"Your Local Weekly Since 1869 A Tradition Worth Keeping" Free + Our 154th Year + Issue 47 + December 1, 2023



Order Christmas Wreaths

The Boy Scouts of Antrim's Troop 2 are preparing their first fresh, fragrant balsam Christmas wreath orders of the season. Order yours now and help them get to summer camp at http://www.scoutwreath.org

This week in history

December 2, 1902

French engine designer patents V-8 engine

December 3, 1818

Illinois becomes the twenty-first state

December 4, 1867

Farmer Oliver Kelley organizes the Grange **December 5, 1848**

December 5, 1040

President James K. Polk sparks the Gold Rush

December 6, 1964

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer premieres on TV

December 7, 1989

Sugar Ray Leonard fights Roberto Duran for 1st time

December 8, 1993

President Bill Clinton signs NAFTA into law



The Henniker Lions Club hosted a free Thanksgiving Dinner at Rush Square.

A discussion on School Funding, Property Taxes

The NH School Funding Fairness Project and SAU 24 will be hosting a community conversation on New Hampshire's school funding model and its impacts on students and taxpayers around the state Thursday, December 7th at 6:00 p.m. at John Stark High School.

"We're excited to be hosting this discussion and bringing our community together to learn more about this important issue," said SAU 24 Superintendent Jacqueline Coe. "Understanding how our state funds schools will help our community be well informed and have good conversations about our own local budget decisions."

The State of New Hampshire provides the smallest proportion of state funding for education of any state in the country. New Hampshire's heavy reliance on local property taxes to fund education has wide reaching effects not only on students and the

educational opportunities available to them, but also on taxpayers and economic development in communities around the state.

This public presentation will focus on the relationship between school funding and property taxes and the impacts of New Hampshire's funding model on communities in SAU 24, and around the state. "The NH Supreme Court established that the State has a constitutional responsibility to fund education with its decisions in the Claremont lawsuits of the 1990s," said Zack Sheehan, NHSFFP Project Director. "With two ongoing funding lawsuits being actively litigated against the State, this is a great opportunity for everyone to revisit our school funding system and work to understand how we got here today." For more information, and to register for this and other NHSFFP events, please visit https://fairfundingnh.org/events/

Police investigating H-D school bus driver meltdown

On November 20, 2023, the Hillsboro Police Department received a call of concern, involving the actions of a bus driver from First Student Inc. bus company, which is responsible for transporting children from the Hillsboro-Deering School District. Unconfirmed reports indicate the driver of bus #69, who has since resigned, suffered a meltdown and began yelling at

the students confined to the back of the bus.

This incident is actively being investigated by the Hillsboro Police who are in communication with the Superintendent of SAU #34. All students from the bus are accounted for and safe. If any arrests or charges stem from this incident, that information will be made available at a later date or time.





IT'S HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR TIME: At Antrim's Great Brook School (L) and Washington Elementary School and Camp Morgan Lodge (R).

Dancing With The Newport Stars returns January 26-27

The Newport Area Chamber of Commerce and the Newport Opera House Association are excited to partner up to bring you the 2024 Dancing With the Newport Stars: All-Stars on January 26 & 27, 2024 at 7 p.m. at the Newport Opera House!

The cast includes; Fran Huot - Library Arts Center

Brent Wilmot - Former Chief, Newport Police Department Christine Smith - New London Hospital Ben Holobowicz - Newport Health Center Shannon MacMichael - Noise "R" Us Fireworks Each contestant will perform part of their original dance, as well as a new dance to show of their skills! The talented Megan Mavor, owner and creative director of The Newport Ballroom has designed a show full of fabulous dancing, energetic music and F.U.N!!!

Tickets are now on sale at https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=201868

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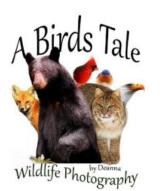
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The Antrim Players present "A Christmas Carol" December 1-2

The Antrim Players are back! After a seven-year hiatus, The Antrim Players return with Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, adapted for the stage by Michael Wilson, on Friday,



December 1, and Saturday, December 2, at Antrim Town Hall, 66 Main Street, in Antrim.

Already the Antrim Town Hall is buzzing with rehearsals, set building, light hanging, costume collecting, and prop gathering, with over 75 people involved from more than eight area towns from Weare to Rindge.

The 25-person cast, aged from 6 to 80, and the 50-person volunteers—including a Town Clerk and a Selectman—are all donating time and energies to bring the theater company to life again.

Dickens' A Christmas Carol returns as the Players mark their 105th year. Founded in 1918 to raise money for The Red Cross during World War 1, the Antrim Players have been an arts-for-philanthropy group ever since, setting out to make excellent theater, but also contributing to the community's thriving as well. They are now



also supported by the Antrim Community Board.

This year's production is directed by third-generation

Antrim Player Bill Nichols, who has also directed Noises Off, Town Meeting, It's a Wonderful Life, and Annie Get Your Gun for the Players, and has trod the Town Hall boards since he was eight.

Says Nichols, "It felt right to restart our company with Dickens' classic. It's all about the magic of rebirth and regeneration. Perfect for our town and post-pandemic times. Come support us."

For tickets to Antrim Player's A Christmas Carol, call 978-728-9849. Tickets are \$12 (seniors \$10) and \$6 for children 15 and under. Performances are at 7 p.m., Dec 1 and 2, at the Antrim Town Hall, 66 Main Street, in Antrim.

Real Estate Tax Rates set in area towns

- Warner \$31.72
- Hillsborough \$31.22
- Francestown \$27.88
- Bow \$27.81
- Dunbarton \$25.57
- Henniker \$22.38
- New Boston \$20.35
- Goffstown \$18.86
- Weare \$18.84



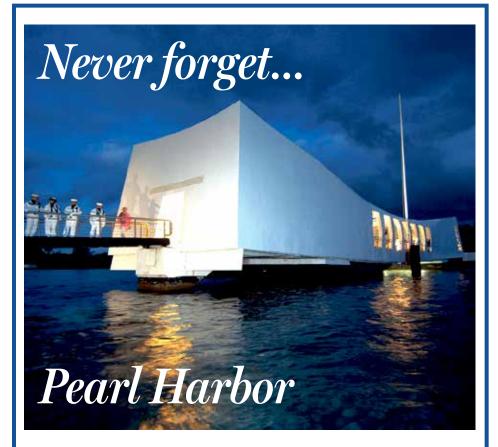


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Sunapee Assisted Living

1250 Rte. 11, Sunapee 763-0566

Bellows-Nichols Insurance

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The Messenger

246 West Main St. Hillsboro, NH 464-3388

Route 77 Motors

711 Concord Stage Rd. Weare 529-7700

Henniker **Crushed Stone**

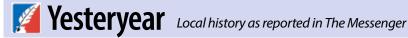
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December 2, 2022

Untimely New London death ruled a murder suicide K-9 Gibbs assists Hillsboro Police in locating injured driver Hopkinton Police identify hateful graffiti vandal Headphones lead police to stolen car - thieves arrested

