

The Messenger

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

Free ♦ Our 154th Year ♦ Issue 39 ♦ October 3, 2025

Bradford Police Chief honored



Between long hours as a police chief and being a dad, Bradford Chief still steps up as head coach of the Kearsarge varsity softball team and travel softball team. That kind

of commitment says a lot about the kind of person he is and how much he cares about his community.



Women of the Moose Award

Congratulations to Bernice Rankins on receiving a Golden Gavel award at the Northeast Conference, presented by Robin Foster, in celebration of her accomplishments for Women of the Moose Chapter 967.

This week in history

OCTOBER 4, 1970

Rock Legend Janis Joplin dies

OCTOBER 5, 1989

The Dalai Lama wins Peace Prize

OCTOBER 6, 1683

First Mennonites move to America

OCTOBER 7, 1816

First double-decker steamboat in New Orleans

OCTOBER 8, 1871

The Great Chicago fire begins

OCTOBER 9, 1936

Hoover Dam begins transmitting electricity

OCTOBER 10, 1970

Quebec Liberation Front kidnaps Labour Minister



Greenfield NH Police Department, Greenfield NH Volunteer Fire Department, and Town of Wilton NH Ambulance Service responded to a single vehicle rollover accident on Francestown Rd. One patient was evaluated and transported for further evaluation. The incident is under investigation.

Deering woman charged with Assault with a Deadly Weapon



On September 27th, while on call for the Town of Deering, Hillsboro Police, assisted by the Antrim Police, responded to a 911 hang-up call at a residence in Deering.

An investigation revealed that there had been an argument that turned physical, where the defendant stabbed the victim multiple times, causing lacerations to his head and extremities. The victim was trans-

ported to the hospital by the Weare Ambulance with non-life-threatening injuries.

The defendant was arrested and transported to the Hillsborough County House of Corrections pending her appearance before the court. The defendant has been identified as Kellie Cavagnaro, age 40. Cavagnaro was charged with 1st Degree Assault with a deadly weapon and 2nd Degree Assault - Domestic Violence.

NHDES announces fall lake drawdown schedule

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) announced the annual fall drawdown of the lakes and ponds controlled by NHDES. Due to the ongoing drought conditions across the state, the drawdown dates could be adjusted to a later

date considering lake and river levels at the time of the draw-downs. Horace Lake will have a release for recreational use downstream on Saturday, October 18. Water release from the dam will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. Between 300 and 400 cfs

will be released for that time period.

On Saturday, October 25, a release will be made from Greggs Falls Dam in Goffstown to provide an opportunity for canoeing and kayaking in the Piscataquog River downstream. The release will be at 10:00 a.m.

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Yesteryear *Local history as reported in The Messenger*

October 4, 2024

Three injured in two-car Sunapee accident
New England College receives \$10 million gift from Kovacs family
Bow parents sue school officials after eviction for pink armbands
Andover names Dan Sieburg as its Town Administrator

October 6, 2023

Dr. Wayne F. Lesperance, Jr. installed as New England College President
Masons honor Bob & Fran Charron with Community Builder's Award
Warner says goodbye - Newbury says hello to Diane Ricciardelli
Sparks fly at Franklin Candidates Forum - Incumbent Mayor ousted

October 7, 2022

John Cooper Celebration of Life nets \$14,000 for Fire & EMS
Peterborough Police & K-9 Queso locate missing juvenile
Weare Select Board approves seeking 24/7 police coverage in town
\$2 million renovation of Hancock Inn may be "over the top"

October 8, 2021

Deering wants school tax equity
Alyssa Small replaces Rochelle Kelley in Weare
Weare officer takes medical retirement after being shot
94 MPH chase from New London to Warner

October 9, 2020

Henniker adopts \$75 stipend for election workers
Hopkinton girl wins Girl Scouting highest award
Goffstown man seriously injured in crash
Henniker Rotary joins Million Mask Challenge

October 11, 2019

Joe Devine named Henniker Town Administrator
Grapevine Suicide Awareness & Prevention Forum
Greater Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce revived
Colby-Sawyer honors three distinguished alumni

October 12, 2018

Warner Town Clerk resigns
Hillsborough man sentenced to 7-15 years in prison
Weare man missing since subpoena - found dead
Unregistered vehicle leads to marijuana bust

October 13, 2017

Officials silent over departure of Newbury Chief
GST names Ray Eaton a Hometown Hero
Goffstown fire consumes Lemay & Sons facility
Hillsborough man caused Bow crash

October 7, 2016

Questions linger over New Boston woman's death
Antrim to conduct 2020 Community Profile
Franklin woman pleads guilty to social security fraud
Newport Selectmen water restrictions mandatory

October 9, 2015

Goffstown conducts school emergency shooting drill
Supreme Court hears Dunbarton v. Goffstown dispute
One Bow man arrested in drug bust, another sought
Franklin Savings supports several area non-profits

High lead and copper levels found in Henniker's Cogswell Spring Water System

During Henniker's most recent quarterly lead and copper testing, two out of the 14 samples collected from across Henniker's Cogswell Springs water system contained levels of lead above the action level of 0.015 mg/L, or parts per billion (ppb).

While two of the samples are above action levels, the remaining 12 samples tested at lower than the action level by nearly an order of magnitude. With this information, it is the initial hypothesis that the services that tested at elevated levels did so due to older plumbing/service lines, not due to contamination in the source or distribution.

Henniker will be investigating this as a top priority and will continue to communicate test results and steps taken to address the elevated levels.

What should you do?

1. Use cold water. Do not use hot water from the tap for

drinking, cooking, or making baby formula as lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.

2. Flush your tap every morning or after extended periods of non-use for at least one minute or until the water runs cold. The longer the water resides in your home's plumbing, the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap ensures that you use fresh water that has not been in contact with lead in your plumbing.

3. Learn what your service line material is. Follow scratch test guidance by scanning or clicking on the green OR code, or call 603-428-3237.

4. Learn about construction in your neighborhood. Call 603-428-3237.

5. Find out about any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a

lead service line, if present.

6. Have your water tested. Contact any NH certified lab to have your water tested. General cost is \$15 to \$25, depending on the lab you choose.

If you are pregnant or have specific health concerns,

you may wish to consult your health care professional. General health-related questions may be addressed by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791.

General guidelines on ways to reduce the risk from lead in

drinking water are available from EPA's website, www.epa.gov.

For additional information, please contact Jim Donison, Superintendent or Josh McCutcheon, Operator at 603-428-3237.



Oral arguments have been scheduled for November in a Massachusetts courtroom in the appeal of a ruling by a federal judge in New Hampshire denying a request for parents for a preliminary injunction in their First Amendment lawsuit against school officials in Bow. The lawsuit claimed the rights of the four plaintiffs were violated when they were barred from school grounds and events for wearing pink wristbands with "XX" symbols — a reference to the female chromosome structure — as a form of silent protest during a Bow High School girls soccer game against Plymouth on Sept. 17, 2024.

