the Board requested that Police Officers closely monitor the speed of vehicles traveling in this area during these hours. It was decided that speed bumps were unnecessary.



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September Bargains of the month.

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In celebration of their Centennial, the Mercy Hathaway White Chapter NSDAR held a Vesper Service at the Bradford Center Old Meetinghouse. Pictured L to R: Angela Lavoy, MHW Regent, Emily McCormack MHW member and Page for the Vesper Service, Rebecca Miller dual-enrolled MHW Chapter and Hannah Dustin Society CAR, and Laura McCrillis Kesler, NH State Regent. For more information about DAR contact Laurel Corson Chapter Historian at 748-4783.

Guiding Good Choices at the Grapevine

Parents of children ages 9 to 14 years are invited to participate in a free workshop called Guiding Good Choices® that research shows is effective in preventing alcohol, drug and tobacco use by adolescents. The 5-session course will take place at Antrim Elementary School beginning Wednesday, October 3 at 6pm. The workshop is offered by The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center in partnership with Great Brook and Antrim Elementary schools and PTOs. There is a \$15 charge to cover the cost of the workbook, which can be waived if it is a financial hardship. Free on-site child care and dinner are included. Call The Grapevine at 588-2620 to register or for more information. The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization serving Hillsborough County with a focus on Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Frankestown and surrounding towns.

Hockey at Bradford's Bement Bridge

Kearsarge Regional School District High School Hockey Coach Mark Cashin came before the Bradford Selectmen to see if the team could hold a Fundraiser at the Bement Covered Bridge next spring. They need \$25,000 for the hockey season which is not being covered by the school budget. It would probably be a three or four hour event with a couple of hours each end of the time to set up and clean up. There would be an officer there and a question of alcohol was brought up. Selectboard Chair Harry Wright said in the past it has been discussed and turned down by the town, so that probably could not happen. A written proposal will be forthcoming per Cashin.

Ausbon Sargent Trust's 25th Anniversary

Happy 25th Anniversary, Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust. Since they are putting an anniversary twist on all of their events throughout the 2012 anniversary year, even their Annual Business Meeting on Sunday, October 21st at 3 p.m. will be special. This year's meeting will be held at the historic Center Meeting House in Newbury which has recently been restored to bring back the building which has been the architectural center of Newbury since 1832. The business portion of the meeting will be greatly abbreviated to allow for a special guest speaker from The Wilderness Society, Peter McKinley. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.



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New London concerned with College's growth in residential areas

Colby Sawyer College President Thomas Galligan, along with Peter Berthiaume, Director of Campus Safety; Dave Sauerwein, VP of Student Development and Dean of Students; and Doug Atkins, VP of Administration and Faculty met with the New London Selectmen for a frank and cordial discussion on how the College's remarkable growth affects the town, Selectmans' Chair Peter Bianchi stressed that it was important for college and town officials to communicate so that the College's growth could be accommodated with limited friction. The town is concerned with the schools spreading off campus into residential area such as Cottage Lane, with its incumbent traffic, parking and noise problems.

In sharing Colby-Sawyer's long range plans, President Galligan said the that student enrollment is currently 1,415 with a goal of reaching 1,500 within the next 3-5 years. He acknowledged that there is

discussion of building one and perhaps two new dormitories in the future which

would reduce the need to house students in residential neighborhoods.



(L to R) Peter Berthiaume, Director of Campus Safety; Dave Sauerwein, VP of Student Development and Dean of Students; and Doug Atkins, VP of Administration and Faculty at Colby-Sawyer College.

Newport honors Russ Kelsea

Newport Selectman Jeff Kessler, a member of the Parlin Airport Advisory Board, opened Monday's Selectman's meeting by announcing that it was Russ Kelsea's last day as Airport Manager. Kessler had high praise for Kelsea's contributions, outlining several of the improvements made to the facility during Kelsea's tenure. With the remaining Selectmen agreeing, the Board asked Town Administrator Paul Brown to draft a letter of commendation to present to Kelsea.

Hiker dies at Peterborough State Park

A hiker died in Peterborough's Miller State Park Sunday afternoon. According to New Hampshire Fish and Game officials, at 12:30 p.m. Sunday a hiker descending the Marion Davis Trail at Miller State Park found a 70-year-old hiker, unconscious and unresponsive, approximately a quarter mile from the trail head on Pack Monadnock Mountain. Rescue teams reached the victim at around 12:55 p.m., but attempts at resuscitating the victim were unsuccessful.

New Hampshire Fish and Game Conservation officers, members of the Temple police department, the Temple Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, the DRED Division of Parks and Recreation, and Peterborough fire rescue department members assisted in carrying out the victim, whose name was withheld last night pending notification of next-of-kin. Police are investigating the death, which officials consider untimely; but not suspicious.