December 3, 2021

Driver of Peterborough hit-and-run identified Washington Elementary holds a Thanksgiving Feast STEM Grants available to establish Robotics Teams Bennington woman coordinates Wreaths Across US

December 4, 2020

New London sets budget at just under \$10 million Major changes in Henniker's Personnel Policy Fantastic support for Dimitri's Thanksgiving Gift Repairs completed on Bradford Fire Dept. vehicles

December 6, 2019

Henniker Roundabout scheduled for 2025 Vandals run down 10 New Boston mailboxes Henniker Police Department restructuring approved Hungry Goats eatery opening soon in Greenfield

December 7, 2018

Matt Henry named Henniker Town Administrator DOT Commissioner speaks at Hillsborough Chamber Deering woman charged with animal abuse Weare man wants Police Department disbanded

December 8, 2017

McDonald's donates to H-D Playground Fund Hopkinton shooting victim & shooter identified Seven towns assist New Boston in fighting house fire Tilton Police looking for hit & run driver

December 2, 2016

Goffstown considers adding classrooms H-D budget seeks 14.58% (\$1.7 million) increase Another ex-Weare police officer suing the town Dunbarton State Representative files ethics complaint

December 4, 2015

Post Office will not change Pinardville's zip code Weare company selected for Bow Safety Complex Bow man faces aggravated DWI & negligent homicide Conservation group suing Henniker Sand & Gravel

December 5, 2014

Goffstown and Weare schools feeling the crush Henniker Police Officer shoots Franklin car thief Bradford man killed on Interstate 89 Franklin couple arrested for prostituting a 14-year-old

December 6, 2013

Weare Police Sergeant fired Washington man killed - daughter injured New London approves "Low Sand Roads" Grantham man admits killing wife

Multiple towns assist Sunapee in battling house fire

On Sunday, November 19th, Sunapee Fire, as well as the 1st Alarm Assignment, including mutual aid from New London Fire, Newport Fire, and Newbury Fire, were called to Lake Ave for a possible structure fire. Sunapee Engine 2 arrived on the scene and found fire showing from the residence's first floor. Engine 2's crew deployed a hose line and engaged in an aggressive interior attack. At the same time, Engine 2's crew also conducted a search of the residence.

Sunapee Fire was able to contain the fire mainly to the

room of origin. However, the residence did sustain severe smoke and water damage. All occupants except for one dog were able to make it out of the residence safely.

Units from Sunapee Fire, New London Fire, and Newport Fire remained on the scene until 21:00. Sunapee Fire would like to thank their mutual aid companies for assisting on the scene and Newbury Fire for station coverage during the incident.

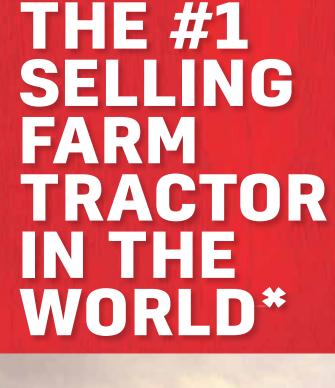


Washington residents gathered for the annual Tree Lighting at the gazebo.



Newbury Fire Engine 2 and Car 1 provided coverage at the Sunapee station during the fire.







KNOXLAND EQUIPMENT

25 Old Warner Lane Warner, NH 603-746-5260 knoxland.com

*2018 data including all Mahindra group brand sales. MahindraUSA.com © 2020 Mahindra USA Inc.



Around Our Towns



Contoocook American Legion Post #81 was able to provide funding to help the Hopkinton 8th grade class participate in a field trip. The class is going to the Veterans cemetery where they will pick up flags placed for Veteran's Day. They will also learn about flag etiquette and the roles of NH citizens as Veterans.



HD DECA was the featured presentation for the Henniker Rotary breakfast meeting at HDHS. Nice job by a few of our high school students. They had a chance to share the projects they are working on in competition this year for states and, hopefully, nationals! Always amazing to hear what they do.



Craig Dunning of Hopkinton NH Lions Club getting ready to deliver this year's donation of new winter coats for distribution to those in need through the Hopkinton Food Pantry. The Lions Club has donated more than 150 new winter coats over the years in addition to hats, mittens/gloves and winter socks for men, women and children in town who might otherwise not have adequate clothing for the winter months.

Blue Seal Feeds acquires Achille Agway stores in NH & VT

Blue Seal Feeds, Inc. has announced the acquisition of Achille Agway's six retail stores in New England, known for quality products, an expansive lawn and garden selection and friendly, knowledgeable customer service.

"Achille Agway and Blue Seal share similar core values, which drew us to this compapotential we see with respect

New Superintendent of Kearsarge Schools

The Kearsarge Regional School Board is excited to welcome Mr. John Fortney, EdS as the new Superintendent of Schools starting July 1, 2024.

Superintendent Fortney joins us with eighteen years of educational experience including six years in building administration as both an Assistant Principal and Principal.

For the last four years he has served as Superintendent of Schools for the Van-Far Rl School District in Missouri.

ny, in addition to the growth to the shopping experience we both provide," said Mike Gauss, President "It's an honor for George Achille to entrust us, and we're excited for the future."

The acquisition includes

He earned his Educational Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Missouri-Columbia. John, his wife and family love to travel, hike, and enjoy all aspects of nature.

He has expressed how excited he and his family are to relocate to New Hampshire and be part of the Kearsarge Community.

Welcome, Superintendent Fortney and family, to the Kearsarge Regional School District.

store locations in:

Peterborough, Walpole, Hillsborough, Milford, and Keene, NH.

Achille Agway carries lawn and garden supplies; pet products and food; livestock feeds; birdseed; seasonal items and

more. Achille Agway and Blue Seal each have deep roots in agriculture and are longtime Industry partners.



Achille Agway Hillsboro store.

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School Days



WMUR-TV meteorologist Kevin Skarupa came to Center Woods Elementary School to talk with all 3rd graders about, what else, the weather!





In STEM classes held in the library at the Henniker Community School students have have been using KEVA Building Planks to build towers. After watching tutorial videos, they've worked in groups to build and measure the height of their towers. After they talk with each other about possible improvements to make their towers taller, they build again! Max Lapointe and Beau Brown work on building their KEVA tower (left photo), while Lilac Allessio shows off hers (right photo).



The glass works class at John Stark Regional High School traveled to the Hot Glass Art Center in Marlborough, to learn about the process of blowing glass. Students made glasses, bowls, and ornaments while working with professional hot glass artists to create their designs.

🌠 Sports



The Contoocook Valley Chain Gang youth cycling team is getting ready for the upcoming 2024 New England Youth Cycling season starting in the spring! This team is open to boys and girls grades 5-12 where everyone rides. To find out more visit convalchaingangmtb.com and neyouthcycling.com. (Team is not affiliated with the ConVal School District.)

All-State Soccer Teams - Boys Division II

First Team: Bow's Luke Hartshorn (F) and Brodie O'Neil (D). **Second Team:** Bow's Colby Smith (M) and Wes Michaelis (D). Honorable Mention: Bow's Eli Berrigan (M) and Aaron Barrieau (G), John Stark's Ethan Sinclair (M), Simonds (G).

