

# The Messenger

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

Free ♦ Our 155th Year ♦ Issue 8 ♦ February 20, 2026

## Sorry, Emily - We Goofed



Recently we ran a photo and caption highlighting the Weare Police's celebration of the 10 years of dedicated service by Administrative Assistant Emily Dauphinais. Unfortunately, we

were given the wrong photo of her. This is the correct photo. We apologize for the error.

## New Kearsarge Principal



The Kearsarge Regional School District is proud to announce the appointment of Laura Newman as the permanent Principal of Kearsarge Regional Elementary School (KRES) at New Lon-

don. Newman has served as Interim Principal since July 2025 and brings 12 years of service to the district — including 11 years as Assistant Principal at Kearsarge Regional High School.

## This week in history

### FEBRUARY 20, 1919

Emir of Afghanistan is assassinated

### FEBRUARY 21, 1992

Kristi Yamaguchi wins gold in women's figure skating

### FEBRUARY 22, 1819

United States acquires Spanish Florida

### FEBRUARY 23, 1960

Brooklyn's Ebbets Field is demolished

### FEBRUARY 24, 1998

Elton John is knighted by Queen Elizabeth II

### FEBRUARY 25, 1964

Muhammad Ali defeats Sonny Liston

### FEBRUARY 26, 1993

Terrorists bomb the World Trade Center



The driver swerved to avoid hitting a coyote.

## Washington man injured in snowmobile accident

On Friday, February 13, 2026, at 12:40 p.m., Washington Fire-Rescue, New London Hospital EMS, Dartmouth Hitchcock Advanced Response Team (DHART), and a New Hampshire Fish and Game Conservation Officer responded to Pillsbury State Park on the Halfmoon Pond snowmobile trail for an individual who had crashed their snowmobile.

First responders located Steven

Valle, 66 years old, of Washington, approximately 3 miles from the nearest road. Utilizing Washington Fire-Rescue UTVs, equipment and rescuers were able to be transported to Valle's location.

Valle was suffering from a serious leg and arm injury.

Again, utilizing Washington Fire-Rescue UTV, Valle was transported out to an awaiting ambulance and

later transferred to DHART helicopter where he was transported to Concord Hospital. New Hampshire Fish & Game investigated the crash.

After speaking with Valle and others on scene along with evidence at the scene of the crash, it was evident that Valle had come upon a coyote in the trail. Valle was forced to swerve to avoid a collision with the coyote which then caused him to strike a stone wall.

## Snowmobiler falls through some thin ice in Newbury

New Hampshire officials are warning people to watch out for thin ice after a snowmobile partially went through the ice in Newbury. This has been a cold winter, and many Granite Staters have ventured out on the state's lakes for ice fishing and other winter activities.

A snowmobile went into the lake in Newbury, on a trail near the shoreline. First responders were able to get the riders and snowmobile out of the water.

"The warm weather started to erode a little bit on the ice shoreline," said Casey Brennan, president of the Lake

Sunapee Snowmobile Club.

Brennan said conditions can change quickly, even when the ice looks solid. Cones, tape and signs now mark off the area where the snowmobile went in, which is closer to ice-melting bubblers, devices that help keep docks free of ice.

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## **Yesteryear** *Local history as reported in The Messenger*

### **February 21, 2025**

Young H-D DECA Team shines at Conference  
Deering Town Administrator resigns - won't work with Michelle Johnson  
Heavy winds trap 125 people on stalled Pats Peak chairlift  
Still no closure for Bradford couple whose daughter died in 2019

### **February 23, 2014**

Major fires at Hopkinton farmhouse & Dunbarton mansion  
K-9 Ragnar apprehends fleeing Goffstown man in Bow  
Weare woman injured in snowmobile accident  
New London's proposed \$12.9 million budget is up 7.1%

### **February 24, 2023**

Two accidents on same night in Hopkinton  
Weare father given 18 months to 5 years for child's death  
Kearsarge High celebrates first Licensed Nursing Assistant Graduates  
Antrim Select Board approves water line & bridge replacement projects

### **February 25, 2022**

Masks now optional at HD Schools  
Hillsborough sidewalk expansion set for 2023  
Planning Board to review new used car dealership  
Hopkinton Girls claim Nordic Ski Title

### **February 26, 2021**

Hillsborough woman survives snowmobile crash  
Hillsborough considering a noise ordinance  
Weare Troops 24 & 529 win Klondike Derby Awards  
Multiple vehicles off the road in Frankestown

### **February 28, 2020**

Death Valley improvements coming  
Hopkinton man arrested for shooting from car  
New Boston man arrested after snowmobile accident  
State Police say Warner gunfight continued along I-89

### **March 1, 2019**

Antrim Vet's remains identified 75 years after death  
DECA Team wins 2 trophies, 24 medals, 14 plaques  
Henniker committee asking \$730,000 for road repairs  
Witness tip leads to Deering woman's DWI arrest

### **March 2, 2018**

Court orders Weare default budget defaulted  
Three arrested for Hillsborough vehicle break-ins  
Warner man arrested for witness tampering  
New principals named at Kearsarge Schools

### **March 3, 2017**

Epsom man guilty of Federal firearm charges  
Unlucky Loudon resident backs into police cruiser  
Tilton man indicted for trying to steal an ambulance  
Franklin sex offender arrested in Bow

### **February 26, 2016**

Weare crash leads to homicide charge  
A dozen towns assist at Goffstown fire  
Colby-Sawyer works with Perm City Life  
Area police & school superintendents discuss opioids

# Antrim proposes a \$1.2 million bond for street repairs

Antrim voters are being asked to support a proposed operating budget of \$5,388,497 which reflects an increase of \$50,692 or 1.1% over last year's budget.

If all warrant articles are approved, Antrim taxes will increase by 6% with the tax rate increased \$1.34 per \$1,000 evaluation over last year.

At last week's budget hearing, Town Administrator Scott Lester identified changes in personnel and insurance costs as the biggest drivers in this year's operating budget increase.

**ARTICLE 3** requests a \$1.2 million bond for street repairs.

"We're hoping to be able to use the bond to get ahead on road maintenance," said Lester. Chair Mike Ott said the Board is looking for a bond that will match the previous police station bond, which expires this year.

The article specifies the bond would be used for repairs on

Buttercup Lane, Gibson Mountain Road, Inchcape Circle, Old Hancock Road, Goodell Road, and Post Road, as well as for reclamation on Smith Road, High Street, Old Pound Road and West Street.

The bond also includes funds for sidewalk repair and drainage work on High Street.

**ARTICLE 7** looks to establish a Weather Emergency Capital Reserve fund to save for unanticipated infrastructure repairs caused by weather.

Resident Gordon Allen asked what caused the increases in Capital Reserve Funds to a proposed total of \$550,000.

Select Board member Bob Edwards said the largest increase is for maintenance of public buildings.

"We're trying to set aside money to phase in scheduled repairs, but really, \$205,000 is just a drop in the bucket. We have things coming up like repointing all the bricks on the Town Hall."

Edwards also indicated maintenance on Gregg Lake Dam as an unavoidable cost.

**ARTICLES 16 & 17** were not supported unanimously by the Select Board, as only Ott vot-

ed in favor of permitting Keno and games of chance in Antrim, respectively.



(L-R) Skyla Auger, Aleena Valarquez and Kylie Crowe, members of the H-D Student Council, briefed the School Board on the Council's recent activities.

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## Drive Safely



Three-car Henniker accident on 202 & 9 near the Hillsboro town line. The road was closed due to the debris field over 100 yards long. Two cars had entrapped drivers. All patients seemed to have non-life threatening injuries. Four ambulances from Hillsborough, Hopkinton and Henniker responded to the scene. The road stayed closed for several hours awaiting a state police accident reconstruction team.



New London Fire responded to the intersection of Andover Rd. and Main St. at the 4 corners for a motor vehicle accident involving two cars with heavy front end damage. The driver of one of the vehicles had to be extricated by fire crews. Both occupants of one vehicle were transported by New London EMS with minor injuries. The other driver refused treatment.



The Greenfield Police Department, Greenfield Volunteer Fire Department and Wilton EMS were dispatched to Forest Rd. at Old Bennington Rd. for a reported motor vehicle accident involving a school bus. Peterborough Fire & Rescue (Ambulance) was also requested to evaluate at least one patient.

# Hillsboro-Deering DECA shines at NH Conference held Feb. 11-13

A young and talented Hillsboro-Deering DECA team had good success at the recent NH DECA 69th Annual Career Development Conference. It was held Wednesday, February 11th through Friday, February 13th at the Hilton Doubletree in Manchester.

Thirty-one team members attended this year's competition, of which more than half were sophomores and freshmen.