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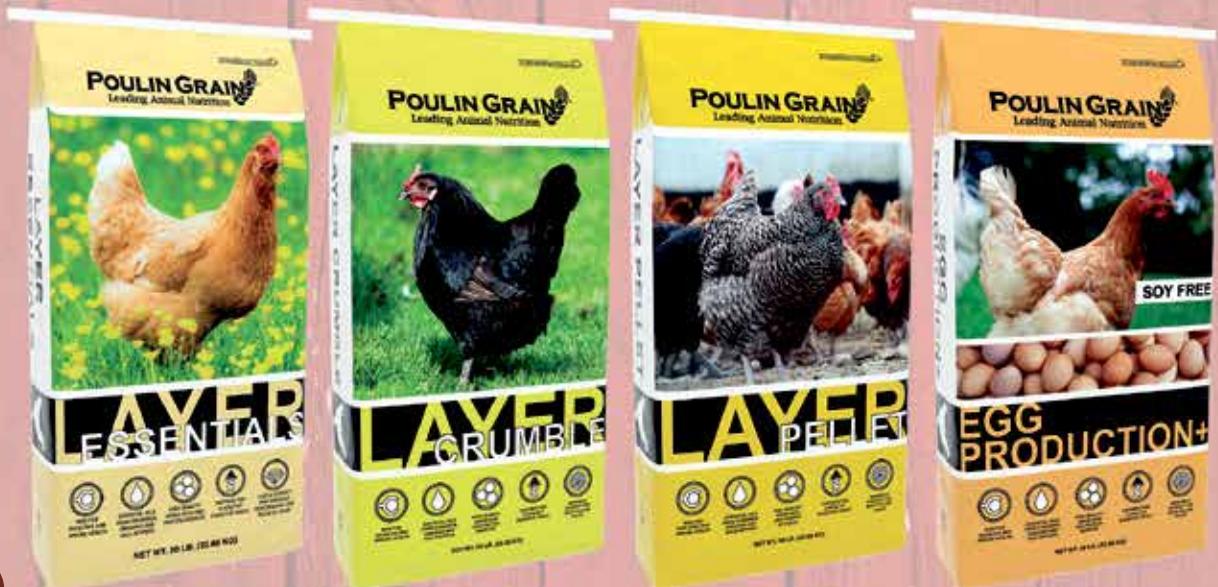
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BY SARAH CHAPIN

The blockbuster drug semaglutide, better known as Ozempic for diabetes and Wegovy for obesity, could also help people cut down on their alcohol intake, according to new research published in *JAMA Psychiatry*. Weekly injections of semaglutide — compared with placebo injections — reduced alcohol craving, drinking quantity and the frequency of heavy drinking days in adults with symptoms of alcohol use disorder. The magnitude of semaglutide's effects on several drinking outcomes appeared potentially greater than is often seen in similar studies with existing AUD medications, even though semaglutide was only administered at the lowest clinical doses. An estimated 178,000 U.S. deaths per year can be attributed to alcohol, which is linked to liver disease, cardiovascular disease and is a known cause of cancer, as noted recently by the U.S. Surgeon General. A significant proportion of American adults have met criteria for alcohol use disorder at some point in their lives — yet relatively few seek or receive treatment. The three drugs currently approved by the FDA to treat alcohol use disorder (disulfiram, naltrexone) are under-utilized. The popularity of Ozempic and other GLP-1 receptor agonists could increase the chances of broad adoption of these treatments for alcohol use disorder.

A systematic review and meta-analysis estimating the differences in bleeding risks between therapeutic-dose non-vitamin K oral anticoagulants (NOACs) and single antiplatelet therapy (aspirin) found that rates of major bleeding for therapeutic-dose apixaban and dabigatran were similar to low-dose aspirin, but rates were higher for rivaroxaban. These findings can help patients with atrial fibrillation (AF) and clinicians better understand the bleeding risks associated with anticoagulants versus aspirin. The study is published in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

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POOR ORAL HEALTH LINKED WITH BODY PAIN AND MIGRAINES IN WOMEN



Dr. Esin Narli

New research has revealed poor oral health is significantly associated with higher instances of migraines, abdominal and body pain in women. Published in *Frontiers in Pain Research*, the world-first study identified specific oral microbes correlated with certain pain conditions, suggesting a potential relationship between the oral microbiome and the nervous system. The findings highlight the importance of good oral health to potentially mitigate pain and improve overall wellbeing, prompting further exploration into the role of oral microbiota in chronic unexplained pain conditions. This includes fibromyalgia, a condition experienced by 67 percent of the study participants.

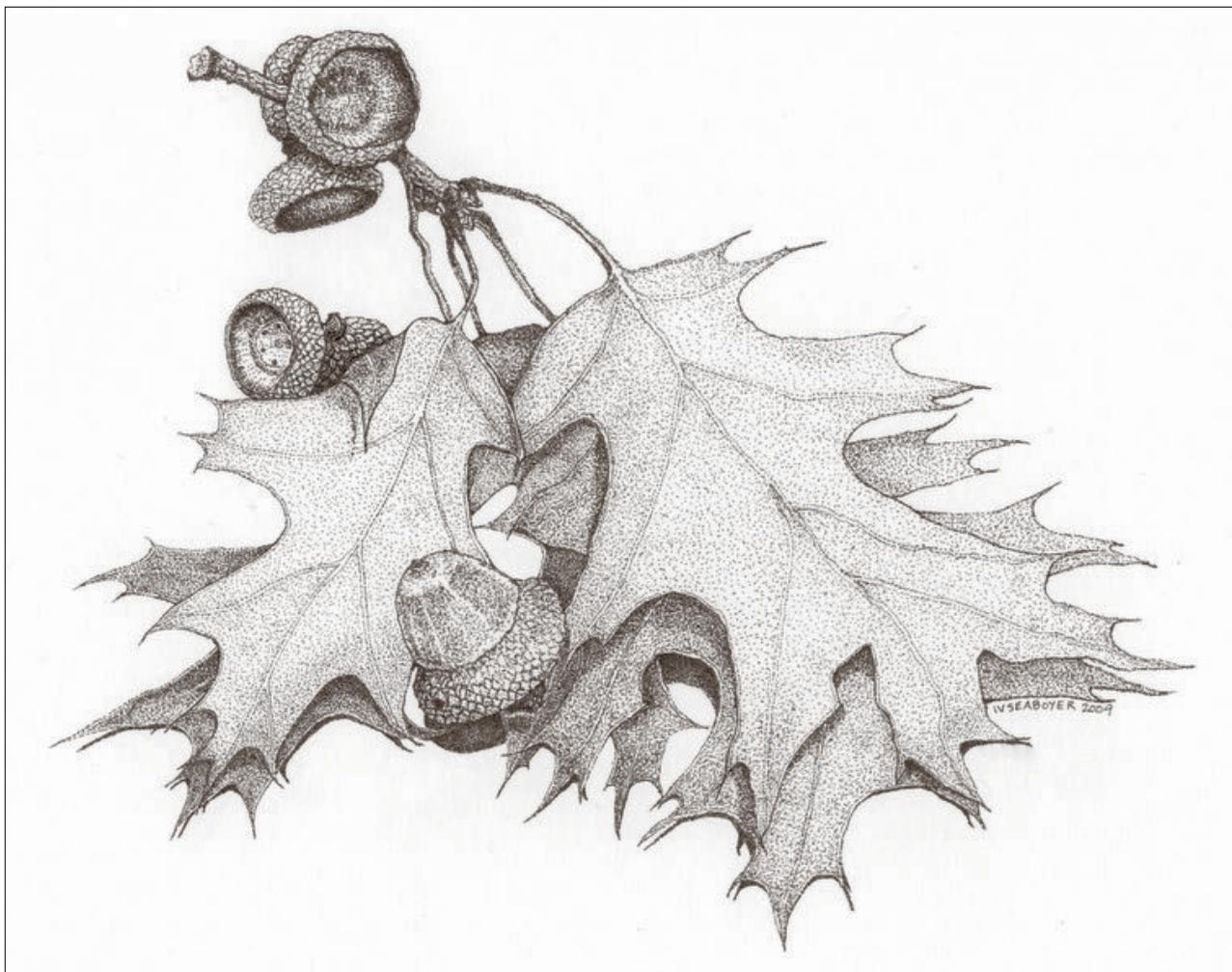
This is the first study to investigate oral health, oral microbiota and pain commonly experienced in women with fibromyalgia, with our study showing a clear and significant association between poor oral health and pain.

