

The Messenger

"Your Local Weekly Since 1869 ♦ A Tradition Worth Keeping"

Free ♦ Our 154th Year ♦ Issue 49 ♦ December 13, 2024

Hillsborough For The Holidays



Mrs. Claus joined her husband in touring the town during Hillsborough For The Holidays on Saturday. See photos on pages 14-15.

This week in history

December 14, 1799

George Washington dies

December 15, 1973

Billionaire's kidnapped grandson found in Italy

December 16, 1947

Bell Labs invents the transistor

December 17, 1944

U.S. approves internment of Japanese Americans

December 18, 1982

Power plant burns in Venezuela

December 19, 1998

Bill Clinton is impeached

December 20, 1790

First American cotton mill opens



No injuries reported in Franklin fire

Crews from nine towns respond to Franklin house fire

No one was injured in a two-alarm fire Thursday night at a home in Franklin. Fire crews were dispatched to a reported building fire Thursday at 7:15 p.m. at 10 Hutchinson Street. The Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS and Bristol fire departments were also toned as automatic aid.

As Franklin crews responded, dispatchers received a report that a garage was fully involved at the scene and that the fire was extending to the home, Franklin Deputy Fire Chief David Hall said in a statement.

Franklin Fire Captain Keith McNulty

called for a first alarm immediately, then a second alarm on arrival.

Crews entered the house with a hose and encountered heavy fire in the kitchen area, Hall said. Additional crews arrived and battled the blaze in the garage and four automobiles burning in front of the home, officials said.

Searches for trapped occupants and fire extension through the home were completed, with no additional occupants found, as the fire extended to the second floor of the home.

One of the occupants was medically

evaluated and released, Hall said. No other injuries were reported.

The cause of the fire is under investigation, but Hall said it appears to be accidental. Franklin was assisted on scene by fire departments from Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS, Sanbornton, Belmont, Hill, Boscawen, New Hampton, Laconia, Gilford, Concord, and the Lakes Regional Mutual Fire Aid.

One additional call was received and was handled by Andover Fire Department and Penacook Rescue Squad while covering Franklin's station.

Colby appointed SAU #24 Assistant Superintendent

Matthew Colby has been appointed as Assistant Superintendent of SAU #24, effective July 1, 2025. With a distinguished 23-year career in SAU 24, Colby brings a wealth of experience, deep community ties, and a proven track record of educational leadership to this new role.

Colby began his career as a Social Studies teacher at John Stark Regional High School, where he also served as Department Coordinator. He later transitioned into school administration, holding positions as Assistant Principal and Principal at Henniker Community

School, where he has led the school to achieve significant milestones, including the New Hampshire School of Excellence Award in 2022.

Throughout his tenure Colby has played an integral role in shaping the district's educational vision.

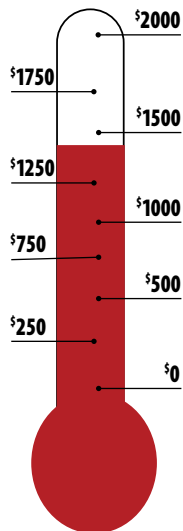
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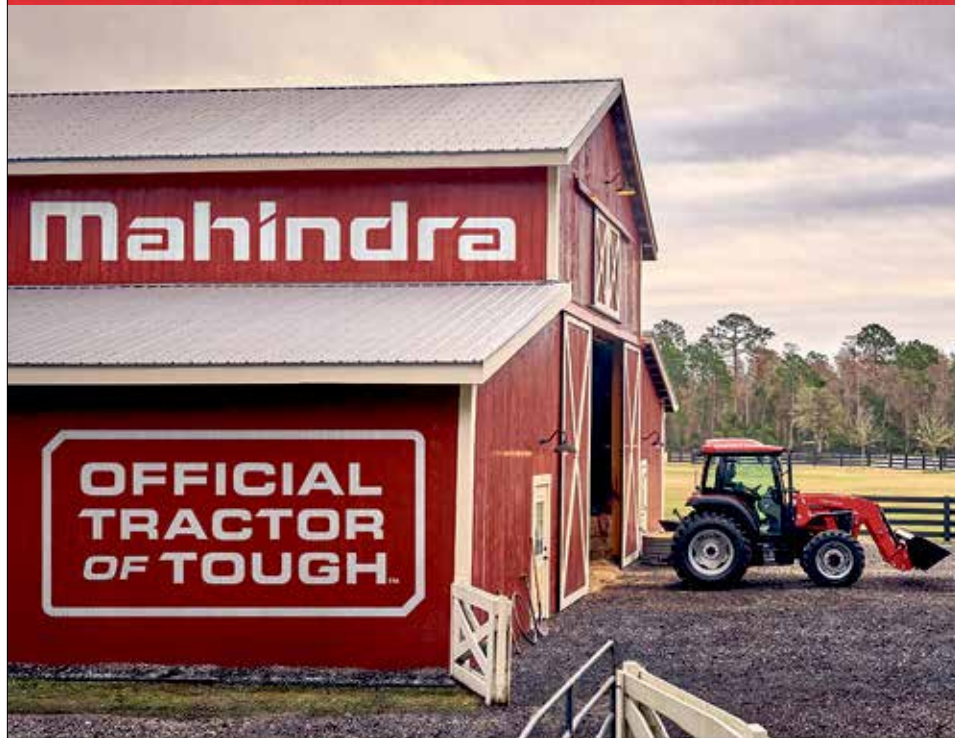
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Yesteryear *Local history as reported in The Messenger*

December 15, 2023

- Community Center land donated
- Both Andy & Laurie Sanborn absent from hearing
- New London honors dedicated town employees
- Bow skier survives avalanche he triggered at Alpine Gully

December 16, 2022

- H-D skips teacher math training
- NEC & Catholic Medical Center join to ease nursing shortage
- John Stark participates in simulated Congressional hearing
- H-D High School closed because of outbreak of illness

December 16, 2021

- Henniker Town Administrator resigns
- It was a busy night for the Henniker Fire Department
- Driver crashes into Warner Police cruiser
- Hopkinton residents have bank accounts raided

December 18, 2020

- Hancock appoints a new Police Chief
- ConVal School Board suspends winter sports
- Break-in & robbery at All In One Market
- Winfried Feneberg named Superintendent of the Year