The team included: Grayson Ainslie, Maddie Barrick, Owen Bober, Evan Bowen, Penelope Bows, Addison Brown, Matthew Clough, Eva Contreras, Hadley Cooper, Leo Faircloth, Katelyn Franklin, Ashton Fredette, Cooper Gelinias, Samantha Hargreaves, Noah Harrington, Jack Hebert, Akennah Henry, Annekah Henry, Jahcobi Hibbert, Wil Laber-Melcher, Julianne LaBier, Tommy Lloyd, Caylee Lugo, Chloe Macey, Christopher Perrin, Brie Proulx, Alyssia Spencer, Liam Stewart,

Liana Swirko, Kylie Urban, and Noah Welch.

The team earned two chapter awards, four medals and six plaques.

Considering the youth of the team that attended, they did well. Taking out the three largest schools of Nashua South, Pinkerton, and Bedford, Hillsboro-Deering's team held their own in the standings.

Combined with the chapter's Virtual Business team, School Based Enterprise team, and THRIVE Academy team, a total of sixteen students are currently qualified and will be competing at the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, in late April.

Students won accolades in several events including: Wil-Laber Melcher – Third place in the Finance Cluster Accounting Exam, as well as a First and Third place on his two Accounting Case Studies. Wil was 2nd overall for Account-

ing. Jack Hebert - First place in the Marketing Cluster Retail Management Exam, and finished in Third Place overall in NH for Retail Management, Penelope Bows and Caylee Lugo - First place overall Financial Literacy Project, Grayson Ainsley, Addison Brown, and Chloe Macey earned Second Place in the Sales Project, while Liam Stewart and Maddie Barrick finished in First place for the International Business Plan.

Additionally, Chapter President Jack Hebert accepted the plaque recognizing the chapter reaching the Thrive level of accomplishment by DECA Inc.

Outgoing NH DECA State Officer Liana Swirko was recognized as she completed her term, and junior Brie Proulx was elected as a new NH DECA State Officer.

"While the chapter did well, the state competition also had some disappointments as the competition level really in-



Hillsboro-Deering's 2026 DECA Team.

creased with over 750 attendees. It is hard for our team to hear Nashua South, Pinkerton, and Bedford called so often – but when they bring three to four times more students, it makes sense that you would hear them more often. Hillsboro-Deering's team is still young and showed great improvement over last year. I am very proud of them all," said Mr. Marc Payeur, H-D

DECA advisor.

HD DECA is currently selling Little Caesar's Pizza as a fundraiser to assist in getting to Atlanta, and will be holding their Treasure Chest Fundraiser again.

If you want to find out more about DECA or want to help these students make it to the international finals, contact Mr. Payeur at 464-1205 or email mpayeur@hdsd.org.

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## TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



BY SARAH CHAPIN

The largest review of 'gold standard' antidepressant withdrawal studies to date has identified the type and incidence of symptoms experienced by people discontinuing antidepressants, finding most people do not experience severe withdrawal according to a report published in *JAMA Psychiatry*. The most common symptoms were dizziness, nausea, vertigo and nervousness. Relapse of depression was not seen in those withdrawing from anti-depressants, even in people with existing depression. The data involved different types of antidepressants, including the serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) venlafaxine and duloxetine; the selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors escitalopram, sertraline and paroxetine; agomelatine, which is a melatonin receptor agonist and selective serotonin receptor antagonist; and vortioxetine, which inhibits the reuptake of serotonin as well as partial agonist and antagonist effects on various serotonin receptors.

Receiving six or more prescriptions of the drug gabapentin for low back pain is associated with significantly increased risks of developing dementia and mild cognitive impairment (MCI) — 29% and 85%, respectively — finds a large medical records study published online in the journal *Regional Anesthesia & Pain Medicine*. What's more, these risks were more than twice as high in those normally considered too young to develop either condition — 18-to-64 year olds — the findings indicate. Unlike opioids, gabapentin has relatively low addictive potential, and it has become increasingly popular for the treatment of chronic pain, especially neuropathic pain, as it offers potentially neuroprotective benefits, point out the researchers. Those who had received six or more gabapentin prescriptions were 29% more likely to be diagnosed with dementia and 85% more likely to be diagnosed with MCI within 10 years of their initial pain diagnosis. Patients with 12 or more prescriptions were 40% more likely to develop dementia and 65% more likely to develop MCI than those prescribed gabapentin between 3 and 11 times.

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## MEDITERRANEAN DIET COULD REDUCE GUM DISEASE



Dr. Esin Narli

People following a diet close to the Mediterranean diet are more likely to have better gum health, with potentially lower amounts of gum disease and inflammation. Findings from a new study indicate that people not following a Mediterranean-style diet tended to have more severe gum disease, especially if they consumed red meat frequently. In these patients, the researchers observed higher levels of circulating inflammatory markers.

However, patients whose diets were rich in plant-based food which are typical of a Mediterranean diet, such as legumes, vegetables, fruits and olive oil, showed lower levels of various inflammatory markers. The research evaluated patients by performing dental exams, taking blood samples, and asking them about their diets through questionnaires.

The Mediterranean diet is known for its emphasis on fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and healthy fats. It has been associated with a lower risk of developing major diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, neurodegenerative disorders, and certain cancers.

There is substantial evidence showing that diet might play a role on human health by affecting the immune system and moderating inflammation. This depends on the composition of molecules in the diet, which include macronutrients, micronutrients and phytochemicals. Plant-based diets can contain more of these molecules which can lead to lower inflammation.

Dr Giuseppe Mainas, first author of the study and a postdoctoral researcher at King's College London, said: "Our findings suggest that a balanced, Mediterranean-type diet could potentially reduce gum disease and systemic inflammation. We observed that there may be a connection between periodontal disease severity, diet, and inflammation. These aspects should be holistically considered when assessing the treatment for periodontitis in patients."

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## School Days



Hillsboro Christian School elementary students met Officer Matthew Mitchell from the Henniker and Hillsboro police, who spoke with them about what it is like to be a police officer and answered their many questions.



The Antrim Baptist Church Food Pantry and the Great Brook School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society recently partnered for a community service project when 21 Honor Society members completed a deep cleaning and reorganization of the pantry space, learning about the volume of food that moves through the pantry to support local residents. The pantry provides food to 60 to 70 families each week.



Henniker Community School 6th graders had an amazing day touring and tubing Pats Peak Ski Area. A huge thank you to The Peak for providing this opportunity to the students!

# Warner Select Board approves purchase of a new police cruiser

Warner Police Chief Bill Chandler informed the Select Board that the Police Department is scheduled in 2026 to replace the 2017 SUV. He stated that he has located a new 2025 leftover model SUV that can be purchased for \$2,300 less than a 2026 model.

Chief Chandler explained that the current Ford Explorer will be traded in for \$6,000. He informed the Select Board that the dealer has agreed to hold the vehicle until he was able to speak to the Board. Chandler stressed that he would prefer not to spend the additional \$2,300

in 2026 or jeopardize the trade-in value. He advised the Select Board that the 2025 purchase price is \$54,997 plus approximately \$20,000 to outfit the vehicle for a total purchase price of \$68,997. He noted that the Capital Reserve Fund balance is about \$90,000.

The Chief explained that he has pushed off the purchase for several years. He recapped the impact of previous reductions to his requests for CRF funding. He stated that in 2028 the Police Department is scheduled to replace the 2021 cruiser.

Harry Seidel was supportive

and appreciates the savings on the 2025 model and the \$6,000 trade-in value. Alfred Hanson agreed. Mike Smith stated strongly that he is not in favor of this purchase due to the budget and the increase in spending and the lack of police officers.

He explained that he is not for this purchase until after town meeting when the public has had their say on the budget.

Smith reiterated that the Police Department has been down officers for a while. He asked if the purchase could be delayed

until after town meeting. Chandler explained that the dealer agreed to hold the vehicle until he could meet and discuss this with the Select Board, but beyond that there is no guarantee.

The Board unanimously approved of the purchase.

## Dunbarton school budget up - town's down

Dunbarton's school budget on the warrant totals \$11.6 million, a 10.4% increase over last year. The town's \$4 million municipal budget represents a 9% increase from last year, but \$1.9 million of that will be offset by the town's unassigned fund

balance.

The school district's annual meeting is scheduled for March 7 at 4 p.m. at the Dunbarton Community Center, while the town meeting will take place on March 10 at 7 p.m. at the same location.



This year's NOFA conference on Saturday, March 7 will honor the town of Warner's own Main Street BookEnds with its Community Partner Award for 25 years of bringing in the speakers and the books for the NOFA-NH (Northeast Organic Farming Association) Winter Conference. Congratulations to owners Katharine (above) and Neil Nevins.