Boys Division III

First Team: Hopkinton's Owen Wuellenweber (M), Mike Pantano (D) and Colby Boissy (G); Kearsarge's Davin Selby (M). Second **Team:** Hopkinton's Avery Condon (F), Kearsarge's Elliot Asbury (D). Honorable Mention: Hillsboro-Deering's Logan Miller (D), Kearsarge's Graham West (D).

Girls Division II

First Team: Bow's Sidney Roberge (M), John Stark's Lexi Boudreau (G). Second Team: Bow's Cara Van Dyke (F), Lexi Insana (M) and Abby Foote (D). Honorable Mention: John Stark's Reaghan Lamothe (F), Melody Couturier (M) and Makayla Pellerin (D).

Girls Division III

First Team: Hopkinton's Keegan St. Cyr (F), Lizz Holmes (M) and Ally Duval (D). Second Team: Hopkinton's Katie Brown (F) and Kearsarge's Carly Grant (M). **Honorable Mention:** Kearsarge's Reese Lacombe (D).

NH Soccer Coaches Association - Boys Division II

First Team: Bow's Luke Hartshorn (F) and Brodie O'Neil (D), MV's Owen Piper (D), Pembroke's Colby Pepka (M). Second Team: Bow's Colby Smith (M) and Wes Michaelis (D), Pembroke's Abdalla Faiad (D). Honorable Mention: Bow's Eli Berrigan (M) and Aaron Barrieau (G), John Stark's Ethan Sinclair (M).

Boys Division III

First Team: Hopkinton's Owen Wuellenweber (M), Mike Pantano (D) and Colby Boissy (G); Kearsarge's Davin Selby (M). **Second** Team: Belmont's Owen Waldron (M) and Brody Ennis (D), Hopkinton's Avery Condon (F), Kearsarge's Elliot Asbury (D). Honorable **Mention:** Hillsboro-Deering's Logan Miller (D), Kearsarge's Graham West (D).

Girls Division II

First Team: Bow's Sidney Roberge (M), John Stark's Lexi Boudreau (G).

Girls Division III

First Team: Hopkinton's Keegan St. Cyr (F), Lizz Holmes (M) and Ally Duval (D). **Second Team:** Hopkinton's Katie Brown (F) and Kearsarge's Carly Grant (M). **Honorable Mention:** Kearsarge's Reese Lacombe (D).

Field Hockey

Division II First Team: Maia Kimball, Bow; Avery Brisiel, Goffstown; Molly Braica, Goffstown; Adie Bolduc, John Stark; Lauryn Guevin, John Stark. Second Team: Kayla Croscut, Bow; Ronia Foecking, ConVal; Sam Dery, Goffstown; Jillian Fredette, John Stark; Caylin Worthen, John Stark. Honorable Mention: Sabrina Bernard, Bow; Ella Gray, Bow; Shire Kelley, Bow; Lex Brown, Goffstown; Edie Fischer, John Stark: Addy Pelletier, John Stark: Hailey Brisson, John Stark:

Offensive Player of the Year: Lauryn Guevin, John Stark. **Defensive Player of the Year:** Molly Braica, Goffstown.

Coach of the Year: Jess Brown, Goffstown.

Divsion III First Team: Katie Sharron, Newport; Maddox Lovely,

Second Team: Kelsey Sullivan, Hopkinton; Ryan Barrett, Hopkinton; Lily Hoegler, Kearsarge.

Honorable Mention: Ava Waddell, Kearsarge.

Volleyball

Division II First Team: Emma Rodenhiser, ConVal, middle hitter. **Second Team:** Ivy Armstrong-McEvoy, ConVal, middle hitter. Honorable Mention: Abby Duclos, John Stark, outside hitter; Katie Tomaszewski, St. Thomas.

Division III First Team: Katelyn Claus, Sunapee, outside hitter.

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Robert Howard Law Office Henniker, New Hampshire

I have enjoyed my practice in Henniker and the surrounding towns for many years. Lately, I have been focusing my efforts to maintain an office practice, such as real estate issues, estate planning and administration. I have been referring more complex matters to other firms for some years, such as criminal matters, divorces, and iniury recoveries.

Alfano Law Office is a firm with offices in several towns and cities, including Concord. They have accepted my request to name them as "Of Counsel" to my practice, so that my clients can benefit from their expertise, if they choose. I receive no financial benefit for these referrals, but can be comfortable that my clients will be in good hands for matters requiring more work than I am willing to attempt. That being said, I hope to be available to my many clients for a long time.

Rob Howard



168 Maple Street • Henniker, NH 03242 email: rob@roberthowardlaw.com

Messenger

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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.

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Funding is "Inadequate & Unconstitutional"

The state's current levels of funding for public schools is unconstitutionally low, a Rockingham County Superior Court judge ruled Monday, saying an adequate education costs several thousand dollars more per pupil than the \$4,100 the state provides.

Judge David Ruoff ruled that the minimum cost of an education is \$7,356 per student. For schools to be funded at that level, education spending would have to be increased \$538 million. "The true cost is likely much higher than that," Ruoff wrote in the 56-page order.

The decision followed a three-week bench trial in April of a 2019 suit brought by ConVal Regional School District and 17 other school districts against Gov. Chris Sununu and state Education Commissioner Frank Edelblut over both the interpretation of an adequate education and how much the state contributes toward it.

Two years ago, the Supreme Court ruled the ConVal lawsuit could proceed and ordered Ruoff to define an adequate education.

Ruoff also ruled the way the state administers the Statewide Education Property Tax (SWEPT) violated the state's constitution. The decision was made in a separate lawsuit challenging the varying tax burdens across New Hampshire to pay for education.

In response to Ruoff's ruling on education funding, Gov. Sununu said, "New Hampshire currently spends among the most per capita on public education than nearly any other state. Today's decision is deeply concerning and an overreach into a decades-long precedent appropriately placed in the hands of our elected representatives in Concord."

Letter to the Editor

BRAVO Kearsarge High Drama Club:

We were recently transported from Sutton to Broadway via the Kearsarge High Drama Club's wonderful presentation of 42ND Street. Their production was professionally done; from the orchestra's melodic introduction to the stage sets and lighting. The Kearsarge thespians acted, sang and danced in their beautiful costumes, with well-rehearsed ease and precision. We are very grateful to have this wonderful resource locally available to us, and are looking forward to their next production.

Ed and Chrys Otto, Bradford



Recently the Women of the Moose finalized the Winter Clothing drive. Your generous donations were delivered to the HDES for distribution. We would like to THANK YOU for you donations for our local children in need.



The Hillsboro Lions Club, with the help of the Girl Scouts and local volunteers, served about 180 free traditional Thanksgiving dinners during the Club's 47th annual Senior Dinner last Saturday.

Dining Guide









7:45pm at 603-938-2100.



