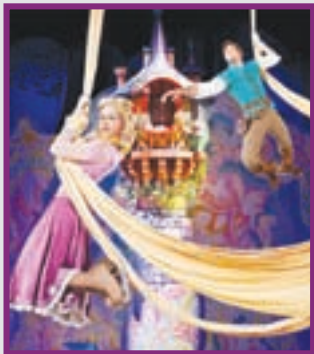


THE Messenger

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

Free ♦ Our 148th Year ♦ Issue 3 ♦ January 15, 2016



FREE DISNEY TICKETS

Disney On Ice is returning to the Verizon Arena In Manchester from January 27th to the 31st. Hillsborough and Henniker residents have a special opportunity to attend the performance on the 29th absolutely free. The Messenger has obtained 60 tickets to the show and has donated 30 each to Hillsborough Recreation and the White Birch Community Center. Tickets will soon be available at each location. Stop in soon to reserve yours.



Senior Roads Scholar

New Boston Road Agent Dick Perusse recently presented his long time foreman Terry Gordon with a certificate in recognition of Gordon being designated as a Senior Roads Scholar and achieving Safety Champion status.



Bow's proposed Public Safety Building.

Unanimous approval

Committee united in recommending project

Meeting Monday night, Bow's Public Safety Building Committee unanimously approved the final siting and floor plans for the town's new Public Safety Facility.

Since last year's Town meeting, the Committee has been working to address concerns raised including the projected price.

Working with Design/Build contractor Gary Chicoine Construction Corporation of Weare, the cost is set at \$3,618,788 including architects fees. The town has established a Contingency Fee of \$500,000 to cover the cost

of the clerk, communication tower, generator, telephone and computer systems. Together the final cost is just under \$4.4 million, substantially lower than the original \$7.7 million proposed in 2013.

The new site plan brings the facility close to Knox Road and the new floor plan makes only minor revisions to room locations. The committee will present the plan to the selectmen next week and upon their approval will meet with several groups in town to present the proposal.

Suspect arrested attempting to post bail for his pals

On January 8th Deering Officer Bell went to assist Hillsborough Police on Henniker Street for a disturbance involving several parties. Two suspects were arrested who had active warrants issued by Chief Pushee as part of an investigation of a "melee" that occurred early Tuesday morning. Once these two suspects were at the station for Arrest Processing, a third suspect from the earlier assault/fight case arrived at the PD to help bail his friends out. Arrested were: Douglas Nettleton, 44, of Windsor, on a

charge of Simple Assault, Jeremy Nettleton, 22, of Windsor, on a charge of Simple Assault and Timothy Misiasek, 23, of Deering, on a charge of Felony Second Degree Assault and Simple Assault. The next day, Officers Bell and Parsons were able to locate a fourth suspect, Troy Gagnon, age 29, of Nashua, and arrested him on a charge of Felony Second Degree Assault (attempted strangulation) and a charge of Simple Assault. All were released on bail pending his arraignment.



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Yesteryear Local history as reported in The Messenger

January 16, 2015

Rezoning proposed for Villa Augustina
Dunbarton appealing Goffstown decision
Two people injured in Hopkinton rollover
ConVal Union & School Board approve merit pay

January 17, 2014

Another Weare DPW worker leaving for Henniker
Newport logger convicted of felonies
Bennington man Deering woman injured in accidents
New London burglar quickly arrested

January 18, 2013

MV Kearsarge partially submerged in lake
Antrim terminates Police Station contractor
Carbon monoxide hospitalizes 14 from Camp Wediko
Sunapee man nominated for Liquor Commission Chair

January 20, 2012

Petition seeks Steve Marshall's removal
Hillsborough family homeless after fire
Bennington woman charged with murder
James O'Rourke named HDHS Principal

January 21, 2011

Newport Superintendent gone after 6 months
Sunapee woman killed in South Carolina
Warner death remains a mystery
Three injured in Weare two-car accident

January 15, 2010

Four arrested for Henniker arson
Bradford fires three from highway department
Bennington officials "get the message"
Weare man arrested for stalking

January 16, 2009

Antrim Police Dept. back to full strength
Area police investigating mailbox' vandalism
Henniker conveys 60 acre conservation easement
Man survives truck's fall into lake

January 11, 2008

Antrim man faces 10 years in prison
Sunapee woman killed in accident
Francetown Fire Chief to retire
Fire engulfs Sutton home

January 19, 2007

New London announces new Library Director
Arson suspected as new Senior Center burns
Hillsborough personnel dispute erupts in the media
Weare man arrested after prison escape

January 20, 2006

Court deals with deaths of two Peterborough men
New owners acquire Anchorage at Sunapee Harbor
Bennington Fire Chief Mark Chase resigns
Dodge supporters ask School Board for an apology

Divided crowd attends Northern Pass hearing in Franklin

The Franklin Opera House was filled to capacity Monday night for a hearing, by the state's Site Evaluation Committee, on the proposed Northern Pass project. Eversource-New Hampshire spokesman Bill Quinlan outlined the \$1.6 billion proposal, saying that Northern Pass is the best of many alternative projects that will be brought forward in coming years to replace aging and retiring energy plants in the region.

He explained that would bring "1,090 clean megawatts" of energy over its 192 miles of lines between the Canadian border and the energy grid in Deerfield.

Franklin would benefit because a DC transfer station would be built in the city, resulting in as much as \$7 million in property taxes each year, he said. The project would benefit the rest of the NH with \$30 million in property taxes per year he said.

Quinlan said the state would see a total of \$3.8 billion in benefits from the project, bringing 2,600 jobs to the state during construction and ultimately \$80 million in lower energy costs and lower carbon emissions in the state by 3.3 million tons.

Franklin Mayor Ken Merrifield, a

long-time proponent of the project, thanked the SEC for coming to Franklin. With an expected \$7.5 million in property tax revenue coming into Franklin from the transmission line project, he said, "We may well see a second golden Merrifield

greeted by applause from about half the crowd. The remainder, many who wore bright-orange "Trees Not Towers" shirts remained in opposition to the project. The Franklin City Council voted unanimously to support the project.



Bow Budget Committee at work

Bow Town manager David Stack reports that the Budget Committee has begun its review of the proposed FY2016-17 Town and School District budgets. The Committee will be meeting on Mondays and Thursdays through the end of January. The Committee will be discussing the proposed School District budget at its Monday meetings and the proposed Town budget at its Thursday meetings. The meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. and are held in Meeting Room B at the Bow Municipal Building.