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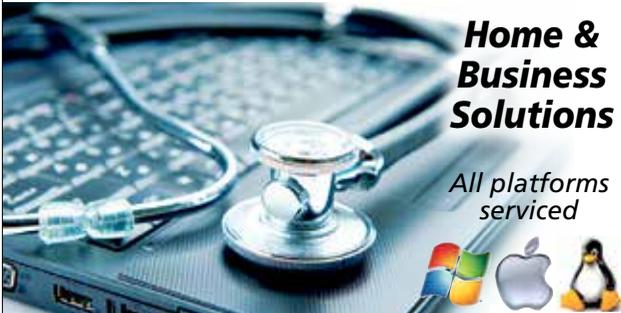
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A home burned to the ground at 86 Mountain Road in Greenfield on Saturday, February 14. Photo courtesy of Justin Dole/SWNH Alerts

## Greenfield home consumed by fire on February 14th

A Greenfield home at 86 Mountain Road was completely destroyed in an early morning house fire on Saturday, February 14th.

When the Greenfield Fire Department arrived, the fire was soon upgraded to a second alarm.

Greenfield Fire Chief Chaz Babb reported that resident Ted Bonner escaped from the fire with no injuries. He was able to take shelter in his vehicle and called in the

fire from a neighbor's house.

Bonner is reportedly staying with neighbors.

Mutual aid from Bennington, Peterborough, Franconia, Lyndeborough, Antrim, Hancock, Wilton, Milford, Temple and New Boston responded to the fire. Antrim and Hancock sent additional tankers to the scene, and cover trucks were dispatched from Mont Vernon and Jaffrey.

## Hancock Fire Department postpones plan for station renovations

The Hancock Fire Department has decided to postpone its station addition and renovations plan until 2027 because of time constraints and a change in the floor plan.

The department was prepared to present its progress at the 2026 Town Meeting and planned to begin construction this year.

Fire Chief Tom Bates reported that timing was an issue. "The time frame with how warrant articles are decided wasn't working out. We just ran out of time," he said, noting the department was still working with the construction manager and its architects to finalize plans. Bates said additional changes are needed.

Second Assistant Fire Chief Paul Towers said the department was hoping to have the project's funding ready



this year, but did not have enough information about a \$600,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture rural development grant for the renovations to move forward.

The Chief expects to present final plans at the 2027 Town Meeting.

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# Hillsborough voters to face a 26 Article Warrant on March 10

When Hillsborough voters go to the polls and Town Meeting on March 10th, they face an ambitious 26 Article Warrant.

**ARTICLES 1-11** deal with elections and zoning amendments.

**ARTICLE 12** asks for \$11,025,344.00 for the 2026 Operating Budget.

**ARTICLE 13** requests \$955,359.00 for operating the Water Department.

**ARTICLE 14** asks for \$1,316,360.00 for operating the Sewer Department.

**ARTICLE 15** requests \$230,000.00 to be deposited in established Capital Reserve Funds, as follows:

- Ambulance \$50,000.00
  - Municipal Buildings \$150,000.00
  - Parks Equipment \$ 20,000.00
  - Sidewalks \$10,000.00
- \$150,000 to come from the unassigned fund balance and \$80,000 from taxation.

**ARTICLE 16** asks for \$400,000.00 for road work.

**ARTICLE 17** allocates \$400,000.00 for Park/Whittemore Street Project. 400,000.00 to come from InvestNH funds.

**ARTICLE 18** sets \$225,000.00 for the West Main Street Sidewalk \$225,000.00 from InvestNH funds.

**ARTICLE 19** is for a 5-year lease purchase agreement of \$208,500.00 for purchasing a new sidewalk tractor.

**ARTICLE 20** raises \$1,500,000.00 for a new heavy equipment/pumper truck for the Fire Department.

**ARTICLE 21** asks for \$18,000.00 off-setting home healthcare expenses of Granite VNA.

**ARTICLE 22** would establish an official Town Budget Committee.

**ARTICLE 23** requests increasing the Select Board from three (3) to five (5).



Hillsborough's Municipal Budget Hearing on February 11th drew only a modest crowd, but one which asked a lot of questions.

**ARTICLE 24** modifies the Elderly Resident property tax exemption.

**ARTICLE 25** rescinds Select Board's authority to estab-

lish or amend fees for licenses, permits, and the use of Town facilities.

**ARTICLE 26** calls on the NH Legislature to protect local

taxpayers by ensuring adequate state revenues for essential services and by avoiding policies that shift costs onto local property taxpayers.

## PRIVATE MORTGAGE INSURANCE (MI): PART II



By: Joyce Bosse

The most common form of private MI, paid monthly by the borrower, helps homeowners begin building equity sooner and is also only a temporary cost that can be cancelled after 20% equity is established. Importantly, once private MI is cancelled, the monthly mortgage payment goes down, unlike loans backed by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), a government program featuring monthly MI premiums that are generally not cancellable.

Each home buyer's finances are different, therefore it is important to do the math before buying a home. Home prices and interest rates impact the monthly cost, but luckily the private MI industry is able to help home buyers overcome one of the biggest hurdles to homeownership: the need for a large cash down payment.

In some markets, high interest rates have cooled the trajectory of home price appreciation; with home price growth seen in recent years moderated in 2025. This is good news for first-time home buyers who saw home prices in some markets increase 20% or 30% in prior years.

There is a saying, "date the rate, marry the home." Borrowers should always stay within their budget, but those who purchase a home now with a low down payment may be able to refinance later when rates decrease. These borrowers can achieve the American dream of homeownership sooner, start to build equity and avoid some competition from other borrowers who are waiting on rates to drop.

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# THE Messenger

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### STAFF

**Leigh Bosse:** Publisher

**Joyce Bosse:** Editor

**Christi Carlson:**

Advertising Design

**Gail Stratos:** Publication Design & Layout,  
Advertising Design, Production & Website

### DEADLINE:

Monday at 5pm prior to Friday 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

### Runaway Bureaucracy

Hillsboro-Deering School District voters are familiar with complaints about skyrocketing administrative costs hurting our schools. Apparently the same problem is now plaguing our own town Government.

During last Wednesday's Town Budget Hearing the Teen Center came under review. With a total proposed budget of \$344,608.60, \$291,222.60 or roughly 85% is

dedicated to Salary, Benefits & Retirement.

After subtracting another \$22,750.00 in Rent, Electricity & Training cost, only 10% is left for Kids' Services.

Then after deducting office expenses for Equipment, Supplies, Computers, Telephone, Postage, etc, the amount budgeted for Kids' services is a measly \$15,000 (4%) of the \$344,000 of taxpayers' money.

### An Apology - Actually 3 Apologies

Boy, did I have a bad week. In addition to publishing the wrong photo of Emily Dauphinais (see page 1), our page 5 story contained a headline claiming John Stark teachers would receive a 95.5% pay raise.

Obviously that is wrong, and the fact that the text of the story contains the correct 9.5% does not excuse the

mistake. To make matters worse, I labeled the picture on page 5 as Sheriff John Coughlin - he is actually Sheriff Brian Newcomb.

To the John Stark teachers, Administration and our readers, we apologize for the mistake and we will try to do better. **LDB**



## Letters to the Editor

### Dear Editor:

Hi, I want to bring something to your attention and every one who receives their mail from the Hillsborough Post Office. Over the past year, people on my street and connecting streets have been having issues with our mail delivery. It arrives late, not at all, ends up in someone else's mailbox or it gets put in the trash! I have had three separate issues. I received a package that wasn't mine, I had my mailbox filled with other peoples' mail and I found one of my packages in the recycling bin where my trash cans are!! The later being 2/3/2026.

When I called the post office, I spoke to Laurie (not sure if that's how she spells her name) I tried to explain what happened, and she said it "couldn't have we don't have carriers out there yet!" I literally saw the U.S.P.S truck in my driveway! Basically she called me a liar! I gave her the tracking number of that package.

Here is where I got gas lighted and told all about her packages being taking away by the snow blower! Look, her packages are not my problem! I did not need to know her issues. She works at the post office, that means my packages are her problem! It's a Federal offense to tamper with the mail! If my package was too big for the mailbox, they had two options: put it up by my door on my house or take it back to the post office, write out a slip to be delivered to my mailbox saying I had a package at the post office. Its that Simple. I have since put a notice in my mailbox about where the packages that don't fit into the box go, at the house on the deck!! Where did the professionalism go in the U.S.P.S?? Obviously, not to the Hillsborough Post Office!! Thank you for your time.

**Kelly Brown Dobrinsk, Hillsborough**

\*\*\*\*\*

### Letter to the Editor:

Thank you to everyone who attended the Deliberative session. We had a strong turnout and a thoughtful discussion.

This year's warrant includes more than 20 articles, and we encourage residents to visit the SAU website to review each one in detail. Below are a few key highlights.

- Article 3 covers the operating budget and is lower than the default budget this year.

- We are also bringing forward collective bargaining agreements for both the Hillsboro-Deering Support Staff (Article 6) and the Hillsboro-Deering Federation of Teachers (Article 7). One piece of feedback we heard at last year's Deliberate session was that the community wanted more input on capital maintenance projects. In response, the Maintenance Committee placed Article 13 on the warrant to fund replacement and upgrades to portions of the HDES plumbing system. Please note that if this article does not pass, the district will not be able to pursue this project for another year.