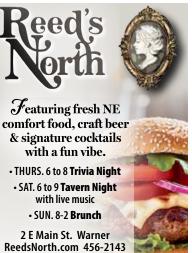


125 West Main Street,

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- **7:30am-2pm:** Breakfast/Lunch, Swedish Tea Rings, crafts, plants, baked goods, Christmas and free items Hillsboro United Methodist Church
- 9am-12pm: Free cookies and cocoa, Granite State Computers
- 9am-12pm: Cookie Walk (cookies sold by the pound), SERRV, My Jeans Bags and Christmas Shoppe Smith Memorial Church
- 9am-3pm: Vendors, baked goods, raffle, pet sketches from your photo St. Mary's Church
- 9:30am-1pm: Christmas Trains and Gardens Hillsborough Heritage Museum
- 10am-3pm: New gift items, Mini Mitten Sale (what discount will you receive?) Hillsborough Community Thrift
- 10am-2pm: Craft Fair Hillsboro-Deering High School
- 10am-2pm: Festival of Trees Fund Raiser for the Community Center Hillsboro-Deering High School
- 10am-2pm: Holiday Stroll: crafts, prizes and specials Hillsboro Moose Lodge 1091
- 10am-5pm: Hillsboro's Holiday Pop-Up Shop and raffle basket Stonewall Farm 235 Windsor Rd
- 10am-12pm: Make & Take holiday crafts, Annual Holiday Raffle, and free cocoa Fuller Public Library
- 2-4pm: Pictures with Santa, Mrs. Claus, and the Grinch Valley Bible Chapel
- 2-4pm: Crafts, 2:30-TBD movie, 3:30-Christmas with the Chosen The Shepherd, Valley Bible Chapel
- 4:30pm-5:30pm: Hillsborough Heritage Museum open
- 5:00pm: Tree Lighting in Butler Park and Caroling with HDMS Chorus

PARKING: Municipal lots - Central Street, Page Lot next to Valley Bible Chapel, Library, and Knapton's Insurance

Donate to the Hillsboro Food Pantry - drop off donations at Fuller Public Library (9-1)

Donate to End 68 Hours of Hunger - drop off at Smith Church (9-12)













Hillsboro area churches combined for the Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service. (L-R) Pastor Paul O'Neil-United Methodist Church, Rev. Dawn Berry-Washington Congregational Church, Rev. Donna Vuilleumier-Smith memorial Church, Rep. Riche Colcombe-NH House, Karen Landry-Deering Community Church, Fr. Martel Marcel-St. Mary Catholic Church.

Newport police make several felony arrests

In October of 2023, the Newport Police Department received neighborhood tips regarding the suspected use and sale of controlled drugs by a resident in an apartment complex.

The Police conducted an investigation, which included numerous search warrants and interviews. Upon completion of that investigation, the following people were arrested:

Ashley Marie Preston, 38, Newport - Acts Prohibited (Class B Felony) Endangering the Welfare of a Child (Class B Felony) Sexual Assault; Accomplice (Class A Misdemeanor).

Scott Genereux, 18, Newport - Manufacture of Child Sexual Abuse Images (Class A Felony) Sexual Assault (Class A Misdemeanor).

Both Preston and Genereux were held on preventative detention by a bail commissioner, and later released after arraignment on bail conditions. This is an ongoing investigation and additional charges are expected. Anyone with further information is asked to contact Officer Cody Foster at cfoster@newportnh.gov or (603)863-3232.

On November 16, 2023, a Newport Police Officer made a traffic stop on a vehicle which was seen traveling approximately 80MPH in a posted 30MPH zone. During the course of the roadside investigation, the officer determined that the operator was impaired by alcohol. When the officer attempted to arrest him, the suspect resisted the officers and had to non-compliantly be taken into custody. The suspect was identified as:

Steven Boutwell 48, Newport - Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated (Class A Misdemeanor) Resisting Arrest (Class A Misdemeanor) Criminal Mischief (Class A Misdemeanor) Reckless Driving (Violation).

Boutwell was released by a bail commissioner with a Newport District Court Date to answer to his charges at a later date. This is an ongoing investigation and additional charges are anticipated. In November 2023, the Newport Police Department began an investigation into the alleged strangulation of a child. Pursuant to this investigation, the following person was arrested:

Marissa Smith, 30, Newport. Smith was charged with the following Class B Felony Crimes: 2nd Degree Assault; Strangulation. The complaint alleges that Smith knowingly engaged in the strangulation of another in that she did apply pressure to the throat or neck of the victim causing them to experience impaired breathing. 2nd Degree Assault; Bodily Injury. The complaint alleges that Smith did knowingly cause bodily injury to a child under the age of 13. Smith was released on personal recognizance bail with a Sullivan County Superior Court date. This investigation is ongoing and additional charges are anticipated. Anyone with further information is asked to contact Detective Sergeant Alexander R. Marvin at amarvin@newportnh.gov or (603)863-3232.

In October 2023, the Newport Police Department began an investigation into an alleged assault which escalated into a perpetrator striking someone with their vehicle. Subsequent to the investigation, the following person was arrested:

Michael Baker, 20, Newport. Baker was charged with the following felony offenses: Reckless Conduct with a Deadly Weapon. The complaint alleges that Baker did recklessly use a deadly weapon to place another in danger of serious bodily injury. Conduct After an Accident. The complaint alleges that Baker did leave the scene of a motor vehicle accident which caused bodily injury without either reporting it to the nearest law enforcement agency, or leaving identifying information with the victim.

Baker was held on preventative detention by a Bail Commissioner, however was later released at his Sullivan Superior Court arraignment with bail conditions. This is an ongoing investigation, and additional charges are anticipated.



Continuing a tradition that began nine years ago, the Tsihlis family and Lux family prepared beautiful Thanksgiving meals to deliver in the Hopkinton/Contoocook area and beyond. Community support has been an important part of this Riverside Pizza tradition.

Vigil held for slain former Franklin Police Chief

Hundreds of people gathered on Memorial Field



behind the New Hampshire Hospital Monday evening to honor security guard Bradley Haas, who was shot and killed while on duty at the hospital Friday afternoon.

Shots rang out in the lobby of the New Hampshire Hospital just before 4 p.m. on Friday as John Madore, 33, a Concord transient, fired a handgun before passing through a metal detector.

Haas, who was unarmed, tried to stop Madore before he was shot. He later died at Concord Hospital from his wounds. Madore was quickly shot and killed by a state

trooper assigned to protect the psychiatric hospital on Clinton Street. Authorities said the trooper's name will not be released until the investigation is completed, which could take days.

Col. Mark Hall, director of the state police, said officers responded to the report of an active shooter at the hospital around 3:40 p.m. on Friday.

A SWAT team secured the area and the state police bomb squad used a robot to search the inside of a U-Haul truck that was running in the hospital parking lot. Inside the truck, police found an AR-15-style rifle, a tactical vest, several magazines of ammunition and additional ammunition for the 9 mm handgun Madore used.

Autopsies conducted on Saturday showed both Haas and Madore died of gunshot wounds.

Hillsboro Police arrest felon with stolen handgun

On November 21st, officers responded to a call in the vicinity of the diner, prompted by reports of an individual making menacing statements while in possession of a firearm.

In order to ensure public safety, a temporary closure of Henniker Street was implemented while the individual was apprehended. The individual has been identified

as Marcel Caron, a 46-year-old resident of Hillsboro.