Antrim Bennington Lions offer Free vision screening

The Antrim Bennington Lions will sponsor free vision screenings targeted for children six months to six years of age and other children of any age that are being homeschooled.

These screenings are being provided to reach children that were not screened in September at the five elementary schools in the area (Antrim, Bennington, Frances-town, Greenfield and Hancock) where 400 children were screened. The screenings will take place from 10:00 AM to noon at the Tuttle Library in Antrim on Friday, January 15, and Saturday, January 16, 2016.

More than 12 million school-age children in the United States have some form of vision problem, yet only one in three have received eye care services before age six. "Early screening leads to early detection, which helps ensure that children get the follow-up care they need," said Dick Loveland. "We want to make sure that correctible vision problems don't stand in the way of our children learning and seeing the world clearly."

For more information on the screening event or to learn more about the Antrim Bennington Lions and its service projects, contact Dick Loveland at (603) 478-1344.



Welcome New Readers!

This issue of The Messenger is being mailed to introduce you to our weekly newspaper. You will receive a mailed copy every 8 weeks. See page 13 for a list of locations where you can pick one up on the other weeks.

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EMT Roland Bovio and Lt. Darren Labier from Hillsboro Fire Department supervise the Annual Christmas Tree Bonfire at Grimes Field.

New London Winter Carnival

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27: 3:30 - 5:00 pm Learn to Skate/ Skating Games, Bob Andrews Memorial Ice Rink. 5:30 pm 3v3 Hockey Tournament, Bob Andrews Memorial Ice Rink. *Broom Hockey and 3v3 Hockey require advance sign up in order to participate. Contact the New London Recreation Department for details.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28: 4:00 - 5:30 pm Broom Hockey Tournament, Bob Andrews Memorial Ice Rink. 5:30 pm 2nd Annual Undie Run, Freezin for a Reason, 1k family fun run, suggested donation of \$10 (more for all googly onlookers!!), all proceeds support the New London Recreation Department. Start/end on Main St. Post Undie Fun, (limited seating) The New London Inn

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29: 4:30 - 5:15 pm Magic Show, Whipple Hall (sponsored by the New London Police Association & the Friends of Tracy Library) this show is free but limited to 150. Tickets available in advance at Tracy Library, or New London Recreation Department. 5:00 - 7:00 pm Wagon Rides, Main St.

5:30 - 7:30 pm Dinner with Jack Frost, Town Green pricing and tickets available online at www.nl-nh.com. Complimentary leis provided by the Sunapee Region Board of Realtors.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30: 10:00 am - 1:30 pm Market on the Green, Whipple Hall. 10:00 - 11:00 am Arts and Crafts, Tracy Memorial Library. Sign-up in advance, 526-5256, lkeating@tracylibrary.org. 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Scavenger Hunt, Town Green.

11:00 am - 12:30 pm Face Painting, Morgan Hill Bookstore. 11:00 am - 3:00 pm BBQ, Town Green.

11:00 am - 3:00 pm Hot Chocolate Bar, hosted by New London Hospital, Town Green.

12:30 - 3:00 pm Ski Joring, by the North East Ski Joring Association, Town Green.

3:00 - 5:00 pm Winter Carnival Dodgeball, hosted by the New London Outing Club, ages 14+, teams consist of at least 6 players, sign up at www.theoutingclub.net or email info@theoutingclub.net.

3:00 - 5:00 pm Minute To Win It, free, open to all ages. Whipple Hall.

4:00 - 5:30 pm Twilight Snowshoeing, snowshoe rentals available at Village Sports. Snowshoeing will start behind the old middle school on Main St.

5:00 pm Community S'mores Party, behind the old middle school, Main St. 6:00 pm Fireworks, viewing areas - behind the old middle school, Main St.

New Boston community rallies to aid a disabled veteran

New Boston Volunteers were hard at work to help Craig Maciaszek, a disabled veteran living with cancer who was confined in bed. Said New Boston Fire Dan MacDonald, "He's an amazing person with what he's facing. His spirit just inspires you to want to do something for people."

Maciaszek spent several weeks in the hospital battling cancer. He was released from the hospital on his birthday November 13th, only to find out that he was paralyzed. Since then, the father of two has been bound to a hospital bed inside his home.

When MacDonald heard about Maciaszek's inability to get around, he mobilized the community on his behalf. "We looked at the situation, and decided not only did he need a ramp, he needed a wheelchair, a motorized wheelchair because he hasn't been out of the house since November," MacDonald said.

Members of the New Boston Community Church bought Maciaszek's wheelchair. The Chestnut Hill Chapel donated lumber

for the ramp. And then a team of people, including members of New Boston fire, Team Rubicon and other community members helped build it. MacDonald said. "Now I'm

outside," Maciaszek said. "I can possibly take the dog for a walk again. I'm just so very thankful they came together to help us. (It) means a lot to us."



The community pitched in to buy the wheelchair and build the ramp

Oil spill at Newport school

Richards Elementary School was closed temporarily, after a 500-gallon oil spill on school grounds Sunday afternoon. Newport Fire Capt. Ken Carleton said a teacher working in the building Sunday reported smelling the fuel around 3 p.m. "We think a valve on a pump in the boiler room somehow got stuck and continued pumping fuel from the outside tank to the 50-gallon tank inside, causing the inside tank to overflow," he said. "The fuel oil went down a drain and headed to a retention pond." The frozen pond made cleanup easier for fire crews. "If it had been flowing until Monday, there could have been a real mess," Carleton said.

Hillsborough Selectmen praise Dept Heads responsibility

The Hillsborough Selectmen continued their budget preparations Tuesday evening. Fire Chief Stafford presented his recommendations totaling \$648,373.50 which is down \$114,474.62, of 15% from the current budget.

Much of the reduction results from making a final \$70,000 payment on a vehicle, and the loss of a full-time EMT. His Forest Fire budget shows a modest 5% reduction while emergency management is down 21% to \$3,936.50 with less equipment being purchased.

Police Chief David Roarick presented a Dispatch budget of \$454,548 which is

down 2% or \$8,142.06. The Animal Control budget is currently reduced by 17% but the Chief feels it can be further reduced. He asked that the salary line be reduced another \$5,000. The overall Police budget is up \$85,594.20, or 5%, mostly due to the new union contract

The total municipal budget now up 2% to \$6,843,582 with other reductions possible before the February 9th Budget hearing. Warrant Articles for Capital items are down 0.14% as purchases of a new truck and air pacs for the Fire Department and new vests for the Police Department are offset by items paid off this year.