Another important item is open enrollment (Article 15). There are still significant unknowns around open enrollment, particularly regarding how it will affect budgeting and forecasting. With that in mind, we are proposing limits on the percentage of students we will accept from outside districts, as well as limits on how many students may leave HDS.

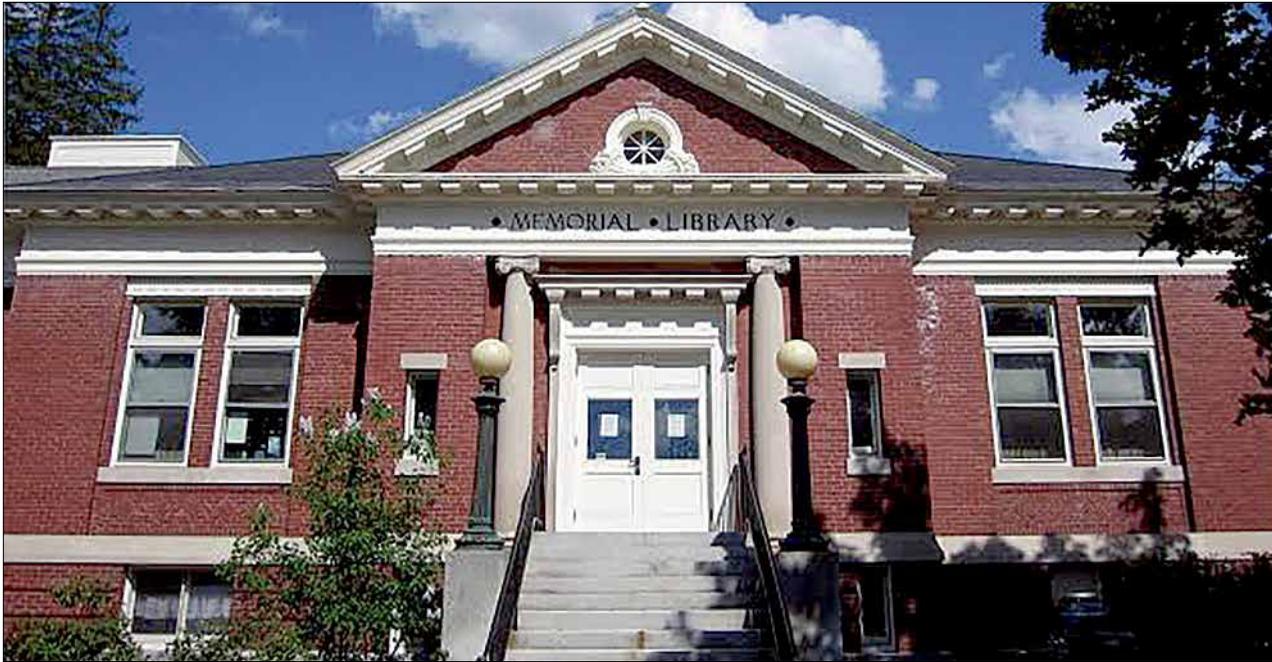
Given the uncertainty, we took a conservative approach to help avoid unanticipated costs to taxpayers. A cost breakdown is available on the SAU website.

Finally, two warrant articles aim to address disparities in representation between Hillsboro and Deering. Article 16 would change how the "Hillsboro-only" and "Deering-only" school board seats are elected. Currently, voters in both towns vote on these seats. If this article passes, Deering residents would vote only for the Deering-only seat, and Hillsboro residents would vote only for the Hillsboro-only seat. The remaining three at-large seats would continue to be voted on by both towns.

In addition, a petitioned warrant article—Article 22—would require that 100% of the state adequacy education grant be applied to district operating costs before the remaining school district costs are apportioned.

Thank you for being informed and engaged!

**Hillsboro-Deering School Board, Chris Bober,  
Krista Davison, Paul Plater,  
Kathryn McGinn and Jessica Pollard**



The Goffstown Public Library.

## Goffstown seeks \$420,000 for Library renovations

In 1908, a descendant of one of Goffstown's founders decided to give back to his community. Francis Parker sold one of his lots north of Main Street to the town for a nominal fee of \$1, to be used "for a Public Library and for no other purpose."

Parker was a great-great-grandson of one of the original settlers of Goffstown who petitioned for the land in 1748, according to the Goffstown Historical Society.

The Parker family made many other contributions to Goffstown through their private businesses and from public offices. But the structure that was built on Francis Parker's land is especially notable, according to Elizabeth Dubrulle, director of education for the New Hampshire Historical Society. The library's historical and cultural significance to the town — including the building's striking neoclassical architectural style — have invited efforts to preserve the structure as it ages.

"I think (it's) probably the most historically significant building in town, and really the centerpiece of the village," Dubrulle said at Goffstown's Feb. 3 deliberative session. Dubrulle, who also chairs the town's Budget Committee, spoke in support of an article on the March 10 ballot asking voters to set aside unassigned resources from the general fund toward "saving" the library without raising taxes. What needs to be done?

The library's highest-priority building projects involve accessibility and maintenance, with a total cost of about \$420,000. The most expensive project would be upgrading the elevator, which was added about 30 years ago. The cost is estimated at \$282,000, said Goffstown Public Library's Patti Penick.

"Since that time (1997-98), there have really been no significant changes to the building," said Penick. "We use every square inch that we possibly can. You can look around this room we're sitting in right now, and on top of the shelves for the collection are board games and craft supplies." Penick is the head of youth services at the library but will take the mantle of library director Feb. 23, replacing retiring Director Dianne Hathaway.

The library is already working on drainage im-

provements to its parking lot and planning to move its collection around on the second floor in preparation for restoration work on the building's windows.

Further down the line, the library plans to restore its unique features, including the terrazzo flooring near the former entrance on the second floor, and the fading gold lettering on large marble tablets listing local men who fought in conflicts through the Civil War.

Since improvements and restoration are expensive, the library plans to pursue federal and state grants to enable the necessary work, Penick said. These grants often stipulate an agency will split the costs of a project with the applicant.

However, obtaining these grants is often a competitive process. And like any other form of credit, agencies are more likely to award applicants with good financial standing who can deliver on their end of the bargain.

"Often, these organizations will say, 'We're going to give first dibs to the organizations that already have their whole match or a decent portion of it,'" Penick said.

The library recently secured about \$20,000 as a 50% match from the state to restore the windows on the first and second floors. These date back to the construction of the library over 115 years ago. However, the process of getting the grant was highly uncertain.

A warrant article on the March ballot would establish a capital reserve fund for the library, allowing it to retain \$50,000 of unassigned municipal funds for building projects. Having this money on hand will help the library get more grants in the future, Penick said.

"Having a capital reserve fund makes it so much easier," Dubrulle said at the town's deliberative session. "I must have said it half a dozen times when we were working on this grant — this would have been so much easier if we had a capital reserve fund." If approved, this would be one of just a few capital reserve funds in the town, along with a fire apparatus and emergency services fund. Goffstown's library continues to play an active role in the community, Penick said, updating its collection to meet shifting needs.

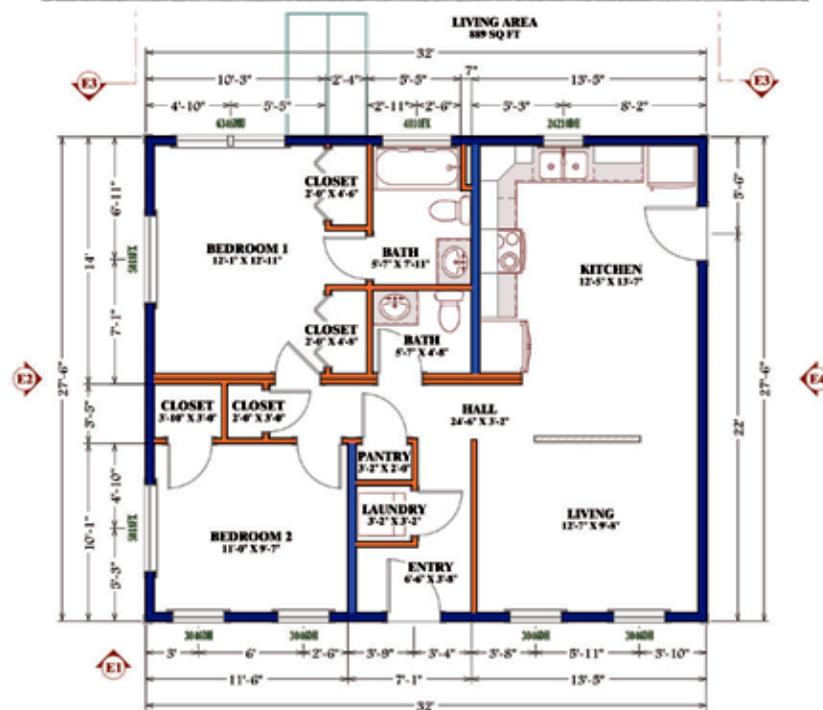
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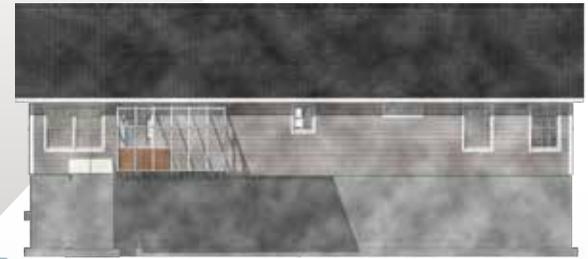
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 **Sports**



Hopkinton boys ski team Division III Champions.