Fibromyalgia is a chronic condition characterized by widespread musculoskeletal pain and headaches as well as fatigue, sleep disturbances, and cognitive problems. Participants with the poorest oral health were more likely to suffer from higher pain scores: 60 percent were more likely to experience moderate to severe body pain, and 49 percent were more likely to experience migraine headaches. Lower oral health was a statistically significant predictor of frequent and chronic migraine. Four oral microbial species from the Dialister, Fusobacterium, Parvimonas and Solobacterium genera were significantly associated with pain after age, BMI and added dietary sugars were considered.

Regular oral hygiene appointments and dental health checks, in addition to twice daily teeth brushing and flossing are the recommended regimen for good oral health.

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Red Oak by Ingeborg Seaboyer.

‘The Road Not Taken’ featured at Fuller Public Library

The Road Not Taken is an art exhibit inspired by the poetry of Robert Frost and conceived by Derry artists Corinne Dodge, Judy Krassowski and Ingeborg Seaboyer for the grand re-opening of the Derry Public Library, Derry NH, in September 2011. Afterwards the artists decided to look for other New Hampshire venues for the exhibit - other “roads” for it to travel. So far it has been in 80 libraries. The artwork in the

exhibit includes both new works inspired by the words of Robert Frost and some older pieces that provide vivid and connective imagery for his anthology of poems. Images in pen and ink, watercolor, mixed media, acrylics and oils are accompanied by a selected verse that inspired each individual work.

This exhibit will be set up October-December at the Fuller Public Library in Hillsborough.

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Public invited to tour Antrim Wind facility at Tuttle Hill Trail

TransAlta, Siemens Energy, the Town of Antrim, and the respective land owners are pleased to offer a brief overview and tour of the Antrim Wind facility and Tuttle Hill Trail.

The project and respective property are private and not regularly open to the public.

Please join the Antrim Wind Team for a tour of the turbines,

technology, and facilities that make up this clean, local power generation installation.

All tours will meet and begin at 26 Tuttle Hill Trail off of Rt 9.

A safety briefing and liability waiver will need to be completed by all participants upon arrival at site.

Please park in the designated areas only and plan to arrive no

less than 5 minutes before your chosen time slot to allow for the safety briefing and departure.

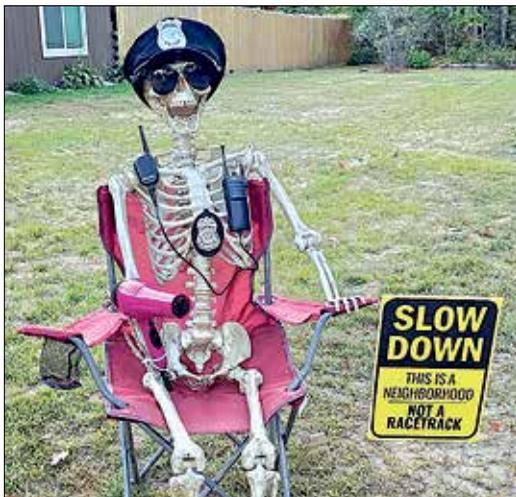
Refreshments will be provided.

Note: This tour could include climbing stairs and

requires traversing uneven and loose ground so a moderate fitness level is required. Additionally, closed-toed, non-high heeled shoes are required. Please dress for the weather as the tours

will be conducted rain or shine.

To find an available time, go to <https://www.signup-genius.com/go/10C0849A-CA722A4F9C16-58921501-ant-rim#/>



Andover Officer Skelly is here to remind everyone that Switch Road is 25mph and Plains is 30mph not the 45+ most choose to do. Residents will not accommodate your speeding problems by taking walks with their children/pets on the rail trail that they actually have to walk to anyways.

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The Scouting Way



Antrim's Boy Scout Troop 2 had a great weekend campout with Cub Scout Pack 2 Antrim, NH at Hoge Base in Walpole. They enjoyed perfect weather, lots of fishing, lots of catfish at dinner, and a fire with skits and s'mores. They are looking forward to their next campout in October.



Goffstown's Troop 99G and Boy Scout Troop 99 helped serve dinner at the Senior Supper. It was sponsored by Goffstown Parks and Recreation and Congregational Church of Goffstown.

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22-year-old Dunbarton man arrested, charged with multiple child sex charges



Alexander James Cross

On June 18th, 2025, the Dunbarton Police Department, in collaboration with members of the New Hampshire Internet Crimes Against Children (“ICAC”) Task Force, executed a search warrant at a residence in Dunbarton. The search warrant was issued as part of an investigation into the crimes of Possession of Child Sexual Abuse Images (RSA 649-A:3) and Distribution of Child Sexual Abuse Images (RSA 649-A:3-a). The investigation began in March of 2025 following the assignment of several individual CyberTips from the National Center of Missing and Exploited Children (“NECMC”).

During the execution of the search warrant, investiga-

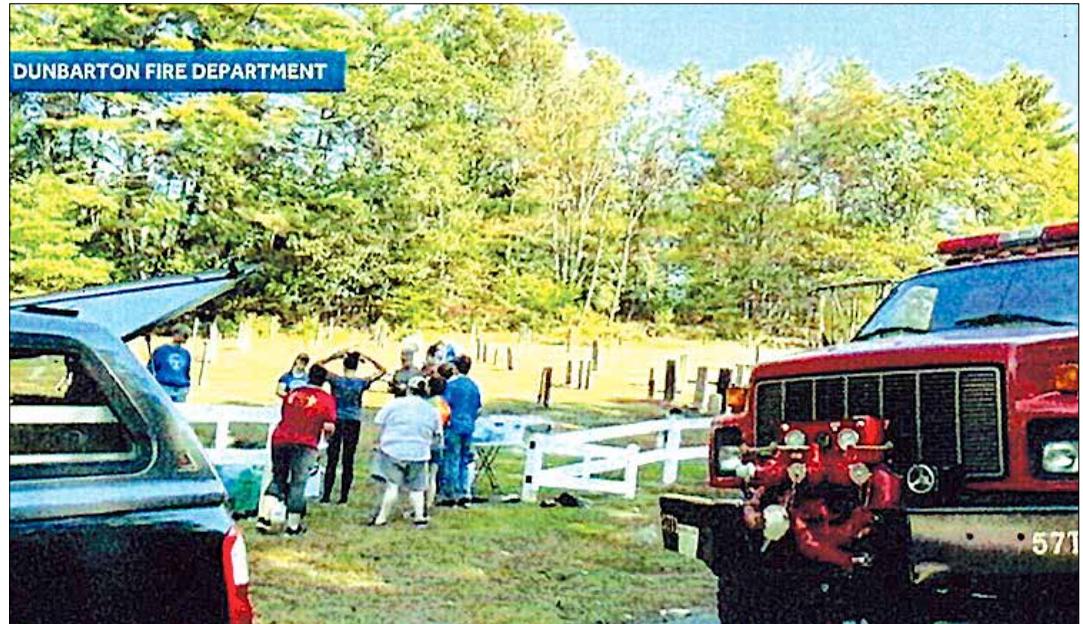
tors seized multiple items of evidentiary value and conducted several interviews. As a result of the investigation, on Friday, September 26th 2025, Dunbarton Police Officers took Alexander James Cross, 22, of Dunbarton, into custody on an arrest warrant charging him with seven (7) counts of Distribution of Child Sexual Abuse Images, seven (7) counts of Possession of Child Sexual Abuse Images, two (2) counts of Certain Uses of Computer Services Prohibited and one (1) count of Endangering the Welfare of a Child, all felonies.