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Sunapee Police Officers continued their participation this week in the Abbott Library's After-School Program by reading to students. Sgt. Tim Puchtler on Wednesday, January 6th. (left photo) Sgt. E. Neill Cobb on Thursday, January 7th (right photo)

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As Official Bank of the Boston Bruins, TD Bank is proud to be the presenting sponsor of the Partnership to Assist Skaters and Shooters (P.A.S.S.) Clinics. These are community outreach programs where TD Bank and the Boston Bruins team up with youth hockey organizations throughout New England to conduct ten (10) free hockey clinics at local rinks. On Monday the clinic was held at NEC's Clement Arena. The clinics offer TD Bank staff the opportunity to connect with participants, their families, and the communities in which we do business. Each P.A.S.S. Clinic participant receives a TD Bank PASS jersey, gift bag, and two tickets to an upcoming Boston Bruins home game. Additionally, TD Bank presented a \$1,000 donation to the Henniker Youth Hockey Association.



Edmunds Ace Hardware's Henniker Huskies Squirt defeated the Upper Valley Squirts on 12/19/15 in their Home At Lee Clement Arena. The Huskies passed the puck well as a team with assists on every goal. Ethan Guevin with 2 goals and 1 assist, Gavin Nestler had 1 goal and 1 assist, Henry Powell scored with assist from Harold Stokes, and Avery Condon scored as well. Assisted goals today Boden Cyr with 2 and Kiernan King and Gabriel Ouellette each one. Offenseman, Zachary Hopper was exceptional on the ice today with the first goal and later an assist and named

against the Upper Valley Squirt team in Hartford, VT on 1/9/16. It was an intense game for the defense today. Defensemen, Gabriel Ouellette and Joey Ouellet kept the puck in the attacking zone and defended our goal. Right wing Offenseman, Aubrey Niemela, aggressively went for the puck. Henry Powell scored twice with an excellent assist by Avery Condon who set him up well. Gavin Nestler with a breakaway, assessed his position down the ice, and went around the goalie, and put the Biscuit in the Basket. The fans were on their feet. Goaltender, Gregory Watson, with some

Player of the Game!
Final score 7:3
Huskies. Edmunds
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Henniker Huskies
Squirts played

great saves. Offenseman, Avery Condon skated hard, fast, was very valuable today, and deserving of Player of the Game! Unfortunately it was a loss for the Huskies with a score of 4:3.

Henniker Huskies Mites With #38, Joshua Arlen in net, it was an exciting set of games in Dover to end 2015 for the Tooky Mills. This past weekend, the Huskies relaxed with a much needed bye week. The rest time was used for some mental preparation for the upcoming events. The Mites, along with other teams in the organization, took part in a practice session hosted by the Boston Bruins. A good time was had by all. As the week goes on, the Mites are preparing for a Jamboree in Manchester and another week in Dover. Later in February, the Mites are looking forward to their tournament weekend.

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HDMS's Jocelyn Drew nominated as LifeChanger of the Year



Hillsboro-Deering Middle school art teacher, Jocelynn Drew has been nominated as a 2015-16 LifeChanger of the Year. The LifeChanger of the Year program recognizes and rewards K-12 school employees and educators who make a positive difference in the lives of students.

This nominating process is open to all K-12 public, private and charter schools in the United States, and will conclude on January 15th, 2016. A Selection Committee will select a total of 16 winners: a Grand Prize Winner,

(4) Grand Prize Finalists, (10) LifeChangers, and a LifeChanger Spirit Winner.

Grand Prize Winner: = \$10,000 (\$5,000 donation to school + \$5,000 personal award)

Grand Prize Finalists (4): = \$5,000 (\$2,500 donation to school + \$2,500 personal award)

LifeChangers (10) = \$3,000 (\$1,500 donation to school + \$1,500 personal award)

LifeChanger Spirit Award (1): = \$5,000 (\$2,500 donation to school + \$2,500 personal award).

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Sunapee man arrested after violent spree in Concord

A report of an aggressive panhandler at Walmart led to the arrest of a Sunapee man who is accused of driving while intoxicated, ramming a citizen's car several times when the driver tried to stop him, and then struggling with arresting officers. Police said that on Friday night they were called to Walmart, and as officers were en route to the store, they learned that the suspect, later identified as Cameron Meehan, 21, of Sunapee had fled in a car, hitting several curbs and running several red lights on Loudon Road.

A driver reported he had stopped his vehicle in front of Meehan's to try and stop him, but that Meehan rammed his car several times before going around him and driving west on Centre Street. Police caught up to Meehan after he crashed in the area of South and Perley streets.

Police said Meehan got out of the car and when police told him to put his hands on it so he could be searched, he refused and began shouting, ignoring officers' other orders.

Officers took hold of his arms and told him he was under arrest, but Meehan

pulled both of his arms tight to his chest and turned away from them while forcefully swinging his body from side to side and pulling away. Meehan continued to resist, and after a warning to stop, they used a stun gun on him.

Officers eventually were able to handcuff him and he was charged with conduct after an accident, driving while intoxicated, resisting arrest/detention, and disobeying an officer.

Police continue to investigate the incident, learning there were two sets of victims at Walmart. Store employees told police two men had entered the store and told them that a man in the parking lot threatened to shoot them if they didn't give him \$60. Another man reportedly intervened and told the panhandler to leave them alone. A woman and her teenage stepson told police she was putting groceries into the trunk of her car when she felt someone standing to her right. She said a man stood within a few inches of her and threatened to harm her if she did not give him \$60. Initially, she thought he was joking but, she told police, after seeing the

look on his face she realized he was not. She got into her car and locked the doors. The panhandler then banged on her front driver's side window with his fist. The victim and her stepson drove home and called police.

Investigators also learned that Meehan allegedly had struck several vehicles, curbs and signposts while driving and caused damage in the parking lot at Shaw's, where they found debris related to traffic accidents involving his car.



Hayley LaPoint, WMUR Meteorologist, recently visited the Tilton Senior Center to talk about all things weather related. Here she is pictured with Trudy Gilman, 101.

Health Insurance Matters... Are You Covered?

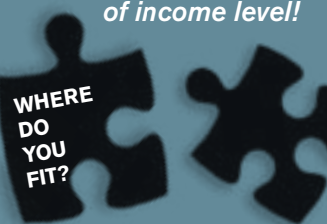
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TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



The combination of a cholesterol-lowering drug, Bezafibrate, and a contraceptive steroid, Medroxy-progesterone Acetate, could be an effective, non-toxic treatment for a range of cancers, researchers at the University of Birmingham have found. The findings published in the journal *Cancer Research* show that the drugs kill cancer cells in a completely new way.