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TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



BY SARAH CHAPIN

A new topical gel now available by prescription significantly decreases the amount of time needed to treat actinic keratosis, a skin condition that is a common precursor to skin cancer, according to a study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Actinic keratoses are premalignant skin lesions very common in fair-skinned individuals who always burn and rarely tan. It is the most common precursor to sun-related squamous-cell carcinoma, the second most common type of skin cancer. Current topical medications to treat actinic keratosis often causes skin irritation and result in many patients not completing the full treatment regimen. Topical gels are used as an alternative treatment to cryosurgery, a method of freezing lesions using liquid nitrogen as the cooling solution, to destroy the precancerous skin lesions. Cryosurgery is the most common form of treatment, but is only practical in treating areas with single lesions, not multiple lesions.

Inhaled interferon-gamma may be an effective treatment for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), a chronic and progressive form of lung disease caused by excessive formation of fibrotic, or scar tissue, in the lungs, according to an article published in *Journal of Aerosol Medicine and Pulmonary Drug Delivery*.

A combined therapy of common acne medications was shown to be a potent regimen for treating patients with severe facial acne, according to two studies published in the *Journal of Drugs in Dermatology* and *Journal of Dermatological Treatment*. The companion studies found that a therapy of the topical Epiduo Gel containing adapalene and benzoyl peroxide and the antibiotic doxycycline proved more effective at reducing acne lesions compared to other treatment regimens.

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Warner facing \$10 million road repairs

Director of Public Works, Matt Waite provided the Warner Selectmen with a list of the top roads that need reconstruction along with the cost. Town Administrator Laura Buono recommended the Board have a discussion about bonding or adding more money to the capital reserve.

The top roads on the list, were derived from the Road Committee, all need complete reconstruction. Selectman Clyde Carson would like to look at bonding options and Buono said she can gather updated figures. The current bond matures in 2014 which means \$60K will be coming off the operating budget and in 2017 \$20K will come off the operating budget for the Hopkinton landfill. Waite stated that the roads that have been reconstructed will last well over twenty years. Selectman David Hartman recommended adding North Village Road up to Mink Hill Lane to the current list as well.

The figure being used for reconstruction costs is \$200 per linear foot. The estimated cost to reconstruct the top rated roads is \$10 million. There are two options for the Selectmen to consider, increase the annual reserve amount or bond. Another suggestion was to hire an engineer for two years who will complete the projects that need engineering and build the cost into the bond.

K-9 donated to Goffstown Police Dept.

Goffstown Police Chief Patrick Sullivan informed the selectmen that the department has the opportunity to accept a donation of a canine. He said the donation is from Officer Chris Weeks. The dog has passed the entrance exam for a police dog, and he felt the dog would be a good fit. The dog is valued at \$4,900.

The Chief said Officer Weeks is a canine officer, and had been working with the 2-year-old dog. Because the donation is valued at less than \$5,000 a public hearing was not required and the Board unanimously agreed to accept the donation.

Finalists named for Hillsboro positions

The search committees charged with finding a new Planning Director and a Town Administrator have presented the Hillsboro Selectmen with the names of three finalist for Town Administrator and two for Town Planner. The Board will begin non-public interviews of the finalist at their next meeting.

Newport woman wins \$50,000 Lottery

A Newport woman was the winner of \$50,000 in Sundays New Hampshire Lottery Set for Life drawing held at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon. As one of five finalists Trudi Powell was allowed to pick one envelope to determine the amount of her prize.

The first person in line selected the envelope with a one-time payoff of \$100,000. The next two were winners of \$75,000 and \$25,000, respectively. It was then Powell's turn to chose between the two remaining envelopes. She first reached for the one on top but changed her mind and chose the other, a \$50,000 winner. She will receive a check for \$37,500 after \$12,500 to cover federal income taxes are deducted.

The remaining finalist, Amanda Tetlow, of Lincoln, took the remaining envelope worth \$500,000.

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Police honored for team effort in solving multiple burglaries

From June 2012 thru August 2012 the Sunapee Police responded to 15 burglaries. The Department investigates 10 burglaries on average per year. To date Sunapee Police have already responded to 25 for 2012. The Sunapee Police went above and beyond typical patrol tactics by using alternative surveillance devices, patrolling in rented vehicles and spending time on foot in the wooded area around the victims in hopes of developing a lead. During this time officers attended additional training and obtain fingerprint equipment to sharpen their skills increase chances of obtaining fingerprints at crime scenes.