Caron has been charged with being a felon in possession of a pistol, which was loaded. Furthermore, it was discovered the firearm in question was stolen.

Consequently, Caron has been remanded to the custody of the Hillsborough County House of Corrections pending his appearance before the court.

No injuries were reported in Bow house fire

A malfunctioning space heater caused a fire at a Bow home early Saturday morning, according to the Bow Fire Department. The department was dispatched to the porch fire at 302 Page Road just before 5:15 a.m., according to a news release.

Smoke was showing from the soffits and the gable vents "indicating the fire had advanced into the attic space as well as the living space," the news release said. All occupants had left the 1,248-square-foot home before firefighters arrived.

Firefighters used thermal imaging equipment to find the source of the fire, which was quickly knocked down.

The department received help from Concord, Hooksett, Dunbarton and the capital area deputy coordinator on scene. Pembroke provided station coverage, according to the news release.

The space heater was located on a three-season porch when it malfunctioned and caught on fire, according to the news release. The heaviest damage was in the kitchen, attic and porch.

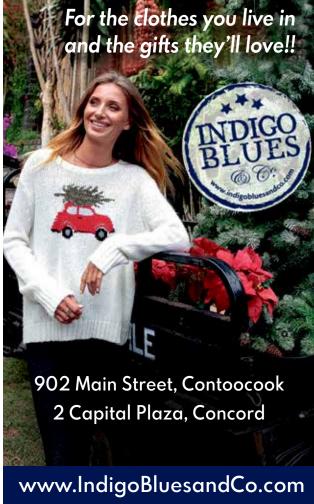




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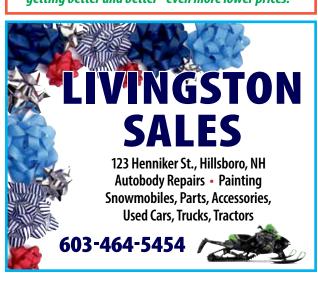
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Obituaries: Friends & Neighbors Remembered

Marie P. (Brunnhoelzl) Gilbert

HENNIKER - Marie Gilbert, 82, died November 16, 2023. She was born in Jamaica, Long Island, NY on



January 10, 1941, the daughter of Charlotte M. (Cook) and Frederick C. Brunnhoelzl, Jr. Family members include her husband, Peter; sons, Jerry Gilbert (Shelagh Mannix) and Keith Gilbert (Mary); granddaughters, Jessica Mumford (Alden), Corey Gilbert (Alex Koppelkam), Kate Poulin (Craig)

and Lisa Schott (Benjamin); great grandchildren, Henry and Sarah Poulin, Emmett Schott and his soon to arrive sister; and her brother, Frederick C. Brunnhoelzl, III (Carol). She was predeceased by her parents and her sister, Charlotte Howard. She leaves many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and beloved friends. There will be no calling hours or service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Henniker Fire Fighters Association or The Friends of the Henniker Rescue Squad, at 216 Maple St., Henniker, NH 03242 or to the Henniker Historical Society and Museum, 151 Maple St., PO Box 674, Henniker, NH 03242, or the charity of your choice.

Ann Nelson

WASHINGTON - Ann Nelson passed away on November 11, 2023. She was born in New Britain, CT



on September 8, 1937, to John and Rochelle Dutkiewicz. Ann is survived by her husband of 68 years, Howard of Washington, NH and their three children. David is the oldest. He and his wife Beth of Derry, NH have three children, Jay, Andrew, and John, who all loved their Grandmother. Steven is

the second oldest. He and his wife Jenifer live in Bristol, CT. Pamela, their daughter, is the youngest. She lives in Glen Rock, PA. Ann is also survived by her sister, Nancy Roman of Newington, CT and her brother, John (Butch) Dutkiewicz and his wife, Pat of Kensington, CT. Services for Ann will be private and at the convenience of the family. The Cremation Society of NH is assisting the family with arrangements. To view an online memorial, leave a message of condolence, or for more information please visit https://csnh.com/.

Bonita A. Cressy

CONTOOCOOK - Bonita A. Cressy passed away on November 23, 2023, at the Granite VNA Hospice



House in Concord, New Hampshire, after courageously fighting cancer for 20 months. Bonnie was born on March 26, 1945, to Clayton Loomis and Dorothy Loomis O'Shea. Bonnie is survived by her husband Lester, son Brian (Libby) Cressy, four grandchildren Karissa (Jay) Carr, Zackery Cressy, Chan-

dler Cressy, and Olivia Cressy, and one great-grandson, Hayden Carr, all of Contoocook. Bonnie is also survived by two sisters, Marion (Sam) Foss of Concord, and Penny (Wayne) Carbone of Loudon, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews. Bonnie was predeceased by her sister Colleen and her son Douglas. A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, December 3rd from 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. at St. Methodios Faith & Heritage Center, 329 Camp Merrimac Rd, Contoocook, NH. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Webster Congregational Church, 1011 Long St, Webster, NH 03303 and Concord Granite VNA, 240 Pleasant St, Concord, NH 03301.

William Thomas Margetts

HILLSBORO - William Thomas Margetts, 92, of Concord, NH passed away on Sunday, November 26, 2023, at



his residence in Concord, NH. Formerly of Hillsboro, NH. William, known to his friends and family as Tom or Tommy was born on November 27, 1930, in Center Harbor, NH, the son of the late William W. and Blanche E. (Hardy) Margetts. Members of his family include a dear friend, Danielle La Valley

of Deering, NH; P. Theresa Beaudet of Northfield, NH; her daughters Donna Bickford, Linda Proulx, and their spouses. Loving neighbors, Glen, Kim, and Laurie. Calling hours will be held on Monday December 4, 2023, from 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Phaneuf Funeral Homes & Crematorium, 172 King Street, Boscawen, NH 03303. Committal services and interment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Penacook, NH. Donations can be made to TRIP Center, Franklin, NH in memory of Mr. Margetts.

Christa E Rogers

HILLSBORO - Christa Elizabeth (Ritter) Rogers, 76, of Hillsboro, NH passed away Tuesday November



28, 2023 at her home. Christa was born December 14, 1946 in Hochspeyer, Germany to the late Theobald & Veronika (Bauer) Ritter. She was also predeceased by her husband, Fred B. Rogers who died in 2014. Survived by 2 sisters, Marianne and her husband, Gene Livingston of Hillsboro, NH and

Thea Herrmann of Germany; several nieces & nephews in Hillsboro, and Germany. Services will be held Sunday December 3, 2023 at 1 p.m. in the Holt-Woodbury Funeral Home & Cremation Service, 32 School St Hillsboro, NH.

TOWN OF HENNIKER **PLANNING BOARD** NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

December 13, 2023

The Town of Henniker Planning Board will hold a public hearing on December 13, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Community Center, 57 Main Street, to discuss the following:

 PBCase 2023:11 Proposed lot line relocation between two adjoining properties, 1044 & 1065 Bear Hill Road, Applicant: Higginson Land Services — Owners: Richard B. Morgan, Map 7 Lot 559-X and D'Elia Pruiksma Revocable Trust, Map 7 Lot 625-A, Zone RR. Application Acceptance and Public Hearing.