Cross was transported to the Merrimack County House of Corrections and subsequently held without bail pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 597:2 pending his arraignment, which was on Monday, September 29th 2025 in the 6th Circuit – District Division – Concord. The New Hampshire ICAC Task Force is a statewide

initiative dedicated to investigating offenders who exploit children online; the Dunbarton

Police Department is a participating affiliate of this task force. Anyone with information

pertaining to this investigation is asked to contact Sergeant Brian Tyler at (603) 774-5500.



First responders in Dunbarton came together with Boy Scouts from Bow to honor some of the town's oldest residents who have passed away. Bow Troop 75 spent Sunday cleaning the headstones at East Dunbarton Cemetery and firefighters were there with their engines and a tanker to supply water.

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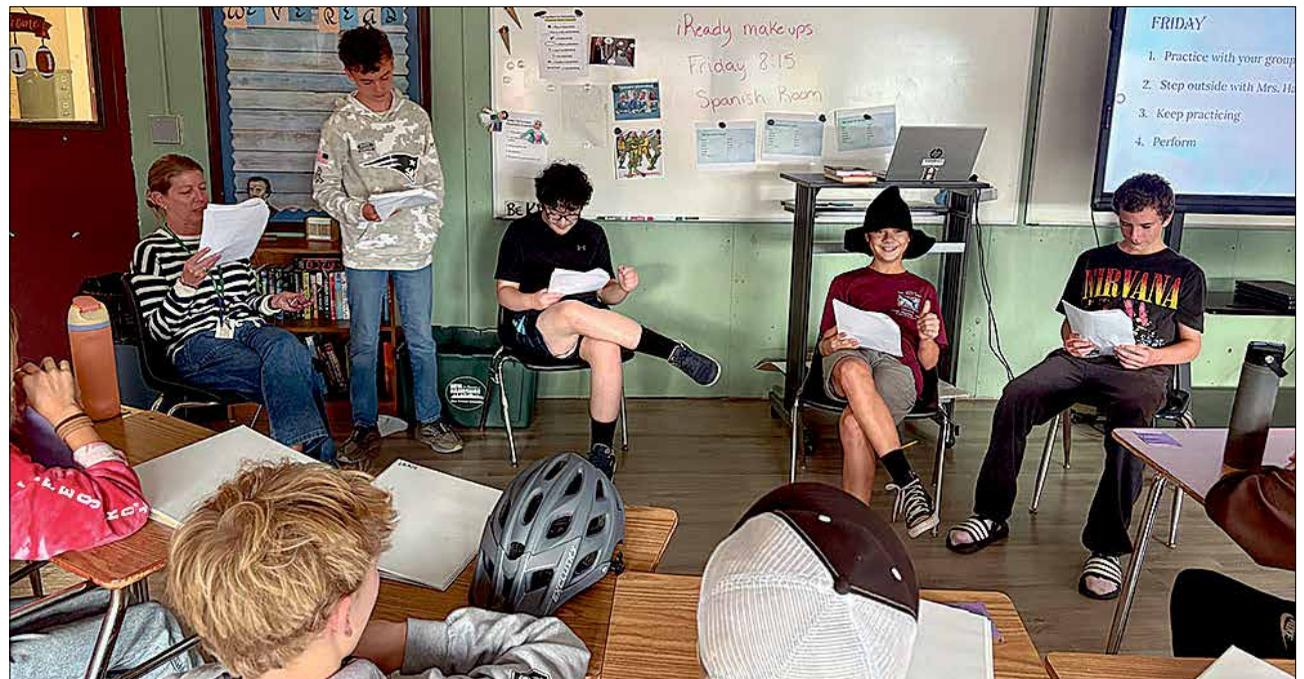


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School Days



Ms. Halliday's Henniker Community School seventh grade English classes completed their Readers' Theatre from "Canterbury Tales" last week. Students explored the challenging language and concepts of Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales".



Kearsarge Environmental Mapping students worked with NH Fish and Game to sample fish species along Steven's Brook and "Trout Stream" using the method of electrofishing. Students netted, identified, weighed, measured, and returned over 150 NH native fish.

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Fracestown's George Holmes Bixby Library Launches Community Survey



The George Holmes Bixby Memorial Library's Five-Year

ings with current community needs and to shape future planning and investments.

The Survey asks residents questions about their frequency of use, their awareness of what the Library presently offers, and the types of services and programs that they and their family members value. Additionally, it solicits their thoughts on how to improve their Library experience and how to develop more channels for event communication.

The Survey takes about five minutes to complete. Paper copies of the Survey, along with Return Boxes, have been placed at the Library, the Post Office, the Fracestown Town Offices, Bob's Chocolate Cafe, the Village Store, and the Town Hall.

Library Director Beth Crooker is hoping to receive feedback from a wide range of community members of all ages, from young to old.

She encourages all residents

to voice their opinions and participate in the Survey, whether they use the Library regularly,

rarely, or not at all.

Everyone who completes the Survey and includes their

email address will be entered into drawings for \$50 gift cards.



(2024-2029) Strategic Plan is currently underway, guiding its services, new innovative programs, and helping to define the role of the Library in the community as a resource for residents of all ages and interests.

Susan Kane, working with her co-members of the Board of Trustees, was instrumental in the development of the Library's comprehensive Strategic Plan.

An integral part of the Strategic Plan is an Annual Community Survey to gather useful feedback from residents.

Survey results will be used to align the Library's offer-



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Monday at 5pm prior to Friday publication.

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We will print signed letters to the editor on a space available basis. Letters should be no more than 250 words, typed or e-mailed. Letters must be signed but names may be excluded upon request.

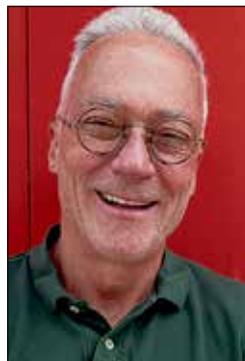
PHOTO SUBMISSIONS:

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.

Dan Innis to return to NH Senate - backs John E. Sununu for US Senate



Dan Innis

Three-term state Sen. Dan Innis, R-Bradford, has ended his U.S. Senate campaign and endorsed former Sen. John E. Sununu, calling him the only Republican with “unquestionable conservative credentials” likely to run for that seat. Sununu has not declared his candidacy.

Despite declaring two months ago that he was ready to move on from the State

House, Innis, 63, said he now intends to run again for his District 7 Senate seat in the fall.

“I entered this (U.S. Senate) race earlier this summer because there was no real conservative running. Chris Pappas would be a disaster for our state, and I believe that only a true Republican with unquestionable conservative credentials can defeat him next November,” Innis said in a statement he posted on social media.