BY SARAH CHAPIN

According to a new study published in *PLOS Medicine* diabetes patients taking glitazone antidiabetes drugs (either rosiglitazone or pioglitazone) had a 28% lower incidence of Parkinson's disease than people taking other treatments for diabetes who had never taken glitazones.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved Viberzi (eluxadoline) and Xifaxan (rifaximin), two new treatments, manufactured by two different companies, for irritable bowel syndrome with diarrhea (IBS-D) in adult men and women. According to the National Institutes of Health, patients with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) experience a number of signs and symptoms, including pain or discomfort in the abdomen and changes in bowel movement patterns. Studies estimate that IBS affects 10 to 15 percent of adults in the United States. IBS-D is a subtype characterized mainly by loose or watery stools at least 25 percent of the time.

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Congratulations to BHS freshman James Jensen for his participation in the NHMEA/NHBDA Chamber Music Festival. He was one of only 12 violinists from the entire state of NH selected to perform in this day long event held at Timberlane Regional High School. Here he is playing with the String Ensemble under the direction of conductor David Upham from UNH.

Bow Policeman receives a commendation

Police Officer Matthew "Matt" Pratt recognition: In the evening of January 2, the State Police received information that an individual was going to attempt to gain access to a seized vehicle at the Troop D barracks to retrieve evidence from the vehicle. During the early morning hours of January 3, Bow Police Officer Matthew Pratt observed an individual at the fence line, on the I-89 northbound off ramp that overlooks the Troop D headquarters. State Troopers responded and the individual was apprehended. Troop D Commander Lt. Gregory Ferry contacted Chief Erin Commerford to extend his thank you from Troop D for the heads up assist that Officer Matthew Pratt gave to the Troop D midnight shift early Sunday morning. "He was instrumental in the apprehension of the subject who was going to attempt to break into a seized vehicle at D."

Grantham man injured on snowmobile

A Grantham man sustained injuries after crashing his snowmobile on his property on Friday. NH Fish and Game Officials say Jerry Mitura was attempting to make a turn on an embankment when the snowmobile tipped and fell on top of him. Grantham Fire and Rescue, Grantham Police Department, and New Hampshire Fish and Game responded to the scene. Mr. Mitura was transported to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center where he was treated for his injuries. Mr. Mitura was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash. New Hampshire Fish and Game reminds snowmobilers that wearing a helmet can save your life or greatly reduce injury in an accident.

Weare selectmen review Warrant Articles

The Weare Selectmen reviewed a draft of the proposed warrants and it was decided that:

- Non-Union raises will be 3%.
- Police cruisers purchase will change to a 3-year lease with a 5-year warrant.
- The Board of Selectmen agreed to support all the other proposed warrants.
- The Noise Ordinance will be tabled. The Board will continue to work on it.
- Upgrades and safety repairs to the firing range will be added to the warrant.

Hillsborough Citizen Business & Employee of the Year nominations

The Greater Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the nominees for Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year, and Employee of the Year for 2015. Winners in each category will be announced and celebrated along with all the nominees at our annual dinner on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at the Hillsboro-Deering Middle School. All nominees receive two free tickets. We encourage the community to come out and support these wonderful people and businesses who contribute so much to the community.

Tickets are \$25 per person prior to the event and \$30 at the door. They are available throughout the Hillsborough community and beyond and also may be purchased online at the website hillsboroughchambernh.org. The doors open at 5:30 pm and the event begins at 6:00 pm. Entertainment will be provided by Hillsboro-Deering High School students under the direction of Heidi Welch.

Citizen of the Year

Brett Charrington, Suzanne and Stuart Huggard, Jill Knight, Mike Reopel, Steven J. Venezia

Business of the Year

The Villager Newspaper, George Mairand, Owner and Editor Ming Du Restaurant, Ken and Wendy Loc, Owners The Sewing Sisters, Babette Haley and Susanne White, Owners

Bank of New Hampshire, Michele Thomas, Branch Manager

Employee of the Year

Michael Pon, The Villager Newspaper
Barbara Williams, Farmsteads of New England, Inc.



Troop #24 scout Master Mike Provencher (r) presents Thomas Keon with his Certificate at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor at the Simon Center last Sunday. Looking on are moon, XXXXX and dad, Dennis, an Eagle Scout himself.

PUBLIC NOTICE WINDSOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

FILING FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES

Persons interested in being a candidate for the following school district offices may file for these positions starting on January 20, 2016. The deadline for filing is 5:00 p.m. on January 29, 2016. Persons wishing to file should contact Darlene Cuddy, 478-0431.

- 1 School Board Member—3 year term
- 1 School District Treasurer—1 year term
- 1 School District Moderator—1 year term
- 1 School District Clerk—1 year term
- 1 School District Auditor—1 year term

WARRANT ARTICLES

Persons wishing to submit warrant articles for inclusion in the 2016 Windsor School District Warrant must submit such warrants to the School Board, or one of its members, no later than February 7, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. Persons wishing additional information may contact the Superintendent of School's office at 464-4466.

PUBLIC NOTICE WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

FILING FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES

Persons interested in being a candidate for the following school district offices may file for these positions starting on January 20, 2016. The deadline for filing is 5:00pm on January 29, 2016. Persons wishing to file should contact the Town Clerk, Sandra Poole at the Washington Town Office, 495-3667 (Thursday 1:00-7:45pm, Friday 9:00am-2:45pm) or at 495-7879 after 6:00pm.

- 2 School Board Members - 3 year terms
- 1 School District Moderator - 1 year term
- 1 School District Clerk - 1 year term
- 1 School District Treasurer - 1 year term

WARRANT ARTICLES

Persons wishing to submit warrant articles for inclusion in the 2016 Washington School District Warrant must submit such warrants to the School Board, or one of its members, no later than February 4, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. Persons wishing additional information may contact the Superintendent of School's office at 464-4466.

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DEADLINE:

Monday at 5pm prior to Fri. publication.

ADVERTISEMENT ERRORS:

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.

PHOTO SUBMISSIONS:

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

CORRECTIONS POLICY:

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.

Also from The Granite Quill:

IN New Hampshire

Your Guide to What's Happening in the Granite State

Senior Lifestyles

A Guide for New Hampshire's Active Seniors



Guest Editorial *Capt. John Maniscalco*

An American Pilot Speaks His Mind

I have been trying for months to compose a Publisher's Perspective to express my feeling over the rash of terrorist attacks and the president's arrogant refusal to treat them as such, without sounding like a racist. Friends recently sent the following to me on the internet. It captures my feelings entirely. How about yours? Leigh Bosse, Publisher

No name calling, no hatred, no political agenda.