**DIVISION III SKIING**

**Hopkinton 1st:** The Hawks boys matched the girls, who won D-III Championship on Monday by winning the division themselves and qualifying all six girls and four boys, junior Coley Wells, freshman Cooper Loew, freshman Sam Chapin and sophomore Chester Behner for the Meet of Champions. The Kearsarge boys took a 15-point lead in the morning after GS, but Hopkinton stormed back to win it by two points and took down the defending D-III champs. The Hopkinton boys finished with 722, compared to Kearsarge's 720, to win Division III.

**BOYS HOCKEY**

**Hopkinton 6, Spaulding 2:** Senior captain Zack TARRIER registered three goals and an assist to break the career 100-point milestone, leading Goffstown to a 6-2 win over Spaulding in a Division II hockey game on Wednesday night in Rochester.

TARRIER, the eighth player in Goffstown hockey history with 100 points, is four assists shy of tying the school's all-time assist record (74).

**GIRLS BASKETBALL**

**Hopkinton 50, Stevens 45:** The Hawks picked up the home win on Senior Night to finish the regular season 13-4.

**Bow 43, Oyster River 28:** After a slow start, Bow picked up the pace and limited Oyster River to two points in the third quarter.

**Bow 40, Pelham 37:** Bow's defensive shift and rebounding in the second half changed the game.

**Pembroke 50, ConVal 21:** Pembroke forced 17 turnovers while turning the ball over just three times.

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

**Hopkinton 58, Newport 42:** Ben Normand led Hopkinton with 20 points. Adrian Sanchez led Newport with 13 points.

**Hopkinton 52, Stevens 28:** Hopkinton: Ben Normand, 19 pts; Kristof Cauley, 13 pts; Stevens: Owen Wilkinson & Gabe Brown, 8 pts each.

**Hopkinton 58, Newport 42:** Down 14 at half, the Generals struggled at the start of the third but worked hard throughout.

**Kingswood 61, John Stark 45:** The Generals were down 2 going into the fourth but Kingswood broke it open with four 3's in the quarter.

**Kennett 65, John Stark 42:** Down 14 at half, the Generals struggled at the start of the third but worked hard throughout.

**Bow 53, Pelham 42:** Down three at the half, Bow out-scored Pelham in the 2nd half 32-18 to come away with the win.

**BOYS JV BASKETBALL**

**Hillsboro-Deering 56, Campbell 50:** Congratulations to the JV Boys Basketball team for taking first place in the JV Basketball Tournament held at Raymond High School this past weekend. They beat Campbell in the final game by a score of 56 to 50. Conor Dumais contributed 20 points in the final game, as Oscar Poland had 19 points as well. Great season.

**BOWLING**

**Hillsboro-Deering 4th:** The HD Bowlers went to Raymond for a 5-team match. The Hillcats finished 4th overall, beating Sanborn. The top bowlers for the day were Gavin Ford (211) and Megan Ferguson (156). For the first time in school history, Hillsboro-Deering has qualified for the team state tournament. Good luck to them in the tournament on Saturday, Feb 21.

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# Sports



Kearsarge Hockey players teamed up with students from KRES at Bradford for Winter Activities this year. The players helped new skaters gain confidence on the ice and joined in the fun with those who were already skating like pros.



The Henniker Girls Basketball Team became D 3W champions, winning against Hillsboro 38-28.



Congratulations to New Boston's 5/6 Boys Champions.

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## Alma Mater

### University of Rhode Island Dean’s List

Hannah Beisang of Francestown  
Thomas Bock of Francestown  
Logan Cote of Goffstown  
Claire Laroche of Goffstown  
Izzy Romein of Goffstown  
Britney Leclair of New Boston  
Averie Morgan of New Boston  
Chloe Tworek of Contoocook  
Sarah Haas of New London  
Jennae Deshane of Bennin  
Allie Hodgen of Bennington

### St. Lawrence University’s Dean’s List

Jake Bates of Goffstown, a member of the Class of 2029. Bates attended Goffstown Area High School.

Michael Gutwein of Peterborough, a member of the Class of 2026 is majoring in political science and business in the liberal arts. Gutwein attended St. Paul’s School.  
Evie Hopper of Contoocook, a member of the Class of 2029. Hopper attended Hopkinton High School.

Owen Kotula of Peterborough, a member of the Class of 2026 is majoring in environmental studies-economics.  
Clara Locke of Contoocook, a member of the Class of 2027 is majoring in environmental studies-biology. Locke attended Hopkinton High School.  
Meara McClusky of Peterborough, a member of the Class of 2026 is majoring in history and anthropology. McClusky attended Contoocook Valley Regional High School.

Rachel Pelletier of Dunbarton, a member of the Class of 2027 is majoring in environmental studies. Pelletier attended Bow High School.

Avery Pope of Peterborough, a member of the Class of 2026 is majoring in geology and anthropology. Pope attended Contoocook Valley Regional High School.

Elijah White of Peterborough, a member of the Class of 2026 is majoring in history and performance and communication arts. White attended Contoocook Valley Regional High School.

Reid Wilson of Francestown, a member of the Class of 2026 is majoring in Hispanic studies and business in the liberal arts. Wilson attended Contoocook Valley Regional High School.

### Saint Anselm College Blessing of the Hands

Henniker, Hayleigh Dennis, Nursing, 2028;  
New Boston, Brison Bouchard, Nursing, 2028, and Anna Tipping, Nursing, 2028;  
Weare, Brianna Dinan, Nursing, 2028.

### Other Colleges & Universities

Lee University congratulates Analiese Blasingame of Warner, on earning Dean’s List honors.

Lauren Riley of Goffstown was named to the Mississippi State University President’s List.  
Cailey Stockwell of Hopkinton was named to the Fairfield University Dean’s List.  
Marin Westward of New London, a B.A. in Psychology program, was named to the Chancellor’s Honor Roll.



**New England College has been awarded \$775,000 to strengthen community mental health workforce preparation across New Hampshire. The investment will expand hands-on training opportunities and help prepare the next generation of professionals to serve our communities.**

# Two men injured in Franklin in head to head snowmobile crash

Warmer weather, a solid snow pack and a long holiday weekend led to multiple snowmobile crashes around the state, including one fatality in the North Country and two people injured in Franklin.

NH Fish and Game officers reported multiple snowmobile accidents around the state, making February totals particularly high.

At least 10 snowmobile accidents were reported throughout

New Hampshire in February alone, resulting in multiple injuries.

On Saturday, three snowmobiles were traveling through the Franklin Falls flood control area around 2:30 p.m. when the group left a wooded portion of the trail and entered a field.

The rider in the lead, 42-year-old Sean Nelson of Pembroke, veered off the trail while 48-year-old Christopher Bourque of Boscawen also left the groomed

trail, while continuing parallel to it.

As Nelson made his way back to the trail, he and Bourque's snowmobiles collided. The machines rolled over and

pinned Nelson's foot in the snow. Passing snowmobile riders helped free the driver and give aid until first responders arrived, according to NH Fish and Game District Chief James Kneeland.

Nelson and Bourque suffered minor injuries and had friends transport them for medical attention. Both snowmobiles were badly damaged and determined to be inoperable.



Two snowmobiles were determined inoperable after a collision in a Franklin park. Photo courtesy of NH Fish and Game.

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# The Future of Writing Shines Bright: Teen Writers Awards

The Center For the Arts is always looking to shine a light on local talent. This past Thursday was no different at the Teen Writers Awards Ceremony.

CFA is proud to be a part of these young writers' literary journey, furthering their mission to nurture creative minds and foster their growth.

CFA had the privilege of honoring these writers in an award ceremony. Please join in congratulating these writers and all those who submitted their work.