Finally in late August a break in Sunapee cases came from the Town of Peterborough where a victim obtained a description and license plate number of a suspect in one of their burglaries. Through the continued hard work and team effort of area departments Chris Ferraro was stopped and arrested in the Town of Bradford by Sgt. Stephen Valiquet and Off. Edward Shaughnessy. Off. Shaughnessy conducted an interview where he not only developed a report with Ferraro but was able to obtain a confession to a couple burglaries in the Bradford area. Subsequently a search of the vehicle and the residence where Ferraro was living was done by members of the Bradford, Goshen and Sunapee Police departments and they located jewelry linking Ferraro to 8 burglaries in Sunapee, 2 in Goshen, 4 in Bradford and 1 in Peterborough.

To recognize this example of teamwork at its best, Sunapee Police Chief David Cahill

presented Unit Citation Awards to the following officers: Officer Shaughnessy- Bradford Police, Officer Lamson- Goshen Police, Sgt. Cobb, Sgt. Puchtler, Officer Therrien, Officer Lantigne, Officer Reed, Officer Heath, and Officer Fisher of the Sunapee

Department. Also recognized was Secretary Teresa Mastin who was presented the "Chiefs Recognition Coin" given by the Chief to an individual or Officer as a personal token of appreciation for a noteworthy action during the performance of their duties.



Sunapee Police Chief David Cahill (white shirt) recognized officers from Sunapee, Bradford and Goshen for their efforts in solving several burglaries.

Halloween candy being collected in Antrim

During October, Antrim is collecting donations of candy for downtown residents to distribute on Halloween. The James A. Tuttle Library on Main St., has agreed to be a drop-off point for wrapped candy in unopened bags. Downtown residents who would like to request candy to distribute on Halloween may visit or call

the library at 588- 6786 to be added to the list. One week before Halloween the candy will be divided equally between all participants. Every Halloween, downtown Antrim residents distribute candy to more than 200 children. Contact the Antrim Friends of Recreation at friendsofrec@gmail.com with questions.

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The Masons of Harmony Lodge in Hillsborough recently held a banquet in honor of their Past Masters. (Back row L to R) James Hurlbut, Arnold Rocklin-Ware, Mo Division, Harold, Hurlbut, Warrnen Williams, Bob Hatfield, John Van der Linde. (Front row L to R) Gerry Classon, Walter Sterling, Art Wall, Peter Bean, Art Allison, Mike Parrent.

Antrim Wind SEC Hearing rescheduled

The state's Site Evaluation Committee's hearing on Antrim Wind Energy's proposed 10 mega-watt facility, originally scheduled for October 10th, has been rescheduled for October 26th at 9:00 a.m. It will be held at the Department of Environmental Services at 29 hazen Drive in Concord.

Henniker Antique Appraisal Day Sept 30

The Henniker Historical Society is pleased to announce that they will be featuring an Antique Appraisal Day by Daniel Olmstead New Hampshire Antique Dealer and Appraiser on Sunday, September 30, at 2:00 p.m. Bring your items to be appraised for a donation of \$4.00 for one, or three for \$10.00 at the Historical Society Museum at Academy Hall, 51 Maple Street next to the Congregational Church. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served, For more information call 428-7594

Newport resident caused his own problem

A few months ago a Fairway Avenue resident complained that his basement was being flooded and wanted the Newport Selectmen to have the problem fixed. The town was given three options ranging from \$5,000-\$18,000 to correct the water flow. However, after further investigation, it was discovered that the resident had caused his own problem by landscaping a back lot that had always been undeveloped. Based on that information, the Board asked Town Administrator Paul Brown to inform the resident that the town would not undertake any remediation.

Mother & daughter are winning authors

Gail and Laura Piazza a mother and daughter team from Sunapee were awarded a bronze medal in the fourth annual Living Now Book Awards in the Cooking/ Natural category for their book Recipes for Repair: A Lyme Disease Cookbook. The awards are designed to honor outstanding books that help readers attain healthier, more fulfilling, and productive lives. In all, 94 medals were awarded in 29 categories, chosen from 488 total entries.

"Now is the time to do something" about the 1941 school building

The New London Selectmen invited Kearsarge Regional School Board Chair Dan Wolf to meet with them to discuss the future of the 1941 school building. Faced with \$50,000 per year in maintenance costs on an unused facility, the School District has issued a Request For Proposals (RFP) for any group to outline what it would do with the building and set a timeline for occupancy.

In answer to an inquiry as to whether the School Board was more interested in rental income or community use, Wolf said the District would consider all options, rent, sale or shared use, but emphasized that "Now is the time to do something." The RFP's are due on October 26th and a decision would need to be made by early December if a warrant article was needed.

The school Board has the authority to lease the building, but a sale would require further voter approval.

Wolf did say that, in the past, when the School Board could see no further use for District buildings they were deeded back to the towns for \$1.00. Such was the case in Bradford, Newbury, Springfield and Wilmot.