By Captain John Maniscalco, American Airlines Pilot

I've been trying to say this since 911, but you worry me. I wish you didn't. I wish when I walked down the streets of this country that I love, that your color and culture still blended with the beautiful human landscape we enjoy in this country. But you don't blend in anymore. I notice you, and it worries me.

I notice you because I can't help it anymore. People from your homelands, professing to be Muslims, have been attacking and killing my fellow citizens and our friends for more than 20 years now. I don't fully understand their grievances and hate, but I know that nothing can justify the inhumanity of their attacks.

On September 11, ARAB-MUSLIMS hijacked four jetliners in my country. They cut the throats of women in front of children and brutally stabbed to death others, hacking their necks, over and over, with box cutters. They took control of those planes and crashed them into buildings, killing thousands of proud fathers, loving sons, wise grandparents, elegant daughters, best friends, favorite coaches, fearless public servants, and children's mothers.

The Palestinians celebrated, the Iraqis were overjoyed as was most of the Arab world. So, I notice you now. I don't want to be worried. I don't want to be consumed by the same rage, hate and prejudice that has destroyed the soul of these terrorists. But I need your help. As a rational American, trying to protect my country and family in an irrational and unsafe world, I must know how to tell the difference between you, and the Arab/Muslim terrorist.

How do I differentiate between the true Arab/Muslim Americans and the Arab/Muslim terrorists in our communities who are attending our schools, enjoying our parks, and living in OUR communities under the protection of OUR constitution, while they plot the

next attack that will slaughter MORE of the same good neighbors and children?

The events of September 11 changed the answer. It is not MY responsibility to determine which of you embraces our great country, with ALL of its religions, with ALL of its different citizens, with all of its faults. It is time for every Arab/Muslim in this country to determine it for me.

I want to know, I DEMAND to know and I have a right to know, whether or not you love America Do you pledge allegiance to its flag? Do you proudly display it in front of your house, or on your car? Do you pray in your many daily prayers that Allah will bless this nation; that He will protect it and let it prosper? Or do you pray that Allah will destroy it in one of your Jihads? Are you thankful for the freedom that this nation affords? A freedom that was paid for by the blood of hundreds of thousands of patriots, who have through our history, given their lives for this country? Are you willing to preserve this freedom by also paying the ultimate sacrifice? Do you love America?? If this is your commitment, then I need YOU to start letting ME know about it.

Your Muslim leaders in this nation should be flooding the media at this time with hard facts on your faith, and what hard actions YOU are taking as a community and as a religion to protect the United States of America. Please, no more benign overtures of regret for the death of the innocent, because I worry about who you regard as innocent.... No more benign overtures of condemnation for the unprovoked attacks, because I worry about what is unprovoked to you. I am not interested in any more sympathy; I am interested only in action. What will you do for America - our great country - at this time of continuing crisis, at this time of war?

I want to see Arab-Muslims waving the AMERICAN flag in the streets. I want to hear you chanting 'Allah Bless America'. I want to see young Arab/Muslim men enlisting in the military. I want to see a commitment of money, time and emotion to the victims of this butchering and to our returning wounded and to this nation as a whole.

The FBI has had a long list of people they've wanted to interact with regarding the threats that they believe to be ongoing. Many of these people live and socialize right now in Muslim communities. You know them. You know where they are. Give the FBI a heads

up as to where they may be. Better yet, hand them over to us, NOW! But I have seen little even approaching this sort of action. Instead I have seen an already closed and secretive community close even tighter. You have disappeared from the streets. You have posted armed security guards at your facilities. You have threatened lawsuits. You have screamed for protection from reprisals.

The very few Arab/Muslim representatives, like CARE, that HAVE appeared in the media were defensive and equivocating. They seemed more concerned with making sure that the United States apologize and take responsibility for actions defending our own people. They seemed more concerned with protecting their fellow Muslims from violence directed towards them in the United States and abroad than they did with supporting our country and denouncing 'leaders' like the late Khadafy, the late Hussein, Farrakhan, and the late Arafat.

If the true teachings of Islam proclaim tolerance and peace and love for all people, then I want chapter and verse from the Koran and statements from popular Muslim leaders to back it up. What good is it if the teachings in the Koran are good, pure, and true, when your 'leaders' ARE teaching fanatical interpretations, terrorism, and intolerance? It matters little how good Islam SHOULD BE if huge numbers of the world's Muslims interpret the teachings of Mohammed incorrectly and adhere to a degenerative form of the religion.

A form that has been demonstrated to us over and over again.

A form whose structure is built upon a foundation of violence, death, and suicide.

A form whose members are recruited from the prisons around the world.

A form whose members (some as young as five years old) are seen day after day, week in and week out, year after year, marching in the streets around the world, burning effigies of our presidents, burning the American flag, shooting weapons into the air. A form whose members convert from a peaceful religion, only to take up arms against the great United States of America, the country of their birth. A form whose rules are so twisted, that their traveling members refuse to show their faces at airport security checkpoints, in the name of Islam.

We will NEVER allow the attacks of September 11, or any others for that matter, to take away that which is so precious to us -- our rights under the greatest constitution in the world.

I want to know where every Arab Muslim in this country stands and I think it is my right and the right of every true citizen of this country to DEMAND it. A right paid for by the blood of thousands of my brothers and sisters who died protecting the very constitution that is protecting you and your family.

I am pleading with you to let me know. I want you here as my brother, my neighbor, my friend, as a fellow American..... But there can be no grey areas or ambivalence regarding your allegiance, and it is up to YOU, to show ME, where YOU stand. Until then, " YOU WORRY ME!"