December 20, 2019

- New London budget up 5.4%
- AG clears Weare Police Officers in August shooting
- Area saddened by death of Weare's Michael Sullivan
- GPS routes Pats Peak traffic on back roads

December 21, 2018

- H-D budget up \$695,421.21 to \$23,586,738.40
- Kearsarge students overcoming challenges
- Henniker tax rate to increase 13%
- H-D Elementary needs Support & Improvement

December 22, 2017

- \$10 million error in Goffstown School Tax
- Franklin's Three Rivers Foundation supports education
- H-D Board approves \$41,450 in stipends
- ConVal to purchase additional Chromebooks

December 16, 2016

- Franklin welcomes City's Hope for Recovery Center
- Police investigating baby's death in Peterborough
- New Boston's South Branch Bridge project awarded
- NH Motor Speedway constructing snowmobile bridge

December 18, 2015

- Goffstown to replace 469 street lights
- Sunapee Police & Fire retain New London Dispatch
- Weare man nominated to Superior Court
- New Boston Police "adopt" a needy family

December 19, 2014

- \$10 million to purchase & renovate Villa Augustina
- New Boston Police have surplus funds
- State Board rules in favor of Goffstown
- Franklin Health Center receives \$26,618 grant

Kearsarge School Budget calls for \$2,598,805.00 increase in teachers contract

The residents of Bradford, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sutton, Warner, and Wilnot, comprising the Kearsarge Regional School District, will meet at the Kearsarge Regional High School on January 4, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Article 1 asks voters to raise and appropriate the Municipal Budget Committee's recommended amount of \$55,387,481 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the District. The School Board recommends \$55,387,481. Article 2 seeks approval of the cost item included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Kearsarge Regional School Board and the Kearsarge Regional Educators Association which calls for increases of \$2,598,805.00 in salaries and benefits:

- 2025-2026 \$857,617
- 2026-2027 \$879,608
- 2027-2028 \$861,580

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$857,617 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels.

Article 3 requests that up to \$100,000 to be placed in the School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of repair, unanticipated utility costs, and maintaining the school buildings and equipment, with such amount to be funded from unassigned fund balance (surplus funds) remaining on hand as of June 30, 2025.

Article 4 requests up

to \$100,000 to be placed in the Capital Reserve Roof Fund for the purpose of replacement or

major repairs to roofs in the district with such amounts to be funded from unassigned

fund balance (surplus funds) remaining on hand as of June 30, 2025.



A large crowd greeted Santa, who arrived in time to light the Christmas tree at Antrim's Tuttle Library gazebo last Saturday.

Ho-ho-holiday gifts and stocking stuffers

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HILLSBORO: Chalet style home on three lots. Emerald Lake Village District residents have access to four beaches, boat launch and playground. Perfect for year round living or a seasonal retreat. Near walking trails in Fox Forest and only 25 minutes from Pat's Peak and Crocthed Mountain Ski and golf. An additional two 9-hole courses are with 25 minutes. **\$229,900**



DEERING: Newly renovated mobile home on a quiet dead end street in a Cooperative park in Deering. Near snowmobile and ATV trails. Community water. Deering is less than 50 minutes from Manchester, Concord or Keene. Only 20 minutes to Crocthed Mountain Ski and Golf, and less than 30 minutes to Pat's Peak. Deering residents have access to Deering Reservoir as well as the public can use Franklin Pierce Reservoir and Manahan Park. **\$129,900**



WINDSOR: Seller moving to Florida - get in before the snow flies! Two story, 2BR/1B, livingroom with 9 foot ceilings, eat-in kitchen, laundry room, two fully insulated porches, new roof, new propane heating system, large barn/garage (55x50) with woodstove and loft. On a town maintained paved road in low tax Windsor. Price reduced to **\$149,900**

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The Town of Bennington would like to thank Graceline Stoneworks, Zeth Kenney for the donation of his time and materials in the repairs needed on our Evergreen Cemetery stone walls. Zeth did a phenomenal job of restoring the walls. If you drive by please check out his work. Graceline Stoneworks is based out of Hillsborough and serves the community for stone, brick and carpentry needs. Plowing is also available. Again thank you very much, Zeth, for donating your time on Veterans Day!



Past District Governor Don Ager (R) inducted Patty Gregg (L) as the newest member of the Hillsboro Lions Club.

HEY KIDS!

Want to tell Santa what you'd like for Christmas?

Send your letter to Santa, c/o The Messenger, PO Box 1190, Hillsboro, NH 0324, and we'll be sure he gets it!

You **MUST** include your **NAME** and **MAILING ADDRESS** so Santa can write back.

To give Santa enough time to respond be sure to **MAIL YOUR LETTER NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 16, 2024.**



Michael Kenney named Winner of Bar Harbor Bank's Honor a Veteran Contest

Bar Harbor Bank & Trust has selected Michael "Mike" Kenney of Hillsborough, New Hampshire, as the winner of the Bank's Honor a Veteran Contest. The contest gave members of the public the opportunity to nominate a veteran living in Maine, New Hampshire, or Vermont who deserves recognition for their service to our country. After reviewing hundreds of nominations, the Bank selected Kenney, who served in the United States Navy for 18 years.

As the winner of the contest, Kenney received \$1,000. He was also given the opportunity to select the recipient of a \$1,000 donation made by the Bank to a nonprofit organization serving veterans. Kenney selected Liberty House, a nonprofit organization in Manchester, New Hampshire, that serves homeless and struggling veterans on their journey to independence and self-sufficiency.

"The Honor a Veteran

Contest gave us a wonderful opportunity to get to know and read stories about the veterans living in Northern New England, as written with affection by their friends and families," said Joseph Schmitt, Senior Vice President, Director of Communications and Chief Marketing Officer at Bar Harbor Bank & Trust. "We are honored to select Mike Kenney as our contest winner. Not only did he serve with honor for nearly two decades, he took the skills he learned in the United States Navy and used them to help so many others prepare for brighter futures."