The selectmen decided to research the Articles of Agreement creating the

Our Mistake - We're Sorry

In last week's Messenger we incorrectly credited Elizabeth Nichols with the idea of restoring Antrim's Civil War Monument. In fact it was Thelma Nichols. We apologize for the error.

Kearsarge District to see if there was a provision for the disposition of unused fa-

cilities. A tour of the building is scheduled for September 27th at 9 a.m..



Sunapee Town Clerk Betty Ramsdott swears in Tim Puchtler as a Sargent on the Sunapee Police Department. Puchtler joined the Department in 2006 and has been a Patrolman until his promotion. With his new promotion he will serve as the department's prosecutor and detective. Sgt Puchtler will be responsible to ensure each and every investigation is followed up on. He also manages the departments evidence room which he has been doing for the last three years.

New plans filed for Bennington's Dollar General

The Zaremba Group, representing Dollar General, has submitted a revised site plans to the Bennington Planning Board. Dollar General had initially requested five variances to allow construction of a commercial business in the town's water protection zone. The revised plans reduced the number of variances. Originally Dollar General proposed a store at 169 Clinton Road home owned

by Maryann Colburn. Now the area has more than doubled with an agreement to purchase the 1.14 acre adjoining property owned by Jill Sharkey Amidon. The area still falls short of the three acres required for new construction but the plans now meet the dimensional requirements for parking spaces. The Planning Board has scheduled a public hearing on Oct. 8 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

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This mother moose and her calf decided to join the Kearsarge Classic.

Moose and calf join Kearsarge Klassic

On Saturday, September 8th the NH Cycling Club and The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust partnered to host the Kearsarge Klassic Dirt Road Randonee. The event is a non-competitive ride of 30, 59, 86 or 97 miles (rider's choice) on mostly dirt roads, passing a number of Ausbon Sargent's protected properties in the Lake Sunapee/Mt. Kearsarge area. As riders were leaving the lunch spot in Andover, NH, they got a special treat when a moose and her calf crossed Rt. 11 directly through the biker's path. Photo by Jim Sandberg

Hospital's anonymous \$700,000 donation

New London Hospital has received a \$700,000 gift from an anonymous donor. It is the largest noncapital gift the hospital has received in its 94-year history. The donor stipulated that these funds "be used for improving the health of the community and the patients served by the hospital." "Our goal is to use this gift as the foundation for a significant, innovative and sustainable wellness initiative that will address the most pressing health concerns of our community," stated G. William Helm, Jr, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Newport Food pantry Needs your help

The Newport Food Pantry need your help. With the holidays fast approaching, the number of households utilizing the Food Pantry will continue to rise but cash donations are down 50 percent. Food Pantry Coordinator, Rich Chappell, said the lack of cash donations has forced him to cut out purchasing paper towels and toilet paper along with laundry detergent and toothpaste. These items are not available at the New Hampshire Food Bank in Manchester, which provides a large percentage of food items stocked at the Newport Pantry.

In the five years since Chappell took over as coordinator, the number of families served has risen from 108 to 325. Newport had the most households represented at 188 followed by Lempster, 34; Goshen, 32; Sunapee, 22; Washington, 11; Unity/Acworth, 11; Croydon, 10; Grantham, 7 and Springfield, 4.

Newport Selectmen appoint Recreation/Athletic Facility Committee

A Newport Recreation/Athletic Facility Committee is being formed to present proposals for future recreation/athletic facilities to be included in the Capital Improvements Plan. The Committee work will include, but not be limited to, inventory and review of facilities and facility usage for both Town and School owned facilities to gain an understanding of the current status, discussion of future needs for the various user groups, and general plans for potential new or renovated facilities. Once the general plans for facilities are approved, an additional committee, or committees, will need to be created to work on site location, more detailed plans and possible fund raising.

The Committee will have representation from the Town, School and citizens, to insure all user groups are represented. The Town's representatives will be one member of the Board of Selectmen, the Recreation Director, and the Buildings Manager. The School has not yet appointed members, but it is recommended to be a Board member, the Athletic Director and, the Buildings Manager.

On the recommendation of Town Administrator Paul Brown, the Selectmen appointed Jason Avery, Donna Mahair, Chris

Martin, Mary Maxfield, David McCrillis, Ryan O'Brien and Todd Fratzel as Selectman's representative to the committee.



Hillsboro Lions Club President Don Karsten presents Henniker Rotary Club President Joyce Bosse with a Lion's Pin in appreciation of her talk to the club. Bosse spoke of the many similarities between their two service organizations.

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After major renovations, College Convenience will open in the former Pop Schultz's Market in Henniker.