THE Messenger

Pick up your Messenger at:

- Andover:** Jake's, Circle K, Diner,
- Antrim:** Antrim Marketplace, Rick & Dianne's, Edmunds
- Bennington:** Albertos, Harris Convenience, General Store
- Bow:** Town Office, Mobil, Chen Yang Li
- Bradford:** Bradford Marketplace, Bank, Post Office, Appleseed
- Claremont:** Hannafords Market Basket
- Dunbarton:** Paige Corner
- Elkins:** Post Office
- Francestown:** General Store
- Franklin:** Hannafords, City Hall, Franklin Savings Bank, Cumberland Farms, Pizza Chef
- Georges Mills:** Jake's Market
- Goffstown:** Sully's, Sawyers, Vicksters, Village Trestle, Shell, Cumberland Farms, China Gourmet
- Grantham:** Rum Brook Market, Circle K
- Greenfield:** Harvester Market
- Goshen:** General Store, Lumber Barn
- Guild:** Post Office, Wool Room
- Hancock:** General Store, Fiddleheads
- Henniker:** Harvester, Pharmacy, All In One Market, Henniker Farm Store, Edmunds
- Hillsborough:** Shaws, Post Office, Sweet Expressions, Sue's Diner, JD Foods, Lake Sunapee Bank, Santander, Bank of NH, McDonalds, Subway, Dunkin' Donuts, William's Store
- Hopkinton:** Town Hall, Cracker Barrel
- Jaffrey:** Belletetes, Mr Mike's, Dunkin' Donuts
- Keene:** Hannafords, Price Chopper
- Lebanon:** Shaws (2), Price Chopper (2)
- Newbury:** Marzelli's, Bubba's, Post Office
- Newport:** Shaws, Caronis Market, T-Bird, Circle K, Quick Stop
- New Boston:** General Store
- New London:** Hannafords, Colonial Pharmacy, MacKenna's, Jake's Market
- Peterborough:** Shaws, Toadstool, Mr Mike's, Hospital, Dunkin' Donuts, Brady's, Roy's, Nonnies
- Rindge:** Market Basket, Hannaford
- Sunapee:** Mini Mart, Pizza Market, Town Hall
- Sutton:** Vernondale Store, Post Offices
- Warner:** Market Basket, Foothills, Circle K
- Washington:** General Store
- Weare:** Town Hall, Dimitri's, Country 3, Langtots, Coburn's Store
- Wilmot:** Park & Go



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to Judith Ackerson's letter published in your Jan. 8 issue. All I can say is Wow! Short of an Obama speech, I don't think I've ever witnessed more inaccuracies and twisted logic. Judith, you call the 2nd amendment antiquated. Do you think the whole US Constitution is archaic or just the amendments you don't like? The 2nd amendment, like many of the other amendments are intertwined to make the constitution work as a whole to protect and enforce the Freedom aspect that the Constitution promotes for us, the citizens of the United States of America. You mention several times that our Presidents role is to protect the well being of the citizenry. Any intellectually honest person can't name one instance Obama has done that. For 7 years he has ignored the threat of terrorism refusing to take any real action at all. He has looked the other way while his hometown of

Chicago sees record murder rates. The gun laws our Emperor is forcing down our throats by executive order would not have stopped any of the past gun violence issues nor will it stop any future gun related issues. It's all for show to get the Obama Zombies in lock step line for the upcoming Hillary vote. Judith, be thankful there are no laws currently that make it illegal to be an Idiot.

Bill Saver, Henniker & all patriotic law abiding citizens of the USA

To The Editor:

After voter approval, the town of New Boston purchased a three-acre parcel adjacent to the Post Office and the Board of Selectmen have approved the use of this lot for a new Fire Station. The Board of Fire Wards are excited to begin plans for this much-needed new facility. With the growth of the town and ever-increasing demand for emergency services, ►

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Letters to the Editor

the Board of Fire Wards has long recognized that a new facility would be needed. The existing building, built in 1972, has been modified and repairs made, but it has deficiencies that will not meet the advancements in fire and emergency medical services. Some of these pose significant health and safety risks to department members and risks to the environment.

The new building would include improvements such as:

- *Bathrooms and showers (his and hers).
- *Decontamination area, so contaminated clothing is not brought home.
- *A State compliant wastewater containment system for washing vehicles and decontaminating an ambulance after a call.
- *A gear washing machine for contaminated turn out gear.
- *Taller wider bay doors and increased floor space for fire apparatus.
- *A vehicle exhaust capture system so trucks can be started and checked without contaminating the atmosphere inside the fire house.
- *A larger, efficient training/meeting room to support the significant demands of emergency service training and continuing education requirements.
- *Additional office space for the ever-increasing administrative and paperwork demands of modern emergency services.

As early discussions about the need for improved facilities took place, a major consideration was the feasibility of renovating the existing station. After many discussions and deliberations, it was determined that it would not be a cost effective solution. The goal is to have a facility that meets the demands of the department today and for the next 50+ years.

Now that the Board of Fire Wards and Fire Department have received the approval to proceed, the work of preparing a cost efficient proposal to bring to the voters has begun. A Fire Station Building Committee has been formed, consisting of two members of the Board of Fire Wards, Wayne Blassberg and Scott Hunter, Selectman Joe Constance and two members of the community, Matt Beaulieu and Ken Lombard.

With the collaboration of a licensed architect and surveyor, preliminary work of surveying, site design, and facility layout, has begun. Continued design, development, and refinement of the project scope and determining an overall project cost estimate will occur over the next year. We hope to be ready for a vote on the bond to build a new station on the 2017 Town ballot.

The Board of Fire Wards and Fire Department are planning to hold several informational sessions, as well as offer tours of the present station to demonstrate many of the issues mentioned above. This will give the public an opportunity to learn about and discuss the proposal. Dates, times and locations will be published well in advance.

As a first step, an email account has been established at NB.NewFirestation@gmail.com for people to ask questions or offer comments and suggestions as the project develops. The committee will also use social media to communicate the ongoing project status.

Board of Fire Wards & Building Committee

Dear Editor:

January 24-30, 2016 has been designated National School Choice week. National School Choice is an organization that seeks to empower parents nation-wide to have the freedom to choose the best possible educational setting for their children. They advocate for:

- Public School Open Enrollment-the right of parents to enroll their children in the public school of their choice rather than being told by government agencies where they must send their children.
- Public Charter Schools-making charter schools part of the options open to all parents where available, and placing few legal hurdles to the creations of such schools.
- Public Magnet Schools-the creation and free choice of schools designed around a specific theme or goal.
- Online Learning-free, full-time public online academies recognized by the state as legitimate education options.
- Private School Choice-Freedom to choose private schools, preferably with financial programs such as tax breaks that make such options available to all, not just the wealthy.
- Homeschooling Freedom-No unreasonable burdens placed on families who choose to bring elementary and secondary education into their homes as a family-based program of instruction. New Hampshire has a mixed record on these issues, as is evident in the current controversy in Croyden, NH, where the state is trying to limit the choices parents can take advantage of and still use public funds to help educate their children. Parents and everyone who values the freedom to seek the best possible education for our children should find places and programs to help publicize this important issue.

**Everett Connor, Admin.,
Hillsboro Christian School**



Office Adam Lantiegne and Chief David Cahill.