“When I learned that Sen. John Sununu was considering a run to return to the Senate, all of that changed for me in an instant. Sen. Sununu is the respected, experienced, and trusted conservative that I was hoping would jump in the race last spring.”

Sununu said he’s on a listening tour and intends to decide next month whether he’ll seek the open Senate seat.

With his exit, Innis took a shot at Scott Brown of Rye, a former U.S. senator for Massachusetts, who has



John Sununu

vowed to remain in the race whether Sununu gets in or not.

“If Sen. Brown truly wants to see his adopted home state elect a Republican U.S. senator next year, we will need a unified Republican Party supporting the best candidate,” Innis said.

“The last thing we need is a long, drawn-out primary that will inevitably end with Sen. Sununu as the nominee,

because Granite Staters will never accept a former Massachusetts senator who consistently sided with Barack Obama and the Democrats the last time he was in Washington.”

Brown told a meeting of Bedford Republicans Thursday he would relish and win a primary battle with Sununu.

“No one’s going to anoint anybody. The monarchies are gone, OK? I don’t care who it is — the Kennedys, the Bushes, whoever,” Brown told the NH Journal.

“I enjoyed beating the Kennedy family back in 2010, and I look forward to beating anyone else who wants to come forward. I’m not going anywhere.”

In 2010, Brown defeated then-Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley to fill out the late Sen. Ted Kennedy’s term in the Senate.

He lost two years later to Democrat Elizabeth Warren. After moving to New Hampshire, he ran against and narrowly lost to Sen. Jeanne Shaheen.

As of 9/30, if you are a registered voter and qualify to vote absentee, you can obtain your absentee ballot doing one of the following:

1  +  →  **photocopy of your ID** **absentee ballot application** **addressed to city/town clerk**

2  **Show the clerk your ID and completed absentee ballot application to receive your ballot in person; or**

3  **Mail/show the clerk your notarized absentee ballot application.** 

LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIALS ARE YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE OF ELECTION INFORMATION

A new Goffstown Police Station - Not before 2030

When the Goffstown Police Department moved into its first dedicated facility in 1987, then-Chief Steve Monier asked how long the station would be able to serve the community. “You’re going to get about 25 years out of it,” was the reply.

About 40 years later, the department still operates out of the same facility at 326 Mast Road in West Pinardville, between downtown Goffstown and Manchester. The last addition to the building was made in 1997.

Goffstown hired Lavallee Brensinger Architects to assess its municipal facilities in May, and the architectural firm concluded the aging police station fell short of the community’s needs.

Before the Goffstown Select Board heard the firm’s presentation, Monier — who retired as chief in 1999 — briefly recounted during the public comment period that the current station had exceeded its lifespan by more than 10 years.

“I’m hoping the board gives every full measure of support to whatever the end result will be in moving forward with a new facility,” Monier said. “It is long overdue.”

According to the New Hampshire Economic & Labor Market Information Bureau, Goffstown’s population in 1980 totaled around 11,000 people. The most recent numbers from 2023 show a population of 18,501.

The police force has grown in response, but the station hasn’t caught up. The architectural firm reported an inadequate number of parking spaces for staff and visitors, and not enough office space for operational efficiency.

“Even if you were to do nothing but stay the same size forever — which is not the case, you grow as a community — you’d still probably need to add several thousands of square feet to what you have now,” said Bob Robicsek, Lavallee Brensinger’s civic municipal studio leader.

According to the firm’s study, the Police Department will need more than twice as much space to support all of its programs in 10 years. The existing station takes up 12,047 square feet. The space needs estimate for 2035 is 27,725 square feet.

Police have also exhausted their traditional spaces for storing permanent physical records. Their current evidence room isn’t large enough to store bulkier items, and the station needs additional square footage so the department can hold monthly in-house training.

Other issues included a lack of site security and noncompliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the International Building Code. Consultants said the station needs to be able to withstand hurricanes and earthquakes.

Diagnosing the problem was only the first step, however. Lavallee Brensinger presented two potential locations for a new station, and both sites had their pros and cons. Either way, the project would cost between \$27 million and \$29 million, based on estimated 2026 construction costs.

Their first option was staying at the site on Mast



Road and building a new, two-story police station. Town Administrator Derek Horne said the location served the police well in the past. It’s centrally located, and the community is used to the police being there.

It also already has roads and utilities, including two entrances/exits on Mast Road. Having at least two ways in and out is considered important by architecture firms, because one of them could get blocked when police need to respond to an emergency.

The biggest downside is that the existing site uses a wood frame beneath a brick façade, and the foundation can’t support a second floor. This means the building would need to be demolished and the department would need a temporary facility while a new station is built.

The second option is relocating to the other side of the Piscataquog River to 404 Elm St., near Goffstown Public Works and the town’s parks and recreation sports complex.

That site would not require a temporary station, but the town would need to build 2,700 feet of road, plus utilities. Horne said the project would have significant costs, noting a road reclamation project without utilities costs \$2 million per mile.

“Also, a move to this location would mean the Police Department would be less visible to the community and could negatively impact the development plans for the Goffstown sports complex,” Horne said.

Lavallee Brensinger’s \$27 million-to-\$29 million estimates didn’t include building a temporary facility or a new road, but consultants indicated these additional costs may be comparable either way.

“We’re working with the city of Lebanon (Fire Department). Their temporary facility is upwards of \$1.5 (million)-\$2 million for two years. So, you’re either going to spend it on temporary facilities, or spend it on a road and you have more value. You’re not going to lose it. It’s always going to be there,” said John Adams, project manager.

Horne said town officials plan to seek public feedback before determining the best location. After doing some community outreach, they’ll develop a funding model and more detailed designs for a new station.

At the Sept. 16 Budget Committee meeting, members said a new police station is a five-year capital improvement project that will likely not be completed until 2030.

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URGENT ANNOUNCEMENT

We are reaching out urgently on behalf of Maggie. This week we transported Maggie again in our ambulance as she became ill in addition to her situation.

Unfortunately, this illness was too much and Maggie will have to remain hospitalized and initiate dialysis. With an update from the transplant team there have been many people that have signed up as donors and we are so grateful. However, currently there is no one in the final stages of the process ready to donate. Unfortunately, some have gone through all the stages and have not been found to be a match. But there are others in the process that have not quite finished all the testing. If you are comfortable and serious about donating, please consider the change in urgency at this time and complete these final tests.

If you have questions feel free to reach out to us here at the fire department.

Although we knew this could get harder, we ask that you respect this difficult time for Maggie and her family.

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OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ATTIC TO BOOST COMFORT AND ENERGY SAVINGS: PART II



By: Joyce Bosse

A sufficient amount of attic insulation, typically measured in inches, is necessary to help protect against warm air moving into colder parts of the building envelope. A qualified HVAC technician should be able to evaluate your attic and help you understand how much energy you could conserve by insulating to a specified thickness.

Leaks and poor connections in attic ductwork can also lead to problems in other parts of the home. According to ENERGY STAR about 20% of the air that moves through the duct system is lost due to leaks, holes and poorly connected ducts. ENERGY STAR also notes that tightly sealed and well-insulated ducts found in qualified homes can reduce annual utility bills by \$120 or more. Following are some indicators of a problem with a home's attic ductwork:

- Spikes in energy bills
- Rooms that are too hot or too cold
- Rooms that have a musty odor
- Heating or cooling equipment that cycles on/off more frequently as the system works harder to heat/cool spaces due to lost air
- Increased levels of dust

An HVAC professional is trained to evaluate the pressure of air running through your home's ductwork and may use special thermal technology tools that allow you to "see" where air is escaping. He or she also will evaluate the system for loose connections or areas where air may be leaking out of the system. Joints and connections will be evaluated to ensure the ductwork is properly sealed to keep conditioned air inside and help prevent particulates in the attic from entering ducts.