Volunteers needed for Sunapee Boards

At Monday's Selectmen's meeting the Board appointed Veronica Hastings, wife of Selectman Shane Hastings to the Budget Advisory Committee. However, the town still needs volunteers to fill out other Boards and committees including:

Budget Advisory Committee: 2 members needed

Planning Board: 3 alternates needed.

Zoning Board: 2 alternate positions needed.

Recreation and Harbor House Livery could always use an alternate (they have had one in the past and they have gone on to fill a vacancy of a full member of the board)

There is a volunteer form at http://www.town.sunapee.nh.us/Pages/SunapeeNH_Selectmen/volunteerformrevised2012

Fill it out and drop off at the town office/selectmen's window.

Jeff Rose appointed to fill Cuddemi's seat

In filling one vacancy, the Bennington Selectmen have created another. Long time Planning Board member Jeff Rose has accepted the Board's appointment to replace Joe Cuddemi for the vacant seat on the Select Board. Cuddemi, who resigned his seat in July, had served for more than 10 years on several town boards. Chair Steve Osienski and Jim Cleary, have been interviewing candidates to fill the third seat. Rose has been a member of the Planning Board for 10 years, and served as Chair for the last 7. Rose will hold the Selectman's seat until March, when his and Osienski's seat will be up for reelection.

Trio arrested for credit card theft

Milford police have arrested a Greenfield and Milford men along with a Hillsborough woman after they allegedly used a stolen credit card to make several purchases in an afternoon buying spree. Joshua Haney, 31, of Greenfield, Angela Lunderville, 21, of Hillsborough, and Matthew Williams, 24, of Milford were all arrested on Sept. 11 and charged with theft from a motor vehicle, receiving stolen property, criminal liability for conduct of another, breach of bail conditions and fraudulent use of a credit card - all class A misdemeanors.

Washington's John Corrigan honored for exemplary service

The Washington Selectmen and Police Department recently presented an Exemplary Service Award to Officer John F. Corrigan for his superior performance during a series of felony level crimes committed on June 22, 2012. At the time of the events Corrigan was the sole officer as the Chief was away at training and the part-time officers were unavailable.

During a six hour period Corrigan responded to a serious sexual assault,

two burglaries and two attempted burglaries. The citation says Corrigan showed the highest standard of professionalism by assuring all victims were cared for, proper evidence procedures were taken and requesting the appropriate level of mutual aid from neighboring agencies.

He coordinated the responses of

three mutual aid agencies as well as two social service agencies, while communicating with the Chief during the period.

Corrigan's attention to all aspects of the response and investigations resulted in the immediate arrest and incarceration of one felon and the pending arrest of a second, as well as clearing all the incidents.

Employees honored

The Kearsarge Regional School District honored two retired employees at the Middle School soccer fields last Friday. The Lower Soccer Field was dedicated as Douglas MacDonald "D. Mac" Field, in honor of Doug MacDonald worked for 45 years as a science teacher throughout the district. The Upper Field was dedicated as the Newman Durrell "IX," Field, in honor of Newman Durrell who worked for the district for 32 years in a variety of roles.



(L to R) Selectmen Tom Russell and Guy Eaton, Brennan Corrigan, Officer John Corrigan, Michele Corrigan and Police Chief Steve Marshall.

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Attention Newbury Residents!!!

Come see your newly renovated Veteran's Hall and join us for a community potluck supper.

Sunday, October 28, 2012
5:00 p.m. at Veteran's Hall

Prizes will be given for the best in each category: comfort food, salad, vegetable/side or dessert. Please r.s.v.p. to Donna Long, 763-4940 ext. 202 or donna@newburynh.org to let her know which category you will be bringing.

Entertainment to be provided by:
Tom Pirozzoli & Gerry Putnam



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We will be responsible for errors in advertisements only to the extent of correcting the same in the next issue using space equal to the items in error.

LETTERS POLICY:

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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We strive every day to present full, fair and accurate news reports. We will correct, in this space, factual inaccuracies in our coverage. We encourage readers to tell us if we have made a mistake.

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Senior Lifestyles

A Guide for New Hampshire's Active Seniors

NH Homes & Home Improvement

A Guide for NH Home Owners & Home Seekers



Guest Editorial by Grant Bosse

The incredible disappearing deficit

One of the toughest challenges facing voters this fall is that the two sides aren't just making competing arguments about who can best run New Hampshire government for the next two years. They can't even agree on recent New Hampshire budget history.

House and Senate Republicans argue that they deserve re-election in part because they balanced a state budget facing a \$900 million deficit. Yet, some Democratic challengers are now claiming that the deficit never even existed.

Mark Fernald was a State Senator, and ran twice for Governor. He's running for a seat in the State House this fall. Fernald is perhaps New Hampshire's leading advocate for an income tax, and he makes a strong case for increasing state spending and state revenues. In a widely read column that has become a Democratic Party talking point, Fernald alleges that Republicans won the State House in 2010 on the false narrative that Democrats increased spending too much and left the state with a huge deficit.