Sunapee Selectmen honor former officer

The Sunapee Police Department honored Office Adam Lantiegne at Monday's Select Board meeting. Officer Lantiegne resigned from the force in December. Police Chief David Cahill presented Lantiegne with a plaque with Lantiegne's badge and words of thanks for his years of service to the department and community. Chief Cahill took a moment to highlight the many duties Office Lantiegne performed in the department. Joshua Trow Chair of the Sunapee Select Board presented the officer with a gift from the town. Officer Lantiegne resigned to help with a family business. Robert Riessle was hired as a part-time officer and will now fill a full-time position. Riessle started at the Police Academy on January 4, 2016 and will be graduating in April.

U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen

Service Academy Nominees

United States Naval Academy

Jason Dufour, Goffstown, Patrick Hennig, Newport, Patrick Moore, Newbury,

United States Merchant Marine Academy

Bryan White, Grantham, Charlotte Young, New London

U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte

Service Academy Nominees

U.S. Military Academy

Hadley Johnson – Bow, NH – Bow High School,

Joshuah Chapman – Weare, NH – North Yarmouth Academy

U.S. Naval Academy

Patrick Moore – Newbury, NH – Kearsarge Regional High

School, Patrick Hennig – Newport, NH – Newport High

School, Jason Dufour – Goffstown, NH – Trinity High School

U.S. Air Force Academy

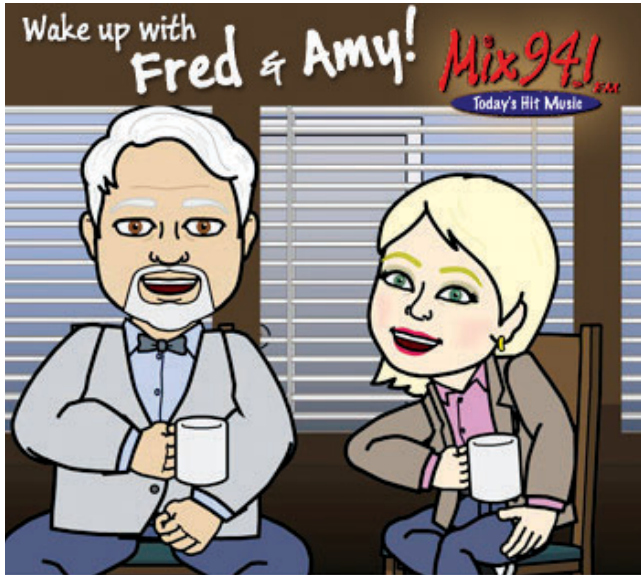
Bryan White – Grantham, NH – Lebanon High School

Hunter Miller – Wolfeboro, NH – Kingswood Regional High School

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy

Charlotte Young – New London, NH – Kearsarge Regional

High School, Bryan White – Grantham, NH – Lebanon High School



Fred and Amy in the moOOOoorning!



State Trooper injured in hit-and-run

A New Hampshire State Trooper went to the hospital with minor injuries after a hit and run by a tractor-trailer in Warner. Police say the cruiser was struck just after 6 pm while the Trooper was stopped on the side of road assisting a motorist who had gone off the road. The emergency lights were on and the trooper was inside the cruiser when the truck tried to slow down and veered to the right of the cruiser. The impact sent cruiser about 300 feet before resting on the median. After striking the cruiser, the truck driver pulled to the side of the road and then fled the scene. The suspect vehicle was reported to have a dark colored cab, possibly with a sleeper. The trailer was reported to be a white box type trailer with a Canadian registration plate. Anyone with information on the vehicle is encouraged to call Sgt. William Graham at 603-271-3636.

Smoke inhalation claims life of Andover icon

Don Gross, a well-known and well-loved Andover icon was killed outside his home last Thursday after accidentally fueling an already-burning brush fire. According to a press release from the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Gross, 65, died from smoke inhalation caused by a fire that "was accidental in nature and included the use of ignitable liquids in close proximity to an open flame." State Fire Marshal Bill Degnan said that Gross was dead by the time police arrived. Gross was married, had two grown sons and grandchildren. He served on the Nashua police force and had captained the unit before retiring Jim Danforth, who served with Gross on the town board of selectmen for two years, told the Concord Monitor, "There's a whole bunch of people whose lives were made easier because of all the little things he did every day. This will be really tough. He was the go-to guy.... he just stepped up." His friends say, "Andover was his main concern, along with helping neighbors whenever he could."



Sales Help Needed

The Messenger is expanding again and needs experienced sales help to service customers in the following towns:

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- Area 2** Concord • Bow • Franklin • Andover
- Area 3** Keene • Peterborough • Jaffrey • Rindge
- Area 4** New London • Newport • Sunapee • Newbury **Position Filled**

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Hillsborough, NH 03244**

Elderly Bow man killed in I-93 accident

A local man perished in an SUV crash on I-93 this morning in the northern part of the state. Leonard Chaisson, 73, of Bow was killed on Jan. 12, 2016, after his Honda Element reportedly failed to negotiate a curve, traveled off the Interstate, and struck a tree, according to New Hampshire State Police. Chaisson was driving north on the Interstate and was the only occupant of the vehicle. He sustained "traumatic injuries" and died at the scene. The cause of the collision continues to be under investigation and is being led by Trooper First Class Jonathan H. Stephens of the New Hampshire State Police-Troop F.

Franklin Savings Bank elects Corporators, honors veteran employees

Jeffery B. Savage, CEO, announced today that two new Corporators, Craig A. Jacobson and James L. Mason, were elected at its Annual Meeting of Corporators to Franklin Bancorp, MHC, a mutual holding company and parent corporation of Franklin Savings Bank. Jacobson is an IT sales consultant and a real estate agent with The Masiello Group. He resides in Andover. Mason, a resident of Franklin, is the owner of the Barn Store of New England and Ag Structures LLC both located in Salisbury, NH.

Also during the event, 13 employees were recognized for a collective 135 years of service

and commitment with Franklin Savings Bank. Julie Buker, retail operations officer, Mark Dixon, electronic services manager, Denise Nieman-Morrill, personal banker, and Terri Wentworth, teller, were recognized for 5 years of service.

Dorothy Savery, assistant corporate secretary, Brian Slipp, AVP, credit manager, Jonathan Winters, VP, risk management, BSA, security & information security officer, and Lois Wisler, senior personal banker, received acknowledgement for 10 years of service. Finally, five employees were commended on 15 years of service with the bank,

including Kathleen Blish, loan operations specialist, Tracey Engler, personal banker, Katherine Hoyt, customer contact center representative, Renee Sylvester, accounting & deposit services specialist, and Tamey Vasco, personal banker.