Kenney enlisted in the United States Navy in 1975 and selected the Data Systems Technician program as his occupational specialty. After attending several technical schools, he was assigned to the U.S.S. Gridley homeported in San Diego, California. Later in his military career, Kenney provided technical training for subordinates and



Bar Harbor Bank & Trust employees present Mike Kenney, winner of the Bank's Honor a Veteran Contest, with a check. Pictured from left to right: (first row) Mike Kenney; (second row) Brianna Douglas, Assistant Branch Manager at Bar Harbor Bank & Trust; Amy Sebastian, Customer Service Representative at Bar Harbor Bank & Trust; Kathleen Farmer; Shelley Griswold, VP Branch Relationship Manager at Bar Harbor Bank & Trust; and Cortney Dillon, Personal Banker at Bar Harbor Bank & Trust.

officers alike. During his stint with the United States Navy, he received seven ribbons and six medals, including the Navy Expeditionary and Humanitarian Service medal. Kenney retired at the rank of Chief Petty Officer in

1993 after 18 years of service.

After retiring from the United States Navy, Kenney taught computer technology for 25 years at various private and technical schools including Boston University. His focus was

workforce development training for adults who lost their jobs. Since 2008, Kenney has served as a part-time adjunct professor at NHTI, where he specializes in teaching literacy. He currently serves on the board for the Hillsboro-Deering Cooperative School District (SAU 34).

In addition to his professional career, Kenney served in the Civil Air Patrol for 17 years after his tenure with the United States Navy. He retired as a major earlier this year.

Kenney belongs to three national veteran organizations: Life Member of Veterans of Foreign Wars - Post 483 in Nashua, New Hampshire; American Legion - Young and Richardson Post 59 in Hillsborough, New Hampshire; and La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux 40/8 American Legion Honor Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Kenney has two children and four grandchildren.



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TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



BY SARAH CHAPIN

Coming off antidepressants is known to trigger physical symptoms, such as restlessness, fatigue, and excessive sweating, but new research published in the journal *Health Expectations* suggests people can also experience emotional and social difficulties, and changes in their thinking patterns when they stop taking antidepressants like Prozac. This is especially true when people don't 'taper' their medication but instead stop taking it suddenly, and when the process is not adequately supervised by a doctor. Challenges reported by study participants included feeling overwhelmed by their emotions, finding social situations less enjoyable, and feeling detached and less empathetic towards others. The participants also reported that withdrawal affected their cognitive functioning.

A new study published in *Psychopharmacology* found that propranolol, a medication that treats high blood pressure, can also help lower anxiety for kids and young adults with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Given that some individuals with ASD tend to struggle with anxiety at a far greater rate than their neurotypical peers, the new finding can significantly help such individuals with ASD.

In a comparative effectiveness trial of behavioral activation psychotherapy (BA) and antidepressant medication management (MEDS), both treatments significantly reduced depressive symptoms by nearly 50% with no statistically significant differences between treatments. BA recipients experienced better physical health-related quality of life, fewer emergency department visits, and fewer days hospitalized. The study findings, published in *JAMA Network Open*, suggest that patients with heart failure could be given the choice between BA or MEDS to ameliorate depression.

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PRIMER ON IMPLANTS



Dr. Esin Narli

Q: What is a dental implant?

A: Dentistry has come a long way from the days of George Washington and his wooden choppers. One of the best ways to replace a missing tooth or teeth these days is with a dental implant. What's implanted is a pin, usually made of titanium, and it goes into your jaw. It acts as a replacement root to support an artificial tooth. Implants are generally preferable to dentures in that they don't slip. That makes talking and chewing easier.

Inserting the pin is a procedure normally done under local anesthesia. Not everyone, however, is a candidate for an implant. For one thing, you have to have enough bone in the jaw to support the implant. If you don't have enough bone, under some conditions the dentist might be able to graft bone.

Gum condition is also a consideration when determining if some one is a viable candidate for an implant. Even if you have implants, you'll want to continue regular visits to the dentist. For one thing, the dentist will want to check regularly on the condition of the implant and of the tissue in the immediate area of the work. For instance, tissue near the implant might not have as much blood flow as tissue elsewhere in your mouth, and therefore could be more susceptible to infection.

Talk with your dentist about whether you're a candidate for an implant.

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Hometown Heroes



The City of Franklin Fire Department honored its newest members, promotions, and award recipients. Chief Michael Foss welcomes new members Firefighter Eric Tucker, Firefighter Cody Griffin, Inspector Erik Rasmussen and Firefighter Grace Shoemaker. Promoted this year are Captain Tom Hegener and Master Firefighter Andrew Perkins. Receiving a Unit Citation for their role in a water rescue are Captain Jason Jenkins, Master Firefighter Josh Lee, Firefighter Michael Mussey, Firefighter Michael Dery, Firefighter Eric Tucker, and Firefighter Gary Hicks. Receiving a Medal of Valor are Captain Jason Jenkins and Master Firefighter Josh Lee for the same water rescue.



Congratulations to Dan Poirier for being selected as Franklin's new Chief of Police. Chief Poirier has served the city of Franklin for over 15 years. During his time in Franklin, Chief Poirier has carried out duties as a patrol officer, patrol sergeant, and Operations Lieutenant.



Between 3:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 5th, Sunapee Fire responded to four motor vehicle accidents. Luckily, there were no injuries and minor damage to the vehicles in all four accidents.

The Merrimack helps fund White Birch Center's Expansion Project

Merrimack County Saving Bank (The Merrimack) supports the expansion of the White Birch Center in Henniker with a \$50,000 contribution. Funded through the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA), the tax credits will go toward the purchase and renovation of an additional building in town.

"White Birch Center is the largest non-profit and licensed child care facility in Henniker," said Linda Lorden, President of The Merrimack. "This project will increase access to critical services for the surrounding communities."

The new facility at 116 Main Street will increase capacity for quality, affordable child care with the addition of 13-15 infant spaces. There are also plans to create space for expanded senior programming, family resource center programming, teen programming and a permanent home for the Henniker Food

Pantry.

"Right now, our current location is at capacity," said Marc McMurphy, Executive Director of White Birch Center. "We're grateful for The Merrimack's generosity and the opportunity to extend our services to meet the growing demand."

Established in 1981, White Birch Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to the well-being of individuals and families in the community. With an emphasis on Early Learning, Extended Education and Active Living, White Birch Center is a cornerstone of the community and a hub for surrounding towns. To learn more, visit whitebirchcc.org.

CDFAs tax credits allow businesses to fund qualifying economic or community development projects in exchange for a tax credit that can be applied against state business tax payments. The tax credits are administered by the New



White Birch Center is expanding services with a second location at 116 Main Street in Henniker.