"There was no reckless spending. There was no 25 percent increase. There was no deficit," Fernald.

Former Democratic Representative Bob Bridgham went even further in his recent letter to the Conway Daily Sun, arguing that New Hampshire recent budget challenge "exists only in the fevered imagination of rapid Republicans." Oh, my.

Yet Fernald once agreed that the Legislature faced a huge budget challenge, writing at MarkFernald.com, "Budget experts warn that New Hampshire faces a deficit in its next two-year budget as large as \$900 million." He blamed insufficient revenues rather than reckless spending, but he certainly didn't deny the deficit's existence.

So how did Fernald go from arguing about how to cut the deficit to claiming it was never there? He relies on the New Hampshire 2011 Consolidated Annual Financial Report. The CAFR is a spectacularly useful document, and it indeed shows that by the end of Fiscal Year 2011, New Hampshire had balanced its budget. But this look back at the state's finances hides the twists and turns that got the budget into balance.

When the Legislature passes a budget, it approves spending on state programs for the next two years, as well as authorizing the collection of taxes and fees to pay for

them. But it can only estimate how much revenue those taxes and fees will generate. If the revenue estimates are too optimistic, as they were in 2007 and 2009, the budget can get out of balance quickly.

Republicans criticized the spending increases approved in those budgets. Falling revenues forced the Democratic Legislature to cut back from how much it had really wanted to spend.

In 2010, New Hampshire faced a \$295 million deficit. The plan Governor Lynch pushed through the Legislature was short on spending cuts and tax hikes. It was filled with borrowing, transfers, and what could generously be described as creative budget solutions. The more cynical among us might call them gimmicks.

This smoke and mirrors approach drew wide-ranging criticism from Foster's Daily Democrat, The Nashua Telegraph, and the Concord Monitor. At the end of the Fiscal Year, the Lynch Administration transferred \$80 million from the FY11 Education Trust Fund into FY10. This transfer transformed a \$10 million deficit into a nominal \$70 million surplus on that year's CAFR.

The CAFR also fails to pick up on the huge budget problem that faced the Legislature when it came into office. Lynch's creative budget solutions were short-term fixes. Revenues were still down. Federal stimulus money was drying up. And state spending programs were scheduled to ratchet higher. As budget season began, everyone including Fernald agreed that budget writers needed to find \$900 million.

In closing the gap, the Legislature stuck with relatively pessimistic revenue estimates which have been sadly accurate. They cut state spending by about 10% overall, with more cuts in state transfers to cities and towns and fewer cuts to social services. They stop refunding Medicaid Enhancement Tax revenues to hospitals, ending Mediscam but prompting a lawsuit. And they continued a raid of the New Hampshire Turnpike System initiated two years earlier by Governor Lynch.

Each of these decisions is controversial and fodder for political debate this fall. Because of these decisions, New Hampshire will again show a balanced budget on this year's CAFR.

This Legislature came into office facing the biggest budget hole in New Hampshire history. Not only did they stop digging; they

filled it in. The New Hampshire budget is a complicated and shifting issue, difficult to explain and easy to distort. Politicians seeking to write the next budget should not ignore our past budget deficits when they

become politically inconvenient.
Grant Bosse is Vice-President for Media for the Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Policy, a free market think tank based in Concord, NH.



Letters to the Editor

To The Editor:

As the primaries have come and gone, we find ourselves in a polarized race to the finish. While this may make for our own amusement or displeasure, one cannot disagree that our decision in November is crystal clear: we MUST stand together with Charlie Bass. Charlie worked with NH residents, for NH residents. Kuster, an aggressively liberal partisan politician, is out of touch with voters. This was made evidently clear to me when she claimed the bipartisan budget backed by Charlie Bass was "pitiful," a budget that the Concord Coalition called "courageous," and which followed the recommendations of the bipartisan Simpson-Bowles Commission. Charlie stands proud to have co-sponsored said plan, and who wouldn't? The plan would reduce our deficit by \$4 trillion over 10 years. Evidently that is something Kuster just can't stand behind. I leave you with these questions: do you want to be represented by someone who only represents the left wing, who will not compromise or work across party lines? Or do you want to continue to be represented by the man who encourages everything to be brought to the table so the best decision

can be made together for the people of this great state?

Walt Morse, Hillsborough

Editor:

What people forget is that the US economy was hemorrhaging jobs throughout the year before Mr. Obama took office, to the tune of three-quarters of a million jobs per month, for the last three months of that year. Mr. Obama managed, despite a recalcitrant congress, to halt the free fall of the economy, and turn it into 30 straight months of job growth. Williard "Mitt" Romney's insensitivity to the challenges faced by the American middle class predate his now-infamous "47%" remarks. His response to the burgeoning cost of higher education was that college students should "maybe borrow some money from your parents." And his light-hearted quip to unemployed workers was "I'm unemployed, too"-- which is technically true, since he earns his millions not with labor but with capital. It is clear that the average working-class family will have a much better chance at a decent life with Mr. Obama at the helm.