Copies of all materials are available for review on the Town of Henniker's website. December 13, 2023, Planning Board meeting link as well as in person at Town Hall.

Events: Community Bulletin Board

FRIDAY DECEMBER 1-3

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR: The annual Contoocook Artisans Holiday Craft Fair will be held at the American Legion Post 8 in Contoocook, NH. This juried fine arts and crafts fair features 30+ artisans and with locally made items including gifts for the home, baked goods, maple sugar and honey, baskets, holiday items, dolls and children's toys, wooden items, jewelry, leather items, clothing, oil cloth accessories and handbags, specialty paper and books, felted treasures, pottery, photography, soaps, folk art, beadwork, quilts, Shaker items, Christmas ornaments, and much more. Dates and times for the Fair are Friday, Dec. 1 from 10:00-7:00pm, Sat., Dec. 2 from 10-5pm, and Sun., Dec. 3 from 10-2pm.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL: The Antrim Players and the Antrim Community Board present: "A Christmas Carol" on Friday, December 1st and Saturday, December 2nd at 7:00pm at the Antrim Town Hall Theater. For tickets call 978-728-9849. Adults \$12; Seniors \$10.

FIRST FRIDAYS: Holiday Concert! The North Country VoxStars! all-gender chorus singing a mixture of barbershop and contemporary a cappella arrangements. A Holiday Celebration for all ages! Black Box Theater at Colby-Sawyer College www.centerfortheartsnh.org/first-fridays

SATURDAY DECEMBER 2

HILLSBOROUGH FOR THE HOLIDAYS: starting at 7:30am with breakfast, ending at 5:00pm with the lighting of the Town Tree. Travel all around town and visit a craft fair, trains at the Heritage Museum, the Pop-Up Shop, Cookie Walk and so much more. Visit 250th Anniversary of Hillsborough, NH Facebook page or stop in Fuller Public Library for the schedule of events.

LIGHT UP HENNIKER: 4:30pm Hot Chocolate, Choir at Community School Flag Poles, 4:40pm Walk with Santa to Gazebo, 5:00pm Tree Lighting at Gazebo. Pictures with Santa, Food Drive, Toy Drive drop offs.

EXTENDED HOURS: Hillsborough Community Thrift will have extended shopping hours from 10:00-3:00pm. Stop in for inexpensive gifts as well as other specials.

PIE SALE: The Ladies Aid Society of the Union Chapel will hold our Annual Pie Sale from 9:00am-1:30pm (or until sold out!) outside of Shaw's Supermarkets. Come down and buy one of our homemade pies. All proceeds from this fundraisers will benefit the historic Union Chapel.

MAKE & TAKE: Fuller Public Library will have Make & Take crafts and cocoa from 10:00am-12:00pm as part of the Hillsborough for the Holidays event.

COOKIE WALK: The annual Cookie Walk will be held from 9:00am-noon at Smith Church, 30 West Main St., Hillsboro. Cookies and crafts are available.

CHRISTMAS TREES: Antrim/Bennington Lions Club will be selling Christmas Trees starting this Saturday at Tenney's Farm at 9:00am. Due to cost increases to purchase the trees, prices start at \$45. We've sold out fairly quickly the last two years so we purchased more this year. Funds towards programs like Operation Santa for area children who may not have had presents this year.

SPAGHETTI DINNER: Fundraiser for Jan & Steve Hibbard at Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, 2:00-4:00pm as Steve prepares for double lung transplant.

SANTA VISITS: Santa will be visiting New Boston on Saturday, Dec. 2nd from 4:00-6:00pm. Firepits open and the Community Church Choir sings at 4:00pm. Santa arrives at

4:15 and lights the town's Christmas Tree 4:30. Children are invited to visit Santa, mail their letters, and receive a gift on the Gazebo. Rain/Weather backup date is Sun., Dec. 3rd.

AREA CHOIR CONCERTS: The Area Choir 70th Anniversary concerts will be presented on December 2 at 7:30pm and December 3 at 3:30pm and 7:30pm at South Congregational Church, 20 Church Street in Newport, NH. There is no admission charge; a free-will offering will be accepted. For more information email TheAreaChoir@gmail.com

FESTIVAL OF TREES: Fundraiser. Win a fully decorated Christmas tree at the Hillsboro-Deering High School Craft Fair on Dec 2nd. Raffle tickets sold at the event for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Visit hccnh.org/trees for more info.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 3

LIVE NATIVITY: Join us for Bennington's community-wide Live Nativity in front of the Bennington Congregational Church during Bennington's Christmas Celebration at 4:30pm. Live Petting Zoo begins at 3:30pm.

TREE LIGHTING: 2:00-6:00pm. Newbury Center Meeting House at 5:00pm Craft Fair Town Offices 2:00-5:00pm Refreshments at Vets Hall.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 5

ANTRIM: American Legion Post 50 will hold their monthly meeting at the post home at 7 West St. at 7:30pm. All members, veterans & guests are welcome to attend.

HOW TO'S DAY: at Fuller Public Library, create a Holiday Centerpiece with Sharon Voorhees, 6:30pm. Bring your own container or use one of ours, RSVP due to limited class size.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 8

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION: In Bradford 5:30-8:30pm. Visit with Santa, Tree Lighting, Jingle Bus, Community Diner, Food Drive, Library, Fire Department, Community Church.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR: Newport High School Gym 9:00am-2:00pm. Homemade crafts, jellies, and much more. **WINGED CREATURES:** Pine Tree Chapter of the Daughters

of the Revolution (DAR) invite you to Fuller Public Library for Winged Creatures. Maria Colby from Wings of Dawn will be here to talk about and show you a couple of winged creatures. (Not a library sponsored event).

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10

INDOOR FLEA MARKET: at Contoocook American Legion, every 2nd & 4th Sunday from 8:00am-noon. \$15 with table, \$10 without. Call Tammy 603-620-6804 to reserve a table.



BENIGN TUMORS



Q: How serious is a tumor in the mouth?

A: The good news is that most tumors that appear in the mouth are benign, meaning non-cancerous. Any unusual growth in the mouth, however, is the trigger to make a call to your dentist.

r. Esin Narli

The most common type of growth in the mouth

is called an "irritation fibroma." It appears as a smooth-surfaced, small pink mushroom attached by a stalk to the tongue, inner cheek or lip. It is generally caused by biting or sucking on the spot where it develops. The fibroma often occurs where a small space between the teeth allows for the sucking or biting on tissue. If the "irritation fibroma" is a recurring problem, the dentist may recommend a small, fixed bridge to close the gap.

Another relatively common benign growth is called a "papilloma." It also is mushroom shaped, but has an irregular, white surface. A papilloma will appear of its own accord. The usual course of treatment for either of these tumors is to excise them. As a rule, these tumors do not require a biopsy, a determination as to whether they are cancerous.

Though these tumors are non-cancerous, not all tumors are. So, once again, whenever you become aware of an abnormal growth or spot in your mouth, see your dentist immediately.