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Sports



Congratulations to Henniker Community School Cross Country Team for successfully hosting a home race in Henniker. It was a great competition and the Henniker Girls placed second! A special thank you to Coach Nase and Coach Bates for all their work to make this happen.

Football

Hillsboro-Deering 26, Mascoma 14: The Hillcats defeated the Royals in a battle between the top two teams in Division IV.

Girls Soccer

Hopkinton 5, Newfound 0: Sofia Upton's 2nd goal in the 44th. Great shot over the gk from outside the box.

John Stark 1, Pembroke 1: John Stark's junior goalkeeper, Zach Morrison battled to save a draw for the Generals with 17 saves.

John Stark 2, Milford 2: Madi Lamothe had 2 goals for the Generals.

Bow 1, Milford 1: Jolee Trudel scored on the near post on an assist from Cara Van Dyke 34:00 minutes into the first half. Ben Reardon saved the day for Bow with an outstretched left glove to deny Milford's shot, resulting in a 1-1 draw between the two teams.

Bow 4, Coe-Brown 0: Anna Zerba hit a great shot just under the crossbar for their first goal 16 minutes into the game.

Kearsarge 2, Gilford 1: Kearsarge went up 2-0 with goals from Collins & Hasey (PK). Gilford got back with a PK but Lynch saved 2nd PK.

Kearsarge 1, Inter-Lakes 0: Chloe Hasey managed to squeeze in the only goal on a tight-angled shot from the corner.

Boys Soccer

John Stark 1, Pembroke 1: Desmond Bogle scored on a left-footed, low blast (off the stellar keepers' fingertips).

John Stark 4, Milford 1: Connor Brooks scored early from Avery Grolljahn to set the momentum for John Stark.

Kingswood 6, John Stark 2: Caz Ferenc had his first two varsity goals.

Stevens 2, Hopkinton 1: The Hawk's lone goal was a nice start to the 2nd half.

Concord 2, Goffstown 1: Dean Ayotte headed home across from Asher Hertier in the 2nd half for the game winner.

Coe-Brown 2, Bow 1: Tied at 1-1 in the second half, Brady Siering finished a Colgan cross which proved to be the go-ahead goal.

Field Hockey

Bow 2, MV 1 OT: Bow scored first in the 3rd quarter and then MV responded 2 minutes later when Tucker put in a rebound.

Stevens 1, Kearsarge 0: Reagan Billado and Ava Nolan, defense. Stella Syvertsen, midfield.

Hopkinton 4, Kearsarge 2: Stella Syversten goal, Adella Monnat goal, Ava Nolan and Reagan Billado defense.

John Stark 5, Kennett 0: Addie DeCew scored 2 of Stark's goals.

Girls Volleyball

Franklin 3, Kearsarge 2: Amazing attitudes and teamwork all around!

Concord Christian 3, Kearsarge 0: Great plays all around from the Kearsarge team.

Coe-Brown 3, John Stark 0: Izzy Grenier 10 kills 2 aces 1 block, Natalie George 3 kills 3 aces 3 digs.



On Saturday, September 27, the Hillsboro-Deering Hillcat Football team participated in New Hampshire Tackles Hunger. With the support of our amazing community, the team collected over 300 pounds of food. The food collected will help local families experiencing food insecurity.



Congrats to Mason Christensen, a true leader on and off the field! Mason is a three-season varsity athlete in soccer, basketball, and track & field, earning multiple Coaches Awards and helping his teams reach state championship competitions. Beyond athletics, he excels academically, serves as Class President, and is a proud member of the National Honor Society.

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NEC professor to teach virtual English as a Foreign Language in Ukraine

From the Granite State to northern Ukraine, New England College's influence is stretching across borders thanks to Dr. Nicole Decoteau. Director of First-Year Writing and ESOL and Associate Professor of ESL, Decoteau has been selected by the U.S. Department of State to be an English Language Fellow (ELF) for a virtual project at Sumy State University in northern Ukraine.

Dr. Decoteau is among more than 100 participants in the prestigious Virtual English Language Educator Program for the 2025 academic year. In her role, she will teach four courses at Sumy State, including English as a foreign language methodology for pre-service educators, workshops for university professors, and practical English for students majoring in English or philology. Despite the daily challenges Ukrainians face, Dr. Decoteau's work will provide essential academic and profession-



Dr. Nicole Decoteau

al development opportunities for both students and faculty.

This marks Dr. Decoteau's second appointment as an English Language Fellow. In June 2025, she completed a short-term fellowship supporting educators in Uzbekistan.

"I am honored to continue serving in this program," said

Dr. Decoteau. "Working with colleagues in Ukraine and Uzbekistan has reinforced for me how meaningful education is in building resilience, community, and connection across borders."

The Virtual English Lan-

guage Educator Program is the premier opportunity for experienced Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) professionals to enact meaningful and sustainable changes in English instruction

abroad. Projects are developed by U.S. Embassies in more than 80 countries, and Fellows work closely with local educators and students to strengthen English language capacity while promoting cultural exchange.



David Tilley hosted a well attended Welcome Reception for Ukrainian Members of Parliament at his Henniker home for the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire.

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NEC professor Gunnery awarded prestigious \$500,000 grant

Dr. Sarah Gunnery, associate professor of psychology and community mental health at New England College, has been awarded a prestigious three-year research grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), totaling nearly \$500,000.

The grant, funded through the NIH's R15 Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) mechanism, supports Dr. Gunnery's ground-breaking project, "Developing Strategies to Decrease Facial Masking in Parkinson's Disease."

This historic achievement marks the first NIH grant ever awarded directly to an NEC faculty member, underscoring the college's growing presence in impactful, federally funded research. Dr. Gunnery will work in collaboration with Dr. Harlan

Fichtenholtz at Keene State College.

Facial masking, or hypomimia, is a common symptom of Parkinson's disease that reduces automatic facial movements such as smiling or frowning. This decreased expressivity can cause others to misinterpret emotions, leading to social stigma, communication barriers and diminished quality of life.

Dr. Gunnery's research seeks to transform this challenge into an opportunity for intervention.

The project will examine whether teaching people with Parkinson's to deliberately produce facial expressions — such as Duchenne smiles that engage the eyes — can improve communication, reduce stigma, and help preserve social engagement.

"It's an incredible honor to

receive this NIH award — not just for me, but for New England College," said Dr. Gunnery. "Our work has the potential to make a meaningful difference in how people with Parkinson's communicate their feelings, connect with others, and maintain their well-being."

According to the NIH's Public Health Relevance Statement, "an increase in the ability to communicate could help people with Parkinson's disease stay socially engaged, thereby better preserving their quality of life." With social engagement recognized as essential for healthy aging, this research carries profound implications for public health.

Dr. Gunnery and Dr. Fichtenholtz's project will:

- Assess how people with Parkinson's disease experience



Dr. Sarah Gunnery

producing deliberate expressions.

- Compare their expressions to those of healthy age-matched adults to determine effectiveness in communicating emotion.
- Provide evidence for self-

management strategies that could improve social interaction and emotional well-being for individuals with Parkinson's and potentially other aging-related conditions.