## List of 2025 Winning Entries:

### POETRY

**First Place:** Gabriella Soto, Sunapee, third year at SMHS — I'm gonna dye my hair (with thanks to Katie Flint)

**Second Place:** Anya Leokadia Hartford, Kearsarge, 8th grade at KRMS — Ephem-

eral Bliss (with thanks to Dean Barker)

**Third Place:** Jenna Valela, Kearsarge, third year at KRHS — Correspondence of Two Puppets (with thanks to Lisa Onley)

### FICTION

**First Place:** Josefina Eliessetch Hormilla, Kearsarge, fourth year at KRHS — In the Gallery (with thanks to Mrs. Cicoria)

**Second Place:** Aria Varian, Sunapee, fourth year at SMHS — Drive Time (with thanks to Katie Flint)

**Third Place:** Jenna Valela, Kearsarge, third year at KRHS — Bodycam Footage of Elizabeth Iswart

### NON-FICTION

**First Place:** Gabriella Soto, Sunapee, third year at SMHS — Surreal, Sterile, Silent (with



L to R: CFA Board Member Kathleen Shulman, Ed.D., Aria Varian, Aaliya Swenson, Josephina Hormilla, Jenna Valela, Anya Leokadia Hartford, Judge - Thomas Coverdale. Absent when pictures were taken was Gabriella Soto.

thanks to Katie Flint)

**Second Place:** Aaliya Swenson, Kearsarge, 8th grade at KRMS — Where Are You and When Can I See You Again?

The Center For the Arts

would also like to thank all the participants that entrusted the CFA with the privilege of reading their work. The CFA received close to 50 submissions for the 2025 teen writers contest and

was so impressed by all of the pieces and their student authors. They would like to thank everyone again who submitted a piece in making it a very competitive year.

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**SC Auto Repair**

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166 W. Main St., Hillsboro  
Phone: 464-4727 • Fax: 464-4012

**Town & Country Animal Hospital**

Hours:  
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Tues.-Fri. 7:30-6:00;  
Sat. 8:00-1:00

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A full-service animal hospital dedicated to high quality, compassionate care.

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- Touch-less technology • Large commercial bay
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Huge thank you to Grappone Ford for hosting members of the Bow Safety Team for an appreciation luncheon.

# Area Dining Guide

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 • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner  
 Take-out or Dine-in  
**Come in for Great Food, Beer & Cocktails, and Friendly Service**  
 • CHECK OUT OUR SPECIALS AND EVENTS  
 View our full menu on Yelp or Facebook  
 Watch for our upcoming events!  
 Hours: Sun. & Mon. 11am-9pm; Thurs. 11am-9pm; Fri. 11am-10pm; Sat. 11am-10pm; Closed Tues. & Wed.  
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 603-995-4163

**Appleseed RESTAURANT & CATERING SERVICES**  
 EST. 1977  
 Catering for all occasions  
 "Country Dining... at Country Prices"  
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 938-2100 • HOURS: Tues.-Sun. 5:00pm - 9:00pm • Closed Mon.  
**Our menu is available for driveway pickup & delivery!**  
 Some items may be subject to availability.  
 Taking orders from 4:30pm-7:45pm at 603-938-2100

**Angelino's**  
**CLOSED FOR THE SEASON**  
 See you in the Spring!  
 Henniker Street • Hillsboro

**Reed's North**  
 Featuring fresh NE comfort food, craft beer & signature cocktails with a fun vibe.  
 • THURS 6-8 Trivia Night  
 • SAT & SUN 8-12 Breakfast  
 • SUN 4-7 Live Music  
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**Bob's CHOCOLATE Café**  
 www.bobschocolatecafe.com  
 • Savory breakfast & lunch fare  
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 603-464-5339 HILLSBOROHOP.COM  
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 Mon 6am-2pm • Tue CLOSED • Wed-Sat 6am-2pm  
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 CATERING UP TO 65 guests!  
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 Great Food Great Prices Great Service  
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 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
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**Obituaries: Friends & Neighbors Remembered**
**Carolyn Grindle**

Bradford — Carolyn M. Grindle, 84, of Route 114 died at her home on February 14, 2026. She is predeceased by her parents, James and Henriette (Farrell) Mackey; brothers, Roger, James, Richard and Doug; a sister, Mary (Mackey) Ottani; a niece, Lauren McCormick; a brother-in-law, Daniel McCormick and sisters-in-law, Cindy and Jill. Carolyn is survived by siblings, Charles (Janice) Mackey, Kathie (Mackey) (Salvatore) Spataro and Yvonne (Mackey) McCormick; 14 nieces and nephews, 13 grandnieces and grandnephews and 2 great grandnieces and great grandnephews. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at the Bradford Community Church, Bradford.


**Patricia Shaw Davis**

Newport — Patricia Shaw Davis, 95, passed from this life on Feb. 13, 2026 at the Woodlawn Care Center in Newport, NH. Born in Clinton, Maine on May 9, 1930 — delivered by her grandfather, Dr. Arthur Asbra Shaw — she was the daughter of Judge Kenneth E. Shaw and Alice Rowden Shaw. She is survived by her son, Robert, daughter-in-law Alice Yurke, and grandchildren John, his wife Lauren, and Katherine; sister Joan Waldron; nephew Howard G. Davis III; niece Susan Scarborough; niece Kimberly (Waldron) Levy, her husband Jonathan and daughter Mackenzie and numerous cousins. Donations in her memory may be made to Richards Free Library, 58 Main St., Newport, NH 03773, richardsfreelib.org/donations.


**Allen T. O'Neil**

Peterborough — Allen T. O'Neil, 91, died on February 8, 2026 at home in Peterborough, NH surrounded by his loving family. He was born May 3, 1934 in Nashua, NH, the son of Thomas F. and Elizabeth C. (White) O'Neil. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by a brother, Gerald O'Neil and a son-in-law, Peter Fontaine. Surviving in addition to his wife are his three children, Allen T. O'Neil, Jr. and his wife, Maria of Downey, CA, Linda O. Fontaine of Newmarket, NH, Jeffrey O'Neil and his wife, Rosanna of Colorado Springs, CO; seven grandchildren, Nicole Skinner and husband, David, Ryan O'Neil and wife, Jasmine, Chad Fontaine and partner Sharon, Kyle Fontaine and wife Kelly, Casey Fontaine and wife, Victoria, Dylan O'Neil and wife, Abby, Tyson O'Neil and wife, Chelsea; sixteen great-grandchildren; one brother, Armand O'Neil and his wife, Eloise of Painesville, OH; five sisters-in-law, Pamela (Langdell) O'Neil, Kathryn (Howe) Heald and Elizabeth (Howe) Drolet of Milford, NH, Gretchen (Howe) Hutchinson of Wilton, NH, Frances (Howe) Houston of Lyndeborough, NH; one brother-in-law, Robert Howe and his wife Jennifer



of Lyndeborough, NH; many nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Steven W. Crowe Foundation, Michael Crowe, 5 School Street, Hancock, NH 03449.

**Esther M. Hagen**

Hopkinton — Esther M. Hagen, of Hopkinton, passed away peacefully with her daughter by her side at home on Sunday, February 8th, 2026. Born in New Bedford, MA, the daughter of the late Antonio C. Cambra and Eugenia (Alves) Cambra. Esther was the beloved wife and best friend of her husband, Albert R. Hagen for over 73 years. Their life together was a storybook match made in heaven. She leaves two children, her daughter, Deborah Norris of Hopkinton, NH; her son, John W. Hagen and his wife Jenny of Gainesville, VA; 6 grandchildren, Anthony Norris, Joseph Norris of Concord, NH, Jennifer Branham of Colorado, Jack Hagen of S. Carolina, Brett Hagen of Illinois, and Tarahn Aeisi of Virginia; many great-grandchildren, and nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by her sister, Alice (Cambra) Soja, and her brother, Antonio C. Cambra, both of Acushnet, MA. As an expression of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to The Arthritis Foundation or to the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire.


**Leon Maurice Taylor**

Weare — Leon Maurice Taylor, 101, a lifelong resident of Weare, New Hampshire, passed away peacefully on February 12, 2026. Born January 29, 1925, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to Robert Willis Taylor of Newfoundland and Rose May (Grant) Taylor of Weare. He was predeceased by his siblings, Mary Lou Stein, Pauline Richards, and Robert ("Bobby") Taylor. Leon is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Nancy (Colburn) Taylor; his children, Kevin (Brenda) Taylor of Hopkinton, Jeffrey Taylor of Weare, Peter (Diane) Taylor of Bradford, and Amy (Robert) Shannon of Weare; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren, with one more expected soon.

**Aline Perreault**

Goffstown — Aline Perreault, 85, of Goffstown, passed peacefully on January 20, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family. Born on October 31, 1940 to the late Henry & Alice Morissette. A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, February 21st, 10:00 a.m. at St. Lawrence Church, 1 East Union Street, Goffstown NH 03045. A reception will be held downstairs at the church following Mass.