Hampshire CDFAs. Any business with operations in New Hampshire that contributes to a CDFAs tax credit project receives a New Hampshire state tax credit worth 75 percent of their contribution. The credit can be used over a period of five years to reduce the business' state tax liability (business profits, business enterprise,

or insurance premium taxes). The tax credit program allows New Hampshire businesses to use their state tax dollars to support local projects that they care about. CDFAs reviews many project applications each year, and awards tax credits to those they determine are feasible and will make the biggest impact on economic development in the

state. Visit nhcdfa.org for more information.

Merrimack Style is treating everyone – customers, employees and community members – with dignity, care, respect and compassion. Founded in 1867, The Merrimack has served the people, businesses, non-profits and municipalities in Central and Southern New Hampshire for 157 years.

In 2024, The Merrimack was recognized as "Best Bank" by the Capital Area People's Preferences or CAPPIE Awards for the 15th year in a row.

Merrimack County Savings Bank is a mutual savings bank that benefits local depositors, borrowers, and surrounding communities instead of stockholders on Wall Street. To learn more, visit any of their local offices in Bow, Concord, Contoocook, Hooksett, Nashua, Windham and now open in Henniker; call 603-225-2793 or visit themerrimack.com.



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Hillsboro family thankful for community's support

Thank you to the Hillsboro Community and others who helped us raise just over \$2,000 for David's House via our t-shirt sale. And it is fun to see people wearing the shirts around town.

We recently stopped by David's House for lunch after a procedure that Grace underwent and they were all welcoming as usual. In particular, Todd Gordon, the Customer Experience Manager, grew up in Hillsboro and still has connections here, is always helpful and nice to connect with.

On the medical side of things, Grace is doing well and has finished her immunosuppressant drugs and just has one antibiotic left and her Broviac central line is out and we are hoping that her nasogastric tube, by which she gets some nutrition, will be gone by Christmas. She, and the rest of us, are enjoying much fewer medical appointments and at-home procedures. It was just over a year ago that she was diagnosed with Juvenile Myelomonocytic Leukemia (JMML), and we are thankful that she has made it through.

If you are interested in knowing more details, you can read more on our blog: <https://jon.limedaley.com/plog/category/grace/>

Jon Daley



Grace Daley is enjoying being out in public more and more and still really likes bananas.

New London Budget Committee reviewing the budget

After several weeks of meeting with department heads, the Selectmen have completed their fiscal year 2026 budget and have submitted it to the Budget Committee. The Selectmen made numerous adjustments to the budget requests submitted and ended their work with a 4.1% increase in the operating budget. With transfers to capital reserves and warrant articles known so far, the increase is 4.60%. This is the increase that will impact the tax rate. Included in the increases noted above are two warrant articles the Selectmen intend to include on the Warrant:

(1) Creation of an expendable trust fund with a deposit of \$10,000. This fund will be a non-lapsing fund for the payment of leave time owed to employees when they are separated from employment with the town and

(2) \$25,000 for town website improvements. The deadline for petitioned warrant articles is Tuesday, February 4, 2025. A group of New London residents approached the Selectmen to ask for funding to restore the 16 historical markers that were installed between 1963 and 1978 to mark the town's bicentennial in 1979.

The markers celebrate important people, places and events in the town's history. The Selectmen will include an article in the amount of \$40,000 for the restoration project, with funds to come from a previously established trust fund and thus will not impact the tax rate. See page 5 of the September 2024 edition of Municipal Matters for more on this topic. The operating budget also includes \$50,000 for the first debt payment on a \$2 million dollar bond. The Selectmen plan to seek funding in the amount of \$2 million dollars for land purchase, design and engineering for

a future police station. The Police Facilities Advisory Committee met several times from May until December to evaluate the needs of the police and dispatching departments. They reviewed potential building layouts as provided by Lavallee/ Brensinger Architects (LBA) to advise the Selectmen on the best path forward. Colliers Project Leaders is providing project management services.

The question of whether the police and communications should leave its current facility on Seamans Road has been debated by the town for many years, even before the Selectmen's offices left to move into the renovated Academy Building (the current location of the Selectmen's offices and town clerk/tax collector) and the police department was moved from the basement into the vacated Selectmen's office space. Some feel that renovations to the existing Seamans Road facility could achieve what is needed for the police department while others feel that a new facility in a new location is critical to meet the needs of the police department well into the future. While several potential sites were discussed during the search for a viable location for a new police station, two properties became the main focus of the committee and the Selectmen: (1) land owned by New London Realty Trust (the former Bewley property) on Newport Road, across from Hannaford and the Post Office and abutting Hilltop Place Road, Map 59-10, and (2) a portion of a lot owned by John B. Garvey Trust on Seamans Road, abutting the Colby-Sawyer College parking lot, Map 86-27. Colliers and LBA, consultants hired by the town, provided cost estimates for both properties and offered their thoughts on the challenges presented in developing each site.

NHDES recognizes Hancock Water Works with its asset Management Award

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) recently presented the 2024 John Jackman Asset Management Award to Hancock Water Works during the annual NHDES Asset Management Workshop held October 30. This award is named after John Jackman, the “grandfather of asset management” who has been a pioneer and industry leader of asset management in New Hampshire and was established to promote and encourage communities to develop and implement Asset Management Programs (AMPs). AMPs are a holistic approach to managing water infrastructure to be cost-effective over the life cycle of assets.

NHDES believes that by providing funding and technical assistance to communities for the development and implementation of AMPs, New Hampshire communities and residents will benefit from more reliable and sustainable drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems throughout the state. In 2019, the NHDES Asset Management Award was established by the NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau (DWGB), Wastewater Engineering Bureau (WWEB), and Watershed Management Bureau (WMB). The award recognizes exemplary AMPs within the State.

NHDES recognizes that Hancock Water Works, under the direction of the Hancock Board of Water Commissioners, rose to the challenge of managing aging distribution infrastructure, additional regulations, and changing environmental conditions by implementing a comprehensive asset management program.

This work was supported by a \$70,000 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant by NHDES in 2021. Hancock Water Works optimized their system and ensured a strategy for its long-term sustainability for years to come. Hancock Water Works actively worked to increase public communication. Through public engagement, level of service goals were developed to prioritize water system assets based on data and input from the community, customers, and regulators.