This award also represents an exciting opportunity for NEC students. Dr. Gunnery will employ multiple students as part of her research team, giving them hands-on experience in a federally funded project.

These students will gain invaluable training in study design, data collection, and analysis, with the potential to contribute to conference presentations and co-author scientific publications. For NEC, this means the grant is not only advancing Parkinson's research but also preparing the next generation of scholars and professionals.

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The Merrimack holds Food Drive in participation with #NHBanksGiveBack Campaign

Merrimack County Savings Bank (The Merrimack) will be hosting a food drive throughout October in partnership with the NH Bankers Association. During the #NHBanksGiveBack statewide month of service, The Merrimack will be collecting food items that are in high-demand to help stock the shelves at eight local food pantries.

“We’re honored to team up with NH Bankers to highlight the ongoing support New Hampshire banks provide to the communities we serve,” said Linda Lorden, President of The Merrimack. “Giving back to our neighbors is who we are, and helping feed those in need a simple act that can make a big difference.”

All of The Merrimack’s nine locations will be collecting the following protein-rich foods:

- Dried or canned beans (chickpeas, black beans, kidney beans, etc.)
- Dried or canned lentils
- Canned tuna or other canned fish
- Canned chicken
- Peanut and other nut butters
- Mixed nuts

“New Hampshire’s banks remain deeply committed to

strengthening our communities — not just through financial contributions, but through countless hours of volunteer service. This month of giving showcases what has long been a core value of our industry: a steadfast dedication to supporting local nonprofits and civic organizations,” said Kristy Merrill, President/CEO of NH Bankers.

The New Hampshire Bankers Association is a statewide, not-for-profit trade association representing and serving banking institutions in the State of New Hampshire.

The mission of NH Bankers is to support our members by fostering a banking environment that strengthens our communities. For further information, please visit nhbankers.com or call 603.224.5373.

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The Zumbathon in New London last weekend was amazing. Thanks go to all the talented instructors and energetic participants for making it such a success. The New London Rec. Department is excited to host more Zumba events in the future.

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Sat 6am-2pm-Breakfast ALL DAY; Lunch 11am-2pm
Sun 7am-1pm BREAKFAST MENU ONLY

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Obituaries: Friends & Neighbors Remembered

George Michael Otterson

CONCORD - George Michael Otterson, 81, passed away on September 17, 2025, in Concord. Born on August 15, 1944, in Keene, New Hampshire, Mike was the son of William D. Otterson and Ruth Thompson. He grew up in the Granite State and graduated from Hillsboro Deering High School. A longtime resident of Washington, Mike deeply loved the town he called home. He is survived by his beloved wife Sharon Otterson; their children: son Kevin Lawrence and his wife Monique; daughter Katy Bushre and her husband Stan; and son Kristopher Otterson and his wife Deborah. He was a proud grandfather to Dalton Bushre, Ryan Otterson, and Alex Otterson. He was predeceased by his parents William D. Otterson and Ruth Thompson, as well as his brothers Fredrick and David Otterson. Mike requested no services. In his last days, he was taken care of by the Washington Fire/Rescue and the Granite VNA Hospice House. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to one of those organizations.



Charles Crathern III

CONTOOCOOK - Charles Frank Hill Crathern III, known affectionately as Terry to his family and Charlie to the world, passed away peacefully on September 18, 2025, at the age of 95. Charlie is survived by his son Glenn, and was pre-deceased by his three sons, Brian, Neil, and Scott. He is survived by eight grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday October 4, from 1-4 at the Lake House in Hopkinton NH.



Florence Gove

ANDOVER - Florence (Clarke) Gove, 103, of Route 4A died Monday, September 22, 2025 with family members around her. She was born in North Raynham, MA on July 22, 1922 the daughter of Raymond E. Clarke and Edith (White) Clarke Rathborn. She is predeceased by her husband, Ralph G. Gove, Sr. and her son, Ralph G. Gove, Jr. Members of her family surviving include two daughters, Beryl M. Sanborn (with whom she made her home) of Andover, and Karen L. Sanborn of Conway, SC; six grandchildren; many great grandchildren; two great great grandchildren; two sisters, Kathleen Clarke O'Shea of Hudson, FL and Jacqueline Clarke Gagne of Port Richey, FL; nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to the Andover Historical Society, P.O. Box 167, Andover, NH 03216, please.



William "Bill" C. Platt

CONTOOCOOK - William "Bill" Crosby Platt, 64, of Contoocook, NH, died at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, after a long illness. He was born January 31, 1961, in North Hempstead, N.Y., to Harold and Elizabeth Platt. Bill is survived by his wife, Paula; sons, Nathaniel Platt (part-



ner Kirsten Hanchett) of Manchester, N.H., and William Platt of Contoocook and Fort Collins, Co.; brother, Donald Platt of Marietta, Ga.; sister, Allison Platt of Goldsboro, N.C.; and a close cousin, Dianne Platt of Tulsa, Ok. He was predeceased by his parents and an infant sister Pamela. A celebration of Bill's life will be held on Tuesday, October 14, at 10 a.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church in Concord, N.H. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Jimmy Fund or the American Cancer Society.

Emily Anne Davidson

BOW - Emily Anne Davidson, 33, of Bow, N.H., passed away unexpectedly on Sept. 19, 2025. Born in Exeter, N.H., on April 20, 1992, she was the beloved daughter of Thomas and Denise (Blades) Davidson. Emily is survived by her mother, Denise Davidson; her father, Thomas Davidson; her brothers, Thomas Davidson Jr. and his partner, Hollie Howard, William Davidson and his partner, Jill Allaire; and her sister, Katie Davidson; the love of her life, Anthony Pepino; her grandparents, Gordon and Betty Davidson; and her nieces, Skylar, Kendra and Karrah Davidson. She also leaves behind many aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family members, and dear friends. She was predeceased by her grandparents, Donald and Dorothy Blades, and Brenda Vigneault. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, Oct. 4, at Phaneuf Funeral Homes & Crematorium, 243 Hanover St., Manchester, N.H. A Memorial Service will begin at 11 a.m., followed by a Memorial Gathering until 3 p.m. Family and friends are warmly invited to attend.



Cathy L Duerig

PETERBOROUGH - Cathleen Duerig, 75, of Peterborough, New Hampshire, passed away peacefully on September 14th, 2025, with her family by her side, following a brief battle with cancer. She was born on December 4th, 1949, in Salem, New Jersey, the daughter of Joseph and Lois Loconti. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Bill, and her daughters, Kerry and Courtney. She also leaves behind her cherished grand-pets, Kitty, Farrah, and Remi, who brought her much joy. A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, October 5th, from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Waterhouse Restaurant in Peterborough.



Please send your Obituaries to:
PO Box 1190, Hillsborough, NH
or email leighb@tds.net

Events: Community Bulletin Board

FRIDAY OCTOBER 3

FIRST FRIDAY: New London, NH: Center for the Arts is proud to partner with Colby-Sawyer College for a special First Fridays event on October 3 from 4 to 6pm at the Davidow Center for Art + Design. The Colby-Sawyer Alumnae Exhibition Preview is a special sneak-peek and discussion about the next exhibition, Come Together, inside the William H. and Sonja Carlson Davidow '56 Fine Art Gallery and an exciting look ahead at events in the space.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 4

CLASS REUNION: The ConVal Class of 1975 will gather for its 50th reunion. The day begins with a tour of ConVal High School at 3pm, followed by a social hour at 5pm and dinner at 6pm at Monadnock Country Club, 49 High St., Peterborough. The evening program will feature music from the 1970s, a slideshow of senior photos, trivia contests and time for classmates to reconnect and share memories.