**Helen T. Emma**

Peterborough — Helen T. Emma, 92, a former longtime resident of New Ipswich, passed away peacefully on February 9, 2026, at Scott Farrar of Peterborough. Born on August 9, 1933, in Peterborough, she was the daughter of Helen (Caldwell) Thayer and Philip C. Thayer of New Ipswich. In addition to her parents, Helen was predeceased by her husband Philip A. Emma, her brother William Thayer, and her sister Mary Lanthier. She is survived by her sister Nancy Thompkins and her husband Kenneth. She will be dearly missed by her four children and their spouses: Kathleen Gauvin and her husband Dennis of New Ipswich; Donna Parmenter and her husband Everett of Katy, Texas; Philip B. Emma and his wife Luanne of Peterborough; and Stephanie Emma Litzerman of Manchester; her grandchildren (and their spouses) Lisa (Gauvin) MacPhee, Jason Gauvin, Ian Parmenter, Adam Parmenter, Jillian (Emma) Adams, and Andrew Litzerman; her ten great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. In accordance with her wishes, a private graveside memorial will be held in the spring at the convenience of the family. To honor Helen, please take a few moments to perform an act of kindness. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in her name to either The Gardens/Memory Care at Scott Farrar, 11 Elm Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire 03458, or the New Ipswich Library, 6 Main Street, New Ipswich, New Hampshire 03071.



R.I.P. Reverend Jesse Jackson.

## Events: Community Bulletin Board

### SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21

**SNOW SNAKE GAMES:** Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum invites families to celebrate winter with Snow Snake, a traditional Indigenous winter game, held on 11 snow-covered acres. Please join us on from 10am to 2pm at 18 Highlawn Road, Warner, NH. In addition to the games, the event will include a campfire with s'mores. Visitors are encouraged to dress for the weather and come ready to play. This program reflects the museum's mission to share Indigenous culture and history, while fostering connection to land, community, and season. The outside event is FREE. Regular admission applies to tour the museum. For more info: [www.indianmuseum.org/calendar](http://www.indianmuseum.org/calendar) or 603-456-2600.

**PAINTING BEAUTIFUL PORTRAITS IN ACRYLIC WITH PETER CLIVE:** 10am-4pm. This is an in-person class taking place at the Center for the Arts classroom, 428 Main St., New London. This class will focus on painting and refining beautiful portraits. We will explore different methods of developing a strong likeness with varied facial expressions. Color mixing (specific for the portrait), brushwork, sketching out the head on the canvas through either charcoal or brush drawing will be the fundamental for the class. A short portrait demonstration will be held at the beginning of each class session. The portraits painted will be developed from photographs brought in by class participants. Cost: \$125 per person | Age: 18+ | Class Size: 10.

### WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25

**MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT:** Antrim Grange will host

the annual Meet the Candidates Night at 7pm upstairs in the Antrim Town Hall. The event invites Antrim voters to hear from candidates running for local office in one setting, providing an opportunity to hear from those seeking election. The candidates will share their messages in person ahead of town voting day on March 10. The forum is intended for both longtime and newer voters. It offers a chance to learn about the various positions up for election and to put faces to the names that will appear on the ballot at town voting day.

### THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26

**MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT:** Hillsborough Chamber of Commerce will host at Fuller Public Library at 6:30pm.

### FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27

**HOLLYWOOD NIGHTS – THE BOB SEGER EXPERIENCE:** The ultimate tribute to Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band at Claremont Opera House, 58 Opera House Square in Claremont. 7:30pm-9:30pm. Tickets are \$35-\$40 plus fees. This 9-piece New Jersey-based powerhouse has set out to re-create everything about Bob and his music. If you are a true Bob Seger fan, you won't want to miss Hollywood Nights! For more info/tickets visit [cohn.org](http://cohn.org) or call 603.542.4433.

### SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28

**WARNER PROGRAM:** at 2pm: "Late in Arriving," by Steve Taylor, Warner Town Hall. Free. How electricity changed rural New Hampshire life. (Rescheduled from Feb 7). Home-baked refreshments. Books, library tote bags for sale. Cosponsored by Pillsbury Free Library and Warner Historical Society with

funding assistance from NH Humanities.

### SATURDAY MARCH 7

**FRANCESTOWN COFFEEHOUSE:** Performance begins at 7pm, doors open at 6:30pm at the Frankestown Town Hall. Variety of music with featured act "Cara Ensemble", a 5-piece band playing traditional Irish and Celtic music. Also artist's display and snack foods. \$8 suggested donation per person.

### SUNDAY MARCH 15

**CHILI COOK-OFF:** benefiting the Warner Food Pantry. 12-2:30pm at Warner Town Hall. Calling all chili competitors and chili lovers! \$25 to register to compete. \$10 day-of to taste and vote. All proceeds donated to the Warner Food Pantry! Sponsored by Cafe One East, Sweetgrass Pottery, and Reed's North. Application: [paige@CafeOneEast.com](mailto:paige@CafeOneEast.com)

### SATURDAY APRIL 25

**RETIREMENT PARTY:** Colby-Sawyer College, Wheeler Hall, 75 Academy Quad 3-6pm. After 35 years in the fire service, 18 as the Fire Chief of New London, Jay Lyon is hanging up his helmet. Come join us as we celebrate his retirement! All are welcome.

Please send your Community Events to:  
PO Box 1190, Hillsborough, NH or  
email [leighb@tds.net](mailto:leighb@tds.net)

## Classifieds

### COMMERCIAL FOR RENT

**HENNIKER -- PROFESSIONAL OFFICE OR BUSINESS SPACE:** Excellent location on Route 114 in downtown Henniker. Good visibility, off-street parking. 428-3262, days.

### HELP WANTED

**CAREGIVER:** Paralyzed female in Antrim looking for a personal care attendant for Sunday mornings 7AM - 12PM and Wed, Thurs nights 7:30-9, 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@officemanager@hillsborohouse.org](mailto:inquiries/resume@officemanager@hillsborohouse.org)

### 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 Classifieds to: Granite Quill Publishers  
246 West Main St., Hillsboro, NH or email: [leighb@tds.net](mailto:leighb@tds.net)

# Attention Candidates for School & Town Offices

Send us your photo and a brief statement of why you are running for that office and we'll publish it in our **MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup>** issue of The Messenger.

If you don't have a photo, stop by our office at 246 West Main Street in Hillsboro and we'll take one for you.

**DEADLINE FOR YOUR SUBMISSION IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

**MAIL TO:** The Messenger  
PO Box 1190, Hillsboro, NH 03244  
or **EMAIL:** [leighb@tds.net](mailto:leighb@tds.net)

## TOWN OF HENNIKER

### SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST NOTICE

**February 28, 2026** Supervisor of the Checklist Meeting, 11:00 a.m. at the Town Hall.

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be having a correction of the checklist for town elections. Please bring a photo id, a birth certificate or passport, and proof of domicile. (ie: vehicle registration, utility bill, deed or lease agreement). These requirements are mandatory, if you do not have all required document you cannot register to vote. We will be accepting address changes, and name changes.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

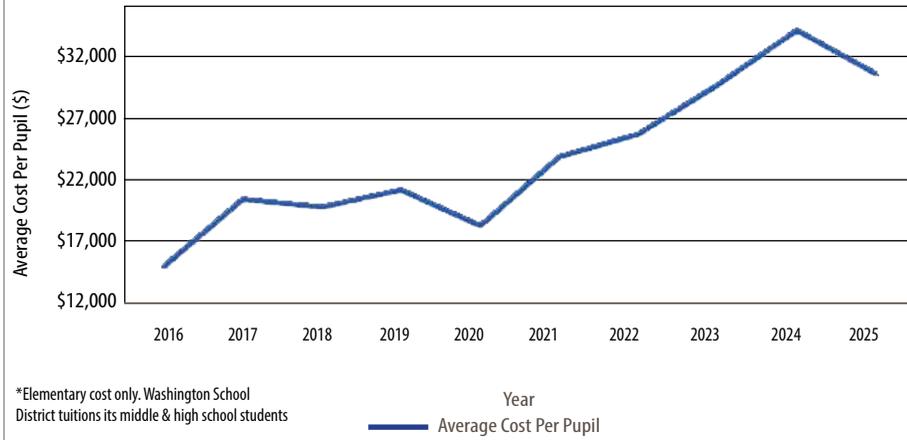
### TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session **Saturday, February 28, 2026** 10:00-10:30 a.m., at the Hillsborough Town Offices at 27 School St., Hillsborough for the purpose of corrections, party changes or new registrations. New voters should bring a photo ID, proof of citizenship (birth certificate, passport or Naturalization papers) and proof of residency. If you have any questions, you can go to [sos.nh.gov](http://sos.nh.gov) to see how to register to vote.

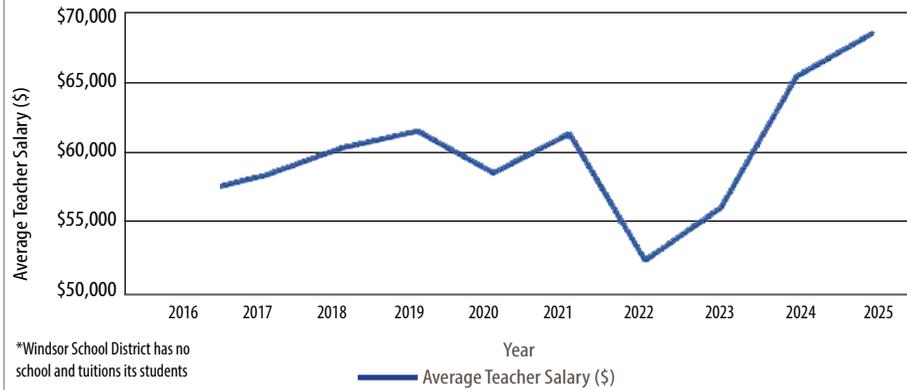
February 28th will be the last chance to register to vote prior to Election Day, March 10, 2026.