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TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



A national study is shedding light on how to more effectively treat atrial fibrillation (AF) — a common heart rhythm problem associated with increased risk of stroke and heart failure. The study, published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, shows that early intervention with cryoballoon catheter ablation (cryoablation) is more effective at reducing the risk of serious long-term health impacts, when compared to the current first step in treat-

ment, antiarrhythmic drugs. Cryoablation is a minimally invasive procedure that involves guiding a small tube into the heart to kill problematic tissue with cold temperatures. Historically, the procedure has been reserved as a secondary treatment when patients don't respond after taking antiarrhythmic drugs.

Millions of antibiotics are prescribed every year. Although they can be incredibly effective at treating infections, antibiotics usually do not solely target the bacteria that are causing infection. They also kill the harmless bacteria that live in our gut and help us stay healthy. There is evidence that this disruption to the gut microbiome composition can last for up to 2 years after antibiotic treatment. Gastrointestinal symptoms such as diarrhea and bloating are also common side effects of antibiotic use. Previous studies demonstrated that taking probiotics can reduce gastrointestinal side effects from antibiotics, but there has been debate over whether taking probiotics alongside antibiotics can also preserve the diversity and composition of microbes in the gut. New research published in the Journal of Medical Microbiology assesses the effect of taking probiotics alongside antibiotics on the diversity and composition of the human gut microbiome. The authors found that taking probiotics alongside antibiotics can prevent or lessen some antibiotic-induced changes to gut microbiome composition. Probiotics can also help protect species diversity and even restore the populations of some friendly bacteria such as Faecalibacterium prausnitzii, which reduces inflammation and promotes a healthy intestinal barrier.

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PUBLIC HEARING

Town of Hillsborough **COMMUNITY POWER COMMITTEE**

The Community Power Committee will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, in the Police Department Training Room, 22 Municipal Drive, Hillsborough, NH at 6:00 pm for the purpose of presenting and hearing comments on Community Power.

TOWN OF HENNIKER, NH **PUBLIC HEARING**

Place: Henniker Community Center 57 Main Street Henniker, NH 03242

> Tuesday, December 5, 2023 6:30 PM

Public Hearing

The Town of Henniker will hold a public hearing during the regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting on December 5, 2023, at 6:30pm at the Henniker Community Center, 57 Main Street under the provisions of RSA 31:95-b, II-IV to accept and appropriate unanticipated one-time State of New Hampshire HB 2 (SB 270) Highway Block Grant funding in the amount of \$46,960.09 for immediate infrastructure improvements.

Town of Weare

SELECTMEN'S OFFICE PUBLIC HEARING

The Weare Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 18, 2023, beginning at 7:00 PM for the purpose of hearing public testimony and comment on the acceptance of the following two items:

- 1. Acceptance of one (1) AFIS Machine for the purpose of capturing and submitting fingerprint records to the NH Department of Safety-Division of State Police electronically which will help the Department of Safety be more efficient in processing and submitting fingerprint records to the FBI. The machine has a value of \$20,000.
- 2. Acceptance of unanticipated revenue in the amount of \$79,797.36 from State of NH distribution of Block Grant Aid "Apportionment A" funds, this onetime payment is based on the municipalities' mileage of Class IV and Class V highways, as well as the municipalities' population (per House Bill 2)

This hearing will be held at the Town Office Building Conference Room, 15 Flanders Memorial Drive in Weare, NH. Please note, any person with a disability who wishes to attend this meeting and needs to be provided a reasonable accommodation in order to participate, should call the Weare Board of Selectmen's office at 529-7535 at least twenty-four hours in advance so that arrangements can be made.



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ONLY \$14,990



2020 KIA TELLURIDE S

Free Set of Snow Tires

Heated Seats, Satellite Radio, Back-Up Camera, Quad Bucket Seats. More! Stk# 3J006A

ONLY \$27,490



2015 RAM PROMASTER 3500 HIGH ROOF

Ladder Rack, Custom Wood Shelving, Rear Back-Up Camera, AM/FM, CD, More! Stk# 3R035A

ONLY \$26,990

*See sales associate for details

NEW ENGLAND DIESELZ

2016 MOFFET PIGGYBACK

5000 POUND LIFT, ONLY 2000 HOURS.

\$25,000 N



SALES • SERVICE • PARTS

492 W. MAIN STREET, HILLSBOROUGH **603-325-8800**

NEWENGLANDDIESELZ@GMAIL.COM

FOKK LIFT

FORKTRUCK DIESEL, 9000 POUND LIFT.

Dually

4x4!

\$12,000



2007 TOYOTA CAMRY

AUTOMATIC. NO RUST. AC ICE COLD. 200K MI. SHIFTS SMOOTH AND ENGINE RUNS GREAT.

\$4,000

Nice Car!



2007 HONDA ODYSSEY

GREAT ON GAS, 200K MI., MAX SEATING 7, CARGO SPACE IS 147.4 CU.FT.

\$3,000

Beautiful shap



2009 FORD F350 XLT

5.4, V8, AUTOMATIC, CREW CAB, ONLY 100,000 MILES.

\$9,500



2001 TOYOTA CAMRY

ONLY 150,000 MILES 20 - 23 COMBINED MPG

\$3,000



2005 DODGE DAKOTA

4X4, AUTOMATIC, RUNS LIKE NEW! SEATS 4, REAR WHEEL DRIVE, GOOD TOWING CAPACITY.

\$**5,000**

Double Cab



2005 FORD RANGER

RUNS LIKE NEW. NEWER TIRES AND BRAKES. FRAME IS SOLID, BODY IN GOOD SHAPE. 4X4, AUTO. 4.0.

5,000 6 cyl.



2007 VOLVO XV90 SUV

AUTO, ALL WHEEL DRIVE. ABSOLUTE-LY NO RUST OR ROT. BRAND NEW BRAKES AND TIRES. SOLID IN & OUT.

\$4,000

6 cyl., 170k mi.



FORD EXCURSION XLT

FRAME SOLID, NICE RIG, CUSTOM. INTERIOR NEAR PERFECT SHAPE AND THIS TRUCK IS SOLID. CLEAN TITLE.

\$7,000 4x4, 150k mi



2005 HONDA ODYSSEY

200K MI. NO RUST. RUNS GREAT. STANDARD SIDE-CURTAIN AIRBAGS. INTERIOR SPACE AND VERSATILITY.

\$3,000

5 speed auto.



4X4, AUTO, SOLID FRAME. THIS TRUCK RUNS LIKE NEW. TIRES AND BRAKES DECENT. 200K MILES.

\$**5,000**



2004 HONDA ACCORD

COUPE, AUTOMATIC, NO RUST

\$3,000





2003 TOYOTA CAMRY

180K, RUNS GREAT, INSPECTED

\$3,000

Nice!



2004 FORD RANGER

REAR WHEEL DRIVE, 5 SPEED, GREAT ON GAS.

\$**2,000**

Good vehicle



2004 FORD E150

VAN V8 ONLY 100,000 MILES

\$5,000

Runs good

Nice!

Turbo!



2005 MERCEDES SPRINTER

CUSTOM DIESEL. AUTO. 5 CYL. NO RUST. ELECTRIC AC & HEAT. HAS PROPANE HEAT. SOLAR PANEL. ETC.