As NHDES continues with the journey of promoting asset management throughout the State of New Hampshire, exemplary work like that of the Hancock Water Works will showcase the benefits of establishing and utilizing AMPs to better manage water systems. NHDES urges communities throughout New Hampshire to build upon and continue their asset management work or to contact NHDES to find out how to get started.



Hancock Water Works team.

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Of Counsel Paul Alfano Law Office PLLC

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A Tradition Worth Keeping!

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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.

Publisher's Perspective

A special season - for all religions

For Christians this time of year is special as we celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ. However, we must also remember that our non-Christian neighbors share that same spirit as they celebrate Hanukah, Ramadan or Kwanzaa.

Despite the current hostilities in the world, the Wars in Ukraine and Gaza, we must remind ourselves that it is the followers of the late Osama Bin Laden, not the Arabs

or Islam, who are the enemies of World Peace.

What a shame that we have had so many wars sparked by religious pride or racial bigotry.

Whether we honor a different God, or the same God by a different name, we need always remember that all the world's races and great religions share the same moral lessons and values and that on this small planet, we truly are all brothers and sisters.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Nightly Prayers

We are entering the Christmas Season, and it is time to give thanks and prayers for our friends and neighbors. Our Lord Jesus asks us to give thanks to all the people who help their fellow human beings, even when it means putting their own lives at risk.

I am talking about our people in the Military, the National Guard, and our local Fire and Police Departments. When natural and unnatural disasters strike our communities, they are the first to show up and to help us survive.

We also need to pray and give thanks for all our local groups who also strive to help those in need, such as the Lions Club, Moose Club, and the Knights of Columbus to name just a few.

A year ago I was at the Turkey Raffle at the fire station when I learned that the Fire Chief was retiring. I didn't know the man, so I asked Pastor Paul from the Methodist church to bless one of the crosses that I made and give it to him.

Pastor Paul said that the retiring chief left the cross at the fire station, and someone put it over one of the doors where others can see and touch it.

I was very moved by this, and for the past year I have been praying for all the people in our fire department, as I do for all the recipients of my crosses.

It gave me an idea, if any other group needs prayers for their members, I would gladly give them one of my crosses, and they would also be included in my nightly prayers.

I wanted to write this article some months ago, but it was an election year, and I didn't want it to be interpreted as political, so I had to wait until the elections were over. I am now 83 years old and not likely to run again in two years, and it's getting harder for me to make the crosses. In the future, I hope that someone else will take over, and make the crosses, and say the nightly prayers.

Jim Fedolfi, Hillsborough

Dear Editor:

School budget season is upon us. I would like to encourage Hillsboro/Deering residents to attend board meetings, budget hearings, public sessions etc that lead up to Deliberative session. The school board takes a considerable amount of time reviewing the budget proposal,

asking questions and scrutinizing the budget before it goes to the Deliberative session.

If you want to know the details on where your tax dollars are going as it relates to the schools, there are plenty of opportunities to do so. Going line by line, category by category at the Deliberative session is not the place for those details. The meetings during budget season are where we should be focusing on the specific details of the budget.

Everyone is struggling it's important for all of us understand where our tax dollars are going.

Please be an active community member during this school budget season. Don't rely on social media or others to relay information- it's always best to hear for yourself.

Kathryn McGinn, Hillsboro

Dear Editor:

The voters of the Kearsarge School District will again see the same very large budget number recommended by both the school board and the municipal budget committee. Voters may wonder how the budget has risen to over 55 million dollars for an enrollment that has dropped to about 1670 students per year.

The local school district is the largest part of a property tax bill in NH. Local tax equals local control. The reality is that taxpayers and voters do not have an unlimited ability to pay whatever is charged.

There is now an option to vote in a school district budget cap tied to enrollment and adjusted for inflation, but voters must show up at the deliberative session at the Kearsarge Regional High School on Saturday, January 4, 2025 starting at 9 am to vote in favor of the voter petition.

If passed at the January 4 meeting, the measure will appear on the March 11 ballot for all voters in the school district and will require a 3/5 majority vote to take effect in October 2025.

Several other NH school districts and towns will be considering similar proposals in 2025. I encourage all voters in Bradford, Warner, Sutton, Newbury, Springfield, Wilmot, and New London to participate in the process to take control of their local property tax bill.

Claire Ketteler, Newbury



Following a spectacular Halloween display, the folks at Park Street in Hillsborough outdid themselves for Christmas!

Dining Guide

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Tues. thru Sat.: 11am - 9pm

Angelino's



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Thank you to our customers who helped make Hillsboro Operation Christmas & our Breakfast Buffet fundraiser for the Hillsboro District Food Pantry so successful!

Over 20 children will be smiling this Christmas with their gifts! More than 100 non perishable food items plus \$500.00 donated to the Hillsboro Food Pantry!




Great things are accomplished together! We love being a part of this strong & caring community!

Thank you! ~Althea & John

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- SUN. 8-2 Brunch

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New England Traditions Pastrami **\$11.99** lb



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Ham Portions **\$1.59** lb



Fresh, with Glaze Packet
Sugardale Half Spiral Ham **\$2.99** lb



Deli Sliced
New England Traditions Swiss Cheese **\$6.99** lb

10 ct. K-Cups or 18 oz. Bags Hot Cocoa or Selected Variety
Dunkin' Coffee **\$7.99**



16-18.3 oz. Selected Variety
Skippy Peanut Butter **2/\$5**



3.5-4 lb. Selected Variety
Domino Sugar **\$3.49**



10-12 oz. Selected Variety
Nestle Toll House Morsels **\$3.99**



5-8 oz. Selected Variety
Sargento Shredded Cheese **2/\$5**



16 oz. Salted or Unsalted
Cabot Butter Quarters **\$4.59**



4.75-8 oz. Selected Variety
Lay's Potato Snacks **\$2.99**



12 oz. 4 ct. Pkg.
Superior on Main Eclairs **\$3.49**



8 oz. Pkg.
BelGioioso Mozzarella Cheese **\$3.99**



Pint, Sweet Naturipe
Blueberries **2/\$5**



10 lb. Pkg.
Country Roots Russet Potatoes **\$2.99**

Grocery, Snacks &

7.25 oz. Original Dinner
Food Club Macaroni & Cheese **79¢** OWN BRAND



10.5 oz. Chicken or Mushroom
Campbell's Cream Soup **4/\$5**



Half Liter Bottles, 24 Pack
Poland Spring Spring Water

48 oz. Selected Variety
V8 Juice **\$2.99**
*Dep. where app.