BOOK SALE: The Deering Library will be having its annual used book sale, from 10am until 2pm. Many books will be available for all ages and interests, by donation. We hope you will stop by and help to clear out some room for new titles in the library collection.

FRANCESTOWN COFFEEHOUSE: performance begins at 7pm, doors open at 6:30pm at the Frankestown Town Hall. Great variety of music: ragtime (featuring Jimmy Otis), Celtic, sea shanties, folk, popular tunes, and alternative rock. Artist's display and snack foods. \$8 suggested donation per person.

See francestowncoffeehouse.org.

BOOK SALE: The Deering Library will be having its annual used book sale, from 10am until 2pm. Many books will be available for all ages and interests, by donation. We hope you will stop by and help to clear out some room for new titles in the library collection.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 7

HOW TO'S DAY: at Fuller Public Library, come make homemade apple turnovers at 6pm, call to reserve a spot, 603-464-3595.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 14

MEDICARE & SOCIAL SECURITY REFRESHER: presented by AARP at Fuller Public Library, 1pm, must register with the library, 603-464-3595.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 15

HARVEST SUPPER: at Hillsborough's Smith Memorial Church. Seatings at 5 & 6:30pm. Adults \$12 -Children 6-12 \$6.00 - 5 & under FREE. Pre-order takeout at 4pm. Reservations recommended. 603-831-3624.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19

AREA CHOIR: Do you enjoy making music with others? Do you love Christmas music? We are inviting singers to bring in the season in song! Whether you have sung with a choir before or have any church affiliation, The Area Choir is for all who love music. No previous experience needed. The Choir rehearses Sundays from 4-6pm, beginning October 19. Rehearsals are held at South Congregational Church,

20 Church Street in Newport, NH. For questions or online registration email TheAreaChoir@gmail.com, visit The Area Choir Facebook page or call 603-848-8848.

FIVE ALARM 5K: Hillsboro Fire Department race begins at 9:30am at Grimes Field. All new 5K for 2025. First 50 runners (Ages 12 and older) to register will receive a tank top. Please register at: <https://www.pinnaclestrive.com/indes.php>

TUESDAY OCTOBER 21

FULLER PUBLIC LIBRARY: Mystery Book Group meets at 1pm or 6pm. Interested in joining? Call the library 603-464-3595 or stop in for more information!

COOKBOOK CLUB: Fuller Public Library's Cookbook Club meets at 12:30pm to taste and discuss the assigned cookbook. Interested in joining? Call the library 603-464-3595 or stop in for more information!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25

OPEN HOUSE: at Fuller Public Library, 10am-12pm, tour the newly renovated 3rd floor space! Special thanks to the NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for the Moose Plate Grant and everyone who made the renovation happen!

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15

CRAFT FAIR: The annual White Rock Senior Living Community Fall Craft Fair will be held from 9am to 2pm at 6 Bow Center Road, BOW. (Cliff House). There is no entrance fee. Vendor spaces are still available at no cost. For more information, please contact Barbara Hays at (603) 582-3361.



HILLSBORO FIRE EMS • FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

OPEN HOUSE

OCT 4TH 12-3PM

15 CENTRAL ST., HILLSBORO, NH

- GIVEAWAYS
- KONA ICE TRUCK
- HOT DOGS + SNACKS
- KIDS ACTIVITIES
- MEET SPARKY!



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- APPARATUS TOURS

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HELP WANTED

CAREGIVER: Paralyzed female in Antrim looking for a personal care attendant for Sunday mornings 7AM – 12PM and Wed, Thurs nights 7:30-9PM, along with assisting with errands and appointments possibly On occasion fill ins for other (pca)'s. Must be reliable, love dogs, a team player, pass background check, 3 reference checks. No certifications needed consumer directed. Starting pay \$22 per hour hiring through an agency called Granite State Independent Living. If interested, please call 603-547-0925.

P/T KITCHEN COOK:

Day Cook hours are 9:30a-5:30p. Cooking in our kitchen is like cooking for a big family. Call us at (603) 464-5561 or email inquiries/resume to officemanager@hillsborohouse.org

PERSONAL LOOKING FOR GOD?

Jesus is the Door. Let's talk. Call Angel 603-562-6537.

AA MEETINGS

IN PERSON AA MEETINGS: Tuesdays 7:30 pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Hillsboro and Thursdays at 7:30 pm at Smith Memorial Congregational Church in Hillsboro.

Looking for Help? Have something to sell?
Send your classified to Granite Quill Publishers
at leighb@tds.net

Something spooky this way comes...

This October, the spirits are restless and the séance is set. **Join the Stone Arch Players for Blithe Spirit – a wickedly witty comedy where the afterlife is anything but quiet.**

Expect ghostly mischief, marital mayhem, and a medium with more flair than foresight.

*Will love survive the supernatural?
Or will the past refuse to stay buried?*

Dates: October 9, 10, 11

HILLSBORO-DEERING MIDDLE SCHOOL GET TICKETS:
www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/blithe-spirits-tickets

*High spirits encouraged.
Laughter guaranteed.*



TOWN OF HENNIKER ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING October 15, 2025 – 6:00 PM

The Town of Henniker Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a **public hearing on October 15, 2025, at 6:00 PM at the Community Center, 57 Main Street.**

1. ZBA Case 2025:01: Variance request from the frontage provisions required of Article X Lot Size Regulations, Section 133-40, minimum frontage required 200 feet proposed 180 feet on a 13.7 +/- acre property, Applicant/owner Lou Schuller, Map 6 Lot 293-F, 110 French Road, Zoned RR. Copies of all materials are available for review at Henniker Town Hall during normal business hours, as well as on the Town's website. Members of the public are welcome to attend the public hearings.

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.

Weekend drivers needed. Immediate openings.
Call Jon at 603-588-2427.

The Messenger's



We purchased The Messenger in 1989. In that time, we have always felt that we held the paper in trust for the communities we serve. We firmly believe that a weekly newspaper can and should be a valuable community resource. In that light, we have never charged Hearts of Hillsborough, Lions, Rotary or Kiwanis Clubs, Masons, Historical Societies, Boy & Girl Scouts, PTOs, School Groups, or area Churches to advertise their events.

We give as large an ad as we can, space permitting, as frequently as we can, free of charge, provided the same ad is not being paid for in another publication. If a competitor is being paid we do charge, but we discount our ad by at least 50%. We challenge our competitors to do likewise.

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This is more than just a job—it's a **career with long-term stability**, great pay, and benefits you can count on.

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- Operate trucks & heavy equipment for stormwater, bridge and road management, snowplowing
- Work hands-on with a skilled team to keep Henniker's infrastructure running smoothly
- Use modern, well-maintained equipment every day

Who We're Looking For

- You enjoy working with your hands and machines
- You're dependable, physically strong, and ready to learn, willing to work overtime during emergency conditions
- You have (or want to earn) a **Class B CDL with air brake endorsement**—we'll train the right candidate
- Crew members expected to be mobilized and at garage within 30 minutes of a storm event or call-out

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- **Competitive entry level starting pay:** \$18.50 to \$25.54+ depending on experience
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- **Winter bonus:** overtime during storms
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