"We are truly pleased to recognize these individuals for their commitment and dedication to the bank and our customers," commented Ron Magoon, President & COO. "We have been very fortunate to create a dynamic culture where employees have the opportunity to grow both personally and professionally."

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LPGHealthcare's Red Dress Gala Feb 12

This February will mark the 12th anniversary of the LRGHealthcare Red Dress Gala presented by MB Tractor & Equipment. Gala committee members are pleased to announce that the event is now completely sold out, and plans are well underway for a fabulous evening. Held each year during American Heart Month this signature event will take place on Friday, February 12 at Church Landing at Mill Falls at the Lake. Proceeds from the Red Dress Gala support cardiac services and technology at LRGHealthcare. This year's theme is the Roaring Twenties which will feature the flashy and lavish Great Gatsby lifestyle. Guests of the gala will enjoy a delicious meal created by The Common Man culinary team, live & silent auctions, and dancing to local favorite Paul Warnick and Phil 'n the Blanks.

Elderly woman found dead on Warner road

Warner Police believe a Center Ossipee woman, whose body was found on a road last Wednesday night, may have frozen to death after her car became stuck on a rock. Officer Ben Tokarz said a small group of people driving along Bear Pond Road found the woman's body around 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, and called 911. Tokarz said a preliminary investigation shows the woman, 87, may have suffered an injury before she died. Police believe the woman became disabled and was unable to continue walking. Her identity is being withheld pending notification of family members. Foul play is not suspected in the woman's death.

Red Cross Blood Drives

CONTOOCOOK: 1/18/2016: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Hopkinton Town Library, 61 Houston Drive

FRANKLIN: 1/16/2016: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Bessie C. Rowell Community Center, 12 Rowell Drive

GOFFSTOWN: 1/27/2016: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m., St. Anselm College Carr Center, 87 St. Anselm Drive

HILLSBOROUGH: 1/25/2016: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., American Legion Hall, 538 West Main Street

NEW BOSTON: 1/26/2016: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Whipple Free Library, 67 Mont Vernon Road

NEWPORT: 1/20/2016: 12:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Newport High School, 245 N Main Street



Republican Presidential Candidate Carly Fiorina spoke to a standing room only crowd at the Lethbridge Lodge at Colby Sawyer College in New London on January 8th. Paul Howe photo.

Attempt to reduce Kearsarge budget fails

An attempt to traduce the 2016-17 Kearsarge Regional School District budget back to its current level failed on a ballot vote at last Saturday's Deliberative Session. Thomas Paul of Sutton made a motion to reduce the proposed \$40,896,661 budget back to \$40,010,678, Paul's amendment, which was eventually defeated 79-36, resulted in about 90 minutes of discussion.

The estimated increase for 2016-17 will be \$393,297; 2017-18, \$440,278, and 2018-19, \$449,957. Under a new teacher's contract the starting pay for a first-year teacher with a Bachelor's Degree will be \$38,519 plus an opportunity for a merit pay bonus ranging from \$500 to \$800. The maximum pay will be \$77,131 for a teacher with a Doctorate Degree who is off-step. With the potential merit pay, it could increase to \$78,134. Eligibility for step increases and merit pay is only available for teachers whose evaluations are in the top of the school district's performance levels. If voters turn down the proposed contract agreement at the annual voting sessions on March 8 in each of the seven communities making up the district, the contract will not be implemented. Under the new health plan, the school district will pay 95 percent of the health premium, with teachers paying 5 percent. Currently, teachers pay between 15 and 20 percent of the health premium charge. The new health benefits will have a \$4,000 deductible that can be reduced to \$2,000 by utilizing incentives to engage in less costly choices, Bartholomew said. The operating differences between the 2015-16 budget and 2016-17 budget is \$825,983 or 2.06 percent. This total does not include the \$393,297 to cover the initial year of a new teacher contract.

Sunapee school holds forum on bullying

Sunapee is taking a step forward in dealing with bullying, a subject that has dominated its school board meetings in recent months. Dr. Malcolm Smith one of the Nation's leading educators on stopping the cycles of meanness, incivility, and violence will be at Sunapee Middle High School today. Smith met and talked with students at two assemblies Thursday morning, first with high school students, and then with middle schoolers. Superintendent Russ Holden said, "Smith met with administration as well as faculty members and members of the public."

PUBLIC NOTICE HILLSBORO-DEERING SCHOOL DISTRICT

FILING FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES

Persons interested in being a candidate for the following school district offices may file for these positions starting on January 20, 2016. The deadline for filing is 4:30 pm on January 29, 2016. Persons wishing to file should contact the Superintendent of School's office at 464-4466.

- 1 School Board Member—3 year term; At Large seat
- 1 School Board Member—3 year term; Deering seat
- 1 School District Moderator—1 year term



TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH, NH PUBLIC HEARING

The Board of Selectmen will be holding a public hearing pursuant to RSA 79-D:5 I on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 6:15 p.m. in the Community Building located at 27 School Street for the purpose of considering an application for a Discretionary Preservation Easement application submitted by Joan Lachut for a barn located at 559 Cooledge Road.

Any person requiring any form of special assistance should notify the Town Office no later than January 19, 2016.

Hillsborough Board of Selectmen



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FROM | NEW HAMPSHIRE HEALTHY FAMILIES

New tuition revenue offsets Newport school budget increase

The Newport School Board presented voters with its proposed 2016-17 operating budget Thursday night. The budget calls for a 3% spending increase but features a zero percent impact on the school tax rate. Although the \$17,878,629 budget reflects an increase of \$521,085 that would normally raise taxes by \$1.23 per \$1,000 of property valuation, additional revenue is projected to cover that amount. Most of that additional revenue (\$477,429) comes from tuition payments from Goshen, Croydon, Lempster and Unity. The dollar amount of the 3 percent

increase would be equivalent to the salaries and benefits of six teachers and the salaries of two para-professionals. The new positions include one elementary assistant principal, one special education coordinator, one special education administrative assistant and one math/science teacher. Teaching positions that are not covered presently include one that is currently open and one that will be created by retirement.

Warrant Articles carry a tax rate increases totaling \$1.17 if they are approved by voters at the Deliberative Session on March 8.

They include a one-year collective bargaining agreement with the Newport Teacher's Association totaling \$223,034, adding 52 cents to the tax rate; the first year of a three-year collective bargaining agreement with the Newport Support Staff with the first-year costs of \$203,076 (48 cents on the tax rate) and \$71,721 (17 cents on the tax rate).

Based on the proposed budget for 2016-17, a default budget would result in a staff reduction equivalent to 15 teachers and two paras. The amount of that budget would be \$17,244,888.


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