Half Liter Bottles, 8 Pack, Selected
Poland Spring Sparkling Water

16-24 oz. Selected Variety
Bertolli Pasta Sauce **\$3.79**

12 oz. Selected Variety
Barilla Tortellini

12-16 oz. Onions or Selected Variety
Success Rice **2/\$5**

1/2-1/2.25 oz. Selected Variety
Green Giant Vegetables

14.5 oz. Beef or Selected Variety
Swanson Chicken Broth **5/\$5**

32 oz. Selected Variety
Swanson Broth

16 oz. Selected Variety
Hidden Valley Dressing **\$4.29**

6-8 oz. Selected Variety
Pam Cooking Spray

12-18 oz. Selected Variety
Frank's RedHot Sauce **\$3.99**

5 lb. Selected Variety
King Arthur Flour **\$4.99**



4.25 oz. Selected Variety
Blue Diamond Nut Thins Crackers **\$2.99**



6 oz. Selected Variety
Blue Diamond Almonds

10-12 oz. Selected Variety
Smucker's Fruit Preserves **\$2.99**

16.25-18.4 oz. Brownie Mix or Gel
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4 oz. Selected Variety
Baker's Baking Chocolate Bars **\$2.99**

1/4 oz. Sweetened
Eagle Brand Condensed Milk

8.74-7.81 oz. Selected Variety
Dove Promises Chocolates **\$5.89**

3.1-3.2 oz. Selected Variety
Chocolove Chocolate Bars

8 oz. Selected Variety
Port City Pretzels Pretzels **\$3.49**

5.3 oz. Selected Variety
Lesley Stowe Raincoast Crisps

9-13 oz. Selected Variety
Toastitos Tortilla Chips **2/\$7**

Beverages

12 oz. Rice Krispies or Kellogg's Corn Flakes Cereal **\$3.99**



\$4.99
*Dep. where app.

10.25-10.5 oz. Can Selected Variety Campbell's Gravy **5/\$5**

\$2.99
*Dep. where app.

34 oz. Selected Variety Arizona Drinks **4/\$5**

\$5.99

16 oz. Wavy Barilla Lasagne Noodles **2/\$4**

5/\$5

48-49 oz. Selected Variety Mott's Applesauce **2/\$6**

2/\$4

18 oz. Selected Variety Kraft Dressing **\$2.99**

\$3.49

12 oz. French's Dijon Mustard **\$2.99**

8.5 oz. Peach Apricot or Saucy Susan Ham Glaze **\$2.49**

12 oz. Selected Variety Mi Nina Tortilla Chips **\$3.99**



\$2.99

2.875-5.125 oz. Selected Variety Frito Lay Minis Snacks **2/\$5**

2/\$3

12 oz. Selected Variety Grandma's Molasses **\$4.19**

\$2.79

7 oz. Angel Flakes Baker's Sweetened Coconut **\$1.99**

2/\$6

8-8 oz. Shelled or Diamond of California Chopped Walnuts **\$3.79**

\$5.99

11.75-12 oz. Selected Variety Crav'n Flavor Chocolate Chip Cookies **\$2.69**

15.5 oz. Selected Variety Tostitos Salsa **2/\$7**

Not ALL sale items are available in ALL stores

10 lb. Bag Cat's Pride Clumping Cat Litter **\$5.99**
55-57.5 oz. Liquid, Selected Variety Xtra Laundry Detergent **\$3.39**
36 oz. Oxi Plus Odor Lifter All Fresh + Clean Laundry Detergent **\$5.99**
42 ct. Cottonelle Flushable Wipes **2/\$5**
20 ct. 18 fl. oz. Solo Plastic Party Cups **\$3.49**
8 lb. Durafume Giant Log **\$5.79**

20 lb. Bag Cat's Pride Clumping Cat Litter **\$9.99**
36 oz. Selected Variety All Free & Clear Laundry Detergent **\$6.99**
6 Single Plus Rolls, Choose-A-Sheet Viva Paper Towels **\$9.99**
80-70 ct. Selected Variety Kleenex Facial Tissues **\$1.99**
25-40 ct. Selected Variety Glad Trash Bags **\$9.49**

House & Pet



1 Roll, 1000 Sheets Scott Bath Tissue **\$1.29**



5.3 oz. Selected Variety Chobani Greek Yogurt **5/\$5**



24 oz. Selected Variety Chobani Coffee Creamer **\$3.99**

Dairy & Frozen

7-8 oz. Selected Variety Cabot Cheese Slices **\$3.19**

16 oz. Selected Variety Fage Greek Yogurt **\$2.99**

4.5-5.3 oz. Selected Variety Flip or Creations Chobani Greek Yogurt **4/\$5**

14 oz. Sweetened Light Cabot Whipped Cream **\$4.49**

88 oz. Selected Variety Almond Breeze Almondmilk **\$4.99**

8 oz. Extra Creamy, Premium Cabot Butter Quarters **\$2.99**

14-15 oz. Selected Variety Country Crock Vegetable Oil Spread **\$3.49**

16 oz. Selected Variety Dragone Mozzarella Cheese **\$4.99**

9-14 oz. Selected Variety PictSweet Farms Vegetables **2/\$4**

40.25-42.43 oz. Selected Variety Wild Mike's Pizza **\$7.99**

18 oz. Selected Variety Wild Mike's Stuffed Cheezy Bites **\$8.99**

22 oz. Selected Variety Bertolli Pasta Meals **\$7.99**

22 oz. Selected Variety P.F. Chang's Home Menu Meals **\$7.99**

10.5-11.25 oz. Garlic Breadsticks or Food Club Texas Toast **\$2.29**

11.8 oz. MorningStar Farms Sausage Patties **\$6.49**

8.25-10.5 oz. Selected Variety MorningStar Farms Vegetarian Cuisine **\$3.99**

8.8-14.8 oz. French Toaster Sticks or Selected Variety Kellogg's Eggo Waffles or Pancakes **\$3.29**

7.75-12.5 oz. Selected Variety Belgian or Kellogg's Eggo Fully Loaded Waffles **\$4.79**