Mike Bradley Hillsborough

Deering counters Hillsboro's Parks & Rec proposal

The Deering Selectmen reviewed the letter and draft agreement from Hillsborough regarding the Parks and Recreation. Selectman Couturier commented that the annual payment should be due on December 15, 2013 rather than January 1, 2013 as stated in the proposed agreement. Selectman J. P. Marzullo suggested that the Town negotiate a quarterly payment,

as has been done in the past, as a one-time annual payment is excessive.

After much discussion, it was agreed upon to re-write the draft agreement and state that upon approval at Town Meeting, the Town will be willing to pay \$25,000/ year for a three year agreement and to continue with the current quarterly payment schedule.

New Boston Recreation schedules fall programs

Recreation Director Mike Sindoni updated the New Boston Selectmen on Recreation Department activities: including fall programs:

There have been good registration numbers for fall programs. Gymnastics, karate, Lego club, robotix and flag football

are all full. Golf is starting and is almost full. Archery is 1/2 full. Ballroom dance was cancelled for the fall and will schedule a winter session. A trip to Foxwoods is coming up. Basketball registrations have started and this program is usually popular and successful.

THE Messenger

Pick up your Messenger at:

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

Bennington: Harris Convenience, Albertos, Bennington Village Store, A Common Place

Bradford: Post Office, Lake Sunapee Bank, Appleseed, Cobble Farms

Contoocook: T-Bird, Colonial Village, Dimitris

Deering: Deering Town Hall

Francestown: Country Store

Goffstown: Sully's Superette, Town Office

Greenfield: Harvester Market

Hancock: Fiddleheads, Country Store

Henniker: Harvester Market, Country Spirit, Edmunds, Pharmacy, Henniker Farm Store, St. Georges Cafe, Town Hall

Hillsborough: Sweet Expressions, Shaw's, Diner, Williams' Store, The Corner Store, Lake Sunapee Bank, Sovereign Bank, Post Office

Hopkinton: Cracker Barrel, Town Hall

Jaffrey: Belletete's

Newbury: Marzelli's, Mobil, Out Spoken, Lake Sunapee Bank, Double Diamond, Post Office, Mountain Edge, Best Western, One Mile West, Tackle Shop

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

Newport: Violette's, Shaw's, Irving, T-Bird, Country Kitchen, Caronis Market

Peterborough: Belletete's, Agway, Shaw's

Rindge: Market Basket, Hannaford's

Sunapee: Sugar River Bank, Lake Sunapee Bank, Exxon

Sutton: General Store

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

Washington: Washington General Store

Weare: Lancots, Couburns, Dimitries



(L to R) Flanked by Louis M. Corson, Master Of Harris Lodge, and Harvey Greenberg, Scholarship Committee Chairman are Brenda Greenlaw and her daughter Rebecca (left photo) and Elizabeth Fougere and her daughter Anne (right photo) Barbara Corson photos.

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Masons of Warner's Harris Lodge award scholarships

By Rich Dahlgren

Harris Lodge # 91 F. & A.M., Warner, NH, awards a scholarship at their August meeting to a graduating High School Senior pursuing their studies beyond high school. Applications are chosen from three High Schools: Hopkinton High School, Merrimack Valley Regional High School and Kearsarge Regional High School. These scholarships were presented during the lodge meeting on August 8, 2012.

This year a second scholarship was given, the Douglas H. Brown, Sr. Scholarship in the name of one of Harris Lodge's Past Masters and a prominent educator in the Warner area. At one time he was Principal of Simonds High School in Warner.

Rebecca Greenlaw was awarded the Harris Lodge Scholarship. She will begin her studies at New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord in the Animation and Graphic Game Programming Associate in Science program. She is a resident of

Warner, the daughter of Brenda Greenlaw and a graduate of Kearsarge Regional High School. She was a member of the Drama Club while at Kearsarge.

Anne Fougere received the Douglas H. Brown, Sr. Scholarship. She will begin her studies at St. Joseph's College of Maine in Standish, Maine majoring in Physical Education/Teacher Preparation. She is a resident of Warner, the daughter of Elizabeth Fougere and a graduate of Kearsarge Regional High School.