\$19,000



19,00

2005 TOYOTA CAMRY

DRIVES GOOD. FUEL ECONOMY, 21 - 25 COMBINED MPG. DRIVER AIRBAG, PASSENGER AIRBAG.

\$**4,000**

Runs Good!



2003 DODGE DAKOTA

DOUBLE CAB, 4X4, AUTOMATIC

\$4,000 Runs Good!



1993 CHEVROLET GEVEN

CONVERSION VAN. MINI HOUSE. BEAUTIFUL IN AND OUT. FRAME SOL-ID. READY FOR YOUR IMAGINATION.

\$5,000 A/C,8 cy



1995 MERCEDES BENZ

HOLY GRAIL. E300D. AUTO, DIESEL. THESE ARE FAR AND FEW! 3.0 TURBO DIESEL INLINE 6 CYLINDER. 200K MI.

\$4,000 Real



2002 TOYOTA TACOMA

DOUBLE CAB, 4X4

\$8,000 💓



ALL WHEEL DRIVE. SIX SPEED

ALL WHEEL DRIVE. SIX SPEED AUTOMATIC. SHARP INTERIOR DESIGN. LUXURIOUS RIDE.

\$**7,000**



2004 JAGUAR XJA

BEAUTIFUL IN AND OUT, PEARL WHITE. REAR-WHEEL-DRIVE, 5-PASSENGER, 4-DOOR SEDAN.

\$5,000

6 speed, auto



2004 FORD F350

LARIAT, CREW CAB, DIESEL, 4X4, AUTOMATIC.

\$5,000 *>*



2004 JEEP WRANGLER

RUNS GREAT. INSPECTED.

\$7,000 Nice!



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

City of Nashua, New Hampshire

Project No. 3442-029

NOTICE OF APPLICATION READY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND SOLICITING COMMENTS, RECOMMENDATIONS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND PRESCRIPTIONS

(November 21, 2023)

Take notice that the following license application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. Type of Application: New License

b. Project No.: P-3442-029c. Date filed: July 30, 2021

d. Applicant: City of Nashua (Nashua)

e. Name of Project: Mine Falls Hydroelectric Project:

f. Location: The existing project is located on the Nashua River in Hillsborough County, New Hampshire. The project does not affect federal lands.

g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. §§ 791(a) – 825(r)

h. Applicant Contact: James W. Donchess, Mayor, City of Nashua, 229 Main Street, P.O. Box 2019, Nashua, NH 03060; (603) 589-3260; or email at NasuaMayor@nashuanh.gov.

i. FERC Contact: Khatoon Melick, (202) 502-8433, or email at khatoon.melick@ferc.gov.

j. Deadline for filing comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions: 60 days from the issuance date of this notice; reply comments are due 105 days from the issuance date of this notice.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions using the Commission's eFiling system at https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at https://ferconline.ferc.gov/QuickComment.aspx. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. All filings must clearly identify the project name and docket number on the first page: Mine Falls Hydroelectric Project (P-3442-029).

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

- k. This application has been accepted and is ready for environmental analysis at this time.
- l. The existing project consists of: (1) a 242-acre impoundment with a normal storage volume of 1,970 acre-feet and a normal headpond elevation of 158.76 feet (NAVD 88); (2) a rock filled concrete cap, variable in height dam with an approximately 132-foot-long spillway at a permanent crest elevation of 154.66 feet, and nominal 4.0-foot-high wooden flashboards maintaining a normal headpond elevation of 158.76 feet; (3) a 22-foot-wide and 170-foot-long reinforced concrete power canal located between the right bank of the Nashua River and the single flood sluice gate; (4) two 12.5-foot-long wooden stoplog bays located immediately upstream of the intake to the right of the concrete capped spillway (viewed facing downstream) with a 10-foot-wide gate and a short spillway section above the gate; (5) a 40-foot-wide, 20-foot-high intake structure with steel trash rack with two square-to-round transition openings that feed the two penstocks that terminate at the two turbines; (6) two 64-foot-long, 104-inch-diameter steel penstocks between the intake and turbine units; (7) a 44-foot-long, 44-foot-wide multi-level reinforced concrete powerhouse containing two 1,500 kilowatt turbine-generator units; (8) an approximately 22-foot-wide, 1,100-foot-long tailrace that is a channel cut into the Nashua River bedrock downstream of the powerhouse that returns water back into the Nashua River; (9) a 278-foot-long bypassed reach extending from the spillway crest and stoplog bays to the downstream of the powerhouse at the tailrace, bypassing 20 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water for environmental flows; (10) an upstream fish passage; (11) a 610-foot-long, 34.5-kilovolt underground transmission line connects the generator transformer to the interconnect point; and (12) appurtenant facilities. The estimated gross head of the project is 38 feet. The powerplant has a maximum nameplate capacity of 3 megawatts. The project generates an annual average of 12,563 megawatt-hours.

Nashua proposes to continue to operate the project in a run-of-river mode with no storage or flood control capacity. The project operates within a flow range of 180 cfs (150 cfs minimum hydraulic capacity to start a single turbine, plus 20 cfs minimum flow release at the dam into the bypassed reach and a 10 cfs flow routed through the Mill Pond gatehouse to the Mill Pond and canal) and 1,100 cfs (maximum hydraulic capacity of the plant – two turbines combined) or a river flow of 1,130 cfs. Any flow above the maximum hydraulic capacity of the turbines plus minimum flows and Mill Pond diversion is spilled over the dam spillway and through the overflow section of the flood sluice gate.

m. A copy of the application can be viewed on the Commission's website at http://www.ferc.gov using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

You may also register online at https://ferconline.ferc.gov/FERCOnline.aspx to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

The Commission's Office of Public Participation (OPP) supports meaningful public engagement and participation in Commission proceedings. OPP can help members of the public, including landowners, environmental justice communities, Tribal members and others, access publicly available information and navigate Commission processes. For public inquiries and assistance with making filings such as interventions, comments, or requests for rehearing, the public is encouraged to contact OPP at (202) 502-6595 or OPP@ferc.gov.

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title "COMMENTS", "REPLY COMMENTS", "RECOMMENDATIONS," "TERMS AND CONDITIONS," or "PRESCRIPTIONS;" (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the filing; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 C.F.R. 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 C.F.R. § 4.34(b). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. Each filing must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed on the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 C.F.R. § 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

- n. The applicant must file no later than 60 days following the date of issuance of this notice: (1) a copy of the water quality certification; (2) a copy of the request for certification, including proof of the date on which the certifying agency received the request; or (3) evidence of water quality certification. Please note that the certification request must comply with 40 CFR § 121.5(b), including documentation that a pre-filing meeting request was submitted to the certifying authority at least 30 days prior to submitting the certification request. Please also note that the certification request must be sent to the certifying authority and to the Commission concurrently.
- o. Procedural schedule: The application will be processed according to the following schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate.

Milestone Target Date

Deadline for Filing Comments, Recommendations, and Agency Terms and Conditions/Prescriptions

January 202

Licensee's Reply to REA Comments

March 2024

p. Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of this notice.

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.