## Mandatory Report to Voters on School Expenses Washington School District

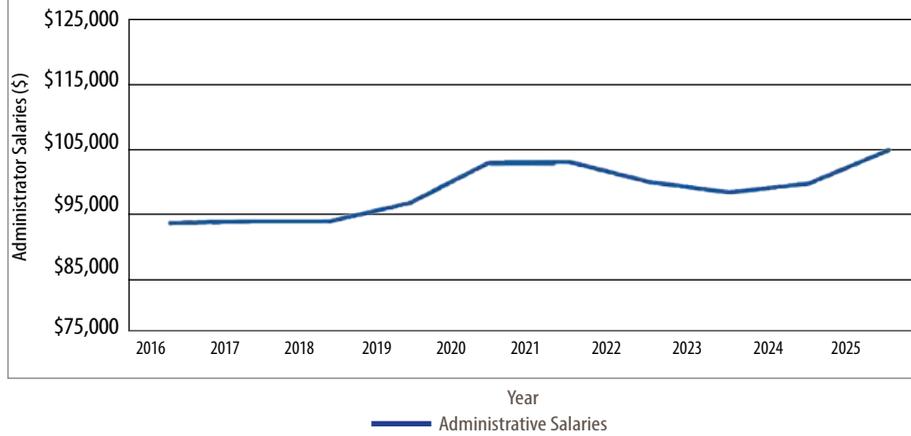
**\* Average Cost Per Pupil**



**\* Average Teacher Salary**



### Administrator Salaries

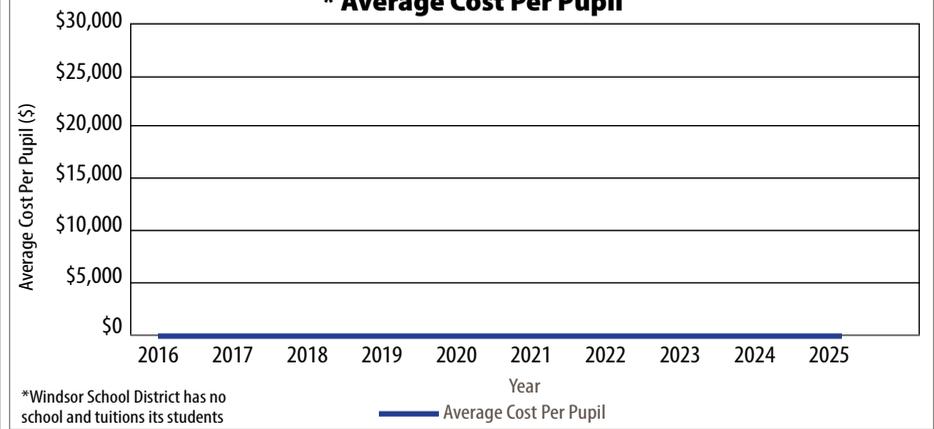


**Top Administrator Salaries (2025-2026)**

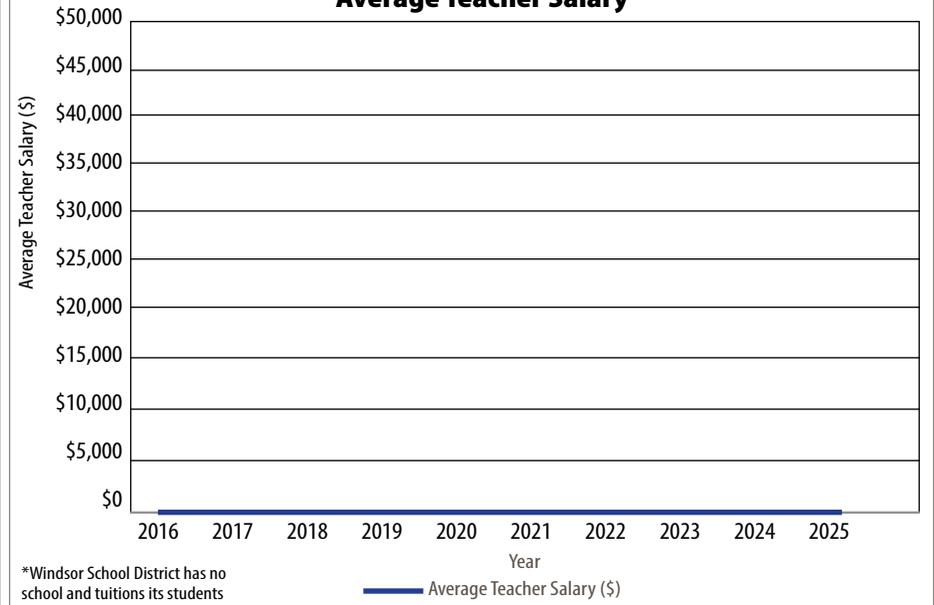
Administrator Title	Current Salary
Superintendent	\$131,500
Curric. & Instru.	\$101,928
SPED Director	\$101,107
Business Admin	\$93,500

## Mandatory Report to Voters on School Expenses Windsor School District

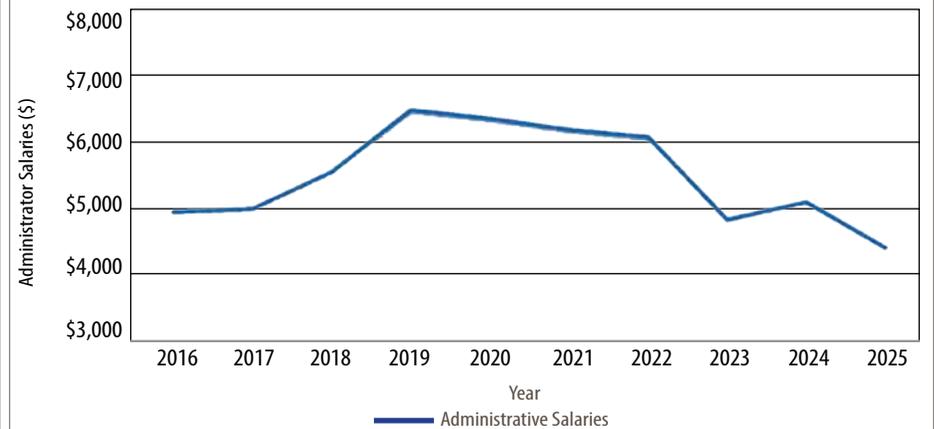
**\* Average Cost Per Pupil**



**\* Average Teacher Salary**



### Administrator Salaries



**Top Administrator Salaries (2025-2026)**

Administrator Title	Current Salary
Superintendent	\$131,500
Curric. & Instru.	\$101,928
SPED Director	\$101,107
Business Admin	\$93,500

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V8**

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Remote Start, AC, Rear Parking Camera, Remote Keyless Entry, More!  
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LIKE NEW! Keyless Start, Bluetooth, iPod/MP3 Input, Back-Up Camera, More!  
Stk# F1594

**20  
Miles!**

**ONLY \$35,490**



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**AWD**

**ONLY \$12,900**



## 2020 HONDA CRV EX-L

Heated Seats, Keyless Start, A/C, MP3 Player, AM/FM, Ext Camera, More!  
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**AWD**

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\*See sales associate for details

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Valid February 1-28, 2026

\*\*Not all eligible products are pictured.

\*Ace Rewards Instant Savings available only to Ace Rewards members. Where applicable by law, tax will be charged on the sale price before application of Instant Savings. Instant Savings in this ad are valid through 1/31/26 online, in the Ace mobile app and at participating stores.

**SALE** **RED HOT BUY**

# 18<sup>99</sup>

**Ace® Black Oil Sunflower Seed, 20 Lb.**  
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**BUY 1 GET 1** **RED HOT BUY**

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Limit 3.



**SALE** **RED HOT BUY**

# 89<sup>99</sup>

**Perfect Aire® Electric Oil-Filled Digital Radiator Heater with Remote**  
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**SALE 2 FOR** **RED HOT BUY**

# 12<sup>00</sup>

**Miracle-Gro® Potting Mix\*\***  
7199052, 7509482  
\$6.00 each.




**Beat The Spring Rush!  
Feb. & March Special..**

# 10% off

**All Screen & Window Repairs**

**ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE**

# SAVE INSTANTLY \$10

**First Alert® Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Combo Alarms\*\***  
5050153, 5050136, 5050152, 5050065, 5050064  
Limit 10 each.  
Not available where prohibited by law.



**RED HOT BUY**

**SALE** **YOUR CHOICE** **RED HOT BUY**

# 2<sup>00</sup>

Each  
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