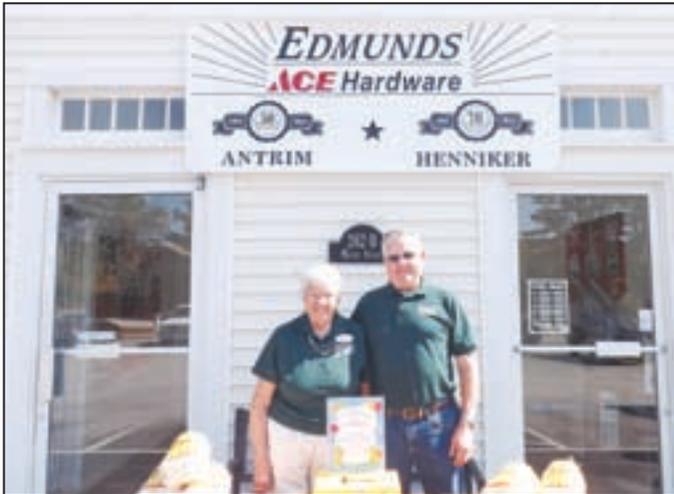
While in high school Anne was a Varsity Swim Team, Field Hockey Team and Softball Team member; received the NHIAA/NHADA Athletic/Academic Award in 2012; the KRHS Tri-Athlete Award and a recipient of many other prestigious sports awards. Besides the sports activities she also was the Ledyard Student of the Month, a Senior Mentor, and on the Yearbook and Junior Prom Committees.

New London questions hospital's ambulance fund

New London Town Administrator Kim Hallquist has asked an attorney to look at the issue of the fund the hospital wants to establish the purchase of an ambulance. Finance Officer Wendy Johnson contacted the auditors and found that they don't like the idea.

The issue is that it is Town money going to the hospital and put into a capital reserve fund at the hospital. Then they

would purchase an ambulance at some point. The question is whether a town can give money like that in advance of something. What happens if something happens to the hospital, such as it being sold or going bankrupt? Additionally, since the contract calls for more than a one year commitment, there will need to be an "escape clause" added in case funding is not provided by Town Meeting.



Four generations of the Edmunds family gathered to celebrate their 70 years doing business in Henniker and 50 years in Antrim, including: Hattie and Richard Edmunds in Henniker (left photo) and Lorraine Edmunds, Margaret Klemmer, Rick Edmunds, Thomas Klemmer, Hannah Klemmer, Jeanine Edmunds, Andrew Edmunds and Brody Edmunds in Antim (right photo)

Town of Deering hires Raymond Daniels again

The Deering Selectmen reviewed RFP for Excavation Work. Chairman Johnson opened the only bid received, which was submitted by Raymond Daniels; it included an original and 3 copies for two different bids. Only one bid was signed

and a copy of a driver's license was not included as it states on the RFP. The Board accepted the bid under the provision that the bid be signed within the next business day as well as a copy of his driver's license submitted.

New Boston awards bridge contract to Hoyle-Tanner

Road Agent Dick Perusse briefed the New Boston Selectmen on the Hoyle-Tanner 'Scope and Services' Agreement for Riverdale Road Bridge. A quote was received and the paperwork was sent to NHDOT to use Hoyle-Tanner for scope and fees and the state approved. Perusse doesn't agree with the pre-stressed feature and he and

Tom Miller would rather use a steel beam with concrete deck that would save \$2,000. Hoyle-Tanner plans to investigate both options. The Board voted to authorized Administrator Peter Flynn and Dick Perusse to engage Hoyle-Tanner for the Riverdale Bridge project.

Newport Historical Society holds membership drive

The Newport Historical Society is conducting its annual membership drive. Anyone joining by Nov. 13 for the 2012-13 membership year has a chance to win one of six \$25 gift certificates provided by Hubert's, Harrington's, Debi's Florist, Sugar River Pharmacy, Violette's Supermarket and Old Courthouse Restaurant. Membership types include individual, \$15; family \$25; Junior, \$1; Corporate/Business, bronze, \$25, silver, \$50, gold, \$75, platinum, \$100 and diamond, more than \$100. Further information including a membership form is available by contacting the Newport Historical Society, P.O. Box 413, Newport.

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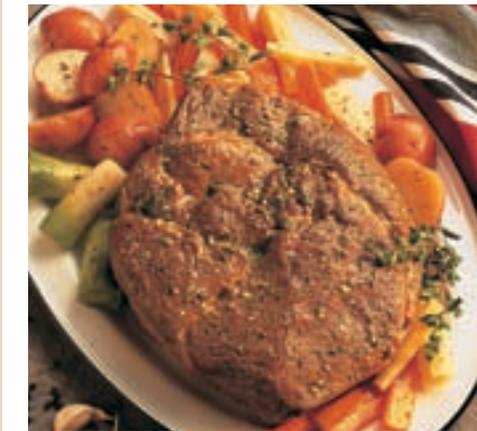
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