6 oz. Selected Variety Marie Callender's Mini Pies **\$2.99**

11.1-18 oz. Selected Variety Talenti Gelato or Sorbetto **\$3.99**

48 oz. Selected Variety Breyers or Reese's Ice Cream **\$4.49**

11.1-18 oz. Selected Variety Talenti Gelato or Sorbetto **\$3.99**

28 oz. Vanilla or Coffee Haagen-Dazs Ice Cream **\$6.99**

16.9-26.6 oz. Toll House, Disney or Selected Variety Nestle Drumsticks or Oreo Ice Cream Novelties **\$6.99**



8.5 oz. Selected Variety, Instant Reddi Wip Whipped Topping **\$3.19**



12-16 oz. Lactaid or Selected Variety Hood Sour Cream **\$1.99**

Not ALL sale items are available in ALL stores

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Smith Church Cookie Walk



Library Miramba Concert



Historical Society Trains



Festival of Trees



H-D Craft Fair



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Events: Community Bulletin Board

SATURDAY DECEMBER 14

HOLIDAY BAZAAR: Still vendor spots available. Contact Martha @ mrs.kaloojian@gmail.com or Linda @ lindaholbrook.lh@gmail.com to reserve your space.

CANDLELIT SERVICE: The Ladies Aid Society of the Union Chapel will be holding their annual Candlelit Christmas Service on Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 7:00pm. Please remember to dress warm. All are welcome.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15

MERRIMENT ON MAPLE STREET: at the Country Spirit Restaurant and Tavern 10:00am-2:00pm. Arts & crafts, hot cocoa, local beer samples, hot toddies.

SANTA VISITS THE GREEN: 2:30-5:00pm at Whipple Hall and the Town Green. Join us at Whipple Hall from 2:30-4:00pm for ornament making, carols, and other holiday surprises.

SMITH CHURCH: Bethlehem Year Zero: The community is invited to join us for a potluck at noon on Dec 15 and to watch a video that portrays the birth of Christ as a news broadcast.

KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY: At the Hillsboro American Legion Post #59, 12:00pm-4:00pm. Every child will receive free gift and have cookies and milk with Santa.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 19

ANTRIM ECLECTIC BOOK CLUB: At the James A. Tuttle Library, between 2:15pm and 3:15pm. Antrim readers will be discussing Live Not By Lies by Rod Dreher. Sharon Stockwell

will be leading the dialogue. Among the questions which members may discuss are: 1. What does Dreher mean by "living not by lies?" 2. What should citizens do to avoid conforming to societal assumptions according to Dreher? 3. What is the importance of differentiating between "hard" and "soft" totalitarianism? Antrim Eclectic Book Club meets on the third Thursday each month between 2:15pm and 3:15pm at the James A Tuttle library. Free copies of the books described above will be available for loan at the Library.

SENIORS' BREAKFAST: Please join old and new friends at Seniors' Breakfast at Hanna's, 83 Henniker Street in Hillsborough, at 9:00am. We will enjoy our own tables, delicious food, and lots of old and new friends. Come for the French toast - stay for the schmoozing. For further inform email Steve Ullman at stephenhullman@gmail.com

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20

CANDLELIGHT CAROL SING: Come Sing with Us! Quaker Meetinghouse, 529 Quaker Street, Henniker, 6:30pm. Any and all voices are welcome. The event is free, but you are encouraged to bring a candle, a stick of firewood, or finger food to share. For more information call 603-995-4311.

SMITH CHURCH: Annual Blue Christmas service, Fri., Dec 20 at 7:00pm. This is a quiet, reflective time for those who are grieving or struggling to find joy in the season.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 24

SMITH CHURCH: Our traditional candlelight Christmas Eve service is at 7:00pm on Dec 24. The service includes Lessons

and Carols and the hand bell choir.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 28

DRESS YOUR BEST COMMUNITY DANCE: Sponsored by Antrim Grange at The Great Brook School Gym, 5:00-9:00pm. Cj the Dj, Light refreshments, Best Dress Contest, alcohol & smoke free.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 1

MEAT BINGO: Open to the public. Hosted by American Legion Auxiliary at Hillsboro Post #59, 18 Rounds. Doors open 12:00 noon, game starts at 1:00pm.

SOUP COOKOFF: Deering Fire Rescue Soup-tacular Soup Cookoff at the Deering Town Hall 4:30pm-6:30pm. Only \$25 to compete for BEST SOUP in town! Only \$10 per person to come and try out many different kinds of soups. You will get 5 tickets to vote on your favorite soup/chili at the door! Will have plenty of breads and rolls to go with the soups. To register for the Cookoff go to the Town Hall Town Clerks Office for registration. Make checks out to the Deering Fire/Rescue Assoc.

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Obituaries: Friends & Neighbors Remembered

Francis Chambers

NEWBURY - On Monday, November 25, 2024, Francis Nelson Chambers, loving husband, father, and grandfather, passed away peacefully in his home at the age of 93. Francis was born in June of 1931, to Mary Anna (Langley) Chambers and Morrill W. "Frank" Chambers in Newport, NH. Francis is predeceased by his wife, Patricia; daughter, Teresa Chambers; and sisters, Irene Simoneau, Alice Bunker, and Bernice Sheridan. He is survived by their children, Pamela, Kathleen, Duane, and Patrick; and grandchildren, Stephanie, Derek, Bryce, Keegan, Madison, Kent, Kellen, Karly, April, Becca, and Nick; as well as several great-grandchildren. In place of flowers, please consider donating to the American Heart Association (heart.org).



Henry Skip Ford

HILLSBORO - It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Henry Skip Ford on November 27, 2024. Skip passed peacefully at his home in Hillsboro, NH. He is survived by Harriet Ford, his wife of 62 years; and his son, Shawn Ford; as well as his brothers, Paul Ford and Philip Ford. He was a wonderful grandfather to 8 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. Skip was born in Lynne, MA and moved to Hillsboro, NH in 1977. A private family event will be held at a later date.



Ruth Elinor (Murdough) Gerini

HILLSBORO - Ruth Elinor (Murdough) Gerini, 95, of Hillsboro, NH, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, surrounded by her loving family at her side. One of ten children, she was born on July 20, 1929, in Hillsboro, NH, to Clifford and Stella (Russell) Murdough. Ruth attended classes at Hillsboro Center School and was a 1947 graduate of Hillsboro High School. Ruth was a traditional grandmother, who celebrated, cooked, and decorated for all of the holidays. She made birthday cakes and gingerbread houses every year for her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She has gone home to be with her husband of 72 years, Ennio W. Gerini and her son,



Scott Gerini Sr. Ruth was also predeceased by her parents; brothers, Charlie, Clifford, Everett, and Kenneth Murdough; sisters, Francis Sweet and Marion Cilley; along with a handful of nieces and nephews. She is survived by her sisters, Edith Murdough (Hillsboro, NH), Evelyn Young (Concord, NH), Alice Dole (CT); grandchildren, Jennifer Gerini-Zipper (Washington, NH), Scott Gerini Jr. (Deering, NH); great grandchildren, Zoey and Henry Zipper (Washington, NH); and daughter-in-law, Cheryl Powers (Deering, NH); and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Graveside services will be held in Maple Ave Cemetery Hillsboro, NH in the spring.

"Skip" Welton E. McKean

HENNIKER - Skip McKean (Welton) passed away on December 6 after suffering a medical emergency at home. Skip was born in Goffstown NH on April 15, 1943 to Welton D. McKean and Ruth Williams McKean. He lived in Goffstown and Manchester and at age 13, after the death of his mother, he moved to Henniker to live with his aunt and uncle, Peter and Marion Metopoloes. Skip is predeceased by his mother, Ruth McKean; his father, Welton D McKean; and his aunt and uncle, Marion and Pete Metopoloes with whom he lived from age 13. They were both hugely influential in his life and his work ethic. Family includes his wife of 57 years, Carolyn Ayer McKean, son William McKean, daughter Kate (Katherine) Greene and daughter in law Amy Goss McKean. His grandchildren are Noah Greene of Goffstown, Allie McKean of Nashville TN, Jacob Greene of Henniker and Benjamin McKean of Henniker. In addition, he leaves his uncle, Calvin Williams of Weare and many cousins. Skip had many loyal employees who contributed to his success, as well as friends and mentors who enriched his life. A Celebration of Skip's life will be held Saturday January 11, 2025 at the Henniker Congregational Church at 11 a.m. The service will be followed by a reception at the American Legion on West Main St. in Hillsboro. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Henniker Rescue Squad at 216 Maple St. Henniker NH 03242 or to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health Stroke Program Fund 2-23180 Attn: Matt Hall, One Medical Center Dr. HB 7070 Lebanon, NH 03756. There will be a private burial in the spring. Holt-Woodbury Funeral Home and Cremation Services is assisting the family.



Classifieds

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OUR TOWN LANDSCAPING: Needs Full time and part time help for our busy end of summer/fall season. Flexible hours are available. Call 603-525-3794 or stop in for application.

PART-TIME CASHIER/RECEPTIONIST POSITION AVAILABLE in a busy automotive dealership

Hillsboro CDJR is looking for **TWO** new team members!! Responsibilities include answering and directing incoming telephone calls and processing customer payments. Our ideal candidates are reliable, have great customer service skills, positive attitude and are detail oriented with numbers. We need someone for the AM and PM shifts: Mon-Fri 7:15 AM - 12:30 PM **AND** 12:15 PM - 5:30 PM.

Interested applicants should call Michelle at (603)464-4000, email michelle@hillsboroford.com, or fill out an application at Hillsboro CDJR, 75 Antrim Road, Hillsboro, NH.

The Henniker Food Pantry needs your help



to serve our neighbors in need of food!

We are in need of volunteers for a variety of positions. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us at **603-428-7474** or HennikerFoodPantry@outlook.com.

We also need your help to keep up with increasing costs!

- We have had a 17% increase in people served
- Our costs have increased 18%

Any donation helps, join your neighbors in meeting this need!

Please mail your donation to:
Henniker Food Pantry PO Box 55, Henniker NH 03242



TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

PUBLIC HEARING

The Hillsborough Board of Selectmen will be holding a public hearing on an RSA 79E request for 2 West Main Street, Hillsborough, NH. The hearing will be held on **Thursday, December 19, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.** in the Police Department Training Room (22 Municipal Drive).



HIRING

Home Health Care/ Monitoring for retired gentleman in Antrim

Four hour (evenings, 5-9pm) and seven hour (weekends, 8am-3pm) shifts available, \$20 per hour. Other incentives available.

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TOWN OF HENNIKER JOB OPENING

Transfer Station & Building and Grounds Part-Time Attendant/Laborer

The Town of Henniker Transfer Station & Building and Grounds is seeking a Part-Time Attendant/Laborer to work approximately 30 hours per week. Candidates must be willing to work weekends and perform a variety of manual and machine operated tasks.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, possess a high school diploma or equivalent and a current valid New Hampshire driver's license. Must have the ability to obtain Solid Waste Operator Certification within 30 days of hire. Pre-employment requirements: State of NH Driving Record and criminal background check. The Town of Henniker is an equal opportunity employer.

For more information please visit our website jobs page: [Employment Opportunities | Henniker, NH](http://EmploymentOpportunities|Henniker.NH), email transfer@hennikernh.gov or call Diane Kendall at 603-428-3221 x105.

Post Date: December 9, 2024

Close Date: Open until filled.

Job compensation, classification, and status:

- **Compensation range:** \$17.47 - \$24.00 depending on experience and qualifications.
- **Benefits:** personal protective equipment provided, holidays, sick, vacation
- **Classification:** part-time, probation period 6 months,
- **Status:** non-exempt

SAU #34

Hillsboro-Deering Cooperative, Washington and Windsor School Districts

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for SAU #34

Thursday, December 19, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Hillsboro-Deering High School Media Center
12 Hillcat Drive, Hillsboro, NH 03244

The SAU #34 Board meeting will commence immediately following the hearing

	FY2025 Budget	FY2026 Proposed
Salaries and Benefits	\$1,092,740	\$1,126,473
Audit, Legal and Other Services	\$73,400	\$63,167
Liability Insurance, Postage, Telephone, Advertising, Printing & Mileage	\$18,550	\$19,266
Leases and Other Purchased Services	\$45,350	\$45,350
Supplies & Books	\$11,125	\$11,100
Equipment	\$2,000	\$2,000
Dues & Fees, Academic Recognition & School Board Contingency	\$7,950	\$7,875
Total	\$1,251,115	\$1,275,231
Total Percent Increase		1